

# Storing Vegetables Now For Use Later On

The Household that starts with a cellar full of vegetables has gone a long way toward ensuring good health throughout the winter. Vegetables for storing must be well grown, being the immature, nor old and tough. Injury caused by insects and diseases as well as from bruises and cuts caused by careless handling, are likely to give trouble. Sometimes a blight, or cut is followed by decay and the whole lot of vegetables in which the decayed one is situated is likely to rot.

With the correct temperature and proper moisture, conditions good vegetables can be kept for a long time. The only thing to remember are, to start with good vegetables, to handle them carefully and to store them under proper conditions.

### ROOTS AND LEAF

Roots and leaf crop: beets, carrots, parsnips, potatoes, celery, turnips, cabbages, cauliflower, rutabagas, sprouts and cress, must be kept in a cool humid place. The best temperature is from 32 to 43 degrees Fahrenheit and the relative humidity about 90 per cent. Potatoes and cabbages should be kept cool but dry.

Spinach and pumpkins must be kept both warm and dry. They should just be given an airing once in a while for three weeks before harvesting. For this a dry room at a temperature of 80 degrees to 85 degrees is best. After turning cabbages them to develop a thick skin or shell to resist the loss of water and the entrance of mildew and rot. Later they can be kept at 55 degrees to 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

### CELERY PLANTS

Celery plants kept in good condition in a cool cellar. When the celery is taken up in the fall some of the outer stalks should be removed but the roots left on. The plants are planted in rows in sand or soil in the cellar. For each row a trench should be watered beforehand. The rows are put close together, but it will cause the celery keeping better if there are a few inches of space between the stalks. Sometimes lights are used to help separate the rows and to permit a good circulation of air through the plants. The tops should be kept dry as possible during the winter, as if wet, rot is more likely to develop. However, but, in watering, keep the water off the tops as far as possible.

### THE PIT METHOD

There are several methods of putting potatoes but the following has been found very satisfactory when the winters are cold. Estimating about 12 cubic feet for each bush, you would be able to calculate the size of the pit you would need for the quantity of potatoes you have. Make a hole about 3-1/2 feet deep and 11 feet wide and the necessary length in a place where water will not be troublesome. Fill the hole to the level of the ground with potatoes, and as a precaution to prevent the earth falling back in the hole when filling, legs are laid on the ground around the sides and ends of the pit and the potatoes will be kept free of soil if the sides and ends of the pit are lined inside with boards. There should be a roof over this pit slightly elevated in the center to allow a circulation of air. The roof is made of logs placed close together, over which is thrown a little hay to prevent the soil from covering of sod from falling through the cracks into the potatoes. After putting on the sod the roof is made of logs placed close together, over which is thrown a little hay to prevent the soil from covering of sod from falling through the cracks into the potatoes.

severe weather comes, this should be covered with a foot or less of dry, well-rotted horse manure. In the roof there should be at least one or two inches square and if the ventilator made of boards nine or ten inches square and if the pit is nearly 20 feet long two ventilators are needed, one at each end. During the cold weather this is kept stuffed with old sacking and an empty box turned over it to prevent snow or rain from getting in. There should be a hole dug at the end of the pit when it is being made so that it may be entered in late winter or early spring, but this should be kept well protected. Pits in this way a temperature of about 45 degree Fahr. should be maintained.

### STORING CABBAGE

There are several satisfactory ways of storing cabbage, the particular method to employ depending on the quantity to be stored and the accommodation for storing. The most important point to keep in mind is that the cabbage should be kept in a cool well ventilated place as near freezing temperature as possible without actually freezing. If it should freeze, it should be thawed gradually to have as little injury as possible. In cellars which are very dry, the cabbage wilts, but, on the other hand it should not be kept in a wet cellar, where there is a drip, or rot is likely to develop. Where cabbages are stored in small quantities, the roots should be kept on as the heads will keep somewhat better than if cut off, but, in storing in large quantities, this is not practicable. Heads wrapped in paper and the plants hung up are likely to keep better. In a very dry cellar than if exposed to the air. In piling late cabbages outside the roots are exposed to the weather. When stored for the winter, the cellar where the cabbage is liable to be wet, it is well to place the cabbage on boards with the roots up, or the cabbage may be hung up. In piling for the winter, the ground is levelled in a place where water will not lie.

A well-drained place should be chosen for piling cabbage for winter, preferably where the soil is sandy. Excavate a trench from six feet wide to 12 feet deep, and as long as necessary. Lay a layer of straw in the bottom of the trench, and then pack the cabbage in the trench, and with inverted heads and stems, and with the roots up. Several layers of cabbage may be placed in a pile, but it should be built tapering to the centre peak, or broadest at the base, and come to a peak. After the pile is completed, cover with several inches of straw, and on top of this put soil to a depth of about six inches. It is important to keep the pile moist, and the method is by twisting a bunch of straw, and letting it protrude through the soil at the peak of the pile. If the pile is more than ten feet long, one vent should be provided for each ten feet. As winter advances, provide additional covering to keep out frost. This is best done by covering with straw or straw manure to a depth of a foot, more or less, depending on the weather. If the pile is where snow will lie this will afford good protection or compartments, one can section off compartments, one can empty one at a time without disturbing the other.

# CONSERVATION

A WEEKLY COLUMN OF PRACTICAL OPINIONS OF THE VITAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE USES AND ABUSES OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY MR. LUDLOW JENKINS, MARSHFIELD.

### REFUGEE PROGRAM

(Continued)

The best aid to waterfowl is the allocation and restoration of land for their use—in other words, a refuge program.

For more than a generation, the Biological Survey has done all it could toward establishing and improving refuges, its first bird reservation having been established in 1903. For a long time, acquisition was confined to suitable areas of public lands that were set aside as bird reservations by executive order. But under this system, many desirable areas were unavailable and because of lack of funds, the restoration of drained lakes and marshes, such as has since been accomplished on a large scale, was out of the question.

The obligation to repair some of the damage done by unwise drainage was strongly urged, however, and in 1929 Congress passed the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. This authorized considerable appropriations for acquisition, improvement and maintenance of in-water sanctuaries for migratory game birds. While actual appropriation of funds did not keep pace with authorization, a total of nearly one and a half million dollars has been made available through the years. In addition, Congress, in 1935, made a special appropriation of \$5,000,000.

With the era of emergency funds allocable by the President, a great opportunity came to make the refuge program a reality. Including the emergency fund, the Biological Survey, from 1934-1939 inclusive, received some \$20,500,000 for the benefit of the waterfowl. In all, therefore, since 1929, more than \$25,000,000 have been devoted from general funds contributed by all classes of citizens for the establishment, improvement and maintenance of refuges. Contrast this with the assertion of the sportsmen who claim that they are the principal supporters of conservation. Their payment, since 1935, of one dollar each per year, in exchange for the privilege of shooting many dollars' worth waterfowl, has amounted to less than \$3,500,000, or only 11 per cent of the total that has been spent on the modern refuge program.

In 1939, Federal refuges primarily for migratory waterfowl numbered 139, and totaled 1,613,632 acres. Besides these, many other refuges for colony-nesting birds, big game and wild life are also of some value to waterfowl. The migratory waterfowl refuges have been improved by the addition of food and cover plants where needed, they are fenced and patrolled. They are a great and valuable factor in the conservation of the waterfowl. Except for the fact that public shooting-grounds are almost always enough to kill a duck in this way, while three or four will often do so.

How widespread is the occurrence of lead-poisoning it is difficult to say, but recent records show that it occurs very commonly. Redheads, canvasbacks, scaups, and ringnecks are affected most often because they feed in deeper water. Over 1,000 gizzards of these ducks examined by the U. S. Biological Survey revealed lead shot in 15.88 per cent. In Minnesota, examinations showed 12 per cent containing shot. The same number of gizzards examined by the U. S. Biological Survey from 2.4 per cent containing shot while the study of a smaller number of birds in Minnesota showed 7 per cent containing shot.

### CONTRIBUTORY CAUSES OF WATERFOWL DEPLETION

It is impossible to discuss all the reasons that have been given for the depletion of the waterfowl. We will consider only the major causes, those most often cited. Because the drought first focused the attention of the entire nation upon the crisis facing the waterfowl, many people find it hard to believe that waterfowl were in any danger prior to 1930. Bag-limits had generally remained large, the sportsmen and the warnings of conservationists and far-sighted sportsmen were unheard of or heeded. Thus it was a shock when all the facts were forced on the attention of the nation.

### DROUGHT

In 1930, a great drought spread over the western half of North America. The water-table dropped, causing springs, streams, rivers, and swamps to dry up. It was with difficulty that the ducks could find feeding and resting places in the large prairie nesting regions. The waterfowl could no longer be denied. Sportsmen, game commissions and various officials now attempted to throw on the drought all the blame for the waterfowl shortage. Sportsmen's magazines published many articles during 1930, 1931, and 1932, claiming to show by maps and graphs that waterfowl shortage was caused by drought and drainage. During the hearings before the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Conservation of Wild Life Resources, April, 1932, the leading sportsmen testified that the chief causes of the waterfowl shortage were drought, drainage, and the advancement of civilization. A few courageous conservationists testified concerning the death-killing by the so-called "sportsmen."

To-day, few people believe the drought was the chief cause of the waterfowl shortage. It has been estimated that eighty-five per cent of the waterfowl that frequent the United States are raised north of the Canadian border. Though the drought destroyed many of the United States and southern Canada, the vast marshes farther north in Canada and Alaska were untouched by drought. Government officials tell us that much of this enormous breeding territory, with its abundant insect life and its luxuriant growth of plant food, is now one-tenth to one-third utilized. There still remain vast areas of desirable breeding territory without birds to occupy it. While in certain regions drought was a contributing factor in waterfowl shortage, it was not a main cause.

### ADVANCE OF CIVILIZATION

The advance of civilization has been put forward as a major cause of waterfowl shortage. It is true that as man moved into new territories, clearing and draining the land, many valuable breeding areas were destroyed, or made unfit for ducks and geese. But there still remain, as already noted, large breeding territories where there is no longer a sufficient breeding-stock. While a reduction in breeding territories will influence the number of waterfowl under ordinary conditions, it certainly can

have little effect if the breeding-stock of birds is more rapidly reduced than is the total breeding area.

### DRAINAGE

Decades before 1930, man's desire to have larger farms more tillable soil, and larger crops, had brought about a "manmade" drought in the northern great plains. Millions of acres of prairie and wet soils were drained in the hope of obtaining arable land. Many of these projects were failures, producing little land for farm use. The loss to wild life in valuable areas, however, is beyond calculation. At great cost, attempts are now being made to return some of this former swamp land to its original condition.

But drainage, like drought, was but a contributing factor to the shortage of waterfowl. Drainage was carried on only in the agricultural districts, not in the vast breeding territories in the north. These are still untouched by shovel and ditcher.

### DISEASES AND PARASITES

During the past few years, waterfowl diseases and parasites have been extensively studied. Antiparasitics have been made upon many ducks and geese found dead in the field. We have learned that the birds are subject to numerous diseases, and in some cases drought, drainage, heat, and cold have intensified the dangers of certain maladies.

Lead-poisoning. Lead-poisoning is caused by the absorption of lead shot swallowed by ducks. It becomes increasingly clear that lead-poisoning is the most widespread and important cause of waterfowl mortality, next to the direct kill by hunters. It is only recently that the seriousness of the disease has been measured.

In favorable shooting areas, great quantities of shot accumulate and remain for years on the bottom of marshes and lakes, deadly menace to ducks. This makes a death-trap of every shooting-ground, and shows the absurdity of permitting shooting within sanctuaries. In the past, baiting retarded the destruction by concentrating the birds where there is most danger from lead-poisoning.

Most waterfowl feed chiefly at the bottom and while digging into the mud for seeds and tubers or for the gravel necessary to aid in grinding hard foods in the gizzards, they often find and swallow lead shot which has dropped into the water. The waterfowl has been poisoned by lead shot. Such shot usually remains in the gizzard, and is slowly ground down and the lead absorbed into the blood stream. Experiments have shown that public shooting-grounds are almost always enough to kill a duck in this way, while three or four will often do so.

How widespread is the occurrence of lead-poisoning it is difficult to say, but recent records show that it occurs very commonly. Redheads, canvasbacks, scaups, and ringnecks are affected most often because they feed in deeper water. Over 1,000 gizzards of these ducks examined by the U. S. Biological Survey revealed lead shot in 15.88 per cent. In Minnesota, examinations showed 12 per cent containing shot. The same number of gizzards examined by the U. S. Biological Survey from 2.4 per cent containing shot while the study of a smaller number of birds in Minnesota showed 7 per cent containing shot.

It is true that most of these birds contained only one shot in the gizzards, and one or two shot are not likely to cause death, but experiments by Professor Gustav Swanson at the University of Minnesota show that even a single shot will cause a marked reduction in the number of eggs a duck will lay, and will affect the sterility of those which are laid.

At the University of Minnesota, a graduate student, Osmer, examined a large number of lakes to see how much lead shot was available to ducks on their bottoms. In lakes which were open to hunting, the average was higher than one shot to each square foot of lake bottom. In some lakes may accumulate a large number of shot, and a few ducks in such a lake swallow shot, and that hundreds of them die in this manner each year.

The only remedy for lead-poisoning which appears to offer hope is a new type of shot devised by Dr. Ralph D. Brown and Dr. Oscar of the University of Minnesota. This shot will gradually disintegrate when it falls into water, and would thus be unavailable to the ducks. This shot is now being prepared for commercial production, and should soon be on the market.

Botulism. Botulism is known as "western duck sickness," and is, erroneously, as "alkali poisoning." It is caused by bacteria taken with food. It is favored by shallow water with decaying organic matter, and its incidence depends greatly on water levels. Hence, in a given season, it may kill a great number of birds one year, and very few the next. An estimated 200,000 ducks died from botulism in 1932 in the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. In some years since then, the loss has again been serious.

Protozoan disease. This malaria-like disease is caused by a protozoan that is transmitted by the bites of black-flies. It is a common cause of waterfowl shortage. It is true that as man moved into new territories, clearing and draining the land, many valuable breeding areas were destroyed, or made unfit for ducks and geese. But there still remain, as already noted, large breeding territories where there is no longer a sufficient breeding-stock. While a reduction in breeding territories will influence the number of waterfowl under ordinary conditions, it certainly can

A coincidence is when it rains when the weather man says it will rain to rain.

(To Be Continued)

# British Say They'll Defend Hong Kong Biggest Prize Of Orient, To Last Man



An ariev of the great harbor of Hong Kong... where British will "hold out to the last man."

## Too Many Chinese, Too Few English, That's the Rub as Japanese Armies Shadow Box Mere 30 Miles to North

By PETER ERSON  
Editor, NEA Service

Victoria, Hong Kong Island, — Half a million Chinese refugees, fleeing from the Japs, have crowded into the British city of Victoria on Hong Kong Island, and the British-controlled Kowloon peninsula just to the north.

These refugees have swelled the population of the city past the 2,000,000 mark. They sleep on the covered sidewalks, in doorways, any place they can find shelter in the Chinese sections, and they exist on a food ration of 46 cents a week — 17 cents for rice, 5 cents for vegetables, oil, fish, pork and wood, 2 cents for beans and tea. They die from hunger and despair and disease, one recent week's health report showing 174 deaths from T. B., dysentery, typhoid and cholera alone.

The flood of refugees has now been stopped, but the plight of these poor wretched and uneducated men over 55 have been the plight of the British themselves in this, their last outpost in China, through the desperate situations come from entirely different causes. Wherever the Chinese disappear from overcrowding, the British may suffer from lack of numbers and lack of resources for an adequate defense.

Major General A. E. Grassett, commanding the British forces in China, will tell you his orders are to hold Hong Kong, and he will hold it to the last man.

There are coast defense guns and anti-aircraft batteries in the hills. Every man up to 55, who can be spared, has been conscripted. Men over 55 have been held in reserve for home defense. Portuguese and Chinese have likewise been mobilized.

Nearly all British women to the number of 2000 have been evacuated.

Barbed wire and machine gun emplacements line the shores at every possible landing place. Up the peninsula across the three ridges which form natural defense lines, strong positions have been prepared.

But the British need every man and every ship in England, and airplane landing fields on the precipitous rocky slopes of Hong Kong are out of the question. Hong Kong, once on a par with Singapore as a base for offensive operations against all comers, is now definitely on the defensive, and the last British outpost in China can be held, it will be a miracle greater than Dunkirk.



Map shows Hong Kong area. The Japanese forces are 30 miles to the north of the British controlled area.

closing of the Burma road—have held the Japs off thus far, and it is not conceivable that they will move to open hostilities as long as the British have a chance of coming out on top. When that chance is gone, Kiss Hong Kong goodbye.

In normal times, Hong Kong would be celebrating its 100th anniversary as a British possession. And it is a possession which must not be overlooked in considering its strategic importance. China ceded rights to the rugged island, 19 miles long, the three miles wide, on which is the city of Victoria, plus Kowloon City on the mainland shore. Then in 1860, China leased for 99 years the 30-mile strip of Kowloon peninsula, and it is in this territory that the British must make their last stand in China.

It is a port to whose docks 80,000 foreign ships made call in peaceful years, taking away the commerce brought in by 10 times that many Chinese junks. It is one of the world's most beautiful and picturesque cities. It is a prize to be coveted by any world power.

When the British first took over the island, it was a center for pirates. The British wiped out the pirates and their buccannery. They brought in top soil by the shipload. They planted gardens and made their homes on the slopes leading 1700 feet up Victoria peak, crowning the peak in self with their government house, new the residence of Lieut. Gen. E. F. Norton, officer administering the colony, who was sent out two years ago to build up its defenses. He has done that in a superhuman way. Hong Kong, Kowloon

Leut. Gen. E. F. Norton, the first military governor of Hong Kong.

and the ridges beyond are as impenetrable as a mountain. They can make them. Bombproof shelters have been dug in the hills. A nucleus of British regulars has been supplemented by native troops from India and the home defense units. They will put up a white flag of a sort, but when you consider that the place is vulnerable to land, sea and air attack, the situation is, none too happy.

When the war in Europe is over, the British defenders of Hong Kong would like nothing better than a chance to clean up Japan and the Japanese, and share a slice of the spoils. In Australia, New Zealand, the Indies and the Philippines, you hear expressions of the same feelings, often vehemently and with gestures.

Perhaps that is one factor the Japanese do not realize.

Setting across China, reaching out for new race conquests and new territory, Japan looks forward to a new order in the Orient. But she is building up more international prestige than was ever heaped on the German, and it can't possibly do per any good in the long run.

WANT CRACK AT JAPS—AFTER WAR



Leut. Gen. E. F. Norton, the first military governor of Hong Kong.

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# CROP REPORT

(Continued from Page 12)

### PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Heavy stands of spring grains have been cut at a 10 per cent portion remains in the fields badly weathered. Development of corn is below normal; corn-borer is prevalent except in the north. Sugar beets, mangolds and turnips are satisfactory. Potatoes, particularly late crops, are showing evidence of rot, and a below-average crop is in prospect. Production of all tree fruits and grapes will be less than that of last year. Beans have suffered from excessive moisture and disappointing returns are indicated. Pasturage is abundant in the eastern sections, where rain is needed. Weather conditions have been unsuitable for ripening tobacco, and harvesting has been retarded. Following the release of the damage in the Norfolk area on August 24th, preliminary estimates of the fire-cured tobacco crop have been lowered to about 25,000,000 pounds.

### MARITIME PROVINCES

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick some damage to grain crops from wind and rain has been reported and the yield will be affected. In the western and central districts of a fairly heavy crop of early variety potatoes is about completed, later varieties show good promise. Early apples are of fair size and colour, but later varieties gales caused severe damage to the crop. Pastures have improved and are in fairly good condition. In Prince Edward Island grain yields were up to average, although with the weather hampered harvesting. Early potatoes are small, but the main crop will benefit from recent rains, and an average yield is expected. Pasturage is poor.

### PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Threshing has been delayed by rain on the lower mainland, but elsewhere it is completed, with grain yields below average. A record crop of clover seed is expected in the lower Fraser Valley. A heavy crop of good quality hay has been threshed. Tomato canneries are in stored operation, packing a large crop of excellent quality. Digging of late potatoes has commenced; an average yield is indicated. Hops were a comparatively light crop, but that and vegetable yields generally are satisfactory. Marketing of a good crop of peaches and plums is nearly over. Picking and packing of apples is well under way, with the yield estimated at approximately 6,000,000 boxes, slightly larger than that of last year; apples generally are below average in size and color, due to lack of moisture and a good crop of early varieties is anticipated. Pasturage has improved from recent rains.

**TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming**

Congratulations to Harry Silliphant, Sutherland, on his success in obtaining outstanding oxes, such a good judge as Clifford MacDonald—came saw—and took away seven males of the best types. The writer saw them and can vouch for their large size and all round attractiveness.

**Asthma**

Like hay fever, asthma is not caused by the pollen of plants conveyed by bees or other insects. It is caused in some cases by wind-borne pollen. Inheritable asthma is known as hay fever, is at the bottom of it.

There are people who cannot eat strawberries or some other foods without getting a skin rash or eczema as a result of eating certain kinds of foods. Many persons develop an attack of asthma when near animals; these persons are sensitive to animal dandruff. Some children are sensitive to certain cereals such as those made from wheat. Others again are not at all disturbed by foods but if they breathe the dust from feather pillows or dandruff from dogs or cats may have asthma when in contact with these animals.

Causes: The windborne pollen of plants. Foods, food dusts, face powders, animal dust and dandruff, feathers, especially those from ducks, turkeys, chickens and geese. People whose asthma is due to feathers usually show attacks of asthma early in life. This is because they have slept on feather pillows as infants and have been sensitized to that particular type of feathers.

Many cases of asthma develop in children who play with cats, dogs and rabbits.

The dandruff of cattle, horses, sheep and swine is a common cause of asthma. Foods cause about ten per cent of all asthmatic attacks, but in children the percentage may reach 25 per cent. Many cases of asthma in children are caused by eating foods made from wheat, oats or eggs. In some cases the cause is eating certain kinds of foods. The use of nuts is a common cause but fruits and vegetables rarely cause the affection.

There are people who are sensitive to milk.

Sensitiveness to certain foods may manifest itself by eczema and hives in early life, and later on in their early teens or twenties, the persons develop asthma.

Sensitiveness to animal beings with difficulty in breathing and is accompanied by wheezing. It may be mistaken for croup. The attacks usually begin between one and five o'clock in the morning and may last from a few hours.

Treatment: Before attempting treatment it must be determined what protein the patient is sensitive to. A series of light scratches is made on the surface of the skin without piercing the true skin. On these scratches extracts of pollen

animal dandruff, foods or dusts, etc. are placed. If a hives or reddened area is produced by one or more of the extracts used it is a sign that the person is sensitive to that particular protein. Having discovered the cause or causes, the next step is to desensitize by injecting a small quantity of the offending agent or agents. If due to pollen, the desensitization must be carried out 2 or 3 months before the time of pollination. In case of foods dandruff, feathers etc. the offending agent must be avoided. In cases accompanied by chronic bronchitis, desensitization will not avail if these cases are due to bacterial infection of the bronchial tubes.

**ONE FRAU'S CHOICE**

LONDON (CP) — One German refuse woman, praised for her lack of fear in air raids and for would rather endure bombing than live in Germany under Hitler.

**WARDEN'S AWAKENING**

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND — (CP) — A weary A.R.P. warden made his way home to bed at dawn and when he awakened some hours later he discovered an unoccupied bomb nearby and the house evacuated.

**PAWS ACROSS THE BORDER SEND THEIR BEST**

There's no doubt about the sentiments of the unknown U.S. soldier who took time to chalk this message of good will on one of the 306 light tanks now arriving at Camp Borden. "There's life in the old dog yet," was the inscription revealed on another of the machines at Canadian soldiers unloaded and hauled it away for reconditioning.