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ITEM No 2274/53

6  
5 Mar  
VIII/7156/a

RUMANIA

STANDARD OF LIVING  
Prices

Additional Prices In Rumania.

SOURCE SALZBURG: Confidential source, direct from BUCHAREST.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Until 8 February 1953.

EVAL. COMMENT: Checked against available data and found correct.

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An additional list of prices in Rumania is as follows:

<u>Item.</u>	<u>on free market</u>
White beans, 1 kg	6.00 Lei
Oinice, 1 kg	0.50 - 1.00 Lei
Fish, pike, 1 kg	5.00 Lei
Fish, herring (smoked) 1 kg	32.00 Lei
Fish, Herring (salted) 1 kg	28.00 Lei
Haircut, second class barbershop	1.35 Lei
Permanent wave	25 - 70.00 Lei
Tie (good quality)	75.00 Lei
Streetcar, first class	30 to 40 bani
Streetcar, second class	25 to 35 bani
Train- Only rode it once and fare from BUCHAREST to CURTICI, on the border was 78 Lei per person.	
Bus, anywhere in the city	50 - to 60 bani
Movies	2.00 - 3.50 Lei
Theater, an average of	8.00 Lei
Toothbrush, an average of	10.00 Lei
Toothpaste, an average of	4.50 Lei
Pencil, very poor quality	65 bani
Radio, "Pioneer" model, the cheapest	400-600.00 Lei
Pocketbook, woman's	cca. 300.00 Lei
<u>Kitchen wares:</u>	
Simple pot	15 - 28.00 Lei
Knife	10.00 Lei
Fork	6.00 Lei
Spoon	7.00 Lei
Earthenware cup	2.35 Lei

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Electric stove, small size	300-400.00 Lei
Dentist, one filling, per visit	20.00 Lei
Doctor, per visit	15.00- 25.00 Lei
Nylons, per pair	160.00-250.00 Lei
Woman's blouse, national costume style	185.00-275.00 Lei

Subsources were asked about the prices of lipstick, a watch and clock, a fountain pen, but had no idea of the prices. Neither of the Subsource women ever used lipstick or other cosmetics, saying that they were too expensive in the first place, and used only by "elegant ladies" in the second place.

On the bus fare of .50 -.60 bani, this refers only within the city limits. Outside the city, the buses are operated by the state firm RATA, at prices Subsources didn't know. Previously S.T.B. (STATIA TRAMVAIELOR BUCURESTI) ran the rural bus lines.

The .65 bani pencils referred to were of the very lowest quality, mostly imported from CSR. Subsource said they were so poor and broke so often that everyone in his office brought his own pencils or pen in order to be able to do their work.

The knives, forks and spoons are also made of the very cheapest material and are forever bending as you cut and eat.

The national costume blouses (185 - 275 Lei) are of superior quality and come from the firm "ROMARTA." ROMARTA is a branch of the State combine CONSIGNATIA.

End.