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EXPERIMENTAL FARMS

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THE HOME VEGETABLE GARDEN AND A PATRIOTIC GARDENING COMPETITION

By W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.

THERE is practically no part of Canada in which there are settlements where at least some kinds of vegetables cannot be grown and the great variety which it is possible to grow successfully even in the coldest districts is a surprise to many.

There is a growing demand for fresh well grown vegetables, and a call for them in greater variety, but in many parts of Canada the people do not yet get a plentiful and varied supply.

If more vegetables were eaten there would not be the same need for the more expensive kinds of food, and if the vegetables were grown at home the saving would amount to a considerable sum at the end of the year.

While this bulletin is written mainly for the use of amateurs, it may be that the market gardener will find some information that will be of use to him.

THE HOME GARDEN.

While it is not possible for some persons to grow their own vegetables there is a large proportion of the population who could easily raise an abundance of these palatable, delicious and nutritious food products if they cared to do so.

In the country there is plenty of room for a good vegetable garden and even in cities, towns and villages there is usually a sufficient area on the lot at the back of the house to grow enough vegetables to supply a large family during the summer months and to give away some to other people.

Situation of the Garden:-In cities and towns there is, of course, no choice in regard to the situation of the garden as one has usually no alternative, but the back of a lot. If large trees surround this lot or are even along one side of it, gardening will be more difficult, and much less satisfactory than where there are none. Trees exhaust the soil of moisture and plant food and their shade often affects the crop adversely. Even where there are trees. however, fair success may be obtained with short season crops such as lettuce, radish, and spinach which can be grown early in the spring or in the autumn when the growth of the trees is not very active. In the country the garden should be as near the house as possible and warm well drained soil should be chosen if there is such. It is usually the women of the household who look after the garden in the country, hence things should be made as convenient for them as possible. How-