

The Home Garden in War Time

All are Urged to Plant War Gardens and Help Win the War—Here is how You can do it

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IT IS interesting to figure the returns from thirty minutes of garden work each day. The United States Department of Agriculture has shown that the time spent in the garden is more remunerative than any other kind of outdoor agricultural work. War conditions have made garden work much more profitable than ever before.

Gardening becomes disagreeable when more space is planted than the ambitious gardener has time for. Gardening is farming on an intensive scale. Plan the garden work ahead as carefully as you would plan general farm work.

Keep in mind the general principles of plant growth. All kinds of garden plants live by means of sunlight, air, moisture and the chemical plant food of the soil.

Secure the greatest amount of sunlight possible by selecting an open space for the garden. In addition, remove in so far as possible all unnecessary shade trees or shrubs.

See that the plants grow far enough apart to permit a full circulation of air. If possible plant the rows from north to south so as to secure uniform amount of sunlight for each row.

Cultivation will retard evaporation of moisture by keeping down the weeds, and by maintaining a soil mulch. A lack of moisture from dry weather can be remedied by watering. A soil full of humus will retain moisture for a greater length of time than poor soil.

Fertilizers

Rich soils will produce the best growth of vegetables. Humus can be supplied quickly from applications of well-rotted

barnyard manure. Fresh manure, if applied late in the spring, is liable to dry out the ground and injure the growing plant. If manure cannot be obtained, some form of commercial fertilizer can be used altho it rarely contains any humus. The composition of commercial fertilizers vary with the different brands, and for this reason it is better to make special inquiry into their composition and uses before making an application.

Wood ashes, from which the charcoal and other hard substances have been sifted, are a benefit to most soils and can safely be applied at the rate of one ordinary wagon load to a garden plot 50x50 feet. Do not apply wood ashes and manure at the same time as the ashes will liberate the ammonia in the manure. As a general rule manure should be spread evenly over the ground before plowing or spading in the spring. Two wagon loads (about one ton to the load) of manure will not be too much if applied early on the size garden outlined above. Pulverized prepared manure suitable for use in the garden may usually be obtained from the local seed dealer, if no other kind is available. At least, one hundred pounds should be applied to the 50x50 foot home garden.

Preparation of The Soil

Plowing with a field turning plow, where the garden is large enough, is more economical than spading. However, a small garden of 25x50 feet can be turned very satisfactorily with a spading fork. The ground should be stirred to the full depth of the spading fork, that is, ten to twelve inches. It is best not to turn the top soil completely under in the spring as

most of the rich humus is generally in the top six inches of dirt. A thorough job of spading can be done by giving each fork full of dirt a half turn while lifted above the ground. A common garden rake is the best tool to break up the clods and smooth over the surface.

Tools Needed

1 Spading Fork, 1 Garden Rake, 1 Weeding Hoe, 1 Three Fingered Weeder and Cultivator.

Wheeled cultivating rakes, hoes and weeders are now available and help to make cultivation and weeding less burdensome.

Planning and Planting

The accompanying diagram shows a home garden covering a space 50x50 feet. The diagram is only suggestive and may be changed to suit any special conditions.

Planting can be made much easier by using a definite plan such as the one outlined above. The rows can be kept straight in planting by using a piece of ordinary wrapping twine stretched between posts at each end of the garden. In this way, also, the proper distances between the rows can be maintained.

In a small garden, only such vegetables as will produce a maximum amount of edibles should be planted. Vegetables that cover considerable space in their growth, or shade nearby plantings, should be left out of the small garden.

Amount of Seed to Buy

The seeds needed to properly plant the garden shown in the diagram are as follows:

Peas, one pint; Lettuce, one-half ounce; radishes, one-half ounce; onion sets, two quarts; onion seed, one-half ounce; potatoes, one-half bushel; spinach, one five-cent package; carrots, one five-cent package; beets, one ounce; cabbage, eight dozen plants; beans, one quart bush beans, one pint pole beans, one-half pint pole lima beans; tomatoes, six dozen plants; corn,

one-half pint; Swiss chard, one-half ounce; parsnips, one five-cent package.

More space will permit the growing of many of the following vegetables:

Sweet potatoes, turnips, peppers, okra, parsley, rhubarb, asparagus, squash, mustard, muskmelons, watermelons.

Time of Planting

The time of planting will depend upon weather conditions. The first planting of peas, lettuce, carrots, parsnips, radishes, onions, potatoes, spinach and beets should be as early as the danger of frost is past, and the soil can be put into proper condition. It is usually in the vicinity of Springfield, Mo., from March 20th to April 1st.

In ten to fifteen days after the first general planting, it is advisable to set out cabbage plants, and make the second planting of lettuce, radishes and beets. Corn should be planted at this time in the hills where pole beans will be planted later. In ten days again, weather conditions will usually be settled so that beans of all kinds can be planted, lima, bush and pole. Also make additional plantings of lettuce, radishes and beets. Tomato plants should be set out in Springfield territory about May 1st.

Instructions for planting and care of vegetables may be easily expanded to book size, but this information is offered in the most compact form.

Those who are interested in a deeper study of gardening should consult such books as *Encyclopedia of Horticulture*, (Bailey); *Lloyd's "Productive Vegetable Growing"*; *Bailey's "Principles of Vegetable Gardening."*

Lettuce:—Leaf, Early Curled Simpson; Head, Big Boston, or Imported Hanson. Plant in rows one foot apart. Sprinkle evenly about twenty seed to the foot. Make the planting furrows about two inches deep, but do not cover the seed with more than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of fine dirt. The head lettuce should be thinned to one

plant every six inches. Additional plantings should be made every two weeks to secure a continuous fresh supply. Ordinarily head lettuce does not give as satisfactory results in Springfield territory as the leaf varieties.

Onions:—Silver Skin, Prizetaker or Wethersfield. Onion sets should be planted in rows one foot apart and about one set every three inches in the row. Plant sets deep enough to leave only the tips above ground. Plant onion sets for early table onions and the seed for late keeping large size onions. Sow the onion seed evenly in the row, and thin out the plants at the second weeding to about three inches apart. Considerable hand weeding is necessary as the onion plants are very small and difficult to see. A few radish seed should be mixed with the onion seed to help mark the row for early weeding.

Radishes:—Icicle White, Early Scarlet White Tipped. It is advisable to plant two varieties of radishes, one red and one white. Plant in rows one foot apart. Sow about 16 seeds to the foot. Thin out the rows by using the radishes as soon as they become large enough to eat. Plant every two weeks in order to have a continuous supply of fresh radishes.

Irish Potatoes:—Bliss Triumph, Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio. In cutting potatoes for seed, each eye should be supplied with an abundance of food to start the young plants vigorously. The pieces should be as large as possible and not bear more than two or three eyes. Good sized tubers should be cut into about four pieces. Single pieces should be planted every 12 to 14 inches in the rows. The rows should be three feet apart. Cover the pieces with from 4 to 6 inches of good dirt.

Spinach:—Victoria, Bloomsdale, or Long Standing. It is desirable to have the soil very rich for spinach. Sow the seed in rows one foot apart, and cover with about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch of good dirt.

Swiss Chard:—Lucullus. The planting and care of Swiss Chard should follow

the same instructions as given for spinach. The chard is planted in addition to the spinach because the plants are hardier and will furnish tender foliage for greens over a longer period than will spinach. The chard should be thinned, however, after the plants have reached three or four inches in height to about one plant to every six inches.

Carrots:—Chantenay, Early Scarlet Horn. In sowing carrot seed follow the same instructions as for planting beets. Sow in rows eighteen inches apart and thin to one plant every two inches. It is advisable to sow radish seed with the carrot seed so as to mark the row for early cultivation. Hand weeding may be necessary to get best results. Medium sized roots are better for table use than the larger size.

Parsnips:—Hollow Crown. Sow parsnip seed evenly in the row and cover with about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of soil. As soon as the plants are about three inches high thin to one plant every two inches. Parsnips are slow growing and require the entire season to mature..

Beets:—Early Blood Turnip Beets, or Crosby's Egyptian. Beet seed may be planted as soon as ground can be properly prepared in spring. Sow the seeds in rows eighteen inches apart, and cover with at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of dirt. As soon as plants are growing nicely thin out to stand three inches apart in the row. Plant a new bed every two weeks to secure a continuous supply of tender beets throughout the summer.

Cabbage:—Early Wakefield or Flat Dutch. Cabbage will do well in any good garden soil. The best results will be obtained by securing cabbage plants from three to five inches in height for transplanting. Set the plants as deep as the first lower leaf. Make the rows at least two feet apart, setting the plants one foot apart in the row. Frequent cultivation will be necessary to succeed with cabbage.

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Co-operation Will Win

"This is the New Spirit and Purpose that must Pervade Every Part and Branch of the National Railroad Service."—McAdoo

PERHAPS the most important word in the twentieth century vocabulary is co-operation.

Though it comes to us from the old Romans who combined "Co" and "Operari," (worth together), it was really born with creation, and Eve co-operated with the Serpent in tempting Adam.

Since then it has grown in importance and significance and, though church and legislator have been arrayed against it time and time again, it has always won.

All the great events of history have turned upon co-operation and all of the

It ain't the guns nor armament
Nor funds that they can pay,
But the close co-operation
That makes them win the day.

It ain't the individuals
Nor the army as a whole,
But the everlastin' teamwork
Of every bloomin' soul.

—Kipling.

real success of man has been born of his ability to make his faculties co-operate.

In the great crisis that now confronts the world, even right will not win without co-operation, and it must be that character of co-operation in which the individual will cheerfully sub-

ordinate to the needs of others, and even more cheerfully turn to whatever task that will aid the common cause.

Therefore it seems that this is the period of all others, when all in the railroad service should learn by heart and with all their hearts, the following from Director General McAdoo:

"The Government now being in control of the railroads, the officers and employes of the various companies no longer serve a private interest. All now serve the Government and the public interest only. I want the officers and employes to get the spirit of this new era. Supreme devotion to country, an invincible determination to perform the imperative duties of the hour while the life of the nation is imperiled by war, must obliterate old enmities and make friends and comrades of us all. There must be co-operation, not antagonism; confidence, not suspicion; mutual helpfulness, not grudging performance; just consideration, not arbitrary disregard of each other's rights and feelings; a fine discipline based on mutual respect and sympathy, and an earnest desire to serve the great public faithfully and efficiently. This is the new spirit and purpose that must pervade every part and branch of the national railroad service.

"America's safety, America's ideals, America's rights are at stake. Democracy and liberty throughout the world depend upon America's valor, America's strength, America's fighting power. We can win and save the world from despotism and bondage only if we pull together. We cannot pull apart without ditching the train. Let us go forward with unshakable purpose to do our part superlatively. Then we shall save America, restore peace to a distracted world and gain for ourselves the coveted distinction and just reward of patriotic service nobly done."

The Circumlocution Office

Many who love Charles Dickens will enjoy re-reading the following extract from his "Little Dorrit" almost as much as those who never read it before

THE Circumlocution Office was (as everybody knows without being told) the most important Department under government. No public business of any kind could possibly be done at any time, without the acquiescence of the Circumlocution Office. Its finger was in the largest public pie, and in the smallest public tart. It was equally impossible to do the plainest right and to undo the plainest wrong, without the express authority of the Circumlocution Office. If another Gunpowder Plot had been discovered half an hour before the lighting of the match, nobody would have been justified in saving the parliament until there had been half a score of boards, half a bushel of minutes, several sacks of official memoranda, and a family-vault-full of ungrammatical correspondence, on the part of the Circumlocution Office.

This glorious establishment had been early in the field, when the one sublime principle involving the difficult art of governing a country, was first distinctly revealed to statesmen. It had been foremost to study that bright revelation, and to carry its shining influence through the whole of the official proceedings. Whatever was required to be done, the Circumlocution Office was beforehand with all the public departments in the art of perceiving——*How not to do it.*

Through this delicate perception, through the tact with which it invariably seized it, and through the genius with which it always acted on it, the Circumlocution Office had risen to overtop all the public departments; and the public condition had risen to be——what it was.

It is true that *How not to do it* was the great study and object of all public depart-

ments and professional politicians all round the Circumlocution Office. It is true that every new premier and every new government, coming in because they had upheld a certain thing as necessary to be done, were no sooner come in than they applied their utmost faculties to discovering, *How not to do it.* It is true that from the moment when a general election was over, every returned man who had been raving on hustings because it hadn't been done, and who had been asking the friends of the honorable gentleman in the opposite interest on pain of impeachment to tell him why it hadn't been done, and who had been asserting that it must be done, and who had been pledging himself that it should be done, began to devise, *How it was not to be done.* It is true that the debates of both Houses of Parliament, the whole session through, uniformly tended to the protracted deliberation, *How not to do it.* It is true that the royal speech at the opening of such session virtually said, *My lords and gentlemen, you have a considerable stroke of work to do, and you will please to retire to your respective chambers, and discuss, How not to do it.* It is true that the royal speech, at the close of such session, virtually said, *My lords and gentlemen, you have through several laborious months been considering with great loyalty and patriotism, How not to do it, and you have found out; and with the blessing of Providence upon the harvest (natural, not political), I now dismiss you. All this is true, but the Circumlocution Office went beyond it.*

Because the Circumlocution Office went on mechanically, every day, keeping this wonderful, all-sufficient wheel of statesmanship, *How not to do it*, in motion. Because the Circumlocution Office was