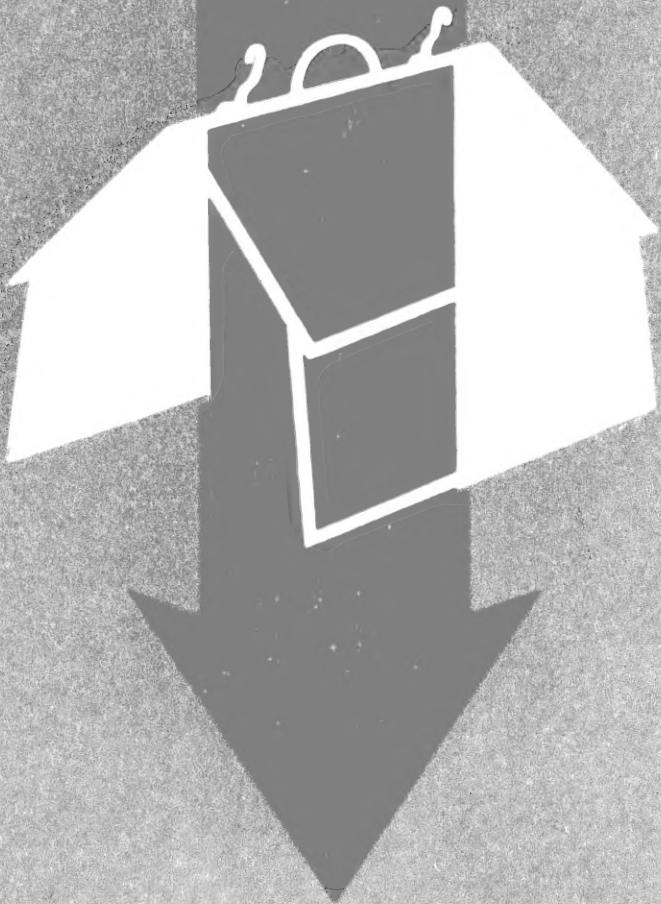


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The
CHASE WAY
to
Better Living



A Guide to the Use of the
CHASE P.M.G.

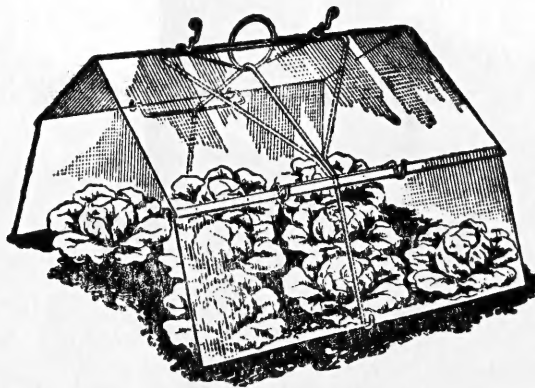
Specially written for the Modern American Horticulturist
by **CHARLES WYSE-GARDNER**

OVER 1,000,000 P.M.G.s SOLD EVERY YEAR!

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The
CHASE WAY
Better^{to} Living



by CHARLES
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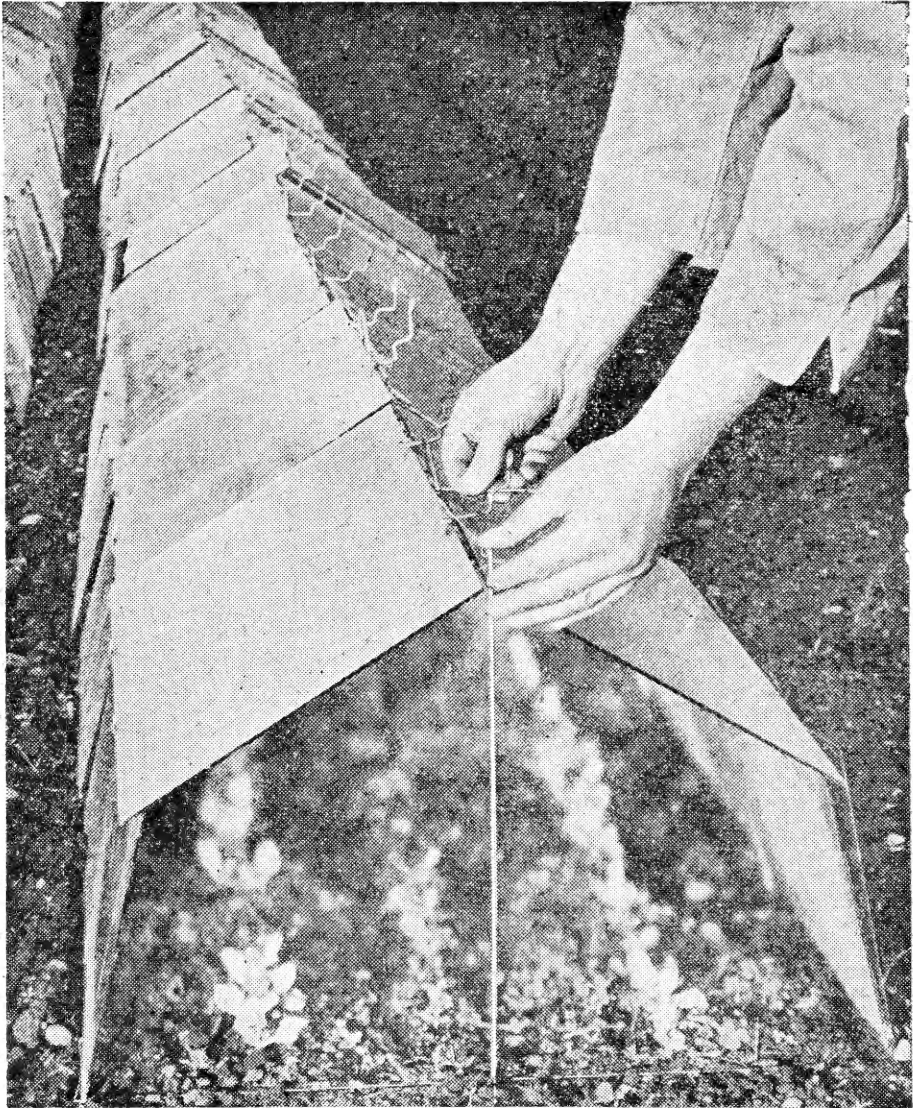
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ENGLAND



*The Chase P.M.G. is 18 inches long, 20 inches wide and
16 inches high to the ridge.*

USE P.M.G.s C-O-N-T-I-N-U-O-U-S-L-Y



Ten P.M.G.s. form a miniature greenhouse 15 feet long.

THE CHASE WAY TO BETTER LIVING

YOU may not know it, but you have a direct interest in gardening. And that interest is as direct and is no more distant than the next meal you hope to eat, for you are dependent upon a grower somewhere for all the food you use day by day.

This fact is so self evident that it often escapes direct recognition.

You also are interested in better living, better clothes to wear, better automobiles, better working conditions, better food. We all like a little luxury now and then in all the things we buy and use day by day.

What is the Chase Way to Better Living ?

FIRST

It is a tried and proven method whereby anyone—yes we mean ANYONE—can grow right in his home yard easily, simply and inexpensively a whole host of hard-to-get luxury items, things you have longed to have but which you have been unable to produce or to buy.

SECOND

For the knowledgeable amateur or the skilled professional it is a revelation of intensive growing, of quality production, with a professional tool which immediately opens up immeasurable vistas of horticultural experience and pleasure hitherto considered the exclusive right of the favoured few.

THIRD

It depends upon the use of a simple yet extraordinarily efficient tool—the Chase P.M.G. (portable miniature greenhouse) which can and will completely revolutionise any ideas you may now have as to home growing, be it flowers, fruit or vegetables.

How often have you passed the florists' shop early in March and wondered why your daffodils never looked like that? Well, they can.

Did you see those quarts of frozen strawberries in the A. & P. last week and wish you could take two home for supper? You can.

Did your husband complain about those mushy canned peas he had when you could not afford the quick-frozen ones? You can afford them now.

Yes, you can afford all these and many more similar luxuries, small things perhaps in themselves yet all of which go to make for better living. The answer is simply to grow them yourself, easily, simply, inexpensively—the Chase Way.

The Chase Way to Better Living is Simple

This is no complicated professional idea which requires a trained grower and a library full of garden books to operate it. Anyone with an interest in growing things, and an evening or two each week can fill the ice box and the freezer to overflowing with luscious, tempting fruits, fresh, crisp salads and at a time when prices in the stores are prohibitive.

The Chase Way to Better Living is Practical

The basic idea is as old as horticulture itself. It is the Chase Way that is new, the combination of a fine tool and simple, easy-to-follow instructions which will enable you to pick those daffodils early in March, or gather those rich, red strawberries fresh from the garden in April. Although the Chase Way is new to the United States it has been tried and retried in Europe for the past 30 years, tried under every conceivable type of conditions, tried and found to be first class. Literally millions of tons of food, extra badly needed food, were produced in England the Chase Way during the last war. People in gardens large and small, people with nothing more than a window box, quickly learned to grow the Chase Way. Yes. The idea is practical.

The Chase Way to Better Living is Inexpensive

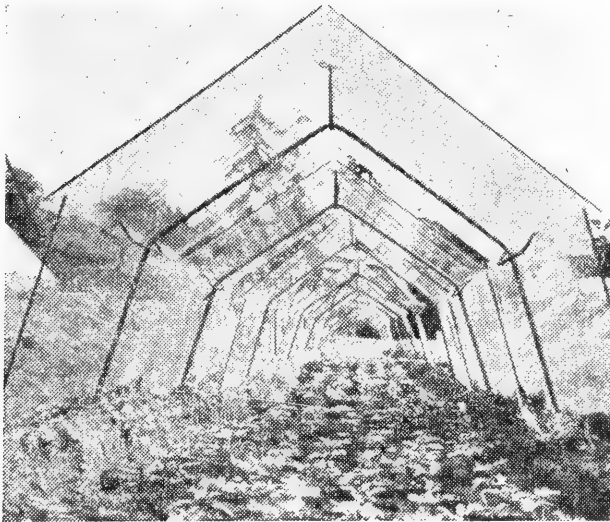
Although the results may be luxuries, the Chase Way is not, for by growing crops the Chase Way you can supply yourself

and your family with many of those otherwise unattainable luxuries, so pleasant to everyday living, with a minimum of effort and at a fractional cost that will astound you. Protection from disease, from birds, protection from early and late frosts, from city soot and smog—can bring three, four and even five crops, of high grade, top quality produce from your garden each season.

The Chase Way to Better Living is Adaptable to Everyone.

We are not talking to only a select few—those dyed-in-the-wood gardeners, those rampant enthusiasts who seem to manage to grow almost anything anywhere. No indeed., Although to enthusiasts such as these the Chase Way will be a blessing beyond compare it also can help you who have but a few hours a week to spare, or you who may live in an apartment and have—with the landlord's permission—laboriously gathered together a few pots and flats in which you grow a sprig of parsley or mint. To all and everyone who is interested in growing, no matter what the conditions or the type of plants may be,

THE CHASE WAY TO BETTER LIVING IS FOR YOU.



Young strawberry plants after being potted, put back under P.M.Gs.

The Chase Way to Bumper Crops for Better Living

It has been said the only thing you cannot do with a Chase P.M.G. is to walk through it, and it's true. Here are just a few pointers on the use of P.M.Gs. which will explain just how simple and how easy it is for you to succeed in raising bumper crops. First, in using P.M.Gs. you do not have to unlearn anything you may already know. It does not mean casting away tried garden practices; it merely means building up on them. The seed is sown in rows in the normal way. The harvesting is done in a similar manner—though, of course, much earlier—and the ground needs digging and manuring:



P.M.Gs. can fit into any gardener's "usual scheme," but it must be borne in mind that their use means that the soil has to work harder. The return every year from a piece of ground may be doubled or even trebled by the use of P.M.Gs., and it is

therefore absolutely essential that the necessary plant food shall be supplied. The humus content of the soil must therefore be kept high and this point is dealt with more fully at the end of the chapter on page 40 (Humus and Q.R. Composting).

(a) Preparing the ground

To grow good crops of anything it is necessary to dig your ground deeply, whether P.M.Gs. are used or not. Well-rotted farmyard manure or composted vegetable refuse should be applied at one two-gallon bucketful to the square yard and well forked in. If you have not yet started a compost pile, then any suitable form of humus can be used. Peatmoss, spent mushroom manure, michigan peat, all are excellent, and can be used at a similar rate, this being forked into the

the top six inches before sowing the seed. In addition, incorporate a fertiliser with an organic base at two ounces to the square yard. Wood ashes may be used in addition, if available, at four ounces to the square yard.

Finally apply ground limestone to the surface of the ground at four to five ounces to the square yard where most flower crops and peas, beans, the cabbage family, radishes and turnips are to be grown. Lime is not necessary for potatoes, parsnips, beetroot and other root crops unless the ground is known to be very acid, and then a light dressing at two to three ounces per square yard may be necessary. Lime washes or works into the ground so quickly that it is never advisable to dig it in. Remember also that strawberries dislike lime, and need an acid soil for proper growth and development.

(b) Sun

P.M.Gs. can trap the sun's rays as it were and "bottle them up" for the plants but they cannot manufacture them. A sunny position, therefore, ensures the maximum results from P.M.Gs. Early in the Spring and late in the Summer the rows are at their best running East and West, because they catch the last of the sun's rays and the earliest, too.

(c) Soil warming

Seeds often fail to germinate properly in the Spring because the soil is too cold. When P.M.Gs. are put into position 14 days or so before seed sowing, the soil is warmed and the seeds thus grow perfectly. This is a point of vital importance to northern or midwestern gardeners, for by the use of P.M.Gs. it is possible for you to grow first class high quality crops of such items as sweet corn, musk melons and tomatoes far beyond the point at which this is possible without protection. Growers in Canada are now using P.M.Gs. to raise sweet corn well up into Ontario, and then follow this crop by using the same P.M.Gs. to finish off late crops of either tomatoes or melons.



IT IS IN THESE DIFFICULT NORTHERN REGIONS WHERE THE GROWING SEASON IS BOTH SHORT AND UNCERTAIN THAT THE P.M.Gs. REALLY SHOW THEIR WORTH. THEY ARE INDISPENSIBLE TO GROWERS IN THESE AREAS.

Putting P.M.Gs. over the ground early also dries out the soil. This is important after a wet period in the Winter or Spring, when it is difficult to get a fine tilth for seed sowing. After the P.M.Gs. have been on the ground for ten days or so there is no difficulty in raking the soil down fine, for it will be "dried off" to the right consistency.

(d) Seed sowing

The seed is sown the same depth under P.M.Gs. as in the open but far fewer seeds are required, for under P.M.Gs. every seed grows. A vast economy of seed is thus effected.

Learn to space small seeds 1 inch or 2 inches apart as the variety demands and thus save time, for there will be less thinning out to do.

Under P.M.Gs. you can sow far earlier. February or March sowings may not be safe out of doors but they will be perfectly successful under continuous P.M.Gs., for they enable seeds to be sown much earlier in the Spring and much later in the Autumn.

(e) Space economy

Crops under P.M.Gs. mature more quickly—they are not so long in the ground. In addition, there is little hoeing to do, so crops may be sown closer together without any sacrifice of size or quality. Two rows can often be fitted into the space normally taken by one for this reason.

If the rows of P.M.Gs. are then arranged close together a small "alleyway" can be left between these and the next two rows. This enables the gardener to work down the rows with the greatest advantage.

(f) Ventilation

Continuous P.M.Gs. ventilate themselves automatically by means of the narrow aperture along the ridge. When the

weather gets warm, extra ventilation can be given by means of the ventilating handle. In really hot weather it may be necessary to lightly shade the top glasses with whitewash sprayed on with a hand syringe.

During Winter and Spring, the ends of the P.M.G. rows must be kept closed. Use a sheet of glass, wood or asbestos and hold it in place with a stake pushed firmly into the ground. Tie the top of the stake to the handle of the end P.M.G. in the row.

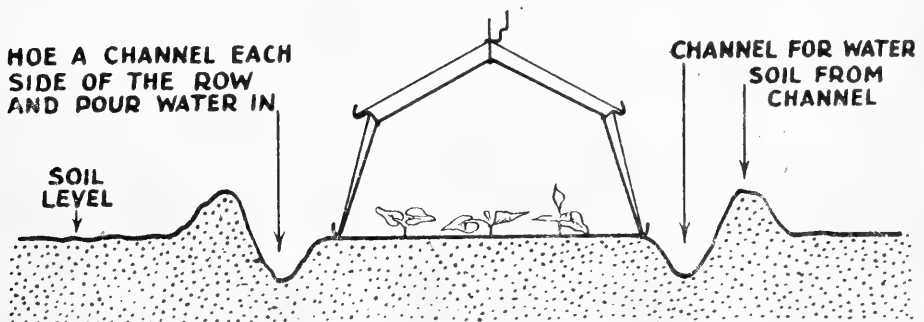
(g) Hoeing and weeding

This is easily carried out without moving the P.M.Gs. by removing the top sheet of glass, which gives easy access to the whole of the soil underneath. One sheet of each P.M.G. is removable and takes in and out in an instant without reducing the rigidity of the P.M.G.

(h) Watering

The secret of successful P.M.G. cultivation is to have spongy soil full of humus. In dry weather, the ground should always be given a thorough soaking before sowing or planting out. It is then unnecessary to lift the P.M.Gs. for watering, as water which drains down the glass will soak into the ground and seep sideways and downwards to the roots. To assist this, small channels can be hoed alongside the rows as shown in the diagram. The ground between the P.M.Gs. should be kept hoed, as if it is allowed to become caked, water which falls on it will run away and never reach the plants inside.

WATERING PLANTS GROWING UNDER P.M.Gs.



It is important to realise that the water which soaks sideways also soaks downwards, and so never reaches the surface in the middle of the row. In the case of seeds and seedlings, it may be necessary, therefore, during a very dry spell, to lift the P.M.Gs. and water the ground underneath them; this is an exception to the general rule.

(i) Movability

Chase Continuous P.M.Gs. are so firmly made that they can easily be moved about. Though they take to pieces easily and quickly they need never be dismembered because they can always be in use over some crop.

(j) Planned cropping

Some crops will grow under P.M.Gs. from start to finish, e.g. lettuces.

Sometimes P.M.Gs. are used just to start plants off on their way and give them the necessary protection from birds, cold winds and rain. Thus the same P.M.Gs. can be used to cover successional sowings of any particular crop.

(k) City gardening

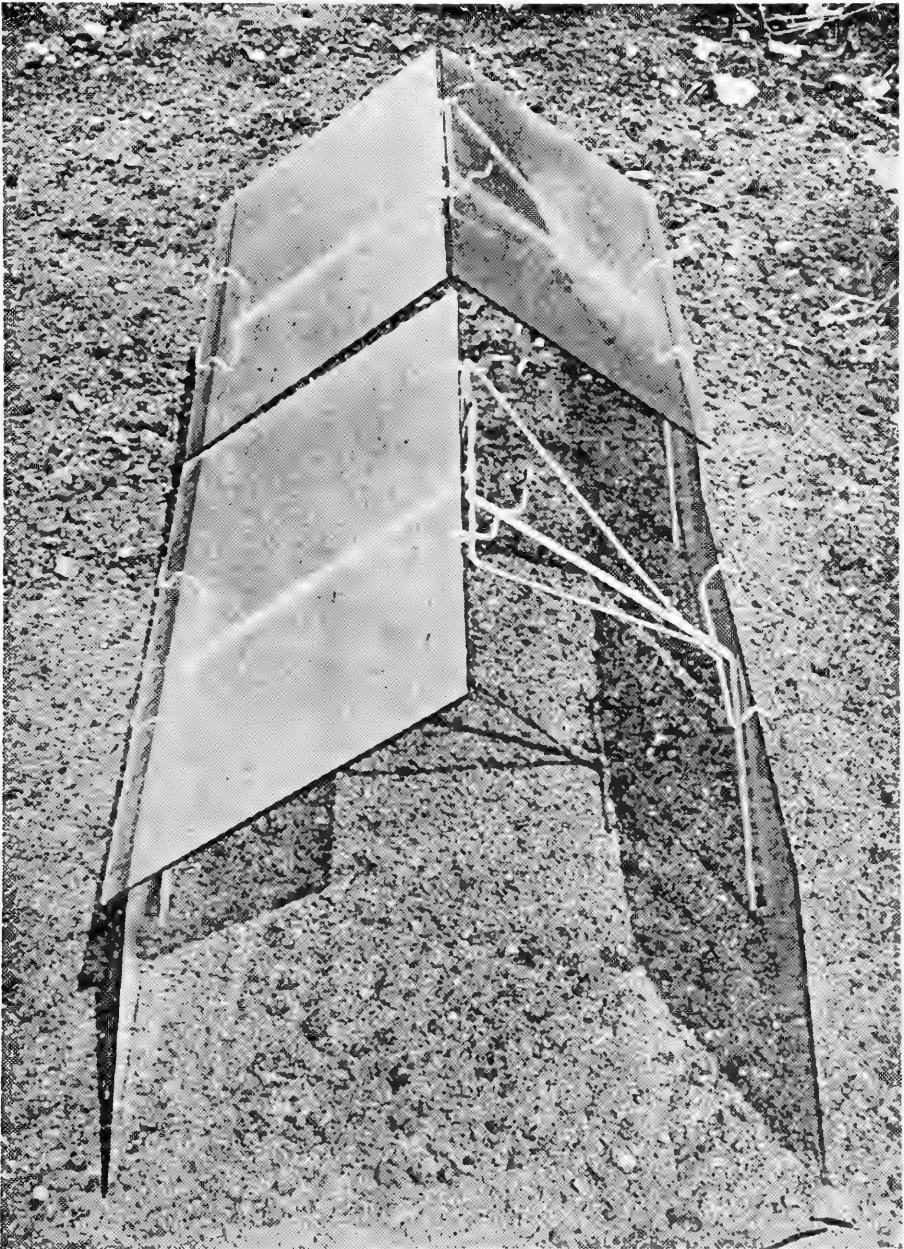
The P.M.G. is of prime importance to city gardeners, for it not only brings on the crops earlier and in better condition, but in the case of vegetable or delicate flowers the produce is protected from soot, smog, and other similar and undesirable contaminations. P.M.Gs. are essential for the city grower who takes a pride in producing nothing but the best.

(l) Pests

Many pests and diseases are far less troublesome under P.M.Gs. Some simply do not attack P.M.G.-grown crops.

GROWING THE CHASE WAY PRODUCES LARGER CROPS OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY IN THE SHORTEST TIME.

THE ROOF IS REMOVABLE
on the Chase P.M.G.



For tending and watering the crops or for gathering produce one section of the roof can be removed without affecting the P.M.G. in any way.

Cropping Programs

The Chase P.M.G. is not a "stunt gadget" to use for a short while in early Spring. It is a practical horticultural tool, which can and should be used somewhere in the garden throughout the whole of the 12 months.

Most important of all, Chase P.M.Gs. are made of glass, the only substance suitable for the protection of plants, for it lets in the heat and light rays essential for growth and it also prevents the warm air from getting out. These qualities are peculiar to glass, and glass substitutes simply will not do, for they starve the plants of light and lead to yellowing and stunted growth.

Please do not confuse the Chase P.M.G. with the old outmoded "Hotcap" for although it will do all that the hotcap can and better, it is as different in its design, in its use, and in the result obtained as is possible. The Chase P.M.G. has a definite part to play in your gardening, be it January or June, April or October. To give you some idea of what we mean, here are four sample 12 months cropping programs. Once you have some P.M.Gs. in your garden, many more combinations will immediately be apparent, but the samples will give you an idea how versatile the P.M.G. is.

P.M.Gs. ON A SINGLE STRIP

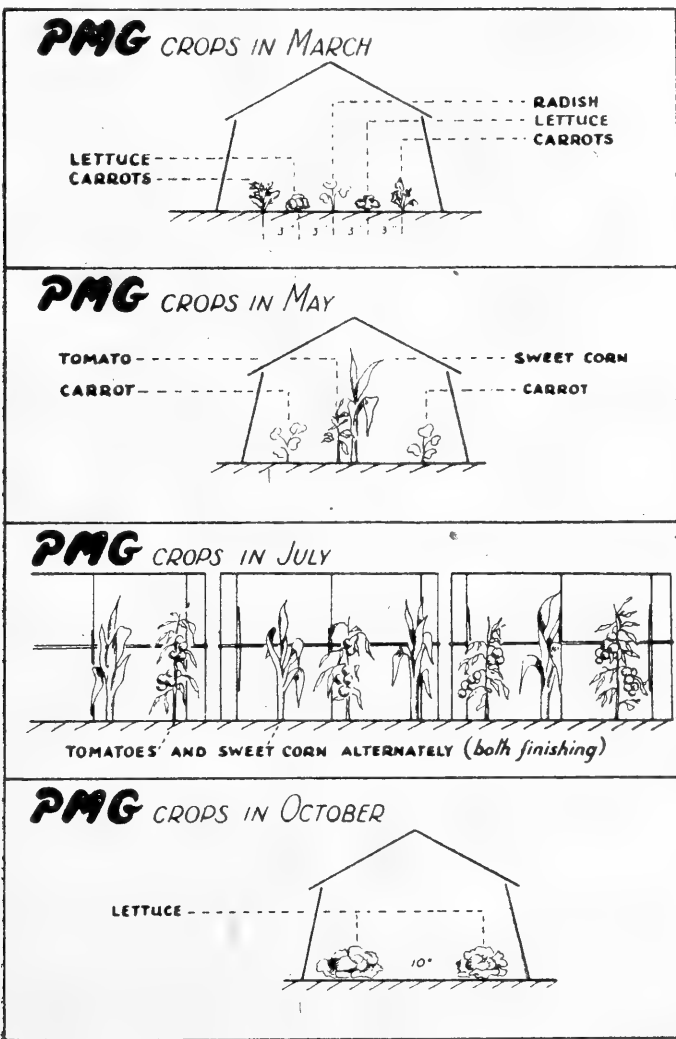
Suppose you have only a very small strip of ground and cannot keep moving the P.M.Gs. about from place to place. What is the minimum area on which they can be used and what is the maximum crop that can be obtained?

First, the minimum area. A set of 10 P.M.Gs. needs an area 15 feet long and 2 feet wide—30 square feet in all. If you are to get maximum crops you must prepare the ground well. The top six inches ought to be about half compost, so your compost requirements will be about a quarter of a cubic yard, say 2 to 3 cwt.

Now for the crops.

Cover the ground with the P.M.Gs. at the beginning of February to warm it and as soon as you can, sow two rows of lettuce 6 inches apart with a row of radish between the two lettuce rows. Now sow two rows of carrots, each 3 inches outside the lettuces. Thin out your lettuces to stand

8 inches apart. As soon as the radish are pulled, put out tomato plants at stations 18 inches apart down the centre of the P.M.Gs. and sow three sugar corn seeds at points half way between the stations. Leave the P.M.Gs. in position until late May and then stand them on end on the North Side of the row to give protection from wind. In early August, sow two rows of lettuce 5 inches from the tomatoes (the sugar corn will have been cropped and cut down by then) and before the first frost cuts down the tomato vines, replace the P.M.Gs. and cover the lettuce for cutting in October and November.



TWO-STRIP CROPPING

Generally speaking, it is better to keep shifting the P.M.Gs. from one crop to another and in the method of "two-strip" cropping the P.M.Gs. are shifted backwards and forwards between two adjacent strips of soil. A set of 10 P.M.Gs. will require an area 4 feet by 15 feet and four crops a year can be grown. Here is a suggested rotation :

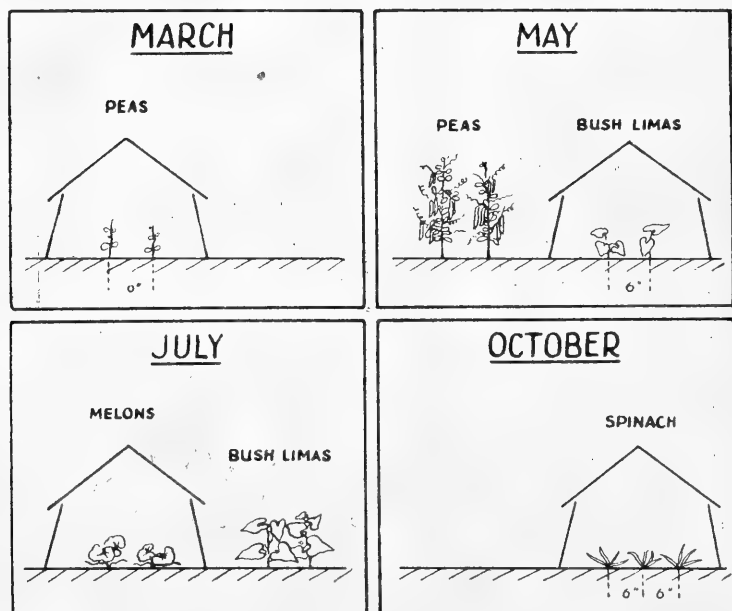
PEAS. Sow in early February and keep covered until early April when the crop reaches the roof of the P.M.Gs. Then remove the glass and let the peas finish in the open.

BUSH LIMAS. Sow under P.M.Gs. in early April and keep covered until the end of May, when most of frost has passed.

MELONS. As soon the peas are cropped, clear the land and put out musk melon plants, one under every other P.M.G. and keep covered until the weather is really hot. Have the P.M.Gs. on end to protect the plants from late frost and wind.

SPINACH. When the bush limas have finished, clear the ground and sow Winter spinach—this will be early September. At the end of the month, move the P.M.Gs. from the melons on to the spinach and keep the crop covered throughout the Winter.

TWO STRIP CROPPING



12 MONTH FLOWER CROPPING PROGRAM

Winter

Pansies covered from November to March. Seed sown in previous March (under a P.M.G.). Plants put out for summer in shade. Transferred to permanent quarters in September. Flower under P.M.Gs. in February.

(Alternatives: Polyanthus, Calendula).

Early Spring

Sweet peas, sown under P.M.Gs. in permanent quarters in early March. Covered until mid-April when they will grow on in the open to flower in May.

(Alternatives: Larkspur, cornflower, Nigella).

Late Spring

Zinnias, sown directly under P.M.Gs. in early April are kept covered until late May when risk of frost has passed and they can grow on in the open. In this way, five weeks growing time is saved.

(Alternative: Dahlias).

Summer

Cuttings may be taken in early June, both of perennial plants like phlox, Michaelmas daisies, etc., and also shrubs like philadelphus, spirea, etc. The cuttings are inserted about two inches square and a single P.M.G. will cover up to 50 cuttings.

Fall

Delphiniums, pyrethrums, scabious in the herbaceous border. Cover these with P.M.Gs. throughout the Winter and protect from wet and severe cold.

(Alternative: Fall sown sweet peas).

FOR QUALITY AND EARLINESS YOU HAVE TO GROW "THE CHASE WAY."

A 12 MONTHS MIXED CROPPING PROGRAM FOR COLD DISTRICTS

Early Spring

Cover daffodils from the time of their first appearance above ground until they reach the top of the P.M.Gs. Do not cover throughout the Winter. To get them early they must be cold first and warm later.

Late Spring

As soon as the P.M.Gs. come off the daffodils, move them over maiden strawberry plants and keep them in place until the crop is picked. You will get large, luscious, perfectly clean fruit a month or so before the outdoor crop.

Summer

As soon as the strawberries have finished fruiting, move the P.M.Gs. to cover musk melons.

Fall

Sow lettuce in August and cover with P.M.Gs. just before the date on which you expect the first frosts. You will be able to enjoy fresh salads in November.



September sown Cornflowers. Photograph taken January

Directions for Growing FLOWERS



Here are some details as to how you can grow some of your favourite flowers to undreamed of perfection with the use of P.M.Gs. Save time, save money and grow them yourself in your own garden.

The P.M.G. can be used in just the same manner and to the same degree that you would use a cool unheated greenhouse. It will enable you to sow seeds of half-hardy annuals such as Zinnias or Petunias at least a month before you can be sure of not having a late Spring frost. This month is "gained time" in your cropping schedule. You can raise your own seedlings of such items as Petunias, Salvias, Coleus and Larkspur, and have them established ready for transplanting a month to six weeks earlier.

Secondly, you can use your P.M.Gs. to bring through the Winter fall-sown seedlings of hardy annuals and biennials such as Wallflowers, Sweet Peas and Canterbury Bells.

SOWING CONDITIONS

When sowing the seed, soil should be friable and just nicely moist. The surface should be raked to a fine tilth as level as possible. The site should have been well manured or composted for a previous crop. Freshly manured soil would tend to give rank growth. It is always an advantage to put the P.M.Gs. in position a week or so before sowing in the fall or early Spring to warm up the soil.

ASTERS

Asters for cutting in June. Yes, sow the varieties you prefer in well prepared soil in late March or early April—depending on the season. Sow thinly and then transplant the surplus as soon as they are large enough to handle. Remove the P.M.G. as soon as frosts are past but do not worry if you get a slight nip late in the season. The Aster will stand it.

CALENDULA or SCOTCH MARIGOLD

For continuous cutting this plant stands alone. Again it is much more hardy—particularly with a little light protection—than is supposed. Treat them as you would Sweet Peas, making a sowing both in the fall and the Spring to give you continuous production of blooms.

CAMPANULA

Here is another hardy annual, well able to take care of itself through the winter with the help of a P.M.G. Sow in late Summer—August—transplant in groups where they will flower the following Spring and cover for the Winter. Alternatively sow in rows in August, thin out to three or four inches and cover the row with P.M.Gs. Transplant early in the Spring as soon as the soil is workable.

CARNATIONS

Another beauty for cutting, for the bright flowers can fill your home with that delicious spicy fragrance which belongs only to the Carnation. The seedlings are hardier than is supposed and they can be treated in exactly the same manner as Sweet Peas. If you have very extreme Winters the fall-sown seedlings may not come through, but given half a chance they will. Early Spring sowing—late March—is quite in order under P.M.Gs.

COLEUS

These bright showy foliage plants are no more difficult to raise under P.M.Gs. than are snaps or Petunias. Follow the same procedure as for Petunias.

COSMOS

For a bright splash of color at the back of the annual border, the Cosmos is unsurpassed. Sow where you intend it to flower. Transplant surplus as soon as frosts are past.

LARKSPUR

Again a beauty for bright splashes of those delightful delphinium blue flowers. Sow in late Spring—end of April—where the plants will flower.

PANSIES AND VIOLAS



Pansies really are much more hardy than is supposed. Strong, healthy plants are raised by sowing seed in August, transplanting 4 to 5 inches apart in three staggered rows and then covering the three rows with one set of P.M.Gs. for the Winter. Early in the Spring the plants can be set out into their permanent flowering quarters in groups, covering each group with a P.M.G. for really early flowers of high quality.

First sowing : Early April under P.M.Gs.

Flower : Early June.

P.M.Gs. in use : April and part of May.

Subsequent sowings : August.

P.M.Gs. in use : October to April.

Variety : Swiss Giant.

Violas, which are a perennial type of pansy, can be grown in exactly the same way.

PETUNIAS

Sow in flats in mid-April. Cover the flat with a single P.M.G. The seed is very fine and should not be covered. Sow thinly and shade the P.M.G. with a light spray of whitewash. Keep surface of the flat moist.

The seedlings will rapidly germinate and as soon as they are large enough to handle they can then be transplanted to their final outdoor positions, this being done at the normal time of the season.



SALVIAS

The Scarlet Sage is an ideal subject for the P.M.G. Sow and transplant as described for Zinnias.

SNAPDRAGONS

Here is another cutting favourite. Sow in mid-April in warm, rich soil. Transplant surplus seedlings in mid-May to give a second batch.

SWEET WILLIAM

Treat this exactly as you would the Campanula. In fact, if you are out for early Spring bloom why not sow a long row, partly to Sweet Peas, Calendulas, Campanulas, Wallflowers and Sweet Williams, then cover the whole row with a continuous set of P.M.Gs. and have a fine "mixed grill" of wonderful flowering plants to bed out early in the Spring?

SWEET PEAS

The finest quality exhibition Sweet Peas are grown only from fall sown seed. Up to now, it has been possible to sow seed only in the southern states at this time. But with the aid of the P.M.G. you who live in Columbus, Ohio, or Rochester, New York, can try this method, knowing that if the Winter is at all normal the young seedlings will come through in fine style.

Sow seed in late August or September in a well drained and prepared site. Once the seedlings are well up, cover with P.M.Gs. and give full ventilation whenever possible.

As early in the Spring as possible, remove the P.M.Gs., before new growth commences. Protect the seedlings with a light screen of brush. The result will be unusually sturdy plants which will produce flowers of a greater size and strength over a much longer period.

Sow : End of August or September.

Flower : The following late Spring or Summer.

P.M.Gs. in use : October to March.

Varieties : Any well known varieties as listed of your choice. Spencer varieties are excellent.

ZINNIAS

For either early or late blooms Zinnias produced under P.M.Gs. are outstanding. With the added help and protection you can bring on fine, sturdy plants three weeks before your neighbour.

First sowing : Mid-April or about a month before all danger of frost is past. In hard weather protect the P.M.Gs. with burlap.

Transplant : As soon as large enough to handle, which will be about a month from sowing.

Flower : Early Summer.

P.M.Gs. in use : April, May.



VEGETABLES

The dates are approximate and apply to a normal season. In warm districts it may be possible to sow two weeks earlier. In colder districts the weather may delay sowings. "P.M.Gs. in use" shows the months in which P.M.Gs. normally remain in place. Generally speaking, leave P.M.Gs. in position until the plants reach the top, unless growing seedlings for planting out.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS

First sowings : End of February—early March.

Harvested : September—November.

P.M.Gs. in use : February—April.

Subsequent sowings : Late fall.

Variety : Long Island Improved.

General Cultivation

Ensure thin sowing by whitening seeds with lime first. Seed should be sown in drills half an inch deep and 6 inches apart under P.M.Gs. Prick out seedlings when 2 inches high to 3 inches apart under further P.M.Gs. Plant in the open ground in April or early May.

Further sowings may be made in late fall.

Always start picking from the bottom of the plant first.

BUSH LIMAS

First sowings : April.

Harvested : Late June—July.

P.M.Gs. in use : March, April, May.

Variety : Fordhook,

Follow with second sowing of Fordhook 242.

General Cultivation

The Bush Lima is a "natural" for the P.M.G. Lima beans require a well worked soil, and by covering a strip early in March with a row of P.M.Gs. you can have the

ground in a fit condition to sow at least a month earlier. Soil well enriched with compost is ideal.

CABBAGE AND KALES

First sowings : Late February or early March as soon as the soil is workable.

Harvested : June.

Subsequent sowings : September.

Harvested : March and April.

P.M.Gs. in use : October to April.

Varieties : Spring—Early Jersey.

September—Danish Ball Head.

General Cultivation

For the earliest Spring cabbages sow in September and for the early Summer cabbages sow end of February. Draw out drills $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep and 6 inches apart. Whiten seeds with lime. Sow about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch apart. Cover with P.M.Gs.

When plants are 2 inches high, transplant 3 inches apart under other P.M.Gs. One month later transplant 1 foot square in open.

Cover two or three rows with P.M.Gs., growing others in open. When cabbages are cut transfer P.M.Gs. to other rows.

In the South, the September sowing can be brought on under P.M.Gs. for a late winter heading or in colder climates the seedlings can be protected under P.M.Gs. for early Spring planting.

CANTALOUPE OR MUSK MELON

First sowings : Middle of April.

Harvested : Early July.

P.M.Gs. in use : April to June.

Varieties : Hales Best, Early Knight, Honeydew.

General Cultivation

Cantaloupes require a warm, well worked rich soil. See that the hills have been well enriched with compost or manure. Cover each hill as early as possible in the season and wait until the ground is well warmed and friable. Sow about eight seeds to a hill and lightly cover. As they germinate cut off just below the ground all seedlings except the three strongest. Give full ventilation as the weather will allow and remove the P.M.Gs. only when all danger of frosts or even of low night temperatures is past. As the plants begin to run stop the leaders when they are about a foot long.

CARROTS

First sowings : Late February or as soon as the soil is workable.

Harvested : May.

P.M.Gs. in use : February to April.

Autumn sowings : August.

Harvested : October.

Subsequent sowings : March, April, May, June, etc.

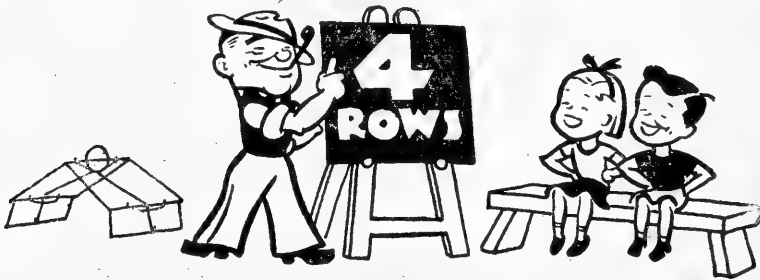
Varieties : Scarlet Nantes, Halflong Chantenay.

For main crop : James Scarlet Intermediate.

General Cultivation

With P.M.Gs. you can have carrots the year round. Starting in January, sowings should be made in February, March, August, September and October. Draw out drills 1 inch deep, arranging four rows under P.M.Gs., 6 or 8 inches apart. To ensure thin sowing mix equal quantity of sand with seed.

A row of carrots goes well between two rows of lettuce or two rows of carrots on either side of a row of lettuce.



Sow thinly so that no thinning need be done. Carrots need plenty of water. P.M.Gs. may be removed if necessary and the ground well watered between the rows and the P.M.Gs. put back for the night.

CORN (SWEET)

First sowings : April.

Harvested : Late June and July.

P.M.Gs. in use : April and May.

Varieties : Golden Bantam, Country Gentleman,
Golden cross bantam (hybrid cross).

General Cultivation

If it were possible to say that Chase P.M.Gs. were specially designed to suit one crop, then that crop could only be sweet corn. The rich creamy sweetness of a P.M.G. grown cob, harvested as early as the end of June, has to be experienced to be believed.

You have not grown corn until you have grown it the Chase Way. You have not eaten it until you have eaten a P.M.G. raised cob.

Sweet corn is a gross feeder, so manure the soil well.

Sow seeds singly 3 inches apart, one row to a P.M.G., and take a catch crop of lettuce on either side. When the plants reach the top of the glass remove the P.M.G. Thin dwarf varieties to 9 inches apart and tall varieties to 18 inches. It is better to grow two or more rows, as this improves pollination. Remove the side-shoots of dwarf varieties when about 4 inches long.

The cobs are ready to cut when the silken tassels have turned dark brown.

CUCUMBER

First sowings : Early April.

Harvested : Late June.

P.M.Gs. in use : April to June.

Subsequent sowings : May.

Varieties : Longfellow, Kirby Long strain.

General Cultivation

Should be sown and treated as for melons except that the seed should be sown slightly earlier. But be sure the soil is rich if you wish to get good crops.

LETTUCE

First sowings for Spring use : Late February or as soon as the soil is workable.

Harvested : April, May.

For fall use : Mid to late August.

For overwintering : October.

P.M.Gs. in use : February sowing—February to April.

March sowing—March to May.

August sowing—October to December.

October sowing—October to February.

Varieties : First sowings—Early Hanson, Slobolt, May King.

Later sowings and fall : Imperial 44 or 456.

General Cultivation

To get best results, finely divided organic matter, preferably compost, should be forked into the top 4 or 5 inches at five to six ounces to the square yard and a good fertiliser with an organic base raked into the top 3 or 4 inches at four to five ounces per square yard. A similar dressing of wood ashes may be given also.

Divide main sowings into two periods. 1. Seed sown in February for early Summer use. 2. Seed sown in mid-August and mid-October for Winter use. Put the P.M.Gs. in position two weeks before the seed is to be sown. Rake down finely, prepare drills $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep, and sow the seed very thinly. Under P.M.Gs. two-rows, plus a row of carrots down the centre. To ensure succession, sow third week February, and the second week March. Thin to 4 inches apart. Before plants get overcrowded, thin to 8 inches. Use second thinnings.

August sowings provide lettuces for November and up to Christmas. October sowings provide lettuces in March to April. October sowings are often transplanted from special seed bed into the open under further P.M.Gs. in January. From the same sowings the earliest plants will be those which have not been transplanted. If this is borne in mind it is easy to get a succession.

MINT

Division : March.

P.M.Gs. in use : November to March.

Variety : The True Spearmint.

General Cultivation

Any soil will do. A shady position suits quite well. Do not allow bed to be down more than two years. Plant roots in March, 6 inches apart in rows. Before planting, wash roots very thoroughly in running water to clear any possible rust spores.

Cut stems back in November. Cover with P.M.Gs. Close ends with a sheet of glass or square of wood. For extra warmth, cover bed with layer of straw first.



ONIONS

First sowing : Spring—February or as soon as the soil can be worked.

Harvested : July.

First sowing : Fall, for bunching only, August.

P.M.Gs. in use : Spring—February to April.

Fall—August to February.

Varieties : Spring—Danvers Yellow Globe.

Fall, for bunching—Hardy white bunching.

General Cultivation

Under P.M.Gs. it is possible to produce early plants and as a result, large bulbs. Attacks by Onion Fly are few and far between. Dig the soil over a spade's depth sometime before seed sowing so as to allow it to settle down. Incorporate well rotted organic matter 6 inches down at the rate of one good barrow-load to 12 square yards. Fork into top 3 or 4

inches (all per square yard) superphosphate at 2 ounces, steamed bone flour at 2 ounces, wood ashes at $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. and soot at $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. or use instead a good proprietary fertiliser with organic base.

Firm soil before sowing seed.

Onions require plenty of water for germination. If necessary, remove P.M.Gs. and water ground direct.

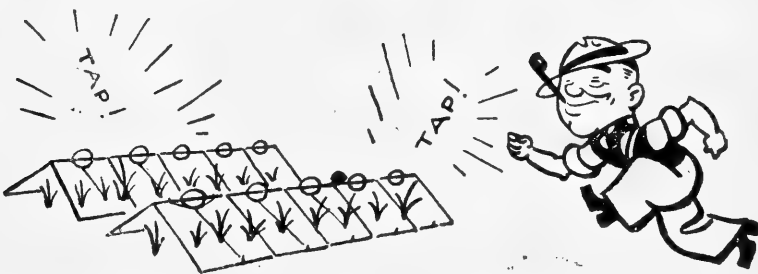
Fall sowing.— For bunching only.

Choose soil well manured for previous crop. Sow seed early in August. Rows 9 inches apart, drills $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Either cover immediately with P.M.Gs. or cover early October. Salad onions are thus available very early Spring.

Spring sowing

February sowings in rows 4 inches apart under P.M.Gs. Drills $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch deep. Space out seeds to 1 inch apart, whitening with lime first. Grow under P.M.Gs. till April. Second or third week plant out in rows 1 foot plants 9 inches in rows.

OR seed may be sown in February or March where plants are to grow. Drills $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Three seeds sown at 6 inch intervals. Seedlings thinned down to one if all three grow. P.M.Gs. left in position until leaves touch glass. May then be left to grow in open.



Whatever transplanting is done must be done shallowly After transplanting, sprinkle flaked naphthalene along rows to keep away onion fly. To help harvesting, bend over necks of plants in July and August.

PARSLEY

First sowings :

Summer use—Early March. Harvested : Summer.

Winter use— Early August. Harvested : Winter.

P.M.Gs. in use :

Spring sowing—March, April and May.

August sowing—August to April.

Variety : Champion Moss Curled.

General Cultivation

Seeds may be sown any time between January and August. Open up heavy soils by forking in sand, flue dust, etc. Apply hydrated lime to the surface of the soil at 3 to 4 ounces per square yard before seed sowing. Parsley appreciates well-rotted organic matter 7 inches down. Into the top 2 or 3 inches a fertiliser with an organic base should be forked at 4 ounces per square yard.

Sow seed thinly $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Useful as an edging plant. Thin before plants get overcrowded to 6 inches apart. Parsley likes firm soil, so firm after thinning. If plants tend to get coarse, cut down hard.

To avoid frost during Winter, pick off large outer leaves before covering with P.M.Gs.

PEAS

First sowing : February or as early as the soil is workable.

Harvested ; Late May.

P.M.Gs. in use : February to April.

Subsequent sowings : March, July.

Varieties : Extra Early Morning Star, Early Bird, Early Delicious.

General Cultivation

Continuous P.M.Gs. save pea guards, and prevent the plants from being beaten down by wind or rain. So, with dwarfs, no staking is necessary. Varieties above may be grown under P.M.Gs. the whole time till harvested.

Dig in farmyard manure or compost 8 inches down at rate of one barrow-load to 12 square yards. Fork in complete fertiliser into top 4 inches at 5 ounces per square yard. If

available, use wood ashes 6 ounces per square yard also. Draw out drills 2 inches deep. Space seeds 3 inches apart. Cover over, firm, put P.M.Gs. into position. Close ends with sheets of glass. Sowings may be made every 14 days till July.

Mice may burrow to get at seeds so soak them before sowing with mixture of paraffin and red lead, mixed to a creamy consistency. Or use traps.

PEPPERS

Sow : Mid-April.

Harvest : End of June to July.

P.M.Gs. in use : End of March to mid-May.

Varieties : Sweet Sunnybrook, Large Thick Hot, Californian Wonder Hot, Hot Bell.

General Cultivation

Both sweet and hot peppers can be raised to perfection under Chase P.M.Gs. Peppers, like melons and egg plants, require a rich warm soil. Cover your plot with Chase P.M.Gs. well in advance of sowing after having worked in a generous dressing of manure or compost. As soon as the soil is warm and working well—about mid-April—sow your peppers. Thin out in mid-May and transplant surplus to adjacent rows.

SUGAR PEAS

First sowings : As for peas.

First sowings harvested : As for peas.

Variety : Mammoth Luscious Sugar.

General Cultivation

Grow exactly as peas. Pull pods when young. Cook whole. Serve hot or cut up and use cold in salads.



POLE LIMA BEANS

Sow : Early to late April, according to season.

Harvested : End of June or earlier.

Variety : Kentucky Wonder.

General Cultivation

Sow as for Bush Limas. Keep the plants covered until all chance of frost is past. Then remove P.M.Gs. and stake in the usual way. A fine crop of high quality beans will follow at least a month earlier than on the outside crop.

NEW POTATOES

Time to plant : Mid-March.

Time to harvest : May.

Variety : Chippewa.

General Cultivation

Each tuber should be about the size of hen's egg. Obtain very early. Place on trays to sprout in airy, frost-proof, well-lighted shed or glasshouse. Strong shoots should develop by second week February. Leave only two per tuber.

Early in March level ground where planting is to take place, covering with P.M.Gs. Fourteen days later, take out drill 4 inches deep, plant potatoes 1 foot apart. Cover over. Put P.M.Gs. back into position.

Remove P.M.Gs. when shoots 6 inches high to earth-up. Possible to have catch-crop of radish alongside potato rows.

RADISH

First sowings : As soon as possible in Spring.

P.M.Gs. in use : All the year.

Subsequent sowings : Any time.

Varieties : Early Scarlet Globe, French Breakfast.

General Cultivation

Radishes may be sown under P.M.Gs. at any time. Most valuable months January, February, March, April. Fork plenty of finely divided organic matter into top 3 inches. This ensures rapid growth, which with P.M.Gs. gives firm, succulent roots, which are not too "hot."

Sow seeds shallowly, thinly, watering drills if weather is dry. May be sown between rows of lettuces or on both sides of single row lettuces. May be sown between carrots.

SHELL BEANS

First sowings : Late March, early April, or as soon as the soil is workable.

Harvested : September.

P.M.Gs. in use : Late March to May.

General Cultivation

Sow seeds as advised for Snap beans. Do not pick pods at all. Leave until late August or early September. Then pull plants up and leave to dry for a few days under P.M.Gs.



Thresh by putting plants into sacks and beating them with sticks. Store beans thus threshed out in jars or tins and use during Winter. There is a great difficulty in ripening the pods thoroughly when growing Shell beans in the open. P.M.Gs. are therefore ideal for this crop.

SNAP BEANS

First sowings : Late March, early April, or as soon as the soil is workable.

Harvested : June.

P.M.Gs. in use : March—May.

Subsequent sowings : July, for P.M.G. protection in the fall.

Varieties : Longreen, All American Winner, Golden Wax, Round Pod Kidney.

General Cultivation

Sow seed 2 inches deep, 4 inches apart. Make first sowing in early April and periodic sowings once a fortnight until July or August if desired. July and August sowings produce delicious pods in September and October.

During dry weather, take out shallow drills on either side of the rows of P.M.Gs. and give these a thorough soaking from time to time.

This is most important, as if the beans are allowed to get dry they will become stringy and almost uneatable.

In damp weather look for signs of mildew and remove immediately any affected beans.

SPINACH

First sowings : Nobel—March.

Second sowings : New Zealand—April.

Fall sowings : Nobel.

Harvesting : Nobel—May and late fall.

New Zealand—June onwards.

General Cultivation

Use prickly-seeded (Winter) spinach all the year round for P.M.G. work. It will grow on almost any soil. Dig in compost 8 inches down, and fork an organic fertiliser into the top 4 inches at 5 ounces per square yard. Sow very thinly in 1 inch drills and thin plants to 6 inches apart. It is a good plan to sow once a month from September to December.

New Zealand spinach is very susceptible to frost, but it never goes to seed and is not affected by the hottest weather. Sow seeds where plants are to grow 1 inch deep, 4 inches apart. Thin to 2 feet apart as the plants spread and take up a lot of room.

TABLE BEETS

First sowings : Early March or as soon as the soil can be worked.

Harvested : Early June.

P.M.Gs. in use : March to April.

Subsequent sowings : April, May, June, July, August.

Varieties : Early Wonder, Winterkeeper.

General Cultivation

Draw out drills $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. Sow seeds 2 inches apart. For quick germination soak the seeds overnight in water.

When the plants are 3 inches high, thin to 4 inches apart, transplanting any thinnings to gaps found if necessary. When roots are the size of golf balls, thin again to 8 inches apart. These little roots are delicious when served hot as a vegetable.

Successional sowings may be made at intervals until July or August. This last sowing should be covered with P.M.Gs. in September, the roots being pulled in October or November. Table Beets may be stored in sand or ashes.

TOMATOES

First sowings : March.

Harvested : July, August.

P.M.Gs. in use : March to September.

Varieties : Rutgers, Dwarf Stone.

General Cultivation

Plants are ordinarily raised in a hot-house and planted out under P.M.Gs. from the end of March to the end of June. If no hot-house is available, seed may be sown under a P.M.G. at the end of March. To prepare the soil, fork into it plenty of peat humus and a little superphosphate, and apply a light dressing of lime. Sow seeds 1 inch square and water in with tepid water. Keep both ends of the P.M.G. firmly sealed. In very cold weather cover the P.M.G. with sacking.



Tomatoes are best grown in trenches, which give extra protection and assist watering. They should be not more than 9 inches deep and 18 inches wide. Plants are put about 20 inches apart and stakes used which will just go under the P.M.Gs. Wire should then be run about 2 inches below the top of the P.M.G., and when the plant reaches this, it is carefully and gently trained along it. The P.M.Gs. can be kept in position during the whole of the growth, but ventilation being given along the row or even by removing the top sheets at intervals.

Or P.M.Gs. may be used at the beginning, and when the plants get too tall for them they are taken off and placed on end on the north side of the rows, which should run from East to West. The plants are then grown on in the ordinary way until four trusses have set, when they are untied, laid down in the trenches, and the P.M.Gs. put back for them to ripen the fruit.

General points to note are :—

1. The ground must be very thoroughly soaked before planting out, and thereafter watering need only be done about once a week if the ground contains sufficient humus. Watering should be occasional and heavy, rather than frequent and light, and regularity is important, or cracking of fruit will result.
2. Side shoots should be pinched out early, the exception being that it is advisable to leave the bottom side shoots until the first truss has set.
3. When potash is unobtainable give as much wood ash as possible.

TURNIPS

First sowings : Early March.

First sowings harvested : May.

P.M.Gs. in use : March to May.

Subsequent sowings : Winter turnips July and August.

Summer—Once a month till end of June.

Variety : Early White Milan.

General Cultivation

P.M.Gs. can ensure delicious tennis-ball sized roots almost all the year round. Tendency outside for plants to run to seed, or be badly attacked by flea beetle. Under P.M.Gs., neither ! Do not manure with farmyard manure. Fork into top 6 inches compost, spent hops, etc., at $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to square yard. Apply also good fertiliser with organic base at 5 ounces per square yard.

Sow early March, drills $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. Thin to 6 inches apart when 1 inch high. Two rows fit well under P.M.Gs.

Sow Winter turnips in July or August. Thin to 6 inches apart when 2 inches high, further thinnings to 1 foot apart when roots are fit to use. Always pull roots when young and fresh. Keep Winter turnips under P.M.Gs. if desired.

P.M.Gs. for Strawberries

There is no crop which responds better to protection by P.M.Gs. than strawberries. The picking season can be advanced, from three to four weeks and the fruit is kept clean and safe from birds, while the flavour is that of full sun-ripened fruit.

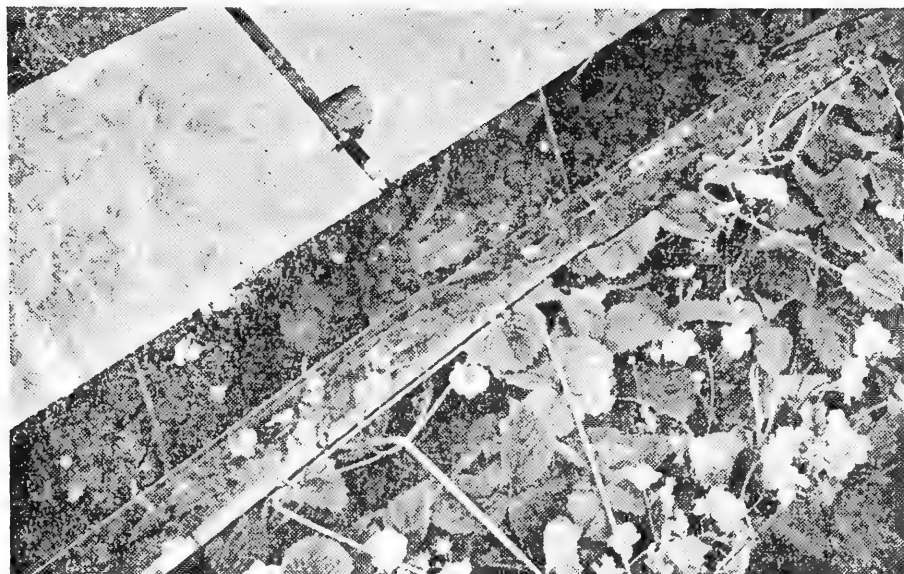
The best and earliest fruit is obtained from maiden runners planted out as early in the fall as possible. Plant two rows 8 inches apart of an early variety like Dorsett, the plants being 12 inches apart in the rows. Stagger the plants in the rows so that they are not opposite one another.

As soon as the snow melts, or at the beginning of March if there has been no snow, cover the two rows of plants with a single row of P.M.Gs., closing the ends of the rows to prevent draughts.

If the weather is dry, water outside the P.M.Gs. The moisture will penetrate to the roots of the plants without wetting the surface soil and spoiling the fruit. When the weather gets hot, ventilate the P.M.Gs. along the ridge and give a light flecking of whitewash to the roof glasses to prevent scorch.

To pick the fruit, do not move the P.M.Gs., but remove the top sheet of glass by means of the ventilating handle and panel.

You will pick the fruit during May and there is no reason why the P.M.Gs. should not then be used to cover a crop of a later variety which may conveniently be grown alongside. The P.M.Gs. will keep this second crop clean and protect it from birds and in this way can be used for two strawberry crops in one season.



A good potential crop of strawberries.

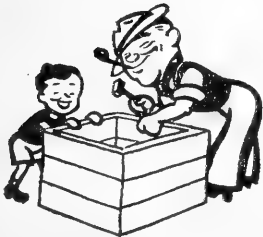


Mid-Winter care of October sown Iceberg lettuce. They will come in very early in the Spring.

Humus and Q.R. Composting

The first necessity for the successful cultivation of any plot is a fertile soil, and this means a soil which contains plenty of humus. What is humus? It is the name given to a natural substance, dark brown to black in colour, made by the decay of animal and vegetable matter. It possesses many remarkable qualities. It acts like a sponge in the soil, so that plant foods are easily taken up by the roots instead of being washed out in the drainage water. It aerates and opens heavy soils both by its own physical property and by the fact that the earthworm population increases with the humus content of the soil. Paradoxically, in light soil it acts as a kind of cement which holds together the soil particles. It darkens the soil and dark soil is warmer, because it absorbs more of the sun's rays. Lastly, humus is alive, for it teems with beneficial micro-organisms which enable the roots to transfer food from the soil to the plants.

The best form of humus is that obtainable from the compost heap or bin which should be kept going in every garden. Any gardener who does not make compost because he "cannot be bothered" or "cannot obtain animal manures" is wasting valuable material. With the aid of Q.R. herbal activator first quality compost can be made merely by saving all the wastes which come from any garden or kitchen. It is surprising how much can be accumulated if everything is saved and the kitchen wastes are particularly valuable.



Proceed as follows to get the best results. First of all set aside a small corner of your yard as a permanent compost site. Then erect one or more bins roughly 3 feet or 4 feet square, in which the compost heaps can be made. This will ensure that the compost decomposes quickly and thoroughly. It is also tidier.

All you have to do now is to save all the wastes, which should include lawn mowings, potato and tomato vines, all crop residues, leaves, hedge clippings, seaweed, dead flowers,

kitchen wastes, etc. All annual weeds should be added, although it is well to avoid some perennials, such as couch, bindweed and docks. When you have gained confidence by making good Q.R. compost you will probably add these as well.

Place all these wastes into your bin and aim to have a few small bins which will fill fairly rapidly rather than one large bin taking several months to complete. It is at this stage that your Q.R. solution is added to the heap. One pint of solution, made by mixing one teaspoonful of the herbal powder to one pint of water, is enough to treat a heap up to 4 feet by 4 feet and is mixed when you start adding the wastes to your heap. Sprinkle the solution very finely on to the heap every six or nine inches. If the solution is kept in a cool place it will last several weeks.

In this way you get an ideally made heap activated throughout its construction and the results will surprise you.

Keep adding the wastes to the heap together with light sprinklings of soil. Once you have mature compost always save a little to add to new heaps in place of the soil. If you have any animal manures these are added to the heap whenever available and in any case, of course, the Q.R. solution is applied.

If you can obtain woodash this should be added to the green wastes to neutralize excess acidity. Failing woodash, ground chalk or ground limestone, sometimes called Carbonate of Lime, can be used, but in this case only the very lightest "dusting" should be applied every twelve inches. Too much lime will result in a poor quality compost.

The heap should be built up in the above manner until it reaches a height of about four feet. It should then be covered with a thin layer of soil and, where possible, sacking should be laid across the heap to protect the heap from the extremes of weather.

There are two important points which must be observed whatever materials are being used. First, air must be able to penetrate the heap at the bottom and flow upwards. Secondly, the heap must, at all times, have the right moisture content. To help aeration, coarse materials should be placed

at the bottom of the heap and at intervals throughout the heap. But to ensure the correct degree of moisture it is necessary to see that all materials are moist when added. Fresh green stuff requires no extra moisture but dry, withered materials, particularly straw, must be wetted when being added to the heap. Furthermore the heap must be kept moist at all times so that in long periods of hot, dry weather the heap must be watered from time to time.

If you are fortunate enough to have a plentiful supply of animal manures it is most essential that your manure heap should also be activated with the Q.R. herbal activator. Manures treated in this way will grow better crops than untreated manures because Q.R. increases bacterial activity and this in turn increases the fertility of the soil. Never add chemicals to your compost heap.

In early Spring, compost should be forked into the top six inches of soil where seeds are to be sown. In late Spring and Summer, established plants should be top-dressed so that the compost is concentrated in a circle round the stems. In the Fall and early Winter, compost should be dug in slightly deeper. The Autumn weeds may be dug in too, as they act as a green manure and the compost helps to rot them down. Q.R. compost made in this way is a complete fertilizer by itself and neither farmyard manure nor artificials need be added, provided sufficient compost is used.



*Building an Amateur
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added to outer wall.*

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FOR BETTER COMPOST

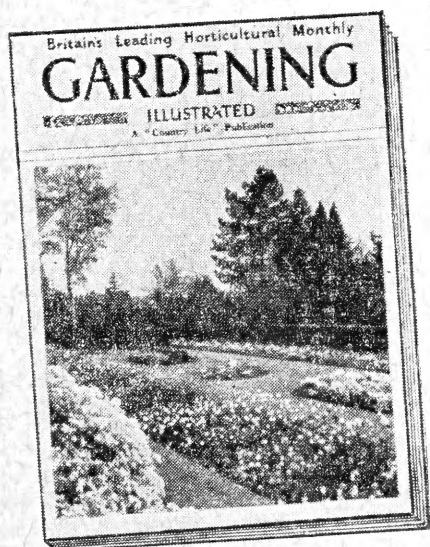
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