The New Chinese Lilacs. Many of the Lilacs discovered by Wilson and other travellers in the recent explorations of western and northern China are now so well established in the Arboretum and in a few other American gardens that it is possible to form an opinion of their value. Observations of the living plants show that too many species were made when botanists had only the dried specimens sent home from China to work with. Now that most of these plants have flowered in the Arboretum and have been again studied it appears that Syringa Wilsonii and S. Dielsiana are the same as S. tomentella; that S. Sargentiana is a variety of S. Komarovii with a pubescent calyx; that S. tetanoloba is S. Swegenzowii, and that S. Rehderiana is probably only a pubescent form of S. tomentella. S. Komarovii Sargentiana is not in the Arboretum collection and probably has not been introduced. S. Rehderiana, S. Potaninii and S. verrucosa are still unknown in gardens. As a garden plant the handsomest of the new Chinese Lilacs is Springa reflexa which Wilson discovered in western Hupeh. This is a tall broad shrub with leaves resembling in size and shape those of S. villosa. The flowers have long slender corolla-tubes and are borne in long, wide-branched, open, drooping clusters; the flower-buds are red but as the flowers open the corolla becomes dark rose color except the inner surface of the lobes which is white. The wide drooping clusters, and the contrast in the colors of the inner surface of the corolla-lobes and its tube, make S. reflexa one of the handsomest and most interesting of the new Chinese Lilacs. Next in merit probably as an
ornamental plant is *Syringa Sweginzowii*. This, too, is a tall shrub but the branches are not as stout as those of *S. reflexa*, and the leaves are narrower, pointed at the ends and pale on the lower surface. The flowers are produced in broad erect clusters and are pale rose color and half an inch long. The flower-buds are of a peculiar brownish green color, and as the flowers open gradually from the bottom to the top of the cluster the contrast between the open flowers below and the closed buds above give this plant a peculiar appearance during the week or ten days the flowers are opening. This Lilac was first made known through plants raised in the Arboretum of Max von Sivers at Riga in Russia from seeds sent from some place in Mongolia or northern China, the name of which is not recorded. Later it was found by Wilson in western China, but the plants growing in the Arboretum were obtained from the nursery of Regel & Kesselring in Petrograd. *S. Komarowii* has leaves which resemble those of *S. reflexa* but the flowers are produced in short, compact, nearly cylindrical clusters nodding on long stems. The flower-buds are bright red and very conspicuous, and the open flowers are deep rose color. This Lilac sometimes blooms profusely when still a small bush. *Syringa tomentella* promises to grow taller than the other new Chinese Lilacs for some of the plants in the Arboretum are now nearly ten feet high. The leaves resemble those of *S. villosa*, and the flowers are pale rose color or white, and are borne in narrow erect clusters. None of the Arboretum plants have ever produced many flowers and *S. tomentella* promises to be one of the least desirable of the new Lilacs as a garden plant. *Syringa Juli-anae* flowers earlier than most of the new Chinese Lilacs and the flowers are already fading. As it grows here this is a compact low shrub nearly as broad as high, and for several years has covered itself with short clusters of rose-colored and white fragrant flowers. Related to the Chinese *S. pubescens*, it blooms much later than that and other related species, and is an excellent addition to the list of Lilacs which can be grown in our gardens. *Syringa Wolffii*, which has dark violet-purple flowers in short compact clusters, is another good garden plant in this climate. This species, too, was first cultivated by Von Sivers at Riga who obtained it from some place in northern China which is not known. The other new Chinese Lilacs in the Arboretum, *S. Meyeri*, *S. micróphylla*, *S. pinnatifolia* and *S. yunnanensis* have comparatively little decorative value and are curiosities rather than good garden plants.

The Yellowwood or Virgilia. This tree, the *Cladrastis lutea* of botanists, is now covered with long drooping clusters of pure white pea-shaped flowers which make it one of the most beautiful trees in the forests of eastern North America. It is a round-topped tree sometimes sixty or seventy feet in height, with pale smooth bark which resembles that of the American Beech-tree, and large light green compound leaves which turn clear yellow in the autumn before falling. In the forest this is a rare and local tree, and is found growing, usually on river cliffs, from western North Carolina to Tennessee, Kentucky and northern Alabama, and in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. It is most abundant probably in the neighborhood of Nash-
ville, Tennessee. Sent to France by its discoverer, the elder Michaux, it has been in cultivation for more than a century. One of the first, and perhaps the first specimen planted in the United States was standing a few years ago in the grounds of the Philadelphia Cricket Club near that city. It was planted in Massachusetts, where it is perfectly hardy, at least eighty years ago. This tree flowers well in France and Germany, but rarely produces flowers in Great Britain where the sun is not hot enough to ripen sufficiently the flowering wood. Here the trees flower only once in two years and, with few exceptions, all individuals planted in the northern states flower the same year. Although one of the handsomest trees that can be used for the decoration of parks and gardens in the eastern states, the Virgilia seems to be less commonly used here than it was seventy-five years ago. Fortunately it can still be obtained in a few American gardens.

Deutzia hypoglauca. This plant was not injured by the severe cold of the past winter and has now flowered for three years in the Arboretum. It is a tall vigorous shrub with erect, much branched stems, lanceolate, long-pointed leaves dark yellow-green on the upper surface and pale below, and light orange-brown branchlets. The pure white flowers are seven-eighths of an inch in diameter and are borne on slender drooping pedicels in many-flowered compound, round-topped clusters from three to four inches across. The broad, petal-like filaments, which are rather shorter than the spreading petals and are notched at the apex, form a tube rising from the center of the flower from which the bright yellow anthers emerge. Deutzia hypoglauca was discovered by Wilson in Hupeh but the plants in the Arboretum were raised here from seeds collected in 1910 by Purdom on the mountains of Shensi at altitudes between eight and ten thousand feet above the sea-level. This may prove a valuable plant to cross with some of the Chinese Deutzias with rose-colored flowers which are not really hardy in this climate. It is a handsomer plant than D. parviflora, another Chinese species and an old inhabitant of the Arboretum where it has proved to be one of the hardiest of all Deutzias. Sent by the Arboretum to Lemoine at Nancy, France, it was successfully crossed by him with D. gracilis. The result of this cross was Deutzia Lemoinei, one of the handsomest and hardiest garden shrubs of recent creation. One of the forms of D. Lemoinei, Boule de Neige, has been unusually full of flowers this year.

The Persian Yellow Rose. This Rose is just opening its flower-buds. It is the last of the yellow-flowered Roses which are hardy in the Arboretum and a few days later than the Harrison Rose. The Persian yellow Rose is a dwarfer plant of better habit than the Harrison Rose, and the flowers are larger and of better color; and when it succeeds it is the handsomest of the double-flowered yellow Roses. It is a form of Rosa foetida, a beautiful and too little known Rose of southern Russia, the Caucasus and Persia. The so-called Austrian Briar, with petals yellow on the outer surface and dark copper color on the inner surface, is believed to be a variety of R. foetida (var. bicolor). The Harrison Rose, which was raised in New York many years ago, is believed
to be a hybrid between the Scotch Rose and the Austrian Briar; it is
very hardy, flowers freely every year and grows to a large size. Un-
less, however, it is cut back occasionally it becomes straggling in habit
and unsightly. The yellow-flowered forms of the Scotch Rose, _R.
spinosissima_, var. _hispida_ and var. _luteola_, have been flowering well
this year; they are handsome and hardy plants, and although the flow-
ers soon drop their petals they are well worth a place in collections of
single-flowered Roses. _R. spinosissima fulgida_ with single delicate
pink flowers is another variety of the Scotch Rose which has been
covered with flowers during the past week.

A pink-flowered Locust. One of the most distinct and beautiful
forms of the Locust-tree, _Robinia Pseudacacia_ var. _Decaisneana_, has
been unusually full of flowers during the past ten days. This tree,
which first flowered in 1862 in the nursery of M. Villeveille at Manos-
que in southern France, differs from all the other forms of this Locust
in its pale pink flowers. Many forms of the Locust have been raised
in European nurseries; they are all handsome and hardy, and could
they be protected from the borers which riddle the trunks and branches
of all forms of the Locust they would be as highly esteemed here as
they are in France and Germany. The variety Decaisneana must not
be confounded with _R. viscosa_, an American tree with pink flowers in
partly erect clusters, and well distinguished by the glandular viscid
hairs on the branchlets and flower-clusters. This tree is also flowering
in the Arboretum, as is the little Rose Acacia, _Acacia hispida_, a hispid
shrub with large bright rose-colored handsome flowers, which is not
known to produce seeds but spreads widely and rapidly by underground
stems and may become a troublesome weed.

_Viburnum cassinoides_ is blooming profusely but nearly three weeks
before its usual time for flowering. In cultivation this Viburnum is a
round-topped shrub from four to six feet high. The leaves are thick
and lustrous, and differ greatly in size and shape. The flowers are
slightly tinged with yellow and are borne in wide, slightly convex
clusters which also vary greatly in size. This plant appears even more
beautiful in the autumn than in June; for the fruit is larger than that
of the other summer-flowering American Viburnums, and at first when
fully grown is yellow-green, becoming pink and finally dark blue or
nearly black and covered with a pale bloom, fruits of the three colors oc-
curring together in the same cluster. This Viburnum has been gener-
ally planted in the Arboretum, and it is certainly one of the handsom-
est shrubs of eastern North America. Two other handsome American
Viburnums, _V. bracteatum_ and _V. molle_, are in bloom and are interest-
ing to persons who like to see rare or little known plants. The former
grows only on the cliffs of the Coosa River near Rome, Georgia, and
the latter in southern Kentucky and very locally in southern Missouri.