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Convenient
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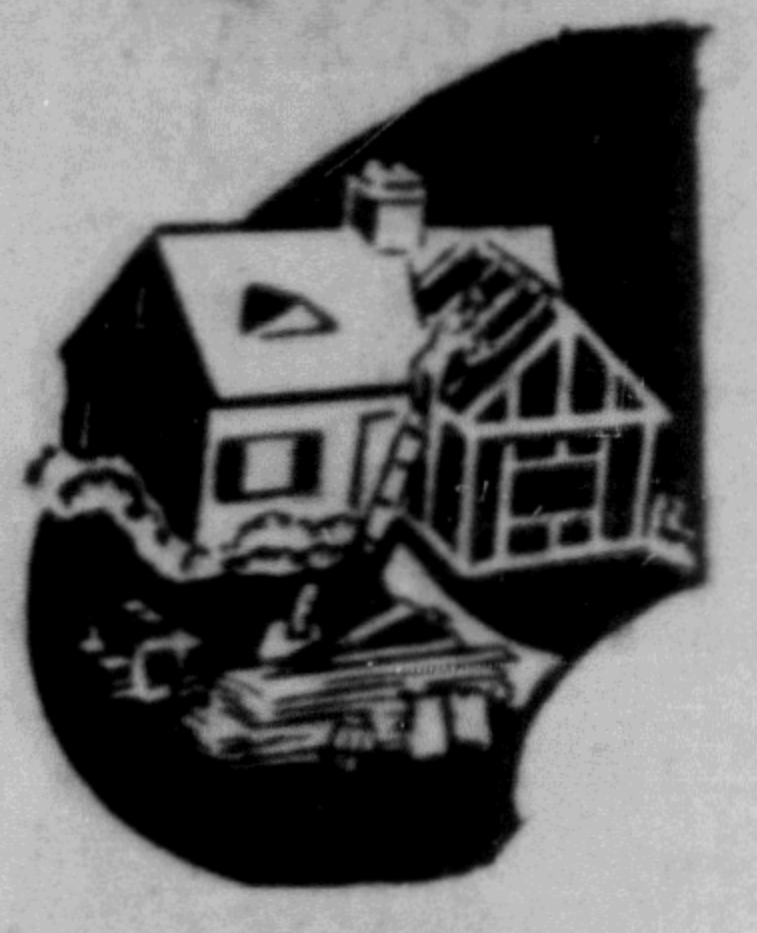
ON SALE AT ALL
SWEET SIXTEEN
STORES THROUGHOUT
BRITISH COLUMBIA



NOT TOO SOON—As anyone who has had any experience in mucking around with clay will confirm, one can dig, or cultivate soil too soon in the spring, or too soon after a heavy shower. If stirred up while still really wet, heavy soil is liable to bake into lumps as hard as brick. And it doesn't do a bit of good, and it may cause some harm, to cultivate even light loam while it is wet. Technical people have various scientific tests for determining whether it is safe to cultivate, but the old gardener simply takes a walk around. If the soil is muddy and sticks to his boots then he finds other jobs indoors. But if the soil is damp but doesn't squeeze tightly together, it is just right to cultivate. And this rule holds good whether the winter snows have just gone or after a heavy spring shower.

FERTILIZERS—One could write a book about fertilizers alone. Indeed scores of such books have been written, but it is not necessary to read them all to learn the fundamentals. There are two main points to remember. All fertilizers, whether chemical or natural, are used for two purposes—first and foremost to feed the plants, secondly to speed growth and maturity. The second point is particularly important with vegetables, which should be grown as quickly as possible if they are to be tender, and it is also important with long-season, tender things like melons, squash, cucumbers, corn, tomatoes, etc., especially in areas where the fall frosts come early. Of the chemical or commercial fertilizers, it is important to realize that these contain three main essentials—nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. These are usually shown by three figures with a dash between on the bag or package. As a rule where green growth is the important thing as with grass and leafy vegetables, then a fertilizer rich in nitrogen will be wanted. Where root growth is dominant, as with potatoes, carrots, beets, etc., then a formula heavy in potash would suit. As a general rule a fairly evenly balanced mixture is best for the average garden. With natural fertilizers or manures there are differences too. Well-rooted cow manure is probably the best, as it is well-balanced. Any kind, however, will be useful, but because it is so strong poultry manure should be used sparingly. Another excellent source of plant food will be the compost heap. Every garden, no matter how small, should have one. This is a hidden spot where all vegetables refuse is piled, stuff like weeds, grass clippings, straw, leaves, even garbage, provided it is free from tin cans and glass which will not rot. Over an inch or so layer of the plant

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Prince Rupert Daily News
Friday, April 22, 1949

refuse, and of course over every bit of garbage that is liable to smell or attract flies, one should throw some soil. If possible it is also well to incorporate a little well-rotted manure and perhaps some chemical fertilizer. The pile which will be built up of alternate layers of soil and plant refuse should be kept flat on top to absorb rains. This speeds decomposition. A good soaking with the hose every few weeks in dry weather will also help the breaking-down process, and there are special chemicals one can use for this purpose too. In a year the whole will have turned into first-class, very rich garden soil and another should be started.

Local Ladies Meet Mrs. Nancy Hodges

Local ladies had the opportunity of meeting Mrs. Nancy Hodges, M.L.A. for Victoria, at a pleasant tea yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. A. S. Nickerson, Borden Street. Mrs. C. C. Mills was convener. Mrs. Nickerson and Mrs. J. D. McRae received the guests. Mrs. M. P. McCaffery and Mrs. S. E. Parker poured and the servers were Mrs. Duncan McRae, Mrs. Douglas Frizzell, Mrs. A. S. Mitchell, Mrs. T. N. Youngs, Mrs. Rod MacLeod and Mrs. L. W. Kergin.

OLDER WOMEN CREATE PRO...

What to do with over age workers where the average population is rapidly increasing is a major problem which must find a solution. Nancy Hodges, M.L.A. for Prince Rupert, Thursday at a meeting... "Before very long going to find our preponderantly big of over 45 years of age in the province. Scientists are doing increase the chronic of life, little is being pand the effective iod." Half the people in British Columbia over 45 years of age are declared, and finding increasing finding work, making an aversion on the government and the try to employ them. Despite the fact, the exception of the other the provincial governments new workers over 45 for women and 45 records of private the war show the groups make both ductive employees.

You saw it in the News! (Continued on page 4)

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