

48657 to 48688—Continued.

In the temperate zone, to which it is best suited, the nettle tree does well in any exposure and in any soil. Its different ways of propagation allow the grower to choose the method of planting which is best adapted to the local conditions and to the soil. The tree does well in soils where other trees grow only with difficulty and helps to cover rocky and arid ground. When grown on the pollarding system or in groups of coppice shoots, it supplies material for the manufacture of many agricultural implements. Each part of the tree is of value and supplies useful material; thus, the wood, by reason of its hardness, fine grain, delicate color, elasticity, and resistance, is excellent for turning or cabinetmaking; the leaves are valuable as fodder for animals, especially in seasons and districts in which there is a shortage of green fodder; cattle and goats willingly eat the young leaves which, when fresh, contain 6.30 per cent of nitrogenous substances, 0.15 per cent of fat, and 19.69 per cent of carbohydrates. Nearly every year the nettle tree gives an abundant crop of stone fruit very rich in sugar (39.40 per cent when completely ripe), which makes a very useful feedstuff for live stock, especially in districts where it is not possible to include sugar in the rations. The kernel contains 67.10 per cent of fat, that is to say, 7.02 per cent of that of the whole fruit. When ground the stones yield about 10 per cent of fat, but, if the kernels are separated from the woody part, this may amount to 60 per cent. In this case cakes containing about 12 per cent of protein, 12.4 per cent of fat, and 48.5 per cent of nitrogen-free extract are obtained. The oil extracted may be used for various purposes.

The nettle tree should be preferred to all other trees for replanting woods, and offers means of rapidly covering bare ground with plant growth. The speedy and large remuneration promised by its products may serve as an attraction to private landowners who wish to help in the regeneration of Italian forests. (Adapted from *Annali della Regia Scuola Superiore di Agricoltura in Portici, 2d ser., vol. 13, p. 1.*)

48663. *CELTIS TALA* Gillies. Ulmaceæ.

Tala. On the coast of the Atlantic and in the district of Tuyu immense thickets of *tala* exist. It is a tree with a short, stout, branched trunk. The wood is yellowish white and smooth; it is used for posts and firewood. (Adapted from *Venturi and Lillo, Contribucion al Conocimiento de los Arboles de la Argentina, p. 102.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 42285.

48664. *CISSUS SICYOIDES* L. Vitaceæ.

(*Vitis sicyoides* Miquel.)

The leaves of this vine are cooked with taros and castor oil and used as a poultice for abscesses. (Adapted from *Sack, Plantaardige Voortbrengselen van Suriname, p. 42.*)

48665. *CISTUS CANDIDISSIMUS* Dun. Cistaceæ.

A beautiful rapid-growing evergreen shrub, with silvery-white leaves and short-lived, pale rose-colored flowers, from the Canary Islands. It is an ideal rockery plant. (Adapted from *Flora and Sylva, vol. 2, p. 44.*)

48666. *CISTUS LADANIFERUS* L. Cistaceæ.

The gum cistus is the finest of the genus and one of the best and hardiest of small shrubs. It is a handsome, bushy evergreen, from 4 to