

The material available is very limited and must be handled with great care to insure its establishment and utilization for seed production, breeding work, and other purposes. One of the first problems will be to determine the susceptibility or non-susceptibility of these new introductions to blight. This will require careful experimental work extending over several years.

Mr. Rock began collecting chestnuts in August, 1922, and continued through the months of September, October, November, and December of that year. He also collected one lot in the autumn of 1923. All the nuts were carefully packed but were subjected to a long and hazardous journey lasting from five weeks to two and a half months. Owing to the danger of introducing new crop pests, the nuts were further subjected to a severe trial through certain treatments it was found necessary to give them on their arrival. The 24 numbers secured by Mr. Rock probably represent six different species, four being *Castaneas* or chestnuts, and two *Castanopsis*. Eleven of the lots introduced are now growing but have not advanced beyond the small seedling stage. The following notes on them are submitted:

55984. *CASTANEA* sp. The nuts of this chestnut were collected in September, 1922, and received in Washington November 21, 1922. The trees were found wild in the valleys of the Haitung Range at an altitude of about 8,000 feet. The nuts are of large size, being about twice as large as our native American chestnut. According to Mr. Rock, the nuts are sweet and of a delicious flavor. This chestnut appears to be related to *C. mollissima*, or hairy chestnut, found in eastern China and which has been introduced several times. This chestnut is one of the most promising Chinese types. It is resistant to blight and furnishes a good edible nut. The tree begins to bear early and lends itself well to orchard culture. The seedlings from Mr. Rock's introduction appear hardy as far north as Washington, D. C.

56081. *CASTANEA* sp. Seeds collected in September, 1922, and received December 6, 1922. The tree, according to Mr. Rock, grows to a height of 50 feet and has a straight trunk 1 to 2½ feet in diameter. The nuts were collected at an altitude of 8,200 feet. The tree is said to be healthy. The nuts are sweet and delicious and are larger than the usual run of Mr. Rock's *Castaneas*. They are about two-thirds the size of our native American chestnut but shaped something like large kidney beans.

56130. *CASTANEA* sp. This chestnut was collected in the vicinity of Tengyueh, Yunnan, in October, 1922, and received in Washington in December, 1922. It is a small nut, resembling somewhat our native chinquapin. We have no data as to the size and character of the trees. The leaves of our seedlings are 3 to 4 inches long, light green above and silvery gray below. The edges of the leaves are smooth, apex long and narrowly tapering.