

before they become large enough to bloom, and then the grower is fortunate if one in a hundred is worthy of propagation. The seed should be gathered from the best flowers and sown as soon as ripe, in a light loamy soil, where it can be protected from too hard freezing. The first year bulbs about the size of peas will be produced; these must be grown on the same as the flowering bulbs; taking them up when ripe and replanting in autumn.

Raspberry Canes Affected.

865. SIR,—What is the cause of Cuthbert leaves curling, and fruit drying before maturity on some of my Cuthbert bushes?

J. M. O., *Komoka.*

Possibly they are affected with the raspberry anthracnose, a fungus disease of the stalk, which appears first in the form of small reddish-purple spots scattered over the surface near the ground; or the injury may be due to a borer in the root or in the cane.

Columbian Raspberry.

866. SIR,—Have you fruited the Columbian raspberry, and what are its merits?

J. M. O., *Komoka.*

We have fruited this raspberry at our Burlington Fruit Experiment Station, during the present season. The writer visited the plantation there on the 15th of July, and found Shaffer and Columbian fruiting side by side. The chief note made was that Columbian was the most heavily laden with fruit; otherwise they were very similar.

Pruning the Climbing Rose.

867. SIR,—Give the proper method of pruning climbing roses. Should the wood be cut back every year as recommended for bush roses? How old should the wood be to bloom well?

J. M. O., *Komoka, Ont.*

Climbing roses are not cut back in the same way as bush roses. When first planted, they should be cut back to two or three buds; thereafter little pruning is needed except bent out weak branches, or canes, sickly and dead wood, and to direct the growth in a symmetrical fashion. Usually the climbing rose improves each year in blooming qualities. A Baltimore Belle at Maplehurst, thirty years planted, is covered with bloom every season, just after the bush roses are over.

Best Red Winter Apples.

868. SIR,—Please tell me which you think the best red skinned, hardy winter apples, varieties which are hardy and bear early and abundantly. I have plenty of Ben Davis, Baldwin and Pewaukee now. I want the very best for sale and export; soil clay, near Lake Simcoe.

T. F. CHAPIN, *Liste, Ont.*