

❖ Question Drawer. ❖

Peach Growing.

753. SIR,—Is it the late spring frosts or the severe winters which make it difficult to grow peaches in certain parts of Ontario, and how low temperature will peaches endure?

A. M. TERRILL, *Picton.*

Both these conditions are barriers in the way of successful peach culture in most parts of our province, but the latter more especially, because when the temperature drops to more than 12° or 15° below zero, the fruit-bud of the peach is destroyed, and there are few sections where the thermometer does not drop lower than this. The spring frosts occasionally destroy the peach crop, as the tree blooms early and is usually subject to injury from that cause.

The Niagara Peninsula.

754. SIR,—Why is the Niagara peninsula better adapted for peach culture than other parts of Ontario which are quite as protected by water?

A. M. T., *Picton.*

The reason is because the northerly winds are tempered by coming across Lake Ontario, and because it has the advantage of having two lakes on its borders. However, the south-eastern part of Ontario, along the shore of Lake Erie, is almost, if not quite, as safe from injury by frost as the Niagara peninsula.

Palms in the Window Garden.

755. SIR,—Please give me full directions about growing palms in the window garden.

G. A. WINTERS, *Brantford.*

Reply by H. L. Hutt, O. A. C., Guelph.

There are a number of varieties of palms which may easily be grown as house plants. The following are a few of the points relating to their management which require special attention. They should be potted in well prepared, suitable soil. This may be made of equal parts of loam, vegetable mould, and sand. As a rule palms do best when somewhat restricted at the root. It is better to keep them in small pots, and re-pot into larger ones only when the roots become crowded. The roots should never be cut if it can possibly be avoided, nor should any part of the stem be buried when re-potting. Good drainage should be provided by means of broken brick or pottery in the bottom of the pots. Water should be given liberally and often enough to prevent the roots becoming dry. An occasional watering with liquid manure, made from cow manure, will help to impart a healthy appearance to the foliage. The