

seedling or sprout sufficiently that the cut tip of the seedling can be inserted under the flaps of bark and the seedling is then shoved upward until it is in the proper position (Fig. 23A). As the stock tends to spring away from the trunk of the tree in most instances it is necessary to secure it to the tree with a small nail or brad. This should be driven in so that the cut surface of the stock and the wood of the tree trunk are held tightly together. The whole is then wrapped with budding tape, raffia or string to help hold it in place and the wound sealed with grafting wax or paraffin (Fig. 23B).

The work will have to be done when the bark will slip and even then more or less difficulty will be experienced in working the bark. If the work is done carefully, however, and the wound thoroughly sealed, it will usually "take" and after several weeks the wraps can be cut but the seal of wax or paraffin should not be disturbed.

Variations of the above method have been employed but in general most of these cause the wood of the stock and the wood of the trunk or limb to be at a sharp angle to each other (Fig. 24) and the results do not seem to be as good as with the above method. Observations indicate that where the stock and trunk are nearly parallel the best results are obtained. This may be the result of a more natural flow of sap in such unions.

ROOTING OF CUTTINGS

Cuttings of most species of citrus can be rooted if suitable propagation equipment is available and care is used in the work. So far, however, no practical application of this fact has been

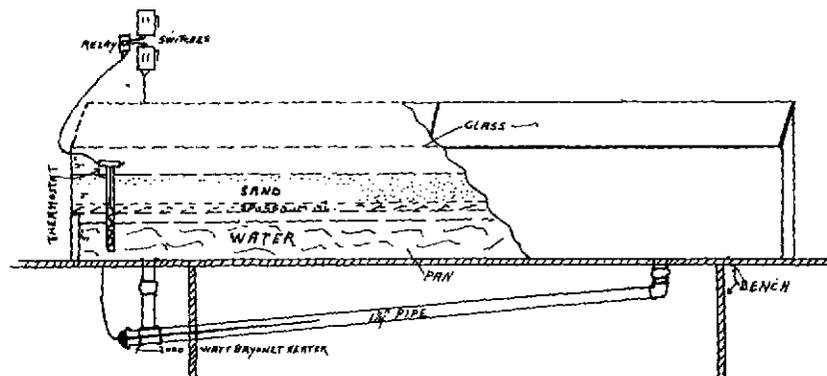


Fig. 27.—Electrically heated cutting bed (See Annual Report of the Florida Agricultural Exp. Sta. for 1928, pp. 57-59).