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Parry Duners

SELF-SUPPORTING

PENNY DINNERS

FOR

SCHOOL CHILDREN:

HOW TO ESTABLISH AND MANAGE THEM.

WITH

NUMEROUS DINNER RECIPES.

Central Council for Promoting Self-Supporting
Penny Dinners.

THIRD THOUSAND.

Tondon :

ALEXANDER & SHEPHEARD, 21, CASTLE STREET, HOLBORN.

BY APPOINTMENT.

MANUFACTURERS

TO

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.



HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, &c.

PARIS EXHIBITION, 1878.

"THE GRAND PRIZE,"

(Special Gold Medal and Diploma of Honour,)
The Highest Distinction the Exportion could confer, and the ONLY GRAND
PRIZE given to the Biscuit Trade.

The following being the Terms of the Award:-

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"Unrivalled House, know throughout the World for its enormous production, and for the excellent quality of its manufactures."

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Biscuit Manufacturers,

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The Highest Awards given for Biscuits to any English House were made to HUNTLEY & PALMERS, at the following Exhibitions, "for excellence of quality":

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AND THE

GOLD MEDAL

Of the National Academy of Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce, Paris.

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They are packed in patent air-tight soldered Tins, to open without cutting the Tin, containing One Pound and upwards, also in Casks and Boyco the Trade and Shippers.



SELF-SUPPORTING

PENNY DINNERS

FOR

SCHOOL CHILDREN:

HOW TO ESTABLISH AND MANAGE THEM.

WITH

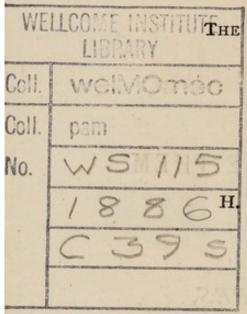
NUMEROUS DINNER RECIPES.

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Penny Dinners for School Children.

ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENT.

OOD feeding is necessary for brain nutrition." Eight years ago Sir H. Peek applied the maxim to the children attending his free school at Rousdon, in Devonshire. The importance of providing them with regular nourishing

food was felt, and arrangements were made by which hot dinners were supplied to the children on school-days—a charge of fivepence per week per child, with a reduction when more than one of a family attended, being made payable in advance.

Some two years after the establishment of the Rousdon dinners, the Rev. J. A. Cameron, the parish minister of Farnell, Forfarshire, was induced by like reasons to institute a School Soup-Kitchen. As at Rousdon, the cost of the "plant" and the small deficit were met by voluntary gifts.

In both schools results of the most encouraging nature soon showed themselves, and the children presented, both in their "healthy vigorous look," and by their "better brain work," a marked improvement.

In 1883, Mr. Mundella called attention in the House of Commons to the "marvellously good work" done at Rousdon, and a few weeks later Mr. J. A. Campbell, M.P., gave an account of the Farnell system. Public interest was roused, and pamphlets were published by Sir Henry Peek* and Mr. Campbell, giving full details. In them will be found all the particulars needful for starting country school dinners.

EXPERIMENTS IN LONDON AND GATESHEAD.

Early last year experiments on a different system were commenced in London and Gateshead by Mr. S. D. Fuller and the Rev. W. Moore Ede. At Rousdon and Farnell the feeding of the children had been the primary motive, but the payments of the scholars, while more than covering the cost of materials, had not altogether defrayed the working expenses. From the first the experiments in London and Gateshead were conducted with a view to that end, the object aimed at being to supply children's dinners on a commercial basis.

The Rev. W. Moore Ede was soon encouraged by his success to issue a pamphlet,† which, together with a series

^{* &}quot;Can a Sufficient Mid-day Meal be given to Poor School Children at a Cost for Material of Less than One Penny?" (Sir J. Causton & Sons, 9, Eastcheap, E.C.) Price 9d. a Dozen. "Soup Dinners for School Children." (Maclehose & Sons, Glasgow.)

[†] W. Scott, 14, Paternoster Square, E.C., and Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Price 1d., or 6s. 6d. per 100, post-free.

of articles in the Sanitary Record for January, 1885, will be found of great assistance by all those who may desire to promote the dinners in towns.

APPOINTMENT OF CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The attention of the Representative Managers of Board Schools in London having been called to the subject in June, 1884, they appointed a sub-committee to consider the question; and on the 6th of December, 1884, a Conference was held at the Society of Arts, of School Board Managers, Teachers, and others interested, at which a Central Council was appointed to promote the establishment of Self-supporting Penny Dinners; the Right Hon. A. J. Mundella, M.P., Vice-President of the Committee of Privy Council on Education, and Sydney Buxton, Esq., M.P., Chairman of the Committee of Representative Managers of London Board Schools, accepting the position of President and Vice-President respectively.

EXPLANATORY CIRCULAR.

One of the first acts of the Council was to issue the following circular to the Managers of all the Elementary Schools in the Metropolis:—

"The Penny Dinners are intended primarily for children attending elementary schools whose parents, although in a position to pay, are unable, from various causes, to provide them with food sufficiently nourishing, varied, and ample.

"Whilst, however, no dinners should be supplied without payment, so as to preserve the self-supporting system, exceptional cases will be found where the parents are unable to find the necessary pennies. But it is very desirable that no (free) tickets should be given except after the

most careful inquiry by managers, teachers, visitors, and others best acquainted with the circumstances of the children.

"The Council have ample evidence that substantial and nourishing dinners can be supplied at one penny each to cover all expenses, where a sufficient number of children attend daily; they have already received most gratifying reports as to the great benefit derived by those children who avail themselves of the advantages offered. Considerable patience, however, is needed in this, as in all attempts, to improve the condition of the poor, before success can be attained.

"The Council are prepared, where necessary, to make grants of a limited amount to managers and others who desire to start dinners on the self-supporting principles above-mentioned. In all applications for grants, the amount of the preliminary expenses for plant, &c., should be stated.

"As the good resulting from such dinners fully compensates for all the labour involved in providing them, the Council trust that they may shortly be extended to many districts where the need of them exists."

BENEFICIAL RESULTS.

The Circular of the Council was based upon the information obtained from a large number of places where the dinners were in operation, and the following extracts will show how important and valuable are the results.

The Vicar of Gateshead reports:-

"The universal testimony of the teachers as to the effect of the dinners is that the appearance of the children, especially of the poorest, has improved in a most remarkable way; that there is a very decided increase in their energy and general vitality, and that the work of those who, being poorly fed, were slow and backward, has very decidedly improved. Some add that the health of the children—especially infants—has improved, and that sickness has diminished since the dinners were instituted. We have not, however, sufficient data to establish this last point."

The Head Master of a large London Board School writes:—

"The dinners have been an unmixed blessing. Our parents here are many of them wasteful and thriftless, neither knowing how much nor how to cook. And, as a result, some of our children have been most irregularly fed. * * * A good meal for a penny per head has placed within the reach of such people the means of proper and systematic feeding of the children. In other families, both parents are obliged to go out to work, and the children have been left to get their own meals. To these the dinners have been a God-send.

"In homes cramped for space, and particularly where there is sickness, the rest and quiet afforded by relieving the mother of the trouble of preparing the mid-day meal is, we find, of great advantage to some of our poor people. We have found, too, that the dinners have been a strong inducement to regularity of attendance. The tickets issued at the school in the morning demand the presence of the child. And, as after dinner the children come over at once to the playground, we have them all day, and the attendance is of course early.

"After considerable observation, I have no hesitation in saying that the regular diners show much more vigour and readiness for their schoolwork than heretofore."

HINTS FOR STARTING AND CARRYING ON DINNER CENTRES.

The value of the dinners being now beyond question, the Council hope that the following suggestions will prove useful to persons who are desirous of establishing self-supporting penny dinners. Various dinner recipes which have been found suitable are inserted for the guidance of those who desire such information.

- 1.—The nearer the dinner-place to the schools the better. A room in the school, or some other portion of the school premises, would be best, as the children do not care to go too far to get their dinners. Mothers would also feel that their children, especially the infants, were safe.
- 2.—To secure good order, the dinners should be ready by the time the children come out of school. They don't like being kept waiting; they want time to play afterwards.
- 3.—The tastes of the children should be considered. If the dinners are not palatable and sufficient in quantity, the children will not continue to avail themselves of them, but will spend their pennies in other ways.
- 4.—The cook's wages should be supplemented, or additional assistance given, as the numbers increase. A cook should be able to undertake, single-handed, one hundred dinners daily.
- 5.—When the presence of ladies cannot always be secured, no difficulty will be found in getting helpers at the dinner hour. The elder girls or boys much prefer to help in serving the dinners, carrying away the dirty pannikins, &c., to sitting still; and if carefully supervised at first, they become very useful.
- 6.—It is desirable to have a Committee, one of whom should act as manager or secretary, and be responsible for all purchases on the best possible terms. A lady should superintend the cook, and see that good dinners are supplied. Other members of the committee will help in turn to serve the dinners, and to promote the orderly and proper conduct of the children.

- 7.—Two or three days before the dinners are started, the teachers should be provided with handbills, which they should be asked to explain, and distribute to the children to be taken home. For the first fortnight at least the children should be reminded every morning of the dinners, and the dinners brought under the notice of parents in every possible way.
- 8.—It is very important to secure the co-operation of the teachers, who are generally willing to help. Their assistance in selling the dinner tickets daily, and in keeping order, is most valuable.
- 9.—Home consumption should be encouraged, and the following words inserted in the handbill referred to above:—"The dinners may be taken home if desired, and mothers thus saved the expense of cooking for the family."
- no.—Where the numbers fluctuate, cold bacon, cheese, and jam should be kept in stock, so that, when the hot dinners are exhausted, a dinner of bread and bacon, or bread and cheese, together with a slice of bread and jam, may be supplied.
- perforated, so as to be strung together for counting and cleaning, and stamped with the initials of the dinner-centre will be found most serviceable.
- 12.—White tablecloths much improve the appearance of the tables, if the additional cost of washing can be borne by the funds, or white American cloth will be found serviceable.

LIST OF UTENSILS.

The following list of articles may be found useful:-

Tin Pannikins

Plates

Spoons

Tumblers

Water Jugs

I Bread Knife

2 Cooks' Knives and Forks Dinner Knives

2 Large Wooden Spoons

2 Pint Ladles

I Gallon Measure

I Pint Measure

2 Basins

I Dish

2 Baths

I Pail

I Broom

Set of Scales and Weights,

14 lbs. to $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

I Knife Board

I Wire Sieve

I Paste Board

I Chopping Board

I Chopping Knife

I Meat Chopper

I Rolling Pin

2 Trays

Kitchen Cloths

Tins for Storing Rice, &c.

Pudding Cloths (one for

each 2-pound pudding)

Dish Cloths

Safety Pins

Trestles and Boards for

Tables

Forms

Much of the nourishment of food cooked in the ordinary fixed coppers is lost by evaporation. Portable iron boilers, with covers, are very useful, and can be obtained at moderate prices. The Newcastle cookers, designed by the Rev. W. Moore Ede, will be found very suitable, and can be obtained of Messrs. Walker & Emley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. (For particulars see cover.)

If boilers be used, care must be taken to prevent food from being burnt. When boilers have inner pans they should be raised about two inches. Where the Newcastle cookers are employed, it is necessary to see that the supply of gas is sufficient.

DINNER RECIPES.

The following dinners, which vary in cost, can be so arranged that the weekly expenditure for materials shall not exceed 75d. per 100 dinners. Where bread is mentioned, a slice is served to each child:—

		II	RISH STE	W FOR 100.	
Meat			8 lbs.	Spanish Onions 14	lbs.
Potatoes Lentil Flo	ur		28 ,,		½ gallons ¼ qrtns.
Meat Flour			7 lbs.		lbs.
Lentil Flo			I ,,	Salt 14	,, 1 callona
Potatoes Onions			28 ,,		½ gallons 4 qrtns.
	MEA	TA	ND VEGE	TABLES FOR 100.	Correla
Meat			8 lbs.	Rice 2	lbs.
Potatoes Carrots			13 ,,	Pepper and Salt. Water 3	1 gallons
Turnips			13 ,,		d qrtns.
Meat			8 lbs.	Vegetables Is	s.
Cabbages			4 ,,	Pepper and Salt.	Manager V
Onions			4 ,,		d qrtns.
		MEA	AT AND F	RICE FOR 100.	
Mutton			8 lbs.	Pepper and Salt.	1 artne
Rice Onions			6 ,,	Bread 3	d qrtns.
	BAC	CON		TATOES FOR 100.	
			9 lbs.	Bread 3	1 qrtns.
Potatoes			50 ,,		
	Bl	EAN	S AND B	ACON FOR 100.	
Beans			15 lbs.	Salt.	1 artne
Bacon			9 ,,		d qrtns.
		ME.		NG FOR 100.	
Suet			$3\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	To make ten puddings,	each to
Meat			5 ,,	consist of—suet, 60z	
Pepper an Bread	d Salt.		3¼ qrtns.	2 lbs.; meat, 8 oz.	
Dicad			34 1-110.		

MUTTON BROTH FOR 100.

	morron bic	JIII 1 010 100.		
Sheeps' Heads Onions, Carrots, Potatoes Barley	2 Turnips 6 lbs 6 ,,	Pepper and Salt. Water Bread	10	gallons d qrtns.
	PEA SOUR	P FOR 100.		
Peas Turnips Carrots Lentil Flour	21 lbs $13\frac{1}{2}$,, $13\frac{1}{2}$,, I lb.	Bones Water Bread		d. gallons qrtns.
Peas Red Lentils Turnips Celery Onions Carrots	10 lbs 7 ,, 2 bunches 1 head 8 lbs 8 ,,	Dried Mint. Bones Pepper Salt Water or Bacon I Bread	14 iquor 8	oz.
	Bone, if in stoc water 48 hours;	k, is a great implemental, 12 hours.	rovemen	t. Peas
Peas Bones Vegetables	19 lbs. 10 ,, 10 ,,	Pepper and Salt. Water Bread		gallons qrtns.
Vegetables Barley	$6\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. $6\frac{1}{4}$,, $6\frac{1}{4}$,, $12\frac{1}{2}$,,	Pepper and Salt, Water Bread		gallons qrtns.
	POTATO SOU	UP FOR 100.		enoin()
Potatoes Barley Vegetables	50 lbs. 12 ,, 1s.	Pepper and Salt. Bacon Water Bread		gallons qrtns.
Potatoes Barley Bones Vegetables	12½ lbs 12½ ,, 4d 10 lbs.	Pepper and Salt. Water Bread		gallons qrtns.
ROLI	LY POLLY PU	DDING FOR	100.	
Flour Suet	25 lbs.	Jam	71	bs.

RICE MILK FOR 100.

R ce 12 lbs. Jam 50 oz. Milk ... 12 quarts

Boil the rice in 6 cloths, and mix 12 quarts of hot water with 6 tins of milk.

Rice 11 lbs. | Sugar 50 oz. Milk ... 11 quarts | Bread, 3\frac{1}{4} quarterns, & some jam.

CURRANT PUDDING FOR 100.

Flour ... 25 lbs. Sugar ... 5 lbs. Baking Powder ... 1d. Raisins ... 50 oz.

To make ten Puddings, the Sugar to be put on each slice. Puddings are much improved by the use of Baking Powder.

The following notes and recipes have been supplied by a lady who has carried on Penny Dinners at various centres:—

NOTES.

- "I. With the following recipes Penny Dinners can be made self-supporting, if 200 or 120 dinners, according to expenses, be sold daily. The materials for every 100 dinners cost on an average 70d. Two hundred Penny Dinners would cover the following expenses:—Rent, 5s. a week; a good cook, 2s. a day; a girl, 6d. a day; fuel, 2s. to 2s. 6d. a week; secretary, 5s. a week. Where no rent is paid, nor paid secretary employed, 120 dinners cover all expenses. If the numbers are over 250 a day a second girl is engaged, if over 350 a third, and so on.
- "2. In arranging the labour, it should be remembered that in providing dinners of this sort, the work does not consist in the actual cooking, but in the preparation of the food and in the necessary scrubbing and washing up. Soups and stews when cooking require, in any case, but little attention, but whatever means of cooking is used, the potatoes must be peeled, the puddings made, &c.

- "3. Two recipes a day have been used with a view to saving labour. The dinners are so arranged that each day (except Tuesday) one dinner takes a long time to prepare, as Jam Puddings, and the other a very short time, as Pea Soup. If the recipe for Tuesday be found difficult of preparation, two dinners might be provided as on other days.
- "4. In hot or close weather, when there is any soup or stew left, a large basinful can be preserved by the addition of a small pinch of 'Salicylic Acid' dissolved in boiling water. This acid, so used, is perfectly harmless, and will keep the food sweet and fresh.
- "5. In serving the dinners, 15 oz. of soup and 2 oz. of bread are given to each child; 10 oz. of stew and 2 oz. of bread; 15 oz. of rice-milk, with one dessertspoonful of sugar or treacle. Each pudding is cut into five equal pieces, each piece of 'rolly polly' being served with one teaspoonful of jam."

MONDAY'S DINNERS.

PEA SOUP FOR 100.

Peas 21 lbs.	Salt		 ı lb.
Lentil Flour I ,,	Pepper		 3 oz.
Carrots I bunch or 6,,	Mint		 Id.
Turnips I bunch	Water		 8 gallons
Onions 7 lbs.	Bread	•••	 3 qrtrns.
Bones 8d.			

(This soup can also be made with 7 lbs, of Lentils and 14 lbs, of Peas.)

TWENTY JAM PUDDINGS FOR 100.

Flour		 25 lbs.	Jam	***	 7 lbs.
Suet		 34 ,,	Jam Salt.		

TUESDAY'S DINNER.

IRISH STEW FOR 100.

Potatoes	32	lbs.	Salt	 	IO oz.
Onions,	14	,,	Pepper	 	1/2 ,,
Meat	5		Water	 	
Lentil Flour	2	"	Bread	 	3 qrtns.

WEDNESDAY'S DINNERS.

HARICOT BEANS AND BACON FOR 100.

Beans Bacon Potatoes Lentil Flour	·	14 lbs. 6 ,, 7 ,, 1 ,,	Salt Pepper Water Bread		 	10 oz. 1/2 '', 3/4 gallons 3 qrtns.				
POTATO SOUP FOR 100.										
Potatoes Onions Bones Lentil Flour Semolina		32 lbs. 14 ,, 8d. 1 lb. 2 lbs.	Salt Pepper Water Bread			1 lb. 3 oz. 8 gallons 3 qrtns.				

THURSDAY'S DINNERS.

STEWED MEAT AND VEGETABLES FOR 100.

Meat 5 lbs.	Carrots2 bunches or 12 lbs.
Potatoes 14 ,,	Salt 10 oz.
Onions 7 ,,	Pepper $\frac{1}{2}$,, Celery Leaves for Flavouring.
Rice 2 ,,	Celery Leaves for Flavouring.
Lentil Flour 1 lb.	Water 2½ gallons
Turnips 2 bunches	Bread 3 qrtns.

RICE-MILK FOR 100.

Rice	 	10½ lbs. 15 quarts	Sugar 4	lbs. or	Treacle	6 lbs.
Milk	 	15 quarts	Water		•••	4 gallons

FRIDAY'S DINNERS.

TWENTY CURRANT PUDDINGS FOR 100.

Flour	 	25 lbs.	Sugar Treacle	 	2½ lbs.
Suet	 	34 ,,		 ***	4 ,,
Currants	 	4 ,,	Salt.		

IRISH STEW (as on Tuesday).

If these two dinners are found to entail too much work when cooking for large numbers, Pea Soup could be substituted for the Irish Stew. Cold Dinners, consisting of Bread and Cheese, and Bread and Bacon, are ready every day; 6 oz. of Bread, and I oz. of Cheese or Bacon, are supplied.

INFORMATION NEEDED.

The Council would draw attention to the following questions. They would be greatly obliged if any of the readers of this pamphlet, who may be in a position to supply information, would kindly give the Council the benefit of their experience:—

- I.—What are the fees at the Schools from which children come to your dinners?
 - 2.-What distance are the Schools from the dining-place?
 - 3.-Are any children admitted to your dinners without payment?
 - 4.-Are pennies or free tickets given to the children?
- 5.—How is the issue of such free dinners, or pennies, or free tickets regulated?
- 6.—Are any other cheap or free dinners given in the immediate neighbourhood?
 - 7.-What is your staff, paid and voluntary?
- 8.—What are your weekly incidental expenses—i.e., rent, wages, fuel, &c.?
 - 9.-What experience has been gained?

ASSISTANCE OFFERED.

The Council are willing, where necessary, to make grants within certain limits, and will be glad to render such assistance as they can to the development of the system of Self-Supporting Penny Dinners, which has already proved so fruitful in good results. They trust that the provision of such dinners will materially improve the condition of school children, and will also indirectly be of considerable benefit to the parents of the scholars in their endeavours to supply them with sufficient and nourishing food at a moderate cost.

SPECIALLY SUITABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

"An excellent penny manual. Experienced household managers may learn more than one useful lesson by its perusal."—The Freeman.

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CONTAINING AN ARTICLE ENTITLED

"COOKERY TEACHING UNDER THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD."

By Miss DAVENPORT-HILL.

Also a SYLLABUS OF LESSONS, including the RECIPES used by the authority of the Board at their Cookery Centres.

HEALTH says it is "a really wonderful pennyworth of solid information on an important branch of home science. The variety of the dishes described, and the simplicity of the directions, constitute two features of interest which are sure to commend the book to all interested in the welfare of the working-classes especially. Persons of a philanthropic turn of mind could not do a kinder or wiser thing than distribute this cheap and handy pamphlet widely in schools and among the masses."

LONDON: ALEXANDER & SHEPHEARD, 21, CASTLE STREET, HOLBORN, AND ALL BOOKSELLERS.

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CIRCULAR PATTERN, WITH FLETCHER'S RADIAL BURNERS,

COMPLETE, READY FOR FIXING.

A	size with inn	er pan to	contain	15 gallons	 	 £5	0	0.
	"	"	"	20 ,,	 	 5		
C	"	,,,	"	25 ,,	 	 6	0	0
D	,,	"	,,	30 ,,	 	 6	IO	0
E	,,	22 V	,,	35 ,,	 	 6	17	6
F	"	"	"	40 ,,	 	 7	SOURCE	
U	,,	,,	"	45 ,,	 	 7	~	
H	"	"	,,	50 ,,	 			

Each 5 gallons will be found sufficient for about 40 children.

The following requisites for carrying out the "PENNY DINNER" Scheme can also be obtained from WALKER & EMLEY, at their Furnishing Ironmongery Warehouse, 42 and 44, Westgate Road, Newcastle:—

STAMPED PLATES, TINNED.

7 8 9 inches.

Dinner, 9/6 12/- 14/9 per gross.

Soup, 10/- 12/9 15/9 per gross.

ENAMELLED IRON PLATES.

Dinner, 6/- 6/6 7/6 per doz. Soup, 7/- 7/6 8/6 per doz.

TINNED PLATES, BRIGHT.

Dinner $\frac{7}{14/6} \frac{8}{16/9} \frac{81}{19/6}$ inches. and Soup $\frac{14}{6} \frac{16}{9} \frac{9}{19}$ per gross.

BRIGHT TINNED SOUP BOWLS.

 $\frac{4\frac{3}{4}}{2/6}$ $\frac{5\frac{3}{4}}{4/3}$ $\frac{6\frac{1}{2}}{4/9}$ inches. per dozen.

BRIGHT TINNED IRON SPOONS.

6 7 8 inches. 4/6 5/6 7/0 per gross.

BRIGHT TINNED SOUP LADLES.

 $\frac{2\frac{3}{4}}{2/6}$ $\frac{3\frac{1}{8}}{2/9}$ $\frac{3\frac{1}{2}}{3/-}$ 4 inches. PLAIN TIN MUGS, 9/6d. per gross.

SCALES, with Weights complete, to weigh 14/bs, 17/6,