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# Directors and professional advisers

**Directors** 

Garry H Weston\* Chairman

W G Galen Weston\* Vice Chairman

Mrs C H W Dalglish\*

G V Hamilton J G Lithiby\* W Monaghan\*

Mrs M D W Rebanks\*

Secretary

G W Artindale

Registered office

181 Piccadilly London W1A 1ER

Registered number

84909

Registrar and transfer office

Lloyds Bank PLC

Registrar's department

Goring-by-Sea Worthing West Sussex

The Causeway

**BN12 6DA** 

**Auditors** 

Price Waterhouse

Chartered Accountants

Bankers

Bank of Scotland

Girobank Plc

Mr Garry H Weston was appointed a director in 1951, and has been Chairman since 1978. He is also Chairman of Associated British Foods Pic.

Mr W G Galen Weston has been a director since 1965. He is Chairman and President of George Weston Ltd, Canada and a director of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Mr J G Lithiby has been a director since 1981. He is a director of Panmure Gordon & Co Limited, Stockbrokers.

Mrs C H W Daiglish has been a director since 1979. She is a director of Lobiaw Companies Limited, Canada.

Mr W Monaghan CBE was appointed a director in 1990. He was formerly a director of Associated British Foods Plc, and Chairman of Allied Bakeries Ltd.

Mrs M D W Rebanks has been a director since 1971, and is Treasurer of The W Garfield Weston Foundation.

<sup>\*</sup>Non-executive director

### Chairman's statement

### TRADING RESULTS

The improvement in sales shown in the first half of the year increased in momentum in the second half, with Piccadilly store sales ahead by 8.5 per cent for a year on year increase of 7.9 per cent, and Export sales producing an increase of 49.4 per cent, against 30 per cent in the first half. Total company sales for the year increased by 12 per cent to £27.6 million.

This increase in turnover is an indication of a continuing, though fragile, recovery in UK consumer confidence, and the further growth of our Export operation which has more than doubled its turnover since 1990.

As a result of this sales growth, operating profit improved substentially on last year's record result with an increase of £480,000 to £1,909,000.

During the year the company acquired the long leasehold interest of its Piccadilly site for £1.75 million and a further £1 million of expenditure was spent on refurbishing the second floor and fresh food departments. This, together with the decline in interest rates since September 1992, resulted in a fall in interest receivable from £576,000 to £401,000. Profit before taxation was nevertheless a new record of £2,310,000, an improvement of £305,000 on the comparable 52 weeks.

After charging taxation of £738,000 the profit available to shareholders was £1,572,000 compared with £1,330,000 for the 52 weeks to July 1993.

### MANAGEMENT

The requirement to uphold levels of customer service and to maintain the standards of presentation of the store resulted in upward pressure on wages which increased by 8 per cent and on maintenance and repairs, up 19 per cent.

In addition, a decision was taken to raise further expenditure on advertising and publicity by over 10 per cent. Other items of expenditure remained, as in previous years, tightly controlled, although as a result of rate increases outside our control insurance premiums were £68,000 higher than in 1993.

Despite the sales increase stock holdings were held down to levels only slightly above last year, helped by the further extension of stock control systems.

Our customer order and despatch systems were further enhanced, enabling a 41 per cent increase in the volume of Christmas catalogue orders to be achieved whilst maintaining levels of customer service.

### STORE DEVELOPMENT

Sales growth was more consistent across the departments than in the previous year. The benefit of refurbishments in that year showed in sales increases of 22 per cent in the Patio Restaurant, 20 per cent in Men's Wear, and 16 per cent in Gifts.

### Chairman's statement continued

The Food Hall refrigeration was replaced prior to Christmas, and as part of this work the Cakes department was relocated from Mezzanine to the main area of the food hall. Trade in this department has grown subsequently by 23 per cent.

The new refrigeration has allowed a wider range of products to be sourced from both home and overseas. These products include regional British cheeses, sausages, hams and exotic fruits. As a result the fresh food departments returned an increase of 7 per cent for the year.

Helped by the success of the Christmas catalogue previously mentioned, the Hampers and Wines departments both showed sales increases of over 10 per cent.

The second floor was completely refurbished during the year, and subsequent sales have been in line with expectations.

In total £1,052,000 was spent on store refurbishment and improvements.

As reported above, export sales continued to develop. The opening of new markets in South East Asia produced a growth in sales which now makes this region our second most important export market after Japan. Despite a background of declining retail sales in that country, our exports to Japan showed an increase of 23 per cent.

New distribution arrangements in Australia and Germany produced significant increases in both these countries.

#### **FUTURE PROSPECTS**

Current trading has been affected by the rail strikes, and for the first few weeks of the new year by the unusually hot weather at that time. However, export sales continue to be buoyant and providing that consumer and business confidence is maintained through the important Christmas period, our targets for further improvement in sales and profit should be achieved.

### **APPRECIATION**

These results were achieved out of the commitment of our staff to maintaining the highest standards of service to our customers. This has been all the more necessary given the difficult trading climate of the previous three years, which placed extra demands and challenges upon them. I would once again express our appreciation of their efforts.

#### **GARRY H WESTON**

### Report of the Directors

The directors submit their eighty-ninth annual report together with the accounts of the company for the year ended 9 July 1994.

### Principal activities and business review

The company continued its activities as a department store during the year. The review of trading results and future prospects is included in the Chairman's statement on pages 3 and 4.

#### Profit and dividends

The profit and loss account on page 8 shows turnover for the financial year ended 9 July 1994 of £27,642,000 (1993 – £24,682,000). The profit for the year was £1,572,000 (1993 – £1,330,000). An interim dividend of 86.0p per unit of stock was paid on 1 July 1994. A second interim dividend of 24p per unit of stock amounting to £102,000 will be paid on 3 January 1995. The total dividend on the ordinary and preference shares amounts to £476,000 (1993 – £433,000). The remaining profit of £1,096,000 (1993 – £897,000) will be added to reserves.

#### Directors and their interests

A list control irrectors of the company during the year is shown on page 2 and the school of their beneficial interests, including family interests, in the shares and developed as of the group is shown on page 20.

Mr G V Hamilton and Mr W G Galen Weston retire by rotation and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Mrs J R Khayat and Mr G W Artindaie were today appointed to the Board of Fortnum & Mason plc, where they will hold Executive responsibility as Director of Fashions and Financial Director respectively.

Mrs Khayat joined the company in 1983 as a management trainee and has been the Fashions buyer for the last six years. Mr Artindale has been with the company since 1986, having had six years prior experience with other retailers, and was appointed Company Secretary in 1989.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mrs Khayat and Mr Artindale will retire at the next Annual General Meeting and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

#### Corporate governance

The Board is required by the Stock Exchange to report on the extent of its compliance with the Code of Best Practice drawn up by the Cadbury Committee on Corporate Governance.

Fortnum & Mason is a subsidiary company of Wittington Investments Limited which owns 89.9 per cent of the company's ordinary stock. Wittington Investments Limited is in turn controlled by Mr Garry H Weston and members of his family and trusts associated with them.

# Report of the directors continued

During the accounting period the Board of Fortnum & Mason was with the exception of Mr G V Hamilton, the Managing Director, entirely non-executive. Four of the six non-executive directors are members of the Weston family.

Given the limited size of the company and its focus of operations on one site in Piccadilly, London, the Board does not believe there is either a need or benefit to be obtained from reserving specifically to itself matters for decision. The nature and style of the company's operations is such as to ensure that matters of materiality to the control and operations of the company are promptly discussed and decided at Board level. This structure is based upon short lines of communication and has a proven record of success.

There is no agreed procedure for directors in the furtherance of their duties to take independent professional advice.

Non-executive directors are not appointed for specified terms and their reappointment is voted upon at Annual General Meetings when periodic re-election is proposed in accordance with the company's Articles of Association. Non-executive directors are selected by an informal process of consultation within the Board.

No executive director has a service contract exceeding one year and the remuneration of executive directors is determined by Board consultation. There is no remuneration committee. There is no audit committee but the auditors meet with the finance director of the holding company on an annual basis for a discussion of matters arising from their audit, including the effectiveness of the company's system of internal controls.

#### Fixed assets

Changes in fixed assets are set out on page 14.

A valuation carried out in 1993 indicated that the market value of the company's leasehold interest exceeds the amount at which it is shown in the balance sheet by approximately £6 million.

### Charitable and political contributions

Charitable donations for the year amounted to £3,336 (1993 – £2,856). There were no contributions to any political organisation during the year (1993 – Nil).

### **Employment of disabled persons**

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the respective aptitudes and abilities of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the company continues and the appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the company that the training, career development and promotion of a disabled person should, as far as possible, be identical to that of a person who is fortunate enough not to suffer from a disability.

### Report of the directors continued

### Employee involvement

The company formally communicates with its staff in a number of ways. Upon joining the company, new staff attend an induction training course and are given a booklet explaining the terms and conditions of employment. Weekly training sessions are held at which staff are updated on the company's activities, plans and financial performance. Staff at all levels are involved in forward planning and development of their departments, and regularly updated as to the progress of the company and their personal development in line with that progress and their individual performance.

By order of the board

G W Artindale Secretary

30 September 1994

### Directors' responsibilities statement

of. W. art- dut

The directors are required by company law to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at the end of the financial year and of the profit of the company for the period to that date. The financial statements must be prepared in compliance with the required formats and disclosures of the Companies Act 1985 and with applicable accounting standards. In addition, the directors are required:—

- to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records so as to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985, for safeguarding the assets of the company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Profit and loss account

|   | Note | 52 weeks<br>ended<br>9 July | 52 weeks<br>ended<br>10 July |
|---|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
|   |      | 1994                        | 1993                         |
|   |      | £′000                       | £′000                        |
| Turnover                                      | 1    | 27,642                      | 24,682                       |
| Cost of sales                                 |      | (19,552)                    | (17,626)                     |
| Gross profit                                  |      | 8,090                       | 7,056                        |
| Distribution costs                            |      | (183)                       | (263)                        |
| Administrative expenses                       |      | (5,998)                     | (5,364)                      |
| Operating profit                              | 1    | 1,909                       | 1,429                        |
| Interest receivable                           |      | 401                         | 576                          |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | 2    | 2,310                       | 2,005                        |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities          | 3    | (738)                       | (675)                        |
| Profit for the financial year                 |      | 1,572                       | 1,330                        |
| Dividends                                     | 4    | (476)                       | (433)                        |
| Retained profit to russ                       | 11   | 1,096                       | 897                          |
| Earnings per share                            | 5    | 368p                        | 311p                         |

# Balance sheet

|        | <del></del>             |  |
|--------|-------------------------|--|
| Note   | As at<br>9 July<br>1994 | As at<br>10 July<br>1993   |
|        | £′000                   | £'000  |
|        |                         |  |
| 7<br>8 | 6,311<br>2              | 4,225<br>2   |
|        | 6,313                   | 4,227  |
|        |                         | The state of the s |
|        |                         |  |
| 9      | 2,758<br>1,460<br>5,963 | 2,713<br>1,076<br>7,548  |
|        | 10.181                  |  |
| 10     |                         | 11,337   |
| 10     | 3,629                   | 3,478  |
|        | 6,552                   | 7,859  |
|        | 12.00=                  |  |
|        |                         | 12,086   |
|        | 447                     | 408  |
|        | 12,418                  | 11,678   |
|        | - <del></del>           |  |
| 13     | 600<br>119              | 600<br>119   |
| 11     | 11,699                  | 356<br>10,603  |
|        | 12,418                  | 11,678   |
|        | 7<br>8<br>9             | 9 July<br>1994<br>£'000<br>7 6,311<br>2 6,313<br>9 2,758<br>1,460<br>5,963<br>10,181<br>10 3,629<br>6,552<br>12,865<br>447<br>12,418<br>13 600<br>119<br>11 11,699<br>12,418   |

These financial statements were approved by the Board on 30 September 1994 and signed on its behalf by:

GARRY H WESTON Chairman

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## Cash flow statement

|   | Note | 52 weeks<br>ended<br>9 July<br>1994<br>£′000 | 52 weeks<br>ended<br>10 July<br>1993<br>£'000 |
|---|------|--|---|
| Net cash inflow from operating activities   | 17   | 2,314  | 2,049   |
| Returns on investments and servicing<br>of finance<br>Interest received<br>Dividends paid   |      | 378<br>(433)                                 | 692<br>(424)                                  |
| Net cash (outflow)/inflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance  |      | (55)   | 268   |
| Taxation paid   |      | (893)  | (574)   |
| Investing activities Purchase of tangible fixed assets Sale of tangible fixed assets Net movement on bank deposits held on notice of three months or more | 18   | (2,958)<br>7<br>(499)                        | (1,458)<br>10<br>113                          |
| Net cash outflow from investing activities  |      | (3,450)                                      | (1,335)                                       |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents  | 18   | (2,084)                                      | 408   |

# Statement of recognised gains & losses

|   | 52 weeks<br>ended<br>9 July<br>1994<br>£'000 | 52 week:<br>ende:<br>10 Jul<br>199:<br>£'000 |
|---|--|--|
| Profit for the financial year<br>Revaluation reserve eliminated | 1,572<br>(356)                               | 1,330  |
| Total recognised gains and losses                               | 1,216  | 1,330  |

### Accounting policies

### Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the valuation of the leasehold property, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985.

#### Turnover

Turnover represents amounts charged to customers for goods sold and services rendered, less returns and net of value added tax.

### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided by the company so as to write off the cost or valuation of certain fixed assets, excluding works of art, over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments as follows:

Leasehold – over 66 years or the remaining period of lease if shorter Leasehold improvements – 30 years Fixtures and equipment – 5, 10 or 20 years Works of art are not depreciated and are included at cost.

#### Stocks

Stocks which comprise merchandise held for resale are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

#### **Deferred taxation**

Full provision has been made for taxation arising primarily from the excess of capital allowances over depreciation and other timing differences.

### Leases

All material leases entered into by the group are operating leases whereby substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset remain with the lessor. Rental payments are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

# Notes to the accounts

| 1. | Turnover and operating profit                         |  |          |
|----|---|--|----------|
| 1. | Turnover and operating pront                          | 52 weeks                               | 52 weeks |
|    |   | ended                                  | ended    |
|    |   | 9 July                                 | 10 July  |
|    |   | 1994                                   | 1993     |
|    |   | £'000                                  | £'000    |
|    | Turnover  |  |          |
|    | UK – Retail   | 23,074                                 | 21,376   |
|    | Overseas – Wholesale                                  | 4,568                                  | 3,306    |
|    |   | 27,642                                 | 24,682   |
|    |   |  |          |
|    | Operating profit                                      |  |          |
|    | UK – Retail   | 1,136                                  | 877      |
|    | Overseas – Wholesale                                  | 773                                    | 552      |
|    |   | 1,909                                  | 1,429    |
|    |   | ************************************** |          |
| 2. | Profit on ordinary activities before taxation         |  |          |
|    | This is stated after charging the following amounts:- |  |          |
|    |   | 1994                                   | 1993     |
|    |   | £′000                                  | £'000    |
|    | Wages and salaries                                    | 4,760                                  | 4,415    |
|    | Social security costs                                 | 394                                    | 373      |
|    | Depreciation  | 488                                    | 441      |
|    | Loss on sale of fixed assets                          | 20                                     |          |
|    | Hire of plant and machinery                           | 194                                    | 198      |
|    | Lease rentals on buildings                            | 60                                     | 68       |
|    | Auditors' remuneration                                | 36                                     | 33       |
|    | Directors' remuneration                               | 71                                     | 67       |
|    | Management charges from immediate holding             | 250                                    | 050      |
|    | company and a fellow subsidiary company               | 358                                    | 352      |

### Notes to the accounts continued

### 3. Tax on profit on ordinary activities

Taxation on the profit for the year at the rate of 33% (1993-33%) comprises:—

1994
1993

|   | 100-  |       |
|---|---|-------|
|   | £′000   | £'000 |
| Corporation tax - current year                | 689<br>10<br>699<br>39<br>738<br>738<br>£'000<br>8<br>366 | 626   |
| - prior year                                  | 10  |       |
|   | 699   | 626   |
| Deferred tax                                  |   | 49    |
|   | 738   | 675   |
|   |   |       |
| Dividends                                     |   |       |
|   | 1994  | 1993  |
|   | £′000   | £'000 |
| Preference – paid                             | 8   | 8     |
| Ordinary - interim paid 86p (86p)             | 366   | 366   |
| Ordinary - 2nd interim payable 24p (paid 14p) | 102   | 59    |
|   | 476   | 433   |
|   |   |       |

### 5. Earnings per share

The calculation of earnings per share is based on profit for the financial year, after preference dividends, of £1,564,000 (1993 – £1,322,000) and 425,000 (1993 – 425,000) ordinary stocks units in issue.

#### 6. Leases

4.

The company has minimum annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows: -

| Operating leases which expire: | Within<br>one year<br>£'000 | Two to five years<br>£'000 | Over five years<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Land and Buildings<br>Other    | 2                           | 12                         | 58<br>180                | 58<br>194      |
| at 9 July 1994                 | 2                           | 12                         | 238                      | 252<br>———     |
| Land and Buildings<br>Other    | _<br>2                      | _<br>13                    | 89<br>183                | 89<br>198      |
| at 10 July 1993                | 2                           | 13                         | 272                      | 287            |

### Notes to the accounts continued

| 7. | Tangible assets   | Leaseholds<br>leasehold impro<br>Long<br>£'000 | and<br>ovements<br>Short<br>£'000 | Fixtures<br>and<br>Equipment<br>£'000 | Works<br>of<br>art<br>£'000 | Total<br>€′000                      |
|----|---|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|    | At 10 July 1993<br>Cost<br>Valuation – 1956   | _  | 1,815<br>724                      | 4,071<br>—                            | 402                         | 6,288<br>724                        |
|    | V ajud horr   | and the same                                   | 2,539                             | 4,071                                 | 402                         | 7,012                               |
|    | Additions<br>Disposals<br>Transfers<br>At 9 July 1994   | 1,804<br>2,183<br>3,987                        | (356)<br>(2,183)<br>—             | 1,154<br>(339)<br><br>4,886           | 402                         | 2,958<br>(695)<br>—<br>9,275        |
|    | Accumulated depreciant 10 July 1993 Provision for the year Disposals Transfers At 9 July 1994 |  | 818<br>44<br>-<br>(862)<br>       | 1,969<br>395<br>(311)<br>—<br>2,053   |                             | 2,787<br>488<br>(311)<br>-<br>2,964 |
|    | Net book amount<br>9 July 1994  | 3,÷53<br>====                                  |                                   | 2,833                                 | 402                         | 6,311                               |
|    | Net book amount<br>10 July 1993   |  | 1,721<br>=====                    | 2,102                                 | 402                         | 4,225                               |

During the year the company exercised an option to acquire from its immediate holding company, George Weston Holdings Limited, the long leasehold interest of the Piccadilly premises. The short lease has been deemed extinguished from the date of acquisition of the long leasehold interest, and the revaluation reserve appertaining thereto eliminated.

### Notes to the accounts continued

### 8. Investments - included in fixed assets

Retained profit for the year

Balance at 9 July 1994

9. Debtors

The Company owns the entire issued share capital of a number of companies which are shown at cost.

None of the companies has traded during the year and the directors are of the opinion that in view of the insignificant amounts involved there would be no real value in the presentation of group accounts.

| 9. Pentors   | 1994                          | 1993                        |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  | £'000                         | £'000                       |
| Trade debtors  | 849                           | 564                         |
| Amounts owed by group companies  | 14                            | 17                          |
| Other debtors  | 292                           | 253                         |
| Prepayments and accrued income   | 305                           | 242                         |
|  | 1,460                         | 1,076                       |
| 10. Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)  Trade creditors Amounts owed to group companies | 1994<br>£′000<br>1,280<br>400 | 1993<br>£'000<br>946<br>379 |
| Other creditors  | 492                           | 395                         |
| Taxation and social security   | 1,034<br>321                  | 1,254<br>445                |
| Accruals<br>Proposed dividend  | 102                           | 59                          |
|  | 3,629                         | 3,478                       |
| 44 - Construction  | =                             |                             |
| 11. Reserves   |                               | £'000                       |
| Balance at 10 July 1993  |                               | 10,603                      |
|  |                               | 1,006                       |

1,096

11,699

### Notes to the accounts continued

#### 12. Pensions

The Company provides defined benefits, on a voluntary basis to employees over the age of 21 with more than one years' service, through the Associated British Foods Pension Scheme. At 9 July 1994 some 20% of the Company's employees were members of the Scheme.

The Scheme is wholly administered by the Trustees of the Associated British Foods Pension Scheme, and the cost to the Company is determined by the overall cost of the Scheme, not that relating to the Company's employees. As such the Directors are of the opinion that the cost to the Company will tend to equate to the contributions payable. The latest actuarial valuation of the Scheme, at 5 April 1993, showed that assets represented 116% of expected benefits payable.

Pension contributions payable by the Company during the year amounted to £8,000 (1993 – £Nil).

### 13. Called up share capital

| Authorised  | 750        | 750        |
|---|------------|------------|
|   | 600        | 600        |
| Allotted and fully paid 4.9% cumulative preference stock units of £1 each Ordinary stock units of £1 each | 175<br>425 | 175<br>425 |
|   | £'000      | £'000      |
|   | 1994       | 1993       |

#### 14. Employees

The average number of persons employed by the company, excluding agency staff, during the year was: -

| •              |      |      |
|----------------|------|------|
| United Kingdom | 448  | 437  |
|                | 1994 | 1993 |

The aggregate remuneration for the year amounted to £4,625,000 (1993 – £4,364,000).

## Notes to the accounts continued

### 15. Directors' and emoluments

|                       | 1994    | 1227    |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Chairman              | £100    | £100    |
| Highest paid director | £68,591 | £65,430 |
|                       |         |         |

The highest paid director is remunerated by the immediate holding company and this cost forms part of the management charge. The other five (1993 – five) directors received emoluments (excluding pension contributions) in the range £Nil – £5,000 (1993 £Nil – £5,000).

### 16. Capital commitments

Future capital expenditure not provided in the accounts:—

1994
1993
£'000
£'000

Contracts placed
Authorised by the directors but contracts
not yet placed

981
1,451

### 17. Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash flow from operating activities

|  | 1994  | 1993  |
|--|-------|-------|
|  | £'000 | £'000 |
| Operating Profit                             | 1,909 | 1,429 |
| Depreciation                                 | 488   | 441   |
| Loss on sale of fixed assets                 | 20    | 22    |
| (Increase)/Decrease in stocks                | (45)  | 139   |
| (Increase)/Decrease in debtors               | (364) | 208   |
| Increase/(Decrease) in creditors             | 282   | (125) |
| Increase/(Decrease) in inter-company balance | 24    | (65)  |
|  | 2,314 | 2,049 |

4002

## Notes to the accounts continued

| 18. Analysis of the balance as shown in the balance                               |       | nd cash e | quivalents          |       |                     |
|---|-------|-----------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|
|   | 1994  | 1993      | Change in<br>Period | 1992  | Change in<br>Period |
|   | £'000 | £'000     | £'000               | £'000 | £'000               |
| Cash in hand and on deposit of less than three months notice Cash on deposit held | 1,337 | 3,421     | (2,084)             | 3,013 | 408                 |
| on notice of three<br>months or more  | 4,626 | 4,127     | 499                 | 4,240 | (113)               |
| Cash at bank and in hand  | 5,963 | 7,548     | (1,585)             | 7,253 | 295                 |

### 19. Holding company

The holding company of Fortnum & Mason plc is Wittington Investments Limited which is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England. At 12 September 1994 Wittington Investments Limited held 381,963 ordinary stock units representing, in aggregate, 89.9% of the total issued ordinary share capital of the company. So far as is known, no other person holds or is beneficially interested in more than 3% of the ordinary share capital.

Fortnum & Mason plc is a close company as defined in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

# Report of the auditors

### To the members of Fortnum & Mason plc

We have audited the accounts on pages 8 to 18 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the valuation of the leasehold property, and the accounting policies set out on page 11.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 7 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

### Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 9 July 1994 and of its profit and cash flows for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

No 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

30 September 1994

Ric Wild

### Statement of directors' interests

The persons who were directors of the company at the end of the year had the following beneficial interests, including family interests, in the shares and loan stock of the company, its holding companies and fellow subsidiaries as at the dates shown:—

|   | 9 July<br>1994                    | 10 July<br>1993                   | 12 Sept<br>1994                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Garry H Weston Nittington Investments Limited, ord. shares of 50p George Weston Holdings Limited, ord. shares of 50p Associated British Foods plc, ord. shares of 5p George Weston Foods Limited, ord. shares of 50 cents | 4,925<br>56<br>335,659<br>1,834   | 4,925<br>56<br>335,659<br>1,834   | 4,925<br>N/A<br>346,662<br>1,834  |
| W G Galen Weston<br>Wittington Investments Limited, ord. shares of 50p<br>George Weston Holdings Limited, ord. shares of 50p<br>Associated British Foods plc, ord. shares of 5p   | 37,953<br>12,498<br>548,272       | 37,953<br>12,498<br>548,272       |                                   |
| Mrs C H W Dalglish Wittington Investments Limited, and shares of 50p George Weston Holdings Limited, ord. shares of 50p Associated British Foods plc, ord. shares of 5p Fortnum & Mason plc, ord. stock units of £1       | 15,300<br>6,228<br>288,552<br>100 | 15,300<br>6,228<br>288,552<br>100 | 15,300<br>N/A<br>1,507,054<br>100 |
| J G Lithiby<br>Fortnum & Mason plc, ord. stock units of £1  | 500                               | 500                               | 500                               |
| W Monaghan<br>Associated British Foods plc, ord. shares of 5p   | 31,000                            | 35,400                            | 31,000                            |
| Mrs M D W Rebanks Wittington Investments Limited, ord. shares of 50p George Weston Holdings Limited, ord. shares of 50p Associated British Foods plc, ord. shares of 5p Fortnum & Mason plc, ord. stock units of £1       | 15,500<br>6,662<br>183,750<br>100 | 15,500<br>6,662<br>183,750<br>100 | N/A                               |

#### Notes

- 1 A reorganisation of the share capitals of the company's then immediate holding company, George Weston Holdings Limited ("GWH"), and its then fellow subsidiary company, Associated British Foods plc, took effect after the end of the year and before publication of these financial statements. So far as is relevant, the effects of these transactions were to reorganise the share capital of GWH, to transfer all shares in the company named Associated British Foods plc at the end of the year (other than such shares held by GWH and its wholly-owned subsidiaries) to GWH in exchange for holdings of an equal number of shares in GWH, and for GWH to change its name to Associated British Foods plc.
- 2 Garry H Weston, W G Galen Weston and Mrs C H W Dalglish are trustees of a trust, in which they have no beneficial interest, which at 9 July 1994 held 448,775 ordinary shares of 50p (1993-448,775) in Wittington investments Limited, and 198,008 ordinary shares of 50p (1993-198,008) in George Weston Holdings Limited. As a result of the reorganisation of share capital mentioned above, at 12 September 1994 this trust held 683,073 ordinary shares of 50p in Wittington investments Limited and no ordinary shares in any other holding company, subsidiary or fellow subsidiary company of the company.
- 3 Garry H Weston is a trustee of a trust, in which he has no honeficial interest, which at 9 July 1994 and at 12 September 1994 held 991,969 ordinary shares of 5p (1993 991,969) in Associated British Foods plc.
- 4 Mrs C H W Dalglish, G V Hamilton, J G Lithiby, W Monaghan, Mrs M D W Rebanks and W G Galen Weston each held 500 ordinary stock units and Garry H Weston held 1,000 ordinary stock units of £1 each in Fortnum & Mason plc at 9 July 1994 and at 12 September 1994, in which they have no beneficial interest.
- 5 No director has had a material interest in a contract with the company during the year, other than as disclosed in the accounts.

# Progress report

| January<br>1985<br>£'000 | 52 weeks ended      | January<br>1990<br>£'000 | January<br>1991<br>£ 000 | July,<br>1992<br>£'000 | July<br>1993<br>£'000 | July<br>1994<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 13,794                   | Turnover            | 23,120                   | 24,841                   | 23,844                 | 24,682                | 27,642                |
| 768                      | Trading profit      | 1,353                    | 1,396                    | 1,405                  | 1,429                 | 1,909                 |
| 290                      | Interest receivable | 608                      | 664                      | 741                    | 576                   | 401                   |
| 1,058                    | Profit before tax   | 1,961                    | 2,060                    | 2,146                  | 2,005                 | 2,310                 |
| 628                      | Profit after tax    | 1,258                    | 1,330                    | 1,428                  | 1,330                 | 1,572                 |
| 157                      | Ordinary dividends  | 353                      | 383                      | 416                    | 425                   | 468                   |
| 471                      | Retained profits    | 897                      | 939                      | 1,012                  | 897                   | 1,096                 |
| 5,489                    | Shareholders funds  | 8,673                    | 9,612                    | 10,781                 | 11,678                | 12,418                |
| 146p                     | Earnings per share  | 294p                     | 311p                     | 334p                   | 311p                  | 368p                  |
| 35p                      | Dividends per share | 83p                      | 90p                      | 98p                    | 100p                  | 110p                  |

The figures above were taken from the published accounts.

# Notice of annual general meeting

Notice is hereby given that the eighty-ninth annual general meeting of the company will be held at 181 Piccadilly, London W1A 1ER on Friday 4 November 1994 at 10.00 am for the following purposes:—

- 1 To receive and adopt the accounts for the 52 weeks ended 9 July 1994 together with the reports of the directors and auditors thereon.
- 2 To re-appoint directors retiring under the articles of association.

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3 To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as auditors of the company and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration.

By the order of the board

G W Artindale Secretary

10 October 1994

Registered office 181 Piccadilly London W1A 1ER

#### Notes:

- 1 A member entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote instead of him. The person appointed need not be a member of the company. Forms of proxy, if used, must be lodged at the registered office at least 48 hours before the meeting.
- 2 This notice is sent to preference stockholders for information only.
- 3 No director of the company has a contract of service with the company which is not determinable within one year without payment of compensation.
- 4 Completion of the form of proxy will not preclude a member from attending and voting in person.

# Form of proxy

| I/We  |           | *******                                 |
|---|-----------|---|
| af  |           | ,,,,,,,,,,                              |
| being (a) member(s) of Fortnum & Mason plc hereby appoint* the chair  |           |   |
| to act as my/our proxy at the annual general meeting of the company 4 November 1994, and at any adjournment thereof.                    |           |   |
| The proxy is to vote in the manner shown below on the resolutions s of meeting.   | et out in | the notice                              |
| RESOLUTIONS   | For       | Against                                 |
| To receive and adopt the statement of accounts for the 52 weeks ended 9 July 1994 and the reports of the directors and auditors thereon |           |   |
| To re-elect Mr G V Hamilton as a director   |           |   |
| To re-elect Mr W G Galen Weston as a director   |           |   |
| To re-elect Mrs J R Khayat as a director  |           |   |
| To re-elect Mr G W Artindale as a director  |           |   |
| To re-appoint Price Waterhouse, the retiring auditors and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration                          |           |   |
| Dated thisday of  | ••••••    | 1994                                    |
| Signature   | ••••••    | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
|   |           |   |

- \*Delete, if it is desired to appoint any other person and insert his/her name and address. A shareholder is entitled to appoint a proxy of his own choice.
- 2 Please indicate how the proxy is to vote by inserting X in the appropriate space opposite each resolution; unless so instructed the proxy may vote as he thinks fit or abstain from voting.
- To be valid this proxy must reach the company not later than 48 hours before the meeting.
- A corporation may execute this form under its common seal or under the hand of a duly authorised officer.
- 5 In the case of joint holders the signature of any one of them will suffice, but the names of all joint holders must be shown.
- 6 Completion of the form of proxy will not preclude a member from attending and voting in person.

For office use

Postage to be affixed

The Secretary,
FORTNUM & MASON PLC,
181 PICCADILLY,
LONDON,
W1A 1ER

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