

Do yourself a favor:

Spend wisely this Christmas

BY DEBBIE KOONTZ
LANCASTER — Americans spent almost \$7 billion for toys in 1980.

To make matters worse, nearly 75 percent of those sales occurred at or around Christmas time.

Wow.
Poor Santa. How could he do it? We've all seen pictures of his sleigh. It could not hold \$7 billion

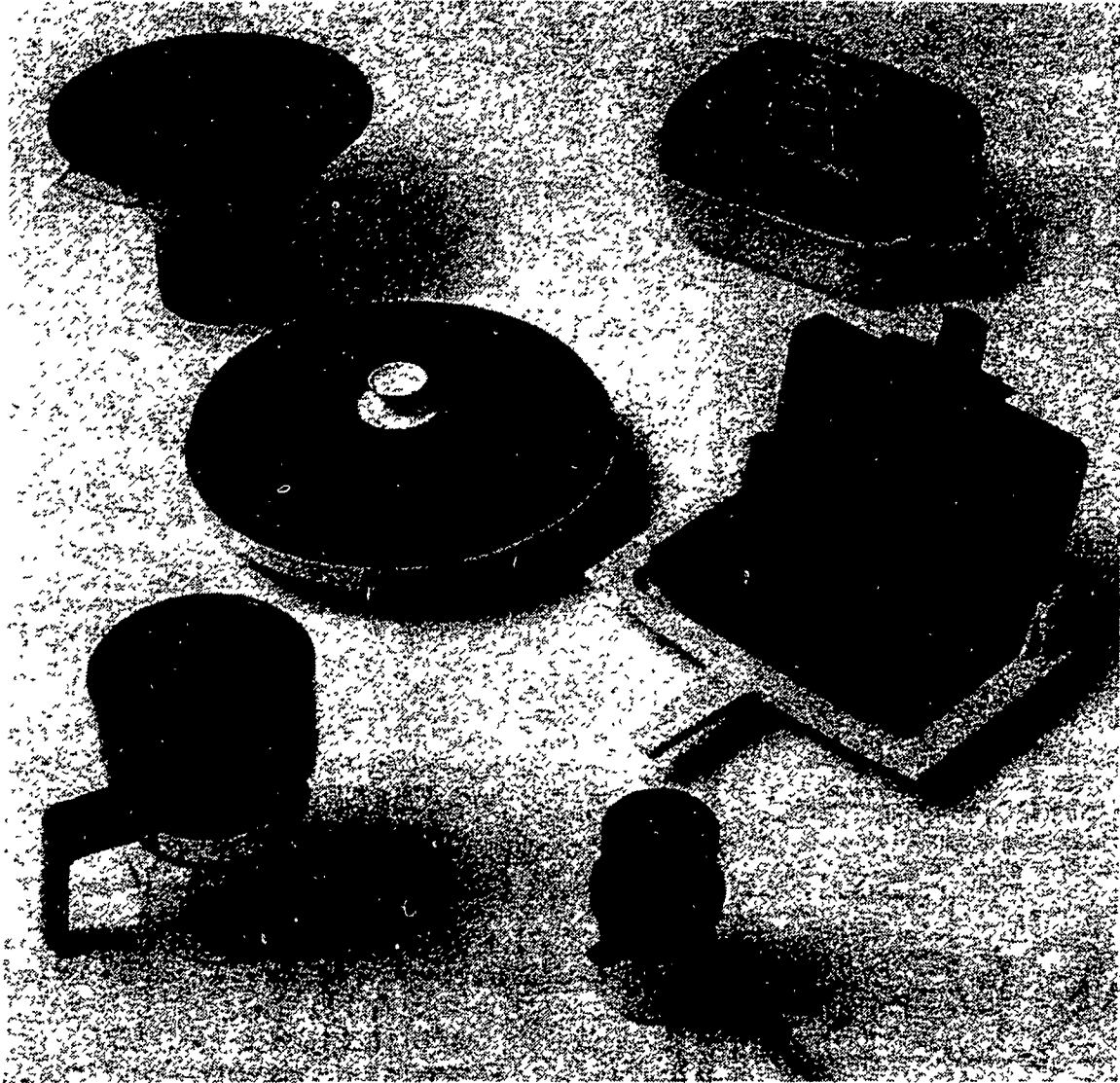
worth of toys. Either people are getting bigger trees or our stockings are made for size 48 feet.

Why do we let this happen? As consumers grumbled their way to the supermarkets prepared to pay "unreasonable" prices for food, and we on the farm startled about a depressed economy over coffee and marmaladed toast, were we actually harboring a video game or

a Weeble's doll house in our closet all wrapped and bowed for the little ones on our list?

Every year around holiday time, children make lists of their Christmas wishes. Parents in turn are bombarded with requests for expensive toys that children claim they really want.

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This new line of small microwave appliances has been introduced by Raytheon Company, which developed one of the first microwave oven back in 1946. The accessories include a

popcorn popper, New England steamer, drip coffee maker, pizza oven, grill, and espresso coffee maker and can be used in any full size microwave oven.

Appliances add new dimension to microwave cooking

LANCASTER — The gift-giving holidays are coming quickly and you need something to give that special person who has everything — including a microwave oven. Help is on the way with a new generation of small microwave cooking appliances.

Whether your specialty is steamed lobster or crab, crispy-crust pizza, oil-free popcorn, or a perfect cup of coffee, the microwave oven is fast becoming the most versatile appliance in anyone's kitchen. Today, nearly one-third of all American homes has one.

What sets these small cordless appliances apart from cookware used in a microwave oven is the technology itself — the appliances are actually powered by the oven's microwave energy to cook the food with conventional heat at microwave speed. What makes the products even more interesting is that they were developed by Raytheon Company, whose engineers first discovered microwave cooking nearly 35 years ago.

The line includes a New England Steamer (\$39.95 list price), a Pizza Oven (\$32.95), a Popcorn Popper (\$14.95), an Espresso Coffee Maker (\$19.95), a drip coffee maker (\$29.95), and a steak and sandwich grill (\$39.95).

To prepare nutritious meals quickly and easily, from gourmet French-Potted Chicken to a traditional New England boiled dinner, the steamer fills the bill. This versatile cooker features two separate cooking racks and is large enough to hold two lobsters — perfectly steamed, rather than boiled, in just 12 minutes. A single basket holds vegetables for crisp cooking — or four hot dogs and rolls steamed "ball park style" in only 7½ minutes.

Popcorn is a favorite TV snack for the football gang and late-night movie fans. Now anyone in the family can quick-cook popcorn in a microwave oven with the Popcorn Popper, without the calories of oil or greasy pans to clean. And popping corn by microwaves eliminates those burned or half-popped kernels. From bag to bowl in four minutes, making popcorn is easy for everyone.

If the cook on your list has a crowd to feed, the Pizza Oven can help. Plain cheese or loaded with extra-special toppings, pizza goes from freezer to table in less than 15 minutes. There's no oven to preheat, and you'll please those who like a crisp crust or deep-dish style pizza with no burned edges.

Freshly brewed coffee in only minutes? It's easy with the new four-cup coffee maker. Fresh

water is heated to the perfect temperature, then released to flow through the coffee grounds to extract robust flavor and aroma. The coffee maker features a built-in fine mesh filter basket.

When a blizzard howls outside, you'll recall perfect summer cookouts with "The Grill" and your microwave oven. The grill's special top and bottom pans quickly sear steaks, chops, or hamburgers, sealing in juices and flavor for a charcoal-broiled appearance and taste. You can also quickly grill sandwiches for a lazy lunch in less than two minutes of cooking.

What could be a better ending to that special dinner than espresso coffee? In the espresso maker, water is heated and quickly forced under pressure through the coffee grounds, just like the best espresso makers found in European restaurants. Two cups of perfect espresso are ready in just three minutes.

Raytheon microwave appliances can be used with any microwave oven. Through efficient use of microwave power, these small appliances use less energy than traditional small electric appliances. Raytheon's small microwave appliance line is available nationwide at department and microwave specialty stores.

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