

The bulge in box packing is a most important feature. All fruit will evaporate somewhat after being packed. If the package is without the bulge a very slight evaporation will, by lessening the size of the specimens, render the whole package slack. By packing with a bulge, and pressing the thin elastic cover down upon the top of the apples, a force is brought to bear upon the fruit sufficient to keep it in place. As the fruit evaporates, the elasticity of the wood follows the fruit, always keeping it tight as packed. It may be well to note here that too much care cannot be taken in the selection of tops and bottoms of apple boxes. The material must be thin enough to bend easily and yet strong enough to resist the handling which it receives between the packer's bench and the retailer's shop.

#### BOX PRESS.

After the packing is completed, the cover must be carefully nailed in position. This is done on the press, an accessory too often thought unnecessary. The staff of the Fruit Division has been using a press illustrated in Plate 17. This can be readily made by anyone handy with tools, with such assistance as may be obtained at any blacksmith's shop.

In putting on the cover drive all nails through the cleats. Three or four nails in each end are quite sufficient.

#### PACKING BOXES.

Wherever possible the marks upon the end of a box should be printed with a die. These plates are not expensive and marking is done much more neatly and at a very small cost. A design for a copyrighted trade mark can be used in a die that would be entirely impossible if a stencil were used.

#### RUBBER STAMPS.

Every grower should have stamps for box marking. There should also be stamps for the number of apples in the box. These are not so numerous but that a separate stamp can be afforded for each number. There should also be stamps for the packer's number.

#### EXTRANEIOUS MATTER IN A BOX.

Even five or six years ago it was not uncommon to find boxes entered for prizes at exhibitions in eastern Canada where large openings were filled with excelsior, paper or some similar material. Needless to say, this is not only unnecessary but would disqualify a box immediately from any particular contest. Of course, it is not allowable for commercial purposes, and only the most inexperienced would now think of resorting to such a practice. Nevertheless, it is deemed necessary to draw attention to an abuse that was at one time all too common. The same criticisms will apply to the use of corrugated paper board in lining boxes. They do, it is true, save the apples somewhat but customers generally resent the use of any kind of 'fillers' except the lining and wrapping papers.

#### WAREHOUSE APPLIANCES.

Plate 18, Figs. 1 and 3, illustrates two sides of a British Columbia fruit warehouse. The fruit is delivered at one side, and can be conveniently loaded on cars at the opposite side.

Plate 19, Figs. 1 and 2, shows the Perfection box truck, a very convenient appliance for the apple warehouse. It is made with a clutch, shown open in