



UTILITY

FURNITURE

PRICE
9d
net



UTILITY FURNITURE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UTILITY FURNITURE

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Charles Tennyson, C.M.G., Vice-Chairman of the Council for Art and Industry, Chairman of the Board of the Governors of the National Register of Industrial Art Designers, Secretary to the Dunlop Rubber Company and late Deputy Director of the Federation of British Industries.

Members :

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John Gloag, consultant on industrial design.

F. C. Hooper, until recently Managing Director of Lewis's, Ltd.

The Reverend Charles Jenkinson, Vicar of St. John and St. Barnabas, Leeds. A former Chairman of the Leeds Corporation Housing Committee.

W. Johnstone, furniture manufacturer, Member of the Executive of the Furniture Trades' Federation, Member of the Furniture Sub-Committee of the Scottish Committee of the Council for Art and Industry.

Herman Lebus, C.B.E., Senior partner in the firm of Harris Lebus, furniture manufacturers.

Gordon Russell, furniture designer, Chairman and Managing Director of Gordon Russell, Limited, of Broadway, Worcestershire.

W. Welsford, Manager of the Furniture Factories of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mrs. E. Winborn, a member of the Tenants' Committee of the Kensal House Estate.

The following designers assisted the Committee in their work :

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Edwin L. Clinch, N.R.D.

Walter J. Cornell, N.R.D.

H. J. Cutler, N.R.D.

John Grey, F.R.I.B.A., N.R.D.

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Grey Wornum, F.R.I.B.A.,
N.R.D.

C. V. Worth, N.R.D.

UTILITY FURNITURE



INTRODUCTION

by the

Rt. Hon. Hugh Dalton, P.C., M.P.

President of the Board of Trade.

THIS booklet describes and illustrates the first edition of utility furniture. In extending utility production to this new field, my aim is to provide, for those who really need it, furniture which is sound in construction, agreeable in design and reasonable in price. Materials available for furniture-making are to-day very scarce, but, as these pages show, the designers have done their job well. Mr. Charles Tennyson, the Chairman of my Advisory Committee, and his colleagues, have devoted much time and many valuable ideas to this interesting new venture.

Hugh Dalton.



UTILITY FURNITURE

OUR Committee was appointed in order to advise the President of the Board of Trade on the production of utility furniture of sound construction and in simple and agreeable designs. We have endeavoured to supply all the main articles of furniture which are required for a reasonable standard of comfort in the home. But throughout we have, of course, had to study the pressing need for economy in raw materials and labour. Moreover, some of the customary materials are not available whilst several alternatives such as plastics are now being used for direct war production.

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Where possible, we have allowed some extra use of materials in order to achieve greater comfort or convenience. But in present conditions the full range of furniture cannot be maintained, and it is inevitable that there should be some falling below pre-war standards of comfort. For instance, we have been unable to include a three-piece upholstered suite because of the considerable quantity of scarce materials that would be required in its manufacture. In its place we have specified some simple types of easy chair which have sufficient spring construction to make them comfortable and restful for leisure hours. Also, we have included a

bed-settee and a bed-chair for those who use the same room by night as by day.

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The principal materials employed in this furniture are timber and hardboard. The latter, veneered on both sides, acts as a substitute for plywood, which is no longer available. We are satisfied that it is suitable for this purpose and should prove durable. As the necessary materials for giving the normal type of finish are scarce, the furniture has a simple matt wax finish. This is pleasant to look at and easy to keep in condition.

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The photographs show the complete range of utility furniture at the present time. As I have already said, we found that we could not provide a wide range of designs if we were to keep closely to the necessary conditions of sound construction and maximum economy of labour and materials. But the general simplicity of the designs should, we think, make the furniture acceptable in its appearance as well as convenient and suitable in use.

Charles Tennyson,

*Chairman of the Advisory Committee
on Utility Furniture.*

UTILITY FURNITURE



LIVING ROOM



KITCHEN



BEDROOM



UTILITY FURNITURE

LIVING ROOM



DINING CHAIR:
Second Section—Model 3b
Price £1.5.6



DINING CHAIR:
Second Section—Model 3d
Price £1.3.0

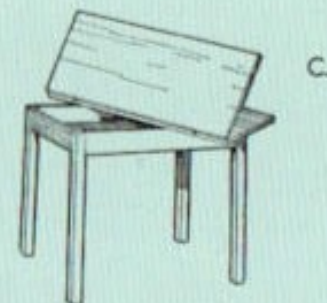


This table has a swivel-action top, and is 3 ft. by 2 ft. when closed, extending to 4 ft. by 3 ft. when open. It is 2 ft. 6 ins. in height.

DINING TABLE:
Second Section—Model 2b
A. Closed.
B. Fully open.
C. Half open, showing storage space.
Price £4.13.6



SIDEBOARD:
Second Section—Model 1c
Price £7.6.6
This is 4 ft. wide, 2 ft. 9 ins. high and 1 ft. 6 ins. deep.



The living room furniture is in oak, all framing being of solid timber with hard-board veneered on both sides for the panelling.

UTILITY FURNITURE



LIVING ROOM



SIDEBOARD : Second Section—Model 1a
Price £10 . 7 . 0



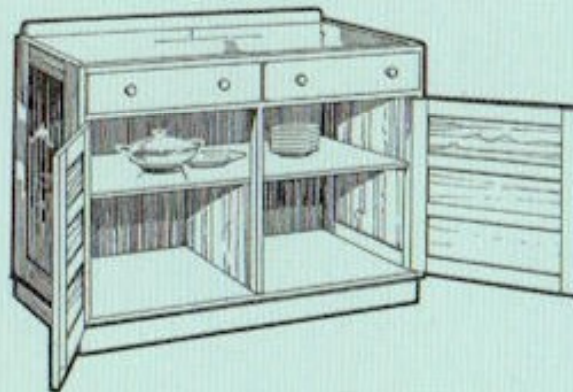
SIDEBOARD : Second Section—Model 1b
Price £10 . 7 . 0

The living room furniture is in oak. The dining chairs have loose, padded seats covered with leather cloth, in a variety of colours.

Sideboard, with doors open, showing inside shelves. The sideboards are 4 ft. wide, 2 ft. 9 ins. high and 1 ft. 6 ins. deep.



DINING CHAIR :
Second Section—Model 3a
Price £1 . 9 . 0



DINING CHAIR :
Second Section—Model 3c
Price £1 . 9 . 0



UTILITY FURNITURE

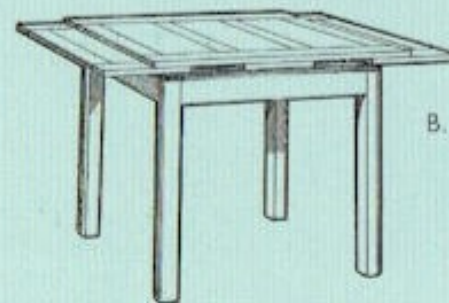
LIVING ROOM

The living room furniture is in oak, stained with a matt wax finish, in light or dark shades as preferred.

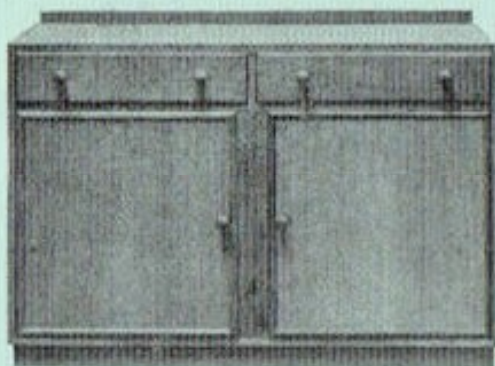


DINING CHAIR:
Second Section—
Model 3
Price £1.10.0

This dining chair has a loose, padded seat covered with leather cloth, in a variety of colours.

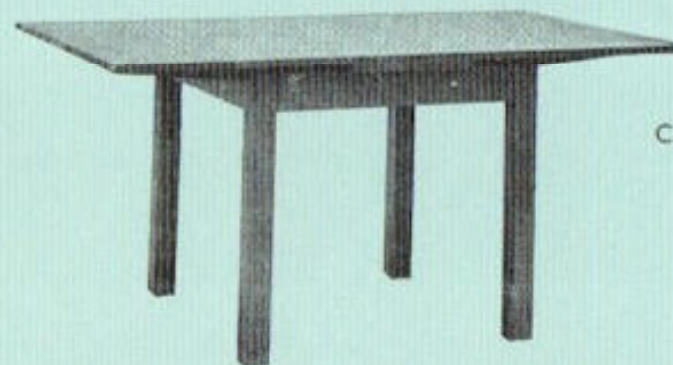


The dining table has a panelled top, with extending leaves, and is 2 ft. 6 ins. in height. The top is 3 ft. square when closed and 5 ft. by 3 ft. when opened.



SIDEBOARD:
Second Section—Model 1
Price £10.7.0

DINING TABLE:
Second Section—Model 2
A. Closed.
B. Showing method of opening.
C. Fully open.
Price £5.15.3



The sideboards are 4 ft. wide, 2 ft. 9 ins. high and 1 ft. 6 ins. deep.

UTILITY FURNITURE

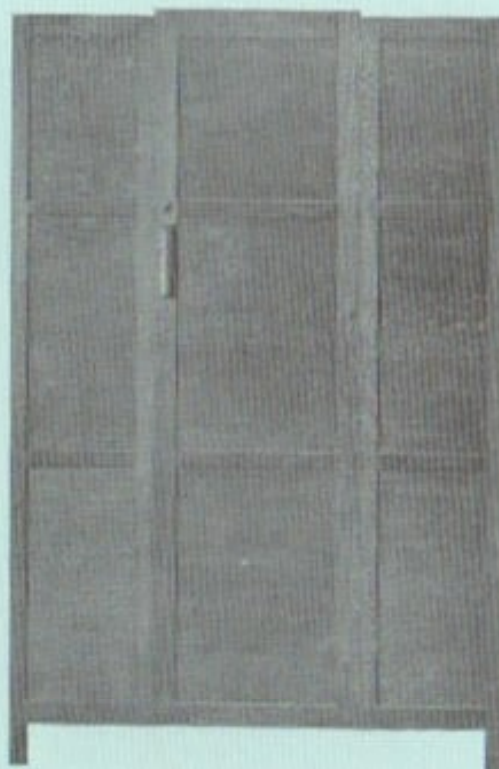


BEDROOM

This furniture is in oak. The dressing chests are 2 ft. 6 ins. high and 18 ins. deep. In this set there is no tallboy, but a two-drawer dressing chest, as well as the three-drawer one which can be supplied with or without the mirror.



DRESSING CHEST: 2 ft. 6 ins. wide.
First Section—Model 4a
Price, without mirror ... £4.3.9



WARDROBE: 4 ft. wide.
First Section—Model 1b
Price £14.11.0



DRESSING CHEST: 3 ft. wide.
First Section—Model 3a
Price, with mirror ... £9.5.3
.. without mirror ... £8.2.0



First Section—Model 1b (open)



UTILITY FURNITURE

BEDROOM



WARDROBE: 4 ft. wide.

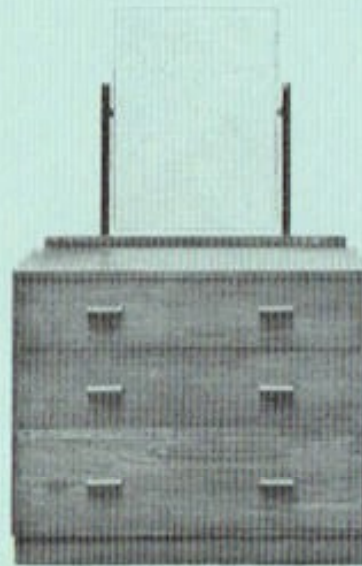
First Section—Model 1

Price, in oak £15 . 16 . 6

Price, in mahogany, with
dull finish (as shown) ... £17 . 4 . 9



WARDROBE :
First Section—
Model 1, open.



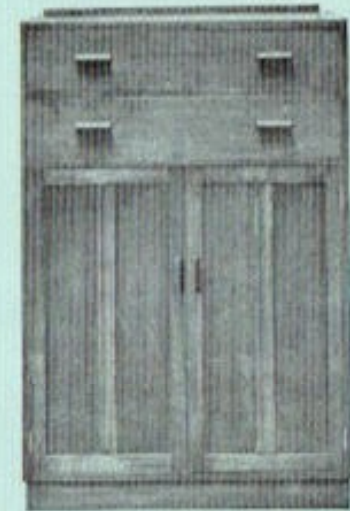
DRESSING CHEST: 3 ft. wide.

First Section—Model 3

(shown in mahogany)

Price, with mirror ... £10 . 10 . 0

.. without mirror £9 . 6 . 9



TALLBOY:

First Section—Model 5

Price, in mahogany, with
dull finish (as shown) ... £10 . 2 . 6

The bedroom furniture is in oak, but the wardrobes Nos. 1 and 2a, the dressing chests Nos. 3 and 4, the tallboy No. 5 and the bedstead No. 6 are also made in mahogany with a dull finish for those who prefer it.

UTILITY FURNITURE



BEDROOM



TALLBOY:
First Section—Model 5a
Price £9 . 5 . 3



DRESSING CHEST: 3 ft. wide.
First Section—Model 3
(shown in oak)
Price, with mirror ... £9 . 15 . 0
Price, without mirror ... £8 . 11 . 9

Wardrobes are made in 4 ft. and 3 ft. sizes. The larger ones are made in two parts rigidly joined together but easily detached for removing. The wardrobes provide full-length hanging space, have mirrors 4 ft. by 1 ft. inside the doors, and are 1 ft. 9 ins. deep.



WARDROBE: 4 ft. wide.
First Section—Model 1a
Price £15 . 16 . 6



WARDROBE: 3 ft. wide.
First Section—Model 2
Price, in oak only. £13 . 2 . 9



UTILITY FURNITURE

BEDROOM

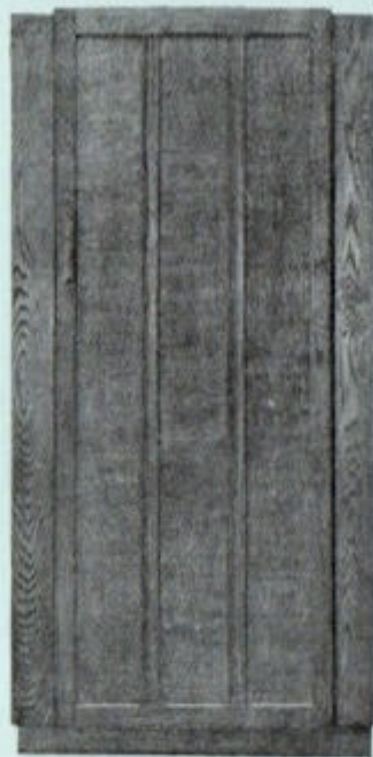


TALLBOY:

First Section—Model 5

Price, in oak, as shown £9 . 5 . 3

Interior view of tallboy. All the tallboys have two drawers above and a cupboard with a shelf below. They are 2 ft. 9 ins. wide, 4 ft. high and 1 ft. 6 ins. deep.



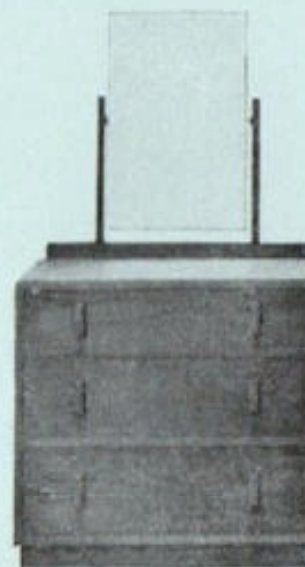
WARDROBE: 3 ft. wide.

First Section—Model 2a

Price, in oak ... £13 . 2 . 9

.. in mahogany ... £14 . 0 . 0

The dressing chests are made in 3 ft. and 2 ft. 6 ins. sizes and they can be supplied, if desired, without the mirror, so providing an alternative low chest model. The chests are 2 ft. 6 ins. high and 18 ins. deep.



DRESSING CHEST: 2 ft. 6 ins. wide.

First Section—Model 4 Prices

In oak, with mirror... .. £8 . 11 . 0

In oak, without mirror ... £7 . 11 . 0

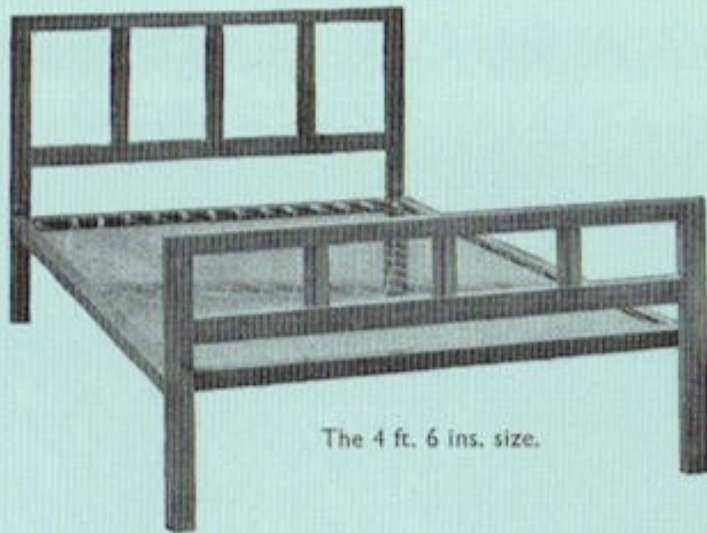
In mahogany, with mirror ... £9 . 4 . 0

In mahogany, without mirror £8 . 4 . 0

UTILITY FURNITURE



BEDROOM



The 4 ft. 6 ins. size.

BEDSTEAD:

First Section—Model 6a

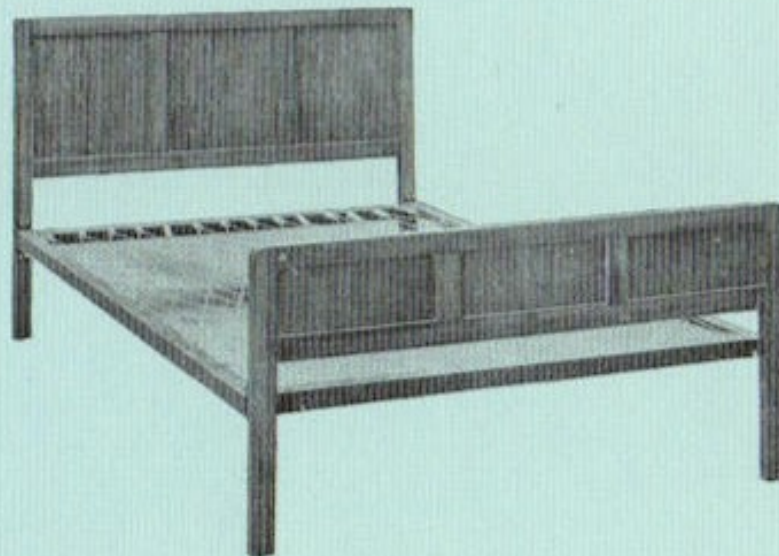
Prices:

4 ft. 6 ins. ...	£3. 10. 9
4 ft. ...	£3. 8. 6
3 ft. ...	£2. 5. 0



The 3 ft. size.

The bedsteads can be provided with either slat or panelled ends as shown. The double bedsteads have simple coil-spring mattresses, with four underbars and four rows of coil springs. The single bedsteads have a diamond mesh mattress with tension springs at the ends.



BEDSTEAD:

First Section—Model 6

Prices:

In oak ...	{ 4 ft. 6 ins. ...	£4. 7. 3
	{ 4 ft. ...	£4. 3. 9
	{ 3 ft. ...	£2. 16. 6
In mahogany ...	{ 4 ft. 6 ins. ...	£4. 11. 0
	{ 4 ft. ...	£4. 7. 3
	{ 3 ft. ...	£2. 19. 6



UTILITY FURNITURE

KITCHEN

The kitchen cabinet has a table top 20 ins. deep, covered with linoleum or felt base material, and has drawers and a cupboard with shelves above. The cabinet is 2 ft. 9 ins. in width, and 5 ft. 9 ins. in overall height, the table top being 2 ft. 10 ins. high.



KITCHEN CABINET:
Third Section—Model 3
Price £11.10.6

KITCHEN CHAIRS:



Third Section—
Model 4
Price 14/3



Third Section—
Model 4a
Price 14/3



Third Section—
Model 4b
Price 12/6



Kitchen Cabinet (open)
showing shelves.

The kitchen tables are 2 ft. 6 ins. high and are made in two sizes—4 ft. by 3 ft. and 3 ft. 6 ins. by 2 ft.—with plain solid wood tops and stout legs. There is a drawer at the side.



KITCHEN TABLE:
Third Section—
Model 1 4 ft. x 3 ft. size ... Price £3. 8. 6
Model 2 3 ft. 6 ins. x 2 ft. size .. £2. 14. 0

UTILITY FURNITURE



NURSERY



**CONVERTIBLE
HIGH CHAIR:**

Fourth Section—Model 4
Price £2.5.6

The nursery furniture includes a cot, playpen and chairs, all made of beech.



The first position shows the chair for use as a high chair with food tray. The second position shows it in use as a low chair with play tray.



The playpen is 3 ft. by 4 ft., with hinged ends for folding.

PLAYPEN:

Fourth Section—Model 2
Price £1.19.6

NO PERMITS
ARE REQUIRED
FOR NURSERY
FURNITURE



LOW CHAIR

(with removable tray):
Fourth Section—Model 5
Price £1.1.9



HIGH CHAIR:

Fourth Section—Model 3.
Price £1.16.0



COT:

Fourth Section—Model 1
Price £2.9.9

The cot is 4 ft. 3 ins. by 2 ft. and is 3 ft. 3 ins. high. It is fitted with a simple wire mesh mattress. There is a drop side with a safe and easy sliding device.



UTILITY FURNITURE

MISCELLANEOUS

ADJUSTABLE FIRESIDE CHAIR:

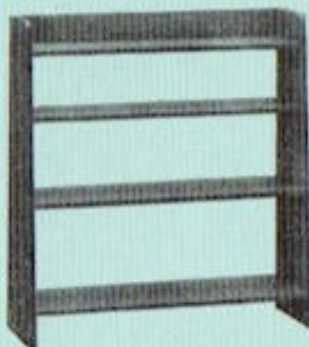
Fifth Section—Model 1
Price £2.10.6

This chair has an adjustable seat and back. The 3-inch cushion seat is filled with flock and the back is stuffed with cotton felt.



Position 1

This model is 3 ft. high and 2 ft. 6 ins. wide. The three shelves are 8 ins., 9 ins. and 10 ins. deep.



SHELVES:

Fifth Section—Model 6
Price £1.12.0



FIRESIDE CHAIR:

Fifth Section—
Model 1a
Price £2.9.0

This chair has a fixed sprung seat and back padded with cotton felt.



FIRESIDE CHAIR:
Model 1 Position 2

This model has stuffed arms and an upholstered seat, with double-coil springs. The lower part of the back is also spring-upholstered.



EASY CHAIR:
Fifth Section—Model 2a
Price £6.10.0

This model is similar to Model 1a, but has an upholstered seat with single-coil springs.



OPEN-ARM EASY CHAIR:
Fifth Section—Model 2 Price £3.12.0

UTILITY FURNITURE



MISCELLANEOUS

Adapted for easy conversion into a single bed, this chair has three 3-inch bordered reversible cushions filled with flock.



1. Opened as a bed.



2. As a chair.

BED-CHAIR:

Fifth Section—Model 3

Price £3 . 19 . 6

A list of the unit values of the furniture will be given to you when you receive your allocation.

These unit values may be changed from time to time. Your retailer will be able to show you a complete and up-to-date list.



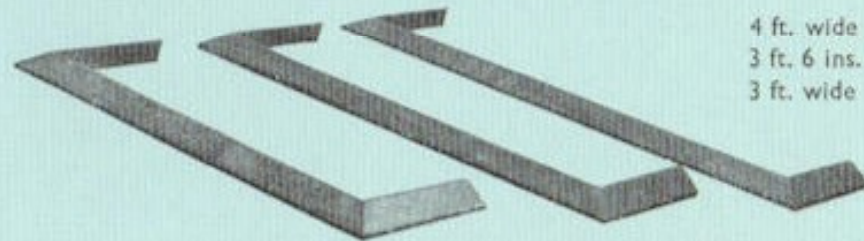
OCCASIONAL TABLE:

Fifth Section—Model 7

Price £1 . 12 . 3

This table is in oak. The table top is 1 ft. 8 ins. square and 2 ft. 2 ins. from the ground. There is a shelf 10 ins. wide below.

FIRESIDE CURBS: Fifth Section—Model 8



	Prices
4 ft. wide ...	17/-
3 ft. 6 ins. wide ...	15/9
3 ft. wide ...	14/3

Curbs are made in oak in three sizes: 3 ft., 3 ft. 6 ins. and 4 ft. respectively.



UTILITY FURNITURE

BED-SETTEE & DIVAN

The bed-settee in use as a settee.



The settee seat and the bed portion are spring upholstered.

ADJUSTABLE BED-SETTEE:

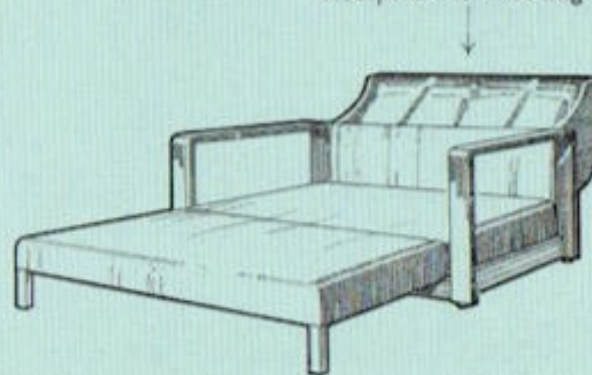
Fifth Section—Model 4

Closed 4 ft. 6 ins. long.

Bed size 6 ft. x 3 ft. 9 ins.

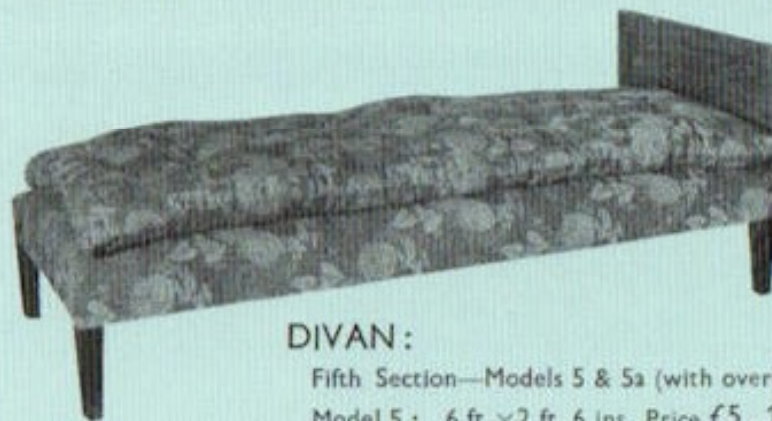
Price £13.4.0

Receptacle for bedding.



The bed-settee opened for use as a double bed.

As bed-settees use a large amount of scarce raw materials, special units are needed for their purchase. These will be issued only when the living room has to be used regularly for sleeping as well.



DIVAN:

Fifth Section—Models 5 & 5a (with overlay)

Model 5 : 6 ft. x 2 ft. 6 ins. Price £5.13.6

Model 5a : 6 ft. x 3 ft. „ £6.3.9

UTILITY FURNITURE



How to Apply

You will need an official permit before you can buy any piece of utility furniture other than nursery furniture. You can obtain an application form from your Local Fuel Office or by writing to the Board of Trade, Neville House, Page Street, London, S.W.1., but your claim will be considered only if you really need furniture, for instance, if you are setting up house on marriage or after losing your furniture through bombing. When you have completed the preliminary application form you should return it to the nearest Assistance Board District Office; the address for posting is displayed in your Local Fuel Office. Your application will be considered by the Assistance Board acting on behalf of the Board of Trade.

Permits

If your application shows that you really need furniture you will be given a permit consisting of a number of units. Each piece of utility furniture has a unit value which your retailer will be able to tell you. Before you can use your permit you must see that it bears your name, address and National Registration Number or Service Number and Rank. The permit may only be used by or on behalf of the person named on the front of it and **it is illegal to sell or to give permits to anyone else.** You must use the units on your permit within three months from the date of issue shown on it. After that period any not used will be invalid and must be returned to the Assistance Board. Unused units must also be returned to the Assistance Board if, after they have been issued, the circumstances of the holder change so that he no longer needs the furniture for the reasons he gave on his application form.

Where to Shop

In order to save carriage of furniture over long distances you may only order utility furniture from a retailer in the area shown on the front of the permit. You may, however, buy different pieces of furniture from different shops. The units must be detached by a retailer; you must not hand them to him loose and he may not accept them loose or retain them except where an order has been placed. If you wish to order your furniture by post you must send the complete permit to the shopkeeper who will detach the number of units he needs and return it to you.

Prices

Utility furniture is free of purchase tax. Maximum retail prices have been fixed for new and second-hand utility furniture, and hire-purchase terms will be permitted. The present prices are shown in this catalogue, and the retailer from whom you order furniture will be able to give you particulars of hire-purchase terms.

Further Information

For further information you should enquire at Citizens' Advice Bureaux, the Women's Voluntary Services, but not at Local Fuel Offices, Food Offices or Post Offices. Enquiries which cannot be dealt with by the above organisations should be addressed to the Board of Trade, Neville House, Page Street, London, S.W.1.

Warning

Your permit is the property of the Board of Trade and they do not undertake to replace lost permits. Owing to the general supply difficulties, the Board of Trade cannot guarantee that the factories producing the utility furniture will be able to deliver the articles within any definite time after an order has been placed.

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LONDON

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80 Clchester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

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