

"Very acute situation now impends both in the Southeast and Southwest for ventilated cars to move perishable products, including pine-apples, watermelons, etc. The very large ownership of ventilated cars in the Southeast is badly scattered in the northern and western states. Vigorous action to obtain the immediate return of these cars to this loading territory is necessary to avoid possible loss of food products. The watermelon crop alone, in some districts, is expected to be nearly three times as large as last year.

"Please immediately put the following instructions in effect:

1 See that ventilated box are not used as common box except for load-

ing to owners or to southeastern or southwestern vegetable-loading territory.

2 Move ventilated cars empty in homeward direction if no immediate loading available.

"Roads in northern and western territory have been requested by wire to put these instructions into effect.

"Reports reaching here indicate that roads in southern territory continue to load ventilated box cars north with dead freight. This practice should be discontinued at once and cars assembled for perishable loading, or moved on Commission orders to roads now short this class of equipment.

"Any conflicting instructions are hereby cancelled."



On page 57 of our June issue we featured "Service Order No. 1," issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission. We are now extending our readers a supplementary notice in this connection which will be found to improve the situation somewhat so far as fruit and vegetable dealers are concerned:

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Washington, D. C., June 9, 1920

NOTICE TO CARRIERS AND SHIPPERS:

Service Order No. 1, which ordered and directed common carriers by railroad to divert freight via the routes most available to expedite its movement and to relieve congestion, also ordered and directed the carrier responsible for the diversion to mail a notice to the consignee of the traffic stating the car number, places and dates of shipment and other essential information. It has been urged that a telegraphic notice should be sent to the consignor by the carrier responsible for diversion as to shipments in private cars subject to equalization of empty mileage, and also as to fruits and vegetables, live poultry and other shipments customarily reconsigned upon instructions of the consignor.

While the Commission does not consider it necessary at this time to amend Service Order No. 1 in this respect, it is of the opinion that a telegraphic notice of the diversion should be sent to the consignor by the carrier responsible therefor in the case of shipments in private cars, which are subject to equalization of empty mileage, and also of fruits and vegetables, live poultry and other shipments customarily reconsigned upon instructions of the consignor.

GEORGE B. MCGINTY

Secretary