

ers, the commission is usually 5 per ct. If retailed, 10 per ct. In Canada, most commission houses charge 10 per ct. for wholesaling fruit, and 15 per ct. for retail sales. Perhaps, as the quantity increases, our Canadian houses may be able to lessen their charges.

40. Berry Picker.—*Where can it be purchased?*

Address Mr. J. Benedict, Dundee, N. Y.

The machine will only be useful for gathering fruit for the evaporator. Its work is too rough to be used where the fruit is intended for market.

41. Sea-Kale.—*I should like to grow some Sea-Kale in my garden, knowing the vegetable well in England. Can the plants be got in Canada, and would you give me some hints for its cultivation?*

[MRS. W. TOWNSEND, Toronto.]

Mr. John A. Bruce, Hamilton, says: "Sea-Kale is a delicious vegetable, much superior to Asparagus, and ought to be better known. We used to grow plants for sale, but the demand was so uncertain and limited that we ceased, but we still keep the seed. It should be sowed in hills one foot apart, and thinned to four inches. When one year old the plants should be transplanted into hills eighteen inches apart, and three plants to a hill. On approach of frost, cover about two feet thick with dried leaves. It is fit for use when the stalks are about four inches long and thoroughly blanched."

42. London Purple.—*Is this as dangerous to use as Paris Green?*

[G. E. L., Centerville, N. S.]

No, it is not quite as dangerous a poison, and it is easier of application because soluble in water, while Paris Green is not, the particles of which can only be kept in suspension by frequent stirring. But it is difficult to procure an even grade of London Purple.

43. Ants.—*Should they be destroyed in the orchard.*

A. C. McD., Dunlop.

These industrious little workers are quite harmless. Some people accuse them of bringing the aphides to the cherry trees, but, instead, it is the aphides which attract the ants, by reason of the sweet juice they exude. Entomologists tell us that the ants actually milk the aphides for this sweet juice, for which reason, they are called the ant's cows.

44. Phosphates.—*How could raw ground phosphates be obtained in Hamilton, at what rate, and what would be considered a fair dressing per acre for grass, grain, or small fruits?*

J. P. MUIR, Hamilton.

As far as we know, the raw phosphates are not offered for sale in Canada. In Chicago they are offered at \$25 to \$35 per ton. The phosphates of commercial fertilizers have one advantage over the rock, viz., they are more easily dissolved in the soil water, by reason of the sulphuric acid with which they have been treated.

45. Quart Boxes.—*Can you tell me if there are any berry boxes made in Ontario that will hold a quart? Why do not Canadian manufacturers advertise in the Canadian Horticulturist.*

W. E.

There is a basket factory at Oakville, one at Grimsby and one at Jordan, but do not know that any one of them make the quart size. Perhaps one of the firms will take the hint, and advertise, that we may know what they are doing.

46. Plums.—*What is the average yield per tree?* [G. W. CLINE, Winona, Ont.]

There are many different kinds of plums and each are different in growth and bearing. Lombard and Victoria average about 5 baskets, trees 10 years old; Columbian, 6 to 8; Gen. Hand, 6 to 8; Yellow Egg, about the same; Washington, 5; Golden Gage, 5; Bohemian Prune, 6 to 8; Duanes Purple, 5; Smith's Orleans, 4 or 5; Brad-