

La Grande Evening Observer

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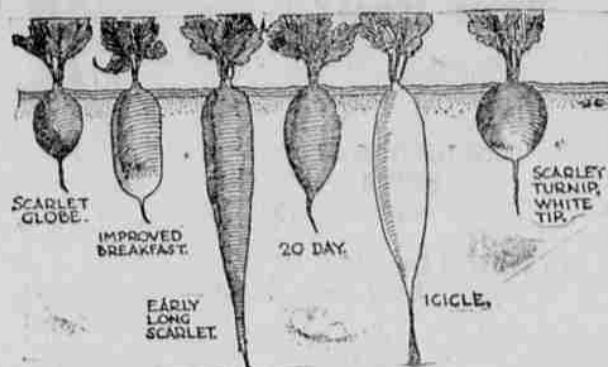
LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1922.

SECTION TWO

NUMBER 176

THE HOME GARDEN

What is Home without a Garden?



Quality Radishes.

The radish is practically a universal vegetable. It is now in the market the year around and rarely is there a garden planted without at least a short row or small patch broadcasted to these pungent appetizers of the garden. There isn't a great difference in the various kinds of radishes offered for sale by the seedsmen and almost any of them will be successful. The main difference is in type of root.

Stick a pencil blindly on almost any of them and order the one spiked and you will have good radishes if the garden conditions are suitable for growing good radishes at all.

In the south the radish can be grown out doors almost all winter except in the colder sections, plantings being made every ten days or two weeks for succession. In the north it is the first vegetable to go into the ground in the spring. In fact, it should be planted as soon as the soil can be worked, as it is quite hardy and won't be hurt by a little frost.

It is a cool weather plant and must be grown steadily and quickly. Hot weather or a dry spell, either giving a check in growth, result in hollow, pithy roots, which are quite worthless. Cool and fairly moist conditions make the crisp, solid, toothsome radishes that everyone relishes in the early days of spring.

Of the white radishes, Feble has attained great popularity and is a fine radish. It is excellent in the summer when other types are not at their best. In case of doubt, French Breakfast in the olive shade, scarlet globe in the round, and some of the 20-day specialties can be recommended. Any of the long scarlet types give much the same result, the improvement in the newer varieties being in regularity and uniformity of growth.

Radish soil must be rich and fine and deeply worked. It is best to have the manure dug in during the fall or if this has not been done it should be well rotted and well incorporated with the soil in the spring. Radishes will grow almost anywhere if the soil is rich and in almost any sort of soil except clay. Clay soil needs to be lightened with ashes or sand and copious dressings of manure, spaded into it if radishes are to do their best in it. Radishes may be sown broadcast provided the seed is not scattered too thickly or in rows as close together as six inches.

Clean Up on Saturday.

Saturday is a good day to clean up last year's garden if this was not attended to in the fall. All remnants of vegetables and flowers must be destroyed, but do not yet destroy mulches which have been placed over hardy plants and around shrubs. If you have not already sprinkled limestone over your garden area, this is a good time to do it so that the spring freezing and thawing and the early rains may help to disintegrate and carry the lime water into the soil to sweeten it. Lime is especially beneficial to grapes.

Poppies and Larkspur.

Two of the most beautiful and easily grown annuals should be sown outdoors as soon as the seeds can be procured just as confidently as grass seed. These are poppies, particularly the Shirley varieties, and the annual larkspurs.

These annuals are so hardy that the young self-sown plants from last fall usually survive the winter and come right along giving an early crop of bloom. There is no more gorgeous display than a bed of scarlet poppies of the Shirley type, none more delicately beautiful than the silky striped pink, blue, and salmon shades in this most lovely plant.

Merely scatter the seed thinly over the place where it is wanted and be sure to do the rest, thinning the plants so that they will have at least one inch each way. A foot would be better, but the smaller distance will give a more effect more thickly. Crowding the plant lessens the size and number of blooms per plant and the side branches do not develop in this condition as they do when the plant has plenty of room. These pop-

pies are excellent to sprinkle over the tulip beds just as the tulips are coming through the ground or even right now. They will then have attained a start so that they will cover the dying leaves of the tulips, which are unsightly for some time after their blooming season.

The larkspurs are almost as easily treated, but if the ground is in condition they should be raked in lightly, being larger and needing covering. However, a very large percentage of them come up merely through being beaten into the earth by the spring rains and, as anyone who grows them knows, they sell in great quantity. They are two annuals that do not need to have particularly rich soil to flourish and will give a beautiful display in any situation in any soil, requiring only plenty of sun for their development. The larkspurs will do fairly well even in the shade.

Making Lettuce Head.

If you had hard luck with head lettuce again last year and it was either utterly headless and ran up to seed or if the heads were as empty as those of some people you know, don't be discouraged, but try again this spring. Just make the ground richer and be sure there is a water supply available.

There is only one secret to making head lettuce head, rich soil, plenty of moisture and keep it moving from the day the seed sprouts. A check in growth from lack of nourishment or lack of moisture means no head. Start a box of seed in 14 house or in a hot-bed or cold frame and have the little plants ready to transplant as soon as the ground can be worked. Give them plenty of room, keep them head religiously, and see if they don't head.

It might be a good plan to try some other variety than the one you used last year. In some sections one variety will head much more readily than another. Inquire among your neighbors who grow good head lettuce and see what variety they had and if you can't find out this way try some of the "early heading" varieties advertised in the seed catalogues. Plant an early heading variety preferably for it is useless to try to grow head lettuce in July.

If the lettuce bed wasn't fertilized last fall, haul a supply of manure upon it now and be ready to spade it in early.

If you are absolutely sure you can't make head lettuce head, try some of the newer varieties of cos

lettuce. They are a very acceptable substitute, even finer in flavor, many connoisseurs contend, and they will surely give a crop. Give them an early start, too, although they are almost certain to succeed even if you wait until they can be sown in the open ground.

Most Obliging.

The beet is a most obliging vegetable in that it does not require as rich soil to yield generously as some others. It will also flourish in lighter and sandier soils than some of the root crops. The beet should not have any fresh manure in the soil to do its best but only well-decayed manure or compost.

Early beets are most valued as greens the roots being more esteemed later in the season or even in the fall and winter. If it is desired to get an early crop of beets for greens they may be started in the house as easily as lettuce, but care must be taken in transplanting not to break the tap root if some of them are wanted for the root. Breaking the tap root in transplanting leads to branching or knotty roots when they mature.

Each beet "seed" is really a fruit containing several seeds, which is the reason why beets, no matter how thin the seed seems to be sown, come up thickly. The beet crop sometimes does not flourish as it should to produce a luxuriant crop of greens. Shallow planting usually is the main trouble. They should be planted an inch deep and even an inch and a half if the soil is very light and sandy.

Beets may be planted between rows of corn and yield successfully as they will do better for the shade in mid-summer and do not take enough food from the soil to interfere with the corn.

The combination of a slow-growing and a fast-growing crop in the garden is a good one to keep in mind, because they can usually be companion crops without harm to either, the slow growers taking the nourishment from the soil slowly and in such small quantity the fast growers are not injured.

Just Thirty Years Ago in the Grande Ronde Valley

(April 29, 1892)

The foundation for the Anthony brick building will be completed early next week and the bricklaying will commence as soon as possible.

Spring poets might combine their efforts on an apostrophe to Winter. We suggest "Come Off the Perch."

The seventy-third anniversary of Odd Fellowship was appropriately observed at Baker City Thursday. A delegation from the La Grande lodge was present and the oration

was delivered by Post Grande C. H. Finn.

The members of the New York Opera company were given a reception at the Athletic club rooms Sunday evening. A number of choice vocal selections and recitations were rendered by the visitors and the occasion will long be remembered by those who were present.

Hall and Sproules, two prisoners in the county jail, attempted to escape Thursday afternoon. They were given use of the corridor to wash their clothes and they overpowered the guard and attempted to make their getaway. A blacksmith nearby took in the situation and fired at them causing them to stop.

Married, in La Grande, April 27, 1892, L. H. Huelst and O. Ralston. Several probable sites were located and one will be definitely picked in the near future.

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LA GRANDE BATTERY STATION

Willard Batteries

A. L. Crossman

C. D. Hoffman and O. P. Goodall, a committee on the part of the Farmer's Alliance met in La Grande Tuesday for the purpose of looking over the field to select a site for their flouring mill. They were met by the executive committee of the chamber of commerce, consisting of Jay Brooks, J. E. Foley, W. J. Snodgrass, A. B. Huelst and O. Ralston. Several probable sites were located and one will be definitely picked in the near future.

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At the council meeting Wednesday evening an ordinance was passed granting the Edison Electric Light company a franchise for the period of 20 years to erect poles and wires in the streets of La Grande. The city is to have the free use of poles for fire alarm and police wires. Light is to be furnished the city at a rate not greater than \$2.00 per month for 32 candle power lights

and not more than \$15 for 1200 candle are lamps.

Born, in La Grande, April 24, 1892, to the wife of L. J. Lawlor, a son.

An attempt was made to hold up the west bound fast mail on Wednesday evening. The place selected for the basis of operation was tunnel No. 5, located between Telocast and North Powder. The train was due at 5:45 o'clock in the evening and E. A. Stephens was driving the cab. The grade at this place was rather steep and seeing a danger signal he slowed up. But at the critical juncture the engineer caught sight of men whose faces were masked and who were

heavily armed. Throwing the throttle wide open he managed to pass the robbers, of whom five were seen, at such a speed as to frustrate their plans.

NOTICE.

All outstanding bills against the Student Body, classes or organizations of La Grande High School should be sent to Ted Larsen or Alfred Meyers before May 10. 4-27-22

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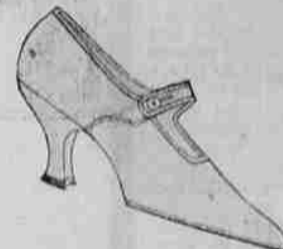
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