

**CAMELLIAS AND CANDLELIGHT** set the mood for dinner after dark. Decorate a party table with a pretty set of camellia candle holders. The petals and leaves are crocheted of cotton "Knit-Cro-Sheen." Pick your colors to suit the occasion. It might be Valentine's Day, a birthday or a bridal shower. Free instructions are available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Needlework Editor of this newspaper along with your request for Leaflet A-226.

## Gross National Product Up

The United States Gross National Product (GNP) will probably increase about 6 to 7 per cent from 1968 to 1969, compared to 9 per cent from 1967 to 1968, with a low rate of growth in the latter half of the year, says Ray A. Murray, Agricultural Economist of the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland.

This slower annual rate of growth in the GNP will result from the likely continuation of measures being taken to combat the inflation which was experienced during 1968, says Murray.

Continuation of the tax surcharge seems likely and high interest rates will probably continue through 1969. The unusually large settlements on 1968 tax liabilities coupled with an increase in Social Security taxes are also expected to curb consumer expenditures during 1969.

However, the general health of the National economy seems to suggest further economic growth — probably at the 6 to 7 per cent level — during 1969.

Talk of an "overshake" of basic demand because of higher taxes does not seem to be warranted. The building industry is optimistic despite high interest rates. The automobile industry is preparing for another year of new-record sales. Consumers may lower their rate of savings and continue heavy consumer outlays. The commitment in Vietnam will tend to provide a continuation of large government expenditures in that area.

The measures intended to bring about disinflation, will unfortunately, increase the rate of unemployment.

However, on balance, the United States should experience an increase in GNP of from 6 to 7 per cent in 1969, Murray concludes.

For each man who buys two new suits per year, there are 6 others who average 1 new suit each 10 years.

The awkward age for a gal is when she's too old for Teddy Bears and not old enough for Wolves.

## Closing The Lime Gap

Some soils specialists say the need for liming cropland is probably greater today than it was 10 years ago. Among the reasons advanced for this view are the following:

1. The increased tonnage of fertilizer used by farmers, much of which leaves an acid residue in the soil.

2. Increasingly higher crop yields remove more calcium, magnesium, and other minerals from the soil.

3. With more irrigation more minerals are leached down through the soil, thereby raising the acidity.

4. With the trend toward deeper plowing, more of the acid sub-soils are brought to the surface and add to the soil acidity problem.

Too many farmers let lime play a secondary role to fertilizer in their farm management plans. This is attributed to the fact that the farmer can see the results of fertilization with nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in a relatively short period while the benefits from the minerals — primarily calcium and magnesium — found in liming material are much slower in showing results.

The benefits from liming depend upon the acidity of the soil, the rate of application, the fineness of grind, the thoroughness with which it is mixed into the soil, the crop planted or seeded, etc. The forage specialists of a midwestern state point up the fact that each dollar spent for lime returns at least \$6 extra alfalfa yield. In another State, 25,000 soil samples revealed that 60% of the acreage tested needed lime, 10% of the acreage needed 5 tons or more of lime per acre, the next 39% needed at least 3 tons.

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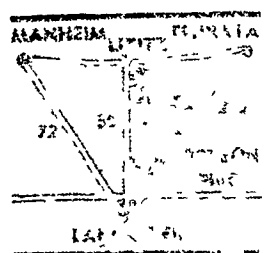
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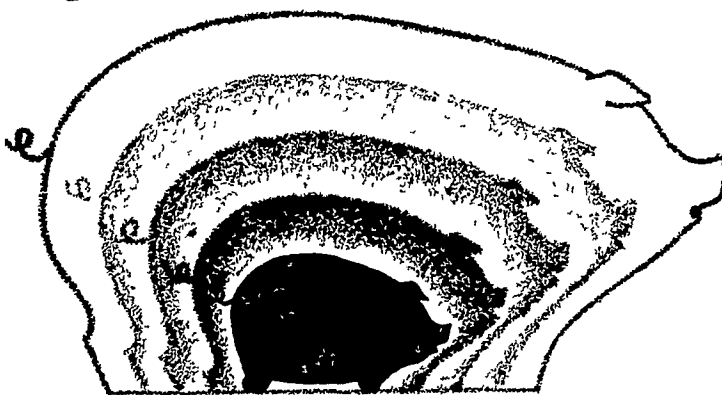
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