

"nearly every case found displayed conspicuously, introduced into the labels of all sorts of compounds, with the apparent intention that the words *Maple, Maple Flavored or Some Illustration of the Maple Tree* or *Bush assures the purity of the goods.*"

This is the essence of the whole fraud, and the fact seems to be as well understood by the Government as by the makers and vendors of pure maple products. The Adulteration Act requires that when any article of food not injurious to health is mixed with any other article of food, it must be distinctly labelled as a mixture in conspicuous characters, forming an inseparable part of the general label, which must also bear the name and addresses of the manufacturer.

Mr. Fisher says that the Inland Revenue Department interprets the meaning of this to be that the mere placing of the word "Compound" or "Adulterated" on the label, in an out-of-the-way place, or on the side or back of the can of syrup or cake of sugar, does not meet the requirements of the law. The word "Compound" or "Adulterated" must be placed on the face of the general label in type corresponding to the size of the type used in printing the word maple on the label, and all such goods not labelled in accordance with this interpretation are liable to the penalties imposed by the "Adulteration of Foods Act."

This is a fair interpretation of the Act, so far as the Act goes, but the Act does not go far enough, and unfortunately the Department does not go far beyond the stage of interpretation in the way of enforcement.

The law regarding the branding of maple compounds should go much further than it now does; and it should be rigorously enforced, *by means of a system of inspection, not so much at the retail stores, as at the factories, where it can be done most effectively and most cheaply.*

The conspicuous use of the word "Maple" or any of its derivatives, such as *Maple Flavor* on cans of "Compound" should be prohibited; and the use of any of these words on cans containing syrups wholly, or largely composed of substitutes should be forbidden in any shape or form. If anybody was to buy and eat cane or beet sugar or molasses, at the price of maple sugar or syrup, by all means let him do it, but do not allow anyone to swindle him by selling him the inferior and cheaper product under the false pretence that it is the better and more expensive one.

## Inspection

Then as to the inspection, practically all the raw sugars and syrups used in Canada are imported, and it should be as easy for the Custom House Department to trace it to its destination as it is for it to trace tobacco leaf to a cigar factory. At any rate the bogus maple product factories are not so numerous but they can be easily watched.