Cornus racemosa. This northern Cornel has been largely used in the Arboretum in roadside plantations and is now conspicuous as the plants are covered with their small clusters of creamy white flowers. These later in the season will be followed by white translucent fruits borne on bright red stalks. Often called Cornus paniculata, it is a large-branched shrub six or seven feet high, with gray smooth branches, pointed leaves acute at the base, whitish below and glabrous. It is widely distributed from Maine to Ontario, Minnesota and southward. This Cornel is perhaps the handsomest of the American species with the exception of Cornus florida. It has lately been the most conspicuous plant in the Arboretum. It blooms here with some of the native Roses, especially with Rosa virginiana, the pink flowers of which compose perfectly with the white flowers of the Cornel. When these plants are used together, as along some of the Arboretum roads, delightful effects are obtained.

Cornus arnoldiana is evidently a natural hybrid between two American species, C. racemosa and C. obliqua, which appeared several years ago in the Arboretum and is now a large shrub with erect stems and characters intermediate between those of its supposed parents. Flowering a little later than C. racemosa it is now covered with flowers. The fruit, which is usually less abundant than the flowers, is white or bluish white. Interesting to students of plants, as are all natural hybrids, C. arnoldiana is not superior as a garden plant to C. racemosa except perhaps in its greater size.
Cornus amomum. It is useful perhaps to call attention again to the Silky Cornel, *Cornus amomum*, for it is one of the best of all shrubs to plant in this climate near the banks of streams and ponds where large masses of foliage are desired to spread out over the surface of the water. Examples of this use of this Cornel can now be seen at two of the small ponds near the end of the Meadow Road where this Cornel is now covered with flowers which will be followed in autumn by bright blue fruits; during the winter the purple stems are attractive. The Silky Cornel is a good plant also to place in front of groups of trees and shrubs but it must have room for the free growth of its wide-spreading branches, for when crowded by other plants the branches become erect and all the character and beauty of the plant is lost. A space of not less than twenty feet in diameter is necessary for the development of a handsome specimen.

*Zenobia pulverulenta* is just opening its flowers. This shrub of the Heath Family is a native of the coast of North Carolina where it grows along the borders of swamps and, one of the most beautiful shrubs of the American flora, is perfectly hardy in Massachusetts where it has flourished in the Arboretum for many years. *Zenobia* is related to the Andromedas and is chiefly distinguished by its open, campanulate and four-awned anthers. The leaves are deciduous, thickly covered with a glaucous bloom, and the ivory white flowers about half an inch long and broad are borne on slender arching stems and are arranged in axillary clusters forming terminal racemes from twelve to eighteen inches in length and arching from the upper part of the branches of the previous year. The form of *Zenobia* (var. *nitida*) with green leaves which are destitute of a glaucous bloom is a more common plant in North Carolina and is equally hardy here in Massachusetts. *Zenobia* is not common in cultivation in this country but is occasionally seen in English gardens.

*Tripterygium Regelli*. Climbing plants with handsome foliage and a conspicuous inflorescence hardy and easy to grow in New England are not very numerous, and Mr. Jack’s introduction several years ago of this *Tripterygium* made an important addition to their number. It is a near relative of the Bitter Sweets (*Celastrus*) and a native of Korea and Japan where it climbs over rocks and bushes, and often climbs with stems fifty or sixty feet long into the tops of trees. The leaves are long-pointed, dark green, and often six inches in length. The small white flowers are produced in narrow open clusters ten or twelve inches long, and they are followed by showy, three-lobed and three-winged fruits from half an inch to an inch in length. By pinching the young shoots the vines can be grown as a shrub, and in this way it produces larger flower-clusters and is more ornamental. There is such a specimen just coming into bloom in the Shrub Collection, where it is also growing naturally on the trellis next to the different species of *Celastrus*.

*Periploca sepium*. This is another handsome plant which the Arboretum owes to the labors of Mr. Jack in Korea. It is growing on the trellis near the *Tripterygium*. It is a plant with slender stems, pointed, dark green and very lustrous leaves about three and a half inches in
length and not much more than half an inch in width, and small flow-ers in few-flowered clusters. The flowers do not make much show when seen from a distance, but on close examination show that they are green on the outside, dark purple, with a five-lobed crown at the base on the inside, and that they are pleasantly fragrant. The plants in the Arboretum occasionally produce their slender pod-like fruits, but the plant can be easily propagated by root suckers and it might become common if better known.

**Genista tinctoria.** Of the small, yellow-flowered shrubs of the Pea Family, which are such a feature of the flora of southern and southeastern Europe and are so highly valued in the gardens of western Europe, the best known in Massachusetts is the Woad Wax *Genista tinctoria*. Brought early from England as a garden plant it long ago escaped from a Salem garden and has spread over and ruined hundreds of acres in Essex County. Planted in the Arboretum it has spread among the native plants like dwarf Roses and Goldenrods which form a considerable part of the ground cover among the Hickories and Oaks, and now enlivens the valley through which the Valley Road extends from Centre to South Street. There is a taller variety with larger flowers (var. *elatior*). Much more beautiful and the handsomest of these plants which have been tried here is *Cytisus nigricans*, a native of northern Italy, Austria and Hungary, and now in bloom in the Shrub Collection. No small plant now in the Arboretum is more distinct and beautiful. As it grows here it is a compact, round-topped bush from two to three feet tall and broad, differing from most of the related plants in the arrangement of the flowers which are borne in long erect racemes terminal on branches of the year; they are bright yellow and produced in great profusion.

**Rosa Helenae**, by some persons considered the handsomest of the Roses discovered in China by Wilson, has never flowered as well here as it is flowering now. It is a large shrub with slender arching stems furnished sparingly with small red spines and many-flowered clusters of pure white delicately fragrant flowers an inch and a quarter in diameter. It can be seen to advantage now in the Shrub Collection and well deserves a place in every collection of single-flowered Roses however small. Growing near it is a white-flowered form of a native Rose, *Rosa suffulata alba*, which came to the Arboretum several years ago from Minneapolis near which place it was discovered. The pink-flow-ered type is a common western plant widely distributed over the prairies from Minnesota to Montana and southward to Missouri and Texas. It is a comparatively recent discovery and was first called *Rosa pratmcola*. Little cultivated it is well worth the attention of Rose lovers.

**Magnolia virginiana**, or as it is more often called *M. glauca*, opened its fragrant cup-shaped flowers a few weeks ago and will continue to open them until midsummer. The dark green leaves, silvery white below, are more beautiful than those of any other plant which is hardy in this climate, and remain on the branches without change of color until the beginning of winter. The flowers of no other native tree
or shrub have a more penetrating or delightful odor. A plant for every
garden great or small, how often is the Sweet Bay found in those of
modern construction? The town of Magnolia in Essex County, Massa-
chusetts, which is the northern station for this plant was named for it.
At the north and in the middle states it is a shrub or small tree rarely
more than twenty or thirty feet high, but southward it is replaced by
the variety australis, differing in the silky white pubescence on the
pedicels and branchlets, and becoming a tree sometimes ninety feet
high with a trunk occasionally three feet in diameter and the common
form from North Carolina to southern Florida and westward to the
valley of the Nueces River, Texas. Magnolia major or Thompsoniana,
a probable hybrid between M. virginiana and M. tripetala, which was
raised in an English nursery a century ago and is still a favorite plant,
is in the Arboretum and is intermediate in character between these two
American species; it has the general appearance of M. virginiana but
has larger leaves and larger and equally fragrant flowers.

Magnolia macrophylla flowers a few days later than M. virginiana
and is now in bloom. It is a wonderful southern tree with leaves sil-
very white on the lower surface and often thirty inches long and ten
inches wide, with flowers a foot in diameter; it is perfectly hardy in
eastern Massachusetts, although here as elsewhere the great leaves are
often torn by the wind unless a sheltered position is selected for it.
It is an interesting fact that its leaves and flowers are larger than
those of any other tree which grows in an extra tropical region.

The latest Azaleas are now in bloom. There are two North Ameri-
can white-flowered species, Rhododendron (Azalea) arborescens and R.
(Azalea) viscosum. R. arborescens is a handsome plant and the beauty
of its pure white fragrant flowers is increased by the bright red color
of the long filaments and style. It is an Appalachian plant, and some-
times at an elevation of five thousand feet covers with dense thickets
only a few feet high and sometimes acres in extent the treeless sum-
mits of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and in their sheltered valleys some-
times grows into arborescent bushes twenty feet tall. A variety is
known in which the white flowers are faintly tinged with rose color.

Rhododendron (Azalea) viscosum blooms a little later and is now also
in flower in the Arboretum. It is a common plant in the swamps of
southern New England where it is known as the Swamp Honeysuckle.
The pure white clammy flowers which continue to open during several
weeks are hidden by the new shoots of the year which are often fully
grown before the first flowers open, and the great value of this Azalea
is found in the fragrance of the flowers which makes the neighborhood
of an Azalea swamp delightful. Although it grows naturally in swamps,
this Azalea grows equally well transferred to a garden border or to a
hillside, as on the southern slope of Bussey Hill where many of these
plants are now covered with flowers.