

fruit, the market house being controlled by the municipality; the fruit must be disposed of by the importers to dealers by direct sale. Locally grown apples are most plentiful in market during January, February and March; hence the advantage of the imported fruit being shipped in time to arrive here before the South African fruit is marketed.

Under no consideration is it advisable to send apples or pears to shipping ports except in refrigerator cars. There is a good refrigerator service from Cape Town and other South African ports to Johannesburg for fruit shipments, but it is regarded as essential to have the fruit landed at Cape Town, the first port of shipment to the interior points, as, owing to the hot weather prevailing at the East Coast ports, fruit is liable to deteriorate very quickly.

If American firms ship the right class of goods in accordance with these directions and at the time mentioned, importers state that they can be sure of getting better results in this country than in almost any other foreign market. At least twenty-eight thousand boxes of imported apples found a market in Johannesburg last season, the majority of these being imported from Australia.

Pears are usually required in one-half boxes, these having proved to be the most successful sellers. The varieties mostly in demand are Winter-Nellis, Gloutmorseau and Howells. The usual terms granted to purchasers are thirty days.

Of all the Australian states, New South Wales and Tasmania only are enforcing legislation with respect to the size of cases in which imported and locally grown fruit is to be sold. While an Act has been passed in Queensland, the regulations have not yet been proclaimed, hence Canadian apples packed in the standard Canadian case can, so far as the 1914 season is concerned, be shipped to that state without restriction. In Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia no state laws have yet been enacted regulating the size of cases in which apples or other fruit are to be sold. As Sydney is the terminal port of the Canadian-Australasian steamers, it is obvious that New South Wales is the principal market in Australia for Canadian apples landed during the months of October to December each year. Representations were made to the Department of Agriculture of New South Wales that the Canadian apple case, packed with a crown on the top side of the case, contained more fruit than it is, in the ordinary Australian packing, possible to place in the New South Wales case, and request was made for the suspension of the regulations in so far as they affected Canadian exports until the season of 1915. The reply has been to the effect that the Fruit Cases Act specifically provides that when fruit is sold in a case within New South Wales it shall be of a size, measurement, and capacity specified in the regulations, and, as the Canadian standard apple case does not conform with the regulations, the sale of fruit in such a case cannot legally be permitted.

The difference between the two standard cases is as follows:

Canadian apple case... 10x11x20 ins. inside New South Wales apple

case... 10x11 3/4x20 ins. inside

The New South Wales cases vary in size, but the popular case (as above) has a capacity of not less than one Imperial bushel, and its cubic contents are 2.225 inches, or 25 cubic inches larger than the Canadian. As the New South Wales Act came into force on July 1, 1914, it will be necessary for British Columbia exporters of apples and pears for sale in New South Wales to ship fruit in cases of the prescribed sizes.

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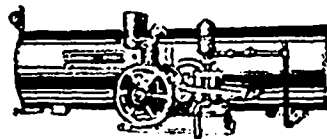
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