

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL
Room 205, Forum Building, 1421 Atwater Ave., Montreal

April 27th, 1944

This is to certify that all cans of fruits and vegetables processed in the canning plants of the L'Entr'Aide Familiale of the Community Garden League, are for consumption by the families registered in the Community and Victory Garden Sections of the District.

(SIGNED)

CHAIRMAN, L'ENTR'AIDE FAMILIALE

COPY

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL
Room 205, Forum Bldg., 1421 Atwater Avenue, Montreal

April 27th, 1944

This is to certify that all cans of fruits and vegetables processed in the canning plant in the Hochelaga District (Sherbrooke St. East, between Chambly and Nicolet Streets) of the Community Garden League, are for consumption by the families registered in the Community and Victory Garden Sections of this District.

(SIGNED)

CHAIRMAN, HOCHELAGA DISTRICT

PRESIDENT: WM. J. TAWSE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: WILLIAM BOWIE

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

OPERATED BY
THE MONTREAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

H. ALLARD
MR. JUSTICE GREGOR BARCLAY
L. MOWBRAY CLARK
ED. GERNAEY
W. D. HARRIS
C. R. KNEELAND
A. E. OKILL
C. T. RUSSELL

OFFICES: FORUM BUILDING

1421 ATWATER AVENUE,
MONTREAL, QUE.
TELEPHONE: WILBANK 1181

HON. PRES.: FRED H. JOHNSTON
VICE-PRES.: MRS. A. N. JENKS
HON. TREAS.: WM. COWIE HALL
SUPERVISOR, VICTORY GARDENS:
T. G. IRELAND
SECRETARY: MRS. W. DORIS HILL

April 26th, 1944

TO DISTRICT OFFICERS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Would you please forward us a list of your 1944 Officers - Chairman, Secretary, and other Committee Members, together with their addresses and telephone numbers (if any). We require this for our records.

APPLICATIONS

Individual application forms are now ready, and can be secured from the Secretary, Mrs. W.H. Hill, by calling at this Office any time from 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. on Saturdays.

TOOLS

The garden tool shortage is still with us. We have been given the same quota as last year. This allows us to release 5 sets of tools for your District. These special sets are available at \$1.35 per set.

The Manufacturers wish it to be definitely understood that the tools are only to be distributed to gardeners who are pensioners, unemployed, soldier's wives or those in needy circumstances.

CANS

The War Time Prices and Trade Board have given us permission to purchase the necessary requirements for the 1944 canning season.

The Metals Controller has stipulated that the League must guarantee that the cans will be used for the householders own consumption, and that under no circumstances will the cans be sold. We have signed declarations to this effect. For our records, we are enclosing a form for you to sign and return before the cans are ordered for your District.

I would like to point out that if evidence is produced that cans

"DIG FOR VICTORY"

are being sold in any District the supply will be cut off. We are acting in your best interest in this matter and must conform to the Government regulations.

VICTORY GARDENS

The Community Garden League is continuing to promote the expansion of Victory Gardens. This has put a great deal of extra work on the shoulders of the staff in our Office. We would be glad of your co-operation in placing new gardeners in your District.

At a meeting of District Officers held in the Forum Building last December, it was agreed that a Canning Membership fee of \$1.00 would be charged Victory Gardeners who use District canning plants. Applications for canning membership should be sent to this Office together with the \$1.00 fee. The fee would be held in this Office in trust, to look after your additional canning expenses. The unused balance would be returned to you at the end of the season and could be used for canning plant improvements for the following year.

FERTILIZER

4-8-8 fertilizer is available at \$2.00 per bag of 100 lbs., and can be delivered in not less than lots of 1,000 lbs. (10 bags). Your order should be sent in as soon as possible.

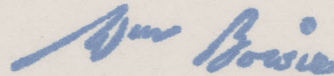
WATER PIPING

We can secure water piping for you at the following prices - 1 inch 8¢ a foot; $\frac{1}{2}$ inch 6¢ a foot, without couplings.

REGISTRATION FEE FOR COMMUNITY GARDENERS

At the December meeting it was also agreed that a 25¢ registration fee would be charged all Community Gardeners so that this would be in line with the fee charged Victory Gardeners. Would you make arrangements to have this collected from your gardeners and remit it to this Office?

If there is any way in which we can help you, please get in touch with us.



Executive Director

WB/WDH
Encl.

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T. G. IRELAND
SECRETARY: MRS. W. DORIS HILL

January 23rd, 1945

J.O. Asselin, Esq.,
Chairman, Executive Committee,
City Hall, Montreal.

Dear Mr. Asselin:

The Victory Garden Campaign of 1944-45 was an outstanding success and brought a great deal of credit and praise to the City of Montreal. It was conservatively estimated that over half a million dollars worth of vegetable produce was raised on Victory Gardens at a time when food production was considered a priority war effort.

We are informed by Government Officials that the need is still great and that there should be no slackening on the home front. The City of Montreal provided a grant of \$1,500. for this purpose. Without this grant it would have been impossible to hand handled the situation.

On behalf of the Community Garden League, I beg to make application for a similar grant for the year 1945-46. Plans are now being made to officially launch this year's Campaign on the 15th of March.

Trusting this request will be favourably received.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Honorary Treasurer
Honorary Treasurer

WCH/GF

COPY

PRESIDENT: WM. J. TAWSE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: WILLIAM BOWIE

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I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Honorary Treasurer

WCH/GF

"DIG FOR VICTORY"

BULLETIN TO DISTRICTS REGARDING WATER

The city has informed us that great care must be taken to avoid waste of water during the coming season. The numerous munition plants in and around Montreal are using so much water that great care must be taken to, at all times, conserve the supply.

June 10th, 1943.

They definitely insist that no automatic sprinklers of Department of Water & Drainage, hose be left running continuously. City of Montreal, City Hall, Room 323, Montreal.

of the gardens by the city authorities will be undertaken this year. Attention: Mr. J. A. Jette.

Dear Mr. Jette:- avoid waste, steps will be taken immediately, to install meters. With further reference to our conversation regarding the water situation, I am enclosing herewith copies of the bulletins which we are forwarding to all districts under our supervision. You will see by these bulletins that we are doing all we possibly can to help you in your efforts to conserve the water supply of the city.

close co-operation of all members in your district.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director.

I/F
Encl.

BULLETIN TO DISTRICTS REGARDING WATER

The city has informed us that great care must be taken to avoid waste of water during the coming season. The numerous munition plants in and around Montreal are using so much water that great care must be taken to, at all times, conserve the supply.

They definitely insist that no automatic sprinklers of any type be used, and that no hose be left running continuously. Close supervision of the gardens by the city authorities will be undertaken this year, and if cases are found where care is not being taken to avoid waste, steps will be taken immediately, to install meters for the control and charge for the water used.

In order to carry out the wishes of the city, who are, after all, supplying us with water without cost, we would ask close co-operation of all members in your district.

BULLETIN TO VICTORY GARDEN GROUPS REGARDING WATER

In view of the great drain on the city's water supply during the summer months and due to the fact that no charge is being made for the water supplied to your group, the city authorities insist that the using of water in Victory Garden Groups be limited to three nights a week, namely Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

This step is necessary owing to the great amount of water being used by the war working plants of the district and we would ask that you notify all members of your group and instruct your supervisors to see that this ruling is carried out.

The city also prohibits the use, at any time, of automatic sprinklers of any type in connection with Victory Gardens.

Your close co-operation is requested.

Copy to Captain Bowie.

January 21st, 1944

Honourable Arthur Mathewson,
Treasurer of the Province of Quebec,
Quebec, Que.

Dear Arthur:

Captain Bowie tells me that he saw you briefly on Saturday morning last and presented you with the petition of the Community Garden League which asks the Province of Quebec for the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to help in further organizing the people of Montreal and this area in participating in the Victory Garden movement for 1944.

It is quite unnecessary for me to tell you of the need which so urgently presents itself - that all who can should grow more food this next year - that is something which you well know. My only thought in adding this note to the petition is, not only to add my request that you consider it kindly, but to mention something which the petition did not emphasize. It stresses the present need which is, of course, the urgent one, but it lacked, perhaps, enough of the background and the more distant picture.

This committee was one formed during depression years, which with only a shoestring of \$500 a year from the Council of Social Agencies, succeeded in placing over 2100 men on borrowed, vacant lots, giving them instruction, tools, seeds and encouragement. With this help, these men attained a mind-saving interest and a plot which then grew over \$35.00 worth of vegetables. One of the leaders in the 200-garden lot at Maisonneuve said in all earnestness at the end of the first season, that they felt sure that this work and hope had definitely prevented an outbreak of communism in that district.

With this background, it surely is not wishful thinking to expect that this organization, if properly aided, can be a powerful factor in repeating its earlier work when the days of postwar adjustment come upon us.

We have done a good organizing job so far, but the time is ripe to reach out much further. We are gathering a stronger committee. May we have the necessary help from the Province?

I know that as an individual this is close to your heart and your interest. Will you just turn around and just present it to the Treasurer of the Province of Quebec and tell him firmly how necessary you feel it to be?

All the best wishes, and the hope that I shall see you soon,
Sincerely,

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

OPERATED BY
THE MONTREAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

MISS CARRIE ADAMS
W. D. HARRIS
W. C. HODGSON
T. G. IRELAND
MRS. A. N. JENKS
C. R. KNEELAND
MISS A. LIGHTHALL
MISS M. M. RILEY
J. ROUSSEAU

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VICE-PRES.: W. J. TAWSE
HON. TREAS.: WM. COWIE HALL
CHAIRMAN LAND COMMITTEE: F. G. TODD
SECRETARY: MRS. W. DORIS HILL

January 11th, 1944

To the Honourable the Deputy Minister of Agriculture:

The Directors of the Community Garden League of Greater Montreal respectfully petition the Provincial Government, Province of Quebec, for consideration of a grant of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.) towards the organization and administration expenses of the 1944 Victory Garden Campaign.

In support of this petition the following report of 1943 Victory Garden activities is hereby submitted: The 1943 Victory Garden Campaign was conducted under the auspices of the Community Garden League of Greater Montreal. Over 7,000 French and English speaking gardeners enrolled in this the first concerted effort to increase food production on the home-front. This was in direct response to the urging of the Federal and Provincial Governments throughout Canada.

The City of Montreal provided a grant of \$1,000. with the stipulation that this amount be spent within the boundaries of the City. Other neighbouring municipalities are making arrangements to provide services in lieu of a grant; ploughing, erection of canning plants, etc.

The combined efforts of French and English speaking Victory and Community gardeners in the Montreal area resulted in the raising of over \$300,000. worth of fresh vegetable products and in addition "put down" over 135,000 cans of surplus vegetables for winter use. Canning was done in eight

Community Canning Plants erected and operated in strategic garden allotment Districts..

From available information the Directors of the Community Garden League are convinced that this organized Victory Garden effort in the Montreal area is unique in Canada and deserves governmental support and encouragement. Responsible Government Authorities have stated repeatedly that 1944 will be the critical year in food production and are urging that all citizens who have access to vacant land should raise sufficient fresh vegetables for their our family consumption in order to release larger quantities of food stuffs for the Armed Forces and impending European needs.

The Community Garden League of Greater Montreal has no budget for the organization of Victory Gardens other than the \$1,000. grant from the City of Montreal and a twenty-five cent registration fee per gardener. This is totally insufficient to look after the anticipated expansion in 1944. It is necessary to employ an experienced, bilingual organizer and part-time clerical and stenographic assistance.

For your information, a statement of receipts and expenditures for the 1943 season is attached. Also an estimated budget for 1944.

The Directors of the Community Garden League feel assured that in view of the present wartime emergency this petition will receive the sympathetic and favourable consideration of the Provincial Government.

Respectfully submitted,

Vice-President

Hon. Treasurer

Chairman, French-Speaking
Section

Executive Director

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

Suggested Budget - Victory Gardens, 1944

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal Allotment	-	\$2,000.00
Provincial Government	-	3,000.00
Registration Fees	-	⁴ <u>500.00</u>
		<u>\$5,500.00</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary, Organizer	-	\$1,800.00
General Supervision	-	250.00
Stenographic Service	-	750.00
Office Supplies, Postages, Equipment, etc.	-	400.00
Transportation	-	350.00
Telephone	-	90.00
Expenses re Water Connections, Ploughing, Tool Sheds, Etc.	-	<u>1,500.00</u>
		^{gms} <u>\$5,140.00</u> _{ms}

September 23rd, 1943

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

VICTORY GARDENS

1943

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal	-	\$1,000.00	
Registration Fees	-	303.25	
Montreal Star Company	-	<u>100.00</u>	
			\$1,403.25

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary - Victory Gardens Organizer Part-time Stenographic Assistance	-	\$ 946.00	
Office - Mimeographing, Office Supplies, Postages and Printing	-	170.28	
Publicity - Signs, film, etc.	-	77.46	
General Expenses	-	125.25	
Transportation and Car Fares	-	83.00	
L'Entra'Aide Familiale (French-Speaking Section)	-	<u>442.00</u>	
			<u>\$1,845.99</u>
Deficit	-	\$ <u>442.74</u>	

December 29th, 1943

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

Suggested Budget - Victory Gardens, 1944

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal Allotment	-	\$2,000.00
Provincial Government	-	1,500.00
Quebec Horticultural Federation	-	100.00
Registration Fees	-	<u>400.00</u>
		<u>\$4,000.00</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary, Organizer	-	\$1,800.00
General Supervision	-	250.00
Stenographic Service	-	750.00
Office Supplies, Postages, Equipment, etc.	-	400.00
Transportation and Trucking	-	275.00
Telephone	-	90.00
Expenses re Water Connections, Ploughing, Tool Sheds, etc.	-	<u>435.00</u>
		<u>\$4,000.00</u>

September 23rd, 1943

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

VICTORY GARDENS - 1943

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal	-	\$1,000.00	
Registration Fees	-	303.25	
Montreal Star Company	-	<u>100.00</u>	
			\$1,403.25

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary - Victory Gardens Organizer			
Part-time Stenographic Assistance	-	\$ 946.00	
Office - Mimeographing, Office Supplies,			
Postages and Printing	-	170.28	
Publicity - Signs, film, etc.	-	77.46	
General Expenses	-	125.25	
Transportation and Car Fares	-	83.00	
L'Entr'Aide Familiale			
(French-Speaking Section)	-	<u>444.00</u>	
			<u>\$1,845.99</u>
	Deficit		\$ 442.74

December, 1943

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



CITY OF MONTREAL

CANADA

COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HÔTEL DE VILLE,
CITY HALL,

November 2nd 1943.

Colonel William Bowie,
Executive Director, Community Garden League of
Greater Montreal,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
Montreal.

Dear Colonel Bowie:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of
November 1st instant, which is an application
for a grant of \$2000 towards the organization
and administration costs of the 1944 Victory
Gardens Campaign.

I also wish to take this opportunity to
reiterate my congratulations upon your fine
work; you must be pleased with the results, and
they somewhat make up for your trouble.

With kind regards, I remain,

Yours truly,

Chairman.

November 1st, 1943

J.O. Asselin, Esq.,
Chairman, Executive Committee,
City Council of Montreal,
City Hall, Montreal.

Dear Mr. Asselin:

I have been instructed by the Executive Committee of the Community Garden League of Greater Montreal to make a formal application to the Executive Committee of the City Council of Montreal for a grant of \$2,000. towards the organization and administration costs of the 1944 Victory Gardens Campaign.

The Board Members of the Community Garden League greatly appreciated the City of Montreal's grant of \$1,000. for this purpose in 1943. The amount, we found, however, was quite inadequate to look after the necessary expenditures and we are faced with a deficit of several hundred dollars at the end of the present season.

You, I am sure, will be glad to know that Montreal's 1943 Victory Gardens Campaign was entirely successful and was the only organization of its kind in the Dominion. Through the Community Garden League, it was possible to organize the Campaign on a thorough basis. It was estimated that over 7,000 Victory Gardeners enrolled in the English and French speaking sections and together raised over \$250,000. worth of garden produce; despite the backward season and heavy rainfall. Already plans are underway for next year. New applications are being received which indicates an even greater interest on the part of the Montreal public. Ten community canning plants were operated by the gardeners themselves and "put down" approximately 135,000 cans of surplus products. We believe that here in Montreal we have made a definite contribution towards relieving the wartime food situation.

Trusting this request will receive the sympathetic consideration of the members of the Executive Committee of the City Council,

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/CF

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



CITY OF MONTREAL

CANADA

COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HÔTEL DE VILLE, February 24th 1944.
CITY HALL,

RE: Grant.

Wm Bowie, Esq.,
Executive Director, Parks and Playgrounds Association
Incorporated,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
Montreal.

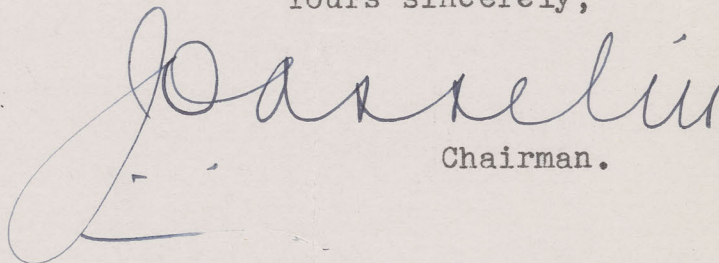
Dear Mr. Bowie:

Many thanks for the kind remarks contained
in the first paragraph of your letter of February
21st.

I shall be pleased to submit your request
to both the Public Works Department and our
Executive Committee at the earliest possible
moment.

With kind regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,


Chairman.

Copy to Mr. Jansen
Mar 1/44

Copy to Mr. Tawse - 22nd Feb.

February 21st, 1944

J.O. Asselin, Esq.,
Chairman, Executive Committee,
City Council,
City Hall, Montreal.

Dear Mr. Asselin:

We greatly missed you at the Annual Meeting of the Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association for which you had made a reservation. We had a place for you at the Head Table next to a charming lady. The lady also missed your company.

However, I am writing in regard to the expected 1944 Civic Grant for our Victory Garden Campaign. Up-to-date, registrations have been coming in at an increasing pace. Meetings are being held at different points throughout the City with an attendance of over 1,000 already. Further meetings are planned up to the 1st of May.

A series of thirteen broadcasts over C.B.M. have been arranged and are now underway. All indications point to a heavier load of work than last year. We have set our objective at 15,000 gardeners and a yield of over \$500,000. We believe this to be a conservative estimate. Additional canning plants will be made available.

At the present time we are operating on borrowed money and I am getting a little anxious. Is it possible that the Civic appropriation might be available soon? We know that you and the Executive Committee have been tremendously busy on Montreal's refinancing plan.

Awaiting your kind reply and thanking you for your keen interest in the work we are doing.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

WB/GF

Executive Director

*Copy to
C. Hyung*

March 20th, 1944

W. J. Tawse, Esq.,
152 Notre Dame St. E.,
Montreal.

Dear Mr. Tawse:

This will acknowledge copies of correspondence between Mr. Adrien Morin, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. J. H. Lavoie; and Mr. Lavoie and yourself, regarding our application for a grant of \$2,000. from the Provincial Treasury towards the cost of administration and organizational expenses for the 1944 Victory Garden Campaign.

In April of last year appeals were made by the Provincial Premier and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in the press, to residents of Quebec to cultivate at least 300,000 Victory Gardens in 1943. The appeal stressed the "necessity and urgency to enlarge and multiply Victory Gardens in order to increase food production". It was apparent that this objective was impossible without an organized effort on the part of some organization. The Directors of the Community Garden League felt it their duty to accept this challenge as it affected the largest centre of population in the Province, i.e. the metropolitan area of Greater Montreal.

The result of our 1943 efforts was very successful, inasmuch as over \$300,000. worth of produce was raised. We are now in the midst of the 1944 Campaign and foresee the probability of raising over \$500,000. worth of vegetables this year. This is no mean contribution to the war effort and deserves encouragement from the Provincial Authorities.

The City of Montreal generously subscribed an amount of \$1,000. and has promised an increased grant for 1944. This is our only source of income other than a twenty-five cent registration fee from Victory Gardeners, and it is impossible to operate on this amount.

It would seem to me that unless a substantial grant is received from the Provincial Government, the Victory Garden Campaign will have to be abandoned. Officials of the Community Garden League are giving their time and energy without stint. The only paid employee is a fulltime Victory Garden Supervisor and he is required on a year-round basis.

I may say that over the past six weeks over 2,000 Victory Gardeners have attended organized meetings held in different districts of Montreal. It would be a pity to dampen the enthusiasm of our patriotic citizens.

I hope that this request for financial support will receive serious re-consideration and that a special Provincial grant be made to enable this work to be carried on.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/GP

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I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/GF

January 12th, 1944

Hon. Arthur Mathewson,
Provincial Treasurer,
Parliament Buildings,
Quebec, Que.

Dear Sir:

The Directors of the Community Garden League of Greater Montreal respectfully petition the Provincial Government, Province of Quebec, for consideration of a grant of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.) towards the organization and administration expenses of the 1944 Victory Garden Campaign.

In support of this petition the following report of 1943 Victory Garden activities is hereby submitted: The 1943 Victory Garden Campaign was conducted under the auspices of the Community Garden League of Greater Montreal. Over 7,000 French and English speaking gardeners enrolled in this the first concerted effort to increase food production on the home-front. This was in direct response to the urging of the Federal and Provincial Governments throughout Canada.

The City of Montreal provided a grant of \$1,000. with the stipulation that this amount be spent within the boundaries of the City. Other neighbouring municipalities are making arrangements to provide services in lieu of a grant; ploughing, erection of canning plants, etc.

The combined efforts of French and English speaking Victory and Community gardeners in the Montreal area resulted in the raising of over \$300,000. worth of fresh vegetable products and in addition "put down" over

135,000 cans of surplus vegetables for winter use. Canning was done in eight Community Canning Plants erected and operated in strategic garden allotment Districts.

From available information, the Directors of the Community Garden League are convinced that this organized Victory Garden effort in the Montreal area is unique in Canada and deserves governmental support and encouragement. Responsible Government Authorities have stated repeatedly that 1944 will be the critical year in food production and are urging that all citizens who have access to vacant land should raise sufficient fresh vegetables for their own family consumption in order to release larger quantities of foodstuffs for the Armed Forces and impending European needs.

The Community Garden League of Greater Montreal has no budget for the organization of Victory Gardens other than the \$1,000, grant from the City of Montreal and a twenty-five cent registration fee per gardener. This is totally insufficient to look after the anticipated expansion in 1944. It is necessary to employ an experienced, bilingual organizer and part-time clerical and stenographic assistance.

For your information, a statement of receipts and disbursements for the 1943 season is attached. Also an estimated budget for 1944.

The Directors of the Community Garden League feel assured that in view of the present wartime emergency this petition will receive the sympathetic and favourable consideration of the Provincial Government.

Respectfully submitted,

Vice-President

Hon. Treasurer

Chairman, French-Speaking
Section

Executive Director



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

QUEBEC, P.Q., February 12th 1944

Captain William Bowie,
Executive Director,
Community Garden League of Greater Montreal,
Forum Building,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
MONTREAL, P.Q.

My dear Captain,

I duly received your letter of the 12th ultimo asking for a grant of \$2,000.00 towards the organization and administration expenses of the 1944 Victory Garden Campaign. I also received a letter from Mrs. A.N. Jenks in the same connection.

I have referred the matter to the Department of Agriculture for consideration.

Yours faithfully,

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

Suggested Budget - Victory Gardens, 1944

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal Allotment	-	\$2,000.00
Provincial Government	-	3,000.00
Registration Fees	-	<u>400.00</u>
		<u>\$5,400.00</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary, Organizer	-	\$1,800.00
General Supervision	-	250.00
Stenographic Service	-	750.00
Office Supplies, Postages, Equipment, etc.	-	400.00
Transportation	-	350.00
Telephone	-	90.00
Expenses re Water Connections, Ploughing Tool Sheds, etc.	-	<u>1,760.00</u>
		<u>\$5,400.00</u>

September 23rd, 1943

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

Suggested Budget - Victory Gardens, 1944

RECEIPTS

City of Montreal	-	\$1,500.00
Provincial Government	-	1,000.00
Registration Fees	-	<u>400.00</u>
		\$2,900.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary - Organizer	-	\$1,500.00
General Supervision	-	250.00
Stenographic Service	-	360.00
Office Supplies, Postages, Equipment, etc.	-	300.00
Transportation	-	100.00
Expenses re Water Connections, Ploughing, Tool Sheds, etc.	-	<u>390.00</u>
		\$2,900.00

December 16th, 1943

607-1-10

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



CITY OF MONTREAL

CANADA

COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HÔTEL DE VILLE,
CITY HALL, January 30, 1945.

RE: Grant - Victory Gardens -

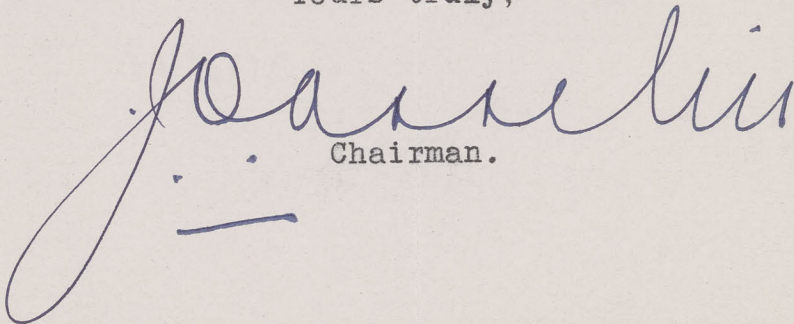
Captain William Bowie,
Executive Director, Community Garden
League of Greater Montreal,
Forum Building,
Montreal.

Dear Captain Bowie:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 27th instant, by which you make application for a grant to the amount of \$1,500 for the year 1945-46 for the above purpose.

I shall submit your request to our Executive Committee at an early meeting, when it will receive our earnest consideration.

Yours truly,


Chairman.

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



CITY OF MONTREAL

CANADA

COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HÔTEL DE VILLE,
CITY HALL, April 10, 1943.

RE: Montreal Victory Gardens -

Col. William Bowie,
Executive Director,
Community Garden League of Greater Montreal,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
Montreal.

Dear Col. Bowie:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 8th instant.

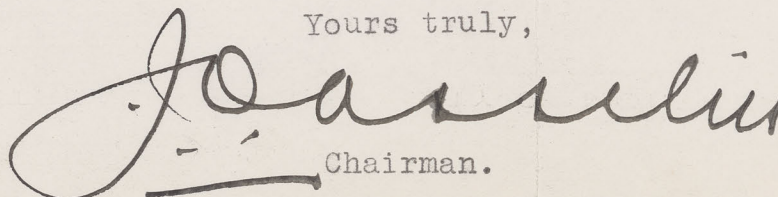
The matter of the ploughing of the lots loaned to prospective Victory gardeners has already been discussed by the Executive Committee and the consensus of opinion was that the City in giving its land free and also making a grant of \$1000 was going as far as it should under the circumstances.

We realize that the ploughing of the land is a very important part; however, if there are some five thousand lots loaned in this manner, it would be next to impossible for any one organization, even if it is the City of Montreal, to plough all these lots in time to be of service to the gardeners.

We would necessarily be placed in a position where severe criticism would be directed at us for giving preference to one section of the city as against the other, or to one gardener as against his neighbour.

It seems to us that this is a matter for the League to arrange with the gardeners themselves. That should be their contribution; they being given free land and, in many cases, free water, it seems that the ploughing should be at their own expense.

Yours truly,


Chairman.

THE MONITOR

"Canada's Greatest Suburban Weekly"

Montreal, Que. March 15th, 1943

Gentlemen:

The Quebec Government is promoting a campaign among the citizens of Quebec Province to grow small fruits and vegetables on vacant lots, in order that there may be no shortage of these commodities next winter. In view of this the Monitor Publishing Company, Limited, intends to use its respective newspapers, the Monitor, the Verdun Guardian, and the Westmount Examiner, in Notre Dame de Grace, Verdun and Westmount, to further such a campaign. These newspapers combined have a circulation of 45,000 copies.

It is generally admitted that there is a danger of acute shortages in the fruit and vegetable field facing us in the future unless our citizens cultivate the vacant lots.

Enclosed you will find page layout which is self-explanatory. There will be considerable quantities of seed, garden tools and accessories required, nor does the undertaking end there. It is our intention to promote ways and means of providing storage facilities so that vegetables may be available when most vitally needed.

We feel that your company will want to share in the valued business involved in this idea. Space on the enclosed page will cost you seven cents per agate line. This page will run in our respective papers for four weeks beginning with the issue of April 4th, and continuing until April 25th. Whatever space you feel inclined to use on this page, would you kindly let us know at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

THE MONITOR PUBLISHING CO. LTD

Advertising Manager

HVS/LL



Members:

Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association
Ontario-Quebec Weekly Newspapers Association
Advertising Club of Montreal

Copy to Capt. Bowie

Handwritten initials

June 15th 1943.

Mr. A. E. Gibeau,
Director of Public Works Department,
City Hall.

Dear Mr. Gibeau:-

You will please a large group of very prominent citizens in the Division which I represent and in other Divisions of the City, if you could arrange to loan the City snow fences to protect the Victory Gardens under the auspices of the Community Garden League.

Captain Bowie has told me that they will be responsible for the fences to be returned in the same conditions than when they were given.

I would greatly appreciate a favorable response to this appeal.

Yours truly,

Handwritten signature of Frank Hanley

Frank Hanley,
Municipal Councillor.

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

M E M O

June 3rd, 1943

TO - W. G. Hare
FROM - Wm. Bowie

We have received a few complaints from Victory Gardeners that their Tomato Plants are being stolen. Do you think it might be a good plan to mention something about this in the Star?

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL



CITY OF MONTREAL

CANADA

CABINET DU DIRECTEUR DES SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENTS

HÔTEL DE VILLE,
CITY HALL,

June 4th 1943.

William Bowie, Esq.,
Executive Director,
Community Garden League of Greater Montreal,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
Montreal.

Dear Sir:- re: Victory Gardens- Protecting Fences.

Mr. Honoré Parent wishes me to give you the following details, in answer to your letter of May 31st last.

Though the City is willing to encourage the movement directed by the Community Garden League, it is impossible to grant the request about fencing victory gardens with our snow fences: there are many reasons against lending City property for private purposes, and our Public Works Department is very much opposed to such a line of conduct, mostly since the last few years. Materials are very hard to obtain and labor is also a difficult problem.

You will, in a few days, be invited to Mr. Gibeau's office to discuss a few items concerning your victory gardens: he will then supply you with more details and information.

Hoping you will understand the City's attitude, I remain,

Yours very truly,

L. L. L.
L. L. L.

Assistant Director

LAL/SR

The Montreal Daily Star

"CANADA'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER"

MONTREAL, CANADA.

June 4th., 1943.

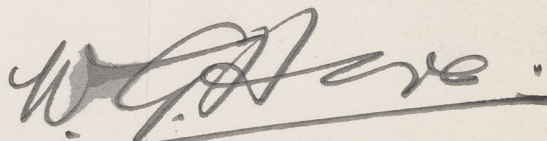
Capt. William Bowie,
Community Garden League,
1421 Atwater Ave.,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Capt. Bowie,

Replying to your memo of June 3rd., I think we had better not mention anything in The Star about tomato plants being stolen. I believe so doing would do more harm than good since it would hardly stop the thefts and might discourage gardeners who have thought of planting tomatoes. Furthermore, it would publicise the idea that stealing from Victory Gardens can be accomplished and might induce others to try it.

What provision, if any, is being made to safeguard crops in the Fall? I notice in some cities Boy Scouts have been helping to guard Victory Gardens. I imagine that this is one of the problems you will be tackling and no doubt will try to get some special co-operation from the police.

Yours very truly,



W.G. Hare

wgh:eo

PRESIDENT: FRED H. JOHNSTON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: WILLIAM BOWIE

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

OPERATED BY
THE MONTREAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

MISS CARRIE ADAMS
W. D. HARRIS
W. C. HODGSON
T. G. IRELAND
MRS. A. N. JENKS
C. R. KNEELAND
MISS A. LIGHTHALL
MISS M. M. RILEY
J. ROUSSEAU

OFFICES: FORUM BUILDING

1421 ATWATER AVENUE,
MONTREAL, QUE.

TELEPHONE: WILBANK 1151

HON. PRES.: MR. JUSTICE GREGOR BARCLAY

VICE-PRES.: W. J. TAWSE

HON. TREAS.: WM. COWIE HALL

CHAIRMAN LAND COMMITTEE: F. G. TODD

SECRETARY: MRS. W. DORIS HILL

October 19th, 1943

Dear Victory Gardener:

We know that you have been waiting to hear from us regarding our plans for next season's Victory Gardens, but we have purposely delayed writing you in order that we might give you the fullest possible details as to what we hope to do.

First of all, may we congratulate you on the success you achieved this year? Despite the most unfavourable conditions both at the start and during the growing season, we feel that generally speaking the season of 1943 was a most successful one as far as Victory Gardens were concerned. Naturally, we all hope for better things next year, but the great work performed by the Victory Gardeners of 1943 on the home front will long be remembered after the lid has been clamped down on Hitler et al.

Now for our plans. First of all at a meeting of representatives from the various districts, a set of Rules was drawn up and passed. These will be the basic rules for all Victory Gardeners from now on, and are embodied in the Application Form (yours is enclosed herewith). While we are on this point, might we ask you to send in your Application at the earliest possible moment? This is most important if you wish to retain for 1944 the land you used this year. Early registration is going to help us too, and give us a chance to secure additional land for the very large increase in registration we anticipate.

We are assured that Commercial Fertilizer will again be available for our members next spring. We do not know the price yet, but in any case, it will be much lower than if you went out to buy it yourself. We are arranging a series of winter meetings to start right after the New Year. At these meetings, we shall have speakers who are leaders in their particular field, and at each of the meetings a "Question Period" will be one of the features.

An "Information Bureau" will be inaugurated for members, which will act as a clearing-house for all Garden Problems encountered in your work. We are also planning a series of District Shows next fall with a Central Show at which the winners of the District Shows will compete. Finally we plan to increase the number of Canning Plants throughout the City, so that all registered members may have their surplus produce taken care of.

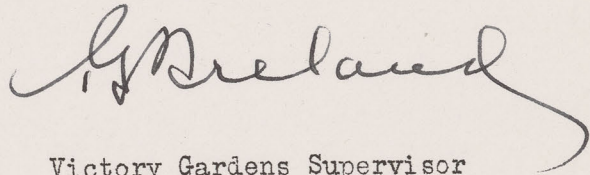
All of these are, of course, in addition to the "Star" Garden Competition, which we understand will be a yearly feature. The "Star" has assured us of their hearty co-operation in the 1944 Victory Garden Campaign.

"DIG FOR VICTORY"

We have already arranged to open up additional tracts of land which will be made available as soon as ploughed. The location of these Group Gardens will be made known through the Press. All of these plans will, of course, require a great deal of organization and will depend largely upon the interest taken by the members themselves. We feel that you will want to continue the great work you started this year, so won't you help us to put these plans over by sending in your signed application right away? If any of your friends wish to join, send in their names and addresses and we will forward the necessary literature.

Let us all get together in a real "Dig for Victory" Campaign. It's the least we "stay at home's" can do for the war effort.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. Ireland". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Victory Gardens Supervisor

TGI/WDH
Encl.

GROWING, SHOWING and BLOWING !!! .

The report of the 1943 Victory Garden, Garden Competition and Horticultural Show Committees.

Victory Gardens :-

In June Mr. G. W. LaMountain Superintendent of Properties of the Aluminum Company of Canada, asked Mr. D. J. Wyber to act as Chairman of a committee composed of R. P. Bell secretary, U. T. Heard organizer, George Charron Wartime Housing and Stanley Rough Publicity, to promote an interest in growing home gardens. Few meetings were held but much accomplished. Fifteen acres were ploughed, eleven tons of chemical fertilizer sold at cost and over five hundred residents took lots.

Lots were 50 by 25 and in spite of rains, hail and cold weather the majority of those who started finished. Bumper crops were impossible to raise but Victory Gardeners got a great deal of satisfaction from their work. Next year these same gardeners will have a much easier time as the back breaking work of fighting sod will not have to be repeated. Arvida has always been garden conscious and that spirit has been furthered this year.

Canning:-

To encourage the canning of fruits and vegetables, four canning machines were purchased and arrangements made for one of the local stores to sell cans at almost cost. To date the first allotment of two thousand cans have been sold and a new shipment is being rapidly sold out. Rates for canning machines: First day nothing.. Second day fifty cents and each additional day one dollar. The idea being to have the machines used and returned as soon as possible for further use. A machine was on display at the Recreation Center for one week. All those who are interested in canning, will receive government bulletins on canning and preserving.

Lectures :-

Canning lectures. Mr. George Charron delivered three lectures on canning and preserving in St-Bernadette's School and the Recreation Center, about one hundred attended. This type of programme can be continued again later on this fall as there seems to be considerable interest in the subject.

Publicity :-

Through printed material distributed to each home, church announcement, radio flashes, and the Lingot du Saguenay, people were informed on how they could secure help and advice. Expenses of plowing were financed by the Aluminum Co., of Canada.

Horticultural Show :-

Mr. D. J. Wyber being a man of few words but much action brought about the following set up for the Garden Judging and Horticultural Show. Stanley Rough President, U. T. Heard Organizer, Simon Boivin Secretary-Treasurer, Mayor Louis Fay, Roy Bell, George Charron.

Through the courtesy of the Arvida Athletic Association the Lobby in the North Section of the Recreation Center was used. Sixty eight exhibitors contributed three hundred and sixty eight exhibits. Due to the fact that some of the outstanding prize winners of former years have moved from Arvida the competitions were wide open and the names of many newcomers appeared on the prize lists. During the show it was possible to play records over the Public Address System which added to the general atmosphere. Approximately one thousand people attended the show. Mayor Fay presented the Championship Cup to Mr. G. Stronghill and to the Wartime Housing winners of Arvida, Chicoutimi and Jonquière. All judging of gardens and exhibition entries was done by Mr. Henry Jeanneret of the Department of Agriculture. Judging and Exhibition expenses were met by the Aluminum Company of Canada and the City of Arvida.

Conclusion:-

Mr. U. T. Heard by his continued interest and enthusiasm plus his fine talk on gardening given at the Rotary did much to develop a greater interest in gardening in Arvida this summer. Roy Bell made the Victory Gardens possible by

Copy B
report sent to
Garden Club of
America

4100 Cote des Neiges Road,
Montreal, Que.

April 19th, 1943.

My dear Mrs. Douglas:

I am afraid that what I can tell you has to do with the war. We in Canada (I should say Montreal) have been doing what we can to help the effort to produce food. "Food for England" from seeds sent them in great quantities - and here may I tell you that the vegetable the English gardeners all praise to the skies, is the Beet -- "Never had anything so delicious" -- "So sweet and dainty we served them as a sweet course"; and they have grown very successfully the very early sweet Corn -- "Also so sweet it serves instead of a pudding course"; it shows their lack of sweets, does it not? The only failure which has been reported from many localities is the Radish, "very poor and pithy", for we have asked for honest opinions and reports. They also tell us that, if started in a greenhouse, they can ripen our very early Tomato out of doors in the Midlands.

In Montreal the Community Gardens had a very successful year. Less gardens, owing to so many men being overseas, but a much larger total of growth - 70,898 cans of vegetables canned, and an estimated total of 1,700 tons raised in the gardens.

This year the Government has allocated 100,000 tins for the Community Gardens. The Community Gardens in their turn are giving a helping hand to our Victory War Garden Effort, and at the present moment it looks as if every bit of available land will be planted - in fact (if the snow would only go so we could see the land) our anxiety is, that people will, in their eagerness, try to use unsuitable land. That is one way the Community Gardens will help us, for they have promised to help us in the selection of the plots and planting.

Our little Garden Club, The Diggers and Weeders, are deeply interested in all these movements and are rightly proud that seven years ago they gave the first little canning outfit to the Community Gardens. Then the first year's output of 1,809 cans seemed enormous, but this little seed has grown to 70,898 cans in 1942.

The Montreal Botanical Gardens and McDonald College have both given every help possible and all the local Horticultural Societies are deeply interested and we know that all through the growing season they will be doing their bit to help the new gardener, who I know will look for comfort and aid in their new

venture, when the "how, when and where" problems of gardening pop out of the ground in the "Ten Thousand Victory Gardens" which is our objective for this year.

In response to a request from the Royal Horticultural Society of England for seeds for the prisoners of war, who beg for vegetable, seeds, such as carrots, turnips, etc., which they grow to supplement their prison fare, they also say "please if you can, a few flower seeds, pansies, forget-me-nots and anything else".

The Canadian women have seen [✓]\$500.00 worth of seeds to these imprisoned men.

May I extend my best wishes to all gardeners and may the Victory crops be large everywhere.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth Arcton Mercer

FROM
T. H. VEECH
582 PALL MALL ST.
LONDON ONT.



ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETIES

Toronto, March 24th, 1943

Mr. Wm. Bowie,
Executive Director,
Community Garden League,
1421 Atwater Ave.,
Montreal, Que.

Dear Mr. Bowie,-

Victory Gardens

With your letter of March 19th we were very pleased to receive a copy of the 11th annual report. We were quite interested and frankly surprised at the extent of the excellent work being done by the Community Garden League.

Unfortunately you are so far ahead of us that we cannot help you by supplying copies of material. As you may know the Community Garden work in Greater Toronto, which was rather prominent in the depression days, has dwindled now to a small enterprise.

Horticultural Societies and similar organizations are being encouraged to promote back yard gardening and where conditions warrant, community gardens, but we have not entered on an all out campaign to encourage urban dwellers without experience and without expert guidance to dig up lawns for the planting of vegetables. We fear that by this type of campaign seed and other materials would be wasted and many amateur gardeners disappointed. We are attempting to give every encouragement to organizations and others where there are fair prospects for success.

We are enclosing a bulletin by Geo. Rush, intended for urban gardeners, also copy of new bulletin by C. L. Thomson, more general in nature and applicable to farm as well as urban gardens. Copy of the Horticultural Association programme indicates the prominence given to Victory Gardens at the annual convention in February. We are sorry we have no other material which might be helpful to you.

Yours very truly,

J. A. Carroll
Superintendent.

JAC/OW

copy to STAR
1/4/43

May 29th, 1946

Mr. T. H. Veech,
582 Pall Mall St.,
London, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Veech:

Replying to your letter of May 16th I appreciate all you said in your letter with suggestions. Your sketches are very good. I am returning them herewith.

Thanking you for your interest.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/GF
Encl.

582 Pall Mall St.,

London, Ont., May 16th, 1946.

William Bowie, Esq.,

Director of Community Garden League,

1421 Atwater Ave.,

Montreal 25, P. Q.

Dear Sir:

I received your letter of 13th inst. and the Community Garden League Annual Report, and noted the contents therein.

I was interested to hear that there was such a great organization. I knew much could be accomplished through united organization such as yours. I am not connected with any organization such as yours. I am just an individual private thinker and suggester. I give my suggestions to the Government and those in authority for their consideration, that the public may benefit by it at large, that they might bring out things in a big way. I have many ideas that I could not finance or put on the market. I am not a manufacturer, or in business in any big way. I follow the building trade. I have several trades. I am a designer and do art work. I do it merely as a hobby and a pastime. I am interested in post war planning and public affairs and took active part in most of the popular games of the day, and have been an organizer in games and sports.

I made the drawings of the victory gardens last year. I intended to take them up with the Government, but kept putting it off. I thought this might be a good time to present them. I designed over fifty different drawings for a new Canadian flag. I sent the Victory V garden marks with the flags to Premier King.

I believe the flower beds in the parks could be made to give better service and be more attractive. Have them speak to the people in various ways, that is, have selected Bible verses made of flowers, poems, etc. Many times I have often thought, if loud speakers were put in various places in the parks so the public could listen to the broadcasts while they were sitting in the parks, it would be nice to have them hear the music, etc.

I notice the majority of people who visit in the various parks are among the ordinary people, pensioners, etc., those who live in boarding and rooming houses. Most of them have no radios; especially when base ball games are on, I see a lot of people standing out in the hot sun, listening to the broadcast. I thought how nice it would be if they could go to the parks and hear the broadcasts. It could be so arranged if it were taken up with the Canadian Broadcasting Co. If you are interested, I would like your League to take it up with the Government.

Another thing would be nice in the parks at night, would be to have a machine and put on lantern views, showing pictures of Canada and other parts of the world. Phonograph records with music and songs, also sacred hymns and picture views would help educate the people and entertain them. This would make our parks more attractive and of service to the people.

In regard to the Victory marks: if you are interested, they should be started right away so they could be put on the gardens, all across Canada and start with a mass production. The material for the V. marks could be packing cases, also scrap lumber could be planed and dressed and made like new; beaver board could be used for the signs. They could be primed with raw oil to prevent warping, then painted in various colors. Technical Schools and those having woodworking machines have to have something to work on for practice. The V marks would be very interesting work for them for machine work, painting and lettering, and make work for unemployed solicitors.

I think it would be a good idea to start a Victory Food Campaign Drive for home and abroad for two years. It could be prolonged after the two years, if needed.

It was not my intention to bring them out myself on a commercial basis. It would need an organization to handle such an undertaking, so I give your League the full right if you wish to bring them out to help the food drive. Your League could let them out to woodworking places, etc. and your League have the full control of them in Canada. You could have them made on a royalty basis, so much on each one that was sold, and let out the right to make them. You will know how to handle the situation. If you think I should be rewarded for my suggestions and ideas by royalty, or some way, I leave it entirely to your League. I have other ideas on different things concerning parks, public affairs, etc. I could let you have them if you are interested. I trust my suggestions and ideas will be of some service to your League.

Canada and the world should try to develop some kind of vegetable plant that could be grown for fuel use. I believe that science and agriculture should work on some thing that would grow in the earth to be used as fuel for heating, cooking, etc.

Turnips could be developed for fuel. A few years ago I experimented with turnips. I put a few old soft turnips into the coal stove on the live coal. To my surprise they were burning good the next morning, still keeping their shape. I intended taking it up with the Government, but kept putting it off. I believe the turnip could be developed into a good fuel, put through the same process as charcoal is made to make them hard and dry. I think if a hole were put through the turnip about one-half inch or so to let out the moisture and let the air through and dry up the turnip it would be a good idea. Small turnips would be the best to grow for fuel. If the farmer could grow his own fuel, it would be a great help to him, or some other vegetable developed into fuel.

Another idea, is to develop the potatoes into powdered form, which could be kept in tin and cardboard boxes, as breakfast cereals are. If it could be done it would be an easy way for the housewife--also could be shipped to foreign countries, etc. Also potatoes could go through the same process as the wheat, made as flour and mixed with the wheat flour for making bread and cakes, etc. This would be something for your Community Garden League to work on.

My father and mother used to tell us about the fuel called "turf" which they gathered right on their own farm. Perhaps it could be developed in Canada, or shipped from Ireland to be used in Canada. That would be something for your League to look into if you are interested.

It might be worth while to consider this. If it could be developed, it would help both Canada and Ireland.

Probably the Canadian leaves that fall in the Autumn season could be pressed and developed into fuel, mixed with sawdust, etc.

I am enclosing some designs I made in the year 1938 for flower beds for public parks. I'm forwarding them to your League so you may be able to make use of them.

W. Bowie, Esq.,
Montreal, P. Q.

Yours sincerely,

Dear Sir:

I have been delayed in sending the drawings, etc.

I have made up two extra drawings, one for Montreal park and all Canadian flower beds.

I might mention at this time, I was at one time connected with the parks in London. I worked under fine park superintendants and fine city engineers, so I have had quite an experience. I visited a number of cities and towns in Canada and the United States. I have always thought that parks did not go far enough to entertain the public. Much could be done in various ways to improve the parks.

I think Montreal, Quebec, and Ottaway should take the leading part. Montreal and Quebec is where the people from Europe, etc. get the first impression of Canada.

I may be of some service to you in the future, if you are interested.

Yours very truly,

Thos. H. Veck



CANADIAN INFORMATION SERVICE

OTTAWA, Ontario.
14th May, 1946.

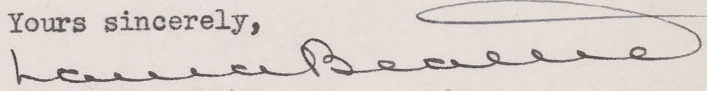
Mr. William Bowie,
Community Garden League of Greater Montreal,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
MONTREAL 25, Quebec.

Dear Mr. Bowie:

Many thanks for your kind words in your letter of May 10th. I know Mr. Veech will be delighted to receive a letter from you regarding his Victory Garden markers.

I would be very happy to accept your invitation to see some of your garden districts. If I should find myself in Montreal during the next few weeks I'll get in touch with you.

Yours sincerely,


Laura Beattie,
Food Information Committee.

LB:MJP



CANADA

CANADIAN INFORMATION SERVICE

OTTAWA, Ontario.
8th May, 1946.

Colonel William Bowie,
Community Garden League
of Greater Montreal,
1421 Atwater Avenue,
MONTREAL, Quebec.

Dear Colonel Bowie:

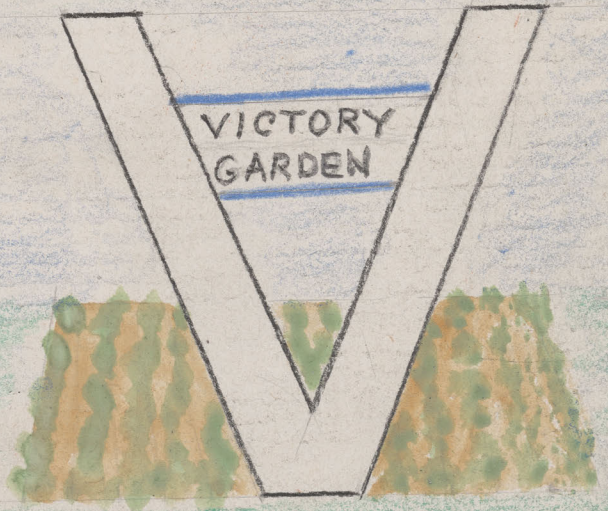
The Food Information Committee of the Government of Canada is most appreciative of the stimulus being given through your society to the continuance of Victory Gardens on a greater scale this year.

A suggestion was submitted to this office by Mr. Thomas Veech, 582 Pall Mall Street, London, Ontario, that special Victory Garden markers might be used this year. Feeling that his idea might have some appeal we have forwarded some of his sketches to various groups engaged in the promotion of gardens in case they should be interested, leaving the matter entirely to the discretion of the groups to promote or not, as they see fit.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Beattie,
Food Information Committee.

LB:MJP
Encls.



May 10th, 1946

Mr. Thomas Veech,
582 Pall Mall Street,
London, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Veech:

Miss Laura Beattie has sent us one of your coloured sketches of Victory Garden Markers. The idea, we feel, is a very good one but I am not sure whether you are making them on a commission basis or whether you are merely submitting the idea that could be taken up across the country.

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of our Annual Report. I would be very glad to hear further from you.

With best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/GF
Encl.

May 10th, 1946

Miss Laura Beattie,
Food Information Committee,
Canadian Information Service,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Miss Beattie:

Replying to your letter of May 8th, I want to thank you for your recognition of our work. We have wondered occasionally if our Victory Garden movement here was even known to Government Officials. This year, more than ever, we feel that the effort is well worth while. We have been greatly encouraged by the sustained interest on the part of citizens.

Our main set-back this year is the loss of over 1,000 gardens because of building operations. We are writing to Mr. Veech to ask for further particulars regarding his Victory Garden markers.

If you happen to be in Montreal during the growing season I would be delighted to take you on an automobile trip around some of our Garden Districts.

With kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Director

WB/GF
Encl.

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL

1943 Victory Gardens Campaign

Campaign started about middle of March

Montreal Daily Star's excellent co-operation

Soon apparent that Campaign would reach large proportions

Initial difficulty in having land ploughed

No difficulty in securing necessary land from City Authorities and private owners

Unable to have City Authorities plough any land

Dependent on farmers with horses and later located two tractors which gave yeoman service

In many cases land was dug by hand

Threatened shortage of seeds and tools

Representations to Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Adrien Morin, for necessary priority to manufacture 10,000 sets of tools

Provincial Government application to Wartime Prices and Trades Board for priority to manufacture without results

Seedsman met the demands for supplies

Gardeners got along with what tools were available in stores

Organization of French Sections responsibility undertaken by Les Jardins Ouvriers l'Entraide Familiale

Between ⁵⁰~~20-25~~ tons of Commercial Fertilizer was distributed to the various districts and group sections

The heaviest Victory Garden enrolment was in Notre Dame de Grace, Rosemount and Maisonneuve

Rough estimate of the number of gardens under the jurisdiction of the League this season approached the 7,000 mark

In addition it is conservatively estimated that well over a similar number cultivated Victory Gardens without taking the trouble to register with the League

Value of the over-all volume of food stuffs raised would be in excess of \$300,000.

Montreal Daily Star did an excellent job of advertising and we owe them our thanks for their unstinted co-operation

September 23rd, 1943

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL
Room 205, Forum Bldg., 1421 Atwater Ave., Montreal

March 7th, 1944

Dear Victory Gardener:

The third and last of our series of winter meetings in Notre Dame de Grace will be held on Tuesday next, March 14th, 1944, at 8.15 p.m. in the Hall of Wesley United Church, corner of Royal and Notre Dame de Grace Avenues. The attendance at the two previous meetings has been excellent and indicates the keen interest on the part of residents of the West End in this particular type of war contribution.

We are indebted to the N.D.G. Garden Club for their wholehearted co-operation.

The programme for the March 14th meeting has been carefully planned and will, I am sure, appeal to the large majority of Victory and Community Gardeners.

MISS NAN GARVOCK, Chief Dietitian of the Montreal Diet Dispensary, will speak on "Vegetables you should Can and Why".

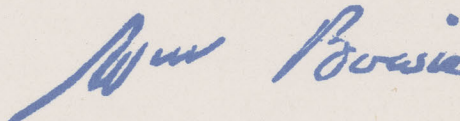
WILFRID PERRON, of W. H. Perron & Co. Seedsmen, will speak on "Seeds you can and cannot get this spring and substitute varieties to use".

WM. COWIE HALL, well-known West End Horticulturist, will tell us about "Flowers to plant in your Victory Garden".

The evening will be rounded-off with the showing of a full length sound film provided by the International Harvester Company. The title of the film is "The Romance of the Reaper".

All Victory and Community Gardeners, wives and friends, are cordially invited to attend. There is no charge for admission.

Yours very sincerely,



Executive Director

WB/WDH

TIME - 8.15 p.m.
DATE - TUESDAY, MARCH 14th, 1944
PLACE - Wesley United Church Hall,
corner Royal & N.D.G. Avenues

COMMUNITY GARDEN LEAGUE OF GREATER MONTREAL
Room 205, Forum Bldg., 1421 Atwater Ave., Montreal

March 9th, 1944

Dear Victory Gardener:

We have been conducting a lecture series of open meetings for the past two months. Already some 2,500 Victory Gardeners have attended in Cote St. Paul, Notre Dame de Grace and Park Extension.

It is now Rosemount's turn. We, therefore, cordially invite you and your friends to a meeting being held in St. Philomene Hall, corner of Fifth and Masson Street (entrance on Masson Street) on Thursday, March 16th at 8.15 p.m. Bilingual speakers will be in attendance and address the meeting on information vital to the 1944 Victory Garden season.

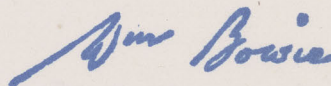
Sound films kindly loaned by the Canadian Industries Ltd. together with American and British films will be shown during the evening.

It is planned to install an additional Canning Plant in Rosemount for this season.

Come and learn all about it.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,



Executive Director

WB/F

TIME: 8.15 p.m.
DATE: Thursday, March 16th, 1944
PLACE: St. Philomene Hall,
corner Fifth Ave. & Masson St.