

PRUNING AND SHAPING THE PEACH TREE<sup>9</sup>

The purposes of pruning may be enumerated as follows: (1) to produce a vigorous, mechanically strong, healthy tree, capable of bearing heavy crops over a long period of years; (2) to obtain a tree well shaped for convenience and economy in orchard management; (3) to



Fig. 3.—Fruit bud of the peach. Note the two lateral fruit buds with a small leaf bud between. (From California Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 386.)

distribute the fruiting area over the tree; (4) to favor early and regular bearing of profitable crops; and (5) to obtain desirable size and quality of fruit.

*Habit of Bearing.*—The fruit buds of the peach are usually borne laterally upon one-year-old wood and on short spur-like twigs. If the

<sup>9</sup> Tufts, W. P. Pruning young deciduous fruit trees. California Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 313:1-44. 1927.