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PLANT MATERIAL INTRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTION, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1926 (F. P. I. NOS. 65708 TO 66698)

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

NEARLY a thousand introductions are included in the present inventory, representing practically all classes of economic plants and drawn from nearly every corner of the globe.

From the cold region of Manchuria in northeastern China quantities of interesting plant material have continued to come in as the result of agricultural explorations of that Province by P. H. Dorsett. As in the preceding inventory, this material includes locally developed types of practically all of the well-known fruits, vegetables, and cereals, and should be of unusual value to crop specialists and plant breeders in the northernmost parts of the United States.

In the subtropical Province of Kwangtung, southeastern China, F. A. McClure has continued his explorations. Among his collections are seeds of *Eremochloa ophiuroides* (No. 65839), a deep-green, medium coarse, low-growing grass considered to be the best lawn grass for that region. It becomes 3 to 4 inches high, has smooth soft blades, and propagates easily by runners. Previous introductions of this grass have done well in the Gulf coast area and promise well for pasture and lawn purposes. Further introductions are for the purposes of getting a more hardy strain which will continue green throughout the winter period and thus afford a better lawn grass, and also to get more vigorous strains for use in pasture lands.

Material of two local varieties of the Chinese hairy chestnut (*Castanea mollissima*, Nos. 65805 and 65806) was also obtained by Mr. McClure; these will be of special interest for the use of plant breeders who are attempting to find blight-resistant chestnut strains for the United States. Other chestnut introductions included in this inventory will also be of interest for the same reason. Four samples of *Castanea* were sent in from Nanking, China—*C. henryi* (Nos. 65715 and 66036), *C. mollissima* (No. 66037), and *C. seguinii* (No. 66038).

Seeds of an evergreen chinquapin (*Castanopsis hystrix*, No. 65759) were presented by the Lloyd Botanic Garden, Darjiling, India. This is a tall tree with small nuts. Its chief value is as a timber tree for subtropical regions.

Forage-crop specialists will be interested in a number of introductions from Morocco and the Canary Islands which were sent in by David Fairchild during his visits to those countries. Four local strains of vetch (*Vicia sativa*, Nos. 66016 to 66019) were collected in different parts of Morocco. From the same country a number of grasses were obtained, including *Avena barbata* and *A. sterilis* (Nos. 66004 and 66005), *Hyparrhenia hirta* (No. 66008), and *Triticum ovatum* (No. 66015). *Calopogonium mucunoides* (No. 66085), which is being used successfully

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