SEEDS

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More Dividends From Garden Crops

This Year, if Ever, the Opportune Time for Making Money From Vegetables.

MAKE EVERY ACRE PRODUCE MORE.

Five acres of Ontario soil near a good market can be made to easily support a family in comfort. In potatoes alone the returns would run, under ordinary prices, at from $100 to $200 per acre. From $400 to $500 per acre can be made from cauliflower. Many people will be inclined to regard these figures as exaggerated, but they are facts, and many cases can be pointed out to substantiate our statements.

With proper soil treatment, the average garden will produce at least a half more than it now does. Several things must be borne in mind, however, to make a success with garden crops, such as onions, potatoes, cabbage, etc. The soil must be suitable, cultivation must be thorough, varieties the best for the district and the market, and good salesmanship.

The plot selected for the garden should be well drained, and must not be shaded to any extent. Drainage takes away surface water rapidly, and keeps the soil water away from the surface, thereby allowing the roots to grow deep and the air to enter the soil and aid in decomposing it. Fertility is another most important feature. The need for fertilizer is shown by low growth and pale color in the plants. Stable manure, bone meal, or good commercial fertilizer should be used to renew the elements required by the soil.

Germination.

Crops are often lost through the failure of the seeds to germinate. Don't blame your seedsman for this. It is usually because in planting the soil is left loose about the tiny seeds, and the dry atmosphere penetrates to them, shrivelling them up until all vitality is destroyed. Vegetable crops as a rule are sown in rows, and in every case, as soon as the seed is sown, it should be pressed down in the drill with the foot, then covered up level by the back of a rake, drawn lengthwise of the drills, and again firmed by the roller or back of a spade. For want of this simple precaution, perhaps one-quarter of all seeds sown fail to germinate. Again, for the same reason, when setting out plants of any kind, be certain that the soil is pressed close to the root. We have seen whole acres of cauliflower, cabbage and strawberry plants lost solely through neglect of this precaution.

Value of Rotation.

In order to secure maximum yields, and to keep down weeds, the systematic rotation of farm crops is an acknowledged necessity. Why not, therefore, plan the varieties of vegetables and their planting time so as to secure a continuous and abundant supply of good, fresh green things? It is just as easy as any other method of garden management, and it is much more satisfactory.

For example a crop of radishes, turnips, spinach or lettuce sown in April, will have ripened so that the ground can be cleared, dug up, and manured, and again used by the first of June, when such crops as cucumbers, peas, tomatoes, or sweet corn can be planted, and so on all through the list.

The crops should be moved around from year to year, so as to give the soil a chance to recuperate. Where a number of successive plantings are desirable, as with peas, it is an excellent plan to plant a third or fourth crop between the rows of the first crop, removing the vines of the first crop as soon as the peas have been picked.

The observance of the foregoing suggestions, along with instructions for planting, which most reliable seedsmen supply with purchases of seeds and plants, should enable any thoughtful and ambitious person to make a success of growing the common and most popular summer vegetables.

Extensive Potato Cultivation.

The potato is probably more in demand at all times, and will show a better proportionate profit, year in and year out, than any other farm crop. In next week's issue of this paper will appear an article dealing thoroughly and interestingly with the methods of one successful farmer in Western Ontario, who has grown potatoes extensively for 43 years, and who last year sold $1,200 worth of potatoes from a twelve-acre patch of his 150-acre farm.

Don't fail to read this article. Here are some interesting facts cited by the farmer about whom the article is written:

"The first two crops after putting in twenty-one thousand tile paid for the underdraining in increased yield per acre."

"When you take much food from the soil you must return a like amount or your soil will soon play out. This spring we used about five tons of fertilizer, as well as several hundred loads of manure."

"In the last two years I have sold fifteen thousand bushels of potatoes from this farm, and have not had one single complaint as to quality."

"Up to the year 1900 the total value of stuff sold off my farm amounted to $41,724.28. The ten years following 1900 would add easily another $40,000 to that sum."

"This last year I had at least 6,000 bushels of potatoes. Put these at the low price of fifty cents per bushel and you get $3,000. I can raise one acre of potatoes for twenty dollars, easily. So, you see, I have been making pretty good profit on my thirty acres."

"For the last seven years I have each year been unable to fill my orders."

"In taking up six thousand bushels of potatoes this year we have not run across a quart measureful of potatoes unfit for market."

"When every potato means two or three cents, one must be careful that there is an eye on each piece planted."

"I started forty-three years ago with five acres in potatoes, and in not a single year since have I failed to grow them."

"I believe in repaying the soil for what you take from it. I have made it a rule never to sell off the farm hay, straw or oats."

"I have been decent with my men, giving respectable wages and their room and board, but never washing. When I hired my first man, many years ago, I simply told him that I hadn't married my wife to do washing."

A merry sinner is at least more entertaining than a melancholy saint.

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Money Makes Money;

Or, A Strange Stipulation.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Two days after that momentous meeting in Lady Ellen's house, between Adrian Dawney and Julian Bryant, Lady Ellen had a visit from Mr. Tenderten. He had written to her earlier in the day to ask her if she would be so good as to see him.

At first she had decided that this would be impossible; but on discussing the matter with Dawney, who was lunching with her, they agreed that she had better receive Mr. Tenderten and hear what he had to say.

"It is something about Bryant, you may be sure," Colonel Dawney said. "I'll come in whilst he is there."

Lady Ellen received Mr. Tenderten very charmingly, and he felt as if he had drifted back into the old delightful times as she poured him out a cup of tea and made him feel so much at home.

"You haven't been to see me for a long time," she said; and Mr. Tenderten smiled a little sourly; "and I thought you had forgotten me, Lady Ellen."

"Oh no. I never forget. I see, I remember that you take two lumps of sugar."

"Well, you never write to me," said Mr. Tenderten, "and you have been so unkind, you have gone to Mr. Pleydell with your business instead of to me."

"Well the fact is," said Lady Ellen, "I thought that I was treating Mr. Pleydell very badly. You see, he has known me such a long time, and I felt I was hurting his feelings."

Mr. Tenderten drank his cup of tea and then got up and stood by the fire.

"I—I asked you to see me to-day, Lady Ellen, because I have a serious matter to discuss with you."

"Really?" said Lady Ellen.

She offered him her cigarette case; but he noticed that she did not smoke herself.

"Yes, it concerns Mr. Bryant, Mr. Julian Bryant."

"Anything—that concerns Mr. Bryant is of great interest to me," said Lady Ellen; "and," she added, "I am expecting him here this afternoon."

"He has no business to come here," said Mr. Tenderten, angrily. "He is an imposter! You have been shamefully deceived, Lady Ellen! Mr. Bryant is a married man!"

Lady Ellen laughed.

"Oh! yes, I know he is; and what is more, I know his wife. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bryant are coming here this afternoon."

Mr. Tenderten stared at her as though he doubted his own ears.

"Coming here this afternoon, Mrs. Bryant?" he said.

"Yes." Lady Ellen nestled herself on the many cushions of her couch. "I see you are not in the secret. There has been a general clearance up all round. Mr. Bryant came here and told Colonel Dawney. By the way Mr. Tenderten, you haven't congratulated me. I am going to be married to Colonel Dawney in a month's time. Well," chattered on Lady Ellen, noticing with some amusement the expression on Mr. Tenderten's face, "Mr. Bryant was going to have a separation from his wife, but happily they both changed their minds, and now—they are together again; and I don't think one could meet two happier people!"

Mr. Tenderten could not speak for a moment, and then he said, with all bitterness—

"All very clever"; and then very deliberately he looked at Lady Ellen and said: "I congratulate you. You have had a narrow escape!"

Lady Ellen's color rose; but at that moment the door opened, and Adrian Dawney came in.

"Just in time, Adrian. Mr. Tenderten is saying such nice things to me."

Tenderten suddenly felt very uncomfortable. To indulge in temper and sneer when he was alone with Lady Ellen was one thing, but Colonel Dawney was a big man; and Mr. Tenderten was never quite at ease in his presence.

Colonel Dawney did not shake hands with him, merely nodded.

"How do you do?" he said. "Very cold, isn't it, to-day?"

Mr. Tenderten agreed that it was very cold, though he himself felt very hot; and murmuring he hardly knew what, he made his adieux and took himself off."

"What a little spiteful toad!" said Lady Ellen. "You were right, he came here to warn me against Mr. Bryant."

"Although he was well paid to hold his tongue I have just come from Pleydell," Colonel Dawney added. "We have been discussing the position with regard to Bryant and his money. Of course there isn't a shadow of doubt the bequest stands. As a matter of fact," laughed Colonel Dawney. "I'm not a lawyer; but I am very much surprised that the peculiar stipulation which the late Mrs. Marnock made was ever allowed to work so disastrously in the lives of those two young people. It appears, however, that the wording of the bequest was very cleverly done."

"Then if they come together again," said Lady Ellen anxiously, "they can't have the money?"

"Yes, they can," said Colonel Dawney, "because you see they fulfilled the stipulation that they were to be separated, and they have been separated; but nothing was said ever about their coming together again. I daresay there will be some attempt on the part of those relatives who, according to Mr. Pleydell and Bryant, were so angry when they heard of all this money going to him, but—I don't think myself—it can be taken away from them."

"They are coming here directly," said Lady Ellen. "I am looking forward so much to seeing her; just to think how wretched I was because I imagined——"

She did not finish her sentence, because Adrian Dawney stooped and kissed her.

"Stupid little child!" he said, "but very dear!"

Both Julian Bryant and his wife quietly renounced all further connection with Mrs. Marnock's money.

"We shall have more than enough to live upon," Julian explained when Mr. Pleydell expostulated with him. "Money makes money, you know; and my old comrade Ketch is busy building up quite a decent little fortune, which we shall share. I don't want that grand house or all those wonderful things in it. I just want a little home—big enough to hold my wife, my son, and myself. We are both going to work," Julian added. "I see now how wrong I was. Enid is an artist. She has a right to have her own place in the world. She wants to work, and I shall let her work."

As the days went past, however, Colonel Dawney's supposition was proved to be correct. Having obtained possession of Mrs. Marnock's bequest by the fulfilment of her strange stipulation, it appeared that there was nothing to prevent Julian and his wife from coming together again whilst he still remained master of all Mrs. Marnock had left him.

On the point of not accepting the situation, Enid and her husband were absolutely in sympathy. So it fell to Mr. Pleydell's lot to find out all those relatives of Rachael Marnock and her husband, to whom money was not only welcome but a necessity, and among all these Julian Bryant proceeded to distribute in yearly incomes the money which a dead woman's caprice had bestowed upon him.

The house was closed, the works of art in it were also distributed among the many who only too eagerly responded to Mr. Bryant's quixotic generosity.

Mr. Tenderten heard of these proceedings with a sour smile. His bitterness towards Julian had not abated. It was all the greater because he did not see his way clear now to work any evil in this other man's life.

The very night that Julian had found his wife, and they had been re-united, Mr. Tenderten had discovered Enid's whereabouts, and had promised himself the pleasure of waiting upon her and of moulding her to the fulfilment of his wishes.

He made the mistake of imagining that he would have a very easy task in inflaming Bryant's wife against him, but this delight was rudely snatched from him. It may be truthfully said that the news which Lady Ellen imparted to him so casually and pleasantly struck Mr. Tenderten a great blow.

He felt defrauded. It was true that he had obtained a big sum of money from Bryant, but that was to have been only a beginning. Now the money which he had intended to share was being scattered in this mad fashion, and all his schemes for social success, for Mr. Tenderten was shrewd enough to know that money and money alone would get him where he wanted to be, fell to the ground.

It was poor consolation to sneer at Bryant and call him a fool. His chance had gone, and was never likely to come back again.

Lady Ellen went house-hunting with Enid. They were drawn together irresistibly.

Miss Powis declared that she was jealous; but she encouraged the open friendship in every possible way.

No one who had helped Enid in her loneliness and trouble would be forgotten.

The first visit she and Julian paid was to the Greshams. Then they stayed a day or two with Colonel Dawney in his delightful old farmhouse, and Lady Ellen was a fellow guest.

The Bryant's choice of a home lay in Hampstead, so that they should be near Dr. and Mrs. Hughes.

The only two who held aloof were Sybil Jackson, who stroongly disapproved of what she called Enid's weakness, and Desmond Hammond.

Very gently and very delicately Enid had spoken of this young man to Julian.

"I should so like to see him sometimes," she said wistfully. "But I suppose it is not possible."

Julian made a wry face

"No; not quite possible," he said; then he added, "but, after all, I can't blame him; and if he was good to you dearest, that makes everything right!"

They found a quaint little house in Hampstead, not far from the Heath.

Lady Ellen was very enchanted with it, and she declared that she should leave Mayfair and take up her abode with them.

She was very happy these days. Her wedding was to be a very quiet affair.

The Duchess of Wiltshire wanted it otherwise, but both Dawney and Lady Ellen refused to have any fuss.

"I am going to be a farmer's wife," the bride-elect declared, "and I ought really to go to church in a churn."

The farm it appeared, however, would only be kept for holiday, for Colonel Dawnew was appointed to a position at the War Office, and this entailed his living in town.

"Of course, I am very glad Nell is going to marry Adrian; but they really will be terribly poor," the duchess said to her husband.

He laughed with a twinkle in his eye.

"You always had a hankering after Bryant," he said; "and to think he had a wife all the time—and such a pretty one, too!"

"I can't quite forgive Mr. Bryant," the duchess said; but, after all, he had passed out of her immediate circle. With the Dawneys there would always be closest, dearest friendship, but the big world of wealth, of amusement, and fashion had no claim on them, no lure for them. They were together again, in sunshine and in shadow, in gladness and in sorrow, they walked hand-in-hand, content and happy in their mutual trust and devotion.

THE END.

"EXCELLENT PROSPECTS."

A young singer who had been studying for opera work had the good fortune to be engaged by an impresario for a tour through South America. His chest swelled with pride as he walked the deck of the steamer that was to take him on his first trip to foreign lands. On the second morning out he was much surprised to meet an old classmate, who, like himself, was a tenor singer.

"Well, well, where did you come from? Where are you going?" each asked the other.

And each answered, "I'm engaged by an opera company for a South American tour."

"My manager is on this steamer," said one.

"And mine, too."

Within five minutes both singers found that they had been engaged by the same opera company for the same part. "What does the man mean by hiring two different men for the role of first tenor?" asked one.

"Pardon me," interrupted a youth who had been standing near, and overheard their conversation. "You have myself and two other young singers for companions in this affair. We have just found out to our surprise that we have all been engaged by the same man for the same part on the same tour.

The five youths then took counsel together, and decided that they would see the manager and demand an explanation.

They found him on the forward deck. He listened, seemingly amused at their complaint, and said, "Gentlemen, don't you worry. I am an old and experienced man in this game, and know what I am doing. If you were acquainted with the climate of South America, you would know yourselves that it is absolutely necessary. We shall scarcely arrive there before three or four of you fellows will be stricken with the deadly tropical fever. Experience has taught me in all my tropical tours to allow for all sorts of mishaps and misfortunes. Of course, you can see what excellent prospects are offered to the chap who is able to withstand everything." And with these words the manager retired to his cabin.

The five young singers then sat down and debated the "excellent prospects." They soon came to a decision. One chance in five of being a star singer instead of a dead one did not prove sufficiently attractive. So when the steamer stopped at Liverpool, the youths went ashore, and the impresario never saw them again.

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The Government of Warsaw occupying a narrow strip of land in the heart of Russian Poland, where vast military operations have been in progress for weeks, is one of the richest manufacturing districts of the whole Russian Empire. The importation of industries by the Muscovites has taken its way over this flat plain northward, and a great many of these industries have halted not far from the borders, nearer to the skilled labor markets and the markets for machinery and raw materials than would be the case deeper in the hinterland.

Thus, the textile industry crossed into Russian territory, and, for the great part, remained in the Warsaw Government. Iron and steel working followed the textile mills, and the manufacture of boots and shoes, hosiery, sugar, tobacco, furniture, machinery, and lace-making have grown up around the working of the two most important modern staples, iron and fibers.

Warsaw, the capital of the Government of Warsaw, as it is the capital of the general government of Russian Poland, is the industrial centre. The value of the annual output of manufactures of the government is estimated at between 60 million and 65 million dollars, and of this the city of Warsaw produces nearly three-fifths Cotton and woolen goods and products of iron and steel make up the bulk of this value. Footwear, leather goods, and beat sugar are, however, items of considerable importance in the prosperity of the district.

The Germans and Jews have played the leading parts in developing its manufacturing ventures. Russian rule, wholesale deportations of artisans after the Polish uprisings of 1794, 1831 and 1863, and a German customs barrier on one side, with a Russian customs barrier on the other, have operated to greatly retard the growth of the Government's industrial importance.

There is a well developed agriculture in the Government, despite the fact that its soils are very poor and that in some sections there are periodical drownings out of the country by the Bug and Vistula. The lowlying grounds are boggy. The Government embraces an area of 5,605 miles, and houses a population of about 2,300,000. The land is mostly low and flat, broken only here and there by low hills in the south and by the high terraced banks on the left of the Vistula in the north-west.

The Vistula forms the northern boundary of the Government and is its principal artery of trade. On the west it is bounded by the Prussian frontier. The herd grazing of Eastern Prussia is carried on into the Government of Warsaw, and, combined, its herds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine number about half a milion head. In the 18th century, when the city of Warsaw, next to Paris, was the most brilliant city in Europe, this flat plain was usually rich in herds and in geese flocks, though almost bare of manufactures.

The youth had been asked to write examples of the indicative, subjunctive and potential moods, and an exclamatory sentence. This is what he produced: "I am trying to pass an English examination. If I answer twenty questions I shall pass. If I answer twelve questions I may pass. Heaven help me."

"Did you see the pleased expression on Mrs. Blank's face when I told her she didn't look any older than her daughter?" asked Mr. Jones after the reception. "No," said Mrs. Jones. "I was looking at the expression on her daughter's face."

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