FOREWORD

In February 1987 Dr. James M. Hester, President of the New York Botanical Garden, wrote to Dr. Robert G. Bottoms, President of DePauw University, outlining the Garden's commitment to DePauw University in the event that the Truman G. Yuncker Herbarium were transferred to the Garden. One of our proposals was to produce a volume in honor of Dr. Winona H. Welch, internationally known bryologist whose collections form an important part of the Yuncker Herbarium. What at the time seemed to be a routine part of the proposal, something to be assigned to someone else to prepare, became a delightful responsibility for the three of us after we got to know this remarkable woman. After coming under Dr. Welch's spell, we wanted to be personally involved with every aspect of the production of this volume in her honor. It is our pleasure on behalf of the New York Botanical Garden staff and her many friends to present this Festschrift to a special lady, Dr. Winona H. Welch, on the occasion of her 92nd birthday.

It takes many to produce a volume of this nature. The remembrances of so many of her friends recorded on the following pages attest to the influence Dr. Welch has had and the devotion she has aroused. We are thankful for these remembrances as we are grateful to all who contributed, especially the following: Jeanne Goode, who undertook the writing of Dr. Welch's biography without meeting her, but who, through listening to five hours of recorded interviews and through reading her voluminous correspondence, got to know her as well and love her as much as those of us who have been privileged to know her in person; Barbara Yuncker, who was involved every step of the way, always offering words of encouragement when most needed, and who was interviewed by Jeanne Goode about her remembrances; Laura Kern, who interviewed Dr. Welch about her early life in Indiana and who took two of the photographs used in this volume; Howard Youse, a loyal friend and long-time colleague, who brought Dr. Welch to the Herbarium in August 1987 so that she could personally show us everything to be transferred to New York and who, at her request, brought her there again in September so that she could be photographed one last time in the Truman G. Yuncker Herbarium; Brian Boom, who recorded the dinner conversation at the Walden Inn in Greencastle with Dr. Welch, Mrs. Helen Goff (Dr. Welch's sister), and the three of us; Wesley Wilson, Susan Moore, and Joan Cunningham, archivists at DePauw University, who generously photocopied all of Dr. Welch's correspondence for the New York Botanical Garden Library and who searched for photographs of her for this volume; and Lorinda Leonardi and Dawn Frame, who assisted us with the library work.

But most of all, our gratitude must go to Dr. Welch herself, who made the critical decision for the Truman G. Yuncker Herbarium of DePauw University to be transferred to the New York Botanical Garden, and thus gave us the pleasure of producing this Festschrift in her honor. Happy birthday, Winona!—PATRICIA K. HOLMGREN, NOEL H. HOLMGREN, and WILLIAM R. BUCK, New York Botanical Garden.