

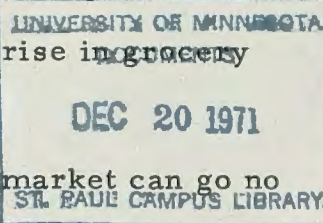
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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE - UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

December 17, 1971

Moderate Rise in Grocery Prices

Time: 50 sec.

For the average consumer, Phase I and II may seem to require the mind of an Einstein. As shoppers ask, what is likely to happen to food prices in 1972? ... the U. S. Department of Agriculture answers that another moderate rise in grocery prices is likely.



Most of the 8,000 items in your supermarket can go no higher than ceilings set by the Price Commission. But fresh produce and egg prices, as before, are not controlled. Since the supplies of pork, eggs and fresh produce are tapering, prices are apt to be higher in the first months of next year.

The Price Commission plans to allow limited cost rises next year. In general, businesses can raise prices in line with actual cost increases but they can't widen their profit margins. Inquire about price increases. Stores are required to explain their reason for the increase.

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Pinch Pennies Not Feet

Time: 25 sec.

Don't pinch pennies and as a result pinch toes. Baby's feet grow rapidly and, therefore, shoes need to be replaced before there's hardly any wear. According to the Minnesota State Medical Association, three months is the average length of time that a baby's shoe will fit.

Inspect shoes often so they're not outgrown without your awareness. Fit is extremely important. And, when he needs new shoes, he usually needs larger stockings too.

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consumer radio briefs

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Save On Heating, Water Bill

Time: 25 sec.

Going away for the holiday season? Maybe a trip to sunnier climates is planned. Whether a few days of reprieve or a few months of sun tanning, save money on heating your home.

Mary Fran Lamison, extension home management specialist at the University of Minnesota, advises that you turn the thermostat down but not off. It would cost more to bring the temperature to normal when you return than to leave it on. Also, leaving the thermostat on low will prevent pipes from freezing.

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Time: 25 sec.

For good health and a fatter purse, keep the thermostat set during the day between 70 and 72 degrees. Turn it down while airing the house and during bedtime hours. An overheated house is sapped of strength...in other words, it's dried out...and both fuel and money are wasted.

If you feel chilly, raise the humidity, not the temperature. Humidifiers, whether incorporated into the heating system or portable models, can be effective.

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Time: 15 sec.

Fireplaces and chimneys are wonderful on a blustering December day. However, for safety and efficiency, be sure the chimney is free of soot and dirt. For maximum heating efficiency, keep radiators and heating ducts clean so heat passes freely.

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Time: 8 sec.

A drippy faucet can double the monthly water bill in a few hours. Check faucets regularly and repair before the water bill becomes burdensome.

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