

saved by Mr. Rock. This tree, which is related to the cotton plant, had become almost extinct—was reduced to a single tree, in fact—but now its progeny, a single tree on Mr. C. C. Conradt's place at Pukoo in Molokai, has borne its first crop, consisting of five seeds. Two of these have been sent to us (No. 47223). To have prevented a tree of such possibilities from becoming extinct may win us more praise from succeeding generations than now seems probable.

It seems almost incredible that no tropical horticulturist has made a real collection anywhere of the anonas for the purpose of their improvement by hybridization. The abo (*Annona senegalensis*, No. 47214), with dark-red flesh, would make possible most remarkable color combinations should some one take up in earnest a study of this fascinating group.

Mr. Benjamin Hunnicutt, of Lavras, Brazil, is convinced of the forage value of the "capim gordura roxa," or molasses grass (*Melinis minutiflora*, No. 47162), and has sent in a quantity of seed. At Lake Alfred, Fla., Mr. John Morley, who has a 2-acre patch of it on which he keeps two dairy cows, finds that if cows are put on the young grass they quickly learn to like it, whereas if the grass is allowed to get coarse they refuse to touch it, perhaps because of its heavy nature.

The brilliancy and grace of the Chorizemas (Nos. 47186 and 47187) as potted plants should make them much better known. They are West Australian shrubs with brilliant orange-red pea-shaped flowers.

A Formosan fir (*Abies mariesii kawakamii*, No. 47198), from the Arnold Arboretum, which grows to 80 feet in height—one of the rarest of the silver firs—and a spruce (*Picea morrisonicola*, No. 47199) from the same interesting region will find their way into our Southern States.

Dr. A. H. Graves, of New Haven, has located a number of chestnut trees (Nos. 47330-47348) which are not dying out but growing well in the area infested by the bark disease. The circumstantial evidence is strong that they have descended from disease-resistant ancestors, and as such may have in them the possibilities of being closely interbred to form a resistant race of the American chestnut.

"Konyaku" (*Amorphophallus konjac*, No. 47226) is an interesting aroid which furnishes a peculiar starch used, as Mr. Swingle discovers, by the manufacturers of aeroplanes and also as a food in Japan. It is grown in the shade of orange trees there and should be tried as a source of starch in America.

Nuts from five selected African oil-palm seedlings (*Elaeis guineensis*, Nos. 47304-47308), coming from Dr. P. J. S. Cramer, of the Buitenzorg Plant-Breeding Station, show that selection is going to mean as much in this important tropical crop as it has in the grains and fruits of the temperate zone.