

First
meeting of
North
Carolina
Shell Club,
Raleigh, N.C.
March 1957

CONSTITUTION

This club shall be called The North Carolina Shell Club.

Membership shall be open to any persons interested in the collection of shells or the study of malacology. New members may be received by the consent of the club at any regular meeting. The members shall pay annual dues of \$1.00 and will receive without other charge all notices, programs, etc., issued by the club.

The following officers shall be elected annually, by ballot on the first meeting of the year: President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer.

An executive committee shall consist of the above officers, the retiring president, and one member who shall be elected annually. It shall be the duty of the executive committee to arrange programs for the meetings and supervise the affairs of the club.

This constitution may be altered by written ballot of a majority vote of the total membership at any regular meeting, but thirty days written notice shall be given for any proposed change.

March 17, 1957: Raleigh News & Observer

Out of Doors In North Carolina

By CHARLOTTE HILTON GREEN.

He is the Order that follows chaos,
The Fluting of scallop shells,
The Sincere Handclasp of friendship,
And the Jingling of silver bells,
From "The Presence in the Universe,"
By Mary D'Alton O'Connor.

Last Saturday week, in the Board Room of the North Carolina State Museum, a new hobby club came into being—"The North Carolina Shell Club." The Rev. G. Scott Turner, Buies Creek, pastor of two country churches, has called a meeting of shell enthusiasts, in the Museum, with Director Harry T. Davis as host.

I think many of us were surprised at the turnout, people coming from well over a hundred miles, and from the coast to the upper Piedmont. The purpose of the meeting was the organization of a club for those interested in the collection of sea and land shells and the study of mollusks. It was planned to hold quarterly meetings "to receive information, examine collections, exchange specimens, ar-

range collecting trips—and the hopes that both amateur collectors and trained conchologists would meet in friendly, helpful sessions."

Various books on shells were shown, one of the finest being the large—and expensive—"American Seashells," by R. Tucker Abbott, a book with beautiful colored plates. Reference was also made to Rachel Carson's last—and excellent—book "The Edge of the Sea." And here I'm going to quote the lady: "The edge of the sea is a strange and beautiful place . . . to understand the life of the shore, it is not enough to pick up an empty shell and say 'This is a murex', or 'That is an angel wing.' True understanding demands intuitive comprehension of the whole life of the creature that once inhabited this empty shell: how it survived amid surf and storms, what were its enemies, how it found food and reproduced its kind, what were its relations to the particular sea world in which it lived."

Dr. Charlotte Dawley, of the Woman's College, Greensboro, was anxious to include freshwater shells which, though not as attractive or colorful as ma-

rine shells, yet are interesting, and are sometimes easier to collect. Miss Lila Bell, of Meredith College, has been enthusiastically collecting shells for years. Others interested spoke briefly, but it was mainly an organization group. Papers will be given at meetings, exchanges, and there will be some collecting trips. In time, a News bulletin, or booklet, will be worked out.

Officials elected were Rev. G. Scott Turner, Buies Creek, president, Dr. Max Rogers, High Point, vice-president, Prof. E. M. Walker, Campbell College, Buies Creek, Sec.-Treas. (and wise that, to have Pres. and sec.-treas. of a new organization from the same town); Mrs. E. T. Wooten, Winston-Salem, and Harry T. Davis, Raleigh, members of the Executive Board.

Papers to be read at some of the meetings, it was suggested, might be divided into two groups, some for beginners, and some more advanced and technical ones, for the more advanced groups. It is hoped to have a meeting at Morehead before too long. In fact, Mr. Porter, with the Fisheries Institute, invited a group to meet there.