

Inspection of Imported and Home-grown Fruit.

"7. All fruit, whether imported or grown in this province, or exposed for sale, shall be subject to inspection under the authority of this Board, and if found to be infected with any injurious insect pest or the larva thereof, shall be quarantined or may be destroyed at the expense of the owner of said fruit by such methods as this Board or its agents may direct.

Stencilling and Labelling.

"8. All persons shipping, sending, or delivering any fruit, fruit trees, scions, cuttings, or plants within the province shall place upon or securely attach to each box, crate, or other package or parcel containing the same, a distinct stamp, mark, or label showing the name of the producer and shipper or sender, and the locality where grown, but boxes and barrels containing fruit shall be stencilled or stamped with letters not less than three-quarters of an inch in length."

On my annual trip this year, from all I could learn, the apples sent in 1894 were not fit to be shipped to any place, many of them being a small, miserable, scabby lot, full of codling moths, etc., and I did not wonder at the authorities in refusing to allow them to remain in the country. However, I refused to attempt this year to ship any, although promised a good price, as, from all I could learn, a few apples if found with any fungous disease would condemn the whole car load. Now, what is best to do? I noticed that all the apples at Victoria, coming from Oregon and Missouri, were packed in boxes of about fifty pounds each, and they can be easily inspected. I sent out some fine Spys to the several wholesale houses in this way, along with canned goods, to test them, and being carefully selected they passed through.

I believe a good trade can be successfully worked up by packing in this way, using the utmost care. Will it pay? Yes, I think it will. Freight will be lower, as more can be shipped in a car than in barrels, and unless the duty is removed I think money can be made in shipping apples to British Columbia. They must have our apples, as the Missouri, Oregon and Washington apples do not compare with them.

Mr. BOULTER added that he believed there was a good market for Ontario apples in Prince Edward Island, but the apples must be put up right, and he thought a good demand could be created.

Mr. CASTON: What does it cost per barrel to ship to British Columbia?

Mr. BOULTER: I used to pay \$1.10 per hundred pounds, one hundred and fifty pounds to the barrel. You can calculate about a cent a pound on apples.

Mr. SMITH: I would like to know how British Columbia happened to get such good Russets and Spitzenbergs and Baldwins as they had in Chicago at the World's Fair.

The SECRETARY: Yellow Belleflower also. The Spitzenbergs were finer than we have ever grown in Ontario.

Mr. BOULTER: I don't say that they cannot grow a winter apple in British Columbia; possibly they can in some very favored localities. I am speaking generally of the Province of British Columbia, and I am satisfied the climate is not right for growing apples.

The SECRETARY: Do I understand you to say it is because they do not grow vigorous trees they cannot produce the quantity they require?

Mr. BOULTER: Yes, partly that. Their trees are not vigorous growers, and I claim that a tree that is not vigorous growing tree never can produce first-class fruit.

Mr. HUTT: Is not their fruit much larger than ours?

Mr. BOULTER: It may be larger. They might pick out some very large apples and send to the World's Fair. Although they may have sent some to the World's Fair from some favored locality we will have to supply winter apples to British Columbia. Where you cannot grow real good corn you cannot grow good winter apples, and in British Columbia you cannot grow good corn.