

Frechman brought plants from Chili. These were crossed with the native sorts and with the Virginian strawberry introduced into Europe early in the previous century. By this crossing, plants were developed which combined large size with delicate flavor.

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TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

"THE STORY OF BAKELITE" by John Kimberley Mumford. New York, Robert L. Stittson Co., 461 Eighth Avenue.

This is advertising literature at its best, artistic, interesting, instructive, and authentic. A good book to get for the laboratory library for it tells all about a type of artificial resins that have come into common use and yet may not be mentioned in the textbook.

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AMERICA'S CHEMICAL CENTER

What place in America is famous for its petroleum refining? Not Texas or California, famous for oil, but New York City and its environs. A survey by the Committee on Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs shows that the output of refineries in the vicinity of New York represents one-fifth of the petroleum wealth of the entire country. It was also found that a region containing one-tenth of the population of the country is producing one-fifth of the chemical output of the United States. The chemical industry is centered in New York. Yet Manhattan and Brooklyn, New York proper, is rapidly becoming an odorless city, the chemical industry is deserting that part of New York for the open country and cheaper land.

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NATURE'S CROSSES

Many may be shocked to learn that President Roosevelt used to wear a cross on his watch chain. It was in one of those lucky stones which are often plowed up in the fields or found on the surface of the ground after a rain storm in some parts of Virginia and Georgia. These stones are in reality double crystals of the mineral staurolite, a somewhat uncommon silicate, that are so placed with respect to each other that their prominent edges form a true cross. These crystalline crosses are just one of the mysteries of Nature's laboratory.

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The appetites of hogs and cattle do not grow less as they grow older but ability to put on flesh does decrease.

There are practically no negro children in Mississippi who are blind as the results of preventable infection at birth, the surprising results of a recent health survey show.