

ordinarily. The unusual rising of the sap was a possible explanation of the bursting of the bark. It was significant that trees that were pruned seemed to suffer most from the bursting of the bark, and it must be borne in mind that the pruning started the sap up, and hence the sap accumulated, and the inevitable result would be that when the frost came again the bark would burst. As to the remedy in such a case he really thought it was a mistake to have winters of this kind. (Laughter).

MR. ISAAC SHAW said that he had some experience in regard to this trouble, his first experience being in connection with nursery stock. The trouble took place in stock planted on coarse manure. The inference he drew from his observations was that there was too much sap in the trees. In regard to the orchard referred to by Mr. Parker, he knew that it had been an orchard previously noted for giving good returns. It fell into the hands of a new owner that year, who said that he was going to wake those trees up, and he manured with stable manure. That spring happened to be a dry one, and the trees took to growing, and then the next thing he heard was that everything had "gone up." His conviction was that the trouble was caused by late growing and heavy pruning.

X. Z. CHIPMAN said that he knew of an orchard that for many years had not been pruned, but that on a recent year many of the trees had been pruned very closely, and he had observed that after the next frost the bark on a number of them had burst. He then went to the orchard of a neighbor whose trees had not been pruned, and he had observed that the cracks in the bark were not nearly so bad in that orchard.

G. V. RAND mentioned the case of a very thrifty tree, the bark on which had burst some years ago, which bursting proceeded no doubt from the sap starting, and then a sudden frost coming right afterwards. Trimming a tree too closely would be apt to produce a superabundance of sap, and if a tree were too full of sap the bark would burst.

R. W. STARR said he could not regard any theory on the question as affording a thoroughly satisfactory explanation of the difficulty. He had invariably observed that the most prevalent cases of the bursting of bark occurred on soils that would be the better for draining.