

Along Azalea Row

By RUTH B. SMITH

DID YOU EVER stop to consider whence came our vegetables—what far distant peoples enjoyed the same that we take such pride in? The radish is the first of the recorded vegetables, dating far back into pre-historic China, Japan and India. Both onions and cucumbers are mentioned in the Old Testament when the homesick Israelites berated Moses in the wilderness for taking them away from the flesh pots of Egypt. Lentils or "pulse" of the King's hostages are found in the Book of Daniel and Jacob gave Esau lentil potage accord-

ing to Genesis. Peas were found in Egyptian tombs while the people of Egypt are said to have worshiped the cabbage whose origin is truly lost in antiquity.

Broccoli, comparatively new to us in the United States, was eaten by the early Romans and was mentioned by Thomas Jefferson in writing from France. For spinach we are indebted to, or can blame, depending on one's taste, to the Arabs who cultivated it in North Africa centuries ago. It was later introduced to Spain by the Moors. Swiss chard was spoken of by Aristotle back in 350 B.C. and by the Chinese in the 7th century, and was greatly enjoyed both by Greeks and Romans in the Middle Ages. Of note is the fact that it still grows wild in the Canary Islands, in Iran, along the Egyptian sea coasts and around the Caspian Sea. Beets were also greatly enjoyed by the Romans and received their name from the Greeks because their swollen seed pods looked like the Greek letter Beta.

Beans were found in the burial mounds of Peru and the American Indians grew them. When the early French explorers came to America, they took back seed with them to France and as a result, the Britains called them "French beans" for many years.

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PHILIPPINE PREXY GETS OREGON TREES

President Ramon Magsaysay of the Philippines Republic will receive forest tree seedlings from Oregon next week when James C. Clinton of Salem arrives in that country to accept a position with Louis J. Kroeger & Associates of Manila.

Governor Paul L. Patterson, chairman of the board of forestry, handed a bundle of Port Orford cedar and ponderosa pine seedlings to Clinton today and declared the small trees were an Arbor Day gift from the people of Oregon to the Philippine Republic and emphasized the fine spirit of friendship existing between the two nations.

Accompanying the trees is a letter from George Spaur, state forester, enclosing planting instructions. Both cedar and pine, famous for their wood and beauty here, should grow well in the higher elevations of the northern Philippine Islands.

Clinton, retiring director of the state civil service, has accepted a position with Louis J. Kroeger & Associates to aid in setting up a civil service program. Mrs. Clinton and their three children will accompany him on the air journey to Manila.

The Philippines are the sixth place that seedlings from the Oregon state forest nursery have been sent. Previously, seedlings have been planted in Guam, Japan, French Morocco, Hawaii and England.

We owe lettuce and the eggplant to the Orient, where the latter in its wild state produces a small white fruit which resembles an egg—hence the name.

The Americas were responsible for tomatoes and potatoes, which like corn, squash and pumpkin were first found under cultivation by the Indians. The Incas first grew potatoes and Sir Walter Raleigh, after finding them growing in Virginia, is credited with introducing them into Ireland. Tomatoes first were grown merely for their beauty and were taken into Italy from Peru and Mexico, where they were considered poisonous. Again Thomas Jefferson is said to have told of the French eating them back in 1781. That which we call corn and the English maize or Indian corn was an important crop for the American Indian and has figured in many legends from Canada to Peru.

In speaking of the tomato first being used only decoratively brings to mind that there is truly beauty of color and shape in vegetables. The first flower show attended by the Smiths in Brookings had two arrangements which still remain in memory, both using vegetables, both winning ribbons and both done by sorely missed former residents — Mrs. Maude Sandbo and Mr. Bob Perkins. I hope there may be a section in this year's Flower Show schedule devoted to vegetables.

Do you recall the Victory gardens of World War II? In the attractive subdivisions of Laurelhurst and Broadmoor in Seattle, many home owners utilized their flower beds decoratively for growing vegetables instead of digging up their lawns. I recall one where the soft grays of the artichokes combined handsomely with red beet tops, and interspersed were yellow ranunculas, to make a bed beyond description. Transfer these, rhubarb, egg plant, asparagus—and their tops—into arrangements and one has some charming combinations for exhibit.

"Are you a vegetable grower?
Plant what you will,
Till what you plant,
Eat what you can,
Can what you can't!"

HONEYMOONERS HERE

Mr. and Mrs. John Bohm spent several days in Brookings last week at the home of Mrs. Bohm's sister, Mrs. George Mosier.

Mrs. Bohm will be remembered as Violet Schiewe, and was employed by the Brookings Plywood

Corporation prior to her marriage in San Francisco earlier this month.

Over \$20,000,000 in cash loans available to students to assist them through college goes unused every year.—Changing Times.

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