of the corolla lobes. *Syringa Koehneana* is as usual flowering very sparingly, and it is doubtful if this Korean shrub will have much value as a garden plant in this climate. It is a vigorous, irregularly growing plant with large leaves and short, broad, compact clusters of rose-colored flowers white on the inner surface of the corolla lobes.

Tree Lilacs. The Lilac season closes with the flowering of these eastern Asiatic species which are popularly known as "Tree Lilacs." They all have handsome dark green leaves which fall in the autumn without change of color, and large usually unsymmetrical clusters of white flowers with the disagreeable odor of the flowers of the Privet. They are handsome and hardy plants and when in bloom the most conspicuous of the trees or large arborescent shrubs of their season. This year, the three species promise an unusually abundant bloom. The first of these plants to flower, *Syringa amurensis*, is a native of eastern Siberia, and a shrub twelve or fifteen feet high, with dark-colored bark, leaves pale on the lower surface, and short unsymmetrical flower-clusters which usually are produced only on alternate years. *Syringa pekinensis* blooms soon after *S. amurensis*. It is a native of northern China and a shrub sometimes thirty feet tall and broad, with stout spreading stems covered with yellow-brown bark separating into thin plate-like scales like that of some Birch-trees, narrow, long-pointed leaves, and short, unsymmetrical flower-clusters, usually in pairs. This species retains its leaves later in the autumn than the other "Tree Lilacs," and it flowers profusely every year. The last of these plants to flower, *Syringa japonica*, is a native of northern Japan and a tree sometimes forty feet high, with a tall straight trunk covered with lustrous brown bark like that of a Cherry-tree, a round-topped head of erect branches, broad thick leaves and mostly symmetrical flower-clusters often eighteen inches in length. This tree rarely flowers except in alternate years.

Berberis Vernae. Gardeners often complain that there are now too many Barberries, and it is certainly true that only an expert who has devoted years of special study to the genus can readily distinguish all the species, varieties and hybrids in the groups of which *Berberis vulgaris*, the common Barberry of western Europe, and now naturalized in the northeastern United States, is a typical plant. There are now probably at least one hundred different Barberries in the Arboretum Collection and the number is likely to increase rather than to decrease, for Barberries hybridize easily in collections like the one in the Arboretum, and it is more than probable that China, the headquarters of the genus, may still contain undescribed species. There may be too many Barberries but no one who has once seen *Berberis Vernae* as it is now growing in the Arboretum will regret that Wilson, who discovered this plant in China, sent seeds to the Arboretum in 1910 from the neighborhood of Sungtan in the upper Min Valley where he found it at an altitude of about nine thousand feet above sea-level, growing with the other Chinese Barberries. *B. Vernae* is here now about six feet tall and nearly as much in diameter. The long, slender, bright red branches covered with small, nearly entire leaves arch and droop gracefully, and from them hang on long stems innumerable slender clusters of small, pale yellow, slightly fragrant flowers which in the autumn are followed

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