

FARMING AND INDUSTRIAL MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE OREGON STATESMAN

Issued Weekly by
THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
215 South Commercial Street, Salem, Oregon.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news, dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.

BUSINESS OFFICES:
Member Selected Oregon Newspapers—Pacific Coast Representatives—Duty & Snyper, Inc., Portland, Security Bldg.; San Francisco, Sharon Bldg.; Los Angeles, Chamber of Commerce Bldg.; Thomas F. Clark Co., New York, 128-136 W. 31st St.; Chicago, Marquette Bldg.

TELEPHONE
Business Office 23 or 582 Job Department 585
Society Editor 106 News Dept. 23 or 306 Circulation Office 582

Entered at the Post Office in Salem, Oregon, as second-class matter.

WE SHOULD GROW SPINACH WITH A COLLEGE EDUCATION AND IN LARGE QUANTITIES

Robert Dollar, the great ship owner and merchant prince, told a friend of the writer recently that he would be glad to have dehydrated spinach in quantities for his ships and for markets where his ships land and trade—

A quality product in quantity supply, such as the Salem district can furnish; has furnished in the past, and in regular, dependable supply.

Salem is bringing from outside markets an increasing monthly tonnage of spinach. The consumption of spinach in Salem is bound to keep on growing with our growing population, and in greater ratio than the increase in our population. This fact is creditable to the good sense of our consumers; though it is the opposite of creditable to our growers, who should be supplying all we can use, of the best quality, the whole year through, besides shipping away great quantities of it, and thus adding a large and steady community cash income.

Spinach is called the "broom of the stomach;" it is both a food and a medicine, and so general is its use now that it is classed as a staple, for there are many people who insist upon eating spinach every day.

We had a considerable spinach industry in the Salem district a few years ago, joining up our growers with the dehydration plant—

And no doubt the industry in this branch of it will be revived sooner or later, because spinach is a vegetable that lends itself well to dehydration.

For the iron in it, and for the vitamins and the vegetable salts, the use of spinach will persist and increase—

And there is no reason why our farmers and gardeners should not grow a car lot supply here, to go to distant points, developing a market on a quality product, the same as has been done with our celery and our head lettuce, and is promised with our asparagus, and other vegetables.

The production of spinach of a high quality in commercial quantities, and with sufficient tonnage to make it profitable to grow, is a specialized industry. Any gardener, on almost any kind of land found here, can grow some spinach—

But this does not mean spinach that will sell on quality above the market prices for the vegetable grown elsewhere. This specialization has been brought to success here in the case of celery and head lettuce—and it can be brought to success in the case of spinach.

Every kitchen or home garden should have some spinach, and two crops should be raised, and some of it should be canned at home, or the commercially canned or dehydrated article should be used when it cannot be had in the fresh form.

Spinach is nearly as important in the dietary as milk;

Dates of Slogans in Oregon Statesman

(With a few possible changes)	Grapes, Etc., April 29
Loganberries, October 6, 1927	Drug Garden, May 6
Prunes, October 13	Sugar Industry, May 13
Dairying, October 20	Water Powers, May 20
Flax, October 27	Irrigation, May 27
Filberts, November 3	Mining, June 3
Walnuts, November 10	Land, Irrigation, Etc., June 10
Strawberries, November 17	Floriculture, June 17
Apples, Figs, Etc., Nov. 24	Hops, Cabbage, Etc., June 24
Raspberries, December 1	Wholesaling, Jobbing, July 1
Mint, December 8	Cucumbers, Etc., July 8
Beans, Etc., December 15	Hogs July 15
Blackberries, December 22	Goats, July 22
Cherries, December 29	Schools, July 29
Pears, January 5, 1928	Sheep, August 5
Gooseberries, January 12	Seeds, August 12
Corn, January 19	National Advertising, Aug. 19
Celery, January 28	Livestock, August 26
Spinach, Etc., February 5	Grain & Grain Products, Sept. 2
Onions, Etc., February 13	Manufacturing, Sept. 9
Potatoes, Etc., February 19	Woodworking, Etc., Sept. 16
Bees, February 26	Automotive Industries, Sept. 23
Poultry and Pet Stock, Mar. 4	Paper Mills, Sept. 30
City Beautiful, Etc., March 11	
Great Cows, March 18	
Paved Highways, March 26	
Head Lettuce, April 1	
Silos, Etc., April 8	
Legumes, April 15	
Asparagus, Etc., April 22	

(Back copies of the Thursday edition of The Daily Oregon Statesman are on hand. They are for sale at 10 cents each, mailed to any address. Current topics 5 cents.)

and every up-to-date man and woman now knows that a virile race cannot be sustained without milk, nor healthy children raised, nor old people kept in proper condition.

One of the greatest arguments in favor of spinach growing commercially in the Salem district is the fact that the spring crop will furnish a cash return early in the season when money is needed for the cultivation of other crops. And, in the same way, it adds materially to the net returns from any given number of acres of land under cultivation.

But we must grow spinach "with a college education;" quality spinach, a lot of it to the acre; and this will take special locations and specialized treatment and specialized fertilization of the soil.

And moreover it is a prospective valuable crop for greenhouse cultivation, for our home markets, and for shipping fresh to the cities and towns up and down the coast and to the big city markets throughout the country—

And the growing of a quality crop for car lot shipments would also lead to a great and growing demand from our canners, who could command a wide market if they could guarantee a strictly quality output.

The next annual Slogan subject for the Farm and Industrial Magazine Section of the Sunday Statesman is onions. A strong subject, and a big one in this onion center of Oregon, and onion set center of the western half of the United States.

BUILDING UP THE SOIL: DIRECTIONS

The mechanical condition of garden soil is quite as important as its fertility. It is not advisable to apply fertilizer to soil which is not in the proper condition to receive it and make it available to plants.

The two extremes of poor soil, from a mechanical standpoint, are stiff clay and pure sand. The first may be fertile, but because its particles are so fine and closely packed together, it is difficult for plants to obtain from it the nourishment which they need. In pure sand there is no plant food; and this sort of soil refuses to hold water at all. The ideal garden soil is a sandy loam, in which there is clay, sand, and a plentiful supply of humus, or decayed organic matter. It should hold water like a sponge which is squeezed, the excess water running off but leaving the soil moist.

To loosen clay, and make its fertility available to plants, one must add humus, sand, or other coarse materials, and lime. Lime should be used on clay soils always, unless one expects to grow in them plants which demand an acid soil, because lime not only makes not only makes clay soils sweet, but it makes them coarse. It sets up a force which causes the clay particles to collect in larger grains.

On sandy soils having little humus, however, lime may cause damage and its use should be considered with some care. There are plants which prefer an acid soil, such as the Japanese irises, Japanese lilies, potatoes, azaleas, rhododendrons, and some evergreens. Most garden plants either prefer a sweet soil, or are indifferent to this condition.

On sandy soils, clay may often be added, provided it is dry and finely broken up, and not lumpy. In both clay and sandy soils, humus must be added regularly, and in quantities as large as one can manage. Any animal or vegetable material which has decayed is humus; and if added to soil will color the soil black. A compost heap in which all such material is piled to decay is a garden savings bank which pays high interest. One way to obtain humus is to grow a crop of clover, vetch, or other green crop, and plow it under.

YOU CAN DYE YOUR OWN BLACK DIRT

In these days of scientific horticulture, every gardener hears a great deal about humus and its necessity. For practical purposes, it is the decayed vegetable material that makes "black dirt." Al-

though scientists are still debating its real nature, all the gardener needs to know about it is that he needs it in his soil if he is to have a good garden and it becomes more difficult each year to get the standard prescription for supplying humus, decayed stable manure.

Decayed stable manure of good quality is the ideal material and should be used liberally wherever obtainable. The shredded cow manure of commerce is valuable for the purpose, having more body than the pulverized sheep manure which is of higher fertilizing value, but both are expensive to be used in the quantity needed for a humus supply. Stable manure, besides being a chief source of humus, is also a "complete" fertilizer, in that it contains the food supplies the plant needs in the way of phosphates, potash and nitrogen. Such stable manure as is now available, unfortunately is of poor quality.

Humus is of great mechanical importance in soil aside from the plant food it contains as it holds moisture in suspension and prevents the plants suffering from drought as they do in sandy soils where the moisture quickly seeps away. It also adds to the texture of the soil. Texture is the quality that makes the soil easy to work and makes it break apart readily and crumble when dry.

Farmers maintain a supply of humus by green manuring, that is, planting green crops and turning them under to decay. This is hardly practical in a small garden which would have to be sacrificed for an entire season for a thorough green manuring. The main dependence now is upon composts of waste vegetable matter and owing to the dearth of natural or stable manures, scientists have turned their attention to the production of synthetic humus producing compounds which are taking the place of the stable manure. By the use of chemical compounds, any gardener may have his humus heap at hand to build up his soil.

CEMENT LOADS CONSCIENCE
MADISON, Wis. — The state treasurer was thankful for a \$5 contribution from a confessed thief who wanted to relieve his conscience, but puzzled as to how the theft was ever made in the first place. The writer said he stole two barrels of cement.

GIDEON STOLZ CO.
Manufacturers of
Vinegar, Soda Water,
Fountain Supplies
Salem Phone 26 Ore.

**W. W. ROSENBAUGH
COMPANY**
Manufacturers of
Warm Air Furnaces, Fruit Drying
Stores, Smoke Stacks,
Tanks, Steel and Foundry
Work, Welding a Specialty.
17th & Oak Sts. Salem, Ore.

EARLY SOWING FOR THE ANNUALS

To secure a full season of bloom, many annuals must be sown either in the house or in a frame to give them an early start. July 1 marks the opening of the season for annuals and from then to the close of the season they keep the garden a continual show of bloom. The old-fashioned seed box in a sunny window is a practical way, lacking a hotbed or greenhouse, to get this early start.

Any shallow box with good drainage provided by boring holes in the bottom and filled with mellow soil will serve excellently for an early seed flat. Plants that need an early start are snapdragons, stocks, petunias, verbenas, sweet peas, and cosmos.

Others may be sown outdoors as soon as weather conditions permit. Sow the seed thinly even in the seed boxes. Have extra boxes filled with soil ready to transplant into when the seedlings reach sufficient size so that they touch each other. By thin sowing transplanting is made easier and there is smaller loss of plants.

The soil should be sifted for the seed box and carefully leveled and firmed. A brick is excellent for this purpose. The seed is best sown in rows instead of the old-fashioned method of broadcasting it. It is easier to handle the seedlings in transplanting. Cover the box with a pane of glass and keep moist but not wet. Wipe the moisture from the glass as it accumulates so it will not drip upon the seedlings and start damping off, a fungus disease that often destroys seedlings when they are small. Remove the glass for a few moments from time to time after germination to harden the plants and to minimize the chances of damping off.

Annuals may be started in a cold frame to good advantage but this will require later sowing when the temperature has reached a point where it will not freeze the earth in the frame, usually about April 1 in the northern half of the country. The most effective use of annuals is in borders of various combinations of colors such as blue and pink, mauve and rose, orange and yellow, scarlet and orange and other color schemes.

JUDGE TURNS SANTA
WASHINGTON, Mich.—Several days ago a young man came to Washington penniless and in search of a job. When he failed to find employment he asked the police to arrest him as a vagrant so that he might be sent to jail and out of the cold. They did, but when the story was told to Judge Hitt, he instead of passing sentence passed his hat around the courtroom, collecting more than \$10. Then Attorney Harry Whelan stepped forward and promised to take care of the youth and get him a job.

LABOR-SAVING DEVICE
HUGHES Ark.—Moonshiners in East Arkansas are getting lazy, federal agents think. Raiders found a live terrapin at the bottom of a still near here recently. It was put there, they said, to keep the mash stirred.

L. B. DUNSMOOR
Salem Wicker Furniture
Manufacturing Co.
—We Sell Direct—
Genuine Rattan Reed Quality
Furniture
Repairing, Refinishing, Upholstering
2214 State St., Salem, Oregon

**DEPENDABLE
WELDING**
Electric and Acetylene
C. D. OPPEN
Phones: 372; Res. 2086-J
695 Mill St. Salem, Ore.