summer temperature. A large series of promising types was obtained from the cool highlands of Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, and Peru (*Zea mays*, Nos. 59934 to 60167).

As in the past, many valuable introductions have been made through the courtesy of the numerous foreign correspondents of the office. Dr. N. I. Vavilov, director of the Bureau of Applied Botany and Plant Breeding, Leningrad, Russia, has sent in a large collection of seeds (Nos. 60744 to 60956) of native grasses and other forage plants and local strains of cereals, vegetables, and fiber plants. Since these come from regions where extreme conditions of cold and drought prevail, the collection should be of special value for the Great Plains area of the United States.

The shipment of seeds (Nos. 60335 to 60352) presented by Professor Murashinsky, of the Siberian Agricultural Academy, Omsk, Siberia, also promises to be of special interest for trial in the Great Plains area.

The 150 soy-bean samples from China and Japan will be of special interest to soy-bean specialists and others interested in this crop. When it is considered that the soy bean is a comparatively new crop in the United States, that new and better varieties have been displacing older varieties in rapid succession, and that this is due directly to new introductions or indirectly to selections from former introductions, the possibilities of the present collection are readily realized. Of the 34 leading commercial varieties of the United States, 27 are either direct introductions or selections from introductions. In 35 out of 38 States growing soy beans, introduced varieties lead all others in acreage and production.

Included in this inventory are several introductions of Meibomia, Sesban, and Crotalaria; these will be particularly interesting for testing in the Southern States for soil improvement and forage purposes. The recent favorable results in Florida with *Crotalaria striata* and the general satisfactory adaptation of species of Meibomia to the Southern States make these genera worthy of further attention.

New grasses of special interest are *Axonopus scoparius* (No. 58966), collected at Guayaquil, Ecuador, which is cultivated not only in that region but also in other parts of the high Andes; *Danthonia semiannularis* (No. 59361), the wallaby grass of Tasmania, where it provides good pasturage; and *Brachypodium mexicanum* (No. 59295), an annual Mexican grass with succulent leaves, which may prove of value in the southern United States.

The botanical determinations of introductions have been made and the nomenclature determined by H. C. Skeels, and the descriptive matter has been prepared under the direction of Paul Russell, who has had general supervision of this inventory.

ROLAND MCKEE,
Acting Senior Agricultural Explorer in Charge.

OFFICE OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTION,
Washington, D. C., June 9, 1926.