

globose berries, the size of a carbine bullet, are borne on pendulous, purplish-red spadix branches. The trunk is much used for making posts. Native to borders of paddy swamps in Malacca, and in forests in Laineer. (Adapted from Calcutta Journal of Natural History, vol. 5, p. 465.)

*Saussurea lappa* (Asteraceae), 51852. From Rawalpindi, Punjab, India. Seeds presented by Mr. R. R. Stewart. The aromatic root of this tall perennial, native to Kashmir, at altitudes of 8,000 to 12,000 feet, is of medicinal value. The annual export has been as much as one thousand tons, a large portion used for incense, also as an insecticide, keeping moths from cloth. The leaves are also used for a similar purpose. (Adapted from Mueller, Select Extra-Tropical Plants, p. 492.)

#### Field Notes from Agricultural Explorers.

The following excerpts are from letters of J. F. Rock:  
Kuala Lumpur, Federated Malay States.  
September 26, 1920.

"Today I went into the jungle called the Kanching forest reserve at Ulu Selangor, about 20 miles from here. The forest there is mainly Borneo camphor (*Dryobalanops aromatica*). This seems the flowering season here, and most of the trees, of which there are many species, were all in flower. The slightest breeze brought down a shower of the white fragrant corollas resembling a snowfall. It was wonderful. Back of the agricultural department there is a stand of the *Dryobalanops* which is now 23 years old and the average height is 66 feet, - some are 100 feet in height; beneath them there is a solid stand of seedlings, all volunteers. The wood is very highly prized and I think it is one of the finest forest trees owing to its rapid reproduction. When I come here in December there will be many seeds and I shall be enabled to bring many with me."

"Today I saw my first King cobra (wild), a huge beast, only about 15 feet away from me; it disappeared rapidly under *Dipterocarp* leaves with which the ground was littered. I walked somewhat carefully after that. Two weeks ago a tiger was seen there and also a black panther, but we saw nothing today except that huge snake."

Bangkok, Siam.  
October 5, 1920.

"That forest at Kanching is the most glorious I have ever seen, it is of course not a pure stand of