

7th. October, 1929.

Dr A. Voelcker,
1 Tudor Street,
London, E.C. 4.

Dear Dr Voelcker,

Thanks for your interesting letter. For the same class of people at different periods the comparison of standards of living is fairly straightforward. One takes a characteristic family budget, prices it at the two periods, and compares the change of price with the change in wage level.

To compare rural with urban standards is much less easy, as one cannot evaluate many of the amenities, access to amusements or to doctors of the townsman, against the healthier open air-life in the country. The flow of population from country to town, especially when the farming life is regarded as an ideal normally aimed at, is a strong indication of economic inducement. I think there can be no doubt of this in U.S.A. at present, and in less degree in England.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. I think you were a little hard on Wishart, about Stackyard, but I am very glad you spotted the error.

- R.A.F.