

MAKE VACANT LOTS USEFUL.

Get the Owners to Lend Them to People to Cultivate.

PHILADELPHIA TRIES PLAN.

Quaker City Association Succeeds in Getting Poor Families to Grow Vegetables on Borrowed Land—Kansas City Also Takes Up "Farming."

Every town has vacant lots which are eyesores to the community. Some of them are used as rubbish dumps and are littered with tin cans, garbage, ashes and other unsightly things. Others are covered with rank weeds. If these lots were planted to useful vegetables or beautiful flowers how much more attractive would they be!

Why not get busy and transform such lots into gardens and make them look ornamental instead of unsightly? Get the owners to lend their unused land to the poor, who will be glad to cultivate it and raise vegetables.

The splendid work of the Philadelphia Vacant Lots Cultivation association is ably exemplified in the fourteenth annual report.

Last year the association conducted 355 family gardens on vacant lots.

The land under cultivation was loaned by generous owners. They were not using it, and the association bound itself to return possession to them when they desired to put it to use or sale.

The harrowing, plowing and all necessary preparation for the cultivation were carried on by the association, and about one-sixth of an acre was turned over to each family. The families spread the fertilizer, planted the seed, cultivated the growing crops and gathered their mature produce. They took to their homes what was necessary for their tables and sold the surplus, insuring fresh vegetables for home consumption and a snug income.

The association plans to carry on this work the coming summer, and they are overwhelmed by the new applications received daily from those anxious to raise crops.

Owners of vacant lots in Kansas City, Mo., who would like to see them blossom like the rose without any labor on the owner's part can get some information as to how it may be done by communicating with the home gar-

dening committee of the City club. The committee, which obtained such good results last year, now is preparing for its spring campaign, which is to be opened with a general cleanup day, the date of which has not been fixed.

"While it is a little too early to plant, it is not too early to begin to think about preparing the ground," W. C. Winsborough, vice chairman of the committee, said. "As the prepara-



HEAD OF CABBAGE GROWN ON TOWN LOT.

tion of the ground involves a cleanup of the winter's accumulations of rubbish, we are co-operating with the board of health to make that operation a thorough one this year."

The distribution of seeds will be through the schools, as last year. One of those gardens, cultivated by two boys, yielded a \$75 crop of potatoes.

An effort is being made to interest the real estate exchange in the work, and through that agency the committee hopes to get in touch with owners of tracts that can be cultivated by volunteer labor.

"It's just as easy," Mr. Winsborough said, "to grow vegetables on a vacant lot as it is to grow tin cans and ashes, and we will leave it to the owner to say which crop makes the best appearance and enhances most the value of his land."

Selection of vegetables which it will be worth while to grow under conditions unfavorable as to soil requires study and patience. Experience in gardening under such conditions has proved the following vegetables to be profitable in the order here given:

First, the round red radishes, which should be sown in a row not more than fifteen feet long at one time or there will be more than can well be disposed of.

Next, the loose leaf lettuces, notably

the Hanson variety. Make sowings a month apart to obtain succession. Tomatoes are profitable next in order. Set out tomato plants if it is possible to get them. They can be easily raised in a hot-bed. Prune them when a good crop is set so they will ripen.

TIMELY BREVITIES

Melbourne, Australia, has only four electric light signs.

The canal zone soon will have its first electric railroad.

A Russian electrician has invented an insulating material made from milk.

Tobacco forms the sixth item in importance on the list of Brazilian exports.

The chief industrial pursuits of Lower California are mining and pearl fishing.

Maiden lane (London) jewelry stores are quoting platinum at \$43 an ounce, a record price.

The motor of a new motorcycle is carried within the rear wheel instead of on the frame.

The Chinese in Hongkong have established a society for cutting off their eues, but not changing their dress.

A plant for the manufacture of bricks from lava is being erected at Honolulu by a San Francisco man.

A rubber stamp to be worn on a finger so that when an egg is picked up the date will be imprinted on the shell is a recent invention.

The Budapest police are enforcing the anti-long hatpin ordinance in that city, not by arrests or fines, but by confiscation of offending pins.

Besides shipping several "knocked down" steamboats to South America, a Pittsburg firm has sent one to the Congo and another to the river Nile.

Fresh apple exports from the United States last year were very large—1,670,000 barrels, valued at \$5,456,450, or almost double those of the year previous.

Because of objection to the word "heathen" the Woman's Union Missionary Society of America for heathen lands has dropped the last three words of its name.

Sugar production in Formosa under improved modern methods has reached a point where the profitable disposal of the crop is becoming a serious problem.

Chilean forests contain immense quantities of timber suitable for wood pulp, for the possession of which French, German and American firms are now competing.

Many letters are being received in India from the United States bearing

only 2 cents in postage, while this rate applies only to the British Isles, Canada and Newfoundland.

The value of products taken by the fisheries of the Atlantic coast is nearly double that of all the rest of the country combined, being 96 per cent of the total of the United States.

Turkey breeders who have been troubled by their charges straying are recommended by the London Agricultural Gazette to put a bell on a few of the leaders, old hens by preference.

Hundelebenversicherungsgesellschaft is the name of a new business concern in Frankfort-on-the-Main. It means in commercial English the Company For the Insurance of Dogs' Lives.

After long investigation three European scientists have decided that trees, through their foliage, extract free nitrogen from the atmosphere, something that men only recently discovered how to do mechanically.

Reindeer in Alaska increased from 4,975 in 1902 to over 26,000 in 1910. The civilizing effect of the reindeer industry upon the Eskimos, who are naturally a people of ready intelligence and adaptability, is remarkable.

Virginia has placed a memorial to Patrick Henry, orator, patriot and the commonwealth's first governor, in historic St. John's church, Richmond. It is a bronze tablet, paid for with an appropriation granted by the legislature.

The new Japanese gardens of Buenos Aires were opened on Feb. 2. They are on the bank of the river Plate and are the only outdoor amusement resort of the city. They are the nearest approach to such public resorts as Coney Island, etc., in Argentina.

In the Sixty-second congress the total number of senators is ninety-two, representatives, 391. The salaries of both senators and representatives are \$7,500 per annum, no extra salary for extra session, but they receive mileage at the rate of 20 cents a mile each way.

There is a general movement throughout the Russian empire to improve the peasants' cottages and to put up fire-proof model dwellings on the model farms established in many rural districts. This movement is due in part to the great destruction of houses and whole villages by fire.

Captain Butt and James Sloan, Jr., of the secret service, the president's always present protectors, have probably been photographed more than any two men in the country. They have been with both Mr. Taft and Colonel Roosevelt. Sometimes fifty cameras have been snapped at their party in five minutes.

According to a recent report by Dr. Conrad Biesalski of Berlin, there are 75,000 cripples in the German empire

out of a population of 60,500,000. Over 50,000 of the cripples are in need of proper treatment. Dr. Biesalski states that in 15 per cent of the cripples examined their deformity was due to tuberculosis of the bones and joints.

The old conflict in Germany between the supporters of the Latin and the Gothic character in writing has again broken out with great fury. The immediate cause of the outbreak is the acceptance by the petition committee of the re-choosing of a petition signed by many influential persons bearing that the Latin character be the only one used in the first three years of school instruction.

When He Was Bad.

It has been said that you never know a man till you travel with him, and certainly traveling has a tendency to bring out all the depravity innate in human nature. Out of this test, however, Benjamin Disraeli emerged with flying colors. This is what was said of him by Mrs. Austen, who with her husband traveled with him when he was quite a young man, as related in Mr. Monypenny's biography:

"Your brother," she says (the letter was addressed to Disraeli's sister), "is so easily pleased, so accommodating, so amusing and so actively kind that I shall always reflect upon the domestic part of our journey with the greatest pleasure. Your brother has behaved excellently, except when there is a button, or, rather, buttons, to be put on his shirt; then he is violently bad, and this happens almost daily."

Whales in Nets.

Just south of the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, where in a landlocked harbor beautiful Wangamumu nestles in the shadow of Cape Brett, there is established a whaling station, and here is carried on the unique business of catching whales by means of nets set in a narrow channel between rugged rocks. The cetaceans frequent this passage, it is said, to rub off the accumulation of sea growing parasites gained in long journeys through deep



NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION, ESTATE OF EUGENE SWINGLE, Late of South Canaan Township Wayne, Co. All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and those having claims against the said estate are notified to present them duly attested for settlement.

JEANNETT SWINGLE, Executrix.
South Canaan, Pa., Feb. 27, 1911.

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AUCTIONEER
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PHARMACIST.

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Window Trimming	Electric Railways	Bookcover Designing	Bridge Engineer	Machine Designer	Mining Engineer
Bookkeeper	Heavy Electric Traction	Ornamental Design's	Structural Draftsman	Boiler Designer	Mine Surveyor
Stenographer	Electric Wireman	Linoleum Designing	Structural Engineer	Patternmaking	Coal Mining
Civil Service Exams	Electric Machine Designer	Perspective Drawing	Plumbing & Steam Fitting	Toolmaking	Metal Mining
Commercial Law	Telegraph Construction	Lettering	Heating and Ventilation	Foundry Work	Metallurgist
Banking	Telephone Expert	Stationary Engineer	Plumbing Inspector	Blacksmithing	Assayer
English Branches	Architecture	Marine Engineer	Foreman Plumber	Navigation	Chemist
High-School Math.	Contracting and Building	Gas Engineer	Sheet-Metal Worker	Ocean and Lake Pilot	Cotton Manufacturing.
Teacher	Building Inspector	Automobile Running	Civil Engineer	Poultry Farming,	and Languages: Italian, French,
Commercial Illus.	Concrete Construction.	Refrigeration Engin'r	Surveying and Mapping	German and Spanish.	

THE I. C. S. WORK

1. We teach unemployed people the theory of the work in which they want to engage. RESULTS: Positions easily secured, days of drudgery shortened, and sometimes avoided altogether; quick promotions.
2. We teach employed people to do their work better. RESULTS: More responsible positions; better pay.
3. We teach dissatisfied people how to do what is more congenial. RESULTS: Preparation for new work before leaving the old; rapid progress in the new field.

HOW WE DO IT

1. We furnish all necessary preparatory instruction.
2. We explain facts, principles and processes so clearly that the student quickly comprehends and easily remembers.
3. We illustrate our text-books thoroughly.
4. We give concise rules and practical examples.
5. We grade our instructions.
6. We criticize and correct our students' written recitations and send him special advice regarding his course whenever necessary.

OUR LOCATION FOR DOING IT

We occupy three buildings in Scranton, having a floor space of over seven acres. We employ 2,700 people at Scranton. We spend \$250,000 each year in improving and revising our instruction papers. We handle about 30,000 pieces of mail daily and our daily postage bill is about \$500. We issued about 63 million pages of instruction last year. We received and corrected 849,168 recitations and positively know that 1,180 students have their wages increased.