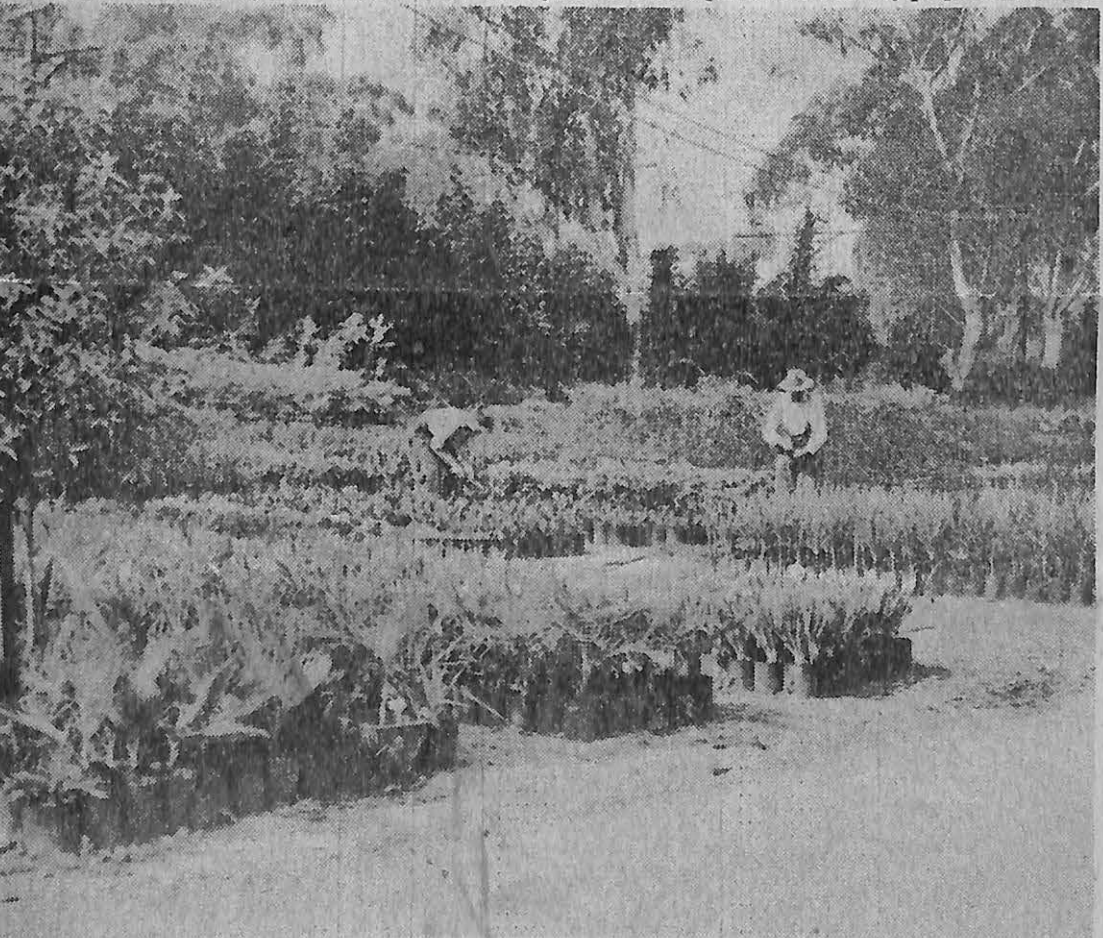


Civic Charm for City of Future Now Taking Root



This row of hibiscus is one of many awaiting the day when they will be transplanted. The sturdy plants were grown from seed by Peter Farina (left), nurseryman at Balboa park, where the city prepares for future.



Here, amid rows upon rows of small plants in cans, David Shields and Enoch Swanson spend their days preparing for the time when each plant will go into its permanent location to beautify the post-war city.

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SEEDS OF MORE BEAUTIFUL S.D. NOW SPROUTING

By MELVIN MAYNE

Post-war planning is in mass production, right now, to make San Diego the city beautiful as soon as peace returns.

It may seem difficult to associate assembly lines with flowers and trees. Nevertheless, there are assembly lines heavily laden one out at the city's nursery in Balboa park.

There a small crew of men is busy planting seeds in flats, to be forced along under glass and with sufficient heat to speed germination.

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From the flats, the small seedlings, most of them to be huge trees some day, are transferred to small pots where their growth continues under glass and in moderate heat.

Soon the plants are large enough to go into gallon cans, and into a huge lath house, 80 by 120 feet. There they are encouraged, row upon row, until they are ready for out-of-doors.

Out they go, still in their cans, and when the time comes, they are transferred to the ground, still in neat rows, stored for future use much as supplies are stacked behind the front lines or along the wharves of war-busy ports.

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The production line at the city nurseries is at work preparing material for an army. That army will be men who will be in San Diego seeking work. The army will be men who have been overseas and men who are no longer needed in factories to produce warplanes and ships and munitions.

The park department plans to do (Continued on Back Page, Col. 2)



This is a corner of a park nursery hothouse where tens of thousands of seedling trees are being nurtured. They were put into these two-inch pots after they had been started in flats in another part of the nursery. The fronds of the acacias in the foreground resemble small feathers. In the background are many small eucalyptus trees that some day will tower high on park landscapes to provide shade.

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PARK NURSERIES PLAN POST-WAR BEAUTY NOW

(Continued from Page 1-B)

its full share in keeping at least a par of that army busy in worthwhile employment.

The more than 38,000 trees and plants now being readied for the days after victory will be transported by that army to their permanent locations, in the city's parks and perhaps to curblines to beautify the streets of residential acres. They will be planted and tended until they are ready to be "on their own" by that same army of men.

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No less than 250 varieties of trees and plants are to be found in the hot houses, lath houses and outdoor beds being readied for the city's greatest adventure in horticulture and floriculture.

What were tiny seeds only a few months ago now are sturdy young acacias, eucalypti and palms, to name only a few of the varieties.

While production, or propagation, as they call it in the nursery business, goes on full blast on the standard, proven varieties of ornamental plants, trees and flowers, experimentation keeps pace. Time is found to study the habits of trees and shrubs from every part of the world, to see whether they will adapt themselves to San Diego's

climate readily enough to take their place in park gardens.

* * *

Many of the newcomers give promise of good health. Those that prove successful will be used for seed and cuttings and the nursery ultimately will go into production on them, along with the old favorites.

Peter Farina, nurseryman, and C. I. Jerabek, gardener at the nursery, watch over their production line with the alertness and expertness of trained and highly skilled industrialists. They are men who have donated their lifetimes to growing things. They have that know-how that produces results. Helping them are David Shields and Enoch Swanson, who take over the job of tending the plants after they get out into the open, in rows awaiting the day when they go to their permanent locations.

* * *

Where the plants will go is a job on which the park commission is working, with the expert help of Allen Perry, park superintendent, and Percy Broell, assistant park director. Perry and Broell, under the guidance of the commission, will become the high command of the army scheduled to dig into the accumulated stock pile when the time comes to put the park peacetime forces into the field.