

ARNOLD ARBORETUM

HARVARD UNIVERSITY



ARK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

BULLETIN

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The Pinetum. The abundant rains of the past season have been a great benefit to the conifers in the Arboretum and many of these plants are now in an unusually good condition in spite of the severity of several recent winters. It is the province of the Arboretum to teach as far as it is possible to do so the value of all trees in this climate and to show those which fail as well as those which succeed, a duty which sometimes interferes with the beauty of the Arboretum as a garden. It has been shown by the Arboretum, for example, that the Balsam Fir, of the northeastern United States (*Abies balsamea*) and its near relatives, the Fir of the southern Appalachian Mountains (*A. Fraseri*), the Fir from the northern Rocky Mountain region (*A. lasiocarpa*), and the species of central Siberia, *A. sibirica*, can live here but soon become unsightly, and they are not worth growing in this climate for ornament or as timber trees. It has been shown here, too, that eastern Massachusetts is not cold enough for the White Spruce of the north, *Picea canadensis*. This beautiful tree grows here rapidly until it is about twenty-five years old and then, save in exceptional situations, it begins to become thin and soon loses its beauty.

Pacific Coast Conifers. Of the conifers of the Pacific coast region of North America the White Pine, *Pinus monticola*, is the most successful. It is hardy, grows rapidly and, although not more beautiful or as valuable as the native White Pine, *Pinus Strobus*, it is a tree well worth attention in New England. The Sugar Pine, *Pinus Lambertiana*, which on the California Sierra Nevada becomes the largest of all Pine trees, is perfectly hardy here and is in good condition although it grows slowly. The White Fir of the California Sierras,



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