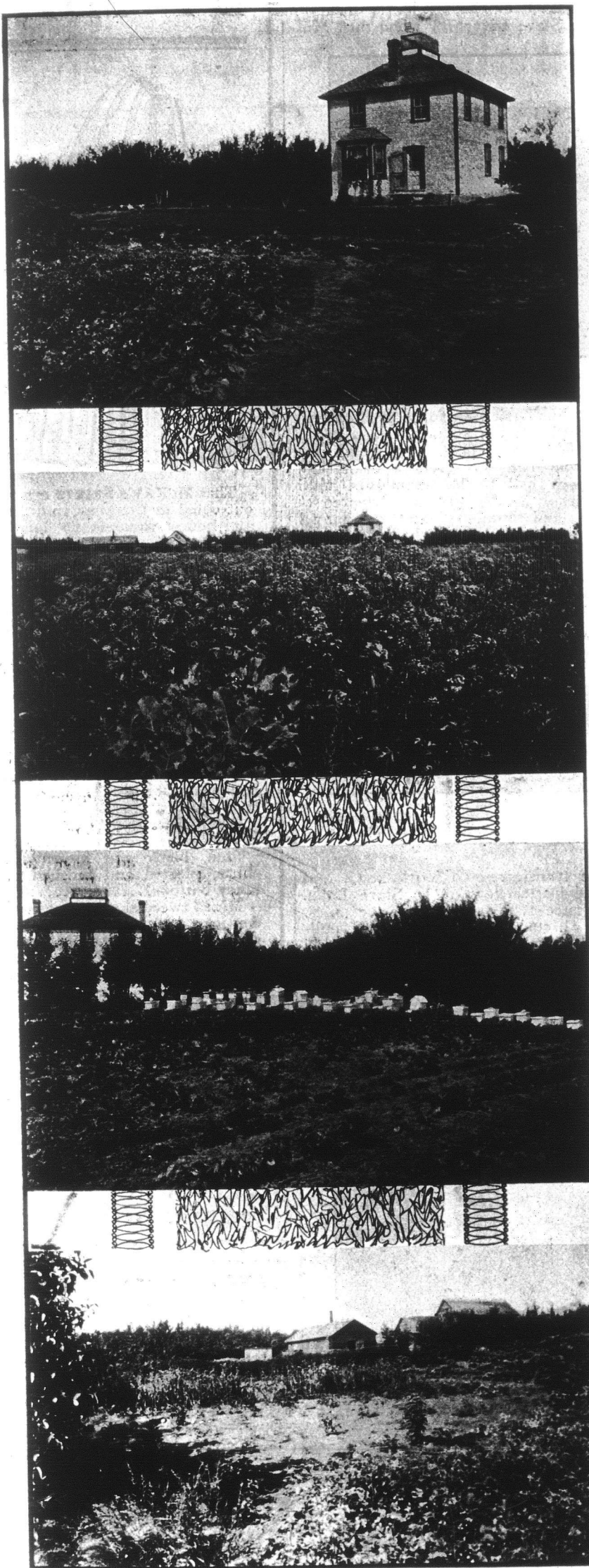


greater than the supply, but enquiries were sent from many parts of the province asking for a few pails, and one year a wholesale grocery house contracted for the entire product.

The currant bushes were also a source of great revenue, as the crops were even heavier in proportion than the raspberries and sold at equally good prices. The currant trees are very hardy and do not require as much attention. Mr. Parkinson planted the trees about four feet apart so that each bush had plenty of room to grow without being crowded. The earth was cultivated each year as with the raspberries and a solution of helibore kept all insects away.

A number of native plum trees were transplanted to the garden and cultivated, with the most encouraging results. Each year the fruit became larger and milder in flavor until the original puckery and sour flavor of the native plum had entirely passed away and the fruit was equal in size and flavor to any of the imported plums from Ontario or British Columbia. There were three different varieties of plums and one bore larger returns than the other two, but each had a good crop every year.

Some apple trees were also planted and grew well but Mr. Parkinson planted them by the side of a bluff with the idea of protecting them from



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the snow and severe frost; the snow, however, drifted in badly and good results were not obtained as many branches were broken off. The best plan is to plant the apple trees in the open, or near a single row of trees, where the snow does not drift badly.

From his experience in fruit raising Mr. Parkinson said that there is no danger to be feared from the Manitoba frosts and he did not find it necessary to cover any of the trees with straw during the winter.

There is no reason why every farmer in Manitoba should not have a fruit garden on his farm that would save him the expense of buying imported fruit and also be a source of revenue to him, as he could easily sell all over the amount required by his own household. Then the work among the trees is the most pleasant occupation on the farm and the trees make a miniature Eden or orchard on, sometimes, the otherwise barren looking place. The work of picking does not interfere with other farm duties as the fruit is ripe in the slack time before harvest.

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### A Bereaved Parent's Prayer.

Father in heaven, we come this day—  
A day to us of darkest gloom—  
Bowling before our darling's tomb—  
To ask Thy blessing and to pray

For greater strength, for stronger faith,  
To see Thy wisdom, goodness, love;  
To trace our all to Thee above—  
E'en though, as now, the gift be death.

We are Thy children, Our Father, Thou:  
Forgive our sin of over-grief;  
We try to make our mourning brief;  
We say, "Our boy is happier now."

'Tis for our good that sorrow's given;  
We'll bear the darkness of our faith;  
We'll bravely reap grief's aftermath,  
Laying our treasure up in heaven.

Oh, Heavenly Father, hear us pray  
While bending o'er our darling's tomb  
And for Christ's sake, dispel the gloom  
Of this, to us, the darkest day.

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