

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary



The Wild Botanic Garden in Glenwood Park

**The Eloise Butler Years
1907 - 1933**

Historical Notes

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary

The Wild Botanic Garden in Glenwood Park

A year-by-year account of
The Eloise Butler Years 1907 - 1933

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Revised: 2023

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Introduction

This document is not a narrative, but a year-by-year account of the Curator's activities in relation to the development and maintenance of this special area in Glenwood Park. Eloise Butler's gifts for writing about plants and her garden are referenced and quoted in the appropriate years. For a full presentation of her life the reader is directed to Martha Hellander's book *The Wild Gardener*. The texts of many of Butler's writings will be found there and also on the Friends website. These individual year histories are also found on the Friends website. Selections from her writings are included here. Detail is provided here in the 1911 text on how the Garden space was not permanent nor was anyone directly in charge of it until 1911 when both issues were resolved.

Garden Name: The Garden was first named the "Wild Botanic Garden" but as Eloise Butler later explained *"It was soon found that the term 'Wild Botanic Garden' was misleading to the popular fancy, so the name was changed to 'Native Plant Reserve.' "* (Eloise Butler 1926 - *The Wild Botanic Garden - Early History*). Even though the name was changed, the sign on the Curator's little office building still said "Wild Botanic Garden" until well after the Park Board officially re-named the Garden "The Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden" in 1929. For 40 years thereafter "Wild Flower" was written as two words, but beginning in 1969 and almost continuously after 1972 the Park Board used "Wildflower" as one word in the Garden Name and made that official in 1986. Eloise continued to refer to it as "The Wild Garden" or "the Preserve." Later, Martha Crone and Ken Avery preferred to use the term "Native Plant Reserve."

In that same 1926 paper Eloise wrote *"It was planned from the beginning to make the garden a living museum of the flora of Minnesota and to preserve strictly the wild appearance of the place. There were to be no formal beds. Plants were to be allowed to grow according to their own sweet will and not as humans might wish them to grow, and without any restraint except what could be essential for health and mutual well-being."*

The wide scope of that purpose led Eloise to bring into the Garden many plant species that were not indigenous to the place as she explained in a 1911 news article. These plants would not only be the flora of Minnesota but the flora of other areas of similar climate and habitat where she would experiment on their survival in the Garden. In the early years, particularly 1912 to 1916, large numbers of species were imported. The history years are thus filled with information on what those plants were.

The information on plant species is primarily found in her Garden Log - a day by day account of what she did. Her writings provide a bit of additional information. We are in debt to Martha Hellander for her research into the life of Eloise Butler and for recovering from dusty collections Butler's writings.

Introduction

Following the death of Martha Crone, Butler's successor as Curator, Hellander was able to review the accumulated papers of Martha Crone. The Crone family allowed her to take what she felt should be saved as they were going to discard the lot and within the accumulation were the Garden Logs. The weather is mentioned in Butler's log when it was adverse and supplemental weather information has been added into these histories for most years.

The Photos:

Plants: Many of the photos appearing on these pages are of plants that Eloise Butler brought into the Garden that were not indigenous to the area. When selecting which photos to present, I often chose those plants that are no longer extant in the Garden as photos of extant plants are on the Friends Website.

Landscape: Photos of the Garden during Miss Butler's tenure are scarce. I have included most of those that are available, some of which are from newspaper articles. When Martha Crone was curator she established a Kodachrome slide collection of Garden plants and landscapes. Some of those photos are used here. TheFriends acquired the slide collection from the family, via Martha Hellander again, following Martha Crones death in 1989. Martha Hellander's research yielded the first map in the map section. The later maps provide detail of later changes.

The Cover:

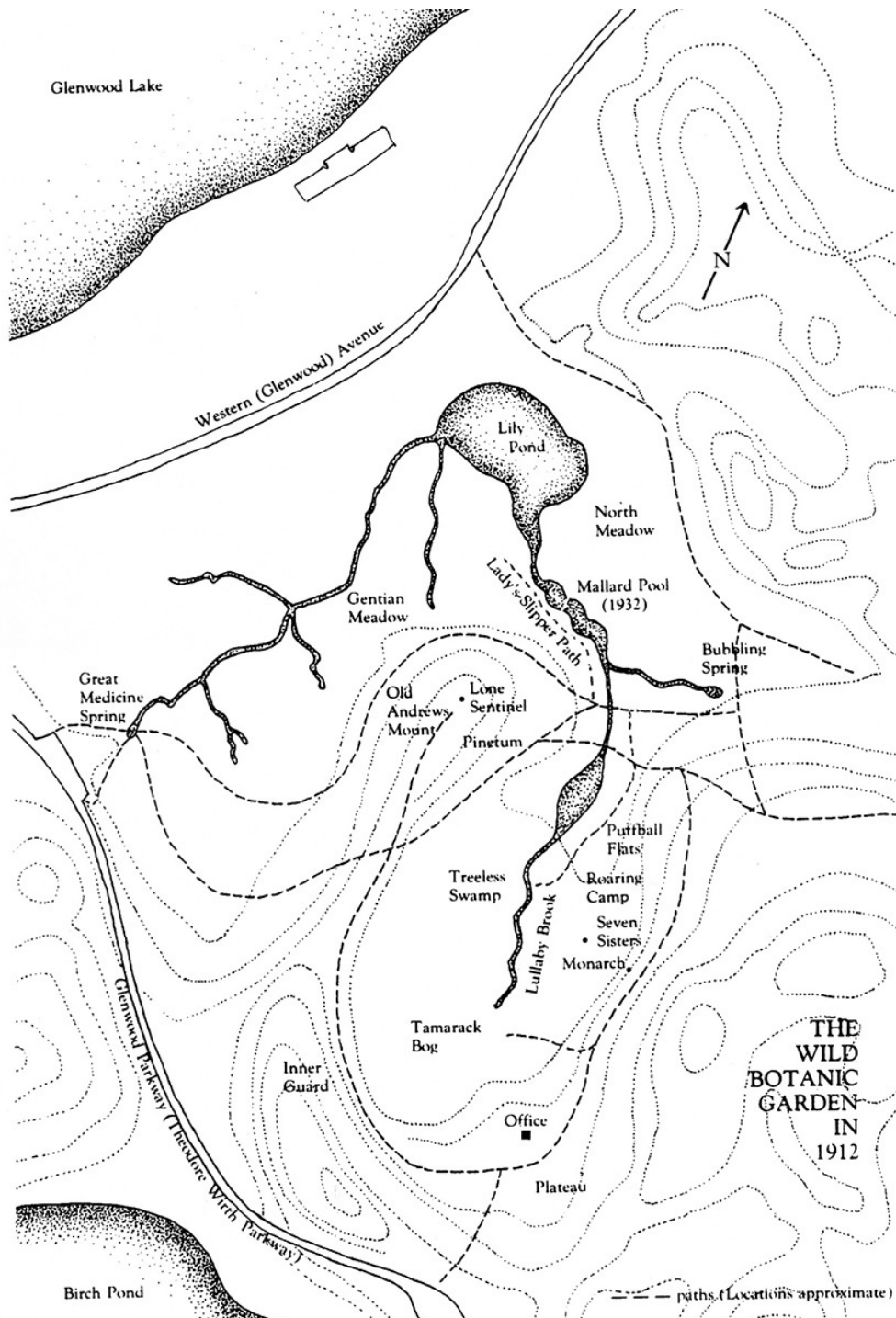
The three photos of Eloise Butler are - left - ca 1890 as a young teacher in Minneapolis. photo from Branch's Studio; middle - ca. 1910-20 with Eloise in front of one of the large birch tree boles that were on the east hillside of the Garden, photo courtesy Minneapolis Public Library; right - ca. 1930 as she nears the end of her career, photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society. The textured background of the cover is of her beloved giant White Oak - Monarch.

The governing body of the Garden during this time period was the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners, hereafter referred to simply as "the Park Board." This body was renamed the "Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board" in 1970. Glenwood Park was renamed "Theodore Wirth Park" in 1938 in honor of the former Superintendent of Parks.

Gary Bebeau, Minneapolis MN 2021.

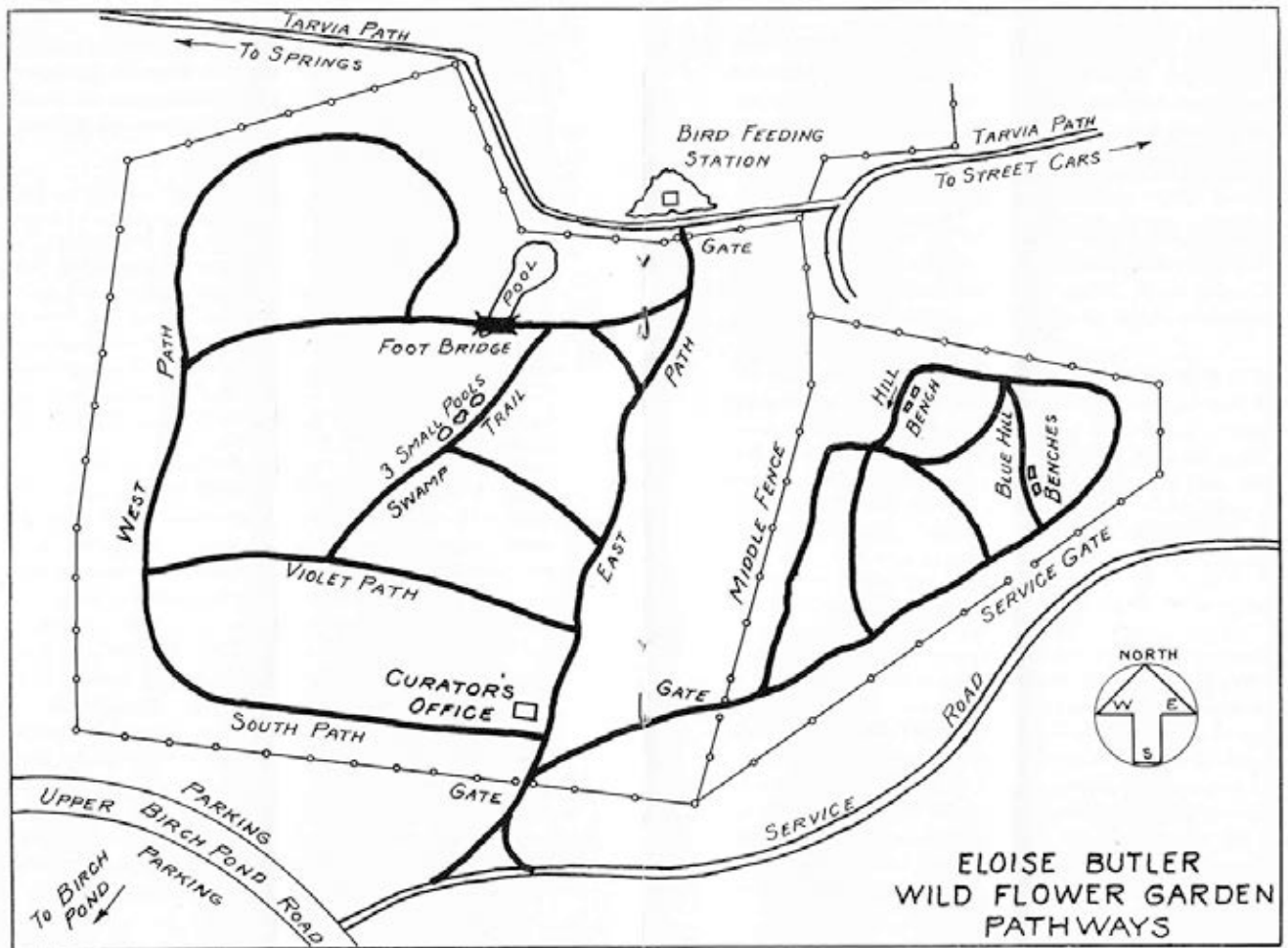
The Wild Botanic Garden in the time of Eloise Butler

The features identified are names given by Eloise Butler. The original space set aside for the Garden was just three acres centering on the Treeless Swamp and Tamarack Bog. Within a few years the surrounding hillsides and the area of the North Meadow had been added resulting in a wild garden of 20 plus acres. The existing back fence of the Garden in 2021 closely follows the dotted line of the old path (later known as the "tarvia path") that leads from Bubbling Spring on the east westward to where that path begins to make a great curve to the south between Gentian Meadow and Old Andrews Mount. (Map courtesy Martha Hellander)



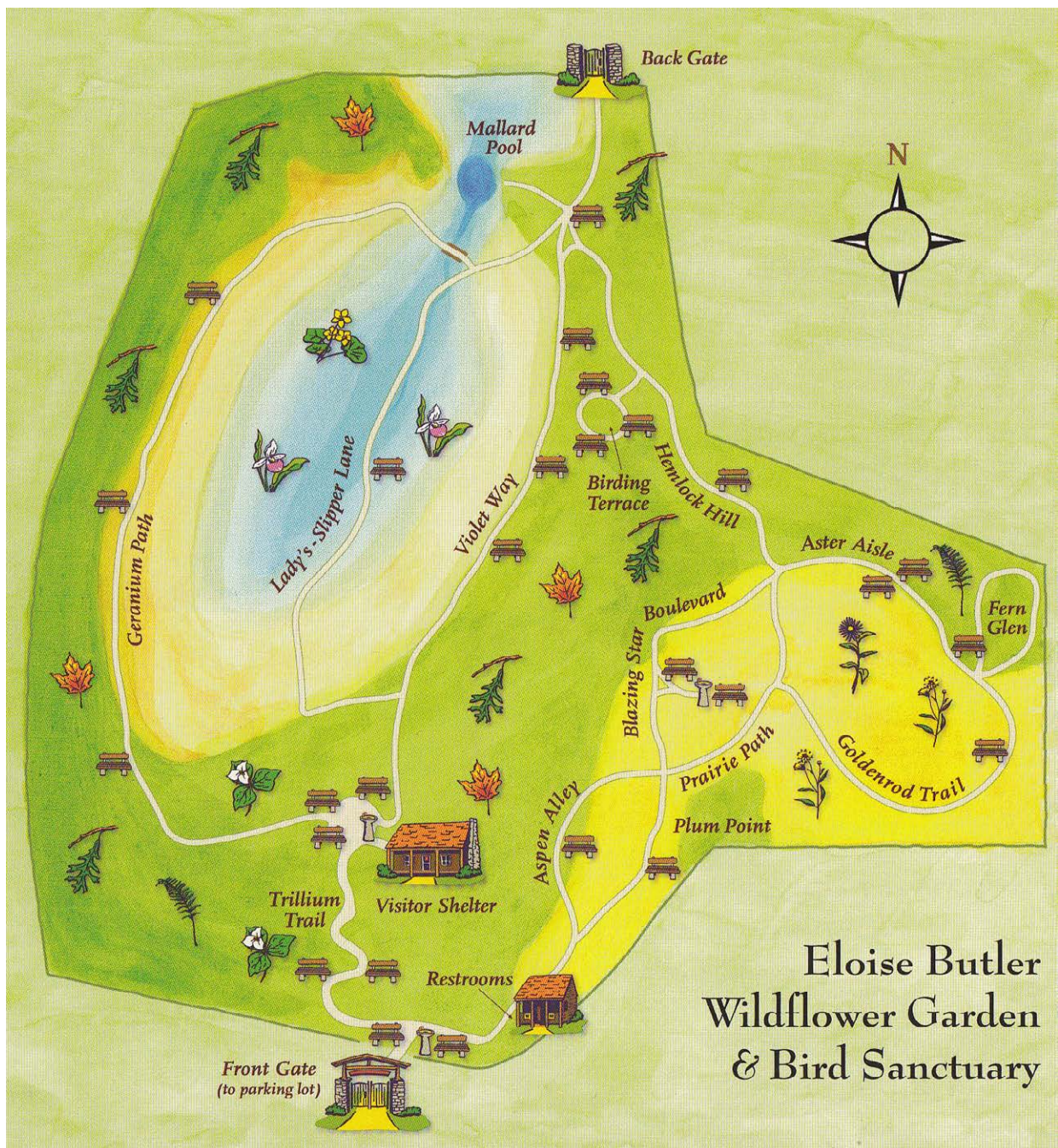
The Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden (The Native Plant Reserve) in Martha Crone's time after 1944

In this map of 1952, drawn by Martha Crone we see Garden space reduced to 14 acres. The area of the North Meadow has been abandoned with the north fence line following the old tarvia path. The Bubbling Spring now lies outside the Garden fence. The upland addition of 1944 is on the right with the "middle fence" denoting the old from the new parts of the Garden. The map is not to scale as the north/south distance is considerably foreshortened to fit into the brochure Martha Crone used. The East Path and West Path are more or less similar to Eloise Butler's time and to today. The "Swamp Trail" is the 1946 path laid out by Bill Crone. Some of the side paths in the wetland and the large loop on the West Path no longer exist. The paths in the upland have similarly been altered and a further one acre addition was incorporated on the east side in 1993 (Map courtesy J. S. Futch Collection).



The Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden after 1993

This modern map of the Garden shows the current trail configuration and the 1993 addition to the Upland Garden with the reconfiguration of trails there. The Visitor Shelter is the 1970 Martha E Crone Shelter and sits to the right of where the old Garden Office used to be - a site now occupied by the 3 benches. In the area of the back gate, the north fence and the tarvia path were both moved northward in 1992 to straighten the fence line. The remainder of the boundary lines are in the same position as on Martha Crone's 1952 map except for the north fence straightening. The small pool in the Garden has been given the name of the former "Mallard Pool" which was located north of the current boundary. (Map courtesy Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.)



Eloise Butler's Early History

She was born in rural Maine, near Appleton, on August 3, 1851. An interest in botany may have been aroused at an early age by her family's herbal remedies, made at home from their knowledge of local plants. After high school graduation in 1870, she took a position as a teacher in West Appleton, Maine, near the Butler farm, but soon she was enrolled in a Teachers College, the Eastern State Normal School in Castine, Maine, from which she graduated in 1873. After graduation she moved with her parents to Indiana where other relatives were already established. That resettlement was not to last long for her, for in September 1874 we find her in Minneapolis. Here she began a long teaching career, principally in Botany, that was to last until retirement in 1911.

During those years in Minneapolis, she pursued her interest in botany by attending classes at the University of Minnesota, collecting, editing and working for certain professors, botany trips to Jamaica, Woods Hole, and the University's new research station on Vancouver Island. She was a member of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association and frequently submitted articles for circulation to chapter members. Some of those articles are referenced later in this text.



Above - Eloise Butler ca. 1890.
Photo: Branche's Studio,
Minneapolis.

1907

Origin of the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden

As early as the 1880s observant people realized that the development of the city of Minneapolis was incompatible with the retention of native habitat. West of the city in the Saratoga Springs Addition, residents successfully petitioned the new Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners to obtain a segment of that area to preserve for future generations. Originally 64 acres in extent, with various name changes and adjustments in size, this became what is now Theodore Wirth Park. By 1907 the park was 103 acres in size.

A small section of this new park, known at the time as Glenwood Park, was particularly attractive to Eloise Butler and her teacher colleagues. They were having great difficulties familiarizing their students with plants growing in their natural surroundings, as development was wiping out these areas. This spot would be accessible and attractive for that purpose.

As the Park Board had done little with the entire park due to lack of funds, this small group decided that something must be done to protect the unique native flora of the small area they had selected. That area included a swampy bog, fern glens, hillsides, upland hills and trees and nearby, the Great Medicine Spring. Following the submission of a petition on April 1st, 1907 the Park Board moved on April 15th to set aside 3 acres of this area as a Natural Botanical Garden but soon it was known as the "Wild Botanic Garden." At this time that was the extent, contained within a fence. We assume the fence, required by the resolution, was built but there is nothing in Eloise Butler's log or other notes, including the 1913 *Bellman* article, which described the Garden in great detail, that mentions a fence. Soon to follow enlargements of the Garden would not be delineated by a fence until 1924.

Eloise Butler became the most prominent guardian and promoter of this natural space or as an April 3, 1910 *Tribune* article put it "*practically the mother of the garden*," but it was not a paying position nor were the 3 acres considered a permanent set-aside as there was no permanent care arrangements. Permanence would be achieved in 1911 after Eloise planned to leave Minneapolis unless she was appointed Curator and paid for taking care of it. A petition from the Garden Club of Minneapolis and the Women's Club achieved the goal. Details in 1911.



Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*). The first plant transplanted into the new Garden. Photo G D Bebeau

Spring 1907

A large portion of Eloise Butler's Garden Log for 1907 is devoted to notations of plants observed within the area of the newly established Wild Botanic Garden. This record established beyond anything else what plants were indigenous to that area. She would later record various notes about finding plants she had not noticed previously.

Eloise noted that the spring season was "backward." She was referring to the abnormal cold temperatures that occurred in April and May when daily temperatures were consistently under average by as much as 15 to 20 degrees. Most snow had melted in March and little fell thereafter until there was a two day snowfall on April 27-28 of 13 inches.

In this, the first season of the officially formed Garden, Eloise would immediately begin to bring in plants that were not represented there. As these were all obtained in the metro area, they are all native to the state. Her first recorded entry of actually placing plants into the Garden is dated April 29th when she planted two Pitcher plants in the bog that she obtained from Mahtomedi, Minn.

In May from White Bear Lake she brought in more Pitcher plants and more Yellow-lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*). All the other plants that were new additions to the plant inventory are listed after the autumn section.

Summer 1907

Summer temperatures returned to the norms expected for the season and there was plenty of rainfall. As was her custom, Eloise traveled back to Malden, MA to visit her sister Cora Pease. As Eloise was still teaching at South High School in Minneapolis, summer was the only time she could make a visit. By 1910 however, the Garden duties were too much for her to be absent and the summer trips then ended and were replaced by winter trips, beginning in late 1911, after her retirement from teaching. It is not clear from her Garden Log exactly when she returned to Malden as there are no entries in the Garden Log between June 3rd and July 2nd and then there is another gap after July 2 to September 17th. If she had returned during June, the long later gap in the record is unexplained. Perhaps she was elsewhere in June and went to Malden in July.

In the July 2nd entry she noted receiving a selection of plants from Malden Mass.; either she had already been there and brought these back or they were sent by her sister Cora. These are listed after the autumn section.



Moccasin Flower (*Cypripedium acaule*) ©G D Bebeau

Autumn 1907

There are several autumn Garden Log entries; the first on September 17th. All the remaining log entries for 1907 concern the introduction of plants into the Garden from various sources in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. It would be 1908 before more introductions from the East Coast would arrive in the Garden. Additional specimens of the same plants brought in this past spring and listed above in the "spring" section included Wild Calla, Moccasin flower, Downy Yellow Violet, Greenbrier, Wild Blue Phlox and Wahoo. New introductions are listed below.

Her last log entry was on November 5th. The autumn weather was fairly normal for temperature until mid December when temperatures were warmer than normal. Some snow fell in December, but there was no accumulation until the very end of the month. September had one three inch rainfall and then October and November were very dry.

New 1907 Plants

Preliminary notes about plant information. The following information will apply throughout the text. **Native Status:** Some of the plants obtained by Eloise Butler were not native to Minnesota or if native, may have been difficult to establish in the Garden. Most of these are no longer present. Her successor, Martha Crone, was more selective of native plant material but not all have survived either. The plants illustrated here, so one can see what they looked like, are mostly of the class no longer extant in the Garden. As for plants mentioned here that are still present in the Garden today, although there may have been numerous re-plantings, most have a detailed information / photo page on the Friends website. Those noted as being present in the Garden today, are usually not illustrated in this article. The bracketed "MC" after a name indicates the plant was present on Martha Crone's 1951 census. **Botanical classification:** Over the years Botanists have reclassified many plants from the classifications in use at the time Eloise Butler wrote her Garden Log or when Martha Crone prepared her census. I have retained the nomenclature that Eloise Butler or Martha Crone used and then provided the more current classification as used by the major listings in use today, particularly *Flora of North America* and the *Checklist of the Vascular Flora of Minnesota*.

Spring 1907

[The "government reservation" is presumably the area of and around Fort Snelling). All are extant in the Garden except as noted]

- *Anemone acutiloba*, Sharplobe Hepatica. Native, from the government reservation in May.
- *Asarum canadense*, Wild ginger. Native, from the government reservation in May.
- *Calla palustris*, Wild Calla (Water Arum). Native, from White Bear Lake.
- *Carpinus americana* (now *Carpinus caroliniana*). American Hornbeam or Blue Beech or Muscledwood. (M.C.). It is considered native to the state by some sources; from the vicinity of the Lake Street Bridge (Minneapolis)
- *Claytonia virginica*, Virginia Spring Beauty. (M.C.) Native to the eastern section of Minnesota; from the vicinity of the Lake Street Bridge (Minneapolis) (photo)
- *Clintonia borealis*, Bluebead or Yellow Clintonia. (M.C.). It is native to the NE Quadrant of Minnesota; from White Bear Lake. Not extant. (photo next page)
- *Cypripedium acaule*, Moccasin Flower or Stemless Lady's-slipper. [This is a rare native plant that is very difficult to transplant and have survive. The repeated appearance of this plant on the Garden acquisition list over many years up through Martha Crone's curatorship is ample evidence of that difficulty] Native, from White Bear Lake. Not extant. (photo previous page)
- *Cypripedium pubescens* (now. *Cypripedium parviflorum*. var. *pubescens*), Yellow-lady's-slipper. Native, from Glenwood Park in May.
- *Dicentra cucullaria*, Dutchman's Breeches. Native, from the government reservation in May.
- *Euonymus atropurpureus*, Wahoo. Native, from the government reservation in May.
- *Hydrophyllum virginicum*, Eastern (Virginia) Waterleaf. Native, from the



Bird's-foot Violet (*Viola pedata*)
©Merel R. Black, Wisconsin
Flora



Virginia Spring Beauty
(*Claytonia virginica*) ©G D
Bebeau

- vicinity of the Lake Street Bridge (Minneapolis)
- *Menispermum canadense*, Common Moonseed. (M.C.) Native, from Washburn Park.
- *Osmunda regalis*, Royal Fern. Native to Minnesota but not widespread; from White Bear Lake.
- *Phlox divaricata*, Wild Blue Phlox. Native, from the government reservation in May.
- *Sanguinaria canadensis*, Bloodroot. Native, from Glenwood Park in May.
- *Smilax hispida*, (now *Smilax tamnoides*), Bristly Greenbrier. (M.C.). Native, from Washburn Park.
- *Symphoricarpos albus*, Snowberry. (M.C.) Native, from Minnehaha.
- *Symplocarpus foetidus*, Skunk Cabbage. (M.C.) Native, from the vicinity of the Lake Street Bridge (Minneapolis)
- *Viola pedata*, Bird's-foot Violet. Native, from the government reservation in May. (photo previous page)
- *Viola pubescens*, Downy Yellow Violet. Native, from Glenwood Park in May
- *Viola rugulosa* (now *Viola canadensis* var. *rugulosa*), Creeping Root Violet (Tall Stemmed). (M.C.). Native, from Minnehaha. Not extant.
- An unidentified Cherry, from the vicinity of the Lake Street Bridge (Minneapolis).



Bluebead or Yellow Clintonia
(*Clintonia borealis*) ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora

Summer 1907

- *Benzoin aestivale* (Now *Lindera benzoin* var. *benzoin*), Northern Spicebush. Not Native, from Malden. Not extant.
- *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, Two Common Buttonbush. (M.C.) Native, from Malden.
- *Hydrocotyle americana*, American Marsh Pennywort. From Malden. Rather rare in Minnesota, reported only in four counties bordering Wisconsin - Houston, Pine, Chisago, Washington. It is now on Minnesota's "Special Concern List." Not extant. (photo)

Autumn 1907

(all native, from various Minneapolis/St. Paul sources)

- *Aplectrum hyemale*. Adam & Eve (Puttyroot) an orchid. (M.C.) Uncommon but considered native in a number of counties of the SE section of the State. Not extant. (photo)
- *Panax quinquefolius*, American Ginseng. (M.C.) Native, reported in scattered counties mostly in the SE Quadrant, but also as far north as Mille Lacs and Jackson in the SW. Now very rare and on the States "Special Concern List." A plant with a long folk and native medicinal history. Not extant. (photo next page)
- *Helenium autumnale*, Common Sneezeweed. (M.C.) Common throughout Minnesota except the far Arrowhead.
- *Silphium perfoliatum*, Cup Plant.
- *Phlox pilosa*, Downy Phlox. (M.C.) Native to almost all of Minnesota except the northern tier of counties and the Arrowhead. (photo next page)
- *Liatris pycnostachya*, Great Blazing Star.
- *Hypericum ascyron*, Great St. Johnswort.
- *Chamaedaphne calyculata*, Leatherleaf. (M.C.) This is a native bog shrub with leathery green leaves. It transplants fairly well. Not extant.
- *Onoclea struthiopteris* (now *Matteuccia struthiopteris*), Ostrich Fern.



Adam & Eve (Puttyroot)
(*Aplectrum hyemale*) ©R K Kupfer, Wisconsin Flora.

- *Aster Sericeus* (now *Symphyotrichum sericeum*), Silky Aster (Western Silver Aster).
- *Orchis spectabilis* (now *Galearis spectabilis*), Showy Orchid. (M.C.). A native orchid of counties in a diagonal from the SE corner of the state toward the NW corner - basically the old Big Woods. Not extant. Photo next page.
- *Campanula americana*, American Bellflower.
- *Clematis virginiana*, Virgin's Bower.
- *Dioscorea villosa*, Wild Yam. (M.C.) Native to the wooded counties in the SE Quadrant of the State as far north as Pine county. (photo)



American Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) ©Dennis W. Woodland Wisconsin Flora



Downy Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*) ©G D Bebeau



Showy Orchid (*Galearis spectabilis*) ©Jeff Hapeman, Wisconsin Flora.



Wild Yam (*Dioscorea villosa*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



American Marsh Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle americana*) ©Robert W. Freckmann, Wisconsin Flora

To the Board of Park Commissioners,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The undersigned, being especially interested in the study of plants and their preservation in their natural surroundings, are desirous of having a certain portion of the park grounds of Minneapolis permanently set aside for a natural Botanical Garden for the instruction of students of botany and for the enjoyment of all lovers of nature.

We think the place most desirable for this purpose the eastern portion of Glenwood Park bordering on Arva Avenue. This tract consists of an undrained tamarack swamp with adjacent meadow land and wooded slopes. An undrained tamarack swamp is essential for the proposed garden, because, on account of city improvements, such land is fast disappearing, together with certain lilies, arums, heaths, dogwoods, mosses, fungi and the rare and curious insectivorous plants which are never found elsewhere.

We desire to preserve intact all the wild and natural features of the place and to avoid all appearance of artificial treatment. The only changes would be the thinning out of vegetation where it is necessary for the well being of the plants, or for the introduction of Minnesota specimens which grow under similar conditions; the making of a few paths and the placing of a few stepping stones to render points accessible to observers.

The aims of this garden would be to show plants as living things and their adaptations to their environment, to display in miniature the rich and varied flora of Minnesota, and to teach the principles of forestry.

We therefore beg your Honorable Board to set aside the aforesaid tract for the purposes herein enumerated; to protect the place from depredations; and to grant us permission to supervise the changes suggested.

minutes of
committee of
organization { Elvise Butler
South High School
C. O. Rosendahl
University of Minn.
C. W. Hall

D. W. Sprague

D. D. Sprague
R. C. N.

John L. Greer
A. M. Ozias
Harold R. Lyon
Clara K. Leggett, Teacher of Botany
W. F. Webster
Julia B. Clifford, Teacher of Botany
W. W. Pratt
Robt Pratt
March 21 1904
Teacher of

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Committee of Preliminary Organization { Elvige Butler
South High School
C. O. Rosendahl
University of Minn.
C. W. Hall

D. W. Spitzer

E. D. Decker
J. S. Jones
Joseph D. Aren

E. A. Cuzner
A. M. W. Folwell
T. E. Jones

Grant Obligation
7 affixing \$200

Frank L. Morley

John R. Greer

A. M. Ozias

Harold R. Lyon

Clara K. Leavitt, Teacher of Botany

W. F. Webster

Julia B. Clifford, Teacher of Botany

W. W. Hobbs

March 1891

Robt Pratt

Elizabeth H. Foss, Teacher of Botany

Henry B. Tillotson

C. W. Hall

Gymn. Northrop

George B. Titon

Fred K. Buttress

Olaf Westlund

Henry F. Kachmair

Bliss P. Sigerson

Josephine E. Tilden

Milton O. Nelson

E. W. D. Holway

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS.

REGULAR MEETING.

April 1, 1907.

Office of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 1, 1907.

President Northrup in the chair.

Present—Commissioners Allan, Boutell, Decker, Haynes, Johnson, Jones, McMillan, Nelson, Peterson, Smith, Van Nest, Walker and Mr. President—13.

Absent—Commissioners Nimocks and Phelps—2.

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 4th, 1907, and the special meeting of March 16th, 1907, were read and approved as printed.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

From City Treasurer—

Reporting collection of miscellaneous items for the month of March to the amount of \$579.69.

Placed on file.

From Willard J. Hield, General Manager T. C. R. T. Co.—

Regarding change in Interlachen bridge. Referred to Commissioner Nelson and the Attorney.

From S. N. Ewing—

For boating privilege at Lake Calhoun.

Referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Entertainments.

From Joseph Cousineau—

For re-appointment as park policeman.

From Felix Trainor et al.—

For appointment of N. E. Carlson as park keeper, Oak Lake Parks.

From Patterson Street Lighting Co.—

Proposition for lighting parkways during the summer of 1907.

All referred to the Standing Committee on Employment and Supplies. ✓

From John N. Greer et al.—

Asking that a portion of Glenwood Park be set aside for a natural botanical garden.

Referred to the Standing Committee on Improvements.

From R. H. Warder, Superintendent of Lincoln Park Chicago—

Offering suction dredge for sale.

Commissioner Peterson—

Moved that Commissioner Allan or Commissioner McMillan be asked to visit Chicago and inspect the dredge offered for sale and investigate dredging matters in general. Adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Minneapolis, Minn. April 1, 1907.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners—

Gentlemen: Your Standing Committee on Improvements, to whom was referred the petition of P. F. Smith et al. for lights in Interlachen, respectfully report and recommend that two electric lights be maintained in such locations as the Superintendent may select.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED. L. SMITH,

JOHN H. VAN NEST,

J. W. ALLAN,

C. F. E. PETERSON,

W. F. DECKER,

Committee.

Adopted.

Minneapolis, Minn. April 10, 1907.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners
of the City of Minneapolis.

Gentlemen:-

Your Standing Committee on Improvements to whom
was referred the petition of John N. Greer and others, asking
that a certain part of Glenwood Park be set aside for a
Natural Botanical Garden, respectfully report and recommend
that the petition be granted and that the Superintendent
be instructed to select the proper place and make such minor
improvements in the way of paths and fencing as may be necessary
at an expense of not to exceed \$200.00

Respectfully submitted,

Fred. A. Smith

W. F. Becker

John H. Van Nest
Chas. Peterson

Committee.

"Adopted"

W. F. Becker

SHY WILD FLOWERS TO BE GIVEN HOSPICE

**Section of Glenwood Park Has Been Set Aside for Use of
Such Native Species as Are of Special Botanical
Interest to Naturalists and Students.**

Minneapolis youngsters are not to be allowed to grow up in total ignorance of the habits and customs of the dainty lady slipper, the shy fringed orchid, or the equally elusive wild calla. Representatives of these first families of Minnesota are to be induced to return to the city, to forget the past when a former generation of children treated them without mercy, and to find a home once more in the city. A certain portion of Minneapolis is to be reserved especially for them and, moreover, they are to live under police protection and the gray-coated park guardian will have something to say to anyone who attempts to infringe upon the freedom.

There was a time, and not so long ago, that some Minneapolis families could pluck these rare wild flowers almost from their back doors, but when too many people took a hand in the culling and the plucking became a massacre, the plants grew discouraged and disappeared. Every year they moved farther and farther from the city, until now anyone who wants to meet them in their own homes has to journey to Minnetonka or White Bear or some other secluded place to find them. The students of botany in the high schools and university grumbled at the time and distance and expressed a willingness to confine their study of these exclusive and retiring families to their text books. With noble self-sacrifice they were willing to deny themselves the privilege of hunting specimens.

For Student Benefit.

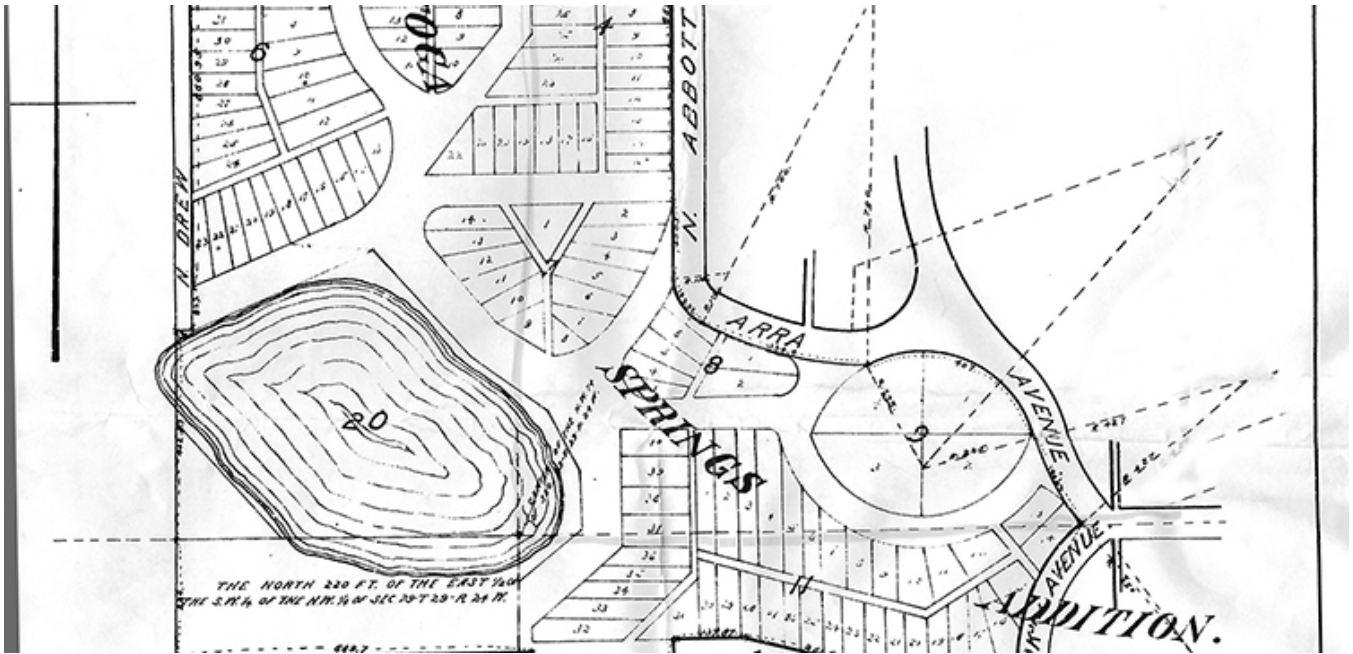
It was primarily for the students that the teachers of botany asked the park board to set aside a portion of Glenwood park for the exclusive use of such native wild flowers as like to live with their feet in the water, for the district is somewhat swampy. The lady slipper, pink and yellow, the wild calla, fringed orchid, sundew, pitcher plants, and other varieties which used to be as much at home in Minneapolis as the ever-present dandelion, are to be brought back and coaxed to find the new location satisfactory. The sundew and pitcher plants are insectivorous and several other members of a family which dines off small live things will be induced to join the colony.

Owner of Idea.

The idea of this native flower garden was first suggested by Miss Eloise Butler, a botany teacher of the Central high school. It was enthusiastically

taken up by the other teachers of the subject and the park board met them fully half way. Superintendent Wirth with Miss Butler and the other teachers spent the morning yesterday looking over the swamp section, planning foot-paths and stepping-stones, so that the garden might be visited without danger of a mud bath.

Work will begin at once. Indeed, some of the plants have already been transplanted, but wild flowers are shy things and the new botanical garden will not be at its best for a season or more. The public will be at liberty to enjoy this garden, which will supplement the text books for students, who will find a visit to Glenwood park a part of their regular work in botany, but the park policeman will "get you" if you attempt to carry away so much as a leaf.



A 1904 plat showing a portion of the Saratoga Springs Addition that was never built but became Glenwood Park. Birch pond is shown at the left. The natural bowl of the Wild Botanic Garden is where the ellipse is shown to the right of the pond. By 1907 Glenwood Park had been expanded north, south, west with the east boundary ending at what is now Xerxes Ave. North. Note how lots were platted on what is now the surrounding south hillside.

1908

Spring 1908

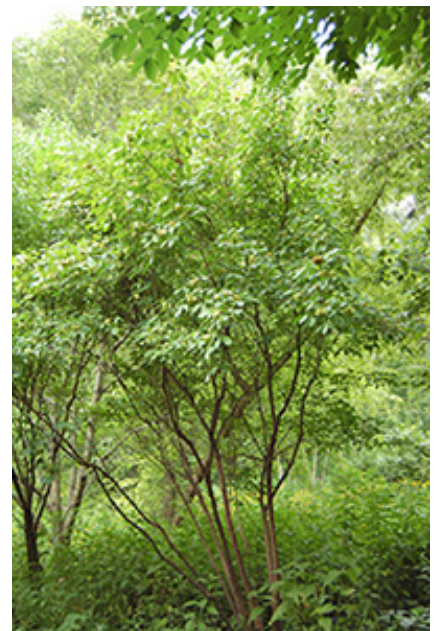
There had been very little snow in the fall of 1907. The first three months of 1908 saw some significant snowfalls but most of the snow melted by mid February and March snowfalls did not stay on the ground long. April was cold with significant moisture, mostly in the form of snow. Eloise noted that four or five inches fell on the 27th (the Minneapolis weather station reported 7 inches). That was the last snowfall of the season. May brought average temperatures and lots of rain; five rainfalls alone of over an inch each. June was wet also.

In the winter months of 1907-1908 Eloise Butler would be occupied with her teaching position at Minneapolis South High School. With the coming of spring, the "Natural Botanical Garden," (the name given in the 1907 petition) now in its second official year, would occupy all of her non-school hours.

Eloise's earliest record of planting was on the 19th of April when she set out these plants that were already represented in the Garden and are still represented in the Garden today:

Wild Blue Phlox , Sharplobe Hepatica and Great St. Johnswort.

Later in the month she added these plants that still extant in the



Hop Tree, (*Ptelea trifoliata*). A new spring planting. Photo G D Bebeau

Garden:

Old Man's Whiskers, Dutchman's Breeches, False Rue-Anemone, Butterfly Weed, Mayapple and Canadian White Violet.

Eloise espoused the belief that the Garden should only include plants native to the state or naturalized in Minnesota - a rule she would ignore when certain specimens became available that she either loved or believed would complement the other plants of the Garden. We shall see in her plantings for 1908 that exceptions to the rule would occur.

A list of plants added in the spring that were new species to the Garden appears following the autumn section.

Finding unexpected plants in the new Garden was always a treat and she reported such findings in the Log such as Early Coral Root (*Corallorhiza innata* - now- *Corallorhiza trifida*) (photo) and Narrowleaf Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) on April 26th. On May 10 she found one specimen of Shining Club Moss (*Lycopodium lucidulum* - now - *Huperzia lucidula*), in the wetland



Early Coralroot (*Corallorhiza trifida*).
Photo ©R.K. Kupfer Wisconsin Flora

Summer 1908

There are no entries in Eloise Butler's Garden Log between June 3 and September 5. As was her custom, she had traveled back to Malden, MA to visit her sister Cora Pease.

While visiting with Cora, the two made plant gathering forays including visits to Appleton Maine where relatives lived and a trip to several sites in Nova Scotia where they acquired plants and then a visit to New Brunswick was most important - establishing Eloise's idea that her Garden was the first of its kind - details on page 23.

On her return train trip to Minneapolis, via the northern route through Canada, there was a train wreck in the wilds of Ontario. As a confirmed plant gatherer, Eloise found the wait for repairs rewarding in that she located and brought home plants for the Garden. Some details of this are on page 160.

She explained later in an entry in "Annals of a Wild Garden" in an article titled "Occult Experiences of a Wild Gardener" how she acquired plants she had been searching for - Sweet Gale (*Myrica gale*) and Yellow Round-leaved Violet (*Viola rotundifolia*) and several other rarities. She wrote: "I wanted to find sweet gale. I walked aimlessly for some distance and came right upon it. Then I tried the other side of the railway in the same way, and successfully, for the yellow round-leaved violet." In her log for September 5th, she reported collecting near the town of Mackey, the following two plants which were undoubtedly also collected at the train wreck site as Mackey is "in the wilds of Ontario." More experiences on page 23.

- *Woodsia ilvensis*, Rusty Woodsia Fern. (M.C.). It is found in many parts of Minnesota and it is interesting the Eloise had to import one for the Garden. It grows in rock crevices. Martha Crone would plant many of these in the 1930s.
- *Rubus odoratus*, Purple-flowering Raspberry. Not native

While she was away, the summer weather in Minneapolis was fine with plenty of rain except that August was fairly dry.

Autumn 1908

In the fall Eloise went on a plant-o-rama, first, in early September with the plants she obtained on her summer visit back east and then with plants obtained locally. The list of species new to the Garden follows this text.

During the fall months Eloise would make special notes of certain plants - plants she had not previously catalogued as being present in the Garden. These included (with the date):

- *Drosera rotundifolia*, Roundleaf Sundew. (M.C.) September 20th. Photo at right.
- *Parnassia caroliniana*, Grass of Parnassus. (M.C.) September 20th. [Note: This species referenced by Eloise is not native to Minnesota and it could not be growing in the wild of the Garden area in 1908. There are many species of *Parnassia*, two of which are native to Minnesota such as *P. palustris* and *P. glauca*. *P. palustris* is not found in Hennepin County today, where the Garden is located. *P. glauca* is the correct name as it is noted in *Flora of North America* Volume 12, that *P. caroliniana* has been misapplied to *P. glauca* in early references such as Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.
- *Pedata hederacea* (now *Glechoma hederacea*), Ground Ivy (Creeping Charley). (M.C.) October 4th. [Still present in the Garden today. This is an introduced plant that has naturalized].
- *Smilacina trifolia*, Threelf False Lily-of-the-Valley, September 20th.
- *Spiraea*, Foxtail Grass. Oct. 4th- [This is the common variety found in Minnesota, there are a large number of species. Eloise does not specify the species. None are native - all species are introduced and naturalized.]



Roundleaf Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) Photo ©G D Bebeau

In September the Crimson-eyed Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus Moscheutos*) planted in the spring was seen to bloom. In October she planted more Showy Lady's-slippers, Yellow Lady's-slipper, Pitcher plants, Turk's Cap lilies, Blazing star (*Liatris scariosa*, *L. spicata*, and *L. cylindracea*. See note below in the references), Blue giant Hyssop, and more asters - White Heath Aster (Many-flowered Aster) (*Aster multiflorus* - now- *Symphotrichum ericoides*) [this was her first record of planting this species] and Silky Aster (Western Silver Aster), *Symphotrichum sericeum*.

On November 3rd she noted two clumps of Yellow Marsh Marigold in bloom in the bog, which is not unusual for these plants to have a fall re-bloom if the season is right like 1908 when October and November temperatures were above the average norm. Eloise's last entry in her log was on November 28th when she noted three blue jays chasing a Barred Owl out of the Garden. With the warm



Crimson-eyed Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus Moscheutos*). Photo Robert H. Mohlenbrock @ USDA-NRCS

October and November temperatures there were no snowfalls until December when at mid-month came an eleven inch snowfall.

New 1908 Plants

Spring 1908

- *Alnus incana*, Gray Alder. Native Mahtomedi, MN.
- *Camptosorus rhizophyllus* (*Asplenium rhizophyllum*), Walking Fern. (M.C.) Native. Osceola, WI. [In Martha Hellander's book *The Wild Gardener* and on the Friends website you can read about the adventures of Eloise in obtaining this plant. She wrote up the experience in an article titled "The Quest for the Walking Fern." Photo right.
- *Coptis trifolia*, Threleaf Goldthread. (M.C.) Native, Osceola, WI.
- *Hibiscus Moscheutos*, Crimson-eyed Rose Mallow. Not native, Kelsey's Nursery, NC. Photo previous page.
- *Malus coronaria*, Sweet Crabapple (Narrow-leaved Crab). (M.C.) Not native, Kelsey's Nursery, NC
- *Oxalis violacea*, Violet Wood Sorrel. (M.C.). Native; Mahtomedi, MN. Photo page 22.
- *Ptelea trifoliata*, Common Hop Tree. (M.C.) From Kelsey's Nursery, NC. [This plant is listed native but the only record is from Hennepin County. (In the "Checklist of the Vascular Flora of Minnesota", . Anita F. Cholewa, states that this tree is "known only from Hennepin Co. (last collected 1951), possibly planted," — could that be the Garden specimen planted by Eloise?]
- *Tradescantia virginiana*, Virginia Spiderwort. Native, Mound, Mn. [This plant is sometimes listed as native to Minnesota but there are no reported specimens at the University Herbarium. It is known from one disjunct population in WI, otherwise from southeastern IA, IL south and eastward. The only source for the "native" listing at USDA is the reference from Gleason, H.A. 1963. *The New Britton and Brown illustrated flora of the Northeastern United States and adjacent Canada*. Hafner Publishing Co., Inc., New York. Eloise's source was in Mound, MN so the plant may have been growing there but it is more probable that the species was *Tradescantia bracteata* which is native and similar looking.] Photo page 22.
- *Trientalis borealis* (now *Trientalis borealis* ssp. *borealis*), Starflower. (M.C.) Native, from Osceola, WI. Photo page 22.



Walking Fern (*Asplenium rhizophyllum*) Photo - Martha Crone



Threleaf Goldthread (*Coptis trifolia*) Photo ©Kitty Kohout

Summer 1908

Two plants - both are listed in the summer section above

Autumn 1908

- *Acorus calamus*, Sweet Flag. Native, Stony Brook, MA. [Two species have the base botanical name Eloise used - *Acornis*. I have chosen the one that is native to Minnesota, the other, is now classified *Acorus americanus*; both would have been available at Stony Brook.]

- *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, Sweet Vernal Grass. Not native, Ipswich MA.
- *Azalea viscosa* (now *Rhododendron viscosum*), Swamp Azalea. Not native, Stony Brook, MA.
- *Campanula rotundifolia*, Bluebell Bellflower (Harebell). (M.C.) Native. Minnehaha (Minneapolis). Extant. Photo at right.
- *Cystopteris bulbifera*, Bladder Fern (Bulblet Bladder Fern). (M.C.) Native, Minnehaha (Minneapolis); Extant.
- *Gentiana crinita* (now *Gentianopsis crinita*), Fringed Gentian. (M.C.) Native. [A source is not given, nor the date of planting, but on September 20th, Eloise noted a bloom on the plants that were installed earlier in the season. This would be the first recorded notation of this plant in the Garden.] Photo at right.
- *Habenaria psycodes* (now *Platanthera psycodes*), Lesser Purple Fringed Orchid. (M.C.) Native. Cambridge Nova Scotia. Photo on page 22.
- *Oxalis acetosella* (now *Oxalis montana*), Mountain Wood Sorrel. (M.C.) Native, Cambridge, Nova Scotia. Photo below.
- *Panax trifolius*, Dwarf Ginseng. (M.C.) Native. Appleton, ME. (photo)
- *Penstemon albidus*, White Penstemon. Native, Indian Mound (MN). Photo on page 22.
- *Phegopteris dryopteris* (now *Gymnocarpium dryopteris*), Oak Fern (Western Oak Fern). Native, Evangeline Beach, Nova Scotia.
- *Phegopteris polypodioides* (now *Phegopteris connectilis*), Longbeech Fern; (M.C.) Native, Evangeline Beach, Nova Scotia.
- *Polygala paucifolia*, Gaywings (Fringed Milkwort). (M.C.) Native, Needham, MA. Photo below.
- *Polypody vulgare* (now *Polypodium virginianum*), Rock (Common) Polypody. (M.C.) Native, Minnehaha (Minneapolis).
- *Polystichum acrostichoides*, Christmas Fern. (M.C.) Native, Cambridge, Nova Scotia. Extant.
- *Sanguisorba canadensis*, Canada Burnet. Not native, Ipswich, MA.
- *Spiraea tomentosa*, Steeplebush. (M.C.) Native, Malden, MA.
- *Trichostema dichotomum*, Forked bluecurls. Not native, Malden, MA.



Harebell (Bluebell Bellflower)
(*Campanula rotundifolia*)



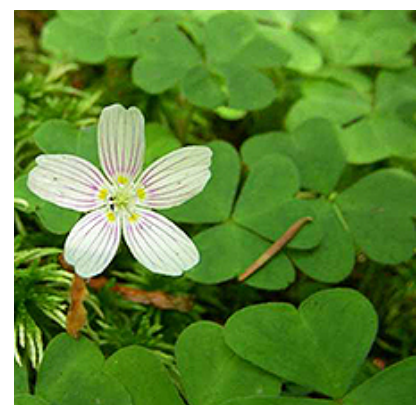
Fringed Gentian
(*Gentianopsis crinita*) Photo
Martha Crone



Gaywings (*Polygala paucifolia*)
Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin
Flora.



Dwarf Ginseng (*Panax trifolius*)
Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin
Flora.



Mountain Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis montana*) Photo ©Corey Raimond,
Wisconsin Flora



Lesser Purple Fringed Orchid
(*Platanthera psycodes*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Violet Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora.



White Penstemon (*Penstemon albidus*) Photo Mark J. Miller @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*)
Photo G D Bebeau



Virginia Spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*) Photo Jennifer Anderson @ USDA-NRCS

Photo at top of page 17 - Map of Glenwood Park in the early 1900s.

Note on Liatris.: Planting of Blazing Star: *L. scariosa* and *L. spicata*, both listed in her 1908 Garden Log, are not native to Minnesota but her notes in 1908 state she obtained them from Ft. Snelling and from Mahtomedi. Since some of these species are similar, perhaps she mis-identified them which may be the case with *L. scariosa* as this is a species of the eastern coast, and as for *L. spicata*, perhaps it may have existed, but like *L. scariosa*, none of the known varieties of these species has been collected in Minnesota.

Notes on the trip to Canada:

Imagine her surprise when Eloise Butler saw an article in *The Boston Transcript* in 1908 that described a “wild garden” in New Brunswick, Canada that maintained more than 500 species of flowering plants and had been established years earlier. ⁽¹⁾ Until this time she believed her garden in Glenwood Park was original to the idea. So - what to do about it? You go there and check it out! The New Brunswick garden belonged to George Upham Hay (1843-1913). He was a leading member of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick (NHSNB), which was founded in 1880. He founded the herbarium in the group’s museum and for the rest of his life he was chair its’ committee on botany. ⁽²⁾ In 1899 he announced the existence of the wild garden in papers sent to the NHSNB and to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC). This was 10 years after he bought the property. To the NHSNB he noted that the garden would aim to “[show] as far as the conditions would warrant, the peculiarities and extent of the flora of New Brunswick.” ⁽³⁾ This is similar to the wording in the petition establishing the Minneapolis Garden: “*The aims of this garden would be to show plants as living things and their adaptations to their environment, to display in miniature the rich and varied flora of Minnesota.*” ⁽⁴⁾

Hay’s garden was of two acres and located on his private summer estate at Ingleside, near Westfield NB. It was a private garden dedicated to study, not open to the public for general viewing of plants. Eloise wrote of her visit that the garden was “*of vivid interest*” but her wild garden was “*superior*” as it was larger, open to the public, and did not get flooded out periodically by a small brook. ⁽⁵⁾ The similarities in purpose and thought in the establishment of these two “wild gardens” is remarkable. But the public garden in Minneapolis had an advantage - there was the hope of continuance when the founding person left the scene, as it was part of a larger city park system and had public support. Dr. Hay made no provision for the longterm maintenance of his garden and after his death in 1913 it fell into disuse and there is now no trace of it. ⁽⁶⁾

(1) *The Wild Gardener*, Martha Hellander, 1992, North Star Press

(2) *History of Saint John*, City of Saint John, New Brunswick

(3) *The Creative City of Saint John*, by Christi Verduyn.

(4) Petition of citizens to the Board of Park Commissioners, March 1907

(5) see note 1

(6) see note 3

Another section from her “Occult Experiences of a Wild Gardener”:

At another time I wanted *Gentiana puberula* [Downy Gentian] I had never gathered the plant. I only knew that it grew on the prairie. So I betook myself to the prairie and hunted until I was tired. Then I bethought myself of my ghostly friends and murmured, “Now, I will let ‘them’ push me.” Thereupon, I wandered about, without giving thought to my steps, and was just thinking, “The spell won’t work this time,” when my feet caught in a gopher hole and I stumbled and fell headlong into a patch of the gentian.

Associates in botany have remarked to me, “You always find the plant you look for.” I wished to get some Leatherwood for the wild garden. It had died out from the place where I had found it years ago. One day a University student inadvertently asked me, “Do you know Leatherwood?” “Indeed I do. That is just what I wish most to see. Tell me where I can find some and I will get it this very day.” Her ideas of its whereabouts were vague. She had seen it two years before near St. Thomas’ School, but on what side of the buildings, or the road, she could not tell. With this direction, I scoured all the region about St. Thomas, without success. As it was then past the dinner hour and high time for me to go home, I left the place reluctantly and started for the streetcar. Suddenly, without conscious volition, but obeying a blind, unreasoning impulse, I turned and plunged on a bee-line into the woods. “Eloise Butler,” I said to myself, “what are you doing? You are due at home.” But on I went and walked directly into a pocket lined with Leatherwood in full blossom - - a place that I had never visited before. The whole affair seeded uncanny to me.



1909

Spring 1909

Publicity: 1909 is the year Eloise begins to publicize the Garden. This would take many forms over the years, principally exhibits, lectures, newspaper articles and essays for publication in the circular bulletin of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter of the Agassiz Association. She began this year on Saturday evening March 27 at the Minneapolis Public Library with a lecture about the Wild Botanic Garden in Glenwood Park. Theodore Wirth preceded her with a talk on the entire park system. (1)

The spring of 1909 began a busy season of planting for Eloise Butler even as she was completing the year's teaching duties in the Minneapolis School System. Good snow depth during the early months of the year (over 10 inches yet at the end of February) and March rains brought plenty of moisture to start the spring season. As early as April 4th, she reported planting some *Geum triflorum*, which is commonly called Old Man's Whiskers or Prairie Smoke. She had gathered these from the plateau area near Minnehaha Falls.

The Cora Pease house in Malden MA. where Eloise visited in the summer of 1909. Photo by Martha Hellander.



On the May 19th Eloise planted a large number of species that she had arranged to be sent from Gillett's nursery in Southwick, Mass. A number of these plants are not listed today on the Garden visitor guides. Many of these were native to Minnesota and a few were not. Of the plants received, some were introduced to the Garden for the first time in the spring of 1909 (this being the first reference to them in her Garden Log). The new spring species are listed after the autumn section and a few are pictured at the right.

Within several days she had planted those along with a number of trees and shrubs that were provided by the Park Board; these included: Eastern White Pine, Red Pine, Balsam Fir, Northern White Cedar, Eastern Red Cedar, Canada Yew, Sugar Maple, Black Walnut, Balsam Poplar, White Ash and Green Ash, Mountain Ash, Honey Locust, White Ash and Green Ash, Mountain Ash, Honey Locust and Kentucky Coffeetree. Some of these went into an area she called the "Pinetum" which she located on the west hillside overlooking the wetland.

The selection from Gillett's also included a number of ferns and fern allies, six of which were planted for the first time in the Garden.

Throughout the spring she gathered plants from sites around Minnesota including Big Island in Minnetonka, Point Douglas, Anoka and Mahtomedi. Those not new and still represented in the Garden today are:

Dwarf Trout Lily, Heartleaf Foamflower, Great St. Johnswort, White Baneberry and Dogtooth Violet (Yellow Trout Lily).

She also found it noteworthy to record seeing these birds: Indigo Bunting, Hermit Thrush, Peabody Bird, Myrtle Warbler, Maryland Yellow Throat and bluebirds.

Summer 1909

Early and late summer during the early years of the Garden were busy with planting new specimens and transplants. In June Eloise Butler transplanted some lady-slippers from Anoka, MN; Hawkins, WI and Mahtomedi, MN. Most were Greater Yellow Lady's-slippers (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*) She also brought in from Mahtomedi, MN- Buckbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), Yellow Clintonia (*Clintonia borealis*), Tufted Loosestrife (*Lysimachia thyrisiflora*) and Spiderwort (*Tradescantia bracteata*). The last two are still extant.

During July and August Eloise was able to leave the Garden and return to the East Coast for a collecting expedition and a visit to relatives. This would be the last summer trip back home. Her love of tending the newly established Wild Flower Garden would keep her in Minneapolis during the summer months. Future trips to Malden MA



Twisted Stalk Lily (*Streptopus lanceolatus*) Photo ©Robert W. Freckman, Wisconsin Flora.



Yellow Widelip Orchid (*Liparis loeselii*) New Spring planting. Photo ©R K Kupfer, Wisconsin Flora.



Narrowleaf Stoneseed (*Lithospermum incisum*) Spring planting. Photo Clarence A. Rechenthin. Courtesy of USDA NRCS Texas State Office.

would only occur after the Garden closed for the season. Eloise's sister Cora lived in Malden, so of course Cora was in on the duties of collecting plants. Plants were collected from Round Pond MA, Stony Brook MA, Bear Hill MA, Appleton ME, Union ME, Winter Pond MA and Needham MA. The species count brought back to Minnesota was almost 60. She noted all these in her garden log for September 4th.

Among these were plants still represented in the Garden today: Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*), and Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*).

Many of these were native to Minnesota and a few were not. Those that were introduced to the Garden for the first time in the summer of 1909 are listed after the autumn section.

From Mahtomedi again, she obtained Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*); planted more Fireweed and Wild Sensitive Plant [This listing is curious. Neither of the two varieties of Wild Sensitive Plant are listed as being located in Minnesota]. From the parade ground at Ft. Snelling (a prime collecting spot for Eloise) she obtained Jerusalem artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*).

The summer was fine weather wise. Temperatures stayed close to average and there was adequate rainfall, including a 3 3/4 inch rain in mid-July.

Autumn 1909

The large assortment of plants shipped from the East Coast that was outlined in her September 4th Garden Log entry certainly occupied a lot of Eloise Butler's time to plant but by September 12th she was already recording additional plantings.

From the source in Mahtomedi again, Eloise Butler obtained Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*) and planted more Fireweed. Additional sources of plants included the parade ground at Ft. Snelling, Minnehaha, Washburn Park, Glenwood Park itself (which surrounded the Garden), Glenwood Springs just behind the Garden, Lake Minnetonka and some East Coast nurseries. Plantings included these extant plants: (2)

Blue Cohosh, Canadian Milkvetch, Cup Plant, Jerusalem Artichoke, Obedient Plant, False Hedge Bindweed, Common Moonseed, Red Elderberry, Sweet Fern, and White Sage. Pale Corydalis which is no longer extant.

The list of other plants introduced to the Garden for the first time in the fall of 1909 follows this section.

The following two plants, were observed in the Garden for the first time:

Cicuta maculata, Spotted Water Hemlock. (M.C.) Not Extant.
Polygala verticillata, Whorled Milkwort. (M.C.) Not Extant. Photo page 31.



Arrowhead Rattlebox
(*Crotalaria sagittalis*) Summer planting. Photo ©J. Carroll, Wisconsin Flora



Spotted Water Hemlock (*Cicuta maculata*)

On September 23rd Eloise recorded finding six giant puffballs with the largest weighing over three pounds. Temperatures in the fall fluctuated above and below average but early October saw a significant dip below average and Eloise recorded a severe freeze on October 16. Precipitation was adequate and the year ended with a snow depth of over 10 inches. A major storm in mid-November dropped 10 inches of snow followed by several significant snowfalls in December. Thus ended a year of major accomplishments for the Garden by Eloise Butler.

Historical photo at top of page 24 - the original Garden "Office" viewed from a woodland path - Martha Crone, May 15, 1952

Historical Notes:

1. The lecture was announced in the *Star Tribune* on March 27, 1909 and was preceded by an announcement about upcoming Library programs published on December 27, 1908 in the *Star Tribune*.
2. Some time prior to the fall of 1909, Eloise had an earthen dam placed across a small water channel where water from the wetland drained northward. This structure created a small open pool in the Garden. The dam was located on the south side of a tarvia path that bisected the wetlands of the area from east to west. Beginning on September 12, 1909 she begins to reference in her log planting "in pond;" "by pond;" and "near brook below dam." The *Bellman article* which follows the text of year 1913 describes this dam
3. The experience Eloise and her fellow teachers had in collecting Squirrel Corn were written up in her unpublished "Annals of the Wild Botanic Garden." This episode is contained in "*Experiences in Collecting - 1911*" on our website in the Garden History Archive. The Squirrel Corn episode is printed below.

Experiences in Collecting: Who of the participants in the adventure can ever forget about the acquisition of squirrel corn. Much to their delight, the teachers of botany learned of a station for squirrel corn on one of the large islands of Lake Minnetonka. This plant is local and is found abundantly in a few favored places, unlike its relative, the Dutchman's Breeches, which grows all about us in rich woodlands. The squirrel corn has a similar foliage, but the flowers are white and larger, and heart-shaped, like another of the same genus – the cultivated bleeding heart – and are delightfully fragrant. The name comes from the small, subterranean tubers – round and yellow, like kernels of Indian corn.

After a long journey by water and pathless woodlands, the teachers came to the designated place, where they stood aghast before a recently constructed fence, some nine feet high, of strong, large meshed chicken wire, attached to stout poles, with a row of barbed wire close to the ground, three more rows of barbed wire at the top, surmounted by three horizontal rows of the same sort.

Experienced as they were in getting over barriers of all sorts, they thought this, at first, unsurmountable. Nevertheless, one of the party seized a trowel and began to dig in desperation a passage-way under the fence. How long a task this would have been is an undetermined question. Another collected long poles, which she wove in and out over the top wires. These were draped by a thick waterproof recklessly sacrificed to the cause, and then the fence was scaled and the plants gathered in deathly silence, from fear of arrest for trespass.

[The teachers] were then informed by a loyal neighbor of the owner of the property, who had deemed the fence beyond their powers, of a hole on the other side of the enclosure, where a sewer was being dug, thorough which, by dint of flattening themselves to the ground they wriggled and crawled like rats – dusty and triumphant!



Squirrel Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*). New planting. Photo ©Elizabeth Parnis, Wisconsin Flora.

New Plants Spring 1909

- *Aspidium braunii* (now *Polystichum braunii*), Braun's Holly Fern..(M.C.) Native. Gillett's. Photo below
- *Asplenium thelypteroides* (now (*Deparia acrostichoides*), Silvery Spleenwort (Silver False Spleenwort). (M.C.) Native. Gillett's, Extant. Photo below.
- *Botrychium ternatum* (now *Botrychium rugulosum*), Ternate Grape Fern. Native
- *Cryptogramma stelleri*, Slender Cliff Brake Fern. Native, from Minnehaha.
- *Dicentra canadensis*, Squirrel Corn. (M.C.) Native, Big Island, Lake Minnetonka. (3) [See story and photo on page 27]
- *Dicksonia punctilobula* (now *Dennstaedtia punctilobula*), Hay-scented Fern (Eastern Hay-scented). Not native, Gillett's.
- *Gentiana linearis*, Narrowleaf Gentian. Not native, Gillett's. (There are several varieties of *G. linearis*. Based on her source of Gillett's in Southwick, it does not seem probable that she brought in the species that is native to Minnesota, but which is not native to anywhere near the East Coast - the local species being a variety of *G. linearis* now classified as *Gentiana rubricaulis*. It is more probable that what came was the species native to the east coast. In 1911 Eloise brought in additional plants from the same source. However, in Martha Crone's 1951 census she lists the Narrowleaf Gentian, then present in the Garden, as *Gentiana rubricaulis* but that is undoubtedly due to Martha herself having collected Narrowleaf Gentian on the North Shore of Lake Superior in Minnesota in the summer of 1941, where *Gentiana rubricaulis* grows, and the old plants of Eloise Butler having died out).
- *Helianthus scaberrimus* -(now *Helianthus lateriflorus* (pro sp.)) [*pauciflorus* _ *tuberosus*], Cheerfull Sunflower. Native, Gillett's.
- *Liparis loeselii*, Yellow Widelip Orchid. Native, Gillett's. Photo page 25.
- *Lithospermum angustifolium* (now *Lithospermum incisum*), Narrowleaf Stoneseed. Native, Pt. Douglas, MN, May 31st. Photo page 25.
- *Pellaea atropurpurea*, Purple Cliff Brake Fern. (M.C.) Native, Gillett's.
- *Streptopus roseus*, Twisted Stalk Lily. (M.C.) This species is subdivided: There is a variety growing on the east coast- (*Streptopus lanceolatus* var. *roseus*), which is probably what arrived from Gillett's, and there is a Minnesota native - *Streptopus lanceolatus* var. *longipes*). Photo page 25.
- *Taxus canadensis*, Canada Yew (also called American Yew). (M.C.) Native, Gillett's. Extant.
- *Veratrum viride*, Green False Hellbore. (M.C.) Not native, Gillett's.
- *Viburnum lantanoides*, Hobblebush. Not native, Gillett's.
- *Woodsia obtusa*, Blunt-lobed Cliff Fern. (M.C.) Native, Gillett's. Photo below.



Blunt-lobe Cliff Fern
(*Woodsia obtusa*) Photo
©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin
Flora



Braun's Holly Fern (*Polystichum braunii*). Photo ©Eric J. Epstein
Wisconsin Flora



Silvery Spleenwort
(*Deparia acrostichoides*).
Photo G D Bebeau

Summer 1909

- *Aspidium noveboracense* (now *Thelypteris noveboracensis*), New York Fern. (M.C.) Malden, MA. Not native
- *Asplenium platyneuron*, Ebony Spleenwort. (M.C.) Bear Hill, MA. Native
- *Cassia nictitans* (now *Chamaecrista nictitans* ssp. *nictitans* var. *nictitans*), Wild Sensitive Plant (Sensitive partridge pea). Not native. Winter Pond, MA.
- *Chimaphila maculata*, Striped Prince's Pine Not native. Stony Brook, MA.
- *Chiogenes hispidula* (now *Gaultheria hispidula*), Creeping Snowberry. (M.C.) Native. Appleton, ME.
- *Corallorhiza maculata*, Coralroot. Native. Bear Hill, MA. (photo below)
- *Coreopsis rosea*, Pink Tickseed. Not native. Round Pond, MA.
- *Crotalaria sagittalis*, Arrowhead Rattlebox. (M.C.) Native. Winter Pond, MA. Photo page 26.
- *Dalibarda repens* (now *Rubus dalibarda*), Dalibarda (Robin runaway). Not native. Appleton, ME. [Listed at USDA as in Minnesota, but the sole source for this is H. A. Gleason, *The New Britten and Brown Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern US and Adjacent Canada*, 1963. There are no specimens in the MN Herbarium and no listed observations.]
- *Desmodium rotundifolium*, Prostrate Tick-trefoil. Not native. Stony Brook, MA.
- *Drosera longifolia*, English Sundew. Native. Needham, MA. Photo pg 31.
- *Gratiola aurea*, Golden Hedge Hyssop. Native. Winter Pond. Photo pg. 31.
- *Habenaria hookeri* (now *Platanthera hookeri*), Hooker's Orchid. Native. Bear Hill, MA. (photo at right)
- *Houstonia purpurea*, Venus' Pride. Not native. Malden, MA.
- *Kalmia angustifolia*, Lambskill (Sheep Laurel) Not native. Stony Brook, MA. [This plant is poisonous to grazing animals].
- *Lilium philadelphicum*, Wood Lily. (M.C.) Native. Bear Hill. MA. Extant.
- *Lindernia dubia*, False Pimpernel. Native. Malden, MA.
- *Medeola virginiana*, Cucumber Root (Indian Cucumber). (M.C.) Not native. Needham, MA. [Listed at USDA as in Minnesota, but the sole source for this is M. L. Fernald, *Grays Manual of Botany*, 8th Ed, 1950. There are no specimens in the MN Herbarium and no listed observations.] Photo pg. 30.
- *Mitchella repens*, Partridge Berry. (M.C.) Native. Malden, MA. [In later years Martha Crone would plant this species many times. Extant]
- *Monotropa uniflora*, Indian Pipe. (M.C.) Native. Malden, MA. Photo pg 30.
- *Myosotis laxa*, Bay forget-me-not. Native. Malden, MA.
- *Pogonia Juss.*, Pogonia. Native. Appleton, ME.
- *Saxifraga virginensis*, Early Saxifrage. Native. Needham, MA.
- *Silene nivea*, Evening Campion. Native. Needham, MA.
- *Solidago bicolor*, White Goldenrod. Not native. Malden, MA.
- *Spiranthes cernua*, Nodding Lady's Tresses. (M.C.) Native. Winter Pond, MA. Photo pg. 30.
- *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*, Coral Berry (Indian Currant). Naturalized - escapee from cultivation or from its native area further south. Not native. Malden, MA. Photo pg. 31.
- *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*, Lingonberry. Native. Appleton, ME.
- *Woodwardia virginica*, Virginia Chain Fern. (M.C.) Not native. Malden, MA.



Hooker's Orchid (*Platanthera hookeri*) Photo ©Corey Raimond, Wisconsin Flora.



Coralroot (*Corallorhiza maculata*) Photo ©Robert Bierman Wisconsin Flora

- *Xyris flexuosa* (now *Xyris torta*), Slender Yellow-eyed Grass. Native. Appleton, ME.



Nodding Lady's Tresses
(*Spiranthes cernua*) Photo ©Merle



Cucumber Root (*Medeola virginiana*) Photo ©Kenneth J. Sytsma, Wisconsin Flora



Indian Pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*) Photo G D Bebeau

Autumn 1909

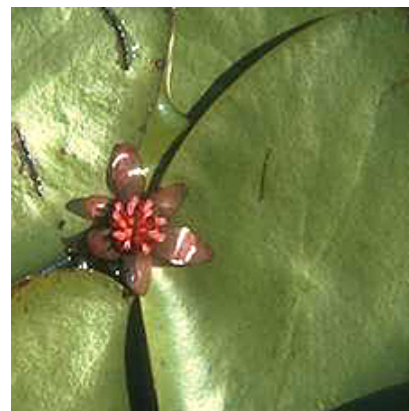
- *Andromeda glaucophylla* (now *Andromeda polifolia* var. *glaucophylla*), Bog Rosemary. (M.C.) Native. Glenwood Park - Photo page 31.
- *Alisma plantago* (now *Alisma triviale*), Northern Water Plantain. Native. Washburn Park. Extant.
- *Artemisia caudata* (now *Artemisia campestris* ssp. *caudata*), Field Sagewort (Field Wormwood, Tall Wormwood). Native. (M.C.) Source not specified.
- *Brasenia schreberi*, Water Shield. Native. Mahtomedi, MN. Photo pg. 31.
- *Cassia nictitans* (now *Chamaecrista nictitans* ssp. *nictitans* var. *nictitans*), Wild Sensitive Plant (Sensitive Partridge Pea). Mahtomedi MN. [Also planted in the Summer from Winter Pond. This listing is curious. None of the varieties or subspecies of Wild Sensitive Plant are listed as being located in Minnesota.]
- *Dalea alopecuroides* (now- *Dalea leporina*), Foxtail Prairie Clover. Native. Washburn Park.
- *Gerardia flava* (now *Aureolaria flava* var. *flava*), Smooth Yellow False Foxglove. Mahtomedi, MN [This listing is curious. None of the varieties of this plant are listed as being located in Minnesota.]
- *Lemna trisulca*, Star Duckweed. Native. Minnehaha.
- *Lobelia dortmanna*, Dortmann's Cardinal Flower. Native. From Appleton Maine.
- *Mimulus glabratus* var. *jamesii*, James' Monkey flower. Native. Glenwood Springs.
- *Polygala sanguinea*, Purple Milkwort. Native. (M.C.) Mahtomedi, MN. Photo pg. 31.
- *Potentilla palustris* (now-*Comarum palustre*), Marsh Cinquefoil (Purple Marshlocks). Native. Glenwood Park.
- *Rhexia virginica*, Virginia Meadow Beauty (Deer Grass, Handsome Harry). Winter Pond, MA. Not native.
- *Rotala ramosior*, Lowland Rotala. Native. Mahtomedi, MN. Photo pg. 31.
- *Steironema lanceolatum* (now *Lysimachia hybrida*), Lowland Yellow Loosestrife. Native. Mahtomedi, MN. Photo pg. 31.



Coral Berry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*) Photo G D Bebeau



English Sundew (*Drosera anglica*) Photo ©Robert R. Kowa
Wisconsin Flora



Water Shield (*Brasenia schreberi*)
Photo ©Robert Bierman, Wisconsin
Flora



Bog Rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*) Photo ©Joanne Kline,
Wisconsin, Flora



Purple Milkwort (*Polygala sanguinea*) Photo ©Merle R. Black
Wisconsin Flora



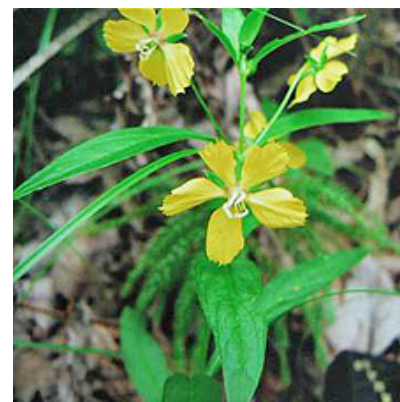
Whorled Milkwort (*Polygala verticillata*) Photo ©Emmet J.
Judziewicz Wisconsin Flora



Golden Hedge Hyssop (*Gratiola aurea*) Photo ©Kitty Kohout,
Wisconsin Flora.



Lowland Rotala (*Rotala ramosior*)
Photo Robert H. Mohlenbrock @
USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



Lowland Yellow Loosestrife
(*Lysimachia hybrida*) Photo
©David Seils Wisconsin Flora

1910

Winter 1909-1910

This winter would be the second to the last for Eloise Butler to teach in the Minneapolis School System. While Miss Butler was busy with her full time job her precious Garden rested under a blanket of snow. 1909 ended with over 10 inches of snow depth and with frequent snowfalls in January and February, interspersed with hard cold snaps in early January and late February, the snow cover averaged around 14 to over 16 inches until an above average warm spell occurred at the beginning of March. This warm spell was to last until mid-April, during which time there was little precipitation.

During the school year Eloise contributed an article to *School Science and Mathematics*, Vol. 10, 1910, in which she advocated for "The Wild Botanic Garden," the name she and her fellow Botany teachers gave the Garden (a slight change from the "Natural Botanic Garden" that appeared in the 1907 petition to form the Garden. She wrote:

A paramount idea is to perpetuate in the garden its' primeval wildness. All artificial appearances are avoided and plants are to be allowed to grow as they will and without any check except what may be necessary for healthful living. . . Each plant when procured, is to be given an environment as similar as possible to that from which it came, and then left to take care of itself.

She also wrote in that article of her rule to include only plants native to the state or naturalized in Minnesota - a rule she ignored when certain specimens became available because she had already established in her mind that everything that could grow here should be tried. This was not the intent of the original petition creating the space. She considered instead that it should be like an arboretum rivaling if not exceeding those famous ones in the east.(1)

Eloise would continue to advocate for the Wild Botanic Garden throughout 1910. Later in the year she delivered a paper at the meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science and also had an exhibit about the Garden at the Minnesota State Fair. The paper for the Academy address was published by the Academy in 1911. In her paper she described parts of her Garden and gave this summary:

A wild garden is beautiful at all seasons. After the heavy frosts and before the kindly snow covers up in the cultivated gardens the unsightly bare earth – suggestive of newly made graves – and the dead bodies of herbs, and the tender exotics, stiffly swathed in winding sheets of burlap or straw, awaiting the spring resurrection, I turn with pride and relief to the wild garden, whose frozen ruins are graciously hidden by the shrubs, which then enliven the landscape with their glowing stems and fruits. And how lovely are the waving plumes of the grasses, how endless the varieties of seed-pods, how marvelous the modes of seed-dispersion!



Eloise Butler, ca 1910-20 at birch tree grove. Note the peace officers star on her jacket. She wore this frequently to assert some authority over mis-behaving visitors. Photo courtesy Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis Collection

The eye, no longer distracted by the brilliant flower-mosaics, sees the less flaunting beauty and rediscovers "the commonplace of miracle."

Spring 1910

Beginning with the spring of 1910 and for all the following years, Eloise Butler would remain in the city to be near her Garden. Once she had retired from teaching in 1911, her former summer trips back east to visit her sister Cora would now be restricted to the winter months. March 1910 was the warmest March in all local history down to the present day, allowing Garden activities to start early.

Eloise began her Garden activities around March 21st, while the school year was still in session. She noted on that date that the frost was out of the ground and that she planted three Skunk cabbages (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) from a source in Minnetonka plus she planted some Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*) (photo at top of previous page) in the "swamp."

She continued extensive planting for the next three weeks. This first group includes species that are still extant in the Garden and can be viewed by visitors. These include:

Blue Violets, False Rue Anemone, American Cranberrybush, Jacob's Ladder, Twoleaf Miterwort, New England Asters, Ninebark, Self-heal, Shooting Star and Witch Hazel.

She reported on the 14th of April that she replanted a variety of trees in the "Pinetum" to replace those destroyed by fire, which indicates an early spring grass fire had done some damage. As only the original 3 acres were fenced at this time, it could have been set by someone also. In April 1934 there was another fire in this area that started outside the Garden fence, (fence of 1924 vintage) consumed a small building and did some damage within the Garden. (The "Pinetum" was located west of the wetland in what is now the NW hillside corner of the Woodland Garden.)

April 17th brought snow and heavy frost for the next three nights but new planting continued. Some of the sources for her plants were on the East Coast: Kelsey's Nurseries, Boxford MA and Gillett's Nursery, Southwick, MA. Local sources included Groveland Park, St. Paul; Fort Snelling; Osceola, WI; Mahtomedi; Glenwood Park; and Cokato, MN.

Eloise noted that from Osceola she obtained *Steironema ciliatum* - now named *Lysimachia ciliata*, which is Fringed Loosestrife, and only "discovered that the latter was indigenous and abundant!" On April 18th "Robert-runaway" was in bloom. This is an interesting name and while she gives no scientific name or other reference it must be the planting from 1909 of *Dalibarda repens* which is sometimes called Robin-runaway.

Shown below are some of the new species Eloise introduced in the Spring of 1910



Widows-frill (*Silene stellata*)



Yellow Star Grass (*Hypoxis hirsuta*)
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora

In May her plantings of plants already in the Garden and still extant today included:

Northern Bush Honeysuckle, Goldenseal, Large Flowered Trillium, Nodding Wild Onion, Northern Bedstraw, Prairie Rose, Red Baneberry, Shrubby St. Johnswort, Snow Trillium, Spiderwort and Sissileleaf Bellwort (Wild Oats).

Eloise also brought into the Garden a number of plants that are not listed today on the Garden visitor guides. Many of these were native to Minnesota and a few were not. A listing of these new plants follows the autumn section.

Two newspaper articles were published about the Garden in the spring. There is no by-line and the text may have been written mostly by Eloise herself. In the April 3 article where she is said to be "*practically the mother of the garden,*" it is mentioned that only the Pasque Flower is in bloom. It had been recently planted by Eloise. A long list of plants is covered, discussing the natives vs those introduced.(2) A May 22 article sets out the lay of the land, why the garden was established, difficulties in finding certain plants - all written similarly to other early articles Eloise wrote about the early garden.(3)

Eloise kept notes of the arrival of various birds, noting the arrival on May 8th of the Peabody Birds (An older term for a White Throated Sparrow). On May 28th she noted the Large Twayblade, (*Liparis lilifolia*), was in bloom. This was her first sighting of it in the Garden (photo at right). Twenty five years later Martha Crone would report replanting this species. On the same date Eloise noted that she "*stroked the back of a baby crow that sat motionless on a low bough in the swamp.*"

Despite the mid-April cold snap, the spring weather was actually quite warm with average temperatures well above average from mid-March to the end of April, with the pattern repeating in June.

Summer 1910

Summer began very hot and dry. Eloise noted less water in the swamp than ever before. There had been little spring precipitation and there were only two rainfalls in May and June that exceeded a quarter inch of rain.

Her planting work continued all summer. Plants arrived from Malden, Mass - these would have been shipped by her sister Cora Pease - and from New Hampshire. In addition, Eloise combed the local sources such as Fort Snelling; Clinton Ave. and 27th St.; Savage, MN; Cambridge, MN; Glenwood Springs; Breezy Point, Minnetonka; and Minnehaha Park.

A list of plants introduced into the Garden during the summer months, for which 1910 is the first year they occur in her log, follows the autumn section.



Groundplum Milkvetch (*Astragalus crassicaarpus*) Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Large Twayblade, (*Liparis lilifolia*)
(Photo © Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora)

A few of the more unusual plants (that had also been planted in previous years) were Moccasin Flower (*Cypripedium acaule*); Smooth Forked Nailwort, (*Anychia dichotoma*) and Tall Wormwood (*Artemisia caudata* - now named *Artemisia campestris* subsp. *caudata*). Only the Tall Wormwood would still exist in 1951 when Martha Crone took a complete plant inventory and it is no longer extant.

There was also a planting of species already in the Garden, that still exist in the Garden today, including:

Cup Plant, Flowering Spurge, Gray-headed Coneflower, Great Blue Lobelia, Heartleaf 4-O'clock, Hedge Bindweed, Purple Prairie Clover, Stiff Coreopsis, Stiff Goldenrod, Veiny Pea, White Prairie Clover, Whorled Milkweed.

Eloise also noted for the first time the presence in the Garden of these three native plants and thus they are indigenous:

Geum macrophyllum, Large-leaf Avena (Big-leaved Avena). Not extant.

Potentilla norvegica, Norwegian cinquefoil (Rough Cinquefoil), (M. C.). Not extant.

Asclepias phytolaccoides (now *Asclepias exaltata*), Poke Milkweed. Extant.

The Showy Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) bloomed on June 23 which was quite late in the range of dates for that plant to bloom.

The more unusual things that Eloise would report in her Garden Log included the Goldenrod being already in bloom on July 19th and of seeing a snake swallowing a frog.

Autumn 1910

Eloise noted the return of Cedar waxwings on September 8th, which would be an early date for their migration. September 10th she found two large puffballs in Puffball Flats.

A few more plantings occurred in the autumn, including additional quantities of these plants, which still exist in the Garden today:

Bottle Gentian, Flowering spurge, Gray-headed Coneflower, Leadplant, Purple Prairie Clover, White Prairie Clover.

Eloise also planted more Wild Yam (*Dioscorea villosa*), [still extant] -which she had previously planted in 1907 and 1909, and Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) (photo next page). The latter is not native but introduced to North America and is in fact considered today a noxious weed in many states and removal is recommended - but it is pretty. See noted planting it next to the Creeping Charlie (*Glechoma hederacea*) - another invasive, in order to keep Charlie under control!

New Summer species



Carolina Larkspur, (*Delphinium carolinianum*); Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Curly-cup Gumweed, (*Grindelia squarrosa*)



Wild Yam (*Dioscorea villosa*).

On October 22nd a dozen bulbs of Canada Lily (*Lilium canadense*) and a dozen bulbs of Turk's cap Lily (*Lilium superbum*) all from Northrup King, were planted. That was her last recorded planting of the season. No new species were introduced in the autumn.

Her last Garden log entry was on November 12th when she sited a pair of Bohemian waxwings.

In the fall she delivered a paper at the meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science and the text of which is what was probably published in September 1911 in the *Bulletin of the Minnesota Academy of Science*. The partial text of that is found on the website. She also began an exhibit about the Garden at the Minnesota State Fair. A photo of the exhibit shown in the *Minneapolis Tribune* on September 9. We believe 1910 is the first year because she wrote in the 1911 Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners that **"A second exhibit of the Garden was made at the State Fair."**



Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)

It was a large exhibit consisting of 54 species of trees, 84 shrubs and 400 herbs. Over 100 photographs taken by Mary Meeker, many colored by hand, were on display including several large photos of Garden scenes. The exhibit of correctly named wild flowers won the first premium. The photos then went to the public library for display. (4)



The fall weather continued warmer than average in most of October with very little rain and only about four inches of snow before New Years. This was very different from the prior year when there was ample moisture that left a good snow pack coming into 1910. But once the snows stopped in February, 1910 had turned very dry. As of 2021, the year 1910 was still the driest in modern history with only 11.54 inches of precipitation. March was the warmest March in all history. The 1910-1911 school year was now in session and this would be the last year of teaching for Eloise as she would retire in the spring of 1911.

NOTES:

- (1) "Wild Flower Garden City Park's Feature" *Minneapolis Tribune* March 26, 1911. Copy - page 275.
- (2) "Beautiful Flower Beds All Ready to Blossom," *Minneapolis Tribune*, April 3, 1910. Copy - page 274.
- (3) "Glenwood Garden Spot Real Mirror of Nature," *Minneapolis Tribune*, May 22, 1910. Copy - page 274
- (4) Article in *Minneapolis Tribune*, September 9, 1910 and *Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners*.

New Plants

Spring 1910

- *Anemone patens* ssp. *multifida*, Pasque Flowers (Cutleaf Anemone); (M.C.). Minnehaha (Minneapolis). Native.
- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, Bearberry (Kinnikinnick); (M.C.). Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Native. Photo.
- *Aristolochia macrophylla*, Pipevine (Dutchman's Pipe), (M.C.). Jewell's Nursery, Lake City, MN (Note - present in Minnesota, but introduced).
- *Astragalus caryocarpus* (now *Astragalus crassicastris* var. *crassicastris*), Groundplum Milkvetch (Ground Plum); (M.C.). Minnehaha (Minneapolis). Native. Photo pg 34.
- *Betula lenta*, Sweet Birch. Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not native.
- *Castilleja coccinea*, Scarlet Indian Paintbrush, (M.C.). Fort Snelling and Mahtomedi, MN. Native. Photo.
- *Castilleja sessiliflora*, Yellow Indian Paintbrush (Downy Painted Cup). Fort Snelling. (Note: Eloise does not give a botanical name, but this species is the only Yellow Paintbrush native to MN and in the area of her collection so we presume it is this species.)
- *Chrysosplenium* sp., Golden Saxifrage. Osceola, WI. Native.
- *Coreopsis lanceolata*, Lance-leaf Tickseed. Jewell's Nursery, Lake City, MN and Gillett's Nursery, Mass. Native.
- *Cystopteris fragilis*, Brittle (Fragile) Bladder Fern. Excelsior Springs, MO. Native.
- *Elaeagnus argentea* (now *Elaeagnus commutata*), Silverberry. Jewell's Nursery, Lake City, MN. Native.
- *Epipactis repens* (now *Goodyera repens*), Lesser Rattlesnake Plantain, (M.C.). Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Native.
- *Hypoxis hirsuta*, Common Goldstar (Yellow star grass); (M.C.). Cokato, MN. Native. Photo pg. 33.
- *Melanthium virginicum* (now *Veratrum virginicum*), Virginia Bunchflower. Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not native.
- *Silene stellata*, Widow's Frill (Starry Campion); (M.C.). Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Native. Photo pg. 33.
- *Ranunculus flabellaris*, Yellow Water Buttercup. Mahtomedi, MN. Native.
- *Silene virginica*, Fire Pink, (M.C.). Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not native.
- *Valeriana edulis*, Tobacco Root (Tap-rooted Valerian or Edible Valerian); (M.C.). Fort Snelling (Minneapolis). Native.
- *Viburnum cassinoides* (now *Viburnum nudum* var. *cassinoides*), Withe-rod, (M.C.). Jewell's Nursery, Lake City, MN. Not native.
- *Viburnum pubescens* (now *Viburnum dentatum* var. *dentatum*), Southern Arrowwood. Osceola, WI. Not native.
- *Viola pedatifida*, Larkspur (Prairie) Violet. Minnehaha (Minneapolis). Native.



Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora.



Scarlet Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja coccinea*) Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora

Summer 1910

- *Bidens beckii*, Beck's Water Marigold. Brownie's Pond, Minneapolis. Native.
- *Delphinium penardii* (now *Delphinium carolinianum* ssp. *virescens*), Carolina Larkspur. Brownie's Pond, Minneapolis Native. Photo pg 35
- *Grindelia squarrosa*, Curly-cup Gumweed, (M. C.). Glenwood Park (Minneapolis). Native.
- *Mimulus ringens*, Allegheny Monkey Flower (Square Stemmed Monkey Flower), (M. C.). Savage, MN. Native. Extant. Photo.
- *Moneses uniflora*, Single Delight (One-flowered Pyrola), (M. C.). New Hampshire - not specified but probably William's Nursery in Exeter which is a source she used. Native. Photo.
- *Polygonum hydropiper*, Water Pepper (Marshpepper knotweed), (M. C.). Peninsula. Not native.
- *Sagittaria variabilis* (now *Sagittaria latifolia*), Broadleaf Arrowhead (Duck Potato). Brownie's Pond, Mpls. Native. Extant. Photo.
- *Stachys palustris*, Marsh Hedge Nettles Zumbra Heights, (Minnetonka MN.) Native. Photo.



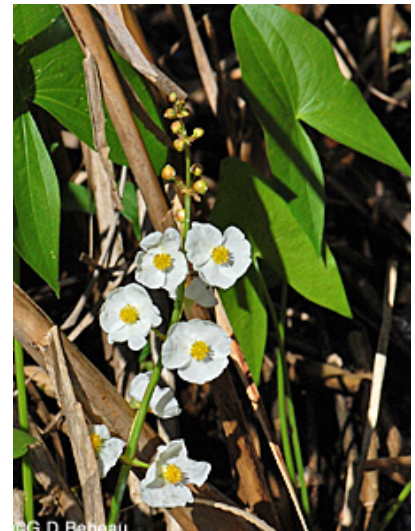
Single Delight (One-flowered Pyrola), (*Moneses uniflora*);
Photo ©Robert W. Freckman,
Wisconsin Flora



Marsh Hedge Nettles, (*Stachys palustris*)



Allegheny Monkey Flower
(Square Stemmed Monkey Flower) (*Mimulus ringens*)



Broadleaf Arrowhead (Duck Potato), (*Sagittaria latifolia*)

Autumn 1910

No new species.

1911

Winter 1910-1911

The early months of 1911 continued from 1910 the trend of warmer than normal temperatures. There was a little snow in January and February but by mid-February, all was melted. March had minimal precipitation.

A pivotable moment: This winter was the last for Eloise Butler to teach in the Minneapolis School System. Her retirement was announced in the spring of 1911. This is the year when Eloise Butler became the permanent caretaker of a unique wild flower garden that she helped create, and the space would achieve some permanence that up to now it lacked. Since 1907 the garden had been in the care of the high school teachers, Eloise being the lead person. On retirement Eloise was going to return to the East Coast unless some permanent arrangement could be made for her to care for the Garden.(1) Were it not for what followed next, this history would not have happened.



The north side of 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden Mass. where Eloise would spend every Winter from 1911/12 onwards. Photo from 1988 by Martha Hellander.

On April 5, 1911 the Garden Club of Minneapolis, meeting in the mayor's reception room at city hall, passed a resolution recommending to the Park Board that Eloise Butler be appointed curator of the Garden and that the space be set aside as a permanent wild flower garden.(2) They were joined on June 5th by the Woman's Club in presenting a petition to the Park Board signed by several hundred persons. They stated that Miss Butler was prepared to begin introducing a number of plants to the space to make it representative of the plants native to the state. The Board did not have any opposition to the proposal but required it to go through the committee process.(1)

On June 9 both groups appeared before the Finance and Improvement Committee.(3) The committee approved as did the full Park Board when it met, but her salary was to be paid by the Woman's Club until 1912 with the understanding that the position was to be permanent. In February of 1912, the Park Board took over the payment of \$60 per month for seven months each year as previously agreed and thus Eloise Butler remained in Minneapolis to make history.(4) 1911 would prove to be a busy year for Eloise.

What Eloise was thinking of if the space could be made permanent was explained in a long article in the newspaper about the Wild Flower Garden.(5) This may have been a bit of preemptive lobbying for what she wanted. The article highlighted the natural features of the place, and stated that there were already 452 species of herbaceous plants and 51 shrubs in the Garden. The way the area was maintained was explained in the same manner as Eloise wrote about later in September (see autumn section). She was developing the following ideas:

1. There was no reason to limit the plant selection to Minnesota plants. Everything that could grow here should be tried. While this was not the intent of the original petition creating the space, she considered instead that it should be like an arboretum rivaling if not exceeding those famous ones in the east.
2. There should be a building nearby where visitors could rest, find reference books and photographs. In 1915 she would have her own building built right within the Garden.
3. A herbarium should be established. Years later Martha Crone started one.
4. The space needs to be enlarged. It was already seven acres at this time due to requests from the teachers to add more to their care. Eloise was ready to ask for more acreage to be

appropriated and that was done when the space for the Garden was made permanent - eventually reaching 25 acres in the 1920s.

Public Essays

As the new official curator of the Wild Botanic Garden (the name at that time), Eloise began a series of weekly essays that were published in the *Sunday Minneapolis Tribune*. These ran from April through September. A former student of hers and now a teacher at South High School, Mary Meeker, provided photographs for illustration.

Spring 1911

Eloise began notations of her 1911 Garden activities on March 13th when she noted seeing Red polls and crows and found the Rose Rhodobryum Moss (*Bryum roseum* - now classified as *Rhodobryum roseum*) growing in the Garden. She began planting early with Skunk Cabbages (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) Hepaticas, Wild Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) and Eastern False Rue Anemone (*Enemion biternatum* - old classification was *Isopyrum biternatum*), all from the source at Minnehaha Park and put in the ground on March 25th due to the mild weather. Early April was a period of much snow so not much was done until the end of April when a number of trees were planted. She specifically mentions Shagbark hickories, Butternuts, Buckeyes, Black spruce and Red Pines - all obtained from Strand's nursery in Taylor's Falls, MN. [Shagbark Hickories were planted again 100 years later in 2011 by Curator Susan Wilkins.]

On April 15 Eloise noted *Ranunculus fascicularis* in bloom. (Photo at right) This is the Early Buttercup. Curiously and while native to the state, it is not noted as present in Hennepin County in any later plant surveys. It has been found to exist only in scattered counties of the south half of the state but not Hennepin. This is her first mention of the species; it was not listed in her 1907 census. No longer extant in the Garden.

With the warmer weather of May, Eloise was busy with a large shipment of plants from Gillett's Nurseries in Southwick MA, that she had arranged for over the winter.

Eloise also brought into the Garden a number of new species in 1911. Many of these were native to Minnesota and a few were not. A listing of most of those plants introduced this spring to the Garden for the first time is found following autumn section. A number of them came from Gillett's Nursery on the east coast.

Note: 1911 saw the founding of the Native Plant Garden within the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, thus post-dating the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden by 4 years

In April Eloise began the weekly series of essays in the *Tribune*. The column lead-ins and publication dates were:

- *Pasque Flowers at Easter Time Proclaim Yearly Spring Miracle*. April 16
- *Anemones, Hepaticas and Buttercups Prominent in Crowfoot Family*. April 30



Early Buttercup (*Ranunculus fascicularis*) Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Large Cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*) Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora. A new Spring introduction.

- *Bloodroots, Marsh Marigolds, Adder's Tongues and Dutchman's Breeches* - May 7
- *Plum Blossoms, Skunk Cabbage, and Modest Jack-in-pulpit among May Arrivals That Please Lover of Life in the Woods.* May 14
- *Beautiful Large-Flowered Trilliums Grace Minnetonka Wood in May; Violets, Forest, Hillside and Prairie Varieties Flourish near Minneapolis.* May 21
- *Geum, Early Meadow Rue, Lousewort, Phlox and Hoary Puccoon Are Described as Wild Beauties in Miss Butler's Weekly Article.* May 28

You can read the complete essays in Martha Hellander's Book on Eloise Butler - *The Wild Gardener* and on the Friends website.

Shown below are three of the new spring introductions.



**Two-flower Dwarf
Dandelion (*Krigia biflora*)**
Photo ©Aaron Carlson,
Wisconsin Flora.



**Green Arrow Arum
(*Peltandra virginica*)** Photo
©Robert W. Freckman,
Wisconsin Flora



**Spreading Woodfern
(*Dryopteris expansa*)** Photo
©Emmett J. Judziewicz,
Wisconsin Flora

Summer 1911

There is a gap in the Garden Log between May 17 and June 10th. The reason was that Eloise was in an accident and hospitalized at Asbury Hospital. The *Minneapolis Tribune* reported on May 25 "Miss Butler Leaves Hospital" that she was sufficiently recovered to be released. She and Mary Meeker had been on a plant collecting excursion to Bloomington when she was thrown from her buggy and sustained a fracture of the right arm and serious injury to her hip. The *Tribune* states the accident was on May 9, but her log indicates she was planting on May 17 and could not have been injured. Either her log date is wrong or the *Tribune* is wrong and maybe May 19 makes more sense for the accident date.

The summer plantings were all plants growing in the vicinity of the Twin Cities and thus can be considered better candidates for inclusion in the Wild Garden than some of those received from Gillett's in the spring. Planted and still present were Toothwort (Crinkleroot) (*Cardamine diphylla* - old classification of *Dentaria diphylla*), Sharplobe Hepatica (*Hepatica acutiloba* - now - *Anemone acutiloba*), Northern Bush Honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*), Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*), and Yellow Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus* - now - *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*).

The complete list of Summer introductions follows the autumn section.

Eloise noted in early July of seeing these two plants: Scaldweed (*Cuscuta groenovii*), (also commonly known as Dodder, a family of parasitic plants,) growing on an aster and Cutleaf Water parsnip (*Berula erecta*) - no longer extant. (Photo right.) The Allegheny Monkeyflower (*Mimulus ringens*) that she planted in 1910 was in bloom on June 28. (photo on page 38)

The early summer was above normal in temperature, but from July onward through October temperatures were mostly within the average norms. Rainfall however, was another matter. The rains that began in May were heavy all summer with four in excess of two inches each. 1911 would end up the wettest year in recorded history until 2016 with a total 40.15 inches of precipitation.

The Showy lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) bloomed on June 10 almost two weeks earlier than 1910.



Cutleaf Water Parsnip (*Berula erecta*); Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora

Public Essays

The series of weekly essays that were published in the *Sunday Minneapolis Tribune* from April through September continued during the summer months. The column lead-ins and publication dates were:

- *Hawthorn of World Fame through Poetry and Prose of England, Virginian Waterleaf, White Lily and Geranium Featured in June.* June 4.
- *Wild Roses Know When it is June, According to Miss Butler, Who Describes Blossoms that Delight the Rambler Out-of-doors.* June 11.
- *Painted Cup Notable among Wild Flowers Found near Minneapolis; Bog-Trotter's Zeal Repaid by Orchids and Other Swamp Blossoms.* June 18.
- *Blue Flag, Native Minneapolis Iris, Classed as Richest of Lilies; Early Meadow Rue and Larkspur Treated by Miss Butler.* July 2.
- *Milkweed Flowers Much in Evidence during July; Harebells, Ox-Eyes, and Water Lilies Also Bloom in Abundance.* July 9.
- *Lilly Declared Crowning Wild Flower near Minneapolis in July; Miss Butler Describes, Also, the Blossoms that Kept it Company.* July 16.
- *Mint, Abundant in Minnesota, Delights the Senses; Miss Butler Tells of Wild Flowers in Glenwood Park.* July 23.
- *Flowering Spurge Graces Roadside and Prairie in Late Summer; Varieties of Yellow Blooms Classed as "Sunflowers." Confusing.* July 30
- *Tramp Plants, Migrants from Foreign Lands, Thrive in Minnesota; They Often Pre-empt Ground, Crowding Out Native Citizens of Soil.* Aug. 6.
- *Common Plantain Is Compared with the Alisma Plantago, Otherwise Known as the Water Variety, by Miss Butler.* Aug. 13.
- *Wild Balsam Occupies Low Places in Wild Gardens; Leaves Shine Like Silver When Put in the Water.* Aug. 20.
- *Prickly Armor Furnishes Protection for the Thistle; Caterpillars Crawl By and Browsing Horses Shun Plant.* Aug. 27.

You can read the complete essays on the Friends website or in Martha Hellander's Book on Eloise Butler - *The Wild Gardener*.

Tours to the Garden: Beginning with her weekly article dated July 2nd, in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune*, the following was also printed.

Miss Butler will conduct parties through the Wild Botanic Garden in Glenwood Park, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, meeting them at the terminus of the Fourth and Sixth Avenue Street Railway, Sixth



Lilac Penstemon, (*Penstemon gracilis*); Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora. A new Summer planting.

and Russell Avenue North, at 10 o'clock. Also Saturday & Sunday afternoon, meeting then at 2:30 o'clock at the same place. One hour later on the same days, persons coming by automobile or carriage will be met at the entrance to the Garden, on the boulevard, at a point northeast of Birch Pond in Glenwood Park. To reach Birch Pond, turn in at the left on Western Avenue where the Park Boulevard intersects the avenue. This was repeated until State Fair time when the August 27th article noted: An exhibit of the wild garden in Glenwood Park will be given in the horticulture building at the coming state fair. During the remainder of the season Miss Butler will have no regular days for conducting parties through the garden. However, those wishing to see the Garden may set a time by telephone to suit convenience. Phone N.W. Colfax 1689.

Shown below are three of the new summer introductions.



Aniseroot (Wild Anise),
(*Osmorhiza longistylis*) Photo
G D Bebeau



**Cypress Spurge, (*Euphorbia*
cyparissias);** Photo ©Kitty Kohout,
Wisconsin Flora.



Four-point Evening Primrose,
(*Oenothera rhombipetala*); Photo
©Hugh Iltis, Wisconsin Flora

Autumn 1911

In September Eloise maintained an exhibit about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair, in the Horticulture building. The *Minneapolis Tribune* reported on what the exhibit looked like on September 5 and 6th. The space was hosted by Eloise and Mary Meeker who contributed 200 of her photographs. Over 100 species of wild plants came directly from the Garden and new ones were brought in every day.

The exhibit was considered valuable to the farmer as the exhibit explained which plants were dangerous or advantageous to agriculture. Eloise was quoted as saying "There are many farmers who destroy plants that really do good. We try to impress upon them to let these plants grow and advise them to destroy those that do harm." Certain plants attracted a lot of attention - the pitcher plant and the blue closed gentians.

Following the closure of the exhibit at the State Fair, she resumed tours by telephone arrangement only as noted above. In September she also received from the Park Board Nursery a number of trees to plant. These included Hemlocks planted near the brook, yews, jack pines, balsam firs, white pines, junipers and white spruce.

She also obtained some plants from Kelsey's nurseries in NC and from Malden MA, some of which are not native. Those introduced for the first time are listed below this section.

Some of the planting from the autumn were already in the Garden and are still extant. Those include:

Galium boreale, Northern Bedstraw.
Silphium perfoliatum, Cup Plant.
Veronicastrum virginicum, Culver's root.
Prenanthes alba, White Rattlesnake Root.
Liatris spicata, Spiked Blazing Star (Dense Blazing Star).
Lilium superbum, Turk's Cap Lilies.

Public Essays

The series of weekly essays that were published in the *Sunday Minneapolis Tribune* from April through September continued into early autumn. The column lead-ins were:

- *Virgin Minnesota Prairie in Full bloom Surpasses Flora of Tropics; Earth's Tapestry Shows a Riot of Color before Autumnal Frosts.* Sept. 3.
- *Fringed Gentian, Termed Loveliest of the Blue Flowers, Now in Bloom; Asters and Goldenrod Indicate Autumn Has Reached Minnesota.* Sept. 10.
- *Acrid Taste Gives Name to the Smart Weed; Miss Butler Describes Wild Grasses in the Park.* Sept. 17.
- *Late Blooming Flowers Dot Meadows with White, Blue, and Gold; Asters, Gentians, Lobelias, and Sunflowers Greet Field Lovers.* Sept. 24.

You can read the complete essays on the Friends website or in Martha Hellander's Book on Eloise Butler - *The Wild Gardener*. In September, an essay about the Garden, written by Eloise, was published in the *Bulletin of the Minnesota Academy of Science*. The text was probably the lecture she gave in the fall of 1910, the partial text of which is found on the website.

The fall weather was nice with plenty of rain and Eloise continued working in the Garden until early November when freezing weather set in. November in fact, was below average in temperature; some days by as much as 25 degrees.

Her last log entry was for November 8th when she noted planting some violets, Hepaticas and some Horse Gentian (Late Horse Gentian) (*Triosteum perfoliatum*) that she obtained in Frontenac MN. (Photo above). On November 14 she gave the report of the wild flower committee to the Woman's Club and then gave a talk on the Garden, illustrated with lantern slides. (6)

Mid-November brought a 7-1/2 inch snow fall but it all melted until the snow of late December and colder temps allowed snow to accumulate. 1911 would go down in weather lore as the wettest in recorded history until 2016. Quite a change from the previous year which is the driest year in recorded history.

NOTES:

- (1) "Botanical Garden Sought," *Minneapolis Tribune*, June 6, 1911. Copy - page 276
- (2) "Wild Flower Garden Urged," *Minneapolis Tribune*, April 6, 1911. Copy - page 276
- (3) "Wild Flower Garden Proposed," *Minneapolis Tribune*, June 10, 1911. Copy - page 276
- (4) "Miss Butler's Services Kept," *Minneapolis Tribune* February 6, 1912. Copy - page 276
- (5) "Wild Flower Garden City Park's Feature" *Minneapolis Tribune* March 26, 1911. Copy - page 275
- (6) *Minneapolis Tribune* 12 November 1911



Late Horse Gentian (*Triosteum perfoliatum*). Photo G D Bebeau

New Plants

Spring 1911

- *Asplenium angustifolium* (now *Diplazium pycnocarpon*), Glade Fern (Narrow-leaved Spleenwort). Gillett's Nursery. Native to the SE corner in five counties only. It is listed on the "Threatened" list in Minnesota and "special concern" list in Wisconsin.
- *Aspidium spinulosum* var. *dilatatum* (later *Dryopteris spinulosa* var. *dilatata* -now- *Dryopteris expansa*, Northern Wood Fern (Spreading Wood Fern). Gillett's Nursery. Native to the Arrowhead region; Winona and Chisago counties. (Photo page 41).
- *Aspidium spinulosum* (now *Dryopteris carthusiana*), Spinulose Wood Fern (Toothed Wood Fern), (M.C.). Gillett's Nursery. Native to all counties but those in the SW Quadrant. (Photo below). [Extant]
- *Aster divaricatus* (now *Eurybia divaricata*), White Wood Aster. From Gillett's Nursery. Native. [Extant]
- *Cardamine pratensis*, Cuckoo flower, from Gillett's Nursery. This is a Minnesota designated "Threatened" plant and is only found in cold, seeping calcareous swamps. Native of Asia and Europe, naturalized in parts of US and is only found in two Minnesota counties - St. Louis and Clearwater. Native. (Photo below)
- *Cassia marilandica* -now- *Senna marilandica*, Maryland Senna. Gillett's Nursery. Not native. (Photo below.)
- *Clethra alnifolia*, Coastal Sweet Pepperbush. Gillett's Nursery. Not native.
- *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *makasin*, Yellow Lady's-slipper (M.C.). From Gillett's Nursery. This smaller of the State's two yellow Lady's-slippers was planted numerous times after this by Eloise and the later curators. None survive today in the Garden.
- *Helianthus giganteus*, Giant Tall Sunflower (M.C.). From Gillett's Nursery. Native to most of the upper 2/3 rds of the State. [Extant]
- *Krigia amplexicaulis* (now *Krigia biflora*), Two-flower dwarf Dandelion.(From Gillett's Nursery. Native in counties formerly of The Big Woods - a band running SE-NW. (Photo page 41)
- *Peltandra virginica*, Green Arrow Arum. From Gillett's Nursery. Native to Cook County only. (Photo page 41)
- *Rhus aromatic*, Fragrant Sumac (M.C.). From Gillett's Nursery Native. [Extant]
- *Rhus copallina* -now- *Rhus copallinum*), Winged Sumac .Gillett's Nursery. Not native.



Spinulose Woodfern
(*Dryopteris carthusiana*) Photo
©G D Bebeau



Maryland Senna (*Senna marilandica*) Photo © Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora.



Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine pratensis*) Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora

- *Rhus glabra*, Smooth Sumac (M.C.). From Gillett's Nursery. Native. [Extant]
- *Vaccinium macrocarpon*, Cranberry - large (M.C.). Gillett's Nursery. Native to the NE and North Central counties, found in bogs. (Photo page 40)

Summer 1911

- *Calopogon pulchellus* (now *Calopogon tuberosus* var. *tuberosus*), Grasspink (an Orchid) (M.C.) From the Quaking Bog in Glenwood Park. [This is the first note about planting this plant in her log, but earlier on June 28, she noted that Grasspink was in bloom - thus it existed in the Garden prior to this planting.] Native. (Photo right.)
- *Euphorbia cyparissias*, Cypress spurge. From Lake City Nursery. While existing in the state, it is an introduction and not a true native:(Photo page 43)
- *Oenothera rhombipetala* (now *Oenothera rhombipetala*), Four-point Evening Primrose (M.C.). From Fort Snelling. Native. (Photo page 43)
- *Osmorhiza longistylis*, Wild Anise, (M.C.). (We are making the assumption that she was referring to Aniseroot as it came from Fort Snelling. Martha Crone listed the plant in her 1951 census as Smooth Sweet Cicely. Native. (Photo page 43) Extant.
- *Penstemon gracilis*, Lilac Penstemon. From Fort Snelling. Native. (Photo page 42)



Grasspink, (*Calopogon tuberosus*); Photo ©Merle R.Black, Wisconsin Flora

Autumn 1911

- *Heracleum lanatum* (now *Heracleum maximum*), Cow Parsnip. From Glenwood Park, Native, Extant.
- *Isanthus brachiatus* (now *Trichostema brachiatum*), Bastard Pennyroyal (False Pennyroyal); (M.C.), (Not clear in the log but we assume this was what she planted. Native to the State. Seeds from Malden.
- *Linaria vulgaris*, Butter and Eggs. From Glenwood Park. Introduced. Extant.
- *Oenothera fruticosa*, Narrow-leaf Evening Primrose. Not native in Minnesota. From Malden, MA. (Photo below)
- *Phlox maculata*, Wild Sweet William (M.C.). From Kelsey's. Native to the SE Quadrant of the State. (Photo below)



Wild Sweet William (*Phlox maculata*). Photo G D Bebeau



Narrowleaf Evening Primrose (*Oenothera fruticosa*). Photo Robert H. Mohlenbrock @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS.



1912

Winter 1911/1912

Eloise, for the first time, spent the winter months on the east coast at Malden Mass. visiting her relatives and sourcing plants for shipment to Minneapolis during the growing season. This would be her custom for her remaining years following her retirement from teaching in April 1911. She lodged with her sister, Cora Pease, at 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden MA, a Boston suburb.

She wrote an article for the *Minnesota Horticulturalist* on the cultivation of native ornamental plants. In past writings she had expressed her opinions on the use of native plants in the home landscape and wrote about the tendency of home owners to copy what other home owners had done. This article was sort of a summary of past opinions. A sample:

Avoid, above all, imported plants of unusual color, like the copper beech and the weeping trees, or plants trimmed into formal or fantastic shapes. In general, native species should be used, for plants torn from their natural setting may strike a false note in the landscape. There are many plants just as effective as the cultivated canna, castor bean, crimson Rambler, fall hydrangea, golden glow, admirable in themselves, that now pall upon the taste by reason of monotonous reiteration. (Note 1)



View of Appleton Maine where Eloise spent her childhood. View from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

One can see how this particular opinion came directly from an article published the year before in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* in which she wrote:

Why, for instance, because a neighbor has a beautiful plant on his premises should every one in the vicinity straightway fill his grounds with the same in monotonous reiteration? Among the hosts of ornamental plants may not something else be selected besides hydrangea, scarlet

rambler, canna and golden glow to prevent satiety? If a plant is 'all the rage,' it is the very best reason why one should fall out of line and imitate nature in her endless variety. (Note 2).

In the climate department one looks back on the prior year, 1911, the wettest year in local weather history until 2016, which was preceded in 1910 by the driest year in local weather history, and wonders what the new year brought. There were enough snowfalls to keep a snow cover on the ground from late December 1911 through mid February 1912. After that there were few snowfalls on any significance and there was no snow cover after mid-March. The cold however was another aspect - a number of days in January with lows below -30 degrees F. A weather record still standing in 2021 is the consecutive 7 day period from January 1 through January 7 when the daytime high temperature was always below zero degrees F.

Spring 1912

This was an extensive year for plantings in the Garden as Eloise Butler attempted to bring on-site species she believed should have representation in a "Wild Botanic Garden" as the Garden premises were then referred to.

She imported plants during the spring from Malden MA, Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA, from Horsford's Nursery in Charlotte, VA, from Kelsey's Nursery in Boxford MA and from a source in New York. The east coast plants supplemented the plants she could obtain from local sources during the Minnesota growing season.

Her Garden Log notes 32 species planted in the spring that were not noted prior to 1912. (Complete list follows.) All were from east coast nurseries. One of the plants is shown at right. Fifteen of those were native to Minnesota and only four of the species are present in the Garden today.



Moss Phlox (*Phlox subulata*) first planted in 1912. Photo ©Matthew Wagner. Wisconsin Flora.

The spring weather allowed Eloise to begin the 1912 Garden plantings on April 4th with some plants received from Malden, MA, which included a root of **Climbing Poison Ivy**, by which we assume she meant the common eastern poison ivy, *Toxicodendron radicans*, which can climb. This is not the species present in the Garden today. Present today is a non-climbing species, Western Poison Ivy, *Toxicodendron rydbergii*.

On that same day she noted that "**Monarch treated surgically today.**" She had dead limbs removed and the decaying trunk reinforced. Monarch was an aged White Oak that lasted until 1940. See page 173 for details on this.

On April 18, six members of the Woman's Club visited the Garden on a day when Eloise reported "**Rue anemones galore in bloom.**"

After the cold days of January and late winter, once the spring equinox was past the temperatures became more normal for the season and there was adequate rainfall.

Summer 1912

Eloise Butler's Garden Log usually has a few notes not related to planting and a curious one on August 21 contained this statement:

Turtlehead, purple prairie clover, Canadian burnet, double golden glow in bloom! Found large puffball weighing 3 lbs. 4 1/2 oz. by west brookside. Fell into brook!

The weather in the summer of 1912 provided temperatures in the average range for the time period and frequent summer rains, but not to the extent of the extremely wet prior year of 1911.

Planting work during the summer occupied much of her time. On June 25 Eloise noted finding two *Liparis liliifolia* (Large Twayblade) in a prickly ash thicket and a month later “discovered *Lythrum alatum*! [Winged Loosestrife] in east meadow near swamp.” [photo at right]

During the summer months Eloise would obtain her plant material from local sources unlike her 1912 spring plantings which all came from out of state sources. As a result all the summer plantings were species native to the state.

Her Garden Log notes 29 species planted that summer that were not noted prior to 1912. (Complete list follows.) Only four of the species are present in the Garden today.

A successful struggle with one non-native plant was worthy of being noted in her annual report:

The greatest triumph of all, because it has been a failure under assiduous cultivation ever since the Garden was started was a vigorous colony of Deer Grass, *Rhexia virginica*, in bloom for fully a month. It has blossoms of an unusual shade of red, garnished by bright yellow twisted stamens, succeeded by little exquisitely fashioned urn-shaped fruits. (note 3)

She had originally planted it on September 4, 1909 with plants shipped in from Winter Pond MA and noted it was in bloom on August 11 this year. The plant is also called Handsome Harry (photo at right).



Winged Loosestrife, (*Lythrum alatum*);
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Above: Deer Grass or Handsome Harry, (*Rhexia virginica*) Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora.

Autumn 1912

In September Eloise Butler maintained an exhibit about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair, in the Horticulture building as she had since 1909.

On September 9th she reported clearing out the Hermit's Cave and on the 22nd and 26th reported planting hepatica, maidenhair and wild ginger, asters, Liatris, stiff coreopsis, and downy gentian there. She went back again in October with more plants.

The hermit was known as "Old Andrew" and the "cave-like shelter" is where he supposedly had lived. Eloise would sometimes hear ghostly wood chopping sounds from that area. (note 4) The area of this cave, north and west of the original Garden area, was added to the Garden in 1912 - and would today be just outside the west boundary fence. This addition added a number of acres to the official Wild Botanic Garden. At the time it was viewed as about 20 acres, but only the original 3 acres were fenced so the boundary of the Garden was somewhat variable until the time of the 1924 fence but that 1924 fence only surrounded what Eloise considered to be the most precious parts of the area and those most subject to vandalism.

On October 10 she noted conducting a wedding party through the Garden (the Ellisons). The weather in October was so nice that Eloise mentioned it in her log on October 28: "Beautiful warm weather all through the month. Cut out prickly ash and sumach (sic) for several days." She did not believe in using chemicals for treatment and thus it was manual labor. Her policy of letting everything grow without interference had its limits when pesky plants would tend to crowd out more desirables.

She was able to work until November 13. Her last entry for 1912 is on November 13 when she planted specimens received from Mr. Chase of Boulder Colorado:

Cork elms,
Dwarf False Indigo, (photo on page 51)
Elecampane, (photo on page 60) and
Dotted blazing star (photo on page 59).

Fall Plantings: Her Garden Log notes 18 species planted in the fall that were not noted prior to 1912. (Complete list follows) During the Garden season Eloise would obtain her plant material from local sources unlike her 1912 spring plantings which all came from out of state sources. As a result all the autumn plantings were species native to the state.

All were from local sources except those from Mr. Chase. Only seven of the species are present in the Garden today. An interesting plant on this list is the Cork Elm, *Ulmus thomasi*, interesting because it is a tree and she obtained it from a source in Colorado, although its native range is eastward from Minnesota and Iowa, touching only a few counties on the west bank of the Mississippi.

Fall weather was of average temperatures, adequate rain in September, much less in October and none in November. Some snow arrived in December but at the end of the year there was only a 2 inch average snow depth on the ground.

Each day during the Garden Season, Eloise commuted to the garden from her quarters in South Minneapolis. In her annual report to the Board of Park Commissioners she added a few thoughts about the Garden enlargement and some of the issues that irritated her:

Another cause for congratulations is the generous extension of the Garden limits by the addition of an adjacent hillside and meadow. The labor of the curator would be materially brightened if the garden were fenced and more warning signs posted.

She reported that her work consisted of conducting visitors, exterminating pestilent weeds and protecting the property from marauders. "For 'tis true, 'tis pity, and pity 'tis, 'tis true' that a small proportion of our citizens have not yet learned to name the birds without a gun, or to love the wood rose and leave it on its stalk." (note 3)

Reference Notes:

Note 1. The complete article can be found in Martha Hellander's book *The Wild Gardener*.

Note 2. Published July 16, 1911, *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune*

Note 3. Annual Report to the Board of Park Commissioners, contained in the Park Boards comprehensive report dated November 8, 1912

Note 4. See page 94 for the text of Eloise's essay on "Old Andrew."



Dwarf or Fragrant False Indigo
(*Amorpha nana*). Planted in the fall
of 1912. Photo ©G D Bebeau

Photo top of page 47: Eloise Butler traversing the Quaking Bog. Located just west of the Garden, the bog was a source of plants for Eloise to transplant into the Garden wetland. Photo courtesy Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis Collection #M2632J

Listing by season, of Eloise Butler's plantings in 1912, that were "1st time" plantings according to her Garden Log.

Spring 1912 Plantings

- *Aletris farinosa*, White Colicroot from New York source. Native. (Photo)
- *Alnus alnobetula* (now *Alnus viridis* ssp. *sinuata*), Sitka Alder from Kelsey's
- *Amorpha fruticosa*, Desert False Indigo, from Horsford's. Native. (Photo)
- *Angelica venenos*, Hairy Angelica (M.C.) Native
- *Aronia arbutifolia* (now - *Photinia pyrifolia*), Red Chokeberry from Kelsey's
- *Aster macrophyllus* (now - *Eurybia macrophylla*) Big-leaf Aster (M.C.) Native, from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte Vermont. Extant.
- *Aster multiflorus* (now *Symphyotrichum ericoides*), White Heath Aster (M.C.). Native, from Gillett's. Extant.
- *Aster novi-belgiae* (now - *Symphyotrichum novi-belgii* var. *novi-belgii*), New York Aster, (M.C.) from Gillett's
- *Aster patens* (now *Symphyotrichum patens* var. *patens*), Late Purple Aster from Gillett's
- *Aster undulatus* (now *Symphyotrichum undulatum*), Wavy-leaf Aster from Gillett's
- *Claytonia caroliniana*, Carolina Spring Beauty, (M.C.) from Horsford's Nursey, Charlotte Vermont. Native. (Photo)
- *Crataegus crus-galli*, Cockspur Hawthorn from Horsford's. Not native
- *Gaylussacia resinosa* (now *Gaylussacia baccata*) Black Huckelberry (M.C.) from Gillett's Nursey, Southwick, MA. Native (Photo)
- *Helianthus maximiliani*, Maximilian Sunflower, (M.C.) from Horsford's. Native. (Photo)
- *Helianthus strumosus*, Paleleaf Sunflower native, from Kelsey's. Extant. (Photo)
- *Helonias bullata*, Swamp Pink, from New York - arrived very dry due to delay in the mail
- *Hibiscus militaris* now *Hibiscus laevis*.) Halberdleaf Rosemallow from Horsford's. Native. (Photo)
- *Kalmia glauca* (now *Kalmia polifolia*, Bog Laurel (M.C.) from Gillett's. (Photo)
- *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, Southern Adder's Tongue from Gillett's
- *Phlox subulata*, Moss Phlox (M.C.) native, from a source in New York. (Photo)
- *Prunus besseyi* (now *Prunus pumila* var. *besseyi*) Western Sandcherry from Kelsey's. Native
- *Prunus pumila*, Sandcherry (M.C.) from Kelsey's. Native
- *Rosa carolina*, Carolina Rose, from Gillett's. Extant
- *Shepherdia*, Buffaloberry (no species listed but believed to be *S. argentea*) from the "Agricultural College", Native. [Note: in 1914 she noted planting *S. argentea*]. (Photo)
- *Solidago boottii*, Atlantic Goldenrod- there are several subspecies of this plant, most likely it was *Solidago arguta* var. *caroliniana* from Kelsey's Nursey, Massachusetts & North Carolina
- *Solidago patula*, Roundleaf Goldenrod from Kelsey's
- *Solidago rugosa*, Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod from Kelsey's
- *Stachys aspera*, Hyssopleaf Hedge Nettle (M.C.) from Kelsey's
- *Steironema quadrifolium* (now - *Lysimachia quadriflora*. Fourflower Yellow Loosestrife from Kelsey's. Native. (Photo)
- *Vaccinium corymbosum*, Highbush Blueberry, from Kelsey's
- *Viburnum acerifolium*, Mapleleaf Viburnum from Kelsey's
- *Zigadenus*, White Camas - Mountain Death Camas, (possibly Yellow Camas as Eloise did not specify - both are now subspecies of *Zigadenus elegans*), (M.C.) from Ft. Snelling, MN. Native. (Photo)



Desert False Indigo, (*Amorpha fruticosa*) Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Black Huckleberry, (*Gaylussacia baccata*). Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora



Bog Laurel (*Kalmia polifolia*) Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Carolina Spring Beauty (*Claytonia caroliniana*) Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora.



Fourflower Yellow Loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadriflora*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Maximilian Sunflower (*Helianthus maximiliani*) Photo ©Robert W. Freckman, Wisconsin Flora.



White Colicroot (*Aletris farinosa*) Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora.



Halberdleaf Rosemallow (*Hibiscus laevis*) Photo ©Jennifer Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



White Camas, (*Zigadenus elegans*). Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora.



Moss Phlox (*Phlox subulata*) Photo ©JMatthew Wagner, Wisconsin Flora



Paleleaf Sunflower (*Helianthus strumosus*). Photo ©G D Bebeau

Summer 1912 Plantings

- *Artemisia frigida*, Prairie Sagewort from Fort Snelling, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Aster ptarmicoides* (now- *Oligoneuron album*) Prairie Goldenrod (Upland White Goldenrod) from Osceola, WI. Native. (Photo)
- *Bidens trichosperma* (now- *Bidens coronata*) Crowned Beggarsticks from Robbinsdale, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Boltonia asteroides*, Boltonia or White Doll's Daisy from Mendota, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Bouteloua curtipendula*, Side Oats Grama from Columbia Heights. MN. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Bouteloua oligostachya* (now - *Bouteloua gracilis*) Blue Grama from Columbia Heights, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Carex aurea*, Golden Sedge from Minnetonka, MN. Native
- *Chenopodium capitatum*, Strawberry-blite (Blite Goosefoot), from Enchanted Isle. Native. (Photo)
- *Cycloloma atriplicifolium* - assume, as this is the only native *Cycloloma*) Winged Pigweed, Cycloloma from Columbia Heights, MN. Native
- *Gaura coccinea*, Scarlet Beeblossom from Washburn Park, Minneapolis. Native
- *Houstonia caerulea*, Azure Bluets from Osceola, WI.
- *Kuhnia eupatorioides* (now- *Brickellia eupatorioides* var. *corymbulosa*) False Boneset from Fort Snelling, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Leonurus cardiaca*. Common Motherwort, from Minnehaha Creek and Chicago Ave, Minneapolis. Introduced plant. Extant. (Photo)
- *Lithospermum hirtum* (now- *Lithospermum caroliniense* var. *croceum*), Carolina Puccoon, from Osceola, WI. Native. (Photo)
- *Lobelia kalmii*, Brook Lobelia from Mahtomedi, MN. Native
- *Lysimachia terrestris*, Yellow loosestrife - Swamp candles from Washburn Park, Minneapolis. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Monarda punctata*, Spotted Beebalm or Horsemint from Mendota, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Nymphaea odorata* ssp. *tuberosa*, White Pond Lily (American white water lily) (M.C.) from Mahtomedi, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Onosmodium hispidissimum* (now- *Onosmodium bejariense* var. *hispidissimum*) Softhair Marbleseed (Soft or Shaggy False Gromwell) from Columbia Heights, MN. Native
- *Orobanche ludoviciana*, Louisiana Broomrape from Fort Snelling, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Pontederia cordata*, Pickerel Weed from Mahtomedi, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Pyrola chlorantha*, Green flowered Wintergreen from Osceola WI. Native
- *Pyrola secunda* (now- *Orthilia secunda*) One-sided Pyrola from Minnetonka, MN. Native
- *Rhamnus alnifolia*, Alderleaf Buckthorn from Osceola WI. Native Extant. (Photo)
- *Ribes triste*, Wild Red Currant from Minnetonka, MN. Native
- *Scripus validus* (now- *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*), Softstem Bulrush from Minnehaha Creek and Chicago Ave, Minneapolis. Native
- *Sparganium eurycarpum*, Broadleaf Burweed from Osceola WI. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Synthyris bullii*, Kittentails or Bull's Coraldrops, from Osceola, WI. Native. (Photo)
- *Vernonia fasciculata*, Prairie Ironweed from Mendota, MN. Native. Extant



False Boneset (*Brickellia eupatorioides* var. *corymbulosa*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



White Pond Lily (American white water lily) (*Nymphaea odorata* ssp. *tuberosa*). Photo ©Scott A. Milburn, Wisconsin Flora



Alderleaf Buckthorn (*Rhamnus alnifolia*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora



Carolina Puccoon (*Lithospermum carolinense* var. *croceum*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Broadleaf Burweed (*Sparganium eurycarpum*). Photo Josh Sulman, Wisconsin Flora.



Common Motherwort (*Leonurus cardiaca*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Crowned Beggarsticks (*Bidens coronata*). Photo Robert Mohlenbrock, USDA-NRCS Plants



Kittentails or Bull's Coraldrops (*Synthyris bullii*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin



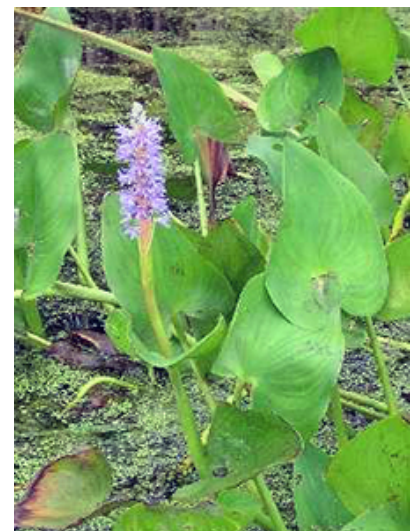
Boltonia or White Doll's Daisy (*Boltonia asteroides*). Photo ©Robert Bierman, Wisconsin Flora.



Louisiana Broomrape (*Orobanche ludoviciana*). Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Blue Gramma (*Bouteloua oligostachya*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Pickereel Weed (*Pontederia cordata*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora.



©Christopher Noll

Prairie Goldenrod (*Oligoneuron album*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora,



Prairie Sagewort (*Artemisia frigida*). Photo ©William S. Alverson, Wisconsin Flora.



©G D Bebeau

Spotted Beebalm or Horsemint (*Monarda punctata*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



©Matthew Wagner

Strawberry Blite (*Chenopodium capitatum*). Photo ©Matthew Wagner, Wisconsin Flora



©G D Bebeau

Yellow loosestrife - Swamp candles (*Lysimachia terrestris*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



©G D Bebeau

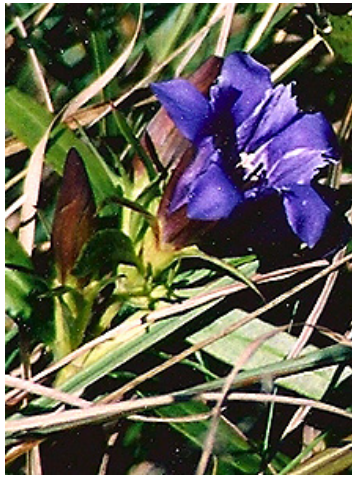
Sideoats Grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*). Photo G D Bebeau

Fall 1912 Plantings

- *Alnus incana* (now *Alnus incana* ssp. *rugosa*), Speckled Alder (M.C.) from Fort Snelling. Extant. Native.
- *Amorpha nana*, Dwarf False Indigo (M.C.) from Boulder Colorado (Mr. Chase). Native (M.C. listed as Fragrant False Indigo.)
- *Arisaema dracontium*, Green Dragon from Logansport, IN. Native. (Photo)
- *Aster cordifolius* (now *Symphyotrichum cordifolium*), Heart-leaved Aster (Blue Wood Aster) (M.C.) Minnehaha, Native. Extant
- *Aster laevis* (now *Symphyotrichum laeve*) Smooth Aster (M.C.) from Fort Snelling. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Aster novae-anagliae* (now *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*), New England Aster - rose flower variety (M.C.) Native. Root stock from Fort Snelling, MN. Extant.
- *Aster oblongifolius* (now *Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*), Aromatic Aster (M.C.) from "The Forty". Native. (Photo)
- *Aster paniculatus* (now *Symphyotrichum lanceolatum* ssp. *lanceolatum* var. *lanceolatum*) Panicked Aster or White panicked aster (M.C.) from Minnehaha. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Cypripedium candidum*, Small white lady's-slipper (M.C.) from Minnetonka (Mr. Norcross). Native. (Photo)
- *Gentiana puberula* (now *Gentiana puberulenta*), Downy Gentian (M.C.) from Ipswich MA, Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Inula helenium*, Elecampane inula from Boulder Colorado (Mr. Chase). Native (escaped). (Photo)
- *Liatris punctata*, Dotted Blazing Star (M.C.), from Boulder Colorado (Mr. Chase). Native. (Photo)
- *Lygodesmia juncea*, Rush Skeletonplant (M.C. she listed it as Rush-like lygodesmia) Native, from Montevideo, MN
- *Orchis rotundifolia* (now *Amerorchis rotundifolia*) Round-leaved Orchis (M.C.) from Minnetonka. Native. (Photo)
- *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, Virginia Creeper (M.C.) Jewell's Nursery, from Lake City, MN Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Prunella vulgaris*, Selfheal (Heal-all) (M.C.) from Solon' Springs, WI. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Solidago hispida*, Hairy Goldenrod from Groveland Park. Native
- *Ulmus thomasii*, Cork Elm or Rock Elm, from Mr. Chase in Boulder Colorado. Native.



Aromatic Aster
(*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Downy Gentian (*Gentiana puberulenta*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Dotted Blazing Star (*Liatris punctata*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Elecampane inula (*Inula helenium*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Selfheal (Heal-all) (*Prunella vulgaris*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*). Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Smooth Aster (*Symphyotrichum laeve*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



White Panicked Aster (*Symphyotrichum lanceolatum* ssp. *lanceolatum*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Round-leaved Orchis (*Amerorchis rotundifolia*). Photo ©Scott A. Milburn, Wisconsin Flora



Small white lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*). Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



1913

Winter 1912/1913

When Eloise returned in spring she was prepared for a busy season of planting during which she added 993 plants of which 73 species would be newcomers to the Garden (1). A number of these plants she sourced from East Coast suppliers while she was there and were shipped to Minnesota during the planting season. On return from the East Coast she resumed lodging with friend Jessie Polley in south Minneapolis.

1913 was a more normal year for weather compared with 1910 and 1911. Precipitation was a little below the normal average - but it did not set records for precipitation or temperature. There was one snowfall in February of almost 9 inches but after April 1st only a few inches of snow came.

Spring 1913

1913 was another extensive year for plantings in the Garden as Eloise attempted to bring on-site species she believed should have representation in a "Wild Botanic Garden" as the premises were known.

She imported plants during the spring from Franklin MA, Malden MA, Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA, from Kelsey's Nursery in North Carolina and from sources in Loganport Indiana, Boulder Colorado and Hastings Nebraska. These supplemented the plants she obtained from local sources. Eloise was no longer particular whether the plant was native - only that it could grow here. Some of those imports from MA she brought back on the train with her in a box. (2)

The spring weather allowed Eloise to begin the 1913 Garden plantings on April 4th although she noted in her log that the frost was still in the ground and also wrote that in a newspaper article on April 13.(2)



The Normal School at Castine Maine where Eloise graduated in May 1873. Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

Ice or no ice, she still wrote about all the interesting plants you could see.

That article ended with the note "Miss Butler will conduct parties through the Garden during the seasons" and gave the phone number to call. Visitors without pre-arrangement were frowned upon. Eloise preferred that no one come without her being there to give a tour. The paths were narrow, special plants could be stepped on, there were pitfalls and water holes to be avoided and most of the place had no protection to keep people from picking. These problems eventually led her to put up a fence around the place with her own funds in 1924.

Among her entries for spring planting were many plants already present in the Garden and new ones that are still represented in the Garden today such as Prairie Dogbane, Thimbleberry and Whorled Loosestrife.



Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*)
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Yellow Lady's-slipper, (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*). Photo ©G D Bebeau

And then other new plants that are not extant such as Carolina Anemone, Thyme-leaf Speedwell, Apple Moss, Bryum Moss, Skunk Current, Wild Comfrey, Three toothed Cinquefoil, Boots wood fern, Missouri Violet, Wreath Goldenrod, Russet Buffaloberry, Fairy Slipper Orchid, Common Bladderwort.

Lists of 1913 plantings follow this text, with photos of plants added in 1913 for the first time to the Garden.

She happily noted that a plant put in for the first time the prior year was blooming: Carolina Spring Beauty (*Claytonia carolinana*). The Yellow Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*) bloomed on May 29th. The Showy Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) waited until June 21st. A red shouldered hawk was nesting on an ash tree on the west side of the marsh.

Weather during the spring of 1913 was fine, enough rain and average temperatures.

Summer 1913

Another newspaper column by Eloise appeared on June 18 with photos by Mary Meeker. Eloise highlighted the orchids in bloom and the flowering shrubs that could be seen in the Garden. This article also mentioned that arrangements could be made with Miss Butler to visit the Garden.(3).

Planting work during the summer occupied much of Eloise Butler's time. During these months Eloise obtained her plant material from local sources unlike her 1913 spring plantings, most of which came from out of state sources. As a result most of the summer plantings were species native to the state.

Among her entries for summer planting were many plants already present in the Garden and still represented in the Garden today such as Fireweed, Spotted Beebalm and Wild Poinsettia. Compass Plant was a new addition. New plants that are no longer extant were Wild Parsnip and Yellow Fringed Orchid.

Eloise Butler's Garden Log also contained these comments: **July 6:** "Found 4 specimens of *Epilobium angustifolium* [Fireweed] by Tamarack tree in east meadow."

Eloise believed the plant did not exist in the Garden and she imported plants of this species from Malden, Mass. on September 4th, 1909, and from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA on April 29, 1912. In 1908 she brought back in her suitcase bunches of it which she foraged in the wilds of Mackey Ontario while waiting for the disabled train she was riding on to be repaired. Her friend Gertrude Cram, in a later letter to Martha Crone noted that "Miss Butler said nothing would ever induce it to grow for her."

July 7: "Red shouldered hawkling standing on limb outside its nest." She had noted back on May 29th that "A red shouldered hawk nesting on ash tree west border of swamp."



Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*).
Photo G D Bebeau

That August the city of Minneapolis hosted a convention for the American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists. Eloise supplied a display of native wild flowers - whichever ones nature deemed to provide at meeting time. *The Minneapolis Journal* reported on the event and the *Minneapolis Tribune* published an article by Eloise. (Copy - page 278)

The weather in the summer of 1913 provided temperatures in the average range for the time period and frequent summer rains, but not to the extent of the extremely wet year of 1911. Eloise noted that there were no summer droughts but much insect damage and that spraying for insects may be needed the following year. (1)

In that same annual report she mentioned that many more birds felt attracted to the protection of the Garden, such as a Great Bittern, the pair of nesting Red Shouldered hawks mentioned above, and the crested wood ducks that were in the Garden Pool. Martha Crone would write similar thoughts in her annual report 25 years later in 1938.

Autumn 1913

In September Eloise maintained an exhibit about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair in the Horticulture building, as she had since 1910. A photo of the exhibit is in the 1910 history. The exhibit for the Wild Botanic Garden won a blue ribbon in 1910. Photographer Mary Meeker [on the right in photo next page] provided photos of the native plants for the exhibit. She was also the provider of photos for Eloise's series of newspaper columns in the *Minneapolis Tribune* in 1911.

Eloise Butler's Garden Log usually has a few notes not completely related to planting and a curious one on September 10th contained this statement:

Sowed seeds of Compass plant, *Cassia chamaecrista* [Partridge Pea] on Old Andrew's hillside, also seeds of Compass plant and of *Lepachys* by plantations of same. **Fell in well, east meadow!**

There was a hermit known as "Old Andrew" and there was a "cave-like shelter" on a hillside where he had supposedly lived. Eloise would sometimes hear ghostly wood chopping sounds from that area. The area of this cave, north and west of the original Garden area, was added to the Garden in 1912 - and would today be in the northwest section of the Garden.

Her last entry for 1913 is on October 17 when she sowed the acorns of Black Oak that she had obtained from the Arnold Arboretum in Boston and sowed seeds of Pearly Everlasting that she sourced in Wisconsin.



Western Blue Virgin's Bower
(*Clematis verticillaris* -now- *Clematis occidentalis*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora.

Fall Plantings: Her Garden Log notes 14 species planted in the autumn that were not noted prior to 1913. An unusually large number were not from local sources and they were not native to Minnesota. None of the species are present in the Garden today.

Eloise noted in her annual report to the Park Board that "993 plants added, 73 were species newcomers," and those included several that were rare such as the Wild Purple Clematis [Western Blue Virgin's Bower - photo left] and *Calypso bulbosa* [the Fairy Slipper Orchid]. She also suggests that a children's museum be established in Glenwood Park. As always she promotes the Garden and in discussing the beauties of the Garden as the season passes she stated:

Within a space of 20 acres, may be seen in an hour, what would be impossible to find in traversing the state for several days. (1)

Fall temperatures were fairly normal in September and October but November and December were unusually warm. 1913 was a year of good precipitation except at the end of the year. There were rains in September and October but just traces of precipitation in November and December resulting in no snow cover through the end of the year.

On May 3 a local magazine - *The Bellman* - published a long article that described the Native Plant Reserve in detail, noting all the features of the landscape. This is the only known comprehensive description of the Garden as it was at that time. Copy follows this years history.



Eloise Butler, (left) Dr. W. H. Crone (behind Eloise); Miss Elizabeth Foss,; Miss Mary K. Meeker on August 3, 1931 at Eloise's 80th Birthday Party.

Below: A view of the Garden pool formed by Eloise Butler's dam as it looked in 1913 and published in *The Bellman* article.



Reference Notes

Photo top of page 61: The east woodland path (Violet Way) approaching the old Garden "office"; from a Kodachrome taken by Martha Crone June 1, 1950.

NOTES:

1. Report of the Board of Park Commissioners, January 1, 1914.
2. *Minneapolis Tribune* 14 April 1913. (Copy - page 277)
3. *Minneapolis Tribune* 8 June 1913 . Copy - page 71)

Listing by season, of Eloise Butler's plantings in 1913, that were "1st time" plantings according to her Garden Log.

Spring 1913 Plantings

- *Anemone caroliniana*, Carolina Anemone (M.C.) from Hastings Nebraska. Native. (Photo)
- *Apocynum cannabinum*, Prairie Dogbane (Indian Hemp), from Fort Snelling (Mpls.) Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Aspidium bootii* (now *Dryopteris X boottii* (pro sp.) Bootts Wood Fern from Kelsey's. Native
- *Baptisia tinctoria*, Horsefly Weed (Yellow wild Indigo), from Kelsey's. Native. (Photo)
- *Bartramia pomiformis*, Apple Moss from Franklin MA. Native status not known.
- *Calypso bulbosa*, Fairy Slipper Orchid, (M.C.), from Mr. Chase, Boulder Colorado. Native. (Photo)
- *Cornus amomum*, (now *Cornus obliqua*) Silky Dogwood (Pale Dogwood), from Kelsey's. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Cynoglossum virginianum*, Wild Comfrey, from Kelsey's. Native.
- *Galium concinnum*, Shining Bedstraw (M.C.) from Minnehaha Park, Mpls. Native. Extant
- *Heuchera hispida* (now *Heuchera americana* var. *hispida*), American Alumroot, (M.C.) from Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Lysimachia quadrifolia*, Whorled Loosestrife, (M.C.) from Kelsey's, Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Phlox glaberrima*, Smooth Phlox from Mr. Chase, Boulder. Colorado Not Native. (Photo)
- *Potentilla tridentata*, (now *Sibbaldiopsis tridentata*) Three toothed Cinquefoil (Shrubby Fivefingers), (M.C.) from Kelsey's. Native. (Photo)
- *Ribes prostratum*, (now *Ribes glandulosum*) Skunk Current from Kelsey's. Native. (Photo)
- *Rubus parviflorus*, Thimbleberry (Flowering Raspberry), from Kelsey's. Native. Extant
- *Shepherdia canadensis*, Russet Buffaloberry, from Park Board Nursery Minneapolis. Native. (Photo)
- *Solidago caesia*, Wreath Goldenrod, (M.C.), from Gillett's, Southwick MA. Not native. (Photo)
- *Typha angustifolia*, Narrow-leaf Cattail, from Kelsey's. Not Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Veronica serpyllifolia*, Thymeleaf Speedwell, from Kelsey's. Native. (Photo)
- *Viola missouriensis*, Missouri Violet (Sand Violet), (M.C.), (probably *Viola affinis*) This violet was not purposely planted but noticed when it bloomed and Eloise noted that it was probably brought in with the sod that accompanied the Cuckoo Flower that she planted in 1912. Those plants came from Gillett's in North Carolina where the Sand Violet does grow. A current synonym for the Sand Violet is *V. missouriensis*. Neither plant is currently listed as resident in our state on the DNR Plant Checklist or on the U of M *Checklist of the Vascular Flora of Minnesota*.
- *Utricularia vulgaris*, (now *Utricularia macrorhiza*) Common Bladderwort, (M.C.), from Mahtomedi, MN. Native. (Photo)



Fairy Slipper Orchid, (*Calypso bulbosa*) Photo Martha Crone



Smooth Phlox, (*Phlox glaberrima*).
Photo ©Margery Melgaard,
Wisconsin Flora



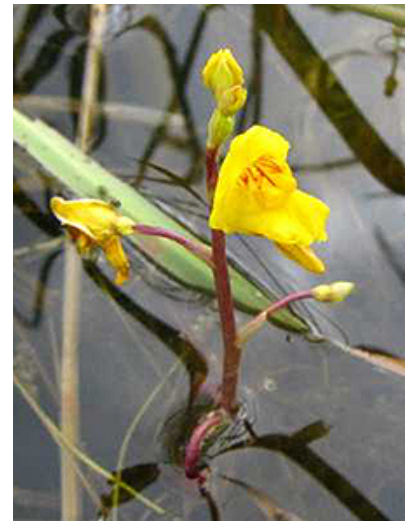
Prairie Dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



American Alumroot, (*Heuchera americana*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Carolina Anemone, (*Anemone caroliniana*). Photo ©Kitty Kohout,
Wisconsin Flora



Comm. Bladderwort (*Utricularia macrorhiza*) Photo Paul Skawinski,
Wisconsin Flora



Horsefly Weed (*Baptisia tinctoria*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Narrowleaf Cattail (*Typha angustifolia*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Russet Buffaloberry (*Shepherdia canadensis*) Photo ©Derek Anderson,
Wisconsin Flora



Silky Dogwood, (*Cornus obliqua*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Skunk Currant (*Ribes glandulosum*) Photo ©Robert W. Freckmann. Wisconsin Flora



Three-toothed Cinquefoil (*Sibbaldiopsis tridentata*) Photo ©Merel R. Black, Wisconsin



Thyme-leaf Speedwell, (*Veronica serpyllifolia*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Whorled Loosestrife, (*Lysimachia quadrifolia*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Wreath Goldenrod (*Solidago caesia*). Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora

Summer 1913 Plantings

- *Euphorbia heterophylla*, (now *Euphorbia cyathophora*) Wild Poinsettia (M.C.), from Fort Snelling (Minneapolis) Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Habenaria ciliaris*, (now *Platanthera ciliaris*) Yellow Fringed Orchid (M.C.), from New York source. Not Native
- *Pastinaca sativa*, Wild Parsnip (M.C.), from Glenwood Springs. Not Native, but introduced and now naturalized. (Photo)
- *Silphium laciniatum*, Compass Plant (M.C.), from Hwy 100 area of Minneapolis, Native Extant. (Photo)

Below are shown 3 of the new plants Eloise added in Summer 1913



Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Wild Poinsettia (*Euphorbia cyathophora*). Photo G D Bebeau



Compass Plant, (*Silphium laciniatum*). Photo ©G D Bebeau

Autumn 1913 Plantings

- *Anaphalis margaritacea*, Pearly Everlasting (M.C.) seeds from Wisconsin. Native. (Photo)
- *Aster concolor*, (now *Symphotrichum concolor*), Eastern Silver Aster from Solon Springs, WI. Not native.
- *Aster linariifolius*, (now *Ionactis linariifolius*) Stiff Aster (Flaxleaf whitetop aster) from Gillett's Nursery, MA. Not native. (Photo next page.)
- *Clematis verticillaris*, (now *Clematis occidentalis* var. *occidentalis*) Western Blue Virgin's Bower (M.C.) from Solon Springs, WI. Native This is a rare plant - rare in her day and rare today - not known in any metro county.
- *Euonymus fortunei*, Trailing Euonymus from Logansport, Indiana. Not Native and invasive.
- *Glyceria canadensis*, Rattlesnake Mannagrass from the Quaking Bog, Glenwood Park. Native. Photo next page.
- *Habenaria dilatata*, (now *Platanthera dilatata* var. *dilatata*) Boreal Bog Orchid (Scentbottle) from Gillett's Nursery, MA. Native. (Photo next page.)
- *Hieracium venosum*, Rattlesnake Weed from Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not native.
- *Hypericum virginicum*, (now *Triadenum fraseri*). Marsh St. Johnswort (M.C.), Transplanted from the Quaking Bog in Glenwood Park. Native.
- *Ledum groenlandicum*, Bog Labrador Tea from Gillett's Nursery, MA. Native. (Photo)
- *Onosmodium bejariense* var. *occidentale*, Western Marbleseed, from Minnehaha. Eloise simply listed 'Onosmodium' but on May 22, 1914 she noted "*Onosmodium occidentale* in blossom." Previously the only *Onosmodium* listed in the log was *O. hispidissimum* in 1912. (Photo)
- *Oxybaphus hirsutus* (now *Mirabilis hirsuta*), Hairy Four O'clock from 4748 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis MN, Native. (Photo)
- *Quercus velutina*, Black Oak Planted acorns from Arnold Arboretum. Native. (Photo)
- *Rosa virginiana*, Virginia Rose from Gillett's Nursery, MA. Not native.
- *Silene pennsylvanica*, (now *Silene caroliniana* ssp. *pennsylvanica*) Pennsylvania Catchfly from Gillett's Nursery, MA. Not native.
- *Tradescantia pilosa*, (now *Tradescantia subaspera* var. *subaspera*) Zig-Zag Spiderwort from Kelsey's Nursery, North Carolina. Not native.
- *Trillium recurvatum*, Prairie Trillium, (M.C.) from Gillett's Nursery. Not Native. Extant. (Photo next page.)



Black Oak, (*Quercus velutina*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*).Photo ©G D Bebeau



Boreal Bog Orchid (*Platanthera dilatata*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin



Bog Labrador Tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Rattlesnake Mannagrass (*Glyceria canadensis*). Photo ©Steve Garske, Wisconsin Flora.



Hairy Four O'clock (*Mirabilis hirsuta*) Photo ©Matthew Wagner, Wisconsin Flora



Stiff Aster (*Ionactis linariifolius*).
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora

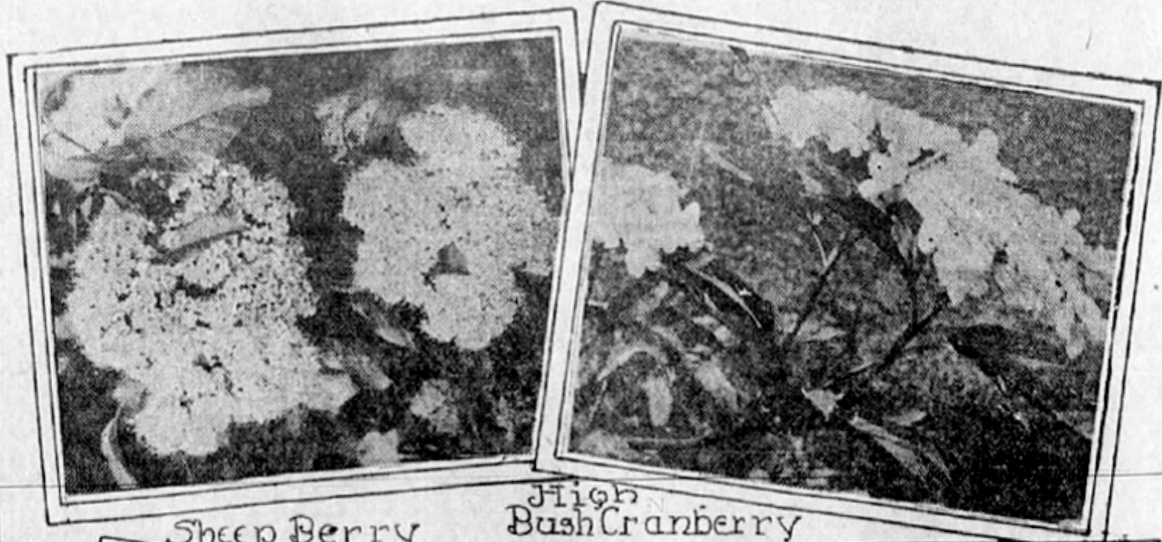


Prairie Trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Western Marbleseed (*Onosmodium bejariense* var. *occidentale*) Photo ©G D Bebeau

FLOWERS OF RARE BEAUTY WELCOME VISITORS TO DELIGHTFUL RETREATS OF GLENWOOD PARK



Sheep Berry

High Bush Cranberry

PHOTOS BY MARY K. MEER



Red-osier Dogwood.



Hawthorn.

By Elvira Butler, Park Botanist.
SEVERAL interesting plants, natives of the state but not indigenous to this vicinity, are now flowering in the wild garden—a cactus whose globose spiny balls bear sessile pale yellow, disklike flowers, and still retain the bright red knobs of fruit that were formed last season; mandrake or May-apple, suggestive of tropic lands, its two strange umbrella leaves almost concealing the single white shallow flower cup; shooting stars displaying large clusters of blue, white or rose colored flowers, taking aim with their pistils, the petals closely reflexed like miniature cyclamens; two species of twayblade—small orchids—with flowers frail as gossamer and resembling tiny butterflies poised for flight.

This is the orchid season. The large and the small yellow lady's slipper, the two-leaved pink and the rarer white cypripedium are in bloom; also the little coral roots, yellow and leafless, because they feed like the mushroom on

organic matter. Here and there are patches of the lovely showy orchis, pink and white, and deliciously fragrant.

In the swamp and meadow are various white flowers, the dwarf cornel, the delicate star flower, smilacinas, wild lily of the valley and the buckbean, with petals of eiderdown. Here, too, is the medicinal valerian. It has compact clusters of small yellowish flowers and shows individuality in its foliage, having some leaves entire and ribbon-like, and others broader and deeply divided.

The Greek valerian, a member of the phlox family and no relation to the real valerian, blooms at the same time in rich woodlands, with foliage like a vetch and pale blue flower bells. Close by may be seen Mertensia, or Virginia cowslips, with larger blue bells borne on slender tubes, and with broad, entire leaves.

The flowering shrubs from the most distinctive feature of the wild garden. The cherries are just out of bloom.

A chokecherry almost as large as an apple tree and numerous cherry bushes have been loaded with graceful drooping racemes. The large, flat-topped flower clusters of dogwoods and viburnum gleam white among the tamaracks and throughout the higher grounds, the hawthorns are a wondrous sight, covered with snowy drifts of bloom. It is a question if there are any finer shrubs than these. They all provide feasts for the birds, who (which doesn't stand for bird) do not seem to object to having their tongues puckered by the astringent chokecherries. The dogwoods have attractive fruit, either blue or white; the viburnums, brilliant autumnal foliage; and the bright yellow or red fruits of the hawthorn are more enduring than those of most plants.

Arrangements can be made with Miss Butler to visit the wild garden. Telephone in the evening to engage for the following day. Tel. N. W. Colfax 1689.

please return

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BY
WILLIAM C. EDGAR

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G. E. Graves

A WILD BOTANIC GARDEN

By W. P. KIRKWOOD

The name "Wild Botanic Garden" suggests a kind of plant museum, wherein trees, shrubs and herbs are all nicely set in order, each with its proper label (in English and Latin), for the easy study of the budding scientist. Any one who has such an idea, however, has an agreeable surprise in store if inclination ever takes him to the Minneapolis Wild Botanic Garden, one of the first gardens of the kind maintained by an American city, and perhaps the most extensive. This garden is really a wild botanic garden. It is a bit of almost primeval wilderness, which happily escaped the encroachments of civilization as the city spread, and is now preserved in its native wildness as a part of one of the city's parks. Here things grow as they will, without human intervention save the curator's effort to give every variety a chance, "with special privileges for none." The garden is so wild that though it is within comparatively easy walking distance from the ends of two trolley lines, and is skirted on the south and west by a sweeping boulevard and on the north by a well travelled thoroughfare, it is still the haunt of the barred owl, the marsh hawk, and the American bittern. If it is wild enough for these, surely it should satisfy in some degree the call of the wild in the blood of any one.

It was, doubtless, the call of the wild more than anything else that five years ago led Minneapolis lovers of the open country, including primarily the teachers of botany in the public schools, to petition their Park Board to establish such a garden. It is true that the argument put forward by the petitioners was largely utilitarian,—that before the city spread too far it should provide a natural mustering ground for the state's flora and a depot of plant life for students of botany or forestry, in or out of school. While this was sound and sufficient, behind it certainly lay something of the other reason,—a zest for the wild and the spirit of play at its best.

The Minneapolis Park Board had just acquired on the western edge of the city an area of several hundred acres to be known as Glenwood Park. Parts of this were still altogether wild and admirably suited to the use proposed. In answer to the petition, therefore, three or four acres were set aside for a wild botanic garden. The Park Board agreed to meet the cost of maintenance, but gave

supervision into the hands of the teachers most active in the movement, and named Miss Eloise Butler, an ardent lover and student of wild plant life, with a real genius for plant hunting and cultivation, as curator.

That the plan has been a success is shown by the fact that the area of the garden has from time to time been increased until now, only five years since the garden was opened, it is three or four times its original size. The best test of the garden's worth, however, is pragmatic. To visit it is to become a devotee, if one be a true nature-lover and not merely a flirt and trifle.

The area is of glacial formation and much broken. Around on the east, south and west bends an irregular, wooded range of hills. From the center of the southern

curve of this ridge juts a long promontory into the very heart of the garden, forming the tongue of a huge, though somewhat crooked, letter c. To the westward the descent from the promontory is almost precipitous to a rich natural meadow, which is bounded on the north by an almost too picturesque tamarack swamp. In front of the promontory is another meadow, through which winds a small stream with a system of tiny bayous almost wholly hidden by tall native grasses. Here, on the limb of a dead tree, a large marsh hawk frequently mounts guard.

Beyond this meadow, to the northward, lies Glenwood Lake, gleaming white against the green of a range of hills. On the east the ground slopes less steeply to the garden's inner court. Here, nestling under the protecting promontory, is another swamp of tamarack mixed with white and yellow birch, black

ash, red maple, and basswood. Outside of this lies a third meadow, boggy like the others, but the home of some of the garden's most interesting inhabitants. On to the eastward rises a hill covered with birches, elms and oaks of different varieties. This hill breaks off almost even with the point of the promontory and swings back still further to the eastward, forming the southern side of a deep glen in which stand several splendid elms, "fountains of living green." The garden now includes practically the whole of the promontory and the surrounding meadows and tamarack, as well as a part of the hills on the east and south.

The stranger visiting the garden for the first time may be slightly disappointed, as he comes from a winding path out upon the edge of the elm glen, on the eastern



A Corot of the Camera

side of the garden. The glen is wild enough, but the view further to the westward, across the meadow into which the glen leads, is not like a wilderness. As one descends the slope to the westward, however, he catches the tinkle of falling water. Lured on, he comes to a placid pool, sheltered by trees and hemmed by grasses and water plants. From the lower end of this the water splashes musically and then races away into a marsh of sweet flag and cat-tails. Beyond the thicket at the head of the pool the view opens on a meadow with a background of serrate tamaracks. Here beside the pool one can easily imagine himself in the heart of a wilderness of almost limitless extent, hills and dense foliage so completely shut away the outer world. Indeed, here he can hardly believe anything else. The place is fairly racy of the wild.

The pool is formed by a grass and moss covered earthen dam, which has been thrown across a brook's course. The dam is almost, though not quite, such as beavers would have made, but it is now so covered with things growing at random, as they do in wild places, that it seems the work of nature itself. It is, however, the only bit of artificial work in the entire garden.

If it is not too late in the season, a bed of wild violets, covering a bit of ground from which sod was torn to make the dam, attracts instant attention, and below the dam lies a bed of golden saxifrage to vie with the violets in claiming interest. One speaks of beds from force of habit. There are in the garden, however, no beds with regular borders and sharp limitations. The saxifrage is an importation to the garden, though native to the state. At first all efforts to get it to grow in the garden were futile. It seemed to resent being transplanted. Something was lacking. Then Miss Butler, the curator, on a plant-hunting expedition to the Wisconsin cliffs of the St. Croix River, found a thin limestone slab, like a large piece of heavy strawboard. This, by train and trolley and hand, she carried to the garden. Under two or three inches of soft soil at the water's edge below the dam she placed it, and over it she again planted her saxifrage. This time it took root, and it is now in its fourth year. About this spot, too, grow the jewel weed with its curious explosive seed-pod, wild sarsaparilla, wormwood, wild

calla, water willow, pickerel weed, the monkey flower, turtlehead, and milkweed. In the pool itself grow duckweed and the algae, among the latter the desmids. The pool's further opportunities for the growing of aquatics will be improved as circumstances may permit.

As untainted wildness is the aim in the garden, there are no graveled or concrete walks to guide one; only grassy foot-trails, like the runways of wild animals. One of these skirts the east side of the pool, and leads toward a thickly overgrown level, which Miss Butler has named "Puff-Ball Flats." The thicket is the home of the huge

lycoperdons and lepiotas. A dense clump of prickly ash at the edge of the "flats" is the secure hiding-place of the interesting collar earthstar. But these are only a few of the garden's mushrooms. Others are agarics, boleti, polypori, and cup-fungi. Stumps and fallen trees are left undisturbed to furnish food for such growths, while the trunks of dead trees are preserved as supports for vines and nesting places for birds.

Not far from "Puff-Ball Flats" is another spot given a name out of the curator's active imagination and quick association of ideas. In a bit of thicket here she was planting something that seemed to fit the place, when she was charged by a flying brigade of hornets. The spot is now known as "Roaring Camp."

Presently the trail bends to the right and approaches the brook a little above the pool. Miss Butler warns the stranger to step with care here, for beside the path is a water-hole almost hidden by grasses, like those one has stepped into if he

has ever fished a bush-screened trout stream through a stretch of swampy meadow. Missing the hole, the visitor stops at the edge of the stream with an exclamation of genuine pleasure. Down the opposite bank stretches a mass of brook forget-me-nots. The name rises to the lips like a command, bringing, perhaps, a rush of tender memories. Yet the thing one woman thought here, and said, was: "Oh, they are just like the flowers we wear on our hats!" The ruling passion with some people is irrepressible, even in a wild garden. Here also flourishes the cardinal flower of perfect red, so brilliant that its color seems a kind of incandescence; and again rexia and the closed gentian.



An Eight-boled White Birch

Returning to the pool and doubling back along the foot of the hill, which slopes from the eastward, the trail leads to a great white oak, the largest in Minneapolis, with a bole ten feet in circumference. This is the king of the garden. Decay had weakened its top, but shortly after the garden was established a tree surgeon was called in, and now his majesty is in perfect health and apparently good for a long reign. "Wormwood Gulch" lies a little further on and to the left. It is a gully washed out of the hillside and filled with wormwood. Above this is another of the garden's prides, a perfect eight-boled white birch, to which from the meadow below beckons the "Seven Sisters," a seven-boled yellow birch.

Further on a side path drops into the meadow. It is rough and hummocky, and sometimes soggy, but here and there it is starred with the delicate white flower of the grass of Parnassus. Perhaps a third of the way across the open, among the lush grasses, is discovered what seems the shimmer of dew, though the sun may be at the meridian. It is not dew at all, but sparkling bait for foolish insects. It is the clear, glutinous fluid secreted by the hairy glands of the round-leafed sundew. An insect, lighting on one of the leaves to allay its thirst, is caught by the hairy glands, the leaf folds around it, and before long it is—digested.

Only a few steps away is uncovered another of the garden's rarities, the pitcher plant, which might furnish point for other bug moralizings. The pitchers radiate from a central root, all with mouths upward, and are found partly filled with water. Under the rim on the inside of the leaf is a sticky substance which attracts insects. A bug, having sipped this nectar, crawls on into the pitcher—perhaps after more drink—over countless little hairs which all point downward. Going down is easy, as is the descent to Avernus, but getting out is quite another thing. The little hairs now prove a veritable barbed wire *trocha*. Exhausted at last in trying

to pass this, the insect slips into the water below, and becomes food for the plant.

Not far off, again, stands a tall shrub, which without close inspection seems to be sumach, and sumach it is, but the poison kind and to be carefully avoided. It is worse than poison ivy, which is found elsewhere in the garden. But both are allowed to grow, in order that visitors may be instructed as to their dangerous peculiarities.

Seen from its southern and higher end, the meadow, in which are sundew, pitcher plant, poison sumach, and so on, is through spring and summer and fall a mass of ever-changing colors, an immense oriental rug over which the magician, Nature, waves a mysterious wand, bringing out one new color scheme after another. In August, at its upper end where it is driest, it matches the Carpet of Ardebil, with its masses of rosy purple joe-pye weed (named for a New England Indian who is said to have cured typhus with it), mixed with golden rod, asters, wild bergamot, tall cone-flowers, belated black-eyed Susans, rosy swamp milkweed, blazing star, sneezeweed, and possibly here and there a gorgeous Turk's cap. For a background there is the quiet green of the tamaracks, shot through with the white of birch boles or patched with the brilliant red of swamp maples. And at the further end stands a perpendicular jet of green, spreading at the top,—a superb elm, fitly named the "Lone Sentinel."

On the trail along the foot of the hill, once more, is found the only unwelcome occupant of the garden,—the Canada thistle. From a pasture over the garden's hill wall the parent seed of this thistle one day migrated on a tortuous wind, and now the plant stoutly refuses to be evicted. It has been cuffed and kicked and actually torn up by the roots, but still it grows. Another rather forward and pushing plant of the garden is Creeping Charlie. Charlie is rather pleasing of countenance. His face is round and shining. But he is avaricious; he aspires



The "Inner Court" of the Garden

to be a great landed proprietor. Consequently he has been placed under the guard of Bouncing Bet (surely a militant suffragette), and other good plant police, including tansy, spurge, butter and eggs, and catnip.

In a shady nook among the trees where the hill rises gently toward the south is one of the retreats of the Indian pipe, or corpse plant,—corpse plant, because it has no foliage, but is merely a white, clammy stem, with bractlike appendages and a simple white flower nodding from the top. It is a parasite, drawing its nourishment from living roots or decaying vegetable matter.

At the southern end of the tamarack swamp the trail turns sharply westward and leads directly to the steep eastward side of Promontory Hill near the point at which it leaves the main range. Here, in the thick shade of numerous small oaks and ashes, is the garden's fernery. To approach this—to the loud scolding of red squirrels—when the sun is aslant among the trees and a gentle south wind is dipping over the hills, shaking the fern plumes, is to get a picture long to be remembered with pleasure. The most conspicuous of the ferns is the interrupted (*Osmunda Claytoniana*), though large clumps of maidenhair also attract the eye. About ten species are native to the garden, and about thirty others have been introduced, so that now the garden contains all of Minnesota's ferns save a few of the rarer and more inaccessible forms. The list includes the beech, the broad-leaved beech, the oak, the ostrich, the bladder, the hay-scented, the cliff brake, the evergreen Christmas fern (not certainly a native of Minnesota), and the curious walking fern. In the swamp grow the cinnamon fern and two species of the evergreen shield fern, the crested and the spinulose.

From the fernery the vista along the eastern slope of the tongue of the *e*, looking northward, is the most beautiful in the garden and not easily matched for quiet charm anywhere. On the left the hill rises abruptly and is covered with trees and undergrowth. On the right is the tamarack swamp. In the foreground is a shapely elm, the "Inner Guard." Beyond, across a sun-kissed open space, rises the "Lone Sentinel," first seen from the other side of the swamp. All that is needed to make the picture an almost perfect Corot is the presence of a few dancing maidens,—wood nymphs they would have to be to fit the fair seclusion of the scene.

This part of the garden is one to linger in. Here may be seen, at the right season, the hibiscus lifting its large flower of delicate rose color above the surrounding green, the tall spike of the Canadian burnet, wild spike-nard, false and true Solomon's seals, the pure white of the white closed gentian and the perfect blue of the fringed gentian. Under the shrubbery just up the hillside grow fine specimens of the rattlesnake plantain,

which the Indians regard as a sure antidote for snakebite. Its richly mottled and lined leaves spread from a central root-stalk and its scape is surmounted by a spike of delicate flowers of greenish white. All around is a tangle of blackberry, raspberry, wild roses, wild grape, Virginia creeper, and bittersweet. The yellow fall foliage of the bittersweet is frequently strikingly capped with the brilliant red of the sumach.

But the mysteries of the swamp call and one plunges in—perhaps to startle a great owl into silent flight. Here one could come again and again and again without exhausting the possibilities of fresh discoveries. Orchids are numerous, including the various species of the lady's-slipper, with the showy lady's-slipper, Minnesota's state flower, prominent among them. Here also are several species of *habernaria*, including the orchis spectabilis, pogonia, calopogon, and arethusa,—all of rare and delicate beauty.

There are also two species of twayblade. Along with these grow the red osier dogwood, the highbush cranberry, the dwarf cornel or bunchberry, the dainty snowberry, and various wonders of moss kind.

But the treasure of treasures of this spot and of the garden is the delicate twin-flower, with its trailing, reddish brown stem, and its gracefully slender, leafy flower stalks, each bearing two pendulous, bell-shaped white blossoms flushed with pink.

In the green around the "Lone Sentinel" is the garden's pinetum, where are being encouraged the various conifers of Minnesota. On the edge of the green also grow native specimens of hawthorn, one of the features of the spot in the spring.

Half-way down the nose of the promontory is a gully where, twenty years ago, lived a hermit, known to the people of the countryside as "Old Andrew." He seemed to have a notion that he

could dig a living from the meadow below, for there remain traces of trenches of his creation. After a while, however, the old man disappeared. The site of the "cave" is now covered with stag-horn sumach and clusters of wild roses.

Only an inconsiderable fraction of the interesting things in the Minneapolis Wild Botanic Garden have been named. Minnesota embraces a wide range of plant life,—alpine, forest, prairie, and semi-arid,—and the garden draws upon all. Wildness is the aim of the garden's supervisors, however, and the aim is fully justified by the beauty and charm of the result, whether considered in massed effects or in detail. From the first spring sproutings of skunk cabbage, Jack-in-the-pulpit, or hepatica, through the climactic splendors of summer and fall, to the day when snow decks the trees and covers the brown stalks of the annuals, the garden is a place which invites body and mind and spirit to play.



The Fernery



1914

Winter 1913-1914

This winter when Eloise Butler traveled to the East Coast to visit her relatives instead of spending all of her time there, she and her sister Cora Pease and Cora's husband, spent two months in Algiers, Greece, Germany and Italy touring botanic gardens and museums. According to a report on March 3 in the *Minneapolis Tribune* they planned to be back in late March.

When she returned to Minneapolis in the she began one of her busiest years of planting in the new Wild Botanic Garden. The prior year (1913) she had added 993 plants from 73 species, so that by the start of 1914 the Garden had 607 species of herbaceous plants, 66 species of trees and 101 species of shrubs.(1)

She wrote in her report to Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth, dated 1 January 1914:

I am often asked when one can derive the most benefit or pleasure from a visit to the wild garden. Every week, from April through October, presents new attractions. First are the early spring flowers, appearing a little later than in some other places, on account of the deeper shade in the cup-like depression occupied by the bog. . .

Within a space of twenty acres may be seen in an hour what would be impossible to find in traversing the state for several days. From May on, the ferns, some forty species in all, compel attention, from the time that the woolly crosiers of the interrupted fern unroll, densely clothing with its long fronds the wooded slopes, even until winter, when the evergreen species are conspicuous against the snow. In the latter part of May, the hawthorns transcend description, freighted with white flowers, from which, in the fall, will mature bright red fruits.

This report covered the joys of all the seasons at the Garden.

The winter of 1913-14 had a much-below average amount of snowfall, with warmer than average temperatures in December, January and March, but February was



Photo: The Butler sisters as young women:

Above - Eloise Butler ca. 1890.
Photo: Branch's Studio, Minnesota Historical Society.
Below - Cora Butler Pease. Photo courtesy Martha Pease



abnormally cold. Eloise was able to begin Garden work in early April.

During the year she wrote three other essays that became part of a collection known as the “*Annals of the Wild Life Reserve*.” These were never published as a group. The other three 1914 works are:

Finding the White Cypripedium (photo at right);

Liverworts, Lichens, Mosses, and Evergreen Ferns in the Wild Garden;

Animal, Bird, and Insect Life in the Wild Garden.

Spring 1914

Eloise Butler’s Garden Log indicates that spring began with reasonable weather. Her first planting notes occur on April 4 with plants selected from East Coast sources. 1914 was another extensive year for plantings in the Garden as Eloise attempted to bring on-site species she believed should have representation in a “Wild Botanic Garden.” The first plants came from sources in Massachusetts where she had been during the early part of the winter visiting her sister Cora. These she ordered while there and had them shipped for spring planting.

Of all the spring plantings, 17 were species she planted for the first time. On these 17, only three were not native to Minnesota and only one of the 17 is still extant - Wild Lupine. A complete list of the new 1914 plantings, with photos and sources, follows this text. Her sources in the east included Franklin MA, Malden Ma, Gillett’s in Southwick MA, Magnolia MA, Logansport IN, Charlotte VT and Boulder CO. Frequently used local sources where she dug up plants were the Minnehaha and Fort Snelling areas, the bog next door in Glenwood Park, nearby Glenwood Springs and Western Ave. Further afield were the Big Bog near Lake Minnetonka, Columbia Heights, and several areas in St. Paul. The Park Board Nursery provided some trees and shrubs, including Hemlocks, White Pines and Jack Pines.

By April 21st, the Hepaticas, Red Maples, Box Elder and Willows were in full bloom. She noted a bluebird chasing a long-eared owl in the Garden. Lark sparrows and palm warblers were noted on May 5th and many other warblers on May 13th. In her log she frequently noted the bloom of plants she had recently planted - a sign of success - and of finding plants in the Garden she had not seen before. On May 6 she discovered a large clump of *Viola conspersa*, the American Dog Violet, (now *V. labradorica*) in the swamp. (photo above) She had planted this species in 5 previous years starting in 1907 without noticing this clump. She was happy to see the Prairie Trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*) blooming on May 24th. She had planted it in 1913.

One of the short essays Eloise wrote in 1914 concerned a day trip she and friend took to find a stand of the White Cypripedium, the White Lady’s-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*). Someone had vandalized the clump she had in the Garden at the time. This trip involved a journey by train and then a long walk out in the country.(2)



American Dog Violet, (*Viola labradorica*). Photo ©Mark Feider, Wisconsin Flora



White Lady's-slipper, (*Cypripedium candidum*). Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora

Weather in 1914 provided an average spring without adverse temperatures and adequate precipitation.

Summer 1914

Planting work during the summer occupied much of Eloise Butler's time. During these months Eloise obtained most of her plant material from local sources. As a result most of the summer plantings were species native to the state. Twenty four species were planted for the first time and only 3 were not native, but one of those is now considered quite invasive: Watercress, *Nasturtium officinale*, which she obtained from a nursery in Osceola WI. The only plant in this group of 24 new species still extant in the Garden is Silvery Scurfpea (*Pedimelum argophyllum*).

Osceola WI was the only major out of state source for plants during the summer. As happened occasionally, plants were given to her. On June 1st, Dr. Roberts (Thomas S.) gave her two of the very beautiful Fairy Slipper Orchids, *Calypso bulbosa*, from the shores of Lake Itasca and on July 26 a Miss Mildred Martin provided from northern Minnesota ten Single Delight, *Moneses uniflora*, which she planted in the "swamp." (photos at right)

While at the the Big Bog at Minnetonka, she discovered a group of Canadian Gooseberry, *Ribes oxycanthoides*, and promptly brought one back to the Garden for planting next day. She found a *Polygala paucifolia* (Gaywings) near a stump on June 7, after having planted it in 1908, '09, '10, '13 and this past spring. (photo at right)

In her log she noted her discoveries of plants in the Garden that she had not noticed before, some of which she may have planted elsewhere in the Garden. She wrote:

"Discovered *Corylus rostrata* in swamp and near spring!"
[this is Beaked Hazelnut and now classified as *C. cornuta*];
"Found *Rubus occidentalis* on plateau!" [this is Black Raspberry which she had found previously in another spot.]

In late August she picked 11 giant puffballs and a number of other mushrooms. There was an area east of the bog that she referred to a 'puffball flats;' on August 24th discovered several night hawks in the Garden. The Fringed Gentian was in bloom on August 29th.

Eloise wrote an essay about life in the Garden titled *Animal, Bird, and Insect Life in the Wild Garden*.(2). The opening paragraph from that article is as follows.

A large number of birds nest in the garden, and during the season most of the migrants reported from the state have been noted in the Garden. The tangled vine coverts, abundance of



Fairy Slipper Orchid, (*Calypso bulbosa*). Photo by Martha Crone.



Single Delight, (*Moneses uniflora*);
Photo ©Robert W. Freckman, Wisconsin
Flora.



Gaywings, (*Polygala paucifolia*);
Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin
Flora

food and water, and protection from sportsmen have made the place a favorite of the birds. Song, vesper and swamp sparrows, catbird, bluebird, rose-breasted grosbeak, Baltimore oriole, brown thrasher, bobolink, marsh wren, scarlet tanager, indigo bunting hold matins and vespers in the leafy aisles along the brook, while those of brilliant plumage, together with goldfinch, Maryland yellow-throated hummingbird gleam like jewels in the foliage or as they dart through the air.

During June there was an exhibit of photographs and watercolors of Minnesota wild flowers at the Central Library. Eloise and Mary Meeker provided the photos from the Wild Botanic Garden and Emma Roberts provided the watercolors.(3)

The weather in the summer of 1914 provided average temperatures but above average rainfall. There were two storms in August that each produced 3.3 inches of rain.

Autumn 1914

In September Eloise maintained an exhibit about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair in the Horticulture building, as she had since 1910. By September 15th Eloise had discovered her 22nd giant puffball in the Garden.

Fall plantings included 19 new species of which 8 where not native to Minnesota but 4 of those 8 had become naturalized. (list follows) Three species are still extant in the Garden - Climbing Nightshade, Garden Phlox and Riddell's Goldenrod. The most significant planting in the fall in terms of sheer numbers was the Wild Blue Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*, of which she planted 500 that she obtained from the grounds of the Catholic Seminary in St. Paul.

In late October she obtained some trees and shrubs from the Park Board Nursery, which at that time was located next door on the west side of Glenwood Lake. By this date the Park Board was growing some species that were not native to Minnesota but grew well here. One of those the Eloise obtained was the Shadblow Serviceberry, *Amelanchier canadensis*. (photo right and page 77)

Of her discoveries of unsuspected plants growing in the Garden, she found Royal Fern (*Osmunda regalis*) in the swamp, the White Heath Aster (*Aster multiflorus* - now *Symphiotrichum ericoides*) near the Night Hawks nest that she had discovered in August; and Elm-leaved Goldenrod (*Solidago ulmifolia*) - all three of which are still extant in the Garden.

Fall weather was very good, Eloise noted no frost yet on October 5th and she was still planting on October 28th. Her final log entry of the season was of sowing seeds of American Bellflower (*Campanula americana*) on October 29th. While there was an abundance of rain in the summer, the fall was fairly dry and once winter approached there



Wild Blue Phlox, (*Phlox divaricata*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Shadblow Serviceberry,
(*Amelanchier canadensis*). Photo G
D Bebeau

was nothing but a trace of precipitation in November and no snow accumulation until mid December. Total precipitation for the year was above average due to the heavy summer rains.

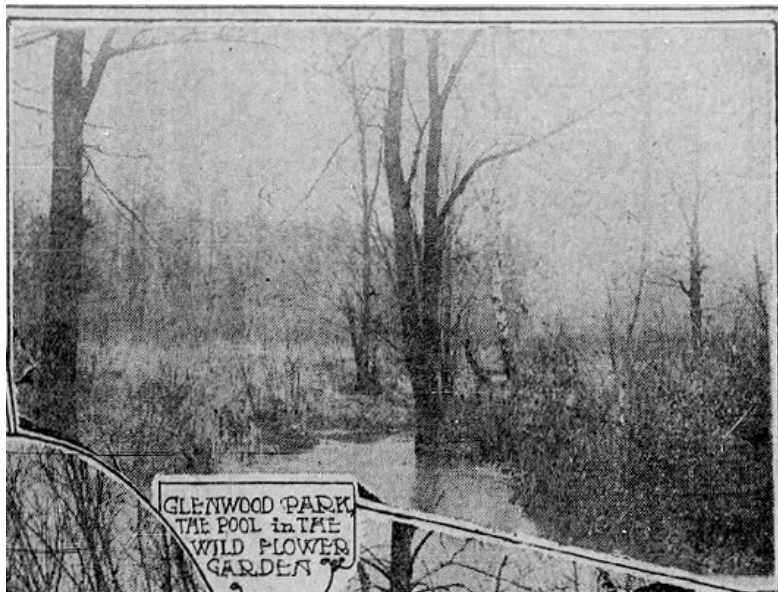
In her letter for 1914 to Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth she said that the Garden now contained 670 species of herbaceous forbs, 66 tree species and 101 shrub species. She wrote in another letter that

The Garden has become an efficient aid to young botanists in determining difficult species, since it is easier to learn type characters from living, growing plants than from dried herbarium specimens. (4)

Another essay she wrote in 1914 that was not published was titled *Notes on being acquainted with trees*, in which she discusses tree shapes and how they add to the landscape. (2)

On December 13 the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* printed an illustrated article on scenic walks you could take in the winter in the park system. The bridge paths in Glenwood park get a nod as does this statement: "Do you know the pool in the wild flower garden in Glenwood Park? There is a peaceful spot to seek out when dull, drab care gets on your trail and you feel that such remnant of gray matter as you have is getting warped in the stress of city life." The pool is illustrated in a winter vista of that end of the Garden. This is the only known photo of the pool in the winter. Compare it to the 1913 springtime photo appearing in *The Bellman* - see 1913 history.

Below: The photo of the Garden pool appearing in the December 13 newspaper. This pool was created by Eloise Butler in the first years of the Garden's existence.



NOTES:

1. Report of the Board of Park Commissioners, January 1, 1914.
- 2: Eloise wrote a number of short essays, most between 1914 and 1920, that after her death were collected in a series titled *Annals of the Wild Life Reserve*. Some of these were sent to the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular.
3. *Minneapolis Tribune*, June 22, 1914.
- 4: Letter to Theodore Wirth published in the *Thirty-second Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners* dated 1 January 1915.

Photo top of page 77: Shadblow Serviceberry, *Amelanchier canadensis*, first planted this year.

One of the essays Eloise wrote this year was *Finding the White Cypripedium*.

I had but one clump of white *Cypripedium* in my wild garden and that had been given to me. What I bought from eastern florists refused to grow. This clump has blossomed for three years in succession, but this spring I had but one blossom because some vandal had picked the flowers the year before. I find that when the flowers of *Cypripediums* and trilliums are picked that they do not flower the following year. If any blossoms appear they are due to leafy stems that were infertile or without flowers. For, as you know, if the leaves - the food manufacturers - are picked off, no more food is stored up in the roots below for next year's growth.

The white *Cypripedium* is local. I had been told of various places where it grew profusely, but failed to find them. A friend 'phoned me a few days ago that she had spotted them several miles out of town. So we planned to "go for" them. We had to get up at five o'clock in order to make the train. When we left the train we expected to be met by another friend who was to drive us to the place to be explored several miles farther away. But no one was there. It had rained heavily the night before and was not yet clear so that no one dreamed that we would make the venture.

Should we take the next train home? No, never! We kilted our skirts and weighted with impediments, trudged through the wet grass some three miles across the country until we found a farmer who was willing to take us where we were bound to go. We had a pair of stout farm horses and a long heavy truck, big enough and to spare. The *Tradescantia* [Spiderwort] was out in full force, set off by great clumps of orange puccoon, *Lithospermum gmelini*. Now and then we passed patches of the

strikingly beautiful large-flowered Pentstemon [*Penstemon grandiflorus*]. We drove as far as we could. Then we had to walk a long distance through meadows to reach our plants. It did not rain, and the overcast sky was the ideal condition for such a tramp. The meadows were full of yellow *Cypripedium*, both the large [*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*] and the small [*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *makasin*] varieties, and scores of the showy *Cypripedium* [*Cypripedium regina*] in bud. We came upon large expanses of *Castilleja coccinea* [Scarlet Indian Paintbrush] with heavy heads of luxuriant scarlet bloom, with a few yellow ones by way of contrast. Never had we seen them in such magnificent profusion.

The haunt of the white *Cypripediums* was an open meadow full of hummocks of tufted grasses and sedges surrounded by deep pools of water. The flowers grew on the hummocks and were hard to spade on account of the intertwined and matted roots of the sedges. In drier meadows we found *Polygala senega* [Seneca Snake Root], *Valeriana edulis* [Tobacco root] just going out of blossom, and *zygadene* [*Zigadenus elegans* - white camass] and Turk's-cap and wood lilies in bud. On an unwooded hill was a spring surrounded by pitcher plants in full flower and all the different *Cypripediums* again.

I had never seen pitcher plants in such a situation before. The soil was peculiar -- a fine gray colored clay, seemingly intermixed with sand. We were enthusiastic over our "finds." My friend said, "California can't offer anything equal to this!" We packed our treasures in gunny sacks and had no difficulty in getting them home, as we were met by autos at the other end of the line.

Listing by season, of Eloise Butler's plantings in 1914, that were "1st time" plantings according to her Garden Log.

Spring 1914 Plantings

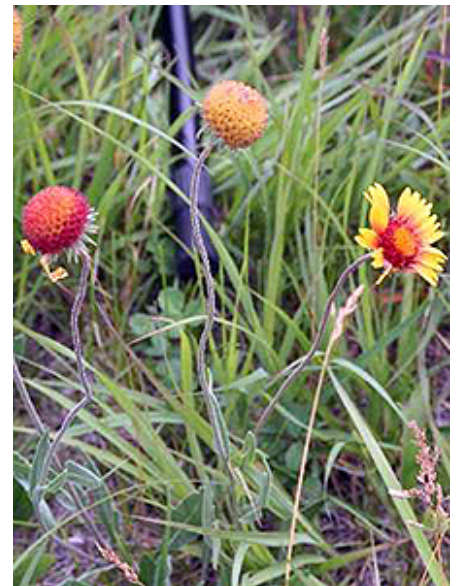
- *Achillea millefolium roseum*, Yarrow, Pink, Introduced. Gillett's Nursery.
- *Agoseris* - no species given. Native. Montevideo, MN.
- *Astragalus lotiflorus*, Lotus Milkvetch, Montevideo, MN. Native
- *Chrysopsis villosa*, (now *Heterotheca villosa*). Hairy False Goldenaster, (M.C.), Columbia Heights, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Corydalis aurea*, Golden Corydalis, Scrambled Eggs, (M.C.). Fort Snelling. Native [planted again in October from Mendota. (Photo)]
- *Gaillardia aristata*, Blanketflower, Great-flowered Gaillardia, (M.C.), Charlotte, Vermont. Native. [Bloomed on June 28 and planted again on Sept. 29. from Mrs. Healy's (her former pupil) Garden at 1800 Humbolt Ave.] (Photo)
- *Linnaea borealis*, Twinflower, (M.C.), Big Bog at Minnetonka, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Lupinus perennis*, Wild Lupine, (M.C.). Native. Gillett's Nursery. Extant. (Photo)
- *Opuntia fragilis*, Brittle Prickly Pear, (M.C.), Boulder Colorado. Native [Planted again on August 5 from local source]. (Photo)
- *Opuntia vulgaris*, (now *Opuntia ficus-indica*) Prickly Pear. Native. Gillett's Nursery.
- *Oxytropis lambertii*, Purple Locoweed, Boulder CO. Native
- *Oxytropis villosa*, (now *Oxytropis monticola*). Yellowflower Locoweed, Boulder CO. Not native.
- *Polygala senaga*, Seneca Snake Root, (M.C.), Gillett's. Native. (Photo)
- *Sedum acre*, Goldmoss Stonecrop, Malden MA. Introduced. (Photo)
- *Shepherdia argentea* Silver Buffaloberry, Boulder CO. Native. [Note: in 1912 Eloise noted planting *Shepherdia* but gave no species]. (Photo)
- *Solidago odora*, Anise-scented Goldenrod, Native. Gillett's Nursery, Southwick, MA.
- *Woodsia scopulina*, Rocky Mountain Woodsia, Boulder CO. Native



Golden Corydalis (*Corydalis aurea*).
Photo Smithsonian Institution



Hairy False Goldenaster (*Heterotheca villosa*). Photo G D Bebeau



Blanketflower, (*Gaillardia aristata*).
Photo Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Brittle Prickly Pear (*Opuntia fragilis*)
Photo Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Seneca Snakeroot (*Polygala senega*).
Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora



Goldmoss Stonecrop (*Sedum acre*)
Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Silver Buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Twinflower, (*Linnaea borealis*). Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora



Pink Yarrow, (*Achillea millefolium roseum*), Photo © Ivar Leidus.



Wild Lupine, (*Lupinus perennis*) Photo ©G D Bebeau

Summer 1914 Plantings

- *Commelina communis*, Asiatic Dayflower, Babcocks Garden at 227 Xerxes Ave. Native. (Photo)
- *Cuscuta glomerata*, Rope Dodder, Aster Dodder, American Dodder, (M.C.). Minnehaha. Native. (Photo)
- *Decodon verticillatus*, Swamp Loosestrife, Swamp Willowherb, (M.C.). Malden MA. Native.
- *Dracocephalum parviflorum*, American Dragonhead, Chicago Ave & 46th St. Native. (Photo)
- *Eriocaulon*, Seven-angle Pipewort, no species given, but probably was our only native species - *Eriocaulon aquaticum*. Mahtomedi, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Gereradia pedicularia*, (now *Aureolaria pedicularia*). Fern-leaf False Foxglove, Pine Coulee, St. Paul. Native. This may be one of the three unidentified *Gereradia* species that she also planted in 1909. (Photo)
- *Grostemma githago*, (now *Agrostemma githago*) Corn Cockle, (M.C.).. Glenwood Springs. Introduced. (Photo)
- *Helianthus laetiflorus*, [*Helianthus pauciflorus*] Stiff or Few-leaved Sunflower, Pine Coulee, St. Paul. Native. (Photo)
- *Helianthus occidentalis*, Fewleaf Sunflower, Echo Lake, White Bear. Native. (Photo)
- *Oenothera Pallida*, Pale Evening Primrose. She reported getting it from Brownie's Pond in Glenwood Park, but this species is not native anywhere near Minnesota. Not sure what was planted - no photo
- *Polygonum lapathifolium*, (now *Persicaria lapathifolis*). Nodding Smartweed, Dock-leaved Smartweed, Curly-top Knotweed, (M.C.). Western Ave - near Glenwood Park. Native. (Photo)
- *Talinum teretifolium* - Quill Flameflower, from Osceola, WI. and then from Montevideo, MN. *Talinum parviflorum*, (now *Phemeranthus parviflorus*), Prairie Flameflower, is what may have been planted as the plant she listed is not native to anywhere near Minnesota, but Prairie Flameflower, is native to the Montevideo area.
- *Pogonia ophioglossioides*, Rose Pogonia, (M.C.). From Quaking Bog in Glenwood Park and again from Big Bog in Minnetonka. Native. (Photo)
- *Polanisia graveolens* (now *Polanisia dodecandra*), Roughseed Clammyweed, (M.C.).. Pine Coulee St. Paul. Native. (Photo)
- *Potentilla anserina* (now *Argentina anserina*), Silver-weed Cinquefoil, (M.C.). Orchard Lake, MN. Native
- *Prenanthes racemosa*, Purple Rattlesnake Root, Glaucous Rattlesnake Root, (M.C.), Mahtomedi, MN. Native (planted again in the fall). (Photo)
- *Psoralea argophylla* (now *Pedimelum argophyllum*). Silvery Scurfpea, Silver-leaved Psoralea, (M.C.). Orchard Lake, MN. Native. (Photo)
- *Pyrola elliptica*, Wax-flower Shinleaf, Elliptic-leaf Shinleaf, (M.C.). Eden Prairie. Native. (Photo)
- *Radicula nasturtium-aquaticum* (now *Nasturtium officinale*), Watercress, (M.C.). Osceola, WI. Introduced and invasive. (Photo)
- *Ribes oxycnathoides*, Canadian Gooseberry, Big Bog, Minnetonka. Native. (Photo)
- *Sagittaria hetrophylla* (now *Sagittaria rigida*), Sessilefruit Arrowhead, Brownie's Pond in Glenwood Park. Native. (Photo)
- *Saponaria vaccaria*, (now *Vaccaria hispanica*). Cow Soapwort, Glenwood Springs. Native. (Photo)
- *Selaginella rupestris*, Dwarf Spike-moss, Northern Selaginella, Osceola, WI. Native. (Photo)
- *Sonchus aculeatum*, Sow thistle, (M.C.).(not a current species designation -*aculeatum* means prickly so it may likely be *Sonchus asper* - the Spiny Sowthistle). from Minnehaha Glen. Native. Extant
- *Veronica anagallis-aquatica*, Water Speedwell, Osceola, WI. Native. (Photo)



Swamp Loosestrife. (*Decodon verticillatus*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



American Dragonhead (*Dracocephalum parviflorum*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora



Asiatic Dayflower (*Commelina communis*). Photo © Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Corn Cockle (*Agrostemma githago*). Photo ©Dan Tenaglia, Missouri Plants



Dwarf Spike-moss, (*Selaginella rupestris*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Fewleaf Sunflower, (*Helianthus occidentalis*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Nodding Smartweed, (*Persicaria lapathifolia*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Canadian Gooseberry, (*Ribes oxycnathoides*). Photo ©Wm. A. Alverson, Wisconsin Flora



Fern-leaf False Foxglove (*Aureolaria pedicularia*). Photo ©Janice Stiefel, Wisconsin Flora



Purple Rattlesnake Root, (*Prenanthes racemosa*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Roughseed Clammyweed, (*Polanisia dodecandra*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



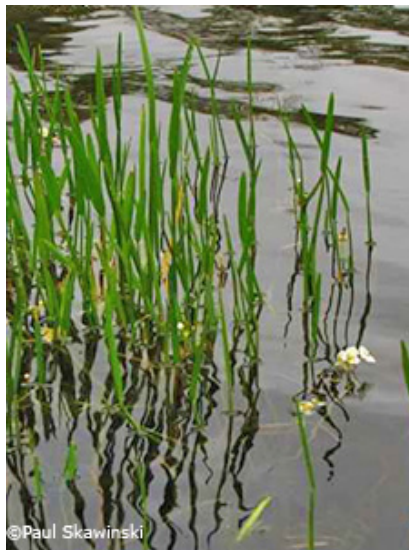
Rope Dodder, (*Cuscuta glomerata*). Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora



Rose Pogonia, (*Pogonia ophioglossiodes*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Seven-angle Pipewort (*Eriocaulon aquaticum*). Photo ©Matthew L. Wagner, Wisconsin Flora.



Sessilefruit Arrowhead, (*Sagittaria rigida*). Photo ©Paul Skawinski, Wisconsin Flora



Stiff Sunflower. (*Helianthus pauciflorus*) Photo © G D Bebeau



Silvery Scurfpea, (*Pediomelum argophyllum*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Spiny Sowthistle, (*Sonchus asper*).. Photo ©G D Bebeau



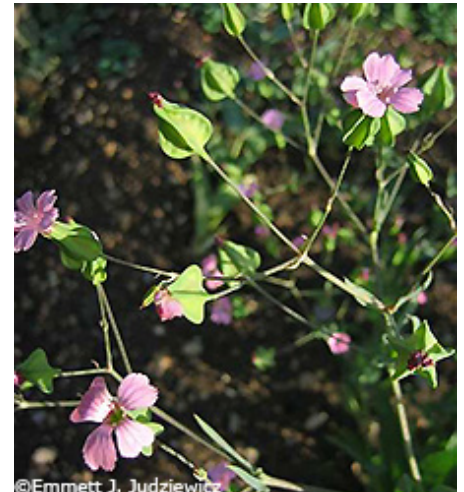
Watercress, (*Nasturtium officinale*). Photo ©Robert H. Mohlenbrock, USDA-NRCS Plants database



Water Speedwell (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*). Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Wax-flower Shinleaf, (*Pyrola elliptica*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora



Cow Soapwort (*Vaccaria hispanica*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora

Fall 1914 Plantings

- *Adlumia fungosa*, Allegheny-vine, Climbing Fumitory, no source. Native. (Photo)
- *Amelanchier canadensis*, Shadblow Serviceberry, (M.C.). Park Board Nursery at Glenwood Lake. Not native. (Photo)
- *Aster drummondii* (now *Symphiotrichum drummondii*), Drummond's Aster, (M.C.). Glenwood Park. Native. (Photo)
- *Camassia esculenta* (now *Camassia scilloides*), Atlantic Camas, Logansport Indiana. Not native (Photo)
- *Cannabis sativa*, Hemp, (M.C.). Merrian Park. Introduced. (Photo)
- *Gentiana quinquefolia*, Ague-weed, Stiff Gentian, Wisconsin. Native. (Photo)
- *Hudsonia ericoides*, Pine Barren Golden Heather, Magnolia MA. Not native.
- *Linum sulcatum*, Yellow Flax, (species not specified but Grooved Yellow Flax is the only native in Hennepin County), Minnehaha. Native. (Photo)
- *Penthorum sedoides*, Ditch Stonecrop, Lake Johanna. Native. (Photo)
- *Petalostemum villosus* (now *Dalea Villosa*). Silky Prairie Clover, Columbia Heights. Native. (Photo)
- *Phlox paniculata*, Garden Phlox, Fort Snelling River Bank. Introduced. Extant. (Photo)
- *Polygonella artriculata*, Coastal Jointweed, (M.C.). Magnolia MA. Native. (Photo)
- *Potentilla fruticosa* (now *Dasiphora fruticosa*), Shrubby Cinquefoil, (M.C.). Park Board Nursery at Glenwood Lake. Native. (Photo)
- *Solanum dulcamara*, Climbing Nightshade, Mrs. Healy's Garden 1800 Humbolt Ave. Introduced and naturalized. Extant. (Photo)
- *Solidago juncea*, (assume as no species listed), Early Goldenrod (M.C.). Minnehaha. Native. (Photo)
- *Solidago missouriensis*, Missouri Goldenrod, Chicago Ave. & 38th Street. Native. (Photo)
- *Solidago riddellii*, Riddell's Goldenrod, (M.C.). Minnehaha. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Trifolium procumbens* (now *Trifolium campestre*), Field Hop Clover, Merrian Park. Introduced. (Photo)
- *Trillium undulatum*, Painted Trillium, (M.C.). Charlotte Vermont. Not native.



Atlantic Camas, Wild Hyacinth
(*Camassia scilloides*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Climbing Nightshade, (*Solanum dulcamara*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Ague-weed, Stiff Gentian
(*Gentiana quinquefolia*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Coastal Jointweed, (*Polygonella articulata*). ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora



Ditch Stonecrop (*Penthorum sedoides*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Early Goldenrod, (*Solidago juncea*).
Photo ©Robert Freckmann, Wisconsin Flora



Field Hop Clover (*Trifolium campestre*).
Photo ©Patrick J Alexander , USDA-
NRCS Plants Database



Garden Phlox, (*Phlox paniculata*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Missouri Goldenrod, (*Solidago missouriensis*). Photo ©Merle R. Black,
Wisconsin Flora.



Shadblow Serviceberry, (*Amelanchier canadensis*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Silky Prairie Clover, (*Dalea villosa*).
Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin
Flora



Grooved Yellow Flax, (*Linum sulcatum*). Photo ©Derek Anderson,
Wisconsin Flora



Shrubby Cinquefoil, (*Dasiphora fruticosa*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Hemp (*Cannabis sativa*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Riddell's Goldenrod, (*Solidago riddellii*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Allegheny Vine (*Adlumia fungosa*).
Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin
Flora.



Drummond's Aster
(*Symphyotrichum drummondii*). Photo
©Mark Feider, Wisconsin Flora

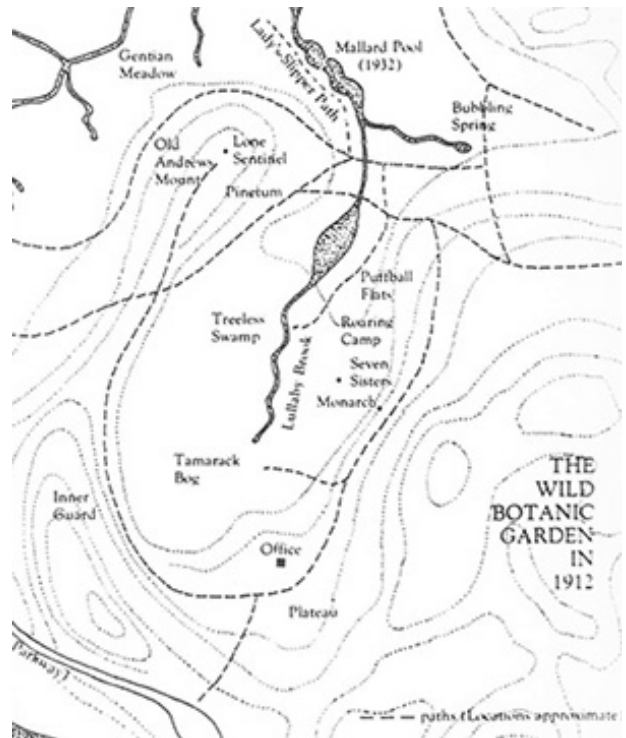
Old Andrew

by Eloise Butler, from *Annals of the Wild Life Reserve*

Old Andrew's Mount . . . the highest point in the garden . . . The western slope of the mount and the meadows to the west and north are the most recent acquisitions of the garden . . . A gravelly pit on this western slope marks a mystery. It was hollowed out and roofed over by a solitary called Old Andrew. Here, mailed in silence, he lived for several years and no one knew his history. One day he disappeared. Weeks afterward, the body of a man past recognition was found in the vicinity. It may have been Old Andrew's but there was no definite proof. At any rate, he was never seen again. His cave and trenches furrowing the meadow below, which he attempted to farm are the only traces of his life among us.

Shortly after Old Andrew's cave was included in the Garden, the curator's work was interrupted by the sound of an axe coming from that direction. Rushing up the incline to ward off the trespasser, she found no one, and heard nothing, but, when her work was resumed, the experience was repeated. This happened again and again, for two or three days in succession.

*A sense of mystery the spirit daunted,
And said, as plain as whisper in the ear,
The place is haunted.
(unknown source)*



Old Andrew used to cut wood for the neighbors. Could he be the ghostly woodchopper? Means were at once taken to exorcise him. The cave was cleared of fallen tree trunks and branches. Basketfuls of violets, hepatica, wild columbine and trailing fern, with a generous amount of rich loam, were dibbled in. And thereupon the "perturbed spirit" was induced to rest.

That is the end of the Butler text, but in 1924 she provided some additional details in a newspaper interview: (see 19924 section)

She was quoted "Of course, being New England born, I don't believe in ghosts, but years ago when Glenwood Lake was known as Keegan's Lake, an old hermit lived in a cave in the woods. Suddenly he disappeared. Three months later a body was discovered which was believed to be his, anyway, he was never seen again."

The map of the old Garden is from Martha Hellander. The text of this article is one of a number of short essays that Eloise Butler wrote while curator of the Garden that after her death were collected in a series titled *Annals of the Wild Life Reserve*, but were not published.



1915

Winter 1914-1915

While Eloise was on the East Coast she sourced some plants from Kelsey's Nursery in Charlotte Vermont that were then sent to her in April.

Upon her return to Minneapolis in early spring she again took up residence (but for the last time) with friend Jessie Polley in south Minneapolis as she had done since 1912. In 1916 she moved to the Babcock residence near the Garden.

During the winter, the Park Board carpenters began to build a small wooden cabin with shingled exterior for use as a Garden Office and visitor center. It was designed by Eloise and placed on the plateau that was located half way between the front gate and the wetland [the site of the current patio in front of the current visitor's shelter]. It was completed on April 9th. Until 1944 it was unheated. A sign reading "*Office of Curator - Wild Botanic Garden*" was placed near the door. It was known in later years as "*the little cabin*" and as the "*garden office*" and the word "*Botanic*" was later changed to "*Flower*." That building was divided into two sections and served as office, visitor center, shelter and all other purposes until 1970 when the new shelter was completed and dedicated to Martha Crone.

At some time during the winter months Eloise crafted two essays about her Garden. Her intention was to create a series about the early history of the Garden and another to be titled Annals of the Wildlife Reserve. Both of these articles may have been published, certainly the first was as indicated by the text quoted below. Eloise was a member of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter of the old Agassiz Association, Division D - the middle west.(1) She frequently sent essays for circulation to the chapter's



Above: A view of the Butler farmhouse near Appleton Maine where Eloise grew up. Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

members. Various contributions from members were grouped and circulated by post from one member to another.

The Agassiz Association was founded in the late 1800's to be an association of local chapters that would combine the like interests of individuals and organizations in the study of Nature. However, by this time it was largely defunct and only the Gray Memorial Chapter, with several divisions, was still active.(2).

The first of these two articles, dated January 1915 was titled "*Children's Forage Plants in the Wild Garden*". She opened with

I have been thinking lately about the plants I used to browse upon when I was a child and am trying to persuade my sister to write a paper on the subject. I wonder if any of you can add to the list from your own experience.

She then discussed her childhood preference for beech leaves, the tubers of dwarf ginseng, the nutlets of Sweet Fern [photo] whose leaves became cigarettes for the boys but "*it wasn't fashionable in our set for girls to smoke.*" Many more fruits and berries are listed that children did and can enjoy from the wild.

Her second essay, dated February 1915 was titled "*The Fragrance of the Wild Garden*" in which she discussed a number of pleasing fragrances of wild plants - from violets to grapes to ferns and mints.



The nutlets of Sweet Fern
(*Comptonia peregrina*). Photo G D Bebeau

Barring the malodorous Skunk Cabbage which had to be introduced into my bog, the equally offensive Carrion Flower which is forgiven on account of the picturesque vine and big bells of dark purple berries, and the unspeakable fungus, the stinkhorn, tolerated as a curious freak of the vegetable kingdom, at all times the garden dispenses sweet fragrance.

First, there is the woodsy smell so delightful in the spring when the wilderness is free from snow. The tamaracks yield a slight aromatic blend to this, leafless as they are. My juvenile evergreens -- all introduced -- will increase this quality in the future. The liverworts coating the ground in the bog, with their flat, leaf-like growths, have a cloying sweet odor, so individual that they could be recognized by that alone.

Some disagreeable odors are also mentioned but her advice is to sample since:

It is impossible to describe an odor. Comparison with other odors fails in indicating the individual quality, which is always sui generis [of his, her, its particular kind]. For instance, the odor of *Cypripediums* reminds me of that of strawberries, but this conveys no true idea of it.

Work in the Garden this season did not begin until the second week of April due to snow and ice, but then April became a very warm month. The winter of 1914/1915 had only slightly more snow than average but there was an 11 inch snowfall in early March.

Spring 1915

In March Eloise Butler wrote a brief essay titled “*Notable Features of my Wild Garden*” in which she reviewed the seasonal highlights of her chosen place for a Wild Garden. The reference in it to spring weather indicates it was sent to the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter for circulation. She concluded with notes about the season:

The season is unusually late this year and we have no flowers as yet, save those of the white maple and the yellow accents of hazel, but the swamp is gay with a cordon of red-osier dogwood, interspersed with yellow stems of willows and saffron-colored *Cornus circinata* (now *Cornus rugosa*, Round-leaved Dogwood). Since early March, innumerable pussies on the willows have been purring, ‘Spring is here!’ although more warmth is needed to bring out the yellow stamens and pistils. [Partial text on last page of this year’s history.]



Above: The Garden Office as it looked on February 29, 1936. Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

This essay is the first instance where Eloise expresses her desire to have a larger aquatic pool in the Garden. Her first pool proved to be too shady. This desire would be expressed in subsequent writing, particularly her 1926 History of the Garden. The pool (the Mallard Pool) came to be in 1932. She wrote here:

I have a pool in the garden that was formed by building a dam across a brook and it is proposed to make by excavation a sizable pool in one of my meadows for more aquatic plants.

The Garden was still not ready to open on April 1st in 1915. Eloise recorded in her log on April 2:

Snow and ice. Ground still frozen. Latest season for some years. Chickadees, white-bellied nuthatches, and crows in evidence. Discovered Minnehaha Junior on the course of a little stream formed by melting snow and ice, pouring down the east hillside past Monarch to the marsh. [Minnehaha Junior is a reference to Minnehaha Falls which tumbles over a limestone ledge in Minnehaha Creek which flows through Minneapolis on its way to the Mississippi River. Monarch is an aged White Oak in the Garden]



Oblongleaf Bluebells, (*Mertensia oblongifolia*). Photo ©Nevada Native Plant Society

The building of the new garden office that began during the winter was completed. On April 8 she recorded “Office put up and nearly shingled.” Then on the 9th she noted “house finished.” Also on April 8th she noted “Talked to girls at the Loose-Wilds Biscuit Co. Factory at their noon hour.” Spring did not come easily in 1915. Eloise noted on May 9 “Heavy frost last night, Fern and grape leaves destroyed” and again on May 17 “Heavy frost last night” followed by May 18 “Heavy snow storm last night, Trees and branches broken down with the weight of snow. Yellow Lady’s-slipper in bloom.”

Spring planting began on April 12th with 4 native sedges sourced from Minnehaha Park. Two busy days occurred on April 25 and 29 when she planted 314 blue and yellow violets, sourced locally. A number of plants, both native and non-native were established this spring. The most unusual was Oblongleaf Bluebells [photo above] (*Mertensia oblongifolia*) a gift from a Miss Tillisch who was visiting

in Montana where it is native. A detailed list of all 1915 plantings of plants put in for the first time by Eloise, with photos, follows this text. Miss Mary Tillisch was active in the Society for the Preservation of Wild Flowers as was Eloise.

Real spring weather began with a warm spell in mid-April, then as Eloise noted, turning into a very cool May with that significant frost and snow on the 18-19th. Rainfall was not excessive.

Summer 1915

In June two additional essays were composed. One, "*Asters in the Wild Garden*," was a summary of all the asters located in the Garden. This document was submitted to the Park Board for inclusion in the 1915 33rd Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners. She listed 15 asters indigenous to the Garden, 12 introduced species and a list of 6 she would yet like to obtain. A memorable statement was:

From year to year I become more and more attached to wild asters. They are so varied in color, habit and form. They bloom from August well into October, defying frosts. The one I look at last, I like best of all, for each species has a charm peculiar to itself.

Her other work that summer was "*Ferns in the Wild Garden*." This work was sent to The Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter for circulation.

Eloise wrote of the 10 ferns indigenous to the Garden and those that she introduced and how she obtained them. She still listed 8 others she wished to obtain. One of her comments in the article was that "the most spectacular feature of the garden is a hillside densely clothed with the Interrupted Fern." [photo page 141].

On June 14 she found a black-billed cuckoo's nest in the east bog with two young and on July 16 Eloise noted:

Saw muskrat on dam. He stood motionless for a time, as did I. Then he turned and faced me, baring his teeth. "Why do you grin at me?," I asked him pleasantly. Whereupon, he slid through the wild balsam into the brook.

Dr. Thomas Roberts [photo next page] visited the Garden during the summer, as was his habit, with or without a University class in tow. On August 8 he found a Ruffed Grouse in the swamp. Roberts was a professor at the University and it is for him that the Robert's Bird Sanctuary near Lake Harriet is named.

On August 12 the Minneapolis Audubon Society, newly formed in 1915, met in the Garden. On August 21st a Mr. Jackson, Assistant Superintendent of schools and Prof. Groves from Chicago visited the Garden. On August 28:

Below: Several of the plants Eloise put in during Summer 1915 that are now considered invasive. Photos G D Bebeau



Dames Rocket, (*Hesperis matronalis*).



Field Sow Thistle, (*Sonchus arvensis*).

"All sorts of birds by [the] spring this morning, humming birds, redstarts, house wrens, yellow breasted vireos, catbirds, sparrows, etc. Humming birds chased the white-crowned sparrow. When the humming birds fly, their wings vibrate so rapidly that they look like gauze.

This summer Eloise introduced several plants to the Garden that today, are considered invasive and would be avoided. In her day they may have been looked on favorably or were brought in because she wanted them represented. On June 16th she introduced Dames Rocket [photo previous page] (*Hesperis matronalis*) to the Garden from the bog at Lake Minnetonka. Control measures have had to be taken over the years to keep it under control in the Garden. The same can be said for Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) introduced on August 8, and Field Sow Thistle [photo previous page] (*Sonchus Arvensis*) introduced on August 10th.

During the summer she continued to be surprised at finding a plant in a place she had not seen it before. She had reported her consternation about this in a letter to Theodore Wirth at the beginning of the year:

The wild garden has been true to its name and nature in behaving contrary to rule and precedent. Plants sometimes have refused to grow where conditions seemed favorable, and have perversely appeared in unlikely places. *Aster multiflorus*, a prairie plant, has taken to the bog, and meadow gentians have been found on the dry hillside. The small, pale-blue dog violet, *Viola conspersa*, and the interesting little twayblade, *Liparis loeslii*, carefully planted on one side of the swamp, have developed more thrifty colonies on the extreme opposite side; and Royal Fern, *Osmunda regalis*, set out on the edge of the swamp, has lodged itself in the center.

The summer of 1915 was very cool with significant departures from average temperatures. A wet period began near the end of June with one 3.17 inch rainfall in July.

Autumn 1915

As had been her practice since 1910, Eloise maintained a display at the Minnesota State Fair about the Wild Garden. This year she spent the week of September 6 to 11 at the fair. The *Minneapolis Tribune* wrote "Biggest Floral Display Attracting Attention." The display was of over 250 wild flowers and the Tribune said "Glenwood Park scores well." Miss Butler was quoted saying that only one garden of wild flowers, that one in the east, compared to Glenwood Park. (3)

Further accolades were reported in the *Tribune* 3 days later when Mr. H. S. Naldrett, representative of Kelway and Son, one of Great Britain's largest seed houses, was quoted saying "This collection prepared by Miss Butler is one of the finest I have ever seen. A city which makes provision for such things in its parks indeed is to be complimented." He took back to Britain the Fringed Gentian and some seed hoping to be able to grow it as "the blue is the most perfect in the plant world." (4)

It was a good year for mushrooms, Eloise noted on September 6th that Miss Daisy Hone collected 27 species of mushroom in the Garden. Eloise listed them in the Log.



Above: Dr. Thomas S. Roberts.
Photo courtesy Minnesota
Historical Society

During the fall planting season she introduced both native and non-native plants. A most interesting exchange occurred on September 5th when she swapped 100 maidenhair ferns for a single clump of Ramshead Lady's-slippers [photo below] (*Cypripedium arietinum*), such was her desire to obtain the species. In later years both Martha Crone and Ken Avery would also search out the plant for the Garden. None have survived.

Her last planting note was on October 15 when she planted a large number of wild roses obtained from the Park Board Nursery which was located adjacent to the Garden at Glenwood Lake. Of the 4 species of rose totaling 453 plants, she planted 400 alone of *Rosa blanda* - the Smooth Rose [photo]. In addition some honeysuckles arrived from Horsford's Nursery in Charlotte Vermont.

A detailed list of 1915 autumn plantings of plants put in for the first time by Eloise follows this text.

The 33rd Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners included her statement that she had planted 2,449 plants and 94 new species.

A final essay for the year was written in December and titled "*Effective Coloring in the Wild Garden That is not due to Flowers*" in which she traces the vivid colors of the autumn Garden that begin with the Red Maple. She covered trees, shrubs, fruits, berries, even mushrooms and adds "All this brilliancy is enhanced in the garden by the young evergreen trees, the evergreen ferns and trailers in the swamp. . ."
More on next page.

With the Garden closed and her new office locked up she departed for the East Coast to visit her sister Cora Pease.

Fall weather had temperatures a bit above average in contrast to the summer months. Precipitation was adequate with snow falls beginning in mid-November. Annual precipitation for the year was around 34 inches - a few inches above average.

Notes:

- 1: Martha Hellander's research indicated Eloise joined the Chapter in 1908. *The Wild Gardener*, page 82.
- 2: Details of the history of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter are found in "History of the Gray Memorial Botanical Association and the Asa Gray Bulletin" by Harley H. Bartlett in the *Asa Gray Bulletin* Vol. 1, No. 1, January 1952, Ann Arbor Michigan.
- 3: *Minneapolis Tribune*, September 5, 1915.
- 4: *Minneapolis Tribune*, September 10, 1915.

Photo top of page 95: The Garden Office, first erected in 1915, is shown in an image from 1935. Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society, Martha Crone Collection.



Smooth Rose, (*Rosa blanda*).



Ramshead Lady's-slipper, (*Cypripedium arietinum*). Photo from a Kodachrome by Martha Crone on June 9, 1954.

**The opening text of
"Notable Features of my Wild Garden, March
1915"**

Among the notable features of the garden, first of all should be noted the lie of the land and the admirable situation, consisting as it does of morainic hills commanding widespread views with intervening valleys, ponds and bogs. My twenty acres of garden within a park of about 600 acres, includes one small tamarack bog, but none of the ponds. One pond, however, full of lilies, lies not a stones throw off, and the other can be seen from my highest hilltop; while a third is distant but a few minutes' walk. I have a pool in the garden that was formed by building a dam across a brook and it is proposed to make by excavation a sizable pool in one of my meadows for more aquatic plants. As it is, I have varied conditions of soil, moisture and light exposure that satisfy the needs of all the imported plants from other parts of the state.

The beauty of the landscape is enhanced by the character of the trees and shrubs and their natural grouping. There are many white birches and white oaks, also red maples. These in the fall - the white stems of the birches, the peculiar mulberry red of the white oaks, and the many shades of color afforded by other plants, all set off by the dark green of the tamaracks - makes one understand why the term poignant should be applied to remarkable beauty.

Someone voiced this feeling on seeing the garden in autumnal dress by saying, "It makes me ache to look at this!" One of my white birches on a hillside has eight bolls, while opposite opposite in the meadow a yellow birch rejoices with seven. Between them "Monarch," the largest white oak in Minneapolis, lifts his aged head and rules the landscape.

The season is unusually late this year and we have no flowers as yet, save those of the white maple and the yellow accents of hazel, but the swamp is gay with a cordon of redosier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), interspersed with

yellow stems of willows and saffron-colored *Cornus circinata* [now *Cornus rugosa*, Round-leaved Dogwood, no longer extant in the Garden]. Since early March, innumerable pussies on the willows have been purring, "Spring" is here!" although more warmth is needed to bring out the yellow stamens and pistils.

Eloise was enchanted with color and not always from flowers. Here is the opening of her essay

**"Effective Coloring in the Wild Garden that is
not due to flowers."**

The first note of the brilliant color of the waning year is struck by the red maple, *Acer rubrum*, which is abundant in all stages of growth in the wild garden. Its' poignant beauty persists until after the first heavy frosts. In the spring, this tree glows brilliant in fruit as well as in flower. When the maple leaves fall, the oaks begin to put on their gorgeous crowns in many shades of red, bronze, and russet brown, set off by the yellow leaves of the birch and poplars, the gleaming white stems of the birches and the dark green foliage of the tamarack.

The white oaks lend a distinctive tint of a peculiarly rich mulberry red. Nature makes a lavish use of pigments on many of the shrubs and low bushes. The sumachs cover the landscape here and there with floods incarnadine [pale red to blood red]; and the woodbines, or Virginia Creepers, are trailing clouds of glory; the viburnums show deep red; the dark pink leaves of the wahoo [Wahoo - *Euonymus atropurpureus*] are succeeded by fruit-tassels of coral pink and red; the foliage of the black currant, *Ribes floridum* [*Ribes americanum*], is rimmed and streaked with red; and the blackberry's vicious prickles are forgiven when its leaves are like the petals of damask rose.

Spring 1915 Plantings

- *Barbarea stricta* [*Barbarea vulgaris*] Garden Yellow Rocket, from Minnehaha. (M.C.). Introduced. (Photo)
- *Brauneria angustifolia* [*Echinacea angustifolia* var. *angustifolia*], Blacksamson Echinacea, 6 plants from Charlotte

Listing by season, of Eloise Butler's plantings in 1915, that were "1st time" plantings according to her Garden Log.

- Vermont. It bloomed in August. (M.C.). Native. (Photo)
- *Brauneria purpurea* [*Echinacea purpurea*], Eastern Purple Coneflower, 6 plants from Charlotte Vermont. It bloomed in August. (M.C.) Not native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Carex plantaginifolia* [*Carex plantaginea*] Plantain leaf sedge, from Minnehaha, Native [bloom noted April 28 1916]
- *Cardamine pennsylvanica* [*Cardamine pensylvanica*] Pennsylvania Bittercress, from Minnehaha. Native. (Photo)
- *Clematis ochroleuca* [*Clematis ochroleuca*] Curlyheads, 2 roots from New York, not native.
- *Collinsia verna*, Blue-eyed Mary, 4 clumps from Auburna Ill. Not native. [Martha Crone also planted this in 1936 from seed.] (Photo)
- *Mertensia oblongifolia*, Oblongleaf Bluebells, gift of Miss Tillisch from Montana, not native. (Photo)
- *Morus alba*, Russian Mulberry (White Mulberry), 9 plants gift of Game Commission. Introduced. No photo.
- *Penstemon laevigatus* [*Penstemon digitalis*] Foxglove Beardtongue, 6 plants from Charlotte Vermont. More were planted on June 21st. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Penstemon hirsutus*. Hairy Beardtongue, 6 plants from Charlotte Vermont. It bloomed in August. Not native. (Photo)
- *Prunus nigra*. Canadian Plum, 2 plants from Strands Nursery, Taylor's Falls, MN. Native. No photo.
- *Pyrus x soulardii*, [*P. ioensis x pumila*], Soulard's crab, 2 plants from Strands Nursery, Taylor's Falls, MN. – not considered native as previous reports of the species from Minnesota were based on cultivated specimens. No photo.
- *Tradescantia reflexa* [*Tradescantia ohiensis*] Bluejacket, 25 plants from Sandy Lake. Native. Five days earlier Eloise first noted the plant growing in the Garden. Extant. (Photo)
- *Viola striata*, Striped Cream Violet, from New York, not native. (Photo)
- *Waldsteinia fragarioides*. Appalachian Barren Strawberry, 12 plants from Charlotte Vermont. Native, but now on the Special Concern List. (Photo)



Yellow Rocket (*Barbarea vulgaris*).
Photo ©G D Bebeau



Narrowleaf Coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Eastern Purple Coneflower
(*Echinacea purpurea*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Pennsylvania Bittercress
(*Cardamine pensylvanica*) Photo
©G D Bebeau.



Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*)
Photo ©Kyle Steel, Wisconsin
Flora.



Foxglove Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Oblong Leaf Bluebells
(*Mertensia oblongifolia*) Photo
©Nevada Native Plant Society.



Hairy Beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*) Photo ©James R. Sime,
Wisconsin Flora.



Bluejacket (*Tradescantia ohiensis*)
Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Striped Creme Violet (*Viola striata*)
Photo ©Kyle Steel, Wisconsin Flora.



Appalachian Barren Strawberry
(*Waldsteinia fragarioides*) Photo
©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora.

Summer 1915 Plantings

- *Achnatherum hymenoides*, Indian Rice, from the Western Ave. bridge (near the Garden). Native.
- *Asclepias ovalifolia*, Ovalleaf Milkweed, from Hopkins, native. (Photo)
- *Aster longifolius* [*Symphotrichum robysianum*] Longleaf Aster, 4 plants from Mendota. (M.C.) Native. [She noted it was planted “by [the] others” but this is the first mention of the plant in her logs- nor did she list it on her early 1915 summary of Asters in the Wild Garden]. (Photo)
- *Cichorium intybus*, Chicory, no source given, introduced. Extant. (Photo)
- *Geranium bicknellii*, Bicknell’s Cranesbill, from Mr. Babcock’s [near the Garden]. Native. (Photo)
- *Habenaria flava* [*Platanthera flava* var. *flava*], Pale green orchid, 8 plants from Mahtomedi (planted again on Sept. 23rd). Native. (Photo)
- *Habenaria hyperborea* [*Platanthera aquilonis*] Leafy Green Orchis, (Northern Green Orchid), from big bog at Minnetonka. (M.C.) Native. (Photo)
- *Hesperis matronalis*, Dames Rocket, from big bog at Minnetonka - introduced [now considered an invasive species]. Extant.
- *Koeleria* (no species) Prairie Junegrass from Sandy Lake. Native.
- *Oenothera serrate* (so such species - so we assume *O. serrulata*) [*Calylophus serrulatus*] Yellow Sundrops, from Sandy Lake. Native [she planted more, using the same name, on July 20 sourced from Fort Snelling. (Photo)]
- *Penstemon acuminatus*. Sharpleaf Penstemon, from Sandy Lake. This is possibly a mistake in her log as this plant is native only to the west coast of the U.S.
- *Scheuchzeria*, Rannoch-rush, from the quaking bog (near the Garden). Native.
- *Sonchus arvensis*, Field Sow Thistle, from Medicine Lake vicinity. Introduced and invasive with the seed listed on the MN DNR Restricted List. (Photo)
- *Verbena bracteata*. Bigbract Verbena from Glenwood Park. Native. (Photo)



Ovalleaf Milkweed (*Asclepias ovalifolia*) Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora.



Longleaf Aster (*Symphotrichum robysianum*) Photo ©Steve Garske, Wisconsin Flora.



Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Bicknell's Geranium (*Geranium bicknellii*) Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora.



Pale Green Orchid (*Platanthera flava*) Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora.



Leafy Green Orchid or Northern Green Orchid (*Platanthera aquilonis*) Photo ©G D Bebeau



Yellow Sundrops (*Calylophus serrulatus*) Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora.



Field Sow Thistle (*Sonchus arvensis*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



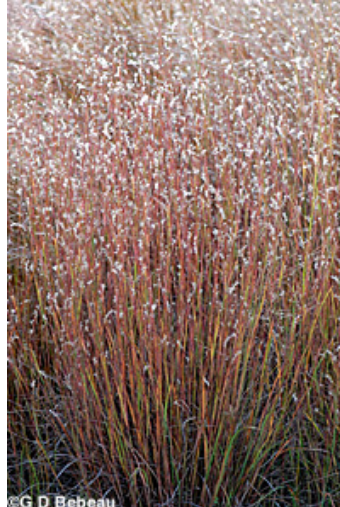
Big-bract Verbena (*Verbena bracteata*) Photo Patrick J. Alexander, USDA-NRCS Plants Database.

Fall 1915 Plantings

- *Andropogon furcatus* [*Andropogon gerardii*], Big Bluestem, a large clump from Glenwood Park. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Andropogon scoparius* [*Schizachyrium scoparium*] Little Bluestem, a clump from Glenwood Park. Native. Extant. (Photo)
- *Artemisia biennis*. Biennial Wormwood, from meadow near park bridge over Luce RR. Introduced. (Photo)
- *Artemisia canadensis* [*Artemisia campestris* ssp. *borealis* var. *borealis*] Field Sagewort, from Northern Minn. Native [Eloise noted she *thought* that this was the species of *Artemisia*. According to the University Herbarium ssp. *borealis* is a misapplied name and ssp. *caudata* is correct - a species Eloise actually planted in 1909.] (Photo)
- *Artemisia dracunculoides*, Tarragon, from Blooming Prairie. Native [Eloise noted she thought that this was the species of *Artemisia*.] (Photo)
- *Cornus florida*, Flowering Dogwood, from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte Vermont. (M.C.). Not native. No Photo.
- *Cypripedium arietinum*. Ramshead Lady's-slipper, 1 clump from Mrs. Whites Garden, Bemidji MN. (M.C.). Native. [Eloise noted she planted it by the other specimen from the Big Bog but it is not clear when that was obtained as this is the first notation of the plant. This single clump was in exchange for 100 maidenhead ferns.] (Photo)
- *Eleocharis obtusa*. Blunt Spike Rush, 2 clumps from Lake Johanna. Native. (Photo)
- *Equisetum scirpoides*. Dwarf Scouring Rush, 1 clump from Pine Coulee (near St. Paul). Native.
- *Euphorbia marginata*. Snow on the Mountain, from the garden at Washburn Home. Native. (Photo)
- *Gentiana procera* [*Gentianopsis virgata* ssp. *virgata*.] Smaller Fringed gentian, 4 plants from meadow near park bridge over Luce RR. (M.C.). Native. (Photo)
- *Lepachys columnaris* [*Ratibida columnifera*] Prairie Coneflower or Long-headed Coneflower, from Belt Line Bridge in Minneapolis. (M.C.). Native. (Photo)
- *Lonicera oblongifolia*. Swamp-fly Honeysuckle, from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte Vermont. Native. (Photo)
- *Lonicera sullivantii* [*Lonicera reticulata*] Grape Honeysuckle, from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte Vermont. Native. (Photo)
- *Lychnis chalcedonica*, Maltese Cross, planted seeds. (M.C.). Introduced. (Photo)
- *Phragmites communis* [*Phragmites australis*] Common reed, from vicinity of bridge 6th ave north. This species is considered both native and introduced. (Photo)



Big Blue Stem (*Andropogon gerardii*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Little Bluestem
(*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
Photo ©G D Bebeau.



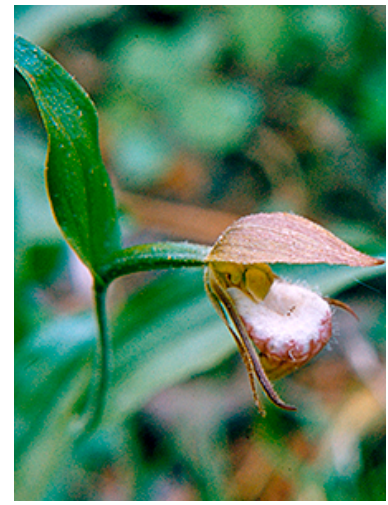
Biennial Wormwood
(*Artemisia biennis*) Photo
©Emmett J. Judziewicz,
Wisconsin Flora.



Field Sagewort (*Artemisia campestris*) Photo ©Ken Sytsma,
Wisconsin Flora.



Tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculoides*) Photo ©Keir Morse,
Wisconsin Flora.



Ramshead Lady's-slipper
(*Cypripedium arietinum*) Photo
from a Kodachrome of Martha
Crone



Blunt Spike Rush (*Eleocharis obtusa*) Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora.



Snow on the Mountain (*Euphorbia marginata*) Photo Patrick J. Alexander, USDA-NRCS Plants Database.



Smaller Fringed Gentian (*Gentianopsis virgata*) Photo © Hugh Iltis, Wisconsin Flora.



Long-headed or Prairie Coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Swamp-fly Honeysuckle (*Lonicera oblongifolia*) Photo ©Ken Sytsma, Wisconsin Flora.



Grape Honeysuckle (*Lonicera reticulata*) Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora.



Maltese Cross (*Lychnis chalcidonica*) Photo ©G D Bebeau.



Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) Photo ©Steve Garske, Wisconsin Flora.



Appleton Maine countryside

1916

Winter 1915-16

During the winter months Eloise sourced some plants from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA that were then sent to her in April. Upon her return to Minneapolis in early spring she changed her residence. After 4 years of rooming with friend Jessie Polley in south Minneapolis she moved to the residence of John and Susan Babcock at 227 Xerxes Ave., near the Garden where she could walk to her domain. Mr. Babcock owned a photo engraving business at 416 4th Ave. So., Minneapolis. She would room here until her death in 1933.



Eloise Butler shown outside the Garden "office."



The Babcock property (photo) was located on the west side of the current Xerxes Avenue. The east side was undeveloped until after WWII. Then the properties on the west side were removed at some point and the space is now parkland today.

Precipitation was adequate with snows beginning in mid-November leading to a total snow depth of almost 16 inches for most of February. Temperatures fluxed enough into the cold side to keep the snow from melting until late March. Total snowfall for the winter was just above the average of 43.6 inches.

Spring 1916

Eloise's first garden log notes for the season occur on April 28th when she noted the Purple Trillium (*Trillium erectum*) in bloom. This is her first mention of this plant in the log, but it is known from other

sources that she had planted it in earlier years. She also introduced to the Garden on that day the **Wood Anemone**, *Anemone quinquefolia*, [photo left] that she sourced from the vicinity of Fridley.



Wood Anemone, (*Anemone quinquefolia*).

Skunk cabbage bloomed for 1st time after planting it in 1907. She wrote:

Skunk Cabbage blossomed for the first time in the Garden swamp. It is not indigenous to the garden, is late in coming to time, and has been a number of years about it.

On May 5th she logged the planting of 35 different species that had arrived from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick, MA. She had sourced these during her winter visit to Malden MA. Of the 35 species, 10 were completely new to the Garden - all ferns, club mosses and marsh plants.

On May 12 she wrote:

Planted 151 violets. Garden very lovely in its new spring dress. Gorgeous display of marsh marigolds; west bank thickly carpeted with rue anemones, fern buds unrolling; *Woodsia obtusa* and *Cystopteris fragilis* fully expanded; splendid showing of Large-flowered Trillium [photo below] and white variety of *T. erectum*.

Several days later: "A striped snake coiled and attempted to strike me when clearing up golden rod cane in south meadow."

During May a group of High School botany teachers lunched in the Garden office. She had only retired 5 years previously and many of her former colleagues were still teaching.

Several of her particular observations of Garden events were noted in a May 1916 submission to the circular of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, Division D, Agassiz Association.(1) This installment is quite humorous:

As I went into the garden early this morning, I had another surprise: A half-grown pig lay asleep on the hillside below my office! A neighboring farmer caught him by turning a big box over him, and he is now housed in the dog kennel on the place where I live. I thought of naming him Roley-Poley because he is so fat, or Endymion because we found him sleeping; but the boy in the house said, "Miss Butler, you must call him Rip, because his ear had been ripped on a barbed wire fence, and he sleeps like Rip Van Winkle.



Large-flowered Trillium, (*Trillium grandiflorum*).

Discovered a shapeless mass of damp earth and moss on the top of a wren birdhouse set under the eaves of my office. It looked as if some sportive youth had flung it there. A few hours after it had taken a more definite shape, and I saw that it was the work of Mistress Phoebe. Will war be declared if the wrens take possession below?

Eloise made regular contributions to this Chapter's circular. She was a member from 1908 until her death.(2) Weather-wise - temperatures and rainfall were average during the spring. The **detailed list of 1916 spring plantings** of plants put in for the first time by Eloise follows this text.

Summer 1916

Summer began would a sour note as Eloise reported stolen on June 26, most of the [Showy Lady's-slippers](#) from the northwest gentian meadow section of the Garden, as well as several *Castilleja coccinea* (Scarlet Indian Paintbush). Several days earlier she noted finding [Reed Canary Grass](#) in the Garden (*Phalaris arundinacea*) an invasive that even in the early 21st century is still present and has to be periodically controlled.



Purple Loosestrife, (*Lythrum salicaria*) Photo G D Bebeau

Eloise noted on July 15 that [Purple Loosestrife](#), *Lythrum salicaria* was beginning to bloom. This is another invasive pest that was thought to be a wonderful plant to import to our area and it was not until the 1970s that its true invasiveness was finally realized here. Planting was still advocated in the 1960s. On July 20 a second brood of phoebes left their nest under the eaves of the office. [see spring notes above for the construction of the nest.] Eloise also observed a sora rail feeding by the side of garden pond.

Sometime during 1916 Eloise penned another installment for the circular of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter. This essay mostly concerned her efforts to establish certain plants and their contrariness in doing their own thing. An excerpt:

A specimen of *Rubus odoratus*, the beautiful flowering raspberry [Purple Flowering Raspberry]-- its large rose-colored flowers and maple-like leaves familiar to many under cultivation - was procured from cold Ontario [see 1908] but it died down to the ground every winter and was as effortless as the first Mrs. Dombey [ref. to a Dickens character]. Last

season it was piqued by jealousy to sprouting into a big bush which blossomed and blossomed, outdoing every plant of that kind I have ever seen. I merely planted around it a quantity of *Rubus spectabilis* the salmon berry, saying "I am sure I shall like these as well. They have beautiful white flowers, leaves as fine as yours, *Odoratus*, and better tasting fruit of an unusual color. [Full essay on page 121.]

For a few days before August 25, Eloise and photographer Mary Meeker were the quests of the Superintendent of the Minnesota Division of the Interstate Park of Minnesota and Wisconsin at Taylor's Falls. Eloise was determined to find the rare Fragrant Fern, *Aspidium fragrans*. Her experience in finding it are told [in an essay that she titled "Experiences in Collecting."](#) [Full text at on next page.](#) Eighteen other species would find their way to the Garden from that trip.

May and June were very rainy, temperatures average. The [detailed list of 1916 summer plantings](#) of plants put in for the first time by Eloise follows this text.



Purple Flowering Raspberry, (*Rubus odoratus*) Photo G D Bebeau

Autumn 1916

As had been her practice since 1910, Eloise maintained a large display on native plants from the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair. Mary Meeker provided a large number of photographs of plants. They would spend a week at the fair and then bring back the plants from her display to re-plant in the Garden, noting on September 12 that they were on exhibition - "hence in poor condition."

She found many puffballs in the east meadow that autumn. Her sources for new plants this autumn were from far and wide. Some she herself brought in - such as from Fort Snelling, Groveland Park, Glenwood Park, Bush Lake, Western Ave., Echo Lake, and Mahtomedi. Sent to her were a large group of plants from Solon Springs, WI and more from Eau Claire, WI. Two species of ferns (including 19 Christmas Ferns) came from Sugar Hill, NH; and other plants from Horsford's Nursery in Charlotte Vermont.

On September 24 the *Minneapolis Tribune* (3) announced that the Park Board would open this week a hiking trail traversing the length of Glenwood Park from Superior Blvd. (now I-394) to Western Avenue (now Glenwood). Along the rolling hills were to be dozens of camp sites for "the hiker to stop and kindle a small fire." The Park Board was planning to erect a series of stone fireplaces along the trail.



Christmas Fern, *Polystichum acrostichoides*

The natural amphitheater at the northeast edge of the Garden was mentioned along with the mammoth elm the stood there, referred to as the "patriarch of Glenwood" (4) and at the base of the hill was a natural spring that had now, to prevent contamination, been forced to run through a bubbling fountain. Here is the origin of the name "bubbling spring" used often in the future. The spring, now dry, is just outside the current back gate of the Wildflower Garden.

Autumn weather was of average temperatures and below average rainfall. On October 20 she noted in the log: "6 inches of snow fell yesterday afternoon and last night. Temperature 34 deg. this noon, with lowering sky." The year ended with slightly below average total precipitation.

Her last log note for the year was:

Planted from Groveland Pk., St. Paul. 51 *Phlox divaricata* and 11 violets in burnt over, south meadow. Noted in garden a small hawk and great horned owl.

Notes

- 1: The Agassiz Association was founded in the late 1800's to be an association of local chapters that would combine the like interests of individuals and organizations in the study of Nature. However, by this time it was largely defunct and only the Gray Memorial Chapter, with several divisions, was still active. Various contributions from members were grouped and circulated by post from one member to another.
- 2: Martha Hellander's research indicated Eloise joined the Chapter in 1908. *The Wild Gardener*, page 82.
3. Copy of the *Tribune* article from September 24 is on page 284.
4. In 1976 the Friends treated this elm with Lignasan in order to stave off Dutch Elm Disease.

Photo at top of page 111: Appleton Ridge and the countryside surrounding Appleton Maine, birthplace of Eloise Butler.

Full Text of A Visit to Interstate Park In Search of the Fragrant Fern

The photographer of the garden [Mary Meeker] and the curator, the later part of August, were so fortunate as to be the guests for a few days of Mr. Hazzard, the Superintendent of the Minnesota Division of the Interstate Park of Minnesota and Wisconsin at Taylor's Falls. We were given possession of Mr. Hazzard's summer cottage at the park, which is luxuriously fitted for the accommodation of several guests. Although the park is of primary interest to the geologist on account of its wonderful rock formations, it is a first-class hunting ground for the botanist.

I will not attempt to describe the geologic features of the place, for I was familiar with them and gave them only a cursory glance, and I was determined to discover, the rare, fragrant fern *Aspidium fragrans* [*Dryopteris fragrans*], listed some thirty years ago in Upham's catalogue of the *Flora of Minnesota*, at Taylor's Falls. I have never seen a greater display and denser massing of *Polypodium vulgare* [*Polypodium virginianum* - Common Polypody], *Woodsia ilvensis* [Rusty Woodsia], *Camptosorus rhizophyllus* [*Asplenium rhizophyllum* - Walking Fern], *Cystopteris bulbifera* [Bublet Bladder Fern], and *C. fragilis* [Brittle Bladder Fern].

All that I had to help me in my search was a mental picture of the illustration of *Aspidium fragrans* in Clute's "Ferns and their Allies". The young and mature fronds of *Woodsia ilvensis* differ occasionally, and many a time I was falsely lured to climb precipitous ledges. My chief reliance in identification was the sense of smell. So I climbed sniff-sniffing at every frond that had a suspicious appearance. I found several fragrant fronds, but I was not positive that I had secured the prize.

On the third and last day of our visit, when I was making a farewell round of the place and had given up all hope of finding the fern, I espied a specimen that sent a thrill along my spinal cord.

"There's my fern!" I exclaimed. "no, it isn't," scoffed the photographer. "It's only another rusty woodsia, just like hundreds all around here." "O, I am sure this time," said I. "Don't you try to get it. You'll break your neck if you do!" "You keep still!" I commanded. "I can and will get it!" By holding onto a not over strong root of sumach I managed the plant. One sniff at it made assurance doubly sure -- such an indescribable compound of sweet odors! -- and the plant was tossed to the photographer with a "There, didn't I tell you so?"

I have no doubt but that more of this aspidium could be found at Taylor's Falls under more favorable conditions. The season was so dry that many fronds were reduced to powder and could not be distinguished. This one specimen grew in a cool, sheltered place.

I was also able to obtain specimens of the floating white water crowfoot [*Ranunculus aquatilis* var. *diffusus*]. I had never found specimens of it in Minnesota before. In a deep ravine skirting an ancient indian trail that has on its course as as yet unexplored mound, I found an unusually rich growth of *Epipactis pubescens* [*Goodyera pubescens* - Downy Rattlesnake Plantain]. I also added to my collection a species of cactus which I have not identified. It grew in moss in the crevices of a ledge.

Listing by season, of Eloise Butler's plantings in 1916, that were "1st time" plantings according to her Garden Log.

Spring 1916 Plantings

- *Anemone quinquefolia*, Wood Anemone, Native, (M.C.), from vicinity of Fridley. Extant. (photo sheet on website)
- *Aspidium cristatum* var *clintonianum*, [*Dryopteris clintoniana*], Not Native, Clinton Fern, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA. (Photo)
- *Aspidium goldianum*, [*Dryopteris goldiana*] Goldie's Fern, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA. Extant. (photo sheet on website)
- *Asplenium trichomanes*. Maidenhair spleenwort, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA. (Photo)
- *Epipactis decipiens*, [*Goodyera oblongifolia*], Not Native, Western Rattlesnake Plantain, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA. (Photo)
- *Gaultheria procumbens*, Spicy Wintergreen (Eastern Teaberry), Native, (M.C.), from Strand's Nursery Taylor's Falls MN. (Photo)
- *Habenaria blephariglottis*, [*Platanthera blephariglottis* var. *blephariglottis*,] Not Native, White Fringed Orchid, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA
- *Juncus effusus*, Common rush, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA
- *Juniperus communis*, Common Ground Juniper, Native, (M.C.), from Strand's Nursery Taylor's Falls MN. (Photo)
- *Juniperus sabina*, Savin Juniper, not native, from Strand's Nursery Taylor's Falls MN (no photo)
- *Lycopodium clavatum*, Running Clubmoss, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA [more were planted on Sept 23 from Solon Springs, WI]. (Photo)
- *Lycopodium complanatum*, Ground Pine (Groundcedar), Not Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA
- *Lycopodium obscurum* var. *dendroideum*, [*Lycopodium dendroideum*] Tree ground pine, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA [more were planted on Sept 23 from Solon Springs, WI]. (Photo)
- *Pulsatilla vulgaris*, European Pasque Flower, not native, from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte, VT.
- *Saxifraga aizoon*, [*Saxifraga paniculata* ssp. *neogaea*], White Mountain Saxifage (Encrusted Saxifrage, Native, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick MA
- *Silene latifolia*, White (Bladder) Campion, from vicinity of Savage MN
- *Tradescantia bracteata*, Bracted Spiderwort, from Glenwood Park (surrounding the Garden). Extant. (photo sheet on website)
- *Triglochin*. Arrow grass, identified only by genus. Two possible, *Triglochin maritima*, Seaside Arrow Grass (planted by Martha Crone in 1933) or *Triglochin palustris*, Marsh Arrowgrass, from vicinity of Savage (no photo below)
- *Viola Blanda*, Sweet White Violet, Native, (M.C.), from vicinity of Fridley. (Photo)



Clinton Fern, (*Aspidium cristatum* var *clintonianum*. [*Dryopteris clintoniana*])
Photo ©Emmett J. Judzewicz,
Wisconsin Flora



Western Rattlesnake Plantain
(*Epipactis decipiens*, [*Goodyera oblongifolia*]) Photo ©R A Kupher,
Wisconsin Flora



Maidenhair Spleenwort, (*Asplenium trichomanes*) Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Spicy Wintergreen (Eastern Teaberry), (*Gaultheria procumbens*)
Photo ©Christopher Noll, Wisconsin Flora



Running Clubmoss
(*Lycopodium clavatum*) Photo
©G D Bebeau



Common Ground Juniper (*Juniperus communis*) Photo ©Paul Drobot,
Wisconsin Flora



Tree Ground Pine (*Lycopodium obscurum* var. *dendroideum*, [*Lycopodium dendroideum*]) Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora.



Sweet White Violet (*Viola blanda*). Photo ©G D Bebeau

Summer 1916 Plantings

- *Anacharis* There are two species here that are native to Hennepin County so we don't know which she got [*Elodea canadensis*., Canadian Waterweed, or *Elodea nuttallii*, Western Waterweed] from Birch Pond. No photo below.
- *Aspidium fragrans* [*Dryopteris fragrans*], Native, (M.C.), Fragrant fern, from Taylors Falls. (Photo)
- *Chimaphila umbellata*, Prince's Pine (pipsissewa)-evergreen, Native, (M.C.), from Chetek Wis. (Photo)
- *Helianthus hirsutus* Hairy Sunflower, Native, from Glenwood Park. Extant.
- *Houstonia longifolia*, [*Hedyotis longifolia*], Longleaf Summer Bluet, Native, (M.C.), from Taylors Falls. (photo sheet on website)
- *Mentha spicata*, Spearmint, Not native, from Taylors Falls. (Photo)
- *Ranunculus aquatilis*, [*Ranunculus aquatilis* var. *diffusus*], White water crowfoot, Native, from Taylors Falls. (Photo)
- *Scirpus eriophorum*, [*Scirpus cyperinus*], Woolgrass, Native, from Quaking Bog. (Later on July she discovered it already growing in the Garden.) (Photo)



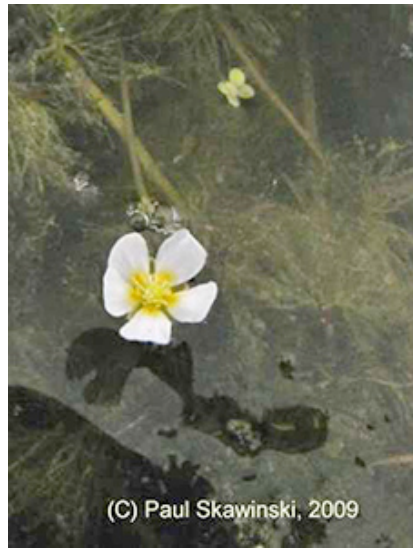
Fragrant Fern (*Aspidium fragrans* [*Dryopteris fragrans*]) Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora



Prince's Pine (*Chimaphila umbellata*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora



Spearmint (*Mentha spicata*). Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora.



White Water Crowfoot
(*Ranunculus aquatilis* var. *diffusus*).
Photo @Paul Skawinski, Wisconsin



Woolgrass (*Scirpus eriophorum*,
[*Scirpus cyperinus*]). Photo Robert
H. Molenbrock, USDA-NRCS
Plants Database.

Fall 1916 Plantings

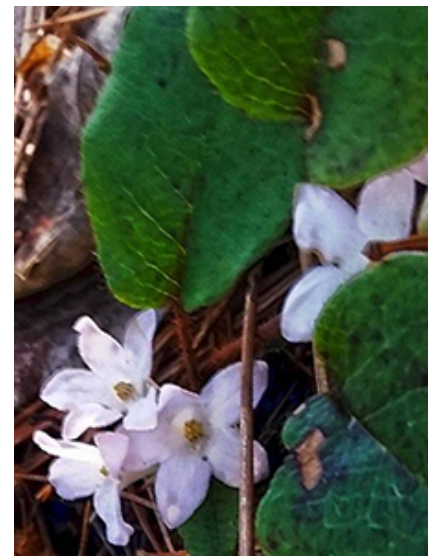
- *Artemisia absinthium*, Common Wormwood, (M.C.). Introduced - not native, from Solon Springs WI. (Photo)
- *Datura tatula* - [*Datura stramonium*], Jimsonweed, an introduction, seeds planted. (Photo)
- *Epigaea repens*, Trailing Arbutus. Native, from Solon Springs WI. (Photo)
- *Lonicera caerulea*, [*Lonicera villosa*], Mountain Fly Honeysuckle. Native, (M.C.), from Solon Springs WI. (Photo)
- *Lonicera canadensis*, American Fly Honeysuckle. Native, from Solon Springs WI. (Photo)
- *Lonicera hirsuta*, Hairy Honeysuckle. Native, from Solon Springs WI. (Photo)
- *Tephrosia virginiana*, Virginia Tephrosia or Goats-rue. Native, from Eau Claire Wis. (Photo)



Common Wormwood, (*Artemisia absinthium*) Photo ©Steve C. Garske, Wisconsin Flora.



Jimsonweed (*Datura stramonium*). Photo ©G D Bebeau



Trailing Arbutus (*Epigaea repens*).
Photo ©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin
Flora.



American Fly Honeysuckle (*Lonicera canadensis*). Photo ©Derek Anderson, Wisconsin Flora



Hairy Honeysuckle, (*Lonicera hirsuta*). Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora



Mountain Fly Honeysuckle (*Lonicera caerulea*, [*Lonicera villosa*]). Photo ©Joanne Kline, Wisconsin Flora



Virginia Tephrosia or Goats- rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*)
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin

Additional text from "A Collection of Garden Experiences."

Mistress Mary, so contrary
How does your garden grow?

Like Mistress, like garden is the reply. In quirks, in whimsies, and in sheer contrariness a wild garden surpasses Mistress Mary. This is true especially of the introduced species. Last summer a robust specimen of *Aster multiflorus* [*Symphyotrichum ericoides*] appeared in the marsh, although it had been placed where it ought to be contented when transplanted from the dry prairie. *Gentiana andrewsii* has been naturalized by the brook, and now it comes spontaneously on the dry hillsides. *Viola conspersa* [*Viola labradorica* - American Dog Violet] was found in large masses putting to shame carefully nurtured specimens planted at the opposite end of the swamp. The showy *Liatris pycnostachya* has chosen to appear of itself in the meadow, and the little twayblade, *Liparis Loeselii*, has established itself at a distance from the planted colony.

The royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*, not indigenous to the garden, as was supposed, but laboriously dug and transported from miles away to the borders of the swamp, has mysteriously sprung up in the center. The most superb growth of *Orchis spectabilis* [*Galearia spectabilis* - Showy Orchis] is also unaccounted for, in somewhat dry and infertile soil, where no gardener would ever think of placing it. *Castilleja coccinea* [Scarlet Indian Paintbrush], suspected of root parasitism, and accordingly lifted in large blocks of sod, rewarded repeated efforts last season with a single stalk; but at the same time another specimen was found in a seemingly unsuitable place. I have failed in cultivating *Epilobium angustifolium* [Fireweed], although I have planted it both in the spring and in the fall - in season and out of season, from various places in different situations. Two years ago it broke out in two widely separated spots where it had not been consciously introduced.

I have had a similar experience with Indian Pipe, *Monotropa uniflora*, but difficulty with a saprophyte was to be expected. Last summer there was no sign of Indian Pipe, although to my surprise and joy it was abundant for the two previous seasons.

I have thought that I knew every foot of my garden and the position of every sizable plant in it, but I have had so many surprises that I am no longer confident. *Lythrum alatum* [Winged Loosestrife] is a case in point. I wanted to obtain some for the wild garden and looked for it in vain through four seasons. Then I came across a large patch of it in full bloom in the

garden! It is not uncommon and I have since found it in existence elsewhere.

The hazelnut, *Corylus americana*, is a superfluity in my garden, but I have been watching with interest the development of some introduced specimens of *C. rostrata* [*C. cornuta* - Beaked Hazelnut]. I felt rather foolish last summer when I discovered a lot of the latter in my bog loaded with the long beaked fruit. It is listed for the northern part of the state and I never dreamed of finding it in Minneapolis. With the exception of the fruit, it differs but little from *americana*. At about the same time I discovered also the Thimbleberry, *Rubus occidentalis*. [She lists the scientific name for Black Raspberry, which her text indicates is what she is talking about, but Thimbleberry is a name used today for *R. parviflorus*] This, too, was in fruit and thereby easily distinguished from the more common red raspberry. But how blind I was not to notice before the thick white bloom on the stems.

Teucrium canadense [Germander] is another new comer. This has followed in the wake of the extermination of Canada Thistle. Shaking my digger at *Zygadene chloranthus* [now *Zigadenus elegans* - Mountain Camas] and *Veratrum viride* and threatening to replace them with something more tractable, brought them to luxuriant blooming, although they had not shown even a switch of a flower bud during five years of zealous care. The *Zygadene* bears an elongated raceme of attractive greenish white shallow bells. The *Veratrum* (false hellebore) is a stout tall plant with large plaited leaves and a many-branched panicle of innumerable small flowers. its hugeness makes it noticeable.

A specimen of *Rubus odoratus*, the beautiful flowering raspberry -- its large rose-colored flowers and maple-like leaves familiar to many under cultivation - was procured from cold Ontario but it died down to the ground every winter and was as effortless as the first Mrs. Dombey [ref to a Dickens character]. Last season it was piqued by jealousy to sprouting into a big bush which blossomed and blossomed, outdoing every plant of that kind I have ever seen. I merely planted around it a quantity of *Rubus parviflorus*, the salmonberry, saying "I am sure I shall like these as well. They have beautiful white flowers, leaves as fine as yours, *Odoratus*, and better tasting fruit of an unusual color."



1917

Winter 1916/1917

In Malden during the winter Eloise ordered plants from Gillett's Nursery in Boxford MA, Horsford's Nursery in Charlotte, Vermont, and Andrews Nursery in Boulder Colorado. There were then sent to her and arrived in April. Others arrived from Gillett's in September and from Kelsey's Nursery in Pineola, North Carolina in October.

In late March she returned to her new rented quarters at the residence of John and Susan Babcock.

It was snowy and cold; 1917 was the coldest year of the 20th century.

Spring 1917

Eloise's first entry in her Garden Log was April 3rd - "planted 2 clumps of Pasque Flower in bud and 4 roots of *Penstemon grandiflorus*, both from Ft. Snelling." It is difficult to see how she planted these as the snow depth on March 16th in the Twin Cities was 31 inches and on April 14 she would wrote:

Snow deeper than ever noted before at this date on east side of swamp. Tops of several hemlocks winter killed. Rabbits had girdled several young box elders.



The coast of Castine Maine where Eloise attended Normal School in 1870-73.
Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

The winter of 1916/17 produced 85 inches of snow, 40+ inches above average. In later years only the winters of 1951/52, '81/82 and '83/84 had more snow.

Work was being done to place a concrete dam over the water channel leading out of the garden. That was completed on May 9. The dam would last until the 1950s when Martha Crone would write in her Annual Report to the Board of Park Commissioners (February 21, 1955):

The dam across the lower end of the pool is beyond our power of repair and needs to be reconstructed, thereby eliminating the dangerous condition caused by its upheaval.

The concrete dam of 1917 replaced an earthen structure that was created by Eloise and the other botany teachers when the Garden was first organized. It formed the small pool in that area of the Garden for aquatic plants and this was written about it in 1913:

The pool is formed by a grass and moss covered earthen dam, which has been thrown across a brook's course. The dam is almost, though not quite, such as beavers would have made, but it is now so covered with things growing at random, as they do in wild places, that it seems the work of nature itself. It is however, the only bit of artificial work in the entire garden. (1)



Pasque Flower (*Anemone patens*), these were planted almost every year by Eloise Butler between 1910 and 1920.

Her Log notes on birds and animals during the spring months included these:

May 19: Muskrat posed for photographs in garden. Watched a woodchuck sitting motionless for a long time. Afterwards it was treed by a dog. It stayed in the crotch of a branch all night and the following day.

Cowbird laid egg in last year's vireo nest.

May 20: Cowbird laid second egg.

The May entry about the Woodchuck was enlarged in her diary entry for May 17:

Found a woodchuck perched on a stone set against the boles of an ironwood beside the broad path. There he sat motionless while a crowd gazed at him. When a camera was trained on him, he sprang away, ran over the hillside and darted into a large hole just dug in which to set a tree. The workmen could not persuade him to budge until they filled in the hole with the sod they had just removed. Later he ran by other workmen who were resetting a tree on the edge of the northwest meadow; was rediscovered standing stock still in the pathway below Prickly Ash Arbor. This time he did not move and allowed a long-time exposure of the camera. An hour later a dog caused him to take refuge in the fork of a small elm. There he hung all night and the next day in the same position.

During the spring she added nine new species to the Garden. All native, but not all sourced locally. She also recorded planting 23 other species, many of which are still in the Garden. The new plants are listed after the autumn section below.

Summer 1917

On June 5, work on a new bird bath was completed. Sometime during the early months of the year Eloise had a new birdbath created for the Garden. Here are her words:

The latest acquisition in my wild garden is a big boulder hauled in on a stone drag by four pairs of horses, and chiseled out by a stone mason into a bird bath with four shelves, each about seven inches wide on a half inch grade. It is much appreciated by the birds who bathe in it early in the morning and late in the afternoon, and stop to take a drink in passing. (2)

In a newspaper article about her and the Garden from 1917 this was written about the birdbath:

This is the only bit of work that Miss Butler has been known to allow a man to do in her "estate," and it was only when she realized that time had made some claims against her vitality she surrendered this task of love to a mere outsider. . . . Here come the birds in the early morning and sing their matins while they splash and play in the glinting sunlight. They have no fear, for they are never molested nor disturbed.

During the same time period she wrote:

The first of June, as I was clearing away the dead stalks of perennials near the edge of my swamp, I flushed a bird that I had only seen in pictures or as stuffed specimens in museums. It made a short, low flight and fluttered feebly to the ground as if it were wounded unto death.

As I followed it, the bird repeated the feint several times, sometimes running for a little distance and peeking out at me from behind a bush with one bright eye. Of course, I understood that the bird was trying to lure me away from her nest and I recognized from the long bill and bobbed tail that it was a woodcock. The next day I found her in the swamp with three little ones. (2)

All she had entered in her Garden Log was:

May 26: Flushed a woodcock! She feinted a broken wing to lure me away from nest of little ones.

May 27: Flushed in swamp three or four small woodcocks with father or mother bird.

She also wrote:



Eloise Butler with unidentified friend at the newly installed bird bath - 1917. Photo Martha Crone Collection, MHS.



Goldfinches making use of the new bird bath in a 1934 photo.
Photo Martha Crone Collection,

under my skirt.

My phoebe who raised two broods last year in a nest that she built over a wren box under the eaves of my office, returned this season and is now feeding her second brood.(2)

The new bird bath was busy during the summer. On July 25 she wrote
Saw crow standing in bird bath. Shortly after 5pm saw as many as thirty birds taking their turn in the bath. Often 6 at once. (3)

Another interesting birding note appears in her Garden log on June 3:

A young grosbeak just out of the nest came directly to me in the swamp, and huddled

During the summer she added eleven new species to the Garden. All native, but not all sourced locally. All but one are found in the state, although several were introductions after settlement. She also recorded planting 10 other species, many of which are still in the Garden. The new plants are listed after the autumn section below.

Autumn 1917

It had been her practice since 1910, to have a display about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair. She would spend a week at the fair and then bring back the plants from her display to re-plant in the Garden. She definitely had a display in 1916, but we are not sure if the State Fair exhibit ended that year or if she was there in 1917 and made no notes about it. A gap in log dates indicates she may have been there.

During the autumn she added five new species to the Garden, all from Minnesota sources but three are suspect as to what she added because the three she reported have never been found in the state. Detail on new plants are listed below. She also recorded planting over 30 other species, many of which are still in the Garden.

On October 9 she made this note: “*continuing blueing east hillside.*” This was in reference to planting many blue flowered asters: 51 *Aster laevis* (Smooth Aster) 63 *Aster azureus* (Sky-blue Aster) on that day, and 51 the day before. Eloise always planted asters in the fall, sometimes in great quantities. Undoubtedly, they may have been short lived and needed to be replaced frequently.

Occasionally she reported on mushrooms in the Garden, such as this note:

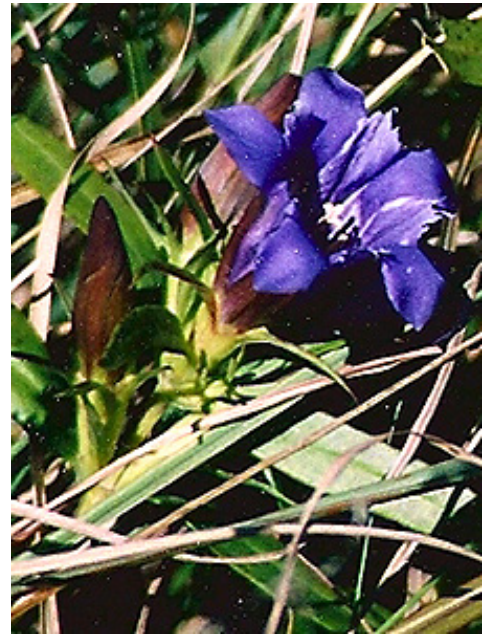
“October 3 Found one more small *Clavatia gigantea*, making 15 this season, only 6 being of medium size - about 2 lbs 10 oz on ave.”

Her last entry of the year in her Garden Log was October 24:

planted 4 Hop Trees and one Sugar Maple along the road, outside the garden area. From Park Board nursery.

Sometime during 1917 she made notes for an essay titled *Occult Experiences of a Wild Gardener*. Here is an excerpt, more text is at the end of this years "plants" section:

At another time I wanted *Gentiana puberula* [Downy Gentian] I had never gathered the plant. I only knew that it grew on the prairie. So I betook myself to the prairie and hunted until I was tired. Then I bethought myself of my ghostly friends and murmured, "Now, I will let 'them' push me." Thereupon, I wandered about, without giving thought to my steps, and was just thinking, "The spell won't work this time," when my feet caught in a gopher hole and I stumbled and fell headlong into a patch of the gentian.



Downy Gentian (*Gentiana puberula*), one of Eloise Butler's occult finds.

Although Eloise made no mention of it, the temperatures during the season were well below average, but rainfall was adequate. It was the coldest year of the 20th Century but the beginning of winter at the end of 1917 saw little snowfall. The entire winter of 1917/18 had only about 31 inches of snow, below the average of 43 inches - dramatic contrast to the winter prior.

Notes:

- (1) *The Bellman* May 3, 1913.
- (2) [Annals of the Wild Life Reserve](#)
- (3) Garden Log

Photo top of page 122: J W Babcock House, 227 Xerxes Ave No., lodging quarters of Eloise Butler.

New 1917 Plants

Spring 1917

- *Acer saccharinum*, Silver Maple. from Park Board nursery. Native. Extant.
- *Catalpa speciosa*, Cigar Tree, from Park Board Nursery. Native.
- *Cynoglossum officinale*, Gypsy Flower, from near Shakopee, introduced. [Photo shown next page]
- *Malvastrum coccineum*, [*Sphaeralcea coccinea* subsp. *coccinea*], Scarlet Globemallow, from Mass., Native. [Photo shown next page]
- *Mamillaria missouriensis*, [*Escobaria missouriensis*], Missouri Foxtail Cactus, Andrews Nursery, Boulder Co. Native.
- *Oxtropis splendens*, Showy locoweed, Andrews Nursery, Boulder Co.. Native.
- *Prunus americana*, Wild Plum. from Kelsey's Nursery, Boxford MA, native. Extant.
- *Quercus bicolor* var *plantanoides*, Swamp White Oak, Kelsey's, native [varieties have now been aggregated to the species level]. Extant.
- *Rosa arkansana* - Prairie Rose - Strands Nursery Taylors Falls. Native. Extant. [Photo next page]

Summer 1917

- *Agastache scrophularifolia*, Purple Giant Hyssop - from meadow near parkway bridge on Luce RR. Again in October from wood bordering prairie at Minnehaha. Native. Extant.
- *Agoseris glauca* - Pale Agoseris. In 1914 she noted planting "Agoseris" without giving a species.
- *Brauneria angustifolia*, [*Echinacea angustifolia*], Pale Purple Coneflower from Franklin Ave. Native.
- *Mentha piperata* (*Mentha x piperata*) Peppermint - from a garden. Garden Plant not found in wild. Extant.
- *Oenothera nuttallii* (assumed as that is only white flowered one native - and with whitish stems. White evening Primrose. 7 poor roots from Shore of Brownie's pond. Native. [Photo shown next page]
- *Plantago purshii*, [*Plantago patagonica*] Woolly Plantain - no source, native. [Photo shown next page]
- *Ruta graveolens* - Common Rue - Garden plant from friends garden. introduced plant, not found in wild in MN.
- *Tragopogon pratensis*, Meadow Goat's-beard - from N Dakota. introduced to Minnesota, not native. Extant. [Photo shown next page]
- *Vaccinium membranaceum*, Thin-leaved Bilberry which is unlikely as the U of M Herbarium says it is incorrect for MN based on a mis-identified specimen - so what did she get? - from vicinity of Coon Lake.
- *Vallisneria spiralis* [*Vallisneria americana*] American Eelgrass, from Birch Pond, native.



Prairie Rose, (*Rosa arkansana*), added in 1917. Photo G D Bebeau



Scarlet (Globemallow *Sphaeralcea coccinea* subsp. *coccinea*), planted spring 1917. Photo ©Nevada Native Plant Society.

Autumn 1917

- *Helianthus subrhomboides*, [*Helianthus pauciflorus* subsp. *subrhomboides*], Stiff Sunflower, from Mr. Babcock's dooryard. Native. Extant.
- *Potentilla canadensis* - Dwarf cinquefoil, from Glenwood park. This is not found in Minnesota. Probably Common Cinquefoil, *Potentilla simplex*.
- *Prenanthes altissima*, Tall Rattlesnake Root - unlikely as never found in Minnesota, may be *P. alba* - White Rattlesnake Root.

- *Smilax rotundifolia*, Roundleaf Greenbrier, from Minnehaha prairie. The University and the Minnesota DNR report no confirmed collection of the plant at anytime anywhere in Minnesota. This must be considered suspect and the plant was possibly a smooth angled stem version of the only native Greenbrier mentioned in Eloise Butler's Garden Log from the early years - - Bristly Greenbrier, *S. tamnoides*.
- *Solidago Mollis*, Soft Goldenrod, from Mahtomedi, and again on October 16 from Mendota. Native but on the "Special Concern" list.



Gypsy Flower (*Cynoglossum officinale*),
planted spring 1917. Photo ©Derek
Anderson, Wisconsin Flora.



Woolly Plantain (*Plantago patagonica*),
planted 1917. Photo ©Aaron Carlson,
Wisconsin Flora.



Meadow Goat's-beard,
(*Tragopogon pratensis*), Photo G
D Bebeau



White Evening Primrose (*Oenothera
nuttallii*), planted summer 1917. Photo
©Robert E. Lee, Wisconsin Flora.

Additional text from "Occult Experiences of a Wild Gardener"

"What's this, Miss Butler?" asked a pupil, holding up a wilted flower, as she took her seat in the classroom.

"I don't know. It is a cultivated flower, is it not?"

"No, it grows wild on the prairie."

"That doesn't seem possible. I never saw it before. What do you call it?"

"An anemone."

"I have never seen an anemone like that. Bring me the whole plant and I will analyze it."

As I was familiar with the prairie flora of the neighborhood, I continued to think that the plant was an escape from the garden. About a week afterward, the plant was brought in just as recitation was beginning. At one glance, without taking it in my hand, I said, "you are right. It is an anemone. It is the Carolina anemone." Then I was immediately stricken with astonishment at my own words, for I had never seen the Carolina Anemone and could not have described it to save my life. But at the first free moment, I found that the botanies confirmed my rash statement.

Not many days later a group of teachers were talking about violets. One asked another, "How many violets are native to Minnesota?" "I do not know," was the reply. "Can you tell us Miss Butler?" "Seventeen," I flashed, as one would answer to what is twice three, but immediately exclaimed, "Why did I say that? I haven't the slightest idea of the number." However, consulting two authorities, we found that the answer was confirmed.

Associates in botany have remarked to me, "You always find the plant you look for." I wished to get some Leatherwood for the wild garden. It had died out from

the place where I had found it years ago. One day a University student inadvertently asked me, "Do you know Leatherwood?" "Indeed I do. That is just what I wish most to see. Tell me where I can find some and I will get it this very day." Her ideas of its whereabouts were vague. She had seen it two years before near St. Thomas' School, but on what side of the buildings, or the road, she could not tell. With this direction, I scoured all the region about St. Thomas, without success. As it was then past the dinner hour and high time for me to go home, I left the place reluctantly and started for the streetcar. Suddenly, without conscious volition, but obeying a blind, unreasoning impulse, I turned and plunged on a bee-line into the woods. "Eloise Butler," I said to myself, "what are you doing? You are due at home." But on I went and walked directly into a pocket lined with Leatherwood in full blossom - - a place that I had never visited before. The whole affair seeded uncanny to me.



1918

Winter 1917/1918

Eloise sourced some plants from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA, and from Kelsey's Nursery in Pineola, North Carolina. The plants were then sent to her and arrived in April. Others arrived from Gillett's in October.

Spring 1918

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on 31 March when she wrote:

Spring more advanced than it was last year. Aspen catkins gone by; several willows, hazel, and alder in blossom. Bluebird, downy woodpecker, flicker, junco, red-winged blackbird, song sparrow, phoebe in evidence; pasque flowers opening on the prairie.



Front Garden and entrance of the Cora Pease house in Malden MA where Eloise spent winters. Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

The weather was definitely different. The previous year had record amounts of snow on the ground in late March, but this year, even though there was an 11 inch snowfall in mid-March, temperatures were warm and there was no snow in late March.

Her first planting occurred on April 1st with sowing 13 acorns of Black Oak, *Quercus velutina*, that were collected in Providence Rhode Island and stratified during the winter at Malden Mass while Eloise stayed there with sister Cora. On that same day she noted the Snow Trillium in bloom and that a large gray western great horned owl was captured in the vicinity of the Garden.(1)

Some additional notes:

May 13: "heavy frost last night. Young leaves of plants frozen. Grape badly affected."

May 26: "Noted a pair of bitterns about the brook from nine to three o'clock. The female one-third smaller than the male and more conspicuously striped on the breast -- like a garter snake. The male sported his courting dress -- two large united tufts of white down looking like cotton-wool displayed across the back at the origin of the wings. It is said that these masses can be thrown out or drawn in at will."(1)

Plantings: This spring she brought in 3 new species, all obtained from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick Mass. Northern Holly Fern, New York Ironweed, and Catberry or Canadian Holly. None are native to Minnesota. Details below the autumn section.

She also recorded planting 13 other species, many of which are still in the Garden.

Summer 1918

During the summer months she planted around the new 1917 bird bath Golden Corydalis (*Corydalis aurea*), Downy Yellow Violets (*Viola pubescens*), and Blue violets (*V. sororia*).

In the summer months she obtained 4 new species for the Garden, Jerusalem Oak Goosefoot, Blue Lettuce, Sandbar Willow and the Small Northern Bog Orchid. Only the first is not native. Details on all 1918 new plantings listed below the autumn section.

August 6 - Snapping turtle measuring a foot across noted walking down the path towards the office. Back coated with a thick layer of mud. Turned and faced me twice when accosted. (1)

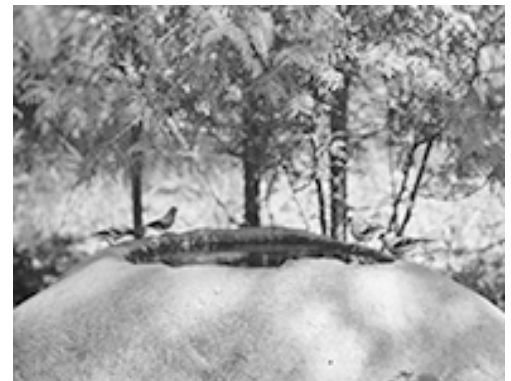
She also recorded planting 16 other species, many of which are still in the Garden. A number of these came from a trip to Pequot MN where she said plants were collected from the vicinity of Lake Margaret.

Autumn 1918

Since 1910, Eloise had maintained a display about the Wild Garden at the Minnesota State Fair, but we believe that 1917 was the last year. She would spend a week at the fair, bring back the plants from her display to re-plant in the Garden, but based on her log dates, it does not appear she was absent from the Garden this year. Perhaps the U.S. entry in WWI was the reason.



Mature Black Oak. Eloise planted acorns in 1918. Her first planting of acorns of the species in the Garden was 1913.



1917 Bird Bath, shown here in a 1934 photo.



Sensitive Fern, (*Onoclea sensibilis*) planted in 1918, but also indigenous to the Garden. Photo G D Bebeau

What she did begin this year was a rotating display of native plants at the Minneapolis Public Library. She updated the exhibit every few days and brought back plants to replant in the Garden, frequently mentioning the replanting in her Garden Log.

In the fall months she obtained 10 new species for the Garden: Cutleaf Grape Fern, Hemlock Water Parsnip, Narrow Panicked Rush, Ontario Aster, Showy Beggarticks, Spearwort Buttercup, Staghorn Sumac, Thimbleweed, Virginia Dwarf Dandelion, and Male Fern. Several are not native, or the plant she collected was mis-identified. Details listed below.

She also recorded planting 37 other species, many of which are still in the Garden, including numerous asters.

Two of her sources for a large number of plants were from around Pelican Lakes, MN and from Mahtomedi MN, which was a location she frequently used. Then there were her regular sources of Minnehaha Park, Glenwood Park and Fort Snelling.

Her last log entry was on October 31st when she noted planting 6 Sensitive Ferns gotten from a bog on Superior Blvd. near the Garden. Superior Blvd. was U.S. Hy. 12.

It was at some time during this year of 1918 that a young woman began to make appearances at the Garden and provide some help, particularly in the area of finding plants for the Garden. That woman was Martha Crone, who succeeded Eloise as Curator in 1933. Martha recalled that she had spent about 15 years helping out in the Garden which would put the start of her volunteer time around 1918 [Conversation with Pat Deweese, *The Fringed Gentian*TM, Winter 1978]. The first reference to the 15 years was in an article in the *Minneapolis Star* on January 10, 1944. The article was about her position at the Minneapolis Library Science Museum. Eloise would soon become good friends with Martha and her husband William. They exchanged letters and Christmas gifts during the months Eloise was back on the East Coast.

When Martha Hellander interviewed Martha Crone in 1988 while doing research for her book (2) Mrs. Crone related that when Eloise gave tours of the Garden she (Crone) was often asked to come along and make sure no one picked the flowers. Mrs. Crone noted that "I was her best guard."

The year was average in terms of precipitation. Late fall into early winter was relatively free of snow. The entire winter of 1918/19 had only about 25 inches of snow, well below the average of 43 inches.



Martha and William Crone with their only daughter Janet, circa 1920. Janet was born June 16, 1917.

Notes:

(1) Eloise Butler's Garden Log.

(2) *The Wild Gardener*, 1992, pg. 95.

Photo top of page 130: The summer garden at 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden MA where Eloise Butler wintered.

New 1918 Plants

Spring 1918

- *Aspidium lonchitis*, [*Polystichum lonchitis*], Northern Holly Fern - from Gillett's Nursery Southwick Mass. Not considered native as there are no herbarium collections.
- *Nemopanthus mucronata* [*Ilex mucronata*] Catberry or Canadian Holly, Gillett's, not native. [Photo Shown]
- *Vernonia noveboracense*, New York Ironweed, Gillett's Nursery, not native.

Summer 1918

- *Chenopodium Botrys* Jerusalem oak goosefoot -Mr. Babcocks Garden - introduced.
- *Habenaria obtusata* [*Platanthera obtusata*, ssp. *obtusata*] Small Northern Bog orchis, from vicinity of Lake Margaret, Pequot, MN. Native. [Photo next page]
- *Lactuca pulchella* [*Lactuca tatarica* var. *pulchella*], Blue lettuce, from vicinity of Lake Margaret, Pequot, MN. Native.
- *Salix interior*, Sandbar Willow, from Golf grounds, Glenwood Park. Native.



Catberry, (*Ilex mucronata*) planted in 1918. Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin

Autumn 1918

- *Anemone cylindrica* - Candle Anemone (Long-fruited Thimbleweed), from Ft. Snelling. Native. Extant.
- *Aspidium filix-mas* [*Dryopteris filix-mas*], Male Fern, Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA. Not native. [Photo next page]
- *Aster Tradescanti* [*Symphiotrichum ontarionis*], Ontario Aster, from Washburn Park. Native. Extant.
- *Botrychium obliquum* [*Botrychium dissectum*]. Cutleaf Grape Fern, Mahtomedi. Native.
- *Juncus brevicaudatus* - Narrow paniced Rush, from Mahtomedi, Native.
- *Kirgia virginica*, Virginia Dwarf Dandelion. This is doubtful as the U of M herbarium says it has been reported but never collected. Hazel Park, St. Paul.
- *Ranunculus flammula* Spearwort Buttercup, from Pelican Lake region. Native.
- *Rhus typhina*, Staghorn Sumac, from Ft. Snelling. Native. Extant.
- *Sium cicutaefolium* [*Sium suave*] Hemlock Water Parsnip, from Glenwood Park. Native. [Photo next page]



Hemlock Water Parsnip, (*Sium suave*) planted in 1918. Photo ©Merle R. Black. Wisconsin Flora.



Male Fern, (*Dryopteris filix-mas*) planted in 1918. Photo G D



Small Northern Bog Orchid (Blunt leaf orchid), (*Platanthera obtusata*, ssp. *obtusata*) planted in 1918. Photo ©R.K. Kupfer,

Excerpts from “*The Wild Botanic Garden* - *Early History - 1926*” by Eloise Butler

In the early '80s Minneapolis was a place of enchantment – a veritable fairyland. Along the river banks grew in profusion trillium, bloodroot, wild phlox, anemones, Dutchman's breeches, and hepatica; the meadows were glorious with Indian paint brush, both red and yellow, with gentians, purple fringed orchids, and royal clumps of blue violets. In the tamarack swamps of the suburbs might be seen long vistas of our state flower, the showy lady's-slipper, together with the wild calla, and pitcher plants without number. And who could describe the outlying prairies, rioting in colors far exceeding the brilliancy of tropical flora. A long procession beginning with the pasque flower, the “crocus in chinchilla fur,” the rosy three-flowered avens, and the equally profuse bird's-foot violet, that gave way in turn to the more gorgeous blooms of midsummer and early autumn, as the purple blazing stars, giant sunflowers, goldenrods, and asters of many species and hues. Various lily-rimmed pools and lakes were teeming with algae, among them microscopic desmids, and diatoms of extraordinary beauty, many of which were new to the world.

What changes have been wrought by the rapid growth of the city and the onward march of “improvements”! The shy woodland plants are fast dying out on our river banks; the tamarack swamps

have been drained, and with the drying up of the water have disappeared the wondrous orchids and the strange insectivorous plants. The pools with the desmids and diatoms have been filled in and houses built over them; and the prairies have been platted into building lots. The land has been ruthlessly stripped of the exquisite features that Nature, the greatest landscape gardener, has wrought through the ages, and “all the king's horses and all the king's men” can never make the place the same again. The foreign plants used to replace our native species, and introduced with so much labor and expense, removed from their natural setting, look formal and stiff, and impress one much as impaled



Pasque Flower which begins what Eloise calls “the long procession” of blooming plants. Photo G D Bebeau

butterflies do in a museum case.

Again, it is cleared land that is invaded by unwelcome foreigners like burdock, sand-bur, and Russian thistle; for most of our vegetable tramps, like the human ones, are from the Old World. Inured to keener competition, they multiply rapidly and crowd out our native wildings. Cottagers on the suburban lake shores have fettered ideas of planting that are more appropriate for city grounds, and condemn their neighbors who strive to preserve the wildness, for a lack of neatness in not using a lawnmower and in not pulling down the vine tangles in which birds nest and sing – apparently dissatisfied until the wilderness is reduced to a dead level of monotonous, songless tameness. What does one go into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken by the wind, if you please; but surely not geometric flower beds, nor mounds of the ubiquitous canna and castor bean.

Hence, to preserve intact and within easy reach some of our vanishing wild land, to maintain a supply of native plants for educational purposes, to study at firsthand the problems of ecology and forestry, to preserve the indigenous flora and to introduce, if feasible, the flora of all the other regions of botany in Minnesota for the benefit of students of botany and lovers of wild life – the teachers of botany in Minneapolis petitioned the city park commissioners to set aside a tract of land for a wild botanic garden. The site selected by the teachers and generously granted by the commissioners lies in Glenwood Park, the largest and perhaps the most beautiful of all our parks, containing three ponds of fair extent, a diversity of soil and slopes and wooded heights commanding extensive views. In autumn, the scene is of surpassing loveliness with the beautiful groups of trees on the hills, in the valleys, and about the ponds, the vivid reds of the maples and the oaks, and the gold of the poplars set off by the white boles of birch and the dark green foliage of tamaracks.

A particular reason for selecting this place was the undrained tamarack swamp, such a swamp being the abode of most of our orchids and insectivorous plants so interesting in habit and structure. Indeed, most lovers of wild plants are bog-trotters and find in the depths of a swamp an earthly paradise. The indigenous flora was found to be captivating. Among the notables were sundew, pitcher plant, *Linnaea*, Turk's-cap lily, the two species of fringed gentian, showy and yellow lady's-slippers.

In the spring of 1907, the experiment began on a tract of about three acres in extent, comprising the small tamarack bog with meadows on the south and west merging into wooded slopes. Longing eyes were cast upon a marsh overgrown with willows on the eastern side of the bog. This was private property, but before a year had passed it was purchased by the park commission and added to the garden together with the adjacent hillside. Later, meadows on the north and west were also annexed so that the garden now contains about twenty-five acres.

A tiny stream threaded the bog and emerged into a depressed area of slimy ooze flanked by low banks. A dam was constructed that converted the depression into a lovely pool that has become a favorite sketching point for artists. It has proved too shady for aquatics and it is proposed to make a small pond by excavation in the open north meadow where the stream from the bog unites with one that flows from a spring on the eastern boundary. The delicious water of this spring is not one of the least important adjuncts of the garden.

It was planned from the beginning to make the garden a living museum of the flora of Minnesota and to preserve strictly the wild appearance of the place. There were to be no formal beds. Plants were to be allowed to grow according to their own sweet will and not as humans might wish them to grow, and without any restraint except what could be essential for health and mutual well-being. Each plant introduced to the garden is provided with an environment similar to its original one and then left to take care of itself as in the wild open, with only the natural fertilizers such as decaying wood and leaves. No watering is done after the plants are firmly established. Plants growing in excess and pestilent weeds are removed to make room for more desirable newcomers.



1919

Winter 1918/1919

In Malden for the winter Eloise Butler sourced some plants from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA, and from Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte, Vermont. The plants were then sent to her and arrived in April.

Spring 1919

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on 30 March when she wrote:

Trillium nivale, white maple, hazel, speckled alder and willow in bloom.

The preceding winter had been well below average for snowfall and late March temperatures were warm.

She has many notes about birds sighted in the Garden in the first part of April but her first planting occurs on April 17th with planting Pasque Flower, the planting of which was a frequent early spring occurrence.

On May 16th she noted:

Saw woodchuck climbing like a bear red maple by the spring, and suspend himself in the crotch of a limb.



The foundation of the original barn on the first Oliver Butler farm where Eloise was born. Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

Plantings: This spring she brought in 3 new species, all obtained from Gillett's and Horsford's: Bride's Feathers, Robert Geranium, Threadleaf Sundew. Details listed below the autumn section. She also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 16 species which are still in the Garden.

At some time during the year Eloise wrote an updated version of her 1915 essay on *Ferns in the Garden*. This update had a more extensive list of ferns, where she obtained them, and how they were faring in the Garden. The text indicates that, like the 1915 article, it was sent to The Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. Part of the essay follows this text.

Summer 1919

The Showy Lady's-slippers were in bloom by June 15th and on the 22nd she noted they were "never more magnificent."

Eloise wrote several articles for the *Minneapolis Tribune* and the *Minneapolis Journal*, at their request, about the plants and flowers at the Lake Harriet Rose Gardens and the old Armory Gardens at Kenwood Parkway and Lyndale Ave.

These articles were to educate the public about the shrubs and flowers found in these gardens. The articles were written in a straight forward reporter-like fashion with an occasional light-hearted note such as this one:

Both the Armory and the Wild Garden now exhibit the Cardinal Flower. It is one of several instances when I say to a plant in the Armory garden, "you are out of your province. Native flowers are not expected here among the exotics.

Just for good measure, she ended each article by adding comments about what was happening in the Wild Garden in Glenwood Park. In another article published in the *Journal* that year she said:

All Minneapolis botany teachers, including those at the University of Minnesota, send their students to study in this beautiful outdoor museum of flowers. Many students of botany and lovers of flowers in St. Paul, too are frequent visitors. The curator's office is equipped with anti-mosquito fluid so that those who can stay away from the woods for fear of the over-enthusiastic mosquito, need have not fear. If the visitor's epidermis is unusually thin, he can get a "face and hand wash" free and after the fluid has been applied the mosquito will break all aerial records getting away from him.

On Aug. 31st she noted bloom on *Solidago neglecta* [now *Solidago uliginosa* var. *uliginosa*], Bog Goldenrod "from Cleveland Ohio." This is a native species but there is no previous mention of the plant in her log or when she obtained it from Cleveland Ohio.

In the summer months she obtained 3 new species for the Garden: Cluster Mallow, Lowbush Blueberry and Velvetleaf Huckleberry. Details on all the 1919 new plantings are listed below the autumn section.



Northern Bog Goldenrod, noted in bloom this year by Eloise Butler. Photo ©Scott Milburn, Wisconsin Flora.

She also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 9 species which are still in the Garden, most from local sources.

Autumn 1919



Henbit Deadnettle, (*Lamium amplexicaule*), planted in 1919 by Eloise Butler, sold in Garden centers then, now extremely invasive.

Beginning in 1918 Eloise maintained a rotating display of native plants at the Minneapolis Public Library. She updated the exhibit every few days and brought back plants to replant in the Garden, frequently mentioning the replanting in her Garden Log.

On October 10 she noted in the log:

No frosts so far, Thermometer registers nearly 32 degrees this morning. An exceptionally dry fall.

In the fall months she obtained 13 new species for the Garden. One of which we believe she mis-identified as it has never been known from the area she collected it. Another of those she brought in, from a Garden Center, is an invasive plant that is currently the scourge of the crop fields in the central United States - Henbit Deadnettle. In her day it may have nice to experiment with growing it but today a lot of herbicide is applied every year to control this plant.

Eloise also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 40 species which are still in the Garden, most from local sources. One of her sources for a

very large number of species planted on August 23 to 25 was from the area of Grand Marais and Beaver Camp, in northern Minnesota. Other favored sources were her regular sources of Minnehaha Park, Glenwood Park, Columbia Heights, the Franklin Bridge and Fort Snelling.

Her last log entry for the year was on October 21st when she planted a large number of asters.

1919 was right on average for precipitation but late fall would bring snow with the winter of 1919/20 producing around 65 inches of snow - 20 inches above average.

Photo top of page 136: Cardinal Flower and Boneset in the wetland, photo from a Kodachrome by Martha Crone on August 4, 1948.

New 1919 Plants

Spring 1919

- *Aruncus sylvestris* [*Aruncus dioicus*] Bride's Feathers, Horsford's Nursery, Charlotte VT. Not native. [Photo next page]
- *Drosera filiformis*, Threadleaf Sundew, Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA. Not native.
- *Geranium robertianum*, Robert Geranium, Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA Native and introduced. [Photo at right]

Summer 1919

- *Malva verticillata*, Cluster Mallow, from Mr. Babcocks yard, introduced - his from West Concord, MN.
- *Vaccinium canadense*. [*V. myrtilloides*], Velvetleaf Huckleberry, from Coon Lake. Native.
- *Vaccinium pennsylvanicum* [*Vaccinium angustifolium*], Lowbush Blueberry, from Coon Lake. Native.

Autumn 1919

- *Aster commutatus*, [*Symphiotrichum falcatum*], White Prairie Aster, from Belt-line Bridge, this is an unlikely species as it is native only in a few counties of the state, not locally.
- *Aster prenanthoides*, [*Symphiotrichum prenanthoides*] Crooked Stem Aster, native. [Photo next page]
- *Glycyrrhiza lepidota*. American Licorice, from Franklin Ave. Bridge. Native. [Photo next page]
- *Lamium amplexicaule*, Henbit Deadnettle, from Lyndale Gardens. Introduced. [Photo page 138]
- *Nicandra Physalodes*, Apple of Peru, seeds, from solon Spring Valley WI. Introduced plant.
- *Plantago lanceolata*. Narrowleaf Plantain, from Lyndale Gardens. Introduced.
- *Rosa acicularis*. Prickly Rose, from Lutzen 6 roots, native. Extant. [Photo next page]
- *Solidago serotina* [*Solidago gigantea*], Giant Goldenrod, from Belt-line Bridge. Native. Extant.
- *Verbascum blattaria*, Moth Mullein, seeds, from Chicago, not native. [Photo shown]
- *Viola nephrophylla* Green, Northern Bog Violet, from Northome, MN. Native -Eloise did not mention species, only the common name so we assume it was this one. [Photo next page]



Robert's Geranium, (*Geranium robertianum*), planted in spring 1919.
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora.



Brides Feathers, (*Aruncus dioicus*),
planted in spring 1919. Photo G D
Bebeau



Prickly Rose (*Rosa acicularis*),
planted in autumn 1919. Photo G
D Bebeau



American Licorice, (*Glycyrrhiza
lepidota*) planted autumn 1919,
Photo ©Derek Anderson,
Wisconsin Flora.



Crooked Stem Aster,
(*Symphyotrichum prenanthoides*),
planted autumn 1919, Photo ©
Emmet J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin
Flora.



Moth Mullein, (*Verbascum
blattaria*), planted in autumn 1919.
Photo ©Robert Bierman,



Northern Bog Violet, (*Viola
nephrophylla*), planted in autumn
1919. Photo ©Merle R. Black,

“Ferns in the Wild Garden - 1919” by Eloise Butler.

Minnesota is not as rich as Vermont in ferns. How I envy Vermonters! Our university lists in its Fern Guide but thirty-eight species; but Warren Upham in his catalogue of Minnesota Flora printed in 1884 gives authority for these additional species: *Asplenium platyneuron*,

Phegopteris Robertiana, *Aspidium* (*Dryopteris*) *noveboracense*, *Aspidium bootii*, *Aspidium marginale*, *Aspidium acrostichoides* [Note - this is an unresolved name], *Aspidium lonchitis*, *Polystichum braunii*, *Cystopteris montana*, *Woodsia glabella*, *Woodsia oregana*, *Dicksonia punctilobula*,

Botrychium ternatum. I have introduced all of the above except *Phegopteris Robertiana*, *Cystopteris montana*, *Woodsia glabella*; and all listed in the University Fern Guide except *Botrychium simplex*, *B. lunaria*, *Cheilanthes feei*, *Woodsia oregana*.

Ten ferns are indigenous to my garden: *Osmunda claytonia* which is one of the spectacular features of the place, clothing, as it does, an entire hillside with its tall fronds; *Asplenium filix-femina* forming large masses near the boulder bird bath and scattered throughout the garden; *Adiantum pedatum* gracing the foot paths and reaching unusual size in clumps in the tamarack swamp, where is also found in luxuriant growth *Osmunda cinnamomea*, and fine specimens of the evergreen *Aspidium spinulosum* and *A. cristatum*; the treeless portion of the swamp is carpeted with *Aspidium thelypteris*, and the meadow below the hillside of Clayton's fern is crowded with *Onoclea sensibilis*; while *Botrychium virginianum* dots the entire region just above the marsh line. Of the ten natives, *Pteris aquilina* is the least abundant, but it is rapidly increasing on the sides of the knoll on which my office stands.

In my recently planted Fern Gulch, maidenhair, lady fern and *Aspidium spinulosum* are self-established. It was my aim to make a plantation in this gully of all the ferns native to Minnesota that were not indigenous in the garden and that could be induced to grow under the prevailing conditions of light and moisture. I see that I have omitted from my list of ferns in the Gulch *Polypodium vulgare*. This was obtained from the vicinity of Minneapolis and naturalized in the Garden. I have also introduced to the garden a few specimens of *Aspidium fragrans*, but I fear that they will die out.

With the exception of a few roots of *Aspidium cristatum* and *Aspidium thelypteris* transferred from the swamp, and specimens of *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*, *Cystopteris fragilis* and *C. bulbosa* that were naturalized in the garden, the plants were all obtained from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick

Mass, vis: *Aspidium filix-mas*, *A. noveboracense*, *A. spinulosum* var *dilatatum*, *A. cristatum* var. *Clintonianum*, *A. goldianum*, *A. marginale*, *Polystichum acrostichoides*, *P. braunii*, *Pellaea atropurpurea*, *Asplenium platyneuron*, *A. trichomanes*, *A. angustifolium*, *A. (Athyrium) acrostichoides (thelypteroides)*, *Dicksonia punctilobula*, *Woodsia ilvensis*, *W. scopulina*, *W. obtusa*, *Phegopteris hexagonoptera*, *P. dryopteris*, *P. polypodioides*. All these have been naturalized with more or less success elsewhere in the garden. The plants from the nursery were fine specimens and I hope that they will winter well. Most of the small species were pot-grown.

The ferns were set out with reference to size and conditions of light and moisture as well as drainage. I

have also outside of the Gulch well established *Osmunda regalis* and large colonies of *Onoclea struthiopteris*. These I did not place in the Gulch because of their need of space and more moisture. I have besides a few highly cherished specimens of the dainty little cliff brake, *Cryptogramma stelleri*, and *Ophioglossum vulgatum*; and when I left the Garden last November a quantity of *Azolla caroliniana* and *Salvinia natans*, planted during the summer, were bravely green on the surface of my little pond.



Eloise Butler's fern hillside that she calls "one of the spectacular features of the place". Photo May 1913, *The Bellman*.



1920

Winter 1919/1920

Plants sourced on the East Coast this winter came from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA. The plants were then sent to Eloise and arrived in April and others arrived for fall planting in October from Gillett's, from Horsford's Nursery in Charlotte Vermont, and from Andrews Nursery in Boulder Colorado.

Spring 1920

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on 25 March when she wrote:

Trillium nivale in bud, white maple, hazel, alder in bloom.

Although the past winter had produced about 65 inches of snow, 20 inches above average, with good constant snow depth, by late March it was all melted.

In 1918 Eloise began a rotating display of native plants at the Minneapolis Public Library. She updated the exhibit every few days and brought back plants to replant in the Garden, frequently mentioning the replanting in her Garden Log. On April 1st this year she noted :

Opened seasonal wildflower exhibit at central library.

Plantings: This spring she brought in 3 new species: Matrimony Vine, Oregon Cliff Fern, and Robin's Plantain [photo following]. Details listed below the autumn section.



Eloise Butler ca. 1920. Note the peace officers star which she frequently wore. Photo courtesy Mpls Public Library.

She also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 17 species which are still in the Garden.

Summer 1920

In the summer months she obtained 6 new species for the Garden: Bristly Sarsaparilla, Buffalobur Nightshade, Gallant Soldier, Green Adder's Mouth, Hooded Coralroot, Northern Slender Lady's Tresses. Details on all 1920 new plantings are listed below the autumn section.

She also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 4 species which are still in the Garden, most from local sources.

Autumn 1920

On Sept. 2 she noted in the log:

Lythrum salicaria [Purple Loosestrife] has well established itself farther down the brook below dam.



Purple Loosestrife, (*Lythrum salicaria*) mentioned by Eloise Butler, and first noted in the Garden in 1916.

The 'dam' was a small structure she had installed when the Garden was first formed, first of earth and then with concrete in 1917. It crossed the water channel that drained the southern wetland and formed a small pool for aquatics. The water then trickled down into the meadow on the north end of the Garden - an area that is now outside of the Garden's north fence but at this time the entire meadow was part of the Garden. Purple Loosestrife is another example of terribly invasive plants that in Eloise Butler's day were considered ornamental and frequently planted. It would take the Park Board many years in the 1990s to rid Wirth Park, and particularly Birch Pond, of most of it. [See photo on next page.]

In the fall months she obtained 10 new species for the Garden. Details below. She also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, including 26 species which are still in the Garden, most from local sources.

Sometime in 1920 Eloise wrote a short essay on upkeep of the Garden. It may have been sent to The Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. Here is the text:

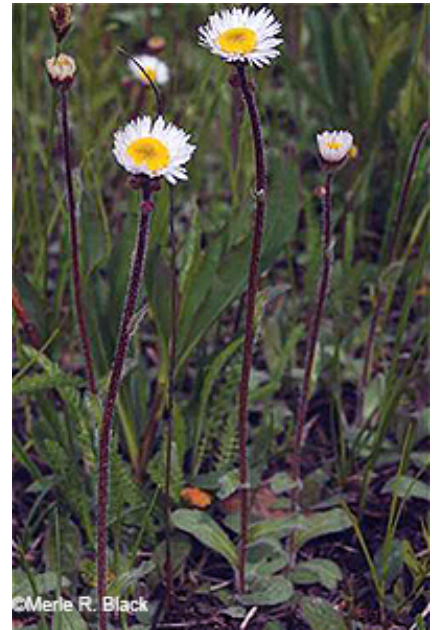
My wild garden is run on the political principle of laissez-faire. Fallen leaves are not raked up unless they lie in too deep windrows and are likely to smother some precious specimen; but are retained to form humus. But the tall dead canes of herbs like Joe-Pye Weed and wild golden glow, which are allowed to stand during the winter to protect the dormant vegetation beneath, are removed from the meadows in the spring for a clear view of the clumps of marsh marigolds, trilliums, etc.

I also gather and burn all fallen branches, and in the fall while the late flowers are still blooming, all unsightly evidence of decay. Of course, I do not allow at any time any outside litter to be brought in - - not the tiniest scrap of paper, or string, or peanut shell. The great mass of herbaceous plants, as asters, goldenrods, and most composites, I admire in their fluffy state, after they have gone to seed.

Some species, however, are to me the reverse of ornamental in old age. These are snipped to the ground or torn up by the roots and reduced to ash. Red Clover is one of the offenders. It becomes unkempt and scraggly; and the stalks of the common milkweed that are without fruit, after shedding their leaves, turn black and look like long rat tails. Touch-me-not, *Impatiens biflora* [now *I. capensis*] and *I. pallida*, collapse with the first frost and cumber the ground with a brown slime; and wood nettle, *Laportea canadensis*, is smitten as with a pestilence.

A few specimens of stingers and stick-tights are permitted on the grounds. Laportea is a persistent spreader and sometimes gets the upper hand, busy as I am with many other things. In the fall I grub it out and plant something else in its place.

Then I learn its encroaching ways. The roots are not very deep, but they are woven and knotted together into a dense mat that seems as hard as rock.



Robin's Plantain, (*Erigeron pulchellus*). New spring planting.
Photo ©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin Flora.

Her last entry in the log was on October 26th when she noted planting 51 Sky Blue Asters.



1920 was right on average for precipitation but fall temperatures were warm and the winter of 1920/21 would be very scant with snow, only 20 inches, 23 inches below average.

Left: Birch Pond on August 5, 1950, infested with Purple Loosestrife. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board successfully used biological control in the form of *Galerucella* spp. beetles to remove the plant from Birch Pond. Their program began in 1997 and by 2000 the pond was free of Loosestrife.

Photo top of page 142: Eloise Butler (center) with Friends at Glenwood Springs ca. 1900

New 1920 Plants

Spring 1920

- *Erigeron pulchellus*, Robin's Plantain, from off Superior Blvd (near the Garden). Native. [Photo on previous page].
- *Lycium barbarum*, Matrimony Vine, from Mr. Babcock's Garden, introduced.
- *Woodsia oregana*, Oregon Cliff Fern, from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA. Native

Summer 1920

- *Aralia hispida*, Bristly Sarsaparilla, from Mille Lacs, MN. Native. [Photo next page]
- *Corallorrhiza striata*, Hooded Coralroot, from Itaska Park (Collected by Dr. T. S. Roberts). Native.
- *Galinsoga parviflora*, Gallant soldier, from Mr. Babcock's yard, introduced.
- *Microstylis unifolia* [*Malaxis unifolia*], Green Adder's Mouth Orchid, From Mille Lacs, MN. Native. [Photo next page]
- *Solanum rostratum*, Buffalobur Nightshade, from Minnetonka. Native. [Photo next page]
- *Spiranthes gracilis* [*Spiranthes lacera*], Northern Slender Lady's Tresses, from Mille Lacs, MN. Native. [Photo next page]

Autumn 1920

- *Cirsium hillii*, Hill's Thistle, source unknown, native
- *Comandra livida* [*Geocaulon lividum*], False Toadflax, seeds, from Isle Royal. Native.
- *Crataegus mollis*, Downy Hawthorn, from the Park Board Nursery. Native.
- *Lonicera sempervirens*, Trumpet Honeysuckle, from Andrews Nursery, Boulder Co., not native.
- *Lonicera involucrata*, Twinberry Honeysuckle, from Andrews Nursery, Boulder Co., not native.
- *Mentha citrata*, Water Mint, from Mr. Babcock's Garden, introduced.
- *Physalis grandiflorus* [*Leucophysalis grandiflora*], Large False Ground Cherry, seeds, from Itaska Park. Native
- *Physalis heterophylla*, Clammy Ground Cherry, from Mr. Babcock's Garde. Native. Extant. [Photo next page]
- *Rubus deliciosus*, Delicious Raspberry, from Andrews Nursery, Boulder Co., not native.
- *Trillium sessile*, Toadshade, from Gillett's Nursery Southwick, MN, not native. Extant. [Photo next page]



Bristly Sarsaparilla, (*Aralia hispida*).
New summer planting. Photo
©Andrew Hipp, Wisconsin Flora.



Buffalobur Nightshade, (*Solanum rostratum*). New summer planting.
Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora.



Northern Slender Lady's
Tresses, (*Spiranthes lacera*).
New summer planting. Photo
©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin
Flora.



Green Adder's Mouth, (*Malaxis unifolia*). New summer planting.
Photo ©Scott Milburn,
Wisconsin Flora.



Toadshade, (*Trillium sessile*). Photo
G D Bebeau



Clammy Ground Cherry, (*Physalis heterophylla*). Photo G D Bebeau

1921

Winter 1920/1921

This year east coast sourced plants came from Kelsey's Nursery in Boxford MA.

Spring 1921

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on 21 March when she wrote:

"Trillium nivale in bud." [Snow Trillium]

Her first planting was on April 11 with a clump of Pasque Flower, some violets and a few others. Pasque Flower planting was an almost annual occurrence in April. On the 21st she discovered 2 specimens of yellow stemmed *Cornus stolonifera* (now *Cornus sericea* ssp. *sericea*) the Red Osier Dogwood.

They must have been very nice because the Park Board Nursery, located right across the road at Glenwood Lake, was growing them. She promptly brought in six on April 26 and nine cuttings on May 1.

On May 6 she discovered *Zizia cordata* (now *Zizia aptera*), Meadow Zizia in blossom on the west hillside. It is a native species; later in 1923 she planted more. What she called the "long-eared owl" [*Asio otus*] was also noted in her log (and previously in 1914).

Summer 1921

In the summer months she obtained 6 new species for the Garden: Crow-berry, Devil's Club, Marsh Cudweed, Queen Anne's Lace, Silvery Cinquefoil, Squash berry. Details on all 1921 new plantings are listed below beneath the autumn section.

Creeping Yellowcress, *Radicula sylvestris* (*Rorippa sylvestris*) (photo) was discovered in bloom on June 21 northeast of the dam. The 'dam' was a small structure she had installed when the Garden was first formed, first of earth and then with concrete in 1917. It crossed the water channel that drained the southern wetland and formed a small pool for aquatics. The water then trickled down into the meadow on



Eloise (on the left) with Clara Leavitt (former fellow teacher). Photo courtesy Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis Collection.



Creeping Yellowcress, (*Rorippa sylvestris*). Photo Robert H. Mohlenbrock, USDA-NRCS Plants Database

the north end of the Garden - an area that is now outside of the Garden's north fence.

A newspaper article about the Garden was published during the summer on August 28. Eloise is pictured in her typical garden uniform with her peace officers badge (same photo is on page 149). There is a larger photo of a section of the Garden showing three warning signs. Eloise had a fondness for signs that provided information but also warnings of the "do not" type. One such sign said "*Keep to the footpaths. Do not leave them without official guide.*" One such newspaper reporter, Abe Altowitz, who did just that was reprimanded on a later visit and he wrote about it on July 23, 1964. (Copy in the "Butler News Articles.") Later reports would be critical of this as she was said to have around a dozen such warning signs. This article itself concentrated on the mosquitoes and on some special plants that were unfamiliar to the writer but carefully explained by Eloise on their tour. (article on page 279)

Autumn 1921

On August 23 Eloise noted that the *Lythrum salicaria* (Purple Loosestrife) was 'escaped' - to where she did not note. She had first noted it in garden in 1916 and in 1920 wrote that it "*has well established itself farther down the brook below dam.*" She was beginning to realize that this species was going to be invasive.

On September 1st, she noted discovering *Acalypha virginica*, Three-seeded Mercury, in east meadow. This is not a Minnesota plant, but could have been the Minnesota species *Acalypha rhomboide* - Common Three-seed Mercury

On September 9 she noted several specimens of *Quercus bicolor* (Swamp White Oak) hitherto supposed to be *Q. Alba* (White Oak). She had previously planted Swamp White Oak in 1917, so these plants were not new to the Garden, but were therefor indigenous, having missed her original census.

In the fall months she obtained 7 new species for the Garden, all detailed below: *Aster Dumosus*, Lindley's Aster, Northern Woodland Violet, Selkirk's Violet, Sweet Black-eyed Susan, Thin-leaf Sunflower, Turquoise Berry-vine, and also Zig-Zag Goldenrod, which is indigenous, but this is the first time she planted it.

During the year she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, most from local sources.

An article published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* on September 18 titled "Glenwood Park Wants Wire Fence to Keep out Spooners" was the first public appeal by Eloise for a fence to protect her collection of plants. "*The spooners*" she said "*just set themselves down and flatten out flowers and shrubs and growths - some of which it has taken years of experimenting to bring to that stage of development.*" Eloise made no headway on getting a fence until she did it herself in 1924 after more fruitless appeals. She had made an appeal for a fence as early as 1912, to the Park Board in her annual report.

The September 18 article has several other interesting bits. After getting a tour of some lesser known plants such as the Purple Pitcher Plant, they then come to the bird bath that was created in 1917. While waiting for a bird to demonstrate, which none did, she told the story of finding a hobo washing his socks in it. The reporter mentions how well known the Garden is nation-wide among botanists and Eloise tells him of her visit to Dr. George Hay's garden in New Brunswick, a garden in the same vein as

hers, but earlier, smaller, and in Canada. There is a separate article on the bird bath and on Dr. Hay in 1908.

Eloise noted in September that there were an unusual number of large puffball mushrooms this season. Her last entry in the log was on November 1st when she noted planting Stiff Goldenrod, *Solidago rigida*, and Sky Blue Aster, *Aster azureus*, the same species she had planted in the fall of 1920.

Weather: 1921 was the warmest year since 1878. The winter of 1920/21 was very scant with snow, only 20 inches, 23 inches below average. The next winter of 1921/22 was average. Total precipitation in 1921 was below average.

New 1921 Plants

Spring 1921

- *Allium tricoccum*, Narrow-leaved Wild Leek, native, from near Medicine Lake. This would be var. *burdickii*, one of two varieties in Minnesota. Native, extant. May 1st. Photo next page. The wider leaf type, var. *tricoccum*, had been introduced on April 13, 1910.

Summer 1921

- *Daucus carota*, Queen Anne's Lace, Introduced. from Eau Claire, WI, August 5. [Photo next page].
- *Fatsia horrida*, [*Oplopanax horridus*] Devil's Club, not native, from Isle Royal August 19. Martha Crone also planted in 1935, plants from Isle Royal also.
- *Gnaphalium palustre*, Marsh Cudweed from Mr. Birge Babcock's farm near Brook Park, MN. This is a plant not found in MN, may be *Gnaphalium uliginosum* which is an introduced plant. August 29-30.
- *Potentilla argentea*, Silvery Cinquefoil. Not native, 2 clumps from Glenwood Park. June 8. Extant. [Photo next page]
- *Viburnum pauciflorum*, (*Viburnum edule*) Squash berry. Native, from Isle Royal, August 19.

Autumn 1921

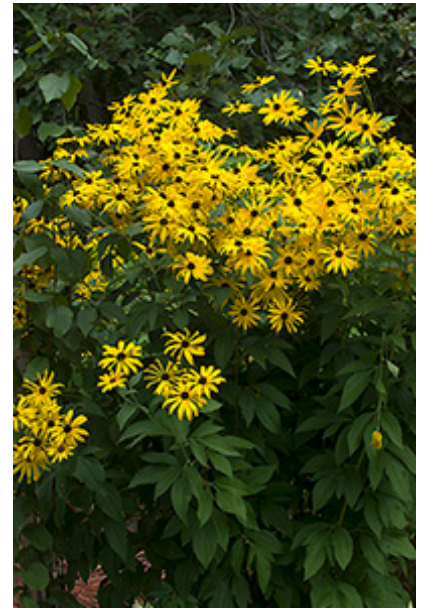
The first two plants are problematical, she questioned the identification in her log. Her source was listed as Minnesota, but the exact area blanked out.

- *Aster lindleyanus*- this is a problem name to track down as it has not been an officially recognized name. It was probably the aster now called *Symphyotrichum ciliolatum*, Lindley's Aster. Native. September 14.
- *Aster dumosus*, [*Symphyotrichum dumosum* var. *strictior*], Rice Button Aster, not considered native. September 14.
- *Helianthus decapetalus*, Thinleaf Sunflower, from Kelsey's, not native but in 1916 she noted in the Garden *H. tracheliifolius*, which is this same plant. October 2.



Selkirk's Violet, (*Viola selkirkii*),
New autumn planting. Photo
©Emmett J Judzewicz, Wisconsin
Flora.

- *Rudbeckia subtomentosa*, Sweet Black-eyed Susan, not native, from Dreer's Nursery Philadelphia. September 28. Photo.
- *Viola selkirkii*, Selkirk's Violet. Native, from Botanical Nurseries, Lapeer, Mich. October 15. Martha Crone also planted it in 1941. [Photo shown previous page].
- *Viola septentrionalis*, Northern Woodland Violet, from Botanical Nurseries, Lapeer, Mich. Not native. October 15. Martha Crone also planted it in 1947.
- *Vitis humulifolia*, an unresolved name, could be *Vitis heterophylla*, now said to be *Ampelopsis glandulosa*, Turquoise Berry Vine. From a Garden near Minnehaha. September 15.



Sweet Black-eyed Susan,
(*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*). New
autumn planting.



Queen Anne's Lace, (*Daucus
carota*). New summer planting.



Wild Leek, (*Allium tricoccum*).
New spring planting.



Silvery Cinquefoil, (*Potentilla
argentea*). New summer planting.
Photo ©Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin
Flora.

FENCE: This is the first article published about the need for a fence. 18 September 1921. *Minneapolis Tribune*. Two more 2 articles are in 1924, the year the fence is built.

Glenwood Park Wants Wire Fence to Keep Out Spooners

Curator Seeks Protection
Against Destruction of
Flower Beds.

Topographic Survey of Gar-
den Now Being Planned
By Park Board.

It's not the wild, voracious mos-
quito—

It's not the snooping, hungry dog—
Nor is it the pussy-footing feline—

But—it's the demon surreptitious
spooner that's brought the need for an
encircling barbed wire fence around the
wildflower garden at Glenwood park to
save plants of incalculable scientific
value from destruction.

A stray cat will pitter-patter into the
garden and leave a narrow wallow trail.
A dog seeking food perhaps in the
shape of a rabbit will snoop through
and leave a wider wallow—

But the spooning couple—
"For destructive properties the army
of tussock moths is a piker when com-
pared with the spooner!"

That in effect is the opinion of Miss
Eloise Butler, curator of the wild
flower garden.

Flatten Out Flowers.

"The spooners," she said, "just set
themselves down and flatten out flowers
and shrubs and growths—some of which
it has taken years of experimenting to
bring to that stage of development."

That is the statement of the curator.
That's what the spooner couple must
answer for—and a lot of other things—
when caught in the garden.

The fence of the kind which Miss
Butler has in mind, perhaps would cost
in the neighborhood of \$15,000. There
would be a low barbed wire to keep
out the cats and dogs, and there would
be a high barbed wire to keep out the
spooners. Legitimate entrance would
then be only through gates, one at each
end of the garden—and always under
supervision.

When Miss Butler herself proceeds
about the garden she picks her way
carefully, lifting up leaves and plants
so that she may tread on no aspiring
growth.

Reproof Is Quick.

A family party lingering through the
garden strayed for but a few inches
from the path—and reproof came quick
and to the point. Miss Butler indicated
a sign. It said clearly: "Keep to the
footpaths. Do not leave them without
official guide." To do so, she said,
means destruction of growths over
which has been expended a great deal
of time and effort.

But though the spooners are a trial
and tribulation there are other compen-
sations to the garden. There is the
gentian, made famous by generations
of poets, there is the golden rod, and
the New England aster, showing spots
and waves of color through the garden
depth.

Miss Butler pointed to a flower that
she called a pitcher plant. The observer
looked close. It did look like a pitcher!
"Look inside," the curator suggested.
The observer looked. The "pitcher"
was half full of water!

"Why, that's a regular pitcher!"
came the exclamation. "But—but—I
don't think I'd care to drink that water
—there's a couple of bugs in it."

"The plant's just preparing them for
dinner."

"Huh—" the other gasped.

Verses Quoted.

Miss Butler smiled. Then she quoted:
"What's this I hear about the
carnivora?

Can the little plants

Eat bugs and ants

And gnats and flies?

A sort of retrograding

Surely the fare

Of flower is air

Or sunshine sweet,

They shouldn't eat

Or do ought so degrading."

"That's a carnivorous plant," she
said. "The insects make their way in
and drown. They can't crawl out, be-
cause the inside walls of the pitcher
are too smooth. And besides look to
these—" she pointed to tiny hairs near
the pitcher brim, all pointing inward
and down—"the insects meet the sharp
points. They can't get up and escape.

Insect Is Drowned.

"The insect drowns, continues on
down the stem, decays, and gives the
plant the nitrogenous food it needs."

"That's what I'd call an animal
plant," the observer declared.

"Don't be afraid, it won't eat you!"
And again the curator smiled.

Two other carnivorous plants found
in the wild garden are the Sundew and
the Bladderwort. The sun dew is so
called because of a similarity of a drop
of liquid on the plant to a drop of
dew. Actually the liquid is gastric juice.

The motile fiber spears on the plant
near the roots—and this plant must
grow out of the water—poke their way
about in the water, seize upon baby fish
either by head or tail just as they are
being hatched out of their eggs, and
drag the fishlings into the gastric juice.

"From then on the baby fish hasn't
a chance. He begins to digest—and
helps the plant grow," Miss Butler ex-
plained.

Amiable Looking Flower.

And on the surface the sun dew is a
very amiable looking sort of flower,
showing green leaves and hugging the
ground/moss with its topmost foliage.

The baby fish near by have to be
mighty good swimmers to escape the
moving sun-dew fingers.

"But let me show you other swim-
mers—bird swimmers," suggested Miss
Butler.

She led the way to a large boulder.
Into the top surface had been chiseled
a graded "swimming pool."

"That's the garden bird bath," she
said. And then though the two waited,
nary a bird appeared to take a plunge.
In the meantime Miss Butler explained
that most birds like the water about
2½ inches deep, while the robin likes
it 5 inches.

"It's just about deep enough to suit
the average pedestriating hobo, how-
ever," she said. "I found one here one
day washing his socks. He fled as he
saw me coming, but he left a mass of
soapy water—and I scrubbed the bath
for a long time before the birds could
use it again."

Bath Filled Daily.

The bath is filled daily by Miss Butler
from a clearwater spring in the garden
edge about three blocks away. It takes
21 minutes by courthouse clock to fill
the pail—at the trickling spring.

She showed the spring and urged the
observer to drink. He did.

"Sweet water—I'm coming here
often."

"It's the best water I know of," she
answered.

Then she led the way further. A
veritable forest of ragweed appeared.

"That's how one may enjoy hay-

fever—just getting near there, she sug-
gested.

But the observer sneezed, and fled.
Rag weed was fraught with danger he
dared not countenance.

"Look out!" Miss Butler called.

"Don't get your hands on these leaves,"
she said a few minutes later when the
self-same observer was going to pull
at a branch. On the tree was the sign
"sumas"—but what he did not see was
the word poison. This variety of sumas
with smooth leaf edges is far more
dangerous than poison ivy.

Jerks Hand Away.

He jerked his hand away.

"I think I'd better come again," he
stammered, "when maybe the rag weed
and the sumac—"

Again Miss Butler smiled.

"They won't hurt you, if you don't
hurt them. That's the law of the gar-
den. Don't hurt it and it won't hurt
you. But if the rag weed were cut all
over the city there would be less hay
fever suffering."

The wild flower garden at Glenwood
has attained a nation-wide reputation
among botanists. It was established in
1907 and since that time Miss Butler
has planted 955 varieties of plants, ex-
clusive of mosses, fungi, algae and
lichens. Of these 575 were introduced.

Once about 30 years ago Miss Butler
found a garden similar to the one she
had in mind. It was under the super-
vision of a Dr. A. U. Hay at St. John,
New Brunswick, Canada. It had 3
acres. The Glenwood Garden has 27.

Miss Butler said that the park board
was planning to make a topographic
survey of the garden, to lay it out into
squares to scale, following which she
will designate the location of every
plant.



1922

Winter 1921/1922

While Eloise Butler usually sourced some plants from east coast nurseries during the winter months, 1922 was the first year that did not happen.

Spring 1922

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

Season unusually late. Large patches of snow and ice in the garden. Hazel and alder not tasseled out. Skunk Cabbage in evidence. *Trillium nivale* in bud.

On April 11 she noted a flock of wild geese flew over the garden and on 23 April

White throated sparrows arrived, also woodcock. Hepaticas and bloodroot particularly fine.

Her first planting of the season was on April 26. From Jefferson Highway near Champlin she got six clumps of Pasque flower and other plants.

She added six new species to the Garden this spring: Chinquapin Oak, Kidney-leaved White Violet, Marsh Blue Violet, Plains Prickly Pear, Sand Violet, and Tufted Bullrush. Details below the autumn Section.



Chinquapin Oak, (*Quercus muehlenbergii*). New spring planting.

Summer 1922

On June 1st a hive of Italian bees was installed in the Garden and on August 26 they were stolen. June 8th saw the construction of a trellis and pergola on the garden office. This was the first of several exterior additions that would be added over the years. Photo above shows the back side of the office

and the photo below from a later date shows the front side. See page 168 for an essay describing the office site and her plantings around the office.

On June 14 she found a full grown Glossy Buckthorn, *Rhamnus frangula* (now *Frangula alnus*) an invasive plant. She noted

Probably introduced on May 16, 1913 from Kelsey's Nurseries in place of *Rhamnus alnifolia* [Alderleaf Buckthorn].

On July 1 she wrote

Noted Virginia rail and three downy black young probing for worms in the brook shallows. They were like hen and chicks together.

On 5 July -

Set free a young sparrow hawk in the garden. It was caught in Mr. Babcock's yard a fortnight ago and placed in a canary cage. It was fed on meat. It became quite tame and would perch on one's finger like a parrot.

In the summer months she obtained 4 new species for the Garden: Burnweed, Sweet Clover, Wavy-leaf Thistle and Virginia Groundcherry. Details below.

Below: A view of the Garden Office years later in February 1956 showing all the trellis and the pergolas that had been added over the years beginning in 1922.



Autumn 1922

In the fall months she obtained 6 new species for the Garden, all detail below: Common Hops, Cross-leaved Milkwort, Frost Grape, Lizard's tail, Northern Dewberry, Velvet leaf.

Her last log entry was planting from the Quaking bog 4 plants of *Glyceria canadensis*, Rattlesnake Mannagrass on October 20. During the year she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, most from local sources.

Weather in 1922 was not too unusual. Although spring started late, precipitation was close to average until early winter. There was a 4 inch snowfall in mid-October and very little snow thereafter until early January.

Photo top of page 152: The Garden Office showing the pergola and trellis constructed this year. Photo from a Kodachrome taken by Martha Crone on April 14, 1949.

New 1922 Plants

Spring 1922

- *Opuntia polyacantha*, Plains Prickly Pear. Not Native, from Expansion ND, May 24, 3 plants and 11 more on 26th.
- *Quercus prinoides* [*Quercus muehlenbergii*] Chinquapin Oak. Native. From Andrew's Nursery, Boulder Co. May 1st. Photo on previous page.
- *Scirpus coespitosus* [*Trichophorum cespitosum*] Tufted Bullrush. Native, from Glenwood Park. May 26.
- *Viola cucullata*, Marsh Blue Violet. Native, from Glenwood Park. May 13. Martha Crone noted it in bloom in 1939.
- *Viola renifolia*, Kidney-leaved White violet. Native, from Maltby, Mich. May 13. [Martha Crone also planted in 1933, 34.] Photo at right.
- *Viola subvestita*, [*Viola adunca* var. *adunca*] Sand violet, Hooked spur violet. Native. May 22. Martha Crone planted this violet many times - 1946, '48, '50, '57. Ken Avery in 1964. [Photo next page.]



Kidney-leaved Violet, (*Viola renifolia*), New spring planting.
Photo ©Merle R. Black,
Wisconsin Flora.

Summer 1922

- *Cirsium undulatum*, Wavy-leaf Thistle. Introduced, from Rhinelander WI. July 25.
- *Erechtites hieraciifolius*, Burnweed. Native, from Foreman Erickson's yard, Glenwood Park. August 1st. Extant. [Carl Erickson was the park keeper from Glenwood Park.] [Photo next page].
- *Melilotus officinalis*, Sweet Clover. Introduced, from Glenwood Park. July 19. Extant. [Photo next page]
- *Physalis lanceolata* [*Physalis virginiana* var. *virginiana*] Virginia Groundcherry. Native, from Brook Park MN. June 19. [Photo next page]

Autumn 1922

- *Abutilon theophrasti*, Velvet Leaf. Introduced, from cow pasture near Quaking Bog. October 1st.
- *Humulus lupulus* (pistillate) Common Hop. Native and introduced, from Jefferson Highway, September 29. [Photo next page.]
- *Polygala cruciata*, Cross-leaved Milkwort. Native. From Minnehaha. September 1st. Martha Crone also planted in 1933 and '46.
- *Rubus villosus*, [*Rubus flagellaris*] Northern Dewberry. Native, from vicinity of Anoka, October 1st. Extant.

- *Saururus cernuus*, Lizard's Tail, native in North America but not Minnesota, from vicinity of Cumberland Falls, banks of Cumberland River, KY - put in a sand-filled tank near spring. October 13. [The spring would be the one that was in the North Meadow, now just outside the back gate.]
- *Vitis vulpina*, Frost Grape, not native, but from the Park Board Nursery in Glenwood Park, put by new trellis on the office, along with Virginia Creeper. October 17.



Hooked Spur Violet, (*Viola adunca* var. *adunca*). New spring planting. Photo ©Emmett J. Judziewicz, Wisconsin Flora.



Virginia Groundcherry, (*Physalis virginiana*). New summer planting.



Burnweed, (*Erechtites heiracifolia*). New summer planting.



Sweet Clover, (*Melilotus officinalis*). New summer planting.



Common Hops, (*Humulus lupulus*). New autumn planting.

An Autobiographical Sketch by Eloise Butler

Having a reticent nature, I must confess to shivering on the brink before taking the plunge into self-revelations. I was born not long after the middle of the nineteenth century in the little village of Appleton, on the St. George River, about twelve miles from the seashore, Knox County, Maine. Here I lived until I was about fifteen, attending district and private schools, my chief amusement being then what it still is – roaming the woods. An aunt who lived with us taught my sister and me to know the plants of the neighborhood. My mother said I was abnormally good when I was a baby, but got bravely over it when I grew up. Indeed, some of the neighbors thought I must be idiotic because I lay quietly in the cradle, making no demands for attention. They said, too, that I hadn't any nose - only two little holes in my face where my nose ought to be. Accordingly, everyone was pinching my face in order to make the organ grow. Who can tell how much my lack of good looks is due to that practice?

My father was a farmer. Before marriage my father and mother had both been teachers, and at that time and place no other career than teaching was thought of for a studious girl. So, after completing the courses at high school, Lynn, Massachusetts, and normal school, Castine, Maine, I began the work that I am still engaged in. (In my next incarnation I shall not be a teacher.) My father sold his farm and moved to a small town in northern Indiana, on Lake Michigan, just as I left the normal school. I taught for a few months in Indiana. I have a keen recollection of a ludicrous experience. We new Englanders slur the sound of r. In northern Indiana, settled largely by Germans, the r is exaggerated and the speech bristles with bur-r-s. My pupils could not understand what I said, and a child where I boarded, who had learned my language, had to act as interpreter. The report went abroad that the new teacher was tongue-tied. With what circumlocutions I tried to avoid words with r's! The result of my efforts to acquire the new tongue had the following sequel: I remained West seven years before visiting

East. Then my relatives threw up their hands in astonishment, exclaiming, "Good heavens! Where did you get that brogue!"

Not finding a situation to my liking in Indiana, I secured a place in the Minneapolis schools and here I have lived since 1874. The monotony of my life has been broken during the long summer vacations. I have taken courses of study at Harvard, at Woods Hole



and our State University and have enjoyed particularly the instruction of Dr. J. C. Arthur and Dr. Charles Bessey, the latter the greatest and most enthusiastic teacher I have ever met. The summer of 1896 I spent abroad, reveling with the old masters in are – my greatest hobby after plants. And I collected chiefly algae and ferns for three seasons in Jamaica, West Indies. Those were memorable occasions, to which I must add a most enjoyable sojourn at the seaside station of the University of Minnesota, on Vancouver Island, a camp sixty miles from civilization.

As you will know, I chiefly live and move and have my being in and for the Wild Botanic Garden. I haven't had a photograph taken for twenty years. [gap] . . is a "snapshot" fired this summer [1911] as I was crossing a stream surrounding a quaking tamarack bog.



1923

Winter 1922/1923

All plants this year are from local and mid-west sources - none from east coast nurseries.

Spring 1923

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

Very cold all through March, consequently, ground still frozen and ponds still covered with ice. Not even hazel or alder tasseled out.

But on April 2nd she sowed seeds of Pennyroyal on the Plateau. April 7 was a down day -

Heaviest snow storm of the season - - over 10 inches of snow on the level.

The official tally for Minneapolis was 9.6 inches making it the largest single event snowfall in April in local weather history (as of 2021). This was followed on the 14th with three more inches of snow. But the weather warmed as it usually does so by April 20th the Marsh Marigold, Squirrel Corn, Dutchman's Breeches were in bud. See page 160 for Eloise's tale of first collecting Squirrel Corn.

Her first spring planting was on April 26 when she planted False Rue Anemone, White Trout Lily, Wild Ginger and Dutchman's Breeches from Minnehaha Park. No new species were added in the spring.



The Backyard garden at 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden, where Eloise spent Winters. As it looked in 1989. Photo courtesy Martha Hellander.

She noted on May 7th an “[exhibition of plants at the Journal Office.](#)” This would have been one of the local newspapers but it is unclear if she maintained the exhibition as she did at the library between 1917 and 1921 or if this was someone else’s exhibition, presumably hers.

Two weeks earlier it was National Garden week and the Minnesota Chapter of the Society for the Preservation of Wild Flowers had their annual meeting. Eloise Butler was membership committee and publicity chair. On Friday evening April 27th there was an open-to-the-public illustrated lecture at the Maryland Hotel on "Wild Flowers of Minnesota" with wild flowers in blossom being shown in vases. The report in the April 27th *Minneapolis Tribune* does not say but one can presume that Eloise provided the flowers and probably gave the lecture. Article on page 160.

On the 9th of May she found a nest of pheasant with 14 eggs in south meadow. Not unusual in those days to have pheasants in the city. Last year she had a hive of Italian bees brought into the Garden but they were stolen. This year she got another hive on May 13 from a Mrs. McGuire, of Dina Springs - unclear where that is.

Summer 1923

On June 18 Eloise wrote: “[Bluebird fledglings have just flown from the bird box on low stump in Plateau.](#)”

In the summer months she obtained 3 new species for the Garden: Plains Snake Cotton, Small Enchanter’s Nightshade, Stiff Cowbane. Details below.

Autumn 1923

In the fall months she obtained 11 new species for the Garden, all detailed below. Her last log entry was on October 27. She planted 92 Sky Blue Asters, *Aster Azureus* [now *Symphiotrichum oolentangiense*], that she got from Glenwood Park.

During the year she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, most from local sources.

While Eloise was back in Malden she mailed back to Martha Crone acorns of the Black Oak and the Swamp White Oak for some "exhibit" Martha was to put on in the fall. She recommended Martha 'snoop' around to find some of the trees of Swamp White Oak, which is a bit strange as in 1921 she noted having the tree in the Garden. (1)



Marsh Arrowgrass, (*Triglochin palustris*), New autumn planting.
Photo ©Hugh Iltis, Wisconsin Flora.

On December 12 a fire was started by skaters on Birch Pond and it got out of control with winds blowing embers into dry grass and leaves up into the area around the Garden burning 2,000 evergreens that the Park Board had recently set out. It made the newspaper - the headline read "City's Oldest Tree Periled by Flames in Glenwood Park." Park Keeper Carl Erickson had to call the fire department to help him put out the flames. The tree was Eloise Butler's favorite White Oak Monarch. (2) Article on page 160.

Weather: March was very cold, with snow and ice continuing into mid-April. Although there were frequent summer rains, the total precipitation for the year was below average. November and December were very mild with almost no snow.

Notes:

- (1) Letter to Martha Crone, 16 November 1923.
- (2) *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 12 December 1923.

Photo top of page 157: Prairie Dock, introduced this year by Eloise Butler.

New 1923 Plants

Spring 1923

No new species were added in the spring of 1923.

Summer 1923

- *Circaea alpina*, Small enchanter's nightshade, native, from Frazee MN, August 1st
- *Froelichia floridana*, Plains Snake Cotton, native, from vicinity of Fridley, August 1st. Martha Crone planted this in 1945 also.
- *Oxypolis rigidior*, Stiff Cowbane, native, from Glenwood Park. August 1st.

Autumn 1923

- *Cacalia tuberosa*, [*Arnoglossum plantagineum*] Groovestem Indian plantain, native, from Denison Iowa, October 16.
- *Dyssodia papposa*, Fetid Marigold, native, seeds from Denison Iowa, October 19.
- *Eryngium yuccifolium*, Rattlesnake Master, native, from Denison Iowa, October 16. Extant. Photo right.
- *Gentiana detonsa*, [*Gentianopsis virgata* ssp. *macounii*], Lesser Fringed Gentian, native, from Minnesota River Bottom at Lyndale Ave. September 1st.
- *Liatris squarrosa*, Scaly Blazing Star, not native, from Denison Iowa, 5 tubers, September 25. Photo next page.
- *Medicago sativa*, Alfalfa, introduced, from the Belt Line Bridge. October 1.
- *Polygala polygama*, Racemed Milkwort, native, from vicinity of Fort Snelling, October 1st. Martha Crone planted it in 1945 through 1949.
- *Phytolacca decandra*, [*Phytolacca americana* var. *americana*], possibly native, no specimens in U of M herbarium, American pokeweed, seeds from Denison Iowa. October 19. [got plants in 1924 same source]



Rattlesnake Master, (*Eryngium yuccifolium*). New autumn planting.

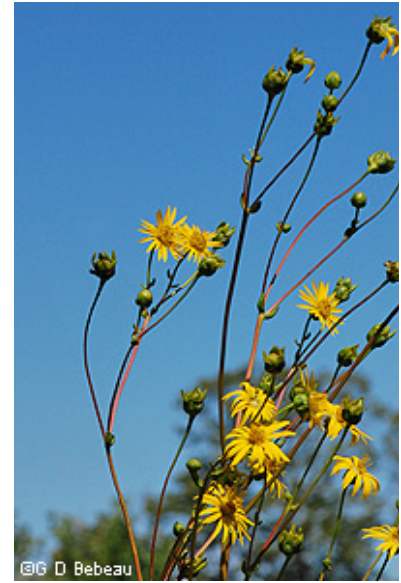
- *Rudbeckia triloba*, Thin-leaf Coneflower, native, from Lake Geneva Wisconsin. October 5. Martha Crone planted it extensively in the late 1940s and Susan Wilkins in 2008. Extant. Photo below.
- *Silphium terebinthinaceum*, Prairie Dock, not native, from Lake Geneva Wisconsin. October 5. Extant. Photo below.
- *Tofieldia glutinosa*, [*Triantha glutinosa*]. Sticky tofieldia, native, from Minnesota River Bottom at Lyndale Ave. September 1st.
- *Triglochin palustris*, Marsh Arrowgrass, native, from Minnesota River Bottom at Lyndale Ave. September 1st. Eloise had noted planting "Arrowgrass" in 1916 without listing a species. This is the the first time a species is identified. Photo previous page.



Scaly Blazing Star, (*Liatris squarrosa*). New autumn planting.



Thin Leaf Coneflower, (*Rudbeckia triloba*). New autumn planting.



Prairie Dock, (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*). New autumn planting.

MRS. ALBERT CHAPSKY was elected president of the Minnesota chapter of the National Society for the Preservation of Wild Flowers at the organization meeting held on Tuesday at the Maryland hotel. Other officers chosen are: Dr. C. O. Rosendahl, vice president; Mrs. Ercole K. Naftalin, secretary treasurer and chairman of the committee on special legislation; Dr. C. O. Rosendahl and Dr. William S. Cooper, field marshals; Mrs. Mary A. Tillisch, chairman of school propaganda, and Miss Eloise Butler, chairman of membership and publicity committee.

The public is invited to attend a meeting of the chapter to be held Friday evening at 8 o'clock in the ballroom of the Maryland hotel. An illustrated lecture on "Wild Flowers of Minnesota" will be given. Wild flowers in blossom will be shown in vases, and a vote will be taken on the choice of a chapter flower, the decision being based on the flower most in need of protection. The meeting will be the chapter's contribution to the observance of National Garden week.

1923 Newspaper notes

April 27, 1923

December 13, 1923

City's Oldest Tree Periled by Flames in Glenwood Park

MINNEAPOLIS' oldest tree, a white oak, estimated to be 400 years old by Park Forester Boeglin, was threatened with destruction by fire Wednesday.

Park Keeper Carl Efickson, in charge at Glenwood, where the tree grows in the wild flower garden, fought until he was exhausted and called the fire department to aid him in putting out a fire started by skaters on Birch pond, which ran through dead leaves and dry grass in the Glenwood woods.

Two thousand evergreens recently set out in the vicinity by park foresters were burned.

20
40 Murray Hill Road
Malden, Mass.

16 November, 1925

My Dear Mrs. Crone,--

I am mailing you two species of oak for
your exhibit next fall:

Black Oak, *Quercus velutina*

Swamp White Oak, *Quercus bicolor*

The former is found only in the south-
eastern corner of Minnesota, although it
is the most common oak here; and the latter
is very rare in the northwest. Its acorn
resembles somewhat our common white oak, but
it has a long stalk. Last year these acorns
were very abundant here. This must be the
off season. I could barely find two or three
wormy ones. *Q. bicolor* has been reported from
Groveland Park on the edge of St. Paul. Per-
haps, as you "snoop around" you may recognize
it from the shape of the leaves and the long-
stalked acorns.

On my way East I stopped a few days at
Indianapolis. There the interesting fruit
of the teasel was much in evidence. I sent
some to Mrs. M. Dee Rook, a member of our
Conservation Society, for her painted bou-
quets, and told her to lay aside a few for

you, if you care to have them. Perhaps she
can leave them for you at some convenient
place down town. Her 'phone number is

Dupont 3717

Teasel pods are used in the old country
for raising the nap on woolen cloth. In
fuller's teasel the spines on the pods have
stout hooks.

I was sorry to miss the Doctor's talk on
mushrooms.

With kindest regards to you and
yours,

Sincerely yours,

Elvise Butler



1924

Winter 1923/1924

All plants this year came from Minnesota and North Dakota Sources. At least four newspaper articles were published this year concerning Eloise and the Garden. Details below.

Spring 1924

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

Ground covered with 16 inches of snow on the level. The heaviest snow storm of the season, March 29-30.

But by April 5 she wrote:

Two *Trillium nivale* in bloom. Robins, phoebes, juncos, and one hermit thrush in evidence.

On the 13th:

Noted screech owl perched in a young hemlock tree north of the tarvia road. Sat motionless for a long time, and permitted near approach. [The 'tarvia road' was the wide path that bisected the Garden in Butler's time. It is the same path that is just outside the current back fence of the Garden.]

The week of April 20th was National Garden Week and the Minnesota Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America and Eloise set up a display of wildflowers from the Garden in the corner window of Donaldson's Department Store in downtown Minneapolis, all reported in the *Tribune* on April 23. She was a member of the Chapter and chairman of the membership and publicity committee.

Early May does not seem to have been all that pleasant. She wrote on the 7th:

Noted Whip-poor-will near west path. Has been heard for two weeks. Weather, cold, snowy, rainy, disagreeable.

Two new species were established in the spring - European Whitlow-grass and Lewis Flax.

Summer 1924

On June 12 Eloise wrote:

Mountain ash planted May 28, 1909 bloomed for the first time [*Sorbus americana*, American Mountain Ash].

Fencing work was done in the Garden for the first time since the original 3 acres were fenced in 1907. It began on June 26 and on July 16 Eloise wrote:

"Lady Slipper meadow enclosed today, fence not completely braced." [That meadow was in the northern part of the Garden]

In order to really secure the Garden from large animals, vandals and people that just wandered in from all directions, it had to be securely fence and equipped with gates that could be locked. Eloise Butler even resorted to the newspaper on several occasions to state her case for a fence.

Ms. Butler's worst menace was "spooners". A headline in the *Minneapolis Tribune* on September 18, 1921 had read: "*Glenwood Park Wants Wire Fence to Keep Out Spooners.*" The article explained Ms. Butler's thoughts that cats and dogs may leave a trail in the vegetation but spooners were the real problem. The full text read as follows:

It's not the wild, voracious mosquito-
It's not the snooping vagabond dog -
Nor is it the pussy-footing feline -
But it's the demon surreptitious spooner thats brought the need
for an encircling barbed wire fence around the wild flower garden
in Glenwood Park to save plants of incalculable scientific value
from destruction. A stray cat will pitter patter into the garden and leave a narrow trail. A dog
seeking food perhaps in the shape of a ribbit (sic) will snoop through and leave a wider wallow -
But the spooning couple -
"For destructive properties the army of tussock worms is a piker when compared with the
Spooners." (quote of Eloise Butler)

On June 22 the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* published a short article titled "Flower Garden Director Urges Fence be Built." Eloise stated that the collection will be ruined unless a fence is built around the property at once. Theodore Wirth was quoted as saying the the approximate expense would be \$600 but there were no funds available. Eloise said "I will pay for the building of a fence myself, if necessary to save the collection." (article on page 280)

Later in the year, while the fence work was in process, in a *Minneapolis Journal* article she was quoted saying

The fence is needed to keep our the few vandals who destroy in a few minutes the work of years and spoil the garden for the rest of the visitors. (article on page 171)

The article concluded - "Tired of waiting years for it to be built, she finally is having it put up herself."



Eloise Butler in 1924 from a *Minneapolis Journal* article

Since the Park Board could not allocate funds to complete fencing, Eloise contracted, at her own expense, to have the fencing completed for a sum of \$696.10. She paid \$400 down, gave a note for \$200 to be paid within a month or when the fence was completed, and the final amount by a note to be paid in the spring of 1925. (1)

One set of fences or two?

She could not afford to fence the entire area of the Garden which was about 25 acres at that time. In Martha Hellander's book *The Wild Gardener*, she, at one point says the Garden was unfenced (pg. 79) but on another page (pg. 85) says there was an original enclosure of 3 acres, which happens to agree with the original Board of Park Commissioners action setting aside the 3 acres. Although Hellander gives no reference for her "unfenced" statement, the original 1907 fence around 3 acres, would have been south of the tarvia road in part of what is now the Garden's current location. Based on Butler's log notes after 1924, she had two enclosures fenced, which she referred to as the North Enclosure and the South Enclosure, the north protecting the wetland orchids, both referenced with a "brook" running through them. After she announced the enclosure on July 16th, "Lady Slipper meadow enclosed today" ..., she began as early as August 1st to note planting in the "north enclosure." She does not mention actually planting anything in this "south enclosure" by name until October 8, 1925, although there are numerous entries in the log prior to that of planting "near fence" without stating which fence. Hellander further states (pg. 85) that Eloise enclosed 5 acres in the north meadow area of the Lady's-slippers in 1924 but she does not give a source for that statement, so we are left with this conclusion: The original 3 acre fence would have been in the southern enclosure, south of the tarvia road that bisected Butler's Garden of 1924. It was only after 1907 that the area of the north meadow was added to the Garden. So, Eloise had two enclosures built in 1924 - the one in the north meadow, north of the

Right: A portion of the 1924 fences in the southern part of the Garden are seen here lining the path near the hemlock grove. The bird feeding station established in 1931 or 32 is seen on the north side of the path. At that time the hemlocks were split between the south and north sides of the tarvia path. It was not until the path and fence were moved northward in 1991/92 that they all ended up in the southern portion of the Garden. Photo by Lulu May Aler.



tarvia road and one south of the tarvia road - perhaps adding to the original 1907 fence or completely replacing it, but still concentrated in the wetland part of the Garden based on Butler's statement about a brook running through both areas. Further confirmation that there were two Garden areas separated by the tarvia path is contained in Butler's 1926 submission to the bulletin circular of the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter. This article discussed the trees of the Garden and she states in one section about a Balsam Poplar that "It is planted near the gate on the south side of the tarvia road that divides the precincts." This story continues in the autumn section. It was not until 1938 that a permanent fence built by a WPA crew enclosed all of the southern part of the Garden.

In the summer months she obtained 4 new species for the Garden: Common Butterwort, Green Fringed Orchid, Marsh Grass of Parnassus, and Round-leaved Orchis. Details are given below. Another newspaper article in the summer explained how Eloise had developed the Garden and the special

plants that were there. That *Minneapolis Star* article on July 24 is the source of the only photo we have of Eloise standing next to the trunk of Monarch, the large White Oak. See page 272.

Autumn 1924

On October 27 Eloise wrote: “Completed Cactus rockery and transferred cacti thereto.” Back on April 30th, Eloise noted in the log that she was planting near the “cactus plantation.” In later years Martha Crone (2) would note building such a feature in 1930 but this is actually the first reference to a cactus area and the first reference to the “Crone Plantations”(2). That last term refers to certain planting areas in the Garden that were stocked with plants provided by Martha and Bill Crone, or actually planted by them. References to the “Crone Plantations” will show up in the log and in correspondence in all future years of Eloise’s tenure. When she was later back at Malden, Eloise wrote to the Crones (Martha and William) on Nov. 29 (1)—

I can’t resist telling you at once the latest history of the fencing around the “Crone Plantations” et. al.

In the fall months she obtained 9 new species for the Garden, all detailed below, one of which we would stand up and shout NO today. (Hoary Alyssum) Her last log entry was on November 3rd when she “sowed seeds of red *Lepachys columnaris* from Grand Forks, N. Dak. above the cactus rockery on the east hillside.” Today this plant is classified as *Ratibida columnifera*, Long-headed Coneflower. By “red” we assume she means the type that has red on the rays and is commonly called “Mexican Hat.”

During the year she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, most from local sources.

The fencing was not yet completed before she had to leave for her annual return to Malden Massachusetts to visit her sister Cora Pease as she has done every winter since 1911. In that letter to the Crones Eloise explained that she had informed Park Superintendent Wirth about what she did with the fence and never asked for reimbursement. She was pleasantly surprised to receive a note from him promising a check for the full amount by early December. Thus she says “You may believe that I am very happy.” (1)

A separate article on historical Garden fencing is found on the Friends website.

Weather in 1924 was not too unusual. Although spring started late due to the heavy late March snowfall, snowfall for the year was well under normal. Total precipitation was just below average due to a lot of summer rain.

Notes:

(1) Letter to the Crones, November 29, 1924 from Malden, Massachusetts.

(2) Interview with Martha Crone on May 27, 1988 by Martha Hellander as recorded in her book *The Wild Gardener*.



Long-headed Coneflower, Mexican Hat type with red on rays, (*Ratibida columnifera*). New autumn planting.

Photo top of page 163: The House at 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden MA where Eloise spent winters.
Photo courtesy Martha Hellander.



Common Butterwort, (*Pinguicula vulgaris*). New summer planting. Photo © Kitty Kohout, Wisconsin Flora.



Hoary Alyssum, (*Berteroa incana*).
New autumn planting.



Palespike Lobelia, (*Lobelia spicata*). New autumn planting.

New 1924 Plants

Spring 1924

- *Draba verna*, Spring draba or European whitlow-grass. Introduced, from the vicinity of Minnehaha. April 29.
- *Linum lewisii*, Lewis Flax or Blue Flax, not native, from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA, April 30. Martha Crone also planted it in 1949

Summer 1924

- *Habenaria orbiculata* [*Platanthera orbiculata*] Round-leaved Orchis. Native, from Northome, MN, August 27. Martha Crone planted it in 1933 and '34.
- *Parnassia palustris*, Marsh grass of Parnassus. Native, from Northome MN. August 22. Ken Avery planted it in 1962.
- *Pinguicula vulgaris*, Common Butterwort. Native, from Grand Marais MN, August 3. Martha Crone planted it 1933 and later years. [Photo above]

Autumn 1924

- *Astragalus flexuosus*, Flexile Milkvetch. Native and on State Special Concern List, from Grand Forks ND, October 16.
- *Berteroa incana*, Hoary Alyssum, introduced, from vicinity of Anoka on September 11, then seeds on October 24. This plant is extremely invasive and we would never plant it today due to control issues. [Photo above]
- *Gentiana affinis*, Pleated Gentian. Native and on State Special Concern List, from Grand Forks, ND, October 5
- *Lepachys columnaris* [*Ratibida columnifera*], Long-headed Coneflower, seeds of red variety from Grand Forks ND, November 3. Photo prior page.

- *Lobelia spicata*, Palespike Lobelia. Native, from Wells MN. October 18. Martha Crone planted it in 1945 and later years. [Photo prior page]
- *Oenothera caespitosa*, Tufted Evening Primrose, not native to MN, from Grand Forks ND, October 16. Martha Crone planted it in 1946 and later.
- *Picris hieracioides*, Hawkweed Oxtongue, from Mendota MN, this is a mis-identification as the plant is not known anywhere near MN, unless she obtained it from a nursery. September 18.
- *Solidago tenuifolia*?? Slender Goldentop, from Grand Forks ND. Not possible, misidentification-only known on SE coast, unless nursery grown. October 5
- Blackhaw - assume to be *Viburnum prunifolium* as she refers on April 18th 1925 to planting a *Prunus nigra* east of it, lists her source as from Lyndale Ave three miles south of Savage, but Blackhaw is not known to ever have been in MN. Probably a mis-identification. October 30.

The Plateau by Eloise Butler

The "Plateau," heretofore mentioned, is a natural terrace of about half an acre in extent that cuts in twain the south hillside. Here in 1915, was erected the Curator's office, a small building subdivided by a partition, serving as a tool house and a reception room for visitors. On the north and east side of the office is a pergola-trellis that supports wild grape, *Vitis vulpina* [*Vitis riparia*]; Virginia creeper, *Psedera quinquefolia* [*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*]; and bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens*. At the right of the entrance on the south wall clammers the common clematis, *C. virginiana*, and on the left an uncommon clematis, *C. verticillaris*. It was procured from northern Wisconsin and was tended assiduously for eight years before it responded by displaying lilac blooms fully four inches in diameter that endured the whole latter half of May. The common bindweed, *Convolvulus sepium* [*Calystegia sepium*], is confined with some difficulty to trellises on the east side of the building, where also are growing wild yam, *Dioscorea villosa*; moonseed, *Menispermum canadense*; wild smilax, *S. hispida*; and climbing nightshade, *Solanum dulcamara*; also occasionally the lovely climbing fumitory, *Adlumia fungosa*. The last named I have some difficulty in establishing. On the north side flourishes a stalwart Dutchman's pipe that loves the shade and is festooned with its curious "pipes" before the leaves attain their splendid maximum size.

The southern rim of the Plateau and on the winding path leading to the south gate, a large granite boulder has been set that has been chiseled out for a bird bath in a series of steps on a half-inch gradient to a depth of five inches. [There is a separate essay on the birdbath - excerpts on page 124] The birds like to step from shallow water into deeper, and the steps are left rough so that their feet will not slip. The bath is partially surrounded by a covert of thickly planted evergreens - white pine, spruce and arbor vitae. Clusters of evergreen exclamation points, *Juniperus virginiana*, stand on each side of the south gate and accentuate the entrance to the "deep, tangled wildwood" to which the primal soul responds.

A few other evergreens have also been set near the southeast boundary. No evergreens are endemic in the Reserve. Representatives of all of the Minnesota conifers form a small pinetum on the western bank, and many hemlocks, which have but one stand in the part of the state, have reached a sturdy growth in the vicinity of the garden pool where they are protected from hurtful dry winds of winter. This evergreen with its low-spreading delicately sprayed branches and the blue-berried mats of junipers, *Juniperus communis* and *J. horizontalis*, are not only highly decorative but form ideal shelters for birds.

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
29 November, 1924

Dr. & Mrs. Wm. H. Crone, --

Dear Friends,

I can't resist telling you at once the latest history of the fencing around the "Crone Plantations" et al., as I had told you about the beginning.

You know that I left in a hurry, with the fence not quite completed. Indeed, I do not know if it is yet finished. The bill amounted to \$696.10, for which I gave a check for \$400.00, a note for \$200.00, to be paid within a month, or when the fence was completed, and another note for the remainder to be paid next spring, after Mr. Wirth and I had inspected the fence and pronounced it satisfactory.

I was unable to get Mr. Wirth on the 'phone before I left, but I wrote him the particulars of the transaction. Yesterday, I received a letter from him, promising a check for the full amount by the 3rd of December. You may believe that I am very happy. We must have a celebration when I return.

I did not expect a reimbursement, if any at all, so soon, and would never have asked for it.

My brother remains in about the same condition. We can hardly hope, at his age, for his recovery. The doctor is non-committal, but is positive

that his disease is not tuberculosis, as we feared from the hemorrhages that followed his apparent recovery from bronchial pneumonia.

Since I arrived, my brother-in-law and niece were both, for a few days, acutely ill; but recovered in time to enjoy a splendid Thanksgiving dinner, which we did not have to cook ourselves, as we were invited out. You will be interested perhaps, Mrs. Crone, to know that ^{the} exceptionately nice plum pudding contained, with other ingredients, a half cupful of finely chopped carrots.

I am wondering about the weather in Minnesota. We have had but a few days below freezing, and it is warm for the most part.

I wish you all good health and a comfortable winter. Love to Janeth.

Very truly your friend,

Elvise Butler

Neighbors Don't Know She Exists, but Botanic Garden Curator Is Famous Over America



MISS ELOISE BUTLER IN HER BOTANICAL GARDENS

Eloise Butler Braves Bugs, Hoboes, Quicksands and Even "Old Andrew's" Ghost to Produce 1,100 Varieties of Flowers at Glenwood for School Study

"I think the men are afraid of the mosquitoes; I can't get them to start building my fence."

That is the plaint of Miss Eloise Butler, who is afraid of nothing on earth—bugs or hoboes or quicksands or even "Old Andrew's ghost"—whose next door neighbors don't know she exists but who is well known in the West Indies for her scientific expeditions there and whose love for flowers has spread the fame of Minnesota's Glenwood park botanical gardens all across the United States.

Ask a resident of the Glenwood park district where the "wild botanic garden" is and he probably will say that he doesn't believe there is such a place. But ask a professor of any large university in the country and he will know all about it and Miss Butler too. Hardly a day passes without a distinguished visitor from some part of the country.

Begins Work with First Buds

Armed with a large garden knife and a park policeman's star, Miss Butler works in the garden from early morning till late at night, from the day the first leaf shows green until after the frosts come in the fall. The winters she spends with her relatives in Malden, Mass.

A descendant of the British Duke of Ormond, she made three expeditions to the West Indies in search of algae before she started teaching botany.

Every plant in the garden has a history, from the "turtle head" and the white snake root to the "lizard tail" from Kentucky and the pink "false dragon head," violets, asters of 37 varieties, dark purple iron weed and white "ghost flower."

Tales Make Hearers Shiver

Last night Miss Butler sat in her little curator's office in the depths of the garden, designed by herself and covered outside with "Dutchman's pipe"—a large leaved vine—and inside with pictures of birds and flowers. She was persuaded to reminisce about the starting of the garden 17 years ago.

As she told of the hoboes and the quicksand and the "ghosts of the garden," the shadows lengthened into night, little shivers ran up and down the spines of her hearers and they almost expected to see "Old Andrew the Hermit" stalk out of the dense undergrowth. The fragrance of ferns and flowers was in the air and the hush

and Greek in Minneapolis schools, then turned to botany which she loved best and taught in South high school for 35 years. The wild botanic garden was started at the request of botany teachers to have specimens of all Minnesota flowers in one accessible place. Now there are more than 1,000 different varieties in the garden.

Doesn't Believe in Ghosts

"Of course, being New England born, I don't believe in ghosts," Miss Butler said. "But, years ago, when Glenwood lake was 'Keegan's lake,' an old hermit lived in a cave in the woods. Suddenly he disappeared. Three months later a body was discovered which was believed to be his. Anyway he was never heard of again."

"One day I was working in the garden and heard the sound of an ax chopping down trees. This is not allowed here and I made for the sound. As I approached it, it ceased, and I could find no one. This continued all day at intervals."

"So the next day I went up and cleared out old Andrew's cave, and planted it with ferns. At the bottom of the rubbish I found a big old boot, I buried it deep and planted violets and trillium on top. And, whatever the reason, the sound of the ax was heard no more."

Sinks Into Quicksand

Miss Butler used to hunt plants in the tamarack swamp years before the garden was started, and one day she stepped right off into a quicksand and sank up to her armpits.

"It was no use shouting because nobody was within hearing distance," she said. "So I finally managed to wiggle myself out like an inch worm, all dripping wet and covered with mud. Next day I went back and measured it with a stick and it was 27 feet deep. No one every would have known what happened to me, as I had meant to go to St. Paul that day, and had told my friends so before I left the house."

A bird bath, scooped out of a huge stone, with little inch steps terraced out for all sizes of birds, attracts the feathered tribe. The birds give regular concerts there early each day as they bathe and sing to their heart's content.

Putting Up Fence Herself

Thousands of people every summer are shown through the gardens, and introduced to "puff ball flats," "fern gulch" and "aster hill" by Miss Butler.

"The fence is needed to keep out the few vandals who destroy in a few minutes the work of years and spoil the garden for the rest of the visitors," she said. Tiring of waiting years for it to be built, she finally is having it put up herself.



1925

Winter 1924/1925

On January 24, 1925 Eloise wrote from Malden to Martha Crone that she has been transformed into a housekeeper as her brother is still sick, her sister is feeble and she is caring for a household of eight, including a dog and three cats, but they had a jolly Christmas.(1)

Spring 1925

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 2nd when she wrote:

Weather very warm, but no rain for some time. *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] in bloom.

On the same day she planted seven species shipped from Malden (source not stated), all of which were previously planted in the Garden.

The weather was not in her favor. She wrote:

"In April, very hot weather that unduly stimulated vegetation. Then late frosts -- ice forming May 26 -- that nipped aspiring flower buds. Some things were frozen four times. Therefore, no wild grapes, no Mayapples, nor several flowers. During May, heavy rains and cold weather, so that we said, 'We'll not complain when the sun roasts us.' " (2)

Eight new species were introduced this spring - details after autumn section. Eloise discovered one new plant in the swamp on May 18. - *Betula sandbergii* (*B. papyrifera* x *pumila*) Sandberg Birch, considered native.

Summer 1925

Summer started off with this note:

Tornado uprooted many large trees and tore off many tops and branches. Paths shut off and plants laid low with debris of the wreckage.

She added more detail about this storm when she wrote in 1926 in *Trees in the wild Garden: (2)*

The leading tree in the swamp was the tamarack. They were piled up like jackstraws by the tornado, and but few left standing. But most of the white birches, which were nearly equally abundant, were spared by reason of their deeper root system, as was also another prime ornament of the garden - a much be-photographed eight-boled white birch that dominates the eastern hillside. [photo next page]

In 1912 the giant White Oak she called Monarch, had been treated for decay. Here she explains what was done and then what happened this year.

"Monarch," as we call him, was slowly dying atop. So, in obedience to the scriptural injunction, his dead limbs were cut off and cast away, and decayed portions of his "heart" - not essential as with humans for circulation -- were taken out and replaced with concrete. Thus, lopped and reinforced, he bade fair for many more years to hold sway. Alack and alas! In the tornado of June, large chunks of concrete were belched out and all the limbs torn off. How long will he yet stand without his crown?

He lasted until 1940 when Martha Crone had him removed as a danger of falling on visitors.

In the summer months she obtained another eight new species for the Garden. Details below. Summer weather was hot. Eloise wrote:

Through August and not yet fairly broken the most protracted drought ever recorded in Minnesota. The hillsides in the Reserve have suffered severely but the asters are holding their own fairly well. The usual crop of mushroom is a complete failure. (3)

Further adventures:

Have had some pleasant outing to break general dismalness. Went out on the prairies early in July when the wood lily mingled with the tall cream-colored spikes of zygadene at its height, and on the low lands, large masses of showy moccasin flowers disported themselves. In August, spent two days at Lake Kabecona [should be Kabekona], about twenty miles east of Itasca Park.



Eloise Butler with the large White Oak "Monarch." 1924 newspaper photo.



"Monarch" - 1926 newspaper photo

There I saw for the first time in their native haunts the spurred gentian [*Halenia deflexa*] and the northern grass of parnassus [*Parnassia palustris*]. On a creek floated the pretty white water crowfoot in full blossom, and all the land was blue with harebells.(3)

Below: The eight-boled birch is in the background of this photo from 1926.



Autumn 1925

In the autumn Eloise obtained 2 new species for the Garden, detailed below.

Eloise, and later Martha Crone, always planted many asters in the autumn, some in extremely large quantities. On October 10-11, She planted 161 Sky Blue Aster, *Aster azureus* [*Symphiotrichum oolentangiense*] from Glenwood Park. Her last log entry was on October 20-21 said

“planted from Minnehaha 301 *Aster Cordifolius* along path, east side of south enclosure and on plateau.” [*Symphiotrichum cordifolium*] Heart-leaved Aster]

The “south enclosure” is one of two Garden areas Eloise had fenced in during 1924. The large quantities of some of these asters both this year and in 1924 might indicate that were from a Park Board nursery. There was such a nursery at Glenwood Park at this time.

On the way to Malden after she closed the Garden Eloise had a 4 day



Heart-leaved Aster, (*Aster cordifolius*) [*Symphiotrichum cordifolium*]

stop in Indianapolis where she also had family relatives, arriving in Malden in her cousin's automobile and wrote that it *"didn't skid over a precipice as I thought it might."* While in Malden the weather was so nice that she has time to "snoop" for plant material for the Garden and she mailed some acorns of Black Oak and Swamp White Oak to Martha Crone with instructions to heel them in for her, along with some of Savory-leaved Aster, *Aster linariifolius* [now *Ionactis linariifolius*] which she thought Martha may like. She wrote again about her sister Cora being very feeble - Cora died in 1928. Then she gave a recipe for Quince and Cranberry Jam.(4)

Weather: The snow from the winter of 1924/25 had all melted by the end of February and early spring was dry, some rain arrived in May but the summer was dry turning to drought. Going into the winter of 1925/26 there was little snow until January. Total precipitation was 7 inches below average. The tornado in June was the unusual event.

Notes:

- (1) Letter from Eloise Butler to Martha Crone, January 24 1925.
- (2) *Trees in the Wild Garden* - essay in *The Early History of the Wildlife Reserve*, unpublished (copy on the Friends website).
- (3) *The Wild Garden in 1925* - submission to the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. (complete text on next page.).
- (4) Letter from Eloise Butler to Martha Crone, November 3, 1925

Photo top of page 172: Tamaracks in the wetland. These are replacements for the trees destroyed in 1925.

New 1925 Plants

Spring 1925

- *Arabidopsis thaliana*, Mouseear Cress, introduced. from vicinity of Anoka. May 21.
- *Betula nigra*, River Birch, native, from Kelsey's nursery, Salem MA. April 18. Extant.
- *Delphinium tricornis*, Dwarf Larkspur, native, from Denison Iowa, April 22. Martha Crone planted it in 4 different years beginning in 1947.
- *Hieroloche* [*Hierochloa odorata*] "Holy Grass", Sweetgrass, not native, from Grand Forks North Dakota. May 12.
- *Mamillaria vivipara* [*Escobaria vivipara* now *Coryphantha vivipara*] Spinystar, many varieties, but probably var *vivipara* as that is only variety found in North Dakota where plants came from. Planted in the cactus rockery. April 2.
- *Marchantia polymorpha*, moss, native, from vicinity of Anoka. May 21.
- *Morus rubra*, Red Mulberry, not native, from Maquokata Iowa, May 16. Martha Crone also planted it in 1957.
- *Prenanthes aspera*, Hairy stemmed Prenanthes, native, from Point Douglas, April 30. Martha Crone planted it in 1949 and '51.



River Birch, (*Betula nigra*), New spring planting of 1925.

Summer 1925

- *Desmanthus illinoensis*, Illinois Bunchflower, native, currently on the Minnesota Special Concern list, from Prior Lake MN. August 13.
- *Halenia deflexa*, Spurred Gentian, native, from Grand Marais MN, July 9. another 4 were planted on 3 August from Lake Kabacona. Kabacona should be Kabekona. (Hubbard County). Martha Crone also planted in 1933 and 54. Photo below.
- *Helianthus petiolaris*, Prairie Sunflower, native, from vicinity of Fridley, August 27.
- *Hippuris vulgaris*, Common Mare's Tail, native, from Lake Kabacona [Kabekona], August 3. (She would also use this species in 1932 at the new Mallard Pool)
- *Hudsonia tomentosa*, Woolly Beach Heather (Poverty Grass), native, from vicinity of Fridley, August 27 and also on 16 October from vicinity of Anoka. Martha Crone would plant it in 1936 and later years also. Photo Below
- *Nelumbo lutea*, American lotus, native, from O'Brian's Lake and planted at Birch Pond, August 13. Photo below.
- *Scutellaria parvula*, Small Skullcap, native, from vicinity of Orchard Gardens (ie around Burnsville MN). June 25.
- *Solidago canadensis*, Canada Goldenrod, native, from Lake Kabacona [Kabekona], August 3. Today it is not found there, but maybe it was in 1925 or maybe it was our current species, *S. altissima*.

Autumn 1925

- *Lobelia inflata* - Indian Tobacco, native, from Warren Maine. October 14.
- *Setaria italica*, Foxtail millet, introduced, from Trenton Wis. September 17.



Spurred Gentian, (*Halenia deflexa*)
New summer planting. Photo ©Robert
Bierman, Wisconsin Flora



American Lotus, (*Nelumbo lutea*),
New summer planting. Photo
©Merle R. Black, Wisconsin
Flora.



Woolly Beach Heather, (*Hudsonia tomentosa*). New summer planting.
Photo ©Paul Drobot, Wisconsin Flora

The Complete text of "The Wild Garden in 1925"

A most unusual season --spotted, indeed, if due to sun spots. In April, very hot wether that unduly stimulated vegetation. Then late frosts -- ice forming May 26 -- that nipped aspiring flower buds. Some things were frozen four times. Therefore, no wild grapes, no May apples, nor several flowers. During May, heavy rains and cold weather, so that we said, "We'll not complain when the sun roasts us." June 2 a tornado swooped upon us from the northwest, uprooting trees and laying everything flat with wreckage. Fortunately, only a few lives were lost. The damages cannot be repaired in years. Through August and not yet fairly broken the most protracted drought ever recorded in Minnesota. The hillsides in the Reserve have suffered severely but the asters are holding their own fairly well. The usual crop of mushroom is a complete failure.

Have had some pleasant outing to break general dismalness. Went out on the prairies early in July when the wood lily mingled with the tall cream-colored spikes of zygadene at it's height, and on the low lands, large masses of showy moccasin flowers disported themselves. In August, spent two days at Lake Kabecona, about twenty miles east of Itasca Park. There I saw for the first time in their native haunts the spurred gentian [*Halenia deflexa*] and the northern grass of parnassus [*Parnassia palustris*]. On a creek floated the pretty white water crowfoot in full blossom, and all the land was blue with harebells. Strange to say, a little earlier, a single specimen of *Halenia* was brought to me from the north to identify. From the venation, I thought it must be an endogen and tried to place it in the lily or orchid families. Over the telephone I got a hint from one who knew, that it must belong to the gentian family, although the name could not be recalled. The small flowers were cream colored and spurred. Then "spurred gentian" flashed through my mind, and also the scientific name, *Halenia deflexa*, although I had no consciousness of previous knowledge. The botanist confirmed the wireless telegram. This is another instance of

several experiences that I have had of unconscious registration. We all really know much more than we are aware of . . .

[Thanks to Martha Hellander for unearthing this bit of writing]

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

24 January, 1925

My dear Cronies,--

I was so pleased (although you may not think so from my long-delayed acknowledgment) to see the print of Janeth's smiling face and the ingenious egg-slicer so convenient for the housekeeper into which I am transformed during the winter months.

I have been more than busy since Christmas with some special work for my sick brother who is merely holding his own. He sits up two or three hours each day, and can walk across the floor without help. If we can keep him through the winter, he may become stronger. My sister is very feeble. My brother-in-law and niece are ill at intervals, and I find the duties of housekeeping somewhat heavy with a family of eight, including a dog and three cats.

We had a very jolly Christmas, nevertheless, with a good many jokes. I wish you could have had some of my two lobsters that were given me. Tell Janeth that the dog had in her Christmas stocking a gingerbread Father Christmas decked with colored sandies, a box of

raisins, a big bone, and a toy horse, while the cats had all the catnip they could roll in.

With much haste,

Very sincerely,

Elvise Butler

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

3 November, 1925

Dear Mrs. Crone,--

Arrived here Sunday evening, after a pleasant visit of four days in Indianapolis. Every one in usual health, although my sister continues to be very feeble. Had no opportunity to recover anything on my insurance policy. It snowed every night in Indianapolis and melted during the way, but my cousin's automobile didn't skid over a precipice, as I thought it might. October has been a disagreeable month all along the line. It is warm and sunny here at present. I took advantage of the weather to "snoop" around the neighborhood a bit, and am mailing you a box of the "finds", some of which--perhaps the acorns-- you may wish to use in next season's exhibit, as you are not likely to find them.

The black oak acorns are inferior specimens. You might try to sprout two or three of the swamp white oak by planting them in a little spot sunk in the ground, and if you will kindly "heel in" for the winter in the adjacent vacant lot whatever you do not care to cultivate in your garden, you will greatly oblige me. You will find *Aster linariifolius* very desirable as a late bloomer, and I am well stocked with it in the Reserve.

I hope you will have yet an Indian summer to shorten the winter ahead of you .

With kindest regards to Janeth and Dr.
Crone,

Very truly your friend,

Elvise Butler

Am about to make some prize-winning jam that we all like particularly well: Quince & Cranberry Jam.

Equal parts of cooked cranberry run through a sieve and ground pineapple with water added to make it of the same consistency as the cranberry. Cook together about 15 minutes with an equal measure of sugar.



1926

Winter 1925/1926

Eloise Butler wrote to Bill and Martha Crone from Malden in January about the Christmas gifts, especially the reel tape measure, and the recipes the Crones sent and noted that the weather in Malden had been mild.

Another of the presents received from the Crones was "the account of our Little Sahara." (1) This is the first time this term shows up and it refers to the sand garden and Cactus Rockery that was created as early as 1924. The words "little Sahara" do not show up in Eloise's log notes until June 1930, but this correspondence affirms the much earlier start of this garden area.



Spring 1926

The countryside of Appleton Maine where Eloise spent her childhood. Photo from 1989 courtesy Martha Hellander.

Eloise's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

No snow on the ground, but ice still
on the ponds. Season very late. Robins and bluebirds here.

On the 13th *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] was in bloom and the Hepaticas were budding. But late winter was not over - on May 13:

Frost at night, young leaves of butternut frozen.

Once again the pheasant was nesting. May 19:

"Noted pheasant's nest on west hillside with 10 eggs; yellow-headed blackbird's nest June 4 with 4 small eggs, one small, probably cowbird's egg." 14 June: "Noted exquisite nest of American Goldfinch in showy lady slipper meadow four eggs in it." (Garden Log)

No new species were introduced this spring but she did receive shipments of plants already existing in the Garden from Robbins' Nursery in Ashford NC; from North Dakota, and Malden, MA. She sourced locally from Hardscrabble Point on Lake Minnetonka, and from Forest Lake.

On May 31st Fletcher Wilson wrote in the *Minneapolis Tribune* about the flower displays in the city parks, devoting the most space to the Wild Flower Garden. He wrote: "And last, but of course not least, the native plant reserve in Glenwood . . . under the scrupulous care of a little old woman, Miss Eloise Butler. Except for fences and signs, it looks like a particularly beautiful spot in the wilds that has remained un-disfigured by the encroachment of civilization. There are no set beds. The plants have been introduced under their native conditions and allowed to grow as they will. In the reserve one may find in a restricted area plants which one would otherwise have to roam the entire state to see."

After reading that one must suspect that he had a lesson with Miss Butler as it reads almost directly from her own written words except for the description of her as a "little old woman."

Summer 1926

In the summer months Eloise obtained another four new species for the Garden. Short's Aster, Red Turtlehead, Great Waterleaf and Ten-petal Blazing Star. Details below.

During 1926 Eloise wrote a summary of *Shrubs in the Wild Garden*, in which she reviewed her inventory of shrubs. She started with "The brightly hued berries of the shrubs are but a 'fleeting show' in the garden, being scarcely allowed to ripen by the fruit-loving birds." At the end of the essay she gave an inventory:

The ten shrubs most common in the Reserve are: willows, of which the most abundant are *Salix discolor* [Pussy Willow], *S. petiolaris* [Slender Willow], *S. rostrata* [*S. bebbiana*, Bebb Willow]; Common hazel (*Corylus americana*); Prickly ash (*Xanthoxylum americanum*); Beaked hazel (*Corylus rostrata*); Smooth sumach (*Rhus glabra*); Gray dogwood (*Cornus paniculata*); Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*); Dwarf birch (*Betula pumila*); Wild buckthorn (*Rhamus alnifolia*); Round-leaved thorn (*Crataegus rotundifolia*) [*Crataegus chrysocarpa* var. *chrysocarpa*].
(2)



Red turtlehead, (*Chelone obliqua*)
New summer planting.

Autumn 1926

In the autumn months Eloise obtained 3 new species for the Garden: Bog Aster, Rosinweed, and Claspig Venus Looking-glass - all detailed below.

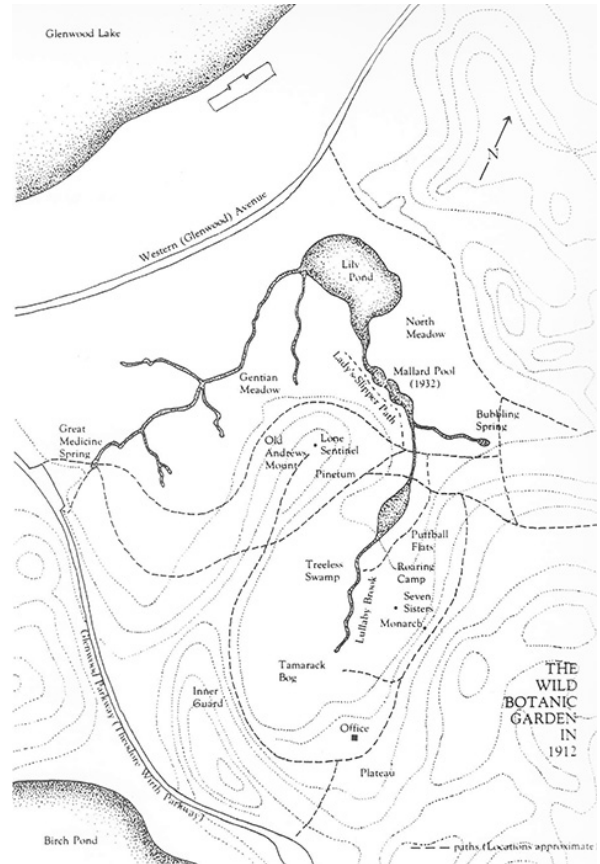
Eloise did not refer to warblers very often but on September 6th she wrote: “Mrs. Gaylord Davidson noted today in The Reserve the following warblers” and listed 13 plus 17 other birds.

Sometime during the year she added notes to what she intended to be an early history of the wildlife reserve, describing why the site was chosen (page 186. Full text on Friends Website). She described in this essay the layout of the Garden in the area she called the “plateau” where her office stood (page 126 describes the plateau). Then she added notes about the evergreens in the Garden.

Her last log entry on October 22 said

planted from Grand Forks N. Dakota 7 silverberry below east path near Buffalo Berry. Planted from Glenwood Park 1 *Aster azureus* and 1 *A. sericeus* on Plateau north of office.

Frosts occurred on October 24-25th ending the growing season. During the autumn she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden, most from Robbins in Ashford NC; Waseca MN; Royal NE, Thomaston ME; Mrs. Leavitt’s garden at 2015 James Ave. So, Minneapolis; Glenwood Park; Deephaven MN; a large group of plants from Bryan MN; the Park Board Nursery; the Streetcar terminus on West Broadway and Mrs. Johnson’s yard in Minneapolis.



The Wild Garden in 1912 showing the location of the Plateau and other features. Map ©Martha Hellander.

A third essay this year, also intended to be part of her history was titled *Trees in the Wild Garden*. She recounted

A census was taken at once of the most obvious inmates of the Reserve, which has been increased from time to time by many delightful surprises. (2)

She references the damage from the tornado in 1925 and then gave this inventory of trees:

The ten most abundant trees in the Native Plant Reserve, Minneapolis, are: Tamarack (*Larix laricina*), White birch (*Betula alba* var. *papyrifera*), Ironwood (*Ostrya virginiana*), Northern pin oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*), White oak (*Quercus alba*), Red oak (*Quercus rubra*), White ash (*Fraxinus americana*), Red maple (*Acer rubrum*), Basswood, (*Tilia americana*), Large-toothed aspen (*Populus grandidentata*). (3)

In another part of the history Eloise was writing about the Garden, dated 1926, she wrote of the earliest days of the Garden and why preservation was necessary.

In the early '80s Minneapolis was a place of enchantment – a veritable fairyland,” [but with the advancement of the city] “the land has been ruthlessly stripped of the exquisite features that

Nature, the greatest landscape gardener, has wrought through the ages, and “all the king’s horses and all the king’s men” can never make the place the same again. (text on page 134).

Following the death of Eloise in 1933, parts of her text were incorporated into an article titled *Our Native Plant Reserve* compiled by Mrs John Jepson. The purpose of the article was to sum up the work Eloise had done and the benefit of the Garden to society. The text was then published in *The Minnesota Clubwoman* in June 1933. See page 268 for the article.

Weather in 1926 was not too unusual. Precipitation increased from 1925, but the year was still below normal by 3 inches. The year ended with some good snow and snow on the ground most of November and all of December.



Short's Aster, (*Symphyotrichum shortii*), New summer planting.



Eastern Daisy Fleabane (Annual Fleabane), (*Erigeron annuus*), New autumn planting.



Rosinweed, (*Silphium integrifolium*) New autumn planting.

New 1926 Plants

Spring 1926

No new species in spring 1926.

Summer 1926

- *Aster shortii*, [*Symphyotrichum shortii*], Short's Aster, native, from Waseca. MN. August 28 with a 2nd group on Sept. 4. Extant. (Photo below)
- *Chelone obliqua*, Red Turtlehead, from Vicinity of Waterville, near southern boundary of Rice County, 1 clump, August 14. This had been naturalized in Mr. Rohl's garden, Gramercy Ave. There has long been a question whether this species has native status in Minnesota. The U of M *Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Minnesota* states it is known only from Southern Minnesota and last collected in 1922. This clump was later stolen and Policeman Rohl replaced the clump with others from his garden on May 23, 1931. Extant.
- *Hydrophyllum appendiculatum*, Great Waterleaf, native, from Denison Iowa, July 31.
- *Mentzelia decapetala*, Tenpetal Blazing Star, not native to MN, from Beulah, ND, August 26,

Autumn 1926

- *Aster nemoralis* [*Oclemena nemoralis*] Bog aster, not native, from Thomaston, ME, September 3.
- *Erigeron annuus*, Eastern Daisy Fleabane [Annual Fleabane], native, from Deephaven, September 30. This is the first time she planted it, but was indigenous in 1907. Extant. (Photo below)
- *Silphium integrifolium*, Rosinweed, not native, from Royal Neb. October 9. Extant. (Photo below)
- *Specularia perfoliata*, [*Triodanis perfoliata*]. Claspig Venus Looking-glass, native, seeds from Royal Nebraska, October 18. Martha Crone also planted it in 1947.

Photo top of page 182: One of open pools in the wetland as seen years later on May 15, 1952. Photo from a Kodachrome taken by Martha Crone. These Kodachromes were given to Friends of the Wild Flower Garden by Martha Crone Estate.

Notes:

(1) Letter to Bill and Martha Crone, 11 Jan. 1926

(2) *Shrubs in the Wild Garden*, essay in The Early History of the Wildlife Reserve, unpublished.

(3) *Trees in the Wild Garden*. essay in The Early History of the Wildlife Reserve, unpublished.

Additional Text from Eloise Butler's Early History of 1926

(see page 134 for the beginning part of this essay)

A particular reason for selecting this place was the undrained tamarack swamp, such a swamp being the abode of most of our orchids and insectivorous plants so interesting in habit and structure. Indeed, most lovers of wild plants are bog-trotters and find in the depths of a swamp an earthly paradise. The indigenous flora was found to be captivating. Among the notables were sundew, pitcher plant, *Linnaea*, Turk's-cap lily, the two species of fringed gentian, showy and yellow lady's-slippers.

In the spring of 1907, the experiment began on a tract of about three acres in extent, comprising the small tamarack bog with meadows on the south and west merging into wooded slopes. Longing eyes were cast upon a marsh overgrown with willows on the eastern side of the bog. This was private property, but before a year had passed it was purchased by the park commission and added to the garden together with the adjacent hillside. Later, meadows on the north and west were also annexed so that the garden now contains about twenty-five acres.

A tiny stream threaded the bog and emerged into a depressed area of slimy ooze flanked by low banks. A dam was constructed that

converted the depression into a lovely pool that has become a favorite sketching point for artists. It has proved too shady for aquatics and it is proposed to make a small pond by excavation in the open north meadow where the stream from the bog unites with one that flows from a spring on the eastern boundary. The delicious water of this spring is not one of the least important adjuncts of the garden.

It was planned from the beginning to make the garden a living museum of the flora of Minnesota and to preserve strictly the wild appearance of the place. There were to be no formal beds. Plants were to be allowed to grow according to their own sweet will and not as humans might wish them to grow, and without any restraint except what could be essential for health and mutual well-being. Each plant introduced to the garden is provided with an environment similar to its original one and then left to take care of itself as in the wild open, with only the natural fertilizers such as decaying wood and leaves. No watering is done after the plants are firmly established. Plants growing in excess and pestilent weeds are removed to make room for more desirable newcomers.

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

11 January, 1926

Dear Cronies,--

Many, many thanks for everything!-- the account of our little Sahara, the magnifier with protective case, the bag of Minneapolis flour (disguised emery?), the basquet of fruit, the valuable recipes in box-holder. I took hold of the little ring protruding from the basket, by which I intended to hang the basket on the wall, when lo and behold! a tape-measure shot out. I have ^{been} looking for one on a reel for years, because they always g^{et} tangled and knotted up in a work basket, but I never expected to find one so decorative and reminiscent of our jolly snoopings. I have already used two of the recipes, and I shall type on the blank cards all the tested recipes that are favored by my family. You may be interested in looking them over, and perhaps may wish to copy some of them.

In the midst of our strenuous work and many anxieties, we managed to have a glorious Christmas--oodles and oodles of lovely presents, and I enjoyed the others' gifts as much as I did my own. Among them was a wonderful book

that I will lend to you-- "America's Greatest Garden", the Arnold Arboretum, profusely illustrated. The author is "Chinese Wilson", the noted plant collector and assistant director of the Arboretum.

Winter is half over, and the predicted severe weather has not yet arrived, Perhaps it may come in the spring.

I hope this will find you well and happy.

Sincerely yours,

Elaine Butler



1927

Winter 1926/1927

In January Eloise wrote to Bill and Martha Crone about her Christmas activities and a letter from Theodore Wirth about the wonderful winter in Minneapolis. Eloise related that the winter in Mass. was the coldest since 1885 and she longed to back in Minneapolis where she could be outside all day. (1)

Spring 1927

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

"Robins, bluebird, song sparrows here." Many plants were in bloom, she noted *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium], sharp-lobed Hepatica, willows, skunk cabbage.

Her first plantings of the year were plants sent from Malden Mass. - 22 asters and a Roundleaf Greenbriar, put in on April 3.

On the night of 21-22 April there was snow and frost. There were thirteen new species introduced this spring - details below. Besides the sources listed there, she got plants from 2628 5th Ave. So., Minneapolis; Happy Valley near Mendota; Gillett's Nursery in Southwick, MA; Grand Forks, ND; and Northern Michigan.



Eloise Butler ca. 1930, photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society.

Summer 1927

The Showy Lady's-slipper was just beginning to bloom on June 19, rather late that year. In the summer months Eloise obtained another nine new species for the Garden. Details below.

Other plants came from Mr. Babcock's Garden; Northome MN; Glenwood Park; Anoka MN; Leffel Lake; Royal NE; Hastings MN; Northern MN; Bryan NE; near the Rum River; Northeast Minneapolis; Fort Snelling; and Mrs. Rook's Garden.

Autumn 1927

In the autumn Eloise obtained 5 new species for the Garden, detailed below.

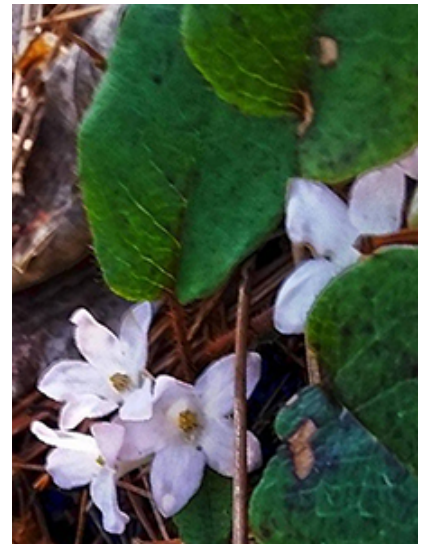
Another example of the large planting of asters that she frequently did was on 11 October and 14 October when 206 *Aster azureus*, Sky Blue Aster, were put in, all from Glenwood Park.

Her last log entry on October 22 read

planted from from Exeter, N.H., 3 clumps of *Epigaea repens* [Trailing arbutus] under pine tree in Pinetum. One clump contained a root of *Gaultheria procumbens* [Spicy Wintergreen]. Transplanted from purple trillium plantation 1 staminate wild yam to trellis east side of office.

The experience in the Garden with Trailing Arbutus bears some discussion as it is an example of the dogged determination of the Garden Curators to establish a plant. The plant is native to the NE section of Minnesota which is its most westerly range in the United States. Eloise first brought the plant in during 1916 from Solon Springs Wisconsin, up near Lake Superior. She planted it again in 1917, '19, '20, '22, '25, this year, '30 and '31. In her 1926 history Eloise noted that "Only a small percentage (of plants) refuse to flourish.

Trailing arbutus, *Viola lanceolata* and *V. rotundifolia* are found to be the least persuasive." Martha Crone would try to establish it in ten different years between 1933 and 1957. In 1945 should would write in her annual report to the Board of Park Commissioners "An extensive program is being undertaken to re-establish some of the more elusive plants, among them the Fringed Gentian, Trailing Arbutus and various orchids." In her 1950 annual report she was able to say "After many years of effort success has been gained with such elusive plants as the lovely Fringed Gentian, Trailing Arbutus and various orchids." She wrote in *The Fringed Gentian*TM in July 1959 (vol. 7 no. 3) that "Trailing arbutus, Blueberry and Cranberry are difficult to transplant and apparently are somewhat parasitic upon the roots of other plants. Trailing Arbutus is always found growing in company of Blueberry." The last of Martha's plants were eliminated in the late '50s by mice, so in 1963 and 1964 her successor Ken Avery tried once again. He too gave up after several years.



Trailing Arbutus. (*Epigaea repens*),
©Aaron Carlson, Wisconsin Flora.

During the autumn Eloise also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden from sources such as: Anoka MN; Bryan NE; Glenwood Park; Williams Nursery, Exeter, NH; Royal NE; Mr. Babcock's yard; Fort Snelling; Riverside Park; and Mrs. Hind's Garden.

In October and November, when she was back in Malden she sent boxes of plants to Martha Crone for her to heel in until spring when Eloise could transfer them to the Garden. The October box she collected in Ann Arbor Michigan on a side trip from a stop she made in Toledo Ohio, while on her way to Malden. The November box was collected in Malden. She referred to the weather in Malden as the hottest November 2nd in 51 years. (2)

Weather in 1927 was not too unusual - a good year. The late winter snow was gone before the end of February, except for that mid-April snowfall. Rain was good during the summer followed by heavy snow in December raising total precipitation for the year above normal - the first time in several years.

Notes:

(1) Letter to Bill and Martha Crone dated 9 January 1927.

(2) Postcard to Martha Crone October 29, 1927.

Postcard to Martha Crone 3 November 1927.

Photo top of page 189: The office of Eloise Butler in the winter Garden as seen here on March 9, 1953, photo from a Kodachrome of Martha Crone.

New 1927 Plants

Spring 1927

- *Agoseris cuspidata* [*Nothocalais cuspidata*] Prairie False Dandelion, native, from Royal Neb. May 7.
- *Argemone intermedia*, [*Argemone polyanthemus*], Crested Prickly-poppy, not native, from Royal Neb., April 25.
- *Geranium pusillum*, Small geranium, not native, from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA, May 13-14.
- *Gilia linearis* [*Collomia linearis*] Tiny Trumpet, native, from Royal Neb. May 31, again on 9 June, same source
- *Happlopappus spinulosus*, [*Machaeranthera pinnatifida*], Lacy Tansyaster, native, from Royal Neb. May 7.
- *Ipomoea leptophylla*, Bush Morning-glory, not native, seeds from Royal Neb., April 20. Again on August 22, 2 plants, same source.
- *Lathyrus ornatus*, [*Lathyrus brachycalyx* ssp. *brachycalyx*], Bonneville Pea, not native, from Royal Neb. April 30.
- *Linum rigidum*? Stiffstem flax, native, from Royal Neb. May 24. The "?" is in the log - she was unsure of the plant.
- *Lomatium orientale*, Northern Idaho Biscuitroot, Desert Parsley, native, from Royal Neb. April 15.
- *Mertensia paniculata*, Northern Lungwort, native, noted it in blossom at southwest corner of pergola-trellis. Planted as an unknown root from Grand Marais two years ago. May 25. More planted on July 8-9. Martha Crone planted it in 1933, 34, 48 and 56.

- *Opuntia rafinesquii*, [*Opuntia humifusa*], Devil's Tongue Prickly Pear, native, from Royal Neb. April 15. Martha Crone planted this in 1934 and 39.
- *Psoralea esculenta*, [*Pediomelum esculentum*] Large Indian Breadroot, native, from Royal Neb. May 24. Martha Crone noted the plants blooming in 1938 and planted it in 1946 and 47.
- *Thymus serpyllum* [*Thymus praecox*] Mother of Thyme, Creeping Thyme, introduced, from Gillett's Nursery, Southwick MA, May 14-14. Martha Crone planted it in 1948 and 1955.

Summer 1927

- *Acerates viridiflora* [*Asclepias viridiflora*] Green Comet Milkweed, native, from Royal Neb. June 19.
- *Campanula rapunculoides*, European Bellflower, introduced, from Mrs. Rook's Garden, August 24-25, photo next page. Extant.
- *Hedeoma hispida*, Rough False Pennyroyal, native, from sand dunes northwest of Minneapolis. July 14.
- *Hydrangea arborescens*, Wild Hydrangea, not native, from Iowa, August 9.
- *Myosotis arvensis*, Field Forget-me-not, introduced, from vicinity of Hastings, MN, June 21.
- *Knautia arvensis*, Field Scabiosa, Bluebuttons, introduced, from Northern MN July 11.
- *Lesquerella argentea* - one of the Bladderpods, no MN listing, from Bryan Neb. July 12
- *Melampyrum lineare*, Narrowleaf Cowwheat, native, from Northern MN, July 8 -9.
- *Psoralea tenuiflora* var. *floribunda* [*Psoralidium tenuiflorum*] Slimflower Scurfpea, native, from Bryan Neb., July 12
- *Streptopus amplexifolius*, Claspleaf Twisted Stalk Lily, native, from Northern MN, July 8 -9. Martha Crone planted it in 1947, 54, and Ken Avery in 1963

Autumn 1927

- *Habenaria fimbriata* [*Platanthera grandiflora*]. Greater Purple Fringed Orchid, not native, from William's Nursery, Exeter NH. September 30/October 1st
- *Hosackia americana* [*Lotus unifoliolatus* var. *unifoliolatus*] American bird's-foot trefoil, native, seeds. from, Royal Neb. September 29.
- *Lysimachia quadriflora*, Prairie Loosestrife, native, from William's Nursery, Exeter NH. September 30/October 1st, photo next page.
- *Sedum triphyllum* [*Hylotelephium telephium* ssp. *telephium*] Live-forever, Witches Moneybags, introduced. From vicinity of Anoka, photo next page. This is the first definite introduction of Live Forever into the Garden by Eloise Butler. It's possible that the first occurrence could have been October 21, 1910 when she brought in a plant she named "Aaron's Rod" without giving a botanical name. That name however, has been applied to several plants including Common Mullein, *Verbascum thapsus*. Since her 1910 source was Glenwood Springs, right near the Garden, we believe her 1910 plant was Mullein. Martha Crone was to plant it a number of times - 1933, '35, '36, '52, '53. Extant. Photo next page.
- *Veronica officinalis*, Common Gypsyweed, introduced, from William's Nursery, Exeter NH. September 30/October 1st. Martha Crone also planted this in 1947.



European Bellflower,
(*Campanula rapunculoides*).
New summer planting.



Live Forever, (*Hylotelephium
telephium*). New autumn planting.



Prairie Loosestrife, (*Lysimachia
quadriflora*). New autumn planting.

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

9 January, 1927

Dear Cronies,--

I am deluged with correspondence and frightfully in arrears. I am trying to clear it up at the rate of one letter a day, but the last three days have not had time for even that.

We had a wonderful Christmas, and my sister, although gradually failing, was able to enjoy it with us. Among the many gifts none was more lovely than the Song of the Cardinal with its touching message and beautiful illustrations. And those daintily embroidered holders and the case are certainly the last word of the sort. All are much admired.

Mr. Wirth writes that you are having beautiful winter weather--the ground well covered with snow. It is cold here for Massachusetts, December having the coldest average since 1885 with more snow. Rain alternates with snow, so the snow lies in patches, and the walks are icy. I am longing to be in Minneapolis again where I can be out of doors all day. Our new big sun parlor (which I will tell you about sometime) although very nice, isn't equal to the great open.

I hope you are all well and happy.

With sincerest regards,

Very truly your friend,

Eloise Butler

2012 School Place,
Toledo, O., Oct. 29, '27.

Dear Mrs. Crane, - I been here this evening
15 minutes past midnight. Arrive in Boston
at 6:35 P. M. Took an auto trip to Ann Arbor
52 miles, yesterday - Temperature 72 deg. !
Collected near the university town a few
plants. Will you kindly heel them in
for me? Teasel, Queen Anne's lace
(Both biennials I fear), an unknown mint,
and an aster, whose leaves look like a
Norse-angliae.
Regards to Dr. C. and Janeth -
(Use the Teasel heads for Sincerely,
a winter bouquet.) Elvise Butler

20 Murray Hill Road, Malden, Mass.

3 November, 1927

Dear Mrs. Crone, --

I mailed you yesterday a box of Malden plants. Help yourself to anything you like besides what I marked especially for you, and kindly heel in your adjacent vacant lot the remainder, which I will replant in The Reserve next spring.

Hottest Nov. 2nd for 51 years in Boston. Temperature 75 deg. at 1 P.M. I am wondering about the weather in Minneapolis.

Regards to Janeth and Dr. Crone.

Affectionately, E.B.



1928

Winter 1927/1928

On February 29, leap day, Eloise's sister Cora Pease died after her long illness. It is not known if Eloise informed Martha and Bill Crone of this at the time or after she returned to Minneapolis in late March to her rented quarters at the residence of John and Susan Babcock. We have no saved correspondence between Eloise and the Crones from January 1927 until November of this year.

It is known that she wrote an essay about Cora's life that she sent to the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter for the members circular. A copy is in the Minneapolis Collection at the Central Library.

Spring 1928

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

"Weather warm and dry. Ground for the most part free from Frost." On the next day she noted: "Skunk cabbage, *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] and a few hepaticas opened this afternoon. All the early birds here."

She began planting on April 4 plants that had been heeled in during the winter by Martha Crone. They went between the bird bath and the south (now front) gate. All were from Malden MA and included Queen Anne's Lace, Heal-all, St. Johnswort, two goldenrods and an aster. But it began to snow in the evening and her notes for the next few days were not full of spring cheer:

5 April "Snowed all day. Ground covered to a depth of a foot."

12 April "Snow melted, Froze last evening, turned warm today."

13 April "Snowing again. A heavy snowfall." (This one totaled 9.5 inches making it the second largest single event snowfall in April in local weather history, as of 2021. Second only to 1923.)



Queen Anne's Lace, planted by Eloise this spring; plants sent from Malden MA.

It was not until April 21 that work could begin again when she made the curious note that “Wild crab on west hillside was grafted with wild roses.” Some planting occurred on the 22nd and 23rd but then the log copy available is missing data until 25 July. (1)

Eloise wrote an essay about the spring of 1928. She described the flow of flowering from the first Trillium to the end of spring which she described in this manner:

June 15 is expected to usher in the crowing event of the year - our wonderful state flower. (2)

Excerpts from the essay follow the 1928 plant information.

One new species was listed in the abbreviated spring section of the log. Details after the autumn section.

Summer 1928

The abbreviated log shows only one new species placed during the summer - details after the autumn section.

Autumn 1928

In the autumn Eloise obtained 4 new species for the Garden, detailed below. One of those is Scarlet Oak. This is the first note in her log about the species, but in a 1926 essay *Trees in the Wild Garden*, she stated that there was one specimen in the Garden. Did she mis-identify it or plant one earlier without a noting it?

There are many notes in recent years in the log about a sand tank near the spring where some species were planted, especially violets. This may have been a bed for keeping young plants, and plants that needed good drainage. The spring would have been the Bubbling Spring located just NE of the current back gate of the Garden, an area that was part of Eloise's Garden at that time.

Her last log entry on October 19 said

planted from Glenwood Park 51 *Aster azureus* [*Symphyotrichum oolentangiense* ; Sky Blue Aster] on aster hillside displacing clematis.

Sky Blue is one of several blue asters the Eloise planted continuously and in large quantities. This species is indigenous to the Garden but she planted it every year between 1915 and 1932. In 1917 she said she was “continuing blueing east hillside.” The odd count of plants put in indicates they may have been seedlings obtained from the Park Board Nursery which was located across Glenwood Ave. from the Garden at Glenwood Lake.

During the autumn she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden from sources such as: Ninemile Creek; Kelsey's Nursery, Salem MA; near Lake Independence; Taylor's Falls; Anoka and near the Luce Line Rail Road.

After returning to Malden for the winter she wrote to Martha Crone, informing Martha that she had sent another box of plants to Martha



Sky Blue Aster, (*Symphyotrichum oolentangiense*)

hoping Martha could heel them in until spring (just as she had done the previous year). It is a short note as she writes “my hands are more than full” with a sick niece. and “I can write only a short note.” But it is one of the few pieces of correspondence that illuminates where her political leanings were. She added a last paragraph:

But I must add that I am glad to be this winter in one of the few states that supported Governor Smith - - never known to go democratic before. (4)

On November 27th the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* reported that Dr. Otto Schussler had originated a petition to the Park Board place an ornamental fence around the old oak on Franklin Terrance (near the Mississippi River and Franklin Avenue) in order to protect its' roots and that the oak be named the "Eloise Butler Oak" in honor of the pioneer teachers of biology in the city. It is uncertain if approval was ever given. Dr. Schussler and his wife Edith were good friends of Eloise Butler. Weather: Except the April cold and snow, 1928 was not an unusual year. Total precipitation for the year was just below normal.

New 1928 Plants

Spring 1928

- *Dipsacus* [prob. *Dipsacus laciniatus*] Teasel, introduced, from vicinity of Ann Arbor, April 4. Eloise originally sourced the fruit of this plant in 1923 in Indianapolis, but provided it to a Conservation Society co-member, Mrs. W. Dee Rook, who was to save some for Martha Crone. (3) Eloise relates in another note how this Teasel was obtained from Ann Arbor. (5).

Summer 1928

- *Iris cristata*, Dwarf Crested Iris, not native, from Askov, MN. August 29. Martha Crone planted it in 1947, '51 and '56. Cary George in 1994. Photo next page.

Autumn 1928

- *Hybanthus concolor*, Eastern Green Violet, not native, from Delphi Indiana, September 11.
- *Pogonia trianthophora*, [*Triphora traanthophora*] Nodding pogonia, Threebirds, not native, from Delphi Indiana, September 11.
- *Quercus coccinea*, Scarlet Oak, not native, from Kelsey's Nursery, Salem Mass. October 6. Cary George reported planting the tree in 1994. Photo next page.
- *Viola triloba*, Three-lobed Violet, not native, from Delphi Indiana, September 11.

Notes:

(1) The log copy used for this history has 1928 and 1929 mis-arranged. The log has details about the pedometer, received for Christmas in 1928, placed in the 1928 section, but could not be based on when it was received. A large group of planting information that was placed in 1928 from May 9 to Aug. 25 has been treated here as 1929, but it is possible, even probable, that other entries for the end of 1928 are really 1929. In the case of "first plantings" - it only misstates the date by one year.

(2) *Spring exhibits in the Native Plant Reserve*. Letter to Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. Text on Friends Website.

(3) Letter from Eloise Butler to Martha Crone 16 November 1923

(4) Letter from Eloise Butler to Martha Crone 16 November 1928

(5) Letter from Eloise Butler to Martha Crone 29 October 1927

Photo top of page 197: Eloise Butler (left) and her sister Cora as young women. Photos courtesy Martha Hellander.



Dwarf Crested Iris, (*Iris cristata*)
New summer planting.



Scarlet Oak, (*Quercus coccinea*).
New autumn planting.

Excerpts from “Spring Exhibits in the Native Plant Reserve” by Eloise Butler.

I arrived here as usual April 1. There had been abundant snow during the winter, but at this time the weather was dry and warm. On account of the drought there was nothing in evidence except white maple, hazel, willow and alder. But on the afternoon of April 2, one or two buds of hepatica showed color and the venturesome flowers of *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] began to open. The hepaticas were truly wonderful the greater part of the month. They withstood two heavy snowfalls on the 5th and the 13th, and several succeeding frosts with undiminished loveliness, and now the beautiful clumps of new leaves are fully grown and will be a joy throughout the year.

Before *Trillium nivale* had finished shedding, the showy red-purple *T. erectum* appeared followed before the 10th of May by all the glorious rout - *T. declinatum* [now *T. flexipes*], *grandiflorum*, *recurvatum*, *sessile*, and last of all the endemic *T. cernuum*. The petals of *grandiflorum* have turned pink and are now beginning to shrivel, but the purple *recurvatum* with its pretty blotched leaf and the western specimens of *declinatum* are still holding their own, while *T. cernuum* is at the height of bloom.

Shortly afterward, the next great pageant was staged - literally acres of lowland bespread with [a] “cloth of gold” - marsh marigold. I sincerely pity those who are not privileged to see this

flower in bloom. With marsh marigold came lovely *Mertensia virginica* (Virginia Bluebells) delighting the eye with its pink buds and lead-blue bells. At this writing the northern *M. paniculata* [Tall lungwort] is beginning to blossom.

At the same time dense mats of spring beauty, *Claytonia virginica*, vivified the swamp. The pretty bell is a welcome spreader. its seeds are widely scattered, and the flower crops up in unexpected laces, while *C. caroliniana*, with similar flower but shorter and broader leaf, remains stationary.

May is the time of the flowering shrubs. Shadbush came early and soon disappeared, so also did the wild thorn, *Crataegus rotundifolia*. I have yet to know if anything can surpass *Malus coronaria* in wealth of bloom. *Cornus stolonifera* [now *Cornus sericea*] is now in full blossom and the other dogwoods and all the viburnums are preparing to follow speedily.

In April, the pretty yellow *Viola rotundifolia* came and went, but the others were at their height the middle of May. The mats grow larger and denser every year. The prettiest one of all is . . . *V. septentrionalis*. It is clear white with a pale blue center and favors damp soil.

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

16 November, 1928

Dear Mrs. Crone, --

I mailed you a few days ago a box of plants which I hope will not give you too much trouble to care for. I judge that the ground is not frozen hard yet, for here the weather is warm and sunny with only slight frosts at night.

I am alarmed at the appearance of my niece who is apparently slowly gaining ground after eight months of invalidism. She is gradually resuming her work, but we never allow her to go out alone. My hands are more than full, and I can write only a brief note.

But I must add that I am glad to be this winter in one of the few states that supported Governor Smith-- never known to go democratic before.

Yours as ever, E.B.

Regards to all. Hope that you will keep well.



1929

Winter 1928/1929

From Malden Eloise sent two notes to Bill and Martha Crone. The first on January 2nd thanked them for a pedometer and tells about other gifts and Christmas time festivities, especially the musical activities in the newly created music room in the cellar. (1) About the pedometer she wrote:

If I wish for anything hard enough, I always get it! Now I shall know how many miles I traverse daily in the Reserve and during the season. Many, many thanks, and also for the dainty hand-wrought handkerchief.

The second letter on January 23 thanked them for another Christmas gift that she did not mention in the first letter, and goes on to tell them what precautions they are taking in the household to prevent the flu, which has been bad in Boston and in Minneapolis.

We inhale Vapex every time we sneeze, gargle with Listerine, anoint our throats with Spunoint, etc, etc. ...I am longing for spring and the garden. I hope that affairs can be adjusted here, so that I shall feel free to return at the usual time. (2)

She had been physically weakened due in part to neuritis and then from burns received sometime that winter when a heating pad caught fire while she was sleeping. Her doctors advised her (3) that the burns would always be covered with scar tissue, not true skin, so they would always be somewhat uncomfortable. It would be difficult for her to do extensive planting in the future, which is why the scale of planting diminishes. She would get help from Martha Crone and two young neighborhood men, Lloyd and Leroy Teeuwen. Lloyd will return to this history in 1932 and '33.

Martha Crone preserved in her collection a Valentine card from Eloise sent from Malden this year.

Spring 1929

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

Ground covered with three inches of snow.

But on April 3 the *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] was in bloom; on the 4th one Hepatica appeared and on the 8th the Skunk Cabbage was pricking through the ground.

She began planting on April 9 plants with plants from Barnesville Ohio including one new species, appropriately named Harbinger of Spring. She added four other new species in the spring - details of all 5 follow the autumn section.

Other plants, those already represented in the Garden, came from Anoka MN; Barksdale WI; Askov, MN; the Quaking Bog; and Mille Lacs Lake.

The Garden Log copy used for this history has 1928 and 1929 mis-arranged. The details about the pedometer that you will find below, are placed in the 1928 section, but could not be based on the letter in note 1 of when it was obtained. A large group of planting information that was placed in the log in 1928 from May 9 to August 25 has been treated here as 1929, but it is possible, even probable, that other entries for the end of 1928 are really 1929. In the case of "first plantings" - it only misstates the date by one year.



The living room fireplace at 20 Murray Hill Road, Malden MA, where Eloise spent Winters - seen here in 1988. Photo courtesy Martha Hellander.

Summer 1929

On June 14 at a meeting of the Committee on Nomenclature of the Board of Park Commissioners an action was taken to rename the Garden The Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden. Her background and accomplishments were stated and that "a tablet is to be placed in the garden and her name will stand there so long as there is a Minneapolis." This is from a document that appears to be a speech, probably given at the erection of that tablet - as the document concludes: "The Board of Park Commissioners wishing to confer upon Miss Butler, while she is yet here, due honor for this achievements, and wishing to make known their appreciation in this public manner, will place this tablet carrying her name."

Note: The Garden name in 1929 and historically was spelled Wild Flower as two words, whereas today the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board uses "wildflower" - a change that occurred in 1969. More details on this and the 1929 rename follow the plant section.

In the Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners for 1929, the name change of the Garden was mentioned. The Garden log shows 4 new species planted during the summer - details after the autumn Section.

Other plants, those already represented in the Garden, came from Vicinity of Glen Lake MN; Brainerd MN; Excelsior MN; Barksdale WI; Northome MN; Nisswa MN; Madison MN; Duluth MN; and Waseca MN.

With the pedometer received for Christmas in 1928 from Martha Crone, Eloise records her walking on August 1:

"Pedometer registered last evening 632 miles. Traveled in Reserve during July 172 miles," and on August 31 she wrote: "Pedometer has registered thus far 798 miles, Walked in August 166 miles." (4).

Autumn 1929

In the autumn Eloise obtained 5 new species for the Garden, detailed below.

During the autumn she also recorded planting a number of other species previously in the Garden from sources such as: Iowa; Malden MA; Stillwater MN; Excelsior MN; Minnetonka Mills MN; Waltham MN; Barksdale WI; Dephi IN; Glenwood Park; Mrs. Hind's Garden; Mrs. Johnson's Garden; and Mrs. Nellie Taylor's Garden.

At the end of September another pedometer note is provided: "Pedometer registered 952 miles. Traveled during September in Reserve 154 miles (4)." If she continued to track miles in future years or simply got tired of it, we don't know, but this is the last mention of the pedometer in the Log.

Mrs. Gaylord Davidson was birding in the Garden again (page 183) in the fall and Eloise noted she counted 56 species on one day, 12 warblers among them. Later, when she is back in Malden MA, she mentions Mrs. Davidson again in a letter to Martha and Bill Crone:

Mrs. Davidson of St. Paul, has sent me some seeds of fringed gentian collected in Manitoba. Of course they may not germinate, but I think that they ought to be sown now. If you could slightly firm them in some earth in a small box, set them out of doors with a mulch of leaves, I would consider it a great favor. You know that the first season's growth is very tiny. (3)

On October 3rd thousands of grackles were seen near "Monarch," the big oak.

Her last log entries were - October 17 -

"planted from Glenwood Park 13 *Aster sericeus* [*Symphotrichum sericeum* , Silky Aster], east hillside, northeast of south entrance; 17 *Aster azureus* [*Symphotrichum oolentangiense* ; Sky Blue Aster] on both sides of the path leading to south entrance and above bird bath." On the 19th "Planted 13 more *Aster azureus* as above."

Planting these two aster species, and in large quantities, was virtually an annual occurrence between 1916 and 1932. In 1917 she said she was "continuing blueing east hillside." The odd count of plants put in from Glenwood Park indicates they may have been seedlings obtained from the Park Board Nursery which was located across Glenwood Ave. from the Garden at Glenwood Lake.



Silky Aster, (*Symphotrichum sericeum*). Photo ©G D Bebeau

In her letter to the Crones of 27 November from Malden, she first mentions the burns she has and how she treats them. It is evident from the text that the Crones already know about her burns but how she got them is unexplained. Martha Hellander's research (5) indicates the explanation given above in the winter section.

Weather: 1929 was not an unusual year except that total precipitation for the year continued to be just below normal. Good snow in January and February, but little in November and December.

Notes:

- (1) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 2 January 1929.
- (2) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 23 January 1929
- (3) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 27 November 1929.
- (4) The log copy used for this history has 1928 and 1929 mis-arranged. The details about the pedometer are placed in the 1928 section, but could not be of that time frame based on the letter in note 1. The pedometer notes have to be from 1929, and those log pages are being treated here as 1929 entries.
- (5). Martha Hellander - *The Wild Gardener*, 1992.

Photo top of page 202: Fall color of trees behind the fence separating the original Garden area from the post 1944 addition. The hillside behind the fence would have been the east hillside in Eloise Butler's time. Photo from a Kodachrome taken by Martha Crone on October 24, 1955.

New 1929 Plants

Spring 1929

- *Erigenia bulbosa*, Harbinger of Spring, not native in Minnesota, from Barnesville Ohio, April 9. Photo at right .
- *Hieracium aurantiacum*, Orange Hawkweed, introduced, from Barksdale WI. May 31. Photo next page. Extant.
- *Spiranthes romanzoffiana*, Hooded Lady's Tresses, native, from Barksdale, WI. May 13. Martha Crone planted it also in 1933, '45 and '46.
- *Vicia cracca*, Cowvetch, introduced, from Barksdale WI. May 31. It survived awhile. Martha Crone noted it in bloom in 1938.
- *Viola adunca*, Sandland Violet, native, from Barksdale WI. May 13, Martha Crone planted it also in 1946 and 1950. Ken Avery in 1964.



Harbinger of Spring, (*Erigenia bulbosa*), New Spring planting.
Photo ©Steve J. Baskauf,

Summer 1929

- *Arethusa bulbosa*, Dragon's Mouth, native, from Barksdale WI. June 18-22. Photo next page.
- Noted *Callirhoe involucreata* in bloom - no planting notes - may be on missing pages from 1928 or parts of 1929. August 17. Questionable if it was not planted earlier from an out-of-state source as the species was never collected in MN per U of M.

- *Erigeron asper*, Rough Erigeron (Fleabane) not known in MN, but source was Vicinity of Duluth. August 25.
- *Lathyrus maritimus*, Beach Pea, native, from Barksdale WI. June 18-22.

Autumn 1929

- *Althaea officinalis*, Common Marshmallow, introduced, known only in Winona County, from Barksdale Wis. October 1.
- *Aristolochia serpentaria*, Virginia Snakeroot, not native to MN, from Delphi Indiana, October 6.
- *Asclepias sullivantii*, Prairie or Sullivant's Milkweed, native, from Delphi Indiana, October 6. [Eloise noted planting it near "the peppermint plantation"]
- *Gentiana saponaria*, Soapwort Gentian, introduced, from Delphi Indiana, October 6. Martha Crone planted seeds of this plant in 1953 and '54.
- *Verbascum phlomoides*? Orange Mullein, not found in MN, introduced elsewhere from Europe. from Delphi Indiana, October 6. The "?" is in the log, indicating Eloise was not sure this was the species.



Dragon's Mouth, (*Arethusa bulbosa*). New summer planting. Photo ©R.K. Kupfer, Wisconsin Flora.



Orange Hawkweed, (*Hieracium aurantiacum*), New spring planting. Photo ©G D Bebeau

The garden name variations over time:

In the 1907 petition to the Board of Park Commissioners to create the Garden it was proposed as a “natural botanic garden.” Once organized the teachers called it the Wild Botanic Garden and then it was became commonly known as the Native Plant Reserve (sometimes ‘Preserve’ use used by Eloise Butler). Eloise Butler wrote in her early history “It was soon found that the term ‘Wild Botanic Garden’ was misleading to the popular fancy, so the name was changed to ‘Native Plant Reserve’.” (EB 1926 - *The Wild Botanic Garden - Early History*). In 1929 the Park Board renamed it the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden in the Curator’s honor. Martha Crone and Ken Avery always referred to it as the Native Plant Reserve or simply as the “Reserve.” An exception is in Crone’s 1951 history and brochures used as handouts at the Garden. All Park Board correspondence and printed material from 1929 forward use the words “Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden”, with “Wild Flower” as two words, up until 1969.

In 1968 the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden petitioned to have “Bird Sanctuary” added with the name to be “Eloise Butler Wild Flower and Bird Sanctuary.” The Park Board approved in 1969, but made the name “Eloise Butler Wildflower and Bird Sanctuary”. Letters of correspondence and newspaper articles from that period use that name (with an occasional reversion to the 1929 name) until the fall of 1986 when Mary Maguire Lerman, Coordinator of Horticulture wrote a memo about recent Garden activities to Friends President Gloria Miller, dated May 29, 1987, in which she states “PPS: The MPRB action taken last fall changes the Garden’s name to the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary.” Meanwhile, The Friends had adopted “Wild Flower” in 1952 as

part of their name and now the Garden name and the Friends name diverge. In this document I use “wild flower” as two words, as it was used during the time period

The 1929 Name Change

The document which follows on page 213 appears to be a speech given upon the dedication of the Garden’s new name in honor of Eloise Butler. Some excerpts:

The text begins:

Coleridge in a poem, once expressed the opinion that it seemed like something not to be credited — like something “from a world of spirits”, when anyone “obtained that which he merited, or merited that which he obtained.”

Yet recognition usually follows work well done, sooner or later. And how much better to have it come while the artist or craftsman is living! The so-called dead may have the information carried to them - regarding that, we do not know. But we know that the living know — and appreciation is sweet.

...

With the loving aid of the great god Pan and the universal Mother Nature, Miss Butler has been from the first the Good Spirit of the “garden of the Lord.” Wildness has been its sole aim. Grassy foot trails remind one of the runways of wild animals. Fallen trees are left undisturbed and stumps are preserved as supports for vines. . . Artificiality is avoided. Each plant is given the environment it loves. From early spring through October the garden presents new attractions.

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

2 January, 1929

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Crone,--

You have exemplified in your gift to me of a pedometer, a remark that I have often made "If I wish for anything hard enough, I always get it!" Now I shall know ^{how many} miles I traverse daily in the Reserve and during the season. Many, many thanks, and also for the dainty hand-wrought handkerchief.

I had several other gifts for garden use-- a big, light, collapsible basket imported from England, just the thing for holding earth, plants, and fagots, just grand for collecting; a splendid strongly constructed bird-feeding box covered with birch bark; a marker in the form of a cardinal bird in color, (which reminds of my last year's Christmas book and also that Mrs. Davidson writes that she saw this fall the cardinal in Glenwood Park close by the wild garden which of course he had also visited) ; a nemo-pad for my office desk; and a toy bulldog for a "protector" My London visitor sent me a very interesting print of henbane taken from an old ^dherbal written in English about 1100 A.D. and now preserved in the famous Bodleian Library at Oxford. The print was made by the University Oxford Press.

Perhaps I told you that my niece was converting the cellar into a music studio. The studio

is now finished. I have three different views of it and one of the sun porch which you may like to see. Just after thanksgiving my brother-in-law entertained his fellow past grands of Oddfellows and their families. We had a musicale and a "progressive" supper for them. Bouillon was served in the sun porch when they entered. Thence they passed into the dining room where they had ham & spaghetti with bread and butter sandwiches. Then a gong summoned them up two flights to the attic studio where they ate "jewel salad" and pretzel sticks to the accompaniment of music. (It took me two solid days to make enough ham & spaghetti and salad for the crowd.) They were then called down to the living room to partake of ice cream, cake, and coffee, to the guests supposably the end of the entertainment. But to their surprise a deep-toned bell directed them to the cellar. I stood where I could see them come in through the cellar door and nearly died laughing to see the expression on their faces--eyes and mouths wide open and heads twisting from side to side. Here, as befitted the place, the old-time refreshments, cider, apples, doughnuts, and cheese were served, and the musical program was continued, interspersed with much fun, rousing songs, and witty speeches.

We had warm weather and no snow at Christmas. The Babcocks sent me a snap shot of their house surrounded by great snow banks. I hope that you and Janeth are well and happy.

Very truly your friend,

Elvise Butler

MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

23 January, 1929

Dear Cronies,--

The unique teepee with a big red lobster crowned my heap of 50 Xmas gifts in front of the fireplace Christmas morning. I have been "long time acknowledging it, have I not? But it is not from lack of appreciation, I assure. I suspect that it was a trophy from the North. I shall place it where I can see it every day in my perambulations in the wild garden. Among the Xmas books was "The Poetry Cure," an anthology for "such troubles as fear, swollen ego, ingrowing ugliness, the blues, pettiness, impatience, insomnia, torpid imagination, sorrow, hardening of the heart, sluggish blood, myopic vision of the inner eye, and other common ailments." I shall take much pleasure sharing this with you, if you are not familiar with it. Another book was "Mother India" One can't say with Browning, "All's right with the world!" when he reads it. Indeed, it's too, too revolting to read. I want to go on a Crusade to India to stop the awful cruelties that are practised there.

Everything is going on well here at present. (I'm touching wood!) My niece seems to be improving, but very slowly. We have to be very careful. Her heart is not normal and her digestion is weak.

We have escaped the 'flu so far, (although it is all about us,) and I hope that you have. I hear that it has been very bad in Minneapolis. We inhale Vapex every time we sneeze, gargle with Listerine, anoint our throats with Spunoint, etc., etc. On the principle that "an ounce of Prevention is worth a pound of Cure."

I am longing for spring and the garden. I hope that affairs can be adjusted here, so that I shall feel free to return at the usual time.

Very truly your friend, *Eloise Butler*



MISS ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

27 November, 1929

Dear Cronies,--

I am writing to ask another favor of you. A Mrs. Davidson of St. Paul has sent me some seeds of fringed gentian collected in Manitoba. Of course they may not germinate, but I think that they ought to be sown now. If you could slightly firm them in in some earth in a small box, set them out of doors with a mulch of leaves, I would consider it a great favor. You know that the first season's growth is very tiny.

My invalid niece is slightly better. As for myself, neuritis and burns are still rampant in bad weather, although the former is easing off. Our osteopath says that my burns are not covered with true skin, but scar tissue, and may always be uncomfortable. To relieve the condition, this tissue is sometimes cut around. I have not yet concluded to try this remedy.

We have had one cold day for this region and a flurry of snow that has now disappeared. Now the weather is warm and bright.

With love to Janeth,

Very truly, your friend,

Eloise Butler

In my annual report I mentioned the "Crone Plantations" and how much The Reserve was indebted to you.

THE ELOISE BUTLER WILD FLOWER GARDEN

Coleridge, in a poem, once expressed the opinion that it seemed like something not to be credited--like something "from a world of spirits", when anyone "obtained that which he merited, or merited that which he obtained."

Yet "recognition" usually follows work well done, sooner or later. And how much better to have it come while the artist or craftsman is living! The so-called dead may have the information carried to them--regarding that, we do not know. But we know that the living know--and appreciation is sweet.

At the regular meeting of the special Committee on Nomenclature of the Board of Park Commissioners on June 14, 1929, action was taken to have the present wild flower garden at Glenwood Park hereafter known as the "Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden" in honor of Miss Eloise Butler, Instructor of Botany in the public schools of Minneapolis from 1878 to 1911, and Curator of the Garden since its inception in 1912. A tablet is to be placed in the garden and her name will stand there so long as there is a Minneapolis.

With the loving aid of the great god Pan and the universal Mother Nature, Miss Butler has been from the first the Good Spirit of this "garden of the Lord." Wildness has been its sole aim. Grassy foot trails remind one of the runways of the wild animals. Fallen trees are left undisturbed and stumps are preserved as supports for vines. Of the 1,083 species of wild plants and flowers now in the garden, Miss Butler has herself added 656. Artificiality is avoided. Each plant is given the environment it loves. From early spring through October the garden presents new attractions. From the late winter day on which the mal-odorous skunk-cabbage pushes its purple hoods through the ice, to the Indian summer days when the leaves turn color, to the day when snow decks the trees and bushes, the garden is a panorama of beauty. Here, in a spot restored to the primitive glory and beauty which the Indian loved, bloom the wild plants and flowers indigenous to this soil.

Miss Butler was born in Appleton, Maine, about twelve miles from the sea coast, where as a child with her sister, who was also a nature lover, she delighted

to roam the woods and fields. It was here that she first cultivated her love of plants and flowers and became familiar with their native surroundings. Upon graduating from Normal school at Castine, Maine, she came to Minneapolis in 1878 and taught Latin and History in the Old Winthrop High School on the East Side, located at Central and University Avenues. She was transferred in 1882 to the old Central High School, then located at Grant Street and Fourth Avenue, where she devoted a major part of her time to the teaching of botany. At the time of leaving Central in 1901, she was devoting her entire time to plant and animal biology. In 1901 she went to South High, teaching biology there until 1911. Since 1910 she has contributed to Teachers' periodicals and newspapers, and has given talks before groups and has had exhibits at the Minnesota State Fair, and at the Public Library Building. She is a member of the Gray Memorial Botany Chapter, which has members in most of the states in the Union. The plant reserve was started at Glenwood Park by Miss Butler in 1907, and upon retirement from school duties in 1911, she became the Curator. Among her former pupils, now famed in the botanical world, are Dr. Josephine Tilden, and Dr. Fred Butters. Both are now at the University of Minnesota.

The Board of Park Commissioners wishing to confer upon Miss Butler, while she is yet here, due honor for her achievements, and wishing to make known their appreciation in this public manner, will place this tablet carrying her name.



1930

Winter 1929/1930

On January 3 Eloise wrote to Martha and Bill Crone from Malden about having the flu, Christmas gifts received, and the disagreeable weather. She added

I am looking forward to our reunion in the spring when we will make the welkin ring with joy over the burgeoning of the Crone Plantations. (1)

The Crone Plantations were special areas in the Garden where certain plants obtained by Martha and Bill Crone were planted including dry-land plant areas referred to as the Cactus Rockery and little Sahara. In late March she returned to her rented quarters in Minneapolis.

Spring 1930

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 2nd when she wrote:

Hepatica beginning to bloom, *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] in blossom.



Eloise Butler ca. 1930,

She began planting on April 6 with Pasque Flowers - an almost yearly occurrence. She recorded very little other planting during the spring, Just 11 *Phlox divaricata* (Wild Blue Phlox) and one clump of *Castilleja sessiliflora* (Yellow Indian Paintbrush).

Eloise explained the spring of 1930 this way:

Spring was late and cold with continual downpours. The early blooms were much belated, but the last heavy frost was later than usual, so that the new foliage had had time to develop a resistant epidermis and did not suffer as in the year before, when May Apple and twisted stalk were blighted and fern fronds seared. The flower buds of dogwoods and viburnums were, however, badly affected, and the food for birds was materially diminished. The unfolding buds of walnuts and hickories were, as usual, frozen, I despair of ever having any nuts develop.(2)

Summer 1930

Summer was also very light in planting. She obtained asters and Goldenrod from Glenwood Park, pitcher plants from the Quaking Bog; there were a few plants from Michigan and Northern Minnesota and that was it. No new species were introduced.

Eloise explained why she planted little this summer:

Then followed the unprecedented midsummer drought. The wild garden suffers less than other places on account of the lie of the land - drainage flowing into it from three sides. But this season foliage of shrubs on the hillsides shriveled and dropped off. I did not mind the prickly ash dying, of which I have a superfluity. On this shrub during the early wet season there developed a disgusting scale insect enwrapping nearly every twig. The heroic remedy applied was pruning and burning, lest the pest might spread to other plants. I cannot tell until next season how many plants were killed outright by the drought.

The most apparent effect was the smaller crop of autumn blooms and the scarcity of mushrooms. In one respect I was surprised. A year ago a drought prevented the annual appearance of the huge edible fan tuft (*Polyporus frondosus*) at the base of our venerable white oak [Monarch]. Sometimes it has attained a weight of over eight pounds. This year it sprang up again and grew to a goodly size. It was taken up while still growing for the delectation of the Mushroom Club.(2)

Autumn 1930

In the autumn a lot of planting occurred. Eloise obtained 11 new species for the Garden, detailed below. Large numbers of other species previously in the Garden came from sources such as: Delphi IN; Barksdale, WI; Glenwood Park; the Park Board Nursery; Mendota MN; Stillwater MN; and Mr. Babcock's Garden. The Park Board nursery provided 30 Pasture Rose, *Rosa carolina*; and 30 Canada Elderberry, *Sambucus canadensis*.

Her last log entries were on October 14 when she planted five species from her source in Dephi Indiana.



Pasture Rose (Carolina Rose), *Rosa carolina*

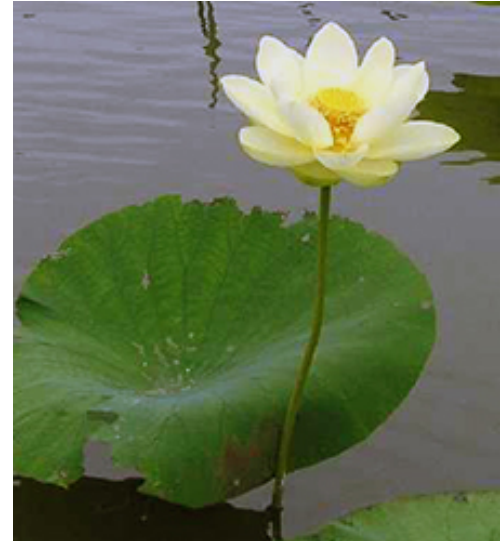
It was after she arrived on the East Coast for the Winter that she had more of 1930 to write about:

Since I left Minneapolis this fall, an interesting discovery was made. A wild duck was given to a pair of ardent nature lovers [Martha and Bill Crone]. In dressing the bird, some undigested seeds of American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) were found in the gizzard. This was enough to start an investigation, for the lotus has been nearly exterminated in the vicinity of Minneapolis. The duck was shot near the neighboring town of Stillwater.

[actually Shakopee according to Martha Crone]. My friends thought that they knew every square rod of the territory. But a vigorous search revealed much to their delight a large tract of lotus that had been concealed in blossoming time by a rank growth of tall grasses.

A quantity of seeds were collected and encased in balls of clay to serve as sinkers. The ponds around my garden were bombarded with these balls, and a quantity of seeds were sent to me to distribute in Massachusetts. I

have sent some to the director of Harvard's botanic garden, and some will be planted in the cemetery where my sister, Mrs. Cora E. Pease, lies buried. The lotus is said to be the largest flower of this latitude. The appearance is striking when the flower in full bloom. And the large top-shaped receptacle is very singular. It breaks off [and] rolls over and over in the water, shedding the seeds through the perforated disk like a patent seed dropper.(2)



American Lotus, (*Nelumbo lutea*), Merle R. Black. Wisconsin Flora.

In a letter to Martha and Bill Crone in October, Eloise wrote to them about the Lotus seed discovery:

I never heard of such a wonderful 'snoopin' ! It reads like a fairy tale or a story out of Arabian Nights. I shall rehearse it for my botanical correspondence club [as she did as quoted above - the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter]. I left Minneapolis the 17th, the day after your bombardment, in such a hurry that I did not have time to telephone to any one. (3)

More followup on the lotus seeds was forwarded to the Crones on January 1, 1931 when Eloise wrote them that she had received some of the lotus seeds from them and added

I expect to have "Crone Plantations" in all the ponds hereabout where protection can be guaranteed. I have written to the Director of Harvard Botanic Gardens to ask if he wishes any seeds for his gardens and the Arboretum. What a wonderful discovery you made!. I embodied in my annual report to Mr. Wirth your account of the bombardment of Birch Pond. I want your work to be appreciated at headquarters. (4)

Weather: 1930 was noted for sharp temperature changes during the latter part of the year and for a lack of precipitation. Rainfall was well below average, little snowfall in January - March and next to none in November-December. The winter of 1930/31 had only 15 inches of snow, leading into the warmest year in weather history to the current date (2021).

Notes:

(1) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 3 January 1930.

(2) *The Wild Garden in 1930*, February 1931 Letter to Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular.

(3) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 28 October 1930.

(4) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 1 January 1931.

Photo top of page 215: The Garden office hidden by Fall foliage, photo from a Kodachrome taken by Martha Crone on October 15, 1950.

New 1930 Plants

Spring 1930

No new species were introduced

Summer 1930

No new species were introduced

Autumn 1930

- *Allium stellatum*, Wild Onion, native, from Barksdale WI, September 20. Extant. Photo next page.
- *Amsonia tabernaemontana*, Eastern Bluestar, not native to MN, from Delphi Ind., September 9. Extant. Photo next page.
- *Asclepias amplexicaulis*, Clasping Milkweed, native, from Delphi Ind., September 9.
- *Asclepias purpuracens*, Purple Milkweed, native, from Delphi Ind., September 9.
- *Astragalus alpinus*, Alpine Milkvetch, native, but only from one NE site, from Barksdale WI, September 20.
- *Astragalus missouriensis*, Missouri Milkvetch, native, from Barksdale WI, September 20.
- *Gaura biennis*, Biennial Gaura, native, from Delphi Ind., October 14. Extant. Photo next page.
- *Oxalis corniculata*, Creeping Wood Sorrel, not native to Minnesota, from Barksdale WI, October 11.
- *Rubus hispidus*, Bristly Dewberry, not native to MN, from Delphi Ind., September 9. Martha Crone noted the plant in bloom in 1940.
- *Viola incognita* [*Viola blanda* var. *palustriformis*], Sweet White Violet, not reported in Minnesota, from Barksdale WI, September. 2nd.
- *Viola primulifolia*, [*Viola* × *primulifolia* L. (pro sp.) [*lanceolata* × *macloskeyi*]], Primrose-leaved Violet, native but quite rare, from Barksdale WI, September 20. Martha Crone planted it in 1933, '35, '36, and '50.



Wild Onion, (*Allium stellatum*). New autumn planting.




Eastern Bluestar, (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*). New autumn planting.



Biennial Gaura, (*Gaura biennis*),
New autumn planting.

20 Murray Hill Road,
Malden, Mass., 3 January, 1930

 Dear Cronies,--

How the years fly! It seems so ~~weird~~ to write 1930. MY Xmas acknowledgments have been delayed by a brief bout with influenza. We will hope that this is the last whack for awhile. Old Santa heaped upon us many useful and beautiful gifts. Among them I especially enjoyed those from the Cronies, the photo, the pretty corsage bouquet, and the wonderful triplet shredder. As housekeeper, I particularly appreciate all

the aids to lessening labor.

I hear that you have had disagreeable weather. It is not cold here, but we have had much rainy weather and less sunshine than usual.

I hope that you are all well and will continue to be so. I am looking forward to our reunion in the spring when we will make the welkin ring with joy over the burgeoning of the Crone Plantations.

A Happy New Year from your friend,

Elvire Butler

20 Murray Hill Road, Malden, Mass.,

28 October, 1930

Dear Cronies,--

I never heard of such a wonderful snoopin' ! It reads like a fairy tale or a story out of Arabian Nights. I shall rehearse it for my botanical correspondence club. My prayers are added to yours for the germination of the seed.

I left Minneapolis the 17th, the day after your bombardment, in such a hurry that I did not have time to telephone to any one.

I found my brother-in-law convalescing and he is gaining daily. He still has day and night nurses, lest he might have a relapse. The doctor, a pneumonia expert, has had the surprise of his life. He had given his patient but 48 hours to live. . Never knew a patient of Curtis's age to pull through from such a bad case. The miracle is due to osteopathic treatment, but the doctor would never forgive us, if he knew, such are the hide-bound prejudices of the "regulars."

A year ago it was distressing to see my niece, she looked so ghastly. Now that she has gained over 40 pounds and looks like her former self, I can't keep my eyes off from her. She has

a new doctor to replace the dead miracle worker, who seems to understand ^{her case} and she is looking forward to full recovery.

I cannot express my gratitude for all that you have done to promote the Wild Garden, hence will not try to do so.

My typewriter is rather wobbly from the effects of its journey, as you can plainly see.

Best wishes and a prosperous winter to the "Cronies!"

Very truly your friend,

Elvise Butler

Mild weather here - Raining today



1931

Winter 1930/1931

Eloise's first letter of the year from Malden to the Martha and Bill Crone was dated New Year's Day. She discussed the illnesses of her brother-in-law and niece. She wrote:

We have had over the holidays two visitors - - friends who have been a comfort to us, but it has been an extra care for me the chief housekeeper, although we have a very efficient woman who comes every day except Sundays to help.(1)

She then thanked them for the Christmas presents and explained what she did with the American Lotus seeds that the Crones sent her the previous fall. That episode is covered in the 1930 history. In late March she returned to Minneapolis.

Spring 1931

Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st when she wrote:

Weather warm, no snow on the ground, Season very backward. Hazel and Alder not yet tasseled out. The long drouth and lack of snow have probably caused the backwardness.

She began planting right away on April 2nd with seeds of Indian poke (*Phytolacca*). On the sixth, the flowers of *Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] began to open. Then on the 22nd she noted "3 days of cold and showers. Ice formed last night." On May 7 she planted an unidentified aster from Barksdale WI and named it "Aster who's it."



Eloise Butler August 3, 1931 at the dining table at Babcocks. Details below.

On May 21 she noted in full bloom a *Lonicera tartarica*, Tartian honeysuckle. This is her first mention of the plant by name, although several generic species "Lonicera" were noted in prior years. During the spring Eloise received several large shipments of plants from Robbins' Nursery in Ashford NC; from Barksdale WI; and from Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA. Only one species new to the Garden was included, a Longspur violet. Detail below.

Summer 1931

Eloise on June 1st noted

on the plateau, north of the office and near a small hawthorn started up a pheasant. Her nest had eleven eggs, one of which had rolled off a little distance from the others. Noted among the cat-tails five nests of red-winged blackbirds. One nest had four eggs -- beautiful blue, scrawled with dark purple Runic inscriptions.



Above. A gathering of friends on her 80th birthday, August 3, 1931. From l to r: Miss Alma Johnson, frequenter of the Garden; Mrs John Hadden, a former pupil; Mrs. J. W. Babcock, in whose house Eloise lodged while in Minneapolis; Miss Clara K. Leavitt, fellow teacher; Eloise; Dr. W. H. Crone (behind Eloise); Miss Elizabeth Foss, botany teacher at North H.S.; Miss Mary K. Meeker, former pupil; Mrs. O. F. (Edith) Schussler, former pupil; Mrs Crone (Martha); Mrs. Louisa Healy, former pupil. Photo: Minnesota Historical Society, Martha Crone Papers.

On July 28 Eloise noted:

Long drought broken by shower. The weather has been extreme hot as well as dry.

There had been a number of small showers this summer but this was the only one that exceeded an inch of rain. Summer temperatures were well above normal from the end of May onward. Nine new species were added this summer. Four came from Mrs. Cram who was on Isle Royal and always sent plants back to the Garden by mail. Gertrude Cram was a good friend of Eloise and she would later be the same to Martha Crone.

A number of other plants, already in the Garden, came during the summer in June and July from Grand Marais MN and from Port Arthur (now Thunder Bay Ontario Canada). One might surmise that these also came from Mrs. Cram while making her way to Isle Royal for her annual August visit there. It's possible also that they were sent by Martha Crone who frequently visited the North Shore of Lake Superior and continued to source plants there after she became curator.

Eloise's birthday was August 3rd, her 80th. A party was held at her lodgings, the J.W. Babcock House at 227 Xerxes Ave. Two photos are shown here. Eloise sent copies of the birthday photos to the Crones August 14 with this note:

Dear 'Cronies'. -- I didn't know when you would be able to come into the garden so I am mailing you the snap shots of the joint birthday party. I thought you would (sic) to see how very English Dr. Crone and Mrs. Babcock look with their monocles as they sit at the table. I think that the outdoor print is very good, except that the doctor is somewhat obscured by the dark tree trunk. (2)



Following the outdoor photo the gathering moved indoors to the J. W. Babcock House at 227 Xerxes Ave. where Eloise boarded during the time that the Garden was open. The seating arrangement here is: Left side front to back - Mrs. Louisa Healy, Eloise Butler, Mrs. Schussler, Miss Leavitt and Miss Foss. Right side, front to back - Martha Crone, Mrs. Hadden, Miss Johnson, Mrs. Babcock and Dr. Wm. Crone. Photo: Minnesota Historical Society, Martha Crone Papers.

Autumn 1931

In the autumn a lot of planting occurred. Eloise obtained 4 new species for the Garden, detailed below. .

Large numbers of other species previously in the Garden came from sources such as: Nowthen, MN; Barksdale WI; Ferndale Nursery in Askov MN; Gillett's Nursery in Southwick MA; St. Paul, MN; Sarona WI; Glenwood Park; and Fort Snelling, Minneapolis.

In April she had written an essay that we believe was unpublished, but may have been a letter to the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. It is titled *The Attractiveness of vegetables and common weeds*. In it she discusses a strange vegetable, a mis-shapped cabbage, but writes most about why she likes common weeds - at least most. She stated:

I cannot help admiring the pariahs of my garden, although competition is so fierce I must needs destroy them. If rare and difficult to cultivate, one would travel miles to see the golden heads of dandelion or the gossamer balls of down when in seed. (3)

Her last log entries were on October 16 when she planted eleven species from Fort Snelling, Sarona WI, and from Glenwood Park.

Prior to her leaving for Malden she may have received a reply letter from Professor C. O. Rosendahl, Chairman of the Department of Botany at the University of Minnesota. In several instances, Eloise had approached him with the idea that the University take over supervision of her Garden. It would be very useful for the study of botany and for the University to use as an experimental site - or perhaps - working with the Park Board, to make an arboretum in that section of Glenwood Park.

Her most recent letter to him included a detailed list of the species found in the Garden and why it was such an important area. Rosendahl's reply of October 14, 1931 was addressed to her at the engraving office of her landlord, J. W. Babcock at 416 8th Ave. So, Minneapolis, where Eloise received her mail. He outlined the discussions he had with University people and why the proposal would not work. Then, in an abrupt ending paragraph, which must have hurt Eloise deeply, he wrote:

It is, therefore, clear that the botany department has no right nor legitimate reason for urging the arrangement set forth in your proposal and it will only cause us embarrassment to make any further attempt.(4)

This, from the man who was on the same Seaside Station research project in 1901 as Eloise, who had signed the original 1907 request to the Park Board to create the Wild Garden, and who was a fellow member of the Minnesota Chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society.

Weather: 1931 was the warmest year in weather history down to the present (2021). Temperatures reached 104 degrees in September. Precipitation was below normal, snowfall was almost non-existent.

Notes:

(1) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 3 January 1931.

(2) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone 14 August 1931.

(3) *The attractiveness of vegetables and common weeds*, April 1931, unpublished papers.

(4) Rosendahl reply letter - copy follows text. Eloise Butlers letter is in the Rosendahl file of the Martha Crone Papers at the Minnesota Historical Society.

Photo top of page 223: Eloise Butler and friends at her 80th Birthday Party. Photo Martha Crone Collection.

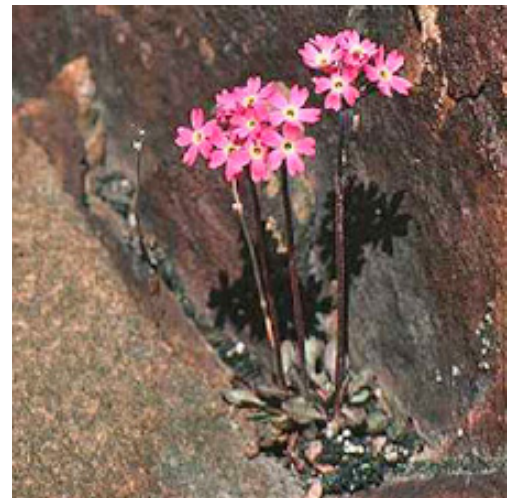
New 1931 Plants

Spring 1931

- *Viola rostrata*, Longspur violet, not native, from Barnesville Ohio, May 21. Martha Crone later planted it in 1951, '53, and '56.

Summer 1931

- *Convolvulus arvensis*, Field Bindweed, not native, from "6th Ave. N & 6th St, from platform of Great northern bus barn." June 27. Photo next page.
- *Cryptogramma acrostichoides*, American Rock Brake Fern, not native to Minnesota, from Isle Royal - Mrs Cram - August 15.
- *Habenaria clavellata* [*Platanthera clavellata*] Small green wood orchis, native, from Port Arthur, July 13. Martha Crone planted it in 1935 and '36.
- *Listera convallarioides*, Broad-lipped Twayblade, native, from Isle Royal, from Isle Royal - Mrs Cram - August 27. Martha Crone also planted it in 1935 and '36.
- *Lithospermum latifolium*, American gromwell, native, 2 specimens noted on July 6 on the west path; these may be from a 1925 planting when a species was not noted was not given in the Log. She also planted more on 16 October from Wahoo Glen, Fort Snelling.
- *Matricaria indora*, [*Tripleurospermum perforatum*] Scentless False Mayweed, introduced, from Port Arthur, July 13.
- *Primula farinosa*, Mealy Primrose, not native, from Isle Royal - Mrs Cram - August 15.
- *Primula mistassinica*, Dwarf Primrose, native, from Grand Marais, June 11 and July 13. Martha Crone planted it in 1935 and in six later years. Photo above right.
- *Sagina nodosa*, Knotted Pearlwort, considered native but only in NE section of the state, from Isle Royal - Mrs Cram - August 26.



Dwarf Primrose, (*Primula mistassinica*),
New summer planting. Photo ©Asa
Thoresen, Wisconsin Flora.

Autumn 1931

- *Callirhoe triangulata*, Clustered Poppy Mallow, not native to Minnesota, from Barksdale WI, September 26.
- *Euphorbia geyeri* [*Chamaesyce geyeri* var. *geyeri*] Geyer's Sandmat, native, from Wahoo Glen, Fort Snelling, October 16.
- *Polygonum amphibium* [*Persicaria amphibia*], Water Smartweed, native, from Birch Pond, September 1. Photo next page.

- *Talinum rugospermum*, [now *Phemeranthus rugospermus*] Fameflower (Rough-seeded Fameflower), native, from Askov, MN, Ferndale Nursery, October 1. Martha Crone planted it in 1933.



Field Bindweed, (*Convolvulus arvensis*),
New summer planting.



Water Smartweed, (*Persicaria amphibia*).
New autumn planting.

40 Murray Hill Road, Malden, Mass.

New Year's Day, 1921

Dear Cronies,

I am writing to you my first letter in the New Year. We have been under terrible anxiety of late. While my brother-in-law was convalescing my niece had two bad attacks of acute indigestion and it was decided that a gall-bladder operation was necessary while she had stamina enough to endure it. So she went to the hospital, which is close by, a few days before Christmas to be "under observation." She was allowed to come home Christmas eve and stayed with us Christmas day, then went back to the hospital and was operated on the Monday morning following. The operation proved to be necessary and is said to be a complete success. Four specialists stood by and she had an experienced nurse who was an intimate friend. At present all seems to be going on well and we do not apprehend any set-backs. We have had over the holidays two visitors--friends who have been a comfort to us, but it has been an extra care for me the chief housekeeper, although we have a very efficient ^{woman} who comes every day except Sundays to help.

I can't express how much delighted I was with the exquisite plaque of Christmas roses and violets. Have you ever tried Christmas roses in your garden? They thrive in Massachusetts. And then the bounteous supply of lotus seeds! I expect to have "Crone Plantations" in all the ponds hereabout where protection can be guaranteed. I have written to the Director of Harvard Botanic Gardens to ask if he wishes any seeds for his gardens and the Arboretum. What a

wonderful discovery you made!. I embodied in my annual report to Mr. Wirth. your account of the bombardment of Birch Pond. I want your work to be appreciated at headquarters.

I hope that you will have a nice winter and be hale in health.

With joyful anticipation of the spring resurrection,

Very truly your friend,

Eloise Butler

Oct. 14, 1931.

Miss Eloise Butler,
416 8th Avenue So.,
Minneapolis, Minn.
c/o J. W. Babcock.

My dear Miss Butler:

I had a conference last Saturday with Dean Lawrence, on the matter of the Botany Department providing an assistant to the curator of the Glenwood Plant Preserve. Although it is recognized that the preserve could be of value to students of botany in the university, the administration nevertheless cannot justify the diversion of funds for the purpose of paying the salary of an assistant devoting his time to the care of property wholly outside the jurisdiction of the university.

In explaining the situation to Dean Lawrence, I had to concede that the Glenwood garden practically has not been made use of in the past by our classes in botany, partly because of not being readily accessible to the university, partly because the plants in the garden naturally cannot be collected and used for subsequent study and investigation. As a consequence field work in taxonomy and ecology for university students has had to be carried on in unrestricted and wild areas where suitable material always is available.

It is, therefore, clear that the botany department has no right nor legitimate reason for urging the arrangement set forth in your proposal and it will only cause us embarrassment to make any further attempt.

Very sincerely yours,

C. O. Rosendahl, Chairman,
Department of Botany

COR:EMF

ELOISE BUTLER
416 EIGHTH AVENUE SOUTH
C/O J. W. BABCOCK
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

14 August, 1931

Dear "Cronies",--

I didn't know when you would be able to drop into the garden so I am mailing you the snap shots of the joint birthday party. I thought you would to see how very English Dr.Crone and Mrs.Babcock look with their monocles, as they sit at the table. I think that the out-door ^{print} is very good, except that the doctor is somewhat obscured by the dark tree trunk

The wonderful lotus flowers delighted every one who saw them. They are unfamiliar to most people.

Please use all your influence with the Powers to get more rain. Flowers won't open, mushrooms won't come up, fruit won't ripen, unless we have rain, neither will there be any show at the State Fair.

As ever, E.B.



1932

Winter 1931/1932

Eloise wrote from Malden to Martha and Bill Crone on January 11 about Christmas gifts and family illnesses and added

I hope that you are having lots of 'the beautiful' this winter, but I have me doots. The first of ours to any extent fell Saturday eve and all the trees and bushes are weighted with white wool. Spring will be here before we know it and I am looking forward to the old tramping ground. (1)

In late March she returned to Minneapolis

Spring 1932

Even though the year of 1931 ended with no snow on the ground and hardly any snowfall in that November and December, things changed immediately in January. Plenty of snow fell and Eloise Butler's first Garden Log note of the season was on April 1st with this:

Considerable ice and snow in the garden. Season unusually late.

Just the opposite of 1931. On April 4 she noted it snowed all day. On April 7: "*Trillium nivale* [Snow Trillium] nearly opened. Rabbits have gnawed the purple and common clematis by the office to the ground." On April 12 there was heavy frost, but she sowed seeds of southern Muscadine grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*) [a first], Twinberry Honeysuckle (*Lonicera involucrata*), Flower of the Hour (*Hibiscus trionum*) and Pink corydalis (*Corydalis sempervirens*).

Many shipments of plants came in from Barksdale WI, including four of the five new species Eloise introduced. See details below.



Snow Trillium, (*Trillium nivale*).

Summer 1932

Eloise Butler's last major project in the Garden - Mallard Pool

The development of this pool was long on gestation and short on actual building. She could not move the idea to reality until 1932 when the pool was quickly constructed by an unemployed man, finished on July 7. She wrote:

Ever since the Native Plant Preserve was started I have wished to have a pool constructed where two small streams converge in an open meadow, the only pool in the Preserve being too shady for aquatics. The hard times gave this joy to me, for a jobless expert did the work for a sum that could be afforded by the Park Commissioners. The pool is about 35 feet long, several feet narrower, and of irregular outline. Indeed, the contour is beautiful. The excavation was made in a dense growth of cat-tails. While digging, the workman saw a mallard duck wending its way through the meadow with a train of four little ones. Hence the name of the pool, as this duck had never been listed before in the Garden. (2)

Another man [Lloyd Teeuwen] was employed to build a rustic bridge of tamarack poles to span the outlet at the lower end of the pool. The new pool was located in the wetland area just north of where the North Garden boundary is today. The original small pool that Eloise references in her comments above (pre 1909), is within the current Garden's north boundary and was renovated (dredged and a bottom liner installed) in 1992, but due to silting it is under consideration for restoration again today, as the progress of time and changes in the environment have worked their ways on the area. Eloise had planned extensive plantings around the new "mallard" pool. She had already begun planting along the margin of the pool on July 14 prior to the work being finished on July 29 when the bridge was completed. The plantings were completed by Martha Crone in 1933. In this same writing about the pool she detailed all the plants that are planned for the margin.

At the upper end of the pool was this device: "The Gurgler":
Eloise continues -

The water entering gently by a short series of low rapids. Here my ingenious bridge-builder will insert a water-wheel made of galvanized tin and about five inches in diameter, designed to throw a mist-like spray over plants like *Pinguicula* that flourish on dripping rock. We call the place Atlantic City because, at each end of the bridge, a plank walk was laid over the cat-tail slough.(2)

Full details on the pool location, and the aftermath follow this years history.

Two new species were introduced (details below) and a number of other plants, already in the Garden, came during the summer from Glenwood Park; Barksdale WI; Columbia Heights MN; the Quaking Bog; Sarona WI; Anoka MN; Birch Pond; and Stillwater MN.



Eloise Butler in her later years in a studio portrait. Photo *Minneapolis Tribune* & MHS.

Autumn 1932

In the autumn a lot of planting occurred. Eloise obtained 4 new species for the Garden, detailed below. Numbers of other species previously in the Garden came from sources such as: Mrs. Cram up at Isle Royal (large quantity of plants); Sarona WI; Cincinnati OH; Anoka MN; Glenwood park; Marine on St. Croix, MN.

Her last log entries were on October 14 when she planted eleven species from Sarona WI along the margins of the new Mallard Pool. While back at Malden for the Winter she wrote more about the Mallard Pool. The 'Gurgler' had a slight revision that Eloise explained in the additional text. (3)

She also discussed the excavation of a smaller pool below the drainage from Mallard Pool in which she plans to add some special plants. Her final comment was:

Even now, at the beginning of work, the place with its setting is truly enchanting and I have to tear myself away from it. I shall dream of it all winter and conjure up the futurity of the plantings.(3)

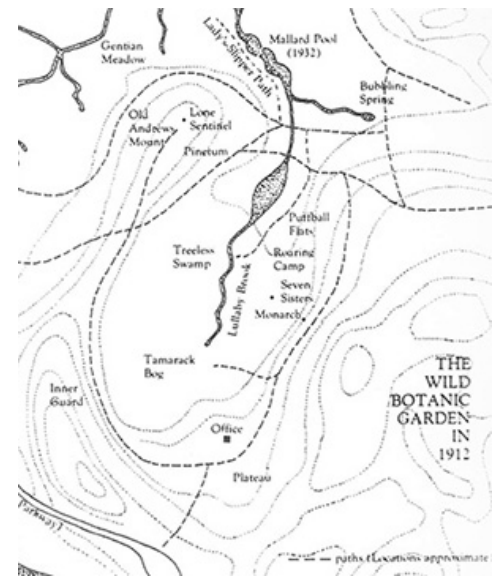
Alas, she would not finish it as she died on April 10, 1933 just after having returned to Minneapolis.

An additional late 1932 writing, unpublished, adds some anecdotes about her experiences with plants and while teaching. These notes are appended to the Mallard Pool Essay on the Friends website (4).

On Thanksgiving Day Lulu May Aler and a friend established the first bird feeding station at the Garden. This was the start of seasonal bird feeding in Glenwood Park which continues in the Garden to the present day. Read about the history of the bird feeding station and of Miss Aler in a separate article.

1932 was to be Eloise's last full year as curator. She wanted to retire but had been unable to find a replacement. While at Malden after the Garden closes, she wrote what would be her last letter to the Crones on Jan. 11, 1933 in which she thanked them for the Christmas gifts they had sent and she attached copies of correspondence from Pearl Heath Frazer which she wanted the Crones to keep for her as she (Eloise) may want to show it to Mr. Wirth upon her return to Minneapolis. The correspondence was about Mrs. Frazer taking on the job of Curator so that Eloise could retire. Eloise had sent a letter, at the request of Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth, to Mrs. Frazer on September 29, 1932, explaining the job. Mrs. Frazer had replied to Eloise that that was not the sort of job she was interested in. In that letter to Mrs. Frazer she laid out her plan:

"My aims are only to secure the preservation and perpetuity of The Preserve, as well as its helpfulness to students of Botany and lovers of wild life. When these aims are secured, I am ready to fade out of the picture and will promise that not even my ghost will return to haunt the premises."



The approximate location of the Mallard Pool. The dotted walking path from Bubbling Spring westward toward Gertian Meadow is where the current North Garden boundary fence is located. Map courtesy Martha Hellander.

Weather: Following 1931, the warmest year in weather history down to the present, 1932 was more average. Precipitation still kept below normal, the year ended with snow on the ground unlike 1931.

Notes:

- (1) Letter to Martha and Bill Crone dated January 11, 1932.
- (2) *The Mallard Pool*, 1932, Letter to The Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular.
- (3) *Addendum 1 to the Mallard Pool Letter*, 1932 unpublished.
- (4) *Addendum 2 to the Mallard Pool Letter*, 1932 unpublished.

Photo top of page 232: Christmas 1932, hemlocks in the Garden, photo by Martha Crone. New 1932 Plants

New Plants Spring 1932

- *Arenaria stricta* [*Minuartia dawsonensis*] Rock Stichwort, native, from Barksdale WI, April 27.
- *Baptisia bracteata*, Plains Wild Indigo, Longbract Wild Indigo, native, from Barksdale WI, April 14. Extant. Photo below.
- *Muscari armeniacum*, Grape Hyacinth, not native, from Bruce Wisconsin and originally from Indiana, May 30. Martha Crone planted it in 1948.
- *Talinum parviflorum* [*Phemeranthus parviflorus*] Sunbright, native, sourced from Texas via Barksdale WI, May 30. Martha Crone also planted it in 1946 and 1955.
- *Vitis rotundifolia*, Muscadine grape, considered both native in parts and introduced, from Barksdale WI, April 12.



Plains Wild Indigo, (*Baptisia bracteata*) New spring planting. Photo ©Merle R. Black,

Summer 1932

- *Listera auriculata*, Auriculed Twayblade, not native to MN, from Barksdale WI, June 17.
- *Strophostyles helvola*, Trailing Wild Bean, native, seeds from Anoka MN, August 29. Extant. Photo below.

Autumn 1932

- *Saxifraga tricuspidata*, Three-toothed Saxifrage, not native, from Isle Royal, September 8 and 9.
- *Epipactis tesselata*, [*Goodyera tesselata*], Checkered Rattlesnake Plantain, native, from Isle Royal, September 8 and 9.
- *Geranium carolinianum*, Carolina Geranium, native, from Isle Royal, September 8 and 9.
- *Cleome serrulata* [*Peritoma serrulata*], Spider plant, Rocky Mountain Beeplant, introduce, seeds, no source, September 16.



Trailing Wild Bean, (*Strophostyles helvola*). New summer planting.

Historical Bird Feeding Station

On Thanksgiving Day 1932, the first of several bird feeding stations was established in Glenwood Park, with the principal station near the grove of hemlocks at the Wild Flower Garden. The first was a simple tray tied between two trees and protected by a lattice roof of cattails. This was the work of a local birding enthusiast - Lulu May Aler and a birding friend (perhaps Charles Yelick). Miss Aler wrote "*We put our suet on the proffered tray. Chickadees came at once, not daunted by eight onlookers. Nuthatch likewise. Everyone stopped and watched, amazed at little wild birds being so friendly and unafraid.*" (1) Another station was a platform for feeding pheasants. The principal station was on the north side of the path by the hemlocks that was referred to by Eloise Butler as the "tarvia path" that ran east/west through parts of Glenwood park and which also bisected the north and south parts of the Garden at that time. [Glenwood Park was renamed to Theodore Wirth Park in 1938] On the south side of this path was the southern enclosure of the Garden - containing the Woodland Garden space that we know today and on the north side of the path was the northern or "lower" enclosure that was a more open meadow of lady-slippers, birches and beginning in 1932- Eloise Butler's Mallard Pool. That northern part of the Garden was abandoned in 1944. [see article on Garden Pools.] The fact that it was near the hemlock grove is evidenced by Miss Lulu May Aler's correspondence with Eloise Butler.(1) Other information confirms that Miss Aler filled bird feeders in the Wild Flower Garden prior to the 1932 development and was well acquainted with Miss Butler. (1c)

It cannot be precisely known from the photo where along this path the station was located. Instead we need the aerial photo from 1947 and Martha Crone's 1952 map, both showing the location, which in both of those years placed it outside the back gate of the Garden. The original simple tray was replaced several years later by a permanent roofed enclosure, shown in the photographs below. (1a)

The photo below shows the bird feeding station on the northern side of Eloise Butler's 1924 fences by the hemlock grove. The structure in the background is a storage shed. There is an access gate between the two. Photo Lulu May Aler, 1936, Martha Crone Papers, MHS.

Both sides of the hemlock grove path and the tarvia path as it crossed the Garden's space had a fence, first erected by Eloise Butler in 1924 and then replaced in 1938. For details of this fencing arrangement see separate article.

Miss Aler would walk to the park several times a week, if not daily, to maintain it. When Martha Crone, another avid birder, became Curator in 1933, Miss Aler would visit frequently and many times they would have lunch together. (2) Friends member Mr. J. S. Futcher knew Miss Aler and wrote this:

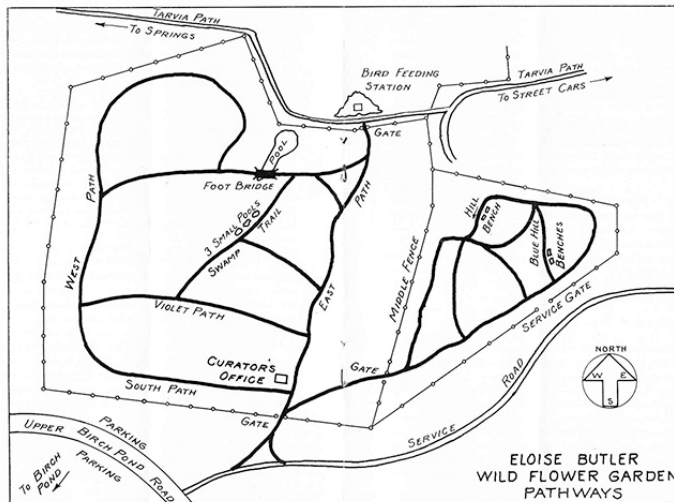
Outside the back gate, fenced separately, was a large, open, old bird-feeding table. I became acquainted with the lady who for many years maintained that feeder, a Ms. Lulu May Aler. During the 1950-51 feeding season Ms. Aler told me she was getting too old to continue this volunteer task next season. Would I happen to know of anyone who could take over for her? Well, it just so happened that I did. There were four boys in the Minneapolis Bird Club who lived in the Homewood district not too far from the Garden. Yes, they eagerly took on that job. The Minneapolis Bird Club was affiliated with the Minneapolis Audubon Society and took over from that time on. (3)

By 1941 something was wrong with the station and repairs were needed. Martha Crone wrote in her diary on September 23 "Ben Johnson early and he came in to get orders for replacing Miss Aler's bird feeding station and chest for storing food. Had a nice visit".[Ben Johnson was a Park Board Employee who later became Supervisor of



Maintenance for the Park Board.] We do not know if the station was modified from the what the 1936 photo shows or if it was just repaired.

A depiction of the separate fencing in the 1950s for the bird feeding station is shown on two maps and a photo. First is Martha Crone's hand-drawn (not to scale)

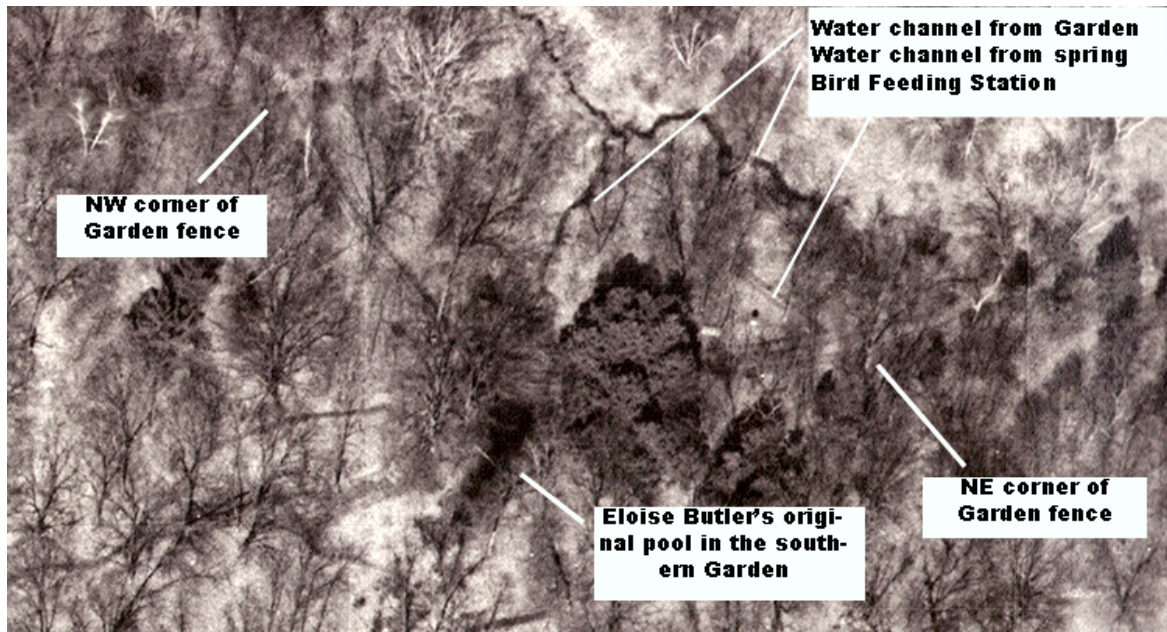


map used in her 1952 Self Conducted Tour Brochure. It shows the feeding station, still on the northern side of the tarvia path but now surrounded by its own fence and the fence formerly on the paths north side mostly removed. Map courtesy of J. S. Futcher.



Above right: Feeding station detail. Photo by Lulu May Aler.

Below: This aerial photo shows the features in the area of the back fence in 1956. The area remains this way until the next re-configuration of 1991/95 as explained in the next section. The two water channels that are shown meeting at the top of the photo mark the area where Eloise Butler created her Mallard Pool in 1932.



Notes:

- (1) Three sources: a) Letter of Eloise Butler to Lulu May Aler, Friends archives (also, notes in *The Wild Gardener* by Martha Hellander, page 98. The 1936 date is confirmed by correspondence between Miss Aler and Mr. J. S. Futcher, dated Christmas 1951. Hennepin History Museum. b). *An All-Winter Thanksgiving* by Lulu May Aler, published in *Nature*, December 1941. c) Commentary by Lloyd Teeuwen on audio tape interview May 4, 1988 by Martha Hellander while researching her book on Butler *The Wild Gardener* Tape and transcript in the Martha Crone Collection, Minnesota Historical Society.
- (2) Martha Crone's Diaries- 1933 - 1943.
- (3) J. S. Futcher, "A Birdwatcher's Eloise Butler," 1994 in "50 Years of Friends," published by the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden. The four high-schoolers were Jeremy and Julian Berman, Burton Guttman and Gary Filerman.

ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

January 11, 1932

Dear Cronies,--

I hope that you are having lots of "the beautiful" this winter, but I hae me doots. The first of ours to any extent fell Saturday eve and all the trees and bushes are weighted with white wool. The children here have had no coasting and only one day of skating.

I am writing to tell you how much I am enjoying the almanacs (how did you know that I have a weakness for them?) and the handsome and convenient writing tablet. Old Santa was particularly generous this Xmas. I have counted up 36 gifts, some of them not units and, as you can imagine, I have many letters to write, so this must be only a brief note.

We are all pretty well at present. Brother-in-law has apparently recovered from his terrible fall. The gash on his head having been sewed up with finest horsehair is not ~~xxxx~~very noticeable.

Spring will be here before we know it and I am looking forward to the old tramping ground.

Very truly your friend,

Eloise Butler

My need of a new type ribbon is very evident.

I - The Mallard Pool

Eloise Butler's Essay - Where it was located - Why was it abandoned

The Mallard Pool was a creation of Eloise Butler. Her description of it is contained in an article of Oct. 1932 sent to The Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter, (Division D) of the Agassiz Association for inclusion in the members circular. The Agassiz Association was founded in the late 1800's to be an association of local chapters that would combine the like interests of individuals and organizations in the study of Nature. Only the Gray Memorial Botanical Chapter to which Eloise belonged, was still active. First we have Eloise describing the pool.

Eloise Butler's essay text

Ever since the Native Plant Preserve [Eloise's word] was started I have wished to have a pool constructed where two small streams converge in an open meadow, the only pool in the Preserve being too shady for aquatics. The hard times gave this joy to me, for a jobless expert did the work for a sum that could be afforded by the Park Commissioners. The pool is about 35 feet long, several feet narrower, and of irregular outline. Indeed, the contour is beautiful. The excavation was made in a dense growth of cat-tails. While digging, the workman saw a mallard duck wending its way through the meadow with a train of four little ones. Hence the name of the pool, as this duck had never been listed before in the Garden.

The voracious muskrat was also observed, and I began to fear that the roots of my water lilies would be gobbled up. It was thought that stout wire netting at the top and bottom of the pool would prevent the muskrats from entering, but my adviser knew little of their predatory habits. Some white water lilies were planted in the pool. In two days only a fragment of the leaves could be found. Then it was decided to encircle the pool with the netting sinking it two feet in the ground. Before this work was completed, a muskrat preempted the pool with two little ones. We thought we could trap them inside and throw them over the fence but before the circuit was



Eloise Butler around age 80 near the time she wrote this article.

complete, they left on their own accord, probably in search of more food, and the gap was closed against them. It is possible that they will burrow under the fence. Traps must be set next spring.

A rustic fence of unpeeled tamarack poles has been built across the narrow lower end of the pool. Here one at advantage the pool and the border [sic - as written]. Opposite at the upper end, is "The Gurgler," the water entering gently by a short series of low rapids. Here my ingenious bridge-builder will insert a water-wheel made of galvanized tin and about five inches in diameter, designed to throw a mist-like spray over plants like *Pinguicula* that flourish on dripping rock. We call the place Atlantic City because, at each end of the bridge, a plank walk was laid over the cat-tail slough.

Many desirable plants were already established near or on the border of the pool: *Sagittaria latifolia*, *Eupatorium maculatum*, *E. perforatum*, *Verbena hastata*, *Epilobium coloratum*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Mentha canadensis*, *Rumex brittanica* [britannica], *Solidago canadensis*, *S. uliginosa*, *Aster puniceus*, *A. juncea* [junceus], *A. umbellatus*, *A. paniculatus*,

Asclepias incarnata, *Helianthus tuberosus*, *H. grosseserratus*, *Rudbeckia laciniata*, *Chelone glabra*, *Gallium asprellum*, *Caltha palustris*, *Impatiens biflora*, *Aspidium thelypteris*, [pencil addition] *Onoclea sensibilis*, and an overplus like water cress and cat-tail, and others that must be grubbed out with ruthless hand like *Cuscuta gronovii* and *Bidens cernua*. In the near vicinity are the grandest species of our flora -- *Cypripedium hirsutum*, *C. parviflorum*, *C. pubescens*, *C. candidum*, and far enough distant not to shade the pool *Cornus stolonifera*, *C. paniculata*, *Viburnum lentago*, *V. opulus*, and a few tamaracks.

The soil is a rich peaty loam. Here and there on the border this was mixed with a due proportion of sand to accommodate the plants that will not grow except in wet sand. Large sods of sand-lovers have been contributed by friends of the garden -- packed full of *Polygala sanguinea*, *P. cruciata*, *Viola lanceolata*, *V. sagittata*, *V. arenaria* [pencil change], *Eriocaulon articulatum*, *Gratiola aurea*, *Steironema quadrifolium*, *Kyris* [*Xyris*] *flexuosa*, *Hypericum canadense*. In lesser amount have also been planted *Pogonia ophioglossoides*, *Calopogon pulchellus*, *Lilium superbum*, *L. umbellatum*, *Gerardia tenuifolia*, *Spiranthes gracilis*, *S. romanzoffiana*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Spiraea tomentosa*, *Mimulus ringens*, *M. jamesii*, *Gerardia tenuifolia*, *Sagittaria heterophylla*, *Cyperus strigosus*, *Calla palustris*, *Parnassia caroliniana*, *C. palustris*, *Veronica americana*, *Primula farinosa*, *P. mistassinica*, *Saxifraga aizoon*, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Gentiana andrewsii*, *Aster novae-angliae*, *A. modestus*, *Lysimachia terrestris*, *Viola incognita*, *Boltonia asteroides*, *Veronica fasciculata*, *Helenium autumnale*, *Hydrocotyle americana*, *Comandra livida* [lividum], *Solidago ridellii*, *Astragalus canadensis*, *Helianthus hirsutus*, *Habenaria ciliaris*, *H. blephariglottis* (the last two a contribution from Mr. Lownes), several clumps of *Lobelia siphilitica* and *L. cardinalis*, sowed seeds of *Cassia chamaecrista*, *Crotalaria sagittalis* and *Strophostyles helvola*, also *Collinsia verna*. This may seem too large a number of plants for a border, but the border is of indefinite width. It comprises nearly an acre and extends across the sunlit area of the marsh. I shall probably think of more desirable plants!



Eloise Butler overlooking the Mallard Pool after its construction. Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society.

The small pool is another proposition. Its size will not admit more than one or two specimens of all the species that I wish. I have already planted therein *Castalia tuberosa* [pencil change - see note below], *Nelumbo lutea*, *Pontederia cordata*. I shall also introduce when I can get them -- next spring if not this fall -- *Nymphaea advena*, *N. microphylla*, *Prasenia schreberi*, *Lymphoides lacunosum* [???], *Ranunculus aquatilis* var. *caillaceus*, *R. delphinifolius*, *Lobelia dortmanna*, *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Sparganium simplex*. I should have written above *Castalia odorata*, instead of *tuberosa*, the latter is not a free bloomer and spreads too rapidly. any member of the chapter will confer a great favor by telling me where I can get the *Nymphoides* which is not listed by florists. I find that I have omitted from the margin, *Osmunda regalis*, *Liatris pycnostachya*, *Physostegia virginiana*, *Decodon verticillatus*, *Zygadenum chloranthus*, [next garbled - assume - *Tofieldia pursilla*], *Tanacetum huronense*, *Lobelia Kalmii*, *Hypericum ascyron*,

Prenanthes racemosa, *Gentiana andrewsii*,
Hibiscus militaris, *Stachys palustris*, *Habenaria*
paycodes, *H. fimbriata*, *Myosotis scorpioides*,
Lysimachia quadrifolia, *Lythrum alatum*, *Chelone*
obliqua, *Saururus cernuus*, *Alisma plantago*,
Lilium canadense, *Melanthium virginicum*,
Spiraea salicifolia, *Iris versicolor*, *Pedicularis*
lanceolata.

I intend the fence barring out the muskrats to be concealed by the tall herbaceous perennials.

[The following was an additional note not included in the text for the Bulletin.]

The little water wheel (to be removed during the winter lest the paddles be bent by ice) has been inserted in "The Gurgler," but the name has been changed to "The Jolly Spindrift." It chugs around so merrily, the spray splashing in the sunlight, that everyone smiles audibly when he sees it. I gave it the name at first sight, to find afterward that it is a new coinage, the compound not being in the dictionary. Below the rustic bridge another excavation has been made, continuous with the first, but more like a little pond, while the first is like a winding river emptying into it, increasing the length of the water area to fifty feet. I needed the "pond" for the display of the aquatic buttercup -- white and yellow -- which I hope the muskrats will find too bitter to eat. Otherwise, the pond must be fenced. Some yews, "ground hemlock", have just been contributed to the border, whose bright green foliage will greatly add to the tout ensemble. *Gratiola* continued to blossom for some time after planting and marsh marigold began to bloom for the second time on the border. Even now, at the beginning of work, the place with its setting is truly enchanting and I have to tear myself away from it. I shall dream of it all winter and conjure up the futurity of the plantings.

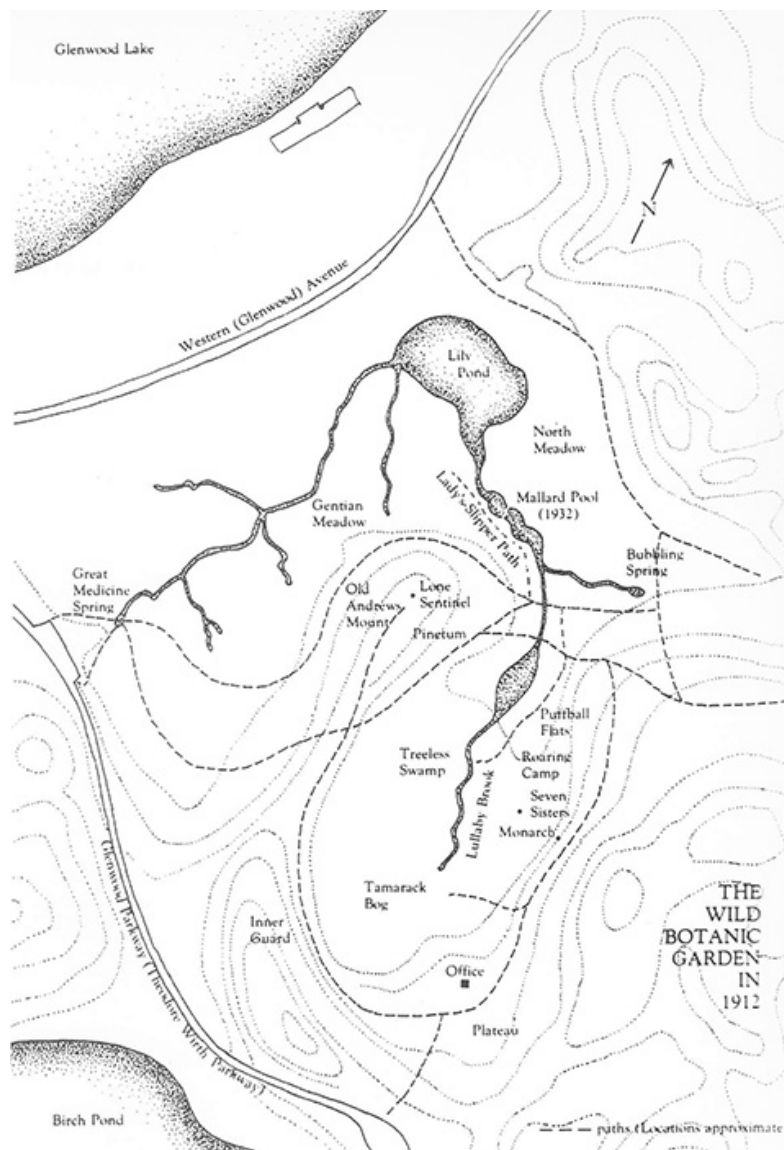
Exactly where was the location of the Pool?

On the next page is the plan of the Wild Botanic Garden ca. 1912. Features noted are names given by Eloise Butler. The location of Mallard Pool, added in 1932, is noted. This spot is within what

Eloise Butler called the "north enclosure" - the name she gave to one of two areas that were fenced in during 1924. Eloise noted in her log on July 7, 1932 "**Mallard Pool completed in north enclosure.**" The bridge she writes about was completed July 29 [Log] and would be at the northern end of Mallard Pool. The bridge was made by Lloyd Teeuwen ⁽¹⁾ who was her helper in the Garden and was with her at the Babcock house just before she went to the Garden on April 10, 1933 and suffered a heart attack. Lloyd returned to the Babcock house as the doctor was administering to Eloise and was present when she died.

She further fixes the location in the opening paragraph of her essay when she writes "**I have wished to have a pool constructed where two small streams converge in an open meadow, the only pool in the Preserve being too shady for aquatics.**" Today, the location of the pool, Bubbling Spring, the North Meadow and the Lily Pond lay outside the North Garden boundary, just north of the back fence. Beyond the Lily Pond to the North is the Wirth Park picnic area and across Glenwood Avenue is the present Wirth Beach area. The dotted line of the path that intersects Lady's-slipper Path, running from near Bubbling Spring westward toward Gentian Meadow, is the approximate location of the existing paved path just outside the back fence of the Garden and the location of what Eloise called "the tarvia road". The dam of 1909 vintage ⁽²⁾, crossing the stream from the Garden, that created the small pool in the Garden was next to this path. A difference today is that prior to 1992 the path and back fence were more to the south and next to the dam. The fence and path were moved northward in a 1991/92 renovation of that part of the Garden. This path (the tarvia road as Eloise called it), bisected the Garden in Eloise Butler's time into the southern portion (today's garden) and the northern portion where the Mallard Pool was located.

In Martha Crone's time Martha would sometimes refer to this also and sometimes Martha would call it the "lower enclosure".



Map above: ©Martha Hellander.

We can deduce from Martha Crone's Garden log that she actively kept up part of that northern meadow at least until 1939. Here are samples - all from her log and diary.

1933: July 2: Bill cut path to Mallard Pool. [We believe this must have been on southern end as Eloise had put in a plank walk on the northern end. Bill is Martha's husband. From her diary.]
 1934, April 9: Woodcock in woods near swamp west of Mallard pool.
 1934, May 25: Found nest of Pheasant on edge of Mallard pool containing 11 eggs.

1934, June 17: Found nest containing young of Green Heron, mother bird flew short distance, in Tamarack on north boundary of lower inclosure.
 1934, July 2: Drinking spring has gone dry - [This would be the first evidence of trouble with the spring that provided water to the pool]
 1934, July 5; planted 18 Christmas fern on east and west border of pool, also at rustic bridge.
 1934, July 12: Planted from Stillwater 12 Bladder Fern on east edge of pool and near foot bridge.
 1935, April 26: Saw woodcock in lower enclosure.
 1936, Aug. 29: Transplanted a number of Showy Lady's Slippers to a new colony in lower enclosure.



The wetland area opposite Wirth Beach parking lot in Winter 1938. As Eloise Butler wrote, it was filled with cattail and other vegetation. The diagonal line across the lower right cattails may well be the plank walkway Eloise Butler wrote about and the pool would be to the lower right. Photo courtesy University of Minnesota.

1937, July 16: 2 *Habenaria fimbriata* in bloom in lower enclosure near book and High-bush Cran.

1938, May 14: Also Autumn Willow in beautiful yellow color along broad path west of North enclosure.

1938, May 27: Planted 2 Valerian (*Valerian exdulis*) in north enclosure below waterfall.

1938, Aug. 30: Warbling Vireo still in song noted near north boundary of lower enclosure.

1939, May 19: Planted 10 American Dog Violet from Cedar swamp in lower enclosure below dam.

1939, May 25: In bloom . . . Blue Delphinium near west gate of lower enclosure

Future events and abandonment

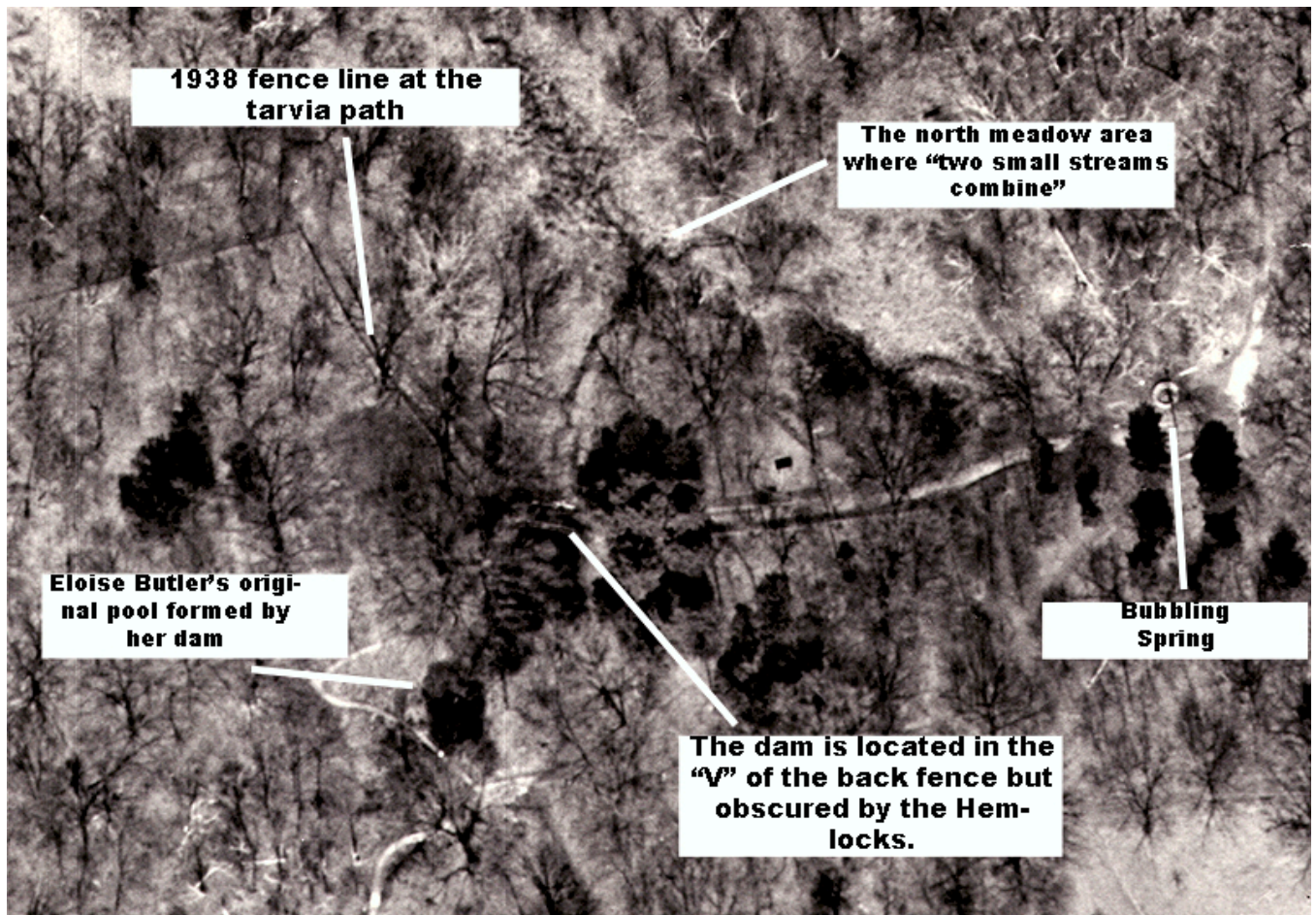
During the summer of 1938 the southern part of the Garden was surrounded by a new fence which was greatly appreciated by Curator Martha Crone and well received by the public. The old fence dated back to 1924 and Martha Crone had made a plea for a new fence in her 1937 report to the Park Board. It was stated that 1,900 linear feet was installed which is hardly enough to enclose about 5-1/2 acres.⁽³⁾ However, aerial photos from late 1938 [Next page] show a new fence, highlighted by a snow line, enclosing what was then the Garden Martha Crone tended, about 9 or 10 acres - that is the portion south of the tarvia road, which was the southern part of Eloise Butler's 25 acres which had also included the northern meadow and adjacent areas. (see photo below) The new fence was six feet high and of wire mesh, with 3 gates for entrance.

As all of what today is the Woodland Garden seems to have been fenced in, the amount of fencing was obviously much more than the 1,900 feet reported. The existing wire mesh fence (2018) is aged and presumably the same one erected in 1938. There is no replacement known.

Martha noted in her diary on January 18, 1939 that Park Board maintenance workers were in working on new fencing in the "lower enclosure", which must have been an area excluded in the 1938 project. Eloise had written in the 1932 article of the possible need for a fence. The "lower enclosure" would seem to be the same area Eloise Butler called the "north enclosure", as that is an area of lower elevation. This all ties in with what happened in 1944.

When the Upland Garden area was added in 1944, Martha Crone said in her 1945 report to the⁽⁴⁾ Park Board that the addition added about 10 acres. This is too high a number. The total acreage before the most recent addition in 1993 was 14 acres. We know that over the years from 1907 to 1993 certain areas expanded from the original 3 acres, including adding in the north

Below: A 1947 aerial photo of the Garden area showing main features of the southern Garden area and a portion of the northern area where the Mallard Pool was located - a place "where two small streams combine." The fence line is the position of the 1938 fence with the tarvia path following the fence line. The Bird Feeding Station is in right center surrounded by a triangular fence. Photo Courtesy University of Minnesota



meadow and the area of the Bubbling Spring. Eloise wrote in 1926⁽⁵⁾ that the entire area was 25 acres at that time including the North Meadow and the Bubbling Spring.

From the late 1930s forward, the north meadow area containing the Mallard Pool apparently became more and more neglected and there are no further plantings noted for the area in Martha Crone's log after 1939. We do know she removed some plants from the area and transferred them to the current garden space. These two log notes refer to that:

1946, June 11: 32 Showy Lady's Slipper from [lower enclosure](#) to violet path.

1947, July 17: 4 Willow Herb from [lower enclosure](#).

When Clinton Odell proposed to the Park Board in 1944 to add the current upland area to the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden, Martha Hellander's research found that Odell said to the Park Board that the northern area (which included the Mallard Pool) should never have been fenced and that it was swampy and should be abandoned in favor of an upland area which the garden did not have at that time⁽⁶⁾. In an exchange of letters in 1944 to Odell from Park Board Secretary Charles Doell and from Superintendent C. A. Bossen, the Park Board agreed with parts of his proposal, including the funding that he proposed. (more details in *The Upland Addition to the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden*, Friends Website, Garden History Archive).

Former Gardener Cary George remembered that the chain link fencing that was used in the northern enclosure was removed and used to fence the new upland addition, because in 1944 wartime shortages of steel precluded new fencing being obtained. Presumably there was a garden record of this, but it may have been related to him by Ken Avery.⁽⁷⁾

So here we have this conclusion: The Mallard Pool area was still being somewhat attended to by Martha Crone until about 1940, then abandoned by 1944. The Bubbling Spring dried up more or less permanently by 1959 (*"Springs in and near the Garden"*, Friends Website, Garden History Archive). The area reverted to the wild area we have today. At the time the Upland Garden was established in 1944, requiring much development work by Martha and the one person she had for help at that time, there was no possibility that the entire north meadow could be cared for as well.

In a strange turn of events all the area that had earlier been abandoned, including the Mallard Pool area, were added back to the control of the Garden staff in 1964. The Park Board had approved the expansion of the area under the Gardener's control. Outside of the fenced area of the Garden proper, this new area was the surrounding wild area west to the Parkway, north to Glenwood Ave. and east to the picnic grounds. Gardener Ken Avery was in favor of this change. In fact he considered it an important milestone -

"... one rivaling, if not exceeding, in importance that of the addition of the Prairie Garden in 1944."

He added -

This quadrupled the area we have to work with and makes it possible to treat the entire area as one integrated unit. We of the Wild Flower Garden are eager to assume this task.....we have always felt that the chief value of this area was for the study and appreciation of nature. Now that the Board has passed the motion dedicating it to this end, we are planning to adjust all maintenance activities toward this goal. It will not require any great change but just that all activities be paced to

show greater respect for the ecological relationship of the area and to exploit all of its possibilities as a natural area.⁽⁸⁾

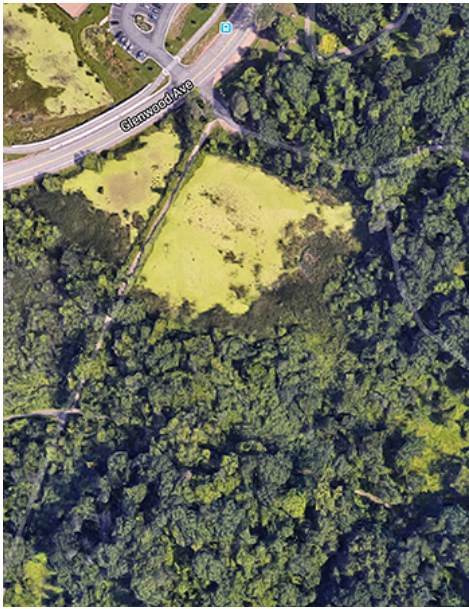


The area within the gray lines became the expanded area tended by the Garden staff in 1964.

This now includes (or re-includes) that "north enclosure" area where the Mallard Pool was located. It did not last long however, as the Park Board budget did not allow Ken to have sufficient staff to care for such a large area and by 1967 it was back to 14 acres and the Mallard Pool area was once again left to grow wild as Eloise Butler had found it in 1907, except that it became the basis of a buffer zone around the garden in later years.

[There is additional detail and photos about the area of the Mallard Pool and all the other pools in the Garden in an article titled "Aquatic Pools in the Garden" - it is found on the website.]

The area today



The old Lily Pond area is now somewhat clear of cattails with open water in the Summer. This area was modified in 1957 when the Park Board put in a large diameter underground pipeline to divert water from Bassett's Creek to Brownie Lake. That line lies beneath the gravel path that now bisects the area Photo-Google



A current view of the water channel leaving the Garden after it has combined with the second stream that Eloise mentions at the beginning of her text. The view is looking to the North toward Wirth Lake. The Mallard Pool would have had its southern end near this spot. Photo G D Bebeau.



Above left: Looking west toward the old Mallard Pool location from the area of the Bubbling Spring. The old stonework of the spring is just visible. The runoff channel, which also drained this part of the wetland, runs vertically up the center of the photo to where it joins the stream coming out of the Garden which is seen in the right hand photo. Photos G D Bebeau, 2020.

Notes and References:

Notes:

- (1) Martha Hellander's book *The Wild Gardener* - 1992, Page 96. Martha Hellander's research was financed by the Friends and by the Minnesota Historical Society.
- (2) An article about the Garden published in *The Bellman* in 1913, described the dam as covered with vegetation as though it had always been there. The dam had to have been put in prior to the Fall of 1909 as on September 12, 1909 Eloise first references the pond and dam in her log planting notes - "in pond"; "by pond"; and "near brook below dam."
- (3) *The Story of W.P.A. in the Minneapolis Parks, Parkways and Playgrounds*, for 1938, Minneapolis, Minnesota pub by Park Board in 1939.
- (4) Annual Report to the Board of Park Commissioners for 1944, dated February 20, 1945 by Martha Crone
- (5) *The Wild Botanic Garden - Early History*, by Eloise Butler, 1926.
- (6) *The Wild Gardener*, page 104.
- (7) Conversation with the author May 18, 2018. Ken Avery was the Gardener preceding Cary George.
- (8) Annual Report to the Board of Park Commissioners for 1964 dated March 12, 1965, by Gardener Ken Avery.

Other references:

- (1) Eloise Butler's Garden Log
- (2) Martha Crone's Garden Log
- (3) Martha Crone's diaries
- (4) Mrs. John. *Our Native Plant Reserve, Glenwood Park, Minneapolis Minn., Now called "Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden"*. This article was written sometime after 1929 but prior to Eloise Butler's death in 1933 and placed in the Park Board Archives. Mrs. Jepson's husband was a parks commissioner at this time. The text was then published in June 1933 in *The Minnesota Clubwoman*, following the last rites ceremony for Eloise in May and including details of that ceremony. That the

article was written no earlier than 1929 is indicated by the subtitle as the Garden was renamed in 1929.

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Text and research by Gary Bebeau.
Photos as credited.



1933

Winter 1932/33

1933 was a year of momentous change for the Wild Flower Garden. Its' founder passed away and be replaced by someone she knew - [Martha Crone](#). Martha recalled that she had spent about 15 years helping out in the Garden. She and her husband William, a dentist, lived at 3723 Lyndale Avenue North in Minneapolis. Together, they were avid explorers of plant habitat and especially mushroom habitat.

Martha was secretary of the Minnesota Mycological Society from 1926 to 1943. Considering the need for large numbers of plants for the developing Wild Flower Garden, the Crones were able to provide good assistance to Eloise Butler in finding sources for wild plants and for rescuing plants from areas where the native habitat was soon to be overrun with development.



"Looking across the little pool near lower gate" by E. F. Pabody

The winter of 1932/33 was all weather and politics. A warmer than average January was followed by a deep cold snap in February. Eloise returned to Minneapolis to a cold late-March but with most snow gone.

Eloise Butler's last letter to Martha Crone.

Eloise wrote to Martha and Bill Crone on January 11 from Malden, thanking them for the Christmas gift they sent. She discussed some of her other gifts, the weather and her health. There in no indication she is feeling ill or has any other issues. Eloise had also been in contact with a Mrs. Pearl Frazer in regards the position of Curator at the Garden. She enclosed a copy of a letter from Mrs. Frazer and asks Martha to keep it until she returned when they can discuss the Garden and maybe show the letter to Theodore Wirth. It turned out that Mrs. Frazer was not actually interested in a Curators position but something else.(1) Eloise wrote on January 11:

I want also to thank you especially, Mrs. Crone, for what you wrote about the continuance of the wild garden. There's too much of truth in what you say, but I will soon be able to talk with you about the matter in detail. In this time of depression nothing can be done except to hang on by the skin of one's teeth. And what, if there hain't no skin?

We do not have a copy of Martha's letter to Eloise that Eloise refers to but it evidently concerned the dire straits of Park Board budgets in the Great Depression and what effect that would have on the garden. This is probably the last correspondence between the two and there is no indication in Martha

Crone's diary that she ever saw Eloise prior to Eloise's death on April 10. She only notes in her diary on April 11 that she heard from Clara Leavitt about Eloise.

This would be FDR's first term as president and the beginning of the New Deal.

Martha Crone wrote in her diary: (2)

Mar 2, Thurs "looking forward to Inauguration of Pres. with great hope, everyone excited, expecting him to perform miracles. weather still lovely"

Mar 4, Sat. "Inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt. Radio going all day. Took in parade. Pres in bullet proof case after threatened assassination. All banks in U.S. closed, great excitement."

A local photographer, Mr. E. F. Pabody, was in the Garden area on March 25th and took these three winter scenes shown above, following a snowfall of 2+ inches. Mr. Pabody had his studio at 1920 Colfax Ave. So., Minneapolis, and frequented the Garden.



"Path through the tamaracks" by E. F. Pabody



"Looks like spring in the air." by E. F. Pabody

Spring 1933

When she left Malden on March 31, Eloise had been unsuccessful in her endeavor of the last few years to find a successor. She returned to her Minneapolis lodgings at the J. W. Babcock house (located just east of the Garden at 227 Xerxes Ave. No.) on April 3 1933. As he usually did, Mr. Babcock notified her Garden helper Lloyd Teeuwen, that she had returned but Eloise wanted to rest a few days after the long train ride from the east coast as she was "not used to walking a lot yet."

Several days later Lloyd came to the house and carted down to the Garden office the assortment of books from her library at Babcocks that she wanted in the Garden and also the Garden's tools which were kept in the Babcock carriage house over the winter. Then they took the first walk of the year through the Garden where Eloise inspected all the areas to see what was what. She walked very slowly so Lloyd kept behind her to not outrun her. Eloise remarked how enthusiastic she was to be back outside where she could do something because in Boston nobody wanted to do anything.

She only made two entries in her Garden Log in early April. The first noted:

The ground is nearly free from snow and ice. March being cold, the season is later than it was last year. Aments of aspen in evidence, and aments of alder and hazel elongating.

April 8 was her last entry where she noted planting 6 roots of *Lysimachia terrestris* (Yellow Loosestrife) that had been heeled in during the winter. (3)

On the wet morning of April 10, 1933 she attempted to reach the Garden from the house. She apparently suffered a heart attack and made her way back to Babcocks (with some help). A doctor was summoned but nothing could be done and she soon passed away on the couch in the entryway of the house at 3:15 PM. Her funeral was on April 12th, 12:45 PM at the Lakewood Chapel. On May 5th, her ashes were scattered in the Garden as had been her wish.



Martha Crone shown here in the Garden in 1951, *Minneapolis Tribune*

The details of her death, including the long-held mis-belief that she died in the Garden, are covered below. *The Minneapolis Journal* printed a front page notice of her passing. (copy page 257)

The Garden was closed until April 20th. During that time the Park Board had to find a person to attend to the Garden. Martha Crone, although highly recommended, had not originally been a shoo-in for the job as Eloise had corresponded with Mrs. Frazer about the job, but she was looking for somewhat different work (1) (and see notes in Winter section). With Eloise now gone, Martha Crone met with Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth at his office on April 13. (2). On the 18th Theodore Wirth wrote to the Board of Park Commissioners that he had appointed

Martha temporary Curator during the balance of the season *or such other time thereof as seems advisable and satisfactory*, from date to October 1, 1933 at a salary of \$60 per month. [The position would remain temporary until 1940.] The board approved the appointment on the 19th.(4) On the 19th her husband Bill received a call from Wirth for Martha to be at the Garden the next day, where she met with Wirth, Wirth's assistant C. A. Bossen, Mr. Babcock (Eloise's Landlord who would see that possessions belong to Eloise were sent back to Malden) and Mr. Erickson (Carl - park keeper for Glenwood Park). She opened the office and she and Miss Merkert, Wirth's secretary, began taking inventory. (2) There is a copy of that inventory in the records of the Martha Crone Collection at the Minnesota Historical Society.



Minneapolis Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth, MHS

On April 21, a Saturday, Martha was in the Garden in the morning, and went home at noon. During these first days of her tenure the Garden was not open for a set time as she arranged her affairs so that she could be there as required - every day, except Wednesday, till 5 PM - April 1 through September 30. (2)

On the 23rd Martha noted that there was a steady stream of visitors all day (all the newspapers had reported the death of Eloise Butler) and that there were many fires near the Garden and at 6 PM there was a fire on the west boundary of the Garden and Martha fought 1-1/2 hours to put it out. Dr. Thomas S. Roberts had visited that same day and again on the 30th. (2)

On the 29th someone brought in the knarl of a red elm. It was “planned to saw it through the center making two tables for the Garden in memory of Miss Butler.”

Back on April 19, Theodore Wirth had sent a letter to the Park Commissioners notifying them of the death of Eloise Butler, a little about her history, and set May 5, Arbor Day, as the date for a remembrance ceremony at the Garden and also got the ball rolling on the commemorative tablet that was placed one year later. These details were also reported in the newspaper. (4) It is not unusual that the accomplishments of an individual are more clearly understood after that person has passed on. While certain people are "in-the-know" about what an individual is accomplishing, it is only after death, when congratulations are too late that the rest of world becomes aware of the qualities of the individual whose life is now past. Theodore Wirth was probably the first to craft a brief but informative statement about the role Eloise Butler had taken on and played with such accomplishment. On the 28th he followed up with a memorandum detailing the events of May 5th. The remembrance ceremony was to be held at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon in the Wild Flower Garden. He stated that he had secured a good specimen of a Pin Oak to be planted and made the suggestion

That every member of the Board participate in the planting of the tree, and that the President of the Board perform the rite of spreading the ashes.



University Professor Dr. Thomas S. Roberts (1931 photo). Roberts and other professors frequently brought their classes to the Garden for on-site study. MHS



At the 1917 Stone birdbath in the Garden on Wednesday May 3, 1933 are Park Board members (l to r) Alfred F. Pillsbury, president; Lucien C. Miller and Francis A. Gross.



At the entrance to the Garden on May 3 is Superintendent of operations and maintenance of the Park Board Christian A. Bossen.

On May 3rd various Park Commissioners were at the Garden (perhaps the first time for many). That same day Martha sent her letter of acceptance of the position to Wirth. Workmen were in on the 4th, bringing a Pin Oak and a small Honey Locust which were set in the ground but not covered. (2) The commemorative tablet that Wirth mentioned was also reported in the newspaper in an article announcing the upcoming ceremony. The *Minneapolis Tribune* stated on May 4 "Near the little cabin that

served as her office the commissioners will stand about and scatter her ashes among the flowers she loved. They will plant a young oak in her memory, knowing that before long her former botany students will have subscribed enough for a bronze tablet to commemorate the occasion and to perpetuate her name." The article reported that the commissioners visited the Garden on Wednesday afternoon (May 3) - "They inspected the growths, the cabin, paused at the bird bath of stone, noted the bird houses, and agreed that the wildflower garden was a place of serene and peaceful beauty."

On May 5th a tire was stolen from the Crone's car and Martha arrived a bit stressed. She received her first paycheck (\$22). Superintendent Wirth was in the Garden all morning, and at 4PM the Board of Park Commissioners and about 100 friends of Eloise Butler gathered at the Garden for the remembrance ceremony. (2)

Park Board President A. F. Pillsbury opened the ceremony with these words:



Above: Finalizing the planting of the Pin Oak: (l to r) Alfred F. Pillsbury, President - Board of Park Commissioners; Theodore Wirth, Superintendent of Parks; Francis A. Gross, Vice President of the Board. Newspaper photo.

"We have gathered here today to do honor to one who was the moving spirit in the establishment and care of this unique and interesting garden. Being a great lover of nature, an especially of wild flowers and plant life, it was her desire that one part of our park system should be left in its natural condition and devoted to the wild flowers and birds of our state. Under her loving care for many years, this garden has become famous and given pleasure to many. In the presence of friends and to her memory we have planted this rare tree, and in accordance with her wishes we now, with respect and admiration, distribute the ashes of Miss Eloise Butler over the ground she loved so well."

President Pillsbury was then given by Martha Crone, a cardboard box holding the ashes of Miss Butler and he then began to spread the ashes first around the base of the tree and then in the area on all sides of the little office building. Some of the ash was wafted farther by the breeze. The audience looked on in silence. The only sound was that of Mr. Pillsbury moving through the growths.

Martha Crone and Theodore Wirth spoke last. Martha Crone read Eloise Butler's last report to the Park Board. General Superintendent Wirth in a few brief remarks called attention to the fact that the pin oak had long been a favorite of Miss Butler's and for this reason had been chosen as the tree to be dedicated in her services. He suggested that a year from today this same group of friends gather to place a bronze tablet on a boulder near the tree to perpetuate the dedication, and those friends then made preparation to raise the funds necessary for this purpose.

The myth that she died in the Garden: It is frequently misstated that Eloise Butler died in the Garden and some boys found her there. There is the account of one present at her death at the Babcock House where the doctor was attending her and there is also the coroner's report. It is clear from everything that she died at the Babcock's house. We shall try to clear up how she got there. Perhaps this romantic myth has some origin in Theodore Wirth's April 19th letter announcing her death when he stated "(she)...had suddenly died in the park while on her way to her domain." Or perhaps it is a misreading of the reports of her death in the newspapers. For example, the *Minneapolis Journal* reported on April 11th (speaking of woodland flowers) that "Miss Butler died yesterday in their midst." The article further says that "she was found leaning against a stump near a little by-path." That last part is believed to be

true, (as Wirth's statement that she died "in the park on her way to her domain" may be partially true) as it is known from witnesses on April 10 that she attempted to go to the Garden. Some newspaper accounts and Martha Hellander's research indicate she was found on her way to the Garden and was helped back. But she did arrive back at Babcock's house. The newspaper incorrectly identifies the Babcock house as J. W. Butler's house.

Testimony of Lloyd Teeuwen: The only eye-witness account of her death by anyone still living was given by Lloyd Teeuwen on May 4, 1988 in a recorded interview with Martha Hellander while Hellander was researching material for her book *The Wild Gardener*. Teeuwen was a Garden helper for Eloise, beginning when he was 13 or 14 years old. It was he who built the rustic bridge on the Mallard Pool. It was six years later when on the wet morning of April 10th, he came to the Babcock house to help Eloise down to the Garden, as he always did when the paths were wet and muddy. He asked "do you want to go down there and try it." "No" she replied, "I don't think I want to go down there now, maybe a little later if it stops, maybe we can go down there." Lloyd then went down to the Garden where he was working on some brush. He believes she may have attempted to negotiate the path herself but states "They didn't find her anywhere, she got to the house herself." Mrs. Babcock had told Teeuwen that Eloise had gone out but was only gone a short time when she returned. "She'd come in and Mrs. Babcock says 'She said she didn't feel too good.' "

When Lloyd returned to Babcocks later she was there and his report of her death is as follows: "When I came in there, the doctor was there, and she was laying in the Living Room; they had what they call a little entrance way, like a vestibule, and it had a black leather couch in it and she was laying on it. [Hellander - In the Babcocks house?] Yes, you came in the front door - the doctor had come in it - I don't remember his name at all any more - and he was checking her out like that [Hellander - was she still living?] She was still living, but she was, ten minutes later, he says (the doctor), 'she's gone.' " (5a)

Second: The Minneapolis Coroner's Report: This report states that she left the house at 1 PM and was found around 2:10 PM in the garden near the house. "She was unconscious and carried on a cot into the house by Martin Olson and Walter Ludvig - she breathed deeply - did not regain consciousness and died in one hour later." The doctor present was Dr. Arthur Mann.(5b)

The Coroner's report supports the statement that she was found in the park and brought back. It states she did not regain consciousness. As the doctor was not present for the entire episode it is not possible to negate Teeuwen's testimony about what Mrs. Babcock said. How those two men (or boys?) happened to be around is unknown, nor how they obtained a cot - perhaps from Babcock's?

The conclusion about her death is that she did go down to or toward the Garden and that she died at the Babcock house as both Teeuwen and coroner's report testify. The words that Teeuwen used in speaking to Martha Hellander were from his memory of an event 55 years prior, so some parts of it may not be 100% accurate recall.

In the days following the remembrance ceremony Martha took care of Garden duties, planting the seeds and plants that had accumulated from Eloise Butlers previous arrangements. The Garden looked good - on May 14 she noted "Mobs at garden in afternoon, trilliums beautiful, also mertensia." (2)

On the 15th Mrs. Cram (Gertrude Cram) was in, then Mrs. Phelps and Miss Leavitt - all friends of Eloise Butler. All three and Martha would be on a committee to provide the script for the memorial tablet for Eloise Butler The organization formed was called the Eloise Butler Memorial Association. There were several suggested



dedications which were submitted to Martha Crone for her approval and for her to sample the preferences of Garden visitors as to the wording. A fund raising campaign was initiated with the suggested donation being limited to no more than one dollar. The association felt that they must raise the funds independently so as to "prove to Mr. Wirth and the Park board that the Reserve (The Wild Flower Garden) has many friends." The dedication wording recommended by the committee was approved by Martha and all interested others and the bronze tablet was cast, using the design of a Mr. Melchior of Flour City Iron Works and installed in 1934.

On the 18th Theodore Wirth's secretary, Miss Merkert was in to sort out the books in the office that had been the domain of Eloise Butler - the books belonging to Eloise were being sent back to the Butler relatives at Malden MA.

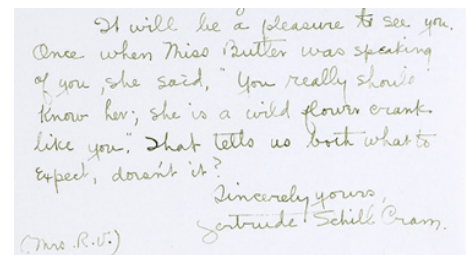
May 20 was not a good day - Bill Crone was driving Martha to the Garden when they were in an accident at Lowry and James. Martha sprained an ankle and skinned an elbow but nevertheless arrived at the Garden by 9:15 AM. Due to the dry spring weather there was a dust storm on the 23rd - no Garden visitors. On the 25th Martha closed the Garden at 3 so as to get down to the main Minneapolis Library for a meeting on the memorial for Eloise.

One of the purposes for plants collected and planted by Martha in 1933 was the completion of the planting around the Mallard Pool area that had been started by Eloise Butler in 1932. Eloise Butler's design for the pool area had been accomplished and she had started the planting from her list of desired plants. Martha's May and June collecting trips, especially to areas around Anoka were to secure plants needed for the pool area. In that era one could still dig up plants in open areas without much restriction, even on street corners. Martha was well known in the area for her plant collecting efforts. She did what Eloise had done - search the wild for suitable specimens and get permission to retrieve them if permission was necessary; rescue them when the habitat was about to be destroyed; receive donations of plants from friends; and plant seeds for new plants.

Back on 23rd April Gertrude Cram had send a note of introduction to Martha. Mrs. Cram then ends with this comment about Martha:

She (Eloise) said 'you really should know her; she is a wild flower crank like you.' That tells us both what to expect, doesn't it? (6)

Many school groups toured the Garden in late May to early June. (2) May was a rainy month, June turned dry and historically hot.



It will be a pleasure to see you.
Once when Miss Butler was speaking
of you, she said, "You really should
know her; she is a wild flower crank
like you." That tells us both what to
expect, doesn't it?
Sincerely yours,
Gertrude Schell Cram.
(Mrs. R.W.)

Photo at top of page 248: A collage of Eloise Butler at 4 stages in her life: A young woman, ca1890, Garden Curator 1910-20, mid 1920s and age 80 at her birthday party, August 2, 1931. *Photos courtesy Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis Collection, and Minnesota Historical Society.*

Notes:

(1) Letter, Eloise Butler to Mrs. Frazer, September 29, 1932. Pearl Frazer was the daughter of Fanny Heath of North Dakota. Mrs. Heath was a wildflower expert and correspondence friend of Eloise Butler. See *The Wild Gardener*, by Martha Hellander, pgs. 94ff.

(2) Martha Crone's Diary - 1933

(3) Garden Log - 1933

(4) *Minneapolis Tribune*, April 20, 1933.

(5a) Interview with Lloyd Teeuwen, May 4, 1988 by Martha Hellander. Tape and transcript in the Martha Crone Collection, Minnesota Historical Society.

(5b) Written report of the Hennepin County Coroner, April 10, 1933. Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN.

(6) Letter of Gertrude Cram to Martha Crone April 23, 1933

ELOISE BUTLER
20 MURRAY HILL ROAD
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
January 11, 1933

Dear Cronies,--

I have been trying in vain for a long time to write to you. The enclosed letter from the aspirant for a position in the wild garden is self-explanatory. Please keep it for me until I see you, for I may wish to show it to Mr. Wirth. I want also to thank you especially, Mrs. Crone, for what you wrote me about the continuance of the wild garden. There's too much of truth in what you say, but I will soon be able to talk with you about the matter in detail. In this time of depression nothing can be done except to hang on by the skin of one's teeth. And what, if there hain't no skin?

I must tell you how much I am pleased with the Crony Xmas package and what a surprise it was. I have found the Magic Slicer a great convenience in preparing salads, the apron just matches a new dress, the Almanac is packed with valuable information, and the lotus seeds came just in time for distribution here, although I have kept some for experiments in Minneapolis. I gave some to one who came to me for advice in starting a large wild flower sanctuary not far from Boston.

Among other gifts I had two books that I would like to share with you-- colored plates of the birds of New England, 86 of them by the noted Fuertes and 2* by Major Allan Brooks who continued the work after Fuertes' death; and a book entitled "WAH'KON-TAH", on the history of the Osage Indians, and written by a native Osage. In it you breath the very air of the western plains.

I hope that you have escaped the prev-

alent flu. We have so far, but I am touching wood! The weather is mild here and sunny for the most part. There has been snow, but it quickly melted away.

Wishing you the Happiest of New Years,

Very truly your friend,

Eloise Butler

Mail Address:
416 5th Ave. So. c/o J.W. Babcock,
Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 29, '32

My dear Mrs. Frazer:

At the request of Mr. Wirth, Superintendent of Parks, of Minneapolis, I am answering your letter to him.

For several years I have been trying in vain to find an understudy for the Native Plant Preserve, as I have fully realized that I would not always be able to "carry on." A year ago I thought I had found the solution of the problem, but was confronted by an impasse which I still hope can be broken down. I recently wrote for advice to my friends Mrs. C.L. Hutchinson, who is director of a large bird and flower sanctuary on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. I am anxiously awaiting her reply, for I greatly rely upon her wisdom. My aims are only to secure the preservation and perpetuity of The Preserve, as well as its helpfulness to students of Botany and lovers of wild life. When these aims are assured, I am ready to fade out of the picture and will promise that not even my ghost will return to haunt the premises.

On the first of October The Preserve is closed until the following April. I realize how valuable your assistance might be, but it would be a waste of time and a needless expense unless you could continue as curator; for my successor would require at least one season's training. Are you willing to accept this position for your life work? My salary is \$60.00 a month from April to October. This is not a year's living wage, but I have been able to get along comfortably with the addition of my teacher's pension. Pardon my brutal frankness. You have a child to care for. You are young. If you are a widow, you may marry again, however firm any present determination not to do so. In that case what would be the fate of the Preserve? The hours are long. The place is open Saturdays and Sundays, because then the general public is most free to visit it. Saturday is my off day. Working by yourself in the woods, far from a telephone, you might not be able to endure the loneliness. Guarding the property from the depredations of the thoughtless or lawless is a disagreeable duty. The park in which the Preserve lies, comprises nearly 700 acres. It has but one police officer and I seldom see him, as his services are usually needed elsewhere. The product of years of experiment may be destroyed at one fell swoop. Through all the years I have practiced rigid economy, the chief outlays, outside of my salary, being the building of the office, fencing and repairs. I have done a man's work on the place, although the Park Commissioners have always readily given me all the help that I have asked for.

Of course my successor, subject to the approval of the Superintendent, would carry out his own ideas as to the proper management of the place, but long usage has given to the public certain rights and privileges.

The office equipment, reference library, photographs, lantern slides, etc. (now my personal property) would be turned over to the Park Commissioners for the use of my successor. From the very first I have kept a "Garden Log" and a card catalogue of the plants both indigenous and introduced. If you and Mr. Wirth come to an agreement, he has suggested that I correspond with you during the winter and inform you more fully of the work.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Eloise Butler

THE MINNEAPOLIS

30 PAGES—HOME EDITION. * * WEATHER Fair to partly cloudy and somewhat warmer tonight and Wednesday.

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 11, 1933.

State Solons Urged to Speed Bill For Forests to Give 5,000 Jobs

Forester Conzel Proposes 15 Camps to House 3,000 Men

SEES LASTING BENEFIT TO STATE IN U. S. PLAN

Measure Would Increase Minnesota Wooded Area to 2,500,000 Acres

Passage by the legislature of the bill creating 11 state forests was urged by Grover Conzel, state forester, and E. V. Willard, state drainage commissioner, today as means of providing work for 5,000 men in Minnesota's civilian conservation corps.

The two officials returned today from conferences in Washington, where they discussed a program for work in the state's forests under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's forest employment plan. Both emphasized the fact that Minnesota's participation in the plan would be far greater if the state had more official state forest land to work upon.

The forest bill is an special order, awaiting consideration by the house.

First Recruits for U. S. Forests

Meanwhile, the first contingents of the corps were being assembled from Minneapolis and St. Paul at Fort Snelling. These recruits, however, will be put to work in national forests in Minnesota and will not work in any of the state's forests.

Within the next few days, more men are to be selected throughout the state for the corps through the office of Frank Barig, Jr., state director of relief for the board of control. These men probably also will be put to work in national forests, and Mr. Conzel and Mr. Willard were anxious to get others for work in the state lands.

What form further enrollments for the corps throughout the state would take was unknown today. Mr. Barig, with the plans for the recruiting, was scheduled to arrive late today from Washington, where he obtained final instructions from the directors of the forest scheme.

Barig to Direct Enlistment

The Minneapolis contingent of 275 men for the first Minnesota unit of 600 men have been selected by the public relief department. The 600 men will be the state's share of the first 25,000 men to be enrolled nationally. Mr. Barig will direct further enlistment.

"The federal act," Mr. Willard said today, "provides forestry work must be done on government lands, state forests or other public lands, or on private lands where the work is for a definite public benefit." Minnesota has only about 1,000,000 acres in state forests, but these lands are scattered about throughout the northern country; very little of it is in solid blocks. The new state forests, if established by the legislature will add 2,500,000 acres to the state forests.

State Can Reap Lasting Benefit

"This will put us in fine shape to have work done of a lasting benefit."

Eloise Butler Dies at 81 In Woodland She Loved



ELOISE BUTLER IN HER DOMAIN

Shoals Bill Given Senate; Faces Delay

Norris Introduces Measure to Carry Out Roosevelt Project

Washington, April 11.—(P)—A bill to carry out President Roosevelt's vast Tennessee basin project, including government operation of Muscle Shoals for power, nitrate and fertilizer production, was introduced today by Senator George Norris (rep., Neb.).

Designed as the first step in a

Body to Be Cremated and Ashes Strewn in Glenwood Glade

The woodland flowers in Glenwood glade, sheltered and tended for over 15 years by Miss Eloise Butler, will bloom this summer as a monument to her.

Miss Butler died yesterday in their midst. Since 1907 she has been a familiar figure in the "deer runs" of the natural preserve in Glenwood park. She wandered over its trails first as a botany teacher, showing her pupils the miracles of the earth.

So much a part of the growing things did she become that in 1911 the board of park commissioners built her a little toolhouse on the side of the hill; and each year, from the time the first green bud appeared until the last brown leaf had

Continued on page 6

\$10,470,000 Lopped Off State's Bills

Annual Reduction of \$5,000,000 Foreseen if Legislature Stands by Cuts

EDUCATION ALLOWANCE GIVEN HARDEST BLOW

Senators Proud of \$6,400,000

Saving to Motor Vehicle Taxpayers

Today in Legislature

Senate opened income tax argument over proposed constitutional amendment.

House revived unemployment insurance, once killed, sent it to senate.

House voted broad powers to railroad commission to regulate telephone companies, sent bill to senate.

House gave compulsory old age pensions a chance for life, placed bill on special order.

Senate cut out state tourist bureau by denying appropriation, house committee took same action.

Senate committee approved metropolitan sewage bill.

Senate blocked parimutuel horseracing bill.

House voted 30-hour week for public work.

Senate voted special order for bill forcing reductions in local tax levies.

See Legislative Arena, Page 11.

By LEIF H. GILSTAD

Appropriation slashes totalling \$10,470,000 have been made by the state senate finance committee. It was announced today. The cuts are compared with the total allowances made two years ago. If they are carried through to passage of the appropriation bills, they will mean an annual reduction of more than \$5,000,000. The final slash made by the committee was on a big educational bill, which took the heaviest cut of all.

In addition, senators were pointing with pride to the \$6,400,000 saved to motor vehicle taxpayers for the ensuing two years.

The senate delayed its consideration of the income tax today to wrangle over another economy measure, Senator C. H. MacKenzie's bill forcing cuts in local levies. The rules committee recommended a special order on the bill, which was fought by Senator Patrick Farnand, Hibbing.

The roll call showed 44 votes for the special order and 22 against it. It required 45 votes, or two-thirds of the whole senate, so Senator MacKenzie got a motion made on the bill and had the senate put under call to compel a full vote. His bill would require levies for 1934 to be 15 per cent below those for 1931, except debt levies

Rising W In Pock

Survey Urges City Buy Out Gas Company

Citizens Advisory Committee Sets \$9,376,545 as Fair Purchase Price

EXPERT SEES WAY TO \$500,000 RATE CUT

Mayor and Council Asked to Take Steps for Acquisition by 1935

Purchase and operation of the Minneapolis Gas Light Company by the city was recommended today in the final report of Mayor William A. Anderson's citizens advisory committee on public utilities. The "fair purchase value" of the plant was estimated at \$9,376,545.

The report was made as F. T. Mylott, member of the firm of Hine, Goldthwaite and Mylott, New York rate experts, began an accounting study of the books of the company, upon which the city council will base a revised gas rate schedule to go into effect in September. After a preliminary survey, Mr. Mylott said he believed a rate of reduction of at least \$500,000 could be substantiated. He informed the council's special committee on gas rates, which authorized him to start the study, that he would have conclusions ready in about three weeks.

Although the city could not move to purchase the gas company until September 8, 1935, when the first five years of operation under the franchise will end, the advisory committee, in its report to the mayor, urged that preparations for acquisition of the plant be Continued on page 6

Akron Shock Cause Striking Water

Survivor Gives Inquiry Board Tragedy—Blames D

Lakehurst, N. J., April 11.—(P)—Lieutenant Commander Herbert V. Wiley today told the naval board inquiring into the wreck of the Akron that he now believes the shock caused by "the severe gust of wind" a few seconds before the dirigible crashed was caused by its tail striking the water.

Wiley said he based his opinion on the fact that he had not felt any wind blow through the control car, that the "feel of the shock" was different from any he had ever experienced before, and that he could

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A. Mann, Chester A. Marr, T. B. Mauer, William E. MacGregor, W. J. McCaughren, A. J. McGuire, W. T. Middlebrook, Dr. E. G. Norstrom, H. M. Orfield, H. O. J. Pelsch, Oliver Prestholdt, James Quinn, John K. Raglan, Dr. C. M. Roan, Irving H. Robitshek, Louis Sachs, S. A. Stockwell, Roy N. Thorshov and M. E. Williams.

Eloise Butler Dies at 81

Continued from page 1

fallen, she reigned over her little domain as curator.

Yesterday she was found, leaning against a stump near a little by-path. She was 81 years old.

Miss Butler, a descendant of the British duke of Ormond, was born on a little farm in Maine in August, 1851. Her wanderings over the meadows of the farm and through the woods nearby brought her close to the things that grow. But then little was taught of botany and the natural sciences and she was graduated from a Maine normal school to become a teacher of Latin and Greek.

Tree Knowledge Useful

Teaching the dead language didn't stop her from continuing her natural studies in the living things. As the natural sciences began to take a more important place in educational fields, she found her girlhood knowledge of trees and flowers sought by botany instructors in the schools in which she was teaching Latin and Greek.

Finally she left the languages and took extensive post-graduate work at Harvard and the University of Minnesota in the natural sciences. Her studies took her on three trips to the island of Jamaica in the West Indies, where she discovered varieties of plants and flowers unknown to science until that time. She also spent some time on the island of Vancouver, studying the marine algae.

Taught Botany in Schools

She came to Minneapolis as a botany teacher and taught in Central and South high schools. Her natural love for the woods fostered in her a belief that the classroom was too smug for real natural studies. Many days she closed up her classroom and took her students for a long tramp around the sylvan pool in Glenwood park, pointing out to them the great variety of native plants and flowers growing on its banks.

Almost entirely through her efforts, three acres of the park were set aside in 1907 as natural gardens. Many of the native flowers of Minnesota grew there. She

planted and fostered more. As cities began to grow up and lumbering industries swept through the state, she feared for the welfare of the natural things and went again to the park board. In 1911, the three-acre tract was enlarged to 25 acres and Miss Butler was made paid curator of the new development.

Planted Many Rare Flowers

Many rare flowers and plants and trees that would grow in this climate were planted in the preserve under her direction and every growing thing was carefully recorded on her card index. In her index are 1,137 different species of Minnesota plant life, of which she brought 704 to the gardens herself.

So that her domain might not lose its natural beauty, she refused to have artificial pathways cut through it. She personally conducted visiting parties over the winding grassy paths and took great care that fallen logs remained where they fell and trailing vines were not torn from the branches on which they chose to cling.

Almost Lost Life in Swamp

Birds grew to recognize the natural glen as a place of shelter, and through the summer months Miss Butler had as her companions horned owls, whip-poor-wills, crested wood ducks, bitterns, blue herons and all of the more numerous birds.

She almost gave her life to the preserve once before. She was wandering on the edge of a muskeg swamp when she sank to her armpits. Somehow she struggled free—investigation disclosed that the morass was 15 feet deep. It was filled in with gravel.

Miss Butler spent her summers at the home of J. W. Butler, 227 Xerxes avenue N. In the winter she visited relatives in different parts of the country.

As she expressed the wish several times, relatives plan to have her body cremated and the ashes scattered over the gardens.

Giant Hailstones Kill Wild Ducks

Davenport, Iowa, April 11.—Several Davenport residents enjoyed the rare dinner of wild duck in spring today as the result of a terrific hail storm which hit the tricity area last night. Beaten to death by hailstones measuring as great as seven inches in circumference, several ducks were picked up in the yards of local homes.

Donaldson's
Sixth and Seventh Streets at Nicollet Avenue
Minneapolis



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BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
325 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 19, 1933.

To the -

Honorable Board of Park Commissioners,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Gentlemen:

On the afternoon of April 10, the sad news reached me that Miss Eloise Butler, Curator of the native plant reserve at Glenwood Park, had suddenly died in the park while on her way to her domain, The Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden - which the Board so wisely and deservedly named in her honor during the year of 1929.

Miss Butler had faithfully, efficiently, and lovingly devoted her labor and knowledge of plants to the preserve, in the preservation and enlargement of the native plant life, ever since the garden was first established in 1907. In that year, Mr. J. N. Greer, Principal of Central High School, and others, petitioned the Board that a suitable piece of ground in Glenwood Park be set aside as a botanical garden for nature study, for the benefit of interested teachers and students.

In June, 1911, a communication from the Women's Club recommended the appointment of Miss Eloise Butler as Curator for the garden and offered to pay one-half of her salary for that year. The Board took favorable action, and ever since that time until the ripe age of 81 years, Miss Butler has most devotedly and kindly rendered valuable service to the garden and information to large numbers of botany students and friends of nature in general. For a full quarter of a century, her useful life has been spent in a labor of love - not only in the preservation and protection of our native trees and flora, but in the introduction of plants native in other parts of our state and country.

Every plant in her garden, large and small, was her living child, upon whom she bestowed her devotion and care - and her love went to the birds and all other members of the Animal Kingdom who were inhabitants of and attracted to the peaceful, beautifully-wooded glen in which she studiously and untiringly labored for her beloved beings of Dame Nature. I say "beloved" advisedly, for she did not shrink from manual labor in order to protect her treasures from the inexperienced or unthinking hands or feet of visitors or willing helpers. Here was a life of happiness in a kingdom all of her own, and her spirit has not departed from those grounds which have been so

fittingly named for her, and which should for all time in the future be devoted to the purpose for which they were dedicated at her wish and that of her co-workers in nature study.

Miss Butler has left behind her the work she loved so well, and she has directed that all of her records and other useful material, books, etc. pertaining to the continuation of the garden and its purposes become the property of the Board of Park Commissioners for the use of her successors, and has expressed the wish that the ashes of her cremated body be spread to the winds in her beloved garden.

I am sure that your Honorable Board will readily want to grant every wish of a departed co-worker, whom we all held in such high esteem, and I wish to suggest that the Board proceed in a body to the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden on Arbor Day, May 5, and that her ashes be spread as requested and a young oak tree planted as a memorial to the first Curator of the native plant reserve, Miss Eloise Butler, by the members of the Board.

I believe that Miss Butler's many friends, most of whom were her botany students, would be glad to form a committee for the purpose of collecting a suitable memorial fund in order to place a bronze tablet on a boulder near the memorial tree, to commemorate to posterity her good work and the esteem in which Miss Eloise Butler was held by all who knew her.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE WIRTH,
General Superintendent.

Commissioner Anderson -
Moved adoption of the Superintendent's report.
Adopted by rising vote.

I hereby certify that -

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of a portion of the minutes of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Minneapolis of April 19, 1933.

CHAS. E. DOELL,
Secretary, Board of Park
Commissioners, City of
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
325 City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 28, 1933.

To the -

Honorable Board of Park Commissioners,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Gentlemen:

The Board, having decided to comply with the last request of Miss Eloise Butler, our late Curator of the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden at Glenwood Park, to spread her ashes in the garden, and to plant a tree in her memory with appropriate ceremonies on Arbor Day, I would like to make the following suggestions:

1. That the Board meet at 3:30 P.M. at the offices of the Board on Friday, May 5, and proceed to the garden in a body.
2. That a Pin Oak be planted, of which I have secured a very good specimen, which will be all ready for the ceremonies when the Board arrives at the location where it is to be planted close to the office of the curator in the garden.
3. That every member of the Board participate in the planting of the tree, and that the President of the Board perform the rite of spreading the ashes.

A good many friends of Miss Butler, former students of her botany classes and nature lovers have suggested that the ceremony take place at 4:00 P.M., since they would like to be present and some of them could not do so if the ceremonies took place earlier in the day.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE WIRTH,
General Superintendent.

TW-M

*Butler papers in Mpls. Coll.,
Mpls. Pub. Library*

Condensed Report of the Eloise Butler Memorial Association.

This Association was organized on June 8, 1933, at the Minneapolis Public Library to arrange for a bronze tablet to be placed on a boulder in the Eloise Butler Native Plant Reserve. Plans were discussed and a Committee consisting of Clara K. Leavitt, Chairman, Elizabeth Foss, Mrs. Wm. E. Crone, Dr. Frederick Schussler and Gratia Countryman was elected to appoint committees to arrange the details.

The Fund Raising Committee consisted of Mrs. J. B. Phelps, Treasurer, Miss Foss, Mrs. Schussler, Mrs. Crone, Mrs. Healey, Mrs. Armatage, Miss Anna Johnson, Mrs. R. V. Cram, ~~Mr.~~ Mr. Bovey and Mr. Wester. Seventy-five individuals contributed one dollar each, the limit set by the committee. Many more contributed smaller sums. Most of the names of the contributors are appended. The following organizations contributed one dollar or more.

The Art History Club,	\$5.
The Audobon Society	5.
Biology, Botany and General Science Teachers	5.90
The C. E. and L. Society,	2.
Fifth District Federation of Women's Clubs,	10.
Garden Flower Society,	5.
Garden Section of Minneapolis Woman's Club,	8.75
Retired Teachers Club,	3.50
Woman's Alliance Unitarian Church	1.

The Tablet Committee. Dr. Schussler, Mrs. R. V. Cram, and Miss Countryman arranged the wording of the tablet. Mrs. J. B. Phelps arranged with different firms to submit designs and that of Mr. Melcher of the Flour City Iron Works was accepted. The Committee feels that Mr. Melcher has been very successful in expressing the ideas of the Association. Miss Mary Moulton Cheney assisted the Committee as critic.

As a further Memorial for Miss Butler the Committee is planning the preservation of some of Miss Butler's papers and a history of the Native Plant Reserve, to be kept on file in the Minneapolis Library. Twelve dollars has been contributed toward this object.

The Committee has frequently consulted Superintendent Wirth as to details in the project and ~~his~~ most grateful for his wise suggestions and sympathetic interest.

Respectfully submitted,
Clara K. Leavitt.

May 1934

Group Plans Memorial to Miss Butler

In memory of Eloise Butler, whose ashes lie strewn among the wildflowers she loved.

With that as the theme a little group of men and women gathered in the public library Thursday afternoon and formed the Eloise Butler Memorial association.

The purpose of the organization is to perpetuate the memory of the founder-curator of the wildflower garden at Glenwood Park. It will take the form of a tablet upon a huge boulder to be brought into the wildflower garden and set near the memorial oak planted by the park board May 5 in tribute to Miss Butler.

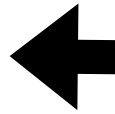
Miss Jennie Hall was named chairman of the organization, Mrs. Zelma Goldsworthy secretary. Miss Clara K. Leavitt, Mrs. W. H. Crone, successor to Miss Butler, Miss Elizabeth Foss, Dr. Otto F. Schussler, and Miss Gratia Countryman were named as a committee on committees. The committees they will name will inquire into the cost of a proper memorial tablet, determine the character of the tablet and the words to be inscribed on it, and collect the necessary funds.

Others present, all friends of the late curator, pledged every possible assistance for the cause. They included Mrs. S. W. Eden, Mrs. Carl Robert Nelson, Mrs. Robert V. Cram, Miss Anna J. Johnson, Mrs. Schussler, Mrs. Frank Healy, Dr. W. H. Crone.

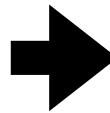
Sometime during the winter the park authorities under direction of Superintendent Theodore Wirth will slide into the wildflower garden a huge boulder as base for the tablet.

And on Arbor Day, 1934, friends of Miss Butler and friends of the flowers she loved will gather in the garden at Glenwood Park to unveil the tablet that will perpetuate her memory for the generations to come.

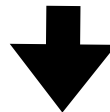
May 26, 1933
Minneapolis Tribune



May 5, 1934,
Minneapolis Tribune



Sept. 19, 1933
Minneapolis Tribune



FRIENDS COLLECTING FUNDS FOR TABLET

To honor the memory of Miss Eloise Butler, former curator of the Glenwood park wild flower garden, whose death occurred in April, her friends in the city are creating a fund to erect a bronze tablet in Glenwood park, beside a tree planted for Miss Butler last Arbor day. Mrs. J. B. Phelps of the Hampshire Arms is treasurer of the fund, Miss Gracia Countryman is making the business arrangements and Miss Mary Cheney has been appointed to design the plaque. Mrs. R. V. Cram and Dr. O. F. Schussler are in charge of the wording to be used. Plans are now to erect the memorial and dedicate it next spring. A fund of \$200 by November 1 is the aim of the committee.

Wild Flower Glen Tablet Is Unveiled

Besides the little cabin that holds records of her achievements—among the wild flowers over which her ashes were scattered—friends of Eloise Butler, founder and first curator of the native plant reserve at Glenwood park, gathered Friday afternoon to unveil a tablet to her memory.

Inscribed on the tablet are the words:

"In loving memory of Eloise Butler, 1851-1933, teacher of botany in Minneapolis schools, founder and first curator of this native plant reserve, this oak (a pin oak planted a year ago) has been planted and this tablet erected by a grateful public. To this sequestered glen Miss Butler gathered from all sections of our state specimens of its beautiful native plants and tended them with patient care. This priceless garden is our heritage from her and its continued preservation a living testimony of our appreciation. Here her ashes are scattered and here her protective spirit lingers."

Miss Jennie Hall, science supervisor of the Minneapolis public schools, opened the program. Sterling Robson and a group of 10 South high school pupils uttered bird calls with which Miss Butler during her garden work had become familiar.

As the bird calls ended Mrs. Florence English Hadden, one of Miss Butler's former pupils, stepped forward to read an original poem in tribute. It was entitled "This Wild Flower Garden," and its words were

*"This glen is now a hallowed spot,
A shrine, where wild flowers meet—
We come as friends, with forest birds,
To render tribute in this wild retreat—"*

*A tribute due to one held dear,
By all the wildings in this glade,
From all the pupils she has taught,
And all the friends she's made—"*

*We all unite with one accord
To sound her praises high,
She surely hears the song above
As these tributes reach the sky.*

*The perfume of these flowers, wild,
Is like wafted incense, rare,
It floats above through "Pearly Gates"
To the Heavenly Gardens, there.*

Then Miss Elizabeth Foss of the North high school faculty, on behalf of Miss Butler's friends—organized as a committee headed by Miss Clara K. Leavitt—made the presentation, and Francis A. Gross, vice president of the park board, accepted the tablet for the city.

List of Contributors to the Eloise Butler Memorial Tablet.

Mr. W.H. Bovey,	1.
Mrs. W.H. Bovey,	1.
MR. C.A. Andrews,	1.
Miss Janet Andrews,	1.
Miss Caroline Crosby,	1.
Miss Josephine Tilden,	1.
Mrs. Deborah Abrahamson,	1.
Miss Gratia Countryman,	1.
Miss Marie Todd,	1.
Miss Prest,	1.
Library Technical Room,	1.
Hon. Harold R. Ward,	1.
Hon. Lucian C. Miller	1.
Hon. B.B. Sheffield,	1.
Miss Lisbeth Johnson,	1.
Miss Lavina Smith,	.50
Miss Janet Crone,	.50
Miss Cora Groth,	1.
Miss Elsie Edlund,	1.
Central High Botany Club,	4.21
Miss Florence Wales)	
Miss Annette Wales)	
Mrs. Florence Kneit)---	1.20
Mr. Thomas Morris)	
Mrs. M.L. Healy	1.
Miss Barbara Healy	1.
Miss Mary L. Meeker,	1.
Miss Lillian Mathias,	1.
Miss Anna Cotton,	.50
Miss Mary Byrnes	.50
Miss Anna Strohmeier	.50
Miss Helen Blaisdell	1.
Mr. J.S.V. Fisher,	1.
Miss Harriet Lucas,	1.
Mr. Arthur Wester,	1.
Art History Club,	5.
Audobon Society,	5.
Biology, Botany, General	
Science Teachers	5.90

also -
 " Miss Kaufman
 N.Y. City "
 (note -
 former
 Pres. of
 Argan's
 asso.
 see
 Jan 1927
 Bull.)

Others listed on 5 handwritten pp. attached
 incl. Miss Rose Schussler + Miss Emma Schussler
 (Ch. of Dr. Otto + Mrs. Schussler) ?²⁶³ Retired Teachers Club -
 Woman's Alliance of 1st Unitarian Church -

2015 So. James, Minneapolis.

September 15, 1933.

My dear Mrs. Crone:- Some of the Committee on wording like like the longer proposed inscription better. We are interested to know how they strike you. Perhaps you can test them by getting as many of your garden visitors as possible to read them and express a preference. We would like to know how the visitors feel toward it. It would help to bring up the subject of the raising of the fund. We must prove to Mr. Wirth and the Park Board that the Reserve has many friends.

We are keeping the names of all who contribute even small sums. One dollar is the maximum.

I envy you if you are planning to study with Dr. Rosen-dahl in the herbarium this winter.

Very cordially yours,

Clara K. Leavitt.

tablet erected by a grateful public

In this sequestered glen Miss Butler gathered from all sections of our state specimens of its beautiful native plants and tended them with patient care. This priceless garden is our heritage from her and its continued preservation a living testimony of our appreciation.

Here her ashes are scattered and here her protective spirit lingers.

4-2-1922

THE MINNESOTA CLUBWOMAN

See page 23



««

Our Native Plant Reserve

»»

Glenwood Park, Minneapolis, Minn.
Now called Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden

The idea of this institution of Minneapolis arose from the difficulties experienced by the teachers of botany in familiarizing their students with living plants in their natural surroundings. Long journeys were made with their classes only to find but few widely scattered plants, that perhaps by the next season were exterminated by the needs of a rapidly growing city. Thereupon, the plan was gradually evolved of obtaining, before it was too late, a plot of land that contained, or would support, our choicest wild plants; and to introduce, and by all persuasive means, as preferred variations of soil, light, and moisture, to establish therein as much as possible of the entire flora of Minnesota. To secure protection and permanency, it was also decided that the land should be owned by the city and under park management. An ideal spot, fulfilling all requirements, was found in Glenwood Park, the largest pleasure ground in Minneapolis, and of great natural beauty, interspersed, as it is, with hills that afford far-reaching views and containing three ponds of fair extent.

The Park Commissioners responded with ready appreciation to the wishes of the teachers, and granted them the chosen tract, which then comprised about three acres. From time to time more than twenty acres, including outlying marshes, have been added.

Early in April, 1907, the Wild Botanic Garden was installed without any ceremony except by taking a census of the indigenous flora, and by introducing at once, among many others, such distinctive plants as wahoo, bird's-foot violet, early blue phlox, spring beauty, and hepatica.

The core of the reserve is a small tamarack swamp, a *sine qua non* of wild garden. Here flourish naturally plants most highly esteemed by botanists: orchids of several species, sundew, pitcher plants, *Linnaea*, fringed gentians, Turk's-cap lily, and rare mosses and fungi. The surrounding hillslopes, more or less wooded, support many other desirable plants that require different degrees of light and moisture.

On a knoll above the swamp and near the south entrance of the reserve, a small convenient office and tool house has been erected for the use of the curator. Two sides of this building have been recently embellished by a sort of pergola-trellis, which, when covered with vines, is expected to enhance the picturesqueness of the place. Near the office a large boulder has been set and chiseled out for a bird bath, which is often thronged by transients and steadily patronized by birds that nest in the garden. The reserve has become a bird as well as a wild flower sanctuary. Several birds that are doomed to extinction, if not protected, have been noted within the precincts, as the crested wood duck, the great and the smaller bittern, the small green heron, Virginia rail, ruffed grouse, bob white, and woodcock.

The only other artificial feature of the garden is a broad tarvia walk that cuts through the northern portion and affords convenient access

By Mrs. John H. Jepson
to the park boulevard. On this walk is a dam that forms a small pool in a natural depression and receives the overflow from the swamp. This is a favorite sketching point for artists; but the pool is too shady for water lilies, so it is proposed to form at some time a pond for aquatics by an excavation in an open meadow where two small streams combine that flow from springs in the garden.

Until 1911, the garden was cared for by the teachers of botany as a labor of love and without compensation. Then, on the retirement of one of the botany teachers from school, she was



made a salaried curator of the garden, a position which she still occupies. But from the very first systematic care has been given to the place. A complete record has been kept of the plants and an indexed card-catalogue maintained. The chief duties of the curator besides writing the records, are keeping the place in order, receiving and conducting visitors through the grounds, and planting.

Several hundreds of plants are set out each season. Some of them are newcomers; others swell the number of attractive species already present, native or introduced, or replace those that have dwindled out. The ideal aimed at is to maintain a natural wilderness. So no set beds are permitted, but the plants are fitted as closely as possible to their native habitat, be it prairie, bog, or woodland, and are allowed to grow as they will, without any check except their own well-being, and so long as they do not infringe too much upon the rights of their companions. They are not watered after they become well rooted, and no fertilizer is used except decayed leaves, which are allowed to lie as they fall, unless they form deep windrows. By reason of the varied conditions of the reserve most plantings are successful. Lime and sand are lacking in the soil and have to be imported for such exacting species as trailing arbutus and sweet fern (*Comptonia*). Specimens for planting are dug up on

wild land, or obtained by exchange, by purchase, or from the park nurseries.

Certain weeds are *taboo* in the garden, mainly naturalized plants like the all-pervading dandelion and Canada thistle that are too fierce competitors in the "struggle for existence"; likewise several disagreeable "stick-tights," like burdock and beggars' ticks, that usurp the place of more amiable and lovely denizens.

Exclusive of mosses, algæ, and fungi, the garden now contains over a thousand species, more than half of which have been introduced. Students and lovers of nature may see, in a few hours, plants grouped together in a comparatively small area, that they might fail to find in traversing for many days the length and breadth of the state.

*From the Archives of the Minneapolis
Park Board*



The largest and oldest white oak in Minneapolis is "king of the garden." It is estimated that it is at least 700 years old.

HOW TO REACH THE RESERVE

Via Glenwood street car to terminus at Glenwood Lake, then by the tarvia road, turning to the right at the pump.

By automobile via Wayzata Boulevard or Glenwood Ave., turning at the guide-boards onto the Parkway Boulevard. This entrance is northeast of Birch Pond.

The Reserve is open from April 1 to October 1st every day except Wednesday. No charge.

HOURS

9 to 12 A. M., 1 to 5 P. M., except Sunday.
Sunday: 10 A. M. to 12 M., 1 to 5 P. M.

Editor's Note: At 4:00 o'clock on the afternoon of May 5, 1933, Park Board members, together with approximately a hundred friends and former students of Miss Eloise Butler, gathered at the Wild Botanic Garden to pay last tribute to the memory of the founder of the Garden at Glenwood Park, who died April 10. At the request of many members of the Federation, we are printing the following:

"Friends and Associates of Miss Eloise Butler (The Honorable A. F. Pillsbury, President of Minneapolis Park Board, speaking):

"We have gathered here today to do honor to one who was the moving spirit in the establishment and care of this unique and interesting garden.

"Being a great lover of nature, and especially of wild flowers and plant life, it was her desire that one part of our park system should be left in its natural condition and devoted to the wild flowers and birds of our state. Under her loving care for many years, this garden has become famous and given pleasure to many. In the presence of friends, and to her memory, we have planted this rare tree, and in accordance with her wishes, we now, with respect and admiration, distribute the ashes of Miss Eloise Butler over the ground she loved so well."

President Pillsbury was then given the container holding the ashes of Miss Butler and he then began to spread the ashes first around the base of the tree and then in the area on all sides of the little office building.

General Superintendent Wirth in a few brief remarks called attention to the fact that the pin oak had long been a favorite of Miss Butler's and for this reason had been chosen as the tree to be dedicated in her services. He suggested that a year from today this same group of friends gather to place a bronze tablet on a boulder near the tree to perpetuate the dedication, and the friends made preparation to raise the funds necessary for this purpose.

An Ideal Summer Resort, where clubwomen can hold conferences, conventions, dinner or card parties, dances or luncheons.

Steak, Fish and Chicken Dinners Always Available

THE DAHL HOUSE - Chicago City, Minn.

40 Miles from Twin Cities

Minneapolis Address—10 Lumber Exchange

The Friends of the Wild Flower Garden



The Memorial Tablet for Eloise Butler

The Memorial Tablet for Eloise Butler was dedicated on Arbor Day, May 4th, 1934. The idea for a memorial tablet is mentioned in the April 19, 1933 minutes of the Board of Park Commissioners and was spoken of at the memorial service on May 5, 1933. It was planned, created and presented by some of her friends and some of her former pupils from her years as a botany teacher in the Minneapolis Public Schools. An association had been formed at the suggestion of Theodore Wirth, General Superintendent of the Minneapolis Park System, in mid-1933 following Eloise's death. It was called the Eloise Butler Memorial Association with Miss Jennie Hall as head. A governing committee of five persons, headed by Clara Leavitt (retired teacher), with Martha Crone, Elizabeth Foss (North High teacher), Dr. Otto Schussler and Gratia Countryman (Minneapolis Librarian) were in charge of forming other committees and designing the memorial. There were several suggested dedications which were submitted to Martha Crone (who replaced Eloise as Garden Curator) for her approval and for her to sample the preferences of garden visitors as to the wording. A fund raising campaign was initiated with the suggested donation being limited to no more than one dollar. The committee felt that they must raise the funds independently so as to "prove to Mr. Wirth and the Park board that the Reserve (The Wild Flower Garden) has many friends." (1) The dedication as shown below, was the one recommended by the committee. Martha and all interested others approved and the bronze tablet was cast, using the design of Mr. Melchior of Flour City Iron Works.

On April 30th 1934 Superintendent Theodore Wirth sent a brief memo to the Board of Park Commissioners that on Arbor Day, May 4, the dedication ceremony would be held and that the Memorial Association had invited the Board and its officers to attend. The program was introduced by Miss Jennie Hall, head of the Memorial Association. The outline was that Miss Hall and ten children would do some bird calls; an original poem would be recited by Mrs Florence Hadden (former pupil); Miss Elizabeth Foss would present the tablet; and Francis Gross, Vice President of the Board of Park Commissioners would accept the tablet. (note 2)



The tablet today is found at the end of the path from the front gate of the Garden to the Martha Crone Shelter on a large granite boulder. The boulder, placed specifically for the tablet, sat in front of a pin oak tree that was planted in her memory on May 4, 1934. The pin oak is no longer there, but a magnificent Leatherwood shrub now shades the tablet.

The text of the dedication tablet reads as follows:

In loving memory of Eloise Butler (1851-1933), teacher of botany in Minneapolis Schools, Founder and first curator of this native plant reserve. This oak has been planted and this tablet erected by a grateful public.

To this sequestered glen Miss Butler brought beautiful native plants from all sections of our state and tended them with patient care. This priceless garden is our heritage from her and its continued preservation a living testimony of our appreciation. Here her ashes are scattered and here her protective spirit lingers.

Dedicated Arbor Day 1934

Below: At the dedication of the memorial tablet are (l. to r.) Miss Elizabeth Foss, Botany teacher at North High School (She made the presentation of the tablet); Clara Leavitt, fellow teacher of Eloise; Minneapolis Parks Superintendent Theodore Wirth; Audrey Kelly; Parks Vice President Frances A. Gross (who accepted on behalf of the Park Board); Dolores Hoiby and Jennie Hall, Science Supervisor of the Minneapolis Public Schools. Kelly and Hoiby are shown lifting away the green boughs which covered the tablet before the unveiling. *Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society, Martha Crone Collection 142.J.1.8F*



The poem recited by by Florence Hadden:

Poem for Eloise

This glen is now a hallowed spot,
A shrine, where wild flowers meet –
We come as friends, with forest birds,
To render tribute in this wild retreat –

A tribute due to one held dear,
By all the wildings in this glade,
From all the pupils she has taught,
And all the friends she's made –

We all unite with one accord
To sound her praises high,
She surely hears the song above
As these tributes reach the sky,

The perfume of these flowers, wild,
Is like wafted incense, rare,
It floats above through "Pearly Gates"
To the Heavenly Gardens, there.



ELOISE BUTLER, FOUNDER OF GLENWOOD PARK GARDEN, IS HONORED TODAY
Park commissioners, visiting Glenwood park in preparation for today's ceremonies honoring the late Eloise Butler, founder and curator of the garden, paused to inspect a clump of anemones. Kneeling are Lucian C. Miller and Theodore Wirth. Standing are John H. Jepson, A. F. Pillsbury, Francis A. Gross, A. W. Ingenuhutt, C. A. Bossen, W. H. Bovey, Alderman A. B. Fruen, C. L. Stacy and Charles E. Doell.

Below: Prior to the dedication ceremony the Park Commissioners, the Superintendent and the local Alderman visit Glenwood Park.

References:

- (1) Letter to Martha Crone from Clara Leavitt (fellow teacher of Eloise Butler) dated September 15, 1933. Minnesota Historical Society, Martha Crone Collection
- (2) Following are the documents from the period outlining the ceremony and the Memorial Association.

Monarch

A Notable Feature of the Wild Botanic Garden:
Eloise Butler wrote in 1915:

One of my white birches on a hillside has eight bolls, while opposite in the meadow a yellow birch rejoices with seven. Between them "Monarch," the largest white oak in Minneapolis, lifts his aged head and rules the landscape.



Monarch in 1926. Due to age and accumulated storm damage, the tree was taken down in 1940.

It is reported that Eloise measured the circumference at 10 feet and always stated that the tree was over 700 years old. The age is wildly overestimated but tree growth factor charts produced from field studies were not available in her day. (details in note 1) These studies have produced tree age calculation tables which for a white oak of that size would indicate an age of 290 years for trees growing in perfect environment but perhaps older for a typical forest tree of the White Oak species. [note 2]

Some new information came to light when on May 6 1946 the *Minneapolis Tribune* in Ruth Thompson's *Minnesota Memories* column published a look-back at Eloise Butler under the theme that the Garden was a memorial to the former teacher. The writer states Monarch was taken down in 1942, but in 1940 we have Martha Crone's report of the correct date. The size of the tree in the 1946 article is given as 4 feet in diameter and 14 feet in circumference and the age of 700 years is given which is a repeat of what is stated in many references of the time. The only previous reference to the actual size of the tree is Eloise Butler's measurement.

Since Martha Crone had the tree taken down and was there at the time, perhaps this new reported size came from what was seen in 1940, in which case if we use the circumference of 14 feet we have an average diameter of 53 inches and the tree growth tables tell us the tree could have been about 400 years old, still well short of Eloise Butlers proudly proclaimed age of 700 years. The 400 year age happens to agree with the Park Board Forester, Louis Boeglin, who estimated the tree to be 400 years back in 1923 when a fire in dry grass and leaves enveloped part of Glenwood Park and came close to Monarch. (*Minneapolis Tribune* December 13, 1923 "City's Oldest Tree Periled by Flames in Glenwood Park". Text on next page.) But there is no doubt that Monarch was old and decaying.

On April 4, 1912, tree surgeons were brought it. Eloise noted in her log "Monarch treated surgically today." Dead limbs were removed and concrete was used to reinforce the rotting trunk. The rotting trunk may be the reason that the base of tree usually produced a mushroom, *Polyporus frondosus* [Hen of the Woods], often of large size - 25 pounds in 1935.

In an essay she wrote in 1926 [*Trees in the Wild Garden*, note 3], Eloise gave some details about that surgical operations and subsequent events.

'Monarch,' as we call him, was slowly dying atop. So, in obedience to the scriptural injunction, his dead limbs were cut off and cast away, and decayed portions of his "heart" - not essential as with humans for circulation -- were taken out and replaced with concrete. Thus, lopped and reinforced, he bade fair for many more years to hold sway. Alack and alas! In the tornado of June [1925], large chunks of concrete were belched out and all the limbs torn off. How long will he yet stand without his crown?



Eloise Butler with Monarch, July 24, 1924
Minneapolis Star photo.

Her question would be answered by her successor, Martha Crone, in 1940. On October 28th 1940 she went back to the Garden (the Garden closed October 15 in those days) to direct some workers on which trees to cut. She met Mr. Lucking there. One of the trees removed was the old giant White Oak. [Greg Lucking, Parks horticulturist from 1940 to 1966]. In her annual report to the Board of Park Commissioners (December. 11, 1940) Martha wrote:

It is with deep regret that I record the passing of the oldest inhabitant of the Reserve, the Giant White Oak, estimated age 700 years. It had become a hazard to passers-by, therefore it was removed in October.

NOTE 1: The 10 foot circumference is reported in a description of the Wild Botanic Garden that appeared in the May 3, 1913 issue of *The Bellman*. Field studies done by the Morton Arboretum in Chicago resulted in an age calculation for White Oaks. Referencing that data yields the age of 290 years.

NOTE 2: Other examples: An example of a White Oak that can attain an age of 240 years is an old White Oak recently taken down in the forest at St. John's Abbey in Stearns County Minnesota. Tree ring count indicated it started as an acorn around 1776.

The largest known White Oak today in Minnesota is in Scott County and is 5.8 feet in diameter and that still falls well short of 700 years. The only known White Oak in North America of that age is the National Champion located in Virginia, having a circumference of 331 inches (27.6 feet - 8.8 feet in diameter), which yields an age approaching 800 years. [The Morton Arboretum studies state the growth factor for white oaks is 7.6, which is multiplied times the diameter in inches to attain the average age.]

NOTE 3: This text is available on The Friends website in the Garden History Archive and in Martha Hellander's book [The Wild Gardener](#).



Beautiful Flower Beds All Ready to Blossom

Lovers of Plant Life Will Find
All Specimens at Glenwood
Park.

Miss Eloise Butler, High School
Botanist, Has Set Out Gar-
den Decorations.

The lover of spring flowers need not travel far from the botanical garden in Glenwood park to find all his sweet-hearts in the vegetable kingdom. Nearly every order is represented in the park, either by plants that have always grown there or by those which have been introduced. None are blossoming yet with the exception of a few pasque flowers, which were set out a few weeks ago by Miss Eloise Butler, teacher of botany in the South high school, who is practically the mother of the garden; but May will find scores of beautiful blooms, attractive not only to the botanist, but to every person.

The pasque flower is not indigenous to the garden, but was introduced by Miss Butler. All the buttercups, how-
ever, and nearly all the wind-flowers

grow naturally there. Larkspurs and hepaticas have been introduced. Three arums also have been introduced, the sweet flag, the skunk cabbage and beautiful calla, or water arum.

With the exception of the Solomon seals and false Solomon seals nearly all the lilies have been introduced, including the large white trillium and three species of adder's tongue or dog-tooth violet. The beautiful star grass and blue-eyed grass, with their cousin, the blueflag, grow naturally in the garden.

Interest in Orchids.

Special interest is taken by Minnesotans in the members of the orchid family, to which the moccasin flower, or lady slipper, the official state flower, belongs. One moccasin flower is indigenous to the garden, the *cypridium reginae*. All the rest but one of the lady slippers growing in Minnesota have been introduced. The one lacking is the quaint little ramshorn moccasin flower, which grows in the bogs in the northern part of the state. Coral root and the fringed orchid grow in the garden, but the Adam and Eve, grass pink and showy orchid have been introduced.

Two blackberries grow naturally in the garden and two hawthorns also. No attempt has been made to introduce hawthorns, because there are almost as many varieties as there are individual trees. This may be taken up by some hawthorn enthusiast later. Two mountain ashes have been planted and there is a good representation of wild cherry

trees. The leatherwood, which is already blossoming, has been introduced, as also three maples. Two maples grow naturally in the garden and the despised poison ivy is a native. The butter-nut and walnut and hickorynut have been introduced. There are plenty of birches.

Linnaeus' Own Flower.

Linnaeus' own flower, the twin flower, is a native, and its pretty little duplicate blossoms soon will be seen everywhere within its limits. Blood-root grows in the garden, but it was necessary to introduce Dutchman's breeches and squirrel corn. The violet lover will find 11 varieties, nine introduced and two native to the garden. Two carnivorous plants will be found, the little sundew and the pitcher-plant, with its purple flowers and urn-shaped leaves.

There are three varieties of wood-sorrel and Miss Butler has introduced a good many members of the heath family, notably Labrador tea, swamp laurel, moorwort, leatherleaf, trailing arbutus and bearberry. Four ashes grow in the garden and three elms.

There are numerous other spring flowers, many of which are as beautiful as those which have been mentioned and which the enthusiastic botanist will discover before many weeks have elapsed. In addition to the spring flowers, the leaves of many later blossomers may be found, and already a dozen species of evergreen ferns may be discerned among the dry leaves.

Glenwood Garden Spot Real Mirror of Nature

Plants, Trees and Shrubs of
Every Variety Grow in
Wild State.

Miss Eloise Butler Plans Unique
Tract for Benefit of
Botanists.

Glenwood garden—not an ordinary flower bed garden, as most persons would think before seeing it, but a wild botanical garden such as nature without artificial aid produces, has been instituted for the use of Minneapolis botanists, school pupils and teachers.

Nearly every species of a wild plant, tree and shrub that can be grown in this part of the United States can be found in it. The specimens have been collected and transplanted here from all parts of the country.

Miss Eloise Butler, teacher at the South High school, and a botany enthusiast, started the garden three years ago. It occurred to Miss Butler that on account of the rapid growth of the city and the consequent disappearance of wild lands, and their indigenous vegetation, a garden of this sort was necessary as students of botany would otherwise have to go far out into the country for specimens. The plot is located in Glenwood Park, is abundant with hills, pools and bogs, and has two ponds of fair extent. It covers an area of seven acres with a core of tamarack swamp, surrounded by untimbered bog land, merging into meadows and wooded slopes. A tiny tortuous brook falling through several levels in little musical cascades threads the meadow.

Conditions Are Ideal.

The abundance of water, protection from cold and drying winds and a rich and varied soil provide all the desiderata for plant life. A quantity of sand provides a home for sand plants. Stumps and fallen trees are cherished, the former for bird homes and the accommodations of vines and both for the sustenance of fungi. The place is a paradise for the student of mushrooms, innumerable agarics, geasters, pezizas, boleti, polypori and huge lycoperdons and lepiotas being found there in season. Mosses are also found in abundance. Twenty species of trees and 36 of shrubs are indigenous to the garden. It is proposed to utilize the fence surrounding it as a support for specimens of all the vines of the state.

Much difficulty in securing all these species of grasses, plants and trees has been experienced by Miss Butler and others who have assisted in collecting them. Many times they have scoured wooded sections of the country in vain, and looked for a plant all day without success only to stumble over it when on their way home. With each plant not a native of the garden there is a story of how it was found. At the present time many of the wild flowers are in bloom and furnish a beautiful sight. A record of each species is kept in a card catalogue. It is expected that soon an artificial botanic garden

Minneapolis

Wild Flower Garden

City Park's Feature

Unique Tract of Blossoms
Flourishes in Glenwood
Division.

Nearly 500 Plant Species to
Be Found in Area of
Seven Acres.

Additional Land and More
Funds Asked to Develop
It Further.

If present conditions are any key to those of the future, Minneapolis seems destined to become a great garden city and the leading center of floral culture in the country.

Besides its numerous gardens filled with useful vegetables and vacant lots in all parts of the city that this summer will be weighed down with flower beds presenting a tropical appearance, the wild flower beds in Glenwood park, unsurpassed by any like collection in the country, are deserving of special notice.

Urged by prominent citizens and students of botany, to afford an opportunity to work out problems of forestry and to represent within a limited space the flora of Minnesota, the park board set aside four years ago a few acres of Glenwood park for a wild botanic garden.

Site Is Ideal.

It was an ideal site for such an undertaking. Glenwood park is the largest and most beautiful of the Minneapolis parks. It contains ponds and pools, a diversity of soil and slope, and, above all, undrained tamarack swamps and an abundance of fungi in which the wild flowers of Minnesota revel and thrive with a luxuriance they could not surpass if they grew in the fields and forest of the state.

The garden comprises at present about seven acres and contains, besides the ferns, specimens of all the trees and the most notable shrubs and herbaceous plants of Minnesota. Altogether there are 452 species, embracing 75 families and 225 genera. In addition 51 species of shrubs grow in the garden, among them being the choke-cherry, the sandbush, the high bush cranberry, the fruitless snowball and the black alder, or native holly, loaded with brilliant berries.

The garden is cared for by Minneapolis teachers and students of botany. Every encouragement is given to plants and trees to grow as they would in their native haunts when left in their original wild state. All plants are given a place in the garden as similar as possible to their original locations, and then left to shift for themselves as in the wild open. Every care is taken to preserve the wild appearance, and to avoid all semblance of artificial treatment. No pruning is allowed except to make room for additional plants.

Leaves Never Removed.

Fallen leaves are never removed for they supply the needful fertilizing material and cover for the ground during the winter, in addition to giving the garden a coloring of the forest primeval.

Local students of botany have taken a deep interest in the wild flower garden, and almost any day during the season numbers of them may be seen at Glenwood park studying the wondrous ways of the plants that thrive therein. Teachers from the University of Minnesota and the local schools are the faithful chaperones of these floral pilgrims.

No one takes a deeper interest in the garden than Miss Eloise Butler, teacher of botany in the South High school, who was one of the original promoters of the plan, and who has nurtured it with loving care since it was started four years ago. From the rostrum and the public platform, Miss Butler has told of the garden at Glenwood park until its fame has penetrated far beyond the borders of the state. But she is not content with having it a mere state affair, she wants to have it established on a national and even an international basis. She believes the soil at Glenwood and the climatic conditions are ideal for the raising of plants that will be representative of the world's flora. Her ideal is the Bronx gardens in Boston where a specimen of nearly every wild flower on earth is to be found.

There is no reason, she thinks, why the garden at Glenwood park should not surpass even the famous Massachusetts' institution. For this reason she has asked the park board for an additional grant of land, and for funds to start a garden where residents of Minneapolis may see specimens of the world's wild flowers without leaving their own city. The proposition is under consideration by the park board.

Tamarack Swamps a Feature.

One of the most distinctive features

under consideration by the park board.

Tamarack Swamps a Feature.

One of the most distinctive features of the garden is the tamarack swamp. Too frequently such swamps are being drained to make room for the tiller of the soil or the builder, and with them disappear the beautiful specimens of orchids and insectivorous plants, all sorts of rare and delicate trailing specimens such as the cranberry, water-wort, and most precious of all the fragrant Linnæa or tul-flowers. All these thrive luxuriantly in the Glenwood park garden. It is also rich in fungi, many of which rival flowers and fruits in brilliancy.

Surrounding the swamp are meadows that are a joy to the eye, wherein a procession of bloom riots in color from early spring until October. Among the varieties to be found there are marsh marigolds, masses of dwarf cornel, the exquisite three-leaved simula, all kinds of violets, rosy swamp milk-weeds, gorgeous masses of golden rods, asters varying from white to all shades of purple, and hundreds of other specimens which make the garden a veritable floral paradise, and which tend to confirm the belief that Minneapolis could have the finest wild flowers garden in the world.

Asked what she considered the chief benefits to be derived from a wild flower garden, Miss Butler said: "In a good garden may be seen growing naturally together the leading plants of the state, labeled with the common and botanical name, so that the casual visitor and the student of botany may benefit and enjoy a call; flowers could be furnished to the public schools, and I might mention that recently an expert in this city declared that lessons in botany would greatly aid in the reformation of children."

Pleasure in Outdoor Study.

"As a matter of fact all may find in the study of outdoor life their keenest pleasures, mental and bodily health and solace in trouble, for nature never betrays the heart that loves her."

Miss Butler thinks that a building should be erected in the neighborhood of the garden to serve as a resting place for visitors, for the housing of an herbarium of the flora of the state, for keeping photographs and catalogs of plants and for a reference library of books on nature. "The time has come," she added, "for Minneapolis to emulate and even surpass the example of Boston, New York and St. Louis in forming an arboretum and botanical garden. Such a garden would add greatly to the fame and beauty of the city, and like the public library and proposed art museum, be a powerful educational and refining influence."

Appointment of Eloise Butler as Curator: April 6, 1911: Garden Club of Minneapolis urges Park Board to appoint Butler as curator of the wild garden which they want to be made permanent. June 6, 1911 they are joined with the Woman's Club and jointly request the same thing at Park Board meeting. Sent to committee. June 10, 1911 both groups attend committee meeting. Feb 6, 1912, Park Board to hire her permanently and pay salary. Dates listed are publication dates.

THURSDAY APRIL 6 1911

June 6, 1911. Star Tribune

Wild Flower Garden Urged

Minneapolis Plant Boosters
Would Retain Plot in
Glenwood Park.

Resolutions recommending the appointment of Eloise Butler as the curator of a seven-acre plot of ground in Glenwood park, now used as a wild-flower garden, were passed at the annual meeting of the Garden Club of Minneapolis held in the mayor's reception room in the city hall yesterday. The resolutions also asked that the plot be set aside by the park board and made a permanent wild flower garden.

The board of education has asked the appointment of Miss Butler as caretaker of the ground. The resolutions passed by the Garden club will be sent to the park board.

Plans for the work of the club for the ensuing year were made and the reports of the officers heard. Leroy Boughner, president, outlined the work done last year under his administration and also under that of Prof. Frederic E. Clements, president of the club the first part of the year. The treasurer's report by Gratia Countryman

showed that all the funds received by the club last year were spent and that the club at present is without funds except the memberships being renewed and the donation of \$2,500 from the Civic Celebration committee.

Earl Finney, superintendent of the city gardens, made a short talk before an unanimous vote re-elected the officers of last year. The officers are: Leroy Boughner, president; Frederic E. Clements, F. A. Chamberlain, Frank Bovey, vice presidents; Mrs. Walter Holsinger, secretary; Gratia Countryman, treasurer. The board of directors re-elected are: Miss Julia Bradford, Mrs. John Lind, S. J. Nicholson, Mrs. Andreas Ueland.

Botanical Garden Sought

Clubs Petition Park Board to
Authorize the Project for
Glenwood park.

Creation of a botanical garden in Glenwood park to contain every wild flower native to Minnesota was asked of the Minneapolis park board yesterday by representatives of the Woman's club and the Garden club. A petition signed by several hundred persons asked the appointment of Miss Eloise Butler as curator to have charge of the garden and the collection of the flowers, shrubs, ferns, and other plants to make the garden as nearly complete as possible. Representatives of the Woman's club told the board of Miss Butler's decision to leave Minneapolis unless some provision be made soon to allow her to care for the garden during the summer.

Several hundred wild flowers are already planted in Glenwood park and are under the care of Miss Butler who has spent her own money in their culture. As a teacher of botany, Miss Butler is considered an authority on flowers and those behind the flower garden plan are insistent that she be retained.

In case the board decides to engage Miss Butler, she will begin at once a collection of the wild flowers of the state, labeling them and properly caring for them in Glenwood park.

L. J. Boughner told the board that the Garden club indorsed the idea as a part of the plan to make Minneapolis the garden city of the country.

Although showing no opposition to the plan, park board members felt that the petition should take its regular course and be referred to a committee. Action will be taken by the board in two weeks.

June 10, 1911. Star
Tribune

Feb. 6, 1912. Star Tribune

Wild Flower Garden Proposed.

Establishment of a garden in Glenwood park in which all the wild flowers of Minnesota would have representation was under consideration by the park board finance and improvement committees at a joint meeting yesterday afternoon. Representatives of the Garden club and the Woman's club were present to urge that Miss Eloise Butler who has had a garden of this character that was her own, in Glenwood park for several years, be placed in charge of the proposed garden.

MISS BUTLER'S SERVICES KEPT

Park Board Committee Indorses Her as
Curator of Botanical Gardens.

The finance committee of the park board has given assurance that the services of Miss Eloise Butler as curator with supervision of the wild botanical garden in Glenwood park will be retained this year. Last year Miss Butler's salary was paid by the Woman's club with the understanding that the curatorship should be understood to be established and that the salary of the curator should be paid by the park board thereafter.

The finance committee of the board has decided to employ Miss Butler for seven months this year to care for the garden. More than 100 species of plants were growing in the garden when Miss Butler took charge last year, she having previously given much attention to the cultivation of Minnesota wild flowers in that spot. She added to the collection last season about 40 new species.

Natural Garden in Glenwood Park

By Eloise Butler, Curator of the Wild Botanic Garden.

"Gentle spring, ethereal mildness," apostrophized in Thomson's "Seasons," has obeyed the summons in eastern Massachusetts. The frost is out of the ground and farming operations are in full force; willow pussies are no longer a novelty; the purple cowl of the skunk cabbage have been some weeks above the ground; elms, red maple and hophornbeam are in blossom; the lawn mowers are busy on Boston Common; the gardens are cheery with the early flowering bulbs and the golden bells of Forsythia.

But loyal Minnesotans, in spite of present cold winds, gloomy skies and heavy frosts o' nights, will stoutly say with Lowell:

"I like our back'ard springs
That kind of haggle with their greens
and things,
An' when you 'most give up 'uthout
more words,
Toss the fields full o' blossoms, leaves
an' birds;
Thet's Northun natur', slow an' apt
to doubt,
But when it does git stirred, there's
no gin-out!"

I brought a big box of plants from Massachusetts—fringed polygala and rare ferns—to plant in the wild garden. On the hillsides transplanting was feasible, but in the bog unyielding ice was found under a thin layer of soil. However, many things of interest and beauty, peculiar to the season and conditions of weather, repay the visitor. Stems of plants furnish color harmonies in place of flowers—yellow willows crowded with silvery gray pussies, osier dogwood vividly red, birches gleaming white and other individuals with all the neutral tints. The bogs are covered with a green carpet of mosses, mat-plants and tiny trailers, and here and there beautiful fronds of evergreen ferns. Patches of green in the brookbed prove to be dormant buds of golden saxifrage and forget-me-not. Who would not like to see them wake up and stir and stretch? The mosses are perennially green.

Many of them are now in fruit, and it is a good time to study them, before the attention is distracted by a showier vegetation. To mention only a few, there are peat mosses (*Sphagnum*), pale green by reason of the large water cells that render them of use to florists for keeping cut flowers and living plants fresh during transportation; tree mosses (*Climacium*) like evergreen trees in miniature; fern mosses (*Thuidium*) with a fanciful resemblance to Lilliputian ferns; white moss (*Leucebryum*); a sort of *Hypnum* looking as if covered with tiny green roses, and a lovely species transplanted from Massachusetts called apple moss (*Bartramia pomiformis*) from the appearance of the round spore cases.

Now, too, is the time to observe the architecture of trees before their framework is obscured by foliage. To many this is the most interesting condition of a deciduous tree. Each individual has a habit of its own, while, of course, the difference among species is more striking as to shape of head, character of spray, color and cleavage of bark, size and shape of buds. One familiar with trees can determine a species from a twig by the buds or even the leaf scars—little shallow saucers studded with a row of dots in catalpa and the ace of clubs in the walnuts.

The birds can be more easily described when they have no leafy coverts. Large flocks of junces are with us, stopping to feed on weed seeds on their way to their summer homes in the North. Cowards we need not think them if they do show white feathers as they spread their fantails in flight. Crows, robins and red-winged blackbirds were early comers, confident of warmer days. Song sparrows and kinglets sing, phoebes perch on bare boughs and flip their feathers at the weather, while bluebirds are prospecting the tall upstanding stumps for apartments suitable for housekeeping.

Miss Butler will conduct parties through the garden during the season. Engagements can be made by telephone. N. W. Colfax 1689.

THE MINNEAPOLIS SUNDAY TRIBUNE: AUGUST 17 1913

Native Wild Flowers of Minnesota to be Shown to Hundreds of Visiting Florists This Week

—Photos by Mary K. Meeker.



Wild Mint.



Sneezeweed.



Indian Pipe.

BY ELOISE BUTLER,

Curator of Botanical Gardens of Glenwood Park.

One feature of the Minneapolis exhibit at the annual meeting of the American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists will be a collection in vases of the native flora now in bloom and photographs of notable species. Such an exhibit may suffer by comparison with the more sturdy and gorgeous cultivated denizens from all parts of the globe, which have been protected under glass, and retarded or forced to appear at the appointed time, and the new creations—marvels of size, color or multiplicity of bloom—brought to the extreme of perfection under the florist's hand.

Nevertheless, the fragility, delicacy and artless grace of the wildings appeal to us strongly and cannot be dislodged from a warm corner in the heart. All cultivated plants are, or

were once, wildings somewhere, and it will be interesting to compare them with their humble relatives and prototypes. For example, the wild golden glow is now at its height of bloom, and can easily be recognized as the original of the double flower so common in gardens.

Examples of the fruits and flowers of native trees and shrubs will be shown. They are now largely coming into favor for ornamental plantings, for they are sure to endure the vicissitudes of this climate and always harmonize with the landscape.

A few plants that usually elude the art of the horticulturist will also be exhibited—the fringed gentian, considered the most beautiful blue flower of the world, and the strange little Indian pipe, a member of the heath family, ghostly white, with a single flower forming the bowl of the "pipe." It lives like a mushroom and springs up where it listeth from a substratum of decaying vegetation. Then there are

some "weeds"—well worth cultivation that have as yet escaped the notice of florists, like the mint, *Monarda punctata*, with spotted, two-lipped flowers and decorated all up and down the stem with whorls of delicately tinted pink and yellow bracts.

Prairie and meadow plants are chiefly in evidence—graceful grasses, early asters, the cardinal flower of deep unparalleled shade of red, the lovely pink physostegia, the dark red purple ironwood, various yellow flowers—cone flowers, *Helenium*, cup-plant, golden rods and sunflowers galore—and a tall *coreopsis* growing like a small tree, branched profusely and covered with hundreds of blossoms.

In short, depending on conditions of moisture and temperature, whatever wild flowers fickle Nature may choose to bestow at the time in the neighborhood of the city will modestly droop their heads to the stately exotics in the great exhibit held this week at Armory hall.

1921 August 28. Article about the Garden and its mosquitos. Attempt to be humorous, mixed up plant names. Describes many "no" and "do Not" signs Eloise had. Minneapolis Star Tribune

Wild Flowers Hold Glenwood Beauty Show

15-Acre Garden Comprises
Wide Variety of Blossoms and Trees.

There Were 6,746,309 Mosquitoes Until Reported Staged Drive.

"I'm a little wild flower,
Growing Wilder Every hour;
Nobody ever cultivates me,
Wow, I'm wild.—Walt Mason or somebody.

Out at Glenwood Park is a Wild Flower Garden of 15 acres containing 68 species of trees, 141 shrubs, 680 flowering buds, 6 varieties of "Keep Out" signs and 6,746,309 mosquitoes—all wild, but the mosquitoes the wildest of all.

A reporter planted himself in the garden one afternoon, but though planted, realized he was no wild flower. He was told so by Miss Eloise Butler, curator. She pointed to a sign, one of the six varieties, and it said:

"No sitting or lying on the ground allowed."

But if the reporter was not wild when he entered, he very nearly achieved wildness by the time he had interviewed the native flower growers, thanks to the mosquitoes.

One Puts 88 to Flight.

Originally there were 3,746,397 of the wild and winged beasts, but the news seeker met 88 of them in combat and annihilated them. He escaped with 32 wounds. Thirty-two of them had quenched their thirst in his blood of more or less than one half of one per cent content, had met with a sudden flat palm of a hand and had gone into a state of intoxication from which they

One Puts 88 to Flight.

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For the most part the garden is set in a hollow of narrow paths into which project shrubs and branches, a hollow to which all the arrows point. Deep in the midst of the hollow is the curator's office. On it a seventh variety of sign says: "Keep to the paths, do not go elsewhere without an official guide. Arrangements may be made for special parties."

Gymnocladus Encountered.

The reporter stuck to the paths. His first encounter was with *Gymnocladus dioica*. Commonly this plant is known as the Kentucky coffee tree. Perhaps the mosquitoes like coffee. They're cannibalistic enough to like anything. It has a high sounding scientific name, but it looks just like an ordinary green weed with green leaves and sprouts.

Then came *Rosa Nitida* with slender leaves and a cluster of yellow sprouts branching off like miniature evergreens. But these were not greens, they were yellow.

Not far away was *Rosa Hirta*, a smaller and more humble rose. There was the *Rosa clausa* with tiny blackberries, some of them just beginning to wither. A blend of fragrant odors here brought the thought that wild flowers are not wild, but simply natural; not of the "spruced up in tissue paper, box and string, and messenger boy hurrying to the young lady's house" kind of flowers.

Silky Willow Next.

house kind of flowers.

Silky Willow Next.

Then came *Salix Serica*, commonly called silky willow, which the kind father could use on insubordinate offspring, or at other times utilized by people as holders for wieners sizzling above the fire in Glenwood park. Hobble bush was not far away, properly tagged with the imposing title of *Viburnum Alnifolium*. It has a straight stem spine with broad leaves shaped like small extending palms.

The great friend of the school teacher and the poets was nearby, *Solidago uliginosa*. This doesn't sound familiar to the reporter, but he looked again and saw the name Golden rod, and then of course he knew he had heard of it before.

Wildest Plant of All.

Nearby was *Moneses uniflora*, which translated into ordinary English becomes one-flowered *Pyrola*.

This plant should be the wildest of all. It was attacked by the largest mosquito army.

The reporter thought it would be interesting to pick a souvenir, but he was stopped by the sign-ultimatum:

"These were not planted for you to pick."

Other nearby exhibits were the *Salix petiolaris*, another willow; the silver berry; *Viola Canadensis*, ordinarily known as Canada violet.

The Canada violet was the last under observation by the layman reporter. He left the garden and the 88 dead mosquitoes.

The Wild Flower garden was established approximately 10 years ago. At the time there were but a few plants and shrubs. Under the care and direction of Miss Butler, however, the garden has grown to have the large number of varieties which it now holds.

Miss Butler knows every one of the plants by first name and by last. Years as an instructor in courses on botany and continued research have given her opportunity to make the Glenwood Garden one of the few of its kind in the United States.

Flower Garden Director Urges Fence Be Built

Tells Board Glenwood Park
Collection Faces Ruin
Unless Protected.

Miss Eloise Butler, supervisor of the wild flower garden at Glenwood park, said Saturday that the collection will be ruined unless a fence is built around the property at once.

Children trample the flowers, and visitors to the plot insist on picking them when there is no one around, Miss Butler said. She has appealed to the Park Board for funds with which to build a fence, but there are none available at this time, Theodore Wirth, superintendent of parks, said Saturday night.

"I will pay for the building of a fence myself, if necessary to save the collection," Miss Butler said.

The garden includes specimens of virtually all of the varieties of wild flowers that grow in Minnesota, and is regarded as extremely valuable by floriculturists. Miss Butler, for 35 years a teacher in Central High school, has spent most of her time during the past 20 years assembling the collection, and now spends virtually all of her time in the garden.

It is estimated that at least a mile of fence would have to be built to protect the flowers, and the approximate expense would be \$600, Mr. Wirth said Saturday. Organizations interested in the preservation of the various species will be appealed to to help Miss Butler save the collection from destruction.

The collection is the only one of its kind in the Northwest.

Laws Prohibiting Picking of Certain Wild Flowers Urged by State Society

State laws prohibiting the picking of wild flowers needing special protection, study of wild flowers and planting wild flower gardens are recommendations being emphasized this week in recognition of Garden week by the Minnesota chapter of the Wild Flower Preservation Society of America.

A wild flower display has been arranged for the week at Donaldson's corner window at Sixth street and Marquette avenue. Included in the display are bloodroot, hepatica, pasque flower, picture plant, marsh marigold and early blossoms of trees, taken from the wild flower garden at Glenwood park of which Miss Eloise Butler is curator.

Mrs. Albert H. Chapman is president of the Minnesota chapter; Dr. C. O. Rosendahl, vice president, and Miss Jessie M. Keyes, secretary-treasurer.

*Eloise Butler Wildflower
Garden*

IN WILDFLOWER GARDEN

Abe Remembers Eloise Butler

By ABE ALTROWITZ
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

LAKE CALHOUN—This is vacation time for the bald-headed fishing addict, but the weather keeps the shoreline loaded with bathers and I hie myself to an old, old haunt — the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden.

Entering the garden through the gate at top of the hill off Glenwood-Camden Pkwy., I at once encounter *Helianthus Divaricatus*, which, translated into English, is the Rough Sun Flower.

Next to catch my eye is *Athyrium Augustum*, more commonly known as the Lady Fern.

I move from flower to flower until I reach a huge boulder with its bronze tablet. This reads:

"In loving memory of Eloise Butler, 1851-1933, founder and first curator of this native plant preserve, this oak has been planted and this tablet erected by a grateful public . . ."

The oak, however, is there in name only. As I recall, the



Altrowitz

location wasn't suitable for oak.

But the surroundings are very much the same as I remember them from way back when.

In its early days I was several times assigned to write feature stories about the garden. I remember the first assignment, and my thoughts as I presented myself to Miss Butler, then in command. She was a plumpish little lady who reminded me of England's Queen Victoria.

She was co-operative and gracious, and she knew her flowers as only a veteran botany teacher could. She led me among the flowers, telling of each as if it were a major treasure. What intrigued me most of all were the tongue-twisting scientific names.

On my second assignment I didn't find Miss Butler. So I proceeded on a self-directed tour, casting furtive glances at the signs which cautioned visitors against straying from the pathways.

About a year later I was given my third wildflower garden assignment. This time I found Miss Butler very much in evidence. Her greeting was a peremptory challenge:

"Young man!" The mien and vocal quality were those of a teacher addressing an erring pupil.

"Yes?" I said.

"Last time you were here you strayed from the pathways. You walked where you never should have without being accompanied by the curator!"

She knew of my transgression because of the names I had used in that second story. I believe she knew the exact location of every blade of grass in that entire garden acreage.

There was nothing I could

do but plead guilty. Whereupon she gave me a grand smile and told me I could consider myself forgiven, on condition I never transgressed again. I promised, and I never have broken that promise.

The Minneapolis Tribune

SUMMER SCIENCE SCRAPBOOK

Once All

NO. 2

JUNE 24, 1968

Minneapolis Was a Wild Garden

Thirteen acres of primitive wilderness lie at the western edge of Minneapolis, just north of Hwy. 12. Here, in the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden, one can stand on one of the narrow walks and imagine himself standing in an American woodland as it was before white men came. The only thing which will remind him of the great metropolitan area is the occasional hum of an automobile or the drone of a passing plane.

All around, bloom the wild flowers that through the years have been introduced into the garden and carefully protected. The term "garden" may appear erroneous. This is no garden in the sense that there are beds of tended flowers. The flowers grow wild, as one would expect to find them in nature.

The garden is named in honor of a Minneapolis teacher of botany, who served as its first curator. It was begun early in April 1907 after a group of Minneapolis botany teachers petitioned the city park commissioners to set aside a small tract in what was then Glenwood Park, now Theodore Wirth Park, which might serve as a preserve for Minnesota flora. The teachers had been having difficulty in finding areas where wild flowers, trees and shrubs were available for field trips.

The Park Board set aside three acres and in succeeding years more acreage gradually was added until the garden included the present 13 acres. In 1944 an additional nine acres were added as a prairie garden. The 13-acre tract is a woodland glen, with a bog at its northern end. Here grow the flowers that love the shade and water. The prairie garden, lying to the east and on an elevation



**ELOISE BUTLER LIVES ON THROUGH HER WILD
FLOWER GARDEN**

about 75 feet above the glen, provides conditions for the growth of prairie and upland flowers.

For four years after its beginning, the garden was cared for by the botany teachers as a group. But in the entire project, Eloise Butler was the leader. When she retired as a teacher in 1911, she was named curator and served until her death on April 10, 1933, at the age of 82.

Fittingly, death came to her in the garden, amid her beloved flowers. She had asked some boys to help her

do some planting and told them where to meet her. When she did not appear, the boys searched for her and found her dead.

She was cremated and her ashes were scattered in the garden. The inscription on the stone at the spot mentions an oak tree planted in her honor in 1933. The oak tree, however, is a weak and struggling thing, the last in a long procession of failures to make an oak tree grow there.

The present curator, Kenneth Avery, a dedicated man who lives as fully for the gar-

den as Miss Butler did, explains that oak trees do not take kindly to replanting and that the shade is too dense for proper growth. But no one has ever given up on the dedicatory oak. Some day, if persistence counts for anything, a massive oak will stand beside the stone.

Following Miss Butler's death, Mrs. Martha Crone served as curator from 1933 until her retirement in 1959. Since that time Avery has been curator.

Miss Butler, who came to Minneapolis in 1874, taught first at Central High School and later at South High School. In an unpublished manuscript which she wrote shortly before her death, she said that in the 1880s Minneapolis was "a place of enchantment," with the woods carpeted with wild flowers. She was dismayed at the building boom that destroyed the woods and the wild flower habitats. It was her dream to preserve in her wild flower garden a small area of that enchanted place she had found upon her arrival here.

To see how well she succeeded, one only has to visit the garden. Here, in season, hundreds of different wild flowers bloom. Each week, on a bulletin board in front of the curator's office, Avery posts a list of the flowers which are in bloom that week. The list is always long. During the spring migratory season, he includes a list of the migratory birds seen in the area that week. Not only is the garden a place often visited by wild - flower lovers, but by bird watchers as well.

Each week, as well, the signs which identify the different flowers and plants are changed. As the flowers bloom the sign identifying them is placed. When they cease blooming the sign is taken down.

Most of the flowers are native to the state, but there are a few which have been brought from other parts of the United States.

While the garden is owned and operated by the Minneapolis Park Board, it also

About This Summer Science Scrapbook...

The Summer Science Scrapbook, with articles prepared by Clifford Simak, will appear each Monday with scientific information about the things you see and do this summer. When clipped, folded and punched, the two scrapbook pages make a convenient unit to be inserted in a standard 3-hole ring binder.



receives 'invaluable assistance from "Friends of the Wild Flower Garden," an organization made up of nature lovers.

A sign at the entrance to the garden reads: "This is not a playground; do not enter except to study and enjoy nature."

About 100,000 people visit the garden annually and most of them, says Avery, are well behaved. You are supposed to stay on the paths; some peo-

ple don't. You're not supposed to pick the flowers; Avery says that here he has more trouble with adults than with children. You are supposed to be quiet and decorous and here there is some trouble with children running and shouting, scaring off the birds that bird watchers have come to see.

So if you visit the garden (and it is a visit well worth making) please observe the rules.

SPRING INVADERS

Story of Mayflies

Each spring along the rivers and some lakes, the mayflies emerge, sometimes only a few of them, sometimes in swarming clouds. They are known by various names. Along the upper Mississippi the most common seems to be barge fly.

Filmy, insubstantial creatures, the weight of their number is the only thing which would ordinarily attract attention to them. At La Crosse, Wis., and Winona, Minn., and in the other river towns and cities, they may be so numerous, attracted by the lights, that their dead bodies are swept up by the bushel. In some communities bordering on Lake Erie, in years of especially bad invasions, they are hauled away by truckloads.

They make driving hazardous. Windshields are smeared with the crushed insects, radiator grilles are jammed

with them. There are times when their dead bodies make the highways slippery.

They live as flying creatures for no more than a week, engaging in their mid-air mating dances. But we see them for only a brief moment of their lives. When they emerge as flying insects, they already have lived two years in the mud of the river bottom or the lake.

These nymphs, during those two years, continually grow and moult, shedding their skins as many as 30 times during the course of their lives. After their last aquatic moult to become winged insects, they go through still a final moult. During the annual invasion, the shiny, almost invisible skins moulted by the insects after they take to the air, may be found in bushes or other vegetation along the river bank.



A RUSTIC STAIR IN GLENWOOD PARK TRAIL AND ONE OF THE FAIR TRAIL BLAZERS



OVERLOOKING GLENWOOD LAKE FROM THE OUTLOOK AT THE NORTH END OF GLENWOOD TRAIL

Dozens of Inviting Camp Sites Placed to Lure City Folk

Pathway Through Woods to
Be Formally Opened
This Week.

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OF CITY AFFORDED

Thirty Varieties of Trees to Be
Found on Winding
Route.

The magnificent autumn foliage will make the recently completed trail through the wilds of Glenwood park one of the most attractive features in the Minneapolis park system.

The trail extending from Superior boulevard to Western avenue, is rivaled only by Winchell trail and other river bank paths.

Formal Opening This Week.

The formal opening of the Glenwood trail will take place this week when a party of city officials and park commissioners will hike over it. They will camp at the end of the hike and cook themselves an outdoor meal.

The trail is reached most conveniently by pedestrians by the Glenwood car line. Motorists and those who wish to hike out Superior boulevard will reach the south end of the trail where it meets the boulevard at the southeast corner of the park.

The path plunges into the wilderness of a natural wood.

"Just as nature left it," is the pre-

dominating note in Glenwood. Low hanging branches have been trimmed away from both sides of the walk to leave an unobstructed view.

Vigorous Climbing.

The path follows the rolling ground. No miniature railroad embankments or cuts mar the beauty of the ground. Vigorous climbs and easy grades follow each other in rapid succession.

Dozens of inviting camp sites tempt the hiker to stop and kindle a small fire. You can broil steaks, roast wieners, boil coffee, and cook as much as you like in the wilds of Glenwood, provided the camp sites designated by the park officials are used. The park board will construct a series of small stone fireplaces at frequent intervals along the path. A supply of kindling and firewood is to be kept near each of the fireplaces.

Two magnificent outlooks are reached by the trail. Both are still without fitting names. Suggestions are invited by the board of park commissioners.

Views of Many Sights.

This is just a bare outline of what may be seen from one lookout, the one at about the midway along the trail:

Off to the extreme northeast, the city filtration plant may be seen on a clear day.

To the southeast is Tower hill. In the foreground of the panorama are the massive downtown office buildings. Kenwood tower and Lowry are on the south.

Another fine view is obtained from the crest of the hills south of Western avenue. At the foot of the hill is a deep glen in the shade of an amphitheater decorated with a group of magnificent trees. A mammoth elm, the patriarch of Glenwood, stands as a sentinel on the edge of the amphitheater.

The path winds down from the top gallery of the amphitheater. At the base of the hill is a spring. To prevent contamination of the water and

to preserve a welcome refreshment for the tired hiker, the spring has been forced through a bubbling fountain which will run during the entire year.

Emerges at Lake.

From the spring, the path crosses a low meadow, again enters a wood, but is soon out on the shore of Glenwood lake not far from the bath house, the canoe docks, and the golf links.

Along the route are no less than 30 varieties of trees. Shrubbery abounds in its wild beauty. A clump of evergreens towers out of a low watery level. For a dozen yards along the path, a mass of prickly ash defies the cunning of landscape architects. A few yards away from the trail is the city's wild flower garden where plants of many varieties are growing in their natural beauty.

1916, September 24. Article describes Bubbling Spring and the large elm in Glenwood Park. Minneapolis Tribune

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Final notes

A note on the type:

The text is set primarily in Palatino serif type and Helvetica sans-serif type.

A note on the photos:

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Historical photos of the Garden taken by Martha Crone are from her collection of Kodachrome slides which were given to the Friends by her daughter Janet, following Martha's death in 1989.

General references

- Eloise Butler's *Garden Log*
- Martha Crone's *Garden Log* and her 1951 Census of plants in the Garden.
- Various papers and correspondence of Eloise Butler in the Martha Crone collection at the Minnesota Historical Society.
- Historical Climatology of Minneapolis-St. Paul Area by Charles Fisk.

Additional Histories available on the Friends website in pdf format:

This Satisfying Pursuit - Martha Crone and the Wild Flower Garden

A book-length sketch of the Garden's second curator and founding member of The Friends of the Wild Flower Garden. 176 pages, historical photos, documents, the known correspondence between Eloise Butler and Martha Crone (the same as in this pdf), plus index.

The Native Plant Reserve - 1933-1958

A companion volume to *This Satisfying Pursuit*. It provides a detailed narrative of each year of Martha Crone's Curator years - 1933-1958, which are only summarized in the previous book. 228 pages, historical photos and documents.