

done any time after the tops are dead, and the roots can be stacked in any convenient place until they are planted again in spring.

Rhubarb of the summer varieties can be forced in the same way as sea-kale; but it is now necessary only in the coldest places, where the winter variety will not succeed. Forced rhubarb makes a dainty dish, the stalks being very delicate and a bright lively pink in colour. Forced clumps are practically useless for pulling from the next season, as it takes most of the summer for them to recover from the shock of forcing. Plants should therefore not be forced if a summer supply is wanted from them.

Cabbage and cauliflower plants from the autumn sowing should not be allowed to become crowded. If best results are desired the young plants should, as soon as they are large enough to handle, be pricked out in beds of good soil and placed about 4 in. apart. In that position they will make strong and thrifty plants, and will amply repay the small amount of labour expended on them.

Sea-kale, being dormant, may be forced at any time by placing boxes over the clumps and covering them with a foot thick of fermenting stable manure. Before covering the stools rake away any rubbish there may be, and remove weeds, give a dusting of soot and lime to keep wireworms and slugs from injuring the sprouting heads. Sea-kale can also be forced in heated greenhouses. In this case crowns are raised for the purpose and lifted and placed in large pots or in boxes, which can be placed under the plant-benches. They must, of course, be covered so as to ensure perfect darkness.

SMALL FRUITS.

Loganberries may now be pruned. If the plants were set out last season they are not likely to have made rods strong enough to bear a crop of fruit. The proper course is to cut them down close to the ground; they will then make strong canes, which are to be retained for fruiting the following year. On established hills the canes which have borne fruit should be cut out, and new canes laid in. If there is not a sufficient number of young canes those that have borne fruit may be retained for another year, in which case all the side shoots should be cut back to one or two buds. Loganberries may be trained on the wall of an outbuilding or on a fence. The systematic plan is to erect a post-and-wire trellis. The rows should run north and south. Set the plants 8 ft. apart and the posts one to every four plants. The posts should be 7 ft. long—2 ft. to go in the ground. Stretch three wires of No. 12 gauge, one on the top of the posts and the others one-third and two-thirds of the height from the ground. The new canes are trained to the wires.

Raspberry plantations should be put in order. The old fruiting-canecanec should be cut close down to the stool, so as not to leave any of the old wood. All spare suckers should be forked out. It is useless to cut them off; they spring up again in greater number and are a constant source of trouble. Six new canes are enough to leave at each stool; these should be shortened to ripe wood.

Gooseberries and currants will not yet be ready for pruning. The ground should be cleared of weeds in readiness for pruning, but it is not advisable to dig the soil. A firm surface, free of weeds, is a great