culent, alternate, bifoliate leaves, with rounded leaflets 2 to 3 cm long; bright, salmon-colored flowers usually borne singly in the axils of the leaves; and green, five-angled, ribbed pods which vary from slender to rather stout, and from 3 to 8 cm in length. The stem, which sometimes grows to a height of five decimeters, is single at the collar with numerous branches above. The plant comes up each year from a tough, crooked, light brown perennial root that is about 1 cm in diameter. The root grows horizontally at a depth of from 10 to 15 cm below the surface, and sometimes extends several meters in the same direction, giving rise to shoots at irregular intervals. More than half of the cross-section area of the root is storage cortex.

In so far as is known, this field is the first and only place in Colorado where the Syrian bean-caper has become established. It has not been found to be troublesome in New Mexico and is even useful there. According to those who have watched this infestation of *Z. fabago* in Colorado, plowing alone has little effect upon it, alfalfa does not smother it out, and yet it does not seem to spread rapidly. The bean-caper has been controlled in this location by lifting the roots from plowed ground with a pitchfork, which exposes the roots and shoots to desiccation that eventually results in death. The roots apparently do not extend to any great depth in this one known infestation in Colorado where the soil is open and rather light. The enormous root system, however, looks dangerous, and gives reason to fear that if the plant becomes as abundant in heavier tilled soils as have Russian knapweed (*Centaurea picris*) and perennial peppergrass (*Lepidium draba*), it would be an equally persistent and noxious pest.

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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL RULES FOR BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

Article 36. Substitute for the present text the following:

Descriptions of new groups should be in a language generally understood by the scientific botanists of the world.

Note: Any person who has had sufficient botanical training and experience to qualify him to describe new genera and species of plants must be familiar with at least one of the more generally known languages.

Article 39—Recommendation XVIII ter.

In selecting the nomenclatorial type or standard species of the genera of non-vascular cryptogams to choose species that will fix the generic names as they are now commonly applied.

Example 1. Hypoxylon Fr. Summa Veg. Scand. 383–4. Fries first used the name for a genus to include 25 species now distributed in Ustulina, Anthostoma, Nummularia, Daldinia, Sordaria, etc. To take the first species, *H. ustulatum*, as type would displace the name Ustulina, and most of the other species which are now known as Hypoxylon would require another generic name. If, however, *H. coccineum*, species No. 11 in Fries' list, a well-known and widely distributed species, be taken as the type or standard species, the name Hypoxylon would be retained in its present general application and the nomenclature stabilized.

Example 2. The genus Valsa, Fr. Summa Veg. Scand. 410 contains 44 species representing several different genera. The first species *V. sorbi* is now known as Eutypella. By selecting *V. ceratophora* Tul. (*V. decorticans* Fr.) the name Valsa is retained in its present general application and many nomenclatorial changes are avoided.

Note: Numerous cases of this kind might be cited among the fungi. Following the above recommendation would largely obviate the need of a lengthy list of *nomina conservanda.*

A permanent nomenclatorial committee should be appointed to decide disputed questions regarding the choice of generic names and their types.

The writer will be pleased to receive notes of approval or otherwise from botanists.

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QUOTATIONS

THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON

ANDREW CARNEGIE was one of the first to appreciate the benefit that science could derive from being competently organized and directed. Although he never applied true research in his own mills and set up only testing laboratories, he knew what leadership had accomplished in his own enterprises. Laboratory research in pure science before his day had been conducted by gifted individual professors, and by 1900 they were complaining that they had become specialists who could not follow one another's work. What an enormous impetus science would receive if they could work together!

Thus was conceived the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which now celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary. The six hundred volumes published by the institution, all devoted to research, testify to the clarity of Carnegie's vision and to the brilliant competence of Gilman, Woodward and Merriam as administrative presidents.