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NEWSLETTER

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE FOLLOWING PAPERS WERE FURNISHED TO ME FROM THE FILES OF MR. HENRY RANKIN, JR. AND I SHOULD LIKE TO LET THE LETTERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

I MIGHT ADD THAT I KNEW "MR. HENRY", AS WE AFFECTIONATELY CALLED HIM, FOR MANY YEARS. HE WAS ALWAYS A KIND AND GENTLE MAN, WHO SHARED HIS GREAT FORTUNE OF TALENTS WITH OTHERS. I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT HE WAS GREATLY RESPONSIBLE FOR GIVING ME THE INSPIRATION TO BEGIN THE STUDY OF OUR NATIVE PLANTS. I NOW OWN AND AM LIVING ON THE LAND THAT ONCE BELONGED TO MR. RANKIN. HE HAD GATHERED UP MANY SPECIES, OF PLANTS AND SET THEM OUT TO GROW.

ALSO, WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE HIS SON, HENRY RANKIN JR. AS A RECENT MEMBER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

W. GORDON BUTLER

PAST PRESIDENTS OF N.C.W.F.P.S.

1951 - 1952	MRS. HERBERT P. SMITH
1952 - 1954	MR. J.A. WARREN
1954 - 1956	MRS. PAUL SPENCER
1956 - 1958	MR. LIONEL MELVIN
1958 - 1960	MRS. CARL PEGG
1960 - 1962	MR. WALTER BRAXTON
1962 - 1964	MR. W. GORDON BUTLER

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE x x xx SPRING MEETING

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC. WILL BE AT BOONE ON MAY 23. IT WAS THE UNANIMOUS WISH OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD THAT THE SPEAKER WOULD BE MRS. B.W. STALLINGS AND SHE COULD TELL US WHAT SHE PLEASED ABOUT THE GARDEN, REGION, OR WHATEVER SHE WISHED. MRS. STALLINGS IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS AND WILL SEND MRS. BRAXTON, THE EDITOR OF THE NEWSLETTER, INFORMATION AS TO MEETING PLACE, EATING PLACE, ETC.. PART OF THE DINING ROOM AT THE DANIEL BOONE HOTEL WILL BE RESERVED AND WE HOPE TO HAVE THE BUSINESS MEETING AND TALK IN ONE OF THE SOCIAL ROOMS OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

THE MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC. MET IN FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. AT THE METHODIST COLLEGE OCTOBER 11, 1964. PRESIDENT BUTLER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER SHORTLY AFTER 10:30 A.M. AND AT ONCE CALLED ON DR. WELLS FOR HIS PART OF THE PROGRAM, WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY. HIS SUBJECT WAS, THE PROBLEM OF THE FUTURE OF WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION. HE TALKED OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF WILD FLOWERS VS. THE HUMAN ASPECTS, THE EVOLUTION OF MAN, THE FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF NATURE, OUR INTEREST IN WILDNESS, OF THE MILLIONS OF YEARS OF MAN, AND WHY ANIMALS ACT THE WAY THEY DO, THE MASS EVACUATION FROM THE COUNTRY TO THE CITY. HE ALSO TOLD HOW MORE PEOPLE ARE GETTING INTERESTED IN THE THINGS OF NATURE. HE HAD A FEW WORDS ABOUT WM. LANIER HUNT AND HIS GARDEN AT CHAPEL HILL. HE TOLD THAT OUR GREATEST HOPE WAS THROUGH THE STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS. NEXT CAME CRABTREE FALLS AND WHAT A PLACE OF NATURAL BEAUTY IT WAS. ONE OF THE TRAGIC ASPECTS IS THAT CITY CHILDREN WITH THE INHERITANCE FOR NATURE MAY NOT EVEN EXPERIENCE THE ENVIRONMENT TO BRING ABOUT THE VALUE OF RESPONSIBILITY. HE TOLD OF HIS CAMPING EXPERIENCES ON THE MITCHELL RANGE AND THAT THERE WAS NO ONE UP THERE THAT SEEMS TO ENJOY THAT PART OF OUR COUNTRY. THINGS AND PLACES ARE THERE NOW JUST AS THEY WERE DURING THE DAYS OF THE INDIANS. HE ALSO SAID NOBODY WOULD WALK IN THERE ANY MORE FOR THERE WERE TOO MANY CARS, PEOPLE HAVE MORE HEART ATTACKS NOW THAN EVER BEFORE BECAUSE THEY DO NOT EXERCISE ENOUGH, ALSO THAT THERE WILL BE NO VANDALISM IN THERE FOR THAT REASON. HE URGED EVERYONE TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO PROTECT OUR FORESTS. HE TOLD US OF VERNON E. JOHNSON, A 68 YEAR OLD FORMER HEAD OF THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO., WHO HAS RETIRED TO THE WOODS, WHICH ALMOST 50 YEARS OF WORK AND PLAY HAVE MADE HIS ELEMENT. HE READ A LETTER FROM BOB MAYNARD IN OHIO EXPRESSING HIS FEELINGS ABOUT WAS WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO OUR FORESTS WHILE CANADA IS PRESERVING A GREAT PART OF THEIRS.

DR. WELLS HAD WRITTEN A LETTER TO THE T.V. GUIDE MAGAZINE: "ONE MANS THEORY OF THE REAL REASON FOR THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES' SUCCESS." HIS WAS THAT FOR A MILLION YEARS MAN WAS EVOLVED IN THE WILDERNESS OF THE NATURAL WORLD, NOW HE FINDS HIMSELF IN THE ARTIFICIAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE CITY, WHICH IN EVERY ASPECT IS AN ABNORMAL ONE, NO FRESH AIR, NO HUNTING, NO ADVENTURE; THEY PRESENT A MISSING LINK WITH THOSE YEARS OF THE PAST AND PEOPLE RESPOND TO THAT. THEIR SHOW HAS RATED # 1 FOR SOME TIME ON T.V. DR. WELLS HAD GOTTEN A LETTER FROM MAX BAER (JETHRO) THANKING HIM FOR THE ARTICLE THAT HAD APPEARED IN T.V. GUIDE MAGAZINE.

AS USUAL DR. WELLS HELD THE ATTENTION OF HIS AUDIENCE BY HIS COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT INTERSPERSED WITH GREAT HUMOR, WIT AND ENTHUSIASM. 52 MEMBERS SHARED AND ENJOYED HIS WONDERFUL TALK. AMONG THE MANY NEEDS OF MAN, WE REALIZE THAT WE NEED MORE PEOPLE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE TO TEACH THE REST OF US LIKE DR. WELLS.

BEGINNING OUR BUSINESS SESSION DR. TOTTEN SAID HE EXPECTS MORE PEOPLE TO SHOW INTEREST IN PRESERVATION. THERE WAS QUITE A BIT OF DISCUSSION ON THIS.

MR. MELVIN ANNOUNCED SOME PLANTS THAT WERE VERY NEAR EXTINCT, THEY BEING, LITSEA AESTIVALIS, LINDERA MELISSAEFOLIUM, PYXIDANTHERA BREVIFOLIA. A POSSIBILITY OF A GRANT FOR SURVIVAL AND EXPERIMENTS ON SEVERAL PLANTS WERE SUGGESTED BY HIM AND HE ASKED THAT DR. TOTTEN, DR.

FALL MINUTES (CONT'D)

WELLS AND DR. HARPER TO LOOK INTO THIS. DR. TOTTEN ALSO SUGGESTED DR. RADFORD AND DR. COOPER ON THIS COMMITTEE.

MR. SHINN REPORTED ON SOME CONSERVATION. A LAKE OF 320 ACRES BEING CONSTRUCTED AND PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO GO IN THERE AND SALVAGE WHAT THEY COULD. SEVERAL TRIPS HAD BEEN MADE BEFORE THE AREA WAS FLOODED

PRES. BUTLER HAD PLANTED ABOUT 60 PLANTS AROUND THE COLLEGE GROUNDS AND HAD MANY MORE TO PLANT.

EVERYONE REGISTERED AS PENCIL AND PAPER WAS PASSED AROUND TO THEM.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS GIVEN AS HAVING A BALANCE OF $116.21 AFTER ALL BILLS WERE PAID.

ALL BUSINESS BEING TAKEN CARE OF, WE ALL JOINED THE LINE IN THE DINING ROOM AND ENJOYED A REAL GOOD LUNCH PREPARED BY THE COLLEGE. AFTER LUNCH WE WERE TAKEN TO ONE OF THE CITY PARKS ON THE BANKS OF THE CAPE FEAR RIVER AND SPLIT UP INTO GROUPS FOR TOURS AROUND THE TRAILS. MR. MELVIN, MR. BUTLER, DR. TOTTEN, DR. HARPER AND DR. WELLS HAD CHARGE OF OUR TOURS.

WE HAD A SHORT POLITICAL SPEECH BY DR. WELLS AIDED BY DR. HARPER AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE ON THIS MATTER WAS WELL BASED AND WELL PUT.

THE EVOLUTION OF MAN AND PLANTS WERE DISCUSSED. DR. WELLS TOLD HOW THAT ENGINEERS HAD GONE DOWN ON THE COAST AND BUILT GREAT SAND HILLS TO BREAK THE OCEAN FROM ERODING THE LAND, BUT STORMS HAD DONE THEIR DAMAGE JUST THE SAME. THEY TOLD US THAT WE HAD TO HAVE AN INTERGRATED SOCIETY, BUT NOT RACIALLY, TO SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD FOR EVERYTHING IS DEPENDENT ONE ON THE OTHER. WE HAVE BEEN LIVING IN A MACHINE AGE BUT NOW WE ARE GOING INTO THE ATOMIC AGE WHERE NO HUMAN CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE, AND JUSTICE MUST BE WORKED OUT, BUT SCIENCE WILL PLAY A BIG PART IN THE SOLUTION.

FOR THOSE OF US WHO MISSED OUT ON OUR REGULAR CHURCH DAY WE FELT THAT THE DAY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN SPENT MORE WISELY. THANKS WERE EXPRESSED TO OUR OFFICERS AND PROGRAM CHAIRMAN FOR ONE OF THE BEST DAYS OF OUR SOCIETY.

GORDON BUTLER, PRESIDENT

WALTER B. BRAXTON, ACTING SECRETARY

MINUTES OF THE N.C.W.F.P.S. BOARD MEETING

THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC., MET IN REGULAR SESSION SUNDAY MARCH 14, 1965 WITH THE TOTTENS AT CHAPEL HILL, N.C. WITH THE PRESIDENT,MR. BUTLER PRESIDING.

IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FALL MEETING BE PUT IN THE SPRING NEWS LETTER SO THAT THOSE WHO DID NOT GET TO THE MEETING COULD SEE WHAT HAD BEEN DONE.

MR. BUTLER HAD VISITED THE SAVANAH AT BURGAW, N.C. WHERE MOST OF THE NATURAL PLANT LIFE HAS BEEN RUINED BY TRING TO FARM THE AREA BESIDES THE HOUSING PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN PUT UP THERE. MR. MELVIN THOUGH WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE PRESERVATION OF BLADEN LAKE STATE FOREST. HE WILL HAVE AN ARTICLE ON THIS MATTER IN THE NEWS LETTER.

OUR PRESIDENT HAS BEEN SELECTED AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NURSERYMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AND WE THINK HIM WORTHY OF THIS POST. MR. BUTLER IS WORKING ON SETTING ASIDE A PLOT AT HOPE MILLS AS A CONSERVATION PARK FOR VISITORS TO SEE WHEN THEY VISIT THEIR PLANT.

A CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED FOR A PARK SOMEWHERE IN THE SAND HILLS. THERE NOT BEING ONE ANY CLOSER THAN THE CLIFFS OF THE NEUSE AT GOLDSBORO. SO MANY SUPER-HIGHWAYS HAVE RUINED OUR BEST NATURAL FORESTS AND STREAMS AND ARE LEAVING NO PLACE FOR OUR PARKS ANYMORE.

DR. TOTTEN EVER ALERT FOR THE GOOD OF OUR SOCIETY HAD A THOUGHT AFTER 12:00 AT NIGHT FOR ONE OF OUR MEETING PLACES, AND THAT WAS AT WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE AT CULLOWHEE ; WHERE PLANS ARE CURRENTLY BEING MADE FOR WHAT WILL BE AN ANNUAL WESTERN CAROLINA NATURALIST'S RALLY ON THE WEEK END OF APRIL 23-25, 1965. THE RALLY WILL CONSIST OF FIELD TRIPS EMPHASIZING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, SUPPLEMENTED BY ILLUSTRATED LECTURES. VIOLA BRAXTON REPORTED OF PLANS TO ACQUAINT THE PEOPLE OF GREENSBORO AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES OF THE ANNIVERSARY GARDEN WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE GREENSBORO COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS.

SEVERAL MORE SITES WERE CONSIDERED FOR OUR SPRING MEETING PLACE BUT BOONE WAS FINALLY SELECTED AND THE DATE WAS SET FOR MAY 23, 1965. DR. TOTTEN WILL HAVE MORE ON THIS IN THE NEWS LETTER.

SOME OF THE OLD HOMES AT HILLSBORO WERE DISCUSSES AS BEING RESTORED AND MRS. WARREN'S OLD HOME WAS ONE OF THEM.

THE OFFICE OF HISTORIAN AND LIBRIARIAN WAS SUGGESTED TO BE COMBINED INTO ONE BUT THAT WAS TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE SPRING MEETING.

IN SOME WAY THE GAME OF BRIDGE CAME UP AND IT WAS FOUND THAT DR. TOTTEN HAD WON A PRIZE AT A BRIDGE PARTY.
OUR VICE PRESIDENT PUT IN A TELEPHONE CALL TO MRS. B.W. STALLINGS AT BOONE ABOT OUR MEETING THERE.

ALL BUSINESS BEING OUT OF THE WAY WE WERE SERVED A DELICIOUS MEAL AND BEFORE LEAVING WE WERE TAKEN FOR A WALK AROUND THE TOTTEN'S LAWN AND GARDEN.

WALTER B. BRAXTON, SEC. PRO-TEM.

SOME NATIVE ORCHIDS

LIPARIS LILIIFOLIA OR LILY-LEAVED TWAY-BLADE IS NONE TOO COMMON IN OUR WOODLANDS. UNLIKE OTHER NATIVE ORCHIDS, IT GROWS UP FROM A PSUEDO-BULB. IN EARLY APRIL THERE IS SENT UP FROM THIS BULB A SHOOT COVERED BY SEVERAL SHEATHS. AS SOON AS WEATHER PERMITS, THE SHEATHS GIVE WAY AND THE PLANT PRODUCES TWO GREEN LEAVES.

BETWEEN THESE TWO LEAVES THE FLOWER SPIKE PUSHES ITS WAY UPWARD. THE FLOWERS ARE ODD LOOKING, THE SIDE PETALS AND SEPALS BEING REDUCED TO THIN HAIR-LIKE BODIES, THE LIP BEING CONTRASTINGLY BROAD, DELICATE BROWNISH ORCHID IN COLOR AND IRIDESCENT. THE BLOSSOMS ARE BORNE TO THE SIDE OF THE PSEUDO BULB AND EACH YEAR A NEW PARENT PLANT IS FORMED BESIDE THE OLD BULB, THE PLANT OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR ARISES FROM THE OLD BULB, DRAWING UPON THE OLD ONE FOR FOOD UNTIL IT IS EXHAUSTED.

CONTRARY TO GENERAL BELIEF THEY MAY BE TRANSPLANTED SUCCESSFULLY. WE HAVE HAD THEM IN THE GARDEN FOR THREE YEARS RECEIVING VERY LITTLE ATTENTION. THE TWAY-BLADES ARE MOST LIKELY TO BE FOUND IN DAMP PLACES, BUT WERE DISCOVERED ON A HILLSIDE IN DENSE SHADE.

WE WERE THRILLED THE DAY WE DISCOVERED A COLONY OF WHORLED POGONIA NEAR US. THIS EXOTIC LOOKING PLANT IS OF INTEREST TO ANYONE WITH A MINIMUM OF CURIOSITY. IT IS AS BIZARRE IN APPEARANCE AS ORCHIDS OF THE TROPICS. THE PLANT STEM IS 10 - 12 INCHES TALL AT THE SUMMIT AND BEARS A SET OF FIVE LEAVES, FROM THE CENTER OF LEAVES COMES THE FLOWER WITH ITS LONG PURPLE SEPALS ONVERHANGING THE STRIKINGLY COLORED LIP, WHICH IS NILE GREEN AT AT BACK, LIGHTER IN COLOR TOWARDS THE FRONT. THIS POGONIA, (P. VERTICILLATA WAS FIRST DESCRIBED UNDER ITS PRESENT SCIENTIFIC NAME BY THOMAS NUTTALL, AN EARLY AMERICAN BOTANIST.

THE RATTLE-SNAKE PLANTAIN IS AS HANDSOME WHEN ONLY IN LEAF AS IT IS IN FLOWER, MAKING IT A YEAR AROUND FAVORITE. THE PLANT CREEPS BY PROSTRATE STEMS AND IN SUCH A MANNER PRODUCES ROSETTES OF LEAVES AT INTERVALS ABOUT THE PLACE IT GROWS. THE LEAVES ARE DEEP GREEN WITH WHITE MARKINGS ALL OVER THE UPPER SURFACE. THIS ORCHID, EPIPACTIS PUBESCENS IS COMMON HERE, USUALLY GROWING IN THE PINE BARRENS. IN JULY IT SENDS UP A SPIKE OF WHITE SAC-SHAPED FLOWERS. LIKE SOME OF THE LADIES' TRESSES THE LEAVES REMAIN GREEN THE ENTIRE YEAR.

THE GENUS SPIRANTHES, OR LADIES' TRESSES ARE REPRESENTED BY FOUR SPECIES IN THIS LOCALITY. THESE PLANTS ALL HAVE THEIR FLOWERS ARRANGED IN SPIRAL FASHION UPON THE STALKS. THE SPIRANTHES BLOSSOM THROUGHOUT ALL SEASONS (EXCEPT WINTER);DIFFERENT SPECIES OCCUR AT DIFFERENT TIMES OF THE YEAR. IN EARLY SPRING THE VERNAL TWISTED STALK CAN BE SEEN IN THE MEADOWS. IN THE SUMMER WE HAVE THE SMALL SPECIES KNOWN AS BECK'S TRESSES (S. BECKII) AND THE GRASS LEAVED S. GRACILIS, WHICH IS MUCH TALLER AND MORE STRIKING IN APPEARANCE. S. CERNUA IS THE LAST ORCHID OF THE SEASON AND PERHAPS THE COMMONEST, BEARING FLOWERS THAT, HOWEVER INSIGNIFICANT IN SIZE, ARE MARVELOUS PIECES OF MECHANISM TO WHICH SUCH MEN AS CHARLES DARWIN AND ASA GRAY DEVOTED HOURS OF STUDY.

THE EARLIEST ORCHID TO BLOOM HERE IS THE SHOWY ORCHIS (ORCHIS SPECTABILIS) WHICH IS FOUND IN OUR WOODS. THE FLOWERS OF PURPLISH PINK, OF DEEPER AND LIGHTER SHADES ARE BORNE SEVERAL ON A STEM, WHICH IN TURN ARISES FROM BETWEEN BASAL LEAVES. THE FLOWERS ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL AND FRAGRANT BUT IT IS BEST LEFT IN NATIVE HABITAT. IF PLACED IN THE GARDEN THEY WILL PROBABLY LIVE AND BLOOM FOR ONE YEAR -- THEN DISAPPEAR.

WE HAVE GROWN EXCELLENT SPECIMENS OF HABENARIA FIMBRIATA. THE BEAUTIFUL

NATIVE ORCHIDS CONTINUED -

PURPLE AND PALE LILAC FLOWERS WERE EXQUISITE, BUT PLANTS SHORT-LIVED.

ANOTHER NATIVE ORCHID IS APLECTRUM HYEMALE (ADAM AND EVE). THIS INTERESTING SPECIES GROWS ABOUT ONE FOOT HIGH, BEARING GREENISH-BROWN FLOWERS LASTING A LONG TIME. IT PREFERS RICH LOAM AND SEMI-SHADE.

MRS. J. ROBT. CHRISMON
407 MUIR'S CHAPEL RD.
GREENSBORO, N.C.

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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ASHEVILLE_BILTMORE BOTANICAL GARDENS

TOM SHINN

THE FIRST ACTUAL PLANTINGS IN THE BOTANICAL GARDENS WERE STARTED ON MARCH 23, 1964. SINCE THAT DATE, UNDER MRS. MC CRACKEN, HORTICULTURE CHAIRMAN, MORE THAN 5000 PLANTS HAVE BEEN SET OUT.

THE ASHEVILLE GARDEN CLUB HAS COMPLETED PLANTING THEIR SECTION OF THE CRAYTON WILDFLOWER TRAIL, WITH ABOUT 2000 PLANTS.

THE HAW CREEK GARDEN CLUB, IN DEVELOPING THEIR PORTION OF THE AZALEA TRAIL, FOUND AN UNEXPECTED DIVIDEND IN A NATURAL SPRING AND BOG WHICH THEY ARE DEVELOPING ALONG WITH OTHER SPACE IN THE HEATH COVE.

THE BEAVERDAM HOME AND GARDEN CLUB IS SPONSORING THE ARBOR SECTION OF THE CRAYTON TRAIL AND CONTRIBUTED $100 TO START THIS WORK.

THE MIMOSA GARDEN CLUB HAS DONATED $112 TO PURCHASE MATERIAL FOR THEIR SECTION OF THE AZALEA TRAIL.

SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS WERE MADE TO PAY FOR LABOR, AND OTHERS ALLOWED US TO GATHER PLANT MATERIALS ON THEIR LAND, ALL GREATLY APPRECIATED.

MEMORIALS HAVE BEEN SET UP TO FORMER MEMBERS HENRY HOOD AND LATTA CLEMENT.

THE NEW FOOT BRIDGE ACROSS REED CREEK, A GIFT OF MRS. GAY GREEN, IS NOW 95% COMPLETED.

DUE TO A COLORFUL TRAVELING BOG EXHIBIT, ARRANGED BY MRS. TOM SHINN IN THE BACK OF HER STATION WAGON, DONATIONS TOTALING $350 WERE RECEIVED TO PAY FOR TRUCK HIRE AND LABOR TO SAVE BOG PLANTS. MORE THAN 35 TRIPS WERE MADE TO A BOG NEAR BREVARD, AND MANY RARE PLANTS FROM THERE ARE NOW IN TEMPORARY LOCATIONS AWAITING BOG CONSTRUCTION IN THE GARDENS.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MR. PAUL TEAL THE GARDENS OBTAINED 300 OLD SPLIT RAILS FOR A FENCE, 100 OF THESE BEING DONATED BY MR. TEAL

THE GARDENS ARE FORTUNATE IN BEING OFFERED THE WILLIAM KNIGHT BOTANICAL COLLECTION, A GIFT OF MRS. KNIGHT AND MR. AND MRS. HARVEY LOUGHEAD. MR. KNIGHT WAS ONE OF THE FOUR BOTANISTS WHO WORKED TOGETHER IN THE ASHEVILLE AREA DURING THE PERIOD 1930-1947. OTHERS WERE MR. C.D. BEADLE, MR. FRANK CRAYTON, AND MR. LATTA CLEMENT, WHO TOGETHER WITH SYLVESTER OWEN COMBED

BOTANICAL GARDENS, CONTINUED -

THESE MOUNTAINS FOR BOTANICAL SPECIMENS.

E.L. DEMMON WAS AUTHORIZED TO SEARCH FOR A LOG CABIN TO SET AT THE HEAD OF THE COVE AND HE AND HIS COMMITTEE EXAMINED A NUMBER OF THEM IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA. SEVERAL WERE OFFERED AS GIFTS TO THE GARDENS. FINALLY MRS. HUBERT HAYES DONATED THE LOGS OF A CABIN THAT HAD BEEN BOUGHT AND STORED BY HER HUSBAND A SHORT TIME BEFORE HIS DEATH. THIS CABIN IS HER GIFT TO THE GARDENS IN HIS NAME. NO MORE FITTING MEMORIAL COULD BE GIVEN THAN THE HUBERT HAYES CABIN, AS NO ONE ELSE HAS DONE MORE THAN HE TO PERPETUATE AND ENCOURAGE OLD MOUNTAIN TRADITIONS AND LEGENDS OF THIS REGION.

MR. RUSSEL DONNELLY OF MINE HOLE GAP AND MR. JOHN SHUFORD HAVE AGREED TO DONATE THE STONE AND THEIR SERVICES TO BUILD THE FIREPLACE AND CHIMNEY. WE WOULD LIKE AN OLD CRANE FOR THE FIREPLACE; DO YOU HAVE ONE?

THE GRAVE OF MR. JOHN LYON, FAMOUS EARLY BOTANIST, WAS TRACED IN RIVERSIDE CEMETARY, AND ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH A REDEDICATION WAS HELD AT HIS GRAVE. DR. IVAN PARKINS WAS MASTER OF CERMONIES AND THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER WAS MR. D. HIDEN RAMSEY. MRS. MC CRACKEN, MRS. R.L. JOINER AND MRS. FRANK KEENER OF THE BOTANICAL GARDENS HAD PREVIOUSLY SET OUT A NUMBER OF PLANTS AROUND THE GRAVE, INSIDE A GRANITE CURBING PLACED BY MR. HUNTER, CEMETARY SUPERINTENDENT. THE PLANT SPECIMANS WERE THOSE WHICH HAD BEEN NAMED BY MR. LYON.

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THERAPEUTIC PLANTS

WE ALL KNOW, THE WORD "THERAPEUTIC" PERTAINS TO THE HEALING ART --OR CONCERNS REMEDIES FOR DISEASES.

LET ME, FIRST GIVE YOU A LITTLE BACKGROUND CONCERNING PLANT HISTROY AND THEN DISCUSS, IN MORE DETAIL, SOME OF THE PLANTS THAT HAVE BEEN USED MEDICINALLY DOWN THROUGH THE AGES AND ARE, IN FACT, STILL BEING USED TODAY-- AS WELL AS MENTION SOME OTHERS THAT HAVE MORE RECENTLY BEEN DISCOVERED TO HAVE IMMENSE THERAPEUTIC POSSIBILITIES AND VALUE.

SINCE EARLY TIMES PLANTS HAVE PROVIDED THE MEDICINAL REMEDIES OF THE HUMAN RACE. THE WHOLE STRUCTURE OF MODERN PHARMACOPEIA IS BASED ON HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE OF FLOWERS, HERBS, PLANTS AND TREES. NATURE HAS PROVIDED A COMPLETE STOREHOUSE OF HERBAL REMEDIES TO CURE THE ILLS OF MANKIND, AND TODAY'S MEDICINES ARE ONLY THE CHEMICAL-PHARMACEUTICAL TRANSLATIONS OF THE HEALING PROPERTIES OF HERBS. LOOKING BACK THROUGH HISTORY, WE FIND THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PLANT THAT HAS NOT BEEN USED, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER BY MAN AS FOODSTUFF, A HEALING, LIFE-GIVING MEDICINE -- OR A DEADLY POISON.

SINCE THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION MAN HAS FED ON BERRIES, FRUITS--GRASSES - HERBS AND ROOTS. HIS SELECTION OF VEGETABLE FOOD, IN PREHISTORIC TIMES, WAS ENTIRELY BY TRIAL AND ERROR. HE CONTINUED TO EAT THE PLANTS THAT AGREED WITH HIM WHILE REMAINING AWAY FROM THOSE THAT MADE HIM ILL.

THE SHEPHERDS OF THE TRIBAL COMMUNITY FLOCKS, REMAINING CLOSE TO NATURE AND HAVING PLENTY OF TIME DURING THEIR LONELY TASKS, OBSERVED THE BEHAVIOR OF VARIOUS PLANTS AND THE EFFECTS ON THEIR ANIMAL CHARGES. IN THIS WAY, THEY BECAME THE SAGES AND MEDICINE MEN OF THEIR TRIBES. THESE HERB-WISE SHEPHERDS AND MEDICINE MEN DEVELOPED INTO THE HERBALIST OF ANCIENT PERSIA AND THE PHILOSOPHERS OF ANTIQUITY.

THERAPEUTIC PLANTS - CONTINUED

IN ADDITION TO THEIR NECESSARY FOOD-PLANTS, ALL THE OLD AGRICULTURAL NATIONS CULTIVATED HERBS FOR THEIR MEDICINAL NEEDS. IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, HOWEVER, THE CULTIVATION OF HERBS WAS FOREBIDDEN. KNOWLEDGE OF HERBS WAS CONSIDERED PAGAN BECAUSE OF MYSTIC AND MAGICAL RITES CONNECTED WITH THEIR USE.

IN THE DARK AGES MANY OF THE HERBAL MANUSCRIPTS OF EARLY DAYS WERE DESTROYED BY THE MARTIAL RULERS AND THEIR MERCENARIES WHO WERE DEVOID OF ANY INTEREST IN SCIENCE AND CULTURE. THE KNOWLEDGE OF HERBS AND THEIR PROPERTIES WERE KEPT ALIVE ONLY BY THE MONKS -- IN THE SECLUSION, AND, COMPARATIVE SECURITY, OF THEIR MONASTERIES. --THEY STUDIED AND COPIED PAINSTAKINGLY BY HAND AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE FEW REMAINING HERBALS FOR POSTERITY.

LATER, IN THE MIDDLE AGES, THE CULTIVATION OF HERBS WAS AGAIN TAKEN UP BY MONKS AND NUNS, WHO WERE NOT ONLY HEALERS OF THE SOUL, BUT ALSO PHYSICIANS AND NURSES TO THEIR FLOCKS,. THE HERB GARDEN, CALLED THE PHYSICK GARDEN BECAME PART AND PARCEL OF EVERY CLOISTER AND MONASTERY, AND LATER, OF EVERY CASTLE COURT, HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL COLLEGE. ALEMBIC LABORATORIES, OR DISTILLING PLANTS --THE NUCLEI OF OUR MODERN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY WERE SET UP IN MONASTERIES AND HOSPITALS TO CONVERT THE CROP INTO MEDICAL POTIONS AND LIQUORS.

SO MUCH FOR THE BACKGROUND--NOW LET'S DISCUSS SOME OF THESE INTERESTING PLANTS -- STARTING WITH THE AGE-OLD HERBS.

NOT ONLY HAVE HERBS BEEN USED MEDICINALLY BY MAN--BUT, HAVE ALSO BEEN INTIMATELY CONNECTED WITH OTHER OF HIS ACTIVITIES --HIS POLITICS --ROMANCE-- AND RELIGION -- AND HIS SUPERSTITION FEARS.

THE ABSSINIANS USED CELERY FOR STUFFING THEIR PILLOWS --.

IN ANCIENT ATHENS AND ROME -- HEROES WERE CROWNED WITH DILL --

ARTEMISIA WAS CONSIDERED A SPECIAL CHARM BY THE EARLY CHINESE -- WHILE IN FRANCE -- DURING THE MIDDLE AGES -- BABIES WERE RUBBED WITH THE JUICES OF THIS PLANT TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE COLD. ANCIENT GREEKS REGARDED SWEET MARJORAM AS A VALUABLE TONIC AND PARSLEY AS A SURE CURE FOR STOMACH AILMENTS.

ROSEMARY WAS EATEN IN THE MIDDLE AGES AS A TRANQUILIZER AND PRECEDED ASPIRIN AND ALKA-SELTZER AS A CURE-ALL FOR A HEAVY HEAD - AND ROSEMARY WATER MANY YEARS BEFORE SIN-SIN AND CLORETS - WAS A CORRECTIVE FOR BAD BREATH. AND, IT IS SAID, WHEN IMBIBED, TURNED A DULL DOLT INTO A STIMULATING CONVERSATIONALIST - MUCH THE SAME AS TODAY'S MARTINIS AND MANHATTANS MIGHT DO, WHICH COULD NECESSITATE THE USE OF ROSEMARY AGAIN AS IN THE FIRST TWO INSTANCES!!

SAGE HAS FOR CENTURIES BEEN KNOWN FOR ITS HEALING POWERS. SAGE TEA, MADE BY STEEPING THE DRIED LEAVES IN BOILING WATER HAS LONG BEEN USED AS A SPRING TONIC AND FOR SORE THROATS AND COLDS. ANOTHER INTERESTING NOTE-THE BELIEF THAT SAGE IMPROVES THE MEMORY PROBABLY LED TO THE DEFINITION OF A WISE MAN AS A "SAGE".

THERAPEUTIC PLANTS - CONTINUED

SAVORY - STEEPED IN WINE WAS CONSIDERED A POTENT STOMACH TONIC AND A REMEDY FOR COMPLAINTS OF THE LIVER AND LUNGS. BUT, POWERED, IT WAS USED AS A FLEA REPELLENT.

WILD THYME - IN MEDIEVAL DAYS, WHEN MIXED WITH HONEY, WAS CONSIDERED A POTENT REMEDY FOR PULMONARY DISEASES.

CARROT - AN OLD MEMBER OF THE CELERY FAMILY OF EURASIAN ORIGIN -- IN ANCIENT GREECE WAS CALLED PHILON, FROM THE GREEK - PHILO OR LOVING IT WAS SERVED AS A VEGETABLE BEFORE AMATORY AFFAIRS, BECAUSE --IT WAS BELIEVED TO POSSESS THE POWER OF EXCITING PASSIONS. AND ALSO BELIEVED TO IMPROVE THE EYESIGHT.

WE CANNOT, OF COURSE, COVER ALL OF THE HERBS BUT DID WANT TO MENTION BRIEFLY THESE.

NOW WE'LL MOVE ALONG TO REMEDIES ALONG THE ROADSIDE AND PLANTS WITH WHICH YOU ARE ALL FAMILIAR - BUT,LIKE MYSELF, MAY NOT KNOW THEIR MEDICINAL VALUE.

THE APPLE - WE HAVE ALL HEARD THE OLD SAYING -"AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY" --OR PUT ANOTHER WAY --"TO EAT AN APPLE GOING TO BED, WILL MAKE THE DOCTOR BEG HIS BREAD". LIKE THE HERBS, WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE APPLE'S VALUE IN OUR COOKING. WHILE IT HAS BEEN SAID BY ONE AUTHORITY, A RIPE APPLE IS ONE OF THE EASIEST SUBSTANCES FOR THE STOMACH TO DEAL WITH AND ALSO THAT TWO OR THREE APPLES TAKEN AT NIGHT - RAW OR BAKED - WILL HELP ELIMINATE CONSTIPATION.

SASSAFRAS - IN 1586 SIR FRANCIS DRAKED CARRIED THE ROOTS OF THE SASSAFRAS PLANT FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ENGLAND. SASSAFRAS TEA SOON GAINED WIDE FAVOR AS A CURE-ALL. THIS TEA, CALLED SALOOP, WAS SERVED IN MANY LITTLE STREET STALLS TO ENGLISH GENTLEMEN WHO GATHERED TO PARTAKE PUBLICLY OF THE REMARK-ABLE NEW HEALTH BREW.

CHICORY - WE KNOW THAT CHICORY ROOTS HAVE BEEN USED IN TIMES PAST AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR COFFEE AND AS A PRESENT DAY ADDITIVE TO COFFEE IN THE SOUTH-PARTICULARLY THE FRENCH DRIP VARIETY OF LOUISIANA. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED A GOOD VEGETABLE TO EAT IN THE SPRING FOR ITS TONIC POWERS MUCH AS IS THE DANDELION.

WINTERGREEN HAS LONG BEEN USED IN THE FLAVORING OF MEDICINE AND IN SOME PARTS OF THE COUNTRY THE PLANTS ARE COLLECTED TODAY FOR DISTILLING ITS OIL.

BLACKBERRY - THIS ENTIRE PLANT CONTAINS AN ACTIVE PRINCIPLE WHICH IS ABOUT THE BEST CURE KNOWN FOR DIARRHEA. THE ROOTS OF BLACKBERRY(AND LEAVES, AS WELL)CAN BE DRIED AND STORED UNTIL WANTED. TO PREPARE FOR USE - TAKE A TEASPOONFUL OF CRUSHED ROOT OR LEAVES AND STIR INTO A CUP OF BOILING WATER. WHEN COOLED, DRINK-ONE OR TWO CUPS A DAY UNTIL CONDITION IS REMEDIED.

SUMAC- FOR SOME REASON I HAD ALWAYS BEEN UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SUMAC IS POISON BUT I FIND THIS UNTRUE. ONE AUTHORITY GIVES A RECIPE FOR A GARGLE TO BE MADE OF THE BERRIES OF THE RED FRUITED SUMAC AND THE SAME BERRIES MAKE A DELIGHTFUL SUMMER DRINK. (A BUNCH OF BERRIES ARE BOILED IN A PINT OF WATER FOR HALF AN HOUR, THEN ADD A FEW LEAVES OF DRIED SAGE, AND A LITTLE GROUND DINNAMON -- AFTER STRAINING, USE AS A GARGLE OR A COLD DRINK.)

EVEN OLD MULLEIN HAS BEEN USED TO MAKE A COUGH SYRUP. (TAKE A HANDFUL OF

THERAPEUTIC PLANTS - CONTINUED

OF DRIED LEAVES AND SIMMER FOR ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES--STIR AND STRAIN. TO A CUP OF LIQUID ADD A LITTLE OVER A CUP OF BROWN SUGAR. STIR UNTIL SUGAR IS DISSOLVED AND BOTTLE. THIS MAY BE SIPPED ALONE TO PREVENT A COUGH--OR THE SAME MIXTURE MAY BE BOILED UNTIL IT THICKENS, POURED INTO A PAN AND CUT INTO LOZENGES AS COUGHDROPS. (AND PROBABLY BETTER THAN ANY WE BUY TODAY)!

WILD GINGER -- IS A VALUABLE AROMATIC BITTER AND IS USED MEDICINALLY FOR FLATULENCY. THE SMALL ROOTS ARE DRIED AND WHEN NEEDED PREPARED BY ADDING A TEASPOON OF THE GRANULATED ROOT TO A PINT OF BOILING WATER. TWO TABLESPOONS MAY BE TAKEN AT A TIME AS LONG AS REQUIRED.

THE RED CLOVER - PERHAPS IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT THE FOUR-LEAVED CLOVER IS A SIGN OF GOOD LUCK, FOR THE FAMILIAR LARGE-FLOWERED RED CLOVER OF THE FIELD IS VALUABLE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. AS A FOOD FOR THE CATTLE AND AND IT'S INCIDENTAL NITROGEN-PRODUCING QUALITIES IN THE SOIL ARE WELL KNOWN TO OUR FARMERS--WHILE MOST CHILDRE (AND BEES) KNOW OF THE HIDDEN SUGAR IN THE FLORETS. IN ADDITION, THERE SEEMS TO BE MEDICINAL VALUE TO AN INFUSION OF THE FLOWERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN USED FRESH. IT HAS A DEMULCENT ACTION WHICH LOOSENS COUGHS, LESSENS DIFFICULT BREATHING AND IS ESPECIALLY RECOMMENDED IN CASES OF WHOOPING COUGH. (BOIL UP AND STRAIN AN OUNCE OF FLOWERS TO A PINT OF SYRUP SWEETENED WITH SUGAR OR HONEY - A TEASPOONFUL TWICE A DAY PROVIDES A SAFE AND RELIABLE MEDICINE).

SPHAGNUM MOSS - IT IS VERY PROBABLE THAT THE INDIANS IN THIS COUNTRY USED SPHAGNUM MOSS FOR CENTURIES. - BUT ONLY RECENTLY HAVE MEDICAL MEN REALIZED SOME OF ITS ADVANTAGES. THE DRY MOSS HAS THE QUALITY OF ABSORBING AT LEAST TWENTY TIMES ITS OWN WEIGHT IN WATER AND FOR THAT REASON IS AN EXTREMELY DESIRABLE MATERIAL FOR CASES OF BLEEDING. (THIS IS GOOD TO KNOW WHEN TRAVELING IN THE WILD, AND ONE NEEDS TO BANDAGE A WOUND --BECAUSE NOT ONLY DOES SPHAGNUM MOSS ACT AS AN ABSORBENT BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE ANTISEPTIC QUALITIES - PROBABLY ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE PRESENCE OF IODINE).

SHEPHERD'S PURSE - ONE OF THE PRIME PESTS OF THE FARMER - BUT HERBALISTS HAVE FOUND IT A FINE REMEDY FOR BRUISES AND THERE IS CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE THAT IN TIMES PAST IT WAS FOUND TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD WHEN TAKEN INTERNALLY TO STOP BLEEDING. (BEST TAKEN AS AN INFUSION WHICH CAN BE MADE BY BOILING AN OUNCE OF THE LEAVES IN TWELVE OUNCES OF WATER, REDUCING BY BOILING, TO A HALF A PINT THEN TAKING A WINE GLASSFUL AS A DOSE).

THE MALE OR SHIELD FERN - FOR CENTURIES HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR ITS VALUE AS A REMEDY FOR INTESTIONAL WORMS. AS A RULE ONE WOULD GO TO THE DOCTOR FOR THIS CONDITION BUT IT IS INTERESTING TO KNOW THEE PLANT HAS THESE MEDICINAL QUALITIES. THE ROOT STOCK IS USED IN TREATMENT, BUT WHEN THE FRONDS ARE YOUNG - THEY POSSESS FOOD VALUE.

IN ADDITION TO OUR WILD PLANTS THAT HAVE THERAPEUTIC VALUE (AND, AS YOU WELL KNOW, I HAVE NAMED ONLY A FEW), THERE IS ONE PLANT FOUND IN YOUR PERENNIAL GARDEN THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US TODAY- AND THAT IS THE FOXGLOVE . WE ALL KNOW IT HAS A TALL STALK OF BELL-SHAPED FLOWERS AND LEAVES LIKE LONG VELVET TONGUES. FROM THE LEAVES OF THIS BEAUTIFUL PLANT, WE GET DIGITALIS- THE DRUG MOST USED AS THE HEART ATTENDER. IT STIMULATES THE VAGUS CENTER, THE TENTH CRANIAL NERVE OF THE HEART - IT CONTROLS THE DIAPHRAGM, CONTROLS

THERAPEUTIC PLANTS - CONTINUED

THE STOMACH, REGULATES THE LARYNX AND MORE. IN ADDITION TO WORKING ON THE NERVES - DIGITALIS TONES UP THE HEART MUSCLES AND INCREASES ITS CONTRACTIBILITY. IT IS THE NUMBER ONE DRUG FOR THE HEART.

BACK IN THE 1900'S, BEFORE THE SO-CALLED SYNTHETIC ERA, FULLY 80% OF ALL MEDICINES CAME FROM ROOTS, BARKS, AND LEAVES.

WORLD WAR II SLAMMED THE DOOR ON MANY OF THE IMPORTS USED FOR THIS PURPOSE AND EXPLORERS STARTED A FRANTIC SEARCH FOR SUBSTITUTES IN THEIR OWN BACKYARDS AND ACCESSIBLE NEAR-BY COUNTRIES.

CURRENT RESEARCH IS TURNING UP MEDICINAL PROPERTIES IN EVERYTHING FROM LETTUCE, ONCE USED AS A SEDATIVE, TO APPLES AND ONIONS. A QUICK SAMPLING TO INDICATE THE SCOPE OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS SHOWS THAT COMPOUNDS FROM DAFFODILS MAY PROVE EFFECTIVE IN TREATING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS; A NEUROACTIVE FACTOR IN THE PERENNIAL SWEET PEA IS NOW BEING TESTED ON ANIMALS; AN EXTRACT FROM THE LADY SLIPPER HAS BEEN FOUND TO EXERT AN EFFECT ON HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE; DERIVATIES FROM THE COMMON SNOWDROP RELIEVE SOME GLAUCOMA PATIENTS NOT RESPONDING TO OTHER MEDICATIONS; BUTTERCUP JUICE STOPS THE GROWTH OF STREP, STAPH, PNEUMOCOCCI, ANTHRAX, AND TUBERCULOSIS GERMS, AND THAT OF QUIVERING ANEMONES HAS SIMILAR BACTERICIDAL QUALITIES.

THE SEARCH AND RESEARCH CONTINUES. AT COLLEGES AND HOSPITALS, BY INDIVIDUALS AND COMMERCIAL DRUG HOUSES--RESEARCH STATIONS AND OUR OWN UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- AND PROOF HAS BEEN FOUND THAT ANTIBIOTIC PROPERTIES EXIST IN MANY, MANY PLANTS.

NEW DRUGS MAY COME NOT ONLY FROM RARE JUNGLE VEGETATION BUT ALSO FROM THE COMMONEST FIELD AND GARDEN FLOWERS AND EVERYDAY FOODS. WE MAY, IN FACT, HAVE THE STARTING MATERIALS FOR TOMORROW'S WONDER DRUGS GROWING IN OUR OWN WINDOWBOXES!

PREPARED BY: MR. & MRS. RICHARD B. STEVENS
WILDFLOWER CLUB OF GREENSBORO, N.C.

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HENRY A. RANKIN, 1872 -1947

SAWMILL AND PLYWOOD BUSINESS ALL HIS LIFE, WITH MILLS UP AND DOWN THE ACL FROM FAYETTEVILLE TO WILMINGTON,. AFTER HIS RETIREMENT HE RAN A NURSERY ON THE ELIZABETHTOWN HIGHWAY, SPECIALIZING IN NATIVE PLANTS.

HE HAD A GENERAL INTEREST IN NATURE - GEOLOGY, INSECTS, BIRDS - BUT THE RICH FLORA ALONG THE CAPE FEAR AND IN THE BOGS AND BAYS OF SAMPSON, COLUMBUS AND PENDER COUNTIES HELD HIS INTEREST EARLY AND LATE.

HE "BOTANIZED" IN HIS SPARE TIME, WITH FEW REFERENCE BOOKS AVAILABLE, BUT STRUCK UP HELPFUL ACQUAINTANCES BY MAIL WITH DR. W.C.COKER, DR. JOHN K. SMALL JOHN B. EGERTON, EDGAR T. WHERRY, R.L. WALP, AND MANY OTHERS, WITH WHOM HE EXCHANGED LOCAL SPECIMENS AND OBSERVATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP WITH IDENTIFICATIONS.

HE WAS A MEMBER FOR YEARS OF GRAY MEMORIAL BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION, SERVING AS PRESIDENT, AND AT ANOTHER TIME AS EDITOR OF THE ASSOCIATION'S INFORMAL BULLETIN. THIS ACTIVITY SO INCREASED HIS ACQUAINTANCES AND CORRESPONDENCE THAT IN LATER YEARS HE BECAME ALMOST A "CLEARING HOURS" FOR INFORMATION,

HENRY A. RANKIN -

PLANT SPECIMENS, AND GUIDED TOURS OF THE SAVANNAHS.

BEING BLESSED WITH HEALTH, ENERGY, AND CURIOSITY, AND HAVING WORKED 30/40 YEARS IN THE AREA, MR. RANKIN WAS ABLE TO ACCUMULATE A GREAT STORE OF INFORMATION. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION, HE SAID THAT HE HAD IDENTIFIED APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE TREES AND SHRUBS IN COKER AND TOTTEN'S BOOK WITHIN A SQUARE MILE AT THE JUNCTURE OF ROCKFISH CREEK AND THE CAPE FEAR. HE HAD A STATION FOR ALMOST EVERY RARE PLANT OF THE AREA, TO WHICH IT WAS ALWAYS HIS PLEASURE TO TAKE A VISITING BOTANIST. HIS OBSERVATIONS RESULTED IN EXTENDING THE RANGE OF EPIDENDRUM CONOPSEUM, MONOTROPA BRITTONII, ZEPHYRANTHES TREATEI, ILEX BEADLEI (OR PERHAPS THIS WAS A NEW SPECIES - HE WAS NEVER SATISFIED WHICH), OAKESIA NITIDA, ISOTRIA AFFINIS, AND OTHERS. HE FOUND AND DESCRIBED CALLICARPA AMERICANALBA.

FOR MANY YEARS IN THE SWAMPS OF COLUMBUS COUNTY HE KEPT NOTES ON A GELSEMIUM WHICH SEEMED TO HAVE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT BLOOMING SEASON FROM SEMPERVIRENS. NOTING THAT IT WAS ALSO ODORLESS AND HAD A NUMBER OF STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES, HE CONCLUDED IT WAS A NEW SPECIES. DR. SMALL AND E.J. ALEXANDER AGREED. MR. ALEXANDER DESCRIBED IT IN AN ARTICLE IN ADDISONIA, VOL. 13, NO. 3, OCTOBER 1928, NAMING IT GELSEMIUM RANKINII.

THIS HONOR WAS THE CULMINATION OF HIS BOTANICAL CAREER, BUT HE HAD PERHAPS EVEN MORE PLEASURE AND EXCITEMENT IN RE-DISCOVERING A PLANT FIRST COLLECTED AND DESCRIBED BY MICHAUX DURING HIS TRAVELS IN NORTH CAROLINA AND THE LOST IN CONFUSION FOR 125 YEARS - CAROLINA GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS. THE CONFUSION BEGAN WITH AN ARTICLE BY AITON IN 1811 IN WHICH A SPECIMEN COLLECTED IN NEW YORK OR NEW ENGLAND WAS ERRONEOUSLY DESCRIBED AS P. CAROLINIANA, AND ERROR CONTINUED IN BOTANICAL LITERATURE UNTIL 1928 WHEN MR. RANKIN COLLECTED THE TRUE P. CAROLINIANA IN COLUMBUS COUNTY AND SENT IT TO N.Y. BOTANICAL GARDEN. (SEE ADDISONIA, VOL. 18, NO. 3, MARCH 1934.) AS A RESULT, THE NAME P. CAROLINIANA WAS TAKEN AWAY FROM THE NORTHERN SPECIES, WHICH IS NOW CALLED P. GRANDIFOLIA, AND RETURNED TO THE SPECIES DISCOVERED BY MICHAUX. AT THE SAME TIME THE NAME P. FLORIDIANA RYDBR HAD TO BE ABANDONED AS THAT PLANT PROVED IDENTICAL WITH THE TRUE P. CAROLINIANA AND SO HAD ALREADY BEEN NAMED, 125 YEARS EARLIER.

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ADDISONIA (PLATE 598)

PARNASSIA CAROLINIANA

CAROLINA GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS
NATIVE OF SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

FAMILY PARNASSIACEAE GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS FAMILY

PARNASSIA CAROLINIANA MICHX. FL. BOR. AMER. 1: 184 1803
PARNASSIA FLORIDANA FYDB. N. AMER. FL. 22: 80 1905

LATE IN OCTOBER, 1928, THERE WAS SENT TO THIS INSTITUTION BY H.A. RANKIN, OF FAYETTEVILLE, N.C., SOME LIVE SPECIMENS OF A PARNASSIA WHICH GREW ON WET SAVANNAS NEAR HALLSBORO, N.C. HE WISHED TO KNOW IF THEY WERE P. CAROLINIANA, WHICH WAS NOT KNOWN TO GROW THAT FAR SOUTH.

IN THE COURSE OF IDENTIFICATION, WHICH WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE WRITER, MICHAUX'S ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION WAS CHECKED UP, AND IT WAS FOUND THAT MR. RANKIN'S PLANT MUST SURELY BE THE REAL P. CAROLINIANA OF MICHAUX, AS HE CITED "IN UNDIS CAROLINAE" AS THE LOCALITY, AND NO OTHER SPECIES GROWS

PARNASSIA CAROLINIANA -

WITHIN SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES OF THE CAROLINA COAST, WHICH WAS OBVIOUSLY THE PLACE REFERRED TO.

AITON IN 1811 (HORT. KEW. ED. 2) LISTED AS P. CAROLINIANA A PLANT SENT BY MASSON TO KEW IN 1802, UNDOUBTEDLY COLLECTED IN NEW YORK OR NEW ENGLAND, SINCE MASSON WENT NO FURTHER SOUTH. THIS PLANT WAS ILLUSTRATED IN THE BOTANICAL MAGAZINE (PL. 1459), AND IS OBVIOUSLY P. AMERICANA MUHL, THE NAME WHICH MUST BE TAKEN UP FOR THE NORTHERN PLANT. THIS ERROR WAS CONTINUED BY PURSH IN 1814, AND HAS BEEN PERPETUATED BY ALL AUTHORS SINCE, AS NO PARNASSIA FROM THE CAROLINA COAST WAS SEEN BY BOTANISTS AGAIN. A FLORIDA SPECIMEN, COLLECTED BY A.W. CHAPMAN NEAR APALACHICOLA, AND UPON WHICH P. FLORIDANA RYDB. WAS BASED, PROVES NOW TO BE IDENTICAL WITH THE NORT CAROLINA PLANT, THUS EXTENDING ITS RANGE.

THUS WAS REDISCOVERED A PLANT LOST TO SCIENCE FOR 125 YEARS, AND IT SEEMS ONLY FAIR TO QUOTE MR. RANKIN'S COMMENTS UPON IT:

"THAT THE GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS SHOULD TURN OUT TO BE THE TRUE CAROLINA GRASS OF-PARNASSUS IS INDEED GOOD NEWS AND IS RECEIVED ALMOST AS A PERSONAL VINDICATION, FOR I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF IT AS THAT.

SOME YEARS AGO I FOUND IN BLANCHAN'S 'WILDFLOWERS' UNDER CAROLINA GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS, THE FOLLOWING --'WHAT'S IN A NAME, CERTAINLY OUR COMMON GRASS-OF PARNASSUS, WHICH IS NO GRASS AT ALL, NEVER STARRED THE MEADOWS AROUND ABOUT THE HOME OF THE MUSES, NOR SOUGHT THE STEAMING SAVANNAS OF THE CAROLINAS.'

I HAVE ALWAYS RESENTED THAT PASSAGE AS ALMOST A PERSONAL AFFRONT.

OWEN WISTER SAID IN 'THE VIRGINIAN,' 'WHEN YOU CALL ME THAT ALWAYS SMILE,' AND IN THIS PASSAGE NO SMILE IS INDICATED.

WHAT IF OUR SAVANNAS ARE SOMETIME STEAMING, IT IS THE CONDITION NECESSARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT FOR MANY WONDERFUL PLANTS WHICH FIND HERE THEIR MOST CONGENIAL SURROUNDINGS.

BUT GRASS-OF PARNASSUS DOES NOT STAR THE MEADOWS DURING THE STEAMING SEASON, INSTEAD, BY LOCAL TRADITION, THE 'EYEBRIGHT,' ITS LOCAL NAME, TIMES ITS FIRST FLOWERS TO COME JUST TWO WEEKS BEFORE FROST WHEN MOST OF THE FALL FLOWERS HAVE PASSED, AS A MATTER OF FACT, I SAW THE FIRST FLOWERS THIS YEAR ON OCTOBER 12TH AND OUR FIRST FROST CAME THE MORNING OF THE 25TH.

ITS CHOSEN HABITAT IS THE WET SAVANNAS AND HUNDREDS OF ACRES MAY BE SEEN LIBERALLY DOTTED WITH ITS WHITE STARS, BUT IT FINDS ITS BEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE LOWER PLACES, AND HERE IT OFTEN ALMOST COVERS THE GROUND. TODAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, IT IS IN ITS PRIME AND IS THE MOST CONSPICUOUS FLOWER ON MANY ACRES AND IN ONE LITTLE DEPRESSION LESS THAN TWO FEET IN DIAMETER I COUNTED SEVENTY-TWO FLOWERS AND BUDS.

ITS ASSOCIATES NOW BLOOMING ARE GENTIANA SAPONARIA, LOBELIA GLANDULOSA, SPIRANTHES CERNUA, PRENANTHES VIRGATA AND MANY SPECIES OF ASTERS. AMONG OTHER PLANT ASSOCIATES NOT NOW IN BLOOM WILL BE FOUND CHAPTALIA TOMENTOSA, OUR FIRST SPRING FLOWER; VENUS'FLYTRAP; THE SUNDEWS, D. FILIFORMIS AND D. ROTUNDIFOLIA: SABATIA PANICULATA, HABENARIA CILIARIS, BALDWINIA UNIFLORA AND THE PITCHER-PLANTS, S. FLAVA AND S. PURPUREA.

PARNASSIA CAROLINIANA - CONTINUED

THE YEARS 1926 AND 1927 WERE VERY DRY AND GRASS OF PARNASSUS FLOWERED VERY SPARINGLY, IN MANY PLACES NOT AT ALL, BUT OTHERWISE IT SEEMS TO HAVE HELD ITS OWN AND THIS YEAR BEING WET IT IS BLOOMING SO ABUNDANTLY THAT IT IS HARD TO CONCEIVE OF THE SPECIES HAVING BEEN LOST."

AN EXAMINATION OF OUR PLATE WILL REVEAL THAT TRUE P. CAROLINIANA HAS THE STAMENS SHORTER THAN THE STAMINODIA, THE STAMINODIA WITH LANCEOLATE, CONCAVE TIPS, THE OVARY TRUNCATE-COLUMNAR AND WHITE, AND FLOWERS 1-1/2 - 2 INCHES ACROSS. P. AMERICANA HAS THE STAMENS AS LONG AS, OR LONGER THAN THE STAMINODIA, THE STAMINODIA WITH ROUND TIPS, THE OVARY POINTED AT THE APEX AND GREEN, AND FLOWERS 1 - 1-1/2 INCHES ACROSS.

THE CAROLINA GRASS-OF-PARNASSUS IS A PERENNIAL HERB, WITH AN UNDERGROUND CREEPING ROOTSTOCK, WHICH BEARS AT ITS GROWING TIP A NUMBER OF LIGHT GREEN, ORBICULAR-OVATE LEAVES 1-2 INCHES BROAD AND THE SAME LENGTH ON 2-4 INCH PETIOLES. THE 12-15 INCH FLOWER-SCAPE BEARS BELOW ITS MIDDLE A SINGLE, BROADLY OVATE, CLASPING BRACT, AND A SOLITARY FLOWER AT ITS APEX. THE FIVE GREEN, DARK-TIPPED CALYX-LOBES ARE LINEAR, BLUNT TIPPED, 1/5 INCH LONG. THE COROLLA IS 1.5-2 INCHES ACROSS. THE PETALS ARE OVATE, WHITE, WITH THIRTEEN TO FIFTEEN PROMINENT YELLOW-GREEN VEINS. THE STAMINODIA, BORNE IN GROUPS OF THREE, ARE NEARLY AS LONG AS THE PETALS, PALE YELLOW-GREEN, WITH CONCAVE, LANCEOLATE TIPS. THE ANTHERS, ELLIPSOID, BORNE ON WHITE FILAMENTS ONLY HALF AS LONG AS THE STAMINODIA, ARE PALE, DULL YELLOW, THE TIP ROUNDED. THE OVARY IS WHITE OR FAINTLY GREENISH, AT ANTHESIS STOUT-COLUMNAR, TRUNCATE, BUT LATER THE FOUR SESSILE STIGMA-TIPS BECOME SEPARATED AND SPREAD OUT. THE FRUIT IS AN OVOID CAPSULE, LOCULICIDALLY DEHISCENT. THE SEEDS ARE SMALL, LIGHT BROWN.

EDWARD J. ALEXANDER

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ADDISONIA (PLATE 435)

GELSEMIUM RANKINII

ODORLESS YELLOW - JESSAMINE

NATIVE OF COASTAL SOUTHEASTERN U.S.

FAMILY LOGANIACEAE LOGANIA FAMILY

GELSEMIUM RANKINII SMALL, SP.NOV.

THE RANKS OF THE "MONOTYPIC GENERA" HAVE RECENTLY NOT HELD THEIR OWN. NORTH CAROLINA ALONE HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF THE FALL OF TWO OF THESE WELL-KNOWN CASES. FIRST THE POPULAR "PYXIE"(PYXIDANTHERA BARBULATA) RECEIVED A SPECIFIC ASSOCIATE, AND AFTER THAT THE YELLOW-JESSAMINE FOLLOWED SUIT, AND A NEW SPECIES OF GELSEMIUM CAME TO LIGHT.

NO PLANT IS BETTER KNOWN AND SCARCELY ANY ONE MORE POPULAR IN OUR SOUTH-EASTERN STATES THAN THE YELLOW-JESSAMINE. ITS GARLANDS, FESTOONS, AND CASCADES OF GOLD EMPHASIZED AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF THE GREENERY OF ITS NATURAL ARBORS ESCAPE NO EYE. FOR MANY GENERATIONS THIS POPULAR PLANT, ONE OF THE UBIQUITOUS HARBINGERS OF SPRING WAS JUST "YELLOW-JESSAMINE."

GELSEMIUM RANKINII - CONTINUED

AS HAS BEEN RECORDED IN REFERENCE TO THIS FACT:

"QUEEN JESSAMINE IN HER FOREST SHADES
UNWINDS HER TRESSES GOLDEN;
THOUGH BLUST'RING MARCH HATH NOT BEGUN
TO WHITEN WAVES OR WILLOWS
WHILST APRIL SHOWERS THAT WOO THE SUN
STILL SLEEP ON CLOUDY PILLOWS."

ALTHOUGH A SECOND AMERICAN SPECIES OF GELSEMIUM* HAS BEEN VAGUELY INDICATED FOR MANY YEARS BY HERBARIUM SPECIMENS, LITTLE DID THOSE WHO ADORED THE YELLOW-JESSAMINE IN ITS NATIVE HAUNTS SUSPECT THAT IT WAS TWIN. NOT UNTIL THE OBSERVATIONS OF A NATURALIST, H.A. RANKIN, OF HALLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, IN 1927 AND 1928, WAS THIS CONDITION PROVED WITHOUT A DOUBT. MR. RANKIN WROTE: "I AM AGAIN TROUBLING YOU WITH MY WACCAMAW RIVER VARIETY OF GELSEMIUM -- AM SENDING YOU SOME MATERIAL TODAY BY PARCEL POST. ONE CONTAINER HAS SPRAYS OF THE TYPICAL FORM IN FULL BLOOM, WHILE THE OTHER HAS THE WACCAMAW RIVER KIND, BUT WITH NO BUDS OPEN YET." "ON MARCH 19TH I SAW A FEW SCATTERED FLOWERS OF THE TYPICAL FORM. NOW THEY ARE A LITTLE PAST THEIR PRIME, SO I WENT TO THE RIVER HOPING TO FIND THE OTHERS IN BLOOM, BUT COULD NOT FIND EVEN ONE BUD OPEN. THE DIFFERENCE IN BLOOMING SEASON THIS YEAR WILL BE MORE THAN TWENTY DAYS."

THE NAME GELSEMIUM IS DERIVED FROM "GELSOMINO," AN ITALIAN NAME OF THE OLD WORLD JASMINE OR JESSAMINE, OF THE OLIVE FAMILY.

THE ODORLESS YELLOW-JESSAMINE IS A VINE LIKE G. SEMPERVIRENS, WITH THE OLD BARK BROWN, THE BARK OF THE TWIGS GREEN, GLABROUS THROUGHOUT. THE LEAVES ARE OPPOSITE, PERSISTENT, THE BLADES LANCEOLATE TO OVATE, HALF TO TWO AND THREE QUARTERS INCHES LONG, ACUTE OR ACUMINATE, ENTIRE, DEEP GREEN ABOVE, PALE GREEN AND FINELY VEINED BENEATH, ROUNDED AT THE BASE, SHORT-PETIOLED. THE FLOWER-CLUSTERS ARE AXILLARY, SHORT-STALKED, 2-4 FLOWERED, OR SOMETIMES 1-FLOWERED. THE PEDICELS ARE STOUT, ENLARGED UPWARD, SCALY AT THE BASE, NAKED ABOVE, THE FLOWERS ARE DIMORPHOUS, NOT FRAGRANT. THE CALYX IS GREEN, APPRESSED TO THE COROLLA-TUBLE, THE LOBES LANCEOLATE, ONE SIXTH INCH LONG, ACUMINATE, GLABROUS, USUALLY DARK-TIPPED. THE COROLLA IS DEEP-YELLOW (THE BUD ACUTE OR ACUTISH, FLUTED), SHORT TRUMPET-SHAPED, THE TUBE RATHER ABRUPTLY DILATED WHEN THE COROLLA IS OPEN, THREE QUARTERS OF AN INCH TO AN INCH LONG. THE LIMB IS AN INCH TO AN INCH AND A QUARTER WIDE, SPREADING, TH LOBES OVATE, SCARCELY A THIRD OF AN INCH LONG, VARYING FROM MINUTELY POINTED TO MINUTELY NOTCHED. THE FIVE STAMENS ARE INCLUDED, ERECT; THE FILAMENTS ARE PARTLY ADNATE TO THE COROLLATUBE, WITH THE FREE PARTS SUBULATE, YELLOW-ISH-GREEN GLABROUS. THE ANTHERS ARE LANCEOLATE, ABOUT ONE SIXTH OF AN INCH LONG, THE BASAL LOBES RATHER ACUTE. THE OVARY IS SESSILE IN A SLIGHTLY LOBED DISK, CONIC, GREEN, SLIGHTLY FLATTENED, TAPERING INTO THE STYLE. THE STYLE IS FILIFORM, OR SUBULATE-FILIFORM IN THE SHORT-STYLED FLOWERS, GREEN, VERY SLIGHTLY ENLARGED UNDER THE STIGMAS. THE FOUR STIGMAS ARE CLAVATE, GREEN, OBTUSE. THE CAPSULE IS BROWN, WITH THE BODY ELLIPTIC, A HALF AN INCH LONG OR NEARLY SO, LONG-BEAKED, VEINLESS. THE SEEDS ARE SEVERAL, WINGLESS WITH THE EDGES MORE OR LESS EROSECRENULATE.

THE ABOVE DESCRIPTION WAS MADE FROM SPECIMENS FROM THE SWAMPS OF THE WACCAMAW RIVER NEAR HALLSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, COLLECTED BY H.A. RANKIN, APRIL 17, 1928. THIS PLANT ALSO OCCURS IN GEORGIA, NORTHERN FLORIDA, AND ALABAMA.

*IT IS TRUE, THE ASIATIC-GENUS LEPTOPTERIS BLUME IS SOMETIMES INCLUDED IN GELSEMIUM.

GELSEMIUM RANKINII - CONTINUED

THE FOLLOWING SYNOPSIS WILL INDICATE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO SPECIES OF GELSEMIUM IN THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES:

LEAF-BLADES NARROWED AT THE BASE: PEDICELS SCALY THROUGHOUT: CALYX-LOBES ELLIPTIC TO OVATE-ELLIPTIC, OBTUSE: COROLLA-TUBE GRADUALLY DILATED: ANTHERS ELLIPTIC-OVATE: CAPSULE-BODY NARROWLY OBLONG, VEINY, THREE QUARTERS OF AN INCH LONG, SHORT-BEAKED: SEED ABOUT A THIRD OF AN INCH LONG.

G. SEMPERVIRENS.

LEAF-BLADES ROUNDED AT THE BASE: PEDICELS SCALY AT THE BASE, NAKED ABOVE: CALYX-LOBES LANCEOLATE, ACUMINATE: COROLLA-TUBE ABRUPTLY DILATED: ANTHERS LANCEOLATE: CAPSULE-BODY ELLIPTIC, VEINLESS, A HALF INCH LONG OR NEARLY SO, LONG-BEAKED: SEED ABOUT A SIXTH OF AN INCH LONG.

MR. RANKIN WRITES FURTHER THAT THIS FORM (G.RANKINII) IS JUST AS ABUNDANT IN PLACES IN THE SWAMP AS THE TYPICAL FORM IS ON HIGHER GROUND, AND WHILE HE COULD NOT FIND AN OPEN FLOWER ON APRIL 6TH, THE OTHER FORM(G. SEMPERVIRENS) WAS IN FULL BLOOM AND COVERED THE UNDERGROWTH NOT FIFTY YARDS AWAY.

JOHN K. SMALL

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

LIFE IS GLADNESS, LIFE IS SADNESS, LIFE IS ALL THE GAMUT OF EMOTIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO POINTS. CONGRADULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR OUR PRESIDENT, W. GORDON BUTLER OF FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, WHO JANUARY 5, 1965 WAS ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN. TO MRS. J.A. WARREN OF CHAPEL HILL, WE TAKE OFF OUR HAT, FOR HER STAND ON ABC STORES IN PUBLIC PULSE OF THE GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS, JANUARY 5, 1965. MRS. WARREN SAID, "A SUPPOSEDLY INTELLIGENT CITIZEN CAN CONTRIBUTE LITTLE TO HIS STATE AND COMMUNITY WITH A BRAIN MUDDLED BY ALCOHOL. OUR YOUTH NEED TO BE GUIDED BY MEN AND WOMEN WHO REALIZE THE DANGER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO MENTAL, SPIRITUAL AND MORAL VALUES."

THE SOUTHEASTERN FLOWER SHOW IN CHARLOTTE IN EARLY MARCH WAS A THING OF BEAUTY. WE WERE THERE ON MARCH 7. MRS. W.C. LANDOLINA HAD DONE THE ARRANGEMENT THAT TOOK MY EYE ON THAT DATE. MRS. PHIL WICKER SHOWED ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY AND ACCORDING TO THE GRAPE-VINE NEWS REALLY HAD AN EYE CATCHER. MRS. H.R. TOTTEN DID AN UNUSUAL CITY SKYSCRAPER INTERPRETATION THAT WAS USED FOR FOUR DAYS OR LONGER. THERE WERE OTHERS IN OUR ORGANIZATION THAT SHOWED I FEEL SURE BUT I DO NOT KNOW WHO THEY WERE.

MR. & MRS. J.A. KIRKMAN OF PLEASANT GARDEN WERE ON A VACATION TRIP IN THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA LAST FALL AND HAD QUITE A BAD ACCIDENT. MRS. KIRKMAN WAS CORROSPONDING SECRETARY OF OUR NCWFPS 1960-62. MRS. KIRKMAN WAS IN THE HOSPITAL FOR SOME TWO MONTHS AND IS GRADUALLY IMPROVING. MR. KIRKMAN WAS NOT AS BADLY INJURED. WE HOPE THEY WILL MAKE A COMPLETE RE-COVERY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THERE WERE FLOWERS AND GIFTS THAT MADE MRS. KIRKMAN'S HOSPITAL ROOM LOOK MORE LIKE A COMBINATION FLOWER AND GIFT SHOP THAN A HOSPITAL ROOM WHEN I STOPPED BY TO SEE HER ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

DEATH DOES NOT TAKE A HOLIDAY. MRS. HERBERT P. SMITH, OUR FIRST PRESIDENT HAS LOST A SISTER. DR. H.R. TOTTEN LOST HIS ONLY BROTHER, DECEMBER 2, 1964. MRS. J.A. PLEASANTS OF GREENSBORO LOST HER HUSBAND. I LOST MY LAST BROTHER DECEMBER 30TH. HE WAS BURIED NEW YEARS DAY. MARCH 15 THIS YEAR ONE OF MMY AUNTS DIED. WALTER AND I WENT TO SEE HER ON OUR WAY TO THE BOARD MEETING WITH DR. & MRS. TOTTEN ON MARCH 14, 1965. MRS. R.J. BALLARD JR. OF 708-FIFTH AVENUE, GREENSBORO, N.C. HAS BEEN SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF A BROTHER WHO RESIDED IN TEXAS. WE ALL FEEL COMPASSION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE HAD SUCH SORROW. I AM SURE THERE HAVE BEEN OTHERS TOUCHED BY DEATH BUT UNLESS IT IS PUT IN WRITING AND SENT TO ME, SO OFTEN I WILL NOT KNOW. I AM ALWAYS BEGGING FOR MATERIAL FOR OUR NEWS LETTER.

I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR EACH ITEM THAT HAS COME TO ME FOR OUR NEWS LETTER. AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE THESE LETTERS GO TO THE LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL. THIS IS A GOOD WAY TO EXPRESS YOUR THOUGHTS AS A RECORD FOR POSTERITY. SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I PUSH MYSELF TO GET OUT THIS NEWS LETTER AND THEN ALONG WILL COME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM SOMEONE LIKE MISS JOSIE PRICHARD OF CHAPEL HILL, N.C. AND I GO RIGHT ON DOING THE BEST I CAN.

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THE NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC, MEETING WILL BEN IN BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, MAY 23, 1965. WE MEET AT THE DANIEL BOONE HOTEL AT 11:30 FOR LUNCH. MRS. B.W. STALLINGS SAYS WE CAN GET LUNCH FOR $2.00 EACH, THIS WILL INCLUDE THE TAX AND TIP. MRS. STALLINGS MUST HAVE YOUR RESERVATION BY THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1965. THE HOTEL HAS TO BUY FOOD AND THOSE WITHOUT RESERVATIONS MIGHT NOT GET ANY LUNCH.

DO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS WITH MRS. B.W. STALLINGS, BOONE, N.C. NOW!

YOUR DUES FOR THE NCWFPS, INC., ARE $1.00 PER YEAR. PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES TO MISS BESSIE POPE - POST OFFICE BOX 1264.- HIGH POINT, N.C. BEFORE THE MAY MEETING. MISS POPE WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY THE MEETING AND NOT HAVE TO SPEND ALL HER TIME CO-LECTING DUES.

DR. H.L. BLOMQUIST 922 DEMERIUS STREET, DURHAM, N.C., HAS SERVED AS A CONSULTANT FOR THE NCWFPS, INC., SINCE IT WAS ORGANIZED IN 1951. DR. BLOMQUIST HAS GIVEN US PROGRAMS ON SEVERAL OCASSIONS. WHEN I THINK OF HIM I ALWAYS THINK OF "FERNS" FOR THEY WERE ONE OF HIS SPECIALTIES AND HE RELLY COULD GET ENTHUSIASTIC ON THE SUBJECT. DR. BLOMQUIST DIED NOVEMBER 28, 1964. WE WILL ALL MISS HIS KNOWLEDGE AND ZEST FOR LIVING.

SINCERELY,

MRS. WALTER B. BRAXTON, EDITOR.