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The Chinese and Japanese Crabapples (*Malus*) are now in full bloom. There are two collections of these plants in the Arboretum. The oldest is on the left-hand side of Forest Hills Road; the other is at the eastern base of Peter's Hill. The plants in the second, or supplementary, collection are smaller than those in the first collection, but the Peter's Hill collection contains a larger number of species and varieties.

The best known of the eastern Asiatic Crabs is *Malus floribunda*. This is one of the handsomest and most satisfactory of all flowering trees for this climate. It blooms every year without fail, it grows to a large size in good soil and abundant space, and as it reaches maturity it assumes a picturesque habit. The bright pink flower-buds are very beautiful and the masses of small flowers which completely cover the branches are at first pink and then gradually become white. A seedling variety or hybrid of this tree which originated in the Arboretum has been called *Malus Arnoldiana*. This plant promises to remain a smaller tree than *Malus floribunda* but its long spreading and arching branches are very graceful and the flowers produced on long stems are more than twice as large as those of its parent. The flowers of this interesting tree are considered by some persons more beautiful than those of any other Crab-apple. Two Japanese species deserve attention; they are *Malus zumi*, a slender tree from the elevated region of central Japan, and *Malus Sargentii*, a low wide bush discovered a few years ago on the borders of a salt marsh in the northern island. The shrubby habit, unlike that of the other species of *Malus*, makes this an excellent plant for small gardens. The other Japanese species, *Malus toringo*, which grows also in northern China, is the last of the Asiatic species to flower and will not be in bloom for several days. Very beautiful now is the so-called Parkman Crab, *Malus Halliana*, with semi-double bright pink flowers hanging gracefully on long slender stems. This Chinese plant was introduced into the United States from Japan nearly fifty years ago by the late Gordon Dexter of Boston, and first flowered here in the gardens of Francis Parkman. Very beautiful, too, are *Malus spectabilis*, with pyramidal habit and semi-double flowers, and the variety or hybrid raised from it in Europe, *Malus Scheideckeri*. There are in the collection several plants with pure white flowers which are believed to be hybrids between *Malus prunifolia*, a tree which is unknown except in gardens, and the Manchurian *Malus baccata*. In brightness of color the red flowers of *Malus atrosanguinea* are not surpassed. This plant has the habit of *Malus floribunda* and is believed to be a hybrid from it. Several individuals of this will be found in the Peter's Hill collection.

Malus Niedzwetzkyana, from Russian Turkestan, is remarkable in the red color of the flowers, branches, leaves and fruit. This is probably only a variety of the common Apple, for among a number of seedlings raised at the Arboretum more have green than red leaves. The American Crabapples, with the exception of *Malus fusca*, from the northwest coast, and a hybrid of this species, *Malus Dawsoniana*, will not be in bloom for another week.

The Lilacs should be at their best by the end of the week. The earliest in the collection, the white-flowered *Syringa affinis*, is already in bloom. This slender shrub with fragrant flowers is a favorite ornament of the gardens of Peking. Nearly as early is another north China Lilac, *Syringa oblata*, with large pale purple, fragrant flowers. The broad, thick, leathery leaves of this shrub, unlike those of other Lilacs, turn deep bronze red in the autumn. Nearly as early to flower as these two Chinese species is *Syringa hyacinthiflora*, a hybrid between *Syringa oblata* and the Common Lilac. This hybrid grows to a large size, and the small, blue-purple double flowers are very fragrant. It is interesting as one of the early hybrids in this genus. More beautiful and in every way a more useful garden plant is another hybrid, *Syringa chinensis*, raised many years ago in France. The name is unfortunate for its parents are *Syringa vulgaris*, now known to be a native of the Balkan Peninsula, and Persian Lilac. The flowers of this hybrid are produced in long clusters which are so heavy that they become semi-pendant on the slender branches. There are varieties with rose-colored and with pale nearly white flowers. Another Chinese species, *Syringa pubescens*, will soon be in bloom. This has small leaves, and small, long-tubed pale purple flowers which are produced profusely in small clusters. The value of this plant is in the delicate perfume of the flowers. The collection of the Common Lilacs has been much enlarged and now contains nearly all the principal varieties, although some of the plants are still too small to flower.

Many of the Bush Honeysuckles (*Lonicera*) are coming into bloom. Large plants of some of the best of these will be found on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road opposite the Lilacs; and in the Shrub Collection there is a large number of species, varieties and hybrids. All the varieties of the Tartarian Honeysuckle and many of the hybrids raised from it are hardy, desirable garden plants, with small, handsome flowers followed by showy fruits which ripen in early summer. One of the most interesting of the rare Honeysuckles now in bloom in the Arboretum is *Lonicera syringantha* var. *Wolfii* from western China with small clusters of purple fragrant flowers.

Many of the Currants and Gooseberries (*Ribes*) are now in bloom in the Shrub Collection and in the supplementary collection of these plants in the border opposite the Administration Building. Perhaps the handsomest of these in bloom this week is the white-flowered *Ribes niveum* from northwestern North America.

The *Fothergillas* are in bloom. These are plants from the southeastern United States of the Witch Hazel Family, and of the four species which are known three are established in the Arboretum. They all produce at the end of the branches as the leaves unfold small clusters of white flowers. A good plant of the largest of the species, *Fothergilla major*, may be seen in the Witch Hazel Group near the small pond at the junction of the Meadow and Bussey Hill Roads; and on Azalea Path are individuals of the other species.

On Azalea Path the red-flowered *Rhododendron (Azalea) Kaempferi* is opening its flowers. There are masses of this plant on both sides of the lower end of this Path and also between the Hemlocks and the Laurels at the northern base of Hemlock Hill. The shade and coolness of this last position suits this inhabitant of the high mountains of Japan, and it flowers here later than on Azalea Path and the flowers remain longer in good condition. When these flowers open in front of the dark background of Hemlocks, one of the most beautiful floral shows of the Arboretum season may be seen.

The Arboretum will be grateful for any publicity given these Bulletins.