

OUTDOOR FLOWERS IN FEBRUARY IN B. C.



FIG. 1321.—A TABLE OF FLOWERS GROWN IN THE OPEN AIR IN B.C.

connection with the opening of these Provincial Buildings at Victoria, on the 10th of February, the Natural History Society undertook the collection, as an object lesson, of such open air spring flowers as were then obtainable. The result was, that a table was arranged in the botanical room of the Department of Agriculture, in which was exhibited

bunches of flower of the following varieties :—

Daphne, wallflower, primrose, violet, laurestinus, polyanthus, crocus, stock, scylla, pansy, snowdrops, anemone, corse, willow, jasmine, Monkshood, or Aconite, Japanese berries, ivy.

Under separate cover I send a photo of the table and a cut of the buildings.

FERTILIZERS FOR STRAWBERRIES.— Nitrate of soda is a valuable fertilizer for strawberries and raspberries, and should be applied with powdered phosphate of lime.

This application to strawberries will sometimes treble the yield. The berries are larger in size, handsomer in color, more solid and finer in flavor. Ordinary manure will not produce such results,

as it is not converted into plant food until after the demand of the fruit.

Nitrate of soda and powdered phosphate of lime are assimilated by the plant at once, and appropriated at a cost of less than ten dollars per acre, using four hundred pounds of the mixture which contains the three ingredients considered necessary to use for feeding plants; nitrogen, phosphoric acid and an alkali.