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Food

University of Reading
Department of
Agricultural Economics & Management

CATERING
and the
FOOD SECTOR

Edited by
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GLOSSARY

AGB	Audits of Great Britain Ltd.
AGB/TCA	Audits of Great Britain/Television Consumer Audit
BSO	Business Statistics Office
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CBI	Confederation of British Industry
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CTN	Confectioners, Tobacconists and Newsagents
DGFT	Director-General of Fair Trading
DoE	Department of Employment
DPP	Direct Product Profitability
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
EC)	European Community
EEC)	European Economic Community
ECU	European Currency Unit
EDC DT	Economic Development Committee for the Distributive Trades
EDC FDM	Economic Development Committee for Food and Drink Manufacturing
EPOS	Electronic Point of Sale
FDF	Food and Drink Federation
FTC	Federal Trade Commission
GATT	General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade
IGD	Institute of Grocery Distribution
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
MC)	Monopolies Commission
MCC)	Monopolies and Mergers Commission
MCA	Monetary Compensatory Amount
MMB	Milk Marketing Board
NFS	National Food Survey
OFT	Office of Fair Trading
OJ	Official Journal of the European Communities
PLU	Price Look-Up
PMB	Potato Marketing Board
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United States of America

Preface

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Management scheduled the sixth in its biennial series of conferences on economics and policy issues and the food industries for September 1991. Its title, Catering and the Food Sector, indicated our move into a largely neglected area of interest for UK agricultural and food economists. In the event the conference did not take place but those contributors who submitted papers in advance have kindly agreed to their publication in this form. We are most grateful for their time and effort.

The papers cover a wide range of viewpoints on the catering sector. Mr. Loader applies the economist's methods of analysing demand and supply to catering services. Dr. Slater and Mr. Cawley give a detailed review of the UK consumer eating habits using mainly official data covering the decade to 1990. They review the implications for the catering sector and the prospects for its future. Mr. Backman examines the dynamic changes in UK food retailing that have produced companies with highly concentrated buying power and considers their impact on suppliers. He compares the fragmented and heterogeneous catering sector as an outlet for food supplies. Mr. Forte indicates the contract caterer's role in the provision of catering services, while Mr Tavernor gives the perspective of a leading food retailer.

Finally we would stress that the comments of the authors reflect their own views, rather than necessarily those of their employers or of the University of Reading.

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