

THE PARTING



Out-of-Door Notes

BY JESSE L. SMITH

In last week's issue of the Press it was made to appear that the John Baer tomato was introduced here by "Mr. Baer," presumably John Baer himself. If there ever was "such a person," our readers probably recognized the error in getting copy into type and gave the honor to Mr. Fritz Bahr where the honor was due. An omission of some words farther on in the same article made the writer refer to the gooseberry bush as a soft-stemmed plant. No harm was done, probably, but the intention was to contrast the pruning of soft-stemmed plants like the tomato with the woody-stemmed plants like the gooseberry.

As intimated in last week's issue, the editor offers this column especially for problems that are, in a way, peculiarly local. For detailed and very helpful suggestions as to garden procedure in general, one needs only to read the daily garden notes in the Chicago papers. Perhaps a list of bulletins prepared especially to assist the worker in small gardens might be useful. Among the very best are Farmers' Bulletin 513 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, entitled, The Small Vegetable Garden, and Farmers' Bulletin 856 entitled, Control of Diseases and Insect Enemies of the Home Vegetable Garden. These are to be obtained free of charge by writing to the Department of Agriculture at Washington. Two other valuable bulletins are The Spring Manual of the U. S. Garden Army, obtained by writing the Bureau of Education, at Washington, and the Victory Edition 1919 War Gardening, etc., published by the National War Garden Commission at Washington. There is no charge for these bulletins.

With reference to the potato it may safely be said that garden soil in Highland Park is not ideal for its culture but the potato is a time-honored local product nevertheless, and problems of what and how to plant and how to control its enemies are to be met. There is a special reason for considering this last problem first, deferring consideration of the others for the present, and that is that there is a growing conviction that it should be possible to have

some concerted and community effort in Highland Park to control insect pests and plant diseases. The need for this is peculiarly apparent in the matter of potato culture.

The problem of insect control in relation to the potato, plant was greatly increased last summer when a leaf-hopper attacked potato vines in Highland Park as I believe for the first time. My attention was not called to the matter until after the 15th of July when I found the majority of the potato fields in this vicinity more or less badly damaged. It had been reported as a blight or leaf burn and the fields had that general appearance, but on closer inspection one found the vines heavily infested with tiny pale-green insects that hopped off in swarms as one went down the rows. The insects sucked the sap from the foliage and stems. There were no holes in the leaf tissue but the edges of the leaves seemed to blacken and curl up and at length the entire leaf became black and shriveled. Potato fields took on the appearance of a field which had been swept here and there by fire. As this was evidently a new experience in this area I wrote our state entomologist about it and sent him specimens which unfortunately reached him in bad condition. He expressed the belief that a potato louse which was damaging crops in states north of the Ohio was responsible for the damage here and sent me a copy of the latest bulletin on the subject, one issued by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station the preceding November. Spraying with nicotine sulphate (black drop) was recommended and so I spent some hours in a neighbor's garden studying with a spraying gun the habits of the insects. The great problem was to persuade the insects to remain in place long enough to get sprayed. Their extreme agility kept most of them out of harm's way. They did not look like plant lice and did not behave like them, the latter being in their most destructive stages wingless and sluggish. Later on I sent specimens to Prof. E. D. Ball, then at Madison, Wis., now the state entomologist at Iowa State College at Ames. He pronounced them leaf-hoppers, an insect which has hitherto been conspicuous for its attack upon young apple trees in the nurseries, and reported that they were responsible for

the remarkable epidemic of leaf-burn on potatoes that was then prevailing through the northern section of the United States, from Montana to New York and south at least to Iowa and Ohio. These insects had been prevalent to some extent in Iowa for four years and the Agricultural College at Ames in Bulletin 155, issued May 1915, had described its work and life history and methods of control. Kerosene emulsion had been found to be an effective spray for it at Ames.

Our own Agriculture Experiment Station at Urbana has apparently had no experience with what Prof. Ball now calls the potato leaf-hopper since its latest Extension Circular No. 31, entitled, Control of Plant Disease and Insect Pests, issued March 1, 1919, does not mention the leaf-hopper at all. It describes the plant aphid, however, and quotes from the Ohio Bulletin previously mentioned. Now the potato louse and the potato leaf-hopper must be treated with contact insecticides and only a machine that sprays the underside of the leaves will be effective, in fighting the potato louse. It will be easier to reach the leaf-hopper with a strong spraying spray, because it does not seclude itself under the leaves so closely as does the plant louse.

I have taken so much space for the story of the leaf-hopper because it is evidently a new-comer in our area and because we may have to reckon seriously with it this coming season. Plant lice have aggressive insect enemies which can always be counted upon in time to hold them in check but apparently we do not know whether the leaf-hopper has insect enemies that curb its activities in a like manner. The potato louse is reported to attack tomato vines as readily as potato vines.

Fortunately the leaf-hoppers did not attack tomato vines even where these bordered upon a potato patch. Curiously enough they seemed to have a fancy for dahlia stalks. July 26th the leaf-hoppers had about finished the potato vines in Mr. H. O. Huber's garden and were beginning on the rows of dahlias bordering the garden. A few days later the dahlias, stem and foliage, were dead.

As indicated above, the question of community spraying is brought up as a timely topic. It would be well if a general expression of opinion could be secured. Most of the gardens in Highland Park, and practically all the fruit orchards suffer a very appreciable percentage of loss every year which could largely be overcome if proper facilities were at hand. It is planned to develop this topic more fully in a later issue.

WOMAN FOLLOWS SAFE PLAN

Saves and Buys and Holds Her Investments—Estate Grows by Accumulating Safe Bonds.

This is the story of Miss Mary E. Hallam, who for forty-five years preceding her death worked in a Chicago department store.

When Miss Hallam began to earn her living she had the same qualifications for success that everyone has—average health and average intelligence. Capital she had none. But she had something else as good if not better—an appreciation of the advantages of thrift and an unwavering ambition to succeed.

Department store salaries are not generally regarded as the best stepping stones toward prosperity. Yet Miss Hallam prospered. She saved a part of her wages each week and invested them well. She never speculated. She put her money only into such investments as would yield a sure interest return. Upon her death she left an estate valued at \$70,000.

Had Miss Hallam, during the earlier years of her progress toward prosperity, had the advantage of investing in Liberty bonds, her pace would have been still more rapid. In her younger days there were no government bonds available. In order to be sure that her investments were safe she carefully studied the investment field and accepted a comparatively low rate of interest. But she succeeded in spite of that.

American men and women, starting out today, have a great advantage. The war has for the first time since 1865 made government bonds of the United States available to the small investor. Before 1917 the small government issues were snapped up by the banks for their own special uses. But now Liberty bonds may be bought by everyone and at a higher rate of interest than would ever have been possible had it not been for the war.

The government soon will offer to the people one more chance to participate in a great loan. By that time the nation will have contracted a floating debt of more than \$5,000,000,000, which must be provided for.

Miss Hallam's story shows that anybody can save and accumulate. And common sense shows that everybody who is saving can find no investment quite as good as Uncle Sam's Victory Liberty bonds.

—HELP "FINISH THE JOB."

Up to date the people who are going to overthrow the government haven't succeeded in tipping anything over except the park benches on which they fall asleep.

AMERICAN PEOPLE READY TO COMPLETE THE JOB

Victory Liberty Loan Must Succeed to a Degree in Keeping With Success of Former Loans.

By CHARLES H. SCHWEPPE, Director of Victory Liberty Loan Campaign, Seventh Federal Reserve District.

Despite the fact that hostilities have ceased and preliminary steps to the signing of a peace treaty have been taken, our big war job is not finished. The job will not be completed until the war bills are paid and the slate of the nation is clean. Those of us who remained on this side of the water still have work to do to polish off the great victory won by our soldiers and sailors, and the work before us is as patriotic and essential as that already accomplished.

The Victory Liberty Loan must succeed to a degree in keeping with the success of the four previous loans. This success can be attained only through the efforts and enthusiasm of the entire people. Liberty Loan organizations must put into their efforts the same vim and fire that characterized their work in the previous loans. The people must do everything within their power to aid the organizations in performing the task that is so much theirs as in the time when the nation was warring.

The spirit of thanksgiving should permeate the American atmosphere—should dominate the heart of every citizen, for if it had not been for the extensive preparation to fight the central powers until victory perched upon our banner the war would have been prolonged indefinitely, with a consequent loss of thousands of lives that otherwise were saved to us when the German general staff acknowledged the futility of continuing the struggle for world domination. The great victory was achieved very largely through the shells that were never exploded, through the soldiers that did not go across, and through the general preparations in other directions. The American people can give expression to their thanksgiving by subscribing to the limit of their ability in making the Victory Liberty Loan an overwhelming success.

The fullness of the great victory will not be realized until the war bills are paid and all the boys brought home. The expenses of the war have been huge, but America set out to win the war at any cost, and now, with victory secure, the American people stand ready to complete the job assigned to them—providing the money necessary to win the victory.

WHY YOUR MONEY IS NEEDED—HOW IT HELPS

This Brief Questionnaire Gives Interesting Information on the Victory Liberty Loan.

The government already is exploiting the Victory Liberty Loan, which will be floated in April, in order that the people may start saving for the purpose of investing in bonds of the "Victory issue." The following brief questionnaire should tend to clarify the mind of any reader regarding the Victory Loan:

Q. The war being over, why is there need of another great popular war loan?

A. The proceeds from the Fourth loan, according to Secretary of the Treasury Glass, were exhausted last December, and the government must have billions more with which to maintain our forces overseas, bring the victors home and carry out its reconstruction plans.

Q. If Uncle Sam's strong-box is empty, how is he paying his after-war expenses?

A. This is being done with money borrowed from the banks at the rate of \$600,000,000 every two weeks, short-term anticipation certificates of indebtedness being issued in return.

Q. As long as the banks are advancing the money, why not let them continue to do so?

A. Because in order to continue to extend credit to the business interests big and little of the country the banks must get back this money—amounting to 20 per cent of their entire resources—when it falls due, as only thus can the prosperity we now enjoy be continued.

Q. Will the Victory Loan be offered to the people on a commercial basis, or will their patriotism again be appealed to?

A. Secretary Glass says the patriotism of the American people will be relied upon to send the loan triumphantly "over the top." It, however, will be made particularly attractive as to rate of interest and period of maturity.

Q. What are the monthly war expenditures of the government at the present time?

A. The latest official figures show that Uncle Sam is expending money at the rate of more than \$2,000,000,000 a month.

Q. Suppose I bought bonds of preceding issues and feel I can't afford to buy any more Liberty bonds?

A. Uncle Sam has to pay his bills, and you must afford it, even if you have to continue for a further time denying yourself luxuries and apparent necessities. Unless the Victory Liberty Loan is a success the government will be compelled to raise the money it needs by direct taxation, and there are no interest coupons on tax receipts.

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THE LITTLE COUNTRY PAPER FROM THE OLD HOME TOWN

The day seldom arrives in a man's life when he ceases to be interested in the daily or weekly paper of the place that he has once called home. Granted that it is printed on the poorest of paper, granted that the typographical display would make the spirit of Ben Franklin blush, granted that they are not worth the reading—granted all this—and still your feelings and mine and those of every other healthy mortal are summoned up in this little poem, from the Denver Post:

When the evenin' shade is fallin' at the endin' of the day,
An' a feller rests from labor, smokin' at his pipe of clay,
There's nothin' does him so much good, be fortune up or down,
As the little country paper from his home town.

It tells of all the parties an' the balls of Pumpkin Row,
'Bout who spent Sunday with whose girl an' how the crops'll grow,
An' how it keeps a fellow posted 'bout who's up an' who's down,
That little country paper from his home town.

Now I like to read the daily an' the story papers, too,
An' at times the yaller novels an' other trash—don't you?
But when I want some readin' that'll brush away a frown,
I want that little paper from my home town.



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This isn't a gardening picture—as much as the photographer and Ambitious Ambrose, here shown, would like to have you believe. Instead it is just one of those "atmosphere" pictures—a camouflage—meant to stir the ambition within your breast—and make you resolve RIGHT NOW to make a bigger, better garden this year than ever before. The war's over but there are many poor kiddies in the big cities who could have more—if we produce more—to eat.