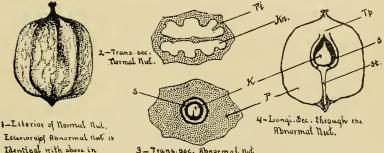
AN ABNORMALITY IN THE NUT OF HICORIA OVATA (MILL) BRITTON.

BY JOHN S. WRIGHT.

The abnormal hickory nut figured and described here was one of a lot purchased in the market. In all outward appearances it was normal, the peculiarities were noted in cracking it. Fig. 2, a transverse section of a normal nut, shows the relative proportion of shell and seed. Fig. 3, transverse section of the abnormal fruit, shows the cavity one-celled and greatly reduced by the thickened walls (P). Figs. 3 and 4 show the interior filled with a nut somewhat like that of the hazel; (s) the walls hard and shell-like, and (K) the kernel, folded as indicated by the convolution on one side. The kernel had a bland, oily taste, faintly resembling that of the hazel nut. At the apex the tissues of the shell of this smaller nut appear to be continuous with those of the outer shell (Tp). The inner nut had a pedicel, indicated (st) in the figure. In cracking, this pedicel separated from the body of the small nut along a definite line. The shaft of this pedicel reached through the thick outer shell and readily separated from the surrounding tissues.

In view of the fact that the hickory nut is not extensively cultivated and apparently has not been observed hybridizing to any extent, or otherwise modified by breeding, the occurrence of this deviation from the type is deemed worthy of notice.



3 - Trans. sec. Abnormal that.

appearance.