On the Administration Building the Climbing Hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*) is now at the height of its beauty. The Beautybush (*Kolkwitzia amabilis*) is still in good condition. On Bussey Hill the new *Buddleia alternifolia* is in blossom, but the most beautiful plant at the moment on Bussey Hill is the Chinese Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus kousa chinensis*) which is worth coming a long distance to see. Many species and hybrids of Mockorange (*Philadelphus*) are in flower in the Shrub Garden and in the collection at the foot of the Lilac bank. Among the hybrids are many produced by the great French hybridist Lemoine, including the popular "Conquête," "Argentine," "Bannière" and "Virginal." The Rhododendrons in the opinion of many competent to judge have never blossomed more profusely or made a finer showing than this season. The rains, which followed the hot weather of last week, have been much to their advantage and the whole collection is a blaze of color. Brilliant also is the Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*), the massed group on the west slope of Bussey Hill being a cataract of orange, yellow and scarlet; individual bushes planted here and there by the roadside are particularly striking and none more so than the variety *croceum* with its rich, chrome yellow flowers. A fine bush of this may be seen on the left side of Meadow Road near the group of *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*.

Rose species in great variety are in blossom in the Shrub Garden and are well worth a visit by all who are not irrevocably committed to the modern Hybrid Teas. The delicacy of coloring, the wealth of bloom and charm of the simple flowers of many Rose species are freely admitted; unfortunately, the petals are fugacious and the blooming season is a short one. However, a great many have ornamental fruits and quite a few have well-colored stems in winter.

*Rosa Roxburghii hirtula*. This is a Japanese variety of an old-fashioned double-flowered Rose which has been in cultivation since
1824 under the more widely known name of *R. microphylla*; many Rose lovers are familiar with it under the French name of Rose Châtaigne. The variety *hirtula* grows wild on the slopes of Mt. Fuji and other places in Japan; it has simple, clear pink blossoms, each from 2 to 3 inches in diameter with a central mass of clear yellow-anthered stamens. A shrub from 4 to 5 feet tall and more in diameter, it has stout stems clothed with a loose, peeling bark quite unlike that of Roses in general. The secondary branches are somewhat divaricate and are armed with stout, hooked, reddish prickles arranged in pairs. The leaves are small, with from 5 to 6 pairs of leaflets, each oblong-lance-shaped, \( \frac{1}{2} \) to \( \frac{3}{4} \) of an inch long by \( \frac{1}{4} \) to \( \frac{3}{8} \) of an inch wide and finely serrate. The flowers, solitary at the end of the branchlets, have a divided foliaceous calyx and a large, hemispherical ovary clad with stiff, bristly hairs. The fruit is depressed-globose, about 1½ inches in diameter, bristly but without any marked color, looking more like a mossy Rose gall than a fruit proper. This variety makes a really charming shrub with its loose bark, divaricate habit, small, fern-like foliage and pleasing pink blossoms.

*Rosa bella* is one of the newer introductions from China, having been introduced by the Arboretum through its discoverer, William Purdom, in 1910. It is a bush 5 to 6 feet tall and about the same in diameter with ascending-spreading stems clad with relatively few straight prickles. The leaves are small, usually with 5 to 6 pairs of small, oval, finely-toothed leaflets. The flowers, each about 2 inches across, are a deep rose pink and borne singly or two or three together at the ends of short shoots; the color is good and the habit of the plant singularly attractive.

*Rosa rugosa*. This old-fashioned Rose long cultivated in western gardens is particularly well adapted for planting near the sea. The seacoasts of northeastern Asia are its home and on account of its large red, depressed-globose fruit it is known to the Japanese as a Sea-tomato. The type to which the name was applied has ugly, reddish magenta flowers and it is scarcely worth growing when compared with some of its descendants. Lovely is the variety *rosea* with 3 to 4 inch-broad pink blossoms produced in clusters at the ends of the shoots. The expanded flower is very conspicuous, but more beautiful is the bud, which is oblong, about 1¼ inches long and deep pink peering out from the relatively large green sepals. Similar in every way but with flowers of the purest white is the variety *alba*. These two ought to be grown by everyone who has a seashore garden since they are immune to the effects of salt spray and will grow in sand always supposing it be properly fertilized. In recent years the Rose hybridists, especially those of France, have given some attention to *R. rugosa* and the result is a group of hybrids of great ornamental value. They are free flowering and have large blossoms of white, pink and varying shades of red rather suggesting the old-fashioned Damask Roses in appearance. In the Arboretum each year their value becomes more apparent. For northern gardens the hybridist would be well advised to raise more of these most excellent hybrids.
Rosa Moyesii. Largely on account of the extraordinarily intense color of its blossoms few if any wild species of Rose have created so much interest as this native of the Chino-Thibetan borderland. At its best the color may be described as a rich, velvety crimson but it must be confessed that few authorities agree as to the actual color tone. Unfortunately, in this climate the flowers bleach rapidly and New England gardens will never know the real beauty of this Rose. On Bussey Hill two bushes may be seen in bloom at the moment. They have strong canes studded with stout spines and bear in profusion their richly colored 2-inch broad blossoms, singly or several together at the end of short shoots. Pollen is particularly abundant, and seems to have an overwhelming attraction to bees. This Rose produces in the autumn large scarlet hips which in this country are more attractive than its flowers.

Wistarias are the most popular and perhaps the most gorgeous flowering climbing plants that can be grown out of doors in New England. When Wistarias are spoken of the Chinese W. sinensis and the Japanese W. floribunda with their several varieties are usually understood; indeed, many people are unaware that there are two other species including several forms native of eastern North America. These were known to botanists before the Asiastic species were discovered and to them the name Wistaria was first applied. These American species flower on the current season's growth, have shorter racemes and rarely blossom so abundantly as do the Asiatic species. Of the two American species W. macrostachya has lovely pale bluish blossoms borne thickly together in pointed 6 to 12 inch long racemes which are often much hidden by the foliage. This is a rampant grower and needs to be kept in bounds by severe pruning each spring. There is a variety albo-lilacina with pale lilac tinted blossoms. The other American species is W. frutescens, a rambling plant of moderate dimensions bearing short racemes of lilac-purple flowers densely crowded at the ends of the branchlets. There is a variety niven with pure white blossoms. It cannot be said that these American species are as ornamental as the Asiatic sorts but they are hardier and will grow and flower freely in cold parts of the middle west and northern New England.

Spiraea nipponica is now in full bloom in the Shrub Garden. Better known as S. bracteata this Japanese species is entitled to rank among the first half dozen varieties of this popular tribe. It is a vigorous shrub growing 6 to 8 feet tall with ascending-spreading branches, making a shapely dome-like mass. The leaves are more or less broadly oval, each about ¾ of an inch long, rounded and slightly toothed near the apex, grayish green, paler on the under surface. The flowers are densely crowded in hemispherical, umbel-like racemes at the end of short erect shoots, transforming from 2 to 3 feet of each shoot into a plume of blossoms. Other Spiraeas now in bloom are the Korean S. trichocarpa and the Chinese S. Henryi which rank among the best for ornamental purposes.

E. H. W.