

CHINESE LILY NOT BLOOMING.

SIR,—The Chinese lily I received from the Association last year has not bloomed. I dried off top, rolled the bulb in paper and laid away in a box until the middle of December when I placed it in water with sand and gravel.

J. W., *Toronto.*

Reply by Anton Simmers. Toronto, Ont.

Your experience with the Chinese Sacred Lily, is one that will in some cases be the unsatisfactory result of growing the lily a second season; but we cannot give any actual reason for their so doing. It is often a similar experience with hyacinths, when they are planted a second season for blooming, and really this is more than the grower should expect; but, as stated in a previous experience, we have had fairly good results from the bulbs planted the second year. The only conclusion we can arrive at is, that the second season bulb cannot be relied upon to produce a good bloom, unless in the selection of the very strongest specimens. To the grower who has failed to get bloom from the second year bulbs, I would suggest that he try such again, and then he will be better able to say just what the ultimate result is of such bulbs; and in his second venture let him select only the strongest bulbs for a second crop of bloom.

A BUNDLE OF QUERIES.

SIR,—Is Moore's Ruby as prolific as Fay's currant; also, is it as hardy and of as good quality? Does it grow in clusters? Does the Saunders plum resist curculio and black-knot, and is it a profitable plum to plant for market? What about the Ritson pear? How much per acre may be expected from an orange quince orchard, five years planted?

W. C. WILSON, *Essex Centre.*

Some of our readers please answer. The fact is these varieties are new, and are just being tested. The experience of those growing them is just what we want for publication. We find the Orange quince profitable at Maplehurst, where we have about one acre devoted to them but the amount depends so much upon markets, cultivation, season, etc., that any estimate might be misleading. In our opinion they compare favorably with a crop of dwarf pears.

PLANTING PEARS AND PLUMS.

SIR,—Is it advisable to pack the roots of pear and plum trees with sand when planting in heavy clay, and what is best method of planting in such soil?

WM. STEELE, *Humberston, Ont.*

An admixture of sandy loam to the clay soil in which pear and plum trees are to be planted would be very useful. It should be well dug in and thoroughly mixed with the clay and thus would render the latter more porous. In some cases we have planted trees directly on the surface of heavy clay, in a pile of sandy loam, and their success has been quite remarkable.