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Effects of the Winter in the Arboretum. The effects of the heavy rainfall of the past summer and of the hot dry autumn which thoroughly ripened the wood of trees and shrubs are now shown in the generally good condition of the Arboretum collections which promise abundant crops of flowers and fruit. A few flower-buds have been killed, and there are occasionally brown leaves on Rhododendrons and other broad-leaved evergreens, but not so many as usual at this season of the year. Exotic conifers, including the new Firs, Spruces and Pines from western China, are generally uninjured but the foliage of the native White Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) is badly disfigured. For some reason not easy to explain this tree has never taken kindly to the Arboretum conditions, and suffers here more or less every winter.

It is a late spring in eastern Massachusetts, but several plants have already flowered in the Arboretum or are now flowering here. The flowers of the White Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) have nearly passed, but those of many of the Elms are now open and have rarely been more abundant; and the Scarlet Maple (*Acer rubrum*) enlivens the landscape with its bright red flowers.

Winter-flowering Witch Hazels. The flowers of these interesting plants have never been more beautiful and abundant than this year, although they appeared much later than usual. The flowers of *Hamamelis vernalis*, the species from southern Missouri, usually open late in December and in January, and those of the Japanese and Chinese species are usually fully open in January and February; but with the

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