



KAÁ HÊ-É, THE "SWEET HERB" OF PARAGUAY.

(*Stevia rebaudiana* Bertoni; S. P. I. No. 53918.)

The leaves of this plant contain a glucosid whose sweetening power is 150 to 200 times that of cane sugar. It is claimed in Paraguay that the leaves may be used for sweetening in the natural state, drying and grinding only being required, or they may be soaked in water and the liquor used for sweetening preserves. It has been suggested that kaá hê-é may prove valuable as a sweetening material which can safely be used by persons suffering from diabètes. The plant is propagated readily by means of cuttings and grows rapidly. Eight hundred young plants, ready for distribution to experimenters, are shown above in a propagating frame at the Plant Introduction Garden, Bell, Md. (Photographed by Wilson Popenoe, August 27, 1923; P35032FS.)