

where it may serve very well for hedges or wind-breaks, as well as for holding terraces, or as barriers against erosion. Even on desert lands that are too broken for irrigation it might prove worth while to plant belts of *Olneya* across the washes, to hold back and spread the flood waters. More moisture would be absorbed by the soil, and more vegetation could grow, in addition to the forage that the *Olneya* itself would afford. (Adapted from Journal of Heredity, vol. 10, p. 321.)

Pachira fastuosa (Bombacaceae), 51204. From Santiago de las Vegas, Cuba. Presented by Sr. Gonzalo M. Fortun, director, Agricultural Experiment Station. Seedlings of a handsome tropical tree native to Mexico. The flowers in their size and color are both exceptional and attractive, as they measure about a foot in diameter; the strap-shaped petals are white, and the large brushlike cluster of stamens crimson and yellow. The foliage is not unlike that of the horsechestnut, but it is more leathery in texture. (Adapted from Gardeners' Chronicle, vol. 54, p. 325.)

Passiflora mollissima (Passifloraceae), 51205. From Guayaquil, Ecuador. Seeds presented by Mr. James Birch Rorer, Asociacion de Agricultores del Ecuador. "Seeds of a fruit which is grown in the valleys of the Sierra and which is commonly called 'tasco.' The flavor of the fruit is somewhat like that of currants. A very delicious sherbet or ice cream can be made from it, and also a fine drink or 'refresco.'" (Rorer.)

Phoenix reclinata (Phoenicaceae), 51451. **Palm.** From East African Protectorate, Africa. Seeds collected by Dr. H. L. Shantz, agricultural explorer. "(No. 1002. Near Meru, Kenia Province, Kenia.) A most attractive palm, growing in canyons near Meru."

A hardy ornamental palm, not very tall but often reclining. The sweet coating of the drupaceous fruit is edible. This palm is distributed throughout tropical Africa. (Adapted from Mueller, Select Extra-Tropical Plants, p. 259.)

Rubus sp. (Rosaceae), 51354. From Bogota, Colombia. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, agricultural explorer. "No. 438a. Seeds of a wild blackberry, which is excellent though the fruit is rather small. It is found on the mountain slopes at altitudes of