

It has now been decided to rigorously proceed against any person using such imported potatoes for seed, as indicated by the following provisions under the Destructive Insect and Pest Act:

'It shall be illegal to sell, offer for sale, dispose of in any way, receive or use, for seed purposes, any potatoes imported from Europe.'

'Every person using for seed other potatoes than such as have been raised by himself must obtain, preserve and exhibit on demand, previous to planting, a certificate from the seller or his agent stating that the potatoes to be used for seed have not been imported from Europe.'

'Compensation not exceeding two-thirds of the value as assessed by the inspector, of the vegetation or vegetable matter or containers thereof destroyed by the instruction of an inspector, shall be granted by the Governor in Council upon the recommendation of the minister, except in cases where these regulations are carried out under the direction of the government of a province not granting compensation, or in the case of potatoes or potato crops.'

'Every person who contravenes any provision of this Act or any regulation made thereunder, shall be liable, upon summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment. Any vegetable matter imported or brought into Canada contrary to this Act, or to any regulation made thereunder, shall be forfeited to the Crown.'

'The owner, occupier or lessee of any premises or place where any of the insects, pests or diseases specified herein shall be found, shall immediately notify the minister, and shall also send to him specimens of such insects, pests or diseases.'

In view of these provisions it may be pointed out that should the disease be discovered subsequent to the issue of this circular in any field or farm, the farmer or grower on whose land it is found will be asked to furnish evidence as to the origin of the potatoes used for seed, if no satisfactory care has been exercised he will not only render himself liable to fine or imprisonment provided under this Act, but will forfeit the entire crop without any compensation.

In conclusion it may be stated that up to the present Canadian soil is free from this disease, which, as is well known has defied every measure directed against its ravages in certain English and other European potato growing districts.

The effort needed to keep our soil free from this most injurious disease, which may lurk in practically every potato imported from Europe is very small. All that is necessary is that our potato growers exercise some little care in the selection of their seed. The result of carelessness in this small matter at this present moment of planting time approaching, is almost certain to effect irreparable injury to our exceedingly valuable potato growing industry, to say nothing of the millions of dollars it is practically certain to cost in the future to control the disease, when once established.