

thaws out the sap rises and bursts the dry bark. If we had a wet fall and no hot weather after the first frosts, followed by a cold wet spring, trees would do better. A good covering of dry litter will greatly benefit all kinds of trees, not only in winter but in summer too. Of course old established trees and hardy trees do not need such precautions, but all such as are imported and are tender should be protected from the South in the spring to prevent sun-scald. Then there is often a cold snap after the leaves are out followed by dry hot winds at the end of May or early in June. This is a critical time for trees, if their foliage is to amount to anything that season. We can partly make up for nature's deficiency in this respect by spraying an hour before sunset and an hour after sunrise, so long as the sun is not too hot. It is not sufficient to water the roots, as the foliage gets dry and will not draw from the roots. Spraying also, if done at the right time, would, in nine cases out of ten prevent the ravages of insects. Last summer, when the maples all round us were without leaf ours were fresh and green, by spraying with pure water without chemicals of any kind. Of course water without chemicals does not always answer, but in most cases it does, and at any rate prevention is better than cure.

WHAT KIND OF TREES ?

I believe there are many kinds of trees that would do well here with which we have as yet made no experiments, but there are certainly a few kinds that will grow and flourish. The first and best is the elm, but if you want this to be a good shaped tree the knife must not be spared, because its inclination is to grow straight up, and judicious pruning is the secret of making a well-shaped tree. The elm can be easily grown from seeds, but these must be gathered as soon as they are ripe and planted straight away. The second year they should be transplanted and the root pruned, because it is inclined, as all seedlings are, to make a tap root. If a good shaped tree is wanted it should be transplanted every three years till ten years old, or until it is permanently planted.