

Mr. J. Burt Davy, who has sent in many valuable things from South Africa, submits for trial the seeds of what he believes is a new annual hay grass for wettish lands in the maize belt of the South, especially for alluvial deposits where water is apt to stand during rains. Animals, he reports, are extremely fond of this *Panicum laevifolium* (No. 42608).

The so-called algaroba of Hawaii, introduced by padres into the islands, has been such a valuable forage tree that the Philippine aroma, *Prosopis vitaliana* (No. 42807), which resembles and has until recently been confused with it, merits attention. It is quite distinct, however, having no sweet arillus in the pod; and since it spreads along the sandy coast region and up on the hillsides and is relished by stock it deserves to be naturalized throughout the Tropics.

The importance of vegetable oils has been emphasized by the war, and it is evident that Americans have paid too little attention to the South American wild palms, from the kernels of which excellent oils are obtainable. The Corozo palm, *Elaeis melanococca* (No. 43001), according to Curran, yields an excellent cooking oil and is found in immense numbers on the flooded areas of Colombia, while the cultivation of the Cohune palm, *Attalea cohune* (No. 42707), according to Consul Dyer, of Honduras, is capable of being developed into an important industry there.

Dr. L. Trabut, our collaborator, who has made so many valuable suggestions that we listen to him with unusual interest, proposes *Saccharum biflorum* (No. 42551), a grass of great size much used in Algeria as a screen and in Sicily and on the banks of the Nile as a sand binder, for trial in our Southwestern States.

Besides the strictly economic plants, this inventory includes several striking new ornamentals. S. P. I. Nos. 42435 to 42443 show a collection of tree and shrub seeds from Dr. Fischer de Waldheim and include a rare Turkestan maple, the oriental beech, a Turkestan mountain cherry, a mountain almond, and the most decorative of all the tamarisks. S. P. I. No. 42597, *Cornus capitata*, from the Himalayas, has bracts that are sulphur yellow instead of white in color, like our dogwoods, and bears fruits 2 inches long and fleshy like a strawberry. What might be done in the hybridization of our eastern and western species with this Himalayan dogwood!

*Actinidia arguta* is such an indispensable porch vine and its foliage is so universally free from disease that the larger leaved *A. callosa henryi* (No. 42683) from central China deserves to be tried in comparison.

M. Vilmorin's new hybrid clematis (No. 42688), a result of crossings between Wilson's *Clematis montana rubens*, one of the loveliest of all climbers but tender, and *C. chrysecoma*, is said to be more vigorous and branching than the former, and it may be hardier.