

Fameuse, MacIntosh, and Wealthy apple trees. Also before buying, planning an orchard or ordering trees, study the facts relating to the pollination of blossoms. Much of the unsatisfactory fruiting of orchards all over the country is due to self-sterility. A tree is self sterile if it cannot set fruit unless planted near other varieties. An indication of self-sterility is the continued dropping of young fruit from isolated trees or solid blocks of one variety; also, fruit from a self-sterile tree is apt to be imperfectly formed. Self-sterility is not a constant character with any variety.

The loss of fruit from self-sterility may be prevented by planting other varieties among self-sterile trees. Duchess, Fameuse, Scott Winter and Tetofsky are early bloomers, while Alexander, Ben Davis, Fallwater, American Golden Russet, MacIntosh, Peach, Pewaukee, Greening, St. Lawrence, Salom, Stark, Wealthy, Winter St. Lawrence, Wolfe River, and Yellow Transparent blossom relatively at a later period. Therefore, we must avoid planting large blocks of the one variety. But on the other hand, remember that large uniform lots can be sold to better advantage than an assortment of many varieties. "Carload lots" always command attention. The carload lot of Jonathan apples was the attraction at the Canadian National Apple Show at Vancouver.

Getting the ground ready for the tree

setting is another important part of "starting an orchard." If possible, plow it deeply in the fall. At least, it should be plowed previous to planting. Harrow it until the field is fine and level.

If the ground was in sod last year, it is better to grow potatoes and subdue the grass previous to setting the trees. If necessary, spread barn manure over your field before plowing.

## Floral Notes for October

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**P**LANTS of geraniums that have been doing duty as decorative plants in flower beds or borders can by proper treatment be kept over the winter very easily. The plants should be dug up before the stems have been frozen. A slight freezing of the leaves only does not injure them. Dig the plants with as much root as possible. Cut the roots well back, removing about half their length. Then cut back the top growth well to where the main stems are of medium or rather hard texture.

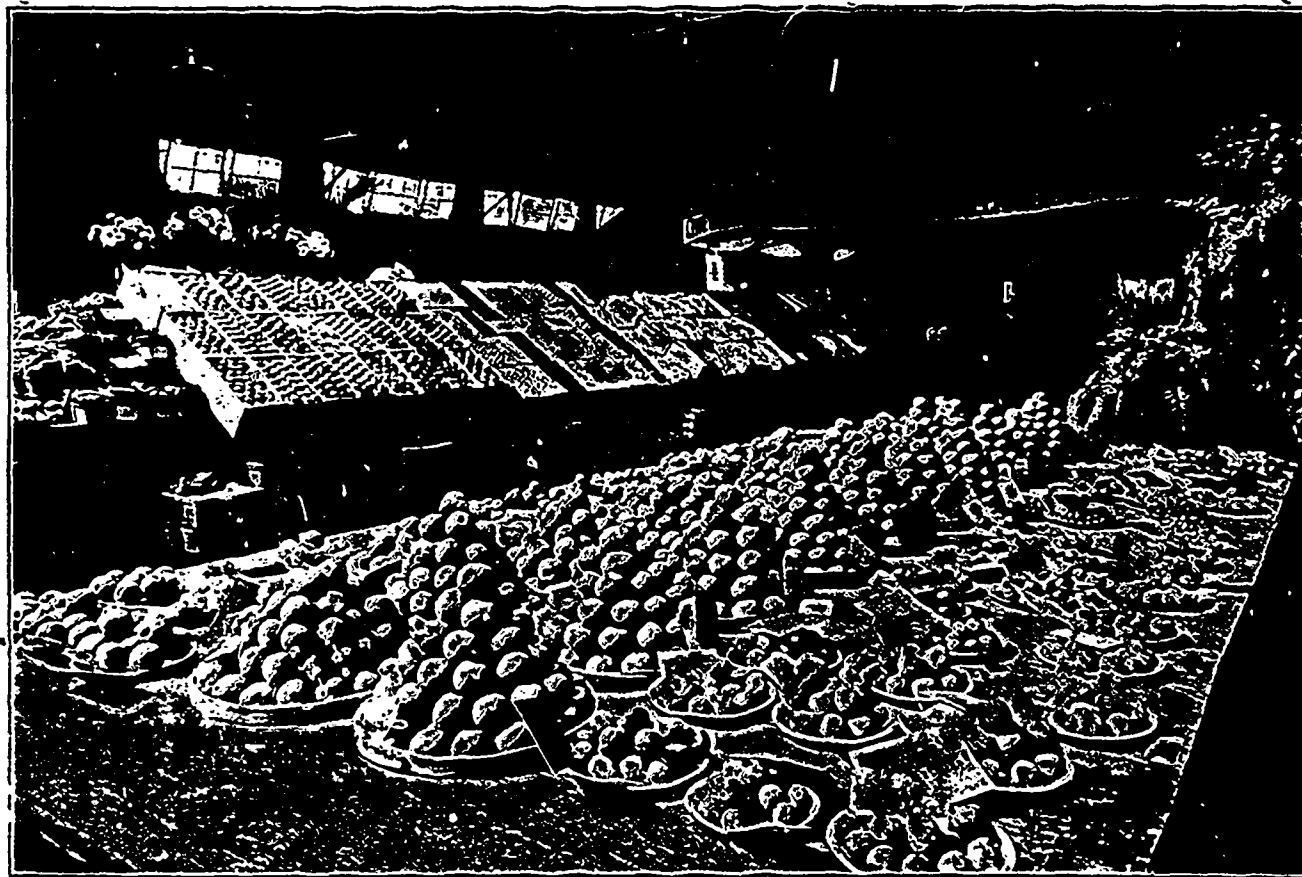
Usually, each large stem can be cut back to within a few inches of its base where it springs from the main stem near the root. All of the leaves may be removed from the plant. The plants can be potted singly in sand or sandy soil—half sand and half soil—in small pots. Three and a half or four inch pots are usually large enough. The plants can be put rather thickly in larger pots, or in small well-drained shallow boxes in sand or sandy soil. A small box about ten by twelve inches, and four inches in depth, will hold ten or twelve good-sized plants.

The sand or soil should be well watered once and the pot or box stood in a cool window, temperature about fifty degrees, or they can be stood away in a light basement or cellar until spring. The sand or soil should be kept barely moist, not too wet, during winter. Toward spring, or whenever convenient during the winter, after the plants have developed new roots and some top growth, they can be potted singly into good potting soil in four inch pots and placed in a warmer window, temperature about sixty to sixty-five degrees. Old geranium plants treated in this way make splendid plants for growing on as pot plants for early spring flowering, or for window boxes or flower beds for the following summer. By cutting the plants back in the manner described and placing them in sand, new roots and a new top growth are developed and the whole plant practically renewed.

### A POOR PRACTISE

If the plants are dug out of the border in the fall and potted just as they are dug up, without being cut back, very poor results are usually obtained.

Generally speaking, when geranium plants are dug up in the way last mentioned, the leaves commence to drop, leaving an unsightly looking plant in a very large pot, with only a few leaves toward the top of the stem, a great disappointment to its owner, and a plant that is of no decorative value whatever. By renovating the plant as first described, good sturdy, bushy plants can be obtained by spring, much



A Portion of the Exhibit of Ontario Fruit at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, Last Month