[Sparrow

If the terminal shoots of the dominant leaders of pumpkin plants are pinched off, the fruit is produced closer to the bases of the plants and the vines are kept more compact.

side of a row with three or four strings attached at different heights will support the plants.

Cauliflowers, cabbages, and lettuces nearing maturity will benefit from weekly applications of liquid animal manure. If the soil is wet and further moisture would be a disadvantage, a side dressing of nitrate of soda at the rate of ½oz. per plant is preferable. Care must be taken to see that the fertiliser does not touch the stems or foliage of plants; it should be worked lightly into the soil.

Sowings

Dwarf and climbing beans: All varieties of beans except broad beans are frost tender and require warm conditions for germination and growth. Climbing varieties yield more and produce over a longer period than dwarf and are not so subject to disease. They are especially suitable where garden space is limited. Beans can now be planted in all districts where late frosts are unlikely.

Good varieties are: Dwarf, The Prince and Canadian Wonder. Climbing, Fardenlosa and Scarlet Runner. Scarlet Runner is a perennial and is undoubtedly one of the hardiest of its kind. It differs from the annual climbing bean in that its roots thicken, and in well-drained soils where winter conditions are not too severe the thick fleshy roots will shoot again each

spring, usually when frost danger is past.

Lima beans: Two good types are Burpee's Bush and the tall variety King of the Garden.

Edible soy beans, like lima beans, are grown mainly for their seed and are used dry in a similar way to haricot beans. Good varieties are Manchu and Bansei.

Sweet corn: Seed can be sown now in the North Island north of Manawatu. Golden Cross Bantam is a good variety.

Pumpkin, squashes, and marrows may be sown toward the end of the month north of Manawatu. Good home garden varieties are:—

Pumpkin: Crown, Triamble, Queensland Blue.

Squash: Red Warren, Golden Hubbard.

Marrow: White Bush and Green Bush.

The following may be sown in all districts:—

Beetroot: Crimson Globe, Detroit Red.

Silver beet: Lucullus, Fordhook Giant.

Carrot: Early Krop, Manchester Table, Chantenay.

Turnips: White Stone.

Peas: Greenfeast (dwarf), Alderman (tall).

Radish: French Breakfast, White Icicle.

Spinach: Prickly seeded.

Parsnips: Hollow Crown.

The following may be sown in seedling beds for transplanting later:—

Leeks: Musselburgh.

Lettuce: Neapolitan and Great Lakes.

Celery (in Northland and Auckland): Golden Self-blanching.

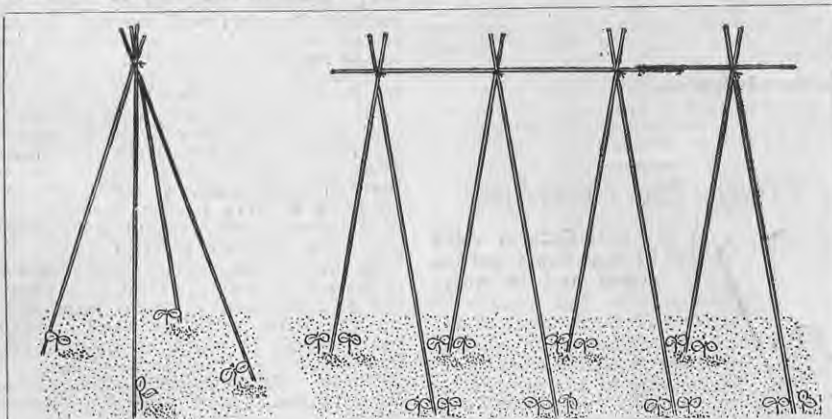**Brussels sprouts** (in southern districts): Fillbasket.

Plantings

Potatoes: Main-crop potatoes should be planted without delay. Good varieties are Arran Chief, Aucklander Short Top, King Edward, Inverness Favourite, and Dakota. The last variety is not suited for districts north of Manawatu.

Cabbage plants should be set out 18 to 24in. apart in rows 24 to 30in. apart. The soil should have been well prepared and enriched to promote rapid growth to mature the plants before the weather becomes too hot. Recommended varieties to plant now are Golden Acre, Henderson's Succession, Copenhagen Market, and Enfield Market.

Tomatoes can be planted in many parts of the North Island. Good varieties include Adelaide Dwarf, Early Chatham, and Stoners Dwarf Gem (dwarfs) and Potentate, Carters Sunrise, Moneymaker, and Stoners Prolific (tall varieties).

Lettuce should be set out in a rich soil; the ground should not be allowed to become dry. Recommended varieties to plant now are Neapolitan and Great Lakes.

Kumara: In districts north of Manawatu plants can be set out on ridges. The best varieties are New Zealand Red and New Zealand Pink.

Supporting climbing beans. Left—Four stakes 7ft. long set 2ft. apart each way to form a square and the tops drawn together wigwam fashion and tied. Right—Stakes placed at intervals to form a double row and tied to a pole along the top.