

CLIMATE AND FARM PRODUCTS

that the ice in the far north does not greatly affect the climate of the south shore of James bay. The southern end of James bay is as far from Hudson strait as the north shore of lake Ontario is from the gulf of Mexico. The thermometer never registers quite as low in winter at Moose Factory as it does in Winnipeg, Manitoba, or in the well-settled American states of Minnesota, Dakota and Montana. Owing to the altitude the coldest part of the province of Ontario is along the Height of Land. As the country slopes northward from the Height of Land to James bay, the difference in latitude is more than offset by the lower elevation. It is believed also that the many small lakes between the Height of Land and James bay tend to moderate the climate.

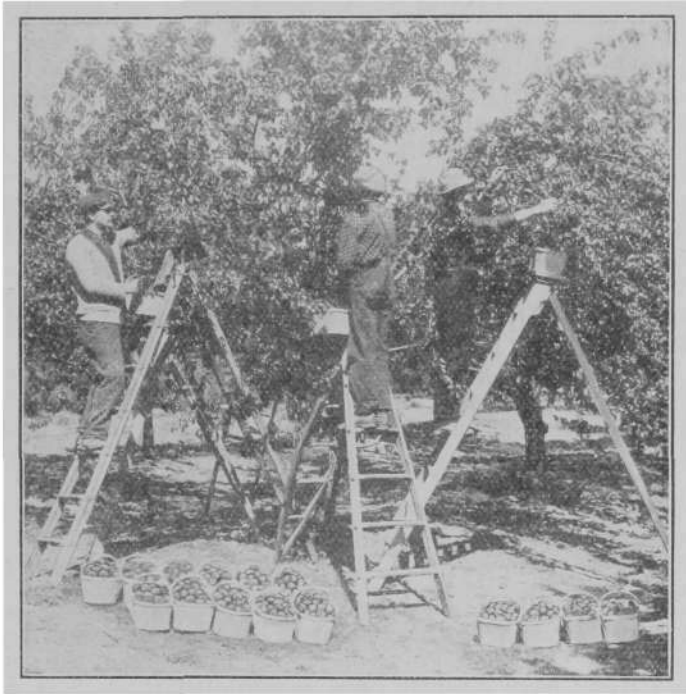


FIG. 4. PICKING PEACHES IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO.

The greater part of Old Ontario is fertile, although in some of the southeastern counties, as well as in the counties of Muskoka, Parry Sound and Nipissing, there are considerable areas more suitable for forest reservations than for farm lands. Apples and certain varieties of grapes can be grown successfully in any part of Old Ontario, but the fruit garden of the province is the southwestern peninsula, lying between lake Erie and Georgian bay, and bounded on the west by the Detroit river, lake St. Clair and lake Huron. This district rivals the Annapolis valley of Nova Scotia in the production of apples, while peaches, pears, plums and the finest varieties of grapes grow to perfection in the southern counties. Peaches and grapes are most extensively grown in the