

# The Canadian Gardener

By Charles H. Chesley

## PLANNING THE GARDEN

Some time in advance of the planting season, the prospective gardener should sit down and spend an hour or two making plans for the work he hopes to do. It is a real pleasure to map out on paper a definite outline of the intended garden. Someone has truly said that many of our pleasures are in anticipation of events we hope will occur. I suppose no one ever raised as good a garden as the one he planned on paper, and, somehow, the products never quite come up to the wonderful pictures the catalogues print. Happily, though, we can testify that the fruits and vegetables are judged by the taste and the flowers in the garden have a sweeter perfume than the lithographs on the catalogue page.

There are real and definite reasons for planning the garden ahead of the planting season, entirely aside from the pleasures such planning affords us. First, we should know what we wish to plant so the seeds may be obtained in advance. It is a poor policy to wait until the planting season is upon us. Often, I have found it is not possible to get the varieties of seeds we wish, when we wait too long. The good gardener orders his seeds, plants and bulbs well in advance of the time they are needed. Bulbs and plants can be delivered at the time wanted, but seeds should be in hand.

I have found, during long years of experience, that some of the most desirable varieties of seeds run out of stock as the planting season approaches. Read the catalogue of any reliable seedsmen and you will note some varieties listed "very short crop." Perhaps those are the ones you want. The lesson should be obvious. Order the seed early. Several times I have had seed sent me which the seedsmen disclaimed responsibility for. The first-quality supply had been exhausted and he had substituted seed of unknown character was late. All of these things have taught me that it pays to order early, and not take chances.

Of course, it is usually possible to purchase seeds at the local store, but the same reasons hold good in this case. The desirable varieties are sold out first. Personally, I like the plan of ordering the seed from a catalogue, because I have so much more to choose from. At best, the store supply is made up of a few varieties.

Generally speaking, it is better to stick to tried and true varieties when planting the garden. The novelties look good on paper but often do not turn out according to specifications. However, the true gardener will want to try something new every year. That is the pleasure of the game.

In planning my garden, I first measure the size of the patch; then, I decide the different vegetables I decide to plant, making a rough plan of the plot. I know just how many rows there will be and then I can decide how best to divide the vegetable garden. Along one side there are several kinds of perennial products, such as rhubarb and asparagus. If the garden area is a permanent one, planted year after year, it is well to know the size, that the plans may be made as indicated. However, many find it advisable to change the garden to new land every few years. Such practice has much to recommend it, as it helps to keep plant diseases, pests and weeds in check. If the same plot is used year

after year, crops should be alternated, so that the same product is never grown two years in succession on the same part of the garden. One of the finest gardens I ever saw had been planted fifty years in succession.

The home garden should specialize in the things most relished by the family. A general list should contain beets, beans, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, cucumbers, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, melons, onions, parsley, parsnip, peas, pumpkin, radish, ruta baga, salsify, spinach, squash, tomatoes and turnips. Some of these might not grow in all parts of Canada, but part, at least, can be grown everywhere. There are also several other vegetables and vine fruits, as well as a number of excellent salad plants, which gardeners will find well worth planting.

Whether the garden patch be an old one or a new piece of ground, it should be ploughed or spaded as early as possible. Experienced gardeners will have done the work last fall. Deep working is needed, then all the unimpoverished soils should be removed. Garden soil ought to be fine and easy to work. It should be well drained and the sandy loam is best suited to vegetable growing. Newly-cleared land, which is filled with accumulations of humus, is especially good for most products. Muck soils are also adapted to certain things—like celery and onions.

The best fertilizer for the vegetable garden is well-rotted stable manure. Land that has recently been cleared will grow good products without anything added to the soil, at least for a few years. Later, it is necessary to put something back if we continue to take large crops. Most garden products are gross feeders, and it is, therefore, necessary to fertilize heavily. Old manure is not harmful if it comes in contact with the plants, but fresh manure of any kind should never be used, except between the rows, where the heating and chemical changes cannot "burn" the tender growth. Chemical fertilizers are beneficial to practically all vegetables. Nitrate of soda, applied sparingly, will make all garden products thrive. Hen manure is one of the best of fertilizers for the garden, but it should be composted with earth at a 50-50 ratio. Fresh hen manure will kill almost any green growth with which it comes in contact.

It is just as interesting to plan the flower garden ahead of the planting season. Few of the flowers will need to be planted as early as the vegetables, although some should be started in the house or hotbed and later set in the ground.

## HIS LAST CHANCE

A certain canny Scotsman had carried on a courtship of long duration without definitely committing himself. The girl, if she worried herself at all long probation, gave no sign until one morning her tardy lover thumping a small note-book, said: "Maggie, I have been weighing up your guid points, and I hae already gotten ten. When I get a dozen I'm goin' tae ask ye the fatal question."

"Weel, I wish ye luck, Jock," answered the maiden; "I also gotten a wee book and I've been puttin' doon your bad points. There are nineteen in it already, and when it reaches the score I'm gaein' tae accept the blacksmith!"

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

From The Chronicle File of April 28, 1904.

The cement mill started the kiins in full blast this week. Prospects are bright for a good season's output.

We regret to learn of the death of Mrs. Thomas Taylor, daughter of Mr. John McCalmon, Varney, who died recently at her home in Michigan. From the favorable reports of John A. Graham's teaching at Hutton Hill one would suppose him a fixture there. We were surprised, however, a few days ago, to learn he had resigned, to take charge of No. 9, Glenelg. The present incumbent, Mr. Tyerman, intends to take up the study of medicine and will surrender the taws for the dissecting knife at the close of the present term.

A watch advertised by a young lady last fall was found recently by Mr. Watson, the up-town baker. It was apparently little the worse for being covered all winter in a mantle of snow. It was returned to the owner, who handed it over to Mr. Gordon for general overhauling.

Mr. John Gordon, son of Jeweler Gordon, recently purchased the jewelry business of Mr. John Cameron of Weyburn, Assiniboia, and is now at work on his own hook.

Mr. E. H. Robinson of Vancouver, whom we knew only as a regular reader and pay-in-advance subscriber, reports times good in the West.

Mr. J. C. Nichol has added a new safe to his shop equipment. Wonder what he intends doing with it? In an age of expert burglars it is no use and in such "growing times" everybody will pay cash for their duds. John's money would be safer in an old barrel, and as he is not likely to have any book accounts, the only use for a safe in a tailor shop is to have a place to lock up the "goose."

Owing to the prohibitive prices of lumber and building material, it is not likely that much will be done in the building line this year. Mr. Ferguson Grant of the Dental College, Toronto, came home Saturday after worrying over his examination. He leaves Monday for Georgetown, where he will put in the summer in practical dental work.

We omitted last week to mention the death of Mr. James Allen of Glenelg, who died on the 17th inst. at the ripe age of 85 years. Died.—In Hamilton, Tuesday, April 19, Clara Chart, wife of Albert Williams, in her 34th year. Market Report.—Wheat 90, Oats 28 to 30, Peas 60, Barley 40, Hay 28, Butter 15, Eggs 15, Apples per bag \$1, Live Hogs 85, Dressed Hogs \$6 to \$6.25, Sheepskins 40, Wool 17, Lamb 7c.

## HYDRO COSTS TOO HIGH

(Kincardine Reporter) Was the Gregory Commission worth the price? A great many people will say no. The Gregory Commission cost too much but that body apparently took advantage of the Druy Government which did not seem to know what a Commission should cost. We admit it cost too much, but we still submit that it is necessary to clear the air as far as the Hydro is concerned. We don't think that Sir Adam Beck is the little idol that some people would have us believe. We feel that he has been successful in hedging with Hydro Commission around with laws, that give him power he should not possess. Hydro costs us too much because it is overmaned.

Walkerton Council has refused to grant a license for a second pool-room in that town.

## IN SHABBYTOWN

In Shabbytown they do not care if things look seedy everywhere. They have no pep, they've lost their grip, they simply sit around and yip, in envy's tones of Glossyville, the shining village on the hill. Oh, Shabbytown is punk and gray, and it shows symptoms of decay, and strangers passing through remark, "It surely dates back to the ark."

"Clean Up and Paint Up" makes men frown along the streets of Shabbytown. A can of paint makes no appeal to this bum village, down at heel; the people think there is no sense in going to so much expense; so things are always going down and getting worse in Shabbytown. It always gives my soul a thrill when I arrive in Glossyville. The town looks like a blooming bride; the people take a hearty pride in making things look clean and bright, and in their labors take delight. They're lavish with the helpful paint, selecting colors, chaste or quaint, and decorating every shack, thus warding off decay's attack, and making all the buildings look like buildings read of in a book. And strangers when they see the town, say, "Here we'll come and settle down, and raise us seven kids apiece and live and die as sick as grease." This happy burg goes right ahead, while Shabbytown is prone and dead.—Walt Mason.

Shelburne and Meaford merchants are holding their summer half-holiday on Wednesday afternoons.



## To Sell Farmer's Wives

If the roads are bad, many a prosperous farmer's wife postpones buying something she actually wants for herself or family, until she can get to town.

Later, the teams will be busy. She won't be able to get to town.

Experience shows she will buy now, if you give her the chance. Call her by Long Distance. She will feel complimented. Know your stock, so you can answer her questions readily.

A little experience will soon show you how it works.

Don't judge by one or two attempts. Try a dozen, intelligently. Others do it successfully. Why not you?



Every Bell Telephone is a Long Distance Station.

## BALLAD OF A POSTAL BEGINNER.

I am full of tribulation, I'm a new clerk on probation, I'm the victim of a distribution plan. I've a book of regulations, postal laws of all the nations, That would puzzle Edison or any man.

I must learn to keep my hat on, When I'm curved, reviled and sat on, By a public that I'm always out to please;

Smiling sweetly at each libel, guided by the postal bible, Striving every hostile patron to appease.

I must readily explain the delaying of a train, And when the mail is in from Timbuctoo,

All the rules of C. O. D. and the street directory, And the postage on a paper for Peru.

I must know a thousand rates, have a memory for dates, And guess the length of parcels to an inch;

Every little regulation that applies registration, Some say the postal service is a cinch.

I have no smart uniform, I am but a postal worm, Peddling postage stamps and post cards for my pay;

Taking tickets in for quarters, helping out the forward sorters, Getting bawled out forty thousand times a day.

But no end of worrying can accomplish anything, Guess I'll get there if I only have a try;

I am learning as I go, and it's kind of nice to know, That devotion means promotion by-and-by.

## Stone Quarry Will Not Operate.

Hanover Cement & Stone Company, Limited, will not operate their big quarry west of Walkerton this year, they having concluded an agreement to get stone from another quarry, which is refuse to the company operating the quarry but is just as suitable for making cement. They were able to get it at a better price laid down here than they could from their quarry. The local cement works will of course continue to operate at full capacity.

## Spring Is Here

Better have us look your car over and make the necessary repairs before you put it on the road for the Summer's work.

We guarantee our work and our prices are Right

**NOBLE'S GARAGE**  
Garafraza Street, Durham  
Agents for Studebaker, Chevrolet  
OILS GREASES GASOLINE

PHONE 70

**WM. J. VOLLETT**  
THE HOME OF QUALITY GOODS

**Specials in Dry Goods**

Women's Silk Hose, per pair \$1.00  
Women's Silk Gloves, per pair \$1.00  
Men's Silk Hose, per pair.... 75c  
MEN'S & BOYS' STRAW HATS

**Specials in Groceries**

Canned Pineapple, per can .. 30c  
British Col. Salmon... 18c, 2 for 35c  
Davie's Soup, per tin ..... 12c  
Oxo Cubes, 10c, 3 for ..... 25c  
9-lbs. Redpath Sugar for ..... \$1.00

**SEEDS OF ALL KINDS**

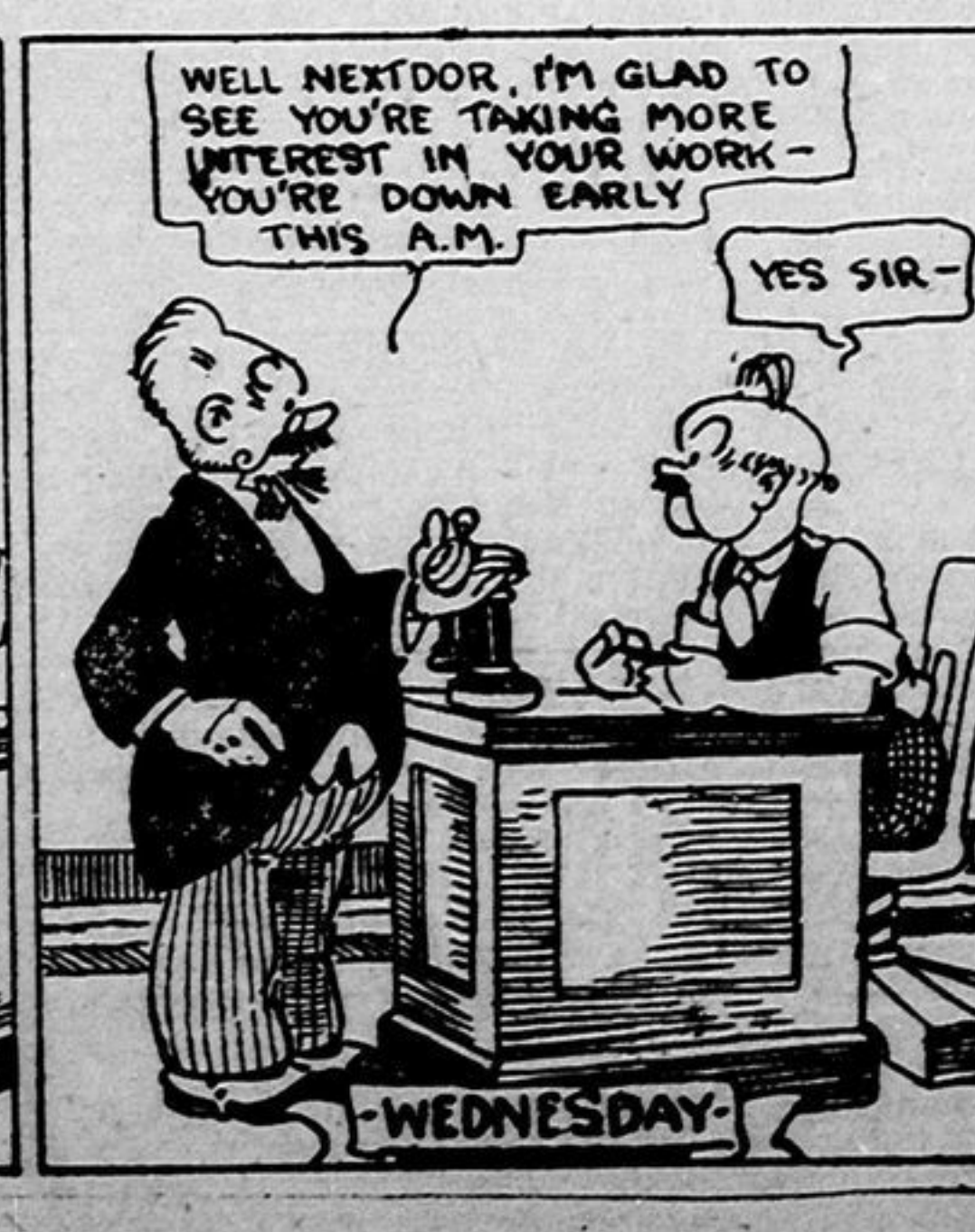
Pastry Flour Sovereign Flour  
Thorobread Flour Maple Flour  
Cream of the West Flour

**VOLLETT'S CASH STORE**  
We Pay Cash for Produce and Sell for Cash Only

## JERRY ON THE JOB



## THE FAMILY NEXT DOOR



From One Extreme To Another!

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DA"  
EA H436  
ber of cups it  
icious! — Try it.

who survives her, with the children: Andrew, of the Sask; Minnie, at home, to her mother; Wallace; Mrs. Porter Beard, Flesher; Frank Huson, Paris, Ont.; Archie, and a daughter, Mrs. Stambuskie, of Vancouver; Thomas Satchewan, and Elbie Satchewan, survive her. The take place on Wednesday, at the Presbyterian Orange Valley, at which the pastor, Rev. Joseph Harwill officiate.

sharpened  
OLD MOWER  
Grinder, I am in a flower. Why shove it? I can make it

Saws Gummed.  
Tools Sharpened

SHOP  
Machinist Etc.

rk Boots  
Elk Tanned Work  
a good shoe to  
wear, pair... \$3.95  
Work Boots in Black,  
wide fit and solid  
\$4.00

WALL PAPERS  
New Spring Samples

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urham, Ontario

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pare prices and  
\$27.00  
27.00  
18.50  
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15.00  
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