

good spring and a good cutting blade; (2) two-hand pruning shears for the larger branches; (3) tapered pruning saw with swivel blade which allows the removal of limbs without leaving stubs; (4) hand saw with curved blade; and (5) tripod stepladder of desired length.

For removal of the brush from the orchard, various tools and implements are in use, such as rakes, pitchforks, and brushburners.<sup>11</sup> Prunings should not be allowed to remain in the orchard long as they interfere with orchard operations and may harbor pests. Prompt burning of the brush is desirable. One man and a team can haul brush from about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  acres of orchard per day.

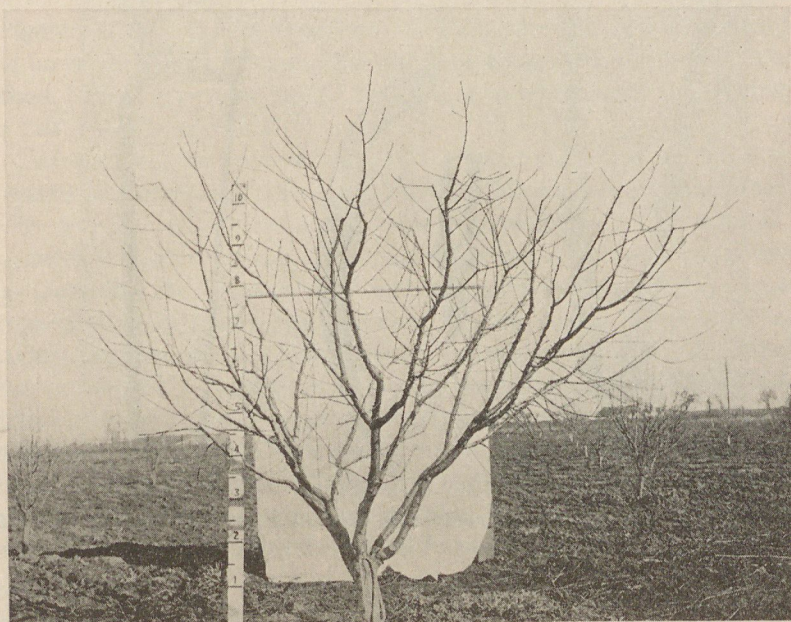


Fig. 5.—A well pruned seven-year-old Elberta peach tree pruned by 'thinning out.' Compare with figure 4 before pruning. Note large amount of growth removed. This tree has been pruned for four consecutive years by thinning—no cutting to stubs. (From California Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 386.)

*Treatment of Wounds.*—The productive period of many peach trees is shortened because pruning wounds or other injuries have not been cared for. Wounds dry and check, and decay fungi gain entrance. In a few years decay may have developed in the larger limbs or in the trunk and the tree may split or break in a strong wind or under a heavy load of fruit. This trouble may generally be prevented by promptly dressing the wounds.

<sup>11</sup> Zink, W. L. An orchard brush burner. California Agr. Exp. Sta. Cir. 269:1-12. 1923.