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A Year-round Garden For Every Southern Farm

WITH our soldiers and our allies needing every pound of wheat, meat and fats we can spare them, this, as never before, is a time for economizing in the use of these foods. In doing this, one of our mightiest aids will be found in the year-round garden. We dare-

not say that this is the best of all garden fertilizers, and applications at the rate of thirty to forty tons per acre will be none too much. But do not forget to combine this with a liberal application of acid phosphate. Then for the crops that are grown mainly for their leaves or stalks, a



EVERYBODY MUST GARDEN IN 1918!

A good example for all other women, both in town and country, is set by Mrs. T. W. Bickett, wife of Governor Bickett of North Carolina. She took part of the grounds about the Governor's Mansion for a vegetable garden last year, and herself cultivated vegetables enough to furnish a large part of the family table. Read Mrs. Bickett's letter on page 6.

say the average Southern family consumes too much hog meat and fats, anyway; less of these and more of the wholesome vegetables would not only release more food to be shipped to our armies in France, but would give us a better balanced and more healthful diet as well.

As a money-saver, too, the good garden is one of our best assets. The farmer with the year-round garden plus milk cows, poultry, potatoes, syrup and meat, has little occasion to worry over the high cost of living that is now so sorely taxing the man in town.

But let us be sure that we have a sure-enough year-round garden. As Prof. Massey well says: "hog and hominy" and black-eyed peas are all very well, but without plenty of good, fresh vegetables they become very monotonous and unsatisfactory as a regular diet.

In making a good garden, we would place a rich, deep, mellow soil first in importance. In the garden, as in the field, fine crops on poor land are simply impossible. Plenty of well rotted stable

side dressing of nitrate of soda will be of great help.

Next in importance is the matter of keeping the garden busy. It is not enough to plant a spring garden and stop at that, leaving the garden, after the first crop is off, to grow up in weeds. Aim at a constant succession of plantings, so that as soon as one crop is gone another will be taking its place.

Finally, let us not limit our plantings to cabbage, onions, beets, tomatoes and beans, but try some of the less known but equally valuable crops. Carrots, parsnips and salsify are splendid root crops that are too little grown in the South; asparagus, one of the best vegetables that grows, is much too rare; while celery, chard and cauliflower are all excellent and well worth growing.

Every farmer in the South should aim at a year-round garden, and the time to begin it is *now*.

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