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THE DESERET NEWS. Suit Lake City, Utah.

of Latter-day Saints.

(AUNDATS SIGRPTED.)

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.

in advance ....

SALT LAKE CITY,

A TIMELY TOPIC.

The fruit-shipping season is now commencing, and the gardeners and packers in this State need to be stirred up a little, for their own interest and the public benefit. Utah peaches, pears, apples and other fruits are not excelled in quality by similar products from any other part of the country. Indeed, they have a flavor of their own and should command good prices in the markets at distant points. The ravages of fruitdestroying pests have injured them much, and our fruit exports will not be very great until the State is rid of them. General and united efforts for their extirpation will have to be continued from year to year, persistently, or we shall be troubled for a long time with this hindrance to orcharding.

There is another obstacle in the way of our export trade which can be removed at once, and that is carelessness and dishonesty in packing. It is useless to ship fruit for the market in all kinds of sizes, qualities and conditions. It should be carefully selected and packed. We do not mean by this that poor qualities and sizes should be placed at the bottom of a box or basket and fine selections placed at the top. That is a trick easily discovered. and in the end it will be found very unprofitable. Honesty is the best policy in fruitpacking as in -all other branches of business and general conduct. Those sections of the country which have gained an established reputation as fine fruit-producing regions, have acquired it through efficient picking and packing with a view to future business as well as present profit.

Attention has been called to this by a number of our business men, who have visited eastern markets and learned of the objections offered to many of the shipments from Utah, and it is noticeable, very often. In those that are received in this city from different points of the State. There is a feature of this

subject which is very serious from a moral standpoint. The spirit that leads to the deception practiced, in placing poor articles of any kind at the bottom of a package and covering them with fine specimens at the top, is a species of deception and robbery that cannot be too strongly denounced.

It has its effect upon the rising generation. Children who see such examples are likely to grow up imbued with the spirit of cheating and deceit. It is practical lying, and is akin to stealing. The evil growing out of it is presented in the following paragraph, which we clip from the Inter-Mountain Farmer and Ranchman:

"At numerous stations along the rail-roads in Utah children sell fruit in berry boxes to the passengers. Almost without exception the fruit in the bot-tom of the box is green and insipid or overripe and partly decayed. This de-ception is practiced unblushingly by the children and the inference is that they are taught the trick at home. The the children and the inference is that they are taught the trick at home. The habit of deception thus noted is car-ried through life and as a result the grown-up children in Utah put up the most unreliable pack of fruit that is found on the market. Can Utah people ford to continue this dichonesty in

Is it possible that any of "Mormon" people are guilty of this meanness and petty crime? so, they deserve to be tried for their fellowship in the Church of which they are members. It is an offence against God and humanity. It is forbidden both in ancient and modern revelation and commandment. It is injurious to business as well as to human character. It is antagonistic to the spirit of the Gospel, and is a disgrace to those who practice it and a reproach upon the entire community. In all fruit-growing districts of this State the local Church authorities should denounce this practice, and teach the culprits lessons of honor and integrity. The offet ders should be traced out and jabored with, individually, until they see the wrong and repent of it and commit it no more. We ought to have the reputation everywhere of honesty, fair dealing, sincerity and general morality. To obtain and retain this, our actions must be such as wil justify it before heaven and before the world. This moral side of the question is es-

sential to the maintenance of the business side, for Utah products will become a drug in the market, unless they are what they purport to be and are packed and shipped so as to command general satisfaction and commendation. We commend this subject to our leading men and women as one worthy of their attention and efforts for instruction and reform.

## THE APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT

The Public Alliance is an organization of merchants in the coal strike region. This organization has, from the beginning of the trouble, endeavored to bring about arbitration, but in vain. It was hoped that the return of Mr. J. P. Morgan would signalize the end of the strike, but this hope was not realized. As a final effort the association has ap-pealed to President Roosevelt.

In the appeal it is set forth that the

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