

a larger proportion of the root system with these trees.

Only trees with a well-developed single leader or main-stem should be chosen. Those with two or three leaders will probably develop into crotched trees and have all the weaknesses of that type. However, by careful pruning as the tree develops, the central stem can sometimes be encouraged to become the leader.

A good straight leader like a whip-stalk or fishing pole is what is desired for the ideal street or lawn tree. For planting adjoining walks, where head room is required for pedestrians, a straight stemmed tree from one to one-and-one-half inches in diameter at breast height, and clear of branches for at least seven feet from the ground, will be found most suitable. If the tree is set near a driveway it may be necessary to gradually remove the lower branches as the top develops until there is ample clearance for vehicles. On lawns and other open situations the lower branches may be retained if desired.

One of the commonest mistakes made is in choosing large trees. The smaller the tree the less likely it is to suffer in transplanting. Small trees will often catch up to larger trees in a few years.

#### *On Arrival From Nursery.*

Trees are shipped from the nursery in bales or boxes with their roots packed in wet moss and wrapped in burlap. The stems are surrounded with straw and also wrapped and tied. If they arrive before planting time the roots should be "puddled" and the trees "heeled in." Puddling consists in dipping the roots in a mixture of clay and water about the consistency of ordinary paint. This forms a coating over the roots and aid in preventing them from drying out. The heeling in consists in digging a trench sufficiently deep to contain the roots with moist earth. If protected

from damage by rodents and the elements, they may be heeled in during the fall and left all winter for spring planting.

#### *Taking Up Trees.*

In taking up trees which are growing on the place, as much earth as possible should be removed with the roots. This prevents the roots from drying out. If the trees are to be carried any distance before planting again it is advisable to wrap the ball of earth in canvas or place each tree in a bag and tie in such a manner as to prevent the earth from being shaken off. At no stage in the taking up, transplanting or planting should the roots be allowed to become dry. This is important. The planting should be done as soon as possible after taking up.

#### *Preparing Holes.*

The hole in which the tree is to be planted should be made much broader and deeper than is necessary to accommodate the roots. Before placing in the tree, the hole should be partly filled in with good garden loam or some of the surface soil, which has been removed in the digging, mixed with some well-rotted manure.

The hole is filled in sufficiently deep to bring the tree to the same level at which it stood before being taken up. The tree should not be set deeper than it stood before, neither should earth be banked up about the stem, except possibly in the case of fall planting, when it is advisable to heap it up at least a foot high until the spring. This overcomes the tendency to heave out and to a certain extent affords protection against mice.

If the tree retains a ball of earth about its roots it can then be set in the prepared hole. The remaining space surrounding it is then firmly packed a little at a time with good garden loam until the hole is com-