

SURVEY OF PRICE AUDITS¹

I.—HARLEM AND OTHER COMMUNITIES (taken from Aug. 30, 1966, through Aug. 9, 1967)

Trading area	Number of audits	Average Number of errors per audit	Prices over per audit	Prices under per audit
9 Harlem stores.....	54	10.3	7.5	2.8
9 stores in middle and higher income areas ²	54	10.8	7.9	2.9

II.—BEDFORD-STUYVESANT AND OTHER COMMUNITIES (taken from Aug. 1, 1966, through Oct. 27, 1967)

10 Bedford-Stuyvesant stores.....	51	10.8	7.5	3.3
10 Flatbush-Bay Ridge stores.....	50	8.7	5.4	3.3

¹ Over 15,000 items are subject to price checks, and errors average less than one-fifth of 1 percent.

² These 9 stores were selected at random. The are located at Hartsdale, Scarsdale, Tuckahoe, Bronxville, Yonkers, and New York City (6th Ave. at 11th St., 3d Ave. at 70th St., Zerega Ave. near Havemeyer Ave., and Bruckner Blvd. at Tremont Ave.).

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. ROSENTHAL. The subcommittee will be in order.

We apologize for being late. We made a little shopping tour of the A. & P. store at 119th Street and Third Avenue. One of the questions Mr. Gallagher asked before we adjourned is, Who could one complain to if one had a complaint involving A. & P.? and I think you wanted to respond to that.

Mr. McINERNEY. Yes, sir. As part of A. & P.'s "we care" program, we have from time to time listed A. & P.'s telephone number and said that any grievances could be communicated by using the phone.

We had a question before the recess as to who, specifically in these areas one could talk to. Now, in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area and in the rest of Brooklyn and Long Island the gentleman's name is Robert Phelan, at PI 10-500. In Harlem and in the rest of Manhattan and the Bronx, the gentleman's name is Edward Gilbert, at CY 22-300. We wanted to give that for the benefit of anyone who has any complaint and we do want to hear these complaints, because we want to—

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Good. I have one for you. In the A. & P. store at 119th Street and Third Avenue a couple of things were observed. First we examined meat, packaged meat, and in the lower left-hand corner of the label is a code number from 1 to 5 which is supposed to indicate the day the meat was packaged. We had some meat, all the meat in the counter as far as I could see, was marked No. 5, which means Friday. We asked both the manager of the store and the meat manager what is done with the meat if it is left over as of store closing tomorrow afternoon, and it looks reasonable; that is it doesn't lay moldy or green or black? They both responded that the meat would be repackaged on Monday. And we asked them what number do you put on it, and they said No. 1, which would indicate, which would leave the impression that it was packaged for the first time on Monday.

I have two suggestions. First, why does there have to be a secret code system whereby only people in the industry or in the store can understand the date. This would apply also to milk, perishables. Why can't you on the meat label put down, if it was packaged Monday put down Monday. Put down Tuesday, Wednesday. Let everybody in on the secret. Point 1.