

Proposed Enquiry into the Cost of

Living and Wages, showing the comparative increases of the same as compared with pre-war conditions, with a view to finding a just basis for a fair standard of salaries and wages under present conditions.

The Terms of Reference to the Committee will draw up the Report are suggested to be as follows:

A classified list of pre-war salaries and wages paid in the various Business and Trades as well as in the Public Service, and Occupations of whatever kind to all Employees of whatever kind.

A classified list of present Salaries and Wages paid in the same Businesses, Trades, Occupations and Public Service.

A pre-war price list of commodities covering the articles of food and apparel usually in use among our working classes, considering as well a higher standard of

comfort in food and clothing that would be legitimate though it may not prevail

(4) A calculation as to the ^{effect on the} cost of living necessity that compels our poorer classes in the smallest quantities from a neighbourly huxter to whom they are bound by ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~use~~ ^{use} of credit.

(5) The question of the cost of medical attendance for the higher grade workers, officials, clerks, etc. who are ~~not~~ ^{expected} not to avail themselves of the free services of the Dispensaries and

(6) An enquiry into housing and pre-war compared with present rents.

(7) The incidental expenses of education of books etc for school children, the ~~cost~~ ^{cost} of school fees.

(8) ~~The~~ An enquiry into the ^{present} standard of our ~~pre-war~~ ^{pre-war} conditions and the question of the legitimate raising of that stan-

(9) The question of a reasonable margin for legitimate luxuries, recreation, and

theatre tobacco etc.

(10) The question of how far the increase of salaries and wages that may be recommended under the foregoing heads will press on the various Employers and ^{Public Services} firms and how far the various Employers ^{and firms of Public Services} are able to meet any such demands by an examination of post war and present profits with special reference to payment to the English Exchequer of Excess profits.

(11) The question of the size of the average family and the cost of maintenance of children

	Per Day		Weeks
Bread	9½ Per Pair 3 Pairs Per Day = 28½	25%	6½ Per Pair 11½ 16.4½
Potatoes	3/4 Weight 5 Weight Per Day	300%	1/2 Weight 3.6 10.6
Meat	2½ lb Per Day	350%	6½ lb 3.95 14.0
Coal	1/1 Per Pick 5/5 Per Bag 4 Picks Per Week	300%	4½ Per Pick 2.45 9.4
Tea	4/1 3 ^d Per Oz 4 Ozs Per Day	50%	2/1 lb 2.6 9.0
Butter	3/2 per lb ½ lb per Day	250%	1/4 Per lb 4.8 11.35
Jam	1/1 Per lb 6 lbs per Week	300%	4 " " 2.0 6.0
Gas	6 ^d Per Day 3 lbs ^{3/6} Per Week	50%	" " " 1.6 3.6
Milk	4 pt. per Day 28 pts Per Week	400%	1 Per Pint 2.4 10.6
Sugar	8½ 5 lbs per Week	350%	2½ Per lb 1.02 3.65
Eggs	3/- Doz 1 Doz per Week	300%	1/- Per Doz 1.0 3.0
Vegetables	6 per Day 3/6 Per Week	100%	200% 1.9 3.6
Melike Candles	1 per Day 4 per Week	400%	1/4 Per lb 25 7
Soap	2 Per Day 1/2 Per Week	350%	3 1 2
School Expense	3 Per Day 1/9 Per Week	400%	5 1 9
Insurance	4/6 Per Week		20 4 6
Books clothes	5/- Per Week	500%	10 5 0
Rent	5/- Per Week		26 5 0
			£ 5.15.03
		Per War	£ 2.5.52