

APPENDIX No. 2

Ontario.—Leaving Nova Scotia and passing Quebec where they have great possibilities in the finest dessert apples, we reach the second large apple growing section in the central southern portion of Ontario. If we draw a line from the Ottawa river somewhere about Pembroke west to the Georgian bay, we may say that commercial apple-growing is possible in Ontario south of this line. The same varieties cannot be grown over this large area, nor would the cultural and market conditions be the same. Later I propose to speak more particularly of this great apple area.

British Columbia.—The most westerly apple district is in British Columbia. Although the quantity of fruit produced there is not yet large, indeed scarcely more than enough to supply their own needs, the promise is great. The enormous possibilities of fruit-growing here are only beginning to be appreciated. British Columbia is the one province where fruit-growing is recognized as the chief agricultural industry, and the intelligent enterprise shown by the provincial authorities and the owners of real estate in advertising this industry, might, with advantage, be copied by Ontario and the maritime provinces.

Again, in British Columbia we have a demonstration of the advantages of fruit-growing, and particularly apple-growing, over other lines of farming in those parts of the province suitable for that purpose. Mining and ranching are followed as large industries. One need only make a comparison between the present condition of the Coldstream Ranch divided into many successful fruit farms and its former condition as a cattle ranch, to note how desirable it is that fruit-growing should be encouraged to the fullest possible extent.

MOST FAVOURED CANADIAN FRUIT SECTION.

I do not wish to make any comparisons between provinces, but rather to show that wherever fruit-growing is established as a specialty there you find conditions that make for the highest type of citizenship with the greatest measure of prosperity and contentment. I am frequently asked where I would advise a man to go to follow this business with the greatest advantage. My reply, after years of study of the subject, is that if we do not take into consideration matters purely personal, but regard simply the dividend that can be made on the time, skill and capital invested, it will make practically no difference where he goes in the fruit-growing belt. If the prospective planter has little or no experience in fruit-growing, he will locate where he can take advantage of the experience of his neighbours. If he has only a little capital, he will begin with small fruit and a nearby market, and make large plantations as his capital and opportunities increase. If he has unlimited capital, he will be at no loss to invest it in a dozen different lines of fruit-growing as chance or his tastes may suggest. The conditions are so varied that the predilections of almost every one can be satisfied. For long keeping winter varieties of apples, there is a wide range of choice in British Columbia, Ontario or Nova Scotia. For the finest dessert apples the province of Quebec and the eastern part of Ontario cannot be excelled. For peaches, pears, grapes and tender fruits generally, parts of British Columbia and southern Ontario offer every facility.

The fruit districts outlined in the accompanying maps (facing page 150) embrace, in a general way, territory as follows:—

District No. 1.—Counties north of Lake Erie.

District No. 2.—Counties on Lake Huron and inland to York county.

District No. 3.—Counties bordering on Lake Ontario north to Sharbot lake and Georgian bay.

District No. 4.—Ottawa and St. Lawrence valleys to Lake St. Peter and southwestern Quebec.

District No. 5.—New Brunswick with northeastern Quebec.