

THE FRUIT MARKS ACT, 1901.

III—General Instructions.

1. Inspectors will visit orchards and packing houses to give information with regard to the Act. They will keep notes of what they observe during such visits.

2. Inspectors will examine fruit at all points in the district assigned them, whether at shipping stations, packing houses, orchards or elsewhere, as directed and opportunity offers.

3. The Act does not provide for the inspection of particular lots of fruit at the request of buyers or sellers. When not under specific directions, inspectors will use their discretion as to where they can best employ their time within the district assigned them.

4. Inspectors will avoid anything which would delay unnecessarily the movement of the fruit, or which would interfere with the interests of those concerned in the fruit trade, except in so far as action may be necessary to prevent violation of the Act.

5. Packages which have been inspected are to be closed by the inspector and labelled marketable order after examination, unless the owner prefers to take charge of re-opened packages.

6. Inspectors will report to the department by telegram regarding any particular shipments which in their judgment should be examined at the port of export or elsewhere.

Explanations for Guidance of Inspectors.

Sec. 3 (a). 'Closed Package' applies only to boxes or barrels.

Baskets (even with close covers) will not be considered closed packages to be affected by Sections 4 and 6; the packing of fruit in any package is subject to the provisions of Section 7.

Sec. 4. The words 'plain and indelible manner' are to be taken as including all forms of marking which are plain and not readily rubbed out or removed.

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,' 'Primas.'

'Nearly Uniform' is to be taken as including any size of fruit except that which may be truly 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.

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

'Improperly Packed.' 'Sticks' are to be considered as not properly packed if they conduce to decay or result in permanent damage during handling or transit.

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

If 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.

J. A. W. ROBERTSON,

Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

Ottawa, June 2, 1902.