

Laburnum alpinum. The large plant of this *Laburnum* near the upper entrance to the Shrub Collection from the Forest Hills Road has this year been covered with its long racemes of clear yellow flowers and has shown, as it has for many years, the value of this shrub for northern gardens. *Laburnum alpinum*, which is a native of the elevated regions of southern Europe, is usually spoken of as the "Scotch Laburnum" probably because it is a favorite in the gardens of north Britain. In those of New England it is still extremely rare, although it is the handsomest large shrub with yellow flowers which is perfectly hardy here. It is hardier than *Laburnum vulgare*, or, as it is now called, *Laburnum anagyroides*, the small tree with shorter racemes of flowers which has been a good deal planted in the eastern states and which at the north is not always hardy, although occasionally good specimens are to be seen in the neighborhood of Boston. There are several garden forms of this *Laburnum* which have not, however, ever grown well in the Arboretum. A better plant for New England than *Laburnum vulgare* is its hybrid with *L. alpinum*, known as *L. Watereri* or *L. Parksii*. This is a hardy small tree and when in flower the handsomest tree with yellow flowers which can be grown in this climate. It flowered well this year in the Arboretum two weeks ago but the flowers have now faded.

A new Azalea. Several plants have been flowering during the past week of a handsome *Azalea* which is believed to be a hybrid between two American species, *Rhododendron arborescens* and *R. calendulaceum*, to which the name *R. Anneliesae* (see *A Monograph of Azaleas*) has been given. These plants were raised accidentally at the Arboretum from seeds probably of *R. calendulaceum* sown in 1896. They have been growing with that species and are now plants from four to six feet tall, and are valuable because they flower later than most forms of *R. calendulaceum*. From that species they chiefly differ in the more glabrous under surface of the leaves, in their sparsely hairy branchlets, and in the long corolla-tube of the more fragrant flowers which in the type plant are pale pink marked with a large yellow blotch, but in other individuals are orange-red and clear yellow. In shape and color the leaves resemble those of *R. arborescens*, but differ from those of that species in the presence of hairs on the underside of the midrib; from *R. arborescens*, too, it differs in the color of the flowers and in the hair near the base of the style.

Late Lilacs. *Syringa Sweginzowii*, one of the last to bloom and for some persons the most attractive of the species of Lilac recently introduced from China, has been covered as usual with its narrow clusters of long-tubed fragrant flowers, which flesh color in the bud become nearly white after opening. This species flowers freely as a small plant. Belonging to the group of species of which *Syringa villosa* is the best known and the most valuable, *S. reflexa* and *S. Sargentiana* are blooming sparingly this year. The two species are large, vigorous and hardy shrubs, with the large, dark green leaves of *S. villosa*.

The Laurels (*Kalmia latifolia*) at the northern base of Hemlock Hill are now in bloom, and the last and greatest flower show of the Arboretum year is at its height.



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