## ARCTIC HARVEST

Gardens now flourish in the land of the midnight sun (top). Even this old one at Fort Albany, on James Bay, is way down south by modern standards. (Left) This 10-foot sunflower was grown at Fort Laird, N.W.T. (Right) These giant cauliflowers were grown near the Arctic Circle, believe it or not!

(By LEONARD BUTLER)

Canada's frigid north is not as barren as most people think. Careful cultivation of sheltered Arctic Circle will often produce ample dividends in both vegetables and flowers. The vegetables are particularly welcome, since fresh vitamin and mineral-rich foods are not easily obtained in the remote settlements of the far north.

Northern gardens have problems peculiar to themselves. The growing season is very short and the gardener has to be constantly on the alert. Tender plants must be covered up when frost threatens, and sowings killed by late frosts must be replanted. The same watchfulness is necessary at the end of the season when early frosts might destroy tomatoes and other tender crops.

### Season Short

To compensate for the shortness of the season, however, the hours of daylight are much longer than farther south, and the mysterious catalytic agents that promote growth in plants with the aid of sunlight are able to work on a "swing shift." In this way adaptable plants, like the potato and cabbage, are able to complete three normal months' growth in two months of longer days. To provide extra raw materials for the "swing shift" and to give plants a quick start in the spring it is necessary to use fertilizer. Rainfall is scanty in the north, and much of the moisture is furnished by the thawing subsoil.

Beyond the tree line the soil occurs only in cracks and crevices and in river bottom lands. These Arctic soils are usually very acid and are composed of undecayed plant debris. To salvage nutrients locked up in this material and make them available for plant growth, it is necessary to employ millions of bacteria. These bacteria are present in all good garden soil, but are often lacking in the Arctic soils and have to be introduced. This is done either by shipping in a small quantity of loam (often a trip of two or three thousand miles) or by using dog manure which sometimes contains a desirable type of soil bacteria.

### Eskimos Help

Sometimes a whole summer has to be devoted to "growing" the soil before one can start growing plants. First the soil must be scraped up and brought to the gardensite. For this purpose it is often possible to enlist the aid of a few Eskimos who think that the crazy white man is going to eat dirt. The soil is dumped in a cold frame or other protected spot and lime is added to neutralize the acidity. Next a complete fertilizer is mixed with the soil.

This soil is kept warm all summer and by the next season it is in good shape for raising vegetables.

### Competitions Held

In the eastern part of the Northwest Territories and in northern Quebec, hotbeds or greenhoues have to be constructed because the outside summer temperatures are not high enough for normal plant growth. Sometimes it is even necessary to use a coal oil lantern or heater to keep the temperature in the greenhouse from falling too low at night. In spite of all these adverse conditions, good salad plants are being grown in the far north. Crops of lettuce, radishes, chard, spinach and endive thrive in many parts of the Northwest Territories. At Lake Harbor, in Baffinland, over 100 tomatoes were ripened one year, and some enthusiasts are trying to beat this record by growing tomatoes even farther north on Baffinland.

In order to encourage northerners to grow their own vegetables the government and a number of companies have issued gardening literature and promoted vegetable and flower competitions. The Hudson's Bay Company have been holding these competitions for the past four years, and some of the entries are shown in accompanying photographs.

### Soil Producing for 250 Years

Although gardening north of the Arctic Circle is a relatively new venture, a little farther south, on the shores of Hudson and James Bays are found some of the oldest gardens of Canada. In some of these the same piece of soil has been producing continuously for over 250 years.

Anyone who thinks that pests are confined to southern gardens should read the tales of woe that come out of the land of midnight suntans. Grasshoppers, maggots, caterpillars, mice and even sleigh dogs seem to be attracted to the garden, while all the mosquitoes from the surrounding country come to feast on the hardworking gardener.

## WHO, US?

Quizzical expressions on faces of Jap interpreters Hasegawa, Nimori and Inoaye indicate they could never, never be guilty of British accusations. Trio arrested in Hong Kong is charged with collaboration in brutal treatment of Allied prisoners. They await war criminal trial.

## NATURE STRIKES

Wreckage looks like result of air raid, but was caused by fierce typhoon which struck Okinawa, demolishing U. S. Army post office and grounding many Navy ships. Only deck and twisted girders of roof remain of building as mute evidence of storm's fury.

## FORTUNE HUNTER

Postwar plans of Cyril Wileman, 47, British sugar-process worker, call for a junket to the United States to claim a $15,000,000 fortune left by the late Thomas Henry Blythe, California gold prospector. Wileman alleges inheritance was left to his grandmother and never claimed.


**Weevend Wonderloom***

*U. S. Patent No. 2,224,563

**WEEVEND WONDERLOOM*** is an ingenious frameless weaver. You can carry it in your handbag.

**It's like magic . . .**

Without experience, you can weave room-size rugs, seat-covers, belts, handbags, afghans, luncheon-sets and many other beautiful articles.

You can use wool, candlewick, raffia, odds and ends.

**WEEVEND WONDERLOOM*** uses less time.

**WEEVEND WONDERLOOM*** complete with instructions and patterns, One Dollar.

**Write for free Folder or Order today from**

**J. L. RICE AGENCIES**

480 Johnson St.
KINGSTON, ONTARIO.



**Relieve Headache Quick!**

To *prove* how fast Aspirin is ready to go to work, just drop one in a glass of water. "Clock" its disintegrating action with a stopwatch. Within *two seconds*, you'll see it start to disintegrate. It does the same in your stomach. That's why it stops headaches so quickly.

Get Aspirin today! The "Bayer" cross on each tablet is your guarantee that it's Aspirin.

**ASPIRIN**

*NOW*—New Low Prices!

Pocket box of 12s . . . . only 18c
Economy bottle of 24 . . only 29c
Family size of 100 . . . only 79c



**HOTEL METROPOLE**

All Beautifully Furnished With Running Water.

Rates:

**$1.50 up**

NIAGARA FALLS
OPPOSITE
C.N.R. STATION