

# THE COTTAGE GARDENER

## RHUBARB ONE OF BEST PRODUCERS

Early Spring Vegetable Responds to Liberal Supply of Best Soil Available

PLANT IN OUT-OF-WAY PLACE

Along Garden Fence Where Roots Will Not Be Injured in Cultivation of Rest of Garden is Good Location.

Rhubarb, or "pieplant," as it is sometimes called, cannot be grown universally, but is limited to certain definite sections. Information as to whether rhubarb will or will not grow in a given locality can be obtained from the local seedsmen or from neighbors who have had experience in growing it.

Rhubarb is propagated by planting pieces of the roots secured by dividing older hills, and six to ten hills will usually supply plenty of rhubarb for the average family, states the United States Department of Agriculture.

Rhubarb should be planted exactly the same way as asparagus, that is, the roots or crowns should be covered four or five inches in deeply spaded



Rhubarb a Generous Producer.

and well enriched soil; there is little danger of having the soil too rich for rhubarb. The hills should be three and a half to four feet apart, if more than one row is planted.

This wonderful staple of the family garden can generally be planted along the fence where it will be out of the way of cultivation.

The thick leaf stems are the part used, and none should be pulled from the plants the first year after seeding, but a large supply will be available the second season, and the hills will, as a rule, continue to produce satisfactory crops of stems for several years, after which they should be divided and reset.

Rhubarb should receive the same attention and treatment during winter as asparagus, and the plants should never be allowed to ripen and seed. The roots may be brought into the greenhouse, pit, coldframe, or cellar during the winter and forced.

By placing a barrel over a rhubarb plant much longer and tender stalks may be grown.

This is one plant that does not thrive in warm climates. It is most popular, especially in the sections where it is grown, in the early part of the spring. The use of rhubarb is principally for making pies and sauces, and many housewives can the stems for winter use.

### CHICKEN FENCE WIRE HANDY

Small Gardeners Will Find the Woven Two-Inch Mesh Valuable—Takes Place of Stakes.

Many vegetable and flowering vines can be successfully grown on chicken fence wire. In the fall the wire can be taken down and used for succeeding years for similar purposes. It will enable the small gardener to raise more vegetables and flowers than if they were allowed to lie on the ground and spread out over valuable space.

Cucumbers, lima and climbing string beans, nasturtiums and numerous other vegetables of spreading variety, as well as almost any vine-flowering plants can be successfully trained on the wire trellis permitting of the use of the ground space ordinarily covered by vines being used for something else. Give the vine plants plenty of air and sunshine, and water when needed, and they will give an excellent accounting of themselves on the wire.

### TO GROW EARLY CABBAGE

Cabbage is one of the most desirable of our early green or leaf crops and should be included in every home garden. The seeds should be sown indoors and the plants set in the garden about the time that danger of frost is past, or a few plants can be purchased from the seed store. Cabbage requires a rich soil, and the plants of the smaller early sorts should be set 18 inches apart in each direction for hand cultivation. It is a good plan to pour a little water around the roots of each plant as it is being set in the garden.

## TOOLS THE BUSY GARDENER NEEDS

Hoe, Rake and Spade, the Combination Soil Tillers Find Absolutely Necessary.

### WHEEL HOE IS LABOR SAVER

Little Implement Suitable for Small or Large Garden; Trowels Are Handy; Spraying Outfits Are Essential.

With the first warm days of spring sounding the earth call, there is a hasty scurrying around for the tools of the gardening cult. A gardener can get along fairly well with four, a spade or spading fork, a hoe, a rake, and a trowel. It is even possible to get along without the last, but who wants to?

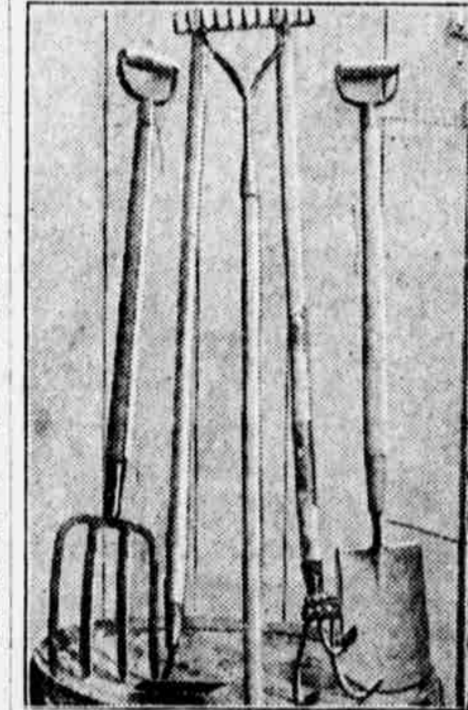
The art of gardening is reaching such a point of special development that there are tools for almost everything and the wise gardener by a careful selection will ease his work as much as possible by securing appropriate working implements.

The greatest labor saver for gardens of any extent is a little wheel hoe. This saves many a headache, does the work thoroughly, and has appliances for various purposes which are interchangeable from a little plow share to cultivators of various kinds. It can be used in the smallest garden.

There are numerous hoes of various types and designed for different purposes. The pointed hoe for making rows is a convenient tool. The hoe with rake teeth on the back of the blade is one of the very handiest all-around garden tools for light work there is. It is particularly well adapted for women gardeners. Three toothed cultivator hoes do a fine job of stirring the soil. Scuffle or shove hoes as they are sometimes called that can be pushed instead of pulled, permit hoeing rows which are too close to walk between conveniently.

Trowels of various shapes to suit various plants are now on the market, stiff, sharply angled small bladed trowels are ideal for splitting off pieces from perennials which have grown so large they need dividing for their best growth. They are fine to set under a recalcitrant carrot or parsnip whose leaves are so tender they part company from the root, leaving it in the ground.

Long bladed trowels are especially adapted for digging holes for gladioli or other bulbs in the spring and tu-



Necessary Garden Tools.

lips and fall bulbs later in the season and equally useful in digging them up.

There are little hand rakes which are just the thing for hand cultivation among plants which need special care and the earth kept stirred.

Sprinkling cans and sprays must be added to every well regulated garden outfit, especially a spray.

While looking over spraying outfits get in a supply of poison for the pests that devour and for the fungus that blights. The seedsman will tell you what to get. Bordeaux mixture for fungus pests, paris green or some other arsenical poison for those that eat the leaves, and a tobacco poison of some kind for plant lice are standard. Often they can be bought in combination.—National Garden Bureau.

### FRESH VEGETABLES EVERY DAY

What is a back yard good for? It may be made to supply the average family with fresh vegetables through the growing season.

# The American Legion

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

### COOKS TO PLEASE ANY TASTE

F. G. Galpin, Historian of Texas Post, Brings Odd "Cargo" From Australia to England.



One of the few persons in the United States who can cook up a meal for a wallaby, or satisfy the fastidious cravings of a wombat, or play chef to a cuckoo, is F. G. Galpin, historian of El Paso (Tex.) post 36 of the American Legion and ex-animal-cook of the White Star liner Medic.

Galpin is never more at home than when he is busily engaged in brewing up a stew for a casewary. Upon his return from a recent trip of the liner, bearing lizards, carpet snakes, rat-kangaroos, and other things (800 altogether) from Australia to England, chief Galpin expounded dietetics to his Legion comrades. They had to believe everything he said. It seems that the bird of paradise, paradoxically, has secular tastes and squawks vigorously when offered such seemingly compatible delicacies as angel cake. "I fed 'em bananas and hard-boiled eggs," said Galpin, "and not one of 'em lost a single heavenly feather."

"And on the other hand," he added, "I had a couple of Tasmanian devils aboard, and they wouldn't touch a thing the whole trip except floating island."

### DOSE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE

German Submarine Commander Who Sank Lusitania Also Now at Bottom of Sea.

The commander of the German submarine that sank the Lusitania is now at the bottom of the sea, according to a story which has reached American Legion headquarters. Flogged and flung over the side of a Paraguayan war vessel, he met death with a dose of his own medicine.

The story is that the commander, fleeing from allied justice, took refuge in Paraguay, where he at once took out naturalization papers and swore allegiance to the Paraguayan republic. Friends in the shipping world secured for him the command of a Paraguayan man-o-war, the Adolph Riquelme. He had hardly set his heel upon the decks when he inaugurated the rules which had been his custom. The crew, with their Latin blood, could not stomach the diet as the stolid Teutons had done in the old days. So they passed him around for a beating, and then threw him into the sea, far from sight of land.

### HAD THE "THEODORA" DOOR

Fancy French Pets Saturated With Unwelcome Perfume of Marshal Foch's American Mascot.

Fifty thousand francs' worth of pet dogs were temporarily ruined by Marshal Foch's wild cat on the voyage to France. When the marshal, as guest of the American Legion, had picked up Theodora from an admiring friend, he had little reckoned what devastation was in store.

Theodora was placed in the kennel room atop the liner Paris, under care of the ship's butcher, who acted as animal valet for the trip. Believing that the fluffy Pekinese, and poodles, and Mexican hairlesses that shared her compartment did not represent, like herself, the true red-blooded pioneering spirit of America, Theodora lay quietly in her cell and exuded the aroma peculiar to wildcats. When the Paris touched the shores of France, the valet handed the pet dogs around to the group of daintily-scented mademoiselles and was greeted with loud shrieks.

### Parachute in Shell.

A shell which blows off its head at an altitude of 2,000 feet, expelling a parachute from its interior, is fired from a gun at Lyme, England, as an experiment in physics. Attached to the parachute is a brilliant magnesium flare, which lights automatically when the parachute opens and lights the sky for miles around.

### Error in Judgment.

Her plan for assuring the support of the women voters to him moved the statesman to admiration. "Whatever steps you take will carry weight, I'm sure," he said cordially. Right there he lost the whole women's delegation. She had been dieting in secret for three months.—American Legion Weekly.

### A Heavy Load.

Kriss—After we had sampled the home brew last night we organized a vocal quartette. Kriss—Who carried the bass? Kriss—It took three of us to get him home.—American Legion Weekly.

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Wider Field Necessary. He (rejoiced)—"Well, you may go farther and fare worse." She—"Yes; it can't be done around here."  
Mix a little play with work.

### WHY THE WAITERS LAUGHED

Some Way, There Does Seem an Element of Incongruity in the Situation Described.

A Birmingham man went into a restaurant recently and ordered a decidedly plebeian dish—to wit, calf's liver and onions. As he was eating with a good appetite and a clear conscience, it occurred to him that he would like to hear his favorite piece of music so he called his waiter and sent a request to the pianist, who was industriously pounding out jazz in one corner of the establishment, to play Schubert's serenade.

The musician had barely started to play the selection asked for when the guest noticed that his waiter and several other waiters seemed to be vastly amused about something.

Beckoning his waiter, he asked: "What's the joke?" The waiter looked embarrassed, and hesitated, but finally said, with a grin and in broken English: "The gentlemen eats calf's liver and enjoys Schubert."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Had Millions Under Arms. According to official figures given out by the War department at Washington, the total strength of the United States army when hostilities ceased in the World war was 3,764,677 men. Of that number 2,200,000 had been sent to France, Italy and Russia, while the remainder were under arms in various camps in the United States.

For true blue, use Red Cross Ball Blue. Snowy-white clothes will be sure to result. Try it and you will always use it. All good grocers have it.—Advertisement.

Wider Field Necessary. He (rejoiced)—"Well, you may go farther and fare worse." She—"Yes; it can't be done around here."



### FIFTY YEARS AGO

A young man who practiced medicine in Pennsylvania became famous and was called in consultation in many towns and cities because of his success in the treatment of disease. This was Dr. Pierce, who finally made up his mind to place some of his medicines before the public, and moving to Buffalo, N. Y., put up what he called his "Favorite Prescription," and placed it with the druggists in every state.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has long been recognized as a tonic for diseases peculiar to womanhood. After suffering pain, feeling nervous, dizzy, weak and dragged-down by weakness of her sex—a woman is quickly restored to health by its use. Thousands of women testify that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has entirely eradicated their distressing ailments.

More recently that wonderful discovery of Dr. Pierce's, called An-uric (for kidneys and backache), has been successfully used by many thousands who write Dr. Pierce of the benefits received—that their backache, rheumatism, and other symptoms of uric acid deposits in joints or muscles have been completely conquered by its use.

Send 10c to Dr. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., for trial pkg. of any of his remedies, or write for free medical advice.

**PATENTS** Watson E. Coleman, Patent Lawyer, Washington, D. C. Advice and book free. Rates reasonable. Highest references. Best service.

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