



Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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HOW OUR SPENDING HABITS ARE CHANGING

The first major overhaul in more than 10 years of the Consumer Price Index—he only measure we have of changes in our cost of living—is now well over the half-way mark.

In November the Bureau of Labor Statistics will start releasing its findings on the spending habits of families in 66 cities today in contrast to their spending habits in the early 1950s. Next year these city-by-city studies will become the basis for updating the CPI so it will show how "real" families of city wage-earners and clerical workers are spending their money now and on what. In January 1964 the new index will be ready to chart price movements in the city family's market basket of goods and service from month to month.

This index has been called by one congressional subcommittee "the most important single statistic issued by the government," and there is no doubting its enormous importance. The wages of millions of workers are directly tied to its fluctuations, the paychecks of tens of millions more are indirectly affected by its movements. The psychology of U. S. businessmen, consumers, lawmakers and financiers the world over is profoundly influenced by its trend.

As of now, though, the index is dreadfully obsolete and no one denies, as another Congressional subcommittee put it, that it could be "measuring a pattern of living that does not exist."

For instance, simple common sense tells us that the typical city family is spending a far larger proportion of its income today on such services as medical care and education and such big-ticket things as cars than in the early 1950s and is spending a far smaller proportion of its income on such necessities as food and probably less on clothes too. To be more specific, even before the findings are disclosed:

Food: The index now gives a weight of 28 per cent to food, meaning it assumes the average city family spends 28 cents of every \$1 just on food. This weight is slated to go way down.

As incomes rise, families need to spend less of their total pay on food and incomes have climbed spectacularly in the past 10 years. Families are spending a record dollar total on food, yes—but a much smaller percentage of their total dollar income is budgeted for food.

Significance: Changes in food prices, at times violent, will have less influence on cost of living trends in the new index.

Transportation: The index now assumes the average city family spends 11½ cents of every \$1 for both private and public transportation. This weight is slated to go way up.

Not only do many more millions of families own one car but also millions more own two or three cars and tens of millions spend a record high percentage of their incomes on their cars' gas, insurance, repairs, etc. At the same time, tens of millions are still using trains, buses, subways for transportation.

Significance: Fluctuations in the cost of buying and maintaining autos will have a much greater impact on living cost trends in the new index.

Medical and personal care, reading and recreations: The index assumes the average city family spends 6 cents of every \$1 for medical care, 2 cents for personal care (such as haircuts, cosmetics), 5½ cents for reading and recreation. Each category's weight is slated to go up.

You don't need any survey to confirm this. You know how much more of your income you're spending for such services as these.

Significance: Increases in service costs will tilt the new price index up more than the old. It's a good thing the bulk of the rise in the cost of most services is behind us.

Clothing: The index assumes the average family spends 2 cents of every \$1 for apparel. This weight probably will go down.

As is the case with food so it is with clothing. The higher the family's income, the less of it the family must budget for necessities, and clothing goes under the heading of necessities. The implication is that changes in clothing prices will have a smaller impact on the new index.

Over-all significance: The new findings will be a tribute to the most affluent society in the world. That's the fundamental meaning of an index overhaul which downgrades the percentage an average family spends on food and clothing, upgrades what it spends on autos and on services ranging from medical care and education to TV repair and the hairdresser.

WOULD AIR DEBATES

Washington — Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) planned to introduce a resolution today that would open Senate debates to coverage by radio and television. Javits said camera coverage should bring Congress closer to the people and resulted in a better informed citizenry. At the very least, he said, radio-television coverage should be tried on an experimental basis.

Fugitive Pledges To Repay Money

New York — Fugitive financier Edward M. Gilbert, who fled to Brazil June 12, has written a letter pledging to "repay everybody that has lost money as a consequence of my mistakes."

The letter, dated July 2, was filed in state Supreme Court here Monday by Newhouse Galleries Inc., which is trying to recover three paintings worth \$18,000 from Gilbert's wife, Rhoda.

Gilbert is under indictment by federal and New York county grand juries on charges of misappropriating \$1,053,000 while he was president of the E. L. Bruce Co. He blew to Brazil—which has no extradition treaty with the United States—after abruptly resigning as president of Bruce.

After his departure, Newhouse Galleries tried to recover the paintings, which it says were sent to the Gilbert apartment on approval.

STAGE NUCLEAR TEST

Washington — Russia set off another atmospheric nuclear blast Monday, described by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission as having a yield "on the order of several megatons." The explosion was first detected by Uppsala Seismological Institution in Sweden, which said it was a 12-megaton device. It was the first publicly detected shot in the current Soviet series.

National forests of the U.S. comprise a total area nearly equal to that of the whole state of Texas.



HUMPHREY TESTIFIES—These candid photos show former Treasury Secretary George Humphrey as he appeared before the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee which is continuing its investigation into stockpiling of strategic materials. Humphrey declared under oath that his stock holdings in the company which held a controversial government contract did not influence his decisions as secretary of the treasury. (UPI)



Small Worlds Around Us

By LYNN M. WATKINS

(Register and Tribune Syndicate 1962)

Here's Why Wild Flowers Spring Up So Quickly

There is a very important necessity for the wild flowers to grow so quickly after the snow has melted from the woodland floor in the early spring.

To survive year after year they must be ready and waiting, on the starting line as it were, to spring into full action after the first rain, or the initial flickle warmth of weak sunshine. One species, always so faithful to appear early, is aptly called, "the harbinger of spring." This one delights both children and adults—the yellow adder's tongue.

Hardly has the frost eased its grip on the leaf mold of the woodland floor than a pointed shoot arrows up into the cool half-light. The thick, dark green leaves unfold, brown spots appear on their upper surfaces; a tall flower stalk shoots up that will, very shortly, hold a single, yellow flower on a flexible, nodding stem. What yesterday was a bare woodland floor is suddenly transformed into a galaxy of wild flowers.

Seeks Light

Like other woods flowers that welcome the spring, the adder's tongue hurries to take advantage of the sunlight that comes brightly through the bare, leafless trees. The spring flower must complete its flowering and fruiting before the forest shade becomes dense. The warmer the spring, and the wetter, the quicker the leaves will appear on the trees, and the sooner the beneficial sunlight will be prevented from reaching the low-lying plants; so the same warmth and moisture hastens the life cycle of the adder's tongue.

If the early visitor to the woodland will curb his urge to pick the bell-like flower and watch it for a little while, he will be surprised at the varied and interesting acts it performs. The flower, hungry for sunlight, will follow the light, turning its head on the stalk, taking advantage of every moment.

Large Colonies

Too, the careful observer will notice the adder's tongue will, if undisturbed by indiscriminate picking, grow in large colonies, seeming to prefer to grow in company with many of its kind. Underneath

the forest floor is the storehouse of the plant in the shape of a corn, or bulb, in which are stored the elements necessary for its continued growth. Each year this corn will draw itself a little deeper in the leaf mold of the forest floor. It has contractile roots that, year after year, pull the bulb deeper, until, after a few years, the first tender shoot that comes from the cold ground, will have extended upward from the corn, as much as six or eight inches.

Court Records

MEDFORD MUNICIPAL COURT
Shirley Louise Berry, failure to yield right of way to vehicle on through street, \$25, suspended.
Ralph E. Dean, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Robert Charles Mount, expired vehicle license, \$5.
Steven Nepley Van Hurne, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Edward Ernest Milne, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Robert James Jordan, no operator's license, \$5.
Thomas Blanchford Hicks, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Dean James Wicker, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Orville Lewis Carver, following too close, \$25.
Walter Ori Ayres, failure to yield right of way to vehicle on through street, \$10.
Sammy Madison Walls, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Edward Joseph Kingsworth, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Robert Stanley Steinhil, no operator's license, possession, \$5.
John Eugene Chastain, no corrective lenses, \$10, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Robert Reed Bunting, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Edna Clymme Skinner, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Gene Roy Myers, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Helen Ruby Broadbeck, disobeyed stop sign, \$10.
Wilma Lou Glenn, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Mildred Ruth Crittes, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Donald Robert Ten Brook, violation of basic rule, \$10.
David Earl Wallace, excessive noise (exhaust), \$10.
Raymond Russel Ross, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Aubrey King Smith, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Theodore Otis Miller, disobeyed traffic signal, \$10.
Jack Delaine Creek, disobeyed stop sign, \$10.
Verna Marie Welter, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Phillip Stephen Mitchell, inadequate muffler, \$5.
Robert Daniel Coffin Jr., disobeyed stop sign, \$5.
Bernell Clare Mores, improper right turn, \$5.
Ruth Ann Rogesaler, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Thomas William Sherman, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Sheridan William Shumate, excessive noise (tires), \$10.
Robert Lawrence Nelson, violation of basic rule, \$25.
PHOENIX MUNICIPAL COURT
Denny Lee Gibson, violation of basic rule, \$20.
Bussie David Seman, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Charles Albert Swafford, violation of basic rule, \$20.

Feeding the Family

By ZOLA VINCENT

Food Editor

Cream Cheese Frosting

We chose this white frosting as contrast for the dark cake. Cream one-fourth cup butter and 1½ packages (4½ ounces) cream cheese to-

gether until blended. Add three cups sifted confectioners' sugar and one tablespoon milk alternately in small amounts, beating well after each addition. Blend in one-half teaspoon pure vanilla extract. Makes 2½ cups frosting or enough to cover top of that "bake and take" cake or tops and sides of layer or square cake.

Oregon Soldiers Seeking Signs for Greenland Route

Five Oregon soldiers, one of them from Medford, who have blazed a new "Oregon Trail" on Greenland, are seeking signs or other objects from this state to put along the road.

The five are members of a six-man crew which recently drove a huge tractor from Camp Thule to Camp Century in record time.

The fact that five of the six men were from Oregon prompted officials to comment that the route sounded like another Oregon Trail.

The route from Camp Thule to Camp Century is marked by a few advertising signs sent from the United States, according to Warren B. Heinbach of Medford, one of the six men, but the group would like to have some signs from Oregon to put up along the way.

Sent to Mother

Signs or other objects may be sent to Heinbach's mother, Mrs. C. O. Luck, 2132 Harrison st., Medford.

The four Oregonians in addition to Heinbach are S/Sgt. Larry Feltrup, Portland; SP5 Cloyd C. George, Portland; Duncan Burns, tractor operator, Portland; and Larry Gillispie, Eugene. The sixth man is James Harman of Tusculville, Pa.

The group is under the command of CWO Warren Gaylord.

Camp Century is a city "under ice" 800 miles from the north pole. The trip from Camp Century usually takes about 10 days. The six-man crew made the trip in 22 hours using special new equipment. Men at both camps use Sno-cats, which are made in Medford.

Talent Man Gets 'Good Joe' Award

Among recent winners of "Good Joe" awards for acts of highway courtesy and safety on behalf of stranded motorists was Joe B. Chisum, route 1, box 355, Talent, a driver for Pierce Freight Lines, who was credited with saving a woman's life.

Chisum recently came upon an auto accident near Salem. He stopped his truck and assisted an injured passenger. His action was reported to have saved the woman's life. Awards are made by the Oregon Trucking association and Boyd Coffee company and entitle winners to 10 free cups of coffee called "Joe" by the truckers. Drivers are nominated for recognition by motorists who have been aided by the men.

Murder Charged To Astoria Woman

Astoria — Mrs. Babe Northwang, 49, Astoria, was in jail here today on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the fatal shooting of a man last week.

Astoria police arrested her Saturday on a warrant filed by Dist. Atty. Thomas Edison. She was accused in the death of Norman Nuukkanen, 27, Astoria, last Wednesday morning.

Edison said Mrs. Northwang probably will be given a preliminary hearing Wednesday. Nuukkanen was found dead in her home. He was shot twice in the head with a pistol.

many ways but broiling and barbecuing are favored methods. Poach salmon steaks and serve them cold with mayonnaise or with dairy sour cream and capers for a deluxe supper dish.

Pears Piled High

Peaches and Bartlett pears are piled high in local markets along with plums, nectarines, avocados, bananas, grapes, lemons, oranges. Mid-summer cantaloupes and watermelons are in super abundance. Look for Gravensteins for apple sauce and apple pie making.

Mid-summer cantaloupe abundance reminds us that you may chill cantaloupes or not as you wish but there's no question about watermelon chilling. It takes 12 hours for the cold to get to the heart of a watermelon... and always in the refrigerator. What happens to a watermelon in the freezer is beyond belief. Don't try it. There are also Cranshaws, casabas, honeydews and Persian melons of excellent quantity readily available.

Other good buys include frozen orange juice. Now is the time for freezer stocking-up. There are specials on shortenings and oils for making salad dressings to go with abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables. Seasonal abundance of cabbage, carrots, celery, corn, cucumbers, lettuce, dry onions, soft squash, peppers, eggplant, tomatoes; many greens and bunched vegetables.

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