

scuppernon would make an excellent wine. He accordingly made the farmers an offer for all the grapes they could bring in, chose a name for his wine, advertised it widely, and began the manufacture on a considerable scale. The new beverage was an immediate success. It was impossible to supply the demand. Several companies were organized, bought land in the Sandhills, and began the cultivation of the scuppernon vine on a large scale. It was dragged from the obscurity of the swamps and back yards, and given wire trellises to climb upon;

German fruit growers, who first made a success of raising peaches in this country. The San Jose scale had long made peach-raising apparently impossible, although the soil was admirably suited to the trees. Along came a German horticulturalist, and announced that the scale had no terrors whatever for a really scientific man. He proceeded at once to raise peaches in large quantities, and a number of others have followed successfully in his footsteps.

The Sandhills are emphatically a new country. Long ridges covered with pine trees and wire grass, tangled bottom



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and it sold in the market for about twice what California grapes bring. The wine made from it became the most expensive wine except champagne.

The movement toward prohibition has given the scuppernon industry an uneasy feeling, but unless legislated out of existence, it has every promise of a prosperous future.

One other element of strength that went into the making of the Sandhills was the

swamps, where deer and turkey and foxes abound, are still the greater part. But here and there, most unexpectedly, you ride upon vineyards and cotton fields and truck farms. New schools and churches are going up. New sand-clay roads are reaching like red veins all over the country. It's still a country of sand primarily, but the people have some of the sand too, and the human kind is winning out.

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