

PORTLAND MAN TELLS HOW ONE VACANT LOT HAS BEEN PROFITABLE

Trial Balance Sheet Shows Important Items on Right Side of the Ledger.

OBJECTS TO WATER RENT

Says the City Should Not Penalize People Who Make Unprofitable Places Presentable.

Portland, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of the Journal—In your recent editorial, "The Vacant Lots," you ask the question, "Why not make actual use of the lots?"

In answer to this question, I would say that I believe a great many more people would make practical use of their vacant property, and would be willing to make beauty spots of some of the city's vacant lots.

I have been the owner of a vacant lot for the last three years, and have had the pleasure of transforming it from a veritable jungle into a beautiful spot, which is the pride of the neighborhood, although I do say it myself.

My activities in this direction have taken a great deal of my spare time and cash, but the results have justified the expense, and I am satisfied in every respect but one, of which I will speak later.

A 45x100 Foot Garden. It might interest you to know what I have grown on this 45x100 city lot. I generally manage to have between 45 and 50 distinct varieties of flowers and plants, in addition to a 40 foot row of sweet peas, consisting of 25 or more distinct colors and varieties.

On the vegetable side of the garden the following are a few of the many kinds grown: Potatoes, cabbage, onions, lettuce, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, rhubarb, peas, corn, kidney beans, vegetable marrow, beets, parsnips, carrots, etc.

Regarding the growing of kidney beans and vegetable marrows, it is interesting to note that, outside of old country families, their use is little known. The kidney bean, or scarlet runner, as it is sometimes called, on account of its brilliant scarlet flowers, is grown in this country and Canada chiefly for its ornamental value, and no use whatever is made of the fruit when the flower has gone to seed.

Growing the Kidney Bean. This type of bean is a very prolific grower, and the pods should be gathered before they ripen, as they are not good for cooking if they are allowed to remain on the vine too long. I consider them as a vegetable, and they are superior to the ordinary white wax or string bean, which is so extensively used here, and I am surprised that market gardeners have not taken its culture in hand in this country.

Vegetable marrows, which belong to the squash family, come under the same category as the kidney bean, insofar as knowledge concerning them goes; but they have their uses over the bean that they may be stored throughout the winter and spring and still provide a vegetable dish fit for a king. They also are very easily grown, and are exceedingly prolific.

Vegetable Marrows Very Prolific. Two years ago from eight plants I gathered something like 150 fruits, ranging in weight from 2 to 20 pounds each. As we have only a small household, we could not use so many, so we were enabled to introduce this vegetable into the homes of a good many neighbors, gratis, of course. Last year from four plants I gathered about 70 fruits, and we still have several on hand.

In addition to using the marrow as a vegetable, we also make excellent preserves and pickles with it. The only drawback to growing vegetable marrows is that they cover great deal of space, so I would not advise the owner of a small plot to put in more than two or three plants at the most, as he will find this number sufficient for his needs, if given the right sort of attention.

I think if the small lot or home owners could be instructed by competent authorities regarding various types of vegetables and their uses, that it would aid them very much in solving the problem of how to reduce the high cost of living.

This Means Balance Sheet. Having cultivated my garden lot purely for pleasure, I cannot produce a financial balance sheet, but I can produce a balance sheet of the dollar-inclined individual would consider a necessary adjunct to his venture, but my balance sheet would be about as follows: Garden tools, etc.; \$30; seeds, plants, etc.; \$25; fencing; \$8; water rental, \$12. Total \$75.

February's Big Bargain Sales

Advertisement for February's Big Bargain Sales featuring various clothing items like silk stockings, women's hose, and gloves with prices and locations.

Advertisement for 'See Page 10 (Society Section) FOR OUR Big Ad of Toilet Goods, Drugs, Etc.'

Advertisement for 'Big Variety in WOMEN'S New Blouses' with details on fabric and design.

Advertisement for 'More About the New Silks and Dress Goods' including silk crepe de chine and chiffon.

Advertisement for 'Meier & Frank Co. THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND' with address and phone number.

A Belated Shipment! French Lingerie

This shipment was expected for the January White Sale, so we're offering these lovely French Undergarments now at the same prices that we should have placed upon them had they arrived in time for the sale.

- Price list for French Gowns, Chemises, and Covers, ranging from \$2.98 to \$9.50.

Myriads of NEW Spring Hats

Case after case of the lovely creations from Vogue and many other well-known designers in tailored and semi-dress styles are here, awaiting the inspection of our discriminating clientele.



Bring them in and let us show you the result of our purchases at prices ranging from \$3 to \$20.

Advertisement for 'HOME FURNISHING SALE' with the slogan 'Those Who Hesitate Are Lost' and 'TOMORROW BEGINS THE LAST WEEK'.

You have only the next six days—and then—all of the goods in Furniture, Rugs, Curtains, etc., remaining unsold will be marked at full regular prices. Here are a few of the many specials we offer:

- Price list for Curtains and Draperies, Bed Pillows, and Room-Size Rugs.

EVERY PIECE OF FURNITURE REDUCED!

- Price list for various furniture items including Mahogany Davenport, Overstuffed Arm Chair, and China Cabinet.

2-HOUR SPECIALS See Tomorrow, Oregonian for Our Special List of "Red Hot" Morning Specials—On Sale From 9 to 11 o'Clock. Don't Fail to Read Them. You Cannot Afford to Miss Such Big Savings.

Tomorrow and All This Week Annual Sale of Housewares

Of the sales of utilities that take place during the year this annual event quite outclasses them all. FIRST, FOR DEPENDABILITY—Every article is first-class, coming from the best factories and in some instances made especially for us.

SECOND, FOR WONDERFUL VARIETY—Practically every utility and utensil a woman can use to advantage in the household finds large representation in this sale. If a thing is new and good it is sure to be found here first.

Now Look at These Prices and Share in the Wonderful Savings!

Large advertisement for housewares sale listing various items like ironing boards, wash tubs, and kitchen appliances with their sale prices.

SMALL LOT OWNER. Advertisement for a small lot owner's perspective on the sale.