

package, and we get more money for fruit in the larger barrel. If the department of agriculture at Ottawa desires a uniform package for the whole Dominion it should choose the 30-inch barrel."

Mr. J. W. B. Atcliffe, of Westmount,

Que., also favors the 30-inch barrel, although he prefers to ship Fameuse and early apples in boxes. Mr. F. E. Brown, of Mitchell, was the only shipper heard from who expressed a liking for the 28-inch barrel.

Winter Killing of Apple Trees

PROF. H. L. HUTT, ONT. AGRI. COLLEGE,
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I have about 20 acres of apple orchards, planted eight years ago. Last winter the severe weather froze them in the crotches, and I am afraid they will be killed. The Starks, Baldwins and Artics are badly frozen. Some of the Baldwins are dead, and I fear I will lose the other varieties. In some cases I have cut away the dead bark and covered the spots with a solution of resin, tallow, turpentine and methelated spirits, to keep out the sun and rain. I notice the bark peeling off the upper side of the limbs and on the trunks in many instances. Do you think it advisable to trim heavily?—(W. H. Bentley, Prince Edward County.

The past winter has been an exceptionally severe one on nearly all kinds of trees, and it is doubtful if many of the tender varieties will survive the effects of the severe freezing. I find that Baldwin trees have suffered particularly in our experimental orchard at the college, nearly all of this variety having been killed.

LET NATURE HAVE HER WAY.

Probably the only thing that can be done is to allow nature to reassert herself. In cases where the bark shows signs of peeling off it would be well to tack it down or bind it firmly about the trunk and branches to prevent exposure to the sun and air. Where the injury is on the trunk it would be well to encase the trunks of the trees with boards and fill in next the tree with earth. This would keep the bark from peeling and protect the cambium layer from exposure to air.

Where the injury is in the crotches of the trees, it is more difficult to treat. Where possible it would be an advantage to bandage the injured parts with clay plaster, which would keep the parts fresh. In

cases where new growth does not start until quite late in the season, it is doubtful if they will recover sufficiently to stand another winter.

Topping Apple Trees

"I AM in favor of the low topping of apple trees because of the great convenience in picking. When trees are low there is less likelihood of the fruit being injured in cases of windfalls." These views were expressed to *The Horticulturist* recently by Mr. William Rickard, M.L.A., of Newcastle, Ont.

"I have seen trees so trimmed," continued Mr. Rickard, "that pickers had to go up 12 to 15 feet to obtain any apples. In such cases the cost of picking amounts to nearly all the apples are worth. The only objection to low branches in the orchard is the difficulty experienced getting under the limbs for the purpose of cultivation. Trees, I am satisfied, will yield just as well when the branches are low as when they are high. I have had my Greenings so that I could stand on the ground and pick two barrels of apples from a tree.

"As regards the coloring, I find the Spy and red varieties generally will not color as well on low branches as on high ones, and for that reason I would not trim these varieties as low as the others. They may, in ordinary cases, be topped when the trunk is five feet high, which I think is high enough for any tree. I grow my Greenings low down on the ground and find they are not damaged in any way. They do not need the coloring the red varieties do."