

1966

EHRHARTA ERECTA (Poaceae), 58572. From South Yarra, Victoria. Seeds presented by William Laidlow, government botanist, National Herbarium of Victoria. "'Panic Veldt grass.'" This was first introduced into Victoria in 1910 from South Africa, where it is native. It is a biennial or short-lived perennial, and appears to be naturally adapted to regions having mild winters, where it springs up after the autumn rains and grows through the winter, maturing in early summer. It is not particular as to soil and seems to do best in partial shade, growing in places too dark for most grasses. It produces an abundance of foliage." (Laidlow.)

KOKIA DRYNARIOIDES (Malvaceae), 58574. From Honolulu, Hawaii. Fruits presented by C. S. Judd, Superintendent of Forestry. This interesting tree, closely related to the cotton plant, is native to the Hawaiian Islands, where it has become practically extinct in recent years. In forwarding this seed, Mr. Judd writes: "So far as I know, there is now only one tree of this species in existence. It is growing at Kauluawai and was raised from seeds obtained from the last wild tree at Mohana, now dead, discovered and described by J. F. Rock." It should be added that a young specimen is growing lustily in the Plant Introduction Garden at Miami, Florida. It is now about ten feet high.

In his paper on "The Hawaiian Genus *Kokia*" (Botanical Bulletin No. 5, Board of Agriculture and Forestry, Honolulu) Mr. Rock states that *Kokia drynarioides* was first discovered by Nelson, companion of the great circumnavigator Captain Cook. The plant has long-stemmed, heart-shaped leaves and bright-red flowers of silky texture. It reaches 15 to 25 feet in height with a trunk 6 inches or more in thickness. It was originally described as a species of *Gossypium*, so close is its relationship to that genus, and it has been termed "Molokai Red cotton" in Hawaii.

It has been suggested that the species may be of value to plant-breeders for crossing with the cultivated cottons, and for this reason, as well as the fact that it is an attractive ornamental plant, efforts have been made to prevent it from disappearing altogether. Unless some unforeseen accident should occur to the mature plant in Hawaii from which Mr. Judd sends these seeds, it should be possible, within a few years, to have many specimens in cultivation.

LILIUM sp. (Liliaceae), 58595. Lily. From Yunnan, China. Seeds collected by J. F. Rock, Collaborator of the Bureau of Plant Industry. "(October, 1923.) A small lily 10 to 12 inches high which grows on the alpine meadows of the Sila Pass, Mekong-Salwin Divide, at an altitude of about 12,000 feet. It is well worthy of cultivation on account of its drooping, rich purplish black, bell-shaped flowers tinged with carmine, which are 1 or 2 inches long and broad." (Rock.)