

## SOLDIERS OF THE SOIL.

Our own Department of Education is enlisting "Soldiers of the Soil" to assist farmers. Children too young to work on farms can do much, however, with their own small back-yard plots. To be an *owner* of a garden means more than to be a *worker* for someone else. Last year, over 4,000 children made gardens in Nova Scotia. Why not make it 20,000 this year? Only one thing stands in the way. That is the teacher. *Don't be a slacker! Be a recruiter and a leader.*

## THE WAR TIME FLOWER GARDEN.

Tho the urgent need is vegetable gardening, we hope teachers will not neglect flowers entirely. Grown-ups might consistently dispense with flowers for a year; but it would be criminal to take them out of a child's education. As teachers we are not only helping shape the destinies of empires in this present crisis, but we are moulding the citizens of twenty years hence. And one of the factors of good citizenship is attractive homes. Don't fail to cultivate that love of flowers which is latent in every child. Thru neglect it too often dies. Don't grow flowers *instead* of vegetables, but *in addition* to vegetables.

The following quotations state the case forcibly:

"No one, who has an atom of joy, or sympathy, or love of the beautiful in his make up, will venture to classify Flowers, among the "Non-essentials." Better another meatless or wheatless day per week than Flowerless Days all summer.

Resolve therefore to "Grow Flowers as Usual"—to grow Asters and Sweet Peas, and Cosmos and Nasturtiums and all the other old time favorites. Grow them for the table and living rooms to brighten somber days; grow them to give joy to the heart on festal occasions; grow them to carry messages of love and sympathy to those who are sick or sorrowful and need their cheery companionship; and grow them for inspiration, for mental relaxation, for health-giving exercise."

"Just as food is essential to *physical* comfort, so are flowers necessary to *spiritual* contentment. More than ever before do we need the soothing companionship of plant life."

## MILK TESTING.

This is the third year that Mr. H. R. Brown, Scotsburn Creamery, Pictou Co. has offered substantial prizes for children's compositions on milk testing. We wish a larger number of teachers would write to Mr. Brown for information on this subject. Here is a quotation from one of his recent letters:

"Thirty one (31) compositions were sent in and I am sure considerable information on cows and milk products was secured by the scholars competing.

I wish to express to you my appreciation of the interest taken and the energy displayed in making this competition a success by the following teachers: Mrs. Minnie MacKay and Miss Kathaleen Day of Tatamagouche; Miss Mattie Harris