and on the mountains of northern Alabama. *R. carolinianum* and *R. minus* are southern Appalachian species; the former is a dwarf compact shrub with leaves covered below more or less thickly with rusty brown scales, and compact clusters of small pure pink flowers which open in early spring. It grows apparently equally well in full exposure to the sun and in the shade of Pines and other trees. There is a white-flowered form with thinner, less rusty brown leaves, which is still rare in gardens and appears rather less hardy than the pink-flowered type. *R. minus* grows from low altitudes, as at the locks on the Savannah River above Augusta, Georgia, up to altitudes of thirty-five hundred feet on the Blue Ridge of North Carolina. It is a shrub sometimes ten or twelve feet tall, with leaves covered below with glandular scales and pink flowers, which in northern gardens do not open until the end of June, and after the shoots of the year have nearly attained their full growth. A fine variety of this species (var. *Harbisonii*) from northern Georgia with larger flowers is not yet in cultivation. The two European species *R. hirsutum* and *R. ferrugineum* are dwarf shrubs with small pink or carmine flowers, the former with branches covered with hairs and leaves glandular hispid on the lower surface, the latter with glabrous branchlets and leaves covered below with rusty brown scales. Of the two *R. hirsutum* has taken more kindly to cultivation, at least in the Arboretum. It can grow in soil impregnated with lime. *R. Smirnowii*, a native of the Caucasus, is said to become a tree sometimes twenty-five feet high; in the Arboretum, where it is hardy, it is a shrub four or five feet high, with oblong, acute leaves dark green above and covered below with a thick, yellowish or tawny felt which also covers the branchlets, and protects the leaves from the attacks of the lace wing fly. The flowers are bright pink and beautiful. Of the hundreds of species of *Rhododendron* which grow in China only the northern *R. micranthum* has up to this time showed itself able to support the New England climate. It is a straggling shrub with small leaves and small compact clusters of small white flowers which give to the plant the appearance of a *Ledum*. The Japanese *R. brachycarpum* is a handsome shrub with leaves which resemble those of *R. catawbiense*, and rather compact clusters of large pale pink or pale straw-colored flowers. This species, it is said, did not reach England until 1888; it was sent to the United States in 1862 by Dr. R. H. Hall, and flowered in Mr. Francis Parkman's garden in Boston a few years later. The original plant was presented by Mr. Parkman to the Arboretum where it bloomed for several years but was finally lost in transplanting. This hardy *Rhododendron* will, it is hoped, soon become common in gardens as Wilson has sent large supplies of seeds from Japan. Of these hardy species of *Rhododendron* the handsomest are *R. maximum*, *R. Smirnowii* and *R. carolinianum*, and for general cultivation here the two American species are the most desirable and the most easily obtained. In the next issue of these Bulletins some of the hardy hybrid *Rhododendrons* will be discussed.

Horsechestnuts. Many Horsechestnuts and Buckeyes are now in bloom in the collection of these trees and shrubs on the right hand side of the Meadow Road. Of the European Horsechestnuts (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) it is not necessary to speak, for one of the most splen-

did trees in the world it is known to all American tree lovers, at least in the northern and eastern states, where it has been growing for more than a hundred years, and noble specimens can be seen in Salem, Massachusetts, and other seaboard towns. The red-flowered Horsechestnut-tree (*Aesculus carnea*), with flowers which vary on different trees from flesh color to red, is supposed to be a hybrid between *A. hippocastanum* and one of the American red-flowered species, probably *A. Pavia*, which originated in Belgium many years ago. The handsomest of these hybrids, that is the one with the darkest red flowers, was raised in France and is known in nurseries as *A. Briottii* (*A. carnea* var. *Briottii*). There are small but well flowered specimens of this variety in the collection. Of the American species the first to bloom is the form of the Ohio Buckeye on which the leaves are composed of seven instead of five leaflets (*A. glabra* var. *Buckleyi*), a rare tree most abundant in Jackson County, Missouri. The flowers on the typical *A. glabra* open a little later and are followed by those of the variety from southern Missouri and Arkansas (var. *leucodermis*) distinguished by its smooth pale bark. The largest trees in the Arboretum of the Ohio Buckeye are on the left hand side of the South Street Gate and are still covered with flowers. The yellow-flowered *A. octandra* of the southern Appalachian forests is now in bloom. This is the largest of the American species. Hybrids of this tree and *A. Pavia* first raised in Europe more than a hundred years ago, to which the general name of *A. hybrida* should be given, are conspicuous from their red and yellow flowers. A number of these hybrids are now flowering in the collection and show much variation in the size and habit of the plants, and in the size and color of their leaves and flowers. Many of these hybrids are good garden plants. *A. georgiana*, the common Buckeye of the southern Piedmont region, which is sometimes a shrub and sometimes a slender tree up to thirty feet in height, with flowers in crowded clusters, red and yellow on some plants, bright red on others and yellow on others, shows again its value as a garden plant here at the north. Even more beautiful are the scarlet flowers of another southern plant, *A. discolor* var. *mollis*, one of the handsomest of the American plants introduced into gardens by the Arboretum. *A. arguta*, a little Texas shrub of the Ohio Buckeye Group is covered this year with long narrow clusters of bright yellow flowers marked with rose color at the base of the petals.

Symplocos paniculata is interesting as the only representative of a Family of plants which can be successfully grown in the Arboretum. It is a native of Japan and western China, and grows also on the Himalayas. The Arboretum plants are of the Japanese form which was introduced into the Parsons Nursery at Flushing, Long Island, at least fifty years ago. Although a distinct and beautiful plant, it appears to be still very little known in gardens, and in England where it flowers freely it does not, it is said, produce fruit. In this country it is believed that it will not grow in soil impregnated with lime. In the Arboretum *Symplocos paniculata* is a shrub twelve or fifteen feet tall and broad, branched to the ground, with dark green leaves, axillary clusters of small white flowers which are followed in the autumn by beautiful blue fruits about a third of an inch in diameter. The unusual color of the fruit is the chief attraction of this shrub. The Arboretum plants are now covered with flowers.

1921. "Horsechestnuts." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 7(7), 27–28. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321122>.

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