

*Second Summer's Pruning.*—Usually the second summer's pruning consists in the removal of undesirable water sprouts early in the summer. If each main branch has not produced two secondary branches these may be selected and other competing shoots pinched back or removed.

*Second Dormant Pruning.*—During the second winter thin out the growth made the previous summer, leaving six or eight selected secondary branches for the additional framework. These branches should generally not be cut except to balance the tree. In addition, thin out interfering, surplus branches or those in the way of cultivation. By cutting forked branches unequally, weak crotches can be avoided, since the longer branch of a fork will gain the ascendancy. Prune so as to get a spread while the tree is young by making inside cuts; but after the tree comes into bearing make the cuts preferably on the outside to lessen decay at pruning wounds, to reduce sun-scald on the inside of main branches and to reduce possible breakage at point of cut under the weight of the crop.

*Third and Succeeding Summer's Pruning.*—Summer pruning may be continued as long as it is necessary to obtain more branching or to remove watersprouts that are shading the lower parts of the tree. Severe pruning in the summer is weakening.

*The Third Dormant Pruning.*—Continue thinning out interfering branches, or those in the way of cultivation. Remove watersprout growth. Seek to have the center of the tree somewhat open; but there should be enough side branches and twigs to shade the main limbs and to bear fruit. In pruning permit the more stocky twigs to remain when possible, and remove the slender, spindly ones.

*Pruning the Bearing Tree.*<sup>10</sup>—In the case of bearing trees, instead of cutting back to stubs, it is better to cut to vigorous lateral growth and thus judiciously thin out the tree. Start the thinning out process near the base of the tree. Leave the willowy, drooping branches or 'hangers' intact except when they are in the way of cultivation, or are unable to support a desirable amount of fruit. Continue the pruning by removing old or useless wood and the small dead twigs that can be removed without much trouble. The crop is largely carried by the one-year-old twigs borne on the two and three-year-old wood. Pruning should be sufficiently severe to cause the annual shoot growth to be from 10 to 24 inches long.

Careful pruning of the fruit-bearing laterals above the second crotches is needed to properly distribute the fruiting wood along these

<sup>10</sup> Tufts, W. P.—Pruning bearing deciduous fruit trees. California Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 386:1-47. 1925.