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Last Year's Peach Shipments

THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST is in receipt of Bulletin 27, of the Dr'ry and Cold Storage Series, issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, entitled "Trial Shipments of Peaches in 1910." It is by J. A. Ruddick and W. W. Moore. This bulletin gives complete information about the peaches shipped to the British market last season, with an addenda dealing with the South African export peach trade. Among the general conclusions given in the bulletin are the following:

That Canadian peaches can be delivered in Great Britain in good marketable condition, provided proper care is exercised in preparing them for shipment.

That only peaches of good quality, of large size, and with a touch of color should be shipped.

That every detail of packing must be attended to with scrupulous care.

That if peaches can be pre-cooled before shipping they may be picked in a more mature condition, which would add to their flavor, size and appearance.

That shipment by fast freight in a well iced and properly loaded refrigerator car is better than by express.

That in the ocean steamers any temperature between 35 and 40 degrees will carry the peaches safely if they have been delivered to the steamship in right condition.

That it is important to have the temperature gradually raised to about 55 degrees during the last thirty-six hours the fruit is in the ship's refrigerator so that when it is landed there will be no condensation of moisture from the warmer outside air.

That it would be an advantage if during the next few years all the Canadian peaches shipped could be sold by one broker in each of the principal markets so that undue competition might be avoided.

That only a comparatively small quantity of our peaches can be disposed of in Great Britain at the prices realized for our shipments the past season, and that if our growers desire an outlet for a considerable quantity a much lower price will have to be accepted, and finally,

That the number of growers who are in a position to successfully cater to this export trade is limited, and that if it is gone into by the average grower, or shipper, following the average slipshod methods, nothing but disaster may be anticipated.

The reports show that the shipments of South African peaches which reach the British market at a different season, have increased from 7,612 cases in 1906 to 23,616 cases in 1910. The estimated average cost of shipping South African peaches, including the cost of packing material, freight and the London charges, is forty-eight cents a case with an average price obtained of one dollar and forty-four cents a case.

Items of Interest

A correspondent of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, R. R. Sloan, of Porter's Hill, reports that the fruit crop prospects in Huron county, Ontario, are that there will not be a heavy crop of apples this fall, as the blight that affected the trees last year has not extended its full effect. Baldwins made hardly any showing. Spies had less than one-third of a normal bloom. Kings, Greenings and early fall apples, pears, plums, and cherries made a good showing. There has been more activity in orcharding in the county this year than ever before.

Mr. J. MacPherson Ross, of Toronto, who has frequently contributed with acceptance to the columns of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, announces that he is open for engagement as a landscape gardener.

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