

the beauty of its fruits is so great that some enthusiast ought to devote his spare time for a score of years to its dissemination.

The neem tree of India (*Azadirachta indica*; No. 46573), which Mr. Lane sends, is related to the Chinaberry tree, but bears dark-purple fruits. It should interest foresters if it grows anything like as fast as its relative, for its wood is reported to resemble mahogany. Its fruits furnish a medicinal oil and its sap is made into a cooling drink.

The New Zealand rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*; No. 46575), seeds of which Mr. Wright sends from Auckland, must be a most striking conifer, resembling, it would seem, a drooping yew, with beautiful red-cupped berries.

Nos. 46576 to 46586 describe eleven named varieties of oriental pears (*Pyrus* spp.) which were personally selected by Prof. F. C. Reimer, the pear expert of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, during his recent exploration of eastern Asia. Should pear-blight ever stop the profitable culture of the European pear in America, these oriental varieties and the hybrids between them and the European forms would probably take their place. They are, therefore, of great interest and deserve the widest trial over the country.

The botanical determinations of seeds introduced have been made and the nomenclature determined by Mr. H. C. Skeels, while the descriptive and botanical notes have been arranged by Mr. G. P. Van Eseltine, who has had general supervision of this inventory. The manuscript has been prepared by Miss Esther A. Celander.

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,
Washington, D. C., September 26, 1921.