

HONORABLE DISCHARGE

Cpl. J. E. Kicklighter, attached to the combat engineers has received an honorable discharge on points. Overseas 24 months, he has been in service for 4 1/2 years. With his wife, the former Marie Turner, and their daughter, Patricia, he will make his home in Torrance.

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Victory Gardens

During the last two weeks farm advisors in traveling through Los Angeles and suburban towns have observed many new areas being spaded over and prepared for gardens. It is far from too late to plant many crops.

If you listen to the radio and read the paper you can not avoid hearing discussions and reports of the growing need for food. String beans, sweet corn, lima beans — these are three vegetables worth canning — all can be planted now. Of course, tomatoes should be planted for canning. They can be planted as late as the first of July. String beans and sweet corn can be replanted until the first of August. And then there are all the small vegetables — leaf lettuce, carrots, spinach, chard, and what have you! They can all be planted now.

So it isn't too late. In Southern California, from the garden standpoint, it is never too late until you are hungry, because there is something you can plant all the year around—many things, in fact.

How to Get Started
If it's a vacant lot on which you start in at the present time, the ground will be dry and hard. Complete your arrangements for irrigation water and get the water piped to the area. In the mean time, clear off the dried weeds. Then put the sprinkler on and wet the ground thoroughly. It's much less discouraging to spade moist ground than hard dry "concrete." Work the soil down with a spading fork and a rake to a good fine condition and then start planting. Establish the rows on the level, even though they must run diagonally across the lot. Level furrows 26 or 30 feet long can be "tied together" at the far end so that the water will circulate back and forth.

Starting seed in the dry part of the summer is a job. It can be accomplished if you persist and are careful. Have the soil fully moist and finely pulverized. Plant the seed to the right depth — a quarter or half-inch deep, press the dirt down with a block of wood or the back of the rake tines so that it is firm but not packed. Then unroll some old tar paper or some burlap sacks, or even three or four thicknesses of newspaper on top of the bed. Weigh it down with some dirt at the edges and it will hold the moisture. Look underneath every morning, after the first three or four days, to watch for seed sprouting. Remove the covering immediately when the little seedlings start coming through. In this way you can hold the moisture and avoid sprinkling the surface. Old cheesecloth or light muslin can be used and some water applied through that if you wish without causing the ground to bake and become hard.

You can start tomato plants, peppers and eggplants right away by transplanting from a

nursery. Get Pearson variety tomatoes if you can. California Wonder bell pepper is a favorite and New York or Black Beauty eggplant are good.

For sweet corn, better get some Victory garden fertilizer. Put it down three or four inches below the depth you plant the corn seeds. Apply about two pounds for each hundred feet of corn row you expect to have. Plant your sweet corn in blocks; however, at least three rows wide for pollination purposes. Golden Cross is the most satisfactory variety for a garden. Planting at three-week intervals will keep you in corn continuously.

Garden Literature
If you haven't obtained a special "Victory Garden Guide" prepared especially for Los Angeles County conditions, write the Agricultural Extension Service at 808 N. Spring st., Los Angeles 12, or telephone MUtual 3383 for a free copy. Also ask for University circular on garden irrigation and pest control.

Backyard Fruit
Irrigation is a problem for all backyard fruit growers. Trees should be kept supplied with moisture throughout their entire growing season. Many have the mistaken idea that peaches and apricots should not be watered while they are ripening. This is not true. Fruit will be inferior if the trees can not get enough water. There is a special mimeographed circular on care of the home orchard available at the Extension Service office.

Youngberries and boysenberries need some care at this season. Pull the vigorous new shoots to one side and lay them along the ground. Don't cut them off. They will bear next year's crop for you. Maintain a good supply of irrigation water in furrows about two feet from the berry plants. This means an irrigation every week or ten days in light soil and every ten days to two and one-half or three weeks on heavier soils. If the berries get short of water, fruit will be small and of inferior quality.

Mildew is developing on many peaches and plums. Apply sulphur dust to control these troubles. The disease is particularly bad in sections nearer the coast.

ENJOYS LEAVE
Charles M. Belcher, Machinist's Mate, U. S. N., returned recently at the conclusion of exactly one year's overseas duty. His wife Reba of 1615 W. 214th st. is a supervisor at Doak Aircraft, here.


Palica Unit's Service Related

According to a report from General Headquarters Public Relations Office, U. S. Army, Sgt. Kristi Palica, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Palica, 1943 W. 257th st., whose death on Luzon in the Philippines was announced last week, was a machine gun squad leader in the 32nd Infantry Division's crack 128th Infantry Regiment.

The 32nd Division, which was the first U. S. Army Division in action against the Japs in New Guinea, is now in its fourth year of overseas operations, against the enemy in the Southwest Pacific.

Sergeant Palica, who held the Combat Infantryman Badge and Philippines Liberation Medal, entered the Army in July, 1942, and had been overseas 26 months at the time of his death.

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