

THE STATE FLOWER.

Wild Prairie Rose.
(*Rose Blanda or Arkansana.*)

"O, open your petal lips, my rose,
And sing with your perfumed tongue,
For every dawning day is made new
And all the world is young."

When the Legislature of 1907, by Chapter 231 of the Laws of that year, adopted as the floral emblem of the state, the Wild Prairie Rose, its choice was not only beautiful but fitting, and when one reflects upon it, the significance of the selection is wonderfully clear and perfect.

Possibly before the advent of the Bison or Buffalo and mayhap before the coming of the Indian to the wide prairies, the rose has bloomed. Surely it is not too much to imagine the toddling papoose waking to consciousness of earth and sky with the delightful odor of the wild rose in its first taste of outdoors, nor is it past belief to think of an Indian maiden decked with the flowers that the Great Spirit had planted with His own hand. When the first pioneers of the white race set foot upon the land that they were to conquer, the Prairie Rose must have welcomed them with its modest blush and its tint must have brought many a home-hunger to the wanderer. The Prairie Rose is the emblem of the Pioneer. It was God's Pioneer, inviting by its shy blossoms the oncoming of peace and prosperity which were to be found where its roots reached down—the fertile soil.

A modest flower, the Prairie Rose, blooming in forgotten nooks, in neglected hollows. Tinting the landscape and filling the air with its delicate fragrance, it looked for no recognition, it demanded no reward. It required no cultivation—Pioneers are hardy—it waited no approval. "Seest thou that man diligent in business," says the wise man, "he shall stand before Kings." And a wiser than he has said: "The humble shall be exalted;" "The meek shall inherit the earth." Faithfully through the years—aye, who knows, through the centuries—the Prairie Rose has blossomed in seclusion, in neglect, in lowliness. But its reward is fitting and its recompense complete. Today it is the emblem of a sovereign state—the lonely and lovely jewel in a nation's crown.

The state flower is not an empty token. There is a meaning in every petal; there is a thought in its heart of gold.

STATE FLAG.

(Adopted by Twelfth Legislative Assembly, Chapter 283, 1911
Session Laws).

The official state flag of North Dakota is not the pennon of a carpet knight. It has seen service. It has floated on fields where North Dakotans gave up their lives for their country. It has fluttered in winds laden with the smoke of battle, the noise of conflict and the cry of dying men. Second to the Stars and Stripes, it is a banner to venerate, and it is worthy of patriotic veneration.

For the state flag of North Dakota is none other than the flag that the men of the First North Dakota Volunteers marched under for two years in the Philippines. It is the flag that was with the regiment in thirty-seven engagements.

Its origin is almost unknown. It was the flag of the territorial militia, and it is first remembered at Huron, S. D., when it was unfurled at the annual encampment. Who designed it; when it was adopted, is not discoverable now. But it led men to conquer that that was a wilderness then as it led men to conquer the wilds of the Philippines. It is doubly a pioneer. Perhaps this publication will lead to the discovery of its early history. It should be so.

With but one change in the wording of the flag, which is the insertion of the words "North Dakota" in place of the words "First North Dakota Infantry," this is the flag that was carried at the following engagements:

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| Blockhouse 14, August 13, 1898 | Salacot, May 15, 1899 (Scouts). |
| Manila, August 13, 1898 | Tarhon Bridge, May 16, 1899, |
| Manila, February 4 and 5, 1899 | (Scouts). |
| Paranaque, Feb. 6, 1899, Co. | San Isidro, May 17, 1899 (Scouts) |
| C, I and K. | San Fernando, May 18, 1899. |
| Malibay, February 10, 1899. | Cabiao, May 19, 1899. |
| Insurgent Outpost, April 1, | San Antonio, May 20, 1899 |
| 1899, Co. A and D. | (Scouts). |
| Santa Cruz, April 9 and 10, 1899 | Cainta, June 3, 1899. |
| Pagsanjan, April 11, 1899. | Taytay, June 3 and 4, 1899. |
| Paete, April 12, 1899. | Angono, June 4, 1899. |
| San Bartolome, April 22, 1899. | Baras, June 8, 1899 (Scouts) |
| Novaliches, April 22, 1899. | Baras, June 9, 1899 (Scouts) |
| Tabac, April 29, 1899. | Morong, June 23, 1899, Co's A |
| San Katal, April 29, 1899. | and H. |
| Titaban, May 1, 1899. | San Pedro road, July 8, 1899, |
| San Rafael, May 1, 1899. | Co's B, D, G and H. |
| Bustos, May 2, 1899. | English Cemetery, July 16 and |
| Baliuag, May 2, 1899 (Scouts). | 17, 1899, Co's C and H. |
| Sampaloc, May 3, 1899 (Scouts) | Culiculi, March 13, 1899. |
| San Ildefonso, May 12, 1899, | King's Bluff, April 5, 1899. |
| (Scouts). | Expedition to Foot Hills, May, |
| San Miguel May 13, 1899, | 1899 (Scouts). |
| (Scouts). | |