

level, tread the whole surface down firm with the feet. Never attempt to work the soil when it sticks to the tools or implements.

SOWING THE SEED.

In gardens the drills may be 12 in. apart—just leaving room for the hoe. With large lots more space is required so as to give room for a Planet Junior or similar machine; 15 in. is sufficient. For garden lots make the drills with either the corner of a rake (not a hoe), or with a marker made for the purpose. The drills must be just deep enough to allow of covering the seed—no more. Cover the seed by straddling the drill, and drag the soil in with the heels of your boots. This is as quick as raking, and ensures perfect and even covering. After covering in, lightly rake in the direction opposite to that in which the drills run—across the drills, in fact. This prevents water settling in the drills. The Planet Junior has an attachment which marks the line for each drill at any distance apart which it may be set for. The machine makes the drills, sows the seed, and covers it in. Finish by turning a set of light harrows on their back and drawing them over. The quantity of seed to sow is $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per acre, but $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 2 lb. is enough to allow per acre when transplanting is to be adopted.

AFTER-CULTIVATION.

The surface soil must be kept open by the means suitable to the extent of the work. Weeds must be kept out, and a certain amount of hand-hoeing is necessary along the lines. Thinning should be done early; in the field a large amount of it can be done with a sharp hoe in skilful hands. It is important that extreme care be exercised in setting the machine, so that the seed be not sown too thickly, as this factor largely rules the amount of labour involved in thinning, which would be formidable unless due care was taken in the manner indicated. Unless the plants are evenly spaced the size of the bulbs will be very uneven. Plants may stand 3 in. to 4 in. apart, and need not be in single file.

PLANTING AUTUMN-SOWN SETS.

This may appear to be a formidable undertaking. It largely depends on the inventive powers of the planter, and also on the speed of the workmen. Drills should be made with a marker. The sets should be dropped by one workman and fixed by another. The plants need not stand up. Merely lay them on their side and place a little soil over the roots, making it somewhat firm. The plants will soon assume an erect position. Plant keeping