

### The Apple Box

LINUS WOOLVERTON, GRIMSBY, ONT.

I was among the first apple growers in Canada to use the box instead of the barrel, having begun to use them for fancy graded apples wrapped in paper, 12 or 15 years ago. Every year I have been using them more and more freely, some seasons exporting from my own orchard several thousand boxes. At first I used a box measuring outside 12 x 12 x 24, sending it not only to the British market but also to Australia. Mr. J. S. Larke, Canadian commercial agent, took much interest in the experimental shipment, which went by way of Vancouver, at a through rate of \$1 per box. These apples suffered from the heat of the tropics en route, but those arriving in prime condition sold for \$3.75 a box. They were shipped early in November, and arrived at Sydney before the earliest Tasmania apples were ripe. Finding this size to be larger than most boxes used in the British markets, I adopted the smaller box, measuring inside 9 x 12 x 18, a fine little box for packing and for display, but this proved too small, taking four to the barrel.

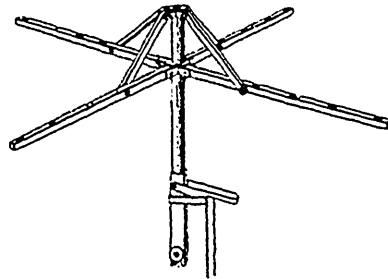
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I was a member of the committee of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, appointed at Walkerton to consider the best sized box to be used throughout the Dominion. We concluded first that a capacity of about one bushel was most desirable, being a measure universally adopted already, and considering the average size of the apples to be packed as No. 1 grade, we concluded that an inside measurement of 10 x 11 x 20 inches would be the most convenient.

Last year I used several thousand boxes of this size for export to Glasgow market. I found that the apples packed well in it, each layer taking about four apples wide and seven apples long, and four deep, or about 112 apples in all. If the apples were larger, as the Kings for example, the box would only take three layers deep.

It is of the utmost importance that we should reach uniformity in the use of boxes, for so long



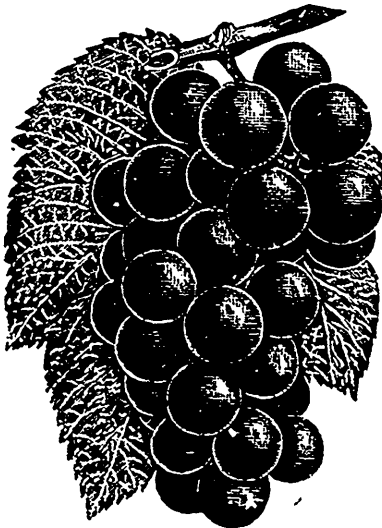
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