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On Bussey Hill among the Barberries the Sun Roses (*Helianthemum*) make a fine display; several species of *Cytisus* and *Genista* laden with blossoms and late flowering Barberries, *Rosa multiflora cathayensis* with a number of miscellaneous plants add to the show of bloom. Nor must the Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*) be overlooked for its flowers are still the most conspicuous in the Arboretum. The Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) is fast opening its blossoms and so, too, is the Seashore Rose (*Rosa virginiana*). The new *Buddleia alternifolia* is in full bloom; this Chinese plant, remarkable in having alternate leaves and in producing its flowers on the old wood, promises to be a valuable addition to the gardens of eastern North America. A native of northwestern China, it would appear to be the hardiest of all the *Buddleias*.

Cornus kousa chinensis, the Chinese Flowering Dogwood, is now in perfect bloom in the border devoted to the newer Chinese plants on Bussey Hill. The specimen is a vase-shaped bush about 18 feet tall with a spread of 15 feet; the branches are numerous, ascending-spreading with relatively slender secondary branches which give off innumerable short, lateral branchlets each of which terminates in a solitary flower head. The flowers proper are an insignificant crowded mass subtended by four, creamy white bracts, ovate and pointed and overlapping at the base, forming a cross some 3 to 4 inches in diameter. The leaves are fully grown when the flowers are open and are opposite, lustrous green, lanceolate-ovate, each from 3 to 5 inches long, somewhat leathery in texture, dark green above and pale on the under surface. The new shoots are purplish. The fruit is a conglomerate mass singularly resembling a strawberry. The bracts as they open are greenish and from the time they begin to change to white until they fall is a period of about a month, so for at least three weeks this plant is a mass of white. It blooms just as freely as the native *C. florida* and has the advantage of a foil of green leaves below the inflorescences, moreover, its blossoms open when those of the

native species are past. Native of the margins of woods and thickets of central China between elevations of from 4000 to 8000 feet, the Chinese Flowering Dogwood was introduced into cultivation by E. H. Wilson in 1901; it has proved perfectly hardy in the Arboretum, where it has been growing since 1907. The late Professor C. S. Sargent considered that of lesser trees this Dogwood was one of the greatest gifts of the Orient to the gardens of eastern North America. At the moment it presents a lovely picture worth coming a long way to see.

Hydrangea xanthoneura is a large bush or small tree with dark, prominently lenticellate bark and opposite oblong or oblong-lance-shaped leaves, each from 4 to 6 inches long and 2 to 2½ inches wide, sharply serrate, dark green above and prominently veined and sparsely hairy on the under surface. The flowers are borne in flattened, cymose clusters each from 8 to 12 inches across, the inflorescences being liberally interspersed with prominent four-partite neutral flowers. It is very free flowering and one of the most ornamental of its tribe. There are varieties, *Wilsonii*, which is distinguished by its two year old branchlets being grayish or pale brown and its more lustrous leaves, and *setchuenensis*, which has light brown branchlets, leaves as much as 8 inches long and villous on the under side. A related species with much more hairy leaves is *H. Rosthornii*. These Hydrangeas are natives of moist woodlands on the mountains of central and western China, where they are common plants between elevations of from 5000 to 9000 feet. Introduced into the Arboretum in 1908, they have proved perfectly hardy and amenable and for many years past have flowered freely. Their cultural demands are similar to those of the well known *H. paniculata* to which they are in every way superior. A number of specimens may be seen in the border on Bussey Hill.

Styrax americana, the American Storax, is in flower on Centre Street Path. Although this plant has been in cultivation in the Arboretum since 1883, it is really not properly hardy in the climate of Massachusetts and in severe winters it suffers considerably. This year it came through well and has never blossomed so freely. It is a bush growing from 6 to 10 feet tall with numerous ascending stems, forming a broad, twiggy mass of no particular shape. The leaves, each from ¾ to 2½ inches long, are dull green, perfectly smooth on both surfaces and vary in shape from oval to obovate-lanceolate and may be either entire or coarsely and remotely toothed. The flowers are both axillary and terminal on short, leafy shoots of the current season. The corolla is pure white, about 1 inch broad and cleft almost to the base into five narrow, spreading and recurved lobes. The filaments are white and the anthers pale yellow, adding much to the attractiveness of the plant. When flowering freely it is a very pleasing shrub and one wishes that it suffered less from winter frosts. This species is widely distributed from Virginia south to Florida and west to Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana. There is also a variety *pulverulenta* which has leaves stellate-pubescent on both surfaces.



The Chinese Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus kousa chinensis*)



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