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VICTORY GARDENS FEED THE HUNGRY

The Needs of Peace Demand the Increased Production of Food
in America's Victory Gardens

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VICTORY GARDENS FEED THE HUNGRY

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PREVENTION of wide spread starvation is the post-war obligation of the United States. To say that years have been lost (judges no less than war fairly recognize the condition with which this country and Europe are now compelled to reckon. Given as it was, during four years of war, the food situation is now more serious still. The advent of peace not only brought nothing to help give relief but actually increased the direct danger of starvation for Europe's millions. Instead of being improved the world-wide problem is now worse than at any time during the great conflict.

Chief among the nations which must look to America for food are France and Belgium. It is true that we had to

Post-War Needs

assist these countries during the war, but they were a France and Belgium greatly reduced in area because of German invasion. Much of their territory and millions of their people were held by the enemy, shut off from their own countries and therefore compelled to depend in part on the landings for subsistence. Today these people are repatriated. Their restoration is eternally too late, the obligation to feed them.

With the direct burden fall on France and Belgium, these countries

must look to America for ways and means. By all the ties of international friendship, by a sense of gratitude for the part these countries played in winning the war, by geographical location and by inherent capacity to provide food, America is the one country able to meet the call.

France and Belgium provide but a part of our responsibility. The food

situation throughout Europe is highly complicated. The territory capable of being self-sustaining for the next few months is extremely small. Aside from Hungary, Denmark and North

Russia, no nation in Europe can pass through the immediate future without imports on a large scale. At the close of the war we were already feeding France, Belgium, England and Italy, with their aggregate of 125,000,000 people. This must continue. We must also provide for the smaller allied nations which have been under German oppression—Serbia, Rumania, Greece, the Czechs, the Yugoslavs and others. In these groups and in repatriated Belgium and France we have an aggregate of 20,000,000 people for whom we are largely responsible. In the neutral states of Europe 40,000,000 people must be kept from hunger and in North Russia 20,000,000 more. The

southern part of Russia is in serious straits. The breakdown of transportation facilities, combined with the reign of anarchy, makes this one of the most grievous problems of Europe. That these needs must be met is dictated by the American conscience. That they will be met is warranted by the American spirit.

The food supply for all Europe went, to a large extent, some time

**We Must
Feed
Europe**

America for a considerable period. Increased food production during the last year of peace is impossible for Europe

hail. Replenishment and even measures of reconstruction must take place before there can be any important contribution to the world's food

the millions of people who have suffered under German domination during the last few years.

America must meet the situation with the same spirit of determined support given the prosecution of the war. As the man best posted on the food problems of Europe, Paul Adamson, under Hoover has made this significant statement of fact:

The ideas in the structure of all countries in Europe and the establishment of government by the people is but part of one great problem. The second and, indeed, more fundamental, should be pointed out with these ideas in the present problem that the Government has also tried to go on to secure Europe's necessities in a combination of action that is feasible is almost to none.

To realize the needs of Europe it is not necessary to consider the immediate requirements of the enemy nations. With peace comes the locking down of war-made barriers which have for several years prevented shipments of food supplies to Rumania, Serbia, European Russia, Poland, Armenia and others who now lack adequate provisions. Some of these countries are near starvation. As food was vital to the winning of the war it is now vital to reconstruction. The starvation which prevailed during the conflict was necessary to the waging of battle. Today the world realizes that no real and lasting peace can be made until the food problem is solved. There will have to be a new machinery of distribution to permeate throughout Europe and this machinery must be backed up by increased organization for production and conservation. The need for the elimination of waste was never so great as today. This waste applies as much to the resources of the soil as to food stores themselves. The



WORLD'S LARGEST PEACE MEETING
1919-1920

supply on the part of the countries exhausted by four years of warfare.

America cannot forget the horrors of war as practiced by the Germans. We cannot forget the robbery of food from the helpless, the wholesale and pitiless destruction of millions of tons of resources the wretched plight of

signs attached to the land is greater now than it was in 1918. The settled acre, the uncultivated waste lot, the unemployed backyard was never so truly "Black Land" as at the present time.

This means that the War Gardens of 1918 must become the Victory Gardens of 1919. It

War Gardens more local ones than ever before.
Become America is the
Victory "granary of the
Gardens nations." No one of

our allies was self-supporting before the war, and each became less able to produce food as the war went on. Thousands of acres of the best farm lands in France and Italy, and practically all of Belgium, are war-devastated and unfit for cultivation. In addition, the areas which have not been touched by war have become steadily poorer through unskilled handling and the shortage of fertilizers. America alone can produce more food than it did before. Therefore the task of keeping Europe fit bread is peculiarly our own.



GROW AND SELL YOUR OWN VEGETABLES
AND CLIMB THE Ladder

Our harvest season has come and gone and whatever food is exported must come from our surplus and from our savings, very largely the latter. Certain foods such as wheat, corn and dairy products, it is true, are produced throughout the year, but even these depend largely on feeds and fodder, supplies of which are limited and cannot be replenished until another harvest.

The original pledge made by the United States was 25,000,000 tons of food to be shipped overseas by July 1, 1918. This amount of food is 60 per cent greater than the year before. With Belgium and France liberated and millions in south central Europe clamoring for food, the United States is now undertaking to increase its exports from 17,000,000 to 20,000,000 tons. The Mediterranean route is now sufficiently safe for bringing wheat from India and Australia, hence our exports will consist largely of live meats and feed. Food is essential for with production of which the stricken nations are in dire need.

We can export, together with other surplus countries, an apparent sufficiency of the more **Increased** grains for feeding pur-
Exports poses, such as oats, barley and corn. On the

other hand there is a world shortage of high protein foods, such as the wheat foods and the seed and base foods, upon which the dairy production of the world, particularly of Europe, so considerably depends.

This world shortage is due primarily to the fact that Europe has been steadily under-feeding its dairy herd and has made steady incursions

into its kind of bugs during the war and to the fact that there has been a great degeneration in the production of vegetable oils in certain regions, owing to the inability to secure shipping.

Of our export possibilities in fats, the largest item is pork products.

Here again we have a right to congratulate ourselves as to the policies pursued in the administration of food supplies in the United States by the Department of Agriculture and the Food Administration. If you consider that we have reasonable promise of ability, through increased production and conservation, to export more than as much pork as we can now contribute to help in this war against famine, we are justified today in our every act in the stimulation of production of this commodity. While we cannot supply the world's full deficiency we have ameliorated it noticeably.

To send twenty million tons of food to Europe is a big order but it will be filled; there is no doubt of that. When the amount was fixed it was the result of careful study of the minimum needs of America's Allies and the australis who are dependent, necessarily, on this country for a large part of their food supply. Twenty million tons is not all they need but it is the least amount that will meet their requirements. It was figured out that the American people, without any undue restriction, without depriving themselves to the point of exhaustion, could easily furnish this quantity. It would be well to make it greater if possible, for it would prevent that much more

hunger, suffering and starvation in Europe and Asia. It will be impossible to prevent a certain amount of starvation. This point will cannot be postponed. Before sufficient quantities of food can be supplied to these areas the present starved millions of the world, thousands of wretched people who have been near the point of starvation for the past three or four years, will surely have died for lack of food.



LET FOREIGNERS FEEL AS WE FEEL ABOUT HUNGER AND STARVATION.

To meet the demands for food America has two sources of supply. Food can be raised only on the farms, by those who make a business of production, and on the lands of our cities, towns and villages. The other source is salt. The 80,000,000 acres of bare land under cultivation have already probably reached their maximum of possible production for the immediate present. It is obvious, therefore, that if we are to give the world more food for now supply which will make this possible more come from the only source—the small gardens in our urban and suburban communities.

The tale of America is to reduce the world's suffering and death to a minimum. Conservation of food will help. But the big problem is to produce. There can be no conservation when there is no production. The war gardeners of the United States have made a wonderful record during the past two years. They are always looking back proudly to what they did in the way of increasing the nation's food supplies.

Now they are called on for an even greater task. This phrase "an even greater task" is used advisedly. There are several reasons why it is true, why the Victory Gardeners of 1918, as the home food producers will be known, have their fingers crossed. War gardening has been an evolution, a development. The War Garden was the forerunner. The Victory Garden is the successor.



211 FOR ONE—ONE FOR ALL.
WORK TOGETHER TO PRODUCE MORE.

Of the 26,000,000 families in America probably half live in cities, towns and villages where the majority can have victory gardens. This may be carried even further, with the understanding that practically every one of

these households may have a garden if full use is made of the vacant land in the various communities. With the home gardens producing to their maximum capacity and with this idle land converted into productive area, by the cultivation of individual and community gardens thereon, America has a potential capacity for food raising which must be made to show tremendous worth in 1919.

The area of these vacant lots in almost every city and town is increasing. Two years of national

Slacker Land Dredged

war gardens, by the National War Garden Commission, have shown that this available land possesses vast possibilities for food production if properly cultivated. There is probably no community in the United States which did not have at least 50 acres of unused slacker land within its borders before the war garden began to thrive. Many communities had much more than 50 acres and of this idle land it was recognized that a large proportion would produce vegetables in generous yield. When the available land in a single community is taken into consideration and the average multiplied by the thousands of communities in the United States the aggregate is impressive as to the nation's further capacity for food production.

The year 1918 brought increasing large response to the urgent demand that 844 slacker land be put to work. Backyard gardens and land previously unused yielded a food supply estimated by the National War Garden Commission, after careful survey,

whereby a market value of \$250,800,000. This yield was produced on 5,265,000 war gardens. By making American households to feel themselves this war effort more of supply was a real factor in making it possible for other lands to be released for shipment to the American troops in Europe and to the people of the Allied nations.

In spite of the fact that there was such enormous response by the home food growers of the United States last year and that they made up the "slack" land is the slope, letting very little of it escape, it is believed that there can be even greater results. This applies both to numbers and to average production. With the training and the experience they have gained during the past two years it is certain that a majority of the "war gardeners" will be able to raise more beans and corn and cabbage than they have before. And as to the number of gardens, that figure, too, should be increased. All this is necessary is for the people of any particu-

lar locality to say, "We had 3,000 gardens last year, we'll make it 4,000 or 5,000 or 6,000." Every community will doubtless find a certain number of lots which were not cultivated last year. These were some back yards and a few plots which escaped the general run-up. The thing to do is to get these all into the Victory Garden "drive" of 1918. If every city, town and village will make up its mind to work a little harder in 1919 than in 1918, the thing will be done; and after it is over, the war with which it was accomplished will surprise everybody. For instance, Dutton set out last year with the idea that it could make a mark of at least 25,000 war gardens. When the result was made it was found that there were more than 30,000. There were many similar experiences. That shows that any place can "corporate itself" if it determines to do so.

It is obvious that 1919 must see not merely continuation but extension of the utilization of slack land. Food supply P. O. B. the kitchen door means more today

than it has at any time in the past. To save transportation slack is as important to us now as to increase the nation's food supply. All available transportation facilities within the country will be required to handle the traffic created by the return of peace. Merchandise needs in all lines have accumulated during the period of wartime concentration on munitions and food. To restore normal conditions and to replenish depleted stocks and warehouses will tax the transportation



LET THEM HAVE LARDER OF THE VICTORY
A VICTORY GARDEN IS THE

system to be started. This means all the more imperative the need for food production at home, which it will not add to traffic congestion.

It would be very easy to panic a bit down in the days of victory. In fact there will be too. When the "showing and taming die," when the enemy have ceased to rear and when victory is assured, it is as easy to say: "Now we are red; we have fought and won; there is nothing more for us to do."

There must be no slacking. Re-learned my lesson here. Much of the good that has been brought my the best, indeed, some days may come, days of worldwide problems, security and social work if laziness is allowed to sweep unchecked through the nation. That is why it is more important than ever to keep up the good work, to make the "Victory Gardens" of this year and the next and the next even more numerous, more flourishing, more helpful to the nation and to humanity as a whole.



ART BY THE BULL: "TA CHOW A 1940
OR EVEN THE SLACKY WY"

that were the War Gardens of 1917 and 1918. It can be done. I firmly believe that the American people can do greater things than they have ever done before. I am not worried about their character and their determination. There were 2,650,000 War Gardens in 1918. Why not make it 10,000,000 in 1940? Let us show the world that we are no "quitters" and that we do not succumb to the myth that it is harder to work for something that seems to be accomplished than while the fight is on.

The practical argument for food production at home are various. Besides its satisfaction of having a plentiful supply of food, vegetables, and the health-giving properties of this feature of the daily diet, it is of great importance to remember the profit to be derived in actual money value of the home crops.

Computed in an acre of land worked by the most herring methods

The Profit is Very Large

the possibilities of land devoted to gardening are amazingly large. It is a good acre, indeed, that will yield many dollars worth of wheat, even when wheat sells at two dollars a bushel. Yet \$200 is a good yield for land of good fertility, reasonably cultivated and enriched. An acre of reliable steady community land, divided into plots, and well cultivated, will easily produce this much. In the District of Columbia in 1915 official figures showed an average yield of \$300 to the acre in nearly 2000 acres occupied by 10,000 war gardens. One of America's great tasks, therefore, is to further organize the slacker land

of the nation and mobilize it into an active food producer.

No other single business born of the war has affected a greater number of people than has gardening. Starting from a mere nothing before the United States entered the war, this form of service grew in less than two years into a new occupation, which seemed to follow us by the millions and in the number of people employed, exceeded any other branch of useful occupation, with the single exception of actual farming.

The fact that such a vast number of Americans picked up this work shows that they appreciated the worth of it, and is one of the reasons for the confident prediction that gardening becomes to stay. It is something that the world will not willingly let die. Home food production will continue because it has been found worth while, and, like other things which this war has proved to be of value and benefit of mankind, it will last.

War gardening will permanently establish itself as victory gardening because its production value will help equal its war-time costs. This will be true of all things, but more particularly so during the first five or ten years of the great reconstruction period, for during that period the matter of food production will be of the most pressing importance. It will be on a par with many of the other urgent reconstruction problems that face the world. It will require the combined application of head, thought and effort. There will be no decrease in the demand for food; in fact that de-

mand will really be greater, much greater, than it was during the days of actual conflict.

Not will this terrific demand for food be a matter of a season only. For years and years we must continue to supply untold millions of food. Indeed it would have been almost as easy to get Slumpy Dumps together again as it will be to remove the world's agriculture. The soil of thousands of acres has literally been blown away by high explosives. Practically all the land in the orchard nations has decreased in producing power through poor handling, neglect, and lack of fertilizers during the war. Of the land of farmers that failed to feed Europe before the war, millions more lie beneath the soil they tilled, and other millions, wasted and crusted, can never again turn a furrow or harvest a harvest. Assuredly, agricultural production is not, like Slumpy's potato, the growth of a night. Years must elapse before Europe's production is restored to normal.



THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND RESEARCH
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Particularly must the American gardener keep up his work because the return of our soldiers in civil life will not mean any great increase in the amount of farm labor available on American farms. The tendency away from the farms will not have been changed by military life, and it is not to be expected that there will be any great forcing back to the soil. It will not be possible, therefore, to bank



HOBNOB IS THE BEE, TOO TALK, TOO TALK, TOO TALK, YOU TALK, TO BE A VICTORY GARDENER.

for any large increase in the quantity of the food produced on the farms.

On the other hand, broad plans are being made in the United States by the Department of the Interior to provide land which can be enlisted for settlement and use by the soldiers. This high-to-bushland movement is probably the biggest one has ever been attempted and, if it is carried out successfully, will add to the wealth of the country by getting to work much of its idle country, arid, and other waste land. It is figured that there are considerably more than 200,000,000 acres of unsupplied land which could be

made to yield valuable crops; but plans must shape before this can become reality.

In the meantime, this other high-to-bushland movement—that of war gardening—is an accomplished fact. It was established simply and without any disturbance of existing social, political, or economic conditions. For a decade or two before the war, there was deep study and much discussion of the problem as to how to check the migration from the farm to the city; but arguments and discussion availed nothing, and the exodus continued. In the "city farmer" has been found a partial answer to the high-to-bushland idea. Additional young men and women will not remain in the country where comforts are denied and where advantages of education and social life are few; but they will be glad to have in the city and the war garden has opened the way. By this means almost everyone becomes a food producer.

Furthermore, increasing prices will make it desirable to the individual, and the growing demand for food will make it desirable from the country's point of view, that everyone help to feed himself. The readjustment which must come out of the war will call for answers as far-reaching as those it has been necessary to put forth during the terrible struggle. This reconstruction work will call for every bit of man power that can be found. It will be a question not of numbers but of power before this rebuilding has been completed. In France, Belgium, Poland, Italy, Russia, and other European countries the rebuilding of cities and

churches, schools and bridges, docks and roads, of houses and farms, the rebuilding of wrecked-out and shell-ravaged farms and many other big works, must be postponed. So we can look for no huge immigration after the war to solve our labor problem, and that problem is acute. For, though there are no ruined cities to be rebuilt, or devastated farms to be restored in the United States, there are innumerable constructive tasks to be done which have been put aside during the war.

Thousands of miles of road—in some cases a single mile—will have to be completely rebuilt. The heavy motor truck as a means of transportation between city and city has come to stay, and with it there must be a strengthening of roads. This is one of the great tasks awaiting the returning sweep of men from the battlefield. The construction of new buildings in our cities which has been checked or arrested of late these months of national toil now must be resumed and lost time made up. Cities will need many improvements which will keep the workers of the world happy. In these and a hundred other ways there will be ready call for the men released from military war work. Men can hardly be spared for agriculture.

All these facts point to the increasing value of the Victory garden. It will be just as important a factor in the life of the nation and the community after the war as the War garden has been during the war. The need for gardens will last for many years, and by that time, the value of gardening will be so apparent that the movement will continue voluntarily. It will have become a hard habit and

deeply ingrained in the hearts and lives of the people of the country.

Furthermore, gardening has been found to be a health measure. It has

been used in the rehabilitation of convalescent soldiers.

Around the hospitals in Europe, almost since the beginning of the war, vegetable plots have been used for means for providing easy and pleasant outdoor work for convalescents, which acted as a tonic to their shattered nerves and bodies. At the hospitals and army camps in the United States this form of activity was employed to help in the rehabilitating of disabled and convalescing soldiers.

In the great reconstruction work at the Walter Reed hospital, which has been the center of the Nation's capital a khaki-clad war garden proved of much therapeutic value in the treatment of men suffering from nervous diseases. In addition to helping them to regain their health and strength, gardening is training them now for the future and equipping them to make their own living and become



"THE GARDEN'S BEEN WORKING. WHAT TWO SEEDS TO BE GROWN IN THE GARDEN?"

valuable citizens of any community after they are out of active service. That of the large war garden at Camp (No. 3), adjacent to base hospital, and potatoes and other vegetables were growing during the season of 1918 up to the very garden in which some of the inmates are in their wheel chairs.

Salads as well as soldiers need fresh vegetables in their diet but they cannot grow vegetables at sea. To overcome this hindrance a movement was started throughout the United Kingdom to grow what was a supply of fresh vegetables wherever they got to port. Navy vegetable culture became a national activity, and a few food or garden problems which exist in long time and small space.

Feeding The Navy

This British organization soon had eight hundred branches and collecting depots throughout the United Kingdom. Headquarters were established in London, with Admiral Lord Beatty as president. The persons included many prominent people, but the

members range from the smallest of help children, who contribute regular supplies weekly, to the small school boy with only a one-lin plot to cultivate. Long after the war got under way, persons pounds of fresh vegetables and fruit were being forwarded weekly to the British navy. In speaking of this work and its value, Rear Admiral Lord Beatty, third lord of the Admiralty, said:

"Those associated with the Vegetable Producers' Committee can happily feel that this work is of genuine value, for without a vegetable food diet that of the first world war is thoroughly performed their work is the past; we will keep it able to do as in the future, without a continuance of the epidemic work as effectively and as generously as in the past. Its value may be realized when it is used for those supplies as an available factor in keeping the men in good health and fitness."

What is true in the case of the soldiers men of the British navy, is true of all other members of society, at high and low degree. There is need for vegetable food. The body is kept in better condition if it does not depend too largely on a meat diet. Victory gardening will add greatly to the proportion of greens which will come into the diet of the American people.

The issue of Victory gardening, therefore, is assured. It is such an

important economic gain, and its benefits in other ways are so numerous, for the army of home food producers

themselves will be the best organized and most active citizens. Back by



MAKE THE MOST OF THE SUNSHINE AS A GARDENING UTILITY

practices and be prompt they will continue to spread the gospel of Lord E. O. E. to the Union there. Just as the army which has fought the justice, democracy, and war vibrations will see to it that these principles are maintained in every part of the world, so the soldiers of the soil in the city, town and village, millions of whom have tasted the sweet of war gardening, will be by future champions and ministers.

In planning our Victory Gardens we must be fully mindful of the national and international needs rather than having regard merely to our individual requirements. In our gardens we must try to produce substitutes for things which cannot be shipped abroad, such as wheat, meat, sugar and fat.

As substitutes for meat, peas and beans have special worth. So great is the food value of beans that they have occupied prominent place in the dietary of the Allied armies. Potatoes are the big source of calories. Their use makes it possible to get along with less bread. The source of potassium enables the saving of one and one-half ounces of flour. The potato, therefore, occupies a position of great importance in the wartime cultivation of shelter land Victory Gardens. The home gardener will do well this year to try to make a good use of all his such potatoes.

Sweet potatoes and fruits are the great sugar sources, and for this reason it is of especial importance that we make all the sweet potatoes that can be grown in our gardens and that we make the best use of all our fruits.

When the war garden first began to take its place in the realm of food

production there was a tendency to look slightly upon this source of food supply. It was thought that what the city and home farmer could produce would be but a drop in the bucket. The critics, however, had not counted on the immense number in which the new army of the soil would mobilize. They had not figured on the vast trained serenge that would be put to work in the cities and towns.

The little day of big things the small things are not to be ignored. This has been splendidly exemplified in the contribution to the world's food supply by the home and community gardens of America. The

Small Things Count

direction of the world now speaks in billions where they formerly spoke in millions, while millions more little more than thousands did a few years ago. The United States Government appropriated money by hundreds of



TURNING THE DOG TO WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD

effort for war purposes without a measure of hotheadism, but it must not be forgotten that much of this was made possible by the introduction into war-making stages, by prompt

collected at meeting places, churches and by other sources of income stand in their individual names but missing large is their totals.

In our gardens in backyards and on vacant lots it is not by the amount that any one of them may produce but by the sum total of the millions of small gardens that we reach the stupendous aggregate of food production which made such reasonable. The home food production idea spread like a vast wave over the entire nation. That it was a mighty factor in the proper feeding of the world is universally recognized. The food production have performed a service of incalculable value in holding off the war-time monster famine and in relieving its clutch from the hands of our European Allies. The American soldiers of the soil responded valiantly to the emergency call sent out by their country.

How They Answered Answering the call to "Keep the Home Soil Turning," they got out their shovels and their hoes, put on old shoes and clothing and went forth into the back yards and vacant lots to "Grow the Seeds of Victory." They dug and raked and planted in deadly earnest, with determination to deal effective blows against the enemy with the "Machine Guns of the Garden," as the garden tools were popularly called by the National War Garden Commission. The vigors of this Commission played an important part in emphasizing the need for home food production. In addition to those just quoted there were many others which led to the enlistment of millions thousands in the ranks of the war garden army. "The Battle Cry

of Food 'Em" was supported by "Food Must Follow the Flag," and there were given impetus by "Let There Be No Starvation Land" and "Hoe and Rake versus Hitherto.".

Perhaps one of the most effective of the battle cries of the home garden army was "Every Garden a Machine Gun." This achieved widespread currency and became a popular phrase throughout the country after its circulation on the posters and in the publications and newspaper publicity of the Commission. Today its place has been taken by "Every Garden a Food Plant."

Battle Cry of the Garden Every garden a Food Plant, suggesting the subtle suggestion that the need for machine plants no longer exists but that the output of nature's workshop must be no less be diminished because of changed conditions. Urgent talent is also given that the nation should make its war gardens become gardens of victory. Two of the new slogans for the season of 1940 are "War Gardens are the Top" and "War Gardens



BEHOLD! GARDENS ARE THE BATTLE
CRISIS WILL PROVE THAT TRUE
AND NOT WAR IN WAR

Victories," for purposes of which are obvious in this time when the victory of peace is as vital to the victory of war.

To give our Victory Gardens their full meaning let us make them also memorial gardens. In this way they will become a silent and lasting tribute to our soldier and sailor dead. Let us put into our garden-making this touch of sentiment to afford recognition of the sacrifice made by the gallant fighters who gave their lives in the name of freedom. By this system let us give tangible support to their efforts to deliver the flag and peace that is our home treasure we are inspired by the same patriotic determination that made them face the foe with unflinching courage. Through their gallantry international Democracy was made possible. It must be through our efforts of reconstruction that this condition may be made to endure. To fittingly express our gratitude to our fallen fighters we can do nothing more useful, nothing of greater worth, nothing which manifests a finer sentiment, than to cause our memorial gardens to do their share toward feeding a famished world, and thus write into the record of world Democracy the record truth that our fighters did not die in vain.

Plans have been made by the National War Garden Commission for a

major and mass intensive campaign this year that was carried on last season. In order that results be obtained it is necessary to reinforce the preaching of the lesson of food need. It is only by keeping the thought constantly before the minds of the people that they can be impressed sufficiently with the importance of the work. They must be motivated again and again, "just they forget." In the press of other work, in the welcoming back of our soldiers—after a severe every soldier has not been paid home—and in the run business of reconstruction now occupying so much thought, it is essential to keep the home food production idea in the fore. This is being done. Everybody is urged to co-operate.

One of the finest and most inspiring slogans which helped the American Army in the swarming through of some apparently impossible war tasks was—"It can't be done but we'll do it." Put that into effect in the home food campaign of 1919.

All the world—that is, all the world worth mentioning—loves a winner. That is why it praises and honors the men who "do things."

Is it worth trying to reach that goal of 10,000,000 Victory Gardens? "It can't be done? Let's do it."

VICTORY GARDENING BY COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

THE best way to stimulate the planting and cultivation of Victory Gardens is through organized effort.

The acres of vacant land in every city, town and village should be used for growing vegetables. To sufficient flats and make them add their contribution to the national food supply is a duty that no community can afford to overlook. People who have no vacant land of their own should be encouraged to grow gardens for their own sustenance from the highest of living and to help the general situation. Land owners should be glad to contribute the use of their property for this patriotic purpose. Community organization should bring gardeners and land together.

Co-operative gardening, through community organization, has many advantages. It enables gardeners to purchase supplies in large quantities and secure the benefit of wholesale rates. It enables it provide for expert supervision to be provided. Where organized work is done it is possible to employ teams for plowing, which is not always convenient in the single small garden worked independently. One man will plow several gardens in a day, at slight cost to each gardener.

Before a community can intelligently plan a garden campaign it must know how much land it has available for cultivation, the location and character of the land, the kind and quantity of manure and fertilizer avail-

able, the skilled draftsmen the women and the probable number of gardeners. To ascertain

Organizing a Community

these facts an inventory of the town's gardening resources for community work should be taken. Such a survey can be made by visiting agencies or a special house can be visited.

If garden production is to be stimulated to its maximum possibility, it will be necessary to survey all the lands within the community, including private yards as well as vacant lots. Then the project will become truly a community effort. The Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade or the Civic Club is the agency for such an effort, but the School Board as a branch of a political club, can just as effectively conduct the work.

The first step should be to secure the cooperation of the local newspapers. The community must be made acquainted with the plan to put every foot of idle land to work. The movement may also be advanced by showing picture shows and an bulletin boards.

A public meeting should be held to solicit interest and secure general cooperation. An effort should be made to secure the attendance of the ministers, the school superintendent, the local officials, prominent civic workers, and club leaders.

A survey form should be selected, with a leader and assistants, one for

each district is the community. The survey force itself may very well consist of the senior class in

Survey Force The high school, or a group of the other Day Schools, or a Sunday School class.

Plainly a survey day should be chosen and well advertised. In preparation for the survey, large scale maps of the community should be prepared which will show the different parcels of land. The high school drawing classes can well prepare such maps as part of their work. In larger cities district maps may be necessary.

Whether the community is large or small, it will be necessary to divide it into districts for the survey. An assignment to the leader should be made responsible for each district.

On the survey day the force of surveyors should go out in twos, one to interview the land owner while the other examines the yard or lot. In preparation for the survey, cards should be prepared, which the surveyors use in list is. On these cards should be recorded the following:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of land owner.
2. Location of lot in a block and on a street or corner.
3. Dimensions of lot.
4. Description of use of space lot.
5. Location of the lot.
6. Whether owner will produce it or not or to the place where and conditions owner will use it.

The surveyors should also record, on other cards, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all who have money available for location, the quantities available and the terms on which it can be had. Inquiry should also be made as to the amount and varieties of seed, tools and all other supplies required. The committee may buy outright and sell to the users at cost or it may make

arrangements with dealers whereby the dealers will supply the individuals at reduced rates.

When all the cards have been filed out and filed alphabetically, the survey committee will be in possession of a complete card index of all the possible garden lands in the community. Thereafter, the committee can receive applications from those desiring gardens, and assign convenient plots as soon as arrangements can be made with the owners.

Thus it should be possible to provide with comparatively little difficulty for the winning of every foot of available garden land.

To insure maximum production there should be cooperation in the gardening itself. In many towns may



ORDER THE GROUND OF YOUR OWN

be found rather farmers or other experienced vegetable growers, or perhaps a county agricultural agent is available. Arrangements should be made to have some such person give supervision and instruction as to selecting the crops best suited to the soil and the details of planting and cultivation. If such supervision

is not available it is desirable to hire a land to hire a school garden supervisor or other skilled gardener to direct such work as needed to carrying the work. In many cases agricultural college students will doubtless volunteer their services.

Under supervision that provided the land should be plowed, sown and made ready for seeding. Many student gardeners do not know how to make a seed bed properly and such supervision will prevent many disappointments. Where possible the cost of supervision should be paid out of a general fund raised by the organization in charge. If this is not feasible the gardeners should pay in proportion to the size of their plots.

The supervisor should attend over the entire gardening season. Timely advice will prevent gardeners from planting vegetables in and squashed to them, and show the gardeners how to cultivate the different crops properly and safeguard them from drought, insects and diseases.

Neighbors in any section of a city, town or village may wish to prefer to exerted advantage, even if there is no needed supervision to direct their work. The first essential is that some person should assume the burden of the various families and direct their cooperation. The number of families should be determined by the size of the available land. In al-

most every neighborhood a vacant tract will be found which will serve

Neighborhood Gardens

the purpose of several households. Land owners should consider it their patriotic duty to allow the property to be returned for the sake of increasing the national food supply and those who wish to cultivate gardens should see business to ask the privilege. If the land cannot be secured free of charge a small rental may be paid without seriously interfering with the success of the project. In selecting land be sure that it has convenient water supply, an abundance of water is essential to a good garden.

After making the active interest of a number of gardeners, the leader should place the matter before the owner of the tract of land desired. A definite statement that the gardeners are ready to do their work will have its influence.



AN IDEAL NEIGHBORHOOD GARDEN. ALL BROWN SQUARES ARE IN ONE GENERAL DRAINAGE.

is the advantage that they can find means to the largest possible extent, that the soil is richly and properly manured for commercial and other purposes.

B. Flirt seed.

Flirting does mean to sow seed. Sow seed at a good time, in the fall, and you will find that the plants are more vigorous than those sown in the spring. The seed should be sown in the fall, and the plants should be sown in the spring, and the plants should be sown in the spring, and the plants should be sown in the spring.

C. Cultivate.

Cultivate the soil in the fall, and you will find that the plants are more vigorous than those sown in the spring.

II. Take care to prevent theft and vandalism.

It is necessary to take care to prevent theft and vandalism, and to take care to prevent theft and vandalism.

It is necessary to take care to prevent theft and vandalism, and to take care to prevent theft and vandalism.

11. Harvest.

12. Clean up the next year.

It is necessary to take care to prevent theft and vandalism, and to take care to prevent theft and vandalism.

13. Success reports on the cost and yield of each garden.

It is necessary to take care to prevent theft and vandalism, and to take care to prevent theft and vandalism.

For full instructions in Gardening consult this Committee's Book "War Gardening," which may be had on application.

VICTORY GARDENING BY CORPORATIONS

THE pioneer and his enlarged garden production offers to the corporations of America an opportunity, through the encouragement of gardening among their employees, not only to be of help to the nation, but also to benefit themselves. The employee who can be induced to become a gardener becomes straightway a more worthwhile employee.

The commercial worker is usually one who enjoys a comfortable living; and gardening, by steadily adding to the employee's income and providing him with leisure time, thus he can buy in the market, tends to make him contented. Money that would otherwise have to be spent for food can be used for the purchase of small luxuries. Of no less value is the normal human habit of gardening. The value is a sunny soil, or the worker is a sunny large or healthy one and a green that will build him up physically and refresh his energies so gardening will. They to both the nation and his own corporation demand that every corporate manager should do his

utmost to stimulate gardening among his employees.

The Pennsylvania Railroad, for example, began its garden campaign as soon as America became a belligerent. Along its right of way it grew tracts of land outside for vegetable production. These tracts were offered to employees in small plots at a partly reduced rental. Among those who embraced the opportunity thus offered were many men who had little or no knowledge of gardening. The railroad took a number of its prospective gardeners and several trained them, and of the the National War Garden Committee's manual on gardening, placing one in the hands of each gardener. So successful was the work that in 1918 the movement was widely extended and for 1919 it will be on a still greater scale.

Among those who will take an active part in stirring up Victory Gardening is 1918 and the agricultural agents of the United States Railroad Administration. J. L. Edwards, who is in general charge of this branch of the

service, has called on the regional directors and the superintendents of agriculture of the different

Government not less, to give this work their careful
Railroad attention; and as a
Cooperation result, the agents have notified the Commission of their desire and readiness to help in the work. Typical of replies received by the Commission is that from D. F. Eash, regional director, Southwestern Region, who says,



ENTERED WE KNOW AND FEED THE WORKERS

"I wish to state that the railroads in the Southwestern Region will again do everything they possibly can to permitting their right-of-way and other station grounds to be used for farming and agricultural purposes;" and from N. B. Haher, regional director, Northwestern Region, who says: "We will have our agricultural agents cooperate with you in connection with spreading the message of Food U. S. to the Kitchen Door. There is no doubt that, with all the people to be fed in Europe, the Victory Gardens are as important as the War Gardens." The railroads actively supported the War Garden

campaign; they will assist equally the Victory Garden campaign.

The worker in the steel mill at least formerly will derive physical benefit from outdoor work.

Benefit Many such workers are
to ignorant of the principles of gardening.
Workers

Such a worker can with profit engage the services of a skilled agricultural agent or gardener to deliver a course of lectures to the men. A small library of gardening books can be provided and circulated among the prospective gardeners. Finally land can be provided and prepared for the actual gardening, for practically every large industrial corporation has great areas of land set in use.

The United States Steel Corporation has offered prizes to those of its men making the best showing as gardeners. These prizes were open to competition for employees in the various mills. The manager of the mill at Farrell, Pa., set aside a considerable tract of company land in order that his men might enter this competition, and the manager of another subsidiary mill situated across land nearly accessible. The men were also assisted by having the land plowed and prepared for sowing.

The American Rolling Mill Company of Middletown, Ohio, promotes gardening among its employees through its "recreational department," and has provided the land for the gardens and held exhibits at which prizes were awarded for the best products. In similar fashion it has encouraged the wives of workers to conserve the garden space, by offering generous prizes for the best canned products.

Probably an act of industrial work-
art will gain larger benefit from gar-
dening than educa-

Miners men who spend most
as of their working
Gardeners hours below the sur-
face of the ground.

The Ingotation Consolidated Cop-
per Company of Ingotation, Ariz-
ona, turned its western iron gar-
den in the face of seemingly in-
superable difficulties. Its land
was among the mountains at an
elevation of 5,500 feet. The region
was arid. Its employees were com-
patriots. Few of them spoke English,
while few still knew anything about
gardening. Yet the company turned
217 acres into gardens for them, first
drilling five artesian wells to supply
the water necessary for the irrigation.

Enthusiasm was kindled in many lan-
guages and conspicuously posted, to
indicate the workers of the rules gov-
erning the gardening enterprise. A
gardens expert from the Arizona Agri-
cultural Station was engaged by the
company to make regular visits to the
gardens to instruct the men. The
credit crop system was employed, so
that as soon as one crop had been har-
vested another was started. No dig-
ging was permitted to go to waste, and
the food which could not be used at
once was dried or canned or sold to
the market controlled by the company
for the sale of excess produce. The
company itself did the selling.

One of the well-known manufac-
turing corporations which have
backed the garden movement of em-
ployees is the General Electric Com-
pany at Schenectady, N. Y. When
its employees were questioned as to
the gardening movement, 1,000 of

them expressed a desire to cultivate
gardens. The company provided a
city-acre tract of good river bottom
land which it owned, and plowed and
prepared it for seeding, apportion-
ing the land in small parcels. At
Meriden, Conn., the employees of
Pott, Harrison & Company each
had plots 20 x 300 feet in size, on
which they produced 1,000 bushels
of potatoes alone, not to mention
quantities of other products. In this
case the company secured the seeds
and fertilizers in quantity and allowed
the men to pay at any season.

Among other industrial concerns
which have aided the gardening move-
ment are the Oliver Chilled Pipe
Company, which has a large acreage
of gardens near its plant at South
Rend, Ind.; the Brown & Sharpe Com-
pany, more than 300 of whose em-
ployees are helping to feed themselves
on the products of the community
gardens which the company owns and
plows for them at Plattsburgh, N. Y.; the New
Departments Manufacturing Company, of
Brack, Conn.; the M. E. Schenck
Company, of Meriden, Conn.; the
Delaware & Hudson Coal Company
and the H. B. Tidmore Manufac-
turing Company, the J. E. and C. M.
Wilson Manufacturing Company, and
Rosen, Green & Company, all of New
York State.

Many banks, business houses, and
other concerns have joined in the
movement to put the "lacker" hand
to work. A few banks have organ-
ized back gardens, which are to be
operated by the employees and from
every section of the United States
banks are writing to the National
War Garden Commission for the

manual in gardening with the intention of distributing this manual to their customers.

**Bonds
Fight
Slacker
Lend**

One obstacle to the complete success of the "plant a garden" movement has hitherto been the fact that many working men could not find the time to over his garden, but the daylight saving law removes this obstacle. By starting work one hour earlier in the morning, the worker will now have an hour

more of leisure time in the afternoon; and this hour can be put to no better use than the production of food.

In a number of cases the managers or superintendents of corporations have become labor leaders with their employees in the company gardens. This contact with the men has been of great advantage. The sympathetic understanding so gained has helped to the solution of numerous problems later on.

COMMUNITY GARDENING AND DRYING

THE Community plan of work should also be applied to food conservation for winter use through canning and drying. In general the scheme of organization followed in garden work may be adapted to canning and drying operations by communities and neighborhoods. On a small scale two or more families may work together in the home of one of them, with equipment bought jointly. This reduces the cost to each household. On a larger scale a neighborhood may organize and establish a canning or drying center with equipment bought by voluntary contribution and with a committee to manage details of its use. An active community may work to excellent advantage along this line, with one or more centers established in school houses, store rooms or other places having facilities for heat and water. For community organization the work can be best conducted through the Chamber of Commerce or other civic

organization, as in community gardening.



THE WOMEN AND PAUL WOMEN ARE
CANNING AND DRYING
THEIR OWN GARDEN

The National War Garden Commission insists believing explaining to deal the plan of organization. One of these believes first with canning operations and the other with drying. These may be found from your report.



After J. S. Dilling in New York Tribune.

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION

A Periodic Organization Affiliated with the Cooperative Department
of the American Farming Association
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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