



Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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Household Budget.

N. W. Natl Bank.

1/11/33.

B. W. C. 1/25/33

ACCOUNTICS
BY Louis L. Dodge

Keeping household accounts
Is at times quite (a) bore,
With the cash coming out
Either short, or just more
Than enough to square up,--
You're behind, or before.

But at last there's a book
Full of columns and dates,
For things bought by the yard.
And for those sold by weights;
There's a place for each one
From new hats to tin plates.

(over)

With this system in force
One may save stacks of pelf.
It's as easy to keep
As are books on a shelf;
For, in fact, 'twill almost,
If not quite, keep itself.

My Credentials

Budget for an institution.

Things learned.

A reduced budget must be
more carefully planned.

An irregular income must be
revised for expenditures constantly
Always keeping on safe side or
financial disaster.

✓ My Credentials

Housekeeper for many years.

Kept careful Household budget

Adopted son. Last same

Complications as other mothers

Have always kept personal
planned budget

Hope I am speaking to those of moderate means.

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What is a budget

Just a spending plan

A simple statement of the Expenses

you may incur with your probable
income, that fits your family.

It is an proposed expense
account made before rather
than after spending.

Does not increase income, but may stop
leaks

51. Why should one have a budget Plan.

1 - Every intelligent person plans.

a. If you are writing club paper.
you study, then you think it
over and make headings. to
write in an orderly way.

b If you have a garden, you
plan it before you plant seed

c a financial plan is an orderly
way of spending money.

⑥ Why

2. You make a plan in advance
So that you can get greatest
possible returns

↳ Any money wasted decreases
what we could have had by
the amount wasted or spent
unnecessarily.

c. ~~Any money~~ A budget prevents
unconsidered purchases which
might cut out necessary ones.

⑦ Why d. No business could succeed
without accounts, without knowing
what merchandise paid & what not.

E. A family, home making establishment
is a business, (not organized for
money profit) but other profits of
health, happiness, mental progress,
social values. Family business
involves the expenditure of income

8) Why. So as to maintain a balance
between these things. No one of them
must fail. Our business is the home
and the production of assets of permanent
value. Health, Education, Comfort
Happiness

Every one who spends at all, budgets
in a way. Decides roughly whether
he can afford this or that. How much
for rent &c. Crude. Now care a good plan

Not Fixed Budget for year.

a Safer to make a skeleton plan for year, so much a month.

b But nothing sacred about a budget. Change every month if circumstances change.

Flexible. No such thing as a standard budget. no hard + fast.

c First necessities planned first. then secondary needs. Reserve for

Contingencies. Vacation wiped out by
Accidents - break in furnace, or broken leg.
Doctors

10) Who makes the budget.

- a - A business woman, single, makes her own.
- b - In marriage, a real housewife budget by father + mother together Consulting Children if old enough.
- c. Young married people should consider income + budget at first start. Pipes out many misunderstandings. Common pocketbook with planned + expenditure.
- d. Income is a family matter.

11/ Who
d. And involves happiness of whole family
Problem of Earning and Spending is
to obtain Maximum Comfort and
development and Satisfaction in the home
fixed
The Income.

First necessity that husband and
wife Plan together. If each is working
the Combined income planned.
Wife anyway should know family
resources and the portion for which she
is responsible. Worst way the doling system
no plan

14/ Women have no responsibility, no training. If left widow, cannot manage. Allowance plan, better, but allowance should be planned. But future income of family planned is best.

Falling income presents problem

Where shall we cut items. Shall each item? or cut out some. Do own work. Wear clothes longer. Put up car.

Individual decision.

Irregular income. Difficult. Lawyers & doctors pay uncertain. Working on commission. no regular salary

13' Some safe estimate, taking minimum
basis, not too optimistic. & financial
disaster if figured too high.
Misadventure to David Copperfield.

Complicated book keeping?

No, as simple as possible.
a - I keep a note book in purse to
 jot down cash purchases, & check
book stubs for less. Post up in
- account book under headings once a
month. Sales slips, grocery bills saved
Printed forms at bank & Trust Companies

14! Just an orderly way of keeping simple
account. so that one won't overspend
on any one thing. Some keep
account on cards, with leading.
Some divide cash in various
envelopes, and record on envelopes.

How to begin.

If now at budget making, many
suggestions for proper division in
printed forms. Many articles + books
about it. Make a tentative plan. Watch it

151 I Cannot suggest Concrete plan.
Your incomes different, size of family
different. Standards different. Each one
must plan own.

I begin each year by going over
expenditures of year before. I analyze
them and compare with prospecting year.
Is income the same. What were
fixed Charges? Taxes increased or decreased
Auto license the same. Does insurance
on house fall due this year.

16) Were there items of clothing
or furniture or auto, or installment
payments not repeated this year.
Can I afford more for charity. Must
I keep some relation or friend. &c &c.
After settling these points & fixed
expenditures (this year with economies
of living) food, clothing, &c. one can
divide the income intelligently; if any
left, to save or indulge in trips &c

171 Building up a reserve.

One should budget each month
for large expenditures coming.
If a life insurance, say 200^{00} a
year. the monthly budget should
carry 16.50 each month to meet. Not wait
till month due. If taxes are 100^{00}
next June. then 20^{00} a month from now
till then as a monthly item, or money
will be spent. Savings regularly
against age + disability.

181 Plan for future occasions .

Nothing will stimulate keeping a
family budget , than a family plan
for the future . A new rug for the
living room . A new piano for Jane .
A new house in a few years .

One of the children ready for College
Or Anything the family may agree upon
Do we want a new car . Do we
want to plan a trip to California or
Europe - or the North Shore

19/ So Budget may make family.

Solidarity If older children
keep to plan, are consulted, they
will understand why they cannot
have things. They learn to make
choice & selection, to sacrifice
one item in order to have another.
They learn that no matter who
provides income, responsibility for outgo
rests on each member of family.
I believe in co-operation.

20 | Children Budgetter, each one
Certain Amount Set apart for
each child, apportioned into
Shoes, Hats, ^(wile) blouses, School Supplies &c
Children can be given experience
in spending part of it themselves.
Practice in buying & accounting.

Attc

21 | Expert Spending.

Money not spent expertly. We
depend upon Salomon. Advertising
influences us greatly.

The Careful expert buyer gets
most from income.

Price levels today make a smaller
amount so further. Do we know how to buy

But Cheapness not always economy.
High prices not always quality.
Food out of season a luxury;

22 = Buying now.

Present buying opportunities
are advantageous. Can buy
most for our money now. Good
time to lay in certain supplies.

But much Cheap Material. Much
Swear Shop production. How
about that?

23 | Standards of living.

Are we simplifying life.
Cluttered up with things.

"Category of luxuries". All in
Same boat, all cut incomes.

What matter about Joneses.
Why deplete ourselves of health and
overtax to keep up with neighbors.
What has been our Standard, things?
Why not simplicity, sincerity, friends.

23^{1/2} Mr. Henry Lane enough to buy
all the things Mr. Lane wants, ~~He~~
Mr. Lane all feel that if the
income were a little larger it
would be plain sailing, but it
never is. American families have
kept on adding luxuries until
they become necessities and piling up
personal expenses. Won't it be
fun to stop

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Budget for development (Advance ^{ments})

Quarry with this. Large
percentages for food, clothing
& Physical Comforts.

Small percentages divided into

Education, Books, amusements

Gifts, Church & Charity, all lumped

together, each item small.

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Advancement expenditures mark
 the tastes of the family, and
 the mark of what they consider
high values.

A library, books & magazines in the
 home. Interests & hobbies.
 leisure time activities pleasures
 of contact with other people.

Entertainment

Church & Charity left out of some budgets.

107
 10

26

Display form blanks.

Maybe have not brought out
valuable points.

But pleasure in keeping a
budget. In planning items of
pleasure. Expenditure

It is a pleasure to translate
dollars - our earning capacity into
the most useful surroundings of life
& helpfulness to others.

Saving

Respect for economy
Hav'n't said much

about it - It is

assumed. Saving + Thrift was
much played up. Got to be
a popular habit.

But Saving for Savings sake
never appealed much to me.
Saving for something does.

3)

But Everything possible
Has already been written.
About family budgets
Fine article in the January
Better Homes and Gardens.
Many books in the library.