

ing of lobsters, and one objection raised was that the stamping would add greatly to the cost of the lobsters. Will this requirement of marking packages not have the same effect on fruit? I know that at one season of the year in the Montreal market we are inundated with baskets of white grapes. They are delicious. Will those have to be stamped also? I have known them to be sold in Montreal as low as 20 cents a basket. They all come in a bunch; they seem to ripen together. Are you going to add the cost of inspection to a basket containing probably a gallon and a half of grapes, or are you going to stamp those as inspected?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: If a producer is sufficiently enterprising to put grapes on the market, even as indicated, he will not hesitate to comply with the obligation of stamping the package. He could buy a rubber stamp for a very small sum; the cost is infinitesimal, and some system must be adopted for the purpose of protecting the public. It is difficult to draw a distinction between packages such as my honourable friend has referred to, and closed packages such as apples in barrels, boxes, etc.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Is subsection 2 of section 320, with regard to repacking, a new provision?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: And subsection 3?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Subsection 3 is new.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: And subsection 4?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: And 4, 5 and 6.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I see that subsection 5, which reads—

Every person who, by himself or through the agency of another person packs immature peaches, plums, pears, prunes or grapes—

—does not deal with apples at all. I suppose it was not considered necessary.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The explanation as to immature fruit would apply to that.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Yes, but why specify "peaches, plums, pears, prunes or grapes?" The offence might be just as bad in the case of apples. Is there any reason for leaving apples out of this subsection?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It would not apply to apples to the same extent as to these other fruits.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Immature apples become mature.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: And of course green apples can be used for cooking purposes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: So can pears. Green pears can be used for cooking purposes in the same way.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I doubt it—not to the same extent at all.

Hon. Mr. BOYER: What about green apples?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: They can be used for cooking purposes very acceptably.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Green apples are bad things to eat.

Hon. Mr. WATSON: I think pears are imported in a very green state, and sometimes they have to be kept in the shop for two or three weeks before they are fit to eat.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: Some have to be kept three months.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: My honourable friend must keep in view that this provision does not preclude immature fruit from being handled; the only provision is that the immature fruit must not be placed on the market when it is quite apparent that it could not be used advantageously; that is to say, it must not be picked or used before the person is warranted in concluding that it will reach a stage at which it can be used for dessert purposes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: On its arrival.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No, not on its arrival.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It does not say that.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: So long as the fruit is retained until you are assured that it will reach a state in which it can be used for eating or for cooking purposes, it is not immature fruit.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: It is fruit that has not yet ripened.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I take it that in the case of pears and some of the other fruits mentioned here, which have to be picked on the green side in order that they may arrive at their destination in proper condition, they would not be included in this definition, "immature fruit."