

species, it will be possible to recommend in advance the particular crosses, out of the hundreds which might be tried, which will yield the desired results. When this time comes we shall, indeed, be able to produce the rose visioned by Mr. Wilson, "The hardy rose of the future—the rose for the cotter's porch, for the rich man's garden; the rose that needs no protection in winter, the rose that will thrive in the coldest parts of these United States of America".

EDGAR ANDERSON.

W. H. JUDD.

Plants of Current Interest. The finest display in the Arboretum is still along the valley of the Bussey Brook and at the foot of Hemlock Hill. Though the Rhododendrons are rapidly dropping their brilliant trumpets, the Mountain Laurel is quite as rapidly coming into flower and while not so gorgeous in its coloring it is even lovelier in its general effect in the landscape. Further up the valley the conifers, with their clean new foliage are now as beautiful as if they were in flower. The blue spruces and silver firs are their very bluest and the Nikko Fir (*Abies homolepis*) is a symphony of contrasting greens; the old foliage is a dark bluish green, the new foliage much lighter, and the bloom on the backs of the needles a soft gray blue. At the very head of the valley close to the Walter Street Gate, the Japanese Golden Larch (*Pseudolarix amabilis*) is in full leaf. Its soft green needles, borne in whorls, are exquisite in their form and arrangement and well repay a close examination. The young cones, on the higher branches, are already large enough to be attractive. They are quite unlike the cones of other conifers in their general effect and look rather like clusters of pale green roses set along the upper side of the branches. They will continue to be a lovely sight all through the summer and early fall and will drop to pieces, scale by scale, just as the tree loses its needles for the winter.

In the Shrub Collection and along the road through the lilacs, the Mock-Oranges are about at their best. Every year the Arboretum receives numerous inquiries by mail and telephone as to the proper use of the words, Lilac, Syringa, and Mock-Orange. The name Syringa is a somewhat unfortunate one, since it is used for two different groups of flowering shrubs. As a common name it refers to the Mock-Oranges, shrubs with large, fragrant, white flowers with waxy petals. Scientifically these are classified in the genus *Philadelphus*. Syringa as a scientific name belongs to the genus which includes the Lilacs and Tree Lilacs, earlier-flowering shrubs with much smaller flowers borne in large panicles. In using common names it is therefore better to refer to the latter group as Lilacs and to the first as Mock-Oranges, and avoid possible confusion.



Anderson, Edgar and Judd, W. H. 1932. "Rosa rugosa and its Hybrids." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 6(8-9), 29–36.
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