

close to the South Street entrance to the Arboretum and is within a short walk of the Forest Hills Station.

**Azaleas**, which all botanists call *Rhododendrons* now, are still conspicuous features in the Arboretum. As the flowers of *R. roseum* and *R. nudiflorum* begin to fade those of *R. calendulacea* have already opened their orange, yellow or reddish flowers. This shrub is an inhabitant of the mountain regions from southern New York to Georgia, and is often extremely abundant in North Carolina and Tennessee. In flower it is the most showy of the American Azaleas in the Arboretum and one of the most beautiful of all flowering shrubs. This plant has already been largely planted on the southern slope of Bussey Hill, and it is proposed to make it a special feature of the Arboretum. The conspicuous flowers of different shades of red of the Japanese *R. Kaempferi*, which has never bloomed more profusely in the Arboretum than it has this year, are beginning to fade and are followed by those of another Japanese species, *R. japonicum*. Although the flowers of this species are less brilliant than those of the better known *R. Kaempferi*, it is probably the handsomest of the Japanese Azaleas. The flowers are flame color and are more than three inches in diameter. As it grows here this Azalea is a round-topped, rather compact hardy shrub blooming freely every year. There is a bright yellow variety (var. *aureum*) which is also in the collection. *R. japonicum* was raised at the Arboretum from seeds collected in Japan by Professor Sargent in 1892 and has been growing here as long as *R. Kaempferi*. Long confused with the hybrid *Azalea mollis* of gardens, less attention has been paid to it, and it is only lately that its specific characters and value have been understood. One of the parents of the hybrid *A. mollis*, it is a handsomer, longer-lived and more satisfactory plant than that popular and well known Azalea which lives here only a short time. In gardens *R. japonicum* is still one of the rarest of all the hardy Azaleas. Many of the so-called Ghent Azaleas with yellow and different shades of red flowers are also in bloom. These are excellent plants raised by crossing in Europe many years ago various North American species with one of the yellow-flowered species, possibly *R. luteum* or *japonicum*. The origin of these plants, however, is very uncertain. They are among the best of the hardy garden Azaleas and are still occasionally met with in this country.

**Arborescent Viburnums.** Four Viburnums assume the habit of small trees in the Arboretum; three of these are eastern American, *V. prunifolium*, *V. Lentago*, *V. rufidulum*, and one is Japanese, *V. Sieboldii*. *V. prunifolium*, which is the first to bloom, is a tree often thirty feet high, with a short trunk usually less than a foot in diameter, rigid spreading branches beset with slender spine-like branchlets, thick, dark green, lustrous leaves which, handsome in summer, are splendid in the autumn with their dark red or scarlet colors. In the autumn the plants are conspicuous, too, from the red-stemmed drooping clusters of dark blue fruit covered with a glaucous bloom and from half an inch to three-quarters of an inch long. This plant takes kindly to cultivation and is quite hardy north of the region of its natural distribution which is in southern Connecticut. It has generally escaped the





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