

Income and Consumption in Germany
during the Rearmament period.

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INCOME AND CONSUMPTION IN GERMANY DURING THE
REARMAMENT PERIOD

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NOTE

This report is an outgrowth of an analysis of the food situation in Europe at the outbreak of the present war, which Frederick Strauss made for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Some of the material of that survey has since been further analyzed for possible light on the German experience with the issue of "guns versus butter," and the possible bearing of that experience on efforts in this country to expand defense production and at the same time maintain the normal consumption of those things which constitute the average standard of living. This report is of general interest because of its conclusion that during the rearmament period in Germany up to 1939 the level of living suffered because of the defense programs, and of interest to technicians because of the difficulties involved in dealing with inadequate official German statistics of production and consumption of consumers' goods.