

established, if it is cut down, it immediately springs into life again, but does not sucker as the growth comes from the trunk. It seems absolutely healthy and resistant. It is a tree much prized to grow near the home of the colonist or estanciero of the plains of Argentina." (Wing.) For distribution later.

*PISTACIA INTEGERRIMA.* (Anacardiaceae.) 31725. Seeds of zebra wood from Lahore, India. Procured by Mr. R. S. Woglum, of this department from Mr. W. R. Mustoe, Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens, Lahore. "This is the famous zebra wood of Kakra, India, which grows to be a tree 40 feet or more high, with a trunk in diameter from two and one half to three feet, or even as much as four and three quarters feet. It grows on the warm slopes of the Himalaya Mountains in northern India, usually at an altitude of from 1200 to 8000 feet. The wood is very hard and close grained, brown in color, and beautifully mottled with yellow and dark veins, whence the name, 'zebra wood'." (Swingle.) For distribution later.

*RHUS VERNICIFERA.* (Anacardiaceae.) 31639. Seeds of the lacquer tree from Japan. Presented by Mr. Thomas Sammons, American consul general, who procured them from Mr. Matsunosuke Yamaguchi, Nagano, Japan. "A slender-branched tree with winged leaves, attaining a height of 20 feet. It is common throughout Japan, and is cultivated for its sap, which flows from its stem and branches on being wounded. It is first cream-colored, but on exposure to the air soon turns black, and is the varnish which the Japanese use for lacquering their furniture or ornamental articles." (Smith, Dictionary of popular names of economic plants, p. 426.) "The varnish or lacquer is valuable because of its great hardness without brittleness or becoming cracked; its high lustre and mirror-like surface which remains untarnished for centuries; its resistance to the agencies which attack resinous varnishes as it is not injured by boiling water, hot ashes, hot alcoholic liquors, acids, etc." (J. J. Rein, Industries of Japan.) "Unlike ordinary paints which dry because of oxidizing properties of the oil in them, this Japanese lacquer dries better in moist than in dry air as the result of a supposed enzyme which acts upon an albuminoid in the presence of a vegetable acid and a gum. The industry is one well worthy the serious consideration of paint manufacturers." (Fairchild.) Experimenters with this tree should remember that the volatile sap causes a painful eruption on the skin of certain persons similar to that caused by our common *Rhus* species known as poison ivy, though probably more intense even than the latter. For distribution later.

*ROSA* SPP. (Rosaceae.) 31692-695. Seeds of wild roses from near Ghapsagai and Bogh-dalak, Mongolia. Among these are one