ance of plant food, but it is not available for the use of the plants because of the mechanical condition of the soil. Humus is the remedy in all such cases.—Western Fruit-Grower.

BURNING OVER THE OLD STRAWBERRY BED FOR A SECOND YEAR'S FRUITING.

[R. M. Kellogg in Western Fruit-Grower.]

Occasionally there are complaints of injuring the plants by the burning, but we have burned them for sixteen years and always with gratifying results. When the mulch is heavy we need not put any on the plants, as the flames will do the work perfectly, but a light covering directly on the plants will not injure them in the least, unless a long and severe drought intervenes. As soon as the burning is done put on all the fine rotted manure you can and cultivate it in. Nothing holds the water in the lower soil so much as a large amount of vegetable matter mixed with the immediate surface soil. It lessens the frequency of cultivation and mechanically stimulates growth because a hard crust cannot form and the air can readily pass to the roots where the living organisms are busily preparing the plants' foods.

You will bear in mind that next year's crop depends on generous treatment of the plants during the coming months. If they are protected from fungi and insects they will in a measure recover from the exhaustive effort of perfecting their fruit and make every preparation for heavy work next season.

Fee simple, and a simple fee,
And all the fees in tale
Are nothing when compared to thee,
Thou best of fees—female.—Home Journal.