

Aconitum fischeri (Ranunculaceae), 51745. From Edinburgh, Scotland. Seeds presented by Dr. Isaac Bayley Balfour, director, Royal Botanic Garden. As a garden plant this is one of the best, and well worth growing in any collection of hardy plants. The growth reaches 4 to 6 feet, terminated by a fine panicle of large showy pale-blue flowers. It is an autumn-flowering species from Siberia and Kamchatka.

Medicinally, this plant is known as Japanese aconite, and is imported quite largely into Europe and frequently finds its way into the United States. The Japanese aconite contains as its active constituent an alkaloid called japaconitine, which is now generally believed to be identical with aconitine (the alkaloid in *A. napellus*). (Adapted from Flora and Sylva, vol. 1, p. 214; and National Standard Dispensatory, p. 98 and 101.)

Aconitum variegatum (Ranunculaceae), 51474. **Monkshood.** From Edinburgh, Scotland. Seeds presented by Dr. Isaac Bayley Balfour, director, Royal Botanic Garden. A large plant reaching 1.5m. in height, found in certain humid forests of the Swiss Alps and bearing from July to September beautiful blue flowers often streaked with white. The upper sepal is the shape of a helmet and at least twice as tall as wide. At the base of each flower stalk the plant usually bears 2 or 3 adventitious roots swollen into tubercles. The tubers are smaller than those of *A. napellus* (the officinal variety of aconite), but closely resemble small specimens of it. (Adapted from Bonnier, Flore Complète Illustrée en Couleurs de France, Suisse, et Belgique, vol. 1, p. 39.)

Befaria phillyreaefolia (Ericaceae), 51786. From Bogota, Colombia: Seeds collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, agricultural explorer. "No. 488a. From the mountains near Sibate, Cundinamarca, at an altitude of about 9,000 feet. A bushy shrub about 5 feet high, with handsome tubular flowers, deep rose-pink, and about 1 inch in length." (Popenoe.)

Berberis quinduensis (Berberidaceae), 51795. **Barberry.** From Bogota, Colombia. Seeds collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, agricultural explorer. "No. 500a. 'Tachuelo,' from El Penon, near Sibate, Cundinamarca, at an altitude of 9,300 feet. An arborescent shrub or small tree, 20 feet high, with small, stiff, spiny, holly-