

sprayed over four thousand trees in this neighborhood. They are renting orchards, and they have made a big improvement in orchard work.

Altogether we expect to open your eyes at the Horticultural Exhibition in Toronto next November, especially as we justly claim to have the best home of the Spy, and no better place than the Beaver Valley for the other good kinds.—G. W., Clarksburg, Ont.

### Lambton County Openings

S. E. Todd, B. S. A., Petrolia, Ont.

One of the anomalies of the history of agriculture in Ontario is the circumstance that the development of many of its industries is the result of accident rather than intelligent design. A section of country, which happens to have as pioneers men of more than ordinary intelligence, or that by some other accident has had planted crops peculiarly fitted to its climatic soil and market conditions, will be found to develop rapidly, whereas another section, equally well adapted, will lie waste.

This peculiarity is well exemplified in this county of Lambton. The region around Arkona was the first in the county to become well known as a fruit producing district. A study of the cause of this condition shows that some years ago a number of people of the Niagara District emigrated and settled around Arkona, bringing with them the ideas of fruit growing inculcated by their experience in their former homes.

Around Sarnia an extensive vegetable trade is growing up, and again you will find that the nucleus of the growers was drawn from the vegetable gardening class around Hamilton. Forest, on the other hand, has become well known as an apple producing district, mainly due to the superior intelligence of the old Scotch pioneers, of whom Mr. James Johnson was the most far-seeing. The great development there is largely due to the care and foresight exercised by this splendid old settler, who planted and cared for the orchards that are now so well known as those of Johnson Bros.

#### PEACH GROWING

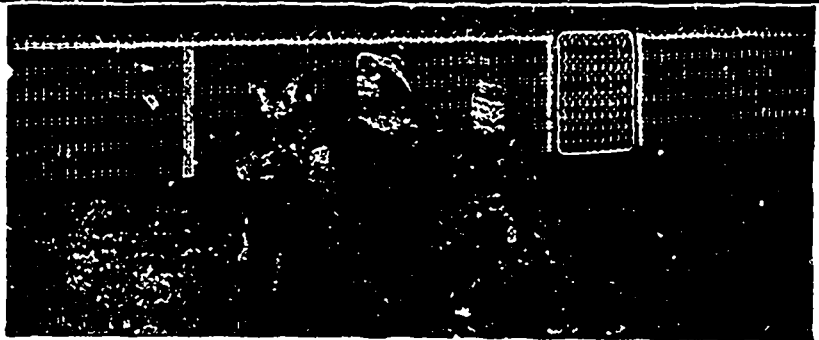
The first attempt to grow peaches in a commercial way was in the region of Arkona, and partly due to lack of knowledge of conditions and of the more advanced methods of cultivation, and it may be partly due to climatic conditions, the attempt was only fairly successful. In the region around Forest in the early days, peaches succeeded perfectly, but were never grown commercially. Later the "Leaf Curl" completely wiped out the peaches, and because no one was sufficiently interested in them, the disease was not studied, and until within the last few years no attempt at control was made. Thus it will be seen that development in the past has been largely accidental.

To-day, however, a new situation is noticeable. The subject is being taken up in a more intelligent manner. A study is being made of climatic, soil and market conditions and the particular classes of fruit best suited to the individual sections are largely being planted. The result is that very great and rapid development is taking place, owing to the confidence with which the investor can look to the future. A man who, having investigated the climatic conditions, studied the soil, and examined the outlook for market, finds all of these favorable when intelligent selection is made, moves forward to the development of his particular property with a confidence that is unknown to the haphazard investor and planter. This condition is the answer to the

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