Rhododendron maximum, the Rosebay, with compact pyramidate clusters of white, flushed with pink, blossoms makes a pleasing display at the foot of Hemlock Hill. Though much less showy than the majority of evergreen Rhododendrons, this native species is valuable for the lateness of its blooming period. On the slopes of Bussey Hill and elsewhere the Swamp Honeysuckle (R. viscosum) is still in bloom; on Center Street Path the rare suffruticose Sphaeralcea remota is bearing in profusion its pale rose-purple blossoms suggestive of a miniature Hollyhock. Above the Lilacs Catalpa bignonioides, the latest to flower of the two American Catalpas, is in bloom, and across the road Maackia amurensis is putting forth its upright spikes of whitish flowers. Alongside Meadow Road Koelreuteria paniculata, showiest of summer-flowering trees, is opening its brilliant yellow blossoms. This good-natured Oriental tree deserves wider recognition for it seems happy not only in the pure air of the country but in the soot and grime of the city. With the exception of Laburnum it is the only yellow blossoming tree hardy in this part of America; apart from its wealth of blooms it is worth growing for its large pinnate foliage. In the Shrub Garden summer-flowering Spiraeas in white, pink, and crimson-pink are in bloom. So, too, are several Yuccas and shrubby Potentillas, while a number of Bush Honeysuckles are burdened with ripe fruit. On the Administration Building the climbing Schizophragma hydrangeoides is in full flower.

Lonicera tatarica and its several forms and hybrids are now laden with ripe fruits. These old-fashioned Bush Honeysuckles are still among the most useful of the larger shrubs for parks and gardens in the colder parts of this country and Canada. Natives of northern Asia, they are accustomed to a rigorous climate and given plenty of room they will make bushes from 15 to 18 feet tall and from 25 to 30 feet in diameter with ascending and spreading branches, forming a round-topped mass. The flowers, white, yellowish, or pink, are freely produced in the early spring and now at high summer the branches are weighted down with ripe berries. In the typical L. tatarica the
fruit is red; in the variety *lutea*, it is orange and translucent. There are several hybrids of which *L. tatarica* is part-parent, all of them excellent shrubs but none is better than *L. bella*, which bears enormous quantities of rich crimson berries. These Bush Honeysuckles are good-natured plants but like other shrubs they respond to liberal treatment. Given a good loamy soil, a position where their roots can be plentifully supplied with water and abundant space in which to develop they will be objects of beauty decade upon decade. The only pruning necessary is from time to time to remove old and worn-out stems. They enjoy wind and sun, and winter cold never injures them.

*Acanthopanax leucorrhizus* is a member of a small tribe of summer-flowering trees and shrubs related to the Ivy. They are natives of the Orient and comprise about a score of species, *A. leucorrhizus* is a round-topped bush from 8 to 10 feet tall with sturdy erect stems, gray-green when young, later olive-green and furnished with deflexed prickles. The leaves, on long petioles with a sheathing base, are digitately 5-foliolate, coarsely serrated and dark green on the upper surface. The flowers, each borne on a long slender but rigid stalk, are small, greenish, with prominent white anthers. The inflorescence is terminal, consisting of a number of long-stalked globose heads, the whole forming a spreading cymose cluster. The fruit is a jet black berry which remains on the branches far into the winter and it is for the fruit rather than its flowers that this shrub and most of its relatives are worth a place in gardens. A smaller growing species is *A. Giraldii*, remarkable for the wealth of bristle-like hairs that clothe the stems. In China the stems of this plant are pulverized and the powder is employed as a vermifuge, a drastic remedy which is possibly more dangerous than the disease. These with other species may be seen in blossom on Bussey Hill near the Cedars of Lebanon.

*Philadelphus incanus* is a Chinese species of Mockorange and the latest of its tribe to bloom. It is a vigorous shrub with ascending-spreading branches growing 10 to 12 feet tall with relatively large ovate to ovate-lanceolate leaves furnished with gray pubescence on the under surface. The sweetly scented flowers, each about ⅛ inches in diameter, are produced in terminal, spreading, 6-inch long racemes. The flowers face downward and the calyx is clothed with a gray pubescence. This species is a common shrub in thickets and margins of woods throughout central and western China, where it was discovered and introduced into cultivation about 1895. Like all its tribe, it is free-flowering and since it produces its blossoms when those of its relatives are faded it is of value in prolonging the Mockorange season; in the hands of the hybridist it may prove parent of a late-flowering race.

*Amorpha canescens*, the Lead-plant, is in blossom in the Shrub Garden. This native of the middle west is an attractive shrub with narrow, pinnate leaves which like the stems are hoary. The flowers are borne in clustered spike-like racemes produced both terminally and from the axils of the upper leaves, the whole forming a panicu-
Crimson-fruited *Lonicera bella*
late mass. The individual flower is small, hooded, violet-purple with prominent yellow anthers. It blooms on the current season's shoot, so should be pruned in the early spring. It is sun-loving, very floriferous and unusual in appearance owing to the hoary character of stem and leaf.

Ulmus pumila. Under such names as Siberian Elm, Asiatic Elm, and Peking Elm the Arboretum has this year received for identification specimens from many parts of the country. In every instance the material was referable to *U. pumila*. This Elm is a common tree in Korea, parts of Manchuria and in northeastern China, where it grows usually on the open plains and by the sides of rivers and stony mountain torrents. Although it was named *U. pumila* by Linnaeus it is anything but a dwarf tree. In its native land it is at maturity often 80 feet tall with a trunk 11 feet in girth clothed with dark gray, deeply corrugated bark, and a crown made up of a few wide-spreading massive branches. In youth and middle age it is an entirely different looking tree, being pyramidal in outline with a compact head of twiggy branches. The leaves on both young and old trees are ovate-lance-shaped, long-pointed, smooth on both surfaces, each from 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches long and from 1/2 to 1 1/4 inches broad, and coarsely toothed along the margin. It flowers in early spring and the fruit is ripe early in May. This Elm has been in cultivation since about 1860 in Europe, where it does not appear to have impressed tree lovers in outstanding manner. Its first appearance in this country seems to have been as small plants sent from Peking to the Arboretum in 1905 by J. G. Jack. These have disappeared from the collection but growing there, on the left of Bussey Hill Road beyond the Lilacs, is a tree fully 35 feet tall raised from seeds collected in Peking on May 4, 1910, by E. H. Wilson. The general introduction of this Elm we owe to F. N. Meyer, collecting for the Bureau of Plant Industry Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., who sent in 1913 abundant seeds which germinated freely and the plants were subsequently widely distributed. They proved to be rapid growing and of much value in the prairie states and on the Pacific coast. In the Arboretum this Elm has grown faster than any other tree and so far appears free from disease and does not harbor insect pests. It gives every promise of being exceedingly useful for cities, since apparently it does not mind smoke-laden atmosphere so much as many other trees. Except that it does not grow old gracefully, no fault concerning this tree is known. In Manchuria and Korea it is commonly used as a hedge plant about the railway stations, being clipped in the usual manner. There is no reason why it should not serve a similar purpose in the prairie states of this country. Another species of Elm is by some confused with this tree, namely *U. parvifolia*, also native of the Far East. No two Elms could be more distinct. *U. parvifolia* is a small tree with thin scaling bark, a round-topped twiggy crown, small, more or less oval, thick and leathery leaves and it blossoms in the autumn. This is a neat little tree for the lawn but is slow-growing and worthless as a street tree.

E. H. W.