

*Ananas sativus* Schult. f. (Bromeliaceae.) 43070. from Lawnton, Queensland, Australia. Presented by Mr. Reginald W. Peters, Director, Queensland Acclimatisation Society. "A seedling pineapple we raised and have named *Commonwealth*. It is distinct, of fair size and very tender, with almost entire absence of stalk or core. It is sweet and perhaps lacking a little in sub-acidity but a fruit most consumers would enjoy." (Leslie Gordon Corrie.)

*Astrocaryum* sp. (Phoenicaceae.) 43058. Seeds from Tierras de Loba, Bolivar, Colombia. Collected by Mr. H. M. Curran. "*Palma estera*. Common palm of the forest. Seeds with an edible coating and probably yields a commercial oil. Plants with huge ornamental fronds, twenty feet or more in length, glossy green above, glossy or silvery white beneath. Entire plant covered with sharp black spines. This palm has practically no stem. Suitable only for planting in moist localities or greenhouses." (Curran.)

*Bertholletia nobilis* Miers. (Lecythidaceae.) 43114. Fruits and seed from Para, Brazil. Secured through Mr. George H. Pickerell, American Consul. "*Brazil-nut* or *Para-nut*. A tall handsome tree, with oblong wavy leaves, which are 14 to 16 inches long and about 3 inches broad, native of Guiana, Venezuela and Brazil. In its native home, especially on the banks of the Amazon and Orinoco, the tree attains a height of over 100 feet. The tree has been introduced at Paradeniya in 1880, and notwithstanding the indifferent ground chosen for it when first planted out, appears to find here a congenial home. It is now about 60 feet high and produces at the top each year, in the dry season, large erect racemes of white flowers, followed a few months later by a number of large brown fruits, which hang on the tree for some months after ripening. Ridley records similar success with the tree at Singapore, where it was introduced in 1881. Each fruit is from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, with a hard brown woody shell which has to be sawed or broken up with an axe in order to obtain the nuts (seeds). In the interior, closely packed, are from 10 to 12 large angular seeds with a brown horny testa; these are the *Brazil nuts* of commerce, which form an important article of export from their native country, being largely used for dessert in Europe, America, etc. The tree may be propagated by seed or gootee (layering), and