

the quality of seed used. The seedsmen are not always to blame for this state of affairs, as in many cases the growers of the seed themselves are responsible. As a rule the best results are obtained from new, plump, vigorous seed. The most important points to consider in connection with seed are its viability or germinating power and purity as to variety. Many seeds lose their viability in a few years, and a wise precaution is to test the viability of garden seeds before sowing. The matter of purity as to variety is one that has to be left to the honesty of the seedsmen.

THINNING.

In sowing garden seeds, and especially if there is a possibility of the seed being old, it is well to sow an abundance of seed. This thick sowing is likely to ensure a much more reliable stand of plants than where a small quantity of seed is sown. The excessive plants should be removed when the plants are young, usually when they are from two to three inches in height.

TRANSPLANTING.

On account of the shortness of the growing season it is necessary to sow the seed of some garden crops such as celery, cabbage, cauliflower and tomatoes in seed boxes in the house or hotbeds outside early in the season that they may be started and transplanted to the permanent grounds later on. This gives them a much longer growing season and allows them to come to maturity by the time they should be harvested. Seed of celery may be sown about the first of March or the latter part of February.

Cabbage and cauliflower seed may be sown later, or about the first of April. The main essentials in growing plants is to attend carefully to the watering and heat. The soil should be kept moderately moist and an average temperature of 55 to 60 degrees should stimulate good healthy growth. To get the best