

Answer: No.

Mr. S. He just didn't bother?

Answer: I probably could have got it.

Mr. S. What about his Unemployment Insurance? Did he claim that?

Answer: When he was drawing Unemployment Insurance, I still had to pay the same amount of rent, because regardless, our rent is on a yearly basis. Say he was making \$75 per week now, I'm paying \$61.50. If he went on Unemployment, say he was drawing \$30 per week, I'd still have to pay \$61.50.

Mr. S. Mary, what are the other expenses that you have? In terms of heating the place, and Hydro, and so on. Could you just give us an idea of that?

Answer: For my kitchen stove, I have oil in that, and that amounts to approximately \$5 per week.

Mr. S. That's \$20 a month just for the kitchen stove. Does it heat the hot water?

Answer: Yes, it heats the hot water; but if you want heat for the rest of the house, you have to have your furnace on.

Mr. S. How much does that cost?

Answer: Well I'm not sure because I get help from my brother.

Mr. S. What is a ton of coal?

Answer: \$15.40 a half ton. It's \$2.60 for a small bag of coal, which has to be purchased in one or two bag lots, and costs much more than the price of a ton, and only one bag is purchased usually.

Mr. S. So how much do you figure, if you can think back... how much that coal for the furnace in the wintertime, would cost you per month—roughly?

Mary: Mine averages for the last year, between \$48 and \$53 per month for all the fuel.

Mr. S. That's for the winter months? Starting when in—October?

Answer: November, December, January, February, March—we broke it down.

Mr. S. Five months—that's another \$200 per year—roughly \$20 per month. So you have your base rent plus your heat of roughly \$20 per month. Your rent would now be up to about \$81 per month. What other expenses do you have?

Answer: For lights, mine is usually \$4.30 or \$4.50 per month.

Mr. S. So it's roughly \$85 just to run the house. Let's talk about groceries. How much do you spend on groceries? You are a family of eight, right?

Answer: Yes. I buy my groceries on Friday, and usually spend about \$35 or \$40 when I get my order. That doesn't do for a week. You have to skimp, and try to stretch everything as far as possible.

Mr. S. What would you buy for \$35?

Answer: You go around and pick out everything that's on 'special' for your weekend.

Mr. S. From store to store—chase up all the specials?

Answer: You have to in order to try to feed them all.

Miss Gale: Do you walk to do this?

Answer: My husband has a truck. We go to Sobey's and Dominion where they have the 'specials'.

Miss Gale: It's still worth it to travel around?

Answer: When you have a family that large, you have to.

Mr. S. What do you buy, Mary?

Answer: First I buy a 50 lb bag of potatoes for the week, on 'special' on the weekends for \$1.49. Meat—that is something I usually go to the Market (O'Reilly's) for that. To buy at some of the stores to get it cheap, it's half rotten.

Mr. S. What do you buy in meat?

Answer: I start off with hamburger. It used to be 3 lbs for \$1, it's down to two for \$1. Usually their sausages are very cheap, and for a while their turkey was the cheapest you could buy; and beef—we can splurge the odd weekend and have roast beef; then hot dogs and bologna. That's about the only kind of meat you can afford to buy. Then a 20 lb bag or 25 lb bag of flour every two weeks. You have to make your own cookies—part of the time I make my own bread.

Miss Gale: Do you buy much fish, Mary? Do you like fish?

Answer: I like fish, yes. I don't buy too much because they don't like it.

Mr. S. How old are your children—what ages?