

tropical horticulturists as a hitherto entirely neglected tropical fruit tree. From the valley of the Rio Polochic he sends in seeds of a handsome flowering shrub (*Pogonopus speciosus*, No. 45360) with brilliant scarlet bracts suggestive of the poinsettia; and from the vicinity of San Cristobal a wild grape (No. 45361) with fair-sized berries, which he thinks is the largest fruited grape he has yet seen in the Tropics and should be capable of development by selection.

Six of Mr. Popenoe's selected avocados are described in this inventory, including the Akbal (No. 45505), which he considers, on account of its earliness, one of his promising sorts, the Manik (No. 45560), Kaguah (No. 45561), Ishim (No. 45562), Kanan (No. 45563), and Chabil (No. 45564). Under No. 45506 he describes the fruit of a species of *Malpighia* called the *azerola*, which may be hardier than its relative, the Barbados cherry, and if so would be well worth distributing as a dooryard shrub in southern California and even in southern Texas.

The possibility of a terrestrial orchid which would produce a good flower for use in the house is emphasized by Mr. Popenoe in his introduction, from an altitude of 4,000 feet, of the *Sobralia macrantha* (No. 45547), which grows there to a height of 4 feet and has a large showy flower. His "ilama," a species of *Annona* (*A. diversifolia*, No. 45548), which appears to be adapted to the lower levels of the tropical coastal plain, can not fail to be of interest to tropical horticulturists, for it has fruits as fine in flavor as the cherimoya and will thrive on the coastal plain where the cherimoya refuses to grow. Dr. Safford has named after Mr. Popenoe a new species of *Dahlia* (No. 45578), which in his opinion is in all probability the ancestor of the cactus dahlia and to which the breeders may have to turn to rejuvenate their stock of this wonderful flowering plant.

With the introduction of the large-fruited tropical hawthorn (No. 45575), which Mr. Popenoe found growing in the mountains of Guatemala and which is used for the production of a distinctive and delicate preserve by the people there, we now have in this country the material for the breeding of new types of hawthorns, which should be adapted to a wide range of conditions. Our numerous native species, the Chinese *Crataegus pinnatifida* with its large-fruited strains, and this Guatemalan tropical species, *C. stipulosa*, should attract some one to the problem.

The remarkable breeding work of Dr. Walter Van Fleet is well known to the rosarians, but his activities in other fields are less well known. This inventory gives descriptions of selections and hybrids (Nos. 45330 to 45342) which he has produced by the breeding of the chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*), the Chinese chestnut (*C. mollissima*), the American chestnut (*C. dentata*), and the Japanese species (*C.*