

Q. That is since 1938?—A. There have been a few other items away back in 1938 and during the war.

Q. That changes, too, the group weight?—A. No, it will not change the group weight. It will change the weight of the individual items.

Q. But would not change the group weight?—A. No.

Q. Why would that be? Would other articles be left out?—A. They are represented. Let us take food, we will say, and take certain representative items. They do not represent all the items that people consume as food, but we do know the proportion of their total expenditure that is spent on food. That is to say, in 1938 on the basis of the budgetary study that was 31. Then we must make allowances. Therefore we must have that second system of weighing the group weight as well as the individual weights in order to be sure food is represented adequately in the over-all index.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. I should like to ask Mr. Marshall if all of the 157 items in the cost-of-living index are included on pages 48 to the end or if not can we have all of the items that are included in the cost-of-living index?—A. I thought this was an up to date list. We will have to have an amended one.

*By Mr. Mayhew:*

Q. You can give us a complete list?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Harkness:*

Q. I notice in this list there is no clothing for children included. Why would that be? You have men's clothing, women's clothing, footwear, and so forth, but there is none for children.—A. Our experience has indicated that the trend in those two groups is adequate to represent the over-all trend, and there is also an additional technical difficulty in regard to getting continuity of quotations on children's items. It seems to be more difficult than the other two groups.

Q. Would that not change the final index materially as far as the family which you say this is based on, containing in the average case two or three children? If you leave out children's clothing I think you might just as well leave out women's clothing altogether.

Mr. IRVINE: Better.

Mr. HARKNESS: As a matter of fact, probably better.

The WITNESS: Children's clothing is certainly represented in the weight here, and the tests that were made on the basis of the budgetary data indicated that the trends we got from the items we have here were representative of the trend changes.

*By Mr. Harkness:*

Q. Under footwear you have got annual replacement allowances, men's work boots, two pairs; men's oxfords, 7 pairs; men's rubbers, 3.5 pairs; women's shoes, two pairs. It is a well known fact that children, particularly boys, wear out shoes much more rapidly than their fathers do. By leaving out children's shoes I think there would be quite a material difference in the index.—A. I can only say this index number has been made up according to accepted principles in all the leading statistical countries of the world. We are doing just the same as they do. We have made tests to see that what we have in here does represent the movement of prices in the group as a whole. We have done everything we can. If anybody can show us we are wrong here by actual demonstration we will be only too glad to change our methods, but I am afraid you will not be able to do it.

The CHAIRMAN: You are not suggesting women do not wear out shoes?