

well matured. Care should be taken both in storing and maturing not to leave nuts piled so deep that they might heat. While maturing they should be turned over occasionally.

Seed may be stored by putting them on a well drained spot and covering them with leaves or hay over which may be placed a light covering of brush. Storing in a pit, as shown in Fig. 26, is a safe method. Layers of nuts (*a*) six to ten inches deep covered with leaves or small twigs (*b*) and topped off with soil (*c*) three to four inches in depth, provides good storage. A light covering of brush or hay over the pit will prevent washing of the top dressing of soil. A ditch at the side, as in Fig. 26. (*d*), will give drainage. The bottom of the ditch should be well below the general level.



Fig. 27.—Proper and improper methods of attaching wire fence to tree.

Nuts can also be safely stored by stratifying them in sand. Stratifying seed is done by making a layer of sand and then a layer of seed mixed with sand. This may be done in a well-drained trench or in a box. In the case of storing in a box the box should be covered lightly with soil. If left standing unprotected it will dry out and injure the seed.

The preparation of the planting area will be similar to that described in previous pages. Where planting is to be done in sod it will be necessary to cut away a square of sod, as in Fig. 23. Planting the nut is very simple and may be done with a sharp-pointed stick or dibble. With this instrument a hole is made in the planting spot and the nut dropped in. In loose soils the nut can be sufficiently covered by a stamp of the heel. When the soil is heavy it may be necessary