making this study possible and to Miss Jean Smith for assistance with illustrations. The author is sincerely grateful for the assistance received in Jamaica and Trinidad.

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The 'Tambulilid' Dwarf Coconut

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The widespread devastation of coconuts in the Bicol region (Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon) of the Philippine Islands due to the mysterious disease called *cadang-cadang* has stirred interest among coconut farmers to plant a dwarf variety of coconut known as 'Tambulilid'. This variety is believed to be resistant to the destructive *cadang-cadang* disease. A number of coconut growers have planted this variety in place of the varieties attacked by the disease.

The dwarf coconut fruits early. Palms about 15 feet high bear many fruits that nearly touch the ground. When planted in good soil, the young palms start to flower in their third to fourth year. They produce ripe fruits in about ten months time from the appearance of the inflorescence. A fully grown leaf measures up to ten feet long. Nuts are quite large with a sizeable amount of fiber; the shell and white kernel are fairly thick. Trunks measure 18 inches or more in circumference. The meat or endosperm is said to be richer in oil and sweeter than that of the ordinary coconut which makes it very popular.

According to information given by a grower, the original tree from which present plantations originated comes from San Miguel Islands in Tabacco, Albay Province on the island of Luzon. It is now about thirty years old.

From observations and evidence of

64. The 'Tambulilid' dwarf coconut growing in the Philippines. Photograph by Juan V. Pancho.

local growers it would appear that this dwarf coconut is a variation from the tall or common palm. This is probably due to some change in hereditary units which takes place perhaps very rarely. No experiments involving the genetics of the dwarf variety have been conducted. However, it is assumed that the dwarf palm is a recessive mutant with only a single factor involved.

Like all coconuts, the dwarf variety 'Tambulilid' appears hardy. It grows well in sandy loam soil. Well-drained alluvial soil also makes palms grow fast and mature early.

Botanical Explorations of Liberty Hyde Bailey*

2. THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS AND BERMUDA

MARY H. MOON

The story of Liberty Hyde Bailey's travels and collections in the American tropics is basically an account of his studies of the palms. These studies were the result of his dipping into a plant group new to him merely to satisfy a curiosity, only to find the state of knowledge so incomplete as to be misleading. Student and scholar that he was, he would not turn from it with a shrug of indifference. After all, he had included the palms in his encyclopedias,

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