

*A Comparison*  
Of The  
*Food Schedules*

In Effect in Some Cities of Ontario  
With That of The

*City of Kingston*



Prepared for the Public Welfare Board  
of the City of Kingston  
by W. R. Davies

Feb. 20th, 1935.



# To the Members of the Welfare Board,

Gentlemen:—

In view of the criticism of our food schedule by the members of the Unemployed Men's Committee at a recent meeting, I wired a number of cities the next day for information regarding their food schedules and am presenting this report for your leisurely perusal and also for future reference. It will be noticed that St. Thomas has divided the city into zones and deliver the vouchers.

## KINGSTON

Below is given the original food schedule adopted for the city of Kingston and the increases.

	S.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10.
1933	1.50	2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50
"	1.50	2.25	3.00	3.50	3.75	4.50	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.75
Feb. 5, 1934	1.65	2.45	3.30	3.85	4.40	4.95	5.50	6.05	6.60	7.40
Oct. 1, 1934	1.65	2.70	3.65	4.25	4.85	5.45	6.05	6.65	7.25	8.15
Nov. 14, 1934	1.80	2.95	4.00	4.65	5.35	6.00	6.65	7.30	7.95	8.95

NOTE:—Early in the spring freedom of purchase was granted at the request of the unemployed. They stated that it would mean an increase of 10% in their purchasing power.

Reference was made by one speaker to the effect that the Kingston food schedule is considerably lower than the Campbell Report. He further stated that it was 18% below the standard. A comparison of the Campbell Report with the Kingston food schedule is interesting:

No. in family	Kingston all year round figures	Campbell report summer schedule	Campbell report winter schedule
1	1.80	1.50	1.65
2	2.95	2.45	2.70
3	4.00	3.35	3.70
4	4.65	4.20	4.60
5	5.35	5.00	5.50
6	6.00	5.75	6.25
7	6.65	6.45	7.10
8	7.30	7.10	7.80
9	7.95	7.70	8.50
10	8.95	8.25	9.00

In connection with these figures, the Campbell Report states that these are the maximum food allowances. It further states: "It is not proposed that the maximum will be generally applicable to every family

receiving assistance. We believe, however, that throughout the province as a whole and under existing market conditions, the standard of cost here put forward is sufficiently high to take care of the food needs of persons and families on relief." The report further states that these figures are worked out to a standard wherein the full food needs of families will be supplied.

I have since had an interview with the speaker, who stated that our figures were lower than the Campbell report and 18% below the standard. He says that he meant the new Government standard which has recently been issued as a guide. I present at the top of the following page a table prepared for me by the city treasurer's office which gives in detail the difference between our present food schedule and the Government schedule. It is interesting to note that at the present time we are only 12% below the standard set by the Government, and it will be of further interest to know that present schedule is satisfactory to the department at Toronto.

## KINGSTON FOOD SCHEDULE AND NEW GOVERNMENT STANDARD

Size of Families	No. of Families	City Schedule	Gov't Schedule	City Weekly Cost	Gov't Weekly Cost
1	73	\$1.80	\$1.87	\$131.40	\$136.51
2	128	2.95	3.06	377.60	391.68
3	128	4.00	4.18	512.00	535.04
4	127	4.65	5.25	590.55	666.75
5	77	5.35	6.25	411.95	481.25
6	43	6.00	7.18	258.00	308.74
7	28	6.65	8.03	186.20	225.68
8	14	7.30	8.87	102.20	124.18
9	7	7.95	9.62	55.65	67.34
10	5	8.95	10.31	44.75	51.55
11	2	9.45	10.97	18.90	21.94
12	1	9.95	10.97	9.95	10.97
				\$2,699.15	\$3,021.63
Weekly Increase.....				322.48	
				\$3,021.63	

Government proposed schedule amounts to an increase of 12% or \$16,858.00 per year.

City share: \$5,619.00.

### OSHAWA

The Oshawa Welfare Board is just considering abandoning the wholesale distribution and adopting the voucher system. The right-hand column is the suggested allowance under the new voucher system. The wage bill will be reduced \$35.00 per week which, of course, Oshawa looks upon as a loss because the Government is paying 90% of its relief.

### WINDSOR

The table below shows the allowance in effect in Windsor, Jan. 31, 1935, and the new allowance put into effect the beginning of Feb., to equalize it with the other Border Cities. The right-hand column shows the increases which were made. It must be remembered that the Government is paying 100% of the relief costs in Windsor as well as in contiguous municipalities which include East Windsor, Riverside, Tecumseh, Sandwich and Sandwich East and West Townships.

	Present Allowance	Suggested New Allowance	No. in family	Present allow'ce	New allow'ce	Change
1.	\$1.08	1. \$1.18				
2.	2.16	2. 2.35	1	\$ 1.90	\$ 1.90	nil
3.	2.88	3. 3.13	2	3.45	3.49	.04
4.	3.70	4. 4.03	3	4.69	4.76	.07
5.	4.37	5. 4.76	4	5.95	6.05	.10
6.	5.21	6. 5.67	5	7.23	7.34	.11
7.	5.83	7. 6.34	6	8.38	8.52	.14
8.	6.48	8. 7.05	7	9.22	9.36	.14
9.	7.18	9. 7.81	8	10.28	10.42	.14
10.	7.56	10. 8.23	9	11.44	11.58	.14
11.	8.10	11. 8.81	10	12.58	12.78	.20
			11	13.69	13.90	.21
			12	14.78	14.99	.21

**GUELPH**

The following is the food schedule in effect in Guelph:

Single man	.....	\$1.87	per week
Family (2)	.....	3.05	" "
" (3)	.....	4.18	" "
" (4)	.....	5.25	" "
" (5)	.....	6.25	" "
" (6)	.....	7.19	" "
" (7)	.....	8.06	" "
" (8)	.....	8.87	" "
" (9)	.....	9.62	" "
" (10)	.....	10.31	" "

**ST. CATHARINES**

Note:—All amounts quoted are for two week period.

No. in Family	Milk	Bread (loaves)	Food Voucher
1	8 pints	4	\$ 3.00
2	16 pints	16	4 00
3	16 quarts	16	5.50
4	16 qts. 14 pts.	20	6.50
5	16 qts. 14 pts.	27	8.00
6	28 quarts	32	9.00
7	30 quarts	34	10.50
8	30 quarts	36	12.00
9	28 qts. 14 pts.	47	12.00
10	42 quarts	50	12.50

You will notice that while St Catharines is following the voucher system milk and bread is handled independently. These items are handled through the regular dairies and bakeries. Vouchers for the purchase of other foods are left with each family by the relief investigators who visit each home every two weeks. For this reason all the amounts given are for a two-week period.

**BELLEVILLE**

One person	.....	\$1.65
Two persons	.....	2.50
Three "	.....	3.50
Four "	.....	4.35
Five "	.....	5.20
Six "	.....	6.00
Seven "	.....	6.70
Eight "	.....	7.45
Nine "	.....	8.10
Ten "	.....	8.65

**OWEN SOUND FOOD SCHEDULE**

The Welfare Office here gives families on relief a food voucher which covers supplies of milk, meat, groceries, etc. Copy of this voucher is enclosed herewith. The value of this each week is based on the following:

\$1.25 is allowed for each man—10c extra if he is working; \$1.25 for each woman; children over six years of age 95c; children from 2 to 6, 90c; babies 65c.

Families on relief are also provided with one cord of wood a month for fuel. Our relief officer tells me that this is slightly below the present requirements, but apparently everyone is fairly well satisfied.

**BRANTFORD WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOOD SCHEDULE**

Men and Boys—	
14 years and up....	\$1.60
Women and Girls—	
14 years and up....	1.50
Children—12 to 14 years....	1.44
10 " 12 " .....	1.28
8 " 10 " .....	1.12
6 " 8 " .....	.96
3 " 6 " .....	.80
2 " 3 " .....	.75
1 " 2 " .....	.75
1 year and under..	.75

**KITCHENER FOOD SCHEDULE**

1	.....	\$ 1.90
2	.....	3.05
3	.....	4.20
4	.....	5.25
5	.....	6.25
6	.....	7.20
7	.....	8.05
8	.....	8.90
9	.....	9.65
10	.....	10.30
11	.....	11.00
12	.....	11.70
13	.....	12.40

### STRATFORD

Family of	Food	Cloth- ing	Fuel	Rent	Monthly Total
2...	\$2.29	\$2.29	\$11.50	\$7.51	\$30.46
3...	3.11	3.11	11.50	5.93	32.98
4...	3.77	3.77	11.50	6.29	36.64
5...	4.39	4.39	11.50	7.93	41.38
6...	5.07	5.07	11.50	8.81	45.66
7...	5.68	5.68	11.50	9.84	49.74
8...	6.22	6.22	11.50	7.80	50.40
9...	6.65	6.65	11.50	9.25	54.00
10...	7.03	7.03	11.50	15.00	61.65

Bread 6½c per loaf.

Milk 8½c per qt.

The relief order varies from week to week, this being due to the fluctuation in the price of butter.

Rent is governed according to the taxes, one twelfth of the taxes plus 50% being the arrangement for rent.

Clothing is distributed at approximately 25% of value of food order.

Vegetables, such as beets, carrots, turnips and onions, grown in the community garden, are given out to those on relief, and are not included in the schedule. In addition, married men who wish to work extra days for cash are allowed to do so about three days per month, for which they receive \$3.20 per day. Up to Christmas, they were allowed one day with pay per week, but since Christmas, this has been reduced to about three days with cash per month. These days for cash are, of course, in addition to their regular work for direct relief.

### ST. THOMAS

Schedule here is in conformity with the Campbell report from Ontario Government as follows:

1 person	—\$1.50	per week.
2 persons	—\$2.45	“ “
3 persons	—\$3.35	“ “
4 persons	—\$4.20	“ “
5 persons	—\$5.00	“ “
6 persons	—\$5.75	“ “
7 persons	—\$6.45	“ “
8 persons	—\$7.10	“ “
9 persons	—\$7.70	“ “

10 persons or more—\$8.25 per week.

St. Thomas is introducing a new system whereby all food vouchers will be delivered to families by three welfare workers, working city under zone system, as recommended by Ontario Department of Public Welfare under the Hamilton plan. Open voucher system is not in vogue here.

### LONDON

Food allowances issued by London's relief department including milk and bread are:

#### Families—

One person	.....\$1.80
Two persons	..... 2.94
Three persons	..... 4.02
Four persons	..... 5.04
Five persons	..... 6.00
Six persons	..... 6.90
Seven persons	..... 7.77
Eight persons	..... 8.52
Nine persons	..... 9.24
Ten persons	..... 9.90

Under cash relief scheme heads of families select their own kinds of groceries.

Single men, homeless and unemployed, are handled in twos, boarding in private homes with an allowance of \$3.15 weekly and by paying room rent and providing two meals a day.

London's schedule is approximately 20 per cent above the rates in the Campbell report.

### NIAGARA FALLS

In reply to your request for unemployed food schedule in effect in Niagara Falls, here are the classifications and totals, to which must be added thirty-five per cent:—

Family of one per week	...\$1.50
Family of two per week	... 2.45
Family of three per week	... 3.35
Family of four per week	... 4.20
Family of five per week	... 5.00
Family of six per week	... 5.75
Family of seven per week	... 6.45
Family of eight per week	... 7.10
Family of nine per week	... 7.70
Family of ten per week	... 8.25

## HAMILTON

### Winter Budget

October 15th to April 30th

#### Including Fuel, Gas and Electricity

Family of two	\$21.96
" " three	26.36
" " four	30.48
" " five	34.40
" " six	38.08
" " seven	41.48
" " eight	44.64
" " nine	47.60
" " ten	50.28
" " eleven	52.72
" " twelve	54.88

#### Food Allowances

	Weekly
Family of two	\$ 2.99
" " three	4.09
" " four	5.12
" " five	6.10
" " six	7.02
" " seven	7.87
" " eight	8.66
" " nine	9.40
" " ten	10.07
" " eleven	10.68
" " twelve	11.22

For every member of family over 2 years of age, bread is given at the rate of 2 loaves per week, at 7c per loaf.

Milk is given at the rate of 1 pint per day at 9.9c per quart for each child between 1 and 12 years.

The bread is totalled.

The milk is totalled.

The sum total is deducted from above allowance and the balance given in groceries.

#### Memo re Relief Schedule

The top figures give the total amount of relief for various sized families per month.

The bottom figures are the food allowances, amounting to the amount of the Campbell report plus 22 per cent. The added percentage was placed on the allowance for the winter budget.

The relief recipients are paid their food allowance in \$1 and in 50 cent vouchers. No cash is given. Small change differences are corrected over a period of several weeks.

Persons on relief are allowed to earn up to one-third of their food budget before any deduction is made from their relief. When earnings are more than the exemption, they are taken from fuel, gas or electricity allowances before the food budget is touched.

The difference between the total budget and the food budget is made up of an allowance for fuel, gas or electricity for cooking, and electricity for lighting. Clothing and shoes are given as required, apart from the budget, e.g. —A family of two gets \$11.96 for food, \$7 for fuel, \$2 for gas or electric cooking and \$1 for lighting. If the family earned \$8, they would be exempted for \$4 and with the other \$4 they would be asked to pay gas and electric bills, and part of their fuel.

Bread and milk costs are explained at the foot of the sheet. They are included in food allowance, but the city gets a special contract price upon them, and the relief recipients do not buy them by voucher.

#### NOTES

It will be seen that we are well above the summer schedule of the Campbell Report and up to families of four we are above it on the winter schedule. On families of more than four we are below the winter schedule of the Campbell Report.

Brockville and Chatham refused to give out any information.

Our food schedule is higher than that at present in effect in Oshawa, Owen Sound, Stratford and St. Thomas. It is about the same as that in operation in Belleville and is slightly lower than the food schedules in St. Catharines, Kitchener, Hamilton, London and Niagara Falls.

