

and will be found most effective, and quite harmless to the tree.

We have not had very much success with washing-soda and water, nor even with caustic soda and water. The latter was applied so strong that it burned the bark and leaves, and yet we find the insects still abundant on those very trees.

Frosted Grape Vines.

55. GRAPES are all gone here. What do you advise in the matter? Leave old canes to throw out fresh shoots or cut them back for fresh canes from the root?—A GODERICH CORRESPONDENT.

The wholesale destruction of the young grape wood by frost such as has happened this year to vineyards in many parts of the country is so unusual that we cannot speak from experience. In our opinion the best plan is to wait until the new growth starts, when it will be plain how much of the vine is destroyed.

Ants in Dooryards.

See Question 50.

56. A writer in *Orchard and Garden* recommends bisulphide of carbon as a reliable remedy, and gives the following method of application as very successful:

"A large horse blanket was saturated with water and placed over as much of the nest as it would cover, a tablespoonful of the bisulphide having first been poured into each of some 20 holes. The blanket was allowed to remain for about 15 minutes and was then removed. A long-handled torch was then made with a rag saturated with kerosene tied at the end of a broom, which was ignited and the vapor at the mouth of several of the orifices was exploded. For the next fifteen minutes successive pops were noticed at the mouths of many of the orifices, at many in fact in which the substance had not been poured, showing that the vapour had thoroughly permeated through the subterranean galleries of the nest. The object of exploding the vapour was to drive it

further through the intricate ramifications of these galleries."

The Kniffen System of Grape Pruning.

57. PLEASE give a short account of the Kniffen system of grape training. This system is referred to in the report of this year, but from some cause, perhaps the want of a diagram, it is not to be easily understood. Whether one or two arms at two and a half feet and at five feet are to be grown does not clearly appear.—T. ALLAN, *London, Ont.*

The Kniffen system is a simple one, and requires less labor than the Ful-

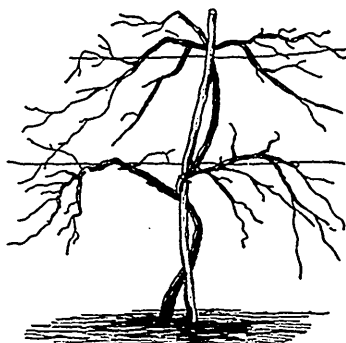


Fig. 54.

ler system of grape pruning, because the young bearing shoots hang down

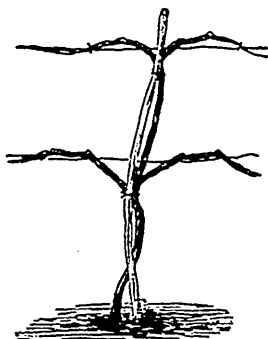


Fig. 55.

and do not require much tying. But it is not adapted to places where vines need laying down in the winter,