THE NEW AMERICA

BY THE RIGHT HON.

SIR ARTHUR STEEL-MAITLAND, Bart.

P.C., M.P.

A Study at first hand of the Recovery Programme in the United States initiated by President Roosevelt

MACMILLAN

THE NEW AMERICA

THIS book is a study at first hand of what is generally known as the Recovery Programme in the United State initiated by President Roosevelt. As S Arthur Steel-Maitland shows, it is n only a recovery programme; it is also one of reform and reconstruction. Sir Arthur was invited by the Rockefeller Foundation of New York to go to America last autumn and to give an opinion on the Programme. He continued his investigations in the United States for some months and repeated his visit this summer in order to form an opinion at close quarters of the latest developments. In this way he has had a unique opportunity not only for gaining information but for personal contact with the leading men in politics, industry, finance, agriculture and economics.

The New America deals with each of the main aspects of the Roosevelt Administration—the N.R.A.; the currency policy of the Government; banking and finance; the agricultural policy; unemployment and relief measures. It also contains a sketch of the economic and political background and a forecast of possible developments in the future. The experiments in government in the United States are of so much importance to others besides Americans that a description based upon first-hand information, and judgments which are the result of knowledge and a wide experience of public administration, should be of interest to readers in Great Britain and in the United States.

THE NEW AMERICA

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THE RT. HON. SIR ARTHUR STEEL-MAITLAND

BART., M.P.

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CHARTS

ABBREVIATIONS

MOST COMMONLY IN USE

A.A.A. = Agricultural Adjustment Act, *also* Agricultural Adjustment Administration

A.F.L. = American Federation of Labour

Billion. = One thousand million (*not*, as in all other countries, a million million)

C.C.C. = Civilian Conservation Corps

C.W.A. = Civil Works Administration

F.E.R.A. = Federal Emergency Relief Administration

F.C.A. = Farm Credit Administration

H.O.L.C. = Home Owners Loan Corporation

N.I.R.A. = National Industrial Recovery Act

N.R.A. = National Recovery Administration (which administers the N.I.R.A.)

N.L.B. = National Labour Board

N.L.R.B. = National Labour Relations Board (which succeeded the N.L.B.)

P.W.A. = Public Works Administration

R.F.C. = Reconstruction Finance Corporation

PROLOGUE

The Recovery Programme in the United States is unique as a political phenomenon. It is of vital importance to the United States. It is of interest and of importance also to citizens of other countries. Recovery in America will make a vast difference in economic conditions—and perhaps also in political relations—elsewhere. Moreover, the world is in a state of transition and the results of the experiments in the United States may well be of more than local value.

We are a purblind race of mortals. When a depression comes we devote all our energies to remedying its effects; we do not exert one tithe of the same effort to preventing its recurrence. Yet there have been few benefactors in the world whose work would compare with that of the man who can lay bare the secret of the trade cycle with its booms and depressions, and the methods by which they can be avoided. In the United States alone, it would have saved more than twenty million people from misery and hardship during the last few years. The causes of recurrent depressions can and ought to be discovered—and the experience of the United States should be peculiarly helpful in making the discovery.

The great experiment in the United States is in reality not one but a cluster of experiments—in currency and finance—in industry—in agriculture—in public works. Each is interesting in itself and all were undertaken with a 'go' and an enthusiasm which is infectious. The onlooker is tempted to say—as though he were himself taking part—"Why cannot they hurry up with this?" (the housing scheme). "Why must they take that step?" (in currency). "Is it really necessary to make a compromise instead of telling them to go to the devil?" (the currency inflationists).

It is not easy for people in England to know what is happening in the United States, still less to understand the reason and the meaning of those happenings. That is why this book has come to be written. It may also be of interest to Americans to know how events in the United States appear to a British citizen who has had unusually good opportunities for studying them.

I make no apology or pretence for this book. It gives a sketch of recent events in the United States in industry, in agriculture, in finance and in politics; and also the personal opinions which I have formed after a study of the facts. Where necessary, the sketch is preceded by a description of the conditions that form the setting for the action which has been taken. Those who are well acquainted with the course of events will probably be able to point to some fact or feature to which they attach importance and which has been omitted. This is inevitable. The book is not an exhaustive analysis. I have had to select and to condense from a large mass of material, and such selection is always a matter of judgment.

Within the limit of these conditions I have endeavoured to convey a true impression. Certainly I have had unusually favourable opportunities for obtaining knowledge at first hand of what was going on; of the reasons for the different policies adopted; and for estimating their effects. I was able to study the situation and to talk to those best qualified to form an opinion upon it, not only in Washington and New York but from the Eastern seaboard westward, through Chicago, to San Francisco, and from Minneapolis in the North, to Texas and New Orleans in the South. For this, I am before all things indebted to the Rockefeller Foundation, on whose invitation I went to the United States in the first instance, and whose guest I was during a great part of my stay. But the authorities of the Foundation are not responsible for any opinion or statement to which I give expression. I am also under a peculiar obligation to members of the Brookings Institution for the help which they so freely gave me. I am indebted also to a host of others, both in Washington and throughout the United States, who, by their readiness to answer my questions and discuss freely the subject of my enquiry, gave me an insight into aspects of it which otherwise I could not possibly have gained. It is impossible for me to name them individually, but they realise my gratitude for the more than friendly way in which they helped me. I am also particularly grateful to the Director and members of the staff of the International Labour Office at Geneva for all the help and information which they most generously gave me.

A. S.-M.

October 1934

APPENDIX A

PRINCIPAL LAWS PASSED BY THE 73RD CONGRESS[1]

Short Synopsis of Contents

ACT AUTHORISING R.F.C. AID TO INSURANCE COMPANIES. June 10, 1933.

Authorises the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to subscribe for preferred stock in Insurance Companies.

ACT RELATING TO DIRECT LOANS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. June 19, 1934.

Authorises direct loans up to $580 million to smaller industries by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and Federal Reserve Banks.

ACT TO AMEND THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930. June 12, 1934.

Confers on the President for three years the power to make commercial agreements with foreign countries.

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT and EMERGENCY FARM MORTGAGE ACT. May 12, 1933.

Institutes the policy of restricting agricultural production and the system of processing taxes and benefit payments to farmers.

The second part of the Act amends the Federal Farm Loan Act and increases the help given to farmers in dealing with mortgages.

The third part confers upon the President extensive powers to inflate the currency.

[1] The date following the title of the Act refers in each case to the date on which the Act was approved by the President.

BANKING ACT of 1933. June 16, 1933.

Provides for the separation of Security affiliates from Commercial banks; establishes a system of insurance of Deposits; prohibits interest on demand deposits and gives power to the Federal Reserve Board to regulate the interest on time deposits and makes other amendments to the Federal Reserve Act.

BANKHEAD COTTON ACT. 1933.

(See Cotton Control Act.)

COTTON CONTROL ACT—1933. April 21, 1934.

Authorises the Secretary of Agriculture to allocate quotas for cotton growing and to impose prohibitive taxes on cotton grown by any person in excess of this quota.

ECONOMY ACT. March 20, 1933.

Effects economies in salaries of officials and ex-Service men's pensions—the so-called 'Veterans' Bonus'. (See also Independent Offices Act.)

EMERGENCY BANKING ACT. March 9, 1933.

Deals with the immediate problems raised by the closing of the banks on March 4, 1933.

EMERGENCY FARM MORTGAGE ACT. May 12, 1933.

See 'Agricultural Adjustment Act', of which this Act forms the second part.

EMERGENCY RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION ACT. June 16, 1933.

Appoints a Federal Co-ordinator of Railways for the purpose of eliminating waste and enforcing economies.

FARM CREDIT ACT of 1933. June 16, 1933.

Authorises the creation of Production Credit Corporations and Associations; of a Central Bank and twelve Banks for Co-operatives, and makes amendments to the Agricultural Marketing Act and the Federal Farm Loan Act.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ACT. May 12, 1933.

Sets up the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Before this Act was passed there was no Federal Agency for dealing with relief.

THE GOLD RESERVE ACT. January 30, 1934.

Transfers to the Government all the gold reserves of the Federal Reserve Banks, in return for gold certificates; confers on the President the power to stabilise the dollar at not less than 50 per cent nor more than 60 per cent of its existing gold content and creates a Stabilisation Fund of $2000 million.

HOME OWNERS LOAN ACT of 1933. June 13, 1933.

Creates the Home Owners Loan Corporation and authorises the establishment of Federal Savings and Loan Associations.

INDEPENDENT OFFICERS APPROPRIATION ACT. June 16, 1933.

Modifies some of the economies in the 'Veterans' Bonus'.

LOANS TO INDUSTRIES ACT.

See 'An Act relating to Direct Loans for Industrial Purposes by Federal Reserve Banks and for Other Purposes'.

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACT. June 6, 1933.

Provides for the establishment of a national employment system.

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT. June 27, 1934.

Establishes a Home Credit Insurance Corporation for the purpose of insuring mortgages on medium sized houses, and loans for the improvement of such houses. It also authorises the establishment of mortgage corporations.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY ACT. June 16, 1933.

Part I establishes Codes of fair competition for industries.

Part II creates a Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works and authorises an appropriation of $3300 million for Public Works. New taxes are also imposed.

RECIPROCAL TARIFF ACT.

See 'Act to amend the Tariff Act of 1930'.

SECURITIES ACT of 1933. May 27, 1933.

Imposes new and stringent regulations on the flotation and sale of securities; gives to buyers of securities rights of action against persons issuing or selling securities in violation of the regulation. Violation of the Act is also made punishable with fines or imprisonment or both.

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT of 1934. June 6, 1934.

Part I provides for the regulation of all Security Exchanges by a new Securities and Exchange Commission and imposes a number of new regulations on the Security Exchanges.

Part II amends the Securities Act of 1933.

SILVER PURCHASE ACT of 1934. June 19, 1934.

Enacts that one-fourth of the monetary stocks of the United States shall be in silver and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue silver certificates.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY ACT. May 18, 1933.

Sets up the authority for completing the dam at Muscle Shoals and for establishing the electric power station served by the dam.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF ACT. March 31, 1933.

Created the Civilian Conservation Corps. (C. III.)

APPENDIX B

PRESIDENT'S RE-EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

(Authorised by Section 4 (a) National Industrial Recovery Act)

During the period of the President's emergency re-employment drive, that is to say, from August 1 to December 31, 1933, or to any earlier date of approval of a code of fair competition to which he is subject, the undersigned hereby agrees with the President as follows:

(1) After August 31, 1933, not to employ any person under 16 years of age, except that persons between 14 and 16 may be employed (but not in manufacturing or mechanical industries) for not to exceed 3 hours per day and those hours between 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. in such work as will not interfere with hours of day school.

(2) Not to work any accounting, clerical, banking, office, service, or sales employees (except outside salesmen) in any store, office, department, establishment, or public utility, or on any automotive or horse-drawn passenger, express, delivery, or freight service, or in any other place or manner, for more than 40 hours in any 1 week and not to reduce the hours of any store or service operation to below 52 hours in any 1 week, unless such hours were less than 52 hours per week before July 1, 1933, and in the latter case not to reduce such hours at all.

(3) Not to employ any factory or mechanical worker or artisan more than a maximum week of 35 hours until December 31, 1933, but with the right to work a maximum week of 40 hours for any 6 weeks within this period; and not to employ any worker more than 8 hours in any 1 day.

(4) The maximum hours fixed in the foregoing paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to employees in establishments employing not more than two persons in towns of less than 2500

population which towns are not part of a larger trade area; nor to registered pharmacists or other professional persons employed in their profession; nor to employees in a managerial or executive capacity, who now receive more than $35 per week; nor to employees on emergency maintenance and repair work; nor to very special cases where restrictions of hours of highly skilled workers on continuous processes would unavoidably reduce production but, in any such special case, at least time and one third shall be paid for hours worked in excess of the maximum. Population for the purposes of this agreement shall be determined by reference to the 1930 federal census.

(5) Not to pay any of the classes of employees mentioned in paragraph (2) less than $15 per week in any city of over 500,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; nor less than $14.50 per week in any city of between 250,000 and 500,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; nor less than $14 per week in any city of between 2500 and 250,000 population, or in the immediate trade area of such city; and in towns of less than 2500 population to increase all wages by not less than 20 per cent, provided that this shall not require wages in excess of $12 per week.

(6) Not to pay any employee of the classes mentioned in paragraph (3) less than 40 cents per hour unless the hourly rate for the same class of work on July 15, 1929, was less than 40 cents per hour, in which latter case not to pay less than the hourly rate on July 15, 1929, and in no event less than 30 cents per hour. It is agreed that this paragraph establishes a guaranteed minimum rate of pay regardless of whether the employee is conpensated on the basis of a time rate or on a piece-work performance.

(7) Not to reduce the compensation for employment now in excess of the minimum wages hereby agreed to (notwithstanding that the hours worked in such employment may be hereby reduced) and to increase the pay for such employment by an equitable readjustment of all pay schedules.

(8) Not to use any subterfuge to frustrate the spirit and intent of this agreement which is, among other things, to increase employment by a universal covenant, to remove obstruc-

tions to commerce and to shorten hours and to raise wages for the shorter week to a living basis.

(9) Not to increase the price of any merchandise sold after the date hereof over the price on July 1, 1933, by more than is made necessary by actual increases in production, replacement, or invoice costs of merchandise, or by taxes or other costs resulting from action taken pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, since July 1, 1933, and, in setting such price increases to give full weight to probable increases in sales volume and to refrain from taking profiteering advantage of the consuming public.

(10) To support and patronize establishments which also have signed this agreement and are listed as members of N.R.A. (National Recovery Administration).

(11) To co-operate to the fullest extent in having a code of fair competition submitted by his industry at the earliest possible date, and in any event before September 1, 1933.

(12) Where, before June 16, 1933, the undersigned had contracted to purchase goods at a fixed price for delivery during the period of this agreement, the undersigned will make an appropriate adjustment of said fixed price to meet any increase in cost caused by the seller having signed this President's Reemployment Agreement or having become bound by any code of fair competition approved by the President.

(13) This agreement shall cease upon approval by the President of a code to which the undersigned is subject; or, if the N.R.A. so elects, upon submission of a code to which the undersigned is subject and substitution of any of its provisions for any of the terms of this agreement.

(14) It is agreed that any person who wishes to do his part in the President's re-employment drive by signing this agreement, but who asserts that some particular provision hereof, because of peculiar circumstances, will create great and unavoidable hardships, may obtain the benefit hereof by signing this agreement and putting it into effect and then, in a petition approved by a representative trade association of his industry, or other representative organisation designated by N.R.A., may apply for a stay of such provision pending a summary investiga-

tion by N.R.A., if he agrees in such application to abide by the decision of such investigation. This agreement is entered into pursuant to Section 4 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act and subject to all the terms and conditions required by Sections 7 (a) and 10 (b) of that Act.

APPENDIX C

STATISTICAL TABLES [1]

TABLE I

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

1. *Production in U.S.A., compared with other countries*
(1928 = 100)

Quarterly Periods	United Kingdom	U.S.A.	Germany	France	Belgium	Japan
1929:						
First Quarter .	104·5	106·0	95·0	107·9	..	..
Second ,, .	106·2	111·4	109·0	109·8	..	..
Third ,, .	104·9	110·5	103·2	109·1	..	..
Fourth ,, .	107·9	96·7	98·9	112·1	101·1 [2]	111·4 [2]
1930:						
First ,, .	105·1	94·6	93·4	113·1	..	..
Second ,, .	97·7	93·1	88·2	113·1	..	..
Third ,, .	94·3	83·2	79·5	109·4	..	..
Fourth ,, .	93·8	76·3	74·9	106·3	89·8 [2]	105·6 [2]
1931:						
First ,, .	90·0	76·6	70·1	104·4	..	..
Second ,, .	87·1	78·7	74·8	101·3	..	..
Third ,, .	84·7	71·5	68·7	95·3	78·9	104·1
Fourth ,, .	92·0	66·1	62·2	90·0	75·1	102·3
1932:						
First ,, .	90·0	62·5	61·9	79·5	69·4	101·0
Second ,, .	89·4	54·7	61·3	74·0	65·3	104·8
Third ,, .	82·7	55·3	59·6	73·2	55·3	107·2
Fourth ,, .	90·0	59·5	61·8	76·1	71·7	118·6
1933:						
First ,, .	89·9	56·5	64·1	80·8	69·1	120·9
Second ,, .	91·7	70·9	67·6	85·8	70·1	125·6
Third ,, .	91·8	82·6	70·7	87·4	65·8	129·0
Fourth ,, .	99·5	67·3	73·4	84·2	69·9	138·1
1934:						
First ,, .	103·3	73·5	81·9	82·7	69·6	132·9

SOURCE.—League of Nations Monthly Bulletins.

[1] Except where otherwise stated, all statistics apply to the United States only.

[2] Averages for the year. No quarterly indices for Belgium or Japan exist before 1931.

TABLE I (*continued*)

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

2. *Industrial Production*
(1923–1925 = 100)

Year or Month	Total (unadjusted)	Manu-facturing (unadjusted)	Mining (unadjusted)	Steel Ingots percentage of Capacity
1928 Average	111	112	106	85
1929 "	119	119	115	89
1930 "	96	95	99	63
1931 "	81	80	84	38
1932 "	64	63	73	19
1933:				
January	64	63	71	26
February	64	63	76	27
March	60	58	74	24
April	67	68	65	22
May	80	80	76	20
June	91	93	82	16
July	96	97	89	15
August	90	89	94	14
September	85	84	93	17
October	78	77	88	19
November	72	76	84	18
December	69	67	80	15
1934:				
January	77	75	75	34
February	83	82	82	34
March	87	86	91	43
April	88	89	81	48
May	89	89	87	54
June	85	83	88	58

SOURCES.—The Federal Reserve Board, except for Steel Ingots, which are taken from the Survey of Current Business (U.S. Department of Commerce).

TABLE I (*continued*)

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

3. *Durable Products expressed as a Percentage of Non-durable Products*

Quarterly Periods	Durable as % of Non-durable	Quarterly Periods	Durable as % of Non-durable
1919: First Quarter .	98·0	1927: First Quarter .	82·3
Second „ .	78·9	Second „ .	88·0
Third „ .	84·7	Third „ .	76·8
Fourth „ .	75·3	Fourth „ .	74·0
1920: First „ .	88·9	1928: First „ .	81·3
Second „ .	87·9	Second „ .	85·6
Third „ .	103·0	Third „ .	89·4
Fourth „ .	104·8	Fourth „ .	88·9
1921: First „ .	72·9	1929: First „ .	89·2
Second „ .	55·2	Second „ .	93·5
Third „ .	50·9	Third „ .	94·3
Fourth „ .	57·2	Fourth „ .	80·9
1922: First „ .	62·6	1930: First „ .	82·9
Second „ .	79·5	Second „ .	83·2
Third „ .	74·8	Third „ .	72·2
Fourth „ .	79·6	Fourth „ .	61·2
1923: First „ .	83·2	1931: First „ .	61·4
Second „ .	89·4	Second „ .	56·6
Third „ .	94·3	Third „ .	43·8
Fourth „ .	89·4	Fourth „ .	40·8
1924: First „ .	90·6	1932: First „ .	36·5
Second „ .	79·1	Second „ .	36·1
Third „ .	76·5	Third „ .	27·1
Fourth „ .	80·5	Fourth „ .	30·9
1925: First „ .	87·1	1933: First „ .	31·9
Second „ .	85·3	Second „ .	40·0
Third „ .	86·2	Third „ .	55·3
Fourth „ .	93·0	Fourth „ .	46·2
1926: First „ .	89·5	1934: First „ .	51·9
Second „ .	90·9	Second „ .	62·0
Third „ .	91·1		
Fourth „ .	83·7		

TABLE I (*continued*)

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

4. The National Income and Gross Farm Income

(Amounts in millions of dollars)

Year	Estimate of National Income	Gross Farm Income	Farm Income as percentage of National Income
1919	65,949	16,935	18·5
1920	73,999	13,566	14·9
1921	63,371	8,927	11·0
1922	65,925	9,944	11·1
1923	74,337	11,041	10·8
1924	77,135	11,337	10·8
1925	81,931	11,968	11·1
1926	84,238	11,480	9·6
1927	87,276	11,616	9·5
1928	88,283	11,741	9·3
1929	91,405	11,941	7·6
1930	81,295	9,454	7·6
1931	67,000	6,968	7·1
1932	52,500	5,331	7·0
1933	..	6,256	? 8·0

SOURCE.—*Economic Bases of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.* The percentages in the last column are based on estimates of farm income included in the estimate in column 2 of national income, not on column 3.

TABLE I (*continued*)

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

5. *New Domestic Capital Issues*

(Amounts in millions of dollars)

Year or Month	Total	State and Municipal	Corporate	
			Bonds and Notes	Stocks
1925	5215	1352	2452	1153
1926	5189	1344	2667	1087
1927	6219	1475	3183	1474
1928	6789	1379	2385	2961
1929	9420	1418	2078	5924
1930	6004	1434	2980	1503
1931	2860	1235	1240	311
1932	1157	755	305	20
1933:				
January	65	33	19	3
February	20	17	1	0
March	16	13	0	3
April	25	18	16	1
May	44	40	1	3
June	110	98	3	9
July	117	28	0	53
August	46	32	0	14
September	64	37	0	9
October	59	56	0	3
November	88	82	0	6
December	57	41	0	16
1934:				
January	48	37	0	6
February	79	59	12	1
March	97	81	9	5
April	143	100	24	5
May	103	61	26	3
June	123	102	0	9

SOURCE.—The Federal Reserve Bulletin.

TABLE I (*continued*)

PRODUCTION AND OTHER BUSINESS INDICES

6. *Business Indices*
(1923–1925 = 100)

Year or Month	Construction* Contracts (unadjusted)	Car Loadings (unadjusted)	Electric Power Production	Departmental Store sales (unadjusted)
1928 average	135	100·6	101	108
1929 "	117	103·1	102·4	111
1930 "	92	89·7	92·7	102
1931 "	63	72·8	82	92
1932 "	27·9	..	64	69
1933:				
January	18	56	82·3	49
February	16	54	82·6	49
March	14	50	80	50
April	16	53	84	68
May	19	56	87·4	67
June	21	60	93	64
July	24	65	96·9	49
August	25	61	94·6	59
September	30	60	92·7	73
October	35	58	89·4	77
November	42	59	88	75
December	46	63	88·3	121
1934:				
January	40	64	89·5	57
February	38	64	93·1	59
March	33	66	93·6	73
April	36	62	96·1	73
May	32	63	96·7	77
June	36	64	98	70

SOURCES.—Survey of Current Business (U.S. Department of Commerce), and Federal Reserve Board Bulletin.

TABLE II

INDICES OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(1926 = 100)

Year or Month	Farm Products	Foods	All Commodities other than Farm Products and Foods	All Commodities
1928 average .	105·9	101·0	92·9	96·7
1929 „ .	104·9	99·9	91·6	95·3
1930 „ .	88·3	90·5	85·2	86·4
1931 „ .	64·8	74·6	75·0	73·0
1932 „ .	48·2	61·0	70·2	64·8
1933:				
January .	42·6	55·8	67·3	61·0
February .	40·9	53·7	66·0	59·8
March . .	42·8	54·6	65·8	60·2
April . .	44·5	56·1	65·3	60·4
May . .	50·2	59·4	66·5	62·7
June . .	53·2	61·2	68·9	65·0
July . .	60·1	65·5	72·2	68·9
August .	57·6	64·8	74·1	69·5
September .	57·0	64·9	76·1	70·8
October .	55·7	64·2	77·2	71·2
November .	56·6	64·3	77·2	71·1
December .	55·5	62·5	77·5	70·8
1934:				
January .	58·7	64·3	78·3	72·2
February .	61·3	66·7	78·7	73·6
March . .	61·3	67·3	78·5	73·7
April . .	59·6	66·2	78·6	72·3
May . .	59·6	67·1	78·9	73·7
June . .	63·1	69·6	78·8	74·6

SOURCE.—The Bureau of Labour Statistics of the Department of Labour.

TABLE III

1. AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND RATIOS
(1909–1914 = 100)

Year or Month	Cotton, cents per lb.	Wheat, cents per bushel	Corn, cents per bushel	Hogs, dollars per 100 lb.	All Agricultural Products
1919 average .	35·6	213·1	134·3	..	209
1920 " .	13·9	143·3	65·6	..	205
1921 " .	16·2	90·3	41·3	..	116
1922 " .	23·8	98·9	65·0	..	124
1923 " .	31·0	91·4	71·4	7·41	135
1924 " .	22·6	130·9	97·8	6·85	134
1925 " .	18·2	140·5	67·0	10·55	147
1926 " .	10·9	120·7	63·8	11·55	136
1927 " .	19·6	111·8	71·8	10·28	131
1928 " .	18·0	98·1	74·8	8·59	139
1929 " .	16·8	103·5	79·8	9·28	138
1930 " .	9·5	67·1	59·4	8·95	117
1931 " .	5·7	39·1	32·1	6·95	80
1932 " .	6·2	35·0	19·5	3·78	57
1933:					
January . .	5·6	32·9	19·1	2·68	51
February . .	5·5	32·3	19·4	2·94	49
March . .	6·1	34·5	20·6	3·22	50
April . .	6·1	44·8	28·2	3·21	53
May . .	8·2	59·0	38·9	3·88	62
June . .	8·7	58·7	40·2	3·96	64
July . .	10·6	86·9	58·4	3·98	76
August . .	8·8	74·7	48·8	3·79	72
September .	8·8	71·1	46·5	3·73	70
October . .	9·0	63·6	38·8	4·17	70
November .	9·6	71·1	40·6	3·70	71
December .	9·6	69·3	42·0	2·92	68
1934:					
January . .	10·3	69·4	43·9	3·06	70
February . .	11·7	72·0	45·6	3·87	76
March . .	11·7	70·9	47·1	3·88	76
April . .	11·6	68·7	47·1	3·49	74
May . .	11·0	69·5	48·6	3·17	74
June . .	11·6	78·9	56·0	3·52	77

SOURCE.—*Crops and Markets*, published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

TABLE III (*continued*)

2. AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND RATIOS

(1909–1914 = 100)

Year or Month	Prices of Articles purchased by Farmers	Farm Prices received by Farmers	The 'Farmers' ratio'
1919 average	200	209	104
1920 "	194	205	106
1921 "	150	116	77
1922 "	146	124	84
1923 "	149	135	90
1924 "	150	134	89
1925 "	154	147	95
1926 "	153	136	89
1927 "	151	131	87
1928 "	153	139	91
1929 "	152	138	91
1930 "	144	117	81
1931 "	125	80	65
1932 "	107	57	53
1933:			
January	102	51	50
February	101	49	49
March	102	50	50
April	101	63	52
May	102	62	61
June	103	74	62
July	117	76	71
August	112	72	64
September	116	70	60
October	116	70	60
November	116	71	61
December	116	68	59
1934:			
January	117	70	60
February	119	76	64
March	120	76	63
April	120	74	62
May	121	74	61
June	122	75	63

SOURCE.—*Crops and Markets*, published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

TABLE IV

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS

1. *Earnings and Cost of Living*

Year or Month	Hourly Earnings, dollars	Weekly Earnings		Real Weekly Earnings, 1923 = 100	Cost of Living, 1923 = 100	Retail Prices of Food, 1923 = 100
		Dollars	1923 = 100			
1928 average .	..	27·80	104·5	104·0	100·4	154
1929 ,, .	..	28·54	107·3	107·3	100·0	157
1930 ,, .	..	25·90	97·4	101·2	96·2	147
1931 ,, .	0·564	22·60	84·9	97·9	86·7	121
1932 ,, .	0·497	17·10	64·3	82·8	77·7	102
1933:						
January .	0·468	16·21	60·9	82·6	73·7	95
February .	0·464	16·13	60·6	84·0	72·1	91
March .	0·460	14·56	54·7	76·2	71·8	91
April. .	0·460	15·39	57·8	80·8	71·5	90
May . .	0·453	16·71	62·9	87·1	72·1	94
June . .	0·452	18·49	69·5	95·5	72·8	97
July . .	0·455	19·15	72·0	95·7	75·2	105
August .	0·497	19·25	72·3	94·0	76·9	107
September .	0·531	19·46	73·1	93·8	77·9	107
October .	0·540	19·46	73·1	93·7	78·0	107
November .	0·545	18·51	69·6	89·5	77·8	107
December .	0·550	18·58	69·8	90·3	77·3	104
1934:						
January .	0·551	18·89	71·0	91·6	77·5	105
February .	0·558	19·81	74·4	95·0	78·3	108
March .	0·561	20·49	77·0	98·1	78·5	108
April. .	0·579	21·00	78·9	100·6	78·4	107
May . .	0·586	20·79	77·8	105·7	78·6	107
June . .	0·586	20·71	78·1	..	78·8	109

SOURCES.—Survey of Current Business; the National Industrial Conference Board; and the Bureau of Labour Statistics.

TABLE IV (*continued*)

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS

2. *Factory Conditions and Labour Disputes*

Year or Month	Factory Employment, 1923–5 = 100 (unadjusted)	Factory Pay-rolls, 1923–5 = 100 (unadjusted)	Days lost through Labour Disputes
1928 Monthly average	98·9	102·4	..
1929 "	104·8	109·1	831,259
1930 "	91·5	88·7	227,531
1931 "	77·4	67·5	532,182
1932 "	64·1	46·1	538,581
1933:			
January	60·2	39·5	240,912
February	61·1	40·2	109,862
March	58·8	37·1	445,771
April	59·9	38·8	535,039
May	62·6	42·7	603,723
June	66·9	47·2	504,362
July	71·5	50·8	1,404,850
August	76·4	56·8	1,401,532
September	80·0	59·1	3,642,431
October	79·6	59·4	3,067,967
November	76·2	55·5	1,160,565
December	74·4	54·5	338,746
1934:			
January	73·3	54·0	1,926,035
February	77·7	60·6	819,934
March	80·8	64·8	901,933
April	82·3	67·3	2,280,164
May[1]	82·4	67·1	2,343,767
June[1]	81·0	65·0	2,490,269

SOURCE.—Bureau of Labour Statistics. Monthly Averages are given for years before 1933 in order to facilitate comparison.

[1] Preliminary figures, subject to change.

TABLE IV (*continued*)

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS

3. *Unemployment in the United States*

Month	Number of Unemployed	Month	Number of Unemployed
1930:		1932:	
January	3,216,000	January	10,197,000
February	3,565,000	February	10,486,000
March	3,543,000	March	10,739,000
April	3,188,000	April	10,990,000
May	3,090,000	May	11,470,000
June	3,250,000	June	11,853,000
July	3,714,000	July	12,300,000
August	4,101,000	August	12,344,000
September	4,150,000	September	11,767,000
October	4,639,000	October	11,586,000
November	5,364,000	November	12,008,000
December	5,541,000	December	12,124,000
1931:		1933:	
January	7,160,000	January	12,986,000
February	7,345,000	February	13,185,000
March	7,068,000	March	13,533,000
April	6,739,000	April	12,987,000
May	6,750,000	May	12,591,000
June	6,841,000	June	11,872,000
July	7,198,000	July	11,531,000
August	7,357,000	August	10,759,000
September	7,303,000	September	9,965,000
October	7,778,000	October	9,812,000
November	8,699,000	November	10,443,000
December	8,908,000	December	10,682,000
		1934:	
		January	11,668,000
		February	11,331,000
		March	10,737,000
		April	10,410,000
		May	10,077,000
		June	10,026,000

SOURCE.—Estimates made by the American Federation of Labour of the number of unemployed among the gainfully employed population, which amounted to 45,190 at the time of the census of 1930. A slight correction has been made in the figures since January, 1933.

TABLE IV (*continued*)

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS

4. Employment and Relief given by Federal Recovery Agencies [1]

Month	Public Roads not P.W.A. Federal	Public Works Administration	Civilian Conservation Corps	Civil Works Administration	Emergency Work Programme	Total of Persons Employed	% of Gainfully Employed	Families Receiving Relief	% of all Families
1933:									
January	74,405	..	..	..	..	74,405	0·2	3,850,000	13
February	76,969	..	..	..	..	76,969	0·2	4,140,000	14
March	94,491	..	..	..	..	94,491	0·2	4,560,000	15
April	121,089	..	21,056	..	..	142,145	0·3	4,475,322	15
May	138,934	..	91,244	..	..	230,178	0·5	4,252,443	14
June	151,614	..	242,737	..	..	394,351	0·8	3,789,026	13
July	128,801	..	292,295	..	..	421,096	0·9	3,451,874	12
August	106,907	4,018	276,172	..	..	387,097	0·8	3,351,810	11
September	79,880	30,009	247,758	..	..	357,647	0·7	2,995,857	10
October	56,872	114,096	240,241	..	..	411,209	0·8	3,010,516	10
November	38,112	240,707	287,733	1,471,200	..	2,037,752	4·2	3,365,677	11
December	21,345	251,234	278,517	2,884,893	..	3,435,989	7·0	2,630,996	9
1934:									
January	7,633	243,645	289,184	3,928,130	..	4,468,592	9·1	2,485,761	8
February	2,382	261,091	278,766	3,492,947	..	4,035,186	8·3	2,595,526	9
March	1,451	267,774	212,649	2,284,897	22,934	2,789,705	5·7	3,070,551	10
April	1,932	348,783	266,876	65,512	786,829	1,469,932	3·0	3,864,765	13
May	3,941	462,888	285,556	11,116	866,779	1,630,280	3·3	3,820,000	13
June	4,678	553,789	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

[1] Average monthly number of persons employed, and average monthly number of families on relief.

TABLE V

FINANCE

1. *Federal Budgets and Federal Debt*

(Amounts in millions of dollars)

Financial year ending June 30	All Government Receipts	All Government Expenditure [1]	Surplus + or Deficit −	Gross Federal debt at June 30 [2]
1913	724	725	..	1,193
1914	735	735	..	1,188
1915	698	761	−63	1,191
1916	783	734	+48	1,225
1917	1124	1,978	−853	2,976
1918	3665	12,698	−9,033	12,244
1919	5152	18,523	−13,371	25,482
1920	6695	6,482	+212	24,298
1921	5625	5,538	+87	23,976
1922	4109	3,795	+314	22,964
1923	4007	3,697	+310	22,350
1924	4012	3,507	+505	21,251
1925	3780	3,530	+251	20,516
1926	3963	3,585	+378	19,643
1927	4129	3,494	+636	18,510
1928	4042	3,644	+399	17,604
1929	4033	3,848	+185	16,931
1930	4178	3,994	+184	16,185
1931 [3]	3190	4,093	−903	16,801
1932	2006	5,159	−3,153	19,487
1933	2080	5,148	−3,068	22,539
1934 [4]	3116	6,270	−3,154	27,053

[1] This includes in each case statutory expenditure for repayment of debt.

[2] Changes in the Federal Debt are due to changes in balances in the hands of the Treasury as well as to surpluses or deficits on income and expenditure.

[3] In 1931 and subsequently only the balances of trust and contributed funds are included.

[4] Estimated.

TABLE V (*continued*)

2. *Amount and Percentage Distribution of Long-term Debts by Class and Year*

(From *The Internal Debts of the United States*, edited by Evans Clark)

(Amounts in millions of dollars)

Class	Latest Available Year		1929]		Post War Depression Year		Pre-War Year	
	Amount	Per Cent of Total	Amount	Per cent of Total	Amount	Per Cent of Total	Amount	Per Cent of Total
Farm Mortgage Debts .	8,500	6·7	9,469 (*a*)	8·0	7,858 (*c*)	10·9	3,320	9·1
Urban Mortgage Debts .	27,554 (*e*)	21·7	27,616	23·2	8,968	12·4	5,151	14·1
Railroad Debts . .	14,264	11·3	14,065	11·8	13,216	18·3	11,186	30·7
Public Utility Debts. .	11,225 (*f*)	8·9	9,251	7·8	5,249 (*b*)	7·3	3,294 (*b*)	9·0
Industrial Debts . .	10,450	8·2	10,170	8·5	4,820	6·7	3,738	10·3
Financial Debts . .	21,919	17·3	19,767	16·6	6,740	9·3	4,040	11·1
Federal Debts (*d*) . .	14,237	11·2	12,155	10·2	15,965	22·1	0·968	2·1
State and Local Debts .	18,685	14·7	16·556	13·9	9,420	13·0	4,751	13·6
Total Reported Debt .	126,834		119,049		72,236		36,448	
Total Estimated Debt (*g*) .	134,280		126,433		75,158		37,989	

(*a*) 1928. (*b*) Excluding manufactured gas companies. (*c*) 1920.
(*d*) Federal Debt amounted to $26,977 million on June 30, 1934.
(*e*) Total mortgage holdings of all institutions and individuals estimated at $35,000 million at Dec. 31, 1931.
(*f*) Inclusion of funded debt of holding companies brings aggregate debt to $14,000 million at Dec. 31, 1931.
(*g*) Including total reported debt *plus* adjustments to make totals for all years comparable. The adjustments are made to correct omissions in the reported debt figures and are based on known figures and assumed relationships.

TABLE VI

STOCK EXCHANGE STATISTICS

1. *Stock Exchange Prices*

(1926 = 100)

Month	High Grade Bonds	High Grade Preferred Stocks	Total	Common Stocks		
				In-dustrial	Rail-road	Public Utility
1929 June .	95·3	127·7	190·7	191·0	144·8	233·0
„ Dec. .	96·5	126·4	153·8	146·9	136·3	200·9
1930 June .	98·2	126·8	152·8	143·1	124·5	223·5
„ Dec. .	97·8	121·9	109·4	101·9	93·5	157·9
1931 June .	89·4	119·7	95·1	86·5	74·0	153·0
„ Dec. .	81·6	99·1	57·7	54·3	33·0	95·6
1932 June .	72·2	83·6	34·0	34·0	14·0	55·0
„ Dec. .	82·2	95·4	47·0	45·0	26·0	80·0
1933:						
January .	84·1	97·8	49·0	46·0	28·0	82·0
February .	82·5	95·7	45·0	43·0	27·0	78·0
March .	76·7	93·1	43·0	42·0	26·0	69·0
April . .	75·4	95·9	48·0	49·0	26·0	64·0
May . .	82·0	103·3	63·0	65·0	38·0	79·0
June . .	86·8	109·7	75·0	77·0	44·0	97·0
July . .	89·6	112·5	80·0	84·0	53·0	98·0
August .	89·9	112·9	75·0	79·0	49·0	87·0
September .	87·9	112·0	75·0	81·0	47·0	80·0
October .	86·5	109·8	70·0	76·0	40·0	75·0
November .	82·6	107·5	69·0	77·0	38·0	70·0
December .	83·6	107·7	70·0	79·0	40·0	67·0
1934:						
January .	88·3	111·2	76·0	84·0	46·0	73·0
February .	92·9	116·5	81·0	88·0	50·0	81·0
March .	95·1	117·5	77·0	85·0	48·0	76·0
April. .	97·0	120·2	80·0	88·0	49·0	76·0
May . .	97·6	121·0	72·0	80·0	43·0	70·0
June . .	99·0	122·1	74·0	81·0	44·0	72·0

Sources.—Federal Reserve Board Report for 1931, and the Federal Reserve Bulletins.

TABLE VI (*continued*)

STOCK EXCHANGE STATISTICS

2. Stock Prices compared with Commodity Prices

(1926–1929)

Date	Standard Statistics Common Stock Price Index (1926 = 100) (1)	Average Monthly Volume of Stock Sales on N.Y. Stock Exchange (millions of shares) (2)	Bureau of Labour Statistics Wholesale Commodity Price Index (1926 = 100) (3)
1926[1] . .	100·0	37·42	100·0
1927 . .	118·3	48·08	95·4
1928 . .	149·9	76·71	96·7
1929 . .	190·3	93·75	95·3
1929:			
January .	185·2	110·8	95·9
February .	186·5	77·97	95·4
March .	189·1	105·6	96·1
April . .	186·6	82·60	95·5
May . .	187·8	91·28	94·7
June . .	190·7	69·55	95·2
July . .	207·3	93·38	96·5
August .	218·1	95·70	96·3
September .	225·2	100·1	96·1
October .	201·7	141·7	95·1
November .	151·1	72·46	93·5
December .	153·8	83·86	93·3

ORIGINAL SOURCES.—(1) Standard Statistics Co.; (2) *New York Times*; (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics

[1] Annual average for each of the years 1926 to 1929.

TABLE VI (*continued*)

STOCK EXCHANGE STATISTICS

3. Stock Exchange Speculation

(1919 = 100)

Year (1)	National Income (2)	Securities sold on N.Y. Exchange (3)	Column 3 as % of Column 2 (4)
1920	112·2	71·6	64
1921	96·1	54·8	57
1922	100·0	83·3	83
1923	112·7	75·8	67
1924	117·0	90·1	77
1925	124·2	144·5	113
1926	127·7	143·5	112
1927	132·3	184·4	139
1928	133·9	294·2	219
1929	138·6	359·4	253
1930	123·3	259·1	210
1931	101·6	184·3	181
1932	79·6	135·9	171
1933	..	209·3	..

SOURCES.—Bureau of National Economics; the Department of Agriculture in "Economic Bases for the Agricultural Adjustment Act"; and New York Stock Exchange Year Book.

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THE END

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