

stump and soon renew themselves.

"*Lime*. On the Bertrand estate at L'Arba we saw a remarkably large-fruited variety of lime known as 'limoncello di Napoli'. The fruits must be three times as large as our ordinary lime.

"*Fig*. The Verdale variety does excellently in Algeria and is considered a very heavy yielder. There is but one crop but the figs ripen successively from September to December.

"*Celosia*. In the public garden at Oran we saw a beautiful, red-leaved *Celosia* grown as a bedding plant.

"*Saccharum (Erianthus) ravennae*. This grass is very common in wet ground at Biskra and ought to be valuable for ornamental planting, fully as effective in its way as pampas grass. It grows in clumps, is quite tall, and has a large, silvery, purplish panicle.

"Hybrid Origin of Cultivated Plants. - Dr. Trabut says that all cultivated plants, the origin of which he has carefully investigated, are hybrids between more than one natural species, and mentions alfalfa, oats, fig, and pear as illustrations.

"It is not unlikely that Dr. Trabut will visit the United States in the near future with Mr. Brunel, the Director of Agriculture of Algeria. Dr. Trabut, as you know, is a perfect storehouse of botanical and horticultural information, much of which has not been published. For this reason an opportunity to visit Florida and California with him would be one of the most instructive and interesting experiences any one could possibly have.

"I saw M. Jacques de Vilmorin in Paris and asked him in regard to the seed drying machinery which you spoke to me about. He said that the principle had been worked out and they were just starting to have one constructed when the war broke out, since which time nothing further had been done about it. M. de Vilmorin was mobilized and, after seeing some active service, was detailed to the Ministry of Agriculture, where, I understand, he has been placed in charge of emergency seed work.

"Very sincerely yours,"

(Signed) T. H. Kearney.