

A Shipment of Seeds from Eastern Siberia.

During the summer of 1923 Dr. T. D. A. Cockerell, of the University of Colorado, made a trip to the southeastern part of Siberia. While his principal object was the collection of fossils, a large number of seeds of agricultural crop plants were obtained from the vicinity of Vladivostok, through the Maritime Provincial Agricultural Bureau, for the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction.

Southeastern Siberia is a region in which long, severe winters and short hot summers have given rise to varieties of crop plants especially adapted to trying conditions. It is likely, therefore, that many plants from this region will prove of value in those parts of the United States where similar conditions obtain, such as the Northern Great Plains Area and the more elevated regions where early and late frosts, cold and drying winds in winter and spring, together with hot days and cold nights in summer, make the climate a very trying one for nearly all cultivated crops.

Included in this collection of seeds sent in by Dr. Cockerell are nearly forty varieties of oats, more than twenty varieties each of rye, proso, and buckwheat, fifteen varieties each of wheat, corn, flax, and soybeans, besides seeds of beets, cabbages, onions, tomatoes, peas, and beans. Most of these are local strains with distinct possibilities.