

Wintering Dahlias.

887. SIR,—How should Dahlia bulbs be kept through the winter?

SUBSCRIBER, Hagersville.

Reply by Prof. Hutt.

After the tops have been blackened with frost, cut them off; lift the roots and allow them to dry in the sun for a day or two, then store away in the cellar where they will keep cool and dry.

Cauliflower not Heading.

A question answered by Prof. Hutt.

In answer to the question of Mr. F. M. Gunn, of Norwood, as to why his cauliflowers do not head, I may say I am in much the same quandary. I find since my return to the College that our cauliflowers have also failed to head. They had the best of attention. The only cause I can attribute it to, is that the seed must have been from poor stock. I understand that the greater portion of our seed comes from Denmark. I have seen it stated by good Danish authorities, that hardly any vegetable or cultivated plant is more liable to deviate and deteriorate than the Cauliflower, and that it requires great skill and experience in selecting the plants for seed, to keep up the quality of habit of sure heading. I think it remains with our seedsmen to ascertain for certain that all of the seed comes from skillful and honorable growers.

Is there a Combine of Apple Buyers?

888. SIR,—While casting about me for some light on the present condition of the apple trade, I have decided to trouble you in the matter. The market reports of Woodall & Co. (as reported in the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST and other papers) are all good as to markets and prospects; but these are flatly contradicted by the dodger-like reports circulated by our local buyers. I have made enquiries by mail in several localities, some quite distant, and, so far as I can learn, each district is left in the hands of its local buyers and all competition avoided. From the above and other circumstances, I am under the impression the apple trade is in the hands of a big combine, and that the grower is not getting the value of his fruit. Would you kindly take the trouble to please say what you can to throw light on the matter, and an early answer would confer a very great favor on

JOHNSON LEADER, Box 191, Meaford.

We would not like to accuse Canadian apple buyers of combining against the growers, as hinted by our correspondent, but owing to the reports of an immense apple crop, buyers are afraid to purchase, and naturally report on the dark side. We do think they have colored the reports somewhat dark, by publishing the poor sales of summer and autumn fruits, and not allowing sufficient weight to the good prospects in the English market for good sound winter stock.