

Fruit and Farm

Establishment by municipalities from municipal funds of drying plants for fruits and vegetables where conditions are favorable is referred to in farmers' bulletin 916, published by the United States department of agriculture.

In municipal plants, the bulletin says, the work should be supervised by the city council or other town authorities. If the plant is not a municipal plant, it is best to place it under the guidance of some association already in existence, such as a civic improvement club, commercial club, home-school garden club, or a special community club, organized for the purpose.

As an example of a club that can be formed for the purpose, the bulletin tells of one community that has a drying plant and in which a special community club, of approximately 60 farmers had been organized primarily to look after the operation of the drying plant. The officers—president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer—constitute the executive committee and are intrusted with power to act. A simple form of constitution and bylaws has been adopted and meetings of the club are held monthly or oftener, usually at the drying plant, which in this instance is a room of a church building.

Municipal or government owned drying plants have been in successful operation in European countries for years. Such plants provide village communities with a convenient and simple method of drying all sorts of produce of the home garden and orchard, as well as the vegetables and fruits shipped to the community, which might be allowed to go to waste at the stores and market places. The drying plant described in the bulletin follows closely the specifications of a community plant at Lincoln, Nebr., and 11 others in that general section, all of which were operated successfully during the summer and fall of 1917.

The advantage to the busy farmer's wife in the country community can not be overestimated, says the bulletin. Her work is heaviest in the summer when vegetables and fruits must be saved for winter use. The establishment of a community drying plant at a consolidated school, country church, or centrally located farm home offers a great relief from heavy kitchen duties.

Fan Method of Drying Favored
The drying plant described in the bulletin uses an adaptation of the electric fan process of drying. A stream of dry air is caused to flow continuously over the products being dried. The humidity of the air, the method of preparation of the vegetables, and the velocity of the air current have much to do with the rapidity of drying. It is a utilization of the same principle by which wind will dry roads after a rain or by which damp clothes hung in a breeze will dry much more quickly than those hung in quiet air. Another feature of the drying plant described is that instead of the air being forced across the vegetables it is drawn across them. Laboratory tests indicate that drying is considerably accelerated when the suction method is used, although the force method will dry satisfactorily and is used in at least one Nebraska plant. The bulletin says that such a plant should be operated without expert help and by power easily available and can be built complete for \$250 or less. Plans and specifications for building such a plant are given in the bulletin.

Fan Most Important
The most important feature to watch in the construction of a drying plant of this type is the fan. The main point to keep in mind is to get one that will move a sufficient quantity of air. If the fan will move air fast enough for the suction to hold a piece of cardboard or other material 1 foot square and weighing 8 ounces against a wire screen at the intake end, the drying will proceed satisfactorily. Any type of fan

can be used, and among those that have been found efficient are an old ensilage cutter blower fan, a separator fan used on a blower threshing machine, and a fan which had been discarded as a planing mill after use there in drawing sawdust and shavings from the planing machines. The fan may be operated by an electric motor of from 2 to 5 horsepower, or by a gasoline engine of similar power.

Best to Have Heating Equipment
Nebraska's experience with community drying indicates that ordinarily a better colored and better flavored product is obtained if no artificial heat is applied. Even in arid countries, however, and always in humid countries, it is best to have equipment for heating. This will be needed when the air contains much moisture. An effective method of heating the air is by the use of a hot water radiator at the intake end of the drier.

To Prepare Fruits and Vegetables
Fruits and vegetables meant for the drier should be prepared by cleaning as for table use. After cleaning they should be sliced thin. The slicing process may be hastened by use of a slicing machine. After a sufficient amount of moisture apparently has been removed, it is well to keep the product for several days in a large container, which can be protected by either a cloth cover or a wire screen. After a few days, if there are no indications of moisture collecting on the dried product, it should be placed in pans in the oven or exposed to the sun or air currents for a few hours and then placed in permanent containers.

Obituary
The death of Miss Ella May Bunnell, which occurred Monday, April 22, released from a helpless, tortured body a strong and beautiful soul, which, after long years of suffering, returned to its Maker and entered into the full and perfect life of heaven. Miss Bunnell was born at Colfax, Washington, Jan. 20, 1877. She joined the Congregational church at the age of ten and while still in her teens entered the California State University at Berkeley, graduating with the degree of B. L. A.; a commercial course was next taken but failing health prevented any active work. She wrote a number of stories, some of which were published in the religious press, and if life and health had been her portion, she might have won a place in the literary world.

Always an active Christian, she took a prominent part in Y.W.C.A. work, being at one time state president and at another time state secretary. She organized the first Y.W.C.A. conference on the Pacific coast and did missionary work in the slums of San Francisco, uplifting and inspiring many lives during the few short years when health and strength were her portion. During the ten years which Miss Bunnell lived in Ashland she was a helpless invalid, being bedfast most of the time, and for years unable to talk or move even a finger. She was patient and resigned to her body's living death, her mind remaining active and unclouded to the end. Gradually the spirit detached itself from the flesh until at last it winged its flight to land above. An admirer of all that was beautiful in art and nature, her room was always full of flowers and pictures sent by loving friends. She had a keen sense of humor and until bereft of speech her conversation was always bright and cheerful.

The sainted father passed on two years ago. Her mother, the nurse and constant companion during ten long years of helpless invalidism, still survives, a patient martyr to her beloved daughter's misfortune. Mrs. Bunnell's brother, Asa White, and the latter's daughter, both of Colfax, Washington, came down to attend the funeral, which was held in the Congregational church by Rev. G. S. Brett, assisted by Rev. C. A. Edwards. Interment in Mountain View cemetery.

The damsite survey of the Gold Hill-Grants Pass irrigation project covers the city's damsite three miles above Gold Hill and it is evident that the city will join the irrigation project and bring water down to the city plant opposite Gold Hill in the main canal.

During the first year of war the army paid \$60,000,000 for horse-drawn vehicles and harness; more than \$50,000,000 for horses, mules and harness. Expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, for fuel and forage are estimated at more than \$500,000,000.

The air personnel in the first year of war increased from 65 officers and 1120 men to one hundred times that number. Eleven kinds of schools have been installed.

High School Notes

Owing to the primary election being held on Friday, May 17, and as some of the members of the school board are to serve as clerks, the date for the commencement exercises has been changed to Thursday night, May 16. The date on the invitations will read the 17th, as the date of postponement was not made until last Tuesday night.

The party given Wednesday evening of last week in honor of Donald Dickerson, at the home of Elmer Bagley, was a success in every way. The after dinner speech made by Archie Eubanks was responded to by Donald, in which he urged any of the bunch to visit Fort Stevens whenever they had an opportunity and to be sure to look him up.

Prof. Briscoe made a speech to the student body last Friday morning in which he urged those boys not intending to work in the factories or stores this summer to take up gardening. This he proposed as a help to themselves and the government. He is making arrangements to continue the Junior Red Cross work after school closes.

The rumor was afloat last week that the Algoma Box factory had burned. The boys were quite excited for a while, as 18 or 20 of them are planning to work there through the summer, but the rumor proved to be without foundation.

Dwight Gregg was absent from school the last of last week on account of sickness, but was back again last Monday.

The class song selected by the senior class is of a military nature. Diligent practice under the directorship of Miss Anderson has begun.

The Junior-Senior picnic and reception was postponed from Friday, April 26, until some time this week.

PRESENT TACTICS ARE ACCORDING TO PLANS

"The present drive of the Germans is accomplishing exactly what the English and the allies wish it to accomplish," said Lieutenant-Colonel John Leader, late of the Royal Irish Rifles, now commandant of the University of Oregon, in a talk recently before the class in military science. "The farther in that the Germans move the easier it will be for the allied armies to draw the string around the neck of the bag and cut them off," he thinks.

"When the time comes for the surrender," said Colonel Leader, "it will be one of the biggest things we have ever heard of. There will be no mistaking when the drive begins—probably the first report which will come will be that a quarter of a million prisoners have been taken. "The papers state from time to time that the big allied offensive has begun. It has not. When it does, however, there will be no mistaking what it is. With the net drawing closer and closer to the starting of the tightening it will not be long.

"So far my prophecies have been true and I will venture to say that when the drive comes it will be one of the largest movements that we have ever heard of," he said.

While it may seem that the Germans are gaining ground all the time, they are being allowed to do it with a purpose, that purpose being to cause them to enter the nose of the bag, and then be at the mercy of the French, British and Americans, is Colonel Leader's belief.

To February 20, the director general of military railways had placed orders for railway supplies valued at \$142,000,000 and with an aggregate weight of 754,000 long tons; the general engineer depot to February 1, issued 9,500 orders for material valued at \$202,000,000.

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SHALL WE DO LESS FOR OUR SOLDIERS?

If the motive of thrift does not appeal to you in the matter of purchasing war savings stamps, consider the appeal of your patriotism. Our country is engaged in a terrible war. Thousands of our brothers are enduring the miseries of camp life and the fearful strain and danger of the trenches. Thousands of them will offer their lives, other thousands will be maimed or crippled or injured in health. The country needs money to maintain them and to make their service effective. The war savings stamps and certificates are a means of raising this needed money. The country looks to you to furnish it. It is your part in winning the war for democracy.

How small a part it is! It may require some self-sacrifice as to luxuries and pleasures. It may, indeed, demand self-denial and abstinence from comforts—even a reduction in the amount of what are regarded as necessities. But, even if it does, what are these discomforts, compared with those suffered by the young men who are fighting your battles? Your part is, indeed, small in the great sacrifice. Will you not cheerfully, manfully "do your bit"?

HAVE YOU PLANTED OR PLANNED A WAR GARDEN?

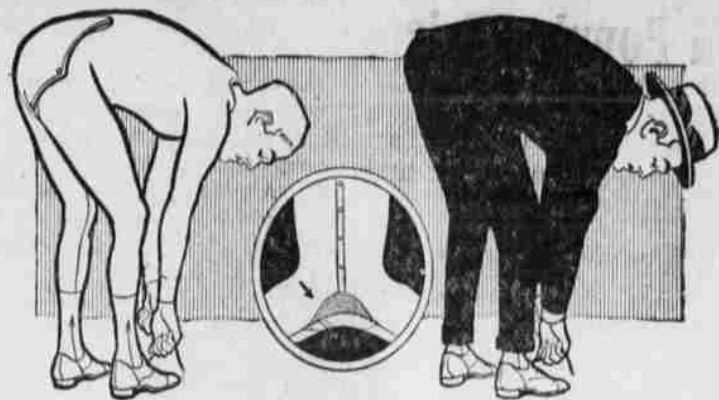
How about that war garden? A recent food administration bulletin says that the effect of war gardens in providing food, saving labor, and relieving the railroads cannot be overestimated. Three of the most important factors in this war are food, labor and transportation, and the war garden solves all three.

Dr. Alonzo Taylor, recently returned from abroad, says: "It is no exaggeration to say that the war gardens in Europe have, in the case of Germany for instance, pulled her through two summers and that she would have almost certainly failed to pull through if it had not been for her war gardens. In the largest cities of Germany, as much as 25 to 30 per cent of the food consumption of the people during the months when they could be grown, was fresh vegetables. This largely relieved the cereal situation."

"Here is a case where we can benefit from the enemy's example," says the bulletin "The war garden should be a national institution in America for the duration of the war."

Give King Corn a royal welcome to your home. The production of corn flour, which cooks find the most satisfactory substitute for wheat flour, has increased 500 per cent in the last 18 months. If you don't know what corn flour is, lose no time in finding out. Try it for muffins, biscuits and other baking.

Several "hundred submarine chasers, built since the war, have been delivered to the navy by 31 private concerns and 6 navyyards; many of these boats have crossed the Atlantic some in severe weather.



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SETTLERS MUST FILE PREFERENCE RIGHTS

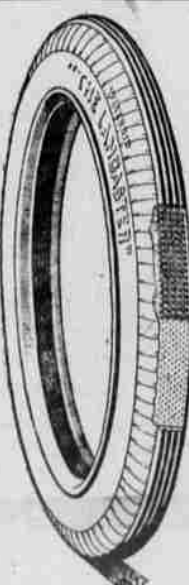
With reference to the revested O. & C. railroad grant lands to be opened to entry, all settlers on any of these revested lands south of township 32 S in this land district, who are claiming preference right by virtue of settlement prior to December 1, 1913, and residence since that date, should file their applications for the lands claimed between April 29 and May 25, 1918, no matter whether the land is described in the list of lands to be opened to entry, and no matter whether it has been classified or not.

Applications for these lands may be executed before the United States commissioner at Grants Pass and the

clerk of the county court at Grants Pass, for lands in Josephine county, and before the U. S. commissioner at Medford, and before the clerk of the county court at Jacksonville for lands in Jackson county.

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