

For the Boy and Girl  
Gardeners of California

# The Junior

## When Are You Going to Join?

The gardens are growing every day, and so are the membership lists. Everywhere boys and girls are answering the call to hoes and rakes, and marshaling their ranks of cabbages, beets and lettuce. In those schools where the gardening clubs have been started the current topic of conversation is the progress of the vegetable patch, and so intense is the interest manifested that the recreation hours are often devoted to the cultivation of this new plot or that.

Boys and girls are beginning to awake to a realization of the fact that the things they work for and with are the things from which they derive the most genuine pleasure, and that seed planting and plant raising are rarely interesting if they but take the trouble to find it out. First take a wee, little brown seed, insignificant, plain and with no claim to beauty, and bury it deep in the soft earth. Then watch for its coming every day, and see how pleased you'll be when its tiny green shoot peeps out to bid you "Good day." From then on you'll watch the wee thing grow and expand until it attains its perfection, and the fact that you have made possible its growth will be a source of unalloyed pleasure to you. See if it won't.

And if it gives to well, healthy, sturdy children so much pleasure, what do you suppose it does for the lads and lassies who are not able to run around and play like other boys and girls? A doctor once said that old Mother Nature was the great physician, that she could mend after the wise men had given up in despair, and it would seem that the good doctor knew what he was talking about. Out in the country near Fairfax is a wide stretch of land known as the Hill farm, which is a part of the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood association. Here numbers of sick children are sent to test Mother Nature's remedy, and Mother Nature has stood the test nobly.

The Hill farm is composed of 120 acres of hilly land, only four of which have been put in cultivation, and it is over these hilly acres that the frail little children are allowed to run wild, in an effort to acquire some of that fine, sturdy health to which they have an honest right. Also they are allowed to help with the outdoor work in so far as they are able, and each child has his own particular task to accomplish in the gardens.

There are berry patches galore and vegetables without end. Long rows of beans and peas to attend to; potatoes to hoe and strawberries to pick. And maybe you don't think the boys and girls have a good time on the Hill farm! Their meals are served on the lower verandas of the big, roomy farmhouse, while the upper porches are used for sleeping quarters, and every child sleeps out of doors. It doesn't take so very long, with the right sort of medicine, to bring a rosy flush to pale cheeks and a bright sparkle to tired eyes; and you hear wonderful tales of little boys and girls, some of them too ill to move around when first they came to Hill farm, who live to enjoy many a happy day picnicking in the open.

Next year the committee in charge is planning to install a system of individual gardens at the farm, and these plats will be given over to the care of the children to plant as they wish. In this way the ranch will become a part of the big garden movement and will, no doubt, in time resolve itself into a garden city, with its own mayor and council. More than 250 children were visitors this year between the months of March and November. The house is fitted to accommodate 50 at a time nicely, and the boys and girls are arriving and leaving all summer long.

One of the most interesting things in connection with the Hill farm is the chicken industry. There are several incubators and brooders on the grounds, and baby chickens are welcome visitors. Here the youngsters are to be found when they are not in the gardens, and between their love of the soil and their fondness for the feathered tribe they bid fair to become, in due course of time, the most ardent band of farmers imaginable.

Don't you think you'd like to be a farmer, too? Now is the time to join. Begin right now, and get the benefit of the weekly lessons which are appearing on these pages every Saturday. You'll find that there is nothing half so much fun once you get started. Don't be one of the rear guard. Get in and head the procession. Let's see how fast we can roll up names on the membership list. Join the garden band today!

### An Experience With Lettuce

CHARLES WOODWORTH,  
Berkeley

One very hot morning I went to the "garden city" to get some lettuce to transplant in my home garden.

When I arrived I found there were no plants except some wilted ones. I decided to experiment with them, so one of the teachers helped me fix them.

We wet the plants and put some paper, which we wet, on the bottom, on the sides and on the top. I then stayed a few minutes.

I brought them home and planted them very carefully in my garden, and after one week had passed the lettuce was growing very nicely.

### Our School Garden and Plans

MILDRED TAYLOR,  
East Oakland, Franklin School, Clerk,  
Garden City

Our class, the fifth grade, started a school garden September 16, 1911, in our teacher's back yard, at 460 East Twentieth street. The class joined the Franklin school garden city not long ago.

We have various vegetables, includ-

ing radishes, carrots, turnips and lettuce. The size of each plot is three feet by six. Some teachers and parents have come to visit our gardens.

We are allowed to take home a portion of our vegetables; another portion is to be given to the poor. The remainder is to be sold, and with the money we are first going to pay for the framing of a large picture called "The Gleaners," by Millet, for our schoolroom. The rest is to be set aside for The Junior Agriculturist, and the payment of the water bills.

### A Visit to the Berkeley Gardens

RALPH LORIMER,  
East Oakland, Franklin School, Fifth  
A Grade.

Four members of the Franklin school Garden club visited the Berkeley gardens Saturday, October 28. We found the children working very industriously in their gardens. Some were engaged in thinning out the vegetables, some in planting seeds, and others in selling turnips and radishes. This year they have planted lettuce, turnips, beets, radishes and other such vegetables. Each member of the club has a small space to care for. A small house was built for the tools and other materials. A blackboard instructs the young gardeners what to do.

## Garden Notes

A California Junior Gardening club has been started in the Garfield school, Oakland. There are 39 members. Miss L. Phillips, the teacher, will be in charge.

Miss B. Langenour has organized a club of 25 in Woodland.

Mary Thornton, age 13, is the newly elected secretary of a Palo Alto club.

Leland McConnell, age 13, is the secretary of a club of 20 members, organized by Ruth Kellogg, in the San Joaquin district, Sacramento county.

The Las Lomas district, San Mateo county, Miss E. A. Wilkins, teacher, has organized with 25 children. Gladys Lightbody was elected secretary.

The Fillmore district, Yolo county, Miss Julia Bray, teacher, numbers 22 boys and girls, with Mary Kampke secretary.

Mr. Abbott of the Armona district, Kings county, starts with more than 50 gardeners, Alice Hitchcock, secretary.

We hope to hear from these club members from time to time. Pictures of the gardens sent to the editor will be published. Each member of our big class wants to see and to know what the other is doing. There is not a schoolroom in California large enough to hold our class, and soon even the Greek theater at Berkeley would not hold it.

Are you reading and studying the garden lessons? Later we may ask your teachers to give you a written lesson, and prizes may be given for the best answers. If you can answer the questions at the end of the lessons you may win one of the prizes.

We hope that you are performing the exercises suggested in each lesson.

The first mothers' market day at the Berkeley garden city netted about \$5. Radishes and turnips were the main productions. We feel the need of our bank at once. It will be established soon.

We visited the Franklin school gardens of Oakland last week. They are the best gardens that we have seen lately. The secretary of the club and her friend have a home garden worth while. By the way, have you a home garden? Would not sweet peas look well on that unattractive fence? Would not a few flowers add to the yard? There are thousands of children in California. If each would help to beautify the home just a little, so much good would be done. Will you not do something for California? Send in the following:

Dear Mr. Stebbins:  
I did something for California today.

Name .....  
Address .....

Write in the blanks what you did. Did you plant a tree, a flower, a shrub? Did you clean up the home yard? Did you help your neighbor, for in helping your neighbor you help California? Did you help to make some friend happy?

The northern section of the California Teachers' association met in Chico last week with an unusually large attendance. Among the speakers were the president, Miss Lulu White, who spoke on "Vocational Subjects," and D. J. Crosby, the agricultural educational expert of the United States, who gave a talk on the work being done by the children in other parts of the country. Of particular interest was his account of the corn growing contest in the southern states, in which 45,000 boys were enlisted last year. Many of the teachers present expressed a desire to inculcate in the regular studies over which they have control, a gardening course. More than 100 copies of The



PICKING BEANS AT THE

Call were distributed among the members.

With the funds obtained through the sale of vegetables in their gardens the children of the normal school have purchased a handsome new drinking fountain for their yard. They are setting a splendid example.

More than 50 mothers and fathers visited the gardens of the California garden city on the state university campus last Saturday, the occasion being the first market day of the season. There was a fine display of lettuce, radishes, Swedish turnips and greens, and, taking into consideration the fact that the gardens have only been under way about six weeks, the proceeds, which amounted to about \$5, were most encouraging.

Beginning with last week the garden city from now on will hold one day apart, which shall be known as "mothers' day," when the parents will be at liberty to visit the market and purchase their supplies from their own boys and girls. Ninety per cent of the money thus obtained will be given the children, while the remaining 10 per cent will be placed in the garden city bank.

### The Teller of Tales

A Memory of "Uncle Remus"

Somewhere from over the border land,  
Came a wonderful teller of tales one day;  
And he walked with the children, hand in hand—  
The children who followed him all the way.  
Who loved him the best, and who loved so well  
The wonderful tales that he had to tell.

For they listened, with eager ears that heard  
Of the wee, wise rabbit, king of the wood;  
Of the baffled fox, and each beast and bird—  
That the children knew—for they understood!  
And ever they followed him, hand in hand,  
On his journey back to the border land.

There the way begins, and the way must end,  
Though his day was bright, and his sun shone  
high;  
And the waiting friends bade the parting friend,  
As he crossed the border, a last goodby.  
Oh, sad was the world that he had to leave,  
But most did the hearts of the children grieve!

They have writ his name on their hearts of gold,  
And ever they'll keep his memory green,  
But they tell each other the tales he told  
Of the strange wood folk, by the world  
unseen;  
For the teller of tales walks, hand in hand,  
With the children over the border land!

—Anne McQueen in October Lippincott's.

### An Experiment

JOHN C. FRANKLIN,  
East Oakland, Franklin School, Clerk,  
Garden City

I took a bottle of yellowish rose and ink to see what would happen to the little white vein became red.

Then I took a white ink to do the same with better looking flowers that drew the ink up.

E

After Lincoln hurried to him a fine speech? Lincoln. "I was lost courage, ne great Gettysburg

We are sure man who, during

Where would given up to the suffering with his winter at Valley of freeing the co would not "quit."

We admire a boy or a girl who at the vegetable summer—children we are glad to work was done. you can not or if things go wrong gardens, or are do not suit you boys and girls "stayer" or a "quit"

Many of the their tools away. each girl cent away. Who shall who gives you th