

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE

DAIRY AND COLD STORAGE COMMISSIONER

OTTAWA, December 15, 1910.

THE OUTLOOK FOR CANADIAN TOMATOES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Recent inquiries received at this office would indicate a revival of interest in the question of the possibility of a profitable trade being done in supplying Canadian tomatoes to the markets of Great Britain. There are two points on which prospective shippers or growers have asked for information, viz.:—

- (a) Is it possible to land Canadian tomatoes in Great Britain in good condition, and
- (b) If so, are the prices high enough at the season of the year when the Canadian supply is available to make shipments profitable?

It will be remembered that in 1897* a considerable quantity of tender fruits, including tomatoes, was shipped by this Branch of the Department of Agriculture to London, Liverpool and Glasgow, with a view of testing the markets and determining the possibilities of the trade. The conclusions of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying, under whose direction the shipments were made, were to the effect that tomatoes could be landed, even with the facilities then available, in fairly good condition. Since that time considerable progress has been made in the knowledge pertaining to the refrigeration, handling and shipment of all kinds of tender fruit and there would seem to be no difficulty at present in placing Canadian tomatoes of the right variety on the English market in good, sound, marketable condition.

The second question cannot be so satisfactorily answered, as, at the present time, there does not appear to be a very promising opening for Canadian tomatoes in Great Britain.

However, in order to meet the demand for information on the subject, this circular has been prepared, under my direction, by the Chief of the Extension of Markets Division.

CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM SHIPMENTS, 1907.

(Condensed from the Experimental Farm Report for 1908.)

In January, 1907, Mr. W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist, Experimental Farm, Ottawa, wrote Mr. Findlay, the cargo inspector for this Branch at Glasgow,

*See report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying for 1897, Part VII, Page 11.
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