

## Say It with Flowers



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### To the Farmer:

The purchase of a Piano or Victrola is only purchased invariably once in a lifetime. Therefore it behoves the purchaser to get the best and make sure you have the best.

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## WHERE THE APPLE PAYS

Soil, Location and Transportation to be Considered.

It Helps to Be Near Cities — The Labor Question Still a Serious Problem — How to Restore Damaged Pastures.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

This question will be discussed under four heads: Climate, Soil, Labor and Transportation.

### The Factor of Climate.

So far as climate is concerned apples can be grown commercially in any part of Old Ontario, south of a line drawn from Parry Sound to Ottawa; in fact, there are commercial orchards producing fruit at a profit considerably farther north than this. Many people think of commercial apple orchards as being necessarily confined to the milder parts of the province, and to the lake districts, but the fact is worth emphasizing that we have varieties of apples suitable for commercial culture in every county of Old Ontario. The winter hardiness of the many varieties grown throughout Ontario is now very well established, and it is possible to select varieties which will be hardy for any district.

### Late and Early Frosts.

The most serious climatic difficulty in the Province of Ontario is the occurrence of late frost in spring, and early frost in fall. Other difficulties of a climatic nature can be largely overcome by the selection of suitable varieties, or by careful discrimination with regard to soil, elevation, aspect, etc. It may be pointed out, however, that frosts are more common and more severe over large areas of flat country than where the topography is rolling or hilly. Large areas of some of the southern counties of Ontario are, therefore, more or less unsuited to commercial apple orcharding because of their flat character. A more rolling country is much to be preferred, so that orchards can be made safer from frost by the better air drainage afforded.

### Suitable Soil in Every County.

So far as soils are concerned, it may be stated that there is an abundance of land in every county suitable for apple growing. Well drained land is essential for successful orcharding, and there is plenty of soil of this type to be had in almost every district.

Summing up soil and climate, it may be said that no province or state in North America has so large an area so favorable in soil and climate for apple growing as has the Province of Ontario. If this statement is true it becomes obvious that the present distribution of apple orchards in Ontario is dependent on other factors.

### Most Profitable Near Cities.

Transportation is the most important factor having to do with the distribution of commercial apple orchards in Ontario. In other words, the commercial apple orchards are located within reach of transportation facilities, and the better these facilities have been with relation to large cities and to the developing markets of the prairies the more rapid has been the development of commercial orcharding. A location near a large city may be desirable, but if better soil and climate are to be found at a distance, the most distant location is likely to be preferred, provided transportation facilities are good.

Some districts in Ontario possess excellent conditions of soils and climate, but are lacking in transportation facilities, and until facilities are available little development can take place in commercial orcharding.

### The Labor Situation.

The labor situation for some years has been acute, but has become more

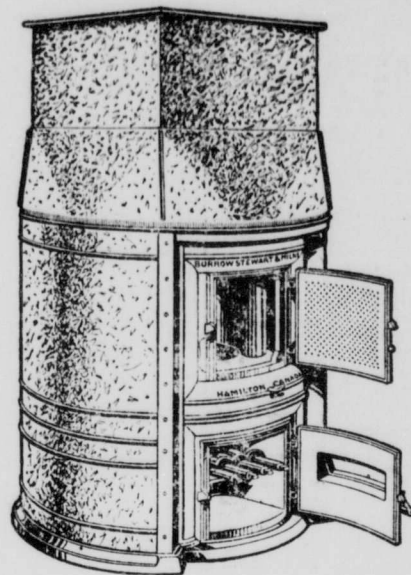
normal during the present year. For commercial orchard operations on a sizable basis, it is necessary to be within reach of a temporary supply of labor for apple picking. Otherwise, it becomes necessary to build dwellings for men and their families so that a supply of labor may be always available.

The difficulties of the labor situation at picking time can be lessened considerably by the planting of varieties which ripen in succession, and by taking care to get the right proportion of each. A large area of one variety ripening at one time is extremely difficult to handle. — J. W. Crow, O. A. College, Guelph.

### Kill Gophers in Orchards.

Look out for gophers and get them now. In well-drained orchards they delve deep and nest under the root-crown of your best cherry-tree without giving much evidence of it.

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