

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 1945

YOUR VICTORY GARDEN . . . By Henry L. Pree

Soil Rich in Humus Is Best For Growing Delphiniums

There is a subtle lure about the perennial delphinium. The flower garden or border that does not include it seems to lack an essential. The delphinium of today possesses a characteristic beauty of its own. It is without rival in its class as a plant of tall habit with erect columns of azure-blue, gentian-blue, shades of sapphire, tones of imperial purple, and pure white with a contrasting black center. Delphiniums are ideal as background plants when grown in groups of five or more, and especially beautiful when planted in combination with regal or madonna lilies.

Delphiniums do best in a loose, friable soil rich in humus and plant nutrients, to which lime is added every second or third year.

Drainage is essential and additional fertilizer, Mr. Pree rather high in nitrogen, should be made when the plants are six inches high, and at the time the plants are cut back following the first bloom.

Thrive in Sunlight

Delphiniums want full sunlight or very little shade, and need staking for protection from strong winds. They resent crowding—two feet between plants should be minimum.

Staking is best done by placing a 6-foot stake along side each plant and tying with soft twine or raffia about 12 inches apart. Staking should be done when the plants are about 3 feet tall.

Seeds from the first blooms, and sown as soon as they have ripened, will produce the best plants. Seed should be sown in a sifted sandy, peaty, loamy soil. Add no fertilizer to the seed mixture.

Young plants will develop before

**LIFE MAY EXIST ON TINY PLANETS****Dark Companions of Stars May Be Habitable.**

By Science Service
NEW YORK, July 4.—Life may exist on thousands of habitable worlds among the millions of small, dark planet companions of bright stars throughout the universe, Dr. Henry Norris Russell, Princeton university professor of astronomy, declared here.

Protect seedlings with an inch covering of coarse sand, and mulch lightly with straw or hay. Delphiniums are more likely to be killed by poor drainage or smothering than by freezing weather. Use seed only from the best plants and blooms.

Delphiniums should be divided every third year. Dig up the plants, shake off the soil, and cut the clumps apart with a sharp knife. Each division should have at least three good, strong shoots.

Plant in Autumn

Discard any poor-looking roots. Mid-September is the best time for planting. If you cannot make your plantings in September, arrange to do so in early spring, just as soon as the ground is workable.

Delphiniums are often a disappointment because of an insect known as the cyclamen mite. The plants appear to be blackened by something, become deformed and fail to grow. Poor drainage is a contributing cause for crown rot, a fungous disease which forms at the base of the plant.

Infected plants should be dug up and destroyed and the soil and neighboring plants disinfected with a mercurial compound such as semesan, or bichloride of mercury, one seven and one-half grain tablet to each pint of water.

Record Australian Drought Destroys 20,000,000 SheepBy WILLIAM MCGAFFIN
Times Foreign Correspondent

IN AUSTRALIA'S DROUGHT

AREA, July 4.—Bare red earth, red as though it had been burned that color by the relentless sun, and carcasses of sheep strung out for miles across the flat prairies—that is what you see when you drive into the Riverina district of Australia.

In normal times it is the mainstay of Australia's economy, the greatest producer of wheat and Merino wool on the entire continent. Now it's once-green fields Mr. McGaffin

are scarred and torn by one of the worst droughts in Australia's history—a drought rivaling the great drought of a decade ago in our Midwest.

HERE the locale is different. Kan-garoos and ostrichlike emus lend a bizarre touch to the landscape. Devastated areas of saltbush, an important wild-growing feed for sheep, take the place of charred cornfields.

But the general picture of human misery worked by nature on a rampage is the same.

Here, as in America a decade ago, the spirits of stout-hearted men are beginning to waver as they face ruin in their endless gamble with the elements.

IN AUSTRALIA'S drought—Riverina is only one of the many areas affected—20,000,000 sheep have perished. To absentee landlords who own the huge sheep "stations," running into thousands of acres, it is a grim toll.

But the greatest sufferers are the little men who work the places for them and the small acreage farmers who are trying to make a go of it independently.

In the last few weeks, the long-awaited balm from heaven has begun to fall and a thin coat of green is seen here and there, raising hope but creating new problems.

NOT NEAR enough rain has fallen and none can say whether it will continue and break the iron grip of the drought.

But the graziers must decide now whether to restock their flocks while



prices still are low, with the chance the rains will cease, or not restock and risk having to buy later at soaring prices. With the first rains, the price of ewes jumped from 90 cents and \$1.35 to as much as \$4.50 a head.

ONE GRAZIER had his problem solved for him by a colony of ants which he saw climbing a kurrajong tree.

The ants to him meant more rain was coming—so he bought sheep from a dealer although the price was steeper than he had wanted to pay.

Strong winds—bitterly cold gusts now that winter has set in "down under"—are a by-product of Australia's drought and have caused the freakish death of many sheep.

Flying sand has settled in their collars and the first light rains have hardened it to a crush weighing sometimes 20 pounds.

Their necks rigid in this "plaster cast," the sheep have been unable to graze even when fodder could be found, and have starved.

GRAZIERS have discovered that sheep almost always as hardy stomachs as their fellow-ruminants, the goats.

They digest pumpkins, apples, pears, potatoes, wheat, oranges and raisins when deprived of their regular fare, such as native shrubs and the kurrajong, bull oak, borse and box trees.

The drought revealed, also, that crossbred Dorset Merinos are harder than the aristocratic, inbred Merinos.

The former have shown amazing ability to scurry up sloping trunks or stand on their hind legs to reach leaf food while the pure Merinos have starved in such circumstances.

WHEAT farmers have suffered as greatly as the sheep graziers in the drought, as evidenced by the drop in yield from the 150,000,000 bushels of the last pre-war harvest to only 53,000,000 bushels on the current harvest.

But despite the ravages of the drought, Australian agriculture somehow has managed to meet the vast new demands of war.

About 5,000,000 extra persons—including hundreds of thousands of American troops—have been fed and fed well, in addition to the 7,000,000 population of Australia.

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YOUR G. I. RIGHTS . . . By Douglas Larsen

New Hiring Applications Not Required of Veterans

WASHINGTON, July 4.—Jobs job it can only be in a war plant. I want to get a permanent job. Who should I see about that?

A—USES will give you advice and help you get a job that isn't in a war plant if you want it.

Q—I have gone into partnership in a hardware store. I understand we can get surplus army goods direct from the government. Who should we contact to get these goods?

A—Apply to the nearest office of Smaller War Plants Corp. You will be able to line up a job for you in radio and give you all the advice necessary.

Q—Before I was inducted I was a laundry driver. I went to see my old boss and he said he had a job waiting for me but I would have to fill out a new hiring and bonding application. This doesn't seem right to me. I did that once before when I got my job in the first place. Is it necessary that I do it again?

A—The war labor board has ruled that employers cannot ask veterans with re-employment rights to fill out new bonding and hiring applications as a condition of reinstatement.

Q—They tell me if I go to the USES and have them get me a

RATION CALENDAR

MEAT—Red Stamps K2 through P2 are valid through July 31. Q2 through U2 valid through Aug. 31. V2 through Z2 good through Sept. 30. Stamps A1 through E1 are valid through Oct. 31. Meat dealers will pay two red points and 4 cents for each pound of waste fat.

SUGAR—Stamp 38 good for five pounds through Aug. 31.

Canning sugar forms are available at ration boards. Spare Stamp 13 in Book 4 must be submitted with application for each person listed.

All applicants must establish eligi-

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

GROCER IS FAVORITE VICTIM OF HOLDUPS

SAN FRANCISCO, July 4 (U.P.)—Mike Stathis, 65-year-old grocer, apparently has been elected "the man we would most like to hold up" by local burglars. Stathis told police he has been held up four times in four months. Gunmen have been getting less each time, Stathis smiled. The last haul reached a low of \$10.

Jap War Will Take Greater Oil Supply

WASHINGTON, July 4 (U.P.)—It is a widespread, but erroneous impression that fuel oil will be more plentiful as a result of the defeat of Germany. Actually, according to PAW, there will be no increase in the amount of fuel oil set aside for civilian use until we have the type used for home heating purposes will be needed to carry whipped the Japanese.

Applications for converting from coal to oil in the East and Midwest have increased nearly 36 per cent

over the number received in the same period last year.

"The majority of these applications must of necessity be rejected," PAW warned. "PAW takes this stand not as a matter of preference but as a matter of necessity. The oil simply is not available to permit such conversions, even though new oil burners may be placed on the market."

THIEF LOSES HAUL IN TRAILING VICTIM

FLINT, Mich., July 4 (U.P.)—A robber who forced the door of a Flint shoe repair shop and struck its owner on the head was short changed.

He followed Benjamin G. Tracey to his shop after he saw his "flash."

to his shop after he saw his "flash."

STRAUSS SAYS—IT'S ONE DAY NEARER PEACE!



"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness!"

From the Declaration of Independence

And Junior—on occasion—erases the celebratory look—and with the Lincoln hand-over-the-heart Salute—pronounces reverently

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America—and to the Republic for which it stands—one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all!"

JULY FOURTH, 1776—JUNE TWENTY SIXTH, 1945

It is significant . . . that the signers of the Declaration wrote "All men." The "pledge to the Flag" ends on the challenging note . . . with liberty and justice for all."

President Truman addressing the Conference . . . spoke of it as a Charter of Peace . . . a World Constitution . . . "looking forward to the time when all worthy human beings may be permitted to live decently as free people."

From the Declaration of Independence . . . signed in Philadelphia 169 years ago . . . to the signing of the Charter . . . by 50 nations of the world in San Francisco just a week ago . . .

L. STRAUSS & COMPANY INC. THE MAN'S STORE

and continuing today in the Far East . . . where our men are carrying the Flag deeply in their hearts . . . and proudly and valiantly in the field of battle . . .

(they bought 2 Air Fields on Okinawa at the price of 3 cemeteries) . . .

the Flag is steadily, irresistibly, irrevocably moving toward its destiny . . .

It is a flag in the Service of Human Brotherhood . . . of Universal Liberty, Universal Justice. It seems ordained to be the Divine Instrument through which the Divine Spirit is bringing to the peoples of the world . . . the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy . . . the answer to their prayer, the injunction and the blessing . . .

"Peace on Earth . . . Good Will Toward Men!"