

# WELFARE BUREAU'S SALVAGING PLANS GIVE WORK TO 17

Men and Women Who Are in Some Way Incapacitated for Other Duties Are Given Employment.

The plan of the Portland public welfare bureau to salvage junk and provide jobs for the unemployed through its industrial department, is already bearing fruit in the employment of 17 men and women, 13 of whom are handicapped in some way and were dependent cases which the city and county had been caring for.

The collection of discarded articles of clothing, household furnishings, paper and rags, which began about six weeks ago, has resulted in a great assembling of much clothing, furniture, bedding, stoves, books, cans, paper and rags until the big three-story building at the corner of Thirteenth and Johnson streets is already well filled and work in reclaiming the articles has been begun. A retail store in the downtown district will be opened soon, where people of limited means may supply their needs and where the various social agencies of the city may make purchases for their cases. This new industrial department will receive no aid from the Community Chest, as it is expected that it will be more than self supporting when it begins to function.

**CLOTHES HINT OF MEMORIES**  
Scores of bundles of baby clothes have been contributed, many of them yellow with age, although they had never been used, and about which cling loving memories of the little visitors who came and went almost at the same time. Then there are little girls' coats in which are to be found the leg or arm of a doll, and the pockets of little boys' trousers conceal forgotten treasures of marbles, tops and pieces of string. More than 100 women's suits have been contributed, also many coats, dresses, separate waists and skirts, shoes and hats. Of men's suits there are already more than 150 and overcoats, hats, shoes, and underwear. The amazing thing is that most of the clothing sent is remarkably good, the contribution of rags or stuff that cannot be made wearable, being comparatively small.

**ALL CLOTHES FUMIGATED**  
Every article of clothing is put into the fumigation box for 12 hours before it is sorted. After sorting it is sent to the cleaners, this work being done free of charge by the Master Cleaners and Dryers association, comprising 14 of the large firms. Then it is mended, pressed and retined, the work being done under the direction of Mrs. Emma Flaherty by elderly women who would find it difficult to obtain employment in the usual places.

One floor is devoted to repair shops, one for stove and iron work and tin, one for furniture, one for clocks, dolls and other small articles and one for shoes. This is in charge of J. A. Ruyter, by which the various lines have been found among the cases which the bureau has been caring for. Two men are so deaf that they find it impossible to know whether they are expert workmen, one a cabinet maker and one an iron maker; one has a wooden leg and is obliged to have a

# INDUSTRY SALVAGES JUNK, AIDS HANDICAPPED



Above—One-legged cobbler supports mother by mending shoes at the new industrial department of the Public Welfare Bureau. Below—Widow who is supporting small children by working in the mending and pressing department of the industry.

sitting job; another is subject to terrific headaches which incapacitate him; another has chronic heart trouble which debars him from work; several are too old to get a job in these days of the supply so far outstripping the demand and they are used to sort and stack magazines and papers.

"Our one trouble with these men is that they try to do too much, more than they are physically able to do," said Hugh Crum, well known social worker, who is in charge of the industry. "They are so pleased with an opportunity to earn an honest dollar, that they actually try to do more than they are able to do."

A recent development in this reclamation project is the decision of the welfare bureau to institute an annual conservation week, placing it on an educational basis through the cooperation of the schools.

# PROF. PECK SAYS HARDWOOD ASHES GOOD FOR LAWNS

Application Once Every Three Years Neutralizes Acids and Renewes Life of Grass Plants.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, March 26.—The soil of a lawn should be kept sweet by applying hardwood ashes or airslacked lime once every three years, according to Arthur L. Peck, professor of landscape gardening at the agricultural college. The application neutralizes the acid in the soil and changes the soil from an acid to an alkaline soil, which is better for the grasses.

To keep a good grass covering, one pound of seed should be sown for every 600 square feet of lawn every third year. This practice keeps new plants coming and thus replaces the old plants which die out each year. The best mixture of seed is made up from 50 per cent Kentucky blue grass and 50 per cent creeping bent, but since the latter cannot be obtained now, red top should be substituted for it.

The lawn should be thoroughly soaked once a week. This practice is much better than sprinkling every evening for the latter just wets down an inch or two and this causes the plant roots to come up to the surface and soon die on account of the top layer baking out on the hot days.

Any complete commercial fertilizer applied at the rate of 25 pounds on the average city lot gives good results. It should be applied in February or early in March. Spring rolling is also beneficial.

# Quality of Tomato Is Improved by Pruning And Staking Plant

A thrifty tomato plant left to itself will spread over a space from 4 to 6 feet in diameter and will produce a peck or more of tomatoes. If staked and pruned, it will yield about the same quantity of fruit, the tomatoes will be larger, cleaner, better flavored and superior in every respect, and enough space can be conserved to accommodate five other plants cared for in a similar manner.

The staked and pruned plants are easily sprayed, and will continue to produce fruit later in the fall than plants which are allowed to spread naturally. As a rule, also, the pruned tomatoes will mature earlier. On the scale on which tomatoes are grown in the home garden, staking and pruning require little trouble, and will fully repay the effort.

When the plants are to be staked, they may be set 2 feet apart each way, or every 18 inches, in rows 2 feet apart. Any substantial stake of sufficient size to bear the weight of the plants and 4 or 5 feet long, is suitable for tying up tomatoes. Straight saplings, 2 inches in diameter at the base, make very good stakes. Sawed strips or laths may be used. A stake is driven about 3 inches from each plant, which is tied to it at intervals of 8 or 10 inches as the stem develops. Soft string or narrow strips of cloth are used for this purpose.

When the plants begin making a vigorous growth, shoots will appear in the little pockets where each leaf joins the stem. Later the blossoms appear on the opposite side of the stem. In pruning the plant, remove all these side shoots and those around the base of the plant, being careful not to disturb the blossom clusters. The shoots, sometimes called suckers, should be pinched off shortly after they appear. The main stem can be carried to the full height of the stake, then allowed to hang over. By this time six or seven blossom clusters, on which the fruit is developing, should be set on the stem.

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# Care Urged in Watering Gardens

In applying water to garden crops it is important that the work should be done thoroughly without injury to the plants. An occasional thorough watering, with at least one good cultivation after each watering, will give better results than more frequent sprinkling of the surface. Home gardeners have in many instances fitted up simple systems for irrigating their gardens that have proved a great help in carrying the crops over dry periods.

**Home Garden Big Aid**  
The home garden utilizes idle land and spare time for food production. The use of vegetables conserves meats, grains, and other food produced on farms.

# VEGETABLE HOT BEDS AND THEIR CARE DISCUSSED

Timely Suggestions Are Given for the Benefit of Home Gardener; Bed Construction Is Featured.

Hotbeds and cold frames enable the home gardener to lengthen the growing season for his crops. With them he can start his operations a few weeks in advance of the last chilly days of spring, before which it is not possible to plant out of doors. Throughout the spring and summer these beds may be utilized, and after the first fall frost they furnish protection for late vegetables. They are inexpensive and easily operated, say garden specialists of the United States department of agriculture.

Standard hotbed cash are 3x6 feet, and it is customary to make a home garden hotbed with one, two, or more sash, according to the size of bed desired. Select a well-protected and thoroughly drained spot, dig a pit 12 to 18 inches deep and a little larger than the bed is to be made.

**SOIL PREPARATION**  
Throw the good top soil to one side and the bottom soil to the other side. For a two-sash bed about one good wagon-load of fresh horse-stable manure will be required. The manure should be thrown in a flat pile a few feet away from where the bed is to be constructed and the pile turned about twice at intervals of three or four days. As it is turned the outer portion of the pile is thrown to the middle and the inner portion to the outside, in order to get uniform heating throughout. Then put the manure into the pit, each forkful being shaken to break it apart and spread it evenly. It should be well tramped. Put in a layer about three inches deep, then another layer, treading each until the pit has been filled level with the ground. In case the manure is rather dry, a little water should be sprinkled over it as it is spread in the bed. It should be just moist enough to pack reasonably solid but springy under the feet.

**TO ELIMINATE COLD**  
The frame of the bed, made of wood, is then set on top of the manure and the earth from the bottom of the pit banked up outside of the frame to keep out the cold. The north side of the frame should be six inches higher than the south side. The good soil from the surface of the pit is spread on the packed manure. It is a good plan to mix a little well-rotted manure with this soil. A very light sprinkling of fertilizer, so little that it can scarcely be seen, will be beneficial.

Put the sash on and leave the bed to heat for several days. First the manure will be hot, then the plants after two or three days it will gradually cool. The temperature will then remain more moderate. No seeds should be planted until the temperature of the soil has fallen below 85 degrees. Use a thermometer, the bulb of which is buried about 3 inches deep in the soil. Feeling the bed with the hand is not a reliable method of taking the temperature. Have a piece of old carpet or a burlap mat to throw over the sash for protection on extremely cold nights. Loose straw will serve the same purpose, but it is difficult to handle and must be weighted down to keep it from blowing away. In warm weather the straw is swept off the glass so the sunshine can get to the plants.

**CARE OF HOTBEDS**  
Hotbeds must be watched during bright weather to prevent them becoming too warm, as the sun shining directly on the glass soon brings the temperature above that suitable for the growing of plants.

Ventilation is provided by propping the sash up at one side or the other according to the direction of the wind. Have the wind blow over the opening and not directly into the bed. The bed should be closed toward evening so it will keep warm during the night. As the season advances more ventilation is necessary.

Cold frames are hotbeds minus artificial heat—simply sash-covered frames with no pit under them but banked up on the outside to keep out the cold. They are useful for growing plants that have been started in hotbeds, and for hardening plants to get them in condition to plant in the garden. Sometimes a bed about 12 to 15 feet in length covered by 4 regular hotbed sash is divided into two parts, one part being made into a hotbed and the other a cold frame. This is an excellent arrangement and one that is not expensive.

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# GARDEN FAVORITES THAT CHARM THE EYE



Above—A profusion of peonies that thrive in Oregon climate; Tulip bed is lower of bloom. Below—Dorothy Perkins rose transforms a telephone pole into a thing of beauty.

# Not Much Ground Needed to Raise Family Vegetables

Plenty of vegetables for the table should be the first consideration of every home gardener, but where the space is large enough a few fruit trees and some bush fruit should be planted. It does not take a large space for growing enough fruit and berries of the different kinds to supply the average family.

Everbearing strawberries, which were a novelty a few years ago, are now being planted by thousands of gardeners, and they should find a place in every garden of the temperate region where space will permit. Strawberries, however, can be grown under a very wide range of climatic and soil conditions. The same is true of the blackberry and the dewberry. Raspberries are more limited as to distribution, and will not withstand the heat of summer in the South or the extreme cold of the North. Their planting is confined almost entirely to the temperate regions, the Central and Eastern states and the Pacific Northwest. Certain varieties of the red raspberry that are practically everbearing, or that at least produce both a summer and fall crop of fruit, are now being developed. Raspberries, blackberries and dewberries do well when planted along a fence.

# Planning Garden on Paper Is Big Help

When the bluebirds and robins make their appearance it is time to make plans for starting garden work; but several things can be done before the birds and buds appear that will prevent delay when it is desired to start actual operations, say specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Plan the garden on paper. Get seed and make sure it is of the best quality. Good seed will not sleep long in good garden soil, but poor ones may never wake up. All tools should be in proper order before it is time to use them.

# Few Tools Required In Making Garden

It is surprising how few tools are needed to care properly for a small home garden. Expensive equipment is not necessary. A spade or spading fork, a hoe, and a steel rake are the essential garden tools. To these should be added two wooden stakes and a strong string to serve as a line for making straight rows. A watering can and a trowel are desirable but not absolutely necessary. Where the garden work is to be carried on rather extensively, it is a good plan to have a wheel hoe, or a combination seed drill and wheel hoe.

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