

# INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRO- DUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1917 (NO. 53; NOS. 45221 TO 45704).

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This inventory covers the period from October to December, inclusive, 1917. During this time Agricultural Explorer Frank N. Meyer was on his last trip, exploring the upper Yangtze River around Ichang, and Agricultural Explorer Wilson Popenoe was in the Vera Paz region of Guatemala (fig. 1). The collections of these two men form a substantial addition to the new plants of this country.

Mr. Meyer found about 40 varieties of citrus fruits in the region around Ichang; of these he sent in some interesting varieties of mandarins and pummelos (Nos. 45311 to 45315) and a large-fruited Wampi (*Clauцена lansium*, No. 45328), which is closely related to Citrus but has small pubescent fruits. As yet this fruit is practically unknown in America, although a great favorite with the Chinese. Mr. Meyer's suggestion that the large ocher-yellow flowered *Lycoris aurea* and the carmine-red flowered species *L. radiata*, together with its yellow variety, ought to thrive throughout the South is worth emphasizing. He found these in great abundance in Hupeh Province (Nos. 45525 to 45528). The Ichang lemon (No. 45534) he thinks may be distinctly hardier than the common lemon, and the rare Chinese horse-chestnut (*Aesculus wilsonii*, No. 45532), which has narrower leaves than the common species grown by us, is now well established in America through the seeds which Mr. Meyer procured.

It seems probable that few of the introductions by Mr. Meyer will be of greater value than some of his cultivated varieties of that blight-resistant species of pear (*Pyrus calleryana*, No. 45586) which he calls the domestic crab-apple pear and which he found in many varieties near Kingmen, Hupeh. The pioneer work of Dr. Reimer has brought this species of pear to the foreground because of its peculiar resistance to blight, and some of these cultivated sorts bid fair to become of great value for stocks upon which to work the