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KROGER CO  
Form 8-K  
October 11, 2002

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: October 11, 2002

THE KROGER CO.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

An Ohio Corporation  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

No. 1-303  
(Commission File  
Number)

31-0345740  
(IRS Employer  
Number)

1014 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45201  
(Address of principal  
executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number: (513) 762-4000

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

In response to a question, a Company spokesperson noted that Kroger's labor agreements currently in effect provide for no material future increases in required pension contributions. The spokesperson added that asset values in pension plans generally have declined and, in the absence of a recovery in the securities markets, pension contributions are likely to be a topic of discussion in future labor contract negotiations. Pension costs in company-sponsored plans also are likely to increase. This disclosure will not be deemed to be filed pursuant to Section 18 of the Exchange Act or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section unless we expressly incorporate it by reference into a filing made under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.

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SIGNATURE

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereto duly authorized.

THE KROGER CO.

October 11, 2002

By: (Paul Heldman)  
Paul Heldman  
Senior Vice President, Secretary  
and General Counsel