

Defense Expense Will Be Spread

New York—Defense forever! Or at any rate, defense—at a steady but bearable rate of expenditure—for as far ahead as budget-makers ever look, rather than alternate periods of build-up and slack-off. This is the picture which begins to emerge from Defense Department announcements of program changes.

Production lines making medium tanks and 2 1/2-ton trucks are slowed down or stopped. Three tank plants will reduce output, one truck line will close down altogether. One tank model is being abandoned.

At the same time the Defense Department proposes to buy as much as \$500 million worth of large precision machine tools in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953. Whether it will get them is doubtful; airplane companies are taking all the industry can turn out now.

The two actions seem to look in



GARDEN TIME

ROBERT SCHMIDT
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By Robert Schmidt
Because of the response to my article of last December on the poinsettia, I am repeating the article with some additions.

The poinsettia has long been a popular Christmas plant but probably few people have given much thought to the fact that it does not bloom at this season. The so-called blooms are really leafy bracts which color up a brilliant red. The true flowers are the small insignificant yellowish cups found in the center of the whorl of red bracts. The poinsettia is one of a group of plants known as short day plants because it will bloom only in the season of the year with short day length periods, preferably ten hours or less. That is why it is always in bloom during the Christmas season and not during the summer. It could be prevented from blooming by lengthening the day light period to fifteen hours by means of artificial lights. Flower growers have learned how to bring garden chrysanthemums into bloom any month of the year by using shading cloth to shorten the days and artificial lights to lengthen the days. The chrysanthemum is also a short day plant.

How can one keep a poinsettia plant until next season? After its usefulness is over, place it in the basement or some dry place where it will not freeze. Do no water it, or at least very little, and let the soil dry up. Next May bring the plant out, cut the stem back about two thirds, wash the soil off the roots and re-pot in new soil. From then on handle it like any other pot plant. Softwood cuttings taken in July and rooted will give you good Christmas bloom.

A good potting soil can be made by mixing equal parts of sandy soil, clay loam, and well rotted stable manure.

The poinsettia is not an ideal house plant. It is rather exacting in its requirements for best growth. The average home usually does not afford the proper tem-



Give Your Breakfast Some Good-Morning Glamour

THERE'S a cheery "Good Morning" in store for the cook who puts some easy glamour in the breakfast menu. A little imagination on the part of the woman in the kitchen can do wonders for lagging appetites.

You can easily put some originality in your breakfasts. And you can do so and still be able to follow the basic pattern of fruit, cereal, milk, bread and butter. A new menu is the result just by combining the foods, or by changing one of the pieces of the pattern.

Today's Menu.
For example, today's menu includes a shredded wheat biscuit, split and spread with pear butter.

There are still other ways to vary this one serving idea.

After the biscuit has been split, brush with melted butter or margarine, then place in a moderate oven (350°-375° F.) for about 15 minutes. Spread one half with strawberry jam, the other half with peanut butter.

More Easy Glamour.
Cherry or peach jam could replace the strawberry jam. Canned peach or pear slices could be used. Or, sprinkle coconut, nuts, or raisins over the top to provide still another variation.

Milk, your choice of fresh fruit, toasted English muffins and butter accompany today's main breakfast dish.



In the old manner, we offer our cordial and heartfelt greetings.

Williamston Supply Co.

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RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY?



Who said, "Rain, rain, go away!" This pretty miss is eager for showers, so she can don her smart cotton raincoat by Lawrence of London. The Wellington Sears cotton fabric is sand-colored, and black is used for the trim on the coat and for the dashing beret. The cotton fabric is water-resistant and wind-resistant, the National Cotton Council reports.

Estimates Value State Fish Haul

The combined value of fin fish and shellfish taken from North Carolina waters during the two-year period ending last June 30 has been placed at more than \$16,000,000, according to a report received by George R. Ross, director of the State Department of Conservation and Development.

C. D. Kirkpatrick of Morehead City, State fisheries commissioner and head of the department's division of commercial fisheries, submitted the report. He set the valuation of all catches at \$16,367,632.

The catch of food fish for the period was \$7,770,000, with a value of \$4,020,150 to the catchers, Kirkpatrick said. Catches of spotted and gray trout and flounders showed a decrease of about 50 percent from the preceding biennium, but the take of had and pompano was about double. He put the valuation of

temperatures, light, or atmospheric conditions. Poinsettias require regular watering—every day if necessary—but not excessive watering. They should be placed where they will get a maximum amount of daylight and sunshine. Day temperatures should be about 70 to 72 degrees and night temperatures should never be allowed to drop below 60 degrees. Sharp fluctuations in temperature or cold drafts may cause the leaves to drop. A very dry atmosphere or one containing gas will do the same. The poinsettia is a short day plant—that is, it will bloom only when the days are short (November, December, January). Therefore, after late October it should not be placed where it will be exposed to artificial light at night. Such exposure may prevent blooming or cause poor blooms.

the menhaden catch for the period at \$7,000,000.

Weather conditions during the period were none too good, the fisheries commissioner said, and they materially affected the business of fin fishing in eastern North Carolina waters.

Kirkpatrick reported that as a result of the 1947 enacted law providing for the development of the State's oyster and other bi-

valve resources the harvest of oysters for the past season was the finest, in quantity and quality, in the history of the State.

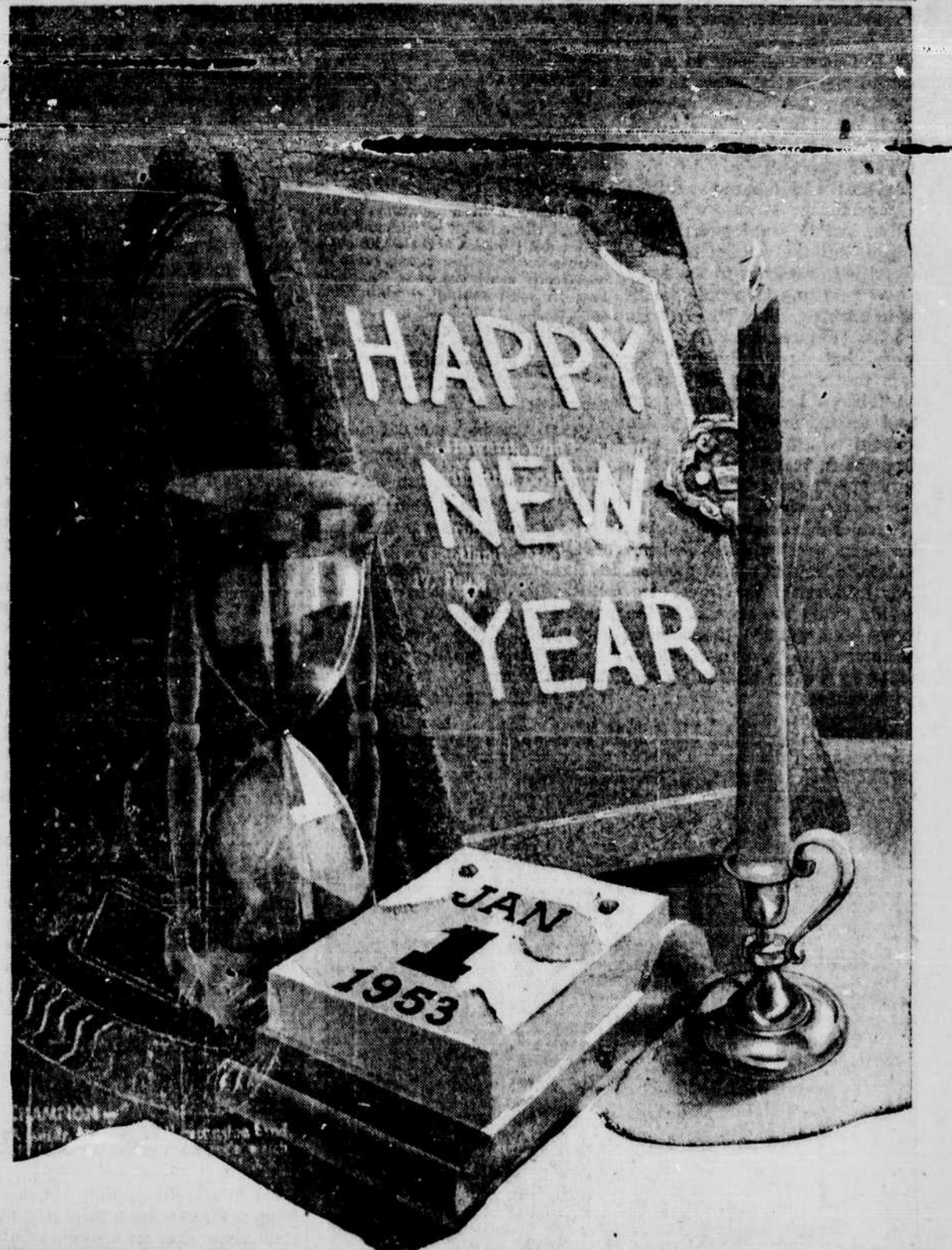
He praised the Institute of Fisheries Research of the University of North Carolina for the aid it has given in the development of the oyster program.

The two agencies cooperated in locating natural beds for oysters and in determination of methods

of seeding and protection of the bivalves.

There were 305,565 bushel tubs of oysters harvested off the public grounds with a value to the oystermen of \$763,912, the report shows. The total amounted to about 50,000 more bushels than for the previous period.

The clam harvest of 253,500 bushels of clams was described as having been the largest in the



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Dixie Motor Company

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TO COME.



Martin County Building And Loan Association