

"Furthermore, where the figures of an association do not cover the entire industry, the Bureau of the Census will be glad to receive data from the nonmember firms, to be added to the totals of the association in order to obtain a report which will be as nearly complete as possible for the entire industry. We are only able to handle these reports from non-member firms when the outside firms agreeing to report to us are numerous enough so that no individual figures would be disclosed by subtraction of the association figures from the grand total.

"At the present time, the Bureau of the Census is collecting monthly or quarterly reports on 36 different industries, 17 in the Survey of Current Business Division (comprising mostly reports collected in conjunction with trade associations) and 19, all, with one exception, in the Division of Agriculture, Cotton and Tobacco, in which the reports are collected directly from the manufacturers. Of the above inquiries, 5 have been inaugurated this year, and several new inquiries are now in preparation."

#### **Distribution Statistics Available Through the Federal Reserve Board**

Mr. Walter W. Stewart, Director of the Division of Research and Statistics of the Federal Reserve Board, has been kind enough to furnish your Committee with the facts from which the following statement has been prepared touching the work of the Federal Reserve Board in the field of statistics showing current conditions in wholesale and retail trade.

#### **WHOLESALE TRADE**

The Federal Reserve Board receives figures showing monthly sales of about 1400 wholesale firms reporting from 302 cities, having an annual business of over \$2,000,000,000. Monthly reports of stocks on hand are also received from a large number of these firms, and some of them report collections and accounts receivable.

The table below lists the 21 lines from which wholesale reports are received by the Federal Reserve Banks, together with a number of establishments in each line reporting sales, and the number reporting stocks. National index numbers of wholesale trade in six of these lines have been included by the Federal Reserve Board and are published each month in the Federal Reserve Bulletin.