

## Question Drawer.

### A New Raspberry.

**1023.** SIR,—I have among my seedling raspberries a black raspberry or Black Cap, that is the largest I ever saw — fully one-third larger than Gregg. It fruits freely from the new wood and is very late, the first fruit on the new wood just ripening, and red and green berries yet to ripen. If it proves as good as I think it is, I ought to make something out of it. Can you advise me as to the best way to proceed?

L. FAIRBANKS, *Whitby, Ont.*

We would advise our correspondent to send samples to the New Fruits Committee; and also to all nurserymen. Possibly some one will buy the right of propagation, if it has real value.

### Handling Potatoes.

**1024.** SIR,—When is the proper time to store potatoes? I have an early kind about ripe. Should they be put in cellar now, or left in the ground, and if so, how long?

A. B. C., *Iroquois.*

Potatoes should be dug when fully matured, which helps prevent the development of the rot (blight), and kept at a temperature not to exceed 50 degrees. The ideal way of keeping potatoes is in cool dry pits—where they retain their best qualities.

Few cellars are suitable for keeping potatoes. Heat shrivels the tubers and forces growth. Light makes the skin and flesh green, and unfit for food.

ALF. BROWN, *Iroquois.*

### The Luna Moth.

**1025.** SIR,—I managed to capture a pair of worms on a hickory tree, and I cannot find them in my insect books.

They are green, with yellow specks in the same places as the prickles on the *Cecropia*. They are very much like the *Polyphemus* only they have no specks on the back of the head.

Their cocoons are about an inch long and

half an inch both wide and high, and are perfectly white.

GEORGE B. PATTISON, *Grimshy.*

The insect referred to in the above letter, as far as I can judge from the brief description of the worms and cocoon, is probably the Luna Emperor Moth (*Actias luna*), the most lovely insect that we have in this country, with its pale green wings drawn out into long crescent-shaped tails, and pure white body. Its caterpillars feed upon hickory, butternut, walnut and beech trees.

C. J. S. BETHUNE, *Port Hope.*

### Sunflower Seed for Poultry.

**1026.** SIR,—Please give directions for curing sunflower seed for poultry.

A SUBSCRIBER, *Iroquois.*

Sunflowers, for the seeds, should be allowed to dry thoroughly on the plants, if possible, and this will be quite possible if the weather remains as dry as we have had it in this section of Ontario for the past six weeks.

Then the heads or flowers should be cut off, leaving about 3 inches of the stem on the heads, and then placed heads upwards on a floor, always selecting a dry place (because sunflowers readily gather moisture). When perfectly dry, the flowers should have the seeds rubbed out of them by hand, which will be done very quickly as soon as the flowers are perfectly dry.

I emphasize the fact of having the flowers perfectly dry, because the sunflower seed is very difficult to dry if it has gathered any moisture.

Now, if the season should turn wet towards the ripening-time of the flowers, we recommend cutting them ahead, and