

The Pothooks and Hangers

By HAROLD SINCLAIRE

ploded. Black despair reigned, but rage gained mastery of his tongue. "I hope you're satisfied," he said thickly. "You've made all kinds of a fool of me—deliberately, too."

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

CO-OPERATE WITH SCOUTS

In connection with the boy scout cooperation in the national observance of Forest Protection week last May, the state forester of Minnesota wrote as follows to the national council:

"I have always been very much interested in the work of the boy scouts and will gladly avail myself of any opportunity to co-operate with this organization. While in the past there has been a certain amount of co-operation between the scouts and the forest service, I think it is possible to greatly increase this. In my opinion, this is one of the best means of educating the public in regard to the conservation of our natural resources. The boy scout of today is the voter and business man of tomorrow, and his actions in the future will be determined largely by the training and education he receives now."

"The forest officers in the state service are all very much interested in boy scouts. In fact, some of our men are scoutmasters and others act in an advisory capacity on matters pertaining to woodcraft and forestry. We frequently give talks to scout troops and meetings of scoutmasters. At our recent rangers' meeting we asked some of the scoutmasters to take an active part in the discussion. This they did, and some very valuable ideas were worked out."

"We are furnishing some 1,500 small trees which are to be planted and taken care of by the boys at their summer camps. These plantations will be in the nature of boy scout forests."

SCOUTS THERE WITH FIRST AID.



When One of Their Troop Meets With an Accident, the Others Know What to Do.

SCOUT PREPAREDNESS.

It certainly pays to be prepared. A scout may work his fingers nearly off on first aid practice and never have a chance to put his skill to real, sure-enough rescue work, but then again—when he least expects it—the opportunity may be his to do a real job of life saving. Here is a case in point. A boy and his little sister were alone in a house. The little girl, running across the room, slipped and falling forward ran her arm through the window pane, severing an artery. What would the average boy do? Run for help? Telephone for the doctor? Well and good. But, in the meantime, a severed artery means terrific loss of blood, and even death unless it is checked instantly. There isn't time for ordinary precautions. It is a case of instant action. Luckily in the instance here cited, the boy was a boy plus, that is, a boy scout and he took charge of the situation himself. He improvised a tourniquet to stop the flow of blood and then sent for the doctor. When the latter arrived he declared that the boy's prompt action undoubtedly saved the child's life.

SCOUT TRAINING SAVES LIFE.

Little Mildred Cannon, a five-year-old youngster, started a little campfire of her own in her back yard. Her clothing caught fire and the child ran screaming toward the house. Her brother Eugene, a fourteen-year-old scout, heard the little one's outcry and rushing to the rescue rolled her in the sand, extinguishing the flames, undoubtedly saving the child from being burned to death. Another incident which goes to prove that a scout really is prepared and doesn't lose his head in time of emergency.

ASK THE SCOUTS.

Two hundred Brooklyn scouts are acting as volunteer police in Prospect park, aiding in the park department's "Save the Parks" drive. Every year our forests are illegally robbed to obtain Christmas trees, half of which are never sold or used. Deputy Forest Supervisor Kirby of Arizona enlisted a scout troop's services last winter in preventing the unlawful and vandalistic cutting of trees in the Croak National forest.

FEDERAL GRADES HELP MARKETING

Organizers of Co-operative Associations Fail to Recognize Value of Standard

HIGHER PRICES ARE SECURED

Florida Growers Pack Cucumbers Through Central Packing House Thus Insuring Uniformity of Product.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Growers of fruits and vegetables are appreciating more and more the benefits possible through organization in marketing their products. It is estimated that there are 14,000 farmers' cooperative buying and selling associations in the United States, of which about 2,000 represent fruit and vegetable interests.

Will Find Bureau Grades Helpful.

Where the association is organized for the purpose of selling, the organizers often lose sight of the fact that some standard must be adopted for marketing their products. Individuals or organizations will find the recommended or proposed grades formulated by the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture, very helpful as a basis for their packs or brands.

One Florida truck growers' association adopted this past season the tentative United States grades for cucumbers as a basis for their "Fancy" and "Choice" packs, marketing them under their leading brand. An investigator of the bureau of markets inspected the association pack and the individual shipper's pack and advised with them when any doubtful points concerning grades were raised. This inspection service gave the bureau of markets an opportunity to determine in the field whether the grades as formulated would be practical, at least under Florida conditions.

The association packed all cucumbers through a central packing shed, each grower's product thus being graded by a disinterested person. This made for uniformity of the product. Every car loaded by the association was approximately 4 to 5 per cent within the grade requirements. Nearly every car inspected outside the central packing house was below grade, ranging 3 to 20 per cent in excess of the 10 per cent tolerance allowed for defective or cull stock.

It is interesting to study the prices received by association members for stock packed under Federal grades through their central packing house and prices received by farmers outside the association. Prices given in the accompanying table are f. o. b. car lots in bushel hampers. No straight cars of No. 3 were loaded on the street because it is customary to include a certain portion of such cucumbers in both the No. 1 and No. 2 grade.

Grades Fixed on Some Products. The Bureau of Markets has officially recommended grades for potatoes, sweet potatoes, strawberries, northern-grown onions, Bermuda onions, and formulated tentative grades for barreled apples, cabbage, peaches, tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, celery, and asparagus. These grades are the result of investigations conducted in the leading fruit and vegetable sections, as well as in primary markets. The adoption of such definite grades by fruit and vegetable shippers, whether individuals or associations, would assist very materially in increasing returns and no doubt tend toward better understanding between shippers and receivers.

NEAT TRICKS IN GARDENING

One of Best Is Laying Board Over Row of Seeds to Start Them and Hold Moisture.

There are a great many little tricks that should be learned and practiced by the gardener. It is not necessary to be a wizard to practice these tricks but just a good, common sense gardener. One of the best of these is the use of a board laid over the row of seeds for a few days after planting to hold the moisture and make the seeds start during dry weather. Another is to flood the furrow with water and allow it to soak into the soil before dropping the seeds, then cover with dry earth. Slightly packing or firming the dry soil over the seeds will help to bring the moisture to the surface and make the seeds grow. Garden tricks are easy to perform—try a few and see the results in the form of fresh vegetables for the table—it means better living.

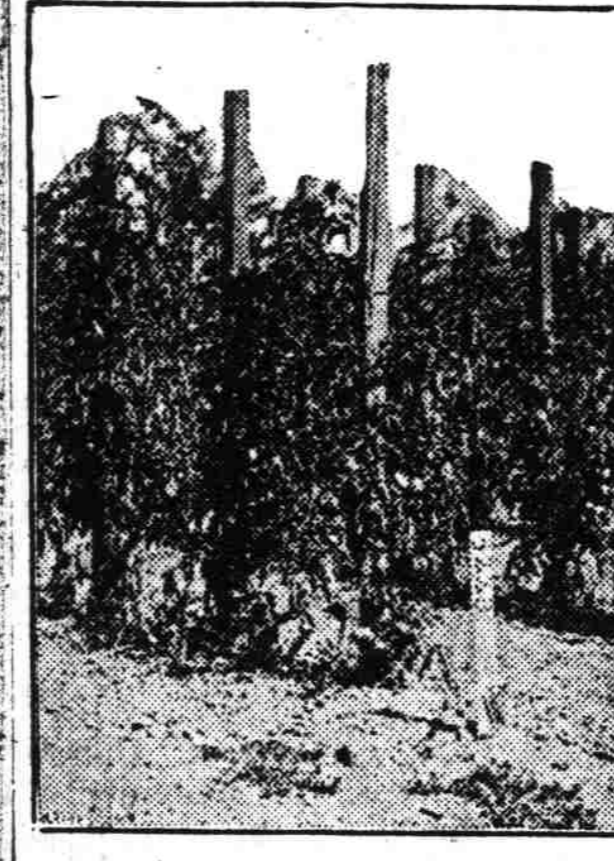
STAKE TOMATOES FOR BEST QUALITY FRUIT

Plants Are Thus Held Off Ground and Kept Clean.

In Pruning Remove All Side Shoots and Suckers, Leaving Only Main Stem—Small Saplings Are Good and Inexpensive.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

It generally pays to stake and prune the tomatoes grown in the small home garden because by this method the fruit is held off the ground and is clean, a larger number of tomato plants can be grown on a given space and the fruit generally ripens earlier than if the plants are allowed to grow in the natural way. In pruning the plants all side shoots and suckers are removed, leaving only the main stem with its leaves and clusters of fruit. It is easy to determine which are the side shoots and which are the young blossom clusters because the shoots appear directly in the little pocket where the leaf joins the stem, while the fruit clusters appear on the naked side of the stem where there is no



Tomato Vines Tied to Stakes Produce Cleaner Fruit Than Those Permitted to Trail on the Ground.

leaf. Pinch out the side shoots, but be careful not to injure the blossom or fruit clusters.

Tomato stakes should be from 4 to 6 feet long and 1 to 1 1/2 inches through at the thickest part. They may be small saplings cut in the woods and sharpened at one end, or they may be split from a log that is free from knots. Sometimes strips of waste material from a sawmill or planing mill, known as edgings, are used. It makes little difference so long as the stakes are strong enough to support the plants and are inexpensive. The stakes should be driven firmly into the ground, one on the north side of each tomato plant, and the plants tied to them once a week during the active growing period with soft cord or narrow strips of muslin. Sometimes the tomato plants will reach the tops of the stakes and then hang over until the tip will touch the ground, clusters of fruits being formed all along the stems.

Twenty-five to 50 tomato plants trained to stakes will supply the average family with all the tomatoes needed for use while fresh, also for canning. It pays to go to some little trouble to have them early, also to stake and prune them so that the quality will be the best.

PLAN SEEDBED FOR ALFALFA

Plenty of Good, Barnyard Manure Should Be Applied if Soil Lacks Humus and Fertility.

If you are planning a five or ten-acre field of alfalfa, and you ought to plan it if you do not already have alfalfa, see that the ground is made ready in good shape. Alfalfa needs a hospitable soil, but it isn't so hard to make a soil pretty fairly hospitable. Apply lime if the soil is acid, and plenty of good barnyard manure if it lacks fertility and humus. Then remember this: You cannot get the seedbed too fine for alfalfa; this crop needs a firm, fine seedbed and to get the very best results, you should see that it gets what it needs.

DISCARD ALL BOARDER HENS

In Small Flock Owner Can Determine by Observation Which Fowls Are Layers.

In any flock some hens will be found to be much better producers than others. Often there are a few hens that are such poor layers that it doesn't pay to keep them. Where the flock is small the owner can determine by observation which hens are merely boarders; and these are the ones to eat.

WAR ON INSECTS

Preventive measures are best against insect enemies. Rotate the crops, avoid introducing insects and diseases, practice frequent cultivation, and employ fertilizers to stimulate plant growth. A vigorously growing garden may produce a crop in spite of injurious insects, but in fighting insects be thorough.

CONDENSED NEWS FROM THE OLD NORTH STATE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

Clinton.—Congressman Ketcham, of Michigan, delivered a strong and timely address at the American Legion picnic here.

Tarboro.—An encampment of local Odd Fellows organized with 28 charter members. The Patriarchal, Golden Rule and Royal Purple degrees were conferred on twenty-five candidates.

Fayetteville.—A ninety-gallon whiskey still was captured about three miles from McNeill's bridge, in the southern part of Cumberland county by Deputy Sheriff Marshall A. McLean.

Hendersonville.—Fully 300 bankers from South Carolina were present at Kanuga lake when the South Carolina Bankers' convention was called to order.

Rockingham.—Approximately seven-eighths of all farmers canvassed to date have signed the five-year contract for selling the cotton crop through the North Carolina Cotton Growers Co-operative association.

Albemarle.—The mutilated body of E. L. Kirke, merchant of Palestine, small town four miles north of Albemarle, was found by railroad employees after it had been run over by the Winston-Salem southbound train.

Winston-Salem.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has accepted an invitation to address the North Carolina Labor Federation at High Point, August 9, it was announced here.

Charlotte.—A camp school for the purpose of teaching cotton grading and stapling opened at Lake Burton in the Blue Ridge mountains, under the auspices of the Charlotte Cotton school, the oldest institution of its kind in the South.

Burlington.—The Southern Hosiery mills, located in the western section of this city has been adjudged in voluntary bankruptcy. The liabilities were \$63,000, while the assets were appraised at \$34,000, including machinery, building and accounts.

High Point.—The shaving bin of the Snow Lumber company here was practically destroyed by fire entailing a loss of several thousand dollars. The origin of the fire has not been determined. The building is said to have been insured.

Lumberton.—Considerable damage was done at the local substation of the Yadkin River Power company during a severe electric storm.

Raleigh.—Willis W. Edwards, one of the oldest citizens of Wake county, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. S. A. Powell, near Fuquay Springs. He was 84 years old.

Salisbury.—Joe Dunham, the five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner E. Dunham, died in a local hospital as a result of injuries received when he was run over by an automobile driven by Mrs. B. W. Means of Concord.

Charlotte.—E. J. Tillman, linotype operator for The Observer and later for The News, who as a former service man is taking treatment at the Presbyterian hospital, is now suffering from paralysis of his lower limbs and is unable to leave his bed.

Greensboro.—About 5,000 people gathered at the fair grounds here to hear W. J. Simmons, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, discuss the past, the present and the future of the organization. About 225 men clothed in the robes of the order marched in the parade.

Hendersonville.—S. Y. Bryson, has resigned as postmaster of Hendersonville. The announcement came as a thunderbolt from a clear sky as local citizens were expecting Mr. Bryson to remain as postmaster for the next two years. He has held the office here for the last seven years.

Cedar Grove.—During nine days of intensive campaigning, Orange county, signed up approximately 52 per cent of her growers for co-operative marketing of tobacco.

Lenoir.—Coupling the Yonahlossee with the Lenoir-Blowing Rock turnpike as a connecting link with the great interstate highway leading from Charlotte to Lincoln, Hickory, Lenoir, connecting with the National highway leading through Johnson City was discussed at a meeting held at the chamber of commerce.

Winston-Salem.—The Women's clubs through the mayor and aldermen have induced local ice manufacturers to reduce the price of their products from 80 to 60 cents per hundred pounds.

Lenoir.—Arthur Alfred, Dewey Post and Paul Rooke were arrested nine miles north of here on the Blowing Rock road on a charge of beating up and seriously injuring Jim Norman, of Concord, and robbing him of \$100 cash and taking his automobile, which is undamaged.