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Dollar-a-Pound Coffee By 1950 Looms As Consumption Passes Rate Of Production

By SAM DAWSON
NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—(AP)—Talk about dollar-a-pound coffee by next year makes you wonder. Is inflation going to show up again in the place you'll like it least—the family market basket?

Already the men who package foods are starting to prepare you for price hikes all along the line before the end of the year, reversing their own predictions of a short time ago. They acknowledge large surpluses of grain, but they say the government buys these up and neutralizes the law of supply and demand.

A lot of items adds up. Beef on the hoof is selling at the highest price since last November. The Agriculture department now says meat prices may be lower—but adds that'll be next year, and mostly in pork.

Grain prices turned upward as soon as Congress voted to continue wartime high parity payments for the principal food crops. Bountiful harvests won't pay off too strongly at the grocery.

Sugar edges a shade higher at wholesale, although there is a world surplus held off the American market by law. Cocoa has climbed up the price ladder again. And some candy makers are reported hard pressed to line up all the chocolate they'd like for the Christmas trade.

Major Strikes Feared
The reason packaged food handlers advance for higher prices to come is: they fear the steel, coal and aluminum strikes will soon cause shortages of necessary supplies in their plants and raise their costs.

"With the strikes in basic industries," says Paul S. Willis, president of the Grocery Manufacturers of America, "it isn't possible for food prices to continue to drop as we thought they would. On the contrary, an upward trend in all foodstuffs will become noticeable shortly and be more pronounced toward the year's end."

Coffee Prices Ascending
Roasted coffee prices have gone up four times in recent weeks in the wholesale market, reflecting the sharp advance in the price of the coffee bean. Last February a pound of green coffee beans brought 23 cents a pound, but now is around 38 cents. Futures prices for December delivery are at an all-time high on the New York Coffee and Sugar exchange.

Roasters are now asking as much as 60 cents a pound for their popular brands. Retailers say their prices will soon to 70 cents, and by the end of the year may hit \$1.

Others, however, say that before that happens, Europeans will drop out of the market, since their cheapened money makes coffee even more expensive for them than for Americans. The British food ministry has just cut its allocation of coffee to the trade by 20 per cent, releasing some million and a half bags a year to the world market.

The situation in coffee is blamed both on man's growing taste for it, and on bad growing weather for the last two years. World consumption is now greater than production, and we are fast drinking up the surplus Brazil stored in its fat years.

But against these isolated food price advances, and the prediction that others will follow before the end of the year, is a sizable and stubborn core of opinion that the only way the cost of living, as a whole, can go down. Those observers believe that even the inflationary measures passed by the Congress can't veto the fact that most foods and goods are now in plentiful supply.

Air Force and the Air National Guard.
Two weeks ago fourth air force headquarters at Hamilton air force base, Calif., confirmed that such maneuvers were in the "planning stage."

City May Change Name To Honor Judge Medina

MEDINA, N. D., Oct. 26.—(AP)—This little city of 90 may change pronunciation of its name to correspond with that of the famed judge who presided over the recent Communist trial in New York.

Mayor Dan Preszler said today he will propose the change as a tribute to Federal Judge Harold R. Medina at the city commission's next meeting.

The city's name now is pronounced with a long "i," like in Regina.
In Judge Medina's name the "i" is sounded as the long "e," rhyming with arena.

Preszler said changing the pronunciation "would be one way to pay some tribute to a judge who by his conduct of the Communist trial showed himself to be a great man and a great American."

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Defense Maneuvers In Pacific Northwest Due
SPOKANE, Oct. 26.—(AP)—Army, Air Force and Naval units will join in widespread defense maneuvers next week to protect the Pacific Northwest from a mock bombing attack, the Chronicle said today.
The paper said the maneuver would be held from Nov. 4 to 14 and would involve units of the Fourth Air Force, the Sixth Army, the Navy, the Royal Canadian

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