Stockton is located in the delta region of the San Joaquin River Valley 84 miles east of San Francisco and 48 miles south of Sacramento, the state capital. As in the latter city, the extremes in elevation vary but slightly, with a maximum elevation of 23 feet, leading to flat, homogeneous neighborhood areas. The physical development of Stockton has been guided largely by the numerous sloughs and channels threading the city many of which are bordered by levees for protection in flood-time. Generously provided with well maintained parks and playgrounds as well as with many miles of paved, tree-shaded streets, Stockton is typical of the beautiful valley cities of California.

I. GENERAL CONDITIONS

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

Although Stockton, again like neighboring Sacramento, got its start as a gold mining and supply center, agriculture soon thereafter displaced mining as the city's principal support. Subsequent industrial development has been confined principally to farm tool and implement manufacturing and to the processing and canning of fruits and produce. The city remains primarily a distribution center for the surrounding agricultural area, but the recent construction of a deep-water channel to the Pacific Ocean has broadened the market served and enhanced Stockton's importance in this respect. The repeal of the 18th Amendment proved of material benefit to the area as the entire farming section to the north of the city is devoted to vineyards and wine manufacturing.

SOURCES OF EMPLOYMENT

Both manufacturing and trade afforded employment to about 20% of the city's gainfully employed workers in 1930. As in most other non-industrial centers, the professional and service and the domestic groups rank high in the numbers employed, accounting for 17% and 13% respectively of the workers in 1930. The location of new manufacturing plants in the city since that year is not believed to have altered these ratios to any material extent.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Business is currently near 1925 peak levels despite a moderate recession since the fall of 1937. The recent establishment of several new industries within or immediately adjacent to the city took up the slack of unemployment occasioned by the removal of several large farm machinery plants during the period 1925-1929. Depression employment and payrolls in Stockton were slightly above averages for the country as a whole and recovery to 1935 also closely paralleled the average experience. In addition to the benefits accruing to the city from its new industries, local wholesale trade has benefited considerably from the continued labor troubles involving San Francisco and Oakland warehouse workers. How much of the new business gained by Stockton wholesale distributors during this period of strife they will be able to retain is problematical now that the above labor situation has been straightened out.

GENERAL EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS*  
(City of Stockton)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>1929</th>
<th>1929</th>
<th>1930</th>
<th>1935（U.S. avg）</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Employment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Payrolls</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>72</td>
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*Includes employment and payrolls in manufacturing and trade which afford employment to about 40% of the city's gainfully employed.