Ulmus procera. A European Elm, formerly united by Linnaeus with other European species under the name of Ulmus campestris, a name which must be abandoned, is now generally known as Ulmus procera. It is a common tree in southern and western Europe, and possibly a native of southern England where it is common, but if not it must have been early introduced into that country. This is an interesting and valuable tree in eastern Massachusetts where it was first planted in Milton by Mr. John Smith who brought some of these trees from England about 1734 and planted them on his farm on Brush Hill. A few of them are probably still standing and have produced a grove of suckers several of which transplanted from Milton have grown into large trees. The largest of the trees on the original Smith farm are from seventy-five to eighty feet tall with trunks eight to ten feet in circumference three feet above the surface of the ground; but by the roadside on Milton Hill, on the estate of Mr. E. James, seven of these trees are standing. The three largest have trunk circumferences of thirteen feet four inches, twelve feet five inches and nine feet five inches. Although possibly younger, there are now larger specimens of this tree on the Rice Estate on Pond Street, Jamaica Plain, which are believed to have been planted by Francis Bernard, colonial Governor of Massachusetts from 1760-1769, who built the original house and planted the trees which he probably imported from England during his term as Governor here. The largest of the four Elms has a trunk girth of eighteen feet six inches and is the largest I have found in Massachusetts. Unfortunately they must soon disappear as the estate is being divided into small house lots.
The so-called Paddock Elms on Tremont Street in front of the Granary Burying Ground were planted by or for Mr. Gilbert Deblois, a well-known citizen of Boston who lived on Tremont Street at the north corner of Bromfield Street, opposite the Burying Ground. He was a friend of Mr. John Smith of Milton who gave him the trees. In return for these Deblois agreed to name his new-born baby for Smith. The records of King’s Chapel show that James Smith Deblois was baptized by Reverend Henry Carver on May 16, 1769, which fixes the time when the trees were planted. Mr. Deblois, an active business man, employed Adino Paddock, coach maker, the windows of whose shop overlooked the trees, to look out for their protection. That this guardian of the trees attended faithfully to his duties is shown by the fact that he twice offered a reward for the discovery of those who injured them. About 1870 the question of removing these trees began to be discussed by the city government. In February, 1874, Alderman Powers said:—“Never has a petition come from a citizen of Boston for their removal but thousands of petitions have come against it, many from some of the heaviest taxpayers of Boston.” At a meeting later in the month it was voted nevertheless to destroy these trees, and on the 27th of that month Mayor Cobb signed an order for removing the Paddock Elms. In the Boston Herald of Sunday, March 1, 1874, it was said:“The Paddock Elms are in the hands of the destroyer. The well known forms of the ancient Elms that for a hundred years have kept watch and ward on the old Granary Burying Ground on Tremont Street have at last fallen a victim to the onward march of modern improvement, and beneath the sturdy blows of the woodman’s axe have been laid low. At twenty-one minutes past eleven on Saturday morning the most northern tree fell to the ground, and in ten minutes the next, until six had fallen, and the boughless forms of five stood.”

On Beacon Street, between Joy and Park Streets, there are now standing nine of these trees. To them Mr. Joseph Henry Curtis has devoted a volume, published in 1910, entitled “Life of Campestris Ulm, the oldest inhabitant of Boston Common,” containing excellent pictures of some of these trees. Several of them were planted as early as 1780. The largest, often called the Hancock Elm because it was planted by John Hancock directly opposite his mansion, has a trunk circumference of fifteen feet. Mr. Curtis does not say where these trees were obtained but, like the Paddock Elms, they were probably some of Mr. Smith’s Brush Hill suckers. The row of these Elms which once stood on the Tremont and Boylston Street Malls of the Common was probably planted at the same time and the trees were perhaps obtained from Brush Hill. There are now only two of these trees left, one on Tremont Street and one on Boylston Street, the others having been destroyed in making the Subway between 1895 and 1898.

On Main Street, Dedham, in front of the house now occupied by the Dedham Community Association, there are three specimens of this Elm which are said to have been planted in 1789 by Judge Haven who was the first Judge of Probate of Norfolk County. The largest of these trees has a trunk sixteen feet in circumference three feet above the ground; the others have trunks thirteen feet three inches and thirteen feet six inches in diameter. No one knows where they were obtained, but it is not impossible that they also came from Milton. On the
Slocum Estate, Jamaica Plain, there is, close to Pond Street, a fine row of ten tall trees of this Elm with a trunk circumference averaging ten feet six inches at four feet above the ground. The origin of these trees is not known, and this is true of three trees of about the same size on Boylston Street opposite the Brookline Reservoir. One of these is on the old Lee Estate and two are close to the road on the Galen L. Stone Estate. On the north side of Warren Street near Boylston Street stand two fine specimens of this tree, one with a trunk circumference of ten feet four inches and the other of twelve feet four inches.

Of the younger of these trees near Boston the best are those which were planted on the grounds of the Chestnut Hill Reservoir in Newton and the western edge of Brookline in 1876 by Mr. Desmond FitzGerald which, if they continue to grow in the future as they have in the past will make before this century is over one of the glories of Massachusetts and an appropriate monument for the public-spirited and intelligent man who planted them. There is a long row of these trees bordering the road on the south side of the highway on that side of the Reservoir, and a number of individual trees on the eastern or Brookline end of the Reservoir grounds. Many of the Reservoir trees are already from fifty to sixty feet in height with trunks varying from eight to eleven feet in circumference.

It was proposed to plant the green on Commonwealth Avenue west of Dartmouth Street with two rows of this Elm. This was done but a resident of the Avenue, more public-spirited than intelligent, made such a loud-mouthed protest against only two rows of trees in the Avenue that he succeeded in getting four rows planted in a space hardly wide enough for two rows, and these trees are doomed to inevitable failure and will soon have to be replaced. The best of the young Elms of this species in Boston border the two sides of the short street directly east of the Art Museum. There are twenty of these trees, all in excellent condition, with an average circumference of trunk of four feet six inches. One tree between Pond Street and Jamaica Pond, which is supposed to have been planted about 1865, is a shapely and healthy specimen with a trunk circumference of nine and a half feet. I have seen photographs of two trees planted about 1843 near the house on Highland Ave., Rochester, N. Y., occupied by Mr. George Ellwanger. These trees have a trunk circumference four feet above the surface of the ground of eleven feet ten inches and ten feet ten and a half inches.

Ulmus procera is a tree sometimes in Europe one hundred and fifty feet tall, producing many suckers, but at the north never bearing seeds, with dark, deeply furrowed bark, ascending branches forming a narrow head, slender branchlets pubescent when young, and sometimes developing corky wings, and ovoid, minutely pubescent buds. The leaves vary from ovate to broad-elliptic, and are shortly acuminate, very oblique at the base, deeply serrate with about twelve pairs of veins, dark green and scabrous above, soft-pubescent below with axillary tufts and short pubescent petioles. In the Arboretum herbarium are fruit-bearing specimens of planted trees of this Elm collected at Cordova and Aranjuez, Spain.

Attention is called to the fact that among these Elms are the largest planted trees in Massachusetts, and the oldest with the exception of the still living wreck of the Endicott Pear tree at Danvers.
Indigofera. Five species of this genus of the Pea Family are now blooming in the Arboretum. They are small plants with handsome flowers in terminal racemes, well suited to decorate a garden border. The three species with pink flowers, *I. Kirilowii*, a native of northern China, Manchuria and Korea, *I. Potanini* and *I. amplyantha* are perfectly hardy and the last will continue to open its small flowers on the lengthening racemes until October. The other species, *I. Gerardiana* and *I. decora*, are killed to the ground every winter, but like herbaceous plants produce new stems in the spring which never fail to flower during the summer. *I. decora* is a native of southern China, and in the Arboretum the flowers are pure white. *I. Gerardiana*, which is a native of the northwestern Himalayas, has gray-green foliage and rose-purple flowers. This is the least beautiful of the five species now growing in the Arboretum. The collection still needs *I. hebepestala*, another Himalayan plant which is rarely seen in English gardens. It has red flowers, in elongated racemes, and, judging by the picture of it which has been published, is a handsome plant. This and another red-flowered Himalayan species, *I. atropurpurea*, are desired by the Arboretum.

Japanese Grape Vines. To Japan the Arboretum is indebted for *Vitis Coignetiae*, the handsomest Grape Vine which can be grown in the northern states. No other species is more hardy, grows so vigorously, or produces such large leaves which are thick, prominently veined and pale on the lower surface; they turn bright red in the autumn, and as this is a northern species their fading colors are more brilliant in northern New England than they are in Massachusetts. The small black fruit, which is eaten in Hokkaido, has little to recommend it to the American palate. *Vitis amurensis* from eastern Siberia, Mongolia and Korea is an old inhabitant of the Arboretum. It is a handsome and perfectly hardy plant, but not superior as a garden plant to several of the American species. The Japanese *Vitis pulchra* is distinct in the dark red color of the leaves and shoots in the spring, and is a handsome and interesting plant. This Vine is known only from cultivated plants, and only the male plant is in the Arboretum collection.

The ripening of fruits has already begun and the varied and beautiful fruit of many trees and shrubs will make the Arboretum an interesting place to visit for several months, and one of the best places in America to supply birds with food. Although not yet ripe the bright red “keys” of the Tartarian Maple are now the showiest fruits in the Arboretum. They are the chief ornament of this hardy little tree of southeastern Europe and western Asia (*Acer tataricum*), many years ago much more often seen in American gardens than it is now. The fruit on several Bush Honeysuckles is ripe or nearly ripe. A few of the most conspicuous of these plants now are those of the hybrids of the Tartarian Honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), called *L. bella*, *L. muendeniensis*, and *L. notha*. There are varieties, too, of *L. tatarica* with red and with yellow fruit which are attractive at this season of the year and the bright yellow flowers of *Lonicera Ruprechtiana var. xanthocarpa* make a great show in early July. The red fruits covered with hairs of *Rhus canadensis*, often called *R. aromatica*, are also ripe.

These Bulletins will now be discontinued until the autumn.