

SOMERVILLE JOURNAL AND SOMERVILLE PRESS

Victory Garden Plot Is Now Being Plowed, Land Assigned Next Week

Talks By Expert Still Possible If Public Sign Up

More than 100 Somerville residents have applied for a plot of land on which to raise a Victory Garden, Thomas E. Hegarty, City Engineer, announced yesterday.

The large plot adjoining Dilboy Field is being plowed and harrowed this week and assignments of land will be completed by the end of next week, he said.

Then those who have asked for land because they had no available spot to raise vegetables will "be on their own," guided only by the pressing need for home-grown food this year and a pledge for consideration of their neighbors' gardens as well as their own.

Too few questionnaires have been received by Mrs. Estelle Reycroft, chairman of the Nutrition, Garden and Preservation committee of the woman's division of the Somerville Committee of Public Safety, for her committee to make definite plans for a meeting of prospective gardeners with an expert.

The questionnaire, which will register all prospective gardeners, planning their own backyard plots or gardens on city land, with this committee to receive aid and information, is reprinted this week.

Mrs. Reycroft said that it is still possible to plan a meeting

with a well-known horticulturist, and that her committee will do this if a sufficient number of residents indicate their interest in such a meeting and signify their intention to attend.

Those who are not planning to have a garden this year but who expect to can and preserve vegetables and fruits, bought in season at the markets, are urged by Mrs. Reycroft to submit the questionnaire, for information and help to home canners are planned by the committee.

Plans are now underway to form a community canning project, and it is most necessary to know the number of residents who would be interested in availing themselves of this service in order to make comprehensive plans, she said.

Pamphlets and literature on gardening and canning, published by state and federal authorities, will be placed in Somerville libraries through the cooperation of John D. Kelley, librarian, Mrs. Reycroft announced. Many of them will be given freely to interested residents who need them.

The booklets will be made available as soon as they are received by the NGP committee here. "Victory Gardens," a comprehensive survey of small gardens published by the United States Department of Agriculture, will be given out next week.

When the questionnaire below is filled out by those who are planning to garden or can this year, it should be sent to Mrs. Reycroft at the Somerville High school where she teaches home economics.

The Questionnaire referred to in previous article:

VICTORY GARDEN QUESTIONNAIRE

Food production:

Do you plan to have a vegetable garden this year?

Would you like to have a meeting with an expert to advise you on gardening and could you attend such a meeting?

Food preservation:

Do you plan to do any canning this year?

Would you be interested in a community canning project where you could put up your things with proper equipment and under expert supervision?

Would you be interested in having your food put up for you?

Do you have a pressure canner?

Would you like to attend a community meeting on canning and nutrition?

Name

Address

1943-04-01

Somerville Journal and Somerville Press (image not great, but is best available)

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Requests For Land Continue, Assignment Soon Hegarty Says

Over fifty applications for all-otments of land for Victory Gar- have been received by City er Thomas E. Hegarty from ivil families who intend to their own vegetables this

Hegarty announced that the onitions would be numbered as ere received and assignment e would be made in the or- at the requests were made. e a few patriotic residents, ave available land which re not going to use, have of- R through the city engineer, e who have no land, but who ansions to work a plot this

Hegarty said that he would ed to receive further offers of and that these would be as- ed to the applicants along with rge plot of city-owned land it to be plowed and made ble.

en money to cover plowing possible erection of a shed, in gardeners may leave their at the planned site near the y field, must be obtained a civilian defense here, Mr. ty announced that it would ck or two before work could ed.

appropriation for civilian is now being considered by mmittee on finance of the f Aldermen, and Mr. Heg- id that funds for his work y Gardens would come part of this appropriation and if it is approved.

anticipated that the Dilboy e would be plowed as soon (Continued on Page 2)

Winter Hill Churches In Union Service Sunday Evening

The monthly union service of the Winter Hill churches, Congrega- tional, Evangelical, Methodist and Baptist, will be held Sunday eve- ning at 7 o'clock in the Winter Hill Baptist church, 212 School street.

Rev. George L. Paine, Episcopal clergyman, who from 1923 to 1935 headed the Greater Boston Coun- cil of Churches and a recognized leader in inter-racial and interna- tional cooperation, will speak on "Christianity Essential in Post- war Problems." A question period will follow the address.

The union Youth Fellowship gathering at 5 o'clock will feature a planned worship service, an ad- dress on "The Negro in America" by Mr. George Lee, Harvard grad- uate student in sociology, and a recreational period directed by Dorothy Bucklin of the state Bap- tist staff.

1852 City Map Gift From Kin of Author To Library Here

A ninety year old map of the city of Somerville has been pre- sented to the Public Library here

(continues next page)

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1943

Requests For Land Continue, Assignments Soon Hegarty Says

(Continued from Page 1)

as the ground was ready and a plow could be obtained by his department and the plots staked out.

Those who wish to have a garden this year but have no place for it, and who have not yet made application for a plot of land, are urged to do so soon. More applications than land available are anticipated by Mr. Hegarty, and since those who apply first are assigned first, early requests are advisable.

The five conditions which will govern the granting of the land are contained in the application form below. These were characterized by Mr. Hegarty as "reason-

able requirements so that the greatest number of people will derive the maximum benefits from the land we are to place at their disposal."

Those wishing to make application may clip this application, fill it in, sign it to signify they abide by the conditions or for their plot, and mail it to the City Engineer.

Family requirements will determine the size allotted when possible, so be sure to include number in the blank provided. These applications may also be obtained in the City Engineer's office.

No. of Application

APPLICATION FOR VICTORY GARDEN

Date

Mr. Thomas E. Hegarty, City Engineer
City Hall
Somerville, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I hereby make application for Victory Garden for the season 1943 and agree to care for such garden according to the following terms and conditions:

- (1) I will begin cultivation of the garden within 10 days of the date of receiving permit.
- (2) I will continue to cultivate the garden during the entire season, keeping it free from weeds and rubbish at all times.
- (3) If, after receiving permission for the garden site, I am unable to proceed with its cultivation, I agree to notify the City Engineer of the City of Somerville.
- (4) I agree to follow such other regulations as may be established during the season.
- (5) If I fail to comply with any of the above regulations, I understand that I shall forfeit all rights and privileges to said garden.
- (6) I will be considerate of the rights of others and protect my neighbor's garden as well as my own.

Number in family

Name

Address

Tel No.

way. A concrete crib wall has been erected to correct the dangerous condition that existed at the foundation of the seventy-five foot chimney stack. Concrete steps from Medford Street to meet the present concrete walk have been constructed. There remains yet to be done a complete crib wall along the back of the High School to meet the present wall at the chimney stack. Drains have been installed to relieve the water condition and shrubs and vines will be planted to further beautify this much needed project.

PLAYGROUND CURTIS STREET AND SUNSET ROAD

A new children's playground has been constructed at Curtis Street and Sunset Road for the children of that district. Swings, see-saws, showers and sandboxes and leisure benches for the mothers of the children have been installed, also a chain link fence erected to prevent the children from running from the playground into the street.

FOSS PARK IMPROVEMENTS

A new irrigation drainage system has been installed in Foss Park in order to obtain a purification system for the wading pool by draining the water off and refilling with fresh water in a very few hours. New catch basins and manholes have been constructed, the old drainage pipes have been removed and a larger pipe installed and various improvements to the drainage provided.

GLEN STREET PLAYGROUND

Two new sets of bleachers have been constructed and two new sandboxes with shelters have been installed.

VICTORY GARDENS

Victory Gardens on Central Hill and Dilboy Field have been continued as in the previous year, and many applications have already been made for allotment of lots for the year 1945.

LINCOLN PARK, TRUM FIELD AND PROSPECT HILL PARK

Repairs have been made to the various sandboxes in LINCOLN PARK and to the bleachers in TRUM FIELD, and a

AND SOMERVILLE PRESS

Local Victory Gardeners Are Invited to Attend Demonstration Mar. 21

Two evening meetings for 1945 Victory Gardeners are being sponsored by the Middlesex County Extension Service according to an announcement by Mrs. Barbara Schlitzer, urban county demonstration agent for the city of Somerville.

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21, at the Somerville High School, and the second will be on Thursday, March 22, at the Cutler school. Both meetings will begin at 8 p. m.

Professor S. C. Hubbard of Massachusetts State College will speak, and plans are being made to show a movie.

Bigger and better crops are going to be needed this year and questions will be answered concerning all gardening problems.

Volunteers Are Making Surgical Dressings Daily

Surgical dressings are being made daily in the Methodist Church on College avenue by Red Cross volunteers.

The work is being done between the hours of 10:30 to 3:30, Monday through Friday and Mrs. John Cummings, chairman, has asked that all workers bring their own lunches until further notice.

Victory Garden Contest

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The Winter Hill Improvement Association is again sponsoring a Victory Garden Contest in the Winter Hill District.

Those desiring to enter this contest must register with the president, Mr. John L. Hayward, 242 School street, or any member of the committee, whose address appears below, on or before June 1. Anyone living between B & M RR. and Mystic River and between Northern Artery and Magoun Square are eligible.

First prize will be \$25.00 War Bond; second, \$15.00 in War Stamps; third, \$10.00 in War Stamps; fourth, \$5.00 in War Stamps.

Gardens will be visited from time to time during the season by members of the committee.

Specialists, not members of the Association, will make inspections through the season and make the final decisions for the awards.

Remember enlistments in this contest must be made not later than June 1.

The committee comprises Mr. F. J. Pease, 68 Ten Hills road; Mrs. John J. Hurley, 14 Melvin street; Mrs. Nellie McCarthy, 371 Broadway; Mr. Warren A. Perry, 11 Evergreen avenue; Mr. F. G. Hardin, 33 Bradley street; Mrs. H. H. Hurlburt, 468 Medford street; President John L. Hayward, 242 School street; Annie M. Smith, secretary.

**IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS
DURING THE YEAR 1945**

CONWAY PLAYGROUND

The children's area has now been completed, and further development toward furnishing a baseball diamond will begin in 1946.

VETERANS' REST

Money is now available for erection of chain link fence, and further beautification will be finished in 1946.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll has been enlarged by the installation of four extra nine-foot panels — two on each side — and by making this addition space has been provided for all names of men and women in the Armed Forces of Somerville, Massachusetts.

BEAUTIFICATION OF REAR OF HIGH SCHOOL

The greater portion of the area in the rear of the High School has been completed. There is still more grading to be done in the rear of the Gymnasium and also to continue the concrete steps from where the present steps end to meet the walk at the entrance of the High School.

VICTORY GARDENS

Gardens on Central Hill, Dilboy Field and Linden Avenue were made available for use of citizens, and when the 1945 garden season for planting was ended the Victory Gardens were discontinued from further use.

LINCOLN PARK

Repairs were made to various sand boxes, and the backstop at the baseball diamond which has been badly in need of repairs has been put in safe and perfect condition. Six new concrete benches have been installed and repairs made to hand rails at entrance.

1956-06-15

Boston American, "Somerville Stroller" column

Mentions gardens at the old McLean Asylum, Hollis Field, Winter Hill, and the "Patch" Field over by Maxwell's Green.

Last Minute Notes

Reminiscing on the old days of the local recreation movement, Supt. Charlie Kelley reminds us that the big "Victory Gardens," which sprung up during World War I, were conducted by recreation officials . . . There were such gardens on the old McLean Asylum grounds, at Hollis Field, Winter Hill, and another in the "Patch Field".

Mention of the "Patch" prompts us to wager that there are few folks in the city who can correctly locate the off-mentioned area . . . The "Patch" is situated on a rough triangle, between the twin railroad trunk lines as they split at the Lowell st. bridge, and is bounded westerly by Cedar st. . . . In the "Patch" are such streets as Clyde, Murdock and Warwick . . . The average localite confuses the "Patch" with "Oklahoma" which lies further north, between Richardson and Medford sts., bounded easterly by Lowell st., embracing such streets as Lowell ter. and Fiske ave. . . . You are really an old-timer if you pronounce this section as "Oklahama."

The heat wave brings about another reminder to the young folks that the Summer playground season is less than two weeks away . . . The big fun begins on June 27.

Softball fans throughout the city—and there are thousands in evidence every night at the five big ball parks around town—are reminded that all Rec Comm are light games commence now at 8:30 o'clock.