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Notes on Some Prices in Britain

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N.B. This pamphlet is intended as a very rough and completely unofficial indication of the prices of some commodities and services in Britain. Its limitations are emphasised in the Introduction. It is produced for British Information Services, and is intended to be used for reference purposes. It may be freely used in preparing articles, speeches, broadcasts, etc. No acknowledgment is necessary. *Please note the date of preparation.*

Notes on Some Prices in Britain

Introduction

THE object of this paper is to give people overseas a rough indication of the sort of prices that are paid in Britain for goods and services in common consumption. This latest edition of the paper relates mainly to retail prices in London in October 1963. As an up-to-date guide to prices, it therefore supersedes COI Reference Paper R.5452, *Notes on Some Prices in Britain*, which related to August 1962.

Part I of the paper consists of a list of prices of goods and services, for the most part being based on first-hand observations made by staff of the Central Office of Information who visited shops, mainly in Central London.

Even as an eye-witness report, the list of prices makes no pretension to be in any way comprehensive or authoritative. No attempt is made to cover a fully representative cross-section of shops and, indeed, goods in the luxury class are expressly excluded. The examples given are simple examples found at a particular date, and while in the case of most goods, including food and fuel, they are probably broadly representative, in other cases, e.g., clothing, a more exhaustive survey would certainly reveal a wider range of prices, reflecting not only differences in the quality and style of goods but a host of factors, including the class of shop patronised and the exclusiveness of the design.

For this reason, examples of clothing prices in chain stores specialising in clothes have been given, as well as examples at the rather higher average prices in London department stores (which may also stock some cheaper goods). Chain store prices have also been given, as well as other prices, for the small household goods, e.g., dusters and kitchen utensils. All chain store prices have been asterisked. It should be noted that slightly different price levels may prevail in other parts of Britain and that foodstuffs are subject to considerable seasonal fluctuations in prices.

Purchase tax—which, with a few exceptions (see p. 15), is not levied on food—is not payable on goods bought by visitors to Britain under the Personal Export Scheme for use outside the country, and visitors can therefore obtain certain goods at prices rather lower than those quoted.

In view of the character of this survey and its predecessors, attempts to establish price trends by comparison of the surveys could easily be misleading. It has not been possible to ensure that exactly the same quality of article was priced on each occasion, and in a number of cases the articles priced on the different occasions have been of different qualities, either because it became known to the compilers that the higher quality is that most commonly bought or simply because the observer could not easily find anything comparable to the article priced on previous occasions.

Part II gives notes on a number of studies which may help in the assessment of prices, incomes and purchasing power in Britain and contains a number of statistical tables, quoted or calculated from these studies. These notes again lay no claim to be comprehensive. Further information is available in COI reference paper R.5319, *The Standard of Living in Britain*.

Part I. List of Prices

FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO

Item	Description	Quantity	Price
Bread	large loaf (white)	1½ lb.	1s. 1d. — 1s. 4d.
Flour	white, self-raising	3 lb.	1s. 10d.
	white, plain	3 lb.	1s. 10d.
Biscuits	plain	1 lb.	1s. 6d.
	fancy	1 lb.	2s. 4d. upwards
Milk	ordinary	1 pt.	8d.
	TT	1 pt.	9d.
	Jersey	1 pt.	9½d.
Cream		1 gill	1s. 2d. — 2s. 0d.
Eggs	English new laid	1 doz.	4s. 0d. — 5s. 6d.
	imported	1 doz.	3s. 0d.
	(standard size)		
Cheese	English Cheddar	1 lb.	3s. 2d. — 3s. 6d.
	New Zealand Cheddar	1 lb.	2s. 6d.
	Gorgonzola, etc.	1 lb.	4s. 6d. upwards
Butter	Danish	1 lb.	4s. 0d.
	New Zealand	1 lb.	3s. 8d.
Margarine		1 lb.	1s. 9d. — 2s. 3d.
Cooking fat		1 lb.	1s. 6d. — 2s. 4d.
Lard		1 lb.	1s. 2d. — 1s. 6d.
Bacon	best—		
	short back	1 lb.	4s. 6d. — 5s. 0d.
	gammon	1 lb.	5s. 6d. — 5s. 8d.
	cheap—		
	streaky	1 lb.	2s. 6d. — 3s. 6d.
Meat	best—		
	English leg of lamb	1 lb.	4s. 3d. — 5s. 0d.
	sirloin of beef	1 lb.	5s. 6d. — 6s. 6d.
	pork chop	1 lb.	4s. 6d. — 6s. 6d.
	fillet steak	1 lb.	8s. 6d. upwards
	braising steak	1 lb.	6s. 0d. upwards
	cheap—		
	stewing steak	1 lb.	3s. 8d. — 4s. 6d.
	minced beef	1 lb.	3s. 2d.
	New Zealand mutton	1 lb.	2s. 0d. — 3s. 0d.
	sausages—pork	1 lb.	3s. 0d. upwards
	beef	1 lb.	2s. 0d.
Fish	best—		
	sole	1 lb.	4s. 6d. — 6s. 0d.
	plaice	1 lb.	3s. 0d. — 4s. 0d.
	cheap—		
	cod	1 lb.	1s. 10d. — 2s. 8d.
	herrings	1 lb.	10d.
Fruit—e.g.			
apples (dessert)		1 lb.	1s. 3d. — 2s. 6d.
bananas		1 lb.	1s. 0d. — 1s. 6d.
oranges		1 lb.	1s. 0d. — 1s. 3d.
strawberries	(in season)	1 lb.	2s. 6d. — 4s. 0d.

Food, Drink and Tobacco—continued

Item	Description	Quantity	Price
Vegetables—e.g.			
potatoes		1 lb.	4d.
carrots		1 lb.	8d. — 1s. 0d.
cabbage		1 lb.	6d.
onions		1 lb.	8d.
Jam	plum	1 lb.	1s. 4d.
	good quality— strawberry	1 lb.	1s. 10d. — 2s. 6d.
Salt	cooking	1½ lb.	6d.
	table	1 lb.	5d.
Sugar	brown	1 lb.	1s. 6d.
	granulated	1 lb.	9½d.
	lump	1 lb.	1s. 1d.
Spaghetti		small tin	6d. — 1s. 0d.
	long	1 lb.	1s. 3d. — 1s. 10d.
Rice		1 lb.	1s. 1d.
Cereals—			
oatmeal (rolled oats)		1 lb.	1s. 0d. — 1s. 2d.
cornflakes		large packet	1s. 6d.
Frozen foods—e.g.			
peas		5 oz.	1s. 0d.
strawberries		10 oz.	3s. 3d.
fish	fillets of plaice	8 oz.	2s. 2d.
Canned foods—e.g.			
peas		1 lb. 3½ oz.	11½d. — 1s. 8d.
peaches		1 lb. 13 oz.	2s. 3d. — 3s. 3d.
stewed steak		15½ oz.	2s. 6d. — 3s. 6d.
luncheon meat		12 oz.	2s. 2d. — 3s. 6d.
Beverages			
tea	cheap	¼ lb.	1s. 3d. — 1s. 7d.
	best (Indian)	¼ lb.	2s. 2d.
coffee		½ lb. tin	3s. 7d. upwards
	instant	2 oz. tin	2s. 0d. — 2s. 9d.
		½ lb. tin	2s. 3d.
cocoa			
Alcoholic drinks			
beer (draught)		1 pt.	1s. 6d. — 2s. 2d.
cider		flagon 2 pts.	1s. 10d.
whisky	standard brands	bottle	41s. 6d.
gin	standard brands	bottle	39s. 9d.
wine (table)	Commonwealth	bottle	5s. 0d. upwards
	other	bottle	5s. 6d. upwards
Tobacco	pipe	1 oz.	3s. 11d. — 5s. 9d.
	cigarettes		
	(standard brands)	20	4s. 6d.
	(filter tips)	20	3s. 10d.
	(lower-grade brands)	20	3s. 2d.
Confectionery			
chocolate	standard	2 oz. bar	7d.
chocolate		per lb.	4s. 6d. — 9s. 6d.
miscellaneous		per lb.	2s. 8d. — 6s. 0d.

CANTEEN AND RESTAURANT MEALS

Schools

Subsidised hot lunches in maintained schools are provided at prices up to 1s.; in cases of hardship no charge is made.

Canteens

Subsidised hot meals at prices ranging from 1s. to 4s. are provided for their employees by a very large number of commercial and industrial concerns.

Restaurants

Tea (cup) 6d.—10d.

Coffee (cup) 9d.—1s. 0d.

Sandwich (ham) 1s. 6d.—2s. 0d.

3-course lunch at a chain restaurant: 4s. 0d.—6s. 6d.

at a medium-price restaurant: 7s. 0d.—12s. 6d.

HOUSING AND OTHER ACCOMMODATION

Dwelling accommodation in Britain as a whole consists mainly of houses, many of them in terraces or semi-detached. Flats (apartments) are more numerous than houses in Scotland; they are common in the inner suburbs of London, and all the larger industrial cities contain large blocks of apartment dwellings. Many of the larger houses have been converted into sets of flats.

Unfurnished Rented Houses and Flats

Rents vary not only with the value of accommodation and the type of neighbourhood but regionally, being generally lower in Scotland and the north of England and higher in London and the south. Rents are also generally lower in rural than in urban areas.

Apart from these general factors, rents in Britain are affected by rent control and housing subsidies. Over one-third of all houses in Great Britain were let unfurnished at controlled rents when the Rent Act, 1957, came into operation on 6th July, 1957. Of these houses (over 5½ million) some 800,000 ceased to be controlled in October 1958 (that is, those with a rateable value, as defined below, of upwards of £40 in London and Scotland and £30 in England and Wales outside London). Other provisions of the Act have the effect of gradually reducing the number of rent-controlled houses. Before the Act was passed nearly three-quarters of the tenants of controlled houses in England and Wales were paying net rents which did not exceed 10s. a week. Limited increases were permitted in the rents of houses remaining subject to control, the actual amount depending on the extent of the landlord's responsibility for repairs and other factors. The four million publicly owned houses are not subject to rent control, but their rents have been kept down by housing subsidies from central and local government funds. Some local authorities operate differential rent schemes whereby the rents charged for their houses may be varied according to the tenant's ability to pay.

In addition to rent, the tenant of an unfurnished house is usually responsible for the payment of rates, a local tax on occupied premises based on the annual rateable value of the property, as determined by periodical survey, multiplied by the rate poundage fixed by the local authority. When the landlord pays the rates he charges the tenant an inclusive rent. Rates normally amount to between a quarter and a half of the actual rent where the rent is not restricted.

In most areas demand for unfurnished rented accommodation has exceeded supply; and the scarcity has tended to raise rents not subject to control. An uncontrolled flat with two bedrooms in a favoured locality in central London, for example, will probably cost from £600 a year upwards (including rates).

Houses and Flats for Purchase

In most areas houses and flats for purchase are more plentiful than similar accommodation for letting. However, there has been a steep rise in prices during the last few years. Since 1957 increases in the prices of second-hand houses in the Greater London area have been of the order of 40 per cent and those of rural houses of about one-third. On average, houses and flats in London and the south-east bring double the figure for some northern districts.

Newly built, small, semi-detached houses (which accounted for over 50 per cent of homes under construction in 1963) cost from £2,200 to £5,000. Modern flats cost from £4,300 upwards in London and a little less in the provinces. Old terrace houses requiring modernisation may be priced as low as £1,350 in some localities.

Building societies will usually provide mortgages of up to 85 per cent, or even more, of the value of new property.

Furnished Accommodation

The cost of furnished accommodation in Britain is governed—as in the case of other types of accommodation—by the location. Prices in London and in big cities are higher than elsewhere.

In London conditions are particularly difficult at present, and flats at a reasonable rent are not easily found in central London. A three-roomed flat with kitchen and bath will cost from £6 6s. 0d. up to £12 12s. 0d. a week. Some landlords will not permit children.

Bed-sitting rooms are easier to obtain, but in London the price range is from £3 0s. 0d. to £5 0s. 0d. Rooms with partial board (e.g., breakfast and evening meal) are practically non-obtainable in Central London at reasonable prices; the price range for this type of accommodation in the suburbs would normally be from £5 5s. 0d. to £7 7s. 0d. Conditions are somewhat easier outside of London.

Furnished houses will let for about £9 0s. 0d. to £10 0s. 0d. a week in London and rather less elsewhere.

Hotel Accommodation (excluding service charge, usually of 10 per cent)

LONDON

Central and West End	45s. 0d. to 140s. 0d.	per night (bed and breakfast)
Inner London	27s. 6d. to 70s. 0d.	” ” ” ” ”
Suburbs	18s. 6d. to 45s. 0d.	” ” ” ” ”

PROVINCES

First-class	45s. 0d. to 90s. 0d.	” ” ” ” ”
Others	17s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.	” ” ” ” ”

WEEKLY TERMS (full board)

General	£7 7s. 0d. to £20 0s. 0d.
Seaside resorts (in season)	£8 8s. 0d. to £25 0s. 0d.

FUEL AND LIGHT

Item	Price
Gas (London area)	Flat rate: 25.35d. (2s. 1½d.) per therm (200 cu. ft. gas) plus a standing charge of 7s. per quarter Domestic two-part rate: 19.44 (1s. 7½d.) per therm plus a standing charge of £1. 12. 0. per quarter
Electricity	Domestic rate, two-part tariff with a minimum fixed charge of 18s. 5d. per annum increasing with dimensions of the premises, plus 1½d. for all units consumed
Coal (London)—best	£13. 0. 0. per ton
cheapest	£8. 0. 0. per ton
Coke	£9. 10. 0.—£12. 10. 0. per ton
Paraffin oil (best quality)	2s. 2d. per gallon

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Item	Description	Price
Bedstead	oak—double	£7.10. 0.—£20. 0. 0.
Mattress	interior-sprung—single	£4.15. 0.
	double	£7. 0. 0.—£15.15. 0.
Divan and mattress	interior-sprung, single, 3 ft.	£15.15. 0.—£26.12. 0.
Bedroom suite	dressing table and 2 wardrobes	£45. 0. 0.—£90. 0. 0.
Child's cot	wood	£6.10. 0.
Fireside chair	sprung—wooden arms	£5.10. 0.—£16.16. 0.
Settee and 2 easy chairs		£29. 8. 0.—£70. 0. 0.
Dining table		£7. 0. 0.—£12.10. 0.
Dining chair	set of four	£10. 0. 0.—£15. 0. 0.
Kitchen chair		17s. 6d.—£2. 10. 0.
Curtain material	cotton and rayon damask, per yard	8s. 11d.—£1. 5. 0.
	Terylene net " "	5s. 11d.
Carpets	Indian 12 ft. × 9 ft.	£31. 0. 0.—£45. 0. 0.
	Axminster seamless 12 ft. × 9 ft.	£35.10. 0.—£44. 0. 0.
	Wilton, 27 in., per yard	15s. 9d.—£2. 5. 6.
	cheap—per sq. yd.	8s. 11d.
Linoleum		17s. 4d.
Vinyl floor tiles—per sq. yd.		£24.10. 0.—£55. 0. 0.
Kitchen cooker	gas or electric	£87. 0. 0.—£100.0. 0.
Sewing machine	(Singer)	£31. 1. 3. upwards
Washing machine	(including wringer)	£35. 0. 0.—£103.0. 0.
Radio set	portable (transistor)	£8. 0. 0.—£19. 5. 0.
	table model	£12. 0. 0.—£25.15. 0.
Refrigerator		£35. 0. 0.—£75. 0. 0.
Electric mixer	(Sunbeam)	£21.14. 0.
Television set	(Decca) dual standard, 23 in. tube, console	£97.13. 0.
	(Ferranti)—13 channel, 19 in. tube, table model	£61.19. 0.
	Rental charges per week	8s. 6d.—12s. 0d.

Household Goods—continued

Item	Description	Price
Electric iron	(Morphy Richards)—steam iron	£4.11. 6.
Vacuum cleaner		£11.14. 0.—£38. 4. 0.
Electric fire	(Hotpoint) 2 kW	£12.12. 0.
Gas fire		£6.15. 0.
Convactor heater	(Aladdin)	£9.11. 0.
Slow-burning oil stove		£8. 8. 0.—£11.11. 0.
Pressure cooker	(Prestige)	£5. 9. 6.
Saucepan	aluminium medium size	*3s. 6d.
	ground base " "	*13s. 6d.
Kettle	aluminium " "	9s. 0d.
	electric " "	£5. 5. 0.
Sweeping brush	bristle	*5s. 0d.—7s. 6d.
Carpet brush	bristle	*2s. 6d.—7s. 11d.
Ironing board		£2.15. 9.—£6.10. 0.
Scrubbing brush		*1s. 6d.
Pail	plastic	*3s. 6d.—10s. 6d.
Dustbin	galvanised	£1.17. 6.
Duster		*1s. 0d.
Household soap	packet (2 bars)	1s. 0d.
Detergent	large	1s. 6d.—1s. 9d.
Soap flakes	large	1s. 10d.
Cutlery—		
set of 6 of every-thing	stainless steel knives and EPNS Sheffield plate chromium plate	£13. 0. 0. £5.10. 0.
China—		
Dinner set for 6		*£1. 4. 6. £4. 9. 9.—£10. 8. 0.
Tea set for 6		*£1. 0. 0. £2.18. 0.—£5. 0. 0.
Set of 24 pieces	bone china	£7.10. 0.
Casserole dish	Pyrosil	£2. 5. 5.
Luggage	Man's suitcase 24 × 18 × 7½ in. Lady's suitcase 21 × 15 × 6½ in.	£9.16. 6. £6.10. 0.
Linen—		
Sheets	cotton, plain, single size per pair Egyptian cotton, corded top, single size 80 × 110 inches per pair	£2. 7. 0. £2.14. 0.
Pillow slip	cotton, plain Egyptian cotton, corded edge	3s. 6d. 10s. 3d.
Bath towel	medium size, turkish towelling, 30 × 54 inches	8s. 11d.—21s. 0d.
Blanket	single-bed, 70 × 90 in. Witney, all wool coloured Witney, full weight	£3. 7. 6. £6. 3. 0.
Eiderdown	single-bed, rayon or cotton cover single-bed, satin cover double-bed	£1.19. 6. £5.15. 0.—£12. 0. 0. £4.15. 0.

*Chain store

TOILET REQUISITES

Item	Price
Toilet soap—Palmolive	10d. & 1s. 4d.
Yardley	2s. 6d. — 4s. 3d.
Shampoo (for 1 shampoo)	7d. — 10d.
Toothpaste	2s. 1d. — 4s. 1d.
Night cream	1s. 8d. — 5s. 6d. small size
	11s. 6d. " "
Foundation—Outdoor Girl	2s. 6d. " "
Powder—Outdoor Girl	1s. 6d. " "
Arden	12s. 9d. " "
Lipstick—Yardley	5s. 0d. " "
Rouge—Coty	3s. 11d.
Helena Rubinstein	7s. 6d.

CLOTHING

Item	Material	Price
Women		
Hat	straw	*10s. 11d. £1. 1. 0. upwards
	felt	*13s. 11d. £1. 3. 0. upwards
Overcoat	winter—wool	*£5. 0. 0. £12. 0. 0. — £16. 0. 0.
Suit	wool jersey	*£3. 19. 11. £7. 17. 6. — £15. 15. 0.
	wool worsted	
Dress	wool	*£3. 5. 6. £7. 0. 0. — £18. 0. 0.
	cotton	*£1. 9. 11. £3. 0. 0. — £8. 10. 0.
	rayon	*£2. 0. 0. £5. 5. 0. £3. 3. 0. — £5. 0. 0.
Raincoat	non-iron cotton	
	plastic	14s. 11d.
	cotton poplin	*£4. 15. 0.
	gaberdine	£8. 19. 6.
Blouse	cotton	*15s. 11d. & 18s. 11d. 19s. 11d. & £2. 2. 0.
	rayon	*19s. 11d. — £1. 2. 6. £2. 19. 11.
	Tricel	*17s. 11d., £2. 0. 0., £4. 4. 0.
Sweater and Cardigan	pure Botany wool, fully fashioned	*£1. 9. 11. £3. 0. 0. — £4. 10. 0.

*Chain store

Clothing—continued

Item	Material	Price
Women (contd.)		
Sweater and Cardigan (contd.)	pure lambswool	*£2.12. 6. £5.15. 0. — £9. 9. 0.
	Orlon	£4. 4. 0.
Skirt	Terylene and wool	*£2. 7. 6. £3. 3. 0. upwards
Shoes	leather	*£2. 9.11. £2. 9.11. — £7. 7. 0.
Stockings	nylon	*3s. 11d. — 8s. 6d. 6s. 11d. — 12s. 6d.
Corset	elastic roll-on	*10s. 6d. — 19s. 11d.
	nylon elastic roll-on	£1.11. 6.
Brassiere	cotton	*6s. 6d. 10s. 0d. — £2. 2. 0.
Vest	rayon	*7s. 11d.
	wool	£1. 0. 0. — £1.10. 0.
Panties	wool	£1. 4. 6.
	cotton	*2s. 11d. 5s. 11d.
	nylon	*4s. 11d. 6s. 11d. — 14s. 11d.
Slip	nylon	*15s. 0d. upwards
	cotton	*22s. 0d.
Pyjamas	winceyette	*19s. 11d.
	wool	£2. 2. 0.
	rayon	*19s. 11d., £1. 4.11., £1. 5. 6.
	cotton	£1. 6.11.
Nightdress	Clydella (wool and cotton mixture)	£2. 7. 6.
	cotton	*£1. 7.11. £1. 9.11.
	nylon	*£1. 7.11. — £2. 5. 0. £1.19.11. — £6. 6. 0.
Housecoat	wool	*£2. 9.11. £4. 4. 0. — £8. 8. 0.
	cotton	*£1.19. 6. — £2. 9. 0. £2. 9.11. — £3.10. 0.
Gloves	leather, wool-lined	*17s. 11d. £1. 5. 0., £1. 9.11., £1.12. 6.
	knitted wool	*3s. 6d. 7s. 6d.
	cotton fabric	*3s. 11d. 6s. 11d. — 12s. 11d.
Men		
Working overalls	cotton denim—boiler suit coat	£1.11. 0. £1. 9. 0.
Hat	felt	£1.10. 0. — £2.10. 0.

*Chain store

Clothing—continued

Item	Material	Price
Men (contd.)		
Cap	cloth	10s. 6d. — £1. 7. 6.
Gloves	leather, wool-lined	*17s. 11d. £1. 1. 9. — £1.15. 0. 2s. 11d. — 5s. 3d.
Winter overcoat	knitted wool wool	*£8. 0. 0. £15. 0. 0. — £25. 4. 0.
Raincoat	cotton wool gaberdine	*£5. 0. 0. £7.10. 0. — £13.13. 0.
Suit	wool—ready made tailor made	£8.15. 0. — £12.12. 0. £22.10. 0. — £48. 0. 0.
Sports jacket	tweed	*£4.15. 0. — £7. 7. 0. £10.10. 0.
Trousers	flannel	*£3. 5. 0. — £5.12. 6. £7. 7. 0.
Shirt	cotton wool Terylene sports shirt	£2. 5. 0. £1.19. 6. — £2.17. 6. *£1. 8.11. — £4. 0. 0. 17s. 11d. — £1.15. 0.
Cardigan	wool	*£2. 0. 0. £3. 3. 0. — £7. 0. 0.
Socks	wool	*4s. 9d. 8s. 6d.
Shoes	leather	*£3.10. 0. £4. 5. 0. — £7.15. 0.
Vest	cotton wool	*5s. 6d. — 12s. 6d. 17s. 3d. *13s. 0d. £1.13. 6. — £1.15. 6.
Pants	cotton wool	*4s. 6d. 9s. 0d. — 18s. 0d. *15s. 6d. £1.12. 6.
Pyjamas	cotton winceyette union flannel	£1.15. 0. — £3. 5. 0. *19s. 11d. — £2.10. 0. £2. 7. 0.
Dressing gown	wool rayon	*£3. 6. 6. £3.19. 6. — £6.16. 0. *£2. 1. 0.
Tie	rayon silk and Terylene	£2.15. 9. — £3. 3. 0. *6s. 6d. 7s. 6d., 21s. 0d.
Children		
Socks	wool wool—Viyella	*2s. 11d. 3s. 11d., 4s. 11d.
Shoes	leather	*25s. 6d. £2. 5. 0.

*Chain store

Clothing—continued

Item	Material	Price
Children (<i>contd.</i>)		
Shirt	boy's	*17s. 6d. 23s. 6d.
Coat	wool, girl's	£5.15. 6. — £9. 0. 0.
Raincoat	gaberdine	*£3.10. 0. £4.15. 0.
Dress	drip-dry cotton	*£1. 4.11. £1. 5. 0. — £2. 5. 0.
	wool mixture	*£1. 9. 0.
	" " —Clydella	£2. 9. 6.
Blazer	wool serge	£5. 5. 0.
Cardigan	wool	*14s. 6d. — 18s. 0d. £1.10. 6.
Vest	wool	*6s. 11d. 14s. 6d.
Pants	cotton	*2s. 11d. 7s. 6d.
Pyjamas	wool mixture—winceyette	*14s. 11d. — £1. 3. 6. £1. 7. 0. — £1.11. 0.

*Chain store

READING MATTER

National Daily Newspapers	Daily Mail, Daily Express, Daily Telegraph, Daily Herald, Daily Sketch, Daily Mirror	3d.
	The Guardian	4d.
	The Times	5d.
Periodicals	e.g., Woman	7d.
	Spectator, New Statesman	1s. 0d.
	Economist	2s. 0d.
	Geographical Magazine, Country Life	3s. 0d.
	London Magazine, Encounter	4s. 0d.
Books	Paper backed	2s. 6d.—10s. 6d.
	Cloth-backed reproductions (Everyman, World's Classics, etc.)	6s. 0d.—12s. 6d.
	New fiction: novels (cloth-bound)	16s. 6d.—25s. 0d.
	Non-fiction	18s. 0d. upwards

TRANSPORT

Rail

Generally speaking, fares on British railways are based upon a mileage rate of 3d. per mile for second class travel up to 200 miles. The basis for distances over 200 miles is slightly lower. (Half rates for children under 14.) First class fares are 50 per cent above second class. Return fares (available for three months) are double single fares. There are also several types of concessionary fares, for example, season tickets, special excursion rates, circular tour tickets, and for mid-week travel. Seat reservations cost 2s. per seat.

London

TUBE AND BUS—3d., 6d., 8d., 11d., 1s., 1s 6d., etc. 3d., 6d. and 8d. represent approximately 1-, 2- and 3-mile journeys.

TAXIS—Fares in London are 1s. 9d. for first $\frac{3}{8}$ ths of a mile, 3d. for each succeeding $\frac{1}{8}$ th of a mile. Higher fares are charged after 12.00 p.m.

Motor Cars

(i) List prices of new saloon cars.

Hillman <i>Imp</i>	£508 (£420 basic+£88 purchase tax)
Ford <i>Zephyr</i>	£773 (£639 basic+£134 purchase tax)
Jaguar 2.4 litre	£1,348 (£1,115 basic+£233 purchase tax)

(ii) List prices of used cars (1960 models in good condition).

Morris <i>Mini-Minor</i>	£300
Vauxhall <i>Victor</i>	£395
Rover <i>100</i>	£795

Petrol (London area)—Standard	4s. 4d. per gallon.
Premium	4s. 9d. per gallon.
100 octane	5s. 0d. per gallon.

Caravans £240—£520.

Motor Caravans £652—£1,000.

Car Hire (Self-Drive) Average charges—£2.15.0. per day (including 80 miles)

Excess mileage from 2d. per mile: £17.15.0. per week.

Cycles Adult's £16.10.0.—£27.10.0. Child's £14.14.0.

Child's Perambulator £16—£26.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Telephone

LOCAL CALLS (average local area 900 sq. miles): subscribers, 2½d.; call-offices, 4d. Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD), 2d. for 3 minutes.

TOLL AND TRUNK CALLS	Full Rate (3 min.)	Cheap Rate (6 p.m. to 6 a.m. week- days, and all Sunday)	Subscriber Trunk Dialling (3 min.)	STD Cheap Rate
Up to 35 miles	1s. 0d.	9d.	1s. 0d.	8d.
From 35 to 50 miles	1s. 9d.	1s. 3d.	1s. 6d.	1s. 0d.
From 50 to 75 miles	2s. 3d.	1s. 6d.	Over 50 miles 2s. 6d.	1s. 8d.
From 75 to 125 miles	3s. 0d.	2s. 0d.		
Over 125 miles	3s. 6d.	2s. 0d.		

N.B.—An additional 3d. is charged when the call is made from a call-office.

ALARM CALLS—Subscribers, 5d.; call-offices, 6d.

RENTAL CHARGE—Residence lines:

Exclusive	£3.10. 0. per quarter.
Shared	£3. 0. 0. per quarter.

Letters

Inland: 3d. for 1 oz., 4½d. for 2 oz., then 1½d. for each 2 oz.

Commonwealth: first oz. 3d., then 1½d. for each oz.

Other countries: first oz. 6d., then 4d. for each oz.

Air mail (outside Europe): per ½ oz. 9d., 1s. 3d., 1s. 6d. Air letter forms, 6d.

Postcards

Inland and Commonwealth 2½d.; other countries 4d.

Parcels (Inland)

Not over 2 lb. 2s. 0d.

Maximum 22 lb. 6s. 6d.

Printed Papers (Inland): 2½ oz. 2d., 4 oz. 4d., then 1d. per 2 oz.

Newspapers (Inland): first 6 oz., 3d.

Registration Fees (Inland): 1s. 9d. with £20 limit of compensation, then 1d. for every £20 up to 3s. 4d. for £400.

— (Overseas): 1s. 9d. with £2. 18. 0. limit of compensation.

Recorded Delivery (Inland): 6d. for compensation up to a maximum of £2. This service is not designed for valuable articles.

ENTERTAINMENTS**Theatre**

Stalls and Dress Circle 10s. 6d., 15s. 0d., 18s. 6d., 21s. 0d., 25s. 0d.

Upper Circle 7s. 6d. to 12s. 0d.

Gallery 4s. 6d.

Cinema

London, Suburban 2s. 6d.—4s. 6d.

London, West End 4s. 6d.—£1. 0. 0.

Football

3s. 0d.—12s. 6d.

Concert

3s. 6d.—£1. 5. 0.

Cricket (Lord's, admission to ground)

3s. 0d.

Horse Racing

4s. 0d.—£2. 0. 0.

Licences

Car £15. 0. 0.

Radio £1. 0. 0.

Television (with sound radio) £4. 0. 0.

Dog 7s. 6d.

SERVICES**Domestic Help**

Charwoman per hour (London area) 4s. 0d.—5s. 6d.

Maid per week (resident) £4. 0. 0.—£5. 10. 0.

Cook per week (resident) £5. 0. 0.—£7. 10. 0.

Laundry

Sheet 1s. 0d.

Pillow slip 5d.

Shirt 1s. 8d.

Collar 6d.

Launderette

2s. 9d. for 8 lbs of washing.

Dry Cleaning

Suits and coats 6s. 0d.—14s. 0d.

Shoe RepairsSole and heel—women
men14s. 0d.
17s. 0d.—20s. 6d.**Hairdressing**Shampoo and set
Barber's haircut5s. 6d.—18s. 6d.
3s. 6d.—5s. 6d.**NOTE ON PURCHASE TAX AND OTHER EXCISE DUTIES****Purchase Tax**

Purchase tax is an *ad valorem* tax on the wholesale value of chargeable goods; it is imposed, in general, at the wholesale stage in the distribution of goods.

The following list indicates, in general terms, the principal kinds of goods which were chargeable with tax at the various rates in October 1963.

Rate of Tax	Goods
10 per cent	Garments (other than fur garments), most footwear, gloves, handkerchiefs, scarves, headgear, narrow fabrics, cushions, pillows, bolsters and mattresses. Most domestic, office and metal furniture. Garden furniture. Most floor coverings. Wallpaper. Domestic hardware, ironmongery, table-ware, kitchen-ware and toilet-ware. Most hand-operated domestic appliances. Cutlery, spoons, forks.
15 per cent	Chocolates, sweets and confectionery, chocolate biscuits, soft drinks (including fruit juices and bottled waters and syrups). Ice cream and ice lollies.
25 per cent	Lighting fittings, bulbs and mantles; hand lamps and hand torches. Clocks and watches of precious metals. Toys. Umbrellas. Certain toilet requisites and preparations. Drugs and medicines. Stationery and office requisites. Bicycles, motor cycles and light tricar. Most fur garments, fur headgear, fur rugs and fur skin. Musical instruments (other than keyboard instruments). Mirrors. Gas and electric space- and water-heating appliances and oil-burning space heaters. Domestic refrigerators, washing machines and vacuum cleaners. Smokers' requisites. Trunks, bags, purses, wallets, etc. Cameras and photographic goods. Jewellery. Ornaments and most fancy goods. Motor cars. Radio and television sets. Gramophones, records. Perfumery and cosmetics.

Goods which are free of tax include: foodstuffs (with the exceptions mentioned above), fuel, books, young children's garments and footwear, certain household goods, most non-woollen tissues and fabrics, domestic textile articles and soft furnishings; plastic sheeting, cooking stoves, pianos and organs, school satchels, shopping bags, toilet paper and tooth brushes, certain essential or non-proprietary drugs and medicines, invalid carriages and perambulators, office machinery, most industrial and building materials and appliances, most articles (e.g., spirits and tobacco) subject to other indirect taxation.

Part II. Studies of Cost of Living and Purchasing Power in Britain

(An Annotated Bibliography)

(A) NOTES ON STUDIES

Surveys of Income

Every six months, in the last pay weeks of April and October, the Ministry of Labour conducts a large-scale survey of hours of work and earnings (including piece-rate, shift-rate, and overtime earnings) in manufacturing and in a number of non-manufacturing industries. The latest published survey for April 1963 covered 57,000 undertakings employing 6.7 million workers. Table 1 gives weekly and hourly earnings in October 1961 in the main groups of industries and services.

The average hourly earnings given in Table 1 can be compared with the prices given in the body of this paper in order to estimate how long a man must work to purchase certain articles in common consumption [see Table 2]. These items can then be compared with those obtained by similar calculations in other countries. Further information on incomes and expenditure, is available in the Ministry of Labour's *Statistics on Incomes, Prices, Employment and Production* published quarterly by H.M. Stationery Office, price 12s. 6d.

Such comparisons, however, are necessarily very rough. There are likely to be differences in the articles compared, as well as in the ways of life and in the social and financial structures of which they form a part. For example, the National Health Service, for the most part without charge, and other social services in Britain narrow the field which the British worker has to cover out of his own earnings. On the other hand, direct taxation in Britain tends to fall more heavily than in most other countries on marginal earnings, except in the case of persons with relatively low incomes or having several dependants. For the effect of direct taxation on different levels of income see Table 3.

The National Income Blue Book

The annual Blue Book, *National Income and Expenditure, 1963* (HMSO, 6s. 0d.), gives a number of tables relevant to a consideration of purchasing power in the United Kingdom and its distribution and use. Table 3 is extracted from the Blue Book and the material in Table 4, showing expenditures on different kinds of goods and services at current prices for the years 1957 and 1962, is available in an expanded form in the Blue Book.

The rise of average post-tax income during the last 20 years is partly the reflection of the rise in prices during that period. It will be seen from Table 3, however, that there has been in recent years a marked growth in the number of incomes over £750 a year, while in the case of the highest range of incomes the proportion taken by income tax and surtax has fallen appreciably.

The Blue Book (and previous National Income Blue Books and White Papers) also gives tables showing expenditure on different types of consumer goods and services at constant prices, thus enabling the price and volume of elements in such expenditure to be distinguished and price and volume indices calculated.

Index of Wage Rates and Index of Retail Prices

These indices are compiled monthly by the Ministry of Labour and published in the *Ministry of Labour Gazette*.

The publication of a new monthly index of wage rates was introduced in February 1957. The index measures the movement from month to month in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries, with the level at 30th January, 1956, as 100. The rates of wages used for calculating the index numbers are the minimum, or standard, rates as fixed by voluntary collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The index numbers for the separate industries are combined together for the purpose of producing index numbers for all industry and services, and also for manufacturing industries, weighted on the basis of the aggregate weekly wages bill in each of the selected industries in October 1955. Changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours or in piece-work earnings due to variations in output are not reflected by the index. An approximate link between the new and the earlier index, to give a broad picture of movements in wage rates since June 1947, can be established by making use of the January 1956 (the base date for the new index) figure of 156.1 so calculated for the previous index. The April 1958 issue of the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* includes an article bringing together in convenient form the series of index numbers designed to measure percentage changes in rates of wages, and in normal hours of labour, in the principal industries and services, covering consecutive periods since 1880.

Index of Retail Prices

The index of retail prices measures the change from month to month in the average level of prices of the commodities and services purchased by the great majority of households in the United Kingdom, including practically all wage earners and most small and medium salary earners. As with most indices of this kind it is based on the price movements of a large and representative selection of goods and services. The index is a measurement of price changes only and does not reflect changes in expenditure resulting from variations in the nature and quantities of goods purchased from time to time. Accordingly the price comparisons used in compiling the index figures relate in general to a fixed list of items in given quantities. In order to ensure that, as far as possible, the index figures reflect real changes in price levels, no account is taken of changes in the prices quoted which are attributable solely to variations in the quality of the items on sale. The index is published each month in the *Ministry of Labour Gazette*.

The index is not calculated in terms of money but in percentage form, the average level of prices at the base date being represented by 100. Some goods and services are relatively much more important than others and the percentage changes in the price levels of the various items since the base date are combined by the use of 'weights'. The weights in use from January 1956 to January 1962 were based on the results of the Household Expenditure Enquiry made in 1953-54, adjusted to correspond with the level of prices ruling in January 1956.

The series of annual surveys of family expenditure was started in 1957, each based on a survey of a representative sample of 5,000 families. From the results of the latest reports (1958-62) the weighting of the index of retail prices was revised in 1962 and is being revised annually as further results become available. The new reference basis will remain in force for a minimum period of years (probably not less than ten).

About 350 items are used in calculating changes in the index, including television, second-hand cars, and nylon stockings, so that the index is representative of the wide range of modern consumer spending.

Table 5 shows the movements in rates of wages, earnings, salaries and retail prices, using 1955 as a base year. It will be seen that since 1955 average salary

earnings have risen at a slightly faster rate than average weekly earnings of manual workers as a whole, while the increase in retail prices over the same period has been about only half as large as that of earnings.

Household Expenditure

Full reports of the methods and results of the inquiries into household expenditure, which provided the basis of the Index of Retail Prices, were published in October 1957 (*Inquiry into Household Expenditure 1953/4*, HMSO, 37s. 6d.), in 1961 (*Family Expenditure Survey Report for 1957-1959*, HMSO, 12s. 6d.) and in 1963 (*Family Expenditure Survey Report for 1962*, HMSO, 15s. 0d.). Each of these sets out average household expenditure on different kinds of goods and reviews four groups of households classified by income, size, composition, and regional and social differences.

Levels of Food Consumption

The Statistics Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food prepares in tabulated form analyses of food consumption levels in Great Britain. Detailed figures are published annually in the *Board of Trade Journal*, which is the source of the material in Table 7, normally during July or August. Fuller information is given in the annual report of the National Food Survey Committee (*Domestic Food Consumption and Expenditure*, HMSO).

A National Survey of Personal Incomes and Savings

A series of papers by H. F. Lydall appeared in the *Bulletin of the Oxford University Institute of Statistics*, starting with the November-December 1952 issue. The collected papers, somewhat expanded, were published in 1955 as a book by Basil Blackwell Ltd., at 32s. 6d., under the title *British Incomes and Savings*. They have given, in considerable detail, the results of a sample survey of personal incomes and savings and have included information about capital holdings, incomes and expenditure of different sections of the community—information which is not readily available from other sources. These inquiries are being continued annually and further papers are published, from time to time, in the Bulletin. The most recent, *The Distribution of Personal Wealth in Britain*, by H. F. Lydall and D. G. Tipping, appeared in the issue of February 1961.

Studies of Long-term Trends

Information about consumer buying between 1900 and 1938 can be derived from two studies published in 1954 by the Cambridge University Press: *Consumer Expenditure in the United Kingdom 1910-1919*, by A. R. Prest, and *The Measurement of Consumer Expenditure and Behaviour in the United Kingdom 1920-1938*, by R. Stone.

Poverty and the Welfare State, by C. B. Rowntree and G. R. Lavers (Longmans, Green & Co. Ltd., 1951, 7s. 6d.), analyses in detail the pattern of expenditure in a particular area—the City of York—calling attention to the reduction of poverty that has taken place during the twentieth century and including the effect of social security benefits in reducing the incidence of poverty.

A sidelight on changes in the standard of living between 1900 and 1950 is given in the report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1951. Here the Factory Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service summed up—on the basis of departmental records, of the memories of the older inspectors, and of interviews with managers and workpeople—its impressions of the improvement during the twentieth century of working conditions and in the health and well-being of industrial workers.

Other studies of interest are those of long-term changes in industrial productivity or in net national products at constant prices. Examples of such studies are: 'National Income of the United Kingdom, 1870-1946', an article by A. R. Prest in the *Economic Journal* of March 1948; *Output, Employment and Pro-*

duction in *British Manufacturing Industries*, by A. Madison; *Bulletin of the Oxford University Institute of Statistics*, November 1955; and 'Industrial Production in the United Kingdom 1900-1953', by T. S. Ridley, *Economica*, February 1955.

(B) TABLES

TABLE 1

AVERAGE EARNINGS IN THE SECOND PAY-WEEK IN APRIL 1963(a)

	Men (21 years and over) (b)		Women (18 years and over, full- time) (c)	
	Average weekly earnings	Average hourly earnings	Average weekly earnings	Average hourly earnings
	s. d.	d.	s. d.	d.
Food, drink and tobacco	310 7	78·0	160 7	47·8
Chemicals and allied industries	335 8	86·4	159 4	47·8
Metal manufacture	340 10	90·1	162 8	50·1
Engineering and electrical goods	325 4	84·9	172 10	51·6
Shipbuilding and marine engineering	316 6	82·4	157 9	46·7
Vehicles	385 6	102·8	195 2	58·1
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	323 2	83·8	156 10	48·1
Textiles	293 10	75·8	159 10	48·7
Leather, leather goods and fur	287 3	74·3	154 0	47·1
Clothing and footwear	286 6	80·0	156 11	49·3
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc.	326 5	80·4	154 9	48·2
Timber, furniture, etc.	301 10	80·3	175 6	54·3
Paper, printing and publishing	377 5	98·9	173 11	52·6
Other manufacturing industries	330 6	84·4	158 7	48·1
All manufacturing industries	332 4	86·5	163 5	49·8
Mining and quarrying (excluding coal)	319 0	74·6	166 7	49·2
Construction	320 8	78·7	151 9	46·3
Gas, electricity and water	313 0	77·6	182 1	57·5
Transport and communication (excluding railways, London Transport and British Road Services)	322 3	78·0	224 10	62·0
Certain miscellaneous services (d)	281 2	73·1	145 4	43·1
Public administration (e)	255 11	68·4	173 9	51·2
All the above, including manufacturing industries	323 1	82·7	163 9	49·7

Source: *Ministry of Labour Gazette*, August 1963

- The averages have been calculated by applying the estimated total numbers of men employed in each industry to the average earnings of the workers covered by the returns received for that industry.
- Men ordinarily employed as part-time workers (for not more than 30 hours a week) have been excluded, the numbers shown in the returns having been insignificant.
- Women ordinarily employed as part-time workers are excluded.
- Consisting of laundries and dry cleaning, motor repairers and garages, and repair of boots and shoes.
- So far as national government service is concerned, industrial employees have, where possible, been included in the figures for industries, and only those employees who could not be assigned to these other industries or services have been included under 'Public Administration'.

The principal employments not covered by these half-yearly inquiries are agriculture, coalmining, British Railways, London Transport, British Road Services, the shipping service, port transport (dock labour), the distributive trades, and catering trades, the entertainment industries, commerce and banking, and domestic service.

Average total weekly earnings of hired regular whole-time agricultural male workers (20 years and over) in Great Britain, were 228s. 2d. in the six-month period to March 1963. In England and Wales only, hourly average earnings over the same period were 54.5d. Average weekly earnings of registered dock workers, according to statistics compiled by the National Dock Labour Board, were 354s. 11d. in the first quarter of 1963. In coalmining for the week ended 27th April average weekly cash earnings were 365s. 0d., and in addition allowances in kind were valued at 23s. 10d.

Salaries

The Ministry of Labour also compiles an index of average earnings of salaried employees. Since 1955 the Ministry of Labour has collected annually information about the earnings of administrative, technical and clerical employees in the following industries and services: national and local government; coal; gas; electricity; British Transport Commission (railways, docks, harbours and wharves); air transport; National Health Service; education (teachers); banking and insurance. The inquiries related to the month of October for monthly paid employees and to the last pay-week of October for those paid weekly.

In 1959 it took over from the Board of Trade the work of collecting similar information about administrative, technical and clerical employees in manufacturing industries, mining and quarrying (other than coal), water supply and construction.

This means that an index of average earnings of salaried workers in the above-mentioned industries can be compiled, with October 1959 = 100, in respect of October 1960 and in respect of each subsequent October. In order to carry this index back to 1955 use has been made of salaries information contained in *National Income and Expenditure* Blue Book for 1961 with a link at 1959.

TABLE 2

APPROXIMATE WORKING TIME NEEDED TO BUY CERTAIN GOODS
(Prices divided by average hourly earnings for adult male manual workers)*

Goods	Prices			Time	
	£	s.	d.	Hrs.	Mins.
Bread (1½ lb. loaf)	1	1			9½
Butter (1 lb. New Zealand)	3	8			31
Tea (1 lb. low grade)	6	0			52
Beef (lb. best sirloin)	6	6			57
Man's suit (woollen)	8	15	0	24	45
Shoes (adult's)	3	10	0	10	10
Blouse (woman's)	1	2	6	3	6
Kettle (aluminium)	9	0		1	5
Fireside chair	11	0	0	31	57
Television set	60	0	0	174	11
Washing machine	35	0	0	101	42

*Prices as given in Part I of the paper. Earnings April 1963 as given in the Ministry of Labour's survey (see Table 1).

TABLE 3

DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL INCOME

Range of income after tax		Number of incomes	Income before tax	Income tax and surtax at current rates*	Income after tax	Proportion of income retained after tax
		Thousands	£ million	£ million	£ million	Per cent
1938						
Not under £	Under £					
50	250	..	2,714	5	2,709	99.8
250	500	1,940	670	25	645	96.3
500	750	375	252	27	225	89.3
750	1,000	132	136	21	115	84.6
1,000	2,000	142.2	241	46	195	80.9
2,000	4,000	54.6	207	58.5	148.5	71.7
4,000	6,000	11.6	92	36.2	55.8	60.7
6,000		6.6	151	88.3	62.7	41.5
Total income allocated to ranges		..	4,463	307	4,156	93.1
Total personal income ..		..	5,078	..	..	..
1954						
Not under £	Under £					
50	250	8,980	1,490	9	1,481	99.4
250	500	9,040	3,540	161	3,379	95.4
500	750	5,770	3,725	214	3,511	94.3
750	1,000	1,600	1,500	153	1,347	89.8
1,000	2,000	721	1,230	289	941	76.5
2,000	4,000	131	665	325	340	51.0
4,000	6,000	7.8	141	107	34	24.0
6,000		0.2	19	17	2	10.5
Total income allocated to ranges		26,250	12,310	1,275	11,035	89.7
Total personal income ..		..	14,269	..	..	..
1962						
Not under £	Under £					
50	250	4,630	810	1	809	99.9
250	500	6,310	2,518	103	2,415	95.9
500	750	6,560	4,405	282	4,123	93.2
750	1,000	5,810	5,475	424	5,051	92.2
1,000	2,000	3,500	5,161	754	4,407	85.4
2,000	4,000	320	1,225	394	831	57.8
4,000	6,000	54	451	195	256	56.7
6,000 and over		16	300	190	110	36.7
Total		27,200	20,345	2,343	18,002	88.5
Income not included in the classification by ranges		..	3,451	..	..	..
Total personal income ..		..	23,796	..	..	..

Source: Central Statistical Office, *National Income and Expenditure, 1963*

*The tax rates current in the fiscal years 1938-39, 1954-55 and 1962-63 applied to the income in the calendar years shown.

TABLE 4

PERSONAL EXPENDITURE ON CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES IN 1957 AND 1962
AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES

£ million

	1957	1962
Food:		
household expenditure	3,960	4,580
other	475	572
Alcoholic drink:		
Beer	575	665
other	332	458
Tobacco	935	1,242
Housing	1,205	1,773
Fuel and light	616	894
Clothing:		
footwear	242	304
other	1,179	1,419
Durable goods:		
Cars and motorcycles	301	514
Furniture	331	436
Radio, domestic and others	355	440
Other household goods	482	576
Books, magazines and newspapers	216	275
Chemists' goods	210	271
Other goods	435	581
Running costs of vehicles	279	579
Travel	523	624
Entertainments	249	280
Other goods and services	1,544	2,268
Total	14,444	18,452

Source: *National Income and Expenditure, 1963*

TABLE 5

MOVEMENTS IN RATES OF WAGES, EARNINGS, SALARIES AND RETAIL PRICES 1950-62
(Average 1955 = 100)

	All manual workers			Average salary earnings	Retail prices
	Weekly wage rates	Hourly wage rates	Average weekly earnings		
1950	73.1	73.0	68.1	..	76.5
1951	79.3	79.2	75.0	..	83.5
1952	85.8	85.7	80.9	..	91.1
1953	89.8	89.7	85.9	..	94.0
1954	93.7	93.6	91.5	..	95.7
1955	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1956	107.9	108.0	108.0	107.3	105.0
1957	113.4	113.6	113.0	114.8	108.9
1958	117.5	117.9	116.9	118.5	112.1
1959	120.6	121.1	122.2	126.3	112.7
1960	123.7	126.3	130.1	133.4	113.9
1961	128.8	134.3	138.0	139.9	117.8
1962	133.6	140.5	142.9	147.7	122.8

Source: Ministry of Labour

TABLE 6

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—SHOWING INDICES FOR MAIN AND SUB-GROUPS

	Group and Sub-group weights	Index figure for: 16 July, 1963 (16th Jan., 1962 = 100)
All items	1,000	103.3
Food		
Total	319	103.7
Bread, flour, cereals, biscuits and cakes ..	46	104
Meat and bacon	73	101
Fish	11	98
Butter, margarine, lard and cooking fat ..	18	109
Milk, cheese and eggs	49	101
Tea, coffee, cocoa, soft drinks, etc.	20	103
Sugar, preserves and confectionery	34	114
Vegetables, fresh, dried and canned	32	108
Fruit, fresh, dried and canned	17	95
Other food	19	104
Alcoholic drink	63	103
Tobacco	77	100
Housing	104	109.1
Fuel and light		
Total	63	104.2
Coal and coke	29	100
Other fuel and light	34	108
Durable household goods		
Total	64	100.1
Furniture, floor coverings and soft furnishings	30	104
Radio, television and other household appliances	26	96
Pottery, glassware and hardware	8	101
Clothing and footwear		
Total	98	103.5
Men's outer clothing	16	105
Men's underclothing	6	105
Women's outer clothing	21	103
Women's underclothing	6	104
Children's clothing	11	101
Other clothing, including hose, haberdashery, millinery and materials	18	102
Footwear	20	105
Transport and vehicles		
Total	93	101
Motoring and cycling	61	98
Fares and other transport	32	107
Miscellaneous goods		
Total	63	101.8
Books, newspapers and periodicals	16	105
Medicines, toilet requisites, soap, cleaning materials, matches, etc.	28	100
Stationery, travel and sports goods, toys, photographic and optical goods, etc. ..	19	103
Services		
Total	56	104.1
Postage and telephone	6	103
Entertainment	22	101
Other services, including domestic help, hairdressing, boot and shoe repairing, laundering and dry cleaning	28	107

Source: *Monthly Digest of Statistics*

TABLE 7

LEVELS OF FOOD CONSUMPTION IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1934/38—1962

	1934-38	1959	1960	1961	1962 (Prov.)
Average daily consumption per head (grams)					
Protein—animal	43·1	49·2	50·5	51·3	52·7
vegetable	36·0	34·7	35·1	34·7	34·6
total	79·1	84·7	85·6	86·0	87·3
Fats (from all sources)	130·0	140·0	138·8	141·3	144·8
Total energy value (calories) ..	3,060	3,150	3,150	3,170	3,190
lb. per head per annum					
Dairy products (milk solids) ..	38·4	53·7	54·6	55·3	56·1
Meat (as edible weight)	116·5	120·2	124·0	127·9	132·2
Fish (as edible weight)	26·2	22·0	21·4	20·3	21·4
Eggs and egg products (shell egg equivalent)	28·3	32·9	33·2	33·9	34·1
Oils and fats (visible) (fat content)	47·1	49·2	48·9	49·6	50·2
Sugar and syrups (sugar content)	108·7	118·5	118·5	121·9	118·6
Potatoes	190·0	211·4	220·0	221·7	207·8
Fruit (fresh equivalent)	124·0	126·6	127·0	118·5	124·0
Vegetables (fresh equivalent) ..	120·4	123·9	131·1	126·3	128·1
Grain products	210·1	183·4	180·9	179·4	177·7
Tea	9·3	9·7	9·3	9·9	9·5

Source: *Board of Trade Journal*

