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Early in February, the daily press of this country published reports of an attempt to evade the Fruit Marks Act by a well-known Canadian apple man, who has been exporting via the port of Portland, Me. According to the *Portland Daily Press*, of February 2, the reports were well-founded. That paper stated that W. W. Moore, Chief, Markets Division, Ottawa, spent some days in Portland investigating the case. The investigation showed that one shipper raised the grade mark on two cars of 300 bbls. of apples. This was done in Maine because there is no law there forbidding such a practice. The shipment was from Colborne, Ont., and originally bore the marks of grades No. 2 and No. 3, which grades the apples fairly represented. The grade marks, however, were not placed in the customary position on the barrel head. Some of the barrels were marked as follows:

CANADIAN APPLES,

Packed by
No. 2.

— — —, Colborne, Ont.

Others had No. 3 instead of No. 2.

The custom is to mark the grade after the name of the packer. The marking of the grade, No. 2, after the words "Packed by," was for the purpose of giving the impression that it was not the grade but a number indicating the packer of that barrel.

The shipper or his agent marked all the apples previously marked No. 2, No. 1 XXX, and the apples previously marked No. 3, No. 2 XX, placing the marks in the customary place. Mr. Moore watched the agent mark the barrels of two cars and then presented his official card which showed him to be an employee of the department of agriculture. Mr. Moore believes that this is the first attempt that has been made to evade the Canadian law in this manner. Fortunately, it was "nipped in the bud."

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