

2. If three apples placed side by side across the end of the box will fit tight the pack is straight 3.

3. If three apples placed side by side across the end of the box fit loosely and a fourth will not go in, the pack is 2-2.

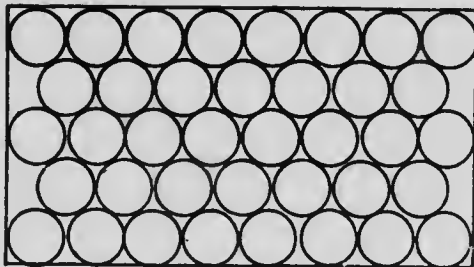
4. If four apples placed side by side across the end of the box fit loosely and the fifth will not go in, the pack is 2-3.

These rules are only useful in a general way. The packer will find many little devices that assist him, but which can be learned only by actual experience.

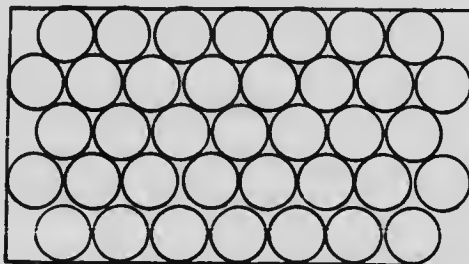
The beginner will note that the 2-2 pack or the 2-3 pack cover nearly all the commercial sizes, and once skill is acquired in the ordinary sizes of apples (those ranging from 80 to 175) it is only a matter of practice to be able to deal with the larger sizes of apples and the irregular shaped apples. It will be readily understood that a long apple like the Belleflower and a flat apple such as the Mann, though they may be the same in diameter, would require altogether different treatment in packing. One in all probability would be packed on its end, the other on its side.

Certain sizes of apples will pack so that the apples in a row, taking the length of the box, will each touch the other. A somewhat different size will be packed so that there may be a small space between each apple in the longitudinal row. This is a device by which the proper height is established. It is also one of the expedients for securing the bulge in the box, the apples being packed closer together at the centre.

In the packs having 3 rows and 3 layers or 5 rows and 5 layers the beginner should be warned to start with 2 apples in the case of the 3 layer pack or 3 apples in the case of the 2-3 pack. If the pack is begun with one apple in the 3 layer or with two apples in the 5 tier pack, then in many packs there would be one less apple than if the first row were begun with two apples in the 2-1 pack or with three apples in the 3-2 pack.



(a) 1st, 3rd and 5th Layers.



(b) 2nd and 4th Layers.
FIG. 14.—"3-2" Pack.
5 Layers—188 Apples.