

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

the machines out of action; at the exhibition of processes as well as of completed products.

It will carefully plan in the location, the construction and arrangement of all buildings and works so as to assure the highest degree of convenience, ease and comfort for visitors who come to inspect the wonders contained within its enclosure. It will make it both easy and comfortable to get to the Exposition Grounds from every quarter of the city and from every railway terminating in St. Louis. It will in like manner make it easy and comfortable to move about the Exposition Grounds, and to pass from building to building and from point to point within every building of large area. In short it will make the transportation of visitors the subject of special study and spare no expense in the solving of this vital problem, so that the St. Louis World's Fair may go down in history as the first great international exhibition which a visitor could inspect without enduring fatigue and hardship.

Finally, it will embody and illustrate the latest and most advanced progress in the employment of the energies of nature. It will be up-to-date in the use of all new motive forces, and be fully abreast with science in the utilization of every novel invention or discovery that has practical value.

**GOOD STRAWBERRIES.**—Mr. S. F. Powell, of Briar Cliff, N. Y., addressed the New York Horticultural Society at its last meeting on this subject, and among some of the important factors in strawberry growing he gave the following factors in strawberry culture:

First, deep rich soil; second, clean culture; third, selection of suitable varieties; fourth, frequent renewing of the plants.

After touching on the preparation of the soil, the necessity for securing fertilization of the pistillate sorts and a general description of hills versus matted rows, the lecturer proceeded to enumerate varieties.

For early he recommended Johnson's Early, Excelsior, Crescent and Carrie; for mid-season, William Belt, Gibson, Cumberland, Marshall and Brandywine; for late, Parker Earle and Parker Earle Improved, Gandy and Kentucky Seedling.

Johnson's Early was very highly spoken of, and a favorable future predicted. For those who liked an acid flavor, Crescent was certain to be remembered. Marshall was a profitable berry for home use. It was profitable only under a very high culture and would not give anything like adequate return if suffering from the slightest neglect; it preferred a heavy soil. Brandywine was commended for its fine flavor. Parker Earle Improved must be grown in hills; it was such a prolific bearer that it was utterly unsuited for a matted row or half-matted row culture.

But although giving the foregoing list of varieties, it was insisted that no grower could determine what was best suited to his own conditions without trial. Therefore, the strawberry raiser must test varieties until he found what answers his requirements; and it was the opinion of the speaker

that in the future quality would count more and more. Bubach to-day, the most largely grown of all varieties, he placed at the very bottom of the list in point of merit.

For fertilizer—and the strawberry requires an abundance of food—use a mixture comprising 10 per cent. potash, 8 per cent. phosphoric acid and 3 to 5 per cent. ammonia.

The best possible preparation that can be made is that of clover culture. First secure a growth of red clover. The second year cut the first growth, and about August 1 plow the second in. After very thorough tillage, sow twelve pounds of crimson clover seed per acre, which will add another great mass of roots to the soil, the decomposition of which enables it to hold a much greater amount of water.

To obtain the finest berries, the soil must be fully supplied with vegetable matter, and clover not only supplies this, but furnishes the necessary nitrogen at the smallest possible cost.

Samples of medium red and crimson clover were shown and upon their roots the sacs or modules producing nitrogen were pointed out, and the manner in which the soil was improved by them.

The control of the energies of the plant is of vital importance. If allowed to form large quantities of new plants, the yield of fruit will be greatly reduced; hence runners must be frequently cut.



FIG. 2156. PITCHER PLANT.

**PITCHER PLANTS.**—The above photo is a group of trumpets or pitcher plants and fly traps growing by Mr. Walter T. Ross, Secretary of the Picton Horticultural Society. The Venus' Fly Traps are decidedly carnivorous plants, it is very interesting to see them catch flies, and the traps open again in a couple of days ready to catch more. They