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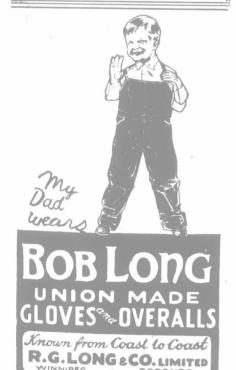
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A Woman's Gardening Experience.

Editor Farmer's Advocate:

I read with much interest the experiences of others in your paper along different lines of farm work, especially relating to poultry, gardening and dairy ing. Most country housekeepers are thinking and planning a garden. Others, no doubt, are thinking, but find it rather difficult, to interest the men sufficiently so they will do their share. To these I would say: do something toward gardening this year, if only to spade a small space yourselves (I use a fork, as I find it pulverizes the soil better and is easier to handle) and plant something, if only lettuce, radishes and onions, with a few simple flowers. Do not leave out the flowers, for there is nothing more refreshing and encouraging when tired and blue than some blossoms to work among, or even a few minutes at the window gazing at them will cheer one up and give more courage to face the next duty.

I started on rather a small scale, just a few rows among the potatoes. Now I can get all the garden space I want, as well as help to plant and cultivate. I start a few seeds in boxes in the house. Then, as soon as warm enough, I plant more in a bed on the warm, sheltered side of the house, not forgetting to cover on a few frosty nights. I also transplant from boxes here before putting out in the garden to insure a strong, sturdy plant, and they require less care than when in boxes in the house. I try to have as much as possible ready to transplant into the garden, as I find it easier to keep plants hoed than it is to thir and weed them as they come up. Weeds seem to start first and keep ahead unless vigorous methods of combat are resorted to. In transplanting, I press the earth very firmly around the plants with my oot, and then I throw a little loose earth around them. This seems to keep the plants from wilting down and the ground from drying out.

I buy a few boxes of flowers, pansies, petunias, phlox, or others I may fancy also some vegetables, as celery, early tomatoes and cabbage. I transplant my lettuce and have lovely large heads Just here I would say that celery-growing is not as complicated as many amateurs suppose. It was some time before I ventured, but now I have it first on my list. The young plants are put in a single row in a shallow trench, only a few inches deep, which is gradually filled in and the plants are kept well hoed. In the fall I wrap each plant with building paper (not tar paper) and I had the most delicious celery last season I ever tasted. After a few frosts, I took up the celery with considerable earth around each root and packed it in boxes in the cellar, giving water occasionally to keep from wilting. I broke off the celery stalks and put the roots in a box of earth, and, while I did not like the flavor of the celery, it made excellent greens for

Swiss chard is not commonly grown, but it is a valuable addition to the garc'en on account of its medicinal properties. The curly variety is very ornamental. The seed resembles beets in appearance, and it is grown in the same way. The leaves are cut for greens. The white stalk or stem is used with a cream sauce, and the green stem is used for greens. It grows out again the same as lettuce, never getting bitter or tough. The stem is also used as celery.

A few melons are always appreciated. I am going to try starting the seed between damp flannels before planting. I tried this way with nasturtiums last year and found they were up very much earlier. I soak seeds, such as beans and

peas, in warm water to hurry them along.

My garden is all marked in rows for planting after a thorough cultivation similar to that given for field roots. The horse-hoe is run through the rows as soon as possible after each rain, or once a week if at all possible. If impossible, I take a rake or hoe and go over the rows. I prefer the rake after a rain, as it pulverizes the ground better. If there is any special part of the garden I wish to rush, I hoe it every day. If no other time is available or the days are very hot, I get up early and have a



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