Schedule Number: N1-122-95-002

All items in this schedule are inactive. Items are either obsolete or have been superseded by newer NARA approved records schedules.

Explanation / Description:

This schedule was for immediate transfer to NARA or disposal. Transfer to NARA took place. See National Archives Identifier 591954. Schedule is no longer needed.

Date Reported: 06/02/2020

INVESTIGATION OF COFFEE PRICES, 1954

In 1953, a crisis developed in the domestic and international coffee trade, set in motion by reports of a cold wave and frost in Brazil. As a result, the price of coffee in the United States rose sharply resulting in a barrage of complaints from the public directed at many parts of the government, including the FTC. Along with these complaints came allegations of artificial restrictions on coffee supplies, of manipulations on the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange influencing green-coffee prices, and of artificial and deliberate inflation of coffee prices from the green bean to the roasted product. As a result, the FTC resolved on January 26, 1954 to launch a comprehensive investigation into the coffee industry. The investigation was completed in the summer of 1954 and the final report was published and presented to Congress on July 29, 1954.
   

   The published report of the investigation of coffee prices as presented to Congress, July 1954, and a separate small volume which duplicates the summary section in the bound volume.

   **PERMANENT.** Transfer immediately to NARA upon approval of schedule.


   Draft versions (4) of the final report on the investigation of coffee prices.

   **TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.


   Preliminary outlines and price questionnaires used in the compilation of the final economic report on coffee prices.

   **TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.


   Prepublication copies of charts published in the final economic report on coffee prices. Oversized.

   **TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.

2. **Questionnaires**

ITEM NO. 7.

8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM AND PROPOSED DISPOSITION

FTC questionnaires completed by coffee importers on the practices of importers of coffee into the United States and the status of their business in 1953 and 1954.

**TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.

b. **Questionnaires Sent to Coffee Brokers,** 1954.
4 cubic feet. Arranged by name of Broker. Boxes 22-25.

FTC questionnaires completed by coffee brokers on the practices of coffee brokers and the status of their business in 1953 and 1954. Attached to the questionnaires are subpoenas for business information and copies of broker files taken by FTC personnel.

**TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.

c. **Questionnaires Sent to Coffee Roasters,** 1954.

FTC questionnaires completed by coffee roasters on the practices of coffee roasters and the status of their business in 1953 and 1954. Some folders contain copies of roaster files.

**TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.

d. **Tabulations of Questionnaires,** 1954.
.3 cubic feet. Arranged by question. Box 17 (partial).

These records consist of "books" of attached handwritten memo cards of tabulations of responses to various questions from the questionnaires.

**TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule.

e. **Questionnaire Work Sheets,** 1954.
1.3 cubic feet. Arranged by subject. Box 15 (partial) and 17 (partial).

Sheafs of yellow accounting paper containing handwritten tabulations from questionnaires.

**TEMPORARY.** Destroy upon approval of schedule

      1.75 cubic feet. Arranged by subject. Boxes 15 (partial), 18, and 19 (partial).

      Documents collected by FTC while investigating the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange (NYCSE) including copies from NYCSE files; field reports (copies of their contracts, applications for coffee grading certificates, margins and credits) written by FTC investigators; minutes of NYCSE board meetings; and internal NYCSE memos.

      TEMPORARY. Destroy upon approval of schedule.

      .3 cubic feet. Arranged by association name. Box 19 (partial).

      Field reports written by FTC investigators and copies of documents from the files of various coffee associations. Additionally there are reports done on: The National Federation of Coffee Growers; National Retailers; New York Coffee Roasters Association; Pacific Coast Coffee Association; Pan American Coffee Bureau; Southern Coffee Roasters, and the Wisconsin Coffee Association.

      TEMPORARY. Destroy upon approval of schedule.

4. Correspondence Files, 1954.
   .85 cubic feet. Arranged by subject. Box 16 (partial).

   Correspondence between the FTC and Congress, Department of the Army, State Department, Justice Department, Brazil, Columbia, Europe, Latin America, and the general public, containing information used for background in the final FTC report on coffee prices. Also included are internal FTC memoranda regarding the production of the report. Finally, there is a mailing list with FTC coffee contacts.

   TEMPORARY. Destroy upon approval of schedule.