Welcome rains have fallen since the last Bulletin appeared and the Arboretum has benefited greatly. At the moment the foliage, half to three parts grown on most of the trees and bushes, is looking its best and blossoms are abundant. The Dogwoods here and there are still in good condition and so, too, are the Hawthorns and Buckeyes. Many species of Viburnum are rapidly opening their blossoms; Azaleas continue to make a brilliant display and one of the most charming pictures in the Arboretum is the bed of *Rhododendron canescens* on the right of Meadow Road. This native species for beauty of blossom and fragrance is, indeed, one of the best of its tribe. In the Shrub Garden many different species of shrubs are in full bloom and Bussey Hill as usual is rich in color. *Enkianthus campanulatus* and its relatives are blossoming as freely as ever. Frequent mention of this group of shrubs has been made in these Bulletins during the past years but where acid soil prevails their value as ornamentals cannot be over-rated. Among the Erica family, for sheer beauty, these Enkianthuses are among Japan’s greatest gifts to the gardens of eastern North America. Planted where they can enjoy good air and root drainage, they are immune to the terrors of winter, moreover, they transplant readily even when of large size, always supposing the work be carefully done and the plants not allowed to suffer lack of water. In the experience of the Arboretum the early part of October is the best season for transplanting these splendid shrubs.

*Rhododendron carolinianum* is now in full bloom on the left just within South Street Gate and also in the Rhododendron group. This native of the mountains of North Carolina is one of the hardiest of all Rhododendrons and one that ought to be widely cultivated. It is a twiggy shrub growing from 5 to 8 feet tall and making a broad, rather loose bush. The flowers, clustered at the ends of the shoots and borne well above the leaves, are of varying shades of rose-purple to almost pink and are exceedingly attractive. There is also a white form (*album*), but this is less valuable as an ornamental plant. The Rhodo-
dendrons in general are this year well budded and promise to be unusually fine. Some of the earlier hybrids, such as Mont Blanc, Boule de Neige, Viola and Glenyumanum, are passing out of blossom, while Old Port, Daisy and Charles Dickens are rapidly opening their more or less red blossoms. So, too, is the Caucasian species (*R. Smirnovii*) with large trusses of handsome pink flowers and leaves felted gray on the under side.

The Rose Acacias in the group on the right of Meadow Road below the steps leading to the Lilac border are now beautifully in blossom. This purely North American genus is represented by about 25 species and hybrids, several of which are critical and not easy to distinguish. Some 18 of these are in cultivation in the Arboretum. One and all flower freely but, unfortunately, they have brittle stems which are easily broken by winds, and in the case of the best known member of the family, the Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) suffer badly from attacks of boring insects. Indeed, it is virtually impossible for this tree to attain anything approaching its maximum size or maturity in New England. Of the bush sorts the oldest known is *R. hispida*, a low growing plant well suited for clothing dry banks. It is later to blossom than some of its relatives. One of the very best is *R. Kelseyi*, a spreading bush or small tree sometimes 12 feet tall. This has narrow-oblong leaflets, ruddy tinted as they unfold. The flowers, which open in advance or at the same time as the leaves, are deep pink and strung in pendent racemes on the current season's shoots. A well grown plant of this Acacia is a striking ornament in any garden. A chance hybrid between the above and *R. pseudoacacia* is *R. Slavinii*, which originated in the Durand-Eastman Park, Rochester, N. Y., being raised from seed of *R. Kelseyi* collected in 1914. This partakes of the bushy habit of *R. Kelseyi* but has slightly larger flowers, paler pink with the wings suffused with white and a yellow mark in the center of the standard. It is as free flowering as either of its parents and from its behavior in the Arboretum gives promise of being a highly desirable plant. *R. viscosa*, one of the most familiar members of the group, has pale pink blossoms; the young shoots, the peduncle, pedicels and calyx are covered with reddish, glandular-viscid hairs.

**Bush Honeysuckles.** Many species and hybrids are now in full blossom and the collections bordering Meadow Road and in the Shrub Garden will well repay the inspection of those interested. The group is a very large one and furnishes not only plenteous blossom but an abundance of fruits, which ripening in mid-June on some species provide a succession until November when the last of the tribe (*Lonicera Maackii podocarpa*) is at its best. Particularly attractive is the gray leaved Persian Honeysuckle (*L. Korolkowii*) and its variety (*floribunda*). Lovely also is *L. amoena*, a hybrid between *L. Korolkowii* and *L. tatarica*, of which a fine plant of the best form, known as *arnoldiana*, may be seen in the collection at the right of Meadow Road. In this shrub the main branches are stout and ascending-spooling; the branchlets are slender, whip-like and form a round-topped, pendulous mass clothed with bluish green, narrow-oblong, pointed leaves. The
Rhododendron carolinianum
flowers are pale pink, gaping, with very large and prominent yellow anthers which add much to the beauty of the blossoms. Like all the tribe it is free flowering and deserves to be better known.

**Lonicera spinosa Alberti.** A native of Turkestan, is now in bloom in the Shrub Garden. This is a low growing bush with slender, arching branches, blue-green, narrow-oblong leaves and axillary, pink flowers, usually in pairs, star-shaped with straight stamens tipped by straw-colored anthers. While this plant is perfectly hardy, it, like many other natives of central Asia, does not grow well in the Arboretum. It is happiest where the climate is less changeable and where spring frosts are not known. Somewhat similar in general appearance, but more vigorous of habit, is *L. syringantha* and its variety *Wolfii*, both with heliotrope-scented blossoms. This species is native of extreme northwestern China, where it is common in sub-alpine regions, forming a tangled mass, either prostrate or up to 5 or 6 feet tall. A related species, distinguished by having the under side of the leaves covered with a felt of pale gray hairs, is *L. thibetica*, a native of the upland thickets of the Chino-Thibetan borderland. This is a hardy shrub of compact habit with arching branches, forming a dense rounded mass seldom more than 5 feet tall and producing in abundance axillary fascicles of pink blossoms.

**Lonicera Maximowiczii sachalinensis** is a newcomer from northeastern Asia, having been raised in the Arboretum from seeds sent in 1917 by E. H. Wilson from Korea. A rounded bush 5 to 8 feet tall and more in diameter, this species has perfectly smooth, oblong-ovate leaves, each about 1½ inches long and ½ to ¾ of an inch broad, dark green on the upper and gray-green on the lower surface. The flowers are carmine, produced in pairs at the end of a long, slender peduncle. The corolla is gaping, with prominent white filaments and straw-colored anthers. In the great family of Bush Honeysuckles the color is almost unique and no species flowers more freely. The fruits are scarlet and ripen in July. Shapely of habit and free growing, this new species promises to be of much value in ornamental planting.

**Syringa Julianae**, a mid-season flowering species of Lilac, may now be seen in full blossom at the top of the Lilac bank. This is a native of central China, where it grows in rocky places between elevations of from 6000 to 9000 feet above sea level. It has ovate, pointed leaves, each 1½ to 2½ inches long and 1 inch and 1¼ inches broad, more or less covered with soft hairs. The flowers, borne in terminal panicles, are deep lilac-purple in the bud becoming paler as they open. It has relatively slender, ascending-spreadine shoots and forms a broad, rounded mass. Like other Lilac species it is perfectly hardy in the Arboretum and each and every year puts forth a wealth of blossom. *S. Wolfii*, a native of Korea and adjacent regions of Manchuria, where it grows in forest glades, on the margins of woodlands and in thickets, is also in bloom. Related to the well known *S. villosa*, this has spreading, often nodding panicles of dark lilac-purple blossoms. The corolla tube gradually increases in width from the base upwards and terminates in four hooked lobes.

E. H. W.