

NOTES ON SOME BOTANIC GARDENS.

BY W. T. MACOUN.

A few weeks ago the writer visited several of the Botanic Gardens in the United States, also the Arnold Arboretum at Boston, Mass., in the hope of learning something which could be put into practice in our own Arboretum and Botanic Garden at Ottawa. A few facts regarding these places may not be without interest to readers of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

NEW YORK BOTANIC GARDEN.

The New York Botanical Garden is of very recent origin. It was in 1895, only, that the \$250,000 subscriptions were guaranteed which were necessary before the 250 acres of land in the northern part of Bronx Park could be handed over by the City of New York. After that the plans for the development of the garden had to be made which included the construction of large buildings to be used for museum purposes and plant houses. These buildings, which are now in course of erection, will be among the finest of their kind. Bronx Park is naturally well wooded. A picturesque stream runs through part of it and adds much to the beauty of the landscape. A fine collection of herbaceous plants has already been brought together. They have been neatly labelled and arranged in botanical order in beds. The planting of trees has not yet been very extensive, but doubtless will be before long. In the fruticetum the shrubs have been arranged in beds as on the herbaceous grounds, but as yet only a limited number have been planted. A large force of men is at present engaged in making roadways, levelling, filling in, etc., and it is evident from the scope of the work that it is the intention to make this one of the finest botanic gardens in the world.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

The Arnold Arboretum at Jamaica Plain, Boston, Mass., occupies more than 200 acres of land. It is southwest of the city of Boston proper, and is in the course of the great parkway system of that city. Work was begun in this arboretum more than twenty years ago, so that some of the trees planted there have