

Higher Food Prices Seen; Price Supports, Big Strikes Blamed

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 timeago. 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 today says meat prices may be lower — but adds that'll be next year, and mostly in pork.

Parity Boost

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. 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.

Up, Up

"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."

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.

51 Coffee

Roasters are now asking as much as 60 cents a pound for their popular brands. Retailers say their prices will soon go 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.

Reverse Opinion

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 is down. These 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.

Ceramics Exhibit Opens Tomorrow

Wednesday will mark the initial showing of the Wildenhain ceramics exhibit in Klamath Falls. Work of two outstanding potters, Frans and Marguerite Wildenhain, will be on public display for two weeks at The Art Center.

First view of the exhibit will be Wednesday night to members of the Klamath Art association at their meeting at the center.

The Wildenhains work at the Pond Farm in Guerneville, Calif., a small community of highly-skilled craftsmen. Their exhibit has been on display in many of the nation's large cities, but the Klamath Falls showing is one of only three on the Pacific coast.

Mrs. Wildenhain has been in the United States since 1940, coming from France, and was joined in 1947 by her husband, who was unable to leave Holland during the war.

Police Seek Man Of Purple Hue

CARDIFF, Wales, Oct. 25 (AP) — Police are looking for a purple man. Tired of repeated burglaries, Sculptor T. A. Jones resorted to a school-boy's prank to trap his man. He balanced three jars above a door. The intruder came and left empty-handed. The jars tumbled and spilled a vivid purple dye.

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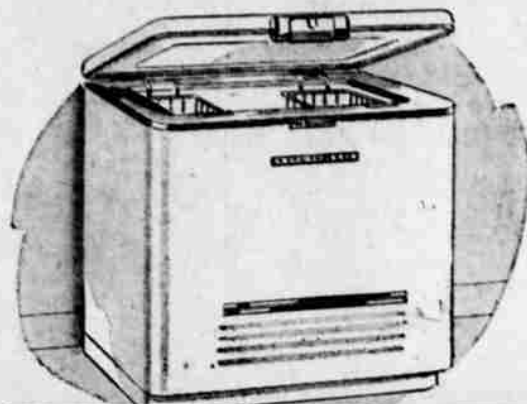
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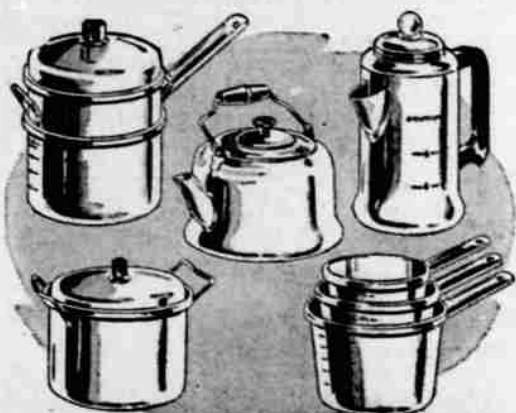


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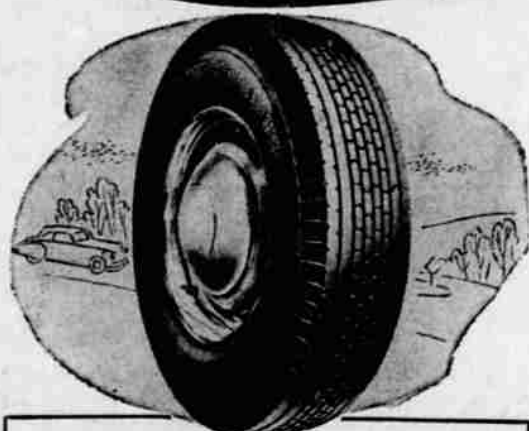


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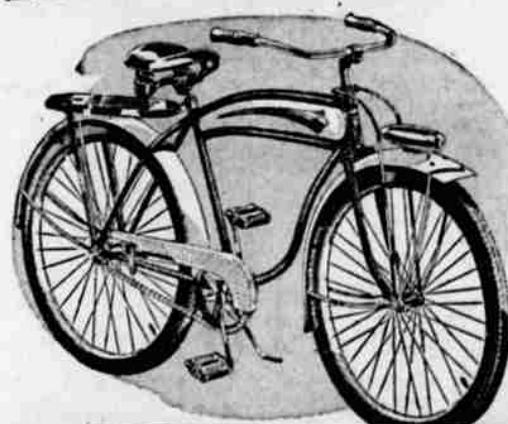


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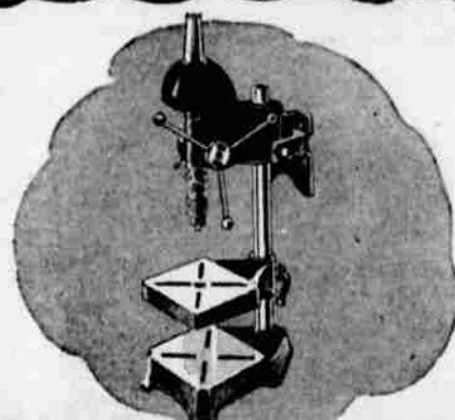


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