

planted, this will not be a difficult matter to deal with. If taken in time all the pruning required can be done with the thumb and finger, and this saves cutting off larger branches when the tree gets older. Remove all twigs growing too low, those growing towards the centre, and thin out where too many are growing in the same direction. Do not be afraid of overdoing it, for when the limbs grow larger they are likely to look a great deal closer together. Never cut off large limbs unless absolutely necessary. Cut close, and cover over the wound with wax, paint or varnish. Remove all decayed and dead branches. During August you will see many little suckers grow round where the branch was cut off. Remove these with the thumb and finger.

During the entire spring and summer keep a close lookout for injurious insects. Those most injurious to fruit trees in Nova Scotia are the borer, bark louse, canker worm, codling moth, and apple tree plant louse. The borer is one of the most destructive insects in these parts. I believe more trees die every year from the ravages of the borer than from any other reason. It lays its eggs during June and July round the trunk of the tree. Old grass forms a good protection for the beetle during the winter. The eggs soon hatch, and the young grub bores its way into the trunk of the tree, where it remains for nearly three years, living principally on the sapwood; and if there are five or six in a tree they almost completely girdle it. Prof. Saunders, in his "Insects Injurious to Fruits," strongly recommends alkaline washes as a preventive. Keep the base of every tree free from weeds and trash, and apply a strong solution of soft soap, in which is mixed a little washing soda, to the trunk of every tree during the month of May, and you will probably not be troubled with borers.

The bark louse is also troublesome, especially in old neglected orchards. They can be easily killed by washing the trees with a strong solution of soft soap, to which is added a little kerosene. This is much more effective if applied when the fly is coming out about the first or second week of June.

The canker worm, although numerous in the Annapolis Valley for a number of years, has as yet scarcely made its appearance in the eastern counties. Last year I found a few specimens in an orchard in Pictou County for the first time; but there is no doubt but with the increase in fruit trees its general introduction into the eastern counties