

sation Society. "A very handsome climber, native of the more tropical regions of Queensland. The outer bark of the plant is used by the natives for stupefying fish. The green bark is tied in small bundles, weighted with a stone and dropped into holes where fish abound, the fish immediately becoming affected and rising to the surface where they are easily caught." (Soutter.) For distribution later.

GAULTHERIA SPP. (Ericaceae.) 34718-719. Seeds from Wellington, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. G. J. Clapham, Public Works Department. "The Gaultherias are the most attractive of the native New Zealand heaths with tiny white bell-shaped flowers." (Blackwell and Laing, Plants of New Zealand.) For distribution later.

JATROPHA CURCAS. (Euphorbiaceae.) 34714. Seeds from Tampico, Mexico. Presented by Mr. Thomas H. Bevan, American Vice-Consul in Charge. "A shrub about the size of a hazel nut bush, with a trunk from six inches to a foot in diameter. Its production is most prolific, the limbs often breaking off from the weight of the nuts. The nuts when first taken from the husks have a dark brown luster, which becomes opaque after being exposed to the air for a few days. When first taken from the tree they have a taste not at all unlike that of the fresh chestnut. They are said to contain about fifty percent of oil, which can be extracted and used for cooking, the same as cotton seed oil. These nuts can be seen growing in the yards of nearly all the Mexican houses in the outskirts of Tampico. The Mexicans prefer them to peanuts maintaining that their flavor is much more delicate. Along the narrow strip of land between the Tuxpam canal and the Gulf of Mexico in the State of Veracruz, they grow wild by the millions, and apparently thrive better in their native state growing in the sand dunes, than in the rich land in the valley of the Panuco." (Bevan.) Various botanists have described the oil as resembling that of the castor bean in its action so that due care should be taken in eating the seeds of this plant. For distribution later.

METROSIDEROS TOMENTOSA. (Myrtaceae.) 34715. Seeds of the pohutukawa from Wellington, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. G. J. Clapham, Public Works Department. "This handsome tree, sometimes 70 feet in height with spreading branches and brilliant scarlet flowers in large terminal cymes rarely grows far from the sea or an inland lake. It finds a foothold in all sorts of impossible looking places. Often it clings to the side of a cliff, and puts forth long twisted roots that attach it to the rocky wall. Specimens may frequently be found hang-