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NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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NEWS LETTER

September 1956

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our vice-president, Mrs. Carl H. Pegg, has planned a program for our coming meeting of October 7 that will be of interest to everyone. Dr. H. L. Blomquist of Duke University will lecture on ferns. As you may know, Dr. Blomquist has written a book on the ferns of North Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Carroll of Siler City are gracious enough to act as host and hostess to us.

Your committee for action on the preservation of the Sand-Hill Pyxie found it necessary to incorporate the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society in order to hold title to the land on which the pyxie is growing. This has been done and a deed to four or five acres has been promised as a gift by the present owners, the Babcock Lumber Company of Sanford, N. C. We have acted none too soon, for this entire area is being commercialized.

The sudden decease of one of our former presidents was a shock to all of us. Mr. J. A. Warren's presence at our meetings will be missed. His was the quiet, unobtrusive strength of still meadows and gentle streams.

As your new president, I wish to thank all of those who have cooperated so fully in the preparation of the program and the News Letter, especially, Mrs. H. R. Totten, Mrs. Carl Pegg, Mrs. Walter Braxton, Mrs. Paul R. Spencer, and Miss Barbara Brooks.

Lionel Melvin

Notes from the meeting held May 6, 1956, at Lake Jeanette of the Guilford Wildlife Club of Greensboro:

A committee composed of Dr. B. W. Wells, Dr. O. M. Freeman, Dr. H. R. Totten, and Dr. Hollis Rogers was named to prepare a conservation list for North Carolina.

On the rare Pyxie (Pyxidanthera Brevifolia) stand in the Sandhills, Mr. Melvin reported that the owners will give a lease on the land - the value of the 4 to 5 acres is high. The N. C. Highway Department has no authority to buy such a site. The committee appointed and already working on this problem, were given power to act further as they see fit.

Dr. Totten distributed mimeographed lists of Guides and Manuals for the Identification of Native Plants.

In introducing the speaker for the meeting, Dr. Hollis Rogers of WCUNC, Dr. Totten said that he is most active in doing what WE are interested in doing.

Dr. Rogers urged the protection of sites where the native plants are passing out of existence, and the education of North Carolina to the value of our native plants. Wildlife, for instance, can be retained only if native habitat is available.

One practice, which should be discouraged because of the disastrous results, is that of requiring whole botany classes to bring in specimens of wild flowers. If certain plants are already scarce, such collections would likely serve to eradicate the plants. The more effective means of nature study would be to take the group camping in the midst of natural surroundings.

We cannot have soil without vegetation to cover.
We cannot have flowers without soil.
We cannot have flowers without water.

All are necessary, AND we cannot concerve without educating the children.

After the usual lunch and genuine fellowship, the group visited the following gardens:

The Anniversary Garden, which is still in its very early stage of development, is interesting -- especially the iris plantings.
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Daniel, 2411 Laurel Drive
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wicker, Route 1, Jamestown
Dr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Prall, 1404 Garland Drive
Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Braxton, Route 9

The gardens afforded the opportunity for study as well as for inspiration. Few wild flower gardens have been seen which can equal those in Greensboro. They were thriving, attractive, and in natural settings. The Society was fortunate in and appreciative of the privilege of visiting these gardens.

The following is a list of wild flowers in flower, Sunday, May 6, 1956 compiled by members and recorded by Mrs. H. R. Totten and Mrs. J. A. Warren:

Amsonia
Anemone, single pink, double white
Arrowood, (downy-leaf)
Atamasco Lily
Azalea, nudiflora, flame
Bellwort
Blue-bonnet, (Lupine)
Blue-eyed Grass
Blue Haw (viburnum ruffidulum)
Buttercup
Calycanthus (Sweet Betsy)
Cherry (wild)
Chickweed, Giant
Chrysogonum
Columbine
Coreopsis (all yellow flower)
Cross-vine (bignonia)
Fetter-bush (deciduous)
Foam -flower
Fringe-tree
Galax
Geranium
Ginger (wild) (heart-leaf)
Indian paint brush
Hollies
Indian strawberry
Iris, cristate (blue)
Iris, cristate (alba)
Kalmia latifolia (Mt. Laurel)
Lady Slipper (yellow)
Leucothoe (evergreen)
Lily of the valley
Lyre-leaf sage
Mistletoe
Pawpaw
Phlox (magneta), (blue), (subulata)
Rhododendron Catawbiense
Rhododendron Chapmanii
Rattlesnake Plantain
Saxifrage (small white flower)
Solomon's-seal
Star grass (yellow flowers)
Strawberry (wild) white flowers
Styrax grandiflora
Styrax Americana
Trillium, Toad, (yellow), grandiflora, nodding
Violet, white, cream, purple
Violet, bird's-foot
Woodbine or coral vine

JULIUS ALGERNON WARREN, 2nd PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY 1952-54



His Birth Certificate read Julius Algernon Warren,—but to his many friends he was "BEN" Warren. My own reaction is "BEN" Warren, gentle-man and friend always. He was a tall man and above the average size,—but with a gentle manner, voice, thoughts, and a gentle yet dignified walk. An outstanding figure in any gathering. This gentle-manliness was bestowed on old and young, tiny children and the University students, to close friends, relatives and strangers as well. High or low in rank was not the question with him; the friendly twinkle of his brown eyes fell on all alike. A gentle-man and a friend is gone; but he is not lost to us.

Born in Person County Nov. 24, 1881. The son of William and Lucerine Hester Warren. The members of the Wild Flower Society will recall that he met some of his classmates of Liberty Normal School at a meeting at The Herbert Smith's in May 1952 it was a joyful reunion. He became Treasurer of

the University of North Carolina in 1912, moving there from Durham where he was an officer in a banking firm.

His wife is the former Pattie Glenn Spurgeon of Hillsboro. They have one daughter, Caroline Warren Donnan of Chapel Hill, and three grand-children. The Chapel Hill Weekly of Tuesday, July 10, 1956, page 8 gives a picture of Mr. Warren with two of his grandchildren in his wild flower garden in a wooded ravine back of his home on Hillsboro Street. Few things were dearer to his heart than the hours he spent in that quiet spot with his daughter when she was a child, and in recent years, with his daughter's children. There beside a spring that rises beneath great oaks and poplars, he maintained a Wild Flower Garden. Hepaticas, Trillium, Azaleas, Mountain laurel, rhododendron, and many other native flowers and shrubs grow there. Since his retirement Mr. Warren had spent much time working in his yard and gardens.

At the time Mr. Warren retired as University Treasurer in 1952, he was the University's oldest administrative officer in point of service and age. He retired at 70 and would have been 75 years old this November.

U.N.C. Chancellor Robert B. House said of him: "Mr. Warren was a very fine and faithful officer of the University for 40 years as well as a close personal friend".

Quoting from the Chapel Hill News Leader, Page 6, Thursday, July 12, 1956: ". . . . . of all the honors that came to Mr. Warren he felt that the one that made him the proudest was the tribute paid to him by his South Building colleagues upon his retirement in August, 1952, when they presented him a silver bowl and tray with this inscription—"Julius Algernon Warren, whose steady rhythm of work and play and worship has been an inspiration to his colleagues for forty years."

Through the years Mr. Warren has been active in the civic and religious life of the University community. He served for 20 years as a steward of the University Methodist Church and was church treasurer for six years.

Mr. Warren died at North Carolina Memorial Hospital Sunday, July 8, 1956, after being a patient there for two weeks. The funeral services were held Tuesday, July 10, at 11:00 A. M. at University Methodist Church. The big front door of this church came to mean Mr. Warren there—each Sunday Morning—to greet the comers for the 11:00 o'clock service with his warm smile, a handshake and a word of welcome while handing you the program of the service. In lieu of flowers the family asked that a donation be made to the University Methodist Church Building Fund. In conducting the funeral service Rev. Charles S. Hubbard, Pastor, paid this high tribute to Mr. Warren: "He was a valuable servant of the University,—but he was far more than that; he was a servant of man. And far more than that; he was truly a servant of God."

By Mrs. H. R. Totten