

YOUR GARDEN AND MINE

By Ann Earncliff Brown No. (40)

Seedtime And Saving

WHEN it advised allotment owners in search of garden seed to "Buy the best, sow thinly, and order early," the Ministry of Agriculture in Britain gave very sound advice. Good seed cannot be sold cheaply, as the work of breeding from the best strains, selecting for high germination and keeping seed true to type is exacting and costly. But with the use of the best seed, sowings can and should be made with the minimum rather than the maximum quantity of seed per row. Apart from the resultant saving in seed, the advantage of sowing thinly is twofold—the labour involved in thinning is reduced, and the seedlings being less crowded in their early stages are more robust.

So when you buy your garden seeds be sure to ask for the branded produce of reputable seedsmen. However, in these days many of us aided by a specially suitable climate, can carry wise economy even further, and by careful and observant selection, save much of the seed which we shall require next season—e.g., the pumpkin and marrow should still be available for present planting.

A week or two ago a neighbour of mine gave me some particularly nice beetroot—tender of flesh, lacking the earthy flavour of some varieties, and retaining in the cooking the deep rich crimson that all good kitchen artists desire. "Raised them from my own seed by accident, as you might say, and not

from a special root either! A chap just took root haphazard like where he fell, so seeing him off the mark so bright and early I left him and saved the seed. I tell you I'm doing a lot more in that line, now I see my own stuff raised from my own seed as good as the bought any day." Most of us can "do a lot more" too. Seed of radish, silver beet, spinach, beet, turnips, carrots, parsnip, onion and parsley; all kinds of beans, peas; not to mention every member of the cabbage family, can be harvested successfully. The seed must however be allowed to mature thoroughly, be well dried out and stored carefully to protect it from damp, vermin, or insect ravage.

There is still time to select seed from a particularly good pumpkin, marrow, or Turk's Cap. Go over your stored roots (save of course potatoes) selecting sound well-shaped ones, try setting them in a not too rich, rather light soil, and gather the seed in due season. Commercial onion growers secure excellent results from home saved seed, so why not add a few of your favourite onions—the good keeping Brown Spanish, or perhaps a big mild white or two?

Women gardeners generally save odd little stores of flower seeds—either taking a gambler's chance on the effect of natural pollination or, in rare cases, going to some trouble to secure a special fertilisation. But whether you save vegetable or flower seed, it is a wise precaution to label it clearly, and immediately. Last autumn's crop, however familiar, is apt to become a mystery packet.

BOXING NOTES

Cup For Thwaites + Dick Meale In Wellington + The Caltaux-Ranger Match

AL. BOURNE, former New Zealand light heavy-weight champion, took part in boxing bouts at Ngaruawahia camp recently. Bourne had little difficulty in giving a knock-out to his opponent in the second round.

The Wellington amateur D. Thwaites had a three-fold victory when he met and defeated Peter Dunn—brother to the light-weight champion, at Petone. He received a cup for winning the bout; another for the most scientific boxer, and a third for the best straight puncher. The third was presented by Boxing Trainer Sammy Chapman. Although he has been boxing for years Thwaites had never previously won a cup as a trophy.

Merv. Willis has returned to Australia. Although he did not have many fights during his two years in New Zealand, he was one of the few who beat Vic Caltaux, welter-weight champion.

On transfer from Auckland to Wellington is Dick Meale, boxing referee. He had all his early boxing in the Capital City. It was his work-outs with such champions as the Australians, Tommy and Havilah Uren, that gave him a first hand knowledge of the game at which

he afterwards became an Australasian champion. Auckland's loss will be Wellington's gain.

The Vic Caltaux-Clarrie Rayner contest did not look good to spectators at Blenheim on July 29. Caltaux weighed 10st. 4lbs. and Rayner 9st. 8lbs. At no time did Rayner have any chance. A heavy punch nearly floored him in the first round. It was not surprising when he was knocked out in the fourth. It should have been obvious that to match Caltaux with a light-weight would be just bad promoting. This is what it turned out to be.

The Alabama Kid, at present in New Zealand with Promoter-Manager Charlie Lucas, is considered one of the foremost light heavy-weights to visit here for many years.

In Australia this coloured fellow created something of a stir, and all his battles proved to be "fights de luxe." His appearance in a main event was a guarantee that the spectators would get their money's worth. At the time these notes were being written Alabama had not been signed for a contest in the Dominion, but the Auckland Association expects that Carmen Bath, American light heavy-weight, who is in Australia at the time of writing, will meet him.

The Auckland Association certainly deserves credit for the manner in which it carries on the sport. It is not failing to watch the interests of boxers, both professional and amateur, at present in camp.



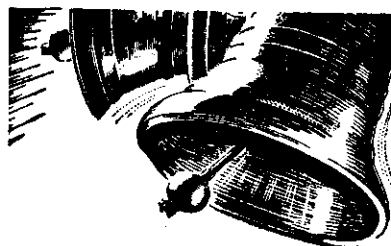
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