

Sec. 6. 'No. 1 or XXX, finest, best or extra good quality.' The following marks also are held by the trade generally to indicate this quality of fruit: 'Choice,' 'Fancy,' 'Selected,' 'Prime.'

'Nearly Uniform' is to be taken as including any size of fruit except that which may be fairly classed as *small for the variety*.

'Bruises.' Only such injuries as produce decay or otherwise materially lessen the value of the fruit for consumption, should be counted as bruises.

'Scab.' Such as causes appreciable waste is to be considered particularly.

'Properly Packed.' 'Slacks' are to be considered as not properly packed if the condition is likely to result in permanent damage during handling or transit.

Sec. 9. 'Notice.' After notice there need be no delay in carrying out the further provisions of the Act.

In case no name appears on packages, proceedings may be taken against the owner where ascertained; otherwise against the party in whose possession the fruit is found.

Sec. 11. In case of sales on commission, the real owner will be first held responsible, but the commission merchant, who, after notice, handles fruit put up contrary to the provisions of the Act, will be proceeded against.

Sec. 12. If objection is made to entry or inspection, the inspector must give written notice of his authority under the Act, to the party objecting, attaching a copy of the Act.

JAS. W. ROBERTSON,

Commissioner of Agriculture and Inspection.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

Ottawa, June 2, 1902.

THE FRUIT MARKS ACT, 1901.

IV. Explanatory Notes.

a. — FOR THE GROWER.

If the grower sells his fruit on the trees or in piles, the Act does not apply to him in any particular.

If he sells his fruit in uncovered barrels or boxes, the Act requires only that the top of each package shall be no better than the fruit throughout the package.

If the grower packs his own fruit he accepts the responsibility of the packing, as described in the following paragraph.

b. FOR THE OWNER.

Section 4 of the Act requires that the person who owns the fruit when it is packed in closed barrels or boxes must mark plainly on each package:

1. His name and address;
2. The name of the variety of the fruit;
3. The grade of the fruit, whether it is 'No. 1,' 'No. 2' or 'No. 3.'

If he marks the package 'No. 1' (or 'XXX') the fruit must be as described in section 6, practically perfect. On reading this section carefully, it will be seen that the packer should aim to discard every injured or defective fruit, and not to deliberately include the ten per cent of inferior specimens which the law allows. This margin is meant to make the work of grading easier and more rapid than if absolute perfection were exacted in the first grade, as many of the best growers think should be done.

It should be noted that the definition of No. 1 fruit does not vary from year to year; no provision is made for lowering the standard when the quality of the crop is poor. In such a case the only result is that a smaller proportion of the fruit is No. 1.

The Act makes no restriction as to the quality of fruit which is marked 'No. 2' or 'No. 3,' but it is strongly recommended that 'No. 2' consist of fruit in every way as good as 'No. 1' except in the matter of size and colour. 'No. 3' will then include all under-sized or defective specimens which are marketable, culls being left at home.