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Thanksgiving Dinner 1943

During World War II, the Office of Price Administration (OPA) instituted rationing, limiting the amount of goods, including food items, that civilians could purchase. What was it like to plan a holiday meal in 1943? Select the items below that would have been difficult to serve for Thanksgiving dinner:

- ☐ Turkey
- ☐ Dressing
- ☐ Cranberry sauce
- ☐ Green beans with cheese sauce
- ☐ Mashed potatoes
- ☐ Rolls
- ☐ Butter
- ☐ Fresh tropical fruit salad with cottage cheese
- ☐ Pumpkin pie
- ☐ Coffee

Sources:

"Facts the younger generation of marketers should know are taught this class in the Murch Elementary School, Washington, D.C. Catherine M. Rooney, 6th grade teacher instructs her alert pupils on the way and how of War Ration Book Two," Feb. 1943, National Archives and Records Administration, http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc (accessed October 13, 2009).

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