



Annual Report 1910-1911

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the following report on the progress and condition of the Arnold Arboretum during the year ending June 30, 1911.

Beyond extending the existing groups of trees and shrubs with new species and varieties little planting has been accomplished since the appearance of my last report. An interesting new plantation will, however, be found on the southern slope of Bussey Hill just below the Overlook. Here in a bed 650 feet long and 15 feet wide have been planted in groups with several individuals of a species many of the plants raised from the seeds collected by [Wilson](#) during his first Arboretum expedition to China.

The position is an exposed one and has been selected that the hardiness of these plants may be well tested. After an absence of a year Mr. Wilson returned to the Arboretum in April from his second expedition to China. In spite of a serious accident in September, 1910, which nearly cost him his life, he succeeded in securing the seeds of all the cone-bearing trees from the mountains near the Tibetan frontier. To obtain information about these trees and to introduce them into cultivation were the principal objects of this journey; and the Arboretum is fortunate in having been able to distribute in this country and in Europe the seeds of these important trees which, with few exceptions, are new to science, and may be expected to play an important part in economic and ornamental planting. The results of this second journey are the seeds of 462 species of trees and shrubs, a number of plants, including many willows and poplars, now first introduced, a large collection of lily bulbs and of terrestrial Cypripediums, 2,500 sheets of herbarium specimens, and 374 photographs of trees and forest scenery.

Good results have been obtained from [Mr. Purdom](#)'s second season in China, passed among the little-known mountains of southern Shensi. He returned to Peking at Christmas and, having forwarded his collections of seeds and herbarium specimens, started west again for Kansu, where he arrived in May. At the end of 1911, his contract with the Arboretum ends and he will return to England.

During the year, 9,280 sheets have been inserted in the herbarium. This is the largest addition that has been made to it in any year since the herbarium was established.

The library now contains 24,747 bound volumes and 6,659 unbound pamphlets, 2,222 volumes and 423 pamphlets having been added during the year. The classified arrangement of the books on the shelves has been finished.

The interchange of plants and seeds with other horticultural and botanical establishments has been continued during the year. 10,222 plants, including grafts and cuttings, and 2,256 packets of seeds have been distributed as follows: To the United States, 8,854 plants and 561 packets of seeds; to Great Britain, 1,082 plants and 1,261 packets of seeds; to the continent of Europe, 286 plants and 366 packets of seeds; to Japan, 33 packets of seeds; to New Zealand, 28 packets of seeds; to Hawaii, 7 packets of seeds.

There have been received 5,736 plants and 1,949 packets of seeds; of these 4,886 plants and 105 packets of seeds came from the United States; from Great Britain, 742 plants and 26 packets of seeds; from the continent of Europe, 108 plants and 175 packets of seeds; from Japan, 54 packets of seeds; from China, 1,589 packets of seeds (Purdom, 304; Wilson, 1,285).

During the year instruction in dendrology has been given at the Arboretum by [Assistant Professor Jack](#) to students in forestry and to a class of thirty-three special students, principally teachers.

The printing of the [Bradley Bibliography](#) has proceeded steadily through the year. The first volume will be issued during the summer and the printing of the second volume is well advanced.

Work on the catalogue of the library and of the living collections has been continued. To facilitate the study of the living collections an illustrated Guide to the Arboretum, with a map showing the position of all roads, walks, and groups of trees has been published.

During the spring twelve weekly *Bulletins of Popular Information* were distributed without charge to persons interested in the Arboretum and in the cultivation of plants. The object of these Bulletins is to give, from time to time, in popular language, authentic information about the plants in bloom or otherwise worthy of special visits. The demand for these Bulletins, not only from persons living near Boston but from all parts of the country, seems to justify the cost of publication. To the Guide-book and to these Bulletins is probably due the large increase in the number of interested visitors to the Arboretum during the spring and summer of this year.

I take this opportunity to express again my thanks to the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture for their annual grant to increase the knowledge of trees, and to the members of the Visiting Committee who have been active and successful in enlarging the income of the Arboretum.

C. S. SARGENT, Director.