

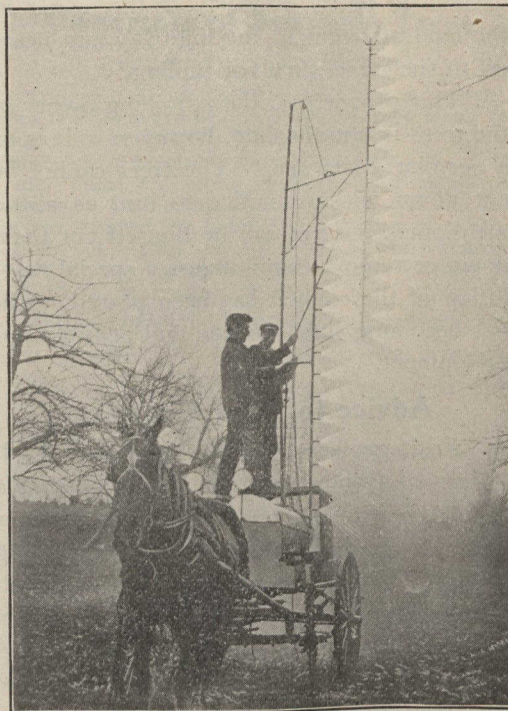
## Planting Fruit Trees

SMITH & REID CO., ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

**T**O beginners in fruit growing a few hints, at this season, on the planting of trees may be of value. There are a number of important points which should be carefully watched. Before the planting is done both the soil and the trees require to be carefully prepared. For fruit trees the soil should be dry—either naturally so or by thorough drainage. It may be well prepared by twice plowing. Manuring is necessary in all cases, except on new land. To insure good growth, the land should be kept in as good condition as for a crop of wheat, corn or potatoes.

### PREPARATION OF THE TREES.

Fruit trees as sent from the nursery vary from five to seven feet in height, with the naked stems or trunks and a number of branches at the top forming a head. These branches should all be cut back to within three or four buds of their base. Cut off smoothly all bruised or broken roots up to the sound wood. In case of older trees prune in proportion. When digging the holes for the trees make them large enough to permit the roots of the tree to spread out in their natural position. When the tree has been pruned, as before directed, let one person hold it in an upright position in the hole while a second shovels in the earth. The finest and best soil from the surface should be placed among the roots, care being taken to bring every root in contact with it. In dry weather, when the hole is nearly filled, a pail of water may be used to wash the earth in around the roots. Guard against planting too deep; after the ground settles trees should stand as they did in the nursery. In dry gravelly ground the hole should be dug twice the usual size in depth and filled in with good loamy soil. If the trees are tall and much exposed to winds,



**Compressed Air Sprayer at work. No. 2.**

A large orchard can be effectively sprayed in a short time by one of these sprayers equipped with a spar as here shown. This spar is adjustable and can be moved when desired, until the upper part is entirely above the lower, thus not duplicating the spray. The gasoline engine, used to load the tanks, is usually kept at the nearest point to the orchard where a good supply of water can be obtained. (See article by Mr. Tweddle on page 188 in this issue.)

tie to a stake in such a manner as to avoid chafing.

### MULCHING.

When the tree is planted place around it as far as the roots extend and a little beyond, five to six inches deep of rough manure or litter. This prevents the ground from baking and cracking and maintains an even temperature about the roots.

After they have been set out the ground should be kept clean and loose around all trees, as a growth of grass will stunt their growth.

I spray the ordinary Bordeaux mixture on plums three times a season and several times on apples with good results.—(W. O. Burgess, Queenston, Ont.)