BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON 947th meeting Tuesday, 3 December, 2013 Holiday Pot-Luck

s 6, 1902.]

would be attained without such-shall w call it partisan 1-interest.

A. CRUM BROWN.

SCIENCE

THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WARRINGT BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WARRINGT explain has been so rapid within the in few years that few outside of Washingt comprehend that it has beenow the leng botanical center of the world. Pr ably no eity in the world ena host of larger number of well-rained profession men devoking their entire time to the stuof botany in some one of its vario tumbers. The aggregation of so large burnhous, The aggregation of so large tumbers in the study of the study of the study which is of more than passing introset. as there is hardly a university of a

by graduates among its is a sub-re-The Biological Society of Washington was the first society organized in Washington ton which geves any attention to botanized matters. This society was too formal and did not allow of sufficient discussion to botanized in 1893 the 'Botanizial Seminar' was organiined, the original Seminar' was organized Messen, P. V. Gordhen, D. G. Fairschult, B. '', 'Galloway, 'Lose, Holm, E. P. Smith and

M. B. Water. The main sim of thus Sant A. B. Water. The main sim of thus Sant nar was to discover and problems of plant physiologys and pathogy and to promote a friendly spirit of criticiam. In the early days of the Semiara rou nember published a paper until it had been read or summarized before the Society and had run the gauntiet of criticism which, the writer can testfly, was frequently so severe as to be perflow to the pease of mind of the member under critikism. In no other society which the writer has ever attended was critism so freely induged in, or, it may be remarked, so piesaandy received. As it is axiomatic that no two minds ever think exactly alike, so it came to be an unlerstood thing that no paper would suit everyone and many a lively discussion and all of warm words resulted.

The organization of the Seminar was networkan lovel, being mainly remarkable ir its lack of organization. The Semirisal and offers and no constitution and a membership, though very' exclusive, the meetings were held at the residences of embers, the host of the preceding meeting ting as chairman. The membership was inde to twenty-vide and unanimous connt of all members was required for elesna to numbership.

eminar filled an important place in Washgions's botanical development, both scintifically and socially. A light imme was vered at each meeting and these light methes, which sometimes became heavy, revel as they were at 11 r-w, became mous among the members. It may be did that the for of scientific enthusiasm quires no midnight lunch to feed upon, it is certain that no matter how keenly se scientific fire burns a lunch during the sening adds to the flow of ideas and is anducive to 'that satisfied feeling' which akes all members regular attendants.

Within a few years the number of botbe accommodated in the botanical seminar, needing as it did in private hosess, and in able the Washington Botanical Club was man of hystematic botany and furnish a man of hystematic botany and furnish a method by the seminary and furnish a method by the seminary and the seminary method by the seminary and the set of the organization of this alph was sayedy brought about through the activity of Mr. C. L. Pollard and the late Gilbert M. Hicks. The general plan of this organ-



Robin Everly Still Evolving after 112 years: a historical look at the Botanical Society of Washington

6:00 pm to 8:30 pm (set up 5:30 to 6 pm) Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History Cathy Kerby Room (CE 340)

\$10 contribution for beverages (beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks)

Also, please sign up at the next meeting to bring a dish that will feed four people (salad, dessert, or main course) or contact Robin Everly (<u>EverlyR@si.edu</u>) with your preference.

Please give your \$10 banquet fee to Paul Peterson (Smithsonian Institution, Department of Botany MRC-166, National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, 20013-7012; <u>peterson@si.edu</u>) by November 18th.

Website: http://www.botsoc.org