

# NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

## Boy Scouts at Work on New Task



WASHINGTON.—Boy Scouts of America are doing a piece of real and extremely useful scouting. They are searching for trees that are infested with diseases or insects. This work was started in Pennsylvania, where a disease is destroying thousands of chestnut trees.

The boys have been of great help to the forestry department in detecting this disease and reporting the trees thus affected to the department of forestry.

That work afforded an excellent piece of scouting for boys and the result has been that boy scouts throughout the country have written to James E. West, chief scout executive of the Boy Scouts of America, asking for details about other diseases and insects that affect trees and shrubs.

They wanted something definite to look for in their hikes.

As a result George H. Merrill, one of the secretaries employed by the Boy Scouts of America, is compiling with the aid of Gifford Pinchot, former

United States forester and member of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a chapter for the manual and for the scoutmasters outlining different diseases of the most significant trees.

Boys also are being taught what diseases of the trees and what plants are likely to prove harmful to themselves. This work will train the observation powers of the boys by keeping them alert. They will watch the trees and the shrubs more closely, and through alertness they will appreciate beauty of the trees and of the surroundings, and they will gain many beneficial results from that work.

"Among the most destructive insects," said Merrill, "must be enumerated the bark beetle or scale insects, plant lice, wood borers, codling moth, San Jose scale, tent caterpillars, cutworms, tussockmoths, leaf-mining beetles, gall-forming insects, chalcids, army worms, weevils and locusts. Aside from this army of destruction to forest and orchard tree alike, and to the lesser plants, there are also causes of loss due to such agents as fungus, animals, weather conditions, etc."

"The boy scouts, I think can be of great service in the work of scouting in localities cases of blighted trees or of those badly affected by insects, feeders and parasites."

## Emblem of Church Should Be First

A CHURCH flag is the emblem and standard of God, and to place it above the flag of the United States during religious services aboard a vessel is but little more recognition of God, it was asserted the other day by Dr. E. M. Blackwell of the navy.

"I have noticed that certain parties object to the church pennant being hoisted above the national flag on board ship of the navy during divine services, stating in effect that there is nothing paramount to the national flag," Dr. Blackwell said.

As regards other nations and flags, and other human organizations, I fully agree that there is nothing paramount to the United States or its flag, but there is a Supreme Power or Force that is paramount to everything earthly, and the emblem of that Supreme Power or Force, when hoisted, should be hoisted above every other flag or emblem.

As I understand it, the church flag, whether Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Brahman, Confucian, Mahomedan, or what not, is the emblem and standard of God to that religion and not of the religion itself.

Different nations and peoples have conflicting ideas of God. Some regard Him as a Supreme Being, others as the great Force or Power of the universe or nature; but, however we regard Him, we should recognize Him



as the great immeasurable, overmastering, all powerful, irresistible Force that rules, governs and directs the universe, and should willingly submit to His laws. No matter how grand a personage, or great a nation may be, they have got to succumb to the laws of nature, which are the laws of God.

"Men and nations at various times have arrogated to themselves that they were supreme over earth, and have had their answers by being wiped out of existence, so that there is not a vestige left of them, and in destruction by earthquakes, floods, famines, fire, and pestilence and by the foundering of the Titanic and other marine disasters."

"As a great majority of the people of this American nation acknowledge the Christian faith, and as Christian people practically rule the world, the church pennant is certainly the one we should use as representing that great Being to whom we owe allegiance."

## U. S. Treasury Department Greatest



There is no institution on earth that handles as much money as the treasury department of the United States government. It collects and expends all money authorized to be collected and expended by congress. It advises congress as to the amount of money necessary to run the government for each fiscal year. It mints the coin, prints the paper money as well as the postage and revenue stamps.

Among the other activities of this great department of government is the protection of the people from counterfeiters; the maintenance of vessels to suppress smuggling and to enforce quarantine regulations; to secure life, to conserve the public

health, construct and maintain public buildings over the country, and audit and pay the accounts of all the other departments of the government. It also controls and supervises the national banking system, comprising some 5,000 banks, with a capital of a billion dollars and a surplus of \$700,000,000. In short every financial function of the United States comes in contact with this department.

Since the inauguration of President Washington the treasury portfolio has been held by 44 individuals. Seventeen states have furnished all the men who have presided over the treasury department down to and including the present incumbent. They have come from various sections of the country. Geographically the north Atlantic division of states supplied nearly one-half; 21 came from the states embraced in that division. The north central division of states was represented by 12; the south central by 6 and the south Atlantic by 5. The western division of states, as yet, have not been called upon for a treasurer.

## Illicit Distilling Is on the Increase

MOONSHINING—the act of manufacturing distilled liquors in violation of the internal revenue law—is on the increase all over the country, according to experts of the treasury department. Of course, the department never concerns itself with questions of public policy, and consequently it has nothing to do or say about the increase or decrease of prohibition throughout the United States. Nevertheless, the work of the bureau of internal revenue is immediately concerned with this question of public policy, because it has been found that wherever prohibition laws exist there is also the greatest possible incentive for violations of the internal revenue laws by "moonshiners."

It will be some weeks yet before the report of the work of internal revenue agents with respect to the enforcement of the laws against "moonshining" will be compiled for the last fiscal year, but enough is known to warrant the statement that there has not only been a great increase, but a great spread of that industry in the last fiscal year.

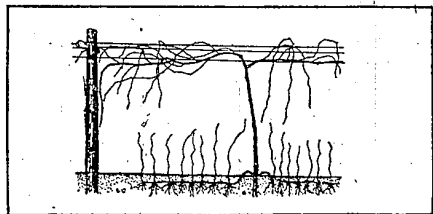


The greatest increase in this illegal business in recent years has been noted in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. While the internal revenue officers have been constantly patrolling the districts where the illicit industry has been known to exist for half a century or more, a backfire has sprung up in the settled districts of those states which has necessitated an increase in the force of inspectors and agents and great diligence and energy all along the line.

Furthermore, the "moonshining" industry has been found to have spread, and particularly some of the larger cities of the north, where the possibility of hiding is excellent.

## PROPAGATION OF THE GRAPE AND PRUNING AND TRAINING

Cuttings Should be Made by Getting in Close Below Bud in Slanting Manner—Thorough Understanding of Names of Various Parts of Vine Is of Great Importance.



A Vine With Two Canes Layered Showing the Method of Propagation by Layers.

By GEORGE C. HUSMANN, Pomologist, United States Department of Agriculture.

For the propagation of grape vines may be prepared at any time after the vines have become dormant. Other things being equal, and if they are afterwards well cared for, the sooner they are prepared after the vines have become dormant the better. The length of the cuttings may vary from 8 to 20 inches, depending on the climatic and other conditions of the locality in which they are to be planted. Usually, the better and drier the climate the longer the cuttings will need to be. They should always be made from young, well matured wood, and preferably from medium sized, short-jointed wood.

To make cuttings, cut close below the lower bud, making the cut somewhat slanting, and leave about an inch of wood above the upper bud or eye. If a small piece of the old wood or a short of buds can be left to form the butt end of the cutting, so much the better. The cuttings should be tied in convenient sized bundles, the buds being turned the same way. The bundles should then be heeled in or buried in trenches, but ends up, and well covered with 3 to 6 inches of soil. Inverting the bundles causes the buds to callus while the tops remain dormant, and the cuttings are ready to throw out roots as soon as planted, whereas, if the bundles are heeled in with the tops up the latter often start to grow before the roots to support them do.

In the spring, when the ground has become warm enough, plant the cuttings in soil made mellow by plowing and cultivating. The planting may be

the cane opposite each shoot. The plants are taken up in the fall or winter, being divided by serving the original cane behind each shoot which, having its own system of roots, becomes a new vine. Canes may be layered either in the fall or in the spring.

When grafting is done near the ground on stocks strong enough to hold the scions firmly no tying is necessary; otherwise they should be tied with raffia. In either case a stake should be driven at the side of the graft to protect it and to provide a support for the young shoots. It is good practice to press a little moist soil over the cut around the junction of the graft and to cover the scion completely with fine dirt, billing it up sufficiently to protect it from drying out.

When vines grafted above ground are not covered with dirt the entire cuts should be waxed to exclude the air. The grafts should be frequently and the suckers removed, and the roots starting from scions that have been grafted on resistant stocks should be cut off.

Bench grafts are also tied with raffia. They may be planted out directly, but bench-grafted cuttings are usually stored or are heeled in upside down in damp, not wet, river sand, moss, or other suitable material, to allow them to callus before planting.

The soil and location best suited, the preparation of the soil the laying out of and just per acre of establishing a vineyard, and the cultivation and fertilization necessary for obtaining the best results are not presented here, as they vary decidedly with differing conditions of soil, climate, etc.

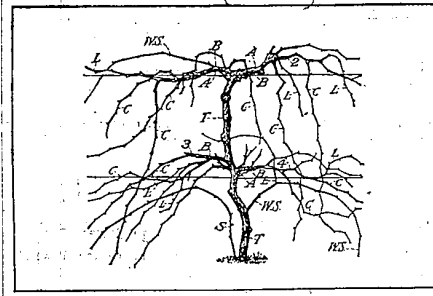


Diagram of a grapevine showing the different parts and illustrating the four-cane system of training; A, Arms or ramifications of the branches, usually of wood two or more years old; B, branches which are of mature wood, being several years old; C, canes, called shoots when green and canes when mature; L, laterals, the secondary shoots of a cane; S, suckers, the shoots starting below the ground from the main body; T, trunk, the stem or main body of the vine; W, S, water sprouts, the shoots which start above the ground from wood older than one year; 1, 2, 3, 4, two-year-old arms.

done in slanting trenches, 3 or 4 feet apart, which can be made with a plow. Deepen the trenches with a spade if necessary. Set the cuttings at such depth that only the upper buds will project above the ground and firm the soil well around them. The cuttings should be spaced 2 to 3 inches apart, the distance between them differing with the varieties, some rooting more readily than others. Keep the soil clean with hoe and cultivator, and stir often during the summer to keep it mellow and moist. Frequent stirring in many localities is better than irrigation.

All varieties of the vine may be propagated by layers. The Rotundifolia vines are nearly always propagated in this manner, but with other species layers are usually reserved to only with varieties which do not root readily from cuttings. In layering choose canes of the last season's growth, preferably those that start near the base of the vine. It is, however, the summer before, to leave on the vine for this purpose some "shoots starting close above ground" and allow them to "grow" as long as possible in the spring (these) cut all the well-developed buds are left. The ground is made mellow, a trench about 2 inches deep is drawn from the vine with the hoe, and the cane is bent down and fastened in it. Each "bud" on the cane will usually produce a shoot, which by this process is made to grow upward. When these shoots are well started the trench should be filled with soil. Each of the shoots then takes root at its base. To assist the roots in starting a slight incision should be made in

and need to be dealt with in a special treatise on the subject.

A clear understanding of the names of the different parts of a vine is necessary before the subject of grape training is considered. The illustration shows a vine, the different parts of which are shown by letters, as follows: T, trunk, the stem or main body of the vine; B, branches, which are of mature wood, being several years old; A, arms or ramifications of the branches, usually of wood two or more years old; C, canes, called shoots when green and canes when mature; L, laterals, the secondary shoots of a cane; S, suckers, the shoots starting below the ground from the main body; W, S, water sprouts, the shoots which start above the ground from wood older than one year; 1, 2, 3, 4, two-year-old arms.

The basal eye or bud, which is not reckoned in counting the eyes on a spur, is near the base of the cane. When more than four eyes of a cane are left in pruning it is generally called a fruiting cane.

Water sprouts and suckers do not ordinarily produce bearing shoots. Below the basal bud on each cane are one or more dormant buds, which grow and produce sterile canes only when too few eyes are left in pruning or when the eyes have been destroyed. At the base of each eye on a cane there are two dormant buds. Sometimes one of these grows the season it is formed, making a lateral from which secondary laterals also may grow.

The first and secondary laterals bear the second and third crops of grapes.

## TEXT WAS NEW TO HEARERS

German's Struggle With the English Language Praiseworthy, but Somewhat Mirth Provoking.

Prize Henry of Rouss, who speaks superb English, laughed good-naturedly at a dinner in New York, over the account of certain officers of the German fleet.

"One of our chaplains," said the prince, "had the hardihood to preach in English at one of your Lutheran churches the other day. He astounded his congregation by saying, as he rose, that he would choose for his text the words:

"And he tore his shirt."

"A quite audible snicker went round. The chaplain noticed it, flushed, and repeated the text in a louder voice:

"And he tore his shirt."

"The snicker became a laugh, and the pastor rose and said:

"Our good brother is quoting, of course, the familiar words:

"And the door is shut."

Why They Went.

The Sunday school teacher entered her classroom, she saw leaving in great haste a little girl and her still smaller brother.

"Why, Mary, you aren't going away?" she exclaimed in surprise.

"Fleetha, in Ah Anne, we've got to go," was the distressed reply. "Daddy 'th thallowed this collection."—Lippincott's.

Job was a patient man, but he never found the cat asleep on the piano just after he had vanished it.

A man seldom generates any steam with the money he burns.



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## PATHOS IN CHILDS' BRAVERY

Fortitude Shown by Little Sufferer in Hospital Touched Lady Henry Somerset.

Lady Henry Somerset, whose labors in behalf of the children of the London slums are constant and earnest, tells this affecting story of the way, in which her interest in these little ones was aroused.

I was moved in that direction by the rare patience and imagination of one little boy. His example convinced me that patience was one of the qualities I needed most, and in seeking it I grew into that work.

I was in a hospital on visiting day, while the doctors were changing a plaster cast which held the crippled boy's limb. The operation was exceedingly painful, I was told. To my surprise, the little sufferer neither stirred nor winced, but made a curious buzzing sound with his mouth. After the doctors left, I said to him: "How could you possibly stand it?" "That's nothing," he answered. "Why, I just made believe that a bee was stinging me. And I tore myself because I was afraid I'd forget about its being a bee if I didn't."—Youth's Companion.

Her Affections Dampened.

A little girl was playing at the table with her cup of water. Her father took the cup from her and in so doing accidentally spilled some of the water on her.

"There," she cried, as she left the table indignantly, "you wet me cake to my feelings."—Everybody's Magazine.

Laying a Foundation.

Little Bobby (the guest)—Mrs. Skimpier, when I heard we were going to have dinner at your house I started right in to make a plan.

Mrs. Skimpier (the hostess)—By saying up your appetite, Bobby?

Little Bobby—No'm, 's eatin' a square meal first.

A woman's mirror is always a peer glass.

Old Michigan's wonderful batter Eats Toasties, 'tis said, once a day,

For he knows they are healthful and wholesome And furnish him strength for the fray.

His rivals have wondered and marvelled To see him so much on the job,

Not knowing his strength and endurance Is due to the corn in TY COBB.

Written by J. F. MAGEE.

One of the 50 magazines for which the Postman Co., Battle Creek, Mich., paid \$100,000 in May.

## WRONG DIAGNOSIS.



Doctor—What is this? Blower—I call it "A Kansas Crock."

Doctor—Oh! Ah! I mistook it for an attack of painter's itch!

Can't Afford To.

Friend—You and your husband seem to be getting on well together just now. I thought you had quarreled.

Wife—Can't do that these days, when our dresses fasten down the back.

Merely a Brother.

Young Lady—Please show me some ties. Clerk—A gentleman's tie?

Young Lady—Oh, no. It's for my brother.

Height of Selfishness.

Some men are so selfish that if they were living in a haunted house they wouldn't be willing to give up the ghost.—Florida Times Union.

Old friends are best, but many a woman doubts herself with the idea that she is too young to have any old friends.