

# Food For Freedom

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the concluding article of a series written especially for this newspaper by Harry H. Stone, vocational agriculture instructor at Torrance high school. We believe the articles have merited considerable interest and we are grateful to the writer for the time and effort he gave to the series.)

By HARRY H. STONE

Even before that fateful Dec. 7 and the call for airplane observers and air raid wardens, the Federal government had been working on a "Food to Balance the Diet" campaign. Now the slogan has been changed to "Food for Freedom," but it is now as at first, freedom against malnutrition.

We read that in England fresh young green grass may be obtained in the market. Humans have at last found what stockmen have long known, that young green grass is rich in available proteins and vitamin A. Also, British householders are growing potted plants, largely parsley, chives and other herbs to vary the diet.

These green leaves are doubly valuable, for besides the pleasing appearance of the garnish and the taste of the flavor, parsley is richer in vitamin A than almost any other plant. It should be fresh from the garden for the best results. That should be easy here, for what could be more delightful in our sunny kitchens than colorful potted herbs? In fact, parsley is so ornamental that in Exposition park, Los Angeles, it has been used as a trimmed edging about pansy beds.

### Keeping Water Bills Down

The spring of the year is traditionally garden time. It is much easier to get interested now when the soil is workable and green than in the heat of September. Fortunately, in California, garden time is really year-around for different crops. Immediately, the response to a plea for home vegetable gardens is water, water, water. The bills are too high. We can buy better vegetables with less money than the water costs.

Frequently that is true of the costs. The writer has paid a \$5 water bill for a few dozen ears of corn grown on the vacant lot next door. We never tasted better corn though.

Water bills may be kept low, however. Here's how: Prepare the soil right now to conserve all the natural moisture, from rainfall. Weeds are growing luxuriantly, and every blade of grass is pumping water fast out of the soil into the air. Turn the grass under. There is time for succulent greens to decompose before planting. If available, spread chicken or rabbit manure or cow manure, but dig that plot right now.

### Try Dry Farming

We have been led to believe that California is a desert to be brought to life only by irrigation water. There is a surprising amount of dry farming, however, particularly sweet corn. There is no secret. Instead of plants shading the ground one foot apart in rows close together, dry-farmed corn must stand three feet apart in rows at least three feet wide.

Dig now, plant early Golden Cross Bantam (February or March), hoe to kill moisture-robbing weeds before they are big, and enjoy the best sweet corn you ever buttered. If you want superfine corn you may get recently developed oil can which injects a dose of special light oil into the silk and which practically eliminates the corn-eat worm.

Tomatoes are grown by the same dry farming methods. At least one vegetable grower in Torrance has for years planted Earliana tomatoes on the sandy hills between the oil wells. He sets out his plants late in January or early February, protects them with paper tents open to the south, and harvests high-priced tomatoes in June or July.

### Prevents Shortage

It is well to wrap the stems with a four-inch square of newspaper extending just below and above the soil to protect from cutworms, to settle soil about the transplanted roots with a quart of water, and mix in the soil six inches from the plant a double handful of commercial fertilizer. A mulch of straw barnyard manure about the plant is even better. While the plants are young and before tomatoes are larger than marbles, it is well to protect them with a dust of calcium arsenate or cyanide. Where some water may be used, Fison, Marglobe and Improved Stone tomatoes are good.

Turnips, carrots and beets can be grown now with a very little water, and some early varie-

ties of bush beans may be planted in March.

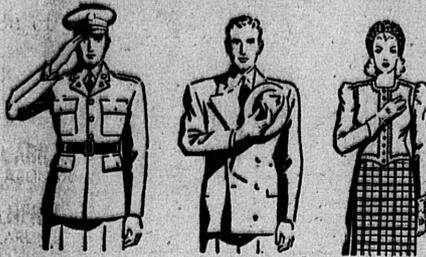
One more word about the economy of home vegetable gardening: There may be shortages of certain products and higher prices of others which may make the effort worth while this year if not before.

## Lincoln's Birthday Next Thursday Will Be School Holiday

Thursday of next week will be a holiday for all local school children, when the public schools throughout the state will be closed in observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12.

This will be the first time that public schools have been closed on the birthday of the nation's martyred President, and

## Every Patriotic American Salutes His Nation's Flag



During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag, or when the flag is passing in a parade or in a review, all persons present should face the flag, stand at attention and salute.

Those present in uniform should render the right hand salute. Those men not in uniform should remove their headgear.

Women should salute by placing the right hand over the heart. The salute to the flag in a moving column is rendered as the flag approaches the spectator and is held until it has passed.

is due to an Act of the 1941 Legislature. Since Washington's birthday falls on a Sunday this year, schools will be closed the following Monday, which will be recognized as a business holiday for banks and public offices.

## Australia Expects Trouble Soon



If Japanese eventually capture Singapore, Australia looks for trouble, as shown on map. Island gophers, one of British Empire's biggest producers of food, munitions and aircraft, is giving itself for attack by enemy.

## Five Good Amoebae For Every Bad One In Man's Intestine

LOS ANGELES—Persons who dread harboring intestinal amoebae, which are popularly regarded as being harmful and sometimes fatal, may take comfort in knowing that only one variety out of half a dozen is dangerous.

According to Dr. Gordon H. Ball, president of the Western Society of Naturalists and associate professor of zoology on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California, one person in five probably has some kind of harmless amoeba, and one person in 20 may harbor the pathogenic variety, which are by no means necessarily fatal.

Monkeys have the same amoebae common to humans, declares Dr. Ball, indicating that this parasite has not been recently acquired. He says that the

opinion that recent parasites are always harmful to the host, and vice versa, is not warranted by facts.

"Recent parasites may be comparatively harmless and the long-standing parasites may still be very dangerous," he adds. "Nature is very variable. We may all agree on one aspect of nature—it's exceeding variety. Even a parasite may choose the course of manifest destiny and find aggressiveness more attractive than an existence of peace."

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In view of the decreased supply of automotive products the industrial needs for electric power, the increased demand for manpower, and the self-applied restrictions on civilian motoring, the undersigned gasoline service station dealers announce the inception of new station hours commencing Sunday, February 8th.



Torrance motorists are urged to attend to their car needs during the 12-hour day, 7 A. M. to 7 P. M. Every dealer listed below will continue to supply his customers with the same quality products, and service that has been his practice in the past. The slight restriction in business hours will enable the stations to continue their many services, and will offer a definite contribution towards the economies of national defense.

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