

MONEY & THE 1930's

The old system of currency

This system was phased out in Britain and the Irish Republic in the early 1970s, following the adoption of decimal currency in February 1971.

Under the old system there were 12 pence (d) to the shilling (s) and twenty shillings or 240d to the pound (£)

12d = 1s (12 pence equals one shilling (1/-))

20s = £1/- (20 shillings (20/-) equals one pound)

Therefore 240d = £1/-

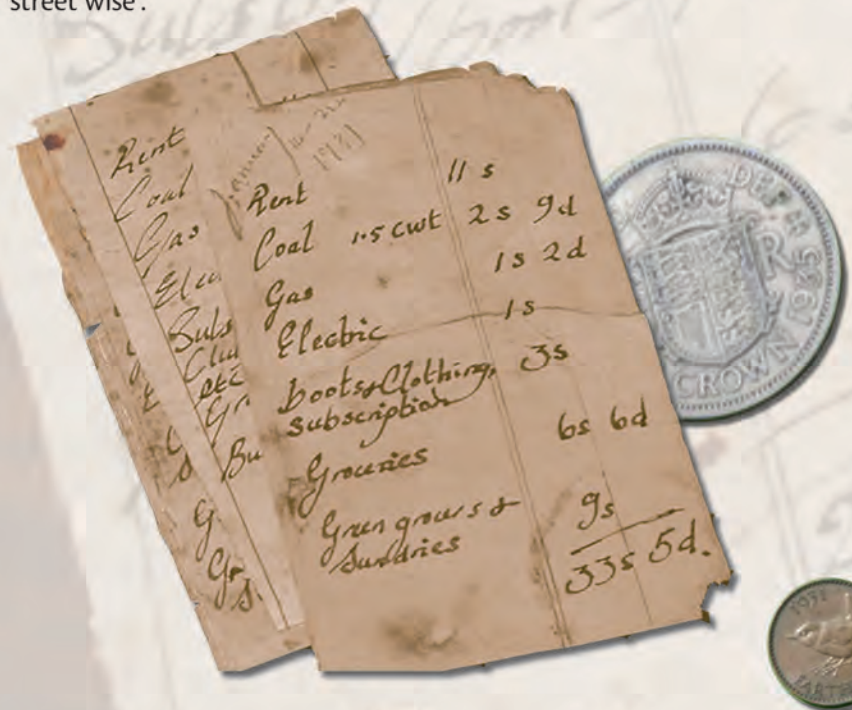
The Current Decimal System

100p = £1.00

Conversion Table

5p = 1/-	10p = 2/-	15p = 3/-	20p = 4/-	25p = 5/-
30p = 6/-	35p = 7/-	40p = 8/-	45p = 9/-	50p = 10/-
55p = 11/-	60p = 12/-	65p = 13/-	70p = 14/-	75p = 15/-
80p = 16/-	85p = 17/-	90p = 18/-	95p = 19/-	100p = £1/-

In January 1931 a typical (weekly) family budget was 33/5 (shown below). Rent was around 11/- per week. By comparison, the Forrester family, unaware that they were being deceived by their landlady, were paying twenty seven shillings per week for a dirty and bug infested attic room. The Forrester's may have been educated but they were certainly not 'street wise'.



MRS FOSTER

Shop. Still, ...
 'Course you've met Miss Sinford, now there's a good God fearing woman! You can 'ave the rooms for twenty seven shillings a week, in advance mind you. There's a gas meter and gas light in the kitchen-living room.