

Joseph F. Rock, a contributor to these inventories for several years and at one time a collaborator of the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction while collecting in India, in this inventory begins to describe his first collections made as an agricultural explorer of the United States Department of Agriculture. His first expedition to Siam and Burma was made for the special purpose of procuring authentic living material of those species of forest trees from the seeds of which is obtained the chaulmoogra oil used in the cure of leprosy. In connection with his main object he picked up a number of new and valuable plants, which are described in this inventory. The goa bean, *Botor tetragonoloba* (No. 51765), cultivated in the Malay Peninsula, he declares is a delicious vegetable, better than green string beans, and since it has fruited in Brooksville, Fla., it deserves study by truck growers in the South. *Coleus rotundifolius* (No. 51768), a species of mint, he reports is grown for its tubers in the Malay Peninsula. It will produce tubers from cuttings in five months, but when planted as tubers refuses to produce new ones the first year. *Flacourtia rukam* (No. 51772), from Bangkok, he finds is a handsome new fruiting tree, producing fruits the size of a large cherry. *Mangifera odorata* (No. 51774), with very strong-smelling fruits, which he found at Bangkok, may furnish a better stock for the mango than the mango seedlings themselves. *Artocarpus champeden* (No. 51804), related to the jack fruit, according to Mr. Rock is preferred to it by the Malays. The Siamese chaulmoogra tree is specifically *Hydnocarpus anthelminthica* (No. 51773.)

From the Belgian Kongo, Father Vanderyst sends in a native legume, *Sphenostylis stenocarpa* (No. 51365), which forms edible tubers and is cultivated by the natives of German East Africa. These tubers have a flavor similar to that of potatoes, according to Doctor Zimmermann, the botanist who was stationed for years on Mount Kilimanjaro.

*Populus charkowiensis* (No. 51381), said to be one of the fastest growing of all poplars and a hybrid between the pyramidal poplar and the black poplar, has been procured from Orleans, France.

Fresh cassava roots as a starchy vegetable are beginning to make their appearance in southern Florida, but as yet their use is too little appreciated. The cassava is an enormous food producer and has the advantage over corn that its roots store themselves, so to speak, in the soil and do not need to be gathered at any definite time. Mr. Krauss has shown how certain Hawaiian varieties, *Manihot esculenta* (Nos. 51358 and 51359), respond remarkably to fertilizers and can be made to yield as much as 10 tons an acre.

The tulda bamboo has been so successful wherever it has grown in central Florida that another Bengal species, *Bambos balcooa* (No. 51361), said to be taller even and stouter than the tulda, should have an unusual interest to the growing group of people who are cultivating bamboos.

A tropical plum, *Prunus bokhariensis* (No. 51743), from the United Provinces of India, which, according to Mr. Rockey, who sends it, is a sweet-fruited variety, might have great value for the Southern States.

From Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, Mr. Allen sends in *Andropogon bombycinus* (No. 51792), a species which grows in drifting sands and will endure much heat and drought.