This is a good time to visit the Arboretum. The unusually mild winter and the abundant summer and autumn rains have been favorable to most plants, and probably the Arboretum has never looked better at this season of the year than it does this week. Conifers, particularly Junipers, have not before been in better condition, and the fresh green of the leaves on many trees and shrubs is unusual here the middle of October and heightens the beauty of the autumn colors of the leaves of those plants which change color early under all conditions.

Autumn Colors. There can be few places in the world where colors of ripening leaves are so varied or are continued through so many weeks. For the leaves of the plants of eastern Asia, which are well represented in the Arboretum, usually are beautifully colored after those of our eastern American trees, with the exception of the Oaks, have fallen. A few conspicuous exceptions to this general rule are worth noting:—Nearly three weeks ago and before the leaves of the Red Maple (Acer rubrum) had begun to change color, those of the Cork-barked tree of eastern Siberia (Phellodendron amurense) were bright gold color, making the two trees on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road the most brilliant objects in the Arboretum. These trees have now been bare of leaves for several days. They are still interesting objects, however, for now that the leaves have gone it is possible to see clearly the pale, deeply furrowed soft corky bark of the trunk and large branches to which this tree owes its name. The genus Phellodendron is confined to eastern Asia, and the five species now known are well established in the Arboretum. On account of this