



V-gardens such as this one at Tam O'Shanter (Chicago) produced more vegetables than club kitchens could use. Many clubs sold surplus crops to members at prevailing prices; other clubs donated to nearby institutions.

V-GARDEN CROP AMAZES AS WAR EFFORT SUCCESS

SIXTY-THREE Victory gardens, each 20 by 60 ft., were requested by members of the Exmoor CC (Chicago district) when the club announced its Victory garden plan this spring. This summer and autumn the produce of 63 gardens faithfully tended by the members was eaten and preserved, and when Manager Bill Bangs and Supt. Bill Stuppel queried members to see what garden plans should be made for 1944 requests were made for approximately one-third more garden space. The only members who did not renew their garden space were those who are moving so far away from the club it would be impossible for them to tend to their plots.

Exmoor is one of those fine old clubs with a membership highly ranked on social and financial qualifications. There were cynics, not a few of them among the club's own members, who thought that this type of membership wouldn't stick to Victory gardening when the job called for callouses, aches, sweat and tears in

the constant battle against weeds. The cynics thought that while the Victory garden idea was novel and theoretical it would be enthusiastically approved but when the honeymoon was over the green-keeping staff would have to handle the garden in addition to its other duties.

Each member was charged \$5 for expense of plot preparation and watering charge. An emergency watering line was run to the garden.

Supt. Stuppel and his staff plowed the garden area, fertilized it and gave it an occasional going-over with the Rototiller. All the rest of the work the members did.

Greens staff employees stopped around the garden now and then to give members their advice and some instruction in gardening technique. Among other things that the Victory garden did, says Manager Bangs, was to acquaint the members with the outstanding abilities and personalities of Supt. Stuppel's staff.

The overall expenses of the members' garden were \$414, against which the

members paid \$315. The \$99 that the club spent in cash on the deal was among the most profitable business promotion expenses the club ever paid, says Bangs. On a dollar-and-cents basis the members came out far ahead in groceries, in quantity and quality and freshness. Members played nine holes before or after their gardening work on weekdays, and on Saturdays devoted the morning to the garden and the afternoon to golf.

Bangs believes that if it had been practical or good policy to have bar service handy to the V garden the club could have set a record in volume of business. Sweating members offered museum exhibits of prize radishes, beets, cucumbers, carrots, onions, corn, beans, peas, lettuce, broccoli, etc., to other members whom they were trying to beguile to bring them a bucket of mint juleps. However, no trades were made and the rigors of wartime gardening were not alleviated.

The club's own garden has been a very profitable operation. Profits on corn alone was a substantial item. In addition to supplying the needs of the club's popular Thursday night outdoor dinners, corn was raised to feed Exmoor's mallards during the winter; at least those mallards who

aren't nominated to attend the club's annual duck dinner which winds up the season.

The Victory garden enterprises of American golf clubs have been successful far beyond expectations. The country club members are, by some, supposed to be folks who want all their work done for them. Hard, monotonous work like gardening with the temptations of the course and the 19th hole nearby, wasn't supposed to be in the books for these folks. Yet the box-score on their Victory gardens and the canning and preserving done by the women members makes a showing that's hard to beat as a domestic extracurricular wartime activity.

George S. May, president of the Tam O'Shanter CC which has been made nationally noted by its tournaments, regards the Victory garden interest and activities of the club's members as the most astonishing exhibit of country club member faithfulness in sticking to a tough job that he has seen in golf.

In Louisville, Ky., the Audubon CC Victory garden has achieved national interest by the publicity given its working mule by Earl Ruby, widely quoted sports writer of the Louisville *Courier-Times*.



At Exmoor (Chicago distr.) pro Ed. Stuppel (right) demonstrates the proper hoe-grip to a delegation of member V-gardeners.

Earl recently wrote about the Audubon club's garden and its mule:

"The Audubon C. C. has solved its fresh vegetable problem with a three-acre garden, which not only is providing its dining room—and members' homes—with vegetables, but may add zest to the fall closing day with a big barbecued mule.

"It's quite a story, that Victory garden, but first the mule. When it was found that more labor than mere man could provide would be needed, the Garden Committee bought a white mule for \$75 and leased him to the club for \$1 plus board and keep. . . . 'At the end of the season,' said the committee, 'we'll try to sell him for \$75. If we can we'll take the money. If we can't we'll barbecue him.' He's fattened up a lot during his stay in the Audubon stable and no doubt will bring \$75 or more. So the barbecue, sadly, seems out. 'And his ribs looked so tempting in June,' sighed a committee member.

A Bumper Crop

"The garden idea was adopted early in the spring. Mort Brumleve was made chairman of a committee to oversee it, 'because he knows nothing about it and we'll need somebody's ignorance to blame it on if it flops.' Ray Ellis was named next because he was in the fertilizer business and Mort could blame his fertilizer. Charley Bright was added next 'because he is a farmer and should know what to do,' and Cliff Lussky last, 'to have somebody every other member can pass the buck to.' . . . They set aside about three acres in all, part of it on the front lawn, part to the right of the first fairway, and part out by No. 15. . . . First they planted lettuce, radishes and green onions. The yield was so great they gave away five bushels to a childrens' home. . . . Then stringless beans, potatoes and corn. The first crop of potatoes yielded 122 bushels at \$2, the club taking all it needed and the members the rest. . . . They dried enough onions to last the club all winter and sold 10 bushels to members. . . . Approximately 500 tomato plants, 1,400 cabbage plants, and three long rows of peppers are supplying all those vegetables the club can use, and members are buying the remainder. A second crop of potatoes is expected to yield 150 bushels, and sweet potatoes may run as high as 120 bushels. . . . In addition there is a parsley bed and other small plants. . . . The Garden Committee keeps books, charges the club prevailing

wholesale prices, and allows members the same price on the overflow. . . . At the end of the season all profits will be turned over to the general fund. . . . 'We are safe in saying the profits will be no less than \$500,' said Mr. Lussky, 'and we may realize as much as \$1 000.' . . . The total outside labor cost has been held to about \$30, he said. . . . The bulk of the work has been done by Artie Arnold, the caddy master, and one or two other gardeners in the club's employ. . . . The work has been supervised by Mr. Lussky and by the club president, J. C. Iler, a man of Victory garden experience dating back to the War between the, I mean the first World War. Other clubs might copy Audubon's successful venture."

Never Too Late to Golf—Darsie L. Darsie, in his Los Angeles Herald-Express column "Green Tee," recently commented on men past 60 who had taken up golf. Paul Scott, pro at Griffith Park, sent Darsie his slants, as follows:

"Some time ago when I was professional at the Valley Club I had a man 75 years of age, Alexander Baring, come to me for golf lessons. For two weeks he took a lesson each day, practicing for an hour after his lesson. This done, he started to play, going nine or 18 holes each day and taking a lesson each week. A month of this and he broke 100, shooting a 99. In all the time I knew him I do not think he was under the 95 mark but he enjoyed his golf immensely and said it meant much to his health—as well as giving him lots of fun.

"Another man here in Los Angeles was past 60 when he decided to play. For a month or six weeks he played the mashie pitch course at Sunset Fields—and his first time around the big course at Griffith Park he shot an 88.

"I see no reason why an older man can't learn to play golf well.

"Let these older men remember that in golf the sunshine, good fellowship, mild exercise, and health is what counts—not the score."

Lido to Be Easier—When the war ends and the Navy turns the famous Lido layout back to its owners, it is expected that an easier golf course will be constructed. The old course, sucked from the sea and famous for its toughness, will be altered to make it more attractive to John W. Dubb, thus easing Lido's membership problems.