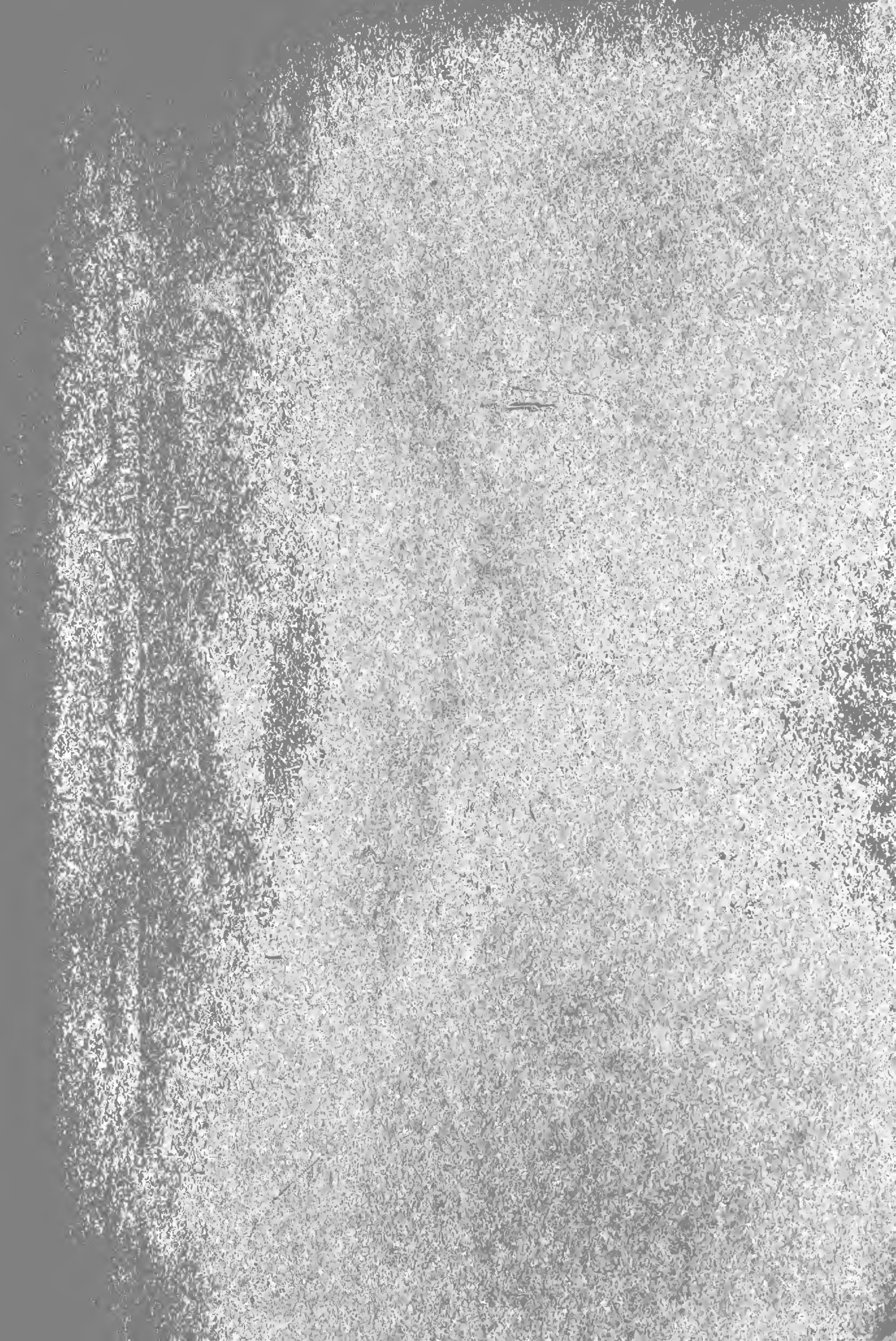


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Work and Play

OUR forefathers regarded work as the chief secular object of man's existence. A gloomy economics reduced us to the status of animals, breeding to the limits of subsistence, struggling ever with the reluctant earth. By the sweat of our brows were we to gain our bread. If we did not plant we should not reap. As the modern proletarian gospels spread across the world, the marks of toil were glorified in an imagined proletariat—the calloused hands, the lined faces, the bent backs. Samuel Smiles and Karl Marx had more than a little in common.

There is no doubt that work is still necessary, though we haven't found a way to provide it for all who want it. But we are coming to regard work as a by-product of human life rather than a human life as a raw material of work. The new morality will admit that we work to live, but will not demand that we live to work. It finds expression in such observations as Mr. William F. G. Swann, director of a research laboratory at Swarthmore, Pa., made at the conference on adult education the other day. Said Mr. Swann:

“The only excuse for things utilitarian is that they provide the means for things non-utilitarian.” The glorious adventure of living is not to be forever limited by a grubby pre-occupation with the means for living.

Truly, as Mr. Swann implied, we have to “earn” the “living” that we get. But this does not of necessity mean that we must produce potatoes, or motor cars, or clothing, or houses, or services, though most of us have to do something of this sort in return for permission to eat. The “living” he had in mind in his admirable discussion of human happiness is life itself, and the fullness thereof. A rich leisure may demand strenuous effort: as Mr. Swann put it, “there are certain elements of drudgery which must be accepted as hurdles in the steeplechase of life's enjoyment.” But this is not work in Poor Richard's use of the word. It is play, regardless of whether one is paid for it or not. The creative artist lives a life of heroic play. Play in that sense—creative play—may some day be recognized as man's supreme activity. If we so regard it we may eventually cease to be the prisoners of our economic systems, of whatever sort they may be. We may defy dictators because we have an impregnable freedom within ourselves.

Our cities are built by labor, but they are made tolerable by leisure. “Perpetual devotion to what a man calls his business,” wrote Stevenson in one of the most delightful of his essays, “is only to be sustained by perpetual neglect of many other things. And it is not by any means certain that a man's business is the most important thing he has to do.” Certainly in this cry between silences, as the poet saw human life, there is far more than the ministry of the body—which is largely what the modern world has meant by work. A world which can entrust its work mainly to machines, without becoming the machines' captive, might find its way to a Utopia, in which “the shadows and the generations, the shrill doctors and the plangent wars, would go by into ultimate silence and emptiness.” There would remain the sunlight upon green fields and water, the comfort of tobacco, the pleasure of friends, the striving, sometimes arduous enough but still a form of play, to give exultant meaning to our brief pilgrimage between the sky and earth.

Editorial from *The New York Times*, March 7, 1938.

APRIL, 1938

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Courtesy Catholic Youth Organization

Youth Journeys and the Social Sciences

HOW CAN the American child, on his educational journey toward intelligent citizenship in the United States, come to know in any adequate way the regional differences that underlie and create the great economic and social problems on which he must take a stand and cast a vote, as he gains his citizenship rights in this democracy? Is it possible for the voter in Maine to have any true conception of the needs of the cotton pickers in the South, the farmers in the flood and dust-ridden areas of the Middle West, the steel workers of Pennsylvania, the garment workers in New York City, the dock hands in San Francisco, or the lumber jacks of the Pacific Northwest? Is it possible, in educational planning, to face more fully the necessity for this kind of provision for our future citizens and to see how broader experiences may be made part of the child's education, thus bringing him to see and know people in all parts of our country as well as to read about them in the required textbooks?

How may we better plan for children to become world citizens, to know and understand the social

and economic problems of people in other countries? Must this area of education be acquired entirely through storing up unrelated facts and knowledge from textbooks, or are we to use the

The laboratory method applied to education for citizenship

By **DR. ROSALIND CASSIDY**

Chairman

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historical setting an isolated subject in the curriculum or is it an area of human relationships that is an essential part of the life of all individuals in which each must acquire skill and understanding, especially in a nation where all individuals share the responsibility for the good of all members and must register this responsibility through their vote on issues that affect the group as well as themselves?

Granted that American citizens need more direct experiences in knowing their own country and other countries, how can this be achieved? Has such education been undertaken in our country or in other countries; if so, what direction is given us in future planning?

School Journeys in England

The School Journeys Association in England is an organized movement among English school teachers

growing out of fifty years of recognition that travel is one of the most effective laboratory methods in citizenship education. The story is told that it began with a school master in a geography

Lauridge House, near Bath, England, built on the site of an eleventh century abbey



class teaching about glaciers. Neither he nor any of the class had ever seen one. He promised the children a trip to Switzerland to learn about glaciers first-hand, if they would save a shilling a week for a year. A year later sixty boys with their school masters were able to spend a month in the Swiss Alps.

The recognition of this way of study has become so widespread that not only inexpensive holiday trips to other countries are planned by teachers and pupils but the Board of Education permits these journeys in school time. They are an essential way of studying the literature, history, geography and industries of England and other countries.

The School Journeys Association has worked arduously to plan travel schedules, charter boats, obtain low rates for travel by bus, rail or steamer at home and on the Continent, build hostels as well as obtain use of the already existing youth hostels, plan hospitality and schedules for foreign student groups, plan exchange of students for a semester or a year of study and set up cheap insurance to cover the liability of the teachers in case of accident or illness among the children in their care. The last report of the Association showed a teacher membership of 4,000 and 70,000 British scholars participating in school journeys, 11,000 of them visiting foreign countries. Its interest is to facilitate inexpensive travel by groups of students. "One prominent aim of the Association has been to reduce costs so that the poorest scholars in any type of school may be provided with an opportunity within their means."

A Tradition in Germany

In Germany there has long been a tradition for teachers journeying with students over the face of that beautiful country seeing and learning about the Fatherland. Under the Republic such outings were emphasized first, as a way of rehabilitating the post-war young people—in 1925 from sixty to seventy per cent of the elementary school children in Germany were reported undernourished—and second, as a way of "education through experience," "self-activity" and "unified instruction" approved in that régime as the method of educa-

"The opportunity to have inexpensive recreation, to build resources for the wholesome use of leisure for one's whole lifetime, to have a healthy outdoor experience, to adventure over the face of America seeing its beauties and feeling the challenge of the pioneer days, to love it so that as an American you wish to see it beautiful, to help protect it from waste and exploitation, to keep the countryside from litter and ugly advertising, to learn to know other wanderers, to learn how to travel inexpensively and well, to gain the happy fellowship of the road both at home and abroad—these experiences our people need."—*Rosalind Cassidy in The Nation's Schools, May.*

tion for a social democracy. Dr. Thomas Alexander in "The New Education in the German Republic" evaluates the aims of this program in terms that show its importance for education in our Republic today: "Valuable as 'wandering' may be for the physical upbuilding of German youth, it is doubly worth while from the educational and social standpoint because the trips are taken in class groups in

charge of their own teachers. The shared experience in informal situations binds them all closer together into a true 'organic social group.' Both in plans for the expedition and in retrospective discussion of sights seen and information gained, the class work is enriched and made meaningful. No better procedure or method than school excursions could be devised to fit the need of the new German schools today when they are seeking to educate children through self-activity, to unify the school curriculum around large centers of interest, to build their culture on native elements, to foster genuine social spirit, and to make school days a richer part of life's experiences."

During the Republic, with characteristic German thoroughness, a monthly "Wandertag" was made compulsory in every school. This has been continued by the National Socialists and supplemented by the Hitler Youth Training in National Socialism which takes the young people in groups to youth hostels where centers for training have been established. I visited one of these in the Castle of Stahleck on the Rhine, where the boys and girls spend two weeks studying the Rhine country and its industries and traditions as well as Germany's present political theories and objectives. At this time there also grew up the effort to establish a country home for every city school so that each class could spend two or more weeks in the country each year, both for the health of the children and also to educate them in the ways of the country people and in problems of agriculture.

In 1926 the German Association of Schullandheime was formed in order to further the financing and establishment of these country school homes, which were really private youth hostels. In 1934 they were all reorganized under the National

Socialist Reich Youth Leadership Department which administers all youth hostels and youth wandering both at home and abroad.

The establishing of the Labor Service for all secondary school graduates in the new Germany is another form of laboratory education for young people in citizenship. They are not only put upon a health training régime in the out of doors and a work service for their country, but are given political education and an understanding of the economic and agricultural needs of the Fatherland.

All elementary school pupils at the end of the eighth year must, under a law of March, 1934, spend one year in the country, called the Landjahr. John Taylor in "Youth Welfare in Germany" states: "This scheme . . . may be regarded as one of the important attempts to give practical reality to the theory of blood and soil in the growth and development of the youth. It represents the combining of national political education, physical education, contact with the land and the peasants, and the development of solidarity through community living. The prime aim is to strengthen the appreciation and understanding of the youth for the country and the work of the peasants." Last

year 22,000 pupils under 1,800 specially trained teachers had this experience. The instruction is quite different from school and is modeled on a camp plan: Following flag raising and breakfast at 7:00, there is a four hour period each day of work in the fields or in the homes of peasants, luncheon, rest hour, sports, National Socialist study period, evening meal and camp fire circle with bed by 9.00 o'clock.

The school teachers' part in these youth programs is much less than in England or in the period of the Republic. It is interesting to note the feeling voiced by Baldur Von Schirach, national youth leader, against teachers as the accepted leaders in the Hitler Youth program. Taylor states: "Von Schirach believes that the teach-

er's jurisdiction should end with the school day and that the youth leaders should have complete charge of all out-of-school activities except in the immediate family circle. He indicates that on principle the teacher as such shall not be a leader in the Hitler Youth but rather that leadership shall come from all professions and walks of life; that there be no more teachers employed as leaders than carpenters or lawyers or dentists or members of any other vocational groups. The position is held that the ability to lead is a native characteristic rather than a skill to be acquired by training."

Scandinavia Promotes Youth Travel

In Scandinavia there has long been a recogni-



A glimpse into the interior of the youth hostel at Canterbury, England

tion of the value of youth travel both at home and abroad, so that state funds have been made available to develop these opportunities for all children. A new impetus is coming in France for such opportunities for all ages. Recently the radio trains taking children from Paris to see the countryside have received much notice. The youth hostels have been established in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Denmark, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Lettland, Luxemburg, Normandy, Poland, Roumania, Scotland and Switzerland.

(Continued on page 44)

The Magic Dell

THE SUMMER playground season of the Los Angeles, California, public playgrounds was brought to a close on August 28th when "The Magic Dell" was presented at Griffith Playground. The festival provided a dramatic climax to the season of playground events and made use of the abilities developed through plays, dances, music, songs, handcraft and other activities conducted regularly at the municipal playgrounds.

The costumes, stage settings, accessories, music and the libretto were all the products of the children and the leaders associated with them in the centers. The decorations and accessories were made in the women's and children's handcraft classes at the playgrounds. The stage settings were made by the Construction and Maintenance Division of the Recreation Department. The Cos-

"Every child lives in a magic world—a world of make-believe where magic wishes come true. Such a world, to the child, is very real. It may be made even more vivid and enchanting through music, drama and dance—the realms where children find delight."

tume Department, known as "the house of ten thousand costumes," accomplished the gigantic task of creating 600 new costumes, all authentic and well made. Revenues from the rental of costumes in the past two years paid for all the

materials used in the new costumes which will serve the city for years to come. The chorus numbers were sung by the Symphonic Alumni Choir and the orchestral accompaniment was provided by the Los Angeles Concert Orchestra.

The festival was written and directed by Minnette Brodke Spector and Maxine McSweeney. There was only one adult part in the festival, that of the Fairy Queen. The other participants numbered 700 girls and boys from two to fourteen years of age, and a dozen nations of the world were represented by the folk dancers from the various playgrounds. Five thousand people





viewed the festival with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Sycamore Grove with its green grass and many trees provided a natural stage setting for the festival.

The scene opened in a beautiful glade in the heart of an enchanted forest. From out of their hiding places tiny elfin creatures made their appearance and danced with joy. Soon they were joined by a group of fairies who danced to the tune of light-hearted music. Into this scene there wandered a Mortal Child who looked on in amazement. She was greeted and made welcome by the elves and the fairies, and she stayed to witness the arrival of the Fairy Queen and her court. To entertain the child the Fairy Queen granted her two wishes. When she waved her magic wand the drama and dance of Colonial days first appeared to delight the child. Then the Fairy Queen summoned the children of many lands to perform their native folk dances. At the close of her day in fairyland the child fell asleep and was carried out of the magic realm of the forest by the

elfin creatures. The cooperative spirit demonstrated by all who shared in its creation made the festival outstanding. There was not a single rehearsal of the various groups as a whole, but when they were assembled for the performance all the participants performed their parts with a smoothness which was almost professional in its excellence.

The festival was produced at a minimum cost, the only expense incurred being for the public address system and the necessary labor. It was estimated that the total expenditure did not exceed \$300.

Each year the Palo Alto, California, Recreation Department, holds a festival on May 1st which lasts the entire day. Practically the entire city attends and publicity is given the event in nearby towns. In addition to the festival and coronation of the May queen there are hobby and flower exhibits, a parade and a dance at the community center.

"Though you never find our Magic Dell again, one pleasure may you always keep as sweet on earth as here. That pleasure is memory, and like my magic wand, it can ever bring to you a picture of your day within this Magic Dell. Even fairy creatures will treasure the memory of this day. And now the time has come to say farewell. The elves will guide you safely from this fairy realm. Come, we must be gone."—The Fairy Queen to the Mortal Child.

A Study of Play Accidents in Pittsburgh

THIS STUDY of play accidents in Pittsburgh was based on data taken from the accident report in the Bureau of Recreation for the year 1936. Accidents were defined in the study as "injuries occurring on the play premises which have been noted by the supervisor in charge and given first aid or additional attention if necessary." These accidents were reported to the office of the Superintendent of the Bureau of Recreation.

There were fifteen year-round centers operated by the Bureau of Recreation in 1936. The yearly attendance was estimated at 1,547,558 visits. Forty-six accidents were reported to the office for the year. The accident ratio resulting from the number of visits divided by the number of accidents was one accident for every 33,642 visits. During July and August the fifteen year-round centers maintained by the Bureau were augmented by eighty-three summer playgrounds. The total estimated attendance for the two months was 808,922 visits. Of the eighty-three playgrounds operated, forty-nine reported a total of ninety accidents.

General Conclusions from the Study

1. It can be seen that accidents happen more frequently on summer playgrounds than on those conducted as year-round centers. This may be due to a partially trained personnel on the summer playgrounds as compared

Recreation workers will be interested in knowing of some of the general conclusions drawn from a study of play accidents in Pittsburgh made by Michael E. Wargo, Director of Recreation in Clairton, Pa., while he was serving on the staff of the Bureau of Recreation, Pittsburgh. Louis Schroeder, Superintendent of Recreation in Pittsburgh, commenting on the value of the study, stated it disclosed certain conditions which were taken into consideration in planning the 1937 program, with the result that accidents were curtailed to a great degree.

with a trained personnel employed on a year-round basis at the year-round centers. A trained personnel pays dividends by assuring a safer place for children to play.

2. The statistics reveal that the grade school age group of six to twelve years were more liable to accidents than pre-school children or the junior high

school children. There were over twice as many accidents in this group than either the pre-school or junior high school group. Perhaps the schools should include a unit on playground safety in their curriculum. Safety education on the playground needs to be stressed to this group.

3. The number of male accidents exceeded that of the female. This no doubt was due to more men and boys frequenting the playgrounds and indulging in big-muscle activities than the women and girls.

4. Accidents to the adult group were very much alike and these occurred mostly in game situations. In this group were found causes of accidents which could be avoided by careful supervision of game situations and an activity instruction program. Some of the cases reported were accidents to participants standing too near the playing area who were struck by ball or bat. Others were falls in game situations probably due to the lack of neuro-muscular coordination on the part of the adult.



Photo by H. S. Barlow, Ridgewood, N. J.

(Continued on page 45)

The Witchery of Walking

By JULIET B. PICKETT

"HOW IS YOUR GOLF?" a friend from a neighboring town asked me. She remembered our gallant beginnings. "All right," I replied, "but I play it now minus clubs and course."

After some elemental deductions, her expression cleared. "I have it," she exclaimed, "the walking is left."

"Yes, the walking," I confessed, "the only part of golf I like and don't have to apologize for. It keeps me feeling fit and streamlines my silhouette."

When I consider a treatise on walking, my thoughts run ahead of my pen and become a tangle out of which only one thing is clear—enthusiasm. Walking has more powers than I dare claim for it, lest I seem like the barker at a medicine show and attest so much for this elixir that my customers will turn away!

Yet walking is one of the most beneficial of physical activities. Add to its healthful value the social benefits of companionship, or if alone, the brain clearing of introspection, the broadening aspect of exploring, the educational benefits of nature at first hand, the joy one gets from being in the open. The ledger shows not a single red entry.

I am leaving the front gate—I hope you'll come along—and am soon on a bridle path that follows the lake route. Doctors tell us that the earth, rather than Mr. McAdam's topping thereon, is the better surface for long walks. Body resiliency is greater and more natural.

I have donned slacks and a sweater, low walking shoes over cotton socks, beret and dark glasses—proper preparation is necessary to the full enjoyment of anything.

I try to remember that the Indian toed in and that authorities advise walkers to emulate him. Most city walkers toe out—a misguided idea of beauty in foot movement. Toeing in for wood walkers avoids tripping over ground roots, twigs and snags. Stepping out from the hips, making of them a sort of saddle in which the body rides, arms free to swing in rhythm, walking becomes an art and a joyous one.

One other rule—the law of the road—I remind myself of; to walk against traffic on the left of the road in order more easily to see vehicles approach or be out of the way as they come up from the rear.

In vagabond mood, I am ready for traveling afoot—"the best posture," says John H. Finley in *The Art of Walking*, "in which to worship the God of the Outdoors." This gypsy mood gives no thought to the four walls left behind, for it is appeased by the larger, cloud-fringed home of all.

As I swing along, my eyes do, unconsciously, their daily dozen. Across the lake they fly to rest in the green shade of the great trees there, then as quickly turn back to the spray breaking in lazy froth at my feet. This long range vision alternating with the close-up, eye specialists say, is the best of exercises and postpones the day of artificial help.

Stimulating to eye and ear are the birds. The roadside seems a mecca for the many different kinds—bluebirds, woodpeckers, robins and scissortails, whose faces are like those of kittens. Swamps at one end of the lake furnish reedy protection for blackbirds and starlings. One of the pleasures of walking in the late evening comes from watching the long lines of these coming in for the night. The air is black with the formations they make in several directions.

It is Spring, and with a surge of feeling I see the earth grow young again. Pink stars from the peach trees resist but coyly the wind's call. Drawn to the magnet, earth, the white foam of pear and plum lie beneath in homage to the delicate green that is replacing them on the parent tree. Willows at the water's edge resemble more than anything great fronds of fern—sea-green tracery supported by brown wood. The grass pushing up in patches is tender but strong, each blade hiding under a sheath of green its own defense. One variety is blue-eyed, its flower flat and of a wood-violet hue.

Only the mesquite tree refuses to acknowledge Spring. Locked away in its gnarled branches is a green lace rivaling any fern that grows. But the

**Spring rides no horses down the hill,
But comes on foot, a goose-girl still,
And all the loveliest things there be
Come simply so, it seems to me.**

Edna St. Vincent Millay.

cattlemen have a saying—"You can't fool a mesquite," referring to the lateness of its budding. Being native to the southwest where most of the other trees are transplanted, the mesquite holds its protective covering longer than any other tree, even the pecan. Only after the last icy tantrum that Texas weather throws so disconcertingly about the fruit and flowers does the mesquite let fall a sheer jade drapery against her sturdy trunk.

Native, too, are certain birds, feathered Texans that can take the climate as it comes. Common to every season's call is the bobwhite, and a common sight is the chaparral, that fleet runner of shrill voice. The purple-black crow is a daily sight while others that stay through the winter are the chickadee, junco, nut-hatch, titmouse, meadow lark and lark-finch. The latter is a sweet singing species with stripes on his head.

Up from the road, new ploughed ground, seasoned and fragrant, awaits its planting. These fallow fields are fringed in verdure that seems to guarantee the land's fertility. Wild verbena patterns the slopes in pastel, while bluebells growing taller hide with their leaves the lower primroses. Other wild flowers will appear almost daily adding their color and detail to Spring's coverlet. This day the gossamer white of dewberry bloom is present. Lacy vines of it, flecked with the white spray of blossom, cascade lakeward.

Redbud hangs like a mauve mist above. Forsythia throws its gold of spendthrift florescence. Flowering almond, bridal wreath and rose-peach tree beckon the devotee of color and grace. Much of this beauty, on a calm day, is mirrored in the lake. The sun upon the water gives back gold coins of reflection and rampant fancy, it seems, plunges ahead, unreined.

No mistaking the foot-path leads to beauty — of vista, thought, face and

form. It is an antedote for medicine, a saving in cosmetic purchase. It straightens the arches and toe muscles of the feet. It stirs the blood's circulation and firms the skin. If one walks with health as a goal, he is amazed at the by-products of benefit. Glowing color and animation are a light behind the eyes. Insomnia, worry, inertness disappear in a healthy fatigue from traveling afoot and a new mien is magic evidence of cumulative good.

Birds sing, dipping their flamboyant colors through the air. In a nearby tree a family of cardinals are chattering. The shrill piping intimates a domestic row which should be allowed its privacy, were I not so curious! I remember last May when their language became lucid in maneuver. Gangly birdlings were to have their first lesson in flying and the technic was under discussion. The father, forgetting his own fledgling attempts, demonstrated the finished art. His winging movement was a weaving ribbon of red which he paraded before his children. They were properly impressed but timid. Perching near again, after his crimson symphony of flight, he cocked his head and chirped mandatory instructions. I trembled for his pupils, but the mother bird, who had not forgotten the courage that needs mustering for such feats, hopped quietly to the front. She fluttered her wings in a sort of warming up demonstration, then spread them and lifted herself from the branch. It was amazing what care and repetitious slow motion were manifest in her teaching. Over and over, in a one, two, three of fundamental movement, she showed them the steps to success,

"Walking entails the smallest monetary outlay per hour of happiness that can be found; it is the password to a green world of peace and measured happiness."



Courtesy Bureau of Parks, Department of Forests and Waters, Pennsylvania

twittering encouragement for their clumsy attempts, softening the falls and initial failure.

I walked on — a better mother, I hope, from observation of my feathered sister's methods, her example and patience.

(Continued on page 46)

Newton D. Baker

ANYONE WHO attempts to understand the secret of Newton Baker's amazing career must start, it seems to me, with this fact in mind: Mr. Baker had a full measure of the versatility of genius. He held one of those master-keys which unlock the doors of so many kinds of treasure houses. He was at once a great lawyer and a great public administrator. He was a distinguished scholar and writer, and perhaps the most eloquent and effective public speaker of his generation. He was a profound student of human problems and an active participant in every progressive type of social work.

In an attempted interpretation of Mr. Baker we have to start with this prodigal gift of talents, the amazing variety and vivacity of his mental energy. In the catholicity of his tastes and interests he resembled no one that I know of in the public life of America, present or past—with the possible exception of Thomas Jefferson. Those of us who crossed the ocean with him during the war remember the extraordinary scope of his reading. He read constantly—everything he could put his hands on—biographies, histories, literary criticism, detective stories. Even a book on the technique of gasoline engines seemed to hold for him a peculiar charm. At all times his intellectual curiosity was inexhaustible. You who knew him so well here in Cleveland will recall the quick eagerness with which his imagination fastened upon any new fact, caught its bearings and clothed it with color.

How a man can have such diverse interests and talents and still keep his balance and serenity is one of the mysteries of human personality. But with Mr. Baker balance and serenity were part of

An address delivered
at a memorial service
in Cleveland, Ohio

By **RAYMOND B. FOSDICK**



the texture of the man himself. As was said of Mr. Balfour, "his mind always retained its clear, tranquil outlook upon the human scene and its inexhaustible pleasure in the processes of thought." This tranquil outlook was perhaps Mr. Baker's most distinguishing characteristic. Whatever he touched, he touched with genius, but it was not the genius of the virtuoso. Rather it was genius framed in tolerance and simplicity, and anchored in the deep calm of his own spirit.

Genius and great talents do not always, indeed do not often, go easily with a capacity for friendship. With Mr. Baker, his affection for his friends knew no limits. He remembered everything that concerned them, and gave to all alike, high or low, famous or unknown, the wealth of his understanding. How often, in all the crushing responsibilities of his life, he found time to sit down and

write a letter in long hand to a friend—a gay, sparkling letter, perhaps, about some personal incident which had come to his attention, or a letter which showed a flash of his brilliant capacity for characterization. There must be literally hundreds of these longhand letters of his in existence, scattered around the world among his hundreds of friends. Like good conversation, letter writing, particularly among busy men, is a lost art. With Mr. Baker human contacts meant so much and were so essential to his outgoing spirit, that although he was one of the hardest working men I ever knew, he refused to sacrifice to busy interests the gracious art of friendship.

It is impossible on an occasion like this to describe the broad sweep of his talents and capacities or to cover the contributions that he made to

the tone and quality of citizenship and to the meaning of public service. With so many facets to his life one is tempted to linger in admiration before them all. But as history writes the record he will be remembered, I would suppose, primarily for his supreme contribution to his country as Secretary of War. Those of us who were intimately associated with him in the War Department remember

him there as a very simple and very modest man, a man who in his heart hated the pomp and power of the position assigned to him, but whose performance from start to finish was shot through with character and greatness which far too seldom attach to leaders of democratic effort. He brought to his task a mind as sharp and keen as any that has been seen in public office in our time. Indeed his mind was one of those rare combinations in which swift perception is balanced by judgment, and clarity and sanity run hand in hand. It was undoubtedly this quality which so attracted President Wilson to Mr. Baker, for Wilson loved above everything else an orderly and incisive mind.

But there was another quality which went along with Mr. Baker's amazing lucidity and balance: he had a capacity for firmness, for decisiveness, which one hardly suspected on meeting him for the first time. Perhaps the secret lay in the fact that he was the son of one of Jeb Stuart's old troopers. He looked like a quiet type of student, but his looks were deceptive. Beneath a scholar's face, he had a will like iron and an ability to say "No" in a soft tone that left no doubt in the hearer's mind that the question was definitely settled. There never was any misunderstanding as to whose hand was on the helm in the War Department. It was a quiet, unostentatious firmness, but it was rock-like in its solidity. This was one of the mysteries of his personality; for the men by whom Mr. Baker was surrounded in the

The recreation movement, not only in the United States but throughout the world, owes much to the vision and statesmanship of Newton D. Baker. As Secretary of War in the Cabinet of President Wilson in the World War period, Mr. Baker saw clearly what recreation could do for the lives of enlisted men. Wholeheartedly he backed a recreation program within the army. He did all that he could to strengthen the work of War Camp Community Service in cities and towns near military camps in the United States so that the recreation conditions around the camps should help in making life as normal as possible for the young men before they went abroad.

among them all moved Mr. Baker—physically a little man, who never pounded a table and never raised his voice, but who intellectually was the acknowledged master of them all.

It was indeed an incredible performance. Here was a man who, while he had made an indelible impression on his city and his state, was not known to the nation at large when he came to Washington. In his first interview with newspapermen he was put down as a spineless pacifist who would last but a few months. They prophesied that the lions in the War Department and the tigers in Congress would soon eat him up. By sheer force of character, by the incisiveness and drive of his own mind he not only gained the ascendancy over Congress and the army, but he mastered the administration of the largest collective enterprise in which this country has ever been involved.

And he performed this miracle with the quiet modesty and the serenity of spirit that were so characteristic of him. He never seemed excited and never was harassed. Even when things were blackest—when, for example, he was himself the target of cruel, baseless charges—he never lost his temper or his equanimity. He was utterly without cynicism. He was too judicial to be vindictive, too completely master of himself to be betrayed into anger. His spirit was cast in too large a mould for pettiness or vanity. I am quite sure that he never

(Continued on page 47.)

It was Newton D. Baker who chose Raymond D. Fosdick to serve as Chairman of the Commission on Training Camp Activities of the War Department. He also selected Joseph Lee, President of the National Recreation Association, and others to serve with Mr. Fosdick, and did what he could to make the work of this Commission effective. In the years after the war was over Newton D. Baker spoke with pride of the way in which the army of the United States had been kept comparatively free from disease. His leadership did much to strengthen the popular support for recreation activities in the United States and those who work in the recreation movement will always owe a debt of gratitude to him.

Recreation in the Southern Highlands

THE study of "origins" is a favorite one. In the Southern Highlands one recalls Cecil Sharp's historic pilgrimages. Pine Mountain Settlement School has a lovely tradition of folk dancing begun by Mr. Sharp. From the John C. Campbell Folk



Courtesy Frank H. Smith

School Georg Bidstrup's Danish singing games have spread into remote corners. In September, 1933, the writer, in cooperation with Miss Helen H. Dingman, started the "Itinerant Service" of the Conference of Southern Mountain Workers.

The "Itinerant Service" Begins Its Program

On November 20, 1937, a play day was held in Cooper Hall at the Robinson Experiment Station, Quicksand, Kentucky, which brought a hundred and thirty people together for participation in and exhibition of singing games, folk dancing, wood carving, singing and puppetry. These enthusiasts drove through a snowstorm over icy roads. A number of visitors accompanying Chester Bower of the University of Louisville had the hardihood to undertake a 200-mile journey to see what we were doing and to share the occasion as participants.

The folk dances and singing games constituted the major activity. English country dances and a Morris dance, Scandinavian singing games, American singing games, noticeably including *Old Dan Tucker*, a genuine illustration of traditional American folk dance, were

By FRANK H. SMITH

which included 15,000 acres, to the University of Kentucky. I remember how this large-hearted business man years ago told a group of us about his recent journey to Europe where he had seen expressions of peasant culture in skillful gardening and in the native dances of those peoples. He dreamed that a similar spontaneous social joy might blossom in these stark and lonely hills of Eastern Kentucky.

This was the first gathering of its kind under a new recreational plan in which are cooperating the Conference of Southern Mountain Workers, Berea College, and the University of Kentucky. Berea has become our recreational headquarters. For several years, in fact, members of the Physical Education Department and other teachers have ably contributed to recreational activities on the Berea Campus. A new departure in the Department of Sociology will establish a lecture and

laboratory course, listed as "Recreation" in the Lower Division, with a hobby center and an extension service to the neighboring rural schools. Field work will have an equal share under this new arrangement. The University of Kentucky has established for Eastern Kentucky a regional headquarters

"In The Arts Workshop of Rural America Marjorie Patten has written a 'truly exciting book which holds promise of the great things that may come from our countryside.' This article will furnish a footnote to her inspiring chronicle. A good deal will be said about the Mountain Folk Festival, which has none of the paraphernalia of a tournament, but is a simple and joyous gathering of youth to build the fellowship of good times."

at the Robinson Experiment Station; Alpine Institute, with the active cooperation of the Save the Children Fund, has likewise become a regional center. The important Itinerant Service of the Conference of Southern Mountain Workers is being continued successfully by Richard Seaman.

The Third Annual Mountain Festival

A larger festive occasion than the recent play day at Quicksand will be the third annual Mountain Folk Festival to be held at Berea College, April 4-5, 1938. In March, 1937, at the University of Tennessee, in collaboration with the Twenty-fifth Southern Mountain Workers Conference, the second folk festival was an unprecedented success. Original mountain plays were produced by the John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, North Carolina; by Homeplace, Ary, Kentucky, and a group of women from Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in the Great Smoky National Park. Authentic tang of mountain idiom, sympathetic portrayal of character, representation of mountain customs of passing generations may be found in this simple drama.† The existing transition state of life in the Southern Highlands reminds one of the remarks of John Millington Synge about the magnificent speech and gestures of the Aran Islanders, whose "Elizabethan traits" helped to glorify a fatalistic and melancholy society.

Each year a certain number of singing games, folk songs and folk dances are selected for the folk festival. Thus when the groups assemble all have a common stock of knowledge; without loss of time it becomes possible to unite in enjoyment of these lovely traditional activities. In addition, groups may demonstrate special games, songs, or dances. No prizes or ribbons reward demonstrating groups. The element of competition is not encouraged, but, human nature not being above temptation, we inevitably compare the demonstrations. As a source of inspiration they have a great value, and a group has the satisfaction of making its distinctive contribution to the beauty and worth of the occasion.

If mention may be made on the grounds of seniority of two groups of folk dancers, one may refer briefly to the Pine Mountain Settlement School and the John C. Campbell Folk School. The lovely country dancing of the Pine Mountain students displays a naturalness which may lend weight to the remark of Glyn Morris that English dancing suits the historical background of the

mountain people. And the universality of folk material is undoubtedly illustrated by the successful adoption of Danish singing games and folk dances at Brasstown where English and American dances are also done.

An important element at the folk festivals is the traditional "Running Set" or "Square Dance," as the circle formations are usually called. With this one associates mountain singing games like Jubilee and Jump Josie. The names of well-known figures are picturesque: Ocean Wave, Wagon Wheel, Birdie in the Cage, Shoot the Owl, Double Bow Knot. At Homeplace, Ary, Kentucky, the figures are known by the collective name of Sugar on the Floor. Presentation of this type of folk material was made at the first Folk Festival by Carr Creek Community Center; at the second by Homeplace. Other traditional American singing games which enrich the folk festivals are drawn from Lynn Rohrbough's collections.

The wealth of folk song to which Mrs. Olive D. Campbell introduced Mr. Cecil Sharp, whose adventures in the Southern Highlands are fascinatingly described in "Cecil Sharp"* by A. H. Fox Strangways in collaboration with Maud Karpeles, represented in our Folk Festivals. In addition to the general use of native ballads and carols for group singing, local variants of these exquisite and fresh creations of past centuries are sung and dramatized by particular groups. Hindman Settlement School has given delightful contributions of this nature.

Wood Carving

Wood carving is a hobby which appeals instantly to people in the mountains. The little carved animals of Brasstown and more recently of Pleasant Hill Academy and of Berea College have become so well known that one thinks of them first, but in most communities one hears of the creations of a local carver. Frequently these whittlers have something very good to show you. One boy I became acquainted with recently carves horses—both draft and race horses. They are finely done. The other day a man asked to see my carvings. He told me he had for several years "carved out" dolls; in fact, he said, he carves anything "he takes a notion to." He borrowed from my folder a design of leaves and fruit. At once

† Two original plays produced at the first mountain folk festival have recently appeared in *Three Folk Plays from the Southern Mountains*, Recreation Kit No. 43, published by the Co-operative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. 25c.

* Oxford University Press.

he began to make the chips fly as he worked skillfully with his sharp pocketknife.

And so my carving classes have been a joy. The eager questions the whittlers ask and their deep satisfaction in showing me their work are an evidence of a significant educational process at work. An appreciation of craftsmanship is something most real in human nature. Hobbies and crafts have an important place in personality development. Consider a boy in my carving class last winter. His school principal said, "This is the best thing that ever came into the boy's life. Nothing before this has ever interested him. He always was into something." He was younger than most members of the class, but his output of work was about the largest. In quality his carvings were among the best. The pleasure of his mother in his hobby was expressed in her remark that now "he was a-settin' at home."

Puppets, Stories and Traditional Games

The Punch and Judy show is a nine days' wonder in the mountains. Most of the folks who see it have not previously witnessed a puppet or marionette performance. Gales of laughter sweep through the audiences. The most remarkable explanations are offered. One girl said this morning as one having inside knowledge, "I know what makes them work — electricity." Often the younger children have no idea that I talk for the dolls. One boy in a playground stopped as if he had been shot when, in Punch's voice, I said, "That's the way to do it; that's the way I do it." He looked dumbfounded as he cried, "Why, that fellow can talk like Mr. Punch." Stories are one of the best educational tools I have ever used. I suppose it is true that we tend to think in pictures. It was no accident that the storyteller or minstrel was an important personage in the Middle Ages. Tolstoy's *Twenty-Three Tales* has served a purpose in my recreational work which I believe the great Russian writer himself would have entirely approved. Thousands of people have listened with profound interest to stories with a universal appeal like "What Men Live By." A story is an admirable starting point for a group discussion. Shrewd com-

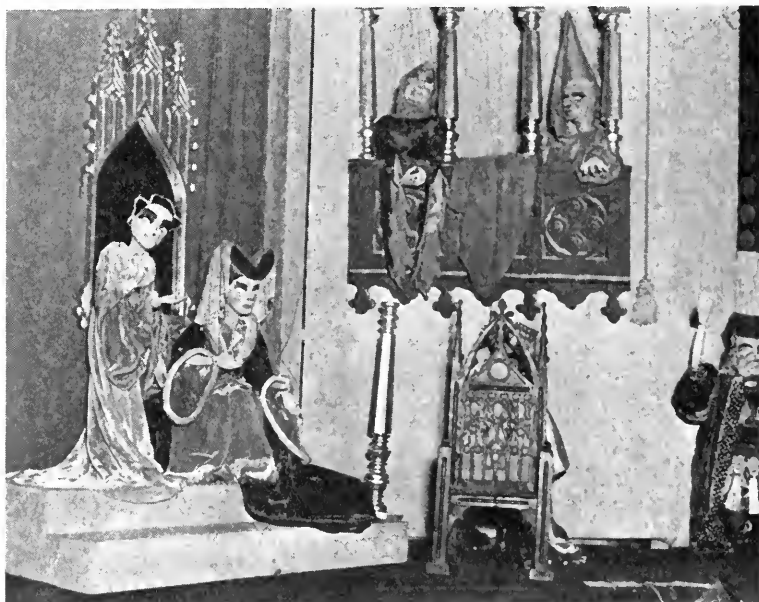
ments will be ventured among any group of people upon the actions of an interesting character in a good story.

The traditional games which have been collected and popularized by Lynn Rohrbough are a valuable addition to the resources of any recreation leader. Some, like Wari and Go, are novel in principle. The former is a game played by African natives. One Southerner said frankly while learning it: "Well, if the Africans can play this game, they're smarter than I thought they were." The making of these games is itself an interesting hobby. I have taught game-making to boys and girls who had no pennies to buy the inexpensive, pretty marbles that add so much to the attractiveness of the games. But we found by cutting branches from trees the thickness of a person's finger it was possible to whittle pegs which, when painted various bright colors and fitted into holes, served the same purpose and were very attractive.

Play Production Under Difficulties

In play production one enjoys many varied experiences. The town of Norris (to say nothing of Norris Dam) was magically coming to birth. The community hall was ringing with carpenters'

Whether "Punch and Judy" in the Southern Highlands or "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in Hartford, Connecticut, the appeal is universal!



Courtesy W.P.A. Recreation Division, Hartford, Conn., Park Department

hammers. A new bunk house was springing up over night. It may have slight leaning on the story, but mud in the "streets" was almost in liquid form. The cafeteria was the most delightful (not to say the driest) place in Norris. There we met for dramatic rehearsals. The clatter of dishes and the hum of conversation served as an original and somewhat distracting artistic background. So much so, in fact, that when we could rehearse during the day, we fled to the woods. Some nights when the cafeteria was crowded we met in the parlor of the Women's Building. I admit our presence may have been disconcerting to young couples enjoying a date!

When our performance of three one-act plays was given we actually gathered in the unfinished community hall. I presume the event may have been an unofficial housewarming. We drew liberally upon the bunk houses for blankets in order to improvise stage curtains. The obliging electricians had rigged up temporary stage lights—the auditorium was in total darkness! The audience was comfortably seated on planks suspended across nail kegs—but principally they were sitting like Orientals on the floor. When the plays were over—and generously applauded—and the audience was going home, the cast lingered. Some good reason held them. We took down the curtains; we cleared away the properties and we had a good old-time square dance!

Potential Playwrights

While at the John C. Campbell Folk School in charge of extension recreation an opportunity came to observe and to share the group playwriting leadership. The gathering of the students after Christmas is the sign that a plot must be found. This usually is accomplished only with the help of Mrs. Campbell, who has suggestions to make from her store of ballads and folk tales. A simple story in some ballad serves as a jumping-off point only. Each potential playwright writes the story in old-fashioned mountain dialogue. Then with trepidation these budding authors have their creations read in class. At this point the process becomes, to say the least, complex. Possibly the scrambling of ideas is a fair description. When group free-for-all criticism has done its dreadful work, members of the class resume individual composition, or small groups may write together. When that has been accomplished, the second drafts are ready for reading, the class meets again as a sort of "committee of the whole."

These second versions will display things strange and new; for by this time the original plot may have suffered a sea-change. Out of a second period of group criticism and selection may emerge an arrangement of situations in blocks or dialogue which constitutes in effect the potential play. Probably at this crucial point a few brave students become a sort of committee, and take the materials in their own hands. When they have finished the play to the best of their ability, the result is submitted for approval to the entire class. Before venturing to cast the play, the manuscript is read to a few outstanding older Brasstown citizens. They pass judgment upon the authenticity of the play in speech and custom to the life of that particular region of Western North Carolina.

No claim is made at the Folk School that these simple plays are important as literature. But when acted by the students the drama becomes rich in atmosphere. The presentations are sometimes charming; they are always worth seeing.

The cultural value of a genuine recreational movement is great. This is no mere superficial fancy. The roots of activities in which we may find a creative outlet lie deep in human history. Dr. L. P. Jacks has said that man is a "skill-hungry animal." In the present machine age most people may turn to arts and crafts and find therein springs of a more abundant life. To recreation leaders one may quote Marjorie Patten's utilization of Disraeli's coded message at the opening of the Suez Canal: "The celery is ripe and ready to cut."

"The rural arts are as varied as the flowers in an old-fashioned garden. They appear in all the different moving patterns of rural life: now in acting, streaked and shot through with genius, on every kind of stage, from the makeshift platform on wheels to the beautifully-equipped laboratory on a campus; now in circles of dancing figures weaving in and out among the shadows in the brilliant costumes of many lands; now in music with great choruses gathered together from crossroads communities, some of them as far away as a day's journey in fast cars; in games and coverlets, in rugs and in paintings; in revivals of old folk art and music; in pageants bringing to life the whole vivid development of this country of ours."—*Marjorie Patten in The Arts Workshop of Rural America.*

Hobbies Flourish in Louisiana

AS I TRAVELED down through the rural areas of Louisiana recently, I got a glimpse of what the new library program in this southern state means in terms of recreation for the people—both children and grown-ups.

It must be explained at the beginning that never before have the people of Louisiana been so favored with library books—thanks to state funds recently made available. The Louisiana Library Commission, with headquarters in Baton Rouge, is mailing out a larger percentage of books each month to rural families scattered in isolated communities throughout the state. To keep abreast of the special requests from these borrowers, the Commission is adding about 500 new books every month to its collection of 35,000 volumes.

Furthermore, the Commission has set up a library demonstration this year at Winnfield which is lending some 17,000 books a month to people who never knew library service before. The fact that a thousand new borrowers a month are being added indicates how eager these people are for good reading. In addition to this introduction of books into regions where there were formerly practically no books, the State Board of Education spent \$250,000 last year for library books for schools just as it had formerly supplied them with textbooks.

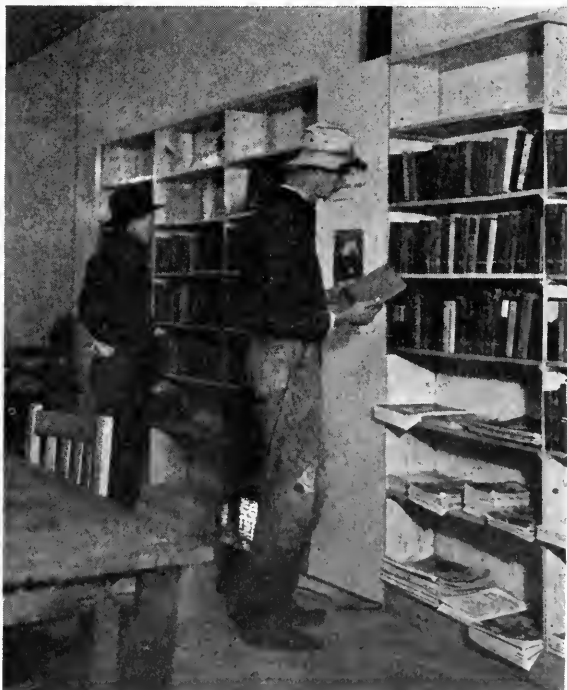
Effect on Recreation

With this new library program in mind, then, it is interesting to see its effect on the recrea-

How books are helping the citizens of Louisiana's rural districts to develop hobbies and recreational activities

By MARGARET ROOT ZAHLER

Men are asking for books on fishing, boat building and motor boat racing



Courtesy Louisiana Library Commission

tion of the people. They find in the new books information for the development of hobbies, material for community singing, ideas for games, stunts, parties, programs for women's

clubs. Just reading itself has become a hobby with many.

In Hodge, a paper mill town in a cut-over pine section, wives of the mill workers have been borrowing books from one of these new branch libraries in a neighboring town. Hodge is a prosperous mill-owned town, but it has no high school dramatics, and these women think that the town needs "more fun." They are undertaking to establish a little theater. "Technique of Acting," "The Little Theater Movement in America," "Acting and Play Production," and other books on the drama and the technique of producing plays have been borrowed by some twelve or fifteen

women who are using them as the groundwork for their first undertaking in setting up a little theater.

Up in Webster Parish in the northern part of the state where there are several large bayous and where boating is a popular sport, the youngsters and grown-ups are leaning heavily on libraries for information on fishing, boat-building, motor boat racing and construction of house boats. Most of the boats adrift on the bayou are home-constructed affairs made from books studied in the library. In this parish also, books on swimming, tennis and golf are seldom left on the shelves. Frequently

tennis courts are laid out from instructions found in books.

An informal group of some eighty girls and women in another parish decided to take gymnasium exercises. They got their cues from books. Then they extended their activities to hiking and outdoor sports and finally into a club which met frequently in members' homes. The members depended upon library books for ideas for table decoration and for their other recreational activities.

Indian relics are an absorbing interest in one section of the cut-over pine region. An "Indian evening" was staged recently when several local collectors were invited to display their flints, tomahawks, and other treasures. A CCC camp captain and adult education teacher had gathered Indian relics with the boys and mounted them. To aid in all of this Indian study, the library supplied books on customs of Indians and everything relating to early Indian days in Louisiana. The local librarian even sent to the Congressional Library in Washington, D. C., for books on the identifications of specimens.

Other hobbies have been encouraged by ideas gleaned from the new library books. Kite flying has had a great impetus in Winnfield this spring. Here the library is less than a year old. The young men have discovered books on box kites and other fancy ones and are being quite successful in flying them out on the edge of town.

Hobby Displays in Libraries

Hobby displays are often held in libraries showing the interest people have taken in wood whittling, soap carving, building models of boats, automobiles, trains. Books on how to whittle and how to succeed in the "tin can art" are always in demand. A hobby parade and later a "pet" parade were held by a tiny branch library. The inspiration came from library books and many youngsters afterwards read books on the care of pets and how to feed them.

In Sabine Parish, over near the Texas border, patch-work quilts were stretched out for the townspeople to admire, along with model airplanes, bird houses and boats in a hobby exhibit. In several of the parishes the most sought after book is the following (we quote the title in full) "101 Patchwork Patterns; Quilt name stories,

cutting designs, material suggestions, yardage estimates, definite instructions for every step of quilt making."

Many of these rural people, it appears, do much quilting. In their little clapboard cabins they have a quilting frame on pulleys which is pulled up to the ceiling when not in use and then quickly let down when the women are ready for work.

A New Thrill for School Children

How school children are responding to the new library books and what fun they are getting out of many of the beautifully illustrated books for young people were noted in the library at Winnfield, set up this year in a former bank building. Youngsters gather after school, thrilled with their first chance to take books from the shelves in a public library. On Saturday afternoons they have the story hour when they huddle close to the storyteller and then scatter to find other books on the open shelves an entirely new experience for them.

One day the fourth graders came down to the library to put on a "shadow play." Grown-ups and children alike crowded into the one room library waiting for the lights to go out and for "Jack and Jill" to cast their silhouettes on the screen. A safety skit, also in shadow play fashion, completed the program. It was the first time a book on shadow plays had appeared in the town and the youngsters made the most of it.

Taking Books to the Bookless

It probably is no coincidence that two recent movements in Louisiana have been running side by side. One is the campaign on the part of the Louisiana Library Commission, with Miss Essae Martha Culver as executive secretary, to introduce libraries into parishes hitherto entirely bookless. Starting in a small way in 1925, the Commission is now taking long strides toward its goal of getting books out to everybody. In the May legislature it is appealing for \$700,000 appropriation a year to continue to spread books into many of the parishes still without service.

The other movement, started in 1925 by Miss Mary Mims, is the organizing of communities so that the people will work and play together, doing things for the enrichment of living. The people can fruit in a common kitchen which they have built, go out in large groups to clean up the little

cemetery, improve the school yard, and perform civic improvement jobs.

Recreation is one of the four objectives set down by Miss Mims for each community to work for, the other three being health, economics and citizenship. Some parishes have as many as twenty-five organized communities and in the entire state the number has risen now to about 559.

As soon as a community has decided on its particular objective for the year, the people begin to write into the Library Commission at Baton Rouge for books which are delivered them by mail. One requirement in the recreation project is that the people learn ten songs. "Give me a singing community and I know the people will be happy," said Miss Mims when she was telling me about the newest recreation projects. She is encouraging communities now to build little parks with tables and benches for recreation centers to take the place of road houses and taverns. She tells the young folks in these communities, and they listen to her, too, that in order really to have a good time they must "create something," build something, or construct something. She says, "Wholesome recreation is creative."

"Miss Mary" urges the communities to build barbecue pits, grates for wiener roasts and chicken fries—a place for moonlight picnics. The people organized into recreational groups by Miss Mims write into the Library Commission for books on games, stunts. They ask for information on Valentine parties, Fourth of July celebrations, and Easter hunts.

A few of these tiny little communities have undertaken to sponsor a branch library. Others are appealing to the Commission to place one of these little branches in their crossroads store, filling station, or farmer's house.

Books by Mail

But there are still hundreds of people in Louisiana who are living in isolated farm homes where there are no organized communities, no church, no school, no libraries, consequently they depend on the Commission to send them books by mail. The book arrives free of charge, and is returned usually at a cost of about three cents.

Sitting up in the eighteenth floor of the new modern capitol building overlooking the Mississippi winding its way to the Gulf, I was given access in Miss Culver's office to cards of requests which stream into the Commission's headquarters each day. These reveal what are the peoples' in-

terests out in the very rural areas and what some of them do in their leisure time with the use of books.

One man wrote in that he had killed a calf and that the hide was so beautiful he wished to preserve it. He wanted a book on tanning. One book after another has been sent him for he now tans enough hides to make all the leather needed to mend his harness. His latest news, sent with his last request, was that he was contracting with a company in Texas to supply hides to be made into books. The Commission had borrowed books from the John Crerar Library in Chicago to satisfy his particular technical requests. In his last letter the farmer wrote that the books were saving him about \$200 a year.

One man on a three acre farm began to raise frogs a few years ago as a hobby. He wrote for books and became so successful that he is now doing it for commercial purposes. Another man started to renovate old furniture through the use of books just to fill in his leisure time, but it became so profitable that he is starting a repair shop at home. He has asked successively for books on repairing chairs, upholstering, finishing woods. His latest requests were for information on painting and the use of spray guns.

Over the state there are about fifty women's clubs writing in for books to reinforce them in their programs ranging in topics all the way from "Japan and China" to "Purchasing for the Home" and from world economics to home furnishing.

No wonder that some 300,000 citizens are now enrolled in the Citizens Library movement to support the Library Commission's appeal for increased funds to extend library service to all the people of the state.

"A good book is a permanent thing, to be read, thought about, enjoyed, read again as often as one likes, and so to become food for the brain and sustenance for the heart. . . . Take time, then, to read good books, for here are the deepest wells of the human spirit. Great men and women have fed these wells that all of us may drink from them and find strength and refreshment. To form the habit of reading good books so that such reading becomes a necessity is the one sure means of education, of continual development, of lasting inner content."—*Pearl Buck Walsh in The Library Journal*. April 15, 1937.

Music Is Fun!

By **ROBERT L. HORNEY**
Superintendent of Recreation
Danville, Illinois

WITH THE advent of music appreciation hours, music instruction by radio, and the steady increase of business enjoyed by the "music by mail" houses, we become mindful of a growth in musical participation and interest. Articles and advertisements appear everywhere tempting young and old to master the guitar or the accordion in ten easy lessons. Schools are reinstating long defunct music departments, and the movie house around the corner begs you to join in on the chorus and follow the bouncing ball. Yet with all this thrust upon us, the field for musical enjoyment is far from exhausted. A recreation department can enjoy a "field day" when it comes to planning the musical program.

Several years ago, in an effort to introduce instrumental music instruction, try-outs were held in each of our Danville community centers for the

first two weeks of the season. At this time children interested in music were given trials with the various instruments of the

band or orchestra in order to determine their fitness for a definite type of instrument. From those who registered for the first try-out session, small classes were formed in each location with orchestral instruction for beginners and groups for plectrum instruments.

As classes continued and the center organizations began making public appearances, interest and participation increased. After each public performance more children were attracted to membership and study. Now so much interest is maintained in each center's group meeting that absence is the exception.

The sustained interest of the groups may be attributed to the objectives held before them by

(Continued on page 49)



A Sugar Bush Festival

An informal account of an equally informal party immensely enjoyed by some city folks. We suggest you try to answer the questions!

A SUGAR BUSH FESTIVAL is an old-time, almost forgotten frolic which "Cap'n Bill" Vinal has revived in several communities. The sap's running near Cincinnati! Let's go with him there. Here are the plans:

Cap'n Bill says we'd better wear rubbers and dress warmly and we're to go, rain or shine. We can bring our friends. Guess there'll be about a hundred there. We are going to Charles Baker's Sugar Orchard on a 250 acre farm. Cap'n Bill has given us directions and says we can't miss it, no matter how hard we try!

What are we going to do? At two o'clock we meet at the sugar camp and see the "boiling down." We can help gather sap and there's a 60 year old sap stove. At three o'clock Cap'n Bill will take us through the Sugar Orchard to see "sugar" trees 150 years old, black walnuts 30 inches in diameter and mulberry trees which tower with the others. He says he's going to give us a mimeographed set of fifty questions and we're to find out the answers during the walk. Here is a set. Some of these questions are posers, but Cap'n Bill says we'll know the answers when we're done. We've smuggled a set of answers which we've put at the end of this, but try to answer them before you "look on page 22" as the newspaper and magazine question boxes say.

"City Slicker" Can You Answer These?

1. Who wrote the following lines?
"I wonder if the sap is stirring yet,
If frozen snowdrops feel as yet the sun.
I am still sore in doubt concerning spring."
2. Anyone going to the "Sugar Bush" ought to be versed in "Sugar Bush" parlance. What do the following terms mean?
"Treacle" "Sugar off"
"First run" "Stone-boat"
"Caldron kettles"

In the spring of 1937, when Dr. William G. Vinal, affectionately known to thousands as "Cap'n Bill," was taking part as specialist in nature activities in the institutes conducted by the National Recreation Association in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, he made the happy discovery that the sap was running in the maple trees and "sugaring-off" was to take place on farms near these cities. After conferring with the owners of the farms and with officials of the recreation departments, Dr. Vinal arranged for "Sugar Bush Festivals" which would provide city folks with an opportunity to share in this interesting old-time activity and to enjoy a real country dinner and dance.

3. When was maple sugar a necessity and when did it become a luxury?
4. What is the real sugar tree?
5. What part of the tree is the sugar factory?
6. Name a state in which the maple is the state tree?
7. How much maple sugar is made in Europe?
8. For what purpose do they use an axe in the maple sugar camp?
9. What is ideal maple sugar weather?
10. What are two distinguishing characteristics of maple sugar buds?
11. What is the purpose of maple sugar?
12. Of what material was the sap spout in the Indian days? In the present day?
13. Does the tapping of the tree leave a wound which will usually be infected by fungi?
14. What was the Indian method of concentrating the sugar?
15. What is the longest tapping season?
16. From what direction does the sap come?
17. On what side of the tree does the sap flow first?
18. What causes the sap to flow?
19. Name four animals (other than man) which have discovered that maple sap is good.
20. What were the earliest vessels for collecting maple sap?
21. About how much sap is required to make one quart of sirup?
22. What should be the size and position of the hole for sap flow?
23. Through what part or parts of the tree does sap flow?
24. What is the purpose of a "neck yoke"?
25. What is the advantage of locating a sugar house on a slope?
26. Why is skimming necessary?

27. How is the "evaporator" prevented from boiling over?
28. How many pounds should maple sirup weigh to the standard United States gallon?
29. If a utensil has a full gallon when the liquid is hot, will it be a full gallon when cold? Why?
30. Why did "sugaring off" always occur at night in colonial times?
31. From what maples can sugar be made?
32. How is "maple wax" made?
33. What New England state is the most important producer of maple sugar?
34. What is often used to adulterate maple sugar?
35. How is the sugar separated from the water in sugar making?
36. What were the three commonest articles of barter of our early forefathers?
37. How much sugar will a sugar maple tree yield in one season?
38. What causes maple sirup to crystalize?
39. How much maple sugar is produced in the United States annually?
40. How can the concentration of the sirup be told by a thermometer?
41. What other instrument is often used to determine the density of the liquid?
42. Why is the "evaporator" made of metal?
43. Why did cane and beet sugar take the place of maple sugar?
44. Why will the maple sugar industry probably not pass into the hands of a corporation?
45. Which appear first on the maple sugar tree, the flowers or leaves?
46. What causes the sap to ferment?
47. Why does fruiting cause the sugar maple and not the red maple to fork at the twigs?
48. What causes "Bird's-Eye" maple?
49. Is maple sugar a confection or a food?
50. What is the maple tree borer?

By five we'll have found the answers and be hungry as wolves. They've planned on that, though, and supper is to be served them at the Washington School House just an eighth of a mile from the Baker's homestead. Here's the menu: mashed potatoes, creamed chicken, hot biscuits, lots of maple sugar and hot coffee—and all for fifty cents! Mr. Baker is going to show us how his grandfather roasted chicken at sugar-

Pittsburgh, too, held a sugar bush festival very similar to that which Cincinnati enjoyed. So popular did it prove that on March 20th, 1938, the Bureau of Recreation of Pittsburgh repeated the event under the title "Sugaring-off and Field Day." The function was held at Ray Baldwin's Sugar Camp about fifty-eight miles from the city. And again a substantial supper was served.

ing time. There'll be a sugar "stirring off" and we can use the paddles we made in the orchard. After supper they've planned a "hoe-down" with an old-time fiddler and "caller" for the square dances. Luke Mc-Luke says if he gets through milkin' in time he'll fetch over his corn fiddle. "Kentucky Belle" will yodel just after the

Virginy Reel and Tam Deering and the village school ma'rm will lead the grand march.

Going? So are we. And there'll be one in Pittsburgh in April. Perhaps we can go there, too.

P. S. Cap'n Bill says to bring some extra money and some jars in case we want to take home a gallon or so of maple sirup and to bring paper bags to carry the specimens or loot we find in the orchard.

Answers to Questions on Maple Sugar

1. Christian C. Rossetti in "The First Spring Day."
2. "Treacle" is the sirup drained from sugar in refining. "First run" is the first few weeks that the sap is flowing. "Stone-boat" is the sled which is drawn by horses or oxen to bring the sap to sugar house. "Caldron kettles" are the large iron kettles in which the sap was formerly boiled down. "Sugar off" is the changing of the thick sirup to sugar.
3. In colonial times maple sugar was considered a necessity. It is now a luxury.
4. The honey locust bean is 20 per cent sugar and the sap of the sugar maple is only 3 to 6 per cent sugar.
5. The leaves are the factories where starch and sugar is manufactured.
6. Rhode Island.
7. Maple sugar is an American product. It is not made in Europe.
8. The axe is used to cut firewood and not to scarf the trees.
9. Thawing days and freezing nights.
10. Sharp-pointed buds with many bud scales.
11. To make new leaves and wood.
12. The Indians made the sap spout from sumac or elder stems. They are made of galvanized metal.
13. The wounds made by the augur usually heal in one season and are not infected.

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Today's Boy and Girl

"Are the boys and girls of today, because of their changing environment, so different from the boys and girls of the period when the National Recreation Association came into being as to require a different recreation program?" This is Mr. Brandon's question as he himself phrases it, and he gives some of the reasons why he believes it is necessary for recreation workers to give most careful thought to the problems involved. You may not entirely agree either with Mr. Brandon's premise or conclusions, but you will feel, we believe, that he is presenting a challenge to his fellow workers which merits their consideration. What is your answer to the challenge?

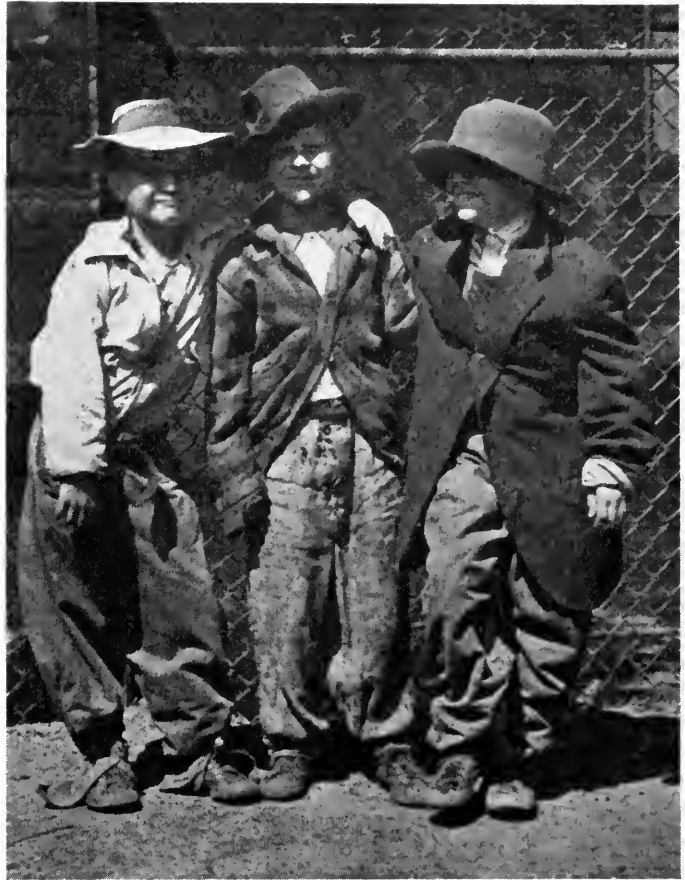


Photo by William Newkirk, Cambridge, Massachusetts

THE PAST twenty-five years have seen our program grow from simple sandbox activities to a program which offers to its public a variety of activities in athletics, music, drama, and art in their highest creative forms.

In spite of the growth of these interesting and satisfying activities statistics indicate that participation in many of our popular games of a decade ago is declining. John R. Tunis in an article "A Nation of Onlookers" in the August issue of the *Atlantic Monthly* suggests that "spectatoritis," defined by Dr. Hedley Dimock as "the unexercised multitude watching the overexercised few," has greatly decimated the ranks of the performers. This is not a disease of maturity, but one which has assumed considerable virulence among adolescents. Mr. Tunis makes one rather startling comment which should be of great concern to recreation directors. "Maybe," he says, "this American method of forcing games down the throats of our children is one reason for the apparent lessening of interest in athletic participation."

This is a direct challenge to our recreation program which requires very earnest consideration on the part of recreation workers.

By GRANT C. BRANDON
Director of Recreation
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Do we, in our enthusiasm to have every child participate in some form of activity, force our program on him to the extent of present satiation and of later revulsion as the child enters adolescence and assumes greater control over his environment? Have we done what our predecessors did—used the printed forms with very little thinking on our part as to the possible changing needs of our little customers? We have failed at times to discover the needs and preferences of our constituents and in a majority of cases we have failed because we have reared them as "only children." We present our program and hope it will work, and if it is not one hundred per cent successful, we think the children are ungrateful.

Shall we continue to bend the children to fit our programs, or shall we, with some degree of scientific approach, fit our programs to meet the changing needs of the children? Mrs. Emily Post, speaking at the *New York Times* National Book

Fair, states, "Instead of teaching my readers the conventions nowadays, I find I have to adopt the conventions to my young readers. Chaperones have disappeared and the younger generation has taken the bit in its teeth."

Undoubtedly the present generation is not as submissive as their elders were. It is an open question whether they know what they want, but they are at least articulate on the question as to what they do *not* want! A key to this change may be found by contrasting the environmental differences which have had their effect on our young people.

Then—and Now

When our National Association was born over thirty years ago, the youth of our country shared in the hardships as well as the joys and pleasures of a family life in which problems were worked out together. In those "good old days," (as some people like to call them), superfluity was not in evidence either in the matter of food or the where-withall to gratify the pleasures as we now understand pleasures. At that period of our history physical development was not as rapid due to less scientific eating, harder physical work and less stimulating conditions of life which resulted in slower maturing.

The child of that period had a magnified appreciation of the little things of life. The day of the mechanical toy had not arrived. The little girl, if she had a doll, made it herself out of rags. The rag doll received the same love and tender devotion that the painted doll receives today. The little boy of that period also made his own toys. His chief source of joy was a ball made from odds and ends of string and yarn, and if he was lucky enough to have a small rubber ball for a center around which he wrapped the string, he was the envy of the entire community's boyhood population.

Heavy playground equipment in those days consisted of a plank placed between the fence rails to make a see-saw, and a rope over the limb of an old apple tree for a swing. The "Junglegym" in its original form was a favorite climbing tree before it became modernized as a set of pipes and bolts placed at regular intervals and planted in our city park for the benefit of children who are not allowed to climb trees.

Indoor games consisted of parchesi, checkers, crokinole, and tiddle-de-winks, and for a real party, "Going to Jerusalem" or "Musical Chairs"

was the height of hilarity. An occasional kissing game was added for the really adventurous members of the party. This had to be handled with some finesse as reputations were quickly unmade!

The sweets for the party were made over the kitchen stove. Some homemade popcorn with a little sugar to give it flavor and adhesive qualities, and the old-fashioned taffy pull in which everybody had a part, were great favorites. Now the taffy is made at the seashore by one individual who throws the tawny mass over a hook, twisting and pulling, while the watching crowd follows his movements with longing eyes.

Contrast this child with the modern child whose every whim is gratified by an indulgent parent. A child, in the majority of cases, who has never suffered hardship in any form, who is over-supplied with rich stimulating foods. A child who has been given very little responsibility other than the care of a pet or maybe a newspaper route; at least in no way comparable to the responsibility that necessity forced upon the child in our other picture. A child who has grown up under the advanced economic and cultural advantages now offered to our children would naturally show precocity of physical development. If our modern child does not like the school he is attending, or through some weakness is unable to fit into the scheme of the school, he is allowed to change to a school that fits his particular case. If he does not like his college course it can also be changed.

The modern child would be a dull moron not to be affected by the stimuli allowed to impinge upon his delicate nervous system. There is the radio, shouting entertainment and wares at all hours of the day and night, to which the child is either forced to listen or in some way surround himself with a protective wall, making his nervous system immune to the insistent demand. A large percentage of the movies depict situations which not only stimulate his advanced precocity, but give a false lurid picturization of life. Successful children must have a sense of security in their home life. Our movies have done a great deal to dissipate security as they picture the child's heroes in unsatisfying, untruthful home situations.

How Does He Spend His Free Time Today?

How does the average young adolescent spend his spare time today? If he is still in school a definitely prescribed period is devoted to school and in preparation for it. After school the old-fashioned home chores are a thing of the past. The

balance of his working and some of his sleeping hours are taken up with movies, automobiles, night clubs, and questionable drinking and dancing places. A very small portion of some of the above mentioned could be considered as wholesome for the adolescent boy or girl.

In athletic participation, a large majority of our high schools have very fine intramural programs in which all to some extent participate. This is elective in so far as choice of sport is concerned, but compulsory from the standpoint of participation in at least one form of athletics. The select few who make the teams in school spend considerable time in these activities, but for the majority, participation starts and ends with the cheering section. It is significant that the older boy is becoming less a participant and more of a spectator. This is not a wholesome condition. Athletic programs and participation in active physical games is not an experience that can be successfully indulged in vicariously.

To be sure, the great mass of children attending our playgrounds and recreation centers are not in the strata of society pictured above. Our old-fashioned games are still apparently satisfying their needs as witnessed by their continuous attendance. But for the group privileged to graduate from high school and attend college, the problem still challenges the recreation director.

What Can be Done?

A higher standard of living does not necessarily imply a higher standard of life. In some way we must recapture the imaginations of our adolescent, either with the old games revamped or new games substituted, so that they may again have wholesome games in which they will take part for the pure joy of participation. This may be accomplished either by reviving the games that have meant so much to generations of the past or by developing new games keyed to the present tempo of modern living. In doing this, the extra hours of leisure so dearly acquired by our parents must not be filled with a hectic plethora of meaningless activities for activity's sake, but with selective activities that not

only answer the physical urges of our nature for self experience but will claim our leisure for personal cultivation, the improvement of the family and the advancement of our social order, with our ultimate goal not pleasure alone, but happiness.

A close observer of our young people in their mad rush to do something, the chief end of which is stimulation, would not care to reconcile this with the frequently quoted statement—"What the American people do in their spare time henceforth will largely determine the character of our civilization." Taking for granted that our adolescent participation in active games is lessening at an alarming rate, can this be explained by any of the following questions:

1. Has the adolescent outgrown the leadership offered by the community?

2. Can our answer be found in the great increase in the spectator crowd, due partially to the better type of entertainment offered by our major teams, and the increasing technique required to play on the team?

3. Is our program at fault in not supplying the types of activities that appeal to the "almost adult" mind of our adolescent?

Are our children and adolescents of the present day properly equipped with resources for taking care of their increasing leisure?

Are New Patterns of Play Needed?

We would not for one moment suggest that our adolescents had been satiated with all the possible experiences that play has to offer. Patterns of play may be provided even for the advanced adult, as shown by the increasing interest of adults of advanced age, who, under wise leadership, have

found an endless variety of hobby expressions, some of which have developed to the stage of definite vocational experience. If our adolescent has become recreationally stale, or oversophisticated in respect to our programs, the fault is either in our leadership or program, or both.

A partial solution for these questions can be found in our planning for recreation and in dealing particularly with the adolescent, if

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"This article is not written," Mr. Brandon states, "in the spirit of criticism, but to stimulate a desire on our part to weigh our programs carefully, evaluate their appeal and scientific value, and analyze the needs of our young people in terms of the rapidly changing conditions under which they find themselves and are compelled, through no fault of their own, to live their lives. We must make sure that if there is any failure in the preparation of our adolescents to find satisfying expression in their leisure not only now but later, that failure will not be through carelessness or lack of foresight on the part of their present leadership, always realizing that in spite of all we may do with or for the adolescent, every generation must make its own terms with the universe."

Trails

By

HENRY S. CURTIS
Ann Arbor, Michigan



THE ABILITY to stand and walk erect is the most distinguishing characteristic of *anthropes erectus*. At every step we raise the weight of the body several inches, in a mile walk not less than fifteen hundred times. Most of us can not do this in chinning a bar with our arm muscles more than two or three times. There is no other set of muscles in the body that is capable of such exertion. So far as golf is to be counted as exercise it is at least 95% walking, and walking represents at least 90% of all the physical energy most of us develop; but wheels and wings are more economical than legs, and we seem to be discarding them in America today in favor of the automobile and deserting the old time trail for the cement highway. We are about the only people in the world who do not walk, but we must remember also that we have about nine-tenths of the world's autos, and walking on the highway is about as dangerous and nerve racking as marching into battle.

In Europe it is different. There are few autos, and there are foot trails along most of the main highways, often with stone or other benches every kilometer or so. Also European towns are close together with centuries of history and age-old customs and crafts, gathered around every little hamlet. Every fifteen miles or so there is a hostel where one may cook his own meal or spend the night for about a quarter.

Europe also has a tradition of walking. A week or two weeks' walking trip represents one of the chief if not *the* chief form of vacation of central Europe. The schools have long encouraged such journeys, and Germany put them into the school program for its older pupils back at the beginning

A trail on the Naumee along the bank of the abandoned Miami Canal, now public property. The lock shown is about twenty miles from Toledo. A clubhouse is at the left. From this point a number of foot trails radiate through the park

of the century. On these group hikes of the German children, there are always some who carry musical instruments, and a great group of marching songs have been developed.

During the depression many trails have been made in this country. There is one running down the Appalachians with few breaks from Mount Monadnock in Maine to Mount Oglethorpe in Georgia, twenty-three hundred miles. There are numerous shelters along the way in certain sections. There is a similar trail down the Coast Range on our Pacific Coast. These trails are away from the automobile through scenery that is often wild with splendid views. A farm country such as Southern Michigan is not likely to develop trails of this sort or of the European variety, which are supposed to go somewhere. Our trails must find their appeal rather in the attractiveness of the journey than in any historic castle or cathedral at the end.

The best books of travel ever written have been largely views afoot. One gets only passing views and superficial knowledge from fleeting automobiles and trains. There is no other way to acquire a love of nature or an intimate acquaintance with birds and flowers. Trails are about as necessary as a laboratory to the study of botany and biology. The trail also has an intimate social side. It tends to develop comradeship and intimacy.

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A Recreation Museum for Juniors

IT SOMETIMES HAPPENS that a dream becomes so vivid as a result of months of hope and unyielding desire, that without hardly realizing it a certain materialization gradually becomes evidenced.

A place that could be developed as a workshop—an activity center—and at the same time be a place for both changing and permanent exhibits interesting to children was a long-wished-for addition to our recreational facilities. Some years ago two developments made it possible to take the first steps in giving tangible form to our museum project. First of all, a young man vitally interested and with skill and training in this type of work developed a most stimulating nature program and museum at Camp Mather, San Francisco's municipal camp, located in the high Sierra country. He was willing to adapt and continue the program on the playgrounds. About the same time SERA turned over to the Recreation Department a large and spacious one story building containing three wings which had been built as a District Administration office on undeveloped property owned by the Recreation Department. Due to creative leadership and the helpful assistance of skilled persons from WPA and NYA lists it was possible to prepare and arrange exhibits and organize groups more rapidly than otherwise would have been possible.

A New Conception of a Museum

Many who have not visited a museum in recent years may have their conception characterized by early impressions of an exhibit of Egyptian mummies, tomahawks from an Indian grave or the wax flowers of the 80's and 90's. Our Junior Recreation Museum is a museum in the modern conception of the term; it is a true activity center, a place where boys and girls and young men and women are watching plants and animals live and grow; are constructing model airplanes, model engines, model cars; are making wax flowers, too—but a collection, true to life in color and size, of all wild flowers that grow in the region of San Francisco. These are used for purposes of study

In the October issue of *Recreation* there appeared a brief article on San Francisco's Junior Museum. So many inquiries were received by the Recreation Commission as the result of the publication of the article that Miss Randall has prepared for readers of the magazine a more detailed description of this fascinating project which has become so important a part of the program.

By JOSEPHINE DOWS RANDALL
Superintendent of Recreation
San Francisco, California

and identification. Scale models of old and historic ships are being constructed from blueprints made by the boys themselves; a model of Fort Union has just been finished in complete and accurate detail by a group of boys particularly interested in the early cross-country treks to California.

A model of Fort Ross is being constructed by this same group in connection with their interest in the history of the days of Russian occupancy of the Northern California Coast. A kayak that would please an eskimo seal hunter is nearing completion; a picture of the historical development of gardens is being portrayed in perfect scale models, the earliest of which shows the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Beautiful and exquisitely finished models of small musical instruments used in early times in many countries are being made and carved with great interest and precision on the part of the workers.

A comprehensive and constantly increasing stamp collection is on exhibit for study and use by all interested in philately. A well equipped dark room provides adequate facilities for developing and finishing photographs. Instruction in the art of photography is given, and results of the efforts of our amateurs have received wide recognition. A collection of live insects, birds, reptiles, fish and small animals is daily observed and cared for by an enthusiastic group of boys and girls in the biology section.

A visitor to the museum is first of all impressed by the busy groups of young people, each member of which is absorbed in his work. There has never been a problem of discipline in the museum, and the monthly attendance averages about 3500. There is no disorder. Each individual is deeply interested in the thing that he is doing. He is accomplishing the work in a rhythm that he sets



At work on collections of the wild flowers which grow in the region of San Francisco

for himself. We as recreation leaders are endeavoring

to create an attitude on the part of the young people about the things they do, rather than about the particular task itself. We know that the process involves the result of the way in which one does a thing rather than the thing that is done.

We want to give to all who participate in the activities of the Junior Museum an opportunity "to learn to discover themselves, to learn to live with themselves in a rich and satisfying manner." We are anxious "that they make major advances in the relationship of life rather than in the mechanics of living." We want them to be interested in the things people are doing rather than in the finished product alone. While techniques and skills are being developed by activities at the museum, the creation of attitudes is the important goal in all of the work.

Contribution of Services and Collections

The Recreation Department has been fortunate indeed in receiving the wise counsel and guidance of an exceptional committee of experts to direct their work in this new endeavor. Dr. Frank Tose, Chief, Department of Exhibits, California Academy of Sciences, has been chairman of the Junior Recreation Museum Committee since its inception. Other members are Mrs. Paul Scherer, Mr. E. R. Leach, Dr. Mary H. Layman, Mrs. Rudolph Schevill, Dr. Isabel McCracken and Dr. Harold Jones. Each brings a particularly rich contribution of experience and interest to committee work.

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington,

D. C., has made a most interesting contribution of 89

specimens of articles made and used by members of early Indian tribes in the eastern section of our country. Mt. Wilson Observatory has given a series of photographs of heavenly bodies and constellations and of photographs of instruments used at the observatory. These have proved highly interesting to children working in the field of elementary astronomy.

Mr. Bert Walker, director of the museum, has made an unusual contribution of hundreds of articles made and used by the Miwok Indians which he personally uncovered, and many of which he sifted from early burial mounds in the high Sierra country.

The San Francisco Museum of Art and the Academy of Sciences have been most generous in their assistance. Loan exhibits are made available by these organizations for our use. They are exchanged every four to six weeks for new and different exhibits and add a great deal to the attractiveness and interest of our museum.

At the present time an unusual exhibit makes the large entrance hall a fascinating place for the study of interesting and well planned gardens. Through the courtesy of the Art Museum many models of gardens made for their unusual exhibit some months ago have been loaned to us for a period of several weeks.

Plan for the Future

Interesting plans for the future development of the Junior Recreation Museum are well under way. The Recreation Commission is acquiring

sixteen and one-half acres of centrally located property which we call Corona Heights but which is more familiarly known as Rocky Hill. Its unusual contour and its interesting elevation will make an ideal setting for this particular type of activity. The building, which is being thoughtfully planned, is carefully adapted to the location, and from a short distance will appear to be only a portion of the hill itself. Nature trails, outdoor gardens, wild flowers and shrubs in natural habitat as well as children's playgrounds will make this one of the most unique and fascinating recreation centers to be found in any location.

We hope that we shall be able to develop the activities of our Junior Recreation Museum in such a way that it will become a vital force in the lives of thousands of our young people. Today it is used not only by groups from the playgrounds but by Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and children from San Francisco's public schools. This entire project has been under way for less than two years. Its growth has been an inspiration to all who have been privileged to participate in its development.

Those interested in the Junior Recreation Museum hope to present its activities and work as an outstanding exhibit and demonstration at the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1939. We believe that such an exhibit and demonstration will assist all who view it to visualize the achievements of man, the significant facts of history, and the beauties of nature; will illustrate the principles of science and provide avenues for creative education through various "activities" or "hobbies," during the free time of young people, and offer an opportunity for es-

sential cooperation with and aid to existing agencies; such as the home, schools, the parks, playgrounds and the varied organizations that are working in the interests of the development and maintenance of wholesome personalities.

The Junior Recreation Museum of San Francisco is in accord with the Brooklyn Children's Museum in its statement of the means to be employed in achieving the purposes of a children's museum:

"To set up instructive appropriately labelled displays and exhibits which would include natural history specimens arranged with reference to the stories they tell, geographical, geological and historical specimens and models; to conduct illustrated talks, to inaugurate motion pictures for young people, of travel, of costumes, of plant and animal life, and to develop hobbies and interests through 'clubs' or 'sections' and out-of-door excursions organized where interest manifests itself."

One year ago this February the Junior Recreation Museum reached that stage in its development where it could invite all San Franciscans to enter and to discover for themselves those activities which seemed most intriguing and to enjoy them to the utmost.

We felt, but did not say, "Here one may find physical, mental, emotional and social development; here the unfoldment of the opportunity to achieve in those endeavors that have been vague hopes or stern yearnings; here a place to develop one's hobby, to become acquainted with the ambitions and achievements of fellow workers and to know through exhibits some of the accomplishments of the past, significant facts of history and

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The School Club Is Here to Stay

By R. E. HARWOOD
District Superintendent
Tustin Elementary School
Tustin, California

WITHIN THE present generation a new and exciting element has entered the classrooms from kindergarten to college. It is known variously by such titles as extra-curricular activities, school clubs, and lastly and perhaps most pertinently, it has been called the co-curricular program.

In this program a small section of our school society made up of pupils with one common purpose, a small cohesive unit, sets itself apart to develop its interest for the edification of its members; this interest in turn tends to enrich the total social life of the school.

The list of interests represented by these clubs is very large. Interests springing from school activities range from athletics to the zodiac; the form of organization varies from a most formal group studying Parliamentary procedures to a half dozen youngsters of an archery club out in a field shooting at a target. Interests also spring from vocational life and from purely social activities.

The club group usually operates under some sort of charter or agreement with the consent of the school principal. In most of the cases it meets during the school day with a teacher as sponsor and guide, but not as the originator of the activities. The club may meet anywhere about the school plant, usually from forty-five to sixty minutes, once a week, in any space large enough to accommodate the group. It is usually composed of from ten to forty members, with athletic clubs reaching twice this size. The club has one or more student officers who may be given names descriptive of their positions, such as Big Bird, Banker, Old Man Writes in a Book, Navigator, Pilot or Chief Archer.

The financing of the club may be a simple problem in the elementary school but in the high school or junior college may, in the case of athletics or dramatics, involve the handling of large sums of money. Money is

raised by various methods, such as by giving a dance or a play, by the sale of waste materials or of articles made by members of the club.

The majority of the clubs are organized for a semester at a time, and considerable flexibility is allowed for changing from one club to another and for killing off a dying club before it dies. If the interest in the club is worth while it may be best to build it up instead of killing it off.

Membership should not be maintained by a pupil in one club for more than three or four semesters. It is more advantageous to the pupil for him to belong to several clubs during his school life. He should not, however, be a member of more than two clubs at a time.

The school club has come to stay. It provides an outlet for the natural gregariousness of childhood and youth. It helps in overcoming inertia in bringing new things to the curriculum. It aids in developing the many-sided character of the pupil. It provides a place in which democratic practices dominate, and most important, it introduces the child to democratic living.

The school club offers an immediate incentive for learning skills which may be of great value later in life. Not the least of the merits of the club program is the fact that the child is enthusiastic about it.

In his book "Extra-Curricular Activities," Harry C. McKown states the objectives of school

clubs to be the following: "To capitalize gregariousness; to widen and deepen student interests; to motivate and enrich classroom work, and to develop worthy social ideals, attitudes and habits." He offers these basic principles of club organization and administration: The club should be based on definite objectives. Its purposes and objectives should be those of its stu-

"Extra-curricular activities are not by any means new—they are about as old as organized education itself. Many of them, even in their modern form, were to be found in ancient schools. For example, athletic competitions, clubs, debating, student participation in government, special day celebrations, dramatics, music, and probably others closely resembling those in modern practice were well established in Athens and Sparta. . . . Consequently the individual who designates them as 'new fangled educational fads and frills' is limited in his knowledge of their historical development."—Harry C. McKown in "Extra-Curricular Activities."

clubs to be the following: "To capitalize gregariousness; to widen and deepen student interests; to motivate and enrich classroom work, and to develop worthy social ideals, attitudes and habits." He offers these basic principles of club organization and administration: The club should be based on definite objectives. Its purposes and objectives should be those of its stu-

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Developing a Recreation Area



through Federal Cooperation

By

GEORGE W. ROGERS
Superintendent
Parks and Playgrounds

MELROSE, MASSACHUSETTS, a city of approximately 25,000 persons located within ten miles of the city of Boston, has for the past four and a half years been developing an area of 240 acres in what is known as the Mt. Hood Park and Golf Course. This development has been operating with the cooperation of the Federal government first through the Civil Works Administration, then the Emergency Relief Administration, and since December 1936 through the Works Progress Administration, with the Federal government agencies mentioned above furnishing the necessary labor and the city of Melrose providing all necessary materials, supplies and equipment.

During this period of four and a half years, the city has pur-

chased 215 acres to supplement the original 25 acres which it has owned for some twenty years through a deed of gift, and it now has in this development 240 acres. We have constructed an eighteen hole golf course (second nine to be finished this spring), a beautiful recreation building and club house which contains, besides the offices of the Park Department, locker rooms for both men and women with 180 lockers in the men's section and 63 in the women's, a completely furnished lunch room and a hall of 1,600 square feet for various social functions such as dances and banquets. This building, as well as all the buildings built in this park, are constructed of natural

A beautiful recreation building is one of the important assets of the new park. The picture above shows a view of the development as seen from the front porch of the building.



field stones taken from the clearing of the fairways and greens.

Two field stone buildings 18' x 36', one each for the Boy and Girl Scouts, are located on a six acre tract set aside exclusively for this form of activity. A nature trail a mile and a quarter long has been planted by the various women's clubs in the city with natural woodland shrubs and flowers. Four miles of road have been constructed into and through the park. Other facilities include a service garage for the department; pump houses for pumping water from our own ponds for use on the golf course; the construction of four miles of roads into and through the park, and a field stone tower 40' high and 18' square at the base. Located 285' above sea level, the tower commands a view for miles in all directions.

In the park there have been built a 15 meter ski jump and a toboggan slide 820 feet long. These facilities are used extensively during the winter season when conditions are right. A two-day winter sport carnival was held in the park on Saturday and Sunday during the latter part of January. A fair estimate of the attendance on the Sunday of the carnival was placed at 50,000 persons. It was said to be one of the largest gatherings of people ever held in Greater Boston at any one time.

It is conservatively estimated that during the four and a half years while the park has been constructed 250 men were kept gainfully employed every working day. Thus the city has been saved thousands of dollars in relief funds. Without this project Melrose would have been unable to place so large a number of men at work.

The Federal government spent approximately \$700,000 up to the first of this year, with the city spending approximately \$195,000. Of this amount about \$54,500 was for the purchase of the necessary land to carry out this development.

The park was constructed on land that would be unsuited for development of homes, owing to the fact that it cultivated some of the wildest woodland and ledge to be found in this part of the country. Some of the construction involved practically blasting a way through, especially at the main road near the club house and directly in front of the seventh green where a ledge of 12 feet was taken out in order to get to the green. The green, being in a swamp, has been filled in with the broken ledge for a height of four feet. Under our third green a broken rock fill of six

feet was necessary before the construction of the green was started.

The recreation building or club house, completely equipped and including all the materials necessary for its construction, cost the city of Melrose less than \$27,000.

The golf course, which has operated for the past two summers with nine holes, has more than justified our faith that it would take care of itself financially. For the season of 1937 the golf course receipts amounted to over \$300 more than the maintenance and operating cost. We have every reason to believe that with the second nine hole course going into operation possibly this fall, the golf course will be well worth all the efforts put into it and will more than take care of itself financially.

The remainder of the park has proven its value. Thousands visit the tower in the course of the year; others hike through the mile and a quarter nature trail where twelve fireplaces with special outdoor tables and lean-tos have been built for the enjoyment of the lovers of the outdoors.

The Park Department has plans for the further development of the park which will call for the construction of a battery of tennis courts, a bathing beach with a bathhouse on one of the numerous ponds, bowling greens, horseshoe courts, archery, shuffleboard courts and various other forms of outdoor recreation facilities that will help make this park the greatest outdoor recreation center under municipal control in the eastern part of the country.

We believe that this project has been a life saver for Melrose, which, only ten miles away from Boston, with its limited area could not have found enough projects to take care of the large number of men who have been employed during the past four and a half years. Approximately 100 men could be kept busy for the next three or four years clearing up the wild lands and swamps of dead wood and other debris.

Note: In the May issue of RECREATION there will be published an article entitled "Minimum Standards for Recreation Facilities" which will contain much of interest to recreation, park and school officials, and all others concerned with the planning of playgrounds and community centers. We hope you will let us have the benefit of your comments on the standards suggested. If you do not agree with them, let us know why not.

Gardens for Recreation

By F. ELLWOOD ALLEN

IF YOU WISH to make a sound and satisfactory investment in recreation, one that will transform life into the glorious experience it ought to be, have a garden. You will at once observe that the popular phrase "plant a garden" has been replaced or materially expanded to "have a garden." Planting a garden is only a small part of garden recreation and may even end when the last seed is covered with soil, but having a garden connotes ownership with its responsibility and understanding.

The art of gardening is as old as human experience, yet today it offers to those who seek complete recreation a new world filled with potential opportunities. It opens channels for the creative, aesthetic and intellectual sides of our nature and at the same time provides an outlet for social contact and creative sharing. It supplies the body with the necessary physical stimuli in the clean fresh air so efficacious to health. It is the outdoor gymnasium for those who have made the discovery that work in a garden is just plain everyday fun in disguise. The blessed backache resulting from the constant combats with weeds and insect pests is nature's passport to the land of pleasant dreams and peaceful sleep. The garden reacts to the variable moods of the individual yet it is ever sympathetic and soothing to the tired nerves. The luxury of a garden is magnified only by its economy. Here is a form of recreation that will conform to the financial status of any individual. The insignificant geranium, lovingly planted in an old tomato can, may serve as noble a purpose as the most elaborate formal garden.

If we crave adventure, it is there. Many will testify to the thrill of winning the battle of the soil. If we seek beauty, it is enthroned in royal majesty, never the same, for the garden is an ever-changing environment. Science may be discovered beneath an unturned stone and history is being made every day in a garden. Romance and poetry may lurk behind the stem of pretentious phlox or modest lily. The droning of the bees, the whispering of the wanton breeze, the sigh of

Alone in my garden 'neath the stars,
There is a quiet restfulness and peace
That only gardens give.
I am alone
And find release from worldly care
Delicious fragrance fills the air
From perfumed flowers everywhere.
No turmoil stirs my soul, nor mars
The beauty of my garden 'neath the stars.

the rose dropping its pearly petals to the ground is music that only the sensitive ear of the garden lover can understand. Music was born in a garden.

To create a garden is to experience the insatiable joy of human triumph. The creative urge within us finds here an outlet for self-expression. We design the

garden of our dreams and plan each bed and walk to meet the rigid requirements of taste. Rhythm, sequence, balance, are woven into a fabric of simple and colorful design. Yet the creative aspect does not terminate at the completion of the garden structure. It is omnipresent, for there are constant changes to be made—rearrangement for color and form, new and unfamiliar plants to add, architectural accessories for the enhancement of beauty, not to mention the captivating appeal for hybridizing and the creation of new varieties. The creative genius of a gardener finds occasion to unite with nature into a sacred partnership for the working of miracles.

To those who are devotees of art, who live in the realm of beauty, the garden again stands supreme and will satisfy the most exacting demands. Color and form, two basic elements in design, await in abundance the brush of the master. By careful planning, color can be maintained throughout the year. Only the palette of an artist is comparable to the color range of a garden, for Nature transplanted in the soil the disappearing rainbow of the sky to furnish pigments for each bud and flower. There is no end to the combinations of color in a garden, to say nothing of the variations of a single color. Have you ever seen a "blue" garden with its campanula, anchusa, veronica, asters, lithospermum, salvia, plumbago and dozens of others, from the azure of the sky to the indigo of the mighty deep? One can have a garden in almost any color and find a wealth of obliging material. A mass planting of the pale blue *Delphinium belladonna* mingled with Madonna Lillies and serving as a background for the orchid glory of *Sidelsia rosea* is an arresting sight in June. For one whose recreational needs

can be gratified by the manifestation of beauty, the garden stands unchallenged.

The garden is a constant source of inspiration. To the intelligensia it has a unique appeal. The history of garden craft is fascinating beyond description. The struggle, during the Dark Ages, of the patient monks in the cloistered gardens of the monastery to keep alive this ancient art cannot fail to appeal to the inquiring mind. Each plant of the garden from the daintiest alpine to the stately monkshood has a history all its own. The thrilling adventures of the plant hunter are etched on the petals of the regal lily. Every country on the globe has sent its plant delegates to adorn the garden and raise its standard in native pride. The garden becomes the laboratory of the scientist. Here botany, agronomy, entomology and plant pathology offer endless problems for research and study.

To the socially minded, the garden affords a means of contact. It is a trait of human nature to share the thing we have created. This creative sharing teaches us the art of companionship. The garden club opens new vistas, and before we know it we become a part of a new and universal cultural movement.

To the collector and hobbist, a word of warning—beware the garden! Once the collecting bug bites you, you are irrevocably lost! The end is never in sight. Take alpines, for example. A collection of alpines taxes the ingenuity of the best. Of sedums and saxifrages there are no end, and when one attempts a collection of sempervivums, the nomenclature is so confusing and mixed that hours of careful research are required. But he will love it. Whether it be alpines, hog plants, aquatics, roses or even wild flowers, the garden is the Elysium of the collector.

A wall garden which was designed by the author

To those who occasionally seek seclusion for quiet meditation and reflection beneath the jeweled sky or strive to unfathom the mystery of man and his universe; to those who would commune with nature and probe into her secret past, the garden is but the entrance to another world. To be alone beneath the stars amid the fragrance of a cherished garden is to discover a Shangri-la.

Nature never did betray

The heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege,

Through all the years of this our life, to lead

From joy to joy, for she can so inform

The mind that is within us, so impress

With quietness and beauty, and so feed

With lofty thoughts, that neither evil tongues,

Rash judgments, nor the sneers of selfish men,

Nor greetings where no kindness is, nor all

The dreary interchange of daily life,

Shall e'er prevail against us, or disturb

Our cheerful faith, that all which we behold

Is full of blessings.

William Wordsworth.



You Asked for It!

Question: Will you suggest some handcraft projects which we might introduce in our summer playground program this year? We have little money available.

Answer: The handcraft projects listed below are but a very few of the many which you can use in playgrounds, in institutions and in recreation centers, and they may be adapted to fit almost any size budget.

All of them *can* run into money if you go on an orgy of buying, but they need not if you are ingenious and use resources available. A trip to neighborhood stores, for instance, will net you cardboard boxes, cigar boxes, crates and scrap battleship linoleum at very little or no expense. Lumber yards and mills often are glad to give you "mill-ends" of various sizes. Leather finding companies sell scrap leather by the pound, which is satisfactory for small articles and much cheaper than buying it by the skin, half-skin or square inch. Newspaper plants will give you news print for coloring and drawing. If you raid neighborhood scrap bags you will have enough scraps for rugs and small sewing projects and perhaps some old sweaters which can be unravelled and knitted, crocheted or woven into something new.

Nut picks make excellent leather tools and you need only a punch and tools for putting on snaps. Many experts use a razor with one thick edge and a penknife for block prints. If you want the regular tools, get single tools rather than sets, for often a number of tools in sets are seldom used. Cold water powder paints, such as Dekotint (see hardware stores) may take the place of the more expensive poster colors for painting. Finger paints may be made at home in the double boiler. These are but a few of the possibilities in expense cutting.

There are many books on practically all of the

projects listed below, some written for the professional, others for the lay leader or craftsman. A few simple ones are listed at the end. The chief thing to remember in using materials of any kind is that each individual should do all his own work, make up his own patterns as far as possible, and be encouraged to do his very best work, whether he uses discarded materials or new ones; whether he makes a place card, bracelet or a bookcase.

Handcraft Projects

Woodwork

Articles for Household Use

Shelves	Book ends
Magazine racks	Lamps
Window boxes	Door stops
Tables	

Games

Checkers	Spinner games
Chess	Dart games
Puzzles	

Toys

Spool	Animals
Stilts	Kites
Pushmobiles	

Models

Airplane	Stage Sets
Ship	

Doll Houses and Furniture

Wood Carving and Whittling

Chip Carving

Miscellaneous

Buttons	Musical instruments
Brooches	Cases for collections—
Shepherd's Pipes	as coins, minerals, etc.

Painting

Finger Painting	Water color and oil
-----------------	---------------------

Sketching

Paper Work

Beads	Crêpe paper work
Dolls	Holiday and party
Paper folding	decorations
Scrap books	Christmas cards
Peep shows	Posters
Stage sets	Lamp shades
Doll house furniture	Papier-maché masks
Paper mosaics	Bookbinding

Clay Modeling**Pottery**

(Self-hardening clay or firing)

Metal

Ash trays	Book ends
Napkin rings	Watch fobs
Bracelets	Rings and pins

Marionettes

Hand	String	Shadow
------	--------	--------

Weaving

(Raffia, reed, yarn, cloth and silk stockings)

Baskets	Doll clothes
Mats	Gloves
Purses	Hats
Rugs	Scarves

Knitting and Crocheting**Sewing and Embroidery**

Pot holders	Collars
Clothespin bags	Stuffed animals
Laundry bags	Dresses
Aprons	Costumes
Table runners	Hooked rugs

Braiding and Knot Tying

(Raffia, cord, leather thongs)

Belts	Watch fobs
Hat bands	Purses
Lanyards	Knot display

Leather Tooling

Book marks	Purses
Belts	Book covers
Key cases	Desk sets
Bill folds	

Miscellaneous

Aquaria and terraria	Indian crafts
Blue prints	Tire tube rubber and oil
Plaster casts	cloth toys
Spatter prints	

Methods of Applying Designs

Batik	Stenciling
Tie dye	Spatter prints
Stick printing	Etching
Block printing	

Bibliography

Art Adventures with Discarded Materials by Evadna K. Perry. Wetzel Publishing Co., Los Angeles, California. \$2.00

This book contains projects especially suitable for elementary school age, but adaptable to all ages, using

paper, paper bags, sacks, cloth scraps, stockings, boxes, wood and tin.

Basket Pioneering by Osma P. Couch. Orange Judd Publishing Co., Inc., New York. \$1.00 plus 10 cents postage.

The use of native materials—pine needles, grasses, reeds, ferns, vines and shoots—is stressed, but commercial products may be substituted. Weaving stitches for many kinds of baskets are simply and clearly presented.

Block Printing and Stenciling by Robert Bruce Inverarity. *Library of the Seven Crafts*. Camp Fire Girls Outfitting Co., New York City. \$.35

Here are step by step descriptions, including making of one, two and three color prints.

Boats, Airplanes and Kites by Armond J. LaBerge. Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Ill. \$2.00

Five to seven examples of each type of model are described in detail. Some of the models are simple and some are more complex.

Handicraft by Lester Griswold. Lester Griswold, Colorado Springs, Colo. \$1.00

Simplified leather, celluloid, metal, wood, batik, raffia and cord work, especially for boys, is described in this book.

Homemade Games by Arthur Lawson. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia. \$2.00

Table games, puzzles and active games such as table tennis, tether ball, and shuffleboard are to be found in this book. The rules for the games are also included.

Leather Craft and Beading by Helen Biggart. *Library of the Seven Crafts*. Camp Fire Girls Outfitting Co., New York City. \$.50

Directions and illustrations make this book simple and clear.

Let's Make a Book by Harriet H. Shoen. The Macmillan Co., New York City. \$.75

A very excellent book, including simple notebooks and regular volumes.

Treasure Chest of Marionette Hobby Craft by Helen Fling. Treasure Chest Publications, Inc., 62 West 45th Street, New York City. \$.52

These marionettes are stringed and each step is illustrated in a clear original way. You will find it excellent.

WORLD AT PLAY

And It's All in the Family!

IT was a family matter in Newton County, Mississippi, last year when the W. P.A. launched a one-act play contest there, for the members of each cast were required by the rules to be members of one family. Families in a number of communities produced plays and the winners in each community competed in the finals. The winning family had five of its nine children in the cast! The audience attending these plays included 150 to 300 persons. The purpose of the contest was the promotion of home and family recreation, Newton County being chosen as the experimental county so that effective plans might be laid for state family one-act play nights. Bulletins were sent to all directors explaining the plan, giving suggestions to directors and actors and hints for organizing play nights and listing suggested one-act plays.

A New Hobby Shop in Cincinnati

THE new hobby shop at Price Hill police station in Cincinnati, Ohio; previously operated as an airplane shop, includes provision for many different types of club activities. Through the cooperation of the City Manager and the Properties Division, provision has been made for a suitable entrance and exit from the second floor of the police station, and a large room has been given over to the hobby shop.

A Church Becomes a Civic Center

GREENSBORO, North Carolina, through the generosity of Mrs. L. Richardson and her daughters, Mrs. C. I. Carlson, Mrs. William Y. Preyer, and Mrs. Karl Prickett, is to have a civic and cultural center. The old First Presbyterian Church property, which has been purchased to provide the community center, will, through the terms of the gift, become the home of the public library, the art center, and the historical museum. It will also provide office space for the Red Cross, Community Chest, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. An

important feature will be an assembly room for the use of various community organizations. Around the church is a lot consisting of part of the property purchased and given the city and this is to be developed into an attractive park. The project when completed will serve to perpetuate the first church of any denomination to be erected in North Carolina and at the same time it will honor the memory of Mrs. Richardson's father, the late Reverend J. Henry Smith, D.D., who for thirty-seven years was pastor of the church, and for whom the Smith Memorial Building, north of the main structure, was named. The new building is to be erected between the old church plant and the Smith Memorial Building.

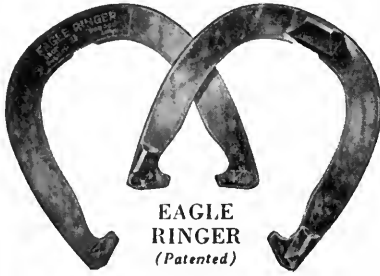
One stipulation in connection with the gift is that the original architectural exterior of the church should be preserved as fully as possible. The other is that should the center ever be used for any purpose other than that for which it is intended it will no longer be the possession of the municipality.

A Sled-Slide for Newburgh

THE Lions Club of Newburgh, New York, has presented to the Recreation Commission and through this body to the children of the city, a sled-slide of steel and wooden construction, erected in Recreation Park. Fifteen feet high the slide provides a twenty-five degree incline. Since it is artificially frozen it will afford opportunity for sleigh-riding when snow and ice are available nowhere else.

Self-Government in a Hobby League

SELF-GOVERNMENT in club and league organization is a goal towards which the Philadelphia Hobby League is well on its way. Each of the 34 member clubs in the league elects a representative to a Council which formulates policies of the league, directs the house government, and arranges for special activities such as the Hobby Show and the annual magazine, *The Hobbyist*. Another example of the self-governing trend of the



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league will be this year's Hobby Show—to be held at the Commercial Museum, May 2-6—which will be entirely in charge of the hobbyists themselves except for the general advice of the director of the show. The Hobby League is a Philadelphia Playground and Recreation Association activity, with a paid-up membership of 2,000. Its headquarters are at 17th and Pine streets.

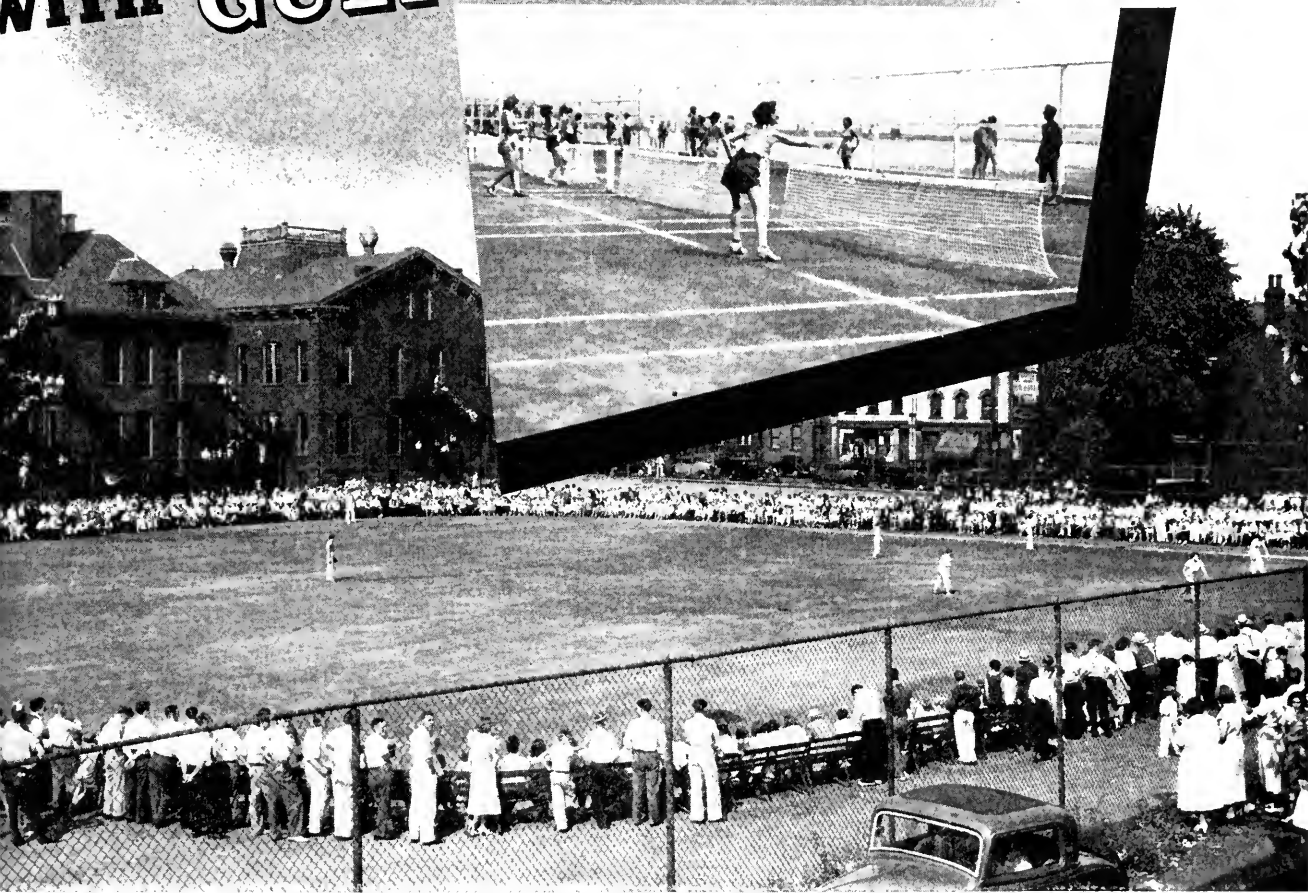
Symphony Orchestra Makes Progress—An activity of which the Board of Recreation of Summit, New Jersey, is justly proud is the Summit Symphony Orchestra now numbering 43 members who rehearse each week in the auditorium of the high school. J. Fred Muller, conductor of the high school band and orchestra, is the leader.

National Folk Festival in Washington — Washington will be host to the Fifth Annual National Folk Festival which will be held May 6th, 7th and 8th at Constitution Hall under the sponsorship of the Washington Post Folk Festival Association. Further information may be secured from the Washington Post Festival Association, 1337-43 E Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

May Day — Child Health Day — In 1928 a Congressional Resolution was passed authorizing the President to proclaim May Day as Child Health Day. Each year since that time Child Health Day has been observed and special activities appropriate to the day have been sponsored by the Children's Bureau of the Federal government. The slogan for the 1938 observance will be "Speed Children on the Road to Health," and every community is urged to make full use of its resources in order to insure to children safe birth, normal growth, and protection against disease and accident in their progress from infancy to maturity. It is suggested that children may have a part in the observance through exhibits, demonstrations, programs, plays, games and festivals illustrating the health needs of children, healthful activities and progress made during the year in their knowledge concerning the protection of their own health and of the health of the community.

Hikers' Trails 1937—The Minneapolis, Minnesota, Municipal Hiking Club promoted by the Recreation Department of the Board of Park

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Write for Table of Contents.

PORTER SARGENT

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Commissioners has issued its Year Book for 1937 under the title, "The Hikers' Trails of 1937." The photographs and the reports of the interesting activities of the club make it an unusually attractive and readable book.

A New Swimming Pool for Pueblo—During the spring of 1938 the recreation facilities of Pueblo, Colorado, will be greatly augmented by the completion of the new swimming pool and auditorium at the Colorado State Fair grounds. The pool, of Olympic proportions, will be set in the center of a large building arranged so as to be outdoors in the summer and indoors during the winter. A grand stand will be constructed at one end of the building to provide seating capacity for hundreds of people, as well as locker and shower facilities and other necessities. This project is being constructed under the sponsorship of City Commissioner Ray H. Talbot of Pueblo and the Recreation Commission, and by funds supplied by the Federal government.

National Boys and Girls Week—The 1938 observance of National Boys and Girls Week will be held from April 30 to May 7 inclusive

Suggestions for the observance of the week may be secured from the National Boys and Girls Week Committee for the United States, Room 950, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.

Motion Pictures Available—The Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau, 347 Madison Avenue, New York City, offers direct free and rental service on a number of films of interest to recreation workers. Among these are athletics, safety, and health and sanitation.

A Memorial Auditorium in Willmar—Every state in the Union, according to the November issue of *Minnesota Municipalities*, contributed a native stone to be placed in the auditorium of Willmar, Minnesota—a memorial to its dead of all wars. The municipal sponsors contributed more than 25 per cent of the \$200,000 needed and the building was completed as a project under the work relief program. On the main floor are the auditorium, a stage, a property room, check room, a memorial room, foyer and the ticket office. On the second floor are two dressing rooms, two meeting rooms, toilets, a janitor's room and two small storage rooms. On the third floor are two additional dressing rooms, a motion picture projection room and storage space. In the basement are an exhibition room 93 x 97 feet, a carpenter shop, a dressing room, two showers, two toilets, a band room 37 x 24 feet, a room 24 x 29 feet in which the building's mechanical equipment is located, and several smaller service rooms.

Training Courses in Sioux City—The Department of Recreation at Sioux City, Iowa, this fall and winter conducted a ten weeks' course in play production beginning October 13th. The classes were held once each week from 7:30 to 9:30. As part of the cost of the training course was met by funds from a one act play competition it was possible to keep the tuition fee at \$1.00 for the ten weeks' course. The subjects covered by the course included approaches to play production, play selection, selecting the cast, blocking out the action, rehearsals, fundamentals of acting, stage setting, back stage organization and the public performance.

Ann Arbor's Orchestra—Last September the Ann Arbor, Michigan, civic orchestra started on its sixth season. Although in the past the orchestra has held its membership to forty, this year the director, William R. Champion, has increased the size of the group to approach more nearly the full

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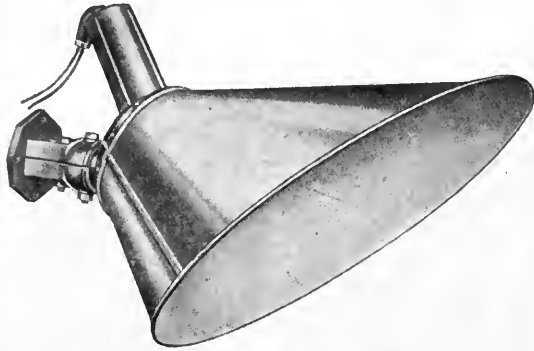
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symphony instrumentation. The orchestra is a non-profit enterprise organized to furnish musical recreation and training to residents of Ann Arbor and the surrounding communities. Eight major engagements have been booked for the winter season, half of them out of town.

National Music Week—The 1938 observance of National Music Week—the fifteenth to be held—will occur the first week in May. Information and literature regarding the celebration of the week may be secured from C. M.



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Tremaine, Secretary, National Music Week Committee, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

Meetings of the Women's Division, N.A.A.F.—At a luncheon to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 22nd, the Women's Division, N.A.A.F., will celebrate its fifteenth anniversary. Other meetings scheduled by the Division include a breakfast at Atlantic City on April 8th at the Ambassador Hotel, a breakfast at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, Illinois, on April 8th, and breakfast meetings at the Hotel Curtis at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on April 1st and at Salt Lake City, Utah, Beau Brummel Hotel, April 15th. There will also be a meeting at Spokane, Washington, on April 5th and 6th. Information regarding the schedule of meetings may be secured from Miss Mary Van Horn at the headquarters of the Women's Division, 303 West 42nd Street, New York City.

Ann Arbor's Civic Orchestra—Nine years ago the First Methodist Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan, sponsored a five piece ensemble. Today this ensemble is a forty piece civic orchestra giving concerts in towns outside of Ann Arbor.

A Publicity Suggestion—On the first page of the Cincinnati, Ohio, *Times-Star* of November 9th the following boxed in note appears under the heading "Suggestions":

"The Recreation Commission has prepared a bulletin giving twelve pages of suggestions for Thanksgiving parties, including games for large and small groups, invitations, decorations, stunts and plays. The bulletin will be sent upon receipt of ten cents in stamps to the office of the Public Recreation Commission, 114 City Hall."



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The Allegan Project—One of the Federal government resettlement projects in Michigan has been offered the state for future administration, according to the November 7th issue of the *Detroit News*. Known as the Allegan project, the land embraces approximately 35,000 acres a few miles northwest of the city of Allegan. The land for the most part is of the submarginal type—too poor for successful farming but holding great possibilities for recreational development. The Kalamazoo River flows through the property which also contains a number of lakes and small streams. Work has progressed through the CCC camps in the establishment of camp sites, game refuges, bathing beaches, shelters and other recreational facilities. Much lake and stream improvement has been undertaken. While there is much yet to be done a splendid start has been made, and on the completion of the project southeastern Michigan will have a much needed recreation area capable of serving many thousands of people.

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the unusual features of the homes and gardens exhibit at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exhibition of San Francisco Bay. A large area in the homes and gardens building will be devoted to a series of model rooms. In addition to elaborately planned rooms with special cabinets and shelving for the showing of collections, several displays will illustrate the advantage to which unused basements or attic space can be put by inexpensive alterations.

Youth Journeys and the Social Sciences

(Continued from page 5)

In the United States

In the United States the 1937 summer announcements of the Youth Hostel Association not only showed a varied schedule of trips to Europe but described a new innovation called "The Rolling Youth Hostel," which through the courtesy of railway representatives makes available a tourist coach outfitted with cooking equipment and room for bicycle storage and a hostel mother and father in charge. Groups coming East leave San Francisco and those going West, Montreal, for two months—10,000 miles at a cost of \$195.00—circling from the Canadian Rockies through California and back the Southern Route with Grand Canyon, Santa Fé and Salt Lake City included; the Hostel remaining on a sidetrack whenever excursions by bicycle are desired.

There is no School Journeys Association in the United States and there seems to be very little expression of general interest among teachers for the advantages in teaching made possible by such a cooperative effort. However, in America there are a number of enterprises directed toward the same goals as these laboratory methods found in other countries. Antioch College was established to demonstrate the principle of actual experience in out-of-school situations paralleling theoretical instruction; Bennington College provides for a work and experience period away from the college; "The Junior Year Abroad" has been established for some time as part of progressive college curricula; a bulletin from the New Jersey Teachers College announces for the summer of 1938, "Continental United States—a field study course in American life—twelve thousand five hundred miles in sixty-two days—ten points credit"; New College requires a year of study abroad as part of teacher education, as well as a period in industry and in living and working in a rural district at

their "Community" in North Carolina. Horace Mann School for Boys has taken its students on automobile trips in America; the Riverdale School has sent groups to Europe; the Carey School in Maryland has undertaken an annual Sweden Trip for its students, and the Bentley, Kansas, High School has made a study trip of the United States. There are others, but not of such numbers that there is difficulty in recording them.

The Lincoln School in New York City has set an example of a school journey that could well be copied by other progressive schools. The science teacher and his wife, who advises the girls and has charge of the physical education program, planned a trip last summer with a group of boys and girls, making their farm in Maine headquarters and from there bicycled around the New England Youth Hostel Loop, studying the trees, flowers, animals, and geology of the region. Their report on the project after their return to school in September showed so much of value that the school arranged for twenty children and five leaders who were studying "Man's Life in an Industrial Age" to spend a month there, living in a rural setting to see and understand some of the problems met by our rural population as well as learning some of the techniques of living together in an interdependent group.

We are in a period when not only the "New Leisure Challenges the Schools" but one in which the needs of a new and changed world challenge the schools. Newer ways for newer times must be found. Schools must extend their laboratory methods in citizenship education with vicarious experience through films, with direct experience on short and long visits, with trailers, country and city homes, youth hostels, both stationary and rolling, periods of living and working in city and country, in the United States and abroad, with broadly trained and energetic leadership seeing citizenship education as broader, deeper living in varied experiences which will bring deeper and wider understandings of one's self in relation to others all the way from nursery school into adult years, a continuous process as long as one lives.

NOTE—Parts of this article are reprinted with the permission of *The New York Times*.

A Study of Play Accidents in Pittsburgh

(Continued from page 8)

Too often adults believe that they are still as good in a particular game as they were when

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youngsters. When they fall they are more easily hurt because they have not been active for a length of time and their neuro-muscular coordination has deteriorated to some degree.

5. Accidents take an enormous jump during the summer months when more facilities are placed into operation. Accidents occurred most frequently from 12:00 noon to 6:00 P. M. as compared with the morning hours and evening hours. One must not overlook the fact, however, that it is possibly due to the fact that the junior playgrounds were open only until 5:00 o'clock.

6. Swings were the highest contributors to the causes of accidents. Children most frequently injured were the youngsters between the ages of three to seven who were struck when they walked into the path of the swing. The erection of barriers about the swing area or the "zoning" of swing areas with lines would remedy this condition to a great degree.

7. As to the part of the body most frequently injured, head injuries were more frequent, there being four times as many as those to the arm and leg.

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The Witchery of Walking*(Continued from page 10)*

The area around White Rock Lake boasts visitors of nearly every bird family. Long before the migrant shrike that comes in early April together with the loggerhead of the same family, there is the pleasure of their trek. The last mentioned is about the size of a mocking bird with head of blue black and a bill like a parrot. He is one of the preying birds like a hawk.

In midsummer, the light wires are heavy with swallows and the kildees hop back and forth on the lawns, delighting in the man-made rain of water sprinklers.

The water, of course, draws many water birds. I like to watch the kingfisher with his big blue head, his ruffed neck and sawed-off body sit on a certain elm branch out over the lake intent on his business. He is diligent, and dives so directly down into the water when he spies a fish that he appears to have fallen. Pelicans and sea gulls are frequent, and in the winter every variety of duck, even the English callers. Last winter a flock of trumpeter swans appeared in the middle of the lake. These are large and rarely seen. They took off at dawn.

For all winged life, the sky is a stage and they perform engagingly against a changing scenery of clouds.

There is no doubt that a childlike interest in woodlore and a curiosity about one or more of the several branches of natural science give zest to walking. While the act is in itself a worthwhile expenditure of leisure, the participant misses available enjoyment unless he returns richer in mind and body as a result of his hours in the open. In most instances, the nearer the route retains its natural contour and uncut vegetation, the more perfect is the walking prospect.

For myself, after years of walking, I am as happy at uncovering a new footpath, a walking

Ernest Ashley

ERNEST ASHLEY, dean of tennis, as he was affectionately called because he built the first tennis courts in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and at sixty-five years of age still played a game envied by much younger men, died suddenly on December 14th. For eight years he served on the School Board and on the Recreation Commission, and he was superintendent of parks for two years. It was his delight to make facilities not only useful but beautiful as well. Every spot that he touched took on greater beauty. He developed the parks as recreation centers, picnic grounds, baseball, football and soccer fields, volley ball and tennis courts—every facility he could adapt to recreational needs was used with lightning rapidity. His plans were not finished and he was eagerly awaiting opportunities to do bigger things. Last fall he planted much which will bring joy and beauty to the city and enhance Allentown's memorial of him.

map, a vista never seen before, as a naturalist is at discovering a new specimen. Even from the car or train window, every quiet lane or twisting path invites my eye to pleasant contemplation of all it offers—sunlight, deep breathing of pure outdoor air, mental relaxation, spiritual uplift. A woodland scene entices me with its infinite splendor. Standing in a virgin wood, I feel humble and insignificant. Yet this atomic gauge of stature is good discipline for the ever-vaunting ego. Besides, there is release in the realization that natural forces are working out life patterns, and will be when my own small problems are over.

I am on my way back home; the warm, pungent air is a leaven to my senses. The path leads across a creek—clear, brisk and singing. Never, between the months of May and October, am I able to resist the wading instinct which its merriment invites. The wet, clean sand beneath my feet takes off the years. "Now We Are Six" with Christopher Robin, and a participant, in spirit, with him in all of Milne's delightful child adventures. A wading trip up through the arch of overhanging willows suggests a land that only a writer for children could know. The vista into that enchanted land is only the length of a breath, but its intangible charm, while not translatable to hard, cold words, is linked with a kindred feeling for Pan and a "Midsummer Night's Dream" folk

Thirty-two Years Old

April 12, 1938 is important in the world recreation movement because thirty-two years ago on that day, in Washington, D. C., the National Recreation Association was organized. It was then known as the Playground Association of America, later as the Playground and Recreation Association of America, and finally as the National Recreation Association. One of its meetings was held with President Theodore Roosevelt in the White House and twenty-five years later on the anniversary meeting, again a meeting was held in the Cabinet Room in the White House with President Hoover and several of his Cabinet members present.

Quietly and without great display the work of the National Recreation Association has been carried on year after year. The work has never been that of a single individual or a few individuals but of thousands of cooperating men and women throughout the country.

that we know in our hearts exist but do not talk about.

Yes, walking is clean, healthy fun. It entails the smallest monetary outlay per hour of happiness that can be found. It is the password to a green world of peace and measured beauty.

Newton D. Baker

(Continued from page 12)

said anything bitter or unkind about anybody. He had the philosophic capacity to sit back and contemplate himself and the world with perspective and a quiet humor.

With him modesty and courage went hand in hand. He was the type of man who never wanted credit when things went right. On those occasions it was always somebody else who was responsible—it was Pershing, it was Bliss, it was March. But if things went wrong, as they frequently did in the conduct of so gigantic an enterprise, then as Secretary of War he insisted on assuming the entire responsibility. I remember once that with some feeling of indignation a few of us tried to get him to dissociate himself from responsibility for an incident for which he was being widely attacked, but with which he had had nothing whatever to do. All we could get from him was the laughing comment: "What's a Secretary of War for if it isn't to take the gaff?"

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Lord Morley said of Gladstone: "He so lived and wrought that he kept the soul alive in England." It is to few men in public office or in private life that such a tribute can be paid. But this was Newton Baker's contribution to his generation. Here in Cleveland, here in Ohio, here in the United States, he was one of that small band that kept the soul alive. If even one of our universities, every four years or so, were able to turn out a Newton Baker, we could face the future with less foreboding. With that kind of genius for great citizenship, with that type of clarity and vision, the world of today and of tomorrow would not seem so troubled and so dark. But talents such as he possessed cannot be manufactured. They come from some alchemy of the human spirit which we do not understand. All that we can hope for is that from the same mysterious source America will produce other leaders like Newton Baker to keep the soul of this country alive.

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Mrs. Mary J. Cowley

MRS. MARY JUNKIN COWLEY, who died November 23, 1937, was one of the most widely known and best beloved citizens of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her activities in women's clubs, her membership on the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, and, especially, her leadership in the playgrounds of the North Side of Pittsburgh, brought her into daily contact with men, women, and children of all ranks of life.

For more than thirty years she had worked hard to start and develop summer playgrounds and all-year recreation centers. Flower days, shop, sewing, music, ball games, volunteer service, and her personal acquaintance with directors, children, and parents differentiated these playgrounds from the standardized type of recreation field. Mrs. Cowley was never too busy nor too tired to attend festivities in the elementary schools and recreation centers.

Her "safe and sane" celebration in a public park each fourth of July morning drew thousands of spectators to see colorful pageants. In many a neighborhood the exhibition day of the summer playground was the important event of the season for parents, as well as children. The weekly flower days brought the growers of blossoms into wholesome, friendly relations with the dwellers in congested districts. Each summer season was brought to a glorious close by the field day with its drills, games, and contests. The annual reports (published 1905-1932) were live, human documents, illustrated by photographs taken by Mrs. Cowley and the professional photographers of the Pittsburgh daily papers. These newspapers printed many accounts of the activities in the North Side playgrounds.

When Mrs. Cowley resigned from her playground work she was rendered a reception at the Twentieth Century Club, November 23, 1934. A public elementary school was named for her in 1914, and later her name was given to a recreation center.

Appointed to the Board of Public Education when it was organized in November, 1911 and serving continuously, Mrs. Cowley was sworn in for a term of six years a fortnight before her death.

Children and their parents referred to her as "Our Mrs. Cowley." The morning after her death a school boy, holding in his hand a clipping from a Pittsburgh newspaper, said to his teacher,

Hermann Merkel

HERMANN W. MERKEL, general superintendent of the Westchester County Park Commission and former New York City park official, died on February 28th at the age of sixty-four. Born in Germany, Mr. Merkel came to this country at the age of sixteen. He became an American citizen and shortly after his twenty-first birthday went to Germany to study forestry, returning to New York after a short time. For twenty-six years Mr. Merkel was associated with the New York Zoological Society, most of the time as general superintendent of maintenance. During this period he was responsible for the greater part of the landscape improvements at the Bronx Zoo. He was also consultant with the Bronx River Parkway Commission, acting as chief landscape architect. In 1925 he became general superintendent of maintenance for the Westchester Park Commission, and it was under his direction that the natural beautification of the Bronx River Parkway progressed. In 1933 he was made chief executive of the Park Commission. Mr. Merkel was the founder of the American Society of Park Executives and for years served as its secretary and treasurer. For two years he was president of the organization.

"She was my friend." This statement, echoed by thousands of men, women, and children, is probably the greatest tribute to a woman who had courageously faced the sorrows of life and delighted in its joys. (From statement prepared by Dr. Elizabeth B. Cowley.)

Music Is Fun!

(Continued from page 20)

their director. There is always the study of delightful new music and the thrill of playing with, and becoming a part of the group. To make music funfule, joyous and satisfying—this is the objective. To add to the group fellowship, socials are held from time to time.

At present, each of the three community centers has a children's orchestra, with members from fifteen to twenty-five years old. In addition, there are many beginners taking bi-weekly instruction in some instrument with a membership in an orchestra as their goal. The children of kindergarten and primary age are organized into melody bands where many are obtaining their first group

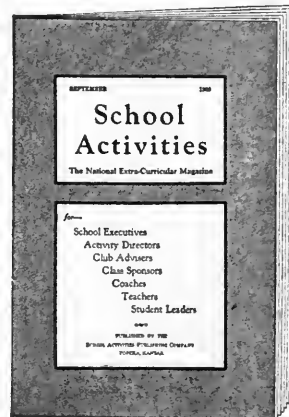
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musical instruction. These children in turn receive instruction in the various instruments of the rhythm band, including the cymbals, triangle bars, saxoflute, melody Marimba bells, rhythm sticks, snare drums, castanets, tone block and beater, tambourines and sleigh bells. The melody band director also holds classes of instruction for the harmonica and the ukulele. From the melody band training the child with interest and aptitude begins the study of some band or orchestral instrument.

Last September the Children's Recreation Department Orchestra was organized. Members were selected from children showing ambition and talent in the community center orchestras. Each Tuesday evening of the week these twenty-five young musicians meet at the Y.M.C.A. for the pleasure of playing together for an hour. Among the twenty-five there are some who began their musical instruction with the department just two years ago and are now having the fun of being a part of an orchestra.

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Benjamin L. Van Schaick

BENJAMIN L. VAN SCHAICK, executive secretary of the Long Island State Park Commission, died on February 18th at the age of sixty. For twelve years he had been associated with the Long Island park system which he served indefatigably. Of him Park Commissioner Robert Moses, in praising Mr. Van Schaick's services and loyalty, said: "Mr. Van Schaick's death, coming so shortly after that of Henry F. Lutz, director of the state parks, leaves another gap in the park personnel which will be most difficult to fill."

through the summer program as well. Instruction is given in the park pavilions and the children may appear as a part of the family and community night programs.

Another part of the "Music Is Fun" program is community singing. Once a week at each of the centers a crowd is waiting to greet the "sing" man. With a stereopticon the words of a song are flashed on a screen, with accompaniment furnished by the department dance orchestra. The repertoire includes old and new, semi-classical and popular songs, with enough variation in each evening's program to appeal to everyone. Talent shows are held on each community sing night in which children are invited to perform. The popularity of the "sings" has never been doubted, since the crowds are usually too large to be well accommodated. During the summer these community sing programs are even more popular since space is not so limited on the playgrounds. A thousand persons formed the usual weekly crowd of enthusiasts gathered around the platform and screen at Lincoln Park, which is located in the center of the city.

Group choruses have been the indirect outgrowth of the community singing program. The Booker T. Washington Colored Community Center has developed a splendid men's chorus as well as a girls' chorus. South Danville and Vermilion Heights Centers have fine children's choruses, and both centers are preparing for spring operettas.

As a leisure-time investment, music rewards with great profits. When the young boy plays a game of basketball, or the young girl learns to knit a sweater, they learn the satisfaction of achievement. When they learn to play music they have this satisfaction plus the lasting compensation that comes from the practice of a great art.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

- Parks and Recreation*, January 1938
Milwaukee County Parks Benefit from NYA Workers, by Jay Hartnett
Public Recreation Abroad, by L. H. Weir
Institute Members Discuss Juvenile Delinquency
- Planning and Civic Comment*, October-December 1937
It Takes a Hotel to Fill a Park, by Harry Bloom
- Child Life*, February 1938
Hobby Clubs
- Leisure*, January 1938
What Would You Do With a Million Dollars? by Ola Gladys Hylton
Creative Leisure, by Bernard H. Porter
Curling, by W. A. Wittich
Chess in the Modern Style, by J. S. Klar
Novel Method of Leaf Printing, by H. E. Zimmerman
Community Dancing á la Pasadena, by Katherine Glover
And Now Leisure, by Jay B. Nash
Pointers on Puppetry, by LeRoy Stahl
Recreation and Group Work
- Leisure*, February 1938
Small Town Homemade Recreation, by J. H. Juel
Fashioning Footlights a Flash in the Pan, by Ruth D. Niles
Functions of Character-Building Agencies
- The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, February 1938
Liberal Cultural Values of Physical Education, by Frank S. Lloyd
Dance Adventures Abroad, by Margaret Mantle Stookey
Recreation Leadership as a College Course, by Ruth Hill Wood
Play Without Awards
Yarnin'
- Hygeia*, March 1938
Figure Skating, by Dudley B. Reed
- The Girl Scout Leader*, March 1938
Craft Experimentation, by C. Evangeline Ford
- Better Times*, February 7, 1938
Recreation and Crime Prevention, by Albert B. Hines
Community Centers of Art, by Sophie Steinbach

PAMPHLETS

- Belleville, N. J.—Sixteenth Annual Report of the Recreation Commission.*
- Annual Report of the Director of the Recreation Commission, Bloomfield, N. J.*
- Record of Accomplishment—WPA in New York City*
- The Hobby League News*, February 1938
Issued by Hobby League of the Playground and Recreation Association, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association Incorporated—Report for the Year 1937*
- Twenty-third Annual Report of the Department of Recreation of Detroit, Mich.*
- Annual Report of the Colored Recreation Association, Richmond, Va., 1937*
- Year Book of the Department of Public Recreation, Irvington, N. J., 1937-1938*
- Ninth Annual Report Parks and Recreation Department, Steubenville, Ohio, 1937*

Child Life Achievement Award



In recognition of the services of educators of the youth of the country, *Child Life Magazine*, published by Rand McNally and Company, is offering an annual Child Life Achievement Award. On May 1, 1938, a committee of judges composed of leading Americans will select the man or woman in the educational field who in their opinion has accomplished the most in the interest of children during the year 1937. According to the *Child Life Magazine*, the candidate for the award may be nominated by anyone. He may be a teacher in a backwoods school, an author, a famous educational leader, or anyone whose efforts have furthered the interests of children's education. The committee will consider every candidate carefully and will make the decision only on the basis of accomplishment and service.

The award will be an antique bronze statuette of a child designed by Mabel Landrum Torrey.

A Sugar Bush Festival

(Continued from page 22)

14. The Indian dropped hot stones into the sap. When it froze he threw the ice away.
15. Three to four weeks.
16. The sap comes from all parts of the tree. If you break a twig it will "bleed," it comes from above and from below. During the first part of the season more comes from above.
17. South.
18. When the tree is warmed the air in the cell spaces expands.
19. Sapsucker, porcupine, red squirrel, insects (flies and bees).
20. Bark vessels and hollowed logs.
21. Thirty-two quarts.
22. A $\frac{1}{2}$ inch hole, 2 inches deep; breast high, slanting up.
23. Up the sap wood and down the inner bark.
24. For individuals to carry pails of sap to the kettle to be "boiled down." It is a piece of wood that goes across the shoulders to hold a pail on each end.
25. So that you can use a siphon and run the sap by gravity.
26. To remove impurities such as bits of ashes, bark, etc.
27. By putting in cream, lard, or salt pork to break the surface tension of the foam.
28. Eleven.
29. Hot liquids contract when cooled.
30. They had to attend to sap buckets in the day.
31. Although the sugar maple makes the best sugar it is also made from the red and silver maples.
32. By pouring driblets of thick sirup on clean snow.
33. Vermont produces the most sugar and New York the most sirup.
34. Brown sugar since it is cheaper.
35. By evaporation.
36. Furs, corn and maple sugar.
37. One to six pounds.
38. It concentrates to the point where it is no longer soluble in the water present.
39. In 1860, 40,120,205 pounds. In 1910, 14,000,000 pounds. In 1920, 9,691,854 pounds. These are estimates for the United States census.
40. The boiling point of a liquid varies with the altitude and also concentration.
41. A hydrometer usually the Baume hydrometer.
42. It is a good conductor of heat which is necessary for evaporation.
43. Lower priced, steady supply, and modern machinery for refining.
44. Trees are scattered and mostly hand labor is required.
45. The flowers and leaves appear at the same time in the sugar maple.
46. Bacteria.
47. The fruit comes from end buds in the sugar maple and from side buds in the red maple.
48. The cause of bird's-eye and curly maple is unknown. It is not due to woodpeckers.

49. Although once thought of as food it is now considered a confection.
50. The maple tree borer is the grub of a beetle.

Today's Boy and Girl

(Continued from page 25)

all our program be worked out *with* the adolescent instead of *for* them. Two quotations from the recent book "Rediscovering the Adolescent" by Dr. Hedley S. Dimock, are far reaching in their significance. "Through the broad channel of play we may fathom currents that run deep and strong in the adolescent's life and development." "In the experience of play, the deepest needs of his personality may be wholesomely satisfied or tragically thwarted."

Trails

(Continued from page 26)

One can walk ten miles on a trail without more fatigue that would grow out of a five-mile hike on the concrete. The trail yields beneath the feet and takes the jar off the nervous system. One who would walk should find a congenial companion, wear loose clothing with shoes that are large enough with low heels and flexible soles. I once took two seven year old boys on a twenty-mile hike across country in southern Michigan. They ran the last quarter mile of the trip to show they were not tired. Perhaps we tend to underestimate our walking capacity.

A Recreation Museum for Juniors

(Continued from page 29)

the beauties of nature, to learn more of the achievements of science." Our fundamental premise was based on the belief that "any recreational program that justifies itself in any situation must do so in terms of what it as activity means to the individuals it touches."

Activities

A list of activities now being conducted at the Junior Recreation Museum follows:

Biology:

- Study of insects, reptiles, amphibians, fish.
- Instruction in the methods of collecting, mounting, preserving and classifying biological material.
- Instruction in the care and feeding of live speci-

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Study of rocks, minerals, volcanoes, glaciers, erosion.

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Stories on the following subjects are available: Volcanoes, glaciers, erosion, rocks and minerals, Yosemite Valley, Crater Lake, Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon. Field trips to points of geological interest in the Bay Region.

A large study collection is available for advanced students.

Basket Weaving:

Pine needle basket weaving on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Stamp Club:

Tuesday and Saturday afternoons.

Bird Study:

Junior Audubon Club meets on Thursday afternoons.

Bird hikes (dates set at Thursday meeting).

Botany:

Study of wild flowers, trees and shrubs.

Instruction in collecting, pressing, mounting and classifying on Monday, Friday and Saturday.

Casting flowers and leaves in wax on Saturdays. Wildflower collecting trips on the first Sunday of each month.

A large study collection of pressed and mounted specimens properly classified is available to advanced students at all times.

Model Building:

Construction of gliders, rubber-power and gasoline-power model airplanes; flying instructions.

Flying model airplane contests.

(Special instruction for building contest models.)

Junior Birdmen meetings Friday evenings.

Construction of 36" model contests yachts.

Instruction in building authentic scale models of airplanes, ships, railroads, stage coaches.

Construction of models of historical landmarks and buildings.

Construction of relief maps.

Building bird homes and feeding tables.

The School Club Is Here to Stay

(Continued from page 30)

dent members. Wherever possible, club activities should grow out of curricular activities. The club program should fit the local situation. Provision should be made for the proper encouragement and limitation of participation. Every student should belong to a club but membership should be voluntary. All students should have equal opportunities for joining clubs. The club should be limited in size and should not be considered vocational in purpose. Normally the club should be scheduled on regular school time and should usually be held on school premises. Club sponsors should be carefully chosen and assigned.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

An Appraisal of Camp Facilities

By H. D. Whiteside. Federation of Social Agencies of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, 519 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, Pa. \$35.

THIS APPRAISAL of sixteen camps (settlement, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Y. M. C. A. and others) was undertaken by the Group Work Division of the Federation of Social Agencies of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County at the request of the Budget Committee of the Community Fund. No attempt was made to compare the camps or to evaluate the effectiveness of the work done since the diversified nature and purposes of the camps makes this impossible. The study consists of an appraisal of physical camp equipment and the analysis of the incomes and expenditures in the 1936 season with a brief description of each camp and a sample daily program. Camp administrators will be interested in the points stressing the importance of keeping certain kinds of records and the advantages of cooperating in joint purchasing.

Organized Safety by Organized Parents and Teachers

National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

IN THIS PAMPHLET, an outgrowth of the traffic education project of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, some traffic accident facts are presented and suggestions are offered regarding things to do about them. There is a section dealing with Home and School Cooperation for Traffic Safety and another on Community Safety Activities of Parent-Teacher Associations. When we are confronted with the fact that 37,800 men, women and children were killed in traffic accidents in 1936 and 1,300,000 were injured more or less seriously, the importance of such projects as that of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers becomes apparent.

Methods in Physical Education

Dr. Jesse Feiring Williams, Columbia University, Dr. John I. Dambach, University of Pittsburgh, and Miss Norma Schwendener, Columbia University. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa. \$2.50.

THIS SECOND revised edition of an accepted standard work designed to help physical education teachers to improve their teaching effectiveness has been substantially changed with several chapters completely rewritten, others reorganized, and a new chapter added on the teaching of games. These revisions have been made so that the book can reflect developments in this field since the original edition was published in 1932. It discusses teaching methods in general and teaching methods for special activities such as drills, young children's activities, calisthenics, gymnastics, dancing, swimming, athletics and games.

Weather Handbook

By Lou Williams. Girl Scouts, Inc., New York. \$25.

THE WEATHER HANDBOOK, in its 1937 revised edition, has grown from a ten cent mimeographed bulletin to a 33-page photo-offset booklet full of practical suggestions any one can follow for forecasting the weather, making weather vanes and clipper ship barometers, keeping daily weather logs, telling the speed of the wind without instruments, teaching others to forecast the weather and many other such weather projects. There is explanatory material on clouds, snow, rain, wind, thunderstorms and other "ingredients" of weather, much of which is illustrated by photographs and diagrams.

Education for Democracy—Public Affairs Forums

By J. W. Stuebaker. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$10.

IN THIS pamphlet (Bulletin 1935, No. 17) Dr. Stuebaker discusses the value of forums in a democracy and tells in detail of the experiment in conducting forums which was established in Des Moines under his leadership. In the final chapter Dr. Stuebaker outlines a plan for a nation-wide program of forums involving a three year experimental program.

Fun for the Family

Edited by Jerome S. Meyer. Greenberg, New York City. \$1.95.

JEROME MEYER, who has given us a number of books designed to sharpen wits and provide entertainment at parties, has now compiled a book of a thousand puzzles, brain twisters, parlor stunts, memory tests and "what not," intended for family use. In addition to the puzzles, brain twisters and mental stunts, there are oral games, pencil and paper games, games of action and a number of games for special holiday occasions.

Group Work in Camping

By Louis H. Blumenthal. Association Press, New York City. \$1.25.

MR. BLUMENTHAL, as Executive Director of the San Francisco Jewish Community Center and past president of the Pacific Camp Directors Association has had wide experience in camping and understands its technique thoroughly. In this volume he aims "to examine the nature of groups in camps, how relationships in the group modify camp behavior, and how the group work process may become a constructive educational force in the group setting."

In the camp set-up there are various kinds of groups. We usually think of the interest groups among the boys

or girls. But the camp as a whole is a group. Then there are the cabin groups, activity groups, the counselor's group, the worker's group each having its own objectives, leadership and program. The proper functioning of all these groups creates a "dynamic environment" which provides opportunity for individuals and groups to express themselves to best advantage. The author contends that camp groups are free from the restrictions that affect groups in the home, the school, the church. Hence, camp groups become unusual settings for learning. There is more freedom for experimentation, a more wholesome reaction of personality on personality. The chapter on Counselor and Other Camp Groups deals with qualities of camp leadership. The careful selection, training and supervision of the counselor's group is the most important task of the director.

A Key to the Art of Music.

By Frank Howes. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. \$2.00.

Here is a book on music which will have its greatest appeal for the advanced music lover, enabling him to unify his outlook on music and clarify his thinking. In five chapters Mr. Howes covers the philosophy, technique, literature, history and criticism of music. He describes the origin of the art of music in relation to the play instinct of man.

Speed Ball for Girls and Women.

By Helen M. Barton. Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$1.25.

This 95 page photo-lithograph book is a scholarly and usable consideration of speed ball from all angles for the purpose of promoting interest in the game. Rules, game-points for coach and player, basketball and soccer techniques in speed ball, positions and duties of players, lead-up games, diagrams and discussions of plays, description of field and equipment and a bibliography are included.

Organizing the Community for Delinquency Prevention.

Bulletin No. 93 of the Community Chests and Councils, Inc., 155 East 44th Street, New York. \$.50.

This bulletin summarizes information gathered in an intensive study of the families of 100 delinquent youths in Jacksonville, Florida, and reports on the conclusions reached by the Institute for Southern Social Work Executives, held at Blue Ridge, North Carolina, July 1936, which used this Jacksonville material as a basis for study.

The two points emphasized in this bulletin are first, that the family, rather than the child, was taken as the point of departure. All contacts of all social agencies with the families were studied and analyzed rather than just the contacts of agencies with the delinquent child alone. The second point stressed is that the study analyzed the actual services of the social agencies to the families, covering such service from the time of their first contact to the time of the child's final commitment. All the children studied were at the time of the study committed to state industrial schools. From the point of view of public recreation, it is interesting to note that the study reports no contact with any public recreation agency, no public recreation centers being available within walking distance of most of the children included in the study. The report mentions the inadequacy of public recreation provisions.

The Model Theater.

By Victor Hembrow. The Studio Publications, Inc., 381 Fourth Avenue, New York. \$.35.

In this issue of the Hours of Leisure series Mr. Hembrow explains how to make a model theater equally valuable as a toy or for serious use. All of the drawings are

exactly to scale so that they themselves can be used for the purpose, while by enlarging the designs he provides, theaters of every size can be built. There are many illustrations and diagrams.

Seventy Money-Raising Plans for Women's Groups.

By Lena M. Phillips, Pictorial Review, 57th St. at 8th Ave., New York City. \$.25.

Women's groups wishing to raise money will find this booklet of great help. It contains a very useful list of "do's and don'ts," hints on committee organization, seventy tried and proven ways of earning money, a guide to meals for 100 persons and a bibliography. The money-raising plans include simple and elaborate events which can be adapted to almost any group. There are many suggestions on what to sell and how to sell it and over twenty entertainments to give, including parties, fairs, exhibits, concerts, bridge parties, dances and shows of various kinds.

Games Digest.

Edited by Ely Culbertson, 380 Second Avenue, New York. \$.10 per copy. \$1.00 per year.

And now another monthly digest—this time one of special interest to recreation workers and others concerned with social recreation programs. There are simple games for the novice and advice for the expert. And there are tricks and stunts when you don't want games and solos and solitaire when you are alone. The January issue, for example, contains question and answer games, card games, suggestions for parlor entertainment, discussion of board games such as chess and checkers and of problems arising in bridge, pinochle, checkers and other games.

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"A Mighty Volume of Hope"

"The New Deal was a magnificent promise, and it evoked a mighty volume of hope. Mass hope is the most wonder-working gift that can come into the hands of a popular leader. The mass hope of world peace at the end of the Great War, the mass hope of the Russian Revolution and the mass hope of the New Deal were great winds of opportunity. But these great winds of opportunity do not wait for ships to be built or seamen to learn navigation. They pass: they are not to be recalled."—H. G. Wells—*Collier's* for February 5, 1938.

THE RECREATION MOVEMENT—the playground movement—the abundant living movement too has been "a magnificent promise, has evoked a mighty volume of hope." This promise, this hope could be fulfilled. The difficulty is in any large areas to find the adequate tax support to provide the leadership needed for a long time demonstration, to help citizens to form the habits of vital, victorious living. Gracious, vital, satisfactory living is much less dependent on money, might, position, power than is commonly supposed. If we really care to live—we can pretty well do so. It is a question of "the gods we worship." We have worshipped the possession of money, of power, of position, and living has most of the time been regarded as of little importance—until the time for death came and men realized that ever and always living had been postponed until a later time until now it was too late. Whole generations have come and gone pretty much without having lived.

A few spirits, sometimes kings, sometimes peasants; sometimes rich, sometimes poor; sometimes presidents, sometimes fishermen have always and ever lived, have ever possessed the inner resources for living.

Neither Stalins nor Hitlers nor Mussolinis can give such inner resources for living. No amount of external music, drama, nature, building, creating will produce of itself music and harmony and unity and life within.

The art of living is a much greater art than the art of making money, of gaining position or power.

If we all care enough for the art of living, if we care a fractional part as much for living as we have cared for making money, our part of the world could soon be made over—"a magnificent promise, a mighty volume of hope could be fulfilled."

It is a question of "the gods we worship."

Such living is not flying nowhere fast, galloping off in all directions at once.

Music, beauty, adventure, unity—each of these has always been in the world, probably always will be—but it is there only for those who have been helped to see it, to feel it, to live it.

And all this depends on whether we as men, as taxpayers, care—care enough to provide leadership for living as we provide leadership for war.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

MAY, 1938

May



Photograph by L. O. Bogart which won honorable mention in the Union County, N. J., Camera Club Contest

A Playground Goes to the Children

Pets and flowers; libraries that are different; colorful paintings on unsightly walls — you will find all these and more in the story of Philadelphia's Tot Lot Playground

By C. H. ENGLISH

Executive Secretary
Playground and Recreation Association
Philadelphia, Pa.



Can you walk through this hole without stooping? If you can, it's your ticket of admission to the Tot Lot Playground!

CHILDREN living in blighted, congested slum neighborhoods are usually forced to use dangerous streets as their playground. Home play is impossible through lack of space, and back yards are small or absent altogether. There are never enough playgrounds in such districts, especially for little folks. Fortunate are the youngsters if there is a cleared, vacant lot in their block. To have a vacant lot supervised and equipped as a small playground comes pretty close to being their idea of a perfect set-up.

In Philadelphia we call these operations "tot lot playgrounds." A tot lot is primarily for little tots and for children under twelve years of age. Developed within the block, sometimes in the very center, it has an intimate relationship with whole families not usually possible on a standard playground. In practice, these tot lots are really family play centers shared at times with such activities as the drying of clothes on wash day. While the program is designed for small children, the families soon take it for granted that they are to participate in all the plans and activities. And why shouldn't they when all that the nearest neighbors have to do is to step out of their back doors and be in the playground? Only a few older brothers and sisters are permitted to participate in the program, and then strictly as junior leaders.

At all times a group of neighbors are present and having as good a time as the children. How often have we heard leaders of standard recreation centers express the wish that they could secure active participation and cooperation of parents in their playground program? In a tot lot situation parents do not have to travel to a play center; they are already there. The leaders do not have to call stated meetings for parents. Rather, there is a daily, friendly, neighborly chat going on even while directing the program. Indeed, this leader and family relationship is both the greatest challenge and the most severe test of that leadership. All the family feuds, unhappy situations, sickness, economic distress, as well as inter-family social and racial antagonisms, become a part of the supervisor's problem load. We attempt to serve the whole family in their problems and needed adjustments.

Why assume this additional and difficult burden? Just how effective would our work with disadvantaged children be, no matter how excellent the program, if our influence did not reach the whole family? If the child's family does not have a change of attitude, then our efforts are seriously handicapped. We cannot expect the child to be the only influence at work in family rehabilitation.

Is it possible to effect changes in a slum neighborhood by working with children on this type of playground? It is being done at our tot lots.

A Typical District

To understand how this is being accomplished it is necessary to describe a typical slum district in which one of our tot lots is located. Housing is appalling. The type of house is what is known as a "bandbox" house. This is a three story dwelling of one room per story, 12x14 feet. Often three families are forced to exist in these "homes," each having a room, but constantly disturbed because the second and third floors are reached by an inside circular stairway through these rooms. There is no privacy except on the third floor. There are no sewers, only surface drainage. Some homes are without heating facilities and most of them are without electric lights. Streets are narrow, many only ten feet wide. Courts, often not over four feet wide, are the only passageway to dark, unsanitary interior homes. Generally there are only outdoor toilets. One court hydrant may serve as many as sixteen families. If there are backyards they are so small they can only be used for storage. Can you imagine play space for children in such homes? Court and street play is their *only* choice.

In such districts there exists a number of racial groups. Fierce antagonisms develop between adults which are carried on by the youngsters. Social life is very active, since household duties are practically nil and unemployment causes an abundance of leisure. Gossip and fights are the chief forms of recreation. Naturally the social unit among youth, and even children, is

the street or court gang. These gangs are the life of the district. If you were forced to live there you would join one, too. It would be the natural expression of revolt against the dreary, sordid environment, and an effort to compensate for its deficiencies.

Recent years of economic distress have caused tragic situations in these neighborhoods. Actual want, increased sickness, drunkenness and excessive idleness are factors that have caused broken homes, raised the birth rate and in general thrown the family into a state of despair and disorganization. What has happened to the children who survive? Could it be otherwise than that they are touchy, irresponsible, delinquent, undernourished, and thereby subject to many physical disorders? Such conditions exist in slum districts in any large city, especially the old ones, and are not typical of Philadelphia alone.

"Page" the Ideal Tot Lot Leader!

Would the training we require of a standard playground worker be sufficient for leadership on a tot lot in such neighborhoods? Experience indicates much more is required. Workers must possess a "missionary spirit" even to have the desire to work in such an environment. They must have had some actual experience with situations involving racial difficulties, poverty and social problems in family life. They must have acquired a knowledge of elemental social case work. They must know the community resources available in matters of health, social and Government services and how to utilize them. They must be resource-

ful in order to overcome the handicaps of space, equipment and the continuous adjustments among children and parents. All this is necessary, in addition to play skills. Since the percentage of subnormal children is high in such districts, the need to catalogue or classify children seems to be imperative. This really calls for psychometric methods. Therefore, a knowledge of the Montessori, or similar methods, for lit-

**It's better, and more economical,
to build boys than to repair men**



Courtesy of Evening Public Ledger



The children helped in painting the pictures which have transformed a number of old walls

tle folks would be desirable.

Will someone "page" the country for such a leader who has all this experience and who is willing to accept an ordinary salary for such pioneer service? We have no one on our staff who possesses all these ideal qualifications. But through "in-service training," and with the aid of a volunteer doctor of psychology, we are making considerable headway in acquiring additional techniques. And we may state that we do not expect to get many tangible results short of five years of experimentation. The program involved in classification is too new even to attempt a report at this time. During a period of two years some interesting experiments have been tried which lends encouragement to our efforts. Among these experiments we submit the following which are unique:

Some Successful Experiments

A Pet Library. On one of our tot lot playgrounds

we developed a "pet library." A collection of ani-

mals and birds was made, sixteen varieties in all, and properly housed in a corner of the lot. These included guinea pigs, pigeons, chickens, turtles, gold fish and ducks. The children, many of whom had never seen some of the animals, were tremendously interested in our zoo. They were eager to learn about the care and feeding of them and each day different youngsters were granted this privilege. Then at the end of the playground day a selected group was permitted to take the pets home to be returned the following day. We did not lose a single pet. In fact, before the end of summer there were many increases among certain of the breeds. Objective lessons continuously learned through handling these pets account for a good deal of the consideration the children developed for one another.

Largest Painting. The summer theme for storytelling, dramatics and handcraft was American

Indian Lore. With the aid of a WPA artist a scene of an Indian encampment was painted on one of the three brick walls surrounding the playground. This scene was eight feet high and fifty feet long. The artist designed, outlined and directed the older children in completing the picture.

An interesting feature developed in this project. It was found that ordinary paint was absorbed by the weather-beaten brick. A local paint concern became so interested in the problem that they gave their research department the task of developing a formula to overcome the difficulty. This was so successful that the painting has withstood months of changing weather. So delighted were the children with their largest painting in the city that they requested others. They were given a choice of subjects and these were decided by vote. In due time, Little Boy Blue, Cinderella with her gorgeous pumpkin coach, Three Brown Bears and, of course, Mickey Mouse and Company were added to the "gallery."

It is difficult to measure results that spring from appreciation of beauty. You can well imagine the effect these paintings had upon the children who had a share in their creation. Recall their environment and then realize that this play center was the only lovely spot in the neighborhood. These decorated walls had a hoped-for effect on the behavior of the adults as well as the children. Although anyone can gain entrance to the playground when it is officially closed, not one of the scenes has been defaced. This is a remarkable record for the district and entirely unexpected. Such treatment of walls is now part of our program in all playgrounds as we have discovered that talented artists, after seeing that it is possible to work on such a difficult medium, are ready to volunteer their services.

Flowers for the Flowerless. Flowers mean so much to slum children that each year a courageous attempt is made to raise them, even though all the space on the tot lot could be used for activities. Border gardens and climbing varieties are planted next to walls and fences, but atmospheric conditions, the short season and non-fertile soil make productivity rather unsuccessful. This year we have the promise of plants in tubs and pots. Last summer an appeal was made to the garden clubs to supply us with cut flowers. When the first load arrived

the youngsters discovered that they had no vases. Thereupon a craft project was developed to create containers for their weekly supply of beautiful bouquets. Bottles were decorated. Some bottles, a variety that has been "bonded," are really most artistic and were easily found in the neighborhood. When the volunteers arrived each week with a carful of fresh flowers for distribution to the children, expressions of joy and cessation from all their other activities gave convincing testimony that flowers play an important part in satisfying a child's hunger for beauty.

"One Good Turn Deserves Another." One project was developed with the idea that the children who were benefited by the tot lot playground should express their appreciation to the friends who contributed toward its maintenance. It was not practical to do this personally, as many contributors were on vacation. It was decided that each child would make a tooled leather book mark (a paper book mark would do as well) and send it through the mails with a letter of appreciation. In the beginning suggested designs for the book marks were given to the youngsters but they soon created their own. Soon after mailing, and throughout the summer, replies to their letters were received. These letters were most interesting and understanding. They established a sincere "kinship," many offering helpful advice, and all were encouraging and written on a child's level. To be recognized in this manner by prominent men and women of the city, and to receive letters posted from Canada to California, was an event so important that the children literally wore them out showing them to everyone in the neighborhood and to those who came to visit the playground. Were they proud? In the fall a number of contributors called at the homes of their correspondents and established personal relationships. Most of the children were remembered at Christmas. We cannot be sure whether the children or the citizens received the greatest benefit from this project. We do know that our "tot loters" took a greater pride in their play center and a greater interest in the program.

An Unexpected Climax

A typical summer program provides for a climax as a closing event. Our final event was a joyous one, but the real climax

(Continued on page 109)

An exceedingly interesting experiment which is being carried on at Kensington Playhouse is a training class in home play for older boys and girls. This will be described in a later issue of *Recreation*.

Arts and Crafts for Playgrounds

WHAT TO DO in arts and crafts for the playground will be a problem of major concern with many recreation leaders this summer. How, with limited funds and supplies, an arts and crafts program may be developed to fill a gap in an otherwise rounded program, or how to take a handcraft program out of the "busy work" class are some of the none-too-easy problems which many workers will be called on to solve.

Equipment

There are certain minimum requirements for equipment for a playground craft program if it is to be of any real value.

Storage Box. Each playground should have a box in which to keep all tools and supplies, a box used for this purpose alone and one which has shelves fitted into it. A piano box with hinged top and front will do admirably.

Craft Shelter. Craft shelters on all playgrounds are recommended as soon as money is available with which to build them. The type of shelter suggested can be used for other activities as well as for the craft work. It is also more economical than a series of temporary shelters that have to be replaced each year. It is more practical than a completely open-sided structure, which

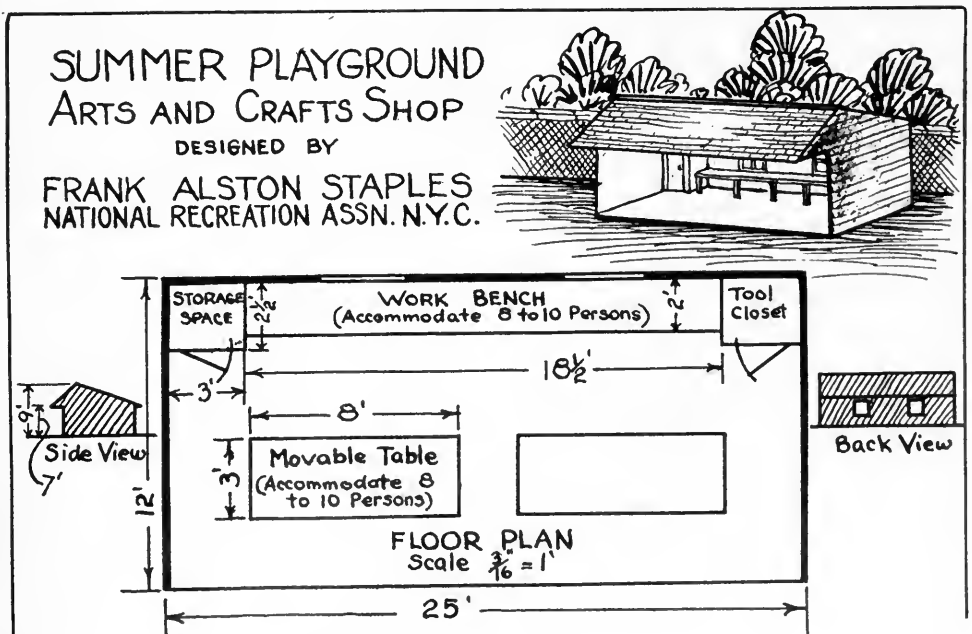
Here are some suggestions which we hope will help you in your summer arts and crafts program. They are taken from a report made by Frank A. Staples, Specialist in Arts and Crafts for the National Recreation Association, to the Recreation Commission of Bloomfield, New Jersey, after a brief study.

gives no protection against wind and only a minimum protection against the glaring sun rays. It should be high enough to give the proper air circulation, and wide and long enough to give sufficient floor space. It can have either a cement, wooden or dirt floor. The shelter should

be enclosed on three sides, leaving one long side open. This open side should face the north. This will insure against strong sunlight, which is harmful to the eyes when working on many materials, especially shiny material such as paper and metals. It will also be cooler, and thereby augment working conditions. Moreover it will protect the worker against wind, which is sometimes a great handicap and a source of irritation, as most of the prevailing winds come from the west. One or more windows, high on the walls, will insure additional light and air if needed. The interior walls may be finished or unfinished. Built-in parts consist of two closets and one work bench. Two, or possibly four, movable tables should be provided. The shelter can most economically be built of wood.

Tables. Each playground needs at least one sturdy table. A table 3'x6' is adequate, or its

The craft shelter suggested here, which may also be used for reading and games, may be any size desired. A shelter 25 feet by 12 feet will comfortably seat from thirty-five to fifty people.



equivalent in folding tables that can be put in the craft box.

Tools and Supplies. The following equipment is essential, and the articles are listed in the order of their importance. It is more important to spend the funds available for this equipment than for other craft supplies, for the latter may often be "salvaged" at little or no cost.

6 coping saws and 24 blades	1 pint shellac
3 hammers	1 shellac brush
1 cross-cut saw	1 can of glue
1 portable vise	1 jar of paste
6 pair of scissors	1 dozen sheets of sandpaper
6 rulers	(0, 00 and coarse)
6 jackknives	2 files (medium and coarse)
3 pints of show card colors (red, yellow, blue and black, white and orange if possible)	1 large pan

The Program

An integrated and creative program of arts and crafts should be encouraged. The integrated program will increase enthusiasm and add to the practical value of the program. The creative program will do this, and will also help fill a needed portion of an individual's life. In this mechanical age, and more so in coming generations, if trends are being interpreted correctly, there will be a great human desire for the opportunity to express oneself in some creative manner during leisure hours. This developing human tendency has been brought about by the introduction of more and more mechanical devices which deprive the human being of creative expression during working hours. It is estimated that at the present time 80 per cent of those engaged in industrial work are unskilled operators—only 20 per cent are needed as skilled hand workers. This condition bids fair to increase rather than to diminish as time goes on. Incidentally, a program based on creative and original work is more stimulating, more interesting and therefore more desired by the participant.

The planning of the summer program and the preparing of the required bulletin material should be done before the season starts. The outline of activities should be planned so that it would take three or four years to cover all the possible crafts. Activities in three or four crafts are more desirable than a smattering of many crafts. In working out the program it is well to keep in mind the gradual development of the child in skills, techniques, interests, appreciations and creative powers. So-called "busy work" has nothing of real value to offer the child. The emphasis, then,

should not be on the collecting of articles to make, but the arranging of a series of problems that will develop the child's appreciation, skills, creative powers and interests—thus bringing fun and freedom into the activity.

The program should be mimeographed and given to each instructor before the summer session starts. This will enable him to plan his work so that a given amount of craft work can be accomplished each week. Needed materials can be found in advance, and necessary time can be planned for. He will also realize that there is a definite craft program, and that he is expected to complete a certain amount of craft work. The program should have flexibility, and not be planned so that the craft work is turned out uniformly throughout the city when a slight change would fit certain situations much more satisfactorily. A plan is necessary so that the leader will know which way he is headed. But if some more attractive path opens up before him, he should not be so tied down by system that he cannot change his course for more attractive adventures. If adventure and fun are taken out of craft work, its greatest value is destroyed.

The program should be so planned that it suggests craft activities for four different groups: the young boy, the young girl, the older boy and the older girl.

Each craft activity should be supplemented by the necessary bulletin material. These bulletins should contain a list of materials needed (supplies to be furnished by the department should be designated, as well as those that the children will be expected to secure); technical information needed in teaching the craft, and practical uses. When possible include a short paragraph showing the correlation with the other playground activities, or home and social life. If possible all bulletins should be given out at the beginning of the season. The instructor can examine the material therein, and be prepared for the coming craft activities.

A meeting attended by all the playground instructors prior to the opening of the playgrounds, when work for the season is outlined, discussed and worked out by each instructor, would be beneficial. At this meeting each instructor should work out a different problem so that all the articles to be made during the summer would be constructed. Articles that were not finished at this time could be completed at home within a few days. If all instructors select a different craft,

the work of the entire summer can be realized, and each will thereby benefit by the work of the others. Such a meeting will also interest the staff in the craft work, as they will gain knowledge and develop enthusiasm. It will impress upon the instructors the importance of the craft program, for so much time would not be given to the subject if it were not worth while.

This meeting should be carefully planned by the arts and crafts supervisor. All materials needed for the work should be on hand and bulletins, techniques and methods of presenting work to the children on the playground should be explained.

A list of arts and crafts activities for the playground follows:

List of Arts and Crafts Activities for the Playground

AGE	BOYS			GIRLS		
	CRAFT	MEDIUM	SUBJECT	CRAFT	MEDIUM	SUBJECT
6-8 years Creative and Symbolic Period	Drawing	Charcoal Crayon Pencil	Creative Pictures Animals, Flowers Birds	Same as for Boys		
	Painting	Water Color Oil	Same as above Finger Painting	Same as for Boys		
	Modeling	Clay Sand	Creative Plaques Figures, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Pottery	Clay Papier-Maché Sawdust	Objects, Animals, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Spatter, etc. Printing	Water Color Ink	Leaves, Flowers Cut Silhouettes, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Woodwork	Pine or other Soft Wood	Puzzles Tricks Simple Objects	Same as for Boys		
	Block Printing	Water Color Ink	Potato and Stick Printing	Same as for Boys		
	Weaving	String Yarns	Belts, Small Mats, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Kite	Wood and Paper	Simple Kites	Same as for Boys		
	Dyeing	Native Vegetable Dyes	Simple Dip and Tie Dyeing of Handker- chief, Scarf, etc.	Same as for Boys		
9-12 years Creative, Symbolic and Realistic Period	Drawing Painting Modeling Pottery	Same as for 6-8 years, with more advanced work and with more realistic representation desired by the child. During this transitional period from symbolic to realistic the creative emphasis should dominate.				
	Spatter, etc. Printing	Water Color Ink	Leaves Flowers Objects, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Woodwork	Soft and Hard Woods	Airplanes, Toys Birdhouses, Games Furniture, Boats Camp Articles, Huts	Needlework and Knitting	Cloth Yarn	Soft Toys, Dolls Simple Cloth Articles Scarfs, Mittens, Sweaters, etc.
	Block Printing	Linoleum Ink Water Color Oil Paint	Table Pieces Curtains, Hangings, etc. Christmas Cards, etc. Handkerchiefs	Same as for Boys		
	Weaving	Cord	Belts, etc.	Weaving	Yarns, etc.	Runners, Mats, Scarfs, etc.
	Kite	Wood and Paper	Original, Decorated Shapes	Soft Toys	Cloth	Dolls, Marion- ettes, Animal Toys, etc.

List of Arts and Crafts Activities for the Playground

AGE	BOYS			GIRLS		
	CRAFT	MEDIUM	SUBJECT	CRAFT	MEDIUM	SUBJECT
(continued) 9-12 years Creative Symbolic and Realistic	Carving	Plaster of Paris, Wood and Bone	Plaques, Ornaments, Figures, Paper Knives, Button Buckles, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Metal	Pewter Copper Brass, Tin	Low Bowls, Flat Wear of Simple Construction	Same as for Boys		
	Leather	Leather	Pocketbooks, Book Marks, Key tainers Book Covers, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Puppetry	Sawdust, Wood and Papier-Maché	Finger Puppets, Marionettes for Original Plays	Same as for Boys		
	Basketry	Split Ash, Willow or Hickory	Simple Baskets, Coasters, Jelly Containers	Same as for Boys		
	Papier-Maché	Newspaper Paper Toweling	Bowls, Plates, etc. Masks Lanterns	Same as for Boys		
	Hooked Rug	Burlap, Cotton and Wool	Mats, Rugs Table Mats, Coasters, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Beadwork	Wood, Glass Metal, Cloth, Nuts, Leather	Belts, Pocket Books, Table Mats, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Jewelry	Pewter Copper Silver	Pins, Buckles, Bracelets, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Bookbinding	Cardboard Cloth	Folders, Small Booklets, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Batik	Cloth Native Dyes	Simple Designs on Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, Curtains, Hangings, etc.	Same as for Boys		
	Poster	Poster Paint	Related to Activities	Same as for Boys		
	Candle- dipping	Bayberry Tallow	Candles	Same as for Boys		
	Screen painting	Water Color Ink	Posters Illustrations, etc.	Same as for Boys		
13 years up	Iron Work	Iron	Household Articles such as Lamps, Magazine Racks, Flower Brackets, etc.	See Below		
Creative and Realistic Period	<p>This age group will be interested in all the crafts listed for the other two age levels. The only difference will be in the character of the work, the older groups being interested in more practical articles. The skill of the beginner in this age group will not be very different from the preceding age level. They will, however, progress faster and arrive at more difficult techniques sooner.</p> <p>Except for needlework, knitting and iron work there is no division of crafts for men or women; and possibly woodwork should be added to this list. Even in these crafts there is no sharp division, as some men have been known to be interested in needlework and knitting. It should be kept in mind, however, that although both sexes may be interested in the same crafts that there are differences in the type of article they will want to make.</p>					

The application of a program of this type to a specific situation is indicated in the following program, outlined for Bloomfield. (Since the sum-

mer was half gone when the outline was made, only plans for the last half of the summer were drawn up.)

Arts and Crafts Summer Playground Program—1937

WEEK	YOUNGER BOYS	YOUNGER GIRLS	OLDER BOYS	OLDER GIRLS
July 26-30	Puzzles and Tricks	Puzzles and Tricks	Puzzles and Tricks	Puzzles and Tricks
Aug. 2-9	Spatter and Ozalid Printing	Dolls Finger Puppets	Bone Carving Mexican Shoes	Dolls Puppets
Aug. 9-13	Sewn Folder for Spatter Work	Plaster of Paris Carving, Clothespin Furniture	Plaster of Paris Carving, Figure Carving (wood)	Plaster of Paris Carving, Doll Furniture Puppet Stage
Aug. 13-20	Block Toys Tin Tom-Tom Drums	Burlap Pillow Spatter Printing	Masks Wood Carving	Burlap Needlework Block Printing
Aug. 23-27	Papier-Maché Bowl	Papier-Maché Bowl	Marionettes	Simple Weaving

Responsibilities of Craft Leaders

Supervisor of Arts and Crafts: The arts and crafts supervisor should be responsible for:

1. The planning of the program outline
2. The ordering, storing and distributing of all the supplies that are to be furnished by the department
3. The writing of bulletins that supplement the program outline
4. The supervising and instructing of all playground instructors in their arts and crafts activities
5. The teaching of crafts on those playgrounds that need this service
6. The planning and arranging of all arts and crafts exhibitions and special feature events
7. The arranging of a time schedule with each playground
8. The writing of weekly reports—summarizing activities and problems, and making recommendations. This report as well as all programs, bulletins, time schedules, craft supply orders, plans for special feature events and all other matters should be submitted to the Director for approval.

Playground Instructor: The playground instructor should be responsible for:

1. The carrying out of the program planned by the arts and crafts supervisor
2. The securing of the supplies that are not listed as coming from the department; the storing of these supplies, and those delivered by the department
3. The taking of an inventory, at stated times, and delivering this report to the craft supervisor
4. The studying of each bulletin so as to be thoroughly familiar with its contents
5. The teaching of the crafts, unless arrangements have been made for the supervisor to do this work
6. The securing of information and instruction from the crafts supervisor, when not thoroughly familiar with, and able to teach, the project planned
7. The planning, with the crafts supervisor, for a definite number of hours of craft work each week.

The playground instructor should feel free to suggest any changes that would be better adapted to his program.

A Nature Program on a Playground

UNDER THE direction of a special supervisor, in nature lore, the nature program of the Oakland Recreation Department came into its own this last summer. Nature clubs were formed, playground museums sprang up, nature and handcraft were combined and there were more hikes than ever before.

The statistics show some very interesting facts regarding the popularity of the activity in the first summer of highly organized supervision. The supervisor made 195 visits to playgrounds, 67 of which were for presenting introductory programs. These introductory programs were attended by 2148 children and 146 adults. There were 138 hikes under the guidance of the various playground directors who followed the suggestions of the nature supervisors. The supervisor conducted 27 hikes himself.

Leadership

The supervisor, Robert Taylor, was well-fitted for his task of promoting nature on the playground, for not only had he been a playground director for two years but he had long been an enthusiastic amateur naturalist, had been a Boy Scout nature expert for three years under one of the Pacific Coast's foremost naturalists and is enrolled in the School of Forestry at the University of California.

The duties of the supervisor included visiting playgrounds, suggesting or directing activities for the director, and leading or accompanying hikes. His typical weekly program consisted of leading two or three all-day hikes and collecting trips and reaching five or six other playgrounds each day for the remainder of the week to conduct programs. In this way he covered about twenty playgrounds a week and in addition spent time on still other grounds preparing labels or assisting the playground director in planning a program. On the regular visits, the supervisor gave lectures, taught crafts, played

The story of the methods one recreation department used in organizing and vitalizing its program of nature activities for playground children

games and conducted other activities felt desirable. A record was kept of each visit and the particular interest and facilities of each group were noted in order to help in program planning.

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the activity was not to teach nature study on the playground. It was, primarily, to give the child an opportunity to come in contact with new interesting fields, to give him an opportunity to express himself and to participate in activities with others interested in the same hobby. The problem was to provide the stimulus that would encourage him to educate himself by observing, reading and availing himself of trained leadership in science classes, in the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and in similar organizations. An attempt was made to show him what nature possibilities existed all around him and how he might make use of them. It was hoped to help him to know how to enjoy nature, collect intelligently and conserve our plants and animals. It was not intended that the child be subjected to talks and be shown specimens alone, but that he collect and bring his finds and treasures to the playground, handle the specimens and participate in nature handcrafts by making things himself.

Initiating the Program

Although certain basic principles governed programming, no two playgrounds conducted the activity exactly alike. The flexibility and scope of the subject allowed for original methods in building up a sound and attractive program. The most thoroughly satisfactory procedure developed was as follows:

Interest in nature activities as a part of the playground program is growing rapidly, but this phase of the program is still in so experimental a stage that there is comparatively little information available to aid recreation departments wishing to develop nature recreation. We are particularly glad, therefore, to present the step by step methods followed by one city, in the hope that the information presented will help other communities.

The special nature supervisor visited a playground with live snakes, lizards, spiders and other animals and a collection of handcraft projects and materials for developing a nature program. During a demonstration he suggested to the children that they would have an exciting



Courtesy Buffalo Museum of Science

time if they organized a nature club or participated in some type of nature activity. This initial visit was the means of arousing group enthusiasm and interest in having a nature program. If the group failed to respond immediately to these suggestions, (a rare occurrence), nothing further was attempted unless the children on their own initiative requested a nature program or activity. A nature program was never forced upon a group. As the next step, the supervisor and the playground director discussed the results of the visit and planned a program adapted to the particular situation.

A few of the most successful ways of promoting the program were through starting playground nature clubs, natural history museums, weekly nature meetings, or a combination of these activities. Hikes, nature handcraft and repeated visits of the supervisor rounded out the program.

Nature Clubs

The formation of nature clubs proved to be one of the best ways of developing enthusiasm for the program. Most of the clubs were formed by following the usual procedure for organizing children's clubs. It was found quite helpful to require children to attend two meetings before joining in order to satisfy their curiosity

Hikes and field trips have an important part to play in a program of nature recreation. On these field trips children may search for specimens of flowers and minerals for their collections and study trees and various forms of life. They may, too, visit local museums and zoos.

and to discover whether they were really interested. The program had to be interesting and well planned in order to compete with the other playground and neighborhood activities. The most successful clubs were those working toward definite goals, such as animal shows or nature exhibits of some kind. A maximum membership of twenty or twenty-five was found advisable. Children on a waiting list replaced those leaving for vacations.

Rules in most cases were few and flexible. The number of meetings varied from three a week to one a month, but perhaps the most satisfactory arrangement was one afternoon meeting a week. The meeting programs included games and nature crafts, stories by the director and children, reading, demonstrations, construction periods, study recounting of out-



Courtesy Cleveland, Ohio, Metropolitan Park Board

door vacation experiences, pictures and slides, contests, and so on. Hikes, trips a-field, intelligent collecting and other activities were held in addition to the regular meetings.

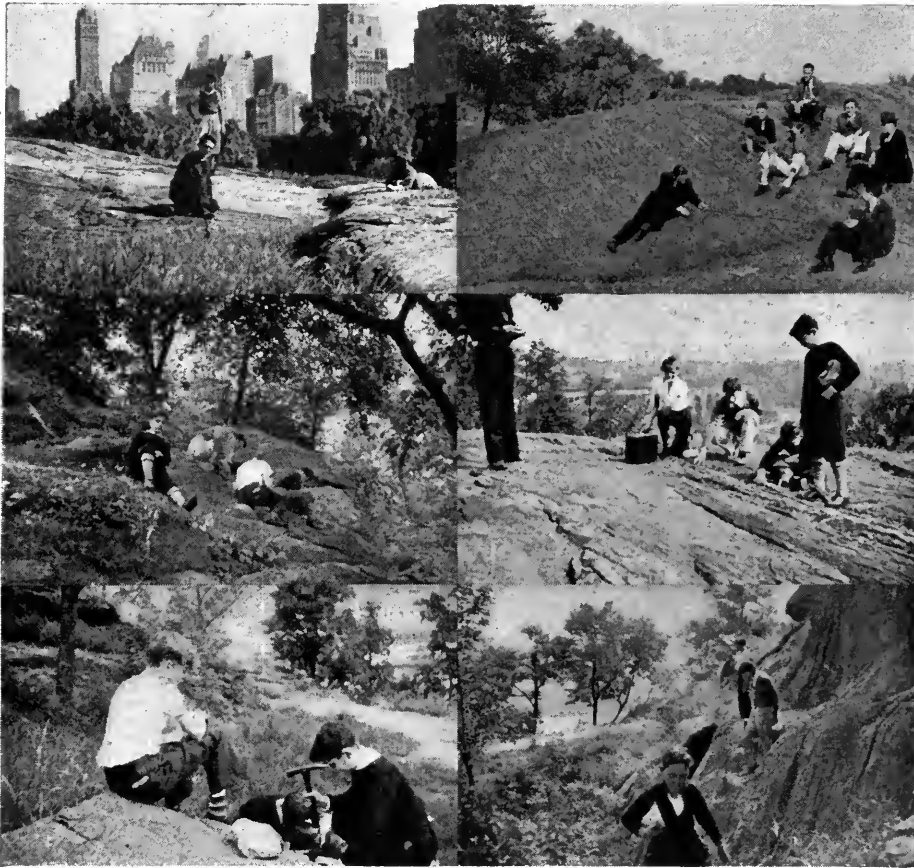
A Sample Club

A brief description of the major steps in the formation and operation of one club which met regularly one afternoon a week will be helpful. The report covers only the special events, omit-

on the playground for the benefit of the children who had not gone on the trip.

Second Week. A regular meeting for the organization of a nature club was held under the supervision of the playground director. Officers were elected and the club named. All the children present who attended the first hike and brought one exhibit—the prescribed initiation fee—became charter members and those who had seen the exhibit set up by the hikers and attended this

first meeting out of curiosity were informed they could become members by attending a second meeting. The charter members were divided into two groups and each group selected its leader and



Young mineralogists from the Brooklyn Children's Museum study outcroppings of rock in Central Park, New York City

Courtesy Children's Museum News, Brooklyn Children's Museum

ing such matters as regular club business, games, contests and so on.

First Week. The initial visit of the nature supervisor was made to the playground as described. The group was composed of boys and girls between the ages of eight and fourteen years, all children who seemed enthusiastic about everything suggested. Plans were made for a hike two days later and for the forming of a club early the following week. The hike was taken and each child collected one or more specimens to exhibit

name. It was decided to have a special nature club bulletin board in the nature den in addition to using the playground bulletin board and the weekly playground newspaper for nature announcements and features.

An attendance record for each of the two groups in the club was posted on the bulletin board. The program for this meeting consisted of a report by one of the children who told of the hike and each hiker's description of what he had found and brought back as an exhibit and what he liked most about the trip.

During the week the director and the officers of the club arranged a nature den in the corner of the craft room. Bookcases were obtained for both sections of the club to use for display purposes and a table was placed between the book-

cases for the more bulky exhibits. The walls were used for hanging charts, pictures, star maps, pine cones, feathers and other specimens.

Third Week. Nature scrap books were made for nature prints and both sections of the club were asked to prepare three minute speeches for club meeting.

Fourth Week. The nature club learned blue printing.

Fifth Week. Nature slides were shown and spatter printing was taken up.

Sixth Week. A trip was made to the Zoo. There were talks by the children and a story by the playground director.

Seventh Week. The club examined study skins of birds and made ink prints.

Eighth Week. This, the final meeting, took the form of a party. Reports were made on outdoor vacation experiences and exhibits were returned to the donors.

Natural History Museum

The miniature natural history museums added a great deal to the playground program. Many children who helped in making them and in contributing exhibits were first drawn into the program through this activity. Most of the nature clubs developed museums, but even when the museum was not sponsored by a formal nature club, the children enjoyed setting it up just as much.

In many clubs each child was required to contribute at least one exhibit as an initiation fee to the club. Deer horns, mounted butterflies, pine cones, leaves, rattlesnake rattles, fossils, wasps nests, rocks, and countless other specimens literally streamed into some of these museums. Every vacationist managed to find room in the car to bring back whatever he thought might be added to the museum. One pair of parents was faced with the problem of packing the bones from an almost complete horse skeleton; another pair, with returning with an old coyote skin which the children insisted must be brought back to the playground museum.

"Museum Curator" or some other impressive title was given to the person in charge of exhibits. Each exhibit was credited to its donor, and when feasible the director or special supervisor prepared labels and facts of interest about the specimen. Valuable information concerning poisonous reptiles, poisonous fruits, berries and so on was

stressed and conservation was emphasized continuously.

The museums were not elaborate. A few were in rooms set aside as museums, but a corner of the craft space more often had to suffice. Wall space for posters and charts, tables and a few bookcases or boxes arranged as shelves solved the shelving and display problem. One part of the space was often reserved for photographs, another for exhibiting the best handcraft of the week. Some exhibits, as pine cones, large seeds and the like, were attached to strings and thumb-tacked to the wall.

Playgrounds without indoor space for the museum set up their exhibits in boxes which were brought in each evening. Empty athletic equipment boxes were used in a few cases. Some enterprising directors set up outdoor museums and left them outside all summer. Only one museum, indoor or out, was purposely disturbed. The children took great pride in protecting their museum since it was the result of their own efforts.

Living exhibits consisted of animals requiring little care. Aquaria were especially successful projects. Frogs, ants, mosquitoes and blowflies were reared through all stages from egg to adult and each museum was supplied with mosquito eggs and a chart describing the important stages in the life history of an insect. *The Insect Life Merit Badge Pamphlet* of the Boy Scouts of America was made available to each playground director as a source of directions for the construction of cages for live insects.

A collection showing the natural bark of trees and the color and grain of their wood proved very interesting. Wild flower seeds and tree seeds were glued on large cards or placed in small bottles. Flowers were dried in a regular press or in a magazine and then mounted with blue or gummed paper and insects were impaled on insect pins and mounted in cigar boxes or on display boards.

Home-made "killing jars" were constructed by pouring one-half inch of plaster of Paris into a mayonnaise jar and allowing it to set for two days. Then a spoonful or two of Carbona, a cleaning fluid obtained at any ten cent store, was poured in. The active element in this is carbon tetrachloride which might have been purchased at a drug store and used instead. The jar was kept tightly closed so that the fumes would last for some time before more Carbona had to be added. The fumes of this liquid kills the specimen in a few moments. Some specimen jars were made by

using potassium cyanide, a very deadly poison. A crystal of the cyanide was placed on the bottom of the jar and covered with about one inch of plaster of Paris. A jar of this sort lasts a year or more without any attention. Cyanide jars were used only when the playground director or nature supervisor was with the children.

Snakes, birds and other small creatures which were found dead were preserved in a solution of alcohol or formaldehyde. The alcohol solution was used at about 80 to 85 per cent. The formaldehyde was obtained in 40 per cent solution and diluted about ten times with water. Paraffin or lacquer was used to seal the bottles tightly.

Nature Games and Contests

Game sheets and contest suggestions and rules were prepared and mimeographed. This reduced the individual effort each director would have to expend in preparing for this part of the program.

The Nature Hour

A few directors conducted a general nature hour once or twice a week. This hour was not unlike the programs of the nature clubs, except that the director planned and presented the program or requested the special



Courtesy Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department

The development of a love of animals and a knowledge of their habits and traits is one of the objectives of a nature program. Pet shows on the playground have for years been fostering this knowledge and appreciation. To this traditional nature activity others are being rapidly added.

lections for the playground museum, lists of birds they had seen, and noted interesting observations to post on the bulletin board.



Courtesy Cleveland, Ohio, Metropolitan Park Board

supervisor to do it, while in the clubs the club members contributed more to the planning and carrying out of the program.

Hikes

The hikes were among the most successful parts of the whole program. In answering questions of the youngsters, an attempt was made to make nature as interesting as possible. Sticks and rocks resembling animals were sought. Sow bug races, beetle races were held and nature games were played. The children made plaster casts of animal tracks, collections for the playground museum, lists of birds they had seen, and noted interesting observations to post on the bulletin board.

Nature Handcrafts

Nature handcrafts played a very important part in the programs of some playgrounds. The children made smoke prints, plaster casts, blue prints, Ozalid prints, ink prints, spatter prints, bird houses, scrap books, star maps, artificial ant houses, bird boxes, pine cone craft, sea shell craft and exhibits, and exhibited them on their playgrounds. Directions and supplies for these crafts were available through the Recreation Department.

(Continued on page 109)

"Once Upon a Time"

Words of sheer
magic for child-
ren everywhere!



Courtesy Big Brother Association, Columbus, Ohio.

"IT WAS a dark and stormy night. We were all seated around the camp fire when our brave captain said, 'Lieutenant, tell us a story.' And this is the way it went.

"It was a dark and stormy night. We were all seated around the camp fire when our brave captain said, 'Lieutenant, tell us a story.' And this is the way it went."

With this bit of by-play, and with all the voice affectations at the storyteller's command, is heralded that magic period of the camp fire, the story hour.

As the laughter dies away the campers settle themselves into positions of greater ease, draw their blankets about their shoulders and nudge their neighbors into silence. The teller of tales stands silent with folded arms. The fire bringer crosses sticks upon the fire; a brave places a folded blanket before its blaze.

When complete silence reigns the storyteller steps toward the center of the counsel ring. He takes sand from his medicine bag, traces a swastika on the ground and tosses sand to the four winds. He seats himself, cross legged, on the blanket. The silence is unbroken, for the braves know that the story cannot begin until all is quiet.

The story is one of adventure, and early in its telling there is created a suspense that commands a breathless attention until the final word is spoken. There is no faltering, no groping for

By IRVING A. WAGNER
Executive Secretary
The Big Brother Association
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words by the narrator. He knows his story well and allows no pause to break the magic spell his words create. Here is no mere storyteller; here is a maker of adventure, a dream bringer who wafts his hearers into the wilderness to live with him the struggles, the feats of daring, and the close escapes of the hero of the tale.

Contrast this scene with the more usual one at camp fires. The storyteller begins, poorly announced, if at all, to tell a story which he himself knows but indifferently well. He falters, repeats himself, and retraces his tale to give omitted incidents. The story is poorly selected; there is insufficient incident or action, excessive description, and little or no suspense, unless, as is all too frequently the case, the story depends entirely on gruesomeness, horror, or other ghostly qualities. There is confusion among the listeners, whispering and disruption by the counselors, and inattention generally because of the poor technique of the teller.

The Setting

The perfect setting for storytelling is around the camp fire, but this is by no means the only

suitable setting. A wider use should be made of a program feature of such versatility, universal appreciation and ease of mastering. One of the purposes of this article is to suggest several of the other times and places where this excellent form of recreation can be employed.

Whenever, wherever, a group of children, large or small, is assembled, then and there is a suitable setting for the telling of tales. In club meetings, Scout meetings, on bus trips, at parties, on hikes, in the recreation hall or cabin on rainy days in camp, around the fireplace at winter camp, on the playground on hot or rainy days, in children's hospitals, and institutions all these times and places invite the storyteller to ply his art. Nor need the use of storytelling be confined to children's groups alone. The writer has been in frequent demand among young people's gatherings to entertain with a story or two.

One of the greatest values of the extended use of storytelling is the spontaneity with which it can be used to fill unexpected gaps and emergencies in almost any program. Like the singing of group songs it can be used at a minute's notice and without equipment. All that is needed is that the storyteller keep himself prepared at all times with a well-learned story.

The writer well remembers one summer in camp when a story, learned and ready, prevented a night of panic. In spite of careful counseling and strict camp taboo, a ghost scare had gotten started shortly after dark. By added misfortune a fire broke out in the kitchen just after taps. By the time the blaze was extinguished the rumor had gone the rounds that the fire had been set by the ghost of the one-armed brakeman. It was evident that a night of wakefulness and terror was threatened.

The boys were assembled in headquarters, and the true cause of the fire was explained to them. A few songs were sung, and Cheley's *The Hermit of Cloudy Ridge* was told. At the conclusion of the story several of the younger boys were already asleep. All returned to their bunks, and in a short time they had settled to a peaceful sleep. All disturbing thoughts of ghosts and one-armed brakemen had been displaced by soothing visions of the kind old hermit with his bear, Silver Sides.

Not the least interesting thing about telling stories is the diversity of opinion which exists regarding a number of matters. Mr. Wagner, for example, feels it highly undesirable to tell ghost stories. You may not, but nevertheless we believe you will find his presentation keenly interesting.

What Is the Secret?

Perhaps you ask, "How can I become a good storyteller?"

I answer, "You probably are one but have yet to learn of your own ability."

There is no special gift required for this activity. It is not even necessary to master a difficult technique. The entire secret lies in two easily accomplished details. First, the selection of the story, and, second, its thorough learning.

As suggested above, a story for telling should have a predominant and well-connected chain of incidents. Excessive description (unless the teller really is gifted) is hard to handle, as it has but little appeal to children. Suspense is the element that outranks all others in holding interest. Excessive conversation is hard to handle even with experience, so it is usually wise to select stories with a minimum of dialogue. In most cases such dialogue as is necessary can very effectively be converted into narrative. However, a limited number of quotations are not hard to master, and add vividness and life to a tale, so it will not be found wise to exclude them entirely.

Selecting Stories

And now a few "don'ts" in selecting stories. Don't select ghost or horror stories. Almost every storyteller's natural tendency is to do so, and almost every group of boys (perhaps girls, too,) will howl for ghost stories. In spite of this, I repeat, "Don't." This warning comes from experience. In spite of the enthusiasm of the majority of the group, there is usually a minority who do not enjoy horror stories and who suffer strong emotional reactions to them. I am forced to admit that a careful and limited use of the stories of Edgar Allan Poe may do no harm, but I loudly acclaim that the best psychologist on earth cannot tell what time is a safe time or which is a safe group. There are plenty of other good stories to use, so the advisable thing to do is to play completely safe and omit ghost stories entirely.

Don't select stories with long descriptive passages. And don't select too long stories (whole books or extra long short stories) unless you are sure they can be cut down to telling length without spoiling them. No story should last over an

hour, and only rarely as long as that. Novels can occasionally be told serially on succeeding nights, but there are many objections to this practice.

How to Tell Stories

There is one outstanding perquisite to telling a story well, and that is knowing it almost word for word. Anything less than this will defeat all efforts to tell the story fluently. The author who wrote the story has gone to great pains to phrase and dovetail the many incidents of his tale, and his work cannot be tampered with without destroying some of its effectiveness. Moreover, anything less than complete mastery of the story will result in pauses, repetition and retracing of steps in the unfolding of the tale. Such pauses and interruptions always detract and permit the listeners to shift their attention. Even a momentary loss of attention will harm, if not entirely spoil a story. Even the best story cannot stand repeated interruptions of attention.

Make no special effort to accomplish voice effects unless you are definitely skilled along that line or the story especially calls for it. (The three voices in the "Three Bear" type of story should not be too much for you.) Speak in a natural, clear, distinct and fairly loud voice, and don't speak too rapidly. If you use dialogue make certain by intonation or introduction that it is clearly understood to be dialogue, and make a clear distinction between the statements of different characters.

As a rule a story needs no introductory statement, nor are children often interested in such statements. The mere name of the story is usually enough. Storytellers sometimes tell all their stories in the first person and represent them as being true. This practice seems to the writer to

add but little to the story and to be essentially undesirable.

Don't attempt to point out the morals of your stories. Tell them as they are written and if there is a moral there it will usually get across. If you feel that you must drive home a lesson make it brief; don't preach a sermon.

When you have told the last incident as the author wrote it, stop. Any added words or explanations of your own will be anti-climatic and will detract from the effect of the story. If you enjoyed it the way it was written so will your hearers.

Don't think you can "get by" by reading the story instead of telling it. Children always prefer



Courtesy Photographic Division, Federal Arts Project, WPA, New York City

There is great fascination for girls, as well as for boys, in Indian lore

to have a story told, even if poorly done, to having it read.

Children like to tell stories themselves and should be encouraged to do so. There are several precautions, however, to be observed to make the practice effective. Encourage the children to know their stories well before trying to tell them. The group interest in hearing stories will suffer if the period is permitted to become monotonous or uninteresting once or twice.

Unless you have an especially able child who is well coached, have him confine his storytelling to

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A "Friendlier Neighborhood" Summer

By RUTH E. SWEZEY

THE EXTENT to which a public recreation system functions in family life has never been measured, but there is no doubt that much of our program is too far removed from the family to be considered an integral part of its everyday life. We conduct many of our so-called city-wide activities at great distances from the local playground, and we "wind up" what we call a successful season with an elaborate pageant in some central park, with three or four thousand children brought in on street cars from each neighborhood. We play before large picked audiences representing our boards, and mothers and fathers best able to afford to come in for the pageant. All the local neighborhood gets is the hurry and scurry of making costumes, and the preparation for participation in the event. Often they do not have the fun of seeing the play and knowing the accomplishments of the season's work. This same principle holds in athletic leagues, hobby shows and other summer events.

With this consideration in mind we built our 1937 playground program in Wilkes-Barre about the theme a "Friendlier Neighborhood" summer. It might just as well have been called a "Family Playground" summer.

The city was divided into very distinct neighborhoods, not more than five playgrounds participating in each neighboring group. The boroughs and distantly removed grounds were operated as separate neighborhoods, one ground being the only unit participating. This automatically gave us racial groupings. Each neighborhood held its own tournaments, festivals, street carnivals, craft shows and baby shows. There was no inter-playground competition; even the athletic leagues were conducted within the neighborhood. However, at the end of the season there was a final tournament of winners.

A Neighborhood Fair

The final event of the season consisted of a neighbor-

Not a circus, not a dance festival, not a city-wide event, but a neighborhood affair was the finale of last summer's playground season in Wilkes-Barre

hood fair given in each neighborhood during the last week of the playground season. The participants were allowed to take part in their own neighborhood fair only. There were over twenty fairs during the closing playground week.

The song "Come to the Fair" was used as the theme song for the summer. The fair was a spontaneous and happy

affair; each ground made its own booths for craft displays, fortune-tellers, puppet or marionette shows. The WPA band played for many of the events, supplemented by local musical groups. Each fair program was different, but in general it included the following:

1. "Come to the Fair"—sung by everyone including the audience led by a local song leader in a very gay and informal style
2. Tumbling act
3. Folk dance or country dance group
4. Magician act
5. Strolling minstrels, or a minstrel
6. A dramatic skit such as "The Womanless Wedding," the "Coronation of the Health Queen or Playground Queen"
7. More dancers
8. Dramatized poem or song such as "Soldier, Soldier" or "McNamara's Band"
9. Community singing and a good night song

In our two weeks' institute held preceding the opening of the playgrounds, we tried in every way to equip the teachers for a program that would reach family life. Some of the subjects discussed were: How to build a friendlier neighborhood through the playground program; individual differences in children; coordinating the neighborhood and the playground program; dances of racial

groups; and crafts and story-telling as related to home life. These topics and others were discussed by trained persons in the community, such as the directors of settlements, the guidance director of the public schools,

Miss Swezey is Executive Director, Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania. Anyone who is interested in developing such a fair as she describes in this article will want to secure a copy of the bulletin entitled "A Mid-Summer Fair or Festival" which is issued free of charge by the National Recreation Association.

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Sand Craft on the Playground

A BABY ELEPHANT with its upraised trunk begging for peanuts; a giraffe with its long neck towering high above the other animals; a big grizzly bear sulking in his cage in the corner; a tough old rhinoceros repulsive looking in all his monstrosity. And then a dainty little bareback rider balanced precariously on her gaily prancing steed, followed closely by a comical looking clown with

all his exaggerated awkwardness. And around this collection a group of bright-eyed children gazing with joy and pride at their circus made entirely of sand!

And here you have a picture of what is going on in the sand boxes of the playgrounds of Austin, Texas, where sand craft is one of the most popular of playground activities.

Regular classes or sand craft hours are conducted on the playgrounds, some meeting daily and others several times a week. The type of sand craft which is proving most popular on one ground is sand carving. For this activity the sand is thoroughly watered every day, preferably two or three hours before the children begin work, thus allowing the water to penetrate throughout the entire box.

The Process

Each child selects a space to work in and pats and smooths the sand with his hands until it is thoroughly packed and level.

With a sharp, pointed instrument—a “sucker” stick or a twig—the leader in charge draws for each child the figure selected for that day’s work. This plan gives each child an equal chance, and his creative ability is brought into play in the skill with which he handles his

By **VERNA DEAN CRAVEN**
Austin, Texas

No longer is the sand box regarded as the play area of the preschool child exclusively! Instead, it is becoming a popular place for children as old as fifteen years. Nor is it unusual for father and mother to try their skill at sand modeling while grandparents offer suggestions from near-by benches!

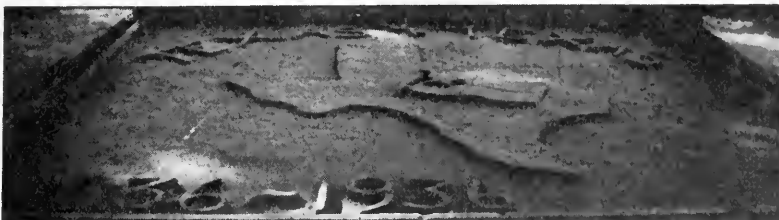
subject and the little individual touches he puts into his work. Some children cannot draw a recognizable animal and shyness prevents them from participating in a new activity involving artistic ability. For this reason on our playgrounds the standard drawing prevails during the early part of the season. Then when the children have gained a feeling of familiarity with their subject, each child does his own drawing. By this time they have spent many hours outside of the regular supervised period in the sand box reproducing for themselves the objects made in class. Thus all are able to draw some of the most popular animals, and the more talented will now attempt new figures.

After the figure has been drawn the child begins carving the sand away from the outer edges. Although the fingers may be used, better and neater results can be obtained by using a small flat board or a knife. Wooden ice cream spoons make satisfactory and inexpensive tools. The figure should be carved to a depth of about one and a half inches, the carving always being straight down so that the sides of the finished model will form right angles with the background which should be leveled off to the same depth. All sand removed in the carving is thrown into the middle of the box where it can be easily leveled off again the next day before the sand is watered. When the desired depth is reached, the carver

goes over his model smoothing rough edges and rebuilding broken corners. Then he draws the inside features of the figure or builds up and rounds out parts of the body. When the model has been satisfactorily finished he smooths out the background.

It is at this point that great care

As Texas celebrated its Centennial in 1936, the playgrounds naturally made use of this theme last summer in preparing for the inter-playground sand craft exhibit. Children of the Pease Park playground designed and carved the model which is presented here.



must be taken. Even a well-modeled figure will not show up unless the background is patted and smoothed until all finger prints and marks of carving are gone. This finishing up process of both the model and the background cannot be stressed too much. It teaches the child to complete anything he starts and discourages slovenly, half done work.

As an added incentive to good work an adult on the ground is selected each day to judge the children's carvings and to mark each model. Every model is given some marking, either first, second or third, since even a low rating gives a child more satisfaction than none at all and serves as a stimulus for better work the next day.

Any leader who wishes to can make the sand box one of the most popular spots on the playground. She will have great fun discovering artistic talents that she did not know she possessed. And she will have the added joy of bringing out the creative ability of playground children.

In *Sand Craft*,* J. Leonard Mason points out some of the enjoyable features and the values involved in sand craft. A few follow:

Sand craft is systematized sand play. It provides for a classification of subjects, the proper conditions for modeling and a set of working tools. . . . After the constructive process has been thoroughly enjoyed and the finished product has "had its day," the sand is once more reduced to its normal level, ready to appear again in new and different shapes. Here lies one of the chief charms of sand craft—the pliable sand always awaiting the new experiments of the sand builder.

Sand modeling is largely a play of imagination. Almost any subject can be modeled, thus providing a never-ending source of interest. The child learns to observe things carefully and in detail in order to reproduce them correctly. Attention to details is a valuable habit to form. Observation and memory of objects in detail are strongly de-



With their model of an Indian head, children of Bailey Playground were tied for first place in Austin's inter-playground sand craft contest.

veloped. The brain must be as active as the hands in correct reproduction.

The recreational value lies in the absorbing interest of the play. All else is forgotten for the time being. It is going back to the old occupations of the race and dealing with Mother Nature herself and the history of creation. A group was looking at a model of a camp in sand when someone remarked that he felt as if he were in a real camp. Even the old farm with the hill behind the barn may be called back to life.

There is much of social value to be gained when a group of children play together at one sand box. A certain space is allotted to each child, and each must respect the rights of the others. Often two or more persons will work together on one subject, each contributing ideas and labor to its success and sharing in the triumph of its final completed glory. The way the group of builders learn to play together is very interesting from a social viewpoint. It is a lesson in team work and cooperation, the teacher guiding the play along lines of neatness, courtesy and industry.

There is a test of patience and perseverance involved. The sand may break up a number of times before it finally holds its shape, as for example, in forming an arch or a chimney on a house. The thing may have to be tried over and over again before it finally becomes a success. If we look

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Neighborhood Day Camping in New York City

"The purpose of our whole program will be justified if the camping idea is caught and used increasingly, because such recreation may well be the means of injecting into a workaday world something that may be the source of fresh inspiration and serenity."

By MAUDE L. DRYDEN
Senior Project Supervisor
Day Outing Camps
WPA, New York City

DAY CAMPING has recently had a burst of recognition in this region. Until quite lately, when the topic was mentioned at all it was given only slight attention, and then considered as a by-product of the regular organized camping program. Now it has its own place in the sun and is admittedly an introduction to the woods and fields and streams and open-sky country.

This spring, at the National Convention of the American Camping Association, there was a panel devoted to day camping which was attended by individuals from Idaho, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and other widely separated parts of this country. The camp leadership course at Columbia University devoted a section to day camping, and the group there was interested from many angles. Some were conducting private ventures; others were interested in the use of such a pro-

gram in a summer family colony. To say that the discussion was lively is an understatement.

What was proven in these meetings was that day camping has been found to have a very wide application and yet it has one concrete aim. The great central theme of this program is the encouragement of folks to become acquainted with the distinct satisfactions of recreation in the open countryside. This, of course, has been particularly needed in New York City where there is so little knowledge of the country and so many forces holding people within small crowded areas. Open country is, however, accessible to everyone, and the recreation to be found there may be enjoyed by all ages and with whatever money can be afforded. The one big hindrance to the widespread use of such recreation is the lack of knowledge of what can be done and of how to set about doing it. There is also a lack of appreciation of the values to be gained.

It is probably safe to say everyone has a desire to revel in the out of doors, but the difficulty is to know where to begin. And that is why WPA is establishing neighborhood day camps wherever there is the slightest opportunity for doing so in New York City.

Roof Camps

Ernest Thompson Seton says in the "Birch Bark Roll of the Woodcraft League": "In our big cities, where land is so valuable that an acre commonly brings millions of dollars, where we have long been pinched for playgrounds and woodcraft pursuits seem out of the question, all the cry is for light and space. And with all this need we have long shut our eyes to a most obvious and abundant supply. In New York, congested New York, for example, there are thousands of acres of open sunlight, well-ventilated unused space, which a very slight acquaintance with Oriental or Occidental nations would have taught us to use. We refer to the flat roofs. In Greater New York these must amount to nearly ten thousand acres; half at least of this offers good chances for roof camps."

So neighborhood day camps have been established on roof tops as well as in open lots or yards. Usually these sites are connected with some recreational agency, church or civic organization, but some locations, too, have been made possible through the generosity of a private individual and property owner. Whatever the site may be, the first step is to create as camp-like an atmosphere as is possible, to emphasize the idea that the activities are to be of a camp-like nature.

The first one of the sites established by the Camping Project of the WPA in New York was in a yard back of a Y.M.C.A. in Brooklyn where a high sign board separated the yard from the street. This huge sign board had supports reaching into the yard, seeming to use up a lot of the precious open space. This turned out to be anything but a handicap, as the boys themselves very quickly found a splendid way to use these beams. When the Indian idea was presented to the boys, they divided themselves into tribes, and each tribe hastily claimed one of the billboard-arm sections, setting up tribal quarters there. One section had a tepee, another a lean-to shelter, and each had its own type of fire in front of the shelter. Fire making, with its never-failing appeal, of course comes first and, following lessons in various kinds of fires and their different uses, comes cooking.

"Mickys" are first efforts along this line. Later, bacon and eggs are tackled and eventually ambition leads on to stews, biscuits, corn roasts and the like.

On a roof atop a church, which now finds itself in the heart of the garment center of Manhattan, there is a sizable area where an Adirondack lean-to is set amidst bark covered tubs of privet, with logs lying about and a rock fireplace. There is a sprawling rock garden with a tiny pool for polliwogs, and boxes filled with plants from the woods have been set about. On the April day this spring when snow gave New York its memorable surprise visit, it was equally surprising and quite an unusual delight to find that the coltsfoot had sent up myriads of yellow blossoms that braved that snow. In the rock garden rank day-flowers have already come to life; gill-over-the-ground is showing its little blue flowers, and leaves of the golden-rod have made their appearance. A rustic bench adds to the general effect, and all the neighborhood's Christmas trees have found a resting place on this roof, to be used for many purposes. Just now the daily fires and cooking have been displaced by the advent of the perennial spring games, such as horseshoe pitching, duck on the rock, a little baseball and jumping rope.

Up in Harlem another church houses a neighborhood day camp where only a tiny bit of a yard is available. There was no door so steps had to be built from the window. In spite of its inconvenience there are many garden boxes in this yard, and every child has planted his spring seeds. All winter long there were terraria and aquaria to tend, and the near-by parks were used every day, with camping trips every Saturday. This was the chance to bring back cocoons and budded twigs to place in water and watch come out into leaf and flower.

Farther uptown are an orphanage and a public school where day camping activities are conducted in the big yard. Here a Cherokee Indian and other recreation teachers have made the most of out-of-the-city activities. With a real Indian in their midst it is only natural to find Indian games being made and played, and dances being done at the Council ceremonies. Children attending fortunately can be taken in buses on regular trips to a real woods where tracking and trailing can be done and real trees may be cut down to bring back for use in constructing shelters.

And still farther uptown in the Bronx is an institution for boys where there are more than a

hundred acres of grounds with horses, pigs, woods, streams, rocks and haystack. During the winter skis were made of barrel staves, all sorts of sleds were in use, and snow forts were made and snow battles equal in romance to the wildest thriller were fought! Some fifty fires were going at a time and almost always one could find a nice black but delectable "mickey" or roasted chestnuts. It was here that the insect hunts began. Such a collection was hard to beat, and few there were who knew what names to give more than a half dozen. But there was the challenge to find out about some more, so today these boys can call many a horrible bug by a very nice name. They know their snakes up there, too, and like them so well they keep them all winter in the library or nature nook. This spring one behaved badly and ate a salamander. He gave the boys a good show, however, because it took him three hours to swallow it!

One member of the day camp staff is a cowboy from out of the glamorous West and at this place he was particularly welcomed on his rounds of the camps. He had no trouble at all teaching these boys the art of rope spinning, lassoing, and rodeo games. They resurrected an old wagon and it made a pretty good covered wagon when they were finished with it.

Another clever idea developed at this camp was a barter system. It all began with their garden plots last year. Each boy had a packet of government seeds, but when the produce was ready for consumption it was a bit monotonous to make a

whole meal of beets which one boy grew, so he exchanged a beet for a potato with one friend, and with another boy a beet for a tomato. Thus he managed a better meal! This year the barter system is being extended and a trading post is being set up for better business deals.

Over on the East Side a day camp was kept inside a room much of the winter because a building

was being wrecked next to its yard site. But fishing trips had been high points of interest in the fall, so boat models were worth working on during the winter and all sorts of fishing equipment had to be made. Girls were busy with tin-can craft, leather work and puppetry, and some of the boys got the harmonicas into action.

Another East Side house has a roof with a lake on it, tents where boys sleep overnight and make their breakfasts on the open fire all year round. Almost any afternoon one can have a hot baked apple and hot cocoa or pop corn there. There are some wonderful totem poles on the roof along with the potted cedars. In the spring and summer there is real grass growing around the little lake and a waterfall which is ingeniously fed by a hose leading from the house. Log rolling and pole tilting are among the sports attempted here, and the ski slide defies description in limited space.

Out in Queens there are some locations so fortunate as to be near a number of the city's beautiful parks where birch trees and ponds and weeds with praying mantis, egg masses and other forms of life abound. The praying mantis are sure to hatch out any day now at the home location and the polliwogs will be frogs some day. One location in Brooklyn is situated on the New York Bay Shore and adjacent to another of the city's loveliest parks. Driftwood is to be had for the picking, and the seven or eight fires can be kept going all year round. The passing ships become well known to these boys and girls, and they

have acquired a lot of sea lore. They can tell you a lot

about shells, about rocks and minerals, too. They know a great deal about rope knots and hitches. There is a railroad siding near them, and at Christmas time they had a rare treat to meet for the first time live turkeys, sheep, pigs and cattle when a whole train load was held there for a couple of days.

At another Brooklyn site bows and arrows and targets are

Quiet games, as well as active ones, have their place in all types of camp programs



Courtesy Recreation Department, Austin, Texas

everywhere, and both boys and girls seem to have equal interest in them. They made looms and wove pretty good rugs on them. They have a lot of music here but their barnyard glee club was the greatest success.

When the Brooklyn children visit the Staten Island camps there is quite a ceremony of preparation. Sometimes they smoke signal across the bay to tell they are coming and sometimes they wig-wag. They have even tried heliographing. The ferry trip takes about a half hour, and that's an experience. The camps on the Island have much to offer because they have so much more room to expand. They may not have too much area immediately at their neighborhood site, but all about them are fields and woods and open lots. One is quite near the water front where the beach makes discovery and romance a constant possibility. The day the cigar store wooden Indian was washed up was the big event! Rehabilitated, he occupies a proud place at the home site. It was here that one little girl was bewildered to know why cherry trees got "wild." They have made some glorious and unusual kites here, too.

At an institution on Staten Island this spring they found, while trying the sweet birch to see if the sap was rising, that the bark made very good chewing gum. They can make pretty good tea of dried peppermint leaves and from sassafras roots. This goes pretty well with the biscuits and meat roasted over their open fires. They know a lot about pruning and forestry and can snake logs out of the woods to use in their shelter building. They have more than a hundred acres and several hundred boys and girls. All the Staten Island campers know a great deal about rocks and minerals. And they do a lot of singing and dancing and story-telling, and they dramatize their stories.

All this is not anything like a complete story of the year-round practises employed at the neighborhood camp sites. A clearer picture might be gained if there were some generalization. Concretely this is what the Recreation in Camps Project is doing in New York City:

In previous articles the work done with the Board of Education in city parks was explained. This program is being continued with some changes to meet new conditions from time to time. The program takes care of the children from reg-

It is suggested that anyone wishing further information regarding day camps in New York City consult the following issues of *Recreation* containing additional articles on the subject by Mrs. Dryden: March 1936—"Winter Day Camps in New York City"; May 1936—"New York Tries Out New Methods of Education"; and May 1937—"What Games for the Day Camp?"

ular school classes during the school terms. Each child gets out to the day camps in the city parks about once in three weeks; that is, those classes which have been scheduled for this program. In the summer, the children enrolled in the Board of Education summer play schools attend the

day camps two days every week.

Some of the Things They Do

The neighborhood camps' program is for children in the immediate community after school hours and on Saturdays during the fall, winter and spring. In the summer time the children attend every day all day. Camping trips are taken and their destinations are within five cent car-fare distance.

Program Items

It has seemed advisable to prepare rather specific motivating program schedules so that seasonal activities will be followed and real continuity made possible. The outline of all the programs includes pioneering, camp craft and other crafts, games, American folk songs, play dances, story-telling and dramatizations, and special day celebrations. Pioneering includes use and care of axes and jackknives, boxing the compass and its use, use of telescope, tracking and trailing, roping and knots, fishing and camera hunting and use of blinds. Camp crafts cover the making of such articles as mineral specimen boxes, fishing equipment, whittling, bird baths, bird houses and feeding stations, simple compasses and telescopes, star boxes, hot beds, weather charts, weather vanes, knapsacks, terraria, aquaria and ant houses. Nature activities involve observation of trees, rocks, soil earthworms, snakes, frogs, flowers and insects; games suggested should be those which can be played anywhere and preferably without special equipment, such as run sheep run, leap frog, poison, relays and others. Stories chosen may well emphasize American folk lore which can be dramatized. Among these may be "Uncle Remus Tales," "Paul Bunyan Tales" and "Tanglewood Tales." Music may emphasize American folk songs, such as "Old Zip Coon," "Paw-Paw Patch," "Yankee Doodle" and "Turkey in the Straw." Play dances are little more than games except that

(Continued on page 112)

When the Finale Is a Pageant

Very often it's a circus, but the traditional pageant still persists in many cities, and it can be very effective, experience has shown

SUMMER is about to turn the corner, and before you can say "Jack Robinson" it will be time for the finale of the playground season! What will it be? A pageant in many cases, if we can judge by past events. So here are briefs of a number of pageants developed in several cities, showing the various types of themes selected and how the playground activities of singing and dancing and games were woven into them. The experience of these communities may be of help to you in planning a playground pageant for your own community.

Recreation, Ancient and Modern

Three parks of the Union County, New Jersey, Park System combined last year to portray "Recreation, Ancient and Modern" in a pageant.

The prologue shows children playing games which are followed by a story hour. At its conclusion a small child asks about play in other times. Lights go out, and, as they come up, a Greek dance takes place on the stage. At its end spots reveal a revolving dias draped in black on which are white living figures depicting various Greek sports—Athena, the Discus Thrower, the Wrestlers, the Javelin Thrower, Boxers, the Archer, Mercury and the Runners.

The child appreciates these statue pictures, but says the Greek play wasn't as much fun as his own. The announcer takes the child to Rome to see Roman soldiers drilling, then on to various other countries in more modern times. They go to France, Switzerland, Italy, Scotland, Norway and Holland and see dances of the people of these countries.

Then the child says, "Well, these people have all had a very good time, but I don't think they had as much fun as we do at our playground. Let's show what we do." So on the revolving stage in tableau the playground activities are shown—paddle tennis, baseball, basketball, ring tennis, dodge ball, tumbling, pyramid building and hand-

craft. The characters are dressed in bright, appropriate costumes.

In the epilogue, tribute is paid to the people who have brought their customs and traditions and dances to America. The effect of these cultures on our dances is shown in a square dance, tap dance, modern and ballet dance. As a finale all the characters mass on the stage, turning toward the Spirit of Play—a small girl in blue holding a white volley ball.

An Historical Pageant

"Redding Towne," a folk pageant telling of the history of Reading, Pennsylvania, was presented last fall by the Department of Public Playgrounds and Recreation of that city. The theme of this pageant made possible the use of many old games, songs and customs of early Pennsylvania days. In the entire pageant there were thirteen songs, eleven dances and twenty-nine games many of which took only two or three minutes to perform.

The Tavern. The first scene was laid before a tavern in 1794. Here townspeople danced and children played games while awaiting the stage-coach and mail. After the mail had been distributed a Conestoga wagon appeared, and there were more games and songs and dances. George Washington and Alexander Hamilton arrived and were greeted with a minuet and "Yankee Doodle."

Industry and Sociability. Following the tavern scene, the early industries of felt hat making, the production of charcoal for refining iron ore and the work of blacksmiths were interpreted to the audience. Booths were set up for hatmaking, blacksmiths plied their trade while children watched and played games. The charcoal carts came in, women bought hats, the Conestoga wagon returned to carry off stoves and iron ware, and as it went the people sang "Hei Lee, Hei Lo." Home industries of spinning, sewing, mending, quilt-making, corn husking, churning and others were

shown throughout the second part of the scene. "Spin, Spin, My Daughter" and "There is a Hole in the Jug" were sung, and children played games traditional to that part of the country. The scene shifted to a wedding with emphasis on customs of other times in song and dance. Older Sister was even forced to dance in the pig trough and the bride and groom entered over a broom—to keep witches out, according to tradition.

The Reading Fair. The last scene showed one of the early fairs with the setting up of booths, the arrival of the crowd and the opening of the fair with its puppet show, horse races, games, songs and dances.

The King's Court

Somewhat different from the other pageants was the "King's Court," a musical revue put on last fall by the Artists Club of the St. Paul parks and playgrounds as the finale of its year's activities.

The revue was based upon the attempt of Elaine, beautiful daughter of King William, to choose a lover from the many suitors who had come to the palace from foreign countries. The scene is laid on the day when the suitors are to compete for Elaine through entertainment. The court is in readiness, with the King's favorite court orchestra (the St. Paul Junior Symphony Orchestra), the court acrobats, waltz chorus, maids-in-waiting and pages in attendance.

Since the club is made up of five hundred boys and girls gifted in singing, dancing and playing mu-

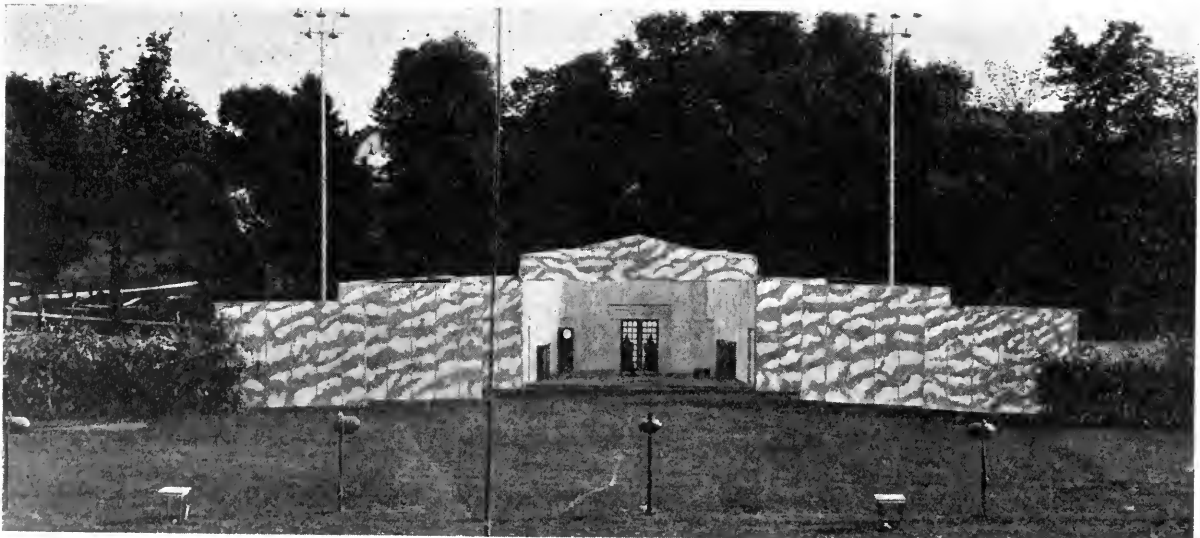
sical instruments, there was much talent to be drawn upon for Elaine's entertainment. Suitors and their retinues from America, Italy, Spain, Ireland, Russia, Sweden and Austria brought her gifts of song and dance, and the King in turn entertained them by calling frequently upon his orchestra (a featured part of the program), and upon the court acrobats and waltz chorus.

Cinderella

The story of Cinderella lends itself readily to pageant form, and a number of cities have used it for a central theme.

Thirty playground children of Kenosha, Wisconsin, put it on as a closing event for the summer program. The traditional story was acted, with Cinderella becoming Princess Charming. In the Kenosha version, however, the story goes on, for the Princess and Prince declare a great celebration and invite all the provinces to participate. Delegates arrive, welcomed by a fanfare of trumpets and the roll of drums, and entertain the royal couple. The acts are introduced by a narrator. Children from eleven playgrounds took part in games and dances. There were thirty penquins in an act, a Tarantella dance, a Spanish skit with horses, singing games, tumblers, creatures in grotesque heads, clowns, Indians and parasol and Maytime dances. At the conclusion all the characters were massed on the stage, for each group had stayed after its own performance to watch the others. After the last number the children paraded off the stage, the fairy godmother and three fairies

The ingenious setting which was provided for the Cinderella pageant in Kenosha, Wisconsin



came forward to wish the Prince and Princess a long and prosperous reign, and then brought back the royal coach in which Cinderella and her prince rode away.

An unusual device was used to make sure that the voices of actors could be heard. Of the thirty characters only six had speaking parts, but the outdoor theater and the movement necessary for these characters made amplification a problem. This was solved by choosing six duplicate characters to speak for the actors. These six were seated behind the stage at its center, shut off from view of the audience by grill-like Venetian blinds through which their voices came, clearly amplified by a loud speaker system. The grills made it possible for the duplicate characters to watch the performers on and in front of the stage.

Another Cinderella

Lansing, Michigan, provides a Cinderella pageant which is acted out in pantomime while a reader tells the story.

Episode I shows a pantomime of the home scene as the reader tells of the mistreatment of Cinderella by her stepsisters and stepmother. As the reader tells of the Prince, we see him ride past with his huntsmen who pause to frolic. (Huntsmen Frolic—Record 20416-A Le Secret.) As the sisters prepare for the ball and try to choose suitable dresses to wear, a parade of old-time costumes files across the stage. Finally the great day arrives and the sisters prepare for the ball. (Vanity Dance to the Cuckoo Waltz.) Left alone, Cinderella sits by the fire, unmindful of fairies who come in and dance. She is startled when the fairy godmother speaks. When she has gone to the garden for a pumpkin, pumpkins enter and dance. A coach appears and Cinderella drives off to the ball.

Episode II is the ball. After the presentation of the ladies to the royal family there is a flower dance. Cinderella arrives and the Prince chooses her as his partner for the minuet. Next comes a fan dance, then a clock dance, at the end of which Cinderella flees, as she always must when the clock strikes twelve.

Episode III is laid in the market square where the King's pages are trying to find a foot to fit the silver slipper. Sailors dance, children play

In other communities, *Snow White*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp* have been successfully adapted to pageant form, but space does not permit of their inclusion in this article. They follow fairly closely the types described.

games, fruit venders sing. Of course, the slipper fits Cinderella, the fairy godmother appears to clothe her in a lovely gown and bring back the coach in which Cinderella and the Prince ride off, followed by over three hundred children bearing lighted lanterns which

they had made on the playgrounds. (Lights are put out while the children parade across the stage.)

Hansel and Gretel

Another fairy tale dear to all children which lends itself to pageant form is "Hansel and Gretel." This, too, comes from Lansing.

The pageant opens with the children working over their tasks—broommaking and knitting. Neighbor children come in, dance "Brother Come and Dance with Me" and run off as the mother comes in. As the reader tells the story, the mother sends the children to the woods. The father comes home laden with good food, and the parents rush out to find the children.

As you remember, the next scene is in the woods. While the children pick strawberries, the wild flowers dance. Gretel sings "A Tiny Little Man." Evening comes and fireflies dance. The sandman dances and fourteen angels come to guard the sleeping children.

The next morning birds dance about the children; dew fairies dance in and shake dew over the children, wakening them. They discover the witch's house which has appeared as they slept. From there on, you know the story. Yes, the witch is popped into the oven and the children dance and sing. Suddenly the oven falls to bits, the gingerbread children are released and dance, and finally two of them pull a big gingerbread cake from the oven—the witch!

The Pied Piper of Hamelin

Rats, cats, children and a piper. You have it—the Pied Piper of Hamelin Town! It too, is a favorite with pageant makers, yet see how differently it has been developed in different places.

The Pied Piper came to Dayton, Ohio, last year. Here a mother began "Once upon a time" and before the eyes of her two children the story unfolded, the story being carried by a reader after the prologue of mother and children.

Episode I shows hundreds of rats zigzagging across the stage. Lights come up, as the reader

continues, and the townsfolk enter, moving toward the back as the children gather in front and dance "Bleking." As the children finish, the rats come in dragging cheeses, hats and carrots, and drive off the men and women and children in spite of their efforts to prevent it. The rats cavort and do stunts. The reader tells more of the troubles with the rats.

In the next scene the Burgomaster, Council men and pages are talking it over. The townspeople come in and threaten a dire fate for the Burgomaster if he does not rid their town of rats. The Burgomaster calls for learned men, but they can not help him, nor can an astrologer. At a loss, the Burgomaster rises to speak, when the Pied Piper enters and offers to rid the town of rats. He leaves, starting to play.

The next scene shows the rats following the piper, weaving back and forth across the stage and off. Children and townspeople come cautiously back on to the stage. While townsmen thank the Burgomaster, children dance the "Children's Polka." The piper returns, is refused his money and pipes the children away, while the townsfolk stretch out their arms.

In the third scene, we are shown the inside of the mountain—"a joyous land where everything was strange and new." There is a throne for the Queen of Fairies and Mother Goose.

The scene opens with a solo dance by the Fairy Queen. Then the children are brought in and seated, to be entertained by a group fairy dance. They meet Mother Goose and the nursery rhyme characters, the Three Little Kittens, Simple Simon, Jack and Jill and many others—twenty-one in all—who act out their parts, ending with "Here We Go Around the Mulberry Bush" by all of them.

In the last scene we come again to Hamelin where there is grief and sorrow over the lost children and anger against the Burgomaster. All attempts to find the piper have failed. Then one day the piper comes and agrees to bring the children back. As he does, all sing "Come Let Us Be Joyful."

The Pied Piper in Cincinnati

The Pied Piper went to Cincinnati, Ohio, too, a few years ago. Again a reader carried the story, this time quoting from the poem briefly before each number.

After a brief introduction about Hamelin and

the rats, the chorus sings page eight of the Alvin Cantata.

The reader continues, "Rats! Rats! Rats!" (The grey rats dance.) "They fought the dogs and killed the cats" (tableau and cats' dance), "and bit the babies in the cradle" (tableau and black rats' dance), "and ate the cheeses out of the vats" (tableau), "and licked the soups from the cooks' own ladles" (tableau and cooks' dance), "split open kegs of salted sprats, made nests in Sunday hats" (tableau), "and spoiled the women's chats" (tableau).

The brown rats then sang "Three Blind Mice," and the Rat Chorus sang "Down in the Cellar" (No. 22 by Walter H. Aiken).

We go now to the council chamber (tableau), and the reader continues as the piper enters and makes his bargain with the Council. (A quartet sings "Ahoy, Follow On"—Piper's Song by Walter H. Aiken.) As he goes out the Council dances. "Go," cried the Mayor, "and get long poles, rake out the nests and block up the holes." (pole dance—"Beansetting.") The piper demands his fee and is refused. The piper then pipes the children to him. Children do a Hansel and Gretel dance, tumbling stunts, Needle's Eye, Looby Loo, a Dutch dance and sing "Merrily We Go" by Walter H. Aiken, and then follow the piper into the mountain.

Episode II takes place in the mountain and the reader's verses are original. It's a fairyland and the children dance and skip about, tasting candy sticks on trees. The peppermint sticks dance, the chocolate soldiers drill, "Gulphins" with huge heads dance, and animals parade. There are special dances by yellow chicks and "bugs, bees and bats." Then come the moonbeams and then fairies and flowers and elves, each group dancing in turn. The Sandman comes and puts all to sleep and the reader tells the moral of the tale: "If we have promised aught, let us keep our promise."

Rip Van Winkle

Rip Van Winkle was adapted to a pageant in Louisville, Kentucky. The first scene is in Catskill Village on market day and includes dances by children, milk maids and sailors, and ends with thunder and a dance of the tenpins. The next episode shows Rip in the mountains where he serves the lost sailors, then goes to sleep, while dream fairies, various spirits abroad in the forest,

(Continued on page 112)

Refurbishing the Playground Program

NOW THAT the frost is out of the concrete and the playground administrator is calling in the mason, the carpenter and the painter to furbish up equipment, it's none too soon to be giving the old program ideas a new, smart coat of paint, too!

Why not brighten the playground routine by trying out some of the following activities which may be new to you but which have served to enliven the playgrounds of a number of cities?

A Model House Building Contest

A playground contest to interest a whole county in housing and building-craft was the model house building contest held under the auspices of the Recreation Department of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in cooperation with the *Grand Rapids Press*. The contest, for which both children and adults were eligible, was open to three groups: 1. Children up to twelve years of age who might construct models of cardboard; 2. Children from twelve to

Each year, in one of the spring numbers of *Recreation*, we bring together notes about some of the activities conducted during the preceding summer on the playgrounds of the country, in the hope that the information presented about programs in other cities may suggest new ideas to you and bring fresh interest to the program you are planning for your city. We suggest that a perusal of the World at Play notes in the last twelve issues of *Recreation* will disclose a number of additional suggestions which may be of help.

sixteen years using standard building materials and working on the playground; 3. Anyone in Kent County sixteen years of age or more working with standard building materials.

To aid contestants the city recreation staff had a miniature house for demonstration purposes. Especially interesting were the grounds of this house equip-

ped for recreation with a slide, see-saw, basketball goal and Dutch oven. The driveway was designed to serve also as a scooter track and shuffleboard court.

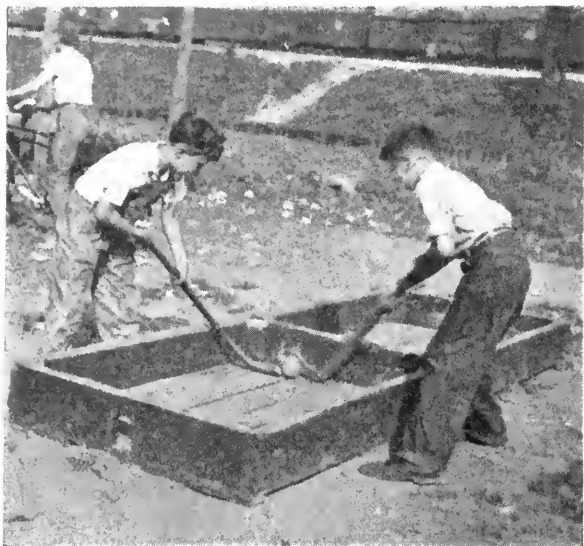
These Trees Won't Lose Their Labels!

A novel and practical twist was given a nature program for children of the Essex County, New Jersey, park playgrounds. After identifying certain trees the children were given tree labels and allowed to place them. The Park Commission says cannily that the labels thus placed will be more likely to remain because the children themselves have shared in the project.

It will not be long now before the proud owners of dolls, dogs and diverse possessions will be exhibiting them in playground shows, parades and contests of many kinds.



Courtesy Bureau of Recreation, Dayton, Ohio



Courtesy Steubenville, Ohio, Department of Parks and Recreation

Have you a box hockey outfit for the boys of your play center? It's easy to make and you'll find it an invaluable addition to your equipment.

"Hail, Alma Mater Playground!"

Many a citizen of Springfield, Illinois, was made aware of the city's twenty-one playgrounds when a spirited playground song contest came to him over his radio—right between two sections of a double-header ball game!

Songs were written to music of popular or standard songs. The playgrounds sent their entries to the contest to the Playground Commission for inspection and acceptance. With the cooperation of a local radio station, the Commission arranged to broadcast the songs for popular approval. An elimination contest was held, the voting being done by telephone within an hour after each program had started. Parents invited friends in and after the contest telephoned their votes, en masse. Fifteen hundred votes were received, and the contest, besides bringing the playgrounds before the public in a big way, resulted in some clever songs.

On the public playgrounds of Detroit a regular daily period was allotted for singing. A number of songs were taught for use in the children's pageant, and a special choral group of a hundred boys and girls added their voices to those of the girls taking part in the dances and games.

In angling for these youthful Izas taking advantage have of fishing v

Where Politics Are Hot

"Slumkey forever!" was the first shout heard by the Pickwickians on entering the little town of Eatonswill where politics were rife. "Islandcrats forever!" is the cry you would have most likely heard last summer if you had visited a playground on Squire Island, a part of the Union County Park system of New Jersey.

Children of this playground have organized into a democratic state. Elections contested by the two parties, the Islandcrats and Islanders, are lively affairs with rallies, campaign speeches and parades. Last year the Islandcrats won the mayoralty while the council was split half-and-half, showing that the voters care not a fig for the party but for the man. His Honor, the Mayor, appointed a Courtesy Patrol consisting of a Chief, Court Clerk and eleven Patrolmen. Rules for the use of the ground and its facilities were made up and laws posted. Offenders were given warnings and, if they did not heed, the patrolmen gave them tickets to appear in court for trial.

Making Parents "Playground Minded"

Parent councils of interested mothers and fathers living near playgrounds were organized last summer by the Department of Public Rec-



Courtesy Bureau of Parks, Department of Public

Everywhere, in the approaching playground season, many thousands of little children will find in sandcraft perhaps their most pleasurable form of play.

recreation, Danville, Illinois. To promote sociability among the parents, one large joint picnic and stunt night was arranged by the playground directors of all the grounds.

Four city-wide events presented by the Recreation Division of the Oklahoma City Park Department were designed to interest parents and adults. These were arranged in addition to the regular community night programs held at each of the parks during the week. They were:

1. A dance festival, featuring folk and modern dances. This was the opening feature.
2. Amateur contest. 500 amateurs competed in almost every conceivable form of entertainment. Each park held a preliminary contest. First and second place winners were entered in the city-wide event.
3. Joint stunt night, each park furnishing one feature.
4. Tournament for fine arts students. This was so popular that it is planned to emphasize this program this summer instead of the amateur contest.

of five fish apiece,
s of Pittsburgh are
usual privilege they
aving city limits.



Pittsburgh, Pa.

Everybody Happy but the Fish!

That good fish can be caught with broom handles for poles and pins for hooks was demonstrated last summer by children of Pittsburgh at Panther Hollow Lake in Schenley Park. On Mondays and Saturdays the lake is turned over to the young Izaak Waltons who fish to their hearts' content.



Courtesy Steubenville, Ohio, Department of Parks and Recreation

Boys and girls under sixteen years of age were registered as junior sportsmen and were given membership cards and buttons. Approximately 3,500 young sportsmen were registered, and so popular was the sport that it soon became difficult to find enough fishing space around the lake.

Each child was limited to a catch of five fish and quickly grasped the idea of sportsmanship involved in this provision and others which were necessary. A park guard and a representative of the Pennsylvania Sportsmen's Luncheon Club were in attendance to keep order and register the fishermen, but the problem of discipline was taken care of by the children themselves.

The State Game Commission stocked the lake with catfish, carp, perch and some sunfish. The project was financed by the local Sportsmen's Luncheon Club and by individual contributors who in their boyhood days knew the fun of fishing.

Bushels of Beetles

A price of ten cents a pint for Japanese beetles was offered children of the playgrounds of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and a day set, July 17, for the "Battle of the Beetles." As a result some 550 boys and girls collected \$75 in return for almost twelve bushels of these devastating insects. On a subsequent day, eleven more bushels were collected. The City Landscape expert stated that he could not have destroyed half that number of beetles for the same money by using poison spray.

They Made Tom-toms and Tambourines

To learn to play a tom-tom, flute or tambourine which he has made and decorated himself is a delightful experience for a playground child. This approach to music appreciation was made possible in Lexington, Massachusetts, according to Miss Rose Cunningham of the Park Department, by the cooperation of manufacturers of musical instruments who furnished excellent materials at low cost, which was supplied to the children without charge. Work was done at a long table under shade trees, near a supplies store-room. A fence provided a convenient place to hang the tom-toms to dry. The tom-tom heads were made of a patented composition requiring wetting in the same way as skin heads. Designs for decoration were drawn on paper before being transferred. The instruments made included: tom-toms, tambou-



Wide World Photos, Inc.

rines, snare-drums, sing-bells, pipes of Pan, shepherd's pipes, transverse flutes, and simple stringed instruments. One-tone strings mounted on a wood back provided experience in stringing and tuning. Four strings were mounted on one back for the bugle tones and a one-string chromatic guitar.

Each group was given bi-weekly lessons by a special teacher assisted by two workers of the regular staff. Later in the season, much more time was devoted to developing ability to use the instruments than to their construction. This project encouraged originality, team work, and rhythmic expression in dance and pantomime accom-

panied by the instruments. Interest was reported equally keen in both boys and girls, and in the younger and older groups.

Everybody Came to the Circus

The circus, high-spot of many a summer playground program, sometimes grows to become a real community affair, as witness last August's circus of Caspian, Michigan. Over 3,000 persons

turned out, thronging the streets for the parade and packing in at the playground. Acts in the circus included a band program, clowns, ponies, minstrel show and an animal wedding of Mr. Bear and Miss Lion. Children impersonated all of the animals, including monkeys, elephant, giraffe and ponies. Prizes in the parade were given in the following classes: comic, wagons, buggies, bicycles, character and historical costumes, and

group entries. All of the properties and costuming were made in the summer community house. The entertainment was free and depended on only \$25 for funds.

And in Detroit a circus scheduled for the close of the playground season provided a new activity for the handcraft program. A miniature circus wagon carrying a driver and pulled by one or more teams of horses was made on each playground by boys in the woodcraft classes. A sample design and the specifications were furnished, but the rest was left to the ingenuity of the boys. Some excellent models were made and much



Courtesy National Park Service

Showing the Rambling Theater closed and on its way to a Washington park

originality was shown in the decorations. This activity was promoted by the Recreation Department to help arouse interest in the coming circus and to tie up the preparation for the circus with other playground activities.

A Traveling Troupe

When you take a group of seemingly incorrigi-

ble youngsters and make them very proud of themselves—the results are often extremely gratifying. This was the experience reported concerning the Lytle Playground in Cincinnati, Ohio, by the Public Recreation Commission. This playground and its surrounding community used to be regarded as highly disorganized with a penchant for destruction of property. The creation of a

The Theater, open and in operation, delights its audience of children



Courtesy National Park Service

traveling circus troupe is one of the measures taken by the Commission, cooperating with different neighborhood agencies to change the whole picture. Boys and girls began to act as responsible members of the community. The troupe was a source of justifiable pride to the children, since it was in demand for entertainments on other playgrounds. It included: tumblers, Siamese twins, clowns, a bearded lady, a fat boy, a dragon sixteen feet long, two bears in a cage and other animals which were added from week to week.

Softball and Sociability

Cincinnati's Public Recreation Commission says nothing promotes sociability among girls and women like softball. Softball—plus plenty of picnics. Not only does each team have its picnic, but the members of all the teams of a particular league have a picnic. At such a picnic, the first held last summer, the Northside League mustered sixty-five girls.

Traveling Theaters

A number of park departments, recreation commissions and similar groups have found a fresh interest in their drama programs when their theaters have gone traveling.

The Rambling Theater, which was built in 1935, for the past three years has been in use in the park system of Washington, D. C., during the summer months. It is a theater on wheels, the plays and entertainments being given in the afternoons by children. These performances are, however, attended by almost as many adults as youngsters.

In 1935, a three-ton four wheel drive truck was obtained from the sur-

"There is, fortunately, one playground activity which involves no equipment," writes William F. Newkirk of Cambridge, Massachusetts, who gives us some interesting suggestions for developing this activity, which turns out to be hiking. The photograph shows a group of six Cambridge boys who hiked to the Boston Airport just across the river, which none of the boys had ever before seen.



Photo by William F. Newkirk, Cambridge, Mass.

plus material list of the Quartermaster Corps by transfer from the United States Army to the Office of National Capital Parks. The box body was removed from the chassis and a platform body 18' long x 8' wide constructed. Two hinged sides 18' x 5' and a hinged tail gate 8' x 5' were attached to this platform which, when opened, made a stage 18' x 23' long. The sides were covered by a light tin on which the signs were painted, the entire painting being of bright colors, mostly reds and yellows, resembling an old-time circus wagon. A few simple properties such as stools, chairs, benches and tables were built; flats were provided to take the place of back drops and scenery. Music by electrical transcription and amplification was furnished. It was found, however, that the microphone picked up too much extraneous sound and the amplification was discontinued, only the music being retained.

The entertainment part of the program was supervised by the Community Center Department of the District of Columbia. The parks where entertainments were to be given were selected by the Office of National Capital Parks which also

maintained and operated the theater. The players were picked up by the truck at a designated time and place and taken to the park where the performance was to be given. On arrival at the park the chauffeur, stage director and park employees set up

the stage—a process requiring about twenty minutes. The plays were usually of one hour duration. At the conclusion of the performance, the stage was folded—this required approximately twenty minutes—and the truck driven back to the garage.

The average

(Continued on page 112)

The Summer in York

"C'MON SMITTY, the playgrounds are open," cried one lad on June 15 last summer in York, Pennsylvania. And "sure enough," all ten were open, open for an unusually long season of exciting events under the guidance of the Recreation Commission, the superintendent of recreation, the supervisors of girls' and women's activities and playgrounds, of handcrafts, of dramatics and clubs for adolescents, of men's athletics and of twenty-two playground directors.

A Theater Trailer

One of the most exciting "happenings" was the conversion of an old run-down Ford into a trailer theater. N.Y.A. boys assisted in reconstructing

Last summer proved an exciting and happy time for the children of York, Pennsylvania, a city with a population of approximately 55,000. For many years the community has conducted playgrounds, and since 1920 the work has been on a year-round basis. Miss Sylvia Weckesser is the superintendent of recreation.

and painting the Ford. The curtain—a gay, quilted one—was made by the Academy Youth Center Quilting Club. The City Council gave permission for the use of the theater on the playgrounds. Eighty-two performances took place in this children's theater

with all-child casts, and a delighted audience of over 8,000 for the season saw the plays.

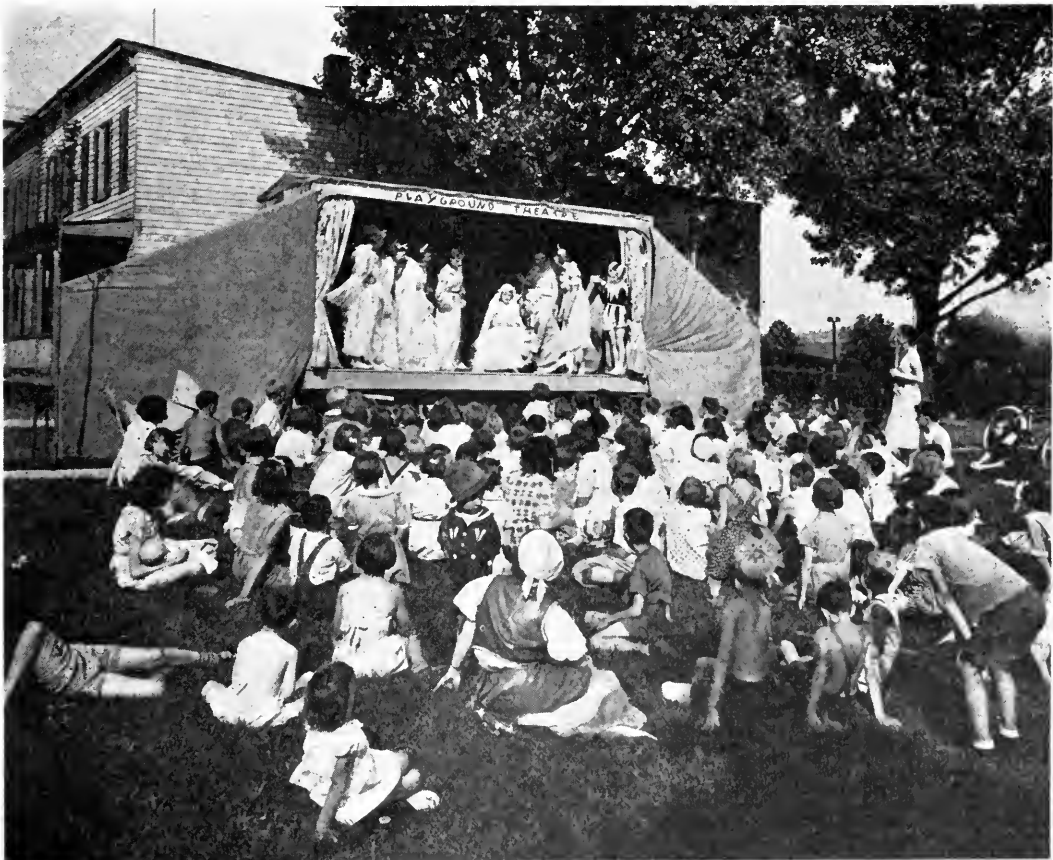
Pushmobiles and Parades

Another first-time event was a city-wide pushmobile contest sponsored by the Recreation Commission and the Old Timers' Athletic Association.

Any child could enter providing he was under 16 years of age, had built his car from waste materials for \$1.50 or less,

had used no wheel (steer-

A traveling theater, ingeniously constructed at a cost of only \$52.18, delighted thousands



ing wheel excepted) over 12 inches in diameter, had had no artificial weighting, had used wood for the body (axles, wheels and steering gear excepted) and had had his car inspected and registered on one of the playgrounds before the races. Ninety young automobile manufacturers entered their 1937 models in the contest and twenty-seven races were run off before the fastest car could be selected. Races were run in heats—four cars to a heat, with winners of each heat competing until the finals were reached. Awards went not only to the owners of the three fastest cars, but to the three showing best design and workmanship and to the makers of the most unusual and the most comical models.

A "March of Time Mardi-Gras Parade" preceded the pushmobile contest, ending at the "speedway." Nearly a thousand children took part, each playground represented a different subject. There were comic strip characters, a beauty show, "Hollywood Stars of Today and Tomorrow," circus animals and decorated floats representing the origin of dancing, frontier days, "Bring 'em Back Alive," and story hours. The parade was headed by the playground band which was followed by the Recreation Commissioners and representatives of the Old Timers' Association (the sponsors of the day's events) and the children in gala attire.

The Sulky Sultan

The Sulky Sultan is a large eight-foot wooden potentate who smokes away at a water pipe, rolls his eyes and glares. About him was woven a pageant, bearing his name, and put on by 300 children from the playgrounds. They entertained the sultan in an attempt to make him smile so that his very lovely daughter (so the story goes) could marry a really light-hearted prince. As entertainment a bull fight was staged, Russian and Japanese dances and drills were performed and peasants and rag dolls danced. In the end, by some mysterious and wonderful device, the Sulky Sultan smiled and of course "they all lived happily ever after." The pageant was the second annual playground event of its kind in York.

A Band is Started

Still another new event was the formation of a playground band of forty members under the direction of a high school band leader. A student leader and two librarians were appointed and the band soon got under way. But there was no drum

major for a time as a local newspaper revealed in its columns: "Wanted: A young man (or a woman might do) under the age of 16; must be tall, good-looking and able to twirl a baton. Apply at the next rehearsal of the Playground Band in the Academy Youth Center ——. P. S. The band will accept additional members, too."

Directors' Week

While a very general outline of activities was provided for all the playgrounds with certain events such as contests, play days and pageants scheduled on particular dates, one week was set aside as "Directors' Week" during which playground directors planned their own programs, winding them up in a special event of their own choosing. Several playgrounds topped off this week with amateur or variety programs and there were baby shows, a water carnival, an Old Clothes Night, a stilt party, and community music put on by other grounds.

With Banners

The quality of the program for Directors' Week, as well as other weeks, was measured in points given for care of ground, clubs, safety and special events. The two high-point winners each week were rewarded with banners, the high-point winners for the entire season being allowed to keep their banners permanently as well-deserved and hard-earned trophies.

Snake Dances and All

A snake dance of 200 children, track and field events, five volley ball games, a number of circle games and relays comprised the "piece de resistance" of the demonstration of organized play by all the playgrounds. Twenty children from each playground lined up for the opening parade around the field. Two boys saluted each marching unit with trumpets as it passed the band stand. After the grand finale—the snake dance with all participants—Bobo, the clown, gave each child a lollipop (donated by a candy company) as he or she left the field. A number of lucky boys and girls found theater tickets (given by a local theater) wrapped up with the candy.

Here and There in York

The events described so far were not the only exciting and important ones on the program. There is time for only a quick glimpse of others

which contributed to making this summer different and happier for York's children.

The all-too-often neglected "teen age" had special attention. The dramatics supervisor had charge of organizing clubs for adolescents—boys and girls over sixteen. These clubs were formed on the playground and a program of games, parties and dances was planned. The clubs are to be continued in the winter, using the Academy Youth Center as headquarters.

A gypsy story-teller in costume made the rounds of the playgrounds to tell stories to eager child listeners. Not so long ago this gypsy was herself in the story-telling audience, for she was once one of York's playground children; in fact, at eleven years of age she was the ringmaster of a year. All Safety Club members were invited.

Safety clubs were formed with certificates at the summer's end for faithful and intelligent help in promoting safe play on the playgrounds. Children earning certificates last year received stars this year. All Safety Club Members were invited to a party at the end of the summer.

Street sprays were installed and twice a week in four places children enjoyed showers when the temperature reached 85 or above.

Babies figured prominently in the program for there were several baby shows with prizes for the baby—with curliest hair, with bluest or brownest eyes, smallest for its age, youngest two months ago, with most hair, most active, friendliest, cleverest, most appealing, with widest eyes, with red hair and so on.

Model boat races, city-wide Jacks, O'Leary and "Pop It" tournaments, doll and pet shows, a picnic day on which all leaders planned excursions for their children to the country or to a swimming pool added to the list of red-letter days. The York Little Theater presented its first outdoor full-length production, giving Rostand's "The Romancers" for the benefit of the children of the community. The Little Theater group gave its services so that funds might be raised to buy equipment needed at the play centers.

A Basic Program Outlined

The playground directors were encouraged to arrange original events throughout the summer. To assist the directors in maintaining an active program the Recreation Department outlined a regular program which could be changed for special events. The program follows:

9:30-10 A. M. Flag raising, distribution of equipment and organization of groups for morning play.

10-10:45 A. M. For children under 8, group and singing games and apparatus play; for children between 8 and 11, organized games and apparatus play; for boys and girls over 11, informal team and group games.

10:45-11 A. M. No special activities scheduled, but there will be free play on the grounds.

11-11:30 A. M. For children under 8, sandbox play, block building and story-telling; for children between 8 and 11, handcrafts, nature activities, quiet games, badge tests and stunts; for boys and girls over 11, handcrafts, nature activities, quiet games, badge tests, stunts and midget mushball.

11:30-noon. No special activities scheduled. (The playgrounds are closed from noon to 1 P. M.)

1-2 P. M. For children under 8, story-telling and story acting; for children between 8 and 11, group games, music and apparatus play; for boys and girls over 11, musical activities, informal group games and athletic events.

2-4 P. M. For children under 8, apparatus play, singing games and special events; for children between 8 and 11, contests, tournaments, special features and handcrafts; for boys and girls over 11, league games in volley ball (girls) and mushball (boys) special features, outings, tournaments and contests.

4-5 P. M. For children under 8, quiet games and sandbox play; for children between 8 and 11, story-telling, dramatics, folk dancing, quiet games and meetings of clubs or committees; for boys and girls over 11, story-telling, dramatics, folk dancing and meetings of clubs or committees.

5-6 P. M. No scheduled activities, but playgrounds remain open for use of young people and adults.

6 P. M.-dark. For children, apparatus play, self-organized games and watching special events; for young people and adults, informal team games, twilight leagues and special neighborhood programs.

"Past experience has fully demonstrated the close interrelation of recreational activities and many of our present-day problems. Juvenile delinquency many times originates in the thwarted play life of children. The value of properly directed play in building good character is widely recognized."—*Jesse F. Steiner.*

When Reading Went Dutch!

"Green gravel, green gravel, the grass is so green,
And all the free maidens are shamed to be seen.
Oh Elsie, Oh Elsie, your true love with him
He sent you a letter to turn back your head."

By THOMAS W. LANTZ
Superintendent of Public Recreation
City of Reading, Pennsylvania

AND DID THE children love to sing these old folk songs? The answer is obvious.

During the summer of 1937 Reading used "Pennsylvania Folk Lore" as a theme to motivate the playground program. Doll and pet shows were forgotten for one season. Hop scotch and jackstone tournaments were abandoned temporarily and instead the songs, crafts, games, dances and stories of early Pennsylvania pioneers were substituted. Pennsylvania, and more particularly Reading and Berks County, are rich in folk lore, and yet so few children and adults know about the culture of the early Pennsylvania German settlers. ("Pennsylvania Dutch" is a misnomer.)

In L. P. Jacks' book *Education Through Recreation*, a statement occurs to this effect: "The education which is not also recreation is a maimed, incomplete, half-done thing. *The recreation which is not also education has no re-creative value.* To see education and recreation in their theoretical unity does not carry us very far. What the world needs today is their union in *practice.*" The theme "Pennsylvania Folk Lore" was education through recreation in *practice.*

Preparing for the Program

One hundred twenty-five playground leaders, WPA recreation workers, representing twenty-eight municipal and thirty-three county playgrounds, were trained intensively for a period of two weeks, from 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. daily, in square dances, quadrilles, the Virginia reel. They were given bibliographies of stories—the books had been reserved for their use in the public library—and they were taught Pennsylvania German games which were derivatives of the occupations of farmers living in the early 18th century, such as "Brode bocka" (baking bread), "Dersha rubba" (picking cherries), and "Noch der meal gae" (going to the mill). They received practical instruction in the methods of using

motifs of an art-loving people and actually learning how to make corner shelves, what-nots, patch quilts and wall pictures. And they rehearsed folk songs which were discovered in the back country and recorded on a Victrola record to be preserved forever, such as "We'll Swim Across the Schuylkill."

At the institute, the popular and ever useful activities such as safety programs, softball and volleyball, paddle tennis and other familiar ones were not neglected.

"Old Settlers' Day"

During the course of the summer season a number of special events with a folk lore title were used in addition to the daily folk dances, crafts, songs and games. For example, an "Old Settlers' Day" was appropriate to honor those who are greatly responsible for what we have and are today. In accord with this idea a number of suggestions were made to the playground leaders. The invitations to the old folks in the neighborhood were in the form of a Conestoga wagon design written on old calico. Everybody invited was asked to dress as an Indian, a pioneer, or in a Colonial costume. The children, too, came in costume. Needless to say, black moustaches made of light-weight cardboard, Indian war bonnets and patch quilt "shawls" were predominant. The program for the afternoon consisted of old favorite songs, stories by one or two of the old settlers in the neighborhood, and stunts such as bobbing for apples, broom stick pull, Indian wrestle, spin the platter. At one playground an old zither player entertained the crowd. At another, the mothers presented a square dance which the leader had taught them. Two old fiddlers screeched away, much to the amusement of the children,

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**Have you ever explored the folk lore of your locality?
A little research may yield rich returns for your program**

Enlarging the Arts and Crafts Program

THE GIRL SCOUTS have just presented to their members the framework of an enlarged program in the arts and crafts, a program planned to bring the creative arts into the daily life of the average American girl. Adopted on a nation-wide scale, adapted to the needs of a membership which now numbers almost half a million, this program may be an important step in producing a body of citizens who have learned to know and respect the unchanging principles of craftsmanship, finding joy in working with their hands, demanding good workmanship and sound design in the articles they buy.

The editor of RECREATION has pointed out that "no recreation worker, seeking to give men and women everywhere the makings of an abundant life, . . . can ignore what cravings lie deep inside men that will find satisfaction only in activity of the hands."

The Girl Scouts agree. The revised arts and crafts program is based on the belief that every girl has creative ability and that this ability grows with use. Puritan tradition, the more or less formal presentation of art in the schools, the constant invitation of canned entertainment, all these have combined to push creative effort into the background. But the arts and crafts have never ceased to be important. In a mechanized civilization they become increasingly important. Boys and girls, men and women, living too fast, threatened with nervous disorders, must find some outlets for their energies, outlets that bring peace and satisfaction. The Girl Scouts are endeavoring to meet this need by offering creative activities which weave naturally and easily into daily living.

Objectives

In planning activities for the girls from seven to eighteen, no attempt has been made to separate the arts from the crafts. Craft is dexterity and skill in manual employment. Art is the expression of an idea in form, color, sound or movement. But every art is dependent upon the craft that gives it excellence. Skill with the hands may eventually bring ability to express a wide range of ideas. The potter may acquire such skill in modeling that he can produce sculpture as well as pottery. The design for a tapestry may be a form

By CHESTER G. MARSH

Arts and Crafts Adviser
Girl Scouts, Inc.

The Girl Scout leaders have been revising their program, including, of course, their arts and crafts requirements. Because of the important place arts and crafts are assuming in the municipal recreation program, we have asked the Girl Scouts to share with recreation workers the objectives which they have set up, some of the methods to be employed, and the values which they are hoping will accrue from the more creative and democratic plan proposed in the revision.

of art although the skill of the needlewoman is rated among the crafts. The program, therefore, includes drawing and painting, sculpture, prints, design, pottery, weaving, metal work, leather work, wood work, basketry, needlecraft, colorcraft, bookbinding, glass work, photography, interior decoration, architecture, on equal terms.

Each field is recognized as a point of departure from which a girl may develop in many ways. In general, activities are planned to attain five objectives: the girl is given an opportunity to exercise her creative ability; she gains practice in needed skills; she is brought to understand and appreciate the work of others in her chosen field; she is shown what lasting interests may grow out of what she does; and she is encouraged to make her arts and crafts an integral part of all she does in Girl Scouting or in life.

For example, to earn recognition in drawing and painting, the Girl Scout is asked to choose four of six creative activities and carry them through. She may draw or paint a landscape or a single object in that landscape. She may use the human figure, animals, flowers or other still life as her models. She may do a picture indicating a mood or an emotion. She may portray action, tension or lack of motion. Or she may illustrate a poem or story (preferably her own) with at

least two drawings or paintings.

A Choice of Skills Offered

So far, only the more creative activities have been touched upon. She is given a choice of many skills also. She may arrange flowers or objects for a still-life composition. She may learn how to select and use painting materials such as paper, canvas, stretchers, easels, brushes, palettes, finders, pastes, paints and fixatives. She may demonstrate her ability to stretch canvas for an oil painting, prepare paper for a water color, set a palette for oil colors, clean brushes, arrange a sketch box, "fix" a charcoal or pencil drawing, select, make, or refinish a frame.

To increase her appreciation of the work of others she is asked to find out something about any painters who may live in her community and become familiar with their work. She may visit galleries or private homes which contain notable pictures or collections. She may learn something of the history of American art and the scope of contemporary art, concentrating her investigations, if she wishes, on one outstanding American painter in any field.

To show her the possibilities for lasting interests and enjoyment in what she has undertaken, she is urged to find out what facilities for art studies may be available in schools, art centers, museums, churches, organizations or private studios. She may begin a collection of good reproductions or start a sketchbook or keep a notebook about pictures seen, artists met and interesting places visited.

In all that has been suggested, drawing and painting are shown to be an integral part of the life about her. Each girl, however, is given further opportunity to discover the constant value of her work in everyday living. She is urged to use her drawings in her Girl Scout nature study, reproducing the birds, trees, shells or flowers she sees. Or she may make sketches for theater scenery, pictures for posters or place cards or parties.

"In launching the revised program, attention is again called to the fact that the development of desirable attitudes is our real goal. Attitudes and appreciations remain with us long after information and skills fade. To us as leaders this means several things. It means that interest and enthusiasm, which are highly contagious, are frequently more important to us as leaders than the amount of information we may have or the degree of our skills." From *The Girl Scout Leader*, April 1938.

Using this type of approach in all the fields of the arts and crafts, the Girl Scouts are endeavoring to make sure that each girl shall have an opportunity to realize how simply and naturally creative expression may increase not only her enjoyment of life but her efficiency in living.

In covering the wide age range from seven to eighteen years, the Girl Scout program is necessarily adapted to suit the needs of the girls. The Brownies, who are the younger Girl Scouts from seven to ten years old, find fun in modeling simple trays and dishes or in making a simple stencil design based on the shape of the flower that grows in the window box of their meeting place. Girl Scouts (from ten to fourteen years old) and Senior Girl Scouts (from fourteen to eighteen years old) carry on the types of activities that have been already described, developing them more fully, finding maturer expression of their talents as they grow older. To make the appreciation of art progressive, suggested activities for Brownies include a recognition of the artist in her own community, for the Girl Scout an interest in the art of America, and for the older girls the art of the world.

The Creed—Originality

In one thing there is no variation, however. The ethics of the craftsman and the creative artist are part of the whole Girl Scout arts and crafts program. For the youngest Brownie and the most mature Senior Girl Scout the creed is the same: "All work shall be original. We will do no copying or tracing of pictures or designs. All work shall be made of real materials used honestly. We will not try to make paper look like reed, nor cloth resemble leather. All work shall be honestly and entirely our own. We will not use assembled or cut-out projects that are partly worked out."

When Brownie makes her stencil design she creates it herself; she does not copy some ready-made picture in a book. When the Girl Scout selects a land-

"What we are concerned with is, of course, education. Education means so many things to many people. Very frequently it is considered just a synonym for information. Necessary as information is, however, it is only one part of education. Skills are another part. More important than either are attitudes and appreciations, because they influence the part that information and skills play in our lives and because they form the essence of human character." From *The Girl Scout Leader*, April 1938.

scape to reproduce, she selects a real landscape, not a painted one. When the Senior Girl Scout designs the scenery for her dramatic workshop play, her design is all her own, based on the needs of her presentation and the possibilities of the stage with which she must work.

Such practical ethics, growing out of happy activities, are very concrete interpretations of the ethics of the whole recreational program of the Girl Scouts. They provide a clear and easily understood standard of values, one which is meaningful to big girls and little girls alike. They provide, too, a spur to individual initiative combined with many opportunities for group participation.

Satisfactions Discovered

These ethics form a code which is easy to remember. The girl who has learned to know and appreciate honest workmanship, who can work with her hands and respects the work of others, will understand a good deal more about the construction of her home and its furniture, will demand harmony of line and sturdiness as well. A large part of the program aims to encourage girls to become intelligent consumers, giving them practice in choosing the best materials, giving them standards by which their own and others' work may be judged.

A girl discovers for herself what satisfaction and new resources for everyday living may be found in the creation of beauty. When she accepts the need for beauty and creative activities for herself, she accepts them for others also. She sees that it is not enough to fill her own life with objects of art. The only way in which she may be surrounded with beauty is to create harmonious surroundings everywhere. Impatience with ugliness in public structures, in city planning, in the slums that shut off children from their birthright of constructive activity and self-expression—this is a logical attitude

developed from heightened sensibilities and increased perceptions. It is part of the good times she enjoys when she visits noteworthy buildings with her friends or makes a piece of pottery for her own room at home.

Who helps the Girl Scout work out her standards of good workmanship? Who goes with her to visit museums or to point out the delicate construction of the clustered pillars and pointed arches in the family church? Museum officials, artists, men and women who have themselves found happiness through working creatively with their hands, all volunteer to act as consultants in the Girl Scout arts and crafts program. Since the program has been developing for many years, these men and women have already contributed a great deal to the expanding interests of the girls. Others are offering their services as they see what the enlarged program can mean to girls and consultants alike in good times, in interests shared, in enthusiasms developed, in community betterment.

Through these interested men and women, the girls' interest in the arts and crafts may begin anywhere. In a Girl Scout camp near New York

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They find a camp-made kiln satisfactory for firing their pottery

Paul Parker Photo

Music as a Playground Activity

By MARIE FOSTER
Supervisor of Music
Recreation Department
San Francisco, California

THE VOICE is a common instrument to us all and almost everyone can sing. Many people who say they cannot sing are inhibited by embarrassment and, if they really try and can overcome the fright of hearing themselves, they will be surprised at their ability. It is not necessary to have a beautiful voice in order to sing well in a chorus, and, as one leader remarks, "You can be a true artist without an exceptional voice, or without a good ear for music, or without sight-reading ability." In a well directed chorus it is possible to attain a degree of artistic expression and joy that is given only to the most expert instrumentalists and solo singers. The music may be very simple, a folk song being as lovely and perfect a thing as has ever been heard.

We were very anxious to build up organized activities for the small boys on one of our San Francisco playgrounds and a day was set aside for singing. The boys' reaction when first approached was exactly as you might imagine. Not one of them, so they said, could sing nor would admit they even liked to sing. However, they came and had such a good time the first day that the same group returned the following week. They sang a few college songs with good march rhythms, such as "Anchors Aweigh," LaForge's Negro song "Shortenin' Bread," and "The Keeper," an English Folk Song. This last interested them very much and they were surprised to hear that all countries had folk songs. They asked that they might learn similar songs from many other lands.

This incident proves that with good leadership and the right songs even the most indifferent and untrained can be given the privilege and joy of musical self-expression. Reach the lyrical strain that is in most people, and they will sing for hours and be re-created.

Instrumental Music Possible

Enthusiastic music teachers say that everyone can learn to play some musical instrument. Many obstacles such as lack of funds for instruction and

instruments make us wonder if this dream can be realized.

On most playgrounds, however, we are limited to instruction in only the low grade instruments such as the harmonica, ukulele and such. Many people like to play these instruments and through them may be led happily into admirable kinds of music to which they had previously been indifferent. Here again leadership enters into the picture. Too often musicians and music educators have scorned this lower field of musical activity; the leader of the harmonica band has been content to avoid a course of tedious practice and has missed the opportunity to present a view of the richer musical fields beyond.

Rhythm Bands. The instruments used in rhythm bands or toy symphonies are those that are easiest to play. These are the drums, triangles, sleigh-bells, tambourines, cymbals, xylophones, bird whistles,

wood blocks and sand blocks. Used in connection with a piano or victrola they complete a very pleasing ensemble. I know of no better early training in music than the rhythm band, for it teaches not only the pulse of the music but how to listen and how to interpret artistically as well. A playground leader with a most meager budget can accomplish wonders with the rhythm band. Simple instruments can be made by the players themselves, records of good music can be orchestrated and much pleasure and real musical education are the result. Through the aid of WPA we are developing a drum project in San Francisco that combines music and handicraft. Drums are being made from materials that are easily collected, such as flower pots and butter barrels, and next summer we plan to develop drum making as an activity on our playgrounds. Then a drum corps will be formed and drum rhythms taught.

Advanced Orchestras. I cannot leave the subject of playing music without mention of an advanced orchestra that will furnish the opportunity of ensemble playing for your serious music student. Many a high school graduate who has played in his school orchestra wishes for some

similar organization that will give him the opportunity of continuing and enlarging his musical experience. In San Francisco we have our Junior Civic Symphony where, under the leadership of a fine musician, the young student has an opportunity to learn for himself the music of the masters and to re-create the stimulating music that has touched his heart and mind. He has the opportunity to become a skilled musical amateur.

Whistling Not to Be Overlooked!

Whistling is still another form of musical activity and is so easy and natural that the most self-conscious person will play his instrument anywhere without embarrassment. Why not enlarge on its possibilities and attain a good, firm tone in it, and good rhythm, phrasing and nuance? On playgrounds there may be whistling contests, but, of course, too much organization cannot enter into whistling, for its value lies in its spontaneity and in its intimacy.

Dancing as a Musical Activity

Dancing, as a musical activity, has for its sole purpose the interpretation of the music. Real music is not in sounds, but is in us, and even when we are listening quietly our whole being is enlisted. Dancing, then, is a way of getting into the music and expressing it ourselves in bodily motions. Growth in this creative dancing requires a teacher who is an artist as well as a teacher, but if that is impossible much fun and musical experience may be gained from simple folk dancing. This year the children on our San Francisco playgrounds are combining their singing and folk dancing, and in our spring festival are included the singing and dancing of several German folk songs.

Acting to Music

There are three kinds of acting to music that we will mention briefly. The first is pageantry in which, of course, dancing and singing are combined to tell the story. The second is the pantomiming of a song while a chorus sings it, the song text telling the story. The third kind of acting to music combines both singing and acting, and opera is the highest form of this kind. In this section belongs the operetta, and while the majority of them are very

poor musically, there may be a few that are worth the time and effort spent in preparing them.

The acting out of songs has the most advantages for playgrounds for it requires little rehearsing and very little time for presentation. It also may bring everyone present into the play by having them sing. Its musical value consists in a greater appreciation of the meaning of the song and in participation in fine songs by pantomime by persons who might feel they could not sing and who would not have been attracted to the music merely as songs.

Listening to Music

Listening is, of course, the most common means of experiencing music. Today even the most remote districts have their radio and victrola, and excellent concerts are available to all. Deems Taylor, the eminent music critic, says that as early as six months a child should hear some music each day. By the time he is two years of age, he should hear folk songs and nursery rhymes and soon he will have them for his own. As he grows older, perhaps by his sixth year, he should hear the more complicated forms of music, orchestral and chamber music, symphonic poems and parts of symphonies. In other words, make music a necessary part of the child's life, as simple and enjoyable as reading fairy tales. Direct the child's mind into channels that will yield him cultural returns later on. He will then listen to music without pose or self-consciousness, and will derive pleasure and comfort from it all his life. As recreational leaders we can perhaps do little in this formative period of which Mr. Taylor speaks, but we can ever hold fast to an ideal and help spread the doctrine of good music which is good for all. As an example of this, a group of junior high school boys, who apparently had no especial love for music, were subjected to this listening process and thoroughly enjoyed it. They sat spellbound through three Chopin waltzes and some Schubert and were loathe to leave when their time was up.

Leadership

I have continually mentioned leadership, and the necessity of a good musical leader cannot be overemphasized. What should be some of the qualifications of this leader? First, and of greatest impor-

In connection with the rhythm bands which Mrs. Foster mentions, we want to call our readers' attention to the attractive pamphlet by A. D. Zanzig entitled *Starting and Developing a Rhythm Band*, which recreation workers will find very helpful. Copies may be secured at 15 cents each from the National Recreation Association.

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WORLD AT PLAY

Nature Recreation Makes Progress

DR. William Gould Vinal, Director of the Nature Guide School at Massachusetts State College, in announcing the program of the nature section — "Outdoor Leadership in Recreation — Conservation" — at the outdoor recreation conference recently held at the Massachusetts State College at Amherst, has given some interesting facts about nature recreation. For the last three years, he states, nature recreation has developed more than a decade in advance of expectations. One hundred and forty-two city parks have activities in nature recreation; 101 cities are maintaining 270 nature trails; New York, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati are maintaining a nature guide service. Recreation demonstration projects are converting thousands of acres of sub-marginal land into playgrounds and camping areas; land zoning is bringing about wild life sanctuaries, nature landscaping, and youth hostels. The recent development of out-of-the-city parks, with attendant hiking trails, picnic centers, boating, fishing and camping, marks other phases of nature recreation.



Such nature trails as the one in Mohawk Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma, are multiplying

A Community Center for Winchester

FROM January 17th through 23rd Winchester, New Hampshire, dedicated its new community building given to the town on his birthday by Governor Francis P. Murphy of New Hampshire in honor of his mother. The memorial was dedicated at a banquet on the evening of January 17th when a number of distinguished guests were present, including the governors of four states.

One of the buildings comprising the Ellen Lambert Murphy Memorial, is the Alexander Homestead of fifteen rooms which has been remodeled to meet the needs of the community. The new building houses an auditorium, bowling alleys and game rooms. There is a playground near the building and a parking space for automobiles. Reverend George Truman Carl, Pastor of the Federated Church, will be the director of the center. He will be assisted by an instructor in hobbies and crafts. Activities at the center will include sports, as well as art, music, handcraft and the drama.

The Anchor Boys' Club of Wilkes-Barre

IN February 1937 under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, a club for boys was organized in a garage in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. There is at present a membership of 52 boys, ranging in age from 12 to 25 years.

A small rental is paid monthly for use of the garage, the boys themselves, through membership dues, assisting in paying the expenses. Under leadership provided by WPA the program has been developed including table games, crafts, wrestling, dancing and music. The equipment was made by the boys from material supplied by the Association. The Osterhout Library cooperates by supplying the group with reading material. No boys from the Anchor Club section have appeared before the Saturday morning Juvenile Court since the organization of the group. The boys have set aside Thursday nights as girls' night, and under the leadership of a woman worker, thirty girls have enjoyed regular club activity including crafts, music and games. A Christmas party was held by the girls, who are now

planning a spring dance. A girls' basketball team was formed from members of the club.

Los Angeles Adds New Play Areas—During the early part of 1938, two play areas were added to the recreation system of the city of Los Angeles, California, which now maintains fifty-two playgrounds, sixteen swimming pools and five miles of public beach. In January the Rancho Cienega Recreation Center was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. The site of this playground, which comprises 30 acres and is the largest municipal playground devoted exclusively to sports and recreation in the entire city, was donated by Mrs. Anita M. Baldwin at the request of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce. Development of the tract was carried out through an improvement project completed at a cost of \$218,971, of which WPA contributed \$166,824 and the Los Angeles Department of Playground and Recreation \$52,147.

In February came the official opening of Daniels Field, San Pedro, owned by the Board of Education and located on a part of the former site of the San Pedro High School which during the past year moved to new and more spacious quarters. Upon representations made by the Chamber of Commerce, Daniels Field was turned over to the Playground and Recreation Commission to be improved and operated by it as long as it is not required for other purposes by the Board of Education.

An International Housing and Town Planning Congress—On the invitation of the Mexican Government and officials of Mexico City, the International Congress of Housing and Town Planning will meet in Mexico City from August 13th to August 20th. Congress subjects to be discussed include Housing in Tropical and Subtropical Countries, Planning Recreation and the Use of Leisure Time, and Underground Planning. The conference will be followed by a six or seven day study tour of some of the most important developments in Mexico. Further information regarding the program may be secured from the XVIth International Congress of Housing and Town Planning, Ramos Arizpe No. 1, Mexico, D. F.

Summer Courses at Mills College—For the thirteenth year Mills College, Oakland, California, will open its doors to both men and women during the summer session. There will be courses in art,

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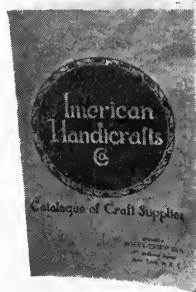
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dance and sports, education and music. An added feature this summer will be the Progressive Education Association's workshop. The fourth annual Institute of International Relations will meet from June 21st to July 1st. Information regarding the summer session, which will be held from June 26 to August 6, 1938, may be secured from the college.

Toy Loan Library Multiplies—The toy loan library in Los Angeles, California, has grown to such proportions that from the start made in one modest library the movement has advanced to the point where there are now ten libraries, all under the direction of the Los Angeles Coordinating Councils, according to the *California Parent-Teacher*. Applications have been made for thirty-five more libraries.

Camps in Recreational Demonstration Areas—Twenty organized camps were operated within National Park Service recreational demonstration areas last summer affording a total of 100,769 camper-days vacation. Forty-one organizations used the camps making them available to selected groups of children and adults. In the 1936 sea-

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son only nine organized camps were in use. Sixty organized camps are under construction in the recreational demonstration areas situated in twenty-four states. Picnic areas, roads, trails, administrative buildings, large and small dams, wild life and forestry jobs have been completed or are in the process of development in varying degrees on every area, and heavy public use has been made of most of the facilities provided, according to A. E. Demaray, acting director of the National Park Service. Many of the areas offer opportunities for winter sports and activities, and it is expected that a number of them will be put to such use this fall and winter. Cabins and other buildings used for organized camping in summer are made available for individual or group use after the summer season.

Barn Dances in Cincinnati—Every Saturday night over Cincinnati's largest radio station, WLW, there is an hour and a half broadcast called the "Renfro Valley Barn Dance." The broadcast is held in Music Hall and the place is crowded every week. The radio station has brought to Cincinnati to conduct this broadcast and to teach the dances, Bascom Lamar Lunsford, known as the minstrel of the Appalachians. Mr. Lunsford is an authority on the Appalachian ballads and dances. Every Tuesday night he conducts a barn dance for the Public Recreation Commission at which there is an average attendance of 150 people who come from the country districts to dance. Spectators are not allowed, only those who participate in the dances being permitted to enter.

A Street Playgrounds Bill in Great Britain—The February 1938 issue of *Playing Fields* tells of a bill for street playgrounds which has been introduced in the House of Commons. The bill, which is a temporary solution of the problem of lack of play space, gives power to local authorities who are responsible for more than 20,000 inhabitants either to prohibit or restrict traffic in any street, either generally or at any particular

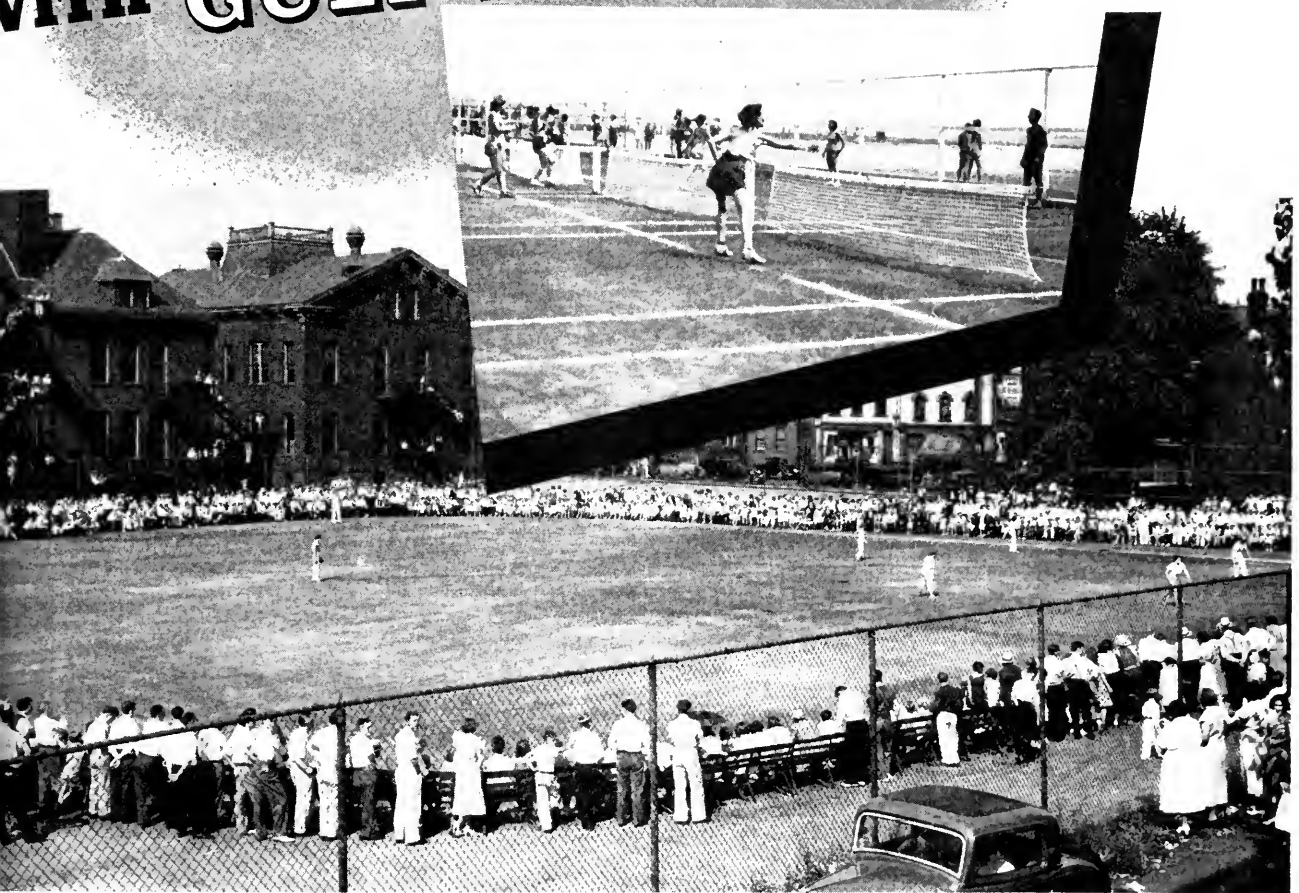
time, in order to turn that street into a playground.

Baseball Still a Favorite Sport—Statistics compiled by Boston University show that when it comes to games students like best to take part in baseball is still the national pastime. Basketball ranks second with the undergraduates, and football is in third place. Tennis is the favorite coed sport, with basketball second and swimming third. The girls mentioned a total of twenty-nine sports in which they like to participate in the following order: volley ball, riding, field hockey, fencing, bowling, archery, baseball, badminton, fistball, ping pong, skating, hiking, lacrosse, soccer, sailing, track, camping, canoeing, bicycling, softball, roller skating, riflery, tumbling and gymnastics. Fourteen of them listed tap dancing as their favorite sport, and four included dramatics in the list. Their brother students included on their list band, chess, music and cheer leader. They listed thirty-one sports in all, and their favorites after baseball, basketball and football were tennis, track, swimming, hockey, crew, golf, boxing, riflery, wrestling, fencing, cross country, soccer, bowling, softball, field hockey, riding, touch football, handball, lacrosse, squash, volley ball, yacht racing, boating and rowing.

An Experiment in Co-Recreation—Miss Margaret Brooke, secretary of the London, England, Central Council for the Social Welfare of Girls and Women, has selected as her assignment the finding of friends for lonely girls in London. She reports an amazing growth in tramping clubs for young men and women, with much of the leadership being taken by the boys and girls themselves.

Reading a Favorite Hobby—Reading for pleasure is a favorite hobby of New York City adults, with listening to the radio and going to the movies close runners-up, according to the results of a survey by the Board of Education's WPA adult education program. Fifty-seven different hobbies were listed by the 2,445 men and women reached in the study. Although dancing was listed as a hobby by students between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five, those between twenty-five and thirty-five were interested in such subjects as art, interior decorating, the making of aviation models and photography. Those of sixty seemed to be content for the most part to listening to concerts. Reading attracted all ages, 439 people listing this subject as their hobby, while sports and

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ture hikes, cooking over a camp fire and sleeping under the stars. The enthusiasm and appreciation shown by the children demonstrated the need for a municipal camp. Another popular feature of the playground season is the nature program introduced in 1936. Among the activities are nature hikes, fishing, mounting and studying animals and the construction of bird houses. A nature specialist is in charge.

attending athletic contests were popular among students of seventeen to thirty. Woodcraft appealed to those between eighteen and thirty. Men showed greater interest and had a more diversified number of hobbies than did women.

A Back-to-Nature Trip for Steubenville Children—Fifty-six children from the playgrounds at Steubenville, Ohio, last summer enjoyed a two day back-to-nature trip to Lake Guilford near Salem. The group enjoyed two days of swimming, fishing, boating, square dancing, na-

Training in Landscape Design—The Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, is offering a home study course in landscape design which furnishes plans for home landscaping and stimulates their application. The course includes such topics as the survey plan, design plan and planting plan. It deals with the construction of a beautiful lawn, the securing, planting and tending of plant materials, and the introduction of special features essential to the final enjoyment of the planting. A unique feature of the course is the adaptation of the instruction to the special needs of an individual project.

A New Citizens' Party—On February 22nd the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Cudworth Post of the American Legion and the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, honored the Milwaukee men and women who received their naturalization papers during 1937 by arranging the sixth annual new citizens' party. The program consisted of appropriate addresses, musical selections followed by dancing and a social evening in the gymnasium of the West Wisconsin Avenue Social Center.

An Airplane Exhibit—In December 1937, Oak Park, Illinois, held the annual exhibit of the Airplane Club sponsored by the Playground Board. The club is under the direction of a former army flier in the World War who is especially good in his contacts with boys and girls. His models are for the most part scale models of real planes. In addition to the boys' club, there is a girls' club of fifteen, all working for their regular flying pilot's license. The club has the use of an abandoned fire hall which at the time of the exhibit was filled with models of all types ranging from small, solidly carved out planes to gas propelled models four to six feet long.

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everything is argued, debated and discussed, but where nothing is settled, is in the Thursday Night Club of the Dixwell Community House, New Haven, Connecticut, which meets in the library at 8:00 P. M. The purpose is to stimulate interest in current events of local, state, national and international importance. It is a liberal body, headed by a young Hindu graduate of the Yale Divinity School who also holds the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Yale University. University, Normal School, High School students and laymen comprise the group. Anyone who is interested is eligible to participate.

A Novel Swimming Pool—An exceedingly novel swimming pool has been planned for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition on San Francisco Bay. According to the plans, this unusual plunge will be of glass and stainless steel, allowing spectators to view the swimmers from the bottom and sides of the pool. The proposed plunge building will be 156 feet long and 115 feet wide; the plans call for a pool 55'x110'. Twelve lanes will be provided for swimming events. The deep portion of the pool from 14 feet up will be of stainless steel and the remaining portion of glass. On the sides of the pool will be runways 20 feet wide of brightly colored composition material. On either side of the pool bleachers will be located for approximately 2000 spectators, while the dressing rooms will be underneath the spectators' stands. Lighting of the pool and the entire plunge room, including the spectators' gallery, will be accomplished by under-water lighting.

New Slides at Pontiac, Michigan—The Kiwanis Club of Pontiac, Michigan, has placed five slides on school grounds in an effort to make tobogganing safe for the children of the city. The slides were constructed by a local lumber dealer at a cost of \$70 each. They are so constructed that in the summer chutes may be added to the upper section. In this way it will be possible to use the apparatus the year round.

Recreation Clubs for Adults—The Recreation Division of the Lansing, Michigan, Park Department has developed a number of interesting clubs for adults. There are six clubs for women who meet to enjoy games, social activities, music and drama. The clubs for men number three. One is composed almost entirely of business men; the second is made up of a group of younger men just

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out of school, while the third includes a few younger boys. There are twenty-five so-called homemakers clubs meeting weekly, most of them in homes of members. The majority of clubs hold a very short business meeting and a group discussion of a lesson sheet provided by the Recreation Department which discusses some phase of health, child training, or home beautification. Social features are introduced into each meeting.

Recreation in Berkeley—A new publication financed through advertising has appeared in Berkeley, California, under the title *Play in Berkeley—a Calendar of Recreation*. The purpose is to give a daily calendar of all recreational, cultural, civic and social events over a two weeks' period so that Berkeleyans may know in advance what is going on in their city. It also provides special feature articles on the city's many recreational facilities. Through the pages of the magazine publicity is being given to the work of the Recreation Department. The opening article in the January 15th issue is devoted to a presentation of the program.

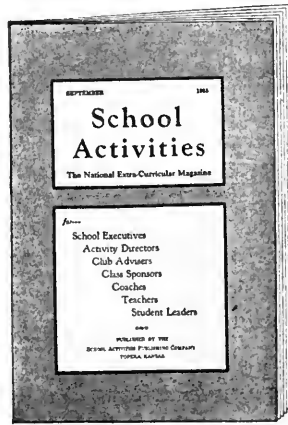
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Making Their Own Instruments—The counselor and the girls at the summer camp of the Fargo, North Dakota, Camp Fire Girls together explored the tone world and made many interesting discoveries regarding primitive instruments. From sawed bits of wood strung together they made a marimba; they laced bamboo tubes cut from an old fishing rod with dyed raffia to make Pipes of Pan, and from some cheese tubs and chopping bowls found at the camp they constructed kettledrums and tom-toms. When the instruments had been constructed, the girls improvised rhythms for them and used them in their pioneer pageant.

Tennis Comes to Life in Oklahoma City—Interest in the age-old sport of tennis rose to a new high in the summer of 1937 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where for five years the sport had been in the "doldrums." Cooperating with the Municipal Tennis Association, which has been in charge of the tennis program, G. W. Daniel-

son, Recreation Director of the City Park Department, engaged a well-known tennis player. His next step was to interest one of the leading newspapers in offering awards for the proposed tournament which it was hoped would prove to be the largest ever held in that section of the country. Within two weeks after the campaign had started 1,254 entries had been received in the eleven classifications. All of the courts in the city were put at the committee's disposal, including several school playground courts. Because of the exceptionally well-organized system of bracketing and scheduling matches which was used it took only three weeks to run off the huge event. Today the courts all over the city park system are crowded and people of all ages are playing. Old timers who had given up the game years ago are back on the courts. Sporting goods houses have reported an increase in the sale of tennis equipment from 100 to 500 per cent.

A Mammoth Swimming Pool—The Highland Park swimming pool in St. Paul, according to the October issue of *Minnesota Municipalities*, ranks first in the state and third in the nation in point of size, and is surpassed by none insofar as physical and sanitary equipment is concerned. Dedicated in June 1937 as a feature of the opening of St. Paul parks, the pool immediately became so successful that the average daily attendance was in excess of 1,000 and the Park Board was petitioned to open it as early as 6:00 A. M. and make it available until 10:00 P. M. The pool, which measures 60 by 210 feet, varies in depth from 1½ to 9½ feet. Adjoining the pool is a play area paved with cement and partly shaded. Within a short distance of the water is a two story limestone bath house measuring 44 by 50 feet, with a large sun balcony overlooking the pool from which interested people may watch the bathers. The main floor has a spacious lounge with accommodations for a refreshment stand. Two stairways lead to basement dressing rooms, showers and locker rooms.

A Nature Guide School—The Nature Guide School sponsored by the Massachusetts State College will be held this summer in the Otter River State Forest, Massachusetts, in an abandoned CCC camp. On June 18th a two weeks' pre-camp school for nature counselors will begin its session. On June 26th the two weeks' state conservation camp for Junior 4-H members will open,

while July 5th will initiate a six weeks' credit course for leaders in ecology, bird study, pond life and outdoor leadership. August 7th will mark the beginning of Federated Garden Club Week. Further information about the school, and a catalogue of courses, may be secured from Dr. William G. Vinal, Fernald Hall, Amherst, Massachusetts.

A Playground Goes to the Children

(Continued from page 62)

was the neighborhood expression of regret and sorrow that this happy center must be closed to them. We felt that way, too. We wanted to hold fast the gains made and felt if an indoor program were possible, desired results would be attained. But where and how were vexing questions. Would it be practicable to use a bandbox house as a play center? There was a vacant house just across the street from the entrance to the tot lot. It had not been occupied for eight years but was larger than a typical bandbox. City housing inspectors pronounced it safe, and the hunt for the owner began. Meanwhile, funds were secured to keep the leaders on the job. Activities were promoted after school on the tot lot. Permission was finally received to use the house if we fixed it up. It took, with the neighbors help, nearly three weeks to complete the task.

The Tot Lot Moves Indoors. In October the "Little Playhouse" had a grand opening. The four rooms were pretty crowded, but the children were used to that. On the first floor a small room was dedicated as "library" and another, the largest room in the house, as "assembly" and general playroom. The boys were assigned to the second floor rooms, one of which was used as a shop, the other for boxing and games. Our neighbors came to visit and inspect. They could not imagine how such a transformation was possible. None of them would have attempted to fix it up or live in the house. They were interested in our lovely 5 and 10c store curtains. They enjoyed the cheerful, colorful decorations. We surmised that it would appeal to them and were not surprised to see later improvements in nearby homes.

As far as space permitted, much of the program that had been carried on at the playground was continued in the playhouse. There were other projects more adapted to indoor treatment. Our



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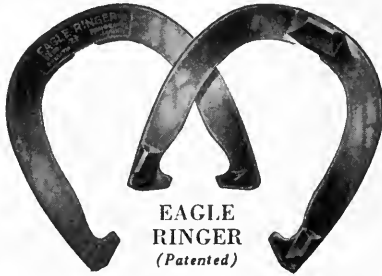
tot lot programs have gone in for libraries. There is the pet library, doll library, book library, and now the picture library. About forty prints of the great masters were mounted, and each week, at assemblies, the story of the pictures is given. A child is privileged to take one of the prints home for a week. Often this print is the only thing of beauty in the home.

A Nature Program on a Playground

(Continued from page 72)

Groups Reached

The Recreation Department is particularly pleased that many of the under-privileged children were reached. In some of the less privileged districts of the city it was possible to show them many things they knew of only from reading and pictures, if they knew of them at all. On one occasion a little fellow looked wide-eyed at a young Pacific Coast Newt (salamander) which the supervisor called by its nickname "waterdog." After several minutes of squirming about in his chair, the boy's excitement overcame his shyness and he jumped from his chair crying, "Why don't



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hem bark?" On a few occasions service clubs provided carfare to take children from these districts into the hills. It was astounding to learn that for some this excursion included a first street car ride or first trip across town!

In Conclusion

On the basis of the summer's experiences the following points are suggested as considerations in planning a nature program for playgrounds:

Playground directors need not hesitate to attempt a nature program if they are sincerely interested in nature. It is exceedingly helpful to present at the annual training course a skeleton outline for the use of the playground worker in preparing a week-to-week program.

A hike immediately following the nature specialist's visit, while enthusiasm is high, helps to crystallize interest.

An age limit should be required in order to assure homogeneous groups. Hikers, for example, prove very difficult to manage when the hikers range from six to twenty-five years of age.

It is well at the first of the summer to make scrap books on which to mount blue prints and other nature prints as specimens.

Movies and slides add tremendously to the program.

Hikers should wear old clothes and comfortable old shoes, and should leave their dogs at home. The group will progress just as fast as the slowest hiker, and one uncomfortable, hobbling hiker can do much to dampen the spirits of the group.

Children susceptible to poison ivy should wash once or twice with a strong soap while on the hike. This will help to prevent oak poisoning in many cases.

It is well to discourage children from bringing live exhibits to the grounds before checking with the director on means of providing proper cages or containers for them.

"Once Upon a Time"

(Continued from page 75)

small, informal groups. For the camp fire and other main events you would better tell the story yourself; everyone will be better satisfied. Don't let the children get the ghost story habit started. Circle stories, in which all the children participate, are fine. In these, each child makes up and tells a short incident in an adventure story which the leader has started and will end.

Stories to Tell

It is not our intention in this article to give a long list of stories to tell. Rather it is our plan to suggest the kind of story to select and how to recognize it. This we have done briefly, but a few examples may be of further help. Adventure stories stand almost alone in this group.*

Mr. Higginbotham's Catastrophe, Nathaniel Hawthorne

Told by the Campfire, F. H. Cheley

In the Fog, Richard Harding Davis

Captain Sharkey, Conan Doyle

Sherlock Holmes, Conan Doyle

The Ransom of Red Chief, O. Henry

The Prisoner of Assiout, Grant Allen

Buried Treasure, Steward Edward White

Long Odds, H. Rider Haggard

The Three Strangers, Thomas Hardy

The Most Dangerous Game, R. E. Connell

The Bamboo Trap, R. S. Lemmon

Zenobia's Infidelity, H. C. Bunner

* This list is of stories suitable for boys. The writer has had no experience with groups of all girls. In mixed groups it has been observed that girls like the same stories as boys.

Historical incidents can be used with good effect if they are sufficiently adventuresome. The writer has repeatedly told the incident of Marie Antoinette and the diamond necklace.

Incidents from novels can be used, but they should be told so that they are complete in themselves. Episodes from *Drums Along the Mohawk* by Walter D. Edmonds have been used. Love stories are to be avoided.

Poems are often used with splendid effect. *The Shooting of Dan McGrew* and *The Cremation of Sam McGee* by R. W. Service are probably the favorites. *Hiawatha* lends itself to the atmosphere of camp fires and is often used in opening and closing ceremonies. The poems of Rudyard Kipling are useful. Comic poems, as they are usually short, can be used as fillers in any program. It is needless to say that poems must always be perfectly learned.

Tell stories. Your group will like them, and you will find them a useful and effective addition to your program.

A "Friendlier Neighborhood" Summer

(Continued from page 76)

the librarian, and others. We found at the end of the season that our playgrounds had been attended more regularly and that many more parents had come to them. The local baby shows, pet shows and fairs gave the leader a closer contact than the more general program could do. We found the entire family in many instances participating in the neighborhood events and often in the fairs. Above all, the program has brought about a better understanding of what our playground program is and what it is trying to do for our American family.

Sand Craft on the Playground

(Continued from page 78)

back over the high lights in our childhood, we find that certain play experiences have made a lasting impression upon us, and have had a very real and definite influence on the way we regard things and people. Our training and education determine our viewpoint, and our play is as much a part of our educational experience as the lessons in geography and arithmetic.

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there is nothing but the sand pile without form or shape. This leaves everything to the imagination and skill. The age of the individual or group should be considered and the subjects chosen for reproduction should be well within their comprehension. Very young children are amused by simply letting the dry sand sift through their fingers, falling on their little brown legs and toes. The next stage is piling up hills and mountains and digging wells; then comes the building of tunnels, railroads, bridges, forts and roughly fashioned buildings. Finally, the attention of the older groups must be gained by showing the possibilities in making miniature towns with more elaborate buildings, parks and streets with all the details possible to reproduce. As you look upon a completed sand picture, including mountains, valleys, rivers, roads and buildings, imagine you are having a real airplane view of a section of the country. The educational value is increased when the models are made to scale, and rulers, calipers, spirit levels and small plumb lines are brought into use. Even a cleanly cut angle, curve, square or circle makes an impression upon the adolescent mind.

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JUNIOR ARTS AND ACTIVITIES
740 RUSH STREET CHICAGO, ILL.

Neighborhood Day Camping in New York City

(Continued from page 82)

simple dance steps are set to such folk songs as those mentioned. Special days celebrate all holidays fittingly, and besides these there are such special observances as the first day of spring, ground hog day, and the blizzard of 1888.

Resourcefulness is always encouraged, and the thing most to be desired is actual camping experience even if it's only week-ends spent away from city life.

When the Finale Is a Pageant

(Continued from page 86)

the stars and moon and the years all dance in turn. The last episode shows the traditional return of Rip after twenty years.

Lansing, Michigan, also has a version of Rip Van Winkle. Like the Louisville one, it is largely pantomime and begins in a market square with dances and games. To escape his scolding wife, Rip takes his dog and goes to the mountains where flowers and bees entertain him. A gnome calls him and leads him to the place where the

gnomes play at tenpins. He sleeps after drinking a draught given him, and bats, fireflies and wood folk dance and gnomes parade. The third scene is unusual in that it shows short episodes of important events that took place while Rip slept—Paul Revere's Ride, Boston Tea Party, Spirit of '76, Betsy Ross and the flag, Valley Forge and others, ending in Washington's inauguration. The last episode shows Rip's return, his bewilderment and his recognition by his daughter.

Refurbishing the Playground Program

(Continued from page 92)

attendance at these performances was three hundred.

Music Indispensable

On the principle that music is essential to a well-rounded recreation program, the Works Progress Administration and the municipal authorities in Kansas City, Kansas, have made a particular place for this activity in the recreation program. Here are some of the musical expressions listed in the program.

Pre-school Toy Rhythm Bands
Children's Orchestras

Symphony Orchestras for Adults
 Harmonica Bands
 Hill Billy Groups
 Piano Classes for Under-privileged
 Musical Games
 Music Appreciation Class
 Clown Bands
 Folk Festivals
 Outdoor Programs and Concerts
 Community Songs
 Playground Concerts
 Folk Dancing
 Square Dancing
 Old Fiddler's Contest
 Adult Choruses
 Children's Choruses
 Amateur Talent Shows
 Band Concerts
 Playground Broadcasts Talent
 Orchestra for Girls
 Orchestra for Boys
 Informal Singing
 Indoor Programs for all Groups
 Vocational Guidance Programs
 Novelty Bands
 Accordion Bands

Hiking—An Inexpensive but Invaluable Activity

Almost any playground can be the base for the organization of local hikes of an educational as well as recreational nature. A simple schedule will call for one hike a week. A small group of boys and one enthusiastic leader will prove the most effective traveling unit. To avoid a large, unwieldy group it can be arranged for half the unit to go at one time, the other half on a different day.

In any city there are a variety of interesting places to visit—museums, zoological gardens, airports, civic buildings, manufacturing concerns, foreign settlements and, of course, the country out of town.

The organization of the groups as camera clubs, with most of the members owning fifty cent cameras in which ten cent films are used, can be a highly successful venture. Taking pictures means developing observation and helps record what a group has seen. Rainy days may be employed in making little scrapbooks of the trips illustrated with the pictures taken.

Many thousands of boys grow up in suburban tenement districts entirely ignorant of interesting sights close at hand. Where city budgets do not provide for playground instructors to take the children on educational trips, it may be necessary

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
 of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Parks and Recreation, February 1938

Why a Department of Conservation? A Statement by the Department of Interior
 New Jersey WPA Converts City Dump Into a Park
 The Romance of America—Address by J. R. Batchelor at Convention of American Institute of Park Executives
 Preparing and Maintaining Ice for Skating, by George Ehmann
 Park Board Most Common Form in Park Administration

Parks and Recreation, March 1938

Policing City and County Parks, prepared by the National Recreation Association
 Merrymount Park at Quincy, Mass., by Herbert Kellaway and Phelps Wyman
 A Memorial Park to Theodore Roosevelt, by Charles N. Lowrie
 Recreation for the Golf Caddy, by Harvey O'Hare
 Nature Lore in the Parks, by Florence Kiefer and C. E. O'Neal

The Camping Magazine, February 1938

Concerning Camping—Some Philosophical Pointers, by Jay B. Nash
 A Few Fundamentals for Boys' Counselors, by Frank H. Cheley

Leisure, March 1938

Sidelights on a Nature Trail, by Irving W. Knobloch
 An Appreciation for Children in Kansas City, by Dev Thatcher
 For Service to All, by Honorable Francis C. Murphy
 Social Group Work and Democracy, E. C. Lindeman
 April Fool Party, by Harry D. Edgren
 Mental Magic, by R. R. Henderson

American Childhood, April 1938

This issue is devoted to music and rhythm.

National Parent-Teacher, March 1938

Healthy Attitudes: The High School Girl and Athletics, by Mary C. Coleman
 Let's Play: Fun in Weaving, by Mrs. J. Sharpless Fox
 Who Should Select America's Movies? by Ray Lyman Wilbur

School Activities, April 1938

Stunts and Program Material, by Mary M. Bair
 Parties for the Season, by Mary Helen Green

The Journal of Health and Physical Education

April 1938

Sport, by Percy Hughes
 Overnight Trips—Yes and No! by Barbara Ellen Joy
 Carnival Customs and Frolic, by Carl L. Schrader
 Group Games—a Psychological Appraisal, by Wilbur D. West, Ph. D.
 Women's Softball League Standards, by Rachel Spencer
 York Harbor Girls' Sport Class

PAMPHLETS

Toys and Peace

Published by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 1734 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Price \$.05.

Annual Report of the Moorestown, N. J., Recreation Commission, 1937

Annual Report of the Bureau of Recreation, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1937

A Century of Book Publishing, by John Barnes Pratt
15th Annual Report of the Recreation Commission, Plainfield, N. J.

How to Run a Hobby Show (Second edition)

Published by *Leisure*, 683 Atlantic Avenue, Boston.
Price \$.10.

The Annual Report of the Board of Recreation Commissioners, Summit, New Jersey, 1937

Rules Governing the Royal Game of Billiards

Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co., 623 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago

Camp Edith Macy—Girl Scout National Training School, 1938

to secure volunteer leaders from the neighborhood of the playground. Such leaders should be well informed and familiar with the spots to be visited. There are always incidental details to be considered such as transportation, lunches and similar matters.

The value of these hikes cannot be overestimated. In addition to their recreational and educational values, they help create a real civic consciousness early in the experiences of our future citizens.

When Reading Went Dutch!

(Continued from page 96)

at a third playground. Exhibits of handicraft made by the children were praised by the older people present. Finally, each Parent Playground Association served apples, cider and pretzels for refreshments.

Everywhere—Folk Lore

With 2,000 participants in the annual lantern parade, the effects of the overhead theme were noticeable. Ninety per cent of the lanterns were made with Pennsylvania German motifs, including the ever-present tulip, deer and barn insignia, the latter being most prevalent on the barns of the local countryside.

At the annual storytelling contest children chose stories from folk lore books obtained through the Reading Public Library and the Berks County Historical Society. "The Lure of the Frontier," "Adventures in the Wilderness," "Beliefs and Superstitions of the Pennsylvania Germans," "The Indians of Berks County" and many others were used.

The next to the last week of the playground season, a camp fire program was staged on every playground. Where playgrounds were small and the fire hazard was great, red electric light bulbs were used under an artificial wood pile. Songs, square dances and stories constituted the program.

Square Dance Night

One of the interesting features of the entire summer was a "square dance night" in City Park. Each Tuesday evening approximately one thousand children came from all sections of the city to City Park for a folk dance festival. This custom has prevailed for a period of twenty-five years. After the playground children had danced for an hour to the music of a professional orchestra, the adults folk-danced for an hour. Needless to say, the old-fashioned square dances, quadrilles and the Virginia Reel attracted the middle-aged citizens of the city and they had the time of their lives. The event had great carry-over value as many of the parents were seen square-dancing to the tunes of either a jug orchestra or a make-shift musical group on their respective playgrounds.

"Redding Towne"

The climax of the playground season was the production of a folk pageant entitled "Redding Towne." Considerable research on the part of the dramatic supervisor and marvelous organization work on the part of the entire summer staff made the pageant an outstanding event. Five hundred participants played before an audience of 5,000 in the local college stadium. The pageant was a reproduction of what the children had learned during the summer. It crystallized in the minds of the children the background of their own locality and the summer playground theme. Anything with a local touch of color would be enthusiastically received by the audience and they applauded the efforts of the children loudly. Scenes and events included the old tavern, the minuet, the arrival of the stage coach and a big Conestoga wagon, drawn by six black horses, fiddlers, folk songs, a hoe down, Reading's famous industries, such as the process of hat making, the old charcoal cart, pioneer children's games, spinning, mending harness, corn husking, apple butter making, a wedding, the old Reading Fair, a real horse race around the track and many other incidents too numerous to mention.

Edward A. Mechling



Moorestown, New Jersey, lost a beloved civic leader in the death in March of Edward A. Mechling—a citizen whose life had been devoted to serving his fellow man. Mr. Mechling gave unstintingly of his time, efforts and talents in the interest of many civic organizations. A devoted friend to young people, he was the first chairman of the Recreation Commission, having been elected to that post in 1926. From March 1932, he acted as volunteer director of recreation for the township, and during the past two years directed the development of the summer program. In September 1925, he called the first community meeting to consider the construction of the Community House, which has won for itself so important a place in the community.

Mr. Mechling was also very active in the Boy Scout movement. For many years he was chairman of the Welfare Association Finance Committee and personally directed all its campaigns for funds.

The summer theme reminded us that our Pennsylvania German ancestors were men and women of high intelligence and genuine culture. For the adults, it inspired them to recapture, for their own comfort-loving generation, a larger measure of that sturdiness of character and resourcefulness of spirit that they possessed.

SAFETY FOR Supervised Playgrounds

Just off the press

A 28 page pamphlet on safety in relation to playground administration and activity programs. Contains sections on physical conditions; the use of apparatus; representative safety programs; organization of patrols and safety clubs, games, handcraft activities and campaigns.

Price 25 cents

SAFETY EDUCATION MAGAZINE

provides material for a well-rounded safety program based on seasonal hazards. The colored posters, graded lesson outlines, plays, stories, informational articles, accident facts, patrol news items and other features are prepared by school people who are experts in the field of safety teaching.

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EDUCATION DIVISION
NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

One Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual

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had a healthy willingness to cast aside early attempts and try something better.

The Democracy of Arts and Crafts

In the Girl Scout program the true democracy of the arts and crafts welcomes all comers, encourages each girl to feel that whatever she makes for beauty and use with honesty, thoughtfulness and care is a worthy contribution to daily living. Just as no attempt is made to separate the arts and crafts, so no attempt is made to divide the arts and crafts from other pursuits.

In earlier days, the connection between arts, crafts and daily living was everywhere evident. Each home had furniture to be made, rugs to be hooked, quiet moments for needlework or "whittlin'". Factory-produced goods and the pressure of modern life have removed much of the economic compulsion for individual creation, but they have increased rather than removed the mental and spiritual compulsion. Like unused muscles, idle hands and brains cry out for activity, for by activity we live. The urge toward creation knows no limits of time or place; its expression is appropriate everywhere. So the Girl Scouts are setting up workshops in their meeting places. They write stories and poems at camp and make tooled leather bindings for them. They redecorate a troop house and produce their own designs for curtains and rugs. This is the sort of art that does not adorn life, it *is* life.

In any program which is designed to cover such a wide range both in age and in geography, local interpretations will vary. The Girl Scouts hope they will. So long as the basic principles are adhered to, each regional variation adds new richness to the development of the whole. Through the arts and crafts program, girls may discover the resources of their own country. One group found that the clay of the river that flowed past their camp was suitable for certain types of pottery. They experimented with it, discovered what colors could be obtained by mixing clays, what effects were possible using their "home-grown" clay alone. Throughout one summer they learned to develop the thing at hand in an extraordinary number of ways. They looked at the familiar countryside with new eyes—the eyes of the artist who gazes past the surface to see the wonders that may lie beyond.

As the Girl Scout program spreads, more and more girls will have this opportunity to see life

Enlarging the Arts and Crafts Program

(Continued from page 99)

City last summer, a few pieces of thin copper left over from some work of the previous season suggested to one of the counselors the idea of making dry-point etchings. In a few weeks, ten-year-olds were scratching their own drawings direct to the copper plates, inking industriously and studying proofs to see what further shading might be necessary. Incidentally, loud shouts of "Where's our clothes wringer" coming from one cabin were silenced when the counselor discovered that the clothes wringer had been commandeered by the ingenious etchers to supply the pressure for pulling proofs! These etchings were not little masterpieces. Then ten-year-old's drawing of the canoe on the lake reflected the lack of that fine coordination which more mature fingers have. But it also reflected the ten-year-old's freedom from stereotyped thought, her simple acceptance of a sharp tool, a piece of copper and ink as a medium of expression as natural as speech or gesture. Because of the children's matter of fact acceptance of their work, they were not inclined to regard their first efforts as too important. They

fresh and new and exciting with possibilities. The Girl Scout organization is not attempting to prophesy too much of what the girls will do with the possibilities at hand. Out of long experience with youth's eagerness to build and create, however, the organization does expect that the girls will do more than their elders dare hope for now. The one thing the program will never set down is a limitation. Young artists and craftsmen have a way of doing the impossible and creating the unthought-of. "Go right ahead," say the Girl Scouts, "That's where the real fun lies."

Music as a Playground Activity

(Continued from page 101)

tance, he must know music and must have a real love and enthusiasm for it. He must have a broad appreciation of the recreational values of the many forms of music, including the simple as well as the highly technical forms. He must be personally skilled in one or more forms of musical activity and he must be able to organize and direct musical groups. The good leader must combine professional expertness and good taste with the amateur spirit and must have a great depth of interest in people and a sympathetic understanding of them.

The Purposes

And now, with this perfect leader, what are the ends and aims of all these musical activities? There may be any number of interests that have prompted the organization of our groups: a chance for social intercourse, to do what a friend is doing; joy in the mastery of some new and difficult achievement; culture and education, and preparation for holidays and public performances. All of these are excellent but, of themselves, are not enough. The finest interest to attract is the love of music for itself and without that no musical activity will endure. The end and aim, for the earnest participant, is the experience of the music itself, as music. This music is not a special talent, given only to a few, but has a rightful place as a part of a common, natural heritage. In order then that our recreation program may be complete, let us offer, to the best of our ability, this heritage of music. On our playgrounds let us sing, play, whistle, dance or act and if we do so successfully, though simply, we have helped to satisfy that inherent need of almost everyone to create some lovely artistic thing.

Character Magazine

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CHICAGO, ILL.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

All About Parties

By Nina Kaye. Crown Publishers, 444 Fourth Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

PARTIES OF ALL KINDS are outlined in this modern party book—parties for holidays and other occasions, showers and anniversary parties, bees and hunts. There are ice-breakers, square dances, writing and table games, stunts and brain twisters. And when it comes to refreshments there are recipes galore; nor is party etiquette neglected for there is a section on this subject!

American Planning and Civic Annual

Edited by Harlean James. American Planning and Civic Association, 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. \$3.00.

EACH YEAR THE American Planning and Civic Association presents a bird's-eye view of recent civic advance. The 1937 edition includes the papers read at the National Planning Conference held in Detroit, June 1 to 3, 1937, and selected papers from the Regional State Park Conferences at San Francisco, September 1 to 3, 1936; St. Louis, November 13 to 15, 1936, and from the National Conference on State Parks at Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, June 10 to 12, 1937.

Books for Home Reading

Prepared for the National Council of Teachers of English by its Committee on Recreational Reading. National Council of Teachers of English, 211 West 68th Street, Chicago, Ill. 20¢.

THIS WELL-KNOWN high school reading list now appears in an entirely new edition, not only brought up to date but considerably enlarged and improved. Every title has been annotated and twelve classifications have been added. Among the new subject divisions are Aviation, Discovery and Exploration, Etiquette, History, Hobbies, Music, Nature, Science, Sports, Theater and Vocations.

Recreation Kits

Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. 25¢ each.

NUMBER 42 of the Kit contains a significant address on Youth and Leisure by Eduard C. Lindeman, reprinted from the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. There is also a discussion of badminton with condensed rules for playing the game.

Number 43, the most recent issue of the Kit, presents the folk plays from the Southern Mountains, produced at the John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, North Carolina. They are "The Old Woman and the Peddler," "Get Up and Bar the Door," and "Haste to the Wedding."

Drawing for Fun

By Walter Willoughby. Leisure League of America, New York City. \$25.

THE IDEA THAT drawing is difficult," says Mr. Willoughby in this practical and attractive booklet, "is purely a mental hazard," and he proceeds to tell his readers, simply and clearly, about working material and techniques. Information is given on perspective, action drawing, composition and many other matters of interest to the beginning artist.

Swimming and Diving

By William W. Rodgers. Service Booklet No. 163. The Washington Information Bureau, 1013 Thirteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C. \$10.

RECREATION WORKERS will find much practical information in this illustrated compendium on the art of swimming and diving which also contains a chapter on life saving.

A Source Book of Water Pageantry

By Katharine Whitney Curtis, B. S., M. A. The College Press, 2224 Van Buren Street, Chicago, Ill. \$1.75.

MANY BOOKS, states the author in her preface, have been written on methods and techniques of teaching swimming. There has long been a need, however, for a source book of material adaptable for use in a swimming program. This book has been written for use by those who are interested in the grace and rhythm of swimming. It contains five completed water pageants, almost fifty water pageant plots, and a number of stunts, races and games. A chapter is devoted to figure swimming and figure floating, and there is an interesting section on sea mythology.

Enriched Community Living. An Approach to Art and Music in Adult Education

Published by Division of Adult Education, Delaware State Department of Public Instruction, Wilmington, Delaware. Studies directed by Marguerite Hill Burnett, State Director of Adult Education; L. Thomas Hopkins, Associate Professor of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University. \$1.00—paper bound; \$1.50—cloth bound.

THIS BOOK is the report of the cooperative efforts of leaders of adult education groups in the State of Delaware. These leaders in art and music, in an attempt to evaluate critically their aims and procedures, made concrete records of their work as a basis for further study and appraisal. These experiences in the field of music and art are designed to serve as illustrations of the general way of working with a community. One de-

scribed the first attempts at community music; another, the development of a school at the cross roads; another, music in a company mill town; a fourth, music in an urban community. These are all fascinating reading for those who are interested in community development.

The results produced by these efforts in music and art are significant. In several groups people of small towns were led to forget themselves and their limitations. They came to appreciate one another. They worked their way through the activities of the group into community organization and improvement. The old-fashioned singing school, holding its sessions in a one-room schoolhouse, had all the flavor of pioneer days in America. Creative activity in needlecraft released artistic gifts among groups of women whose lives would otherwise have been drab. A Polish group, enacting an old world Christmas play as their contribution to the Festival of Christmas in Many Lands, established the group in more friendly relations to the community and stimulated others to creative activity in music.

The significant thing about these experiments lies in the fact that they were followed through by the adult education movement for periods of two, three, four, five and six years. Communities do not change over night but by careful planning and with careful supervision over a period of time permanent results can be achieved.

Creative Handicrafts.

By Mabel Reagh Hutchins. Leisure League of America, New York City.

Pottery, weaving, basketry, metalcraft, leathercraft, bookbinding, blockprinting, and the art of dyeing are described in this booklet, which contains many diagrams to aid the beginning craftsman. The descriptions for each craft are simple and clear, and the booklet has much to offer the craft worker.

Making Pictures with the Miniature Camera.

By Jacob Deschin. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

The miniature camera has introduced new methods of making pictures which are often quite different from those used with ordinary cameras. The author of this book has provided the amateur camera fan with all the information essential in taking pictures with the miniature camera and making the finished print. The last section of the book comprises forty-seven actual photographs reproduced in half-tone which demonstrate the possibilities within the range of the miniature camera hobbyist.

Youth Education Today.

American Association of School Administrators, 1201 Sixteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C. \$2.00.

The sixteenth yearbook of the American Association of School Administrators, prepared by the Commission on Youth Problems of the Association, presents a study of the youth of today in perspective, encompassing those areas and agencies which affect most vitally their welfare and happiness as participants in a desirable and progressing democratic society. A chapter of special interest to recreation workers is that devoted to "Education for Leisure" in which such topics are discussed as leisure time goals of American life, problems in leisure education, activities for youth beyond school age, cooperation with the home, community use of school facilities, and coordinating community leisure time resources.

The Parents' Bookshelf.

American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois. Per 100, \$1.75.

Study groups seeking a guide to the literature on child training will be glad to know that the sixth edition of *The Parents' Bookshelf* has been issued by the American Library Association. In this ten page leaflet appear nearly sixty books and a score of pamphlets on the pre-school child, the intermediate, the adolescent, and on

special topics selected by Dr. Ada Hart Arlitt for the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. There is a special selection of publications on the subject of children's reading prepared by Mildred L. Batchelder of the American Library Association's School and Children's Library Division.

The Outdoor Book.

By Gladys Snyder and C. Frances Loomis. Book Number Eighty of the Library of the Seven Crafts of the Camp Fire Girls. Camp Fire Outfitting Company, New York. \$50.

Everyone who loves the out of doors will find this book enjoyable and useful. And its usefulness is by no means limited to the Camp Fire Girls for whom it is written. It is an exceedingly practical booklet for all groups that adventure out of doors.

Recreation in Church and Community.

Edited by Warren T. Powell. The Abingdon Press, New York City. \$75.

Previous publications dealing with church recreation have been primarily a compilation of activities for the church group. This little volume is a more ambitious attempt to present the philosophy of recreation in relation to church programs and organization. The status of recreation, character and objectives of recreation, principles of program construction, types of programs, play leadership and measuring the results are the major subjects of consideration. The authors contend that there are wide-open opportunities for real Christian leadership in the area of play and recreation. This rich field of service has not been squarely faced by the Christian church, which has either toyed with it or completely ignored it. Recreational activities, say the authors, may constitute a Christian influence of great value. The church's ministry must be physical, mental and social, as well as spiritual, if the institution is to contribute to well-rounded personal development. "The church must do its part in cities in furnishing recreational activities and in influencing the general tenor of leisure time activity programs."

This volume is not a handbook of activities but should be used very effectively by those who want to impress upon church communities and leaders the necessity for adequate recreational facilities not only within the church but in the community as well.

Man at Work: His Arts and Crafts.

By Harold Rugg and Louise Krueger. Ginn and Company, New York City. \$1.28.

This is the seventh volume in the Rugg and Krueger Social Science Course for elementary schools. It is intended for use in the first half of the sixth grade but may be used in higher grades if desired. While prepared as a textbook for children, it contains 550 pages of type and pictures full of interest from beginning to end. The wide variety of material includes architecture, the theater, language, number and measurement, and time. It uses an imaginary trip to see the arts and crafts of a community as a means of developing a background of familiarity for the pupil. There is planned repetition to emphasize basic concepts and clarify the pupil's learning. The wealth of illustrations showing the arts and crafts of people from primitive tribes to the highest civilizations are of special interest. In a recreation library, this book would be very helpful to teachers of arts and crafts, not from a technical point of view but in arousing interest on the part of pupils and giving them a broad background for the specific types of work which they may undertake.

First Steps in Weaving.

By Ella Victoria Dobbs, B.S., A.M. The Macmillan Company, New York City. \$1.00.

This book is intended for the beginner who wants to gain practical experience in the fascinating processes of

weaving but who knows nothing of its terms, tools or procedures. For this reason nothing is assumed, and the author has presented the fundamental steps in plain and simple terms. Diagrams and photographs accompany the directions.

We Americans.

By Elin L. Anderson. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. \$3.00.

What happens in a conservative state of New England when groups with different ethnic and religious origins and cultures live together and call themselves Americans? Elin L. Anderson has made a careful survey of Burlington, Vermont, to try to answer this question. She finds that the melting pot idea has not proved successful. In spite of long residence together, English stock, French Canadians, Irish and Jewish are still separate communities with very little in common. By preserving their national identities, however, certain cultural values are retained which would otherwise be lost by a general identification with the common life of the city.

Recreation executives interested in the study of the various racial communities in their cities would find this book helpful in understanding some of the rigidities of community life.

The Program Volunteer in the Y.W.C.A.

By Jeanette Dutchess. Womans Press, New York City.

This pamphlet is based on a study of eighty-four Y. W.C.A.'s and answers to questionnaires filled out by 400 program volunteers. Emphasis is laid in this document on qualifications of volunteer workers, the minimum essentials being: 1. Interest in and capacity to adapt to the group with which she is to work; 2. Ability to carry through a particular project or part of the program. Recruiting of the program volunteer is the joint responsibility of both the committee member and the staff member.

Before presenting a project to volunteers a careful analysis should be made of the work to be done and its relation to the program of a department or to the program of the whole association should be clarified. Sufficient time should always be allowed for satisfactory recruiting. Hurried recruiting at the last minute usually results in failing to find the right person for the job.

Considerable space is given in the book to the preparation of the program for volunteers and their training and supervision.

Finger Painting As a Hobby.

By Stephen D. Thach. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$1.75.

This book discusses finger painting as a technique. It tells how it originated and describes with simple detail the process used. It tells what materials to secure, the procedure to follow in applying finger paints, and gives practical suggestions for securing the desired effects. It also shows how to advance from simple designs to complicated portraits. Diagrams and photographs are included.

The Book of Wild Pets.

By Clifford B. Moore. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$5.00.

Whether you are a freckle-faced boy returning from the woods with a frog in your pocket and a can full of water "bugs," the proud catcher of a fox in a catch-alive trap, the finder of a wounded bird or just plain anybody, this book is an excellent one to have "up your sleeve." For when you want to "bring 'em back alive" this book will tell you how to catch and collect common wild animals, how to build terraria, aquaria, cages and houses for them, how and what to feed each kind and

how diseases and wounds must be cared for. Common water and land insects, spiders, fish, marine animals, mammals (from field mice to monkeys and bears) and birds are among the animals considered. The 300 pictures and diagrams, the simple non-technical style and the usable authoritative nature of the book make you want to start a miniature zoo at once.

Fundamentals of Foil Fencing.

By Joseph Vince. Joseph Vince, Publisher, 202 East 44th Street, New York. \$1.00.

This small volume, prepared definitely for the beginner fencer, is concise and well organized. Mr. Vince defines all the terms as he uses them. Not the least effective of the devices utilized to present the subjects are the excellent illustrations by Cornel Wilde. The book can be used not only in learning to fence but also as a source book for positions and definitions.

Handbook on Athletics.

Public Schools of Baltimore, Maryland. \$.25.

This booklet outlines the objectives of the athletic program of the Baltimore schools, gives a brief history of the development of the program in the secondary schools, offers past records of individual and team contests, and gives the rules governing competition and sports.

Around the World Almanac in Eighty Questions.

Prepared by Carter Alexander. Carter Alexander, Publisher, 525 West 120th Street, New York. \$.10.

You can make a game of answering questions and acquiring information in an interesting way through the use of this pamphlet containing eighty questions. The pursuit of information which this offers can be made to have all the interest of a treasure hunt!

Officers and Directors of the National Recreation Association

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I Give and Bequeath

IN the name of God, Amen, I, Ann Onymous, being of sound mind, do now make and publish my last will and testament in order, as justly as I may, to distribute my interests and understanding to the world of succeeding men and women.

Item. I bequeath to the children of America the right to be well born and bred in good homes, and the culture that is their rightful heritage not only from the early pioneers of this country, but from all who have come to it from other nations of the earth, bringing their music and art and traditions to mingle with its own. I bequeath to children an understanding, begot in the homes and fostered by wise parents, which builds up an appreciation of the best in all the citizens of this country and an abhorrence of intolerance and prejudice.

Item. I bequeath to little girls a place to play in, planned by grown-ups who understand that while they are different from their brothers they need to feel as important. I give to them ample opportunities for acquiring through their play those tastes and skills they will need for foundations in building their future homes. For these little girls are potential homemakers, and theirs is a mighty task and important. They will procreate the lives of the next generation of citizens and will mould them through the precious period of mind and body building. I give therefore to these little girls, health, beauty and gladness, rhythm and light, color, form, sound and silence, for these they love and will have great need of. And I bequeath them flowers, birds and trees and all other living things of God's playground, and a means to satisfy their curiosity about growing things from seed time to harvest, for unto them must be given, as much as is ever given to anyone, an understanding of life in all its aspects. I bequeath them the right to run, to dance, to be free, to dream by an open hearth and to wish on the first star of evening.

Item. To adolescent girls I leave the right to understand themselves, helped by wise grown-ups; the right to walk proudly and confidently through their teens with the veil of mystery and doubt torn away by friendly adults. I give them the right to feel the great dignity and importance of their role with no trace of inferiority to their brothers. And with these gifts I add the opportunities to sing and dance and hike and cook, participate in drama and know the joy of creating with their hands. I give the opportunities to arrive at judgments by being and doing and to acquire a certain spring in the step and light in the eye that does not come when too much time is wasted in longing for material things. Most of all I bequeath to them the right to a wealth of anticipation in planning for their homes and their mates and their children and their place in the world of their future.

Item. To the sweetheart age of girlhood I devise a rich companionship with boy friends, the right to have the pleasures shared with these playmates, sanctioned by grown-ups. I would have them learn to play well with the boys of today that they may work better with the men of tomorrow. My most precious gift to them shall be the right to know and compare and choose their mates without blindness.

Item. To womanhood I bequeath all that would result if they could have profited by the aforesaid experiences. This bequest must be held as a sacred trust for the next generation of children.

Item. Since I do not have wealth to bestow, save only understanding, I dedicate to little girls who do not have these things, a lifelong effort to establish somewhere, a clubhouse equipped to supplement the inadequate homes of our city slums to meet this need as I know it. I would hope therein to suggest what could happen to a nation if it once became aware of the wealth and power that lies dormant in its potential motherhood.

ANN ONYMOUS.

June



By Courtesy of the Worcester Girls Clubhouse Corporation

God in His infinite wisdom
Made them the mothers of men,
Gave them a power that is mighty
Greater than sword or than pen.

Give them the wisdom to use it
Help them grow happy and free
Storing, in wealth for their children,
All of the best that can be.

They will give back to your city
Strength in its women and men,
Brightness in homes of the future.
Open the door for them then.

A Summary of Community Recreation in 1937

Number of cities with play leadership or supervised facilities	1,280
Total number of separate play areas reported	17,745 ¹
New play areas opened in 1937 for the first time	1,204 ²
Total number of play areas and special facilities reported:	
Outdoor playgrounds	9,618
Recreation buildings	1,380
Indoor recreation centers	3,854
Play streets	413
Archery ranges	326
Athletic fields	1,445
Baseball diamonds	3,923
Bathing beaches	569
Bowling greens	165
Golf courses	378
Handball courts	1,600
Horseshoe courts	8,482
Ice skating areas	2,535
Picnic areas	2,808
Shuffleboard courts	1,541
Ski jumps	122
Softball diamonds	8,384
Stadiums	191
Camps—day	88
Swimming pools	1,163
Tennis courts	11,031
Toboggan slides	235
Wading pools	1,402
Total number of employed recreation leaders	40,413 ³
Total number of leaders employed full time the year round.....	3,067
Total number of volunteer leaders	10,878
Total expenditures for public recreation	\$47,933,781.21 ⁴

(1) This figure includes outdoor playgrounds, recreation buildings, indoor recreation centers, play streets, athletic fields, bathing beaches, golf courses and summer camps.

(2) Indoor centers open for the first time are not included.

(3) 18,253 were emergency leaders.

(4) \$22,139,243.36 of this amount was emergency funds.

Community Recreation Leadership, Facilities and Activities in 1937

THE RECREATION YEAR BOOK is, in a sense, the annual balance sheet of community recreation service. It sets up on one side of the ledger the expenditures for recreation purposes in local communities. On the other side are recorded the leadership, facilities and programs which these expenditures have made possible. It is primarily a statement of community recreation activities conducted under leadership and of facilities which are operated chiefly for active recreation use. The YEAR BOOK contains information reported by towns, cities, counties and a number of miscellaneous local governmental units. In some cases, single reports, such as those submitted by counties, contain data pertaining to a number of communities for which the larger local unit provides recreation service. Because most of the local units contained in the YEAR BOOK are cities, this term is used interchangeably with the term "communities."

The YEAR BOOK for 1937 records the recreation service provided in 1,280 local communities in which leadership at playgrounds, indoor recreation centers or other major recreation facilities was at least partly financed with local funds.* This figure exceeds by 115 the number of such communities reported in any previous YEAR BOOK and includes 158 more communities than the 1936 publication. This substantial increase is explained largely by the fact that four counties and one province submitted reports covering recreation service in 100 small communities which were not previously reported. The relatively slight effect that these additional 100 communities have had on the total YEAR BOOK figures is evident from the fact that their total local expenditures in 1937 amounted to only \$60,000.

During 1937 Federal emergency agencies continued to provide funds making possible or extending local recreation facilities and programs in many communities. As in 1936, this YEAR BOOK includes only cities in which some local funds were provided for recreation leadership at recre-

ation centers or for the operation of other major facilities. Thus it is comparable in scope to issues of the YEAR BOOK published prior to 1933 and to the summaries of regular recreation service in the YEAR BOOKS for 1933, 1934 and 1935. References in the following summaries to data for previous years take into account only reports from communities providing some local funds.

Of special significance during 1937 was the marked curtailment of Federal emergency funds allocated to recreation projects, with a corresponding reduction in services in a number of communities. Total emergency expenditures supplementing regular local expenditures dropped from approximately \$32,000,000 in 1936 to \$22,000,000 in 1937, a reduction of 31%. This drop is especially significant because 16 more cities reported emergency expenditures in 1937 than in 1936. Expenditures for land, buildings and permanent improvements suffered most in the general curtailment with a 41% decrease, while expenditures for leadership, salaries and wages dropped 21%.

Total recreation expenditures from local funds increased from approximately \$24,000,000 in 1936 to \$25,794,537 in 1937. An increase of 88 cities reporting regular expenditures for recreation purposes accounts for a part of this increase, but increases in operating budgets, especially in a number of the larger cities, definitely contributed to the larger amount for 1937. Even though 45 more cities reported expenditures for land, buildings and permanent improvements during 1937, expenditures for this item dropped about \$470,000 to \$3,403,191. This decrease accompanying the reduction in similar expenditures from emergency funds is not surprising because a large part of local expenditures for land, buildings and permanent improvements have been made in order to obtain federal funds for emergency work projects. It is gratifying to note that leadership salaries show a greater increase than any other budget item. This figure reached its highest point since 1931 with total expenditures of \$7,469,427.

An appreciable increase in the number of recreation leaders paid from regular funds was noted in the 1936 YEAR BOOK when the number of workers exceeded by approximately 1,500 those reported in 1935. This favorable trend continued

* Reports from the following were received too late to be listed in the statistical tables, although the information which they contain has been included in the summary figures: Ontario, California; Fonda, Iowa; Claremont, New Hampshire; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Fairmount Park Commissioners).

throughout 1937 when 22,160 recreation leaders were reported, an increase of about 2,000 over the previous year's total. This increase is not entirely due to the larger number of cities reporting, but in part to the fact that a number of cities reported substantial increases in leadership personnel during 1937. Of special interest is the surprisingly large number of full-time year-round workers. The total of 3,067 workers reported for 1937 is the largest number ever included in any YEAR BOOK, and represents an increase of 275 workers over the 1936 total. Information received indicates that during 1937 at least twenty cities advanced to the level of year-round operation with a full-time executive in charge, and that a number of other cities added to their full-time year-round personnel.

More than offsetting the gains in total workers paid from regular funds was a 31% reduction in the number of emergency leaders supplementing the work of locally employed personnel. A total of 18,253 emergency leaders was reported for 1937, as compared with more than 26,000 such leaders in 1936. Slightly more than one half of the emergency workers were employed full time during 1937.

Since 1933 the number of volunteer recreation leaders has decreased in each successive YEAR BOOK, while at the same time the number of emergency leaders has increased. With the reduction of emergency leaders in 1937, a rise is recorded in volunteer leaders, the number of which totaled 10,878.

In general the number of recreation facilities reported for 1937 is considerably higher than in 1936. This increase can be attributed both to an increased number of cities reporting and to the opening of new facilities. In contrast to the general trend is the smaller number of indoor centers reported for 1937 by a larger number of cities than reported such centers in 1936. No doubt the curtailment in emergency leaders resulted in the closing of indoor centers in some communities relying heavily on this type of personnel.

Participation figures, on the whole, were somewhat smaller than the exceptionally high figures reported in 1936. Attendance of participants at recreation buildings was even greater than the unprecedented attendance reported for 1936. The popularity of outdoor swimming is again demonstrated by an increase of more than 20,000,000 participants over the 1936 figures. The total attendance of participants at bathing beaches and outdoor swimming pools during 1937 reached almost 100,000,000. Smaller attendance figures were reported for playgrounds and indoor centers in 1937 than in 1936.

A surprising development during the past year was a large increase in the number of full-time year-round cities administering recreation as a separate function. One hundred and fifty-one cities report municipal recreation commissions, boards, departments or committees with full-time year-round personnel, an increase of 22% over the number reported in 1936. Other types of managing authorities with full-time year-round personnel show little or no change when compared with figures for 1936.

As far as regular recreation service provided through local funds is concerned, the YEAR BOOK for 1937 records definite progress. There can be no doubt that in some cities recreation programs were curtailed during 1937 as a result of reductions in Federal emergency funds. A number of communities, on the other hand, have made commendable efforts to enlarge their regular budgets and staffs to take up the slack. However, it becomes increasingly clear that localities will have to assume even more responsibility for the financing of recreation services in order to meet the enlarged demand on the part of the public which has been stimulated with the aid of Federal funds.

NOTE: Throughout the summary statements references will be made to the number of cities reporting various data. Since it is impossible to tell how many small communities included in a report such as one submitted for a county should be credited with providing a given service or facility, these reports are counted as single cities.

Leadership

During 1937, 22,160 recreation workers paid from regular funds were employed by 800 cities, as compared with 20,052 workers employed in 702 cities during 1936. The 1937 figure represents the largest number of workers reported

since 1932. If all the communities served by agencies covering two or more localities are taken into consideration, over 1,200 communities benefited from the services of recreation leaders paid from regular local funds. The ratio of men to

women leaders continued about the same as in 1936, approximately 56% of the workers being men. Totals of 12,438 men and 9,711 women leaders were reported.

The percentage of gain in full-time year-round leaders paid from regular funds was twice as great as that for total workers paid from such funds. The number of workers employed on a full-time year-round basis increased from 2,792 in 1936 to 3,067 in 1937, a gain of 10% as contrasted with a gain of 5% for all workers. Cities reporting full-time year-round workers rose from 288 in 1936 to 319 in 1937. Of these workers,

1,817 were men and 1,250 were women, the former group representing a somewhat larger percentage of the total full-time year-round workers than the similar percentage recorded for all leaders paid from regular funds.

A total of 18,253 emergency leaders was utilized to supplement regular personnel in 553 cities providing recreation service financed with regular funds. This figure represents a decrease of 31% from the 26,498 emergency leaders reported in 1936, while at the same time the number of cities reporting such leaders increased approximately 3%. Slightly more than half of these leaders were employed on a full-time basis.

Recreation Workers Paid from Regular Funds:

Cities reporting employed recreation workers.....	800
Men Workers employed	12,438
Women Workers employed	9,711
Total Workers employed	22,160*
Cities reporting workers employed full time year round.....	319
Men Workers employed full time year round.....	1,817
Women Workers employed full time year round.....	1,250
Total Workers employed full time year round.....	3,067

* Includes 11 workers whose sex was not reported.

Supplementary Workers Paid from Emergency Funds in Cities Providing Regular Service:

Cities reporting such workers	553
Men Workers employed	11,308
Women Workers employed	6,903
Total Workers employed	18,253*
Cities reporting workers employed full time.....	338
Men Workers employed full time	6,242
Women Workers employed full time	3,631
Total Workers employed full time	9,886**

* Includes 42 workers whose sex was not reported.

** Includes 13 workers whose sex was not reported.

Civil Service

An attempt was made this year to obtain information as to how many recreation authorities employ civil service procedures in the selection of recreation workers. Of 884 agencies reporting on this subject, 66 use civil service in the selection of all their recreation workers and 42 agencies use such procedures in selecting part of their workers. Approximately 88% of the total agencies reporting make no use of civil service methods.

Volunteers

The number of volunteer workers reported by 301 cities increased 28% over the number reported by 268 cities in 1936. Of the total of 10,878 volunteers in 1937, 5,303 were men, 4,913 were women and 662 were reported with no designation as to sex. Although the total number of volunteers reported during 1937 is 2,604 less than the number reported in the peak year, 1933, it represents a larger number than was reported for any other year.

Playgrounds and Indoor Centers

Outdoor Playgrounds

A total of 9,618 outdoor playgrounds was reported for 1937 as compared with 9,490 in 1936. This slight gain can be attributed more to an increase of 51 in the number of cities reporting than to a general increase in facilities. Nevertheless, reports indicate that 706 playgrounds were opened for the first time during 1937. Despite the fact that more cities reported playgrounds open only during the school year, the number of these playgrounds was 12% less than in 1936. On the other hand more playgrounds were open the year round than in any previous year.

A decrease is noted in both the total attendance

at playgrounds and in the average daily summer attendance for 1937 when compared with 1936 figures. The drop in total attendance is partly explainable by the fact that attendance figures were reported for a smaller number of playgrounds during 1937. It is difficult to account for the marked decrease in the average daily summer attendance.

A general increase in the number of cities reporting playgrounds for colored people and in the number of such playgrounds is reported for 1937, although fewer of them were open the year-round than in 1936.

Number of outdoor playgrounds for white and mixed groups (767 cities)	8,986
Open year round (231 cities)	2,212
Open during summer months only (643 cities)	5,061
Open during school year only (92 cities)	518
Open during other seasons (138 cities)	1,195
Average daily summer attendance of participants (5,877 playgrounds in 572 cities)	1,551,608*
Average daily summer attendance of spectators (3,720 playgrounds in 404 cities)	356,381*
Number of outdoor playgrounds open in 1937 for the first time (224 cities)	648

In addition to the foregoing, outdoor playgrounds for colored people are reported as follows:

Number of playgrounds for colored people (193 cities)	632
Open year round (77 cities)	186
Open during summer months only (140 cities)	344
Open during school year only (17 cities)	41
Open during other seasons (22 cities)	61
Average daily summer attendance of participants (331 playgrounds in 119 cities)	68,875
Average daily summer attendance of spectators (220 playgrounds in 90 cities)	24,362
Number of playgrounds for colored people open in 1937 for the first time (41 cities) ..	58

Total number of playgrounds for white and colored people (769 cities)	9,618
Total average daily summer attendance of participants and spectators, white and colored (6,312 playgrounds)	2,033,797
Total attendance of participants and spectators at playgrounds for white and colored people during periods under leadership (8,308 playgrounds in 644 cities)	285,505,335**
Total number of playgrounds for white and colored people open in 1937 for the first time	706

* In addition to this number, 3 cities report an average daily summer attendance of both participants and spectators at 103 playgrounds totaling 32,191.

** In addition to this figure a total attendance of 30,791,019 containing some attendance figures for facilities other than playgrounds was reported for 504 playgrounds in 22 cities.

Recreation Buildings

Both the number of recreation buildings open under leadership and the number of cities reporting such buildings show increases over similar figures for the previous year. The 1,380 buildings reported in 1937 by 372 cities represents an increase of only 33 buildings over the number reported by 321 cities in 1936. One hundred and

eighty-three recreation buildings were reported open for the first time during the year.

The total attendance of participants recorded at 1,048 buildings was more than 56,000,000. This increase of 1,000,000 over the total attendance for 1936 is entirely accounted for by a surprising rise of 43% in the reported attendance at recreation buildings for colored people.

Number of recreation buildings for white and mixed groups (364 cities)	1,253
Total yearly or seasonal attendance of participants (950 buildings in 272 cities)	52,395,303
Number of recreation buildings for white and mixed groups open in 1937 for the first time (106 cities)	156

In addition, recreation buildings for colored people are reported as follows:

Number of recreation buildings for colored people (100 cities)	127
Total yearly or seasonal attendance of participants (100 buildings in 80 cities)	3,878,847
Number of recreation buildings for colored people open in 1937 for the first time (23 cities)	27
Total number of recreation buildings for white and colored people (372 cities)	1,380
Total yearly or seasonal attendance of participants at recreation buildings for white and colored people (1,050 buildings in 291 cities)	56,274,150*
Total number of recreation buildings for white and colored people open in 1937 for the first time	183

* In addition to this figure a total attendance of 3,512,175 containing some attendance figures for facilities other than buildings and also including some spectators was reported for 17 buildings in five cities.

Indoor Recreation Centers

Twenty-seven more cities reported indoor centers in 1937 than in the previous year, but the total number of indoor centers dropped nearly 100. A total of 3,854 indoor centers was reported by 442 cities for 1937. Of the 3,716 indoor centers for which the number of sessions per week was designated, 62% were open three or more

sessions weekly. Accompanying the decrease in indoor centers was a drop of about 25% in attendance of participants as compared with 1936. The 1937 attendance, however, was approximately the same as the total reported for the indoor centers in 1935.

Number of centers open 3 or more sessions weekly (369 cities)	2,318
Total yearly or seasonal attendance of participants (1689 centers in 278 cities)	15,601,370
Number of centers open less than 3 sessions weekly (196 cities)	1,398
Total yearly or seasonal attendance of participants (977 centers in 160 cities)	3,390,491
Total number of indoor recreation centers (442 cities)	3,854*
Total attendance of participants (3006 centers in 339 cities)	22,942,800**

* Includes 138 indoor centers for which the number of sessions per week was not indicated.

** Includes total attendance of participants at 340 indoor centers for which the number of sessions per week was not indicated. In addition to this figure a total attendance of 3,785,678 containing some attendance figures for facilities other than indoor centers and also including spectators was reported for 171 indoor centers in three cities.

Play Streets

Twenty-four cities report 413 streets closed for play under leadership. A total of 149 of these streets in 8 cities were open in 1937 for the first

time. Eleven cities report an average daily attendance of 7,869 participants at 94 centers.

Recreation Facilities

With few exceptions, the various types of recreation facilities show substantial gains over 1936 figures both in total facilities and in the number of cities reporting such facilities. In fact such figures reported for 13 types of facilities represent the largest figures reported in any YEAR BOOK. These facilities are:

Archery Ranges	Ski Jumps
18 Hole Golf Courses	Softball Diamonds
Handball Courts	Stadiums
Horseshoe Courts	Outdoor Swimming Pools
Ice Skating Areas	Tennis Courts
Picnic Areas	Wading Pools
Shuffleboard Courts	

Organized camps, picnic areas and shuffleboard courts show marked increases over 1936 figures. Archery ranges, stadiums, softball diamonds and handball courts record good gains, but to a lesser degree. In all but a few cases, the number of facilities open for the first time during 1937 exceed the same figures for the previous year.

In direct contrast to the gains in facilities are the figures of total participation attendance. For

over half of the facilities participation figures for 1937 are smaller even though the number of facilities to which these figures relate is, in many instances, greater than in 1936. However, participation figures for a number of these facilities are greater than similar figures reported two years ago in 1935. Definite increases over 1936 figures are recorded for bathing beaches, bowling greens, handball courts, picnic areas, shuffleboard courts, stadiums and toboggan slides.

As in 1936, bathing beaches rank first in participation, the figures totaling over 74 million. Next in order are outdoor swimming pools with more than 25 million, followed by softball diamonds, ice skating areas and baseball diamonds. For the first time, the participation attendance at softball diamonds exceeded that at baseball diamonds.

Throughout the following table the figures in parentheses indicate the number of cities reporting in each particular case and the figures in brackets indicate the number of facilities for which information relative to participation is given.

<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participants Per Season</i>	<i>Number open in 1937 for first time</i>
Archery Ranges	326 (188)	122,774 (90) [143]	61 (44)
Athletic Fields	1,445 (548)	6,737,879 (209) [476]	99 (61)
Baseball Diamonds	3,923 (714)	9,828,927 (331) [1,885]	176 (93)
Bathing Beaches	569 (256)	74,056,445 (124) [280]	24 (20)
Bowling Greens	165 (71)	213,354 (36) [99]	9 (7)
Camps—Day	88 (62)	69,761 (41) [58]	13 (12)
Camps—Others	89 (63)	142,809 (49) [72]	21 (14)
Golf Courses (9-Hole)	160 (131)	1,501,071 (70) [82]	3 (3)
Golf Courses (18-Hole)	218 (147)	4,524,117 (90) [134]	6 (6)
Handball Courts	1,600 (191)	2,582,977 (86) [759]	170 (32)

<i>Facilities</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Participants Per Season</i>	<i>Number open in 1937 for first time</i>
Horseshoe Courts	8,482 (604)	3,099,975 (308) [4,192]	786 (135)
Ice Skating Areas	2,535 (380)	10,800,704 (181) [1,419]	186 (78)
Picnic Areas	2,808 (424)	12,683,224 (193) [1,451]	298 (66)
Shuffleboard Courts	1,541 (192)	2,005,507 (98) [927]	326 (63)
Ski Jumps	122 (64)	47,104 (23) [39]	12 (10)
Softball Diamonds	8,384 (703)	12,698,644 (376) [4,263]	754 (167)
Stadiums	191 (146)	2,053,048 (43) [50]	14 (13)
Swimming Pools (indoor)	321 (119)	3,727,959 (78) [191]	15 (9)
Swimming Pools (outdoor)	842 (377)	25,700,004 (212) [546]	55 (40)
Tennis Courts	11,031 (715)	8,528,606 (345) [6,291]	707 (146)
Toboggan Slides	235 (93)	786,920 (44) [106]	31 (25)
Wading Pools	1,402 (424)		102 (53)

Recreation Facilities on School Property

For the first time in many years information was gathered as to the extent to which a few of the types of recreation facilities reported in the YEAR BOOK are on school property. The importance of school playgrounds and athletic fields as centers of community activity is indicated by the fact that 43% of all the playgrounds conducted under leadership in 1937 are school playgrounds and 42% of all the athletic fields reported are on school property. Nearly one out of every four of the baseball diamonds is a school facility, but only 15% of the tennis courts are located on school property.

Indoor facilities in schools represent an even larger percentage of the swimming pools and indoor recreation centers reported in the YEAR BOOK. Eighty-six per cent of the indoor pools, for example, are on school property. Figures for school auditoriums, gymnasiums and other recreation facilities indicate that in all probability at least two-thirds of the 3,854 indoor recreation centers reported in 1937 were school buildings.

The following table indicates the number of cities reporting their school facilities and the number of facilities reported.

<i>Outdoor Facilities</i>	<i>Number of Cities</i>	<i>Number of Facilities</i>
Athletic Fields	297	605
Baseball Diamonds	316	888
Playgrounds	493	4,106
Tennis Courts	276	1,663
<i>Indoor Facilities</i>		
Auditoriums	231	1,162
Gymnasiums	335	2,299
Swimming Pools	118	275
Other	85	498

Management

The following tables record the number of public and private agencies of various types reporting facilities and programs treated in this YEAR BOOK. It should be remembered that some agencies serve a number of communities and that for several cities where more than one agency operate, such agencies are recorded under more than one heading.

Total Agencies

On the whole little change is noted in the relative number of agencies representing each type of managing authority, when compared with 1936 figures. In the case of school authorities alone, a definite decrease is noted, from 199 to 179 agencies. This is significant in that all other major types of managing authorities show gains in line

with the larger number of agencies reporting in the 1937 YEAR BOOK.

Agencies Reporting Full-Time Year-Round Workers

A marked increase is noted in the number of authorities administering recreation as a single function under the direction of full-time year-round workers. This number increased more than 20% over the 1936 figure, while other types of municipal managing authorities showed little or no change. Over 50% of all authorities reporting full-time year-round workers in 1937 administered recreation as a single function.

Municipal Authorities

The forms of municipal administration in the cities reporting recreation service in 1937 are summarized as follows:

<i>Managing Authority</i>	<i>Total Agencies</i>	<i>Agencies with Full-time Year-Round Workers</i>
<i>Authorities Administering Recreation as a Single Function</i>	255	151
Recreation Commissions, Boards, Departments and Committees.....	255	151
<i>Authorities Administering Recreation in Conjunction with Park Service</i>	282	79
Park Commissions, Boards, Departments and Committees.....	226	56
Park and Recreation Commissions, Boards, Departments and Committees...	33	16
Departments of Parks and Public Property or Buildings.....	13	5
Other departments in which park and recreation services are administered by the same bureau or division	10	2
<i>Authorities Administering Recreation in Conjunction with School Services</i>	179	25
School Boards, Departments and other School Authorities.....	179	25
<i>Other Municipal Authorities Administering Recreation Services</i>	311	34
City and Borough Councils, County Boards and other legislative bodies.....	122	3
Departments of Public Works	26	8
Departments of Public Welfare	9	9
Golf Commissions, Boards and Departments	9	4
City, Town and Borough Managers and Mayors	8	..
Swimming Pool, Beach and Bath Commissions and Departments.....	7	3
Departments of Public Service or Public Affairs.....	5	3
Forest Preserve or Forestry Board	3	..
Other municipal commissions, boards and departments.....	22	4
<i>Grand Total</i>	1027	289

Private Authorities

Private organizations maintaining playgrounds, recreation centers or community recreation activities in 1937 are reported as follows:

<i>Managing Authority</i>	<i>Total Agencies</i>	<i>Agencies with Full-time Year-Round Workers</i>
Playground and Recreation Associations, Committees, Councils and Leagues, Community Service Boards, Committees and Associations.....	72	25
Community House Organizations, Community and Social Center Boards and Memorial Building Associations	31	22
Civic, Neighborhood and Community Leagues, Clubs and Improvement Associations	12	3
Y. M. C. A's.	10	..
Welfare Federations and Associations, Social Service Leagues, Settlements and Child Welfare Organizations	9	2
American Legion	6	..
Kiwanis Clubs	6	..
Park and Playground Trustees	6	2
Industrial Plants	5	4
American Red Cross	5	..
Chambers of Commerce and Commercial Clubs	4	1
Women's Clubs and other women's organizations	3	..
Lions Clubs	3	..
Boys' Work Organizations	2	1
Athletic Clubs	2	..
Miscellaneous	12	3
<i>Grand Total.....</i>	188	63

Finances

The improvement in business conditions early in 1937 was reflected in the increase in the amount spent for recreation from regular sources. A total of \$25,794,537.85 was expended from these sources in 1937 as compared with less than \$24,000,000 the previous year. According to YEAR BOOK reports recreation expenditures from regular funds, public and private, were greater in 1937 than in any year since 1932. Reports indicate that recreation budgets were increased in 1937 in many cities although on the whole they were still below the pre-depression level.

The table which follows shows that more than one-third of the classified expenditures were for

recreation leadership. The amount reported spent for leadership, nearly \$7,500,000, is a marked increase over the 1936 figure and is the highest since 1931. The increase in total recreation expenditures from 1936 to 1937 is accounted for by the greater amount paid in salaries to the leadership personnel which, as previously indicated, showed a marked growth in 1937. The amount spent for land, buildings, and permanent improvements, on the other hand, was less in 1937 than in the preceding year.

The following table shows the amounts spent from regular funds for various purposes in 1937. The figures in parentheses indicate the number of cities represented by the amounts recorded.

Expenditures (Regular Funds):

Land, Buildings, Permanent Improvements.....	\$ 3,403,191.54	(556)
Upkeep, Supplies and Incidentals	3,783,555.03	(993)
Salaries and Wages for Leadership.....	7,469,427.76	(989)
For Other Services	5,546,421.93	(666)
Total Salaries and Wages	13,612,466.38	(1074)
Total Expenditures for Recreation in 1937.....	25,794,537.85	(1248)

Many communities which provided recreation service financed by regular funds received supplementary financial aid from emergency funds again in 1937. The total amounts spent from emergency sources in 763 of these cities, namely \$22,139,243.36, is ten million dollars less than was reported spent the previous year. Unlike 1936 when expenditures from emergency funds far exceeded those from regular funds in cities partially financing their recreation service from local

sources, in 1937 less money was reported spent from emergency than from regular funds in these communities. It is clear that the curtailment in emergency recreation expenditures in 1937 was due rather to a reduction in the amount spent for local development projects than to a decrease in salaries of emergency recreation leaders.

The following expenditures from emergency funds in 1937 were reported in cities carrying on some regular recreation service. The figures in parentheses indicate the number of cities:

Expenditures (Emergency Funds):

Land, Buildings, Permanent Improvements.....	\$ 7,975,252.32	(161)
Salaries and Wages for Leadership.....	8,686,805.31	(580)
Total Expenditures	22,139,243.36	(763)

Sources of Support

The sources from which regular funds were secured for financing community recreation programs and facilities are summarized in the following table. Receipts from fees and charges supplemented the sources in 430 cities:

<i>Source of Support</i>	<i>Number of Cities</i>
Municipal Funds Only	776
Private Funds Only	164
County Funds Only	174
Municipal and Private Funds	126
Municipal and County Funds	52
Miscellaneous Public and Private Funds.....	28

The following table indicates three main sources of recreation funds. Money secured from municipal and county sources, as has been the case for several years, represents more than 80% of the total. Income from fees and charges shows a marked gain over that reported in 1936. Private funds, although reported in 251 communities, total only one million dollars.

<i>Source of Support</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i>No. of Cities</i>
Municipal and County Funds	\$20,823,970.78	81%	1068
Fees and Charges	3,776,559.26	15%	430
Private Funds	1,030,111.84	4%	379

Bond Issues

Thirty cities reported bond issues for recreation passed in 1937 totaling \$912,443.31. Expenditures from bond funds in 30 cities total \$646,060.54. Cities reporting bond issues in 1937 or expenditures from such funds are listed below.

<i>City and State</i>	<i>Amount of Bond Issues Passed</i>	<i>Amount of Bond Issues Expended</i>
Prescott, Arizona	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,987.57
Los Angeles, California	.....	2,407.08
San Leandro, California	11,000.00	.....
Decatur, Illinois	8,000.00	1,308.00
Joliet, Illinois	54,000.00	54,000.00
Waukegan, Illinois	18,000.00	18,000.00
East Chicago, Indiana	104,000.00	40,000.00
Kokomo, Indiana	23,139.00	10,240.00
Seymour, Indiana	15,000.00	.....
Council Bluffs, Iowa	2,500.00	2,500.00
Dalton, Massachusetts	1,250.00	1,250.00
Grand Haven, Michigan	1,500.00	.....
Elizabeth, New Jersey	10,000.00	10,000.00
Hammonton, New Jersey	6,000.00	5,070.88
Irvington, New Jersey	6,529.31	6,529.31
Linden, New Jersey	42,000.00	38,000.00
Cornwall, New York	2,000.00	1,000.00
Larchmont, New York	20,000.00	20,000.00
White Plains, New York	15,000.00	15,000.00
Durham, North Carolina	15,000.00	14,000.00
Bellaire, Ohio	5,025.00	5,025.00
Cincinnati, Ohio	135,000.00	147,937.41
Duncan, Oklahoma	15,000.00	.....
Duquesne, Pennsylvania	1,000.00	902.73
Lancaster, Pennsylvania	.....	33,000.00
Reading, Pennsylvania	175,000.00	69,820.00
Lebanon, South Dakota	5,500.00	5,500.00
Beaumont, Texas	.....	20,000.00
Houston, Texas	100,000.00	30,000.00
New Braunfels, Texas	20,000.00	20,000.00
San Angelo, Texas	40,000.00	.....
Roanoke, Virginia	48,000.00	48,000.00
American Fork, Utah	1,000.00	1,000.00
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	.....	1,602.20
Westmount, Quebec, Canada	.....	11,980.36

Special Recreation Activities

The following table is indicative of the comparative extent to which various activities are provided in recreation programs and of the extent of participation in them. The number of cities in which these activities are conducted and the number of individuals participating are considerably greater than the figures recorded in the table, since many cities did not submit data for use in this section.

With only a few exceptions, the number of cities reporting the various kinds of activities was larger for 1937 than for 1936. Archery, badmin-

ton, handcraft and softball are a few of the activities showing marked gains. The number of cities reporting paddle tennis and bicycle clubs, the two activities added to the 1937 list, indicate their general acceptance as a part of the recreation program.

It is practically impossible to draw comparisons concerning the numbers of individuals participating in various activities with similar figures in previous YEAR BOOKS except where increases or decreases are pronounced. A few such cases are found in the number of individuals participating

in handcraft for adults, handball, horseshoes and choral groups. Large increases over 1936 figures are recorded for all of these activities, while at the same time, the number of cities reporting participation is smaller in each case. According to

the figures submitted, the most popular activities are swimming, baseball and softball.

In the table which follows, the figures in parentheses indicate the number of cities reporting participants.

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Cities Reporting</i>	<i>Number of Different Individuals Participating</i>
<i>Arts and Crafts</i>		
Art Activities for Children.....	415	100,419 (179)
Art Activities for Adults.....	228	29,454 (90)
Handcraft for Children.....	600	356,668 (274)
Handcraft for Adults.....	308	78,886 (130)
<i>Athletic Activities</i>		
Archery.....	222	14,734 (88)
Badge Tests (NRA).....	130	38,432 (55)
Badminton.....	314	31,166 (146)
Baseball.....	720	503,849 (314)
Basketball.....	578	269,252 (290)
Bowling—indoor.....	119	22,376 (52)
Bowling-on-the-green.....	77	10,474 (19)
Handball.....	266	110,348 (87)
Horseshoes.....	662	242,100 (274)
Paddle Tennis.....	390	95,387 (157)
Roque.....	57	6,159 (21)
Shuffleboard.....	260	67,616 (101)
Soccer.....	300	53,317 (114)
Softball.....	768	413,445 (343)
Tennis.....	720	316,199 (287)
Track and Field.....	505	88,493 (205)
Volley Ball.....	602	176,715 (274)
<i>Dancing</i>		
Folk Dancing.....	363	76,097 (147)
Social Dancing.....	332	151,269 (146)
Tap Dancing.....	333	54,945 (141)
<i>Drama</i>		
Drama Tournaments.....	120	7,543 (53)
Festivals.....	176	58,774 (57)
Pageants.....	236	79,985 (97)
Plays.....	379	44,025 (168)
Puppets and Marionettes.....	232	18,950 (90)
Storytelling.....	482	128,716 (200)
<i>Music</i>		
Choral Groups.....	224	55,945 (103)
Community Singing.....	277	219,909 (105)
Instrumental Groups.....	278	24,064 (140)

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Cities Reporting</i>	<i>Number of Different Individuals Participating</i>
<i>Outing Activities</i>		
Camping	190	35,603 (87)
Gardening	96	8,867 (36)
Hiking	410	76,842 (186)
Nature Activities	287	38,507 (112)
Picnicking	495	520,724 (172)
<i>Water Sports</i>		
Boating	96	12,914 (26)
Swimming	643	875,864 (202)
Swimming Badge Tests (NRA).....	164	26,099 (63)
<i>Winter Sports</i>		
Hockey	157	37,671 (70)
Skating	381	277,870 (123)
Skiing	122	18,115 (37)
Tobogganing	116	37,093 (34)
<i>Miscellaneous Activities</i>		
Bicycle Clubs	139	13,980 (75)
Circuses	131	34,764 (46)
Community Wide Celebrations	335	619,652 (139)
Forums, Discussion Groups, etc.....	138	24,782 (58)
Hobby Clubs or Groups.....	290	59,023 (125)
Motion Pictures	198	222,735 (73)
Playground Newspaper	114	3,711 (38)
Safety Activities	300	71,854 (99)

Tables
of
Playground and Community
Recreation Statistics
for
1937

PLAYGROUND AND COMMUNIT

Footnotes fol

No. of City	STATE AND CITY	Population	Managing Authority	Recreation Leadership (Not Including Emergency Workers)					Expenditures Last Fiscal Year (Not Including Emergency Funds)					Source of Financial Support		
				Paid Workers			Volunteer Workers		Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment	Upkeep, Supplies and Incidentals	Salaries and Wages				Total	
				No. of Men	No. of Women	No. Employed Full Time Year Round	No. of Men	No. of Women			For Leadership	Other Services	Total			
1	Illinois—Cont.															
1	Rock Island	37,953	Playground and Recreation Commission	20	4	1	1	472.73	1,588.07	3,340.00	204.32	3,544.32	5,605.12	M		
2	St. Charles	5,377	H. R. Baker Memorial Community Center	3	1				4,248.09	1,500.00	2,805.67	4,305.67	8,553.76	P		
3	Springfield	71,864	Playground and Recreation Commission	14	40	6				20,447.00			135,941.89	M		
4	Sterling	10,012	Park District	1				553.25	4,733.41			5,112.10	10,398.76	M		
5	Sycamore	4,021	Community Center Association	3					3,626.59			1,160.12	4,786.71	M		
6	Urbana	13,060	Park District	1										M		
7	Waukegan	33,499	Recreation and Playground Department	6	2	221		1,447.14	2,678.47	1,810.67	326.00	2,136.67	6,262.28	M		
8	Western Springs	3,894	Park District Board	1									17,000.00	M		
9	Wheaton	7,258	Park District Board	1									1275.00	M		
10	Wilmette	15,233	Playground and Recreation Board	3	2	2		1,685.00	7,900.00			7,900.00	6,000.00	M		
11	Winnebago Co. ²⁶	117,373	Forest Preserve District	8									9,585.00	M		
12	Winnetka	12,166	Park District Board	8	1								16,287.80	C		
13	Wood River	8,136	Recreation Board	4					1,615.00	1,120.00	1,334.55	2,454.55	4,069.55	M		
14	Indiana															
14	Anderson	39,804	Park Board, Community Recreation Committee and Negro Welfare Assn.	15			42	29						6	M&P	
15	Bedford	13,208	Recreation Commission	6	2		4	6						2,700.00	M	
16	Brazil	8,744	City, Recreation Board and W. P. A.	3	4		25	5	199.60	400.00		400.00	599.60	M		
17	Columbus	9,935	Recreation Commission	3	3	1	1	2	6,245.52	1,657.32	4,539.75	682.75	5,222.50	13,125.34	M&P	
18	Crawfordsville	10,355	(Milligan Park Board City Council and W. P. A.)	1					2,789.45				1,500.00	M		
19	Decatur	5,156	City Council and School Board	1									5,869.27	M&P		
20	East Chicago	54,784	Department of Community Recreation, Park Board	6	3	3			41,200.00	3,116.00	5,900.00	13,960.00	19,860.00	64,176.00	M	
21	Elkhart County ²⁸	68,875	Recreation Department	3			4	2						3,731.00	P	
22	Elwood	10,685	City and W. P. A.	1			6	12	800.00	300.00	160.00	212.00	372.00	1,472.00	M	
23	Evansville	102,249	Recreation Department, Park Board, Board of Park Commissioners	28	20	2			844.57	2,623.37	11,426.75	8,938.41	20,365.16	23,833.10	M	
24	Fort Wayne	114,946	The Wheatley Social Center ²⁴	15	26						6,483.00			25,921.15	M	
25	Greenfield	4,188	Park Committee	2	2	4	2	2		3,270.00	5,060.00		5,060.00	8,330.00	P	
26	Huntington	13,420	Park Department	4	2									1,640.00	M	
27	Indianapolis	364,161	Department of Recreation, Park Board	1			22	5		625.00				4,300.00	M	
28	Jeffersonville	11,946	Recreation Board	75	48	6			4,500.00	28,900.00	8,203.79	25,992.91	34,196.70	167,596.70	M	
29	Kokomo	32,843	Howard County Recreation Council and W. P. A.	1	1		2	2	400.00	500.00	675.00		675.00	1,575.00	M	
30	La Porte	15,755	Board of Education, Civic Auditorium Advisory Board	7	6		30	15	11,490.00	56.00	200.00	120.00	320.00	11,866.00	M	
31	Logansport	18,508	Park Department	4						265.35	2,070.00		2,070.00	2,335.35	M	
32	Mishawaka	28,630	Park and Street Department	1						983.00				3,000.00	M	
33	Muncie	46,548	School Board, City and W. P. A. (Recreation Board and W. P. A.)	6	8		1	2		199.10	1,124.70		2,574.00	4,551.60	M	
34	New Albany	25,819	Valley View Golf Club, Inc.	9	3					625.00			2,574.00	3,199.00	M	
35	New Haven	1,702	Town of New Haven	1			1		1,000.00	3,000.00	150.00	300.00	450.00	4,450.00	M	
36	North Township ²⁹	132,752	North Township Trustees	1			8		50.00	1,618.97		1,067.05	1,067.05	2,736.02	M	
37	Pendleton	1,538	Park Committee	2	1				40,000.00	800.00	800.00	1,000.00	1,800.00	41,800.00	M	
38	Peru	12,730	Park Board and Y. M. C. A.	1					7,795.27				8,180.00	15,975.27	M	
39	Plymouth	5,290	Park Committee of City Council, School Board	2						1,537.51		1,681.50	1,681.50	3,219.01	M	
40	Richmond	32,493	City of Richmond, Townsend Community Center ²⁴	4	3				900.00	1,400.00	200.00	200.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	M	
41	Seymour	7,508	Park Board, School Board and Civic Organization	4					350.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	M	
42	South Bend	104,193	Department of Public Parks, School Board	2	2	8	10		692.00	1,300.10	2,380.00		2,880.00	4,872.10	M&P	
43	Speed	417	Louisville Cement Co.	8	4		8	4	2,000.00	855.94	763.75	85.00	848.75	3,704.69	M&P	
44	Terre Haute	62,810	Department of Parks	11					10,393.00	1,500.00	2,750.00	23,503.75	26,253.75	37,146.75	M	
45	Vincennes	17,564	City Council	6	3									1,986.00	M	
46	Wabash	8,840	Community Service	1	1	2								2,780.67	M&P	
47	Washington	9,070	Swimming Pool Commission	3					5,000.00	11,820.67			10,960.00	27,800.67	M	
48	Whiting	10,880	Community Service	3	6		7	2	90,000.00	300.00	2,445.14	720.00	720.00	95,200.00	M	
49	Iowa															
49	Boone	11,886	City of Boone	6	1				511.11	1,003.61	1,160.56	150.00	1,310.56	2,825.28	M	
50	Cedar Rapids	56,097	Department of Parks and Public Prop- erty	3	1	4			14,051.71	7,500.00	15,580.00		23,080.00	37,131.71	P	
51	Council Bluffs	42,048	Board of Park Commissioners	8	4		8	4	2,000.00	855.94	763.75	85.00	848.75	3,704.69	M&P	
52	Davenport	60,751	Recreation Commission	11					10,393.00	1,500.00	2,750.00	23,503.75	26,253.75	37,146.75	M	
53	Denison	3,905	Park Board, American Legion and Fire Department	6	3									1,986.00	M	
54	Des Moines	142,559	Playground and Recreation Commission Park Board	9	3				3,300.00	3,874.83	4,243.37	4,922.01	9,165.38	16,340.00	M	
55	Dubuque ³⁰	41,679	Playground and Recreation Commission City Council	1					4,300.00	3,500.00	1,500.00	4,500.00	6,000.00	13,800.00	M	
56	Estherville	4,940	Recreation Committee	6	10				8,689.68	4,517.71	7,394.66		20,602.05	20,602.05	M	
57	Grinnell	4,949	Grinnell College	3					2,000.00	3,977.99	4,860.71	2,765.12	7,625.83	31,603.82	M	
58	Iowa City	15,340	Recreation Board	3	1									705.00	M	
59	Iowa Falls	4,112	City Council and Park Board	4										750.00	P	
60	Knoxville	4,697	Board of Education and City Council	1					980.00	700.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	3,680.00	P	
61	Ottumwa	28,075	Department of Streets, Parks and Im- provements	1							150.00	150.00	150.00	300.00	P	
									400.00				225.00	625.00	M	

RECREATION STATISTICS FOR 1937

table.

Year Round	Playgrounds Under Leadership				Recreation Buildings	Indoor Recreation Centers	Athletic Fields, Number	Baseball Diamonds, Number	Bathing Beaches, Number	Golf Courses, 9-Hole, Number	Golf Courses, 18-Hole, Number	Swimming Pools Indoor, Number	Swimming Pools Outdoor, Number	Tennis Courts, Number	Wading Pools, Number	Emergency Service					Source of Information	No. of City						
	Summer Only	School Year Only	Other Seasons	Total												Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants and Spectators	Number	Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants Only	Number	Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants Only			Number	Paid Leadership		Expenditures		
																								Number of Men	Number of Women	Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment	Leadership	Total
9			9	102,034	1	13								2	3	10	9	10	9		17,868.52	Melville H. Hodge	1					
22	1	10	33	224,561	2	108,092 920	14	33,530								2	3	15	4	15			Robert F. Munn John E. MacWherter J. W. Platt	2 3 4				
1			1	26,500	1	4,000										1	2	3	2					Weldon B. Wade	5			
12			13	135,219	1	70,660	9	35,853									2	50	8	10	2	25,014.52	25,264.52	W. C. Noel Lu Hanford	6 7			
1			1	24,431	1												1	5				2,342.50	2,342.50	Charles L. Whyte J. L. Lokke	8 9			
3	4		7	124,472	1	26,546	2	39,377									2	1	9	8	9	12,473.00	19,334.00	Daniel M. Davis d. O. Lundgren George Cashey Merle Manley	10 11 12 13			
11	13		25	448,129	2	77,206	4										22	12	6	5					Edward J. Rousheim	14		
2			2	107,000	3		2										2	10	2						Charles Blackburn	15		
4			4		3		1										1	4	1	15		9,000.00	11,990.00	E. A. Brunoehler William B. Sharp	16 17			
3	1		5	39,000	2	77,291											1								J. F. Warbrinton	18		
1			1	10,000	4	127,009											14	4	14	4		7,986.32	7,986.32	Herbert P. Dukes R. E. Roop	19			
10	10	5	26	160,625	5	7,247	18	262,868									17	21	17	21		14,209.10	14,309.10	John De Jong	20			
4			4		2	47,812	8	6,910									25	3			400.00	6,708.00	6,708.00	Victor M. Palmer Eric E. Cox	21 22			
1			1		2	263,823	16	15,175									98	29	19	4		21,228.00	59,000.44	James R. Newcom Adolph Jaenicke and Carrie A. Snively	23 24			
13	13		13	161,955	2	415,000	16	15,175									28	19	4						Edgar J. Unthank John Mulvihill Craven Emswiler H. W. Middleworth S. Harlan Vogt	25 26 27 28		
1			1	6,399	1	51,310	1	9,724									3	1	3	1		2,880.00	2,880.00	2,880.00	Edgar J. Unthank	24		
3			3	15,000	1	480	3	1,880									13	1	7	1		5,273.79	5,445.79	5,445.79	John Mulvihill Craven Emswiler H. W. Middleworth S. Harlan Vogt	25 26 27 28		
38			38	939,577	8	377,471											6	83	22			1,400.00	7,400.00	7,400.00	H. W. Middleworth S. Harlan Vogt	29		
3			3	154,000	3												3	6										
5	1		7	115,223	2	51,471	2	23,141									10	12	1	12	1	5,326.00	11,658.00	17,106.00	C. G. Abrams Mabel Poir Lutman	29 30		
2			2		1	125,000											12											
1			1	9,000	1													1										
7			7	45,898													8	1										
13	6	9	28	886,396	3	3,500	5	2,720									3	10	3	10	3	17,500.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	F. M. Snisfield Walter H. Fisher C. Campbell	31 32 33 34		
6			6	130,000													10	24	18	8	5							
1			1	30,512	1			30,500									2	2										
3			3														1	1										
1			1	4,000													1	1										
6			6	46,762													2	2				1,782.00	1,782.00	1,782.00	J. H. Walker F. A. Drechsler E. Becknell A. F. Becknell L. H. Lyboubt S. W. Hodgins Julia Wrenn Partner	35 36 37 38 39 40 a b		
3			3	24,000	1												2	1										
15			15	420,750	2	218,136	6	23,000 11,131									5	32	6	53	27	12,224.20	1,452.00 42,138.00	4,437.10 66,851.12	4,437.10 66,851.12	Norman J. Lasher Orvel Glassburn Floyd V. Merriman Jesse G. Dorsey	41 42 a 43	
12			12																									
5			5	43,560	1	15,000											2	41	19									
2			2	32,904	1																							
6			6	75,000	1	296,270											8	5	8	5		10,746.21	10,896.21	10,896.21	Richard A. Wey John L. Adams W. C. Mills W. H. Kennedy John Sharp	44 45 46 47 48		
12			12	105,434			14	34,428									1	10	4	56	31	7	4	6,972.59	13,686.19	13,686.19	James E. Irwin Nevin Niehols	49 50
3			3	69,847	1	8,219	2	61,628																				
6			6	180,230	2		3,500											4	2	21	14	21	10	5,140.00	51,340.00	51,340.00	Philip E. Munn C. O. E. Boehm O. E. Johnson	51 52 a
1	1		2	467,000	1	14,401	9	10,712																				
10			12	68,393	4	50,200																						
3			3																									
3			3	56,131	1	7,956	1	1,200															630.00	630.00	630.00	Jacob Johnson Kathryn E. Krieg Helen Richter Carl L. Grabow George W. Shadle Max H. Lynn J. C. Truesdale M. Eugene Trowbridge Floyd Klippel Leslie Bollman	53 54 a 55 56 a 57 58 59 60	
1			1	6,383																								
6			6		2	18,200	6	189,800															5,500.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	David A. Nevin	61	

No. of City	STATE AND CITY	Population	Managing Authority	Recreation Leadership (Not Including Emergency Workers)						Expenditures Last Fiscal Year (Not Including Emergency Funds)					Source of Financial Support †	
				Paid Workers			Volunteer Workers			Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment	Upkeep, Supplies and Incidentals	Salaries and Wages				Total
				No. of Men	No. of Women	No. Employed Full Time Year Round	No. of Men	No. of Women	For Leadership			Other Services	Total			
														Total		
	Iowa—Cont.	*	Department of Public Recreation, Board of Education													
1	Sioux City	79,183	Parks Department, Playground Commission	31	44	3	25	1,000.00	1,685.00	12,815.00	1,198.36	14,013.36	16,698.36	M		
2	Waterloo	46,191	Park Commission	6	5	1	3		1,600.00	3,000.00	400.00	3,400.00	5,000.00	M		
	Kansas															
3	Atchison	13,024	Board of Education and City	2	2								6	M		
4	Coffeyville	16,198	Board of Education	2	1				150.00	400.00	25.00	425.00	575.00	M		
5	Kansas City	121,857	Recreation Department and W. P. A.	9	6	5	18	55,232.90	8,400.00	6,000.00	1,123.20	7,123.20	70,756.10	M		
6	Lawrence	13,726	Board of Education	3	3									M		
7	Oswego	1,845	City Council	1									1,260.00	M		
8	Salina	20,155	Park Department						3,407.48		1,947.91	1,947.91	15,355.39	M		
9	Smith Center ²¹	1,736	Community Park										1,000.00	P		
10	Topeka	64,120	Board of Education	21	22		8		490.42	4,277.50	963.64	5,241.14	5,731.56	M		
11	Wichita	111,110	Board of Park Commissioners and Board of Education	24	20				3,000.00				22,887.17	25,887.17	M	
	Kentucky															
12	Dayton	9,071	Board of Education, W. P. A. and N. Y. A.	1	1				35.00	500.00		500.00	535.00	M		
13	Erlanger	2,917	Civic League, W. P. A. and N. Y. A.	1			10		26.56	300.00		300.00	326.56	P		
14	Fort Thomas	10,008	Recreation Commission, N. Y. A. and W. P. A.	2	2			1,724.85	200.27	675.00	491.00	1,166.00	3,091.12	M&P		
15	Lexington	45,736	(Playground and Recreation Department Recreation Department ²⁴)	10	5	3	4	16,195.00	2,208.22	8,665.00	6,000.00	14,665.00	33,068.22	M		
16	Louisville	307,745	Division of Recreation, Department of Public Welfare	1	3	2	1	1,060.50	907.00	4,905.00		4,905.00	6,872.50	M		
17	Princeton	4,764	Board of Education	29	26	24			13,409.84				37,710.16	M		
18	Russell	2,084	Community Work Committee	1			1	100.00	200.00	400.00	200.00	600.00	900.00	M&P		
	Louisiana															
19	Lafayette	14,635	Playground and Recreation Commission	1		1	33	150	1,088.81	2,000.00		2,000.00	3,088.81	M&P		
20	Monroe	26,028	Recreation Board, Playground Community Service Commission	1	1	1		650.00	200.00	2,076.00	100.00	2,176.00	3,026.00	M		
21	New Orleans	458,762	City Park Improvement Association, Audubon Park Commission	8	20	28			4,935.12	20,150.41	550.00	20,700.41	25,635.53	M		
22	Shreveport	76,655	Park and Recreation Department	2		2			1,800.00				21,702.24	M		
	Maine															
23	Bangor	28,749	Public Works Department	8	11			1,357.35	9,287.50	6,835.90	7,482.00	14,317.90	24,962.75	M		
24	Derby	225	Improvement Society	1			4	1,500.00	50.00			950.00	2,500.00	M&P		
25	Portland	70,810	(Recreation Commission Park Commission)	1	4	1	3	64.00	153.93	200.00		200.00	353.93	M		
26	Sanford	13,392	Park Commission	4	20	1			2,895.53	5,494.02	4,057.90	9,551.92	12,511.45	M		
27	Westbrook	10,807	Cornelia Warren Community Association Inc.	4	2			300.00	200.00	800.00	50.00	850.00	1,350.00	M		
	Maryland															
28	Baltimore	804,874	(Playground Athletic League Board of Park Commissioners, Division of Recreation for Colored People ²⁴)	2		1	6		1,886.73			3,369.00	5,255.73	P		
29	Frederick	14,434	Playground Commission	155	232	32			43,775.26	85,605.76	15,411.03	101,016.79	144,792.05	M, C&M		
30	Hagerstown	30,861	Co-ordinating Council	1	4	5			960.00	8,260.00	780.00	9,040.00	10,000.00	M		
31	Salisbury	10,997	City and Red Cross	5	6		1		125.00	1,030.00		1,000.00	1,125.00	M&P		
32	Takoma Park	6,415	Parks and Playgrounds Board	2	8				250.16	932.58		932.58	1,182.74	M&P		
	Massachusetts															
33	Andover	9,969	Recreation Board and Andover Guild	1	3		2		200.00	800.00	50.00	850.00	1,350.00	M		
34	Arlington	36,094	School Department Park Board	4					300.00			300.00	27,600.00	M		
35	Athol	10,677	American Red Cross	1					150.00			150.00	150.00	P		
36	Belmont	21,748	Playground and Recreation Commission, Department of Physical Education, School Committee	26	16				6,563.15	8,221.73	4,213.12	12,434.85	18,998.00	M		
37	Boston	781,188	Community Service Incorporated, Metropolitan District Commission ²⁵ , Extended Use of Public Schools, School Committee	23	342	1			10,539.00	52,300.00	16,721.00	69,021.00	79,560.00	M		
38	Brockton	63,797	Park Commission	2	2	4			6,997.50	8,797.87	8,044.10	16,841.97	23,839.47	P		
39	Brookline	47,490	Gymnasium and Bath Department and Playground Department	79	112		8	14	100,100.00	10,666.41	28,902.79	19,871.33	48,774.12	59,440.53	M	
40	Cambridge	113,643	Board of Park Commissioners	15		15			33,571.39			35,000.00	168,671.39	M		
41	Dalton	4,220	Community Recreation Association	18	14				11,837.39	8,732.51	550.00	9,282.51	21,119.90	M		
42	Danvers	12,957	Park Department	6	9	4			7,430.00	16,797.50	17,478.00	34,275.50	41,705.50	M		
43	Dedham	15,136	Community Association, Inc.	18	9	5			1,324.95	19,704.05		19,704.05	21,029.00	M		
44	Fairhaven	10,951	Park Commission	7	1	2	2	5		604.00			16,269.95	M&P		
45	Falmouth ²⁶	4,821	Community Center	1	4								3,565.00	M		
46	Fitchburg	40,692	Board of Park Commissioners	6	7	1	4	1,025.69	3,058.97	1,907.33	580.00	2,487.33	6,571.99	P		
47	Framingham	22,210	Civic League	2	2				2,018.13	440.00		440.00	2,458.13	P		
48	Gardner	19,399	Park and Playground Department	1	9	1			588.29	3,185.20	4,489.29	7,674.49	8,262.78	M		
49	Gloucester	24,204	Playground Commission	6	9	1			6,371.24	2,050.00	2,054.68	4,104.68	10,475.92	P		
50	Great Barrington	5,934	Playground Commission	1	8		6	6	931.26	815.00	600.00	1,759.00	3,624.00	M		
51	Greenfield	15,500	Playground and Recreation Commission	7	1				633.38	1,968.36	1,206.21	3,174.57	4,739.21	M		
52	Haverhill	48,710	Board of Playground Commissioners	1	1				3,500.00		11,000.00	11,000.00	14,500.00	M		
53	Holyoke	56,537	Parks and Recreation Commission	1	12				159.81	300.00	175.00	25.00	200.00	3,000.00	M	
				20	37	1			507.96	3,870.89	8,902.25	7,044.25	15,946.50	20,325.35	M	

PLAYGROUND AND COMMUNIT

Footnotes follo

Table with columns: No. of City, STATE AND CITY, Population, Managing Authority, Recreation Leadership (Not Including Emergency Workers), Expenditures Last Fiscal Year (Not Including Emergency Funds), and Source of Financial Support. Sub-headers include Paid Workers, Volunteer Workers, Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment, Upkeep, Supplies and Incidentals, Salaries and Wages, and Total.

RECREATION STATISTICS FOR 1937

table.

Table with multiple columns: Year Round, Summer Only, School Year Only, Other Seasons, Total, Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants and Spectators, Recreation Buildings, Indoor Recreation Centers, Athletic Fields, Number, Baseball Diamonds, Number, Bathing Beaches, Number, Golf Courses, 9-Hole, Number, Golf Courses, 18-Hole, Number, Swimming Pools Outdoor, Number, Swimming Pools Indoor, Number, Tennis Courts, Number, Wading Pools, Number, Paid Leadership, Expenditures (Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment, Leadership, Total), Source of Information, No. of City.

RECREATION STATISTICS FOR 1937

Table.

Table with multiple columns: Year Round, Summer Only, School Year Only, Other Seasons, Total, Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants and Spectators, Recreation Buildings, Indoor Recreation Centers, Athletic Fields, Number, Baseball Diamonds, Number, Bathing Beaches, Number, Golf Courses, 9-Hole, Number, Golf Courses, 18-Hole, Number, Swimming Pools Indoor, Number, Swimming Pools Outdoor, Number, Tennis Courts, Number, Wading Pools, Number, Emergency Service (Paid Leadership, Expenditures), Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment, Leadership, Total, Source of Information, No. of City.

PLAYGROUND AND COMMUNITY

Footnotes for

Table with columns: No. of City, STATE AND CITY, Population, Managing Authority, Recreation Leadership (Not Including Emergency Workers), Expenditures Last Fiscal Year (Not Including Emergency Funds), and Source of Financial Support. Rows are organized by state: R. I., Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.

No. of City	STATE AND CITY	Population	Managing Authority	Recreation Leadership (Not Including Emergency Workers)					Expenditures Last Fiscal Year (Not Including Emergency Funds)						
				Paid Workers		No. Employed Full Time Year Round	Volunteer Workers		Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment	Upkeep, Supplies and Incidentals	Salaries and Wages			Total	
				No. of Men	No. of Women		No. of Men	No. of Women			For Leadership	Other Services	Total		
	Wyoming—Cont. *														
1	Lander	1,826	Town Council				1	1							
2	Riverton	1,608	School District, City and American Legion	2	1		1	1	1,500.00	500.00	1,400.00	300.00	1,700.00	3,700.00	
3	Sheridan	8,536	Community Boys' Work, W. P. A. and N. Y. A.	1	1	2			26,000.00	5,000.00	3,000.00		3,000.00	34,000.00	
	Hawaii														
4	Hilo	19,468	Recreation Committee	2	4		33	5		695.00	1,320.00	985.00	2,305.00	3,000.00	
5	Honolulu	145,875	Recreation Commission	12	22	4	500			6,096.00	23,292.00		23,292.00	29,388.00	
6	Kaunakakai Molokai	4,500	Community Center, Inc.	2	1	3	8		3,001.80	725.13	4,464.00	5,889.33	10,353.33	14,080.26	
7	Lanai City	3,300	Hawaiian Pineapple Co., Ltd.	5	2	3	10	6		5,000.00	5,640.00	750.00	6,390.00	11,390.00	
8	County of Maui	50,000	Alexander House Settlement	8	10	7	182	30	56,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,000.00	11,000.00	73,000.00	
	CANADA														
	Alberta														
9	Calgary	83,000	Parks and Recreation Department	2	7					1,761.87	900.00	1,677.41	2,577.41	4,339.28	
	British Columbia														
10	New Westminster	20,000	Board of Park Commissioners											6	
11	Province of British Columbia ³⁵	694,263	Department of Education	29	26	10	1		2,125.32	9,470.13	20,075.56		20,075.56	31,671.01	
12	Victoria	39,082	Park Department	1					4,412.00	4,495.00	400.00	5,625.00	6,025.00	14,932.00	
	Manitoba														
13	Winnipeg	218,545	Public Parks Board	20	10									88,752.00	
	Ontario														
14	Cornwall	23,000	Athletic Commission	4		4	3			3,000.00	4,500.00		4,500.00	7,500.00	
15	Hamilton	155,000	(Playground and Recreation Commission Board of Park Management)	21	16	1			450.00	3,046.00	8,128.00	350.00	8,478.00	11,974.00	
16	Kitchener	33,000	School Board	2						5,000.00			20,000.00	25,000.00	
17	London	76,000	Playground Department	14	14					700.00	2,200.00	100.00	2,300.00	3,000.00	
18	Ottawa	140,903	Playgrounds Department	22	10						3,875.00			23,560.00	
19	Port Arthur	20,405	Board of Park Management	30	20	7			1,235.00	17,713.27	17,200.30	20,007.02	37,207.32	56,155.59	
20	Toronto	638,271	Parks Department	6					3,318.42	5,207.18	1,996.50	2,963.05	4,959.55	13,485.15	
21	Windsor	65,565	Playground Association. Department of Parks.	112	126	14	172	284			1,144.81	3,372.00	157.65	3,529.65	1236,255.00
	Quebec														
22	Montreal	1,200,000	Recreation Department. Parks and Playgrounds Association, Inc.	14	18					800.00	3,372.00	18,487.00	18,487.00	19,287.00	
				78	28	71				21,275.00	70,220.00	126,115.00	196,335.00	217,610.00	
				12	13	3	12	17		11,804.20	8,632.00	5,460.73	14,092.73	25,896.93	
23	Quebec	140,000	Playgrounds Association, Inc. L'Oeuvre des Terrains de Jeux, Inc.	3	2					152.26	397.22	414.94	812.16	964.42	
24	Sherbrooke	29,000	Parks Committee	15			110	207		1,200.00	7,000.00		7,000.00	8,200.00	
25	Westmount	26,000	Parks Department	8										12,000.00	
	Saskatchewan														
26	Moose Jaw	21,000	Park Board	3	3	1	23	4	15,288.14		3,700.52			18,988.66	
27	Saskatoon	43,000	Playgrounds Association	1	8	1				800.00	1,300.00	500.00	1,800.00	2,600.00	
				15	2	1			4,381.98	3,000.00	3,400.00	2,000.00	5,400.00	12,781.98	

FOOTNOTES

† Under Sources of Financial Support, M—Municipal Funds; P—Private Funds; S—State Funds; C—County Funds and F—Federal Funds.

* Population figures taken from the 1930 Federal Census.

- Expenditure data incomplete.
- Leased to private operator.
- Participants only.
- This figure includes participation attendance at the recreation buildings.
- This report covers recreation service in Compton, Clearwater, Enterprise, Lynwood and Willowbrook.
- Data not available.
- This figure includes participation attendance at the indoor centers.
- This figure includes attendance at beach playgrounds.
- Golf course manager.
- The Los Angeles County Department of Recreation, Camps and Playgrounds maintains recreation facilities in Arcadia, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Belvedere, Bloomfield, Castaic, Centinella, Claremont, Clearwater, Covina, Culver City, Downey, Duarte, El Monte, El Nido, Gardena, Garvey, Glendale, Glendora, Gloria Gardens, Graham, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Huntington Park, Inglewood, Lancaster, LaVerne, Lawndale, Lennox, Los Nietos, Lynwood, Manhattan Beach, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Newhall, North Ranchito, Norwalk, Palmdale, Palos Verdes, Pomona, Puente, Redondo Beach, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Gabriel, Saugus, Sierra Madre, South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Torrance, Whittier, Willowbrook and Wilmar.

CREATION STATISTICS FOR 1937

Table.

Playgrounds Under Leadership				Recreation Buildings		Indoor Recreation Centers													Emergency Service			Source of Information	No. of City							
Summer Only	School Year Only	Other Seasons	Total	Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants and Spectators	Number	Total Yearly or Seasonal Attendance, Participants Only	Number	Athletic Fields, Number	Baseball Diamonds, Number	Bathing Beaches, Number	Golf Courses, 9-Hole, Number	Golf Courses, 18-Hole, Number	Swimming Pools Indoor, Number	Swimming Pools Outdoor, Number	Tennis Courts, Number	Wading Pools, Number	Paid Leadership		Expenditures											
																	Number of Men	Number of Women	No. of Men	No. of Women	Employed Full Time			Land, Buildings, Permanent Equipment	Leadership	Total				
			1		1		2	800	2	1		1		1	1	1											L. A. Crofts	1		
			4	32,600	1	3,000	5	6,000		1								4	5	4	5				8,000.00	1,020.00	9,020.00	John O. Goodman	2	
	4	8	36	8,975 1,236,204	3	7,500 179,741	3	3,950 3,600	1	4	8				4	7		36	23	4	3				14,433.78	14,433.78	Stanley A. Kuzara	3		
			3	4,153	1	20,485	1	3,113	1	1					1	1											Toma Tasaki	4		
	1	3	7		7	44,100			1	1	2	1			1	2											Arthur K. Powlison	5		
	5	1	6	32,310	7	46,500			3	21				3	26		3	1							1,350.00	1,350.00	George P. Cook F. K. Katterman E. L. Damkroger	6 7 8		
			8	349,757					2	19		1	1														18,022.50	William R. Reader	9	
			2		1				4					1	3	3												A. G. Brine	10	
	1		1	327,961			81	104,826	2	2	1			1	2	8									9,469.00		16,059.00	Ian Eisenhardt W. H. Warren	11 12	
	26		26	436,889					3			2	2	1	55	10												F. T. G. White	13	
		1	15	20,000 321,857	2	25,000 2,500			3	2				2														Joe St. Denis John J. Syme	14 15	
	6		7	121,800 270,785 528,273 150,000			6		1	1		1	1		1	23												F. Marshall H. Ballantyne William L. Farquharson E. P. Morgan	a 16 17 18	
	3	3	15	2,050,655	6	608,039	57	340,007	2	20	6		3	309	13													Arthur H. Evans C. E. Chambers Angus Buchanan Anthony L. Moor	19 20 21 a	
	16		16	254,717					3	7	1		3	10	9													Lucien Asselin William Bowie	22 a	
	7		107	6,729,546 342,341 55,000 16,000 30,000	23	1,015,213	1	14,875	18	14	1		1	18	15	60												J. B. O'Regan Abbe Raoul Cloutier A. Deslauriers P. E. Jarman	22 a 23 a 24 25	
	7		7	40,000					1	2	1	1			10	1													B. C. Crichton	26
	2		2	17,019					2					1	3														L. A. Kreutzwieser	27

11. Represents attendance at only 5 of the recreation buildings.
12. This report also covers recreation service in Altadena.
13. The Santa Barbara County Board of Forestry operated bathing beaches at Carpinteria, Gaviota, Goleta and Surf.
14. This report covers recreation service in Avenue, Carmarillo, Conejo, Del Mar, El Rio, Guadalupe, Huene, Montalvo, Moorpark, Mound, Oak View Gardens, Oliveland, Oxnard, Piru, Rio, Santa Paula, Saticoy, Simi and Somis.
15. In addition to this amount, \$435.55 were expended for playground supplies and incidentals by the Parks Department.
16. This figure represents attendance at three of the four recreation buildings.
17. This figure represents only expenditures for the 18-hole golf course.
18. A number of facilities reported by the Playground Commission are on Park property.
19. This figure represents only the operating expenditures of the Recreation Division.
20. The Chicago Recreation Commission acts in an advisory capacity and serves as a liaison group between the public and private recreation agencies.
21. The Cook County Forest Preserve District maintains major recreation facilities in Chicago City, Leyden, Lyons, Niles, Palatine, Palos and Thornton Townships.
22. Appointed on full-time year-round basis during 1937.
23. Covers the period, July 1, 1937 to December 31, 1937.
24. Maintained a program of community recreation for colored citizens.

25. Operated by the Park Board. The cost of operation and maintenance not included in this report.
26. The Winnebago County Forest Preserve District maintains major recreation facilities in Durand, Harlem, Pecatonica, Rockton, Roscoe, Shirland and Winnebago Townships.
27. This figure includes participants at the recreation buildings and indoor centers.
28. This report covers recreation service in the communities of Elkhart, Goshen, and Wakarusa.
29. This report covers recreation service in East Chicago, Hammond, Highland, Munster and Whiting.
30. This report covers the period, April 1, 1937 to December 31, 1937.
31. This report also covers recreation service in Gaylord.
32. Three-hole golf course for colored citizens.
33. This figure represents both men and women.
34. Includes participants at softball diamonds.
35. The Metropolitan District Commission maintains major recreation facilities in Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Braintree, Brookline, Cambridge, Canton, Chelsea, Cohasset, Dedham, Dover, Everett, Hingham, Hull, Lynn, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Nahant, Needham, Newton, Quincy, Revere, Saugus, Somerville, Stoneham, Swampscott, Wakefield, Waltham, Waterbury, Wellesley, Weston, Westwood, Winchester, Winthrop and Woburn.
36. Includes recreation service in North Falmouth and Woods Hole.
37. Four additional leaders representing both men and women gave part-time recreation service but have been included in the Newton Playground Commission report.
38. This figure represents attendance of both participants and spectators.
39. The Flint Community Music Association promotes and operates a community-wide music program in cooperation with public schools, churches, industries and homes.
40. This golf course is operated by a citizen committee and is self sustaining.
41. Does not include expenditures for operation and maintenance of the golf course.
42. Director of municipal band and orchestra.
43. This report covers recreation service in Carson Lake, Kelly Lake, Kerr, Morton and Mahoning.
44. This report covers recreation service in the villages of Leonidas, Mountain Iron, Parkville and West Virginia.
45. This report covers recreation service in Alborn, Bear River, Brimson, Cherry Grove, Cook, Cotton, Embarrass Valley, Floodwood, Jackson, Munger, Palo and Toivola. There are also a large number of additional rural communities served by the Extension Department.
46. 27-hole golf course.
47. Leadership provided by the Recreation Commission.
48. This report covers recreation service in Belleville, Bloomfield, Caldwell, East Orange, Essex Fells, Irvington, Millburn, Montclair, Newark, Nutley, Orange, South Orange, Verona and West Orange.
49. Employed only in the evenings during winter.
50. Also see report listed as School District of South Orange and Maplewood.
51. Supervisory personnel for the playgrounds provided by the Maplewood Community Service and included in that report.
52. This report covers recreation service in Paterson, Totowa, Wayne Township and West Paterson.
53. Funds are received from "Taxation by Contract" on all restricted property.
54. This report covers recreation service in Kenvil, Ledgewood and Succasunna.
55. The Union County Park Commission maintains major recreation facilities in Cranford, Elizabeth, Garwood, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden, Mountainside, New Providence, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Summit, Union and Westfield.
56. This report covers recreation service in the villages of Bedford Hills and Katonah.
57. This individual also reported as a full-time year-round worker with the Outing Club.
58. Does not include expenditures for custodial services.
59. This figure includes participants at the swimming pool and other recreation facilities located on the playground.
60. The Westchester County Park Commission maintains major recreation facilities in Ardsley, Cortlandt, Harmon, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Rye, Scarsdale, Tarrytown, White Plains, Yonkers and Yorktown.
61. This report covers recreation service in Brogden, Eureka, Fremont, Goldsboro, Grantham, Mount Olive, Nahanta, New Hope, Pikeville, Rosewood and Seven Springs.
62. This report covers recreation service in Burdulac, Glenfield, Grace City, Juanita and McHenry.
63. Includes participants at three wading pools.
64. The Cleveland Metropolitan Park District maintains major recreation facilities in Bedford, Berea, Bentleyville, Brecksville, Euclid, Fairview, Hinckly Township, Lakewood, Olmsted, Parma, Parma Heights, Rocky River, Royalton and Strongsville.

65. This report includes recreation service in Bay Village, Bedford, Berea, Brecksville, Brook Park, Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Dover, East Cleveland, Euclid, Fairview, Garfield Heights, Lakewood, Lyndhurst, Maple Heights, Mayfield Heights, Miles Heights, North Olmsted, Olmsted, Parma, Parma Heights, Rocky River, Shaker Heights, South Euclid and Strongsville.
66. This report covers recreation service in Addyston, Arlington Heights, Blue Ash, Cleves, Deer Park, Elmwood Place, Fairfax, Forestville, Glendale, Hazelwood, Indian Hill, Lockland, Loveland, Madeira, Mariemont, Milford, Montfort Heights, Montgomery, Mount Healthy, New Burlington, North Bend, North College Hill, Plainville, Reading, Remington, St. Bernard, Sharonville, Silverton, Springdale, Sycamore Township, Terrace Park, Woodlawn and Wyoming.
67. Salary paid by both the Recreation Commission and the WPA.
68. One of these courses is a 15-hole golf course.
69. The Allegheny County Bureau of Parks maintains major recreation facilities in Broughton, McCardles and Snowden.
70. Expenditures for land, buildings and permanent improvements not available.
71. This report covers recreation service in Alsace Hill, Amity, Baumstown, Berkshire Heights, Bernville, Birdsboro, Blandon, Boyertown, Brownsville, Centreport, Farview, Fleetwood, Girbraltar, Hamburg, Hyde Park, Kempton, Kenhorst, Kutztown, Laureldale, Leesport, Lenhartsville, Lyons, Mohrsville, Mt. Penn, Muhlenberg, Oley, Pennside, Pennwyn, Port Clinton, Reiffton, Robesonia, Rosedale, St. Lawrence, Shartelsville, Shillington, Shoemakersville, Sinking Spring, Spring Valley, State Hill, Stony Creek, Temple, Top-ton, Walnuttown, Wernersville, West Hamburg, West Lawn, West Leesport, West Monocacy, West Oley, West Reading, West Wyomissing, Willow, Womelsdorf, Wyomissing and Wyomissing Hills.
72. This report covers recreation service in Crafton and Ingram.
73. 12-hole golf course.
74. Includes participants at the playgrounds and 18 recreation buildings.
75. This figure represents participants at only one recreation building.
76. Playground attendance included in attendance figures for recreation buildings and indoor centers.
77. In addition to this amount approximately \$65,000 were expended by the Park Department, Water Bureau and School District for maintenance of the recreation facilities reported.
78. Privately owned but supervised and financed by the Civic Association Recreation Council.
79. This report covers recreation service in Georgetown, Larksville, Lee Park, Midvale, Plains, Plymouth, Sugar Notch, Warrior Run and Wilkes-Barre.
80. This report covers recreation service in the villages of Berkeley and Lansdale.
81. Expenditures for maintenance of facilities included in Park Department report.
82. This report covers recreation service in Kingston, Mantanuck, Peace Dale, Wakefield and West Kingston.
83. This figure represents total expenditures for the indoor swimming pool.
84. This amount includes \$14,000 in power and water service provided by the Municipal Water and Light Department.
85. Includes participation attendance at play streets, recreation buildings and indoor centers.
86. This report covers the period, May 1 to December 31, 1937.
87. Includes participants for all activities except golf.
88. This report covers recreation service in Brook Hill, Dumbarton, Fair Oaks, Highland Springs, Lakeside, Laurel, Richmond, Sandston, Varina and Woodville.
89. This report covers recreation service in Blacksville, Cassville, Continental, Everettsville, Jerome Park, Osage, Pursglove, Sabraton, Star City, Wadestown, Wana and Westover.
90. A number of facilities listed are on Park Department property and the cost of maintenance has not been included in the reported expenditures.
91. Includes attendance at the outdoor swimming pool.
92. The Milwaukee County Park Commission acts as co-sponsor of recreation programs in Cudahy, Milwaukee City, South Milwaukee, Wauwatosa and Whitefish Bay.
93. These beaches were operated jointly by the Park Board and Board of Education.
94. This report covers recreation services in Crater, Haiku, Hallimaile, Hamakuapoko, Hana, Honokohua, Honokowai, Huelo, Kaanapali, Kaeluku, Kahana, Kahului, Kailua, Kapunakea, Kaupakalua, Keahua, Keanae, Kelaweia, Kihei, Kuhua, Kula, Lahaina, Lanuipoko, Makawao, Olowalu, Orpheum, Paia, Lower Paia, Paunau, Pauwela, Peahi, Pulehu, Pump Camp, Puukoolii, Puunene, Spreckelsville, Camp Ukumehame, Wahikuli Pump, Waiehu, Waihee, Waikapu and Wailuku.
95. This report covers recreation service in Abbotsford, Agassiz, Ashcroft, Atchelitz, Bradner, Chemainus, Chilliwack, Crofton, East Chilliwack, East Kelowna, Esquimalt, Harrison, Holly Ridge, Kelowna, Lady-smith, Lake Hill, Lynn-mour, Marigold, Matsqui, Mission, Nanaimo, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Penticton, Port Coquitlam, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Rosedale, Rossland, Saltair, South Fort George, Sumas, Vancouver, Vanderhoff, Victoria, Westholme and West Vancouver.

Emergency Recreation Service in 1937

DURING 1937, the Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration made possible a recreation service in a large number of communities throughout the country. No attempt has been made, however, to secure reports of this service for the RECREATION YEAR BOOK. A number of cities, however, did submit reports indicating that the recreation work which they carried on in 1937 was made possible through emergency funds. Because of their cooperation in submitting reports, the service is briefly recorded here.

A total of 1089 persons—657 men and 432 women—paid from emergency funds, was reported as having served as recreation leaders in these localities. Of this number, 718 were employed full time. A total of 374 volunteer leaders was also reported. The total amount spent for

leadership from emergency funds in 62 of these localities was \$426,439.85.

Among the facilities which were conducted in these 100 cities were 512 outdoor playgrounds of which 73 were open for the first time during 1937. Other facilities included 122 recreation buildings and 316 indoor recreation centers conducted under leadership, 106 athletic fields, 217 baseball diamonds, 25 bathing beaches, three 9-hole golf courses, 7 indoor and 19 outdoor swimming pools, 295 tennis courts, and 36 wading pools.

Seventy-five localities reported expenditures from emergency funds totalling \$1,044,811.99. Local funds totalling \$75,375.27 were raised to supplement the funds made available from emergency sources.

The following is a list of the hundred localities from which these emergency reports were received.

<i>Alabama</i>	<i>Kentucky</i>	<i>New Jersey</i>	Corry
Tuscaloosa	Covington	Hawthorne	Delaware County
	Hopkinsville	Nutley	Freeland
	Middlesboro	Paterson	Harrisburg
<i>California</i>	<i>Massachusetts</i>	Point Pleasant Beach	Mercer County
Fontana	Braintree		New Castle
Monterey	Chelsea		Pottstown
Oxnard	Everett	<i>New York</i>	
Pittsburg	Leominster	Erie County	<i>South Carolina</i>
Wilmar	Malden	Lyons	Anderson
<i>Colorado</i>	Marblehead	North Castle	
Arvada	Marlborough	Rochester	<i>South Dakota</i>
Golden	Mashpee	Whitehall	Alexandria
	Medford	<i>North Carolina</i>	Belvidere
<i>Connecticut</i>	Montague	Smithfield	Britton
Ansonia	Newburyport	Wilson	De Smet
Berlin	Orange		Groton
Fairfield	Revere	<i>North Dakota</i>	Isabel
West Hartford	Watertown	Barnes County	Pollock
<i>Georgia</i>	<i>Michigan</i>	Mott	<i>Vermont</i>
Bainbridge	Grayling	Rolette	White River Junction
	Portland		
	Zeeland	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Virginia</i>
<i>Illinois</i>	<i>Minnesota</i>	Celina	Suffolk
Blue Island	Brainerd	Lorain	
Champaign-Urbana	Two Harbors	Lowellville	<i>Washington</i>
Lombard	Warroad	Montgomery County	Walla Walla
Paris	Willmar	Warren County	
Villa Park	<i>Montana</i>	<i>Oklahoma</i>	<i>West Virginia</i>
Wheaton	Helena	El Reno	Charleston
	<i>Nebraska</i>	Okmulgee	Taylor County
<i>Indiana</i>	Grand Island	<i>Pennsylvania</i>	<i>Wisconsin</i>
Clinton	Hastings	Butler	Marinette County
Marion	Norfolk	Chester	Merrill
New Castle	Valley	Connellsville	Oconto Falls
Shelbyville			Rhineland

Recreation Leadership Projects of the Works Progress Administration

IN ANY COMPREHENSIVE review of community recreation programs for 1937, information should be included regarding emergency programs made possible through the Works Progress Administration and other emergency agencies, as well as those provided by local government funds and reported in the Year Book of the National Recreation Association. However, the types of statistics reported annually for local departments would not be available for the emergency program, due to its organization and the conditions under which it operates.

The Works Progress Administration itself made a study of its recreation leadership program for the week ending August 28, 1937. A brief digest made of some of the information given in this study may be helpful in understanding the total picture, even though the facts do not cover the whole year and were not gathered on the same basis as those covering the permanent local work.

The study was undertaken to determine the extent of leadership provided, the total participation, and participation according to types of recreation activities. It also included the gathering of information regarding Works Progress Administration recreation leaders, their age, education, experience, sex and length of time on emergency recreation work. The following summaries are taken from the report of this study with the permission of The Division of Research, Statistics and Records, and The Division of Recreation.

Participation. A total of 16,500,000 hours of participation is reported, of which nearly 11,500,000 were spent in physical recreation; 2,500,000 in social; 2,250,000 in cultural, and 135,000 in therapeutic.

The physical recreation participation was 70 per cent of the total. Of this 70 per cent, slightly more than half is accounted for by participation in athletics and sports, and about 20 per cent in swimming.

Of the 2,500,000 hours of participation in social recreation, about 40 per cent was devoted to activities classified as special events; 30 per cent to game room activities, and about 12 per cent to social, folk and other forms of dancing.

Of the 2,250,000 hours spent in cultural recreation, 55 per cent was in arts and crafts; about 22 per cent in music, and a little more than 10 per cent in drama. About 6 per cent was devoted to art, music and literature appreciation, lectures, forums and discussion groups.

The 135,000 hours reported for therapeutic recreation cover all activities, regardless of type, carried on for the benefit of disabled, maladjusted or other institutionalized persons.

Participation by Age Groups. The study reports the extent of participation by age groups. Children under sixteen account for 60.5 per cent of

the participant-hours; youth sixteen to twenty-five, 26.1 per cent; and adults over twenty-five, 13.4 per cent.

The age group sixteen to twenty-five showed more than average participation in physical activities. The adult group over twenty-six showed the smallest percentage for physical activities and the largest for social activities. The greatest relative participation in cultural activities is reported for children under sixteen.

Leadership Load. An analysis was made of the load carried by Works Progress Administration leaders in different types of activities. The average for the program as a whole is 31 participants per leader; for physical activities, 35.6 persons; social, 35.6 persons; cultural, 17.7 persons; and therapeutic, 18.4 persons. The highest load carried by individual leaders is reported for swimming, with an average of 64.9 persons per leader. Arts and crafts showed the smallest load, with 16.1 persons per leader.

Facts about WPA Recreation Workers. During the week of the survey about 26,500 persons were employed on recreation projects. Of these workers, 61 per cent were men, and 39 per cent women. The median age of 26,183 workers who reported their ages was 32.8 years, and was practically the same for both women and men. A greater percentage of women workers than men was in the younger age brackets, although the median age was about the same.

In the case of men—

16.8	per cent were under 25
40.8	.....25 to 34
20.8	.....35 to 44
12.7	.....45 to 54
8.9	.....over 54

The corresponding percentages for women are—

23.6	per cent .....under 25
32.5	.....25 to 34
25.8	.....35 to 44
13.5	.....45 to 54
4.6	.....over 54

An analysis of the educational background of leaders shows that 18.6 per cent of the men and 9.3 per cent of the women had eight years or less of formal schooling; 43.9 per cent of the men and 42.4 per cent of the women had from nine to twelve years of school; 31 per cent of the men and 42 per cent of the women, from thirteen to sixteen years; 6.5 per cent of the men and 6.3 per cent of the women, seventeen years or more.

The information on previous occupational experience of recreation project workers indicates that 5,217, mostly younger workers, had no previous experience; 6,812 were professional, semi-professional and technical workers, such as music teachers, physical education teachers, art teachers, other teachers, artists, actors, musicians, playground workers and social workers. 1,278 were classified as having had experience as proprietors, managers and officials; 3,886 as office workers, such as bookkeepers, clerks, stenographers, typists, accountants; 2,118 as salesmen; 1,214 as unskilled laborers; 1,105 as domestic workers; 1,862 as skilled workers, and 2,836 as semi-skilled workers in building, construction, manufacturing and industry.

The Service of the National Recreation Movement in 1937

- 722** cities in **47** states were given personal service through the visits of field workers.
- 1,809** local leaders were given special training in recreation skills, methods, program and philosophy at **12** four-week institutes in **11** cities. Nature recreation, arts and crafts, music and drama, social recreation and games were stressed.
- 39** cities were given personal field service by the Bureau of Colored Work. A special five-week institute was conducted for the training of colored men and women to serve as workers in local public recreation departments.
- 27** cities were visited by the Katherine F. Barker Field Secretary on Recreation for Girls and Women in a study of girls' clubs. In addition, the secretary gave instruction at **8** major recreation institutes reaching over **1,000** individuals.
- 84** institutions for children and the aged in **5** states were visited by the field secretary on Play in Institutions. **14** play sessions were held with **430** participants.
- 16,803** boys and girls in **473** cities received badges, emblems or certificates for passing the Association's athletic and swimming badge tests.
- 29** states were served through the Rural Recreation Service conducted in cooperation with the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. **4,994** people attended the **95** institutes held. During the ten year period since this service was established, **1,026** institutes have been conducted in **47** states with a total enrollment of **63,424**.
- 25** states received personal service from the representative of the National Physical Education Service. In addition, help was given to practically all states through correspondence, consultation and monthly News Letters.
- 5,800** different communities in the United States and **48** foreign countries received help and advice on recreation problems through the Correspondence and Consultation Bureau. Over **22,000** letters were answered by the Bureau and **1,100** individuals called at the office for personal consultation.
- 900** delegates from **300** cities in **38** states attended the Twenty-second Annual Recreation Congress held at Atlantic City, New Jersey, May 17-21.
- 1,424** cities and towns, **45** of them in foreign countries, received RECREATION, the monthly magazine of the movement.
- 1,421** cities received the bulletins issued by the Association. Booklets, pamphlets and leaflets were published on various subjects in the recreation field.

National Recreation Association

Incorporated

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1937 thru December 31, 1937

General Fund Balance December 31, 1936.....\$ 53,391.24

INCOME

Contributions	\$166,736.54	
Contributions for Specific Work.....	4,994.70	
Interest, Dividends, Loss and Gain on Sale of Securities.....	12,743.66	
Recreation Sales, Subscription and Advertising.....	8,363.75	
Badge Sales	1,389.96	
Special Publication Sales	12,966.99	
Interest and Dividends—Frances Ross Poley Memorial Fund..	207.58	
National Recreation Congress	4,409.00	
		211,812 18
		\$265,203.42

EXPENDITURES

Community Recreation Field Service	\$138,890.72	
Field Service to Colored Communities	7,749.72	
National Physical Education Service	10,763.75	
Correspondence and Consultation Bureau	24,055.85	
Publications and Bulletin Service	17,493.64	
Recreation	14,365.82	
National Recreation Congress	7,570.14	
Apprenticeship Fellowship	1,561.84	
		222,451.48

General Fund Balance December 31, 1937.....\$ 42,751.94

KATHERINE F. BARKER MEMORIAL

Balance December 31, 1936.....	\$ 5,290.38	
Receipts to December 31, 1937		
Contributions	\$8,000.00	
Book Sales	447.90	
National Physical Achievement Standards for		
Girls	174.72	
Contribution for Specific Work	36.48	
		8,659.10
		\$ 13,949.48

Expenditures to December 31, 1937

Katherine F. Barker Memorial Field Secretary		
on Athletics and Recreation for Girls and		
Women	5,096.01	
District Field Work	3,372.43	
		8,468.44
		\$ 5,481.04

PLAY IN INSTITUTIONS

Receipts to December 31, 1937		
Contributions	\$ 5,000.00	
Bulletins	114.00	
Contributions for Specific Work	244.50	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 5,358.50	
Expenditures to December 31, 1937.....	5,058.04	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 300.46

MASSACHUSETTS PROJECT FOR CONSERVING
STANDARDS OF CITIZENSHIP

Balance December 31st, 1936	\$ 866.53	
Receipts to December 31, 1937		
Contributions	2,250.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 3,116.53	
Expenditures to December 31, 1937.....	2,666.53	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 450.00

RECAPITULATION

BALANCES December 31, 1936

General Fund	\$ 53,391.24	
Katherine F. Barker Memorial	5,290.38	
Massachusetts Project for Conserving Standards of Citizenship	866.53	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 59,548.15

INCOME to December 31, 1937

General Fund	\$211,812.18	
Katherine F. Barker Memorial	8,659.10	
Play in Institutions	5,358.50	
Massachusetts Project for Conserving Standards of Citizenship	2,250.00	
	<hr/>	
		228,079.78
		<hr/>
		\$287,627.93

EXPENDITURES to December 31, 1937

General Fund	\$222,451.48	
Katherine F. Barker Memorial	8,468.44	
Play in Institutions	5,058.04	
Massachusetts Project for Conserving Standards of Citizenship	2,666.53	
	<hr/>	
		238,644.49
		<hr/>
		\$ 48,983.44

BALANCES December 31, 1937

General Fund	\$ 42,751.94	
Katherine F. Barker Memorial	5,481.04	
Play in Institutions	300.46	
Massachusetts Project for Conserving Standards of Citizenship	450.00	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 48,983.44

ENDOWMENT AND RESERVE FUNDS

Special Fund (Action of 1910).....	\$ 25,000.00
Lucy Tudor Hillyer Fund	5,000.00
Emil C. Bondy Fund	1,000.00
George L. Sands Fund	12,742.72
"In Memory of J. R. Lamprecht"	3,000.00
"In Memory of Barney May"	500.00
Received in 1937	2,000.00
	2,500.00
"In Memory of Waldo E. Forbes"	1,403.02
Frances Ross Poley Memorial Fund (x).....	6,167.72
Ellen Mills Borne Fund	3,000.00
Other Gifts	175.00
C. H. T. Endowment Fund	500.00
Frances Mooney Fund	1,000.00
Sarah Newlin Fund	500.00
"In Memory of William Simes"	2,000.00
"In Memory of J. R., Jr."	250.00
Frances R. Morse Fund	2,000.00
Emergency Reserve Fund	155,000.00
Loss and Gain on Sale of Securities	9,065.87
Ella Van Peyma Fund	500.00
Nettie G. Naumburg Fund	2,000.00
"In Memory of William J. Matheson".....	5,000.00
Alice B. P. Hannahs Fund	1,400.00
"In Memory of Daniel Guggenheim"	1,000.00
"In Memory of Alfred W. Heinsheimer"	5,000.00
Nellie L. Coleman Fund	100.00
Elizabeth B. Kelsey Fund	500.00
Sarah Fuller Smith Fund	3,000.00
Annie L. Sears Fund	2,000.00
John Markle Fund	50,000.00
Katherine C. Husband Fund	884.55
Leilla K. Kilbourne Fund	3,750.00
Ella Strong Denison Fund	200.00
Annie M. Lawrence Fund	930.73
Received in 1937	
Frederick Mc'Owen Fund	1,000.00
Clarence M. Clark Fund	50,662.20
John G. Wartmann Fund	500.00
"In Memory of Joseph Lee"	525.00
"In Memory of S. F. N."	250.00
Henry Strong Denison Fund.....	50,000.00

\$409,506.81

(x) Restricted

I have audited the accounts of the National Recreation Association for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1937, and certify that in my opinion the above statement is a true and correct statement of the financial transactions of the General, Special Study, and Endowment Funds for the period.

(Signed) J. F. CALVERT,
Certified Public Accountant.

National Recreation Association

Incorporated

315 Fourth Avenue, New York City

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WORLD AT PLAY

A Fair That Was Different

and cat fashion show, races and games, a merry-go-round, puppet show, and a performance of "Snow White" featured the eighth annual boys' fair of the Madison Square Boys' Club of New York City from April 30th through May 7th. A variety of contests was held during the week beginning with a neighborhood baby parade. The club kept open house during the week, and visitors were invited to make a tour of the house. An exhibition of handcraft and hobby collections was on display. Contests featuring the week's activities included ping-pong, pick-up-sticks, pocket billiards, boxing, jig-saw puzzles, checkers, hockey, horseshoe pitching and marionette contests, all open to other New York organizations. Boys' Day Out of Doors was celebrated on May 6th with a horseshoe pitching contest and a Clear Pool Camp rally on the playground with a Grand Council Ring.

Historic Canal Becomes Recreational Area

ONE of the best known landmarks in the East, the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal extending 186 miles from Washington, D. C., to Cumberland, Maryland, will become a recreational area through the action of the National Park Service in taking over the canal and adjoining

land for development. The canal was incorporated by the Virginia legislature in 1823, and the development of the waterway cost about \$15,000,000. Though its main use was for the hauling of

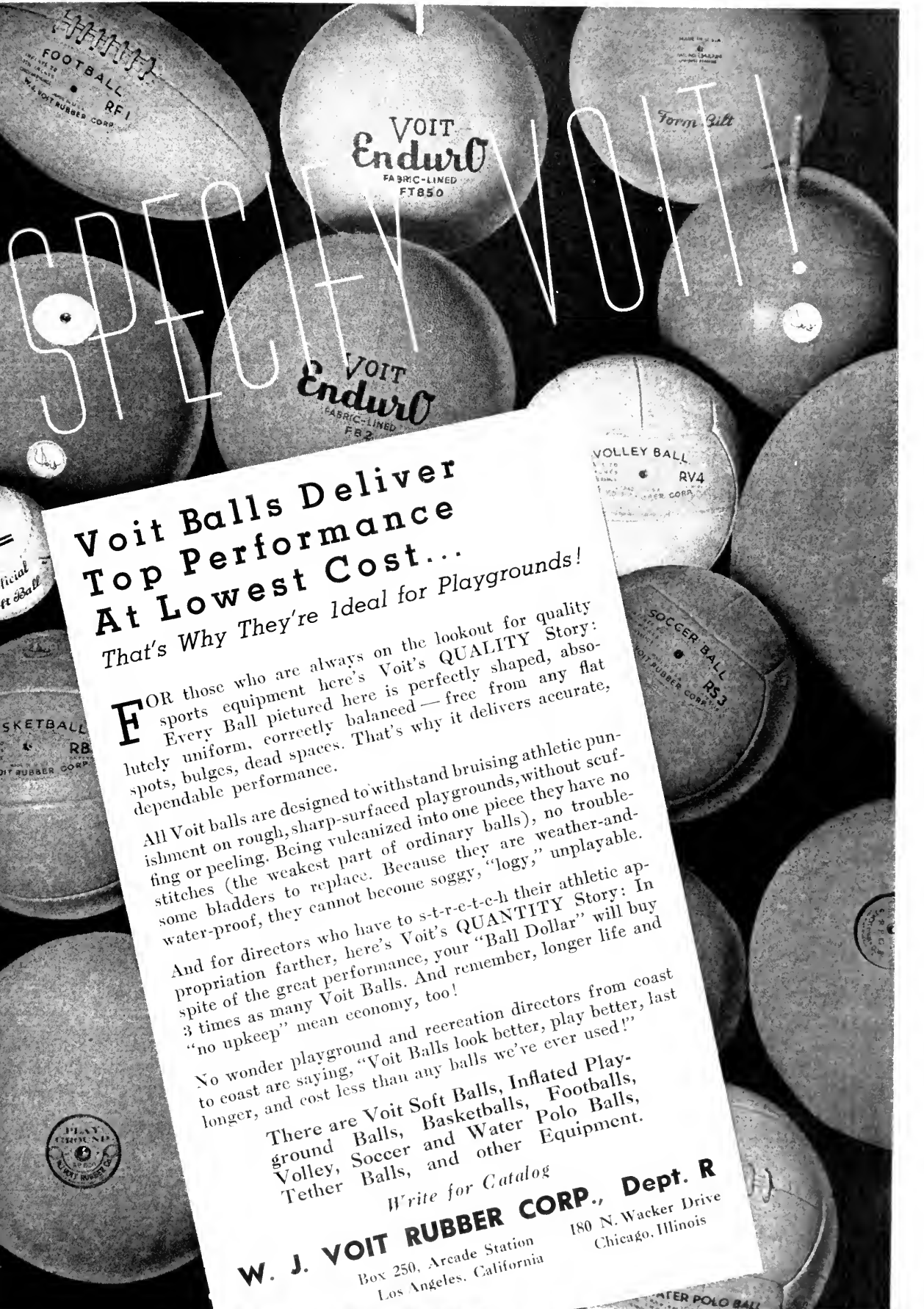
freight, passenger boats also plied its waters; these were very popular with excursionists from neighboring cities and towns, and by 1873 at least 700 private boats were in operation on the canal. Present plans include the development of the area for boating, canoeing and hiking. Some of the lock houses, taverns and other features of historic interest will be restored.



Courtesy Madison Square Boys' Club, New York City

A Public Library Moves Out of Doors

THREE years of success assured the reopening in May of the Bryant Park open air reading room sponsored by the New York Public Library, with workers supplied through WPA. The outdoor reading room behind the library, in the shadow of the Goethe statue, had its largest season last year. During the hottest days it averaged several hundred readers. The experiment began with one bookstall, one librarian and 500 books. Last summer it had five bookstalls, five librarians, a circulation of 72,640 books, and what had once been a huge tool chest of the Park Department filled with magazines from all over the world. Men constitute the majority of readers, and most of them read fiction, with detective stories the favorites. The Bible is the most widely read single book in the library.



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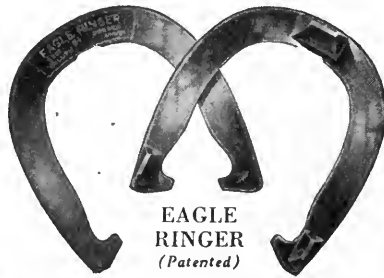
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The next popular book is Warden Lawes' "Twenty Thousand Years in Sing Sing."

San Francisco's Game Exchange — A game exchange has been organized recently by the San Francisco, California, Recreation Department. The exchange is "open" for an hour and a half twice each month. Playground directors are invited to become members of the exchange and do so by sharing their wealth with others, participating in activities and by attending sessions. In this instance, "wealth" is a knowledge of low organization games. Attendance is voluntary at the sessions which are held in the gymnasium of one of the community centers. Each person, in turn, teaches the group his favorite low organization game. It has been interesting to discover how many games members of the group know and do not know even on neighboring playgrounds, and the real fellowship, fun and definite growth that are a part of this simple project.

The Caravan Theater Takes to the Trail — That unflinching harbinger of summer, the New York City WPA Caravan Theater, on June 6th began its nightly safari into public parks throughout the metropolitan area. On that date four freshly painted trucks bearing scenery, props and lighting equipment left their base on the first leg of their third annual pilgrimage through New York City's parks. The program consists of performances of light operas, one-act plays, comedies, vaudeville shows and children's productions. The performances move from borough to borough each week, and a new program is introduced every month.

Playfests — Each of St. Paul's twenty-one municipal playgrounds last summer conducted a playfest on a competitive basis, which consisted of circle games, dancing, singing, dramatic skits, puppetry and novelty stunts. Each play leader was given an opportunity to choose and perform in his own way any part of the program. The judging of the program was on the following basis: Ten points given each group of ten or more child participants; ten points for efficient conduct; ten points for each adult participant; ten points for every ten spectators at the program. There were 1,257 participants and 3,982 spectators, making a grand total of 5,239 who enjoyed the playfest idea.

Recreation Facilities in Cincinnati — The

year 1937 marked the addition of fifteen new playgrounds to Cincinnati's recreation system, an increase of 55 per cent in the total number of municipal playgrounds. Of these only three areas are less than five acres in size, and there are six with twelve acres or more. The average size is nine acres, and the total area of the fifteen new grounds is 133 acres. Nine of the areas were acquired by the transfer of city properties held by other departments. The improvement of the areas has been accomplished through work relief projects, with the city matching the Federal government expenditures in part. In addition to constructing fifteen new playgrounds, the Recreation Commission has brought into limited use six other areas which with further improvements will be classified as playgrounds. Since 1932 the Recreation Commission has also added sixteen acres to the original twenty-seven playgrounds, three by purchase and the remainder by transfer. These additional sixteen acres have been developed through WPA and other work projects, and major improvements have been accomplished on most of the twenty-seven playgrounds which had been established prior to 1932. The summer of 1938 will find forty-two developed children's playgrounds in operation.

The Pleasant Hour Club—Something new in clubs is the Pleasant Hour Club sponsored by the South End District Recreation Committee of the Chicago, Illinois, Recreation Commission. The club meets every Sunday afternoon for an hour in the homes of members or at Palmer Park. The committee arranges a program for each meeting which consists of a discussion of current events or a musical or literary hour. For the summer the committee is planning a program of educational motion pictures.

Federal Aid for Travel and Recreation—An interesting branch of the recreational planning and state cooperation of the National Park Service is the United States Tourist Bureau established in February 1937. One of its objectives is the dissemination of data obtained by the Parkway and Recreational-Area Study. It is the purpose of the bureau to encourage the growth of recreational opportunities as well as the fullest utilization of existing facilities, including the system of national and state parks. This the bureau hopes to accomplish by making the facilities better known to the public. The bureau's first field office is located

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at 45 Broadway, New York City. From this office pictorial pamphlets and brochures supplied to the bureau by state publicity departments, government departments and private agencies may be secured. One of the objectives of the bureau is to make known the travel advantages and recreational facilities in America to people of foreign lands with a view to securing more travel by foreigners in the United States.



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In a Community of 2,500 — Several months ago the City Council of Holtville, California, a community of 2,500 people, voted a five cent millage tax for the purposes of securing publicity for the town. When the council turned the money over to the Chamber of Commerce, an interesting thing happened! This group asked the City Council to appoint a Recreation Park Executive Committee and requested that all money available from the tax allocation be turned over to this group for recreational purposes. They made the additional request that the program be organized largely for

the benefit of local citizens. As a result, a splendid recreation park has been built with WPA help which is equipped with two tennis courts, volleyball and croquet courts, a lighted softball field, horseshoe pits, two shuffleboard courts, a basketball court, a grandstand and other athletic facilities. The entire area has been turfed and landscaped.

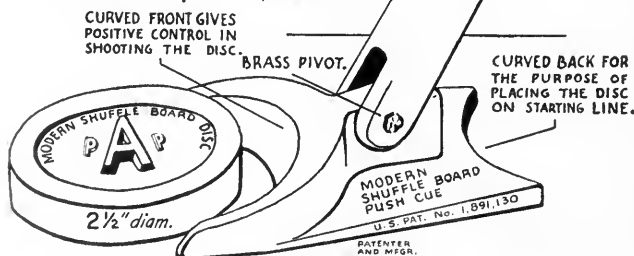
The Shut-in Club of Wilkes-Barre—In the Annual Report of the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, for 1937, information is given on the progress of the Shut-in Club, which is composed of 225 women who have found great joy in visiting as volunteers shut-ins of the city. The club owns nine wheel chairs which are loaned to shut-ins, and club members have provided every shut-in who did not previously own one with a radio. Each troop of girl scouts has been given responsibility for a certain number of shut-ins to whom they send cards and visit. At Christmas, 125 Christmas cheer baskets, gaily decorated, were distributed. Typewriters have been supplied to a number of blind shut-ins and occupational therapy is taught those able to use their hands. Each Thursday there is a special broadcast.

Where Scenic Beauty Is Protected—In what is thought the first decision of its kind in the United States, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin has denied a permit to build a dam across a Wisconsin river on the ground that it would destroy the scenic beauty of the river and be disastrous to the fish life in its lower reaches. The Wisconsin Commission acted under authority of a 1929 law which declares that the enjoyment of natural scenic beauty is a public right and sufficient reason for denial of a dam permit. This law was the first of its kind enacted in the nation and the Potato River dam denial is the first order issued under it. In issuing its denial, the Commission said: "The advantage which the public will derive from the proposed (dam) will be that the town of Gurney will derive more taxes from the lands in question, and that the hydro plant and the industry in connection therewith will give employment to a few men. As against these advantages, the waterfalls and cataracts for about one mile of the river will be forever destroyed." Approval of the Iron County Board for construction of the dam was given on condition that the matter be approved also by the Wisconsin Conservation Com-

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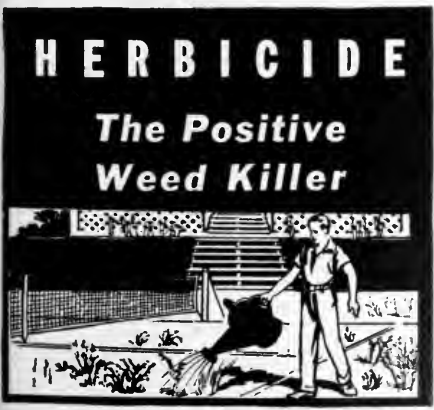
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mission. First objections were voiced by the local conservation warden who investigated the project upon instructions from the Commission, which subsequently refused its approval.

A Leadership Conference — "New Hints, Helps, Horizons" were offered in the community-wide mobilization for leadership, sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies in Reading, Pennsylvania, which was held from February 24th through March 31st. During this period there

were five sessions at which the following subjects were discussed: "We Look at Youth," "We Look at the Leader," "Developing Leadership Qualities," "Boy-Girl Attitudes," "Helps and Hints for Better Leadership," and "Leadership—Today—Tomorrow." Local leaders and representatives of a number of national organizations took part in the discussions. Other features included demonstrations and practice groups, exhibits by cooperating agencies, consultation service on individual problems, and demonstrations



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Philadelphia's Model Aeroplane Association—One of the activities reported by the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia as outstanding during the last nine years is the Philadelphia Model Aeroplane Association. Thousands of Philadelphia boys and girls have taken up this modern craft under the direction of the Association. (The *Evening Bulletin* and Aero Club of Pennsylvania are co-sponsors.) Their skill is evidenced by the fact that they have won three-fourths of the established National Records and several of the International prizes.

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A New Community Center for Ithaca, New York—Through the cooperation of the city of Utica and the Works Progress Administration, the South Side of Ithaca, with its large colored population, has secured a splendidly equipped community center. The enterprise, financially underwritten by a group of public-spirited citizens under the leadership of Robert E. Treman and officially sponsored by the Common Council with the cooperation of Mayor Smith, was accepted as a WPA project. The house, of simple Georgian design, contains a full-sized gymnasium, demonstration kitchen, rooms for sewing and occupational club work, a lodge room, billiard and game room, children's room and library. James L. Gibbs is director of the center.

A Course in Conservation of Natural Resources—A course in the Conservation of Natural Resources will be given this summer at the North Texas State Teachers College, Denton, Texas, during the first six weeks of the summer session of the college, from June 6th to July 16th. From June 8th to 11th the chief subject of discussion will be Minerals and a number of outstanding authorities will lecture on this subject. From June 14th to 18th and 21st to 25th Water and Soil will be discussed at daily sessions. The main subject from June 28th to July 2nd will be Wild Life; from July 6th, to 9th Forests, and from July 12th to 14th Human Resources in Recreation. The course will end with a discussion on July 15th and 16th of Needed Education and Legislation.

A Community Drama Seminar—The Ferguson School of the Theater, in cooperation with the Lake Nabbassett Theater Colony, will offer a community drama seminar for teachers and directors during the months of July and August. All courses dealing with the community and classroom approach to the drama will be conducted in New York during the month of July; all courses having to do with the professional approach will be offered at Lake Nabbassett, Westford, Massachusetts, during August. The course in New York City will be conducted at 70 West 45th Street under the leadership of Nina B. Lamkin. The professional training to be offered at Lake Nabbassett will be given by John Ferguson. Further information may be secured from Winifred Cameron, Nabbassett Players, 70 West 45th Street, New York City.

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To Further Interest in Golf—The American Golf Institute has been established to further public and individual interest in the game. It will not, according to the announcement which has been issued, compete or conflict with activities of such existing organizations as the United States Golf Association and others, but it will rather provide a focal point at which lines of interest in various phases of golfing activities may meet and perhaps derive mutual benefit. To this end the Institute proposes to provide a clearing house for all kinds of information relating to the game and offers its services in helping individuals or groups solve problems arising in connection with the game. The address of the Institute is 105 Nassau Street, New York City.

Flood-Lighted Playgrounds in London — During the summer of 1937, according to *Playing Fields* for February 1938, about sixty playgrounds in London were opened for organized games for children out of school hours under special supervisors and game leaders. Since October games have been organized in two flood-lighted playgrounds. It is proposed to continue to



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plan in 1938 with an increase in the number of centers to about seventy-five. It is also proposed to open from seventy to eighty centers for two hours daily for approximately twenty days during the four weeks of the school summer holidays.

A New Playground on the Map—Boulder Dam—A huge, arid open space; in great stretches of desert nothing to be seen but cement forms with crude buildings in process of erection on sandy lots without tree or shrub. This was Boulder in Black Canyon, Nevada, in the early stage of the development of Boulder Dam. Today Boulder City is no longer an arid region, but land with green grass, trees and flowering shrubs—the lake, a sparkling body of water. Boulder Dam and its environs are becoming the center of a great recreational region, and the thousands who come to see the dam are offered many forms of recreation. Swimming, boating, fishing, trap shooting and horseback riding are possible. It has been suggested that visitors to Boulder Dam recreational area avoid July and August which are excessively hot and make their visits during the cooler ten months of the year.

Gardens—Nearly 400 children participated in the backyard garden contest conducted by the Park Department of Cambridge, Massachusetts,

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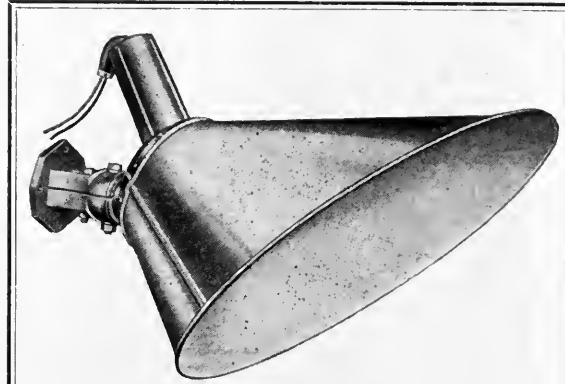
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during the last summer. Seed was furnished by the Cambridge League of Women Voters and prizes were awarded at the close of the season to the children whose garden was selected as the best. With each succeeding year the interest in gardening has increased.

Leisure Opportunities of Greater Cincinnati—Each Wednesday evening from February 2nd to May 18th, the Cincinnati University, Teachers College, in cooperation with the Public Recreation Commission held a series of lectures on the city's leisure opportunities. Notices of the lectures were sent to all of the schools, community organizations, community houses and other organizations of the community, as well as to the citizens in general, but much publicity was given through the newspapers. "There is an average attendance of thirty people," writes Robert E. Coady of the Recreation Commission on March 18th, "with a total of 221 for the seven lectures held thus far." Each week the activities of a specific leisure-time agency were presented. As each speaker submitted a 300 word outline of his talk, which was sent to the press, some splendid publicity was secured for local organizations.

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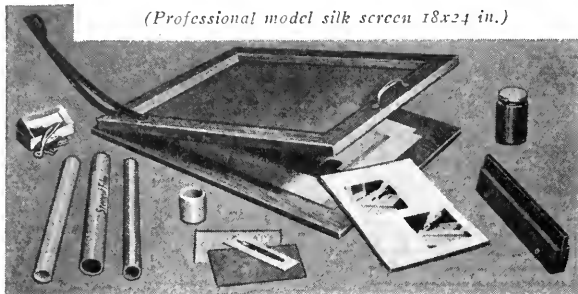
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San Francisco's "Directors-at-Large"—The plan, which has proved so successful in San Francisco, California, of making contacts with individual boys or groups of boys who constitute problems of delinquency in their communities and giving them special recreational guidance during their leisure time, has called for continuous expansion. There is now one director-at-large for six districts of the city.

Regina Steps Ahead—The sixteenth annual report of the Superintendent of Public Playgrounds of Regina, Saskatchewan, reports a number of interesting developments and activities. A new playground was added in 1937, raising the total to thirteen, and for the first time each play-

ground was advised by a local Advisory Committee of five members, one member representing the playground on a Central Advisory Committee. All sports contests were scored on the following points system, a definite list of requirements being drawn up under each division: Sportsmanship, 60 points; Winning, 30 points, and Reliability, 10 points. A Safety and Discipline Patrol was formed on each playground, with seven members: Captain, Director of Sanitation, Director and Assistant Director of Equipment, Director and Assistant Director of Safety and Gardener in Chief. Each playground had several weiner roasts and daily sing-songs. Nature hikes took place every two weeks at six in the morning. Handicraft classes were held for the first time. During one week the playground children broadcast three times daily and a six-page playground newspaper was put out monthly to carry news of the activities to parents and citizens.

Muncie's Doll Show—The doll show sponsored last summer by the Recreation Department of Muncie, Indiana, was a great success. One of the most unique dolls shown had a milk bottle for a body and a head molded from paper pulp and paste and painted with water colors. High honors in the best homemade event were taken by a doll carved by hand from wood. One hundred and ten years was the age claimed by one entry in the oldest doll section. The smallest doll in the show was scarcely an inch in length.

In Wayne, Michigan—The organization of a Recreation Council consisting of members of local groups was Wayne's first step in the establishment of a recreation program financed by contributions from the School Board, the Village of Wayne, business firms and individuals. Two full-time instructors were employed for each playground with specialists for music and handicraft. A general supervisor was employed for the playgrounds established at Washington School, Water Works Park, the two Graham fields and the public school athletic fields which were used for special contests such as softball and baseball. The program lasted seven weeks with a total attendance of 29,322 individuals. In the fall citizens of the community were asked to answer three questions: (1) Would you favor continuing a recreation program in Wayne? (2) Would you favor year-round recreation? (3) Would you support a recreation program through taxation?

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County and State Parks in Wisconsin—Wisconsin now has 1,746,647 acres in county-owned forests in twenty-five northern counties, according to the *Wisconsin Conservation News*. In the past five years, with CCC aid, fifty-five camp sites have been developed, 111 fish rearing ponds built, 703 miles of trout streams improved, 2,942 miles of fire-control telephone lines strung, 336 miles of fire breaks built, 1,964 miles of fire-truck trails laid, 27,744 acres planted with 32,000,000 trees. Wisconsin has, in addition, 180,000 acres of state

forests and forest parks in which extensive improvement, planting and protection of virgin growth are going on.

House Warmings in Chicago—The Chicago Park District reports that all of the Chicago parks hold periodic house warming sessions, the invitations to which are broadcast through a small pamphlet which passes through the Art and Editorial Department's hands. A sample pamphlet from Gompers Park has a message of greeting and outlines a "Get-Acquainted Week" program, and gives a time schedule for leisure time activities covering art crafts, dancing, dramatics, gymnasium, and special groups. The names of the park staff are given and an enrollment blank is found in the back of the bulletin. The Chicago Park District also has a house organ issued exclusively for employees in the recreation program. It is designed to help unify the recreation force and make for a more comprehensive family relationship.

A Course in American Folk Expressions—Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, announces a course in the English Department for the Summer Session, June 18th to July 30th on American folk expressions. The course, which will be given by Sarah Gertrude Knott, founder and director of the National Folk Festival, will stress types of traditional expressions which can be used by recreation leaders in community work. Lectures will include regional folk expressions, plans for community folk festivals, singing games, the square dances, Negro folk songs, the folk tale, the folk play and other related subjects. A trip will be made into the Ozarks to study material first hand. Further information may be secured from the Director of the Summer Session at Washington University.

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Fun in the Backyard

By Arthur Lawson. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York City. \$2.00.

MOST COUNTRY CLUBS are far too expensive to permit of membership except by a privileged few. But if you are as poor as the proverbial church mouse—and most of us are these days—you are eligible for membership in the Backyard Country Club described by Arthur Lawson which costs just sixty cents. There are dozens of games which can be played in this inexpensive club, and they are clearly and entertainingly described in this attractive book. Among them are horseshoes and quoits, tenpin games, tether ball, tennis games, Badminton, croquet and some relatives, shuffleboard and similar games, handball, bowling on the green, backyard golf, box hockey, target games, and some group games.

The Athletic Plant

By Emil Lamar. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

THE PURPOSE of this book is to help athletic coaches, playground directors, physical educators and everyone who is concerned in any way with the planning and conducting of games or athletic contests. All sports, winter and summer, indoor and outdoor, are covered, and complete directions are given for the layout of playing fields and buildings, together with such accessories as score boards and field markers. The book gives information about upkeep and care. In the final chapter the efficient handling of athletic contests is discussed. The book is illustrated throughout with diagrams and photographs.

Complete Book of Modern Crafts

By H. Atwood Reynolds. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. \$2.50.

MANY DIFFERENT TYPES of crafts are described in this book from mask making to homemade games; from rubber craft to simple bookbinding. The volume is profusely illustrated with half-tone pictures, line drawings and diagrams, and there are a bibliography and a list of companies from which supplies may be secured.

Recreational Programs for Summer Camps

By H. W. Gibson. Greenberg, 1938. \$3.50.

GENIUS IS CREATIVE imagination. The camp fire, the rising sun, the sunsets, the stars, the moon, the storms, the darkness of the night, contribute to the stimulation of this creative imagination. Memory is photographing scenes and experiences that will never be forgotten. These experiences, says the author, are truly "shaping a new human race." Camp symbolism and

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idealism are opening up to sensitive young minds the real beauty of life. Camp directors and counselors are changing selfish attitudes to service attitudes. This is the kernel of the philosophy of H. W. Gibson who, for more than forty years, has directed camps for boys and girls and who ranks as one of the outstanding leaders in the camping movement. Out of all this experience Mr. Gibson feels that many directors and camp counselors find a great need of practical, well selected program material which will serve not only as recreation and play but which will contribute to the social adjustment and pleasure of the campers.

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Camp Nature Trails.

By Wilbur Robbie, Cedar Rapids Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. \$.50. Mr. Robbie, who has been responsible for eight camp

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They Dared to Live.

By Robert M. Bartlett. Association Press, New York. \$1.25.

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modern world. At a time when youth is likely to give up in despair and disillusion the message of these lives comes with a new thrill. There are still "men and women who have dared to live in spite of all kinds of obstacles—men and women who have lived dangerously; who have blazed new trails; who have conquered obstacles: whose faith has brought them to shining triumph."

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Money-Making Hobbies.

By A. Frederick Collins. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. \$2.00.

The hobbies which Mr. Collins covers in his book are,

he states, those which offer the greatest opportunity for making money. They may of course be pursued without the objective of financial profit. The hobbies discussed include paper craft, printing, photography, entertainment, including music, marionettes, ventriloquism and magic, silver craft, weaving, leather craft, pottery, wood-working, model building, electroplating and radio. In each instance Mr. Collins tells how to start the hobby, what tools or materials are needed, and how to go about making the article.

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A Modern Philosophy of Physical Education.

By Agnes R. Wayman, M.A. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia. \$2.25.

In the first part of Miss Wayman's book she considers the philosophy and principles of physical education, the significance for the movement of social trends in America and the interrelation of various phases of the physical education and health program. Part II deals with implications and interpretations covering such points as tests and measurements, the program, requirements, competition and related subjects of indoor activities. The importance of co-recreation is stressed and the emphasis throughout is on giving undergraduates the skills and knowledge they should have in making a contribution to the recreational program of their communities when college days are over. Miss Wayman in her book has given us a timely and much needed interpretation of what physical education means to rich living.

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Patriotism—What Is It?

By Margaret Hiller. The Womans Press, New York. \$.50.

These suggestions for discussions and projects, assembly programs for Washington's or Lincoln's Birthday or other patriotic occasions have been prepared to help young people appreciate the true meaning of patriotism. The material has been arranged for three or more discussions, an assembly program, and a vesper service—"The American Dream," by Abbie Graham. Suggestions are also given for projects which might follow the discussions.

Achievement Scales in Physical Education Activities—For Secondary School Girls and College Women.

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A Measurement of the Achievement in Motor Skills of College Men in the Game Situation of Basketball.

By Glenn W. Howard, Ph.D. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.60.

The purpose of this study is to describe a technique of measuring the achievement of a player while he is actively participating in the game of basketball. The means of testing and scoring the achievement are described. The research worker who is engaged in the formulation of tests in physical education will find this study valuable.

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The Beginner's Puppet Book.

By Alice M. Hoben. Noble and Noble, Publishers, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

Another delightful book on puppetry has been added to the growing literature on this subject. Descriptions are given for making string puppets or marionettes, and fist or hand puppets, and for dressing them. There is also a description of building, lighting and setting the stage and of painting scenery. There are three plays for each type of puppets described. Illustrations and diagrams add to the interest and value of the book.

Drawing on Scratch Board for Beginners.

By William Kermode. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. \$1.00.

Scratch board, the author explains, is a card which has been covered with a smooth coating of china clay. It is available in three different varieties. This book is a guide to scratch board drawing. Mr. Kermode describes two methods for beginning a picture and illustrates his points with step-by-step illustrations.

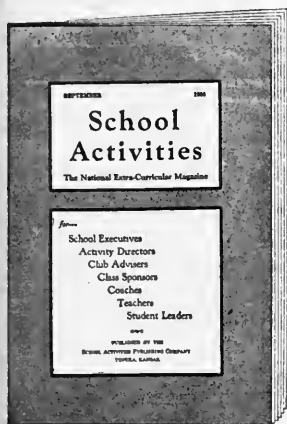
Knowing Your Trees.

By C. H. Collingwood. American Forestry Association, Washington, D. C.

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The Music of the People.

By Willem van de Wall. American Association for Adult Education, New York City. \$1.00.

Recreation leaders will welcome this compact, constructively critical report of music in American communities—first, because two of the author's samples of music or the people were chosen directly from the recreation field—Cincinnati, Ohio, and Westchester County, New York; and secondly, because many of the recommendations he makes with reference to all music are in harmony with the musical objectives and best practices of the recreation movement. In this sense Mr. van de Wall's study is a tribute to the significant contribution that the recreation movement has made to the development of music.

Recreation leaders will find familiar doctrines being stressed: "There must be a nation-wide surge of musical effort, welling from the homes, streets, villages and towns—before genius—can arise on the crest of the wave of creative effort." "Music must be so understood and taught that even the musician will learn to associate his art with every day life." "Vocational music institutions must give attention to the problem of training music leaders equipped not only as artists, but as personalities and community workers." These and other points of emphasis such as need for qualified leadership, responsibility of tax-supported agencies for making music available, closer relationship of school music to the community, making music materials available at small cost, and the need for even more development of music run throughout the report.

The report contains a brief account of the growth of music in America, a sampling of community music throughout the country, including a city program and the programs of a suburban county and three states. Mr. van de Wall has made a very helpful study which has practical value for all who are interested in music as a means of enriching individual and community life.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

Check list of advertisers using RECREATION from June 1937 through June 1938

(A) indicates Advertiser; (E) Exhibitor at the Twenty-second National Recreation Congress in Atlantic City, N. J., May 17-21, 1937

Publishers

- A E** The Abingdon Press, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York
A number of publications on parties and games.
- A** D. Appleton-Century Company, 35 West 32nd Street, New York
A number of books on hobbies and recreation.
- A E** Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York
Books on camping and group work.
- A E** A. S. Barnes & Company, 67 West 44th Street, New York
Publications on health, physical education, recreation, sports, dancing and pageantry.
- A** Beacon Press, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. "Beacon Handicraft Series."
- A** C. C. Birchard & Company, 221 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Mass.
Music, including singing games and recreational music.
- E** Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York
Books on research and education.
- A E** E. P. Dutton & Company, 300 Fourth Avenue, New York. General List.
- A** Samuel French, 25 West 45th Street, New York. Plays for all ages.
- E** Grosset and Dunlap, 1140 Broadway, New York. General list.
- E** Harper Brothers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York. General list.
- E** J. P. Lippincott, 250 Park Avenue, New York. General recreation titles.
- A** McGraw-Hill Book Company, 330 West 42nd Street, New York
General list, with some books on handicrafts.

- A** Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Ill.
Books on manual training and handicrafts.
- A** Noble & Noble, 100 Fifth Ave., New York
"Beginners Puppet Book" and "Adventures with Discarded Materials."
- E** W. W. Norton, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York. General list.
- E** W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa.
Physical education, medical and health publications.
- A** Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York. General list.

Handicrafts

- A** American Crayon Company, Sandusky, Ohio, Crayons for all types of drawing
- A** American Handicrafts Company, 193 William Street, New York
Leather for handicraft work—a specialty
- A** American Reedcraft Corporation, 130 Beekman Street, New York
Handicraft material.
- A** Artset Company, 641 Case Building, Rochester, N. Y.
Outfit consisting of frame covered with silk and other equipment necessary for making prints.
- A** Craft Service, 350 University Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.
Craft materials of all kinds, featuring Craftene Rings.
- A** Fellowcrafters, Inc., 64 Stanhope Street, Boston, Mass.
A comprehensive list of group, school and home workshop crafts.
- A** J. L. Hammett Company, Kendall Square, Cambridge, Mass.
Manufactures looms, weaving materials and other craft goods.

To Readers of RECREATION:

We are bringing to the attention of our readers the names of the advertisers who since the publication of the last Year Book have taken space in the pages of the magazine, thus helping to provide the financial support which has made it possible to make RECREATION more effective. We believe our readers will wish to

show their appreciation of this service by turning to these advertisers as need arises for the products they have to offer.

Do not neglect to read the advertisements appearing in RECREATION. They can be of practical help to you.

- E** C. Howard Hunt Pen Company,
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Fine pens for drawing and handicrafts.
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Gem cutters.
- A** Leathercraft Guild of America,
Colchester, Conn.
Specializes exclusively in leathercraft
for vocational and recreational needs.
- E** Magnus Brush and Craft Materials,
Wakefield, Mass.
Brush and craft goods.
- A** H. S. Souder, Souderton, Pa.
All styles of wooden articles for chip
carving, painting and wood burning.
- A** Walco Bead Company, 37 West 37th
Street, New York
Complete line of beads for craft work.
- Playground Equipment and Supplies**
- A** Arch Roof Construction Company,
51 West 42nd Street, New York
Manufactures long span steel arch type
of roof construction making for maxi-
mum light and ventilation.
- A** W. A. Augur, Inc., 35 Fulton Street,
New York
Net for tennis and other games.
- A** Canvas Products Corp., 19-23 East Mc-
Williams Street, Fond du Lac, Wis.
Gymnasium nets, gym suits, felt letters
and bases.
- A** Dixie Portable Bleacher Company,
Meridian, Miss.
Portable seats for use in gymnasiums
and on athletic fields.
- A** Ernzer Manufacturing Company,
233 No. Grinnell Drive, Burbank, Calif.
Swimming pool cleaning apparatus.
- A E** Everwear Manufacturing Company,
P. O. Box 958, Springfield, Ohio
- E** P. F. Frost, 117 Liberty Street, New York
Wire fencing for playgrounds.
- A** General Playground Equipment, Inc.,
Kokomo, Ind.
Playground and swimming pool equip-
ment.
- E** Golf Register Company, Pittsfield, Mass.
A device for testing golf driving.
- A** H & R Manufacturing Company, Box 215
Palms Station, Los Angeles, Calif.
Manufacturer of the new O.K. dry line
marker for playgrounds.
- A** W. E. Haskell, Inc., 842 State Street,
Springfield, Mass.
Manufacturers of *Climb-A-Round*, a
pyramidal structure for playgrounds.
- A** Leicester Contracting Company,
Wayne, Pa.
Green or red tennis courts.
- A** Fred Medart Manufacturing Company,
Complete line of playground apparatus.
3524 DeKalb Street, St. Louis, Mo.
- A** Mitchell Manufacturing Company,
1540 Forest Home Avenue, Milwau-
kee, Wis.
Playground apparatus for schools,
homes and parks.
- A** Playground Equipment Company,
82 Duane Street, New York
Manufacturers of *Jungle-Gym*, climb-
ing structure for playgrounds.
- A E** J. E. Porter Corporation,
120 Broadway, Ottawa, Ill.
Jungle-Gym, climbing structure for
playgrounds.
- A** Recreation Equipment Company, 724-726
West Eighth Street, Anderson, Ind.
Complete line of park, playground and
swimming pool equipment.
- A** Schutt Manufacturing Company,
Litchfield, Ill.
Playground equipment.
- A** Welcome Meter Company, 461 So. Fair
Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, Calif.
Coin meters for lighting tennis courts
at night.
- Surfacing**
- A E** Gulf Oil Corporation, Gulf Building,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Gulf Sani-Soil Set for treating play-
grounds, tennis courts and other areas
for dust control.
- A** Rubien Construction Co., Westfield, N. J.
Manufacturers of Surfacing Materials
for Every Recreational Purpose.
- A** Solvay Sales Corporation, 40 Rector
Street, New York
Manufacturers of calcium chloride for
laying dust on playgrounds.
- Sporting Goods and Games**
- A** The Carrom Company, Ludington, Mich.
Complete line of carrom and crokinole
game boards.
- A** Daytona Shuffleboard Company,
Philmont, N. Y.
Complete shuffleboard equipment.
- A** Diamond Calk Horseshoe Company,
4610 Grand Avenue, Duluth, Minn.
Complete equipment for official horse-
shoe games, including rules, instruc-
tions, horseshoes.

- A E** P. Goldsmith and Sons, John and Findlay
Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio
Equipment for all sports.
- A** C. W. Morgan, 1016 Hyde Park Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.
Two new action games, *Tumble-Rings* and *Bakinet*.
- A** Playcorts, Inc., 46 Carman Road, Scarsdale, N. Y.
A new type of court for year round outdoor paddle tennis.
- E** A. G. Spalding and Brothers,
105 Nassau Street, New York
Complete line of sporting goods.
- A** W. J. Voit Rubber Corp., Box 250, Arcade Station, Los Angeles, Calif.
Rubber balls for all types of games.
- A E** C. B. Webb Company, 732 Walnut Street, Lebanon, Penna.
Manufacturers of rubber balls for many types of games.
- A** Charles H. Wilson, 1417 8th Avenue, Oakland, Calif.
Shuffleboard equipment.
- E** Wilson Sporting Goods Company,
2037 Powell Avenue, Chicago, Ill.
Sporting goods.

Archery

- A** Beacon Hill Craftsmen, Beacon, N. Y.
Archery sets.
- A** Gold Archery Company, 1806 Alvin Street, Toledo, Ohio
Archery equipment.
- A** Indianhead Archery & Manufacturing Company, Box 303, Lima, Ohio
Offer 24-hour service during the summer months on all archery orders.
- A** Rounseville-Rohm, Inc., Hazel Crest, Ill.
Archery kit for camps, recreation groups, etc.

Athletic Clothing

- A** Associated Fabrics Corporation,
723 Seventh Avenue, New York
Line of fabrics for recreation activities.
- A** Indera Mills Company, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Bathing suits of a distinctive style.

Education

- E** Metropolitan Life Insurance Company,
New York
Pamphlets on health and general educational material.
- E** National Broadcasting Company,
Radio City, New York
Educational service.

Films

- A** Harvard Film Service, Cambridge, Mass.
Produce films adaptable to general recreation gatherings, camps, etc.
- A** Y.M.C.A. Motion Picture Bureau,
347 Madison Avenue, New York
Distributors of films for recreation meetings.

Playground Lighting

- A E** Crouse-Hinds Company, Wolf and Seventh N., Syracuse, N. Y.
Lighting equipment for recreation fields.
- A** Monarch Industries, 917 South Main St., Council Bluffs, Iowa
Lighting equipment for playgrounds and sport fields.

Medals and Trophies

- A** American Medal & Trophy Company,
79 Fifth Avenue, New York
Trophies for every sport and competition.
- A** L. Berger, Inc., 79 Fifth Avenue, New York
Medals, cups and trophies for all sports and competitions.
- A** Royal Emblem Company, 41 John Street, New York
Loving cups, trophies, plaques and medals.

Schools

- A E** Universal School of Handicrafts,
1270 Sixth Avenue, New York
Teacher training courses in handicraft and a complete line of handicraft material.
- A** Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
Courses in group work.

Miscellaneous

- A** Reade Manufacturing Company,
135 Hoboken Avenue, Jersey City, N. J.
Manufactures **Herbicide** for killing weeds on tennis courts, baseball diamonds and other play fields.
- A** Royal Typewriter Company,
2 Park Avenue, New York
Portable typewriters.
- A** Van Horn & Son, 1130 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
Costumes to rent for recreation activities, historical, theatrical and dance costumes.

Leisure

By JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR.

An address at the opening exercises
of The Cloisters in Fort Tryon Park,
New York City, May 11, 1938



IN the early days of this country, life was relatively drab and barren. Machinery was practically unknown. Man power was at a premium. There was no leisure time. Duty laid a heavy hand on life, while beauty, if recognized, was viewed askance.

With the changes that time has wrought, the wholesome and profitable use of leisure, now so startlingly prevalent, is one of the great problems of the day. In its solution the cultural and uplifting value of beauty, whether apprehended with the eye or ear, is playing an increasingly important part.

Good music, worth-while drama, elevating books, great works of architecture and art, beautiful parks and recreation areas made easily available to large numbers of people—all of these facilities for the wise employment of leisure time, are being recognized and made use of as never before. May it not well be that the Cloisters, in their new environment, surrounded by nature at her best, will become another stimulating center for the profitable use of leisure?

If that should prove to be true; if what has been created here helps to interpret beauty as one of the great spiritual and inspirational forces of life, having the power to transform drab duty into radiant living; if those who come under the influence of this place go out to face life with new courage and restored faith because of the peace, the calm, the loveliness they have found here; if the many who thirst for beauty are refreshed and gladdened as they drink deeply from this well of beauty, those who have builded here will not have built in vain.

July



Courtesy Trenton, N. J., Park Department

Twenty-Three Authors and the Youth Problem

A digest of "The Prospect for Youth," a symposium appearing in "The Annals" of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, November, 1937

By ARTHUR WILLIAMS
National Recreation Association

"Of all the dull dead weights men ever bore
None wears the soul with discontent
Like consciousness of power unused."

THIS QUOTATION, cited by Dr. W. Wallace Weaver in his introductory essay to this symposium on the outlook for modern youth, may well be taken as the text for this volume.

The authorities who have contributed to this volume generally agree that modern living conditions accentuated by the depression have delayed the day of recognition and service of youth so that although they are now no longer children, they are not yet permitted to take up the responsibilities of adults. A gap has been created between the age of preparation and the age of service which should be a matter of deep concern to the country. The reaction of present day youth to this situation has been in two ways, according to Dr. Weaver's analysis. One group of youth have rebelled, and when denied legitimate goals turn to racketeering, violence, sexual promiscuity and other forms of anti-social conduct. Another group adopt a defeatist attitude and accept their situation. This, although possibly fortunate for the immediate crisis, raises considerable doubt as to what type of social order this latter group of youth will help to build and sustain in the near future when it takes over control of the affairs of the country. He is convinced that whether the present generation of youth, when it comes into power, will support and strengthen economic and political democracy will depend largely on the extent to which youth's present effort is met with rewards commensurate with its pains.

Dr. Weaver believes that as public attention was focused on child welfare in the 20's, today public attention is fo-

cused on the needs of youth. He feels that youth of today generally are a stronger generation all around than any previous group of American youth; that they are the first generation of American adolescents to be called Youth collectively not because they have as a group developed a consciousness of collective identity, but because youth leaders have developed such a consciousness.

Dr. Homer P. Rainey of the American Youth Commission states that the youth problem has developed in the same way that the farm problem and the labor problem have developed; that the problems of youth have been accentuated by the depression; and that just as the aggregate of farm problems and labor problems have ultimately come to be labeled the Farm Problem and the Labor Problem, so have the aggregate of youth problems come to be labeled the Youth Problem.

Dr. Newton Edwards analyzes population data and the effect which population changes will have upon youth as a population element.

Recently there has been a decrease in the relative number of all under fourteen years of age, together with an increase in the relative number of adults over twenty-five. The increase in the absolute number of youth fifteen to twenty-four will probably cease in about five years. The ratio of youth, fifteen to twenty-four of the total population, will decrease in the future. The population data presented by Dr. Edwards substantiates the assumptions made by other writers contributing to this work in their discussions of youth. Dr. Edwards feels that as youth becomes mathematically

less important to the total population situation, the subsequent aging character of the population, as a whole will tend to reduce the influence of youth in politics, economics,

Copies of the November issue of *The Annals* may be ordered, at \$2.00 each, from the Academy of Political and Social Science, 3457 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

ethics—in the whole area of human relations. He does not comment on the influence of youth on future development of the country when it takes over the reins upon reaching adulthood. The decreasing ratio of youth to older persons should operate to provide additional opportunities for better and more extensive education, recreation and other youth services, as there will be more adults to carry the cost of such services to a decreasing number of youth. He also points out that youth are receiving more and more advantages which enable them to contribute more and more effectively to society, but that no provision in society is made for them to make their contribution.

Dr. Edwards analyzes the geographical distribution of youth, showing that the ratio of youth to adults varies in the different parts of the country and between urban and rural communities. Youth are relatively more numerous in those areas where the plane of living is low, where the income is meagre, where population pressure on a resource structure is most severe, and where opportunity for cultural and intellectual growth is most restricted. This situation presents a serious challenge to leadership in education, recreation and other youth services.

Dr. Rainey quotes statistics indicating that youth under twenty-one are finding it increasingly difficult to secure employment, records covering an eighteen months' period of service of the United States Employment Service showing that the age group under twenty-one has the lowest placement rate of all major age groupings. According to the United States Employment Service records, the employment situation is much better for the age group twenty-one to thirty-four. A large majority of youth are in school at the age of sixteen; a large majority have left school by eighteen. These facts quoted by Dr. Rainey indicate definitely the actual existence of the gap between formal education for life and participation in the economic activities of life.

Information available indicates also that there is little relationship between school studies and the type of employment entered. He feels that there is a need for reorganization and

reorientation of secondary education and also for the development of adequate guidance. In his judgment, guidance should cover avocational interests as well as vocational needs. Because of the mechanization of industry, Dr. Rainey is convinced that the great body of workers, including youth workers, must seek their major satisfactions in life outside of their employment and that an adequate and appropriate leisure time program must be developed.

Dr. Bruce L. Melvin discusses the special problems of rural youth and bases his conclusions on an examination of the same general body of facts as the other writers analyzing the general field of youth problems and their causes. Dr. Melvin believes that even with a full industrial development in urban centers, with a correspondingly large migration from rural areas to urban centers, there will still be more rural youth than rural areas can care for unless there is a considerable extension of employment opportunities in the rural areas themselves. He feels that aside from employment, rural youth face two difficult situations; one, the thwarting of normal desire for marriage; the other, the lack of opportunity for proper use of leisure time. The grange, the church, and the farm bureau are all falling short of enlisting the participation of the mass of rural youth, and facilities for organized recreation are woefully inadequate. He feels that the federal emergency programs are doing much to help with this situation. However, rural youth are turning to artificial and commercial amusements of nearby urban centers and to low grade recreation opportunities which are invading rural territory. Dr. Melvin believes that the situation cannot be corrected by trying to assist youth alone, but that a

general improvement of rural conditions must be achieved. He does believe, however, that such a general improvement would bring its largest social returns in what it does for the youth group.

Jerome H. Bentley discusses the need of vocational guidance for youth, feeling that anything which will make it easier for a young person to find a suitable occupation becomes a social resource of major importance.

Ordway Tead, in discussing

"The shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy, the coming into effect of the law of diminishing returns, the agitation for laws raising the school-leaving age and for the abolition of child labor, the increase in the number of employables, and the technological improvements made in the production and distribution of goods, inevitably had far-reaching effects on youth. These developments, by postponing the day when young people can accept permanent employment, have considerably lengthened the period of youth and have created a number of serious youth problems." — Aubrey Williams.

youth and the labor unions, stresses very strongly the fact that vocational guidance must prepare youth for the support of unionism; that a knowledge of conditions of work in industry is a vital part of any guidance service in the selection of a job. He considers the future employment conditions of youth in industry as inseparably tied up with the success of unionism. He does not touch on the point raised by Dr. Rainey that labor unions in many instances are setting twenty-one as a minimum age for the beginning of apprenticeship.



Courtesy Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department

Youth and the Community

A group of four papers on "Youth and the Community" discuss the relation of youth to the church, leisure, politics and sports. Ray H. Abrams in the "Prospect for Youth and the Church" considers that the influence of the church on youth will be exactly what the influence of the church on society as a whole proves to be, and he believes that available evidence indicates that on the whole the church or churches representing organized religion will not assume any greater importance in the lives of the people of the community than at present, but on the contrary will probably have a gradually declining influence. Dr. Abrams carefully differentiates between the church and religious organizations and religion itself.

"Youth and Leisure" by E. C. Lindeman is the one paper devoted to the basic problem of the broad recreational needs of youth, the importance to society of adequately meeting these needs, the necessity for a democratic provision of recreation for all, and the contribution which adequate, democratically provided recreation and training for a cultural leisure will make to the preservation of democracy itself. While Dr. Lindeman appears to consider as new previously existing problems and developments which have been brought sharply into focus by the depression, and places its emphasis on the relationship of the federal government to the problem, he has effectively ana-

We must always keep in mind the necessity for educating future generations for a complete cultural as well as a physical enjoyment of leisure.

lyzed the importance of leisure and has presented a telling argument for its consideration by society as one of its present major problems.

In discussing the educational implications of leisure Dr. Lindeman writes: "The fact that recreation is still an appendage in departments of physical education in our institutions of higher learning is an indication of the formidable task of reorganization which confronts educators. . . . The person who plans, organizes, and administers leisure programs for the future should be something more than an athlete; he should be, in fact, a fit representative of the best in our cultural life." He might well have added reference to the present practice of boards of education to append their community recreation services to physical education departments.

In discussing recreation and democracy he points out that "if recreation can be effectively utilized to build the materials for dictator states, that is, for regimenting purposes, it is reasonable to anticipate that it may also be used to furnish a secure foundation for the democratic states, that is for purposes of true freedom." One might add that local community and even neighborhood

determination of recreation programs has been and is one protection against the use of recreation in this country for the regimentation of youth.

Dr. Lindeman emphasizes the need for leisure for the youth of sons and daughters of workers and farmers as well as for the youth of the privileged classes.

More than two million young men and women annually reach the voting age, or about eight and one-half million each four year period between presidential elections—enough to control such elections if all voted as a unit. Franklin Spencer Edmonds, author of the article "Youth in Politics," points out, however, that young voters are as divided as their fathers. They have three characteristics: they are generally better educated than forty years ago; they do not recognize party loyalty to the same degree as their fathers; they have a pervasive interest in political experimentation. Mr. Edmonds devotes most of his article to practical suggestions to youth planning to enter politics as a career.

Lawson Robertson, head coach of American Olympic teams surveys what is being done to provide sports for youth through the public schools and colleges, and through park and playground authorities. He finds this all too inadequate to meet the needs and pleads for more opportunities for participation in sports and athletics for the less privileged youth. In discussing intensive competition he writes, "I feel that boys under nineteen years of age should not engage in too strenuous competitive athletics, particularly on the large scale that is so heavily encouraged in many schools. Competition demands more than the youngster should and can give."

Some Problems of Youth

In discussing youth and crime, J. P. Shaloo points out the inadequacy of statistics available for generalization. So far as these figures may be used they indicate that the many statements circulated as to the increasing lawlessness of youth are not borne out by the facts. On the other hand the average age of the criminal seems to be rising. Crime prevention is a local problem related to local community characteristics and should be attacked locally. Dr. Shaloo cites Philadelphia as having

shown a decrease in arrests of boys 16-21 during the period 1931 to 1935, with a further decrease of 13 per cent for 1936 over 1935.

Selwyn D. Collins in a discussion of the health of youth, based on a survey of the health of nine thousand white families living in eighteen different states, points out that the age group 15-24 is the healthiest group whether consideration be given to all illnesses, disabling illnesses or days lost from school or work. Young women have a higher illness rate than young men particularly in the age group 20-24, the difference not entirely accounted for by puerperal and female genital disorders. On the other hand, the mortality rate is higher for young men. Dr. Collins points to the extensive morbidity and mortality associated with childbirths within the youth age range. About 40 per cent of all white live births in the country occurred to women 15-24 years of age, indicating that prenatal and maternal care is a real problem for the youth group. Youth of lower income brackets suffer more illness and higher death rates than those in higher income families. The illness rates for youths in low income families approximated the rates for the oldest age group in the highest income brackets. Accidents are the most frequent cause of illness in male youth, colds and bronchitis next. Colds and bronchitis are most frequent in the case of young women, with accidents fifth. Accidents are the most frequent cause of death for both male and female, with tuberculosis second and heart disease third. Automobiles account for 39 per cent of all deaths from accidents, but only 9 per cent of all illness from accident.

In outlining a program for mental health for youth Bruce B. Robinson stresses the need for proper home and community environment for younger children as well as for youth itself. Teachers and parents should be able to recognize personality and emotional disorders so that they may be corrected before definite mental disease develops. Training of parents in the home and teachers in teachers' colleges is essential. Dr. Robinson points out that personality development of the child and youth is influenced most strongly through his experiences in the home, in school and in recreation. He believes that the schools are woefully

"The instinctive drives and urges of youth are the same today as in the past. The road by which attainment is reached presents more competition, is more involved and intricate, and must be traveled faster, with fewer guideposts. To make this journey, youth may call upon certain new equipment unknown to his forefathers. He must be prepared to meet rapid change with almost immediate flexibility."—Emily Hartshorne Mudd.

inadequate in supplying youth with experiences which give satisfaction and that communities have made only half-hearted efforts to develop recreational opportunities for youth although these offer the possibility of large satisfaction through success. Proper housing and social security for the family are also essential to mental health of youth. In discussing recreation Dr. Robinson states, "A good recreation program can be of great aid in developing mental health for youth. Recreation offers wide opportunity for satisfaction, even to the extent of making up for a lack in that regard in the home and school. Success in recreation is an excellent way of building up self-confidence and self-respect. It would seem that no worthwhile mental hygiene program for youth can be arranged without the inclusion of adequate recreational facilities. It is interesting to reflect on the benefits which might come to the mental health of girls and women through better recreational programs for girls."

Marriage to youth today represents for them the answer to the same basic emotional, biological, and social drives that it did for the grandparents, but the answer must be found in an entirely different sort of world, according to Emily Hartshorne Mudd in her paper on "Youth and Marriage." Mrs. Mudd recites a number of problems brought to her as marriage counselor in a series of case histories. She summarizes some of the more general problems as delayed independence due to the scarcity of good positions, psychological adjustments necessitated by wives as well as husbands working, and the

doubling up of families involving two or more generations in one household.

Youth Programs and Movements

Aubrey Williams' statement on the government's responsibility for youth briefly outlines what has been and is being done by what is perhaps the most extensive national program for youth. He points out that the government has always assumed a responsibility for youth; that until the latter part of the nineteenth century this was met largely through the sale or grant of government lands; that since then help has been given in other ways such as aid to education, vocational guidance, emergency work employment and the provision of leisure time facilities through the federal works programs. Mr. Williams states that recently the principal efforts have been on behalf of young people under sixteen and that in view of the fact that most youth now are not securing employment until they are eighteen or twenty-one the government will have to give special consideration to meeting society's obligation to this older age group.

The history and achievements of one phase of government youth service, the Civilian Conservation Corps, are outlined by its director, Robert Fechner. He emphasizes the educational and training as-

pects of this program indicating that they are receiving increased attention each year. During the present fiscal year \$4,500,000 will be spent for the educational program. Interesting facts relative to the change in characteristics of youth enrollees are brought out. In October 1935, median age of

(Continued on page 254)



Photo by William Newkirk, Cambridge, Mass.

"With an impatience that is truly ours, the members of the youthful generation today earnestly desire the utmost physical strength and ability for achievement. . . . They hope for everything." — Lawson Robertson.

Places to Play

To remind you once more of the importance of play in the home!

EVERY CHILD is entitled to a place to play. In the country, providing a play place is easy.

But in the city and the suburbs the question is how to lay out the average-size lot so as to provide an outdoor playground in addition to an attractive setting for the home. To answer that question, *Sunset* scouts have been talking with landscape architects, educators, parents—and children—from Seattle to San Diego.

Adding all the ideas together, we find that the best way to have a playground and a garden on the same lot is to put the flower beds in the front or the side yard, leaving the back yard, or most of it, for family recreation. This means that in addition to garage, clothesline, and incinerator, the ideal back yard will contain a playhouse, tree-house, or pirates' den; a wading pool, or at least

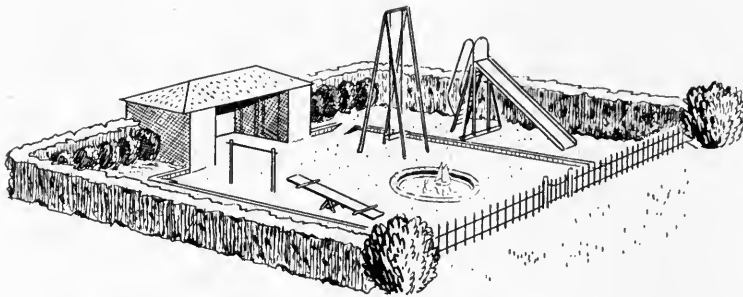
a hose shower-spray; swings; something to climb on; a sand box; houses for pets; and a picnic nook or shaded spot for quiet play on hot days. The lawn should provide for games like croquet, horse shoes, bean bags, etc.

To give privacy to your play space, build a screen fence around the yard, or plant a screen of shrubbery. Inside the garage, provide a specific space for parking bicycles, coaster-wagons, scooters, doll buggies, and the like.

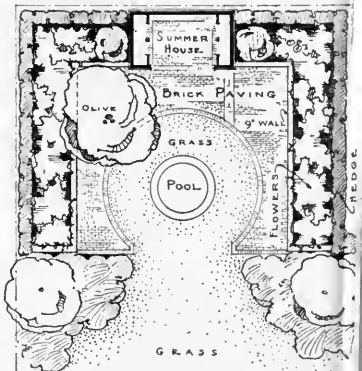
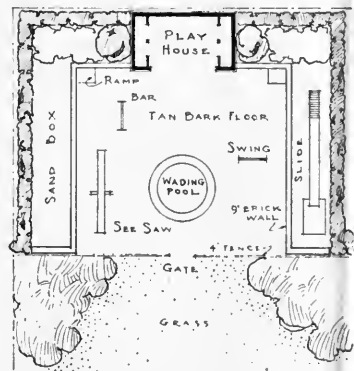
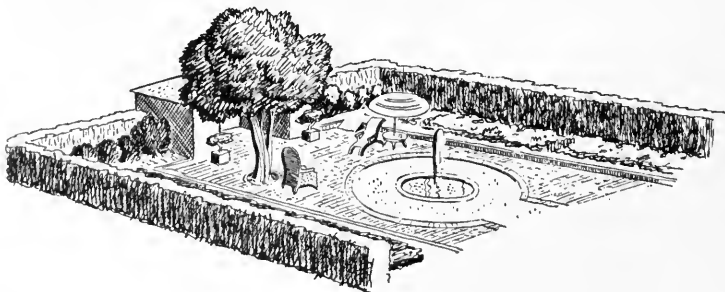
Wherever possible, plan your play space with an eye to its serving some useful purpose after the children outgrow it. (See diagrams.)

The Playhouse

A playhouse is a real delight to all growing children. It gives them a little home of their own.



Today the yard belongs to the younger generation, with playhouse, pool and playground equipment. The children grow up, and simply and inexpensively the yard is made a pleasant spot for the whole family. In a plan devised by Thomas D. Church of San Francisco, playhouse becomes a summer house, wading pool, a formal garden pool; sandbox areas are turned into flower beds edged with 9" curbing; tanbark becomes lawn surrounded by brick paving.



where they can "keep house," store their treasures, and entertain their friends.

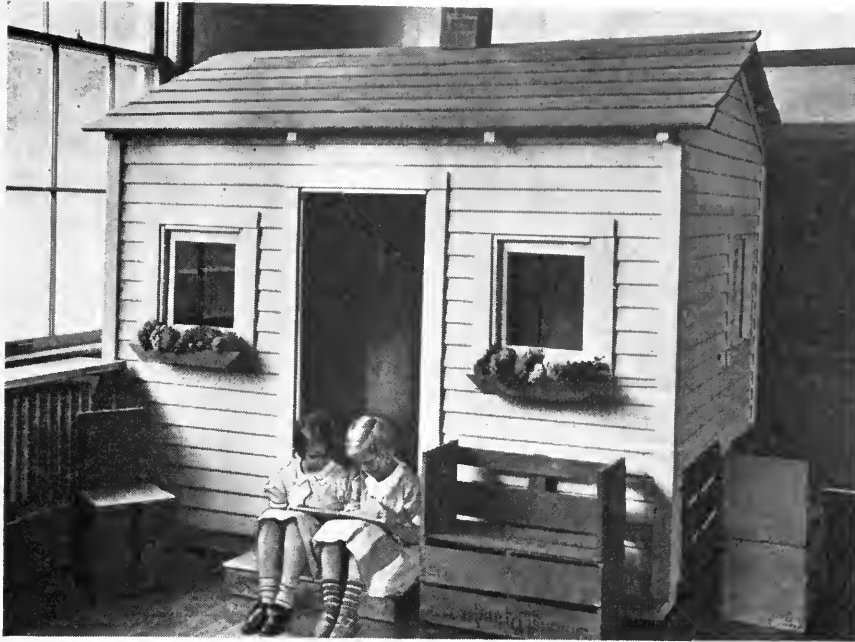
A very simple and inexpensive playhouse can be built against the outside of one of the garage walls. The best way is to extend or have a carpenter extend the sloping roof of the garage out to a line of 4 uprights spaced so that 2 of them will serve as door-jambes. With this framework in place, it's easy to complete a "lean-to" playhouse that can later be remodeled into a workshop or garden studio.

All playhouses should be in full view of the house, and should be built so that the interior gets plenty of light and air. Encourage the children to do as much of the actual building and as much of the furniture-making as is practical. The playhouse shown here is a good example of what children can do by themselves, if they're given a little encouragement and supervision. Six-year-old children in the first grade at Seattle's Lake Forest Park School planned it, built it, and furnished it; and when it was completed, the children gave a "house party" for their fathers and mothers, complete with refreshments of their own making.

For Young Acrobats

For climbing, sliding, and swinging apparatus, an outdoor platform gym is best. Such a gym can be bought for between \$25 and \$50, or it can be made at home.

In buying or making such a piece of equipment, make sure that it's sturdy enough to stand up under rough usage. Have hard wood. See to it that the wood has been sandpapered till there are



A playhouse which was planned, built and furnished by first grade children of a school in Seattle

no splinters. All corners must be rounded and all bars and climbing rods fastened so they won't turn. All wooden surfaces must be painted to prevent warping and all iron surfaces to prevent rusting.

Having installed safe apparatus, keep it safe by a regular periodic inspection. Replace ropes in swings every few months.

If there isn't room to install an outdoor gymnasium, see what can be done in the way of combining clothes-drying equipment and gym equipment. A *Sunset* scout saw this idea used successfully in a number of San Joaquin Valley yards. At each end of the drying yard, set up 2 iron posts in cement, about 5 feet apart, connecting them across the top with a piece of iron pipe the same diameter. The general effect will be that of goalposts. From the cross-bars can be hung a swing and a trapeze, as well as the clotheslines.

Picnics and Pets

Since every play yard should have a picnic corner as well as a shaded nook, try combining the two. If there's no tree in the right location for the picnic unit, set up an awning. Pave the area beneath it with tile flagstones, or old brick.

Let the children help lay the paving and build the barbecue. They may not turn out to be master masons, but they'll get fun out of having a part in the creation.

Even though your play lot is small, provide for pets. There's always room for a dog, or rabbits, or white mice, or turtles. In one Los Angeles garden the children have great fun with an observation beehive made of glass. Another family

of "grown-ups" is excited about their ant village. Then, of course, there must be bird-houses, a bird bath, and a bird feeding station.

Let the children make houses and cages for their pets, and have them shoulder full responsibility for taking care of the animals.

Junior Gardening

If possible, allow a little space for a children's garden, but don't be disappointed if they fail to show immediate interest in making one. "A little garden of your own" sounds fine to very little children, but they're seldom interested enough in tomorrow to plant for it. Most of them prefer to do something that's more quickly finished and a little more spectacular.

So, till they show signs of acquiring patience, set them to other projects. For instance, furnish them with a small sack of cement, and encourage them to make things out of concrete. Show them how to make designs in the concrete by pressing in ferns, leaves, and shells while it's soft. Or start them collecting rocks for a rock garden or shells for bordering the pool.

When it comes to planting, start the youngsters off with bulbs. A bulb is large enough to make an impression on even a small child. He plants it, and when it flowers he connects what's above ground with what's below, and begins to grasp the miracle of gardening.

Older children like to grow radishes and other quickly-maturing vegetables that can be eaten or sold. If the children are interested in foreign countries, have them start a "round the world" garden, collecting and planting seeds of all the strange plants they can get. Hemp, cotton, and peanuts are a few of the unusual plants that are fascinating to know and to grow.

The Finishing Touches

Having installed the various pieces of play equipment, take a look at the ground itself. If feasible, plant grass in part of the area, so there'll be a place for lawn games. Pave or flagstone another area (preferably the picnic corner)

This article and the illustrations which accompany it are used by courtesy of *Sunset Magazine*, San Francisco. From Department C of the magazine may be secured for twenty cents a booklet entitled "Playhouse Plans" containing plans for three playhouses.

erably the picnic corner) so there'll be a dry place to play when the ground is muddy. Spread tanbark under the gym apparatus, and it's a good idea to have an old mattress handy for when daring stunts are to be performed. Leave one section of the yard in its natural state so there's a place to dig, make mud pies, and do other grimy but important things.

Having provided a place for the youngsters to play and things for them to play with, see to it that they use and get the most out of their part of the property. Make them feel responsible for its care and upkeep.

Let the yard grow with the children. As they grow up, take out the childish equipment and replace it with more adult games. Plan your play yard so it gradually becomes a real garden, a part of the permanent landscape plan.

"While the possibilities of the neglected backyard as a play center for children are being considered, its advantages as a recreation area for adult members of the family as well should not be overlooked. Many activities, such as paddle tennis, volley ball and basketball can be enjoyed by adults as well as children. Horseshoes, lawn croquet, shuffleboard on the concrete driveway to the garage, practice putting courses for golf players, squash, tether ball, bowling and many other games and sports may easily be accommodated in the average yard.

"Most families enjoy a picnic excursion into the out of doors but cannot always find frequent opportunities for making these pleasurable jaunts. By installing an outdoor table under a pergola in the yard, and by transforming the homely incinerator into an outdoor fireplace, all of the necessary facilities will be present close at hand whenever the family group desires a picnic, a wienner bake or a marshmallow roast." — *George Hjelte in California Parent-Teacher.*



A Training Course in Home Play

A SIGNIFICANT experiment in our recreation program — perhaps the most significant one—is our training course in home play.

During cold, inclement weather the problem of what to do with children in overcrowded homes is a perplexing one. This becomes acute when illness prohibits the children getting out of doors, especially during quarantine. Accordingly, even though the homes are small and overcrowded, we are attempting to teach boys and girls from eleven to thirteen years of age how they may direct an indoor play program in the home, not only for themselves but more particularly for their younger brothers and sisters. The members of the training group are enthusiastic and are eagerly putting into practice the plans and projects presented at the weekly sessions.

The outline of the course, which is being given by Mrs. Wayne C. Sommer, Associate Director of Kensington Playhouse, follows:

Questions to Be Asked at First Meeting

Have you done these things?

Cared for a younger brother or sister or other child after school or for an evening for a certain number of times, regularly over a given period of time? Planned and provided a place for a child to put away his toys? Planned and fixed up a play space for a child in your family? Selected playthings or toys for a pre-school child? Told stories to a younger child in the family or to a group of children three or more times? Taught a song or poem to a little child?

What do you do at home in the evenings?

What do the little children do?

Does mother or father go out a certain number of times regularly to lodge, church, visiting, shopping?

What playthings have you already in your home for your little brother or sister?

The girls taking the course will be asked to keep notebooks. At this point it would be explained

By CHARLES H. ENGLISH
Executive Secretary
Playground and Recreation Association
Philadelphia, Pa.

why, and they would be shown how useful these will be to them after they have finished. They may add, from time to time, things which they have picked up themselves and found to be liked by the smaller children left in their charge.

Lesson 1

A few simple rules to follow in teaching a song or poem:

Read the entire song or poem through first aloud.

Explain the meaning of words the child does not understand.

Read the first line and have the child repeat. Do the same with each line until entire verse is complete.

Repeat two lines at a time and have child repeat.

Repeat three lines at a time.

See if the child can now repeat the entire poem without help.

Sing melody line by line.

Teaching a game:

Explain it, telling child the correct name.

Put child in position to play.

Walk through entire game.

Go through entire game as it is to be played.

Have each girl bring to next meeting a song, poem or game she already knows and teach it to rest of the group, bearing these rules in mind.

Follow this demonstration with a discussion of methods used. Be sure the criticism is constructive.

Teach the poem—"The House that Jack Built"—using the child's blocks at home to build the house and place the characters inside. If the child does not have a set of blocks, use chairs for the house and have the children pretend they are the animals in the poem.

Lesson 2

Shadow game: Played by the one who is "It" trying to step on someone's shadow. If he succeeds, that person becomes "It."

Silhouettes on the wall made with the hands to illustrate the following *Aesop's Fables*:

The Fox and the Goat; The Cat and the Fox; The Monkey and the Cat; The Dog and His Shadow; The Dog in the Manger; The Hare and the Tortoise.

Teach Stevenson's poem, "My Shadow." This may be used as either a poem or the song version.

Lesson 3

Make a family of paper dolls, using old mail order catalogues or magazines. Begin with woman and several children. Make a cardboard design of a large shoe. Illustration: "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe." Poem.

Have each girl write a short story around her paper doll family and bring to next meeting.

Lesson 4

Up to this time the children have not been using much in the way of materials so that mother has not been asked for very much, the whole idea so far having been to start with very little equipment and gradually work up to something with more materials.

The girls are asked to bring their mothers to this meeting. The course outline will be shown to the mothers and they will be told just what their girls are doing and why. When the girls begin to ask for material, the mother will then know why and be more cooperative and sympathetic.

Games may be played after the meeting. The games used for our meetings were "Guggenheim" and the alphabetical game of the trip to a foreign land, each player naming something they will take beginning with a letter in the alphabet. Refreshments may be served.

Lesson 5

Fun with Fruit:

- a. Apple into hen. Story illustration — "Little Red Hen"
- b. Pear into cat. Story illustration — "Puss in Boots"
- c. Banana into boat. Story illustration—"I Saw a Ship a'Sailing"
- d. Lemon into pig. Story illustration — "Discontented Pig," "The Old Woman and Her Pig," "The Little Pig Who Wanted a Straight Tail"

Note: The material for this lesson will be found in the magazine *Children's Activities* for January 1937.

Lesson 6

Animal cut-outs of white, light weight cardboard. Body is cut separately and legs fitted into slits so that the animal will stand. These patterns can be secured from the National Recreation Association Bulletin Service. Bulletin No. 3894.

Use the sheep pattern to illustrate poems:

- a. "Mary Had a Little Lamb"—song, dramatize poem.
- b. "Little Bo-Peep"—song, dramatize poem.
- c. "Baa, baa Black Sheep"—song, dramatize poem.

Later other Mother Goose rhymes may be used.

Lesson 7

Games: Hide the Thimble; Nose, mouth, ear and eye; Matching color cards. (Have girls make their own sets.)

Games: (singing) Muffin Man; Did You Ever See a Lassie? One Thumb, One Finger Keep Moving.

When selecting games to play in the home with the little brother or sister, remember that in some cases there will only be two or three persons playing. Therefore, the games must be those that can be successfully played with only one or two persons.

Lesson 8

Hand Puppet: Have older girl make puppet and use it as a medium for telling stories. This puppet may be made entirely of cloth or cardboard base, or if you want something more elaborate, make a head of saw dust and flour and water paste.

Stories: "Little Jack Rabbit and the Tar Baby"; "Little Black Sambo"; "The Little Jackal Stories."

Give outline of each story to girl for her notebook, also source.

Have each girl tell one of the stories from the above list when her puppet has been completed. This will help her to use it more cleverly so that she will eventually become unconscious of the manipulation and can concentrate on her story.

Lesson 9

Shoe box doll house for little sister; shoe box wagon for little brother.

For wagon use milk bottle caps painted a bright color for wheels. For the doll house furnish room with cardboard furniture. Use scraps of material for window curtains.

Materials needed: shoe box, plain white paper, cardboard, pencil, crayons and scissors.

Lesson 10

This lesson will be devoted to things that can be made by or for the convalescent child and which he can use while still in bed for imaginary play.

Pin-packs for design

Scrapbooks of something the child is especially interested in

Puzzles from postal cards, bright colors. The post card is small so there are not a great many pieces and it can be finished more quickly than an ordinary puzzle and will not tire the child.

Paper chains to decorate the bed or room.

Newspaper hats decorated with solid color fruits, flowers, etc., to suggest applique.

Wrapping paper fish kites stuffed with newspaper tied to bed.

Scrapbook covers can be made from old posters, cardboard from laundry or old catalogues

They're entirely willing to serve as practice material for brothers and sisters taking courses in home play!



*By Stevens Meylan, Geneva, Switzerland
Shown in the Kodak International Exhibit, New York City, February 1938*

Home Play Material Kits

It was found that limited space in the homes was not the only handicap. Lack of play materials of any description was discouraging to our class of trainees. So we are now evolving portable kits of home play materials, and with the aid of class members the equipment needed for such kits is being determined. It seems advisable to attempt only one type of program an evening, and accordingly Wayne C. Sommer, Director of the

Kensington Playhouse is working on five different kits—home music, dramatics, crafts, table games, and simple games and entertainments for use during illness and convalescence. Training in the use of the equipment is given in the training course.

This fall Mr. Sommer will accept invitations to neighborhood homes where there are large families and will put on a demonstration of play programs. This will include a talk and a period of activity in which the the whole family participates.

Parents as Source Material!

Another approach to family play in the home is being developed. The children are requesting their mothers or fathers to tell them the story of their own childhood. In a majority of the cases this narrative is one of a homeland in foreign lands. Parents are asked: (1) what games they played; (2) about the dances and festi-

vals; (3) what kind of things they made and of what material; (4) the kind of parties they held, etc. The children urge their parents to illustrate how all this was done or to show them the product of their handiwork if possible. At the playhouse the youngsters give demonstrations and reports on their findings at home. The play leader uses this material to develop a festival at which the parents are the invited guests.

(Continued on page 256)

Handcraft on a Shoestring

IT WAS at the arts and crafts meeting of the 1937 National Recreation Congress at Atlantic City that we found a solution to our boys' handcraft problems.

For a number of years the Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association had been conducting with very indifferent success a program of handcraft for boys on our playgrounds. Lack of funds, facilities and equipment made the project difficult to promote. Finally our budget was cut to the point where no funds were available for materials or for even a part-time instructor.

At the Atlantic City meeting ideas flew thick and fast. Delegates were so eager to tell how they had managed to solve their problems of securing materials, leadership and money that it was a simple matter for those of us who were present to sift out a number of suggestions and apply them to our own situations. More than that, the meeting fired the imagination and rekindled the fire of enthusiasm.

On returning to Montreal I called a meeting of the men supervisors and put the situation up to them. Either we would have to run the handcraft program ourselves or drop it. I told the workers of some of the ways other cities were carrying on, and our group decided to take on the extra assignment. We felt that certain things should be done to arouse the pioneer and cooperative spirit which was the key to success. Here are a few of our decisions:

Children should be encouraged to share the cost of materials and equipment.

We should strive for skill and workmanship at all times, seeing to it that those taking

A recreation supervisor who attended the Recreation Congress at Atlantic City in 1937 tells why his governing board plans to send a delegate to the next Congress

By **STANLEY ROUGH**
General Supervisor
Parks and Playground Association
Montreal, Canada

tool kits.

Allowing the children to take the objects they made home would interest parents in the playground.

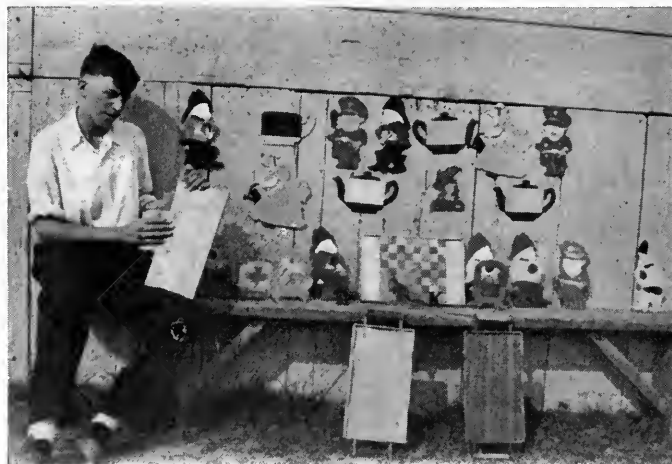
An important matter considered was that of the use of scrap material. We agreed to consider every store, factory, warehouse and home of the city as a possible source of materials and every child as a collector.

None of our staff was especially gifted. In fact, several had never handled tools before, but all were enthusiastic over the experiment.

The Program

We drew up a program of simple articles easy to make which would be of some use to the makers themselves and the materials for which could be secured from neighborhood stores and factories. The list included French solitaire, checkerboards (plain and inlaid), French checkers (144 squares instead of 72), pick-up sticks, mill, sticks and rings (an Indian game), window boxes, sand

bag game equipment, ring toss boards, cut-outs, door stops, tie racks and picture frames. Diagrams with directions for making and playing these games were supplied each supervisor. A donation of \$50.00 was received from the American Woman's Club for financing a program.



Each ground was given 100 feet of 1 x 10 rough lumber, one claw hammer, one saw, one small whetstone, four fret saws, two packages of blades, one package assorted sandpapers, two vises, one can glue, one ruler. Supervisors were given \$8.00 in cash to purchase additional materials when and how they saw fit, such as paint, hooks, nails, brushes, wood and blades.

Our experience taught us that we might well have supplied each shack with a work bench made possible from a couple of wooden horses with three or four inch planks, two feet to thirty inches in width and long enough to place along one side of the shack.

Very few grounds made all of the articles suggested, but boys brought models of their own to the grounds and over a hundred different types of articles were made during the season.

The experience cited by the supervisor of the St. Lawrence Kiwanis Club Playground is typical. This ground was in operation six weeks longer than the other grounds; hence the larger appropriation of \$15.

"The boys' handcraft this year has been excellent. The keynote of all work produced has been practicability. Articles have been made for use as well as ornament, and in many cases a boy brought over his own plans for something that his mother needed.

"The fine workmanship and finish of the articles made were outstanding. Two of the fathers, carpenters by trade, expressed surprise that we were turning out such good work with so little actual experience and so few tools.

"The cost of the handcraft program was surprisingly small. For 196 completed articles our cost was \$13.45. Out of this sum we can deduct about \$2.45 which was really spent on other activities, leaving a total of about \$11.00 for handcraft alone. Next season, with the experience gained, this could be cut down to \$6.00 or \$7.00.

"Toward the middle of the season we had started working on a fifty-fifty basis; that is, a boy would be given three fret saw blades to use, and when these three were broken he bought three for himself. This helped cut down the cost of equipment and it was used whenever possible, even on sheets of sandpaper. A boy received credit on blades or sandpaper if he loaned us another tool such as a plane or pliers. Wood was obtained wherever we could get it and no piece of lumber was too small or too mean to be used. Often one box (apple variety) would go into the

making of half a dozen different articles. Even the nails from the boxes were used again when possible. Inlay work was often done to cut down the number of nails required to produce strength and durability. This made the job longer, but it cost less and was better finished.

"Four boys were trained to look after the handcraft group and oversee the work, and they did a splendid piece of work. A new idea for us was the training of very young boys in simple handcraft from whom we can build up our groups next season. We also have a collection of models and plans for next year, and a half dozen boys have promised to look for ideas during the winter and try to have ready a wood supply for us from storekeepers. Of our 196 articles made we had thirty-seven different models. Bookcases, window boxes, book ends, tie racks, pipe racks, smokers, ferneries, pen stands, garden ornaments, picture frames, magazine racks, calendars and perpetual calendars were among some of the models completed.

"We have never had such a display of handcraft before, nor have we ever had such a large group taking part. There were forty-six working members and many of these spent time repairing backstops, making home-plates and doing general repair jobs."

It was amazing to see how this year's program brought out leadership qualities in older boys, many of whom were fine workmen with plenty of imagination given a chance to use it. Merchants became interested when enthusiastic supervisors and children approached them and sent to the grounds fruit cases, tea boxes and wood scraps in general.

It was not unusual for me to be hailed by enthusiastic handcrafters when I was in the vicinity of a ground and dragged off to some shed or cellar to see the work an overflow group was busily engaged in. The boys were so proud to show off their models! Some grounds collected so much wood that they were able to donate some of it to those less fortunate. Many of the youthful instructors "scouted" other grounds, hobby shows and department stores for new ideas. In making pot holders, the boys made two frames and traded one to the girls for two cotton holders. At supervisors' meetings the men chattered over handcraft ideas like crows in a cornfield.

At the handcraft show at each playground the boys for the first time made the girls look to their

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Trailer Units for the Recreation Program

By W. H. EDMUND
Director, Recreation Commission
Akron, Ohio

LAST SUMMER the Recreation Commission of Akron, Ohio, representing the Board of Education and the city in a cooperative program of recreation, constructed two trailer units which were used for the first time in the general recreation program. Many advantages were found in this type of equipment, and though the initial cost seemed rather high, the equipment will be serviceable for many years. The trailers were built entirely from new materials, and each was mounted on a chassis built for it.

The following technical information will be of interest to other communities contemplating equipment of this type.

Trailer Unit No. 1—Folding Platform

This unit consists of a wooden reinforced platform 8' x 20' with a hinged apron on each side 3' x 20', making the platform when opened up, 14' x 20', a sufficiently large space to accommodate easily a forty piece band. The aprons are hinged to fold up on top for transportation and are supported when opened up by adjustable telescoped legs made of 3" and 2" galvanized pipe fastened to the platform by screw flanges. The legs can be taken off when platform is folded. When the platform is opened up there are five 3" iron pipes extending seven feet into the air for lighting equipment and loud speaker equipment. Suspended beneath the special chassis are two lock compartments, 3' x 2' x 8', where all chairs, lighting equipment and supplies are carried and stored. The unit is painted a conservative battleship grey and the insignia of the Commission is painted on the ends of the lock compartments. This platform has been used constantly for community band concerts, as a public reviewing stand for civic parades, for community street dances and amateur shows, as a chassis for parade floats, and in some instances for light hauling. It can be set up and dismantled in about fifteen minutes to provide band accommodations for community street dances.

Trailer Unit No. 2—Theater

This unit might be called a small house on wheels. When closed for transportation, the outside measurements are 8' wide, 7' high, and 16' long. The platform or floor of heavily reinforced

Traveling theaters, perambulating circuses, activities of all kinds scurrying about on wheels, are making playgrounds exciting places!

wood is mounted on a special two wheel chassis. The sides and top are galvanized, with 2" x 4" reinforcement for frame. The unit is being painted in all colors and decorated "a la circus wagon." The right side of the unit, facing front, is hinged at the bottom and can be lowered completing a stage 14 feet by 16 feet. The side is lowered by an enclosed cable system operated by two awning gears adapted for this purpose. When lowered, the side is supported by three telescoped legs similar to those used for the platform unit. With a series of upright pipes and screw flanges on the corners, the entire stage can be enclosed with curtains and side drops. The left side of the unit, facing front, is equipped with a complete marionette stage (folding), opened to public view by a hinged portion of the side, 4' x 5'. Permanent equipment of the unit includes a small pianette, 150 folding chairs, lighting equipment, and loud speaking equipment, besides all necessary stage curtains, backdrops, etc. The entire interior is being sealed with beaver board and redecorated for this summer. A door at the rear of the trailer is the only entrance to the unit when the sides are closed and locked. Removable steps are hauled in the unit and attached at this door. Both units form a platform and stage standing about 4 feet off the ground. The theater unit is used for dramatics, amateur shows, concerts and puppetry.

To enable the use of the units in areas of the city where attachments for electricity may be hard to find, both units carry and use a system of gasoline-pressure storm lanterns. They are inexpensive and just as good as electricity. For the loud speaking equipment the units must be located near electricity outlets, but it is not often necessary to use this equipment. The wheels and axles for the

(Continued on page 257)



Courtesy Junior Museum, San Francisco

“Lindy” Started It!

By EDWIN CONRY
WPA Supervisor
Recreation Department
Chico, California

is truly recreative handicraft and has a place in a recreation program.

Requirements for the Program

A Work Room. In organizing a group of model plane enthusiasts the leader must have access to a suitable work room with water and heat—either gas, electricity or sterno—as well as adequate work benches and storage space for tools and models under construction. Large cardboard boxes which will keep the models safe between work periods are very necessary. The writer once spent several unpleasant moments trying to explain the havoc wrought when a large sized woman rested upon a large box full of completed planes belonging to members of his class!

Do not make the mistake of leaving models where they can be handled by anyone! After several calamities, an iron-clad rule of “Don’t touch anyone’s model” was enforced in the working sessions of our group and proved very beneficial.

Tools and Materials. Few tools are necessary and these very common ones. A coping saw and a pair of round nose pliers, of the type used by electricians with wire cutting edges, are the most important. Satisfactory material, however, is a different matter, since it is almost impossible to do creditable work by using odds and ends of ordinary material. Balsa wood from South

SINCE LINDBERGH’S flight in 1927 the eyes of the world, and especially the eyes of the world’s youth, have been focused on one spectacular air achievement after another, until today’s aviators are more glamorous to modern youngsters than pony express riders and river pilots were to the boys and girls of the 1800’s.

“Lindy” did it! Unquestionably Lindbergh’s accomplishment was the romantic take-off of the tremendous interest now shown in aircraft, and especially model aircraft, by the youth of this nation. As a result of this newly created interest a world-wide industry is now furnishing model aircraft supplies and a source of intense pleasure to thousands of ardent model aircraftsmen.

Pleasure, however, is not the sole benefit. In addition to acquiring the skill to construct a small machine capable in many instances of thirty minutes flight, modern youngsters are becoming familiar with the scientific principles of flight formerly known only to a few technicians. From the ranks of these eager hobbyists will come the Lindys of the future.

With little required in the way of organization or instruction in the use of tools and materials, any air-minded boy or girl can be developed into a real model aircraftsman. Such an undertaking

America is necessary. This, together with all the other material needed, can usually be procured locally, but often more economically through the large supply houses which advertise in Model Airplane magazines. Piano wire, model airplane tissue (not ordinary tissue paper), rubber (the flat brown model airplane variety), and a few metal fittings are all that is needed, except plenty of a special glue which can be purchased with the other supplies or made by dissolving transparent celluloid toothbrush handles or similar articles in airplane dope obtainable from the local airport. Each hobbyist may bring from home such items as razor blades—the single edged type is best—pins, a small air tight bottle, a sharp knife, transparent wax paper, sand paper, rulers, with steel ferrule, and other little odds and ends which the real worker needs as his skill progresses.

Organization. After plans have been made for the source of materials, the actual organization should not be difficult. In our particular case a small notice on a school bulletin board brought immediate results, and a meeting in the workshop was called. There a completed model was demonstrated and interest became white-hot. Procedure from this point onward depends upon the financial status of the sponsoring agency. Our own solution was to charge a small fee of twenty-five cents to be used in partially defraying the cost of the activity. This also promoted a feeling of responsibility in the participants and curbed wasteful practice.

With careful planning, sufficient material to enable twelve boys in a group to construct six models each may be purchased for approximately five dollars. This is assuming, however, that the first three models will be simple ones and those constructed later will be fairly complicated. However, all should be capable of flight and worth making. In any case, a small fee is useful in that it may be refunded or used to provide awards for contests to be held later.

Another plan which works well in operation with large sized groups is to require each member of the class, regardless of age, to construct one simple model, such as a Training Glider whose plans are shown, in order to determine their relative aptitude and provide a basis for the division of the class. A group of fifteen or more should be divided up, but age classification alone is not always feasible. A rough division as to age, however, is at thirteen years, but better results will be

achieved and each group will have more fun if sections are organized separately, with demonstrated skill as a basis of organization. Experience has shown us that better results will be obtained if youngsters under ten are tutored in the art of simple model boat construction, which is very fascinating in itself and better adapted to their younger talents.

Early in the game we found that the greatest problem facing the beginning hobbyist was the necessity for precision which was beyond that demanded by other types of construction he had previously attempted. Once the need for accuracy was impressed upon the builder, great improvement was quickly shown, however, and if sufficient insistence by the instructor is made from the first, little difficulty should be encountered. Successful completion of one model must, of course, be a pre-requisite for starting the next "job," which should be slightly more elaborate. It is also advisable to have several completed models on display from time to time, as this greatly aids in simplifying the construction.

Instruction. Actual instruction was strictly informal on our set-up. No routine step-by-step method of explanation was used, and each builder was allowed to work alone at his own speed. Difficult steps were demonstrated, of course, but "that terrible classroom feeling" was strictly avoided. For this reason it was found that no more than twelve craftsmen should be aided by one instructor. Working sessions were composed of two hour periods.

Every builder was supplied with a set of full scale drawings; this was found to be the only satisfactory method of operation. The easiest method of constructing a model plane is by assembling each member directly upon the full size drawing which is protected from glue by a sheet of transparent wax paper tacked directly upon it. These drawings are rather difficult to secure without expense; however, our class collected a number of them from the "leftovers" of commercial kits which they had previously purchased.

The planes attempted by beginners were simple yet efficient, and were of the flying model type. Interest of young builders will quickly pall when solid scale models, which, after all, are ornaments, are constructed, even though they may be less difficult in the elementary designs. Occasionally older, more mature participants have been known to forsake flying models for the complicated scale rep-

licas. Later, the first model having been successfully completed and flown, more advanced types were selected by the craftsmen from a group of plans collected by the class and carefully graded as to structural complexity.

Throughout the course various principles involving aerodynamics were informally taken up and explained to the older boys. Nearly always the discussion was brought about by the builders themselves with questions which arose naturally from details of construction. For instance, in construction of the Training Glider—someone asked, "Why are the wings bent up in the middle?" A simple explanation was then made of the principles of lateral stability which was understood without effort. This is a very valuable feature of this hobby, providing as it does information concerning a subject which will some day be as common as that of carbureters today.

Actual construction is just one part of model aircraft activities. Informal flying, organized meets, clubs and other activities are a natural outgrowth. In fact, there is no need to limit the fun to the young. The recent development of tiny, gasoline power-plants has intrigued a good proportion of the adult male and female population, and at nearly every airport can be seen one of the six to ten foot "cloud-busters" soaring around.

As an aid to anyone who intends organizing a model aircraft movement and applying a really valuable hobby to the field of recreation, a bill of materials completely covering the needs of a group as outlined in this article has been developed and is given here, as well as an outline of projects arranged in order of increasing difficulty, including plans for a suitable beginners model.

Outline of Projects

1. Training Glider (see drawing)
2. Baby R.O.G. (Rise off Ground)
A simple rubber powered stick model with 12" wing spread and 5" propeller and landing gear.
3. Outdoor Tractor 18" wingspread 8" propeller cambered wing.

4. 16" "Fuselage" model with built-up cabin type fuselage, cambered wing 8" propeller.
5. 25" Endurance Tractor—built up fuselage, cambered wing and stabilizer.
6. 18" Flying scale model (built upon lines of a large commercial ship)

A 30" endurance tractor suitable for contests may be constructed in place of the scale model as an option.

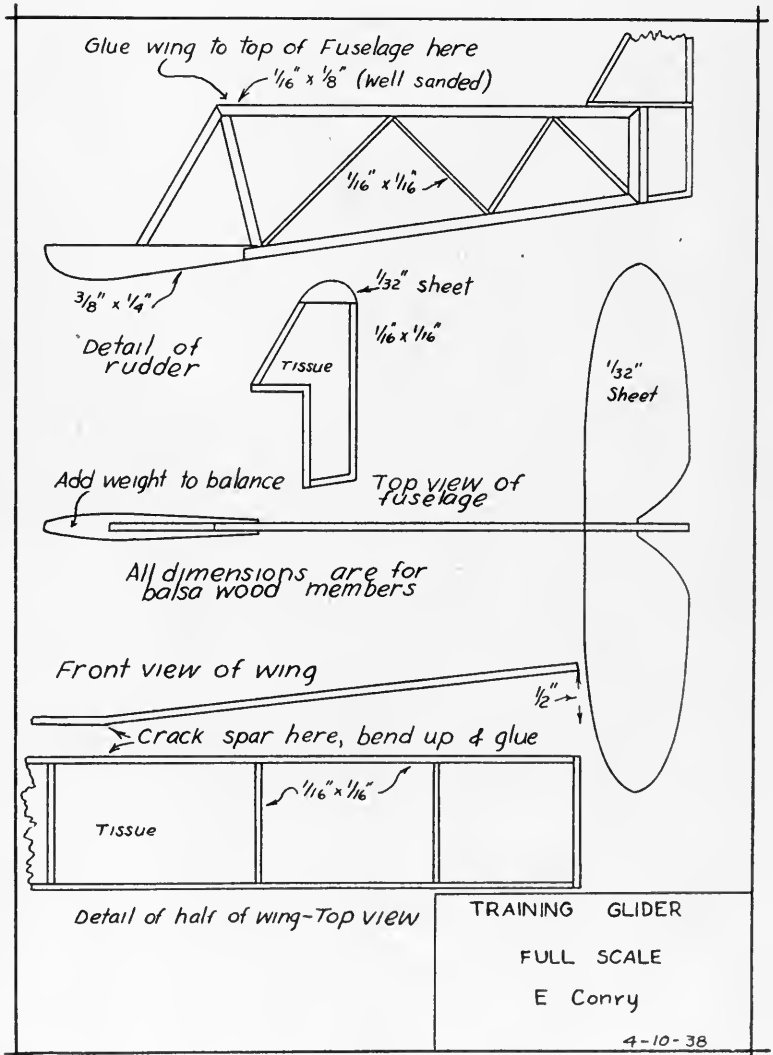
Bill of Material for a Group of Twelve Hobbyists—Six Models Each. (Cost based on retail list)

BALSA STRIPS (18" LONG)

Quantity	Dimension	Cost
1000	1/16" x 1/16"	\$.40
400	1/16" x 1/8"	.40

(Continued on page 257)

The building of a Training Glider has been found to be a satisfactory test of aptitude



Exploring Primitive Areas

BY HORSEBACK, through the primitive areas of seven states, the Trail Riders of the Wilderness will take the trail this summer. Through roadless regions where the grandeur of bold mountains vies with the beauty of alpine flora and sparkling lakes, this band of explorers will seek adventure. They will swim and fish in little known lakes and streams which flow through dramatic country, and will camp in alpine meadows where bold majestic mountains form spectacular backgrounds.

Organized by and operating under the direction of the American Forestry Association, the Trail Riders have become a real factor in the national plan to greater recreational opportunities. As a group, they represent a means by which any man or woman in a normal state of health and with an average amount of outdoor experience may, at the low cost of around ten dollars a day, fully enjoy true wilderness country under experienced and organized leadership. For cooperating with the American Forestry Association in organizing and directing these expeditions are the United States Forest Service and the National Park Service, the two government agencies responsible for the administration and protection of the larger remnants of the primitive.

Under this leadership nearly two hundred and fifty men and women have participated in eighteen separate expeditions to the major wilderness areas of six different states. More than two thousand

There are seven fascinating choices open to you if you decide to follow the trail with the Trail Riders of the Wilderness



Courtesy American Forestry Association

miles of wilderness trail have been explored. The riders have fished little-known streams and lakes from the hidden canyons of the great Gila Wilderness in New Mexico to the mountainous mass around majestic Mount Olympus in the State of Washington.

Seven expeditions are scheduled for this



To the land of the Blackfeet Indians in Montana; through the Wind River Wilderness of Wyoming; into the canyons of the Gila Wilderness of New Mexico—here the trail will lead.

Courtesy American Forestry Association

summer, one each in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, Washington, California and New Mexico. Parties will be limited to from twenty to twenty-five riders.

Expedition No. 1—July 3 to July 15. The group following this trail will explore the Flathead—Sun River Wilderness of Montana, the land the

For further information regarding these trips, which are operated on a non-profit basis, write The American Forestry Association, 919 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Blackfeet Indians once held for their ceremonial sun dances. This is bold, glaciated mountain country, straddling the Continental Divide.

Expedition No. 2—July 18 to July 31. For those who would go exploring through the Wind River Wilderness of Wyoming

(Continued on page 258)



Courtesy American Forestry Association

Skiing in the Straw

SKIING is with us to stay, snow or no!

Sterling Community House in Stratford, Connecticut, successfully sponsored a novel ski course last season on an ingenious hill. Novices became experts and enjoyed themselves through a ten-week period of actual downhill and cross-country skiing without the aid of one snow flake.

Dry skiing is not new, although the term may be strange to thousands who annually pack themselves off by rail and auto to snow-powdered hills and valleys. In ski-minded countries on the continent, early September finds toddling youngsters and their grandparents eagerly strapping on waxed boards for pre-season ski training. And about this time our enterprising stores are setting up indoor slides and importing foreign stars to instruct trim stenographers and corpulent trades-

Don't wait for winter; do your skiing in July! And why worry about snow when straw will do the trick?

By **E. STANLEY STARZYK**
Industrial Recreation Counselor
Bridgeport, Connecticut

men in the technique of recklessly plunging downhill on wooden feet.

Unfortunately, an indoor slide and the personal attention of a Tyrolean mountaineer are not accessible to everyone. This partial handicap to good and enjoyable skiing needn't

discourage anyone from the idea of becoming a slalom champion or just a good cross-country skihiker. You can accomplish as much and possibly more by adopting the Yankee Technique—invention to fit circumstance—whether you live near the pine-scented hills of New England or the sand dunes of Texas. Dry skiing is universal.

The sudden popularity of skiing precluded usual economical methods of education in fundamentals. Paradoxically, skiing has attracted numerous non-athletic types and former physical recreation participants who for years have limited



Bridgeport Post-Telegram photo by Al Mathewson

their exercises to climbing three flights of stairs four times a day. Thousands of youngsters have taken to the jumps with very little, if any, preliminary training to prepare themselves satisfactorily for the bumps. The writer happens to have been a sporting goods salesman for the past decade and has equipped the young and old, beginner and veteran, with equipment for their chosen pastimes. First hand observations determined the need for an economical method of dry skiing that would enable everyone who so desired to participate. Thus was born the Yankee Technique.

Before continuing, an explanation of the terms "dry course" and "dry skiing" is obligatory. The former is accepted to mean a graduated series of muscle-training exercises similar to your daily dozen but specifically planned to strengthen the muscles used in making those fancy Christianias and daring Gelandesprungs. The latter includes this fine conditioning method plus actual skiing on sand, borax, fiber strips, salt, pine needles, rope or straw.

The Sterling House Experiment

The Sterling House enterprise was planned by the writer with the assistance of Executive Secretary Lawrence Woodbury, and Casey Jones of the Eastern Professional Ski Association. A limited budget required diligent research and considerable experimentation. Costs, local terrain, probable weather conditions, materials, and results had to be pre-determined and actual skiing possibilities proven to prevent accident or disappointment. For these and many other reasons straw was selected as the substitute for snow.

The only slope in Sterling Park measured twenty-two feet in length and had about a fifteen-degree drop with a large level surface below, located between two tennis courts but ample for class exercises and run-offs. The height from top to bottom measured less than thirteen feet, hardly enough to produce the speed necessary to make any turn.

To add to the height and length of this "hill" a platform was constructed from a picnic table, a discarded table tennis top, two old barn doors, three wooden horses, several two-by-sixes and a couple pounds of assorted nails. The table tennis top and one door were placed end to end on top of the framework of horses and planks at an angle to be in a straight line with the slant of the slope, lengthening the hill to forty feet from the top of the wooden runway to the level lawn surface. The

height was increased to eighteen feet. The other barn door became the platform or "take-off." To reach this platform, about five feet off the ground, the picnic table was placed at an angle of fifteen degrees in back of and connecting with the take-off platform. Two-inch wooden strips were nailed across this only approach to the starting platform which, incidentally, became one of the most important features of our training hill. Call it a ski-treadmill.

To be sure of its strength, this artificial hill was tested for sway and collapse by the combined jarring efforts of its technical staff, Park Superintendent Smith and his two assistants. A courageous half-ton of bone and sinew jumped and pulled with all its weight and ambition, but couldn't budge or buckle a timber! This is mentioned to stress the importance of solidity. No matter what materials are used or how they are put together, be certain that the construction is safe and able to withstand jumping starts.

A more elaborate runway can be built at little cost, and many cities and local park and recreation boards have built ski, sled and toboggan slides during the past few years. With slight alterations these can be turned into dry-skiing hills by the addition of straw.

Now for the "snow." The straw was hand-picked for long stalks and these were laid on the entire "runway" (wooden hill and take-off platform) parallel to the sides and securely fastened at one end by two-inch wooden strips nailed across, one foot apart, giving to the hill a thatched-roof appearance. Two bales of straw were distributed by pitchfork on the grassy slope of the hill and the lawn below, within the limits judged necessary to restrain the speed of the skier. The trail was now ready for use, or so we thought!

Ski-jumper Jones religiously waxed his skis with graphite and experimentally let them slide alone down the hill. They traveled the full distance and more. Partly assured, our test pilot strapped on his winged boards, and with a helpful push on the poles plunged down a full twenty feet before he found it necessary to resort to a spectacular jump turn to save his neck!

Tests with various combinations of wax and straw cut and spread in many ways finally solved our problem. We found that around noon the straw on the grassy slope and level offered less resistance, but was unsatisfactory for evening use. Autumn frosts caused the straw to become damp and sticky; thus, while the sun dried surface straw

on the wooden runway, it never sufficiently penetrated the thick straw blanket on the ground, and moisture from beneath matted this straw into a hindering mass. Canvas on the ground, under the straw, would have eliminated this trouble, but the expense of covering the entire slope and run-off level was beyond our budget. This obstacle had to be overcome, however, because training periods for adults were scheduled in the evenings, under lights.

Finally, after all other methods were found either unsatisfactory or too expensive, sand was mixed into chopped straw and this mixture stamped into the lawn, insulating ground mixture. On this base more chopped straw was spread carefully so that it wouldn't drift excessively on sharp turns. By keeping surface straw in the park barn until class time, a dry slide was assured. Continued skiing built up the base, and eventually little surface straw was necessary for the slope and level. The thatched runway straw was replaced when worn down with a minimum necessary to cover the wood.

The use of graphite wax proved unsatisfactory, and every known combination was tried before a suitable ski-surface was found. It is especially important for straw skiing that skis have a smooth, highly-polished, moisture resistant running surface. The following instructions will eliminate a lot of worry and work.

First, remove every bit of old wax and clean skis thoroughly with fine steel wool; if liquid solvent is used, be sure the skis are dry before next operation. Apply several thin coats of ski lacquer (known as ski "lac" or liquid base wax), and smooth down with steel wool between coats. The final coat must be as smooth and bright as a mirror. Next, rub in vigorously a thin layer of "red" base wax until once more you can practically see your reflection in its smooth, polished surface. Finally, rub in pure paraffin. In using a paraffin stick you will find it produces an uneven surface, but diligent rubbing with the palm of your hand (from ski point towards heel) will produce a smooth, spotless, glistening finish.

After two weeks of experiment and experience the hill was ready. Southern Connecticut skiers rarely become ski-conscious in mid-October, but intelligent newspaper publicity and personal contacts produced an interested, if sceptical, response from local enthusiasts.

Sterling House was filled to capacity opening night. George Gauttinger's "Ski Technique" in-

structive movie shorts, filmed in Switzerland for A. G. Spalding and Brothers, literally brought winter snows inside and stimulated the ski atmosphere. Casey Jones gave a running explanation of the fundamentals as slow motion revealed the secrets of good skiing. Forty applicants registered.

The course was divided into ten sessions, one night a week. A nominal fee of twenty-five cents per person each session reimbursed the athletic committee for the purchase of straw and use of light and materials, and also paid for professional services.

A Ski "School" Important

At this point we earnestly advise that a qualified instructor be secured to supervise construction of the hill and to conduct the "school." Each participant should also sign a responsibility-release statement when registering and before going on the ski grounds, to preclude law suits for injuries or damages to personal equipment. We had no trouble, because of careful supervision; however, no one was allowed on the ski grounds without office approval. As an added preventive the professional in charge should personally inspect all skis, poles, boots and bindings to see that all are in proper condition. The bindings, particularly, should be so fitted that skier has absolute control of his or her skis at all times. If wax wears down, apply more paraffin in the manner explained, as the running surface must be fast at all times to prevent avoidable falls.

Each session should be in four periods:

Calisthenics—fifteen minutes. Secure copy of good ski instruction book containing "dry course" of exercises. Rest five minutes before next period.

Skiing on the level—fifteen minutes. Group formations to phonograph or radio music will stimulate group spirit. Rest five minutes. Check ski surface; calisthenics and level skiing may have worn down the running surface.

Uphill and downhill skiing—one to two hours, depending on number participating. Side step up the cleated approach to starting platform; do not use runway for climbing. After several trips up the treadmill each session you'll disdain the use of ski-tows!

Social and rest period—inside. Review evening's accomplishments. This is a good time to

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You Can Do It!

By

JOSEPHINE BLACKSTOCK
Director of Playgrounds
Oak Park, Illinois

Since the culmination of the Playground Board's successful campaign for increased funds for Oak Park's playgrounds, so many requests for information and help have reached the Board that Miss Blackstock has prepared this statement regarding the set-up of the campaign. It is her hope that the information will be of help to other recreation systems. "We certainly learned much during the campaign, so we are including both 'do's and don't's.'"

MIRACLES STILL HAPPEN. Perhaps they have experienced a renaissance together with Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, the Big Bad Wolf, and that return to phantasy that marks our absorption over Charlie McCarthy! In any event, recently we saw a wonder and a miracle in Oak Park when the community doubled our state recreation tax bill, increasing the present rate of two-thirds of a mill to one and one-third mills. In dollars and cents this will mean that instead of having \$27,000 to maintain and operate our five municipal playgrounds, there will be available approximately \$54,000.

Before the campaign was launched we had reached the end of our rope financially. Owing to the fall in the valuation of property we were operating on about half of our former budget. Our staff had been cut down, and we had been unable to buy any apparatus or new equipment or properly renovate our play centers. There seemed only one thing left to do—to try to secure an amendment in Springfield increasing the recreation state levy. The Playground Board made this de-

cision—made it and immediately ran into opposition. Our representative felt that the bill would have small chance to pass, owing to financial conditions, and that if it did succeed in the House the Senate would kill it. However, we persevered. We selected this particular legislator as our first test case and proceeded to inoculate him with a powerful shot of "recreationitis"! It worked. He promised to speak to the Governor. The Governor expressed himself as unopposed to the bill provided a referendum vote was attached. We were only too glad to attach it because we felt the election would afford us a chance to discover what was the unbiased reaction of the 70,000 citizens of Oak Park to our playground program.

The bill carried with one dissenting vote in the House and none in the Senate. And then came the real struggle. After a number of conferences the Playground Board decided that no intensive campaign would be undertaken until about six weeks before the election, the Board being advised to do this so that no time would be provided for any organized opposition. Then we would apply

to the struggle every possible effort. It was as well we did make this latter decision because we found we had just one enemy—but he was a strong one—Old Man Depression!

If there is any one piece of advice we could give it is this:

Waging a Campaign of Facts

Leave no stone unturned in informing the community of the facts. Because it was a campaign of *facts*. We found we had to tell people about our financial condition, our curtailed staff, our play centers' need of repair. When we told them they believed us. And why? We think for this reason: we had a good talking point; we had something to show them—the attendance of half a million children during the year; major events which drew thousands of people at each performance.

If we had not been able to show our citizens definite accomplishment, and had not had a Playground Board that gave willingly and tirelessly of its time—the Chairman, Dr. H. J. Stewart, alone made a dozen addresses—we doubt whether we would have been able to gain our end. If, too, we had not previously made friends with practically every large civic and patriotic group through co-operation in programs, we would have had rough going. But we had for five years put on a children's program for the American Legion on July Fourth, reaching an audience of some 20,000; our Aviation School had the sponsorship of the Kiwanis Club; we had given talks and programs before the Rotary, Lions, and Optimists clubs; we had three adult clubs in connection with the playgrounds whose members volunteered to see that the group as a body voted for the amendment; we had convinced our two newspapers that we were doing a community service and had secured a statement from the editor of the leading periodical to the effect that the parks and playgrounds gave a greater return for the money expended than any other community group. We drew a conclusion from this: one cannot afford to have an enemy if one is in a public position; it is far too costly a luxury!

We had as one of our most important assets the backing of the newspapers. We wrote weekly articles and illustrated them with activity pictures; we persuaded some of the most influential citizens of Oak Park to write to the papers favoring the amendment; we were given generous space in the Chicago newspapers; a women's organization,

Zonta International, voluntarily endorsed our measure and thereupon some ten other civic clubs followed suit.

And Then We Talked!

Then we talked. We talked to everyone we met, individually as well as collectively. If we couldn't have twenty minutes, we took five. We reached practically every Parent-Teacher, civic and patriotic group in Oak Park. We stressed just four points: Safety; juvenile delinquency (just at this time the Chicago newspapers were full of stories of youthful criminals); character-building, and the holdover interest of activities and hobbies for adults. We mentioned the matter of low salaries only once, then we gave it up; we found it was poor psychology. People were more interested in what the amendment would give their children than they were in the inadequate salaries of the staff.

We capitalized on the fact that we had learned that Oak Park was exceptionally recreation-minded through a community-wide contest this spring. Rotary Club, borrowing the idea from *Atlantic Monthly*, had sponsored the contest to find suggestions for bettering the civic life of Oak Park, and of the eighty papers submitted twenty contained suggestions on some phase of recreation.

We persuaded the ministers of some of the largest churches to endorse the measure from their pulpits three days before the election, and this was a tremendous help. We made use of the arguments of outsiders; they were apt to be fresher and more detached than ours. One lawyer said: "You don't have to sell us to recreation. We know that playgrounds actually reduce our taxes. It is much cheaper to pay a few cents for playgrounds than it is to pay thousands to support young criminals in prison." A clergyman made this statement: "I don't see how your bill can fail. If Oak Park parents deny themselves in giving their children every educational opportunity and every kind of luxury, how could they refuse them a few cents for anything as important as recreation?"

We used one modern method of publicity; our aviation instructor flew low over the polling places and dropped handbills urging people to vote for the measure. We distributed handbills addressed to the parents on the playgrounds, and gave them to the children in the schools in the vicinities of the playgrounds. We addressed more than six

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"So You're Going" Down Romany Road

By JANE KITCHELL
Librarian, Public Library
Vincennes, Indiana

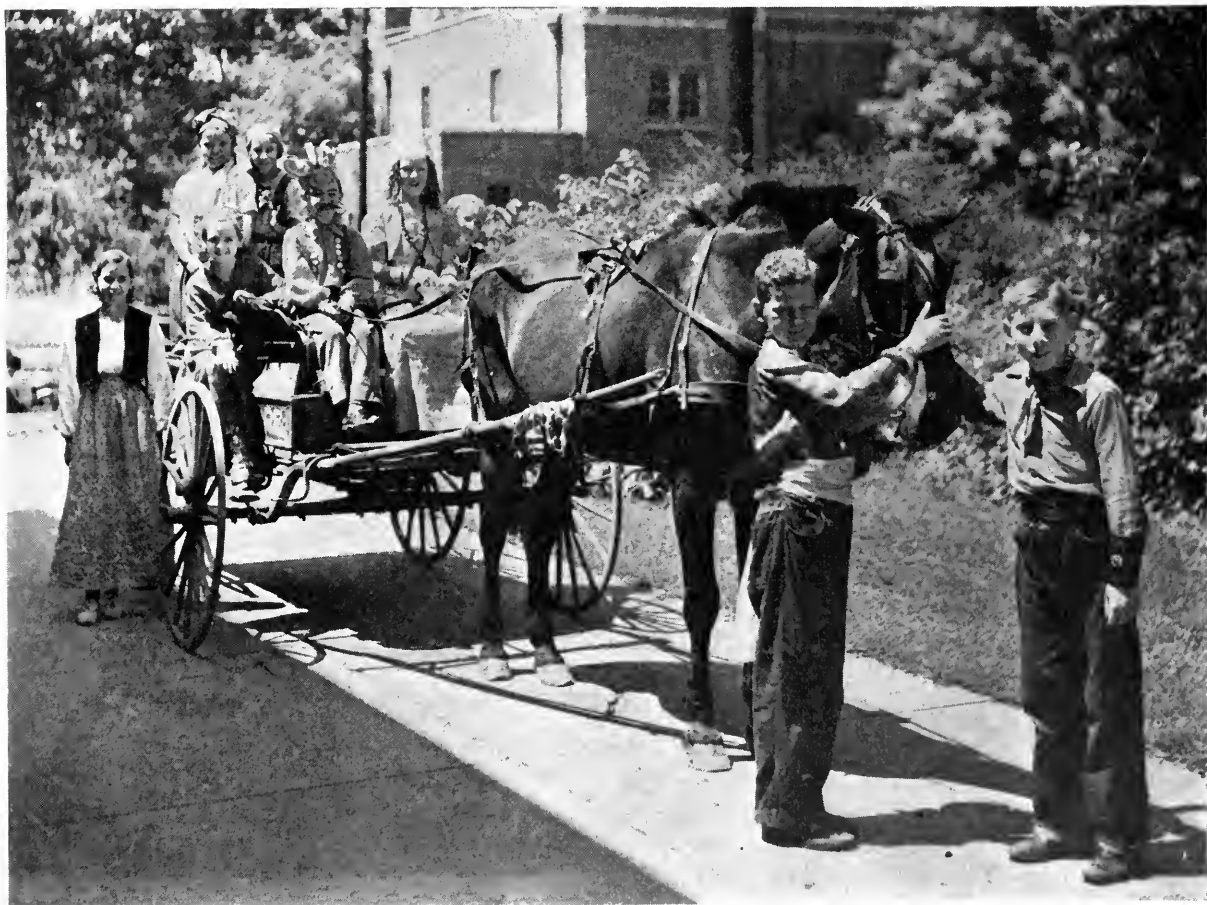
CLARA LAUGHLIN's many delightful travel books were the inspiration for the title of a vacation reading project—"So You're Going" Down Romany Road!—sponsored by the Public Library of Vincennes, Indiana. It was a comprehensive world tour which lasted fifty-eight days with visits to many countries at the remarkable price of a library card and the desire to spend a worthwhile vacation by reading at least ten books.

Since modern invention is fast taking the romance out of everything, children of today have little knowledge of the gay gypsy caravans of long ago, the wagon house on wheels with its brightly colored curtains, tinkling bells and smoke curling from the chimney. Little is known of these strange romantic people with their picturesque history to whom

we are indebted for the first fairy tales as they sang and danced their way down through the ages.

Jiggity jog, off they went, no more lessons, no more school, with a horse to drive over the gypsy trail and back again! The patrin made of grass, leaves and sticks, the sign of wisdom gypsies leave for the next caravan, led to many new adventures in which the boys and girls encountered Robin Hood, Sir Galahad, King Arthur, the Forty Thieves and many other celebrated characters. The project was launched with "ye olde time" gypsy caravan moving over the downtown streets at sunset. There were strolling musicians and accordion players, followed by two horse-drawn gypsy wagons. Dogs, tambourines and colorful costumes added to the picture as the happy children with bundles tied in gay baudan-

King Richard and Queen Carolyn arrive at Harrison Park for the coronation ceremony



nas arrived at the Court House just as the old clock chimed out the hour of seven.

The parade served as a means not only of creating an interest in books but of educating parents as to what is being done with the taxpayers' money. There are always people who do not read but whose attention is held by a panorama.

The children made a patrin during the course of the parade which interpreted read, "Hurry along, good camp ahead." In this case the camp was the Public Library where the gypsies had been given the privilege of camping for the summer.

The caravan was divided into four tribes named in honor of some gypsy chief: Grades 1—2, "Jo Boy"; 3—4, "Murdo"; 5—6, "Petru," and 7—8, "Lucu." Grades 1 and 2 displayed much interest from the fact they had learned of Jo Boy in their school work and knew he had been a gypsy baby. A colorful gypsy wagon, seven feet high, made from beaver board, was placed in the children's room, the walls covered with posters of gypsy symbols, and gaily colored charm strings draping the windows. For each book read the child placed a bead, and the various tribes vied with each other for the honor of creating the largest string.

Chiefs and outstanding gypsies, selected each week from the best book reports of each tribe and the largest number of books read, presided over the Saturday morning camp fire which was informative as well as entertaining, for the children were instructed in gypsy lore, fact and fiction; in gypsy wisdom, folk tales, customs, music and vocabulary, and in gypsy symbols going back to the beginning of religion and superstition. "Little Gypsy Sweetheart" was the theme song. The words were thrown on the screen and well-known books were shown with the lantern. There were two very delightful camp fires which the children will long remember when two fathers entertained the children.

One of the fathers, well versed in magic, waved his wand and thrilled the children with many strange feats. As a grand finale, he built a fire in a covered dish and removed the lid to find candy kisses rolling out which he threw to his audience. And he seized the opportunity through his magic to impress upon the children the fact that many things in life are not always what they

seem to be. The second father entertained the children with several motion picture reels showing his own little gypsies and school activities, including the crowning of the May Queen. Many of the children recognized themselves in the film.

The King and Queen Are Crowned

At the end of ten weeks a Gypsy Patchiv (a festival or ceremony in honor of some person or event) was held at one of the parks. Since gypsies do not believe in the divine right of kings but in advancement through merit, Richard Inman was crowned king of the gypsies for having read more books than any other gypsy, and Carolyn Cooper their queen. It was a colorful ceremony. Chiefs, pretenders to the throne, and other gypsies of merit and distinction arrived long before the hour of coronation. With great expectancy they awaited the arrival of their majesties, proving that real kings and queens are just as interesting as those who live in fairy tales!

Among the books which were used to good advantage in the Gypsy Caravan project were the following: "Stories of the Gypsies" by Berco-vici, and "Four Gypsy Children" and "Gypsy Caravan" by Pease.

Suddenly through the gate came the royal coach, not of glass and gold, but a rare old horse and wagon. The crowds cheered, and amid cries of "Long live the king!" and "Long live the queen!" their majesties were escorted to the throne. Not to be outdone by English tradition, the stone steps of the band stand served as the "stone of destiny" which is beneath the throne on which every English king sits to be crowned. The ceremony was impressive. The young king, seven years old, promised to be a true king, to serve his people, fight their battles and loan them money. Then the queen was crowned while the children shouted, "May the king live forever!" Since every coronation has a banquet, King Richard's first official act was to declare a feast of "hot dogs," while Queen Carolyn promised, through the reading of the stars, to guide them so that peace and contentment would follow them in all their wanderings.

Book Therapy

The project was carried into the hospital. One of the girls, always an enthusiastic participant in all vacation projects, was stricken with appendicitis just as the caravan started on its journey. As soon as she was able, she registered for the trip, read some of the books while still in the hospital, sending her reports to the library. A little lad of

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Archery in the Recreation Program

By MYRTLE K. MILLER
New York City

IT IS GENERALLY agreed that any sport suitable for the recreation program must meet certain requirements. It should have a high carry-over value. It must be moderately inexpensive. It must be readily adaptable to almost any group, size or play space. It must place little or no premium on individual muscular or mental ability, and, above all, it must be fun!

W. A. Kearns, in an article in the October 1937 issue of RECREATION on "Sports Carry-Over in the Home Recreation Program," has defined the carry-over of a sport as "its utility in later home and private life." From the following true story of a typical family of archers, let each reader judge to his own satisfaction whether this example does not picture a sport that really has "utility in home and private life."

The Story of the Jones Family

It is a dreary Saturday afternoon in winter. The weather is by no means an invitation to outdoor activity. This would be a dull afternoon for the Jones family had not Jane introduced archery into her home. She had learned the art of shooting the bow and arrow in an archery class sponsored by the local recreation department. This was just the kind of an afternoon to furnish an ideal setting for the family's "downstairs championship." Yes, the basement archery range (it could be the attic) is always ready for this family of four to enjoy its hobby. "Who was the winner of the championship?" Well, it happened to be Dad, but it really doesn't matter. Junior is down there practicing Sunday morning before church. "Watch out for your championship, Dad!"

Perhaps the enthusiasm of last Saturday will carry over to the next rainy day when some of the neighbors will be invited in for the "shoot." It doesn't have to be a tournament, of course. The practice will help all of the archers in their next Monday's club meeting in the high school gym. It's a weekly event you know.

Mrs. Miller, international archery champion, has had long experience in teaching the fundamentals of the sport. It is her firm conviction that with the rapid growth and increasing popularity of archery we must, sooner or later, realize that it has a definite place in the recreation program, and she conceives of it as a sport for the entire family to enjoy together.

Time passes and this is the first warm day of spring. The Jones family is anxious to get out on the backyard range to try out improvements in form developed in winter shooting. The distances are not regulation here in the backyard, but they are longer than the basement or the indoor club range. Next week the local archery club is opening the outdoor range, and then the shooting distances will be regulation. What

a "coming out party" that will be! Heavier bows will be put to use and the old tournament arrows of last summer will supplant the relics of the winter season.

Again "time marches on" and brings the Jones family to the first big day for all archers in the town, the city championship! Father has all the equipment ready in the hall and Junior is helping load the car while Mother and Jane pack away the neat bundles of picnic food in the baskets. "Will Dad keep the city championship this year?" That's important only for conversation! The really important thing is that all are going to have their annual good time. The arrival at the field is the first thrill. There's the fellow Junior had so much fun with in the "Art Young Round" at the National last summer. The scene is one of friendly smiles and handshakes, "hello's" and "how-do-you-do's." Now to try to get in on a little practice to see that the range stick is marked correctly for the point of aim.

The next thrill comes with the starting whistle. Noon hour is the fun hour too, a picnic with the family and archery friends, a little rest, then back to shooting again. The end of the day finds Dad minus his championship but fortunate enough to have won a set of ash trays in the novelty shoot. After winning first place in the Junior division, Jane proudly displays her gold medal. Junior is just as proud of his bronze one, his award for third place. Mother is content to know her scores hadn't taken a slump since the last season.

Almost the same thing will happen at the state tournament, although the drive is a little longer

and the meet covers a Saturday and Sunday of shooting. But what about the national? "Can we go this year, Dad?" "Sure!" The new family membership plan in the National Archery Association has made it very easy to have the family dues all paid up, and the "boss" knows that national tournament dates are father's vacation days. That is a whole week of fun. Even mother can forget about things at home for that week and her shooting will show it, too. She will finish among the first twenty this year. For this tournament Junior has a new bow and arrows, Jane and Mother have new sets of arrows that Dad finished last spring, but Dad has to be content with his last year's outfit because he is getting a new set of golf clubs this year.

Why go on? Those are true archery pictures of just one of many families. Some take in the tournaments. Others may confine their shooting to the home field or perhaps just the club range. All over the country such archery pictures are being made because some folks have been fortunate enough to learn about the great sport of archery. In many cases, as in that of the Jones family, the local recreation department is responsible for the interest in the sport.

Many who have developed this interest in archery have adopted some one phase of the sport as their hobby. The making of tackle in the home workshop is a fine creative hobby practiced by many archers. Some find great pleasure in making collections of arrowheads, old archery weapons and novelties. Some valuable and interesting archery libraries have resulted from the hobby of collecting books on the sport.

Considerations for the Recreation Program

In considering archery for the recreation program, the cost of equipment is a subject of importance. Archery is not the expensive sport it is usually judged to be. Just as in golf, tennis or any other sport, one may pay as little or as much as he chooses for his equipment. The tackle necessary for a class of archers consists of bows, arrows, arm guards, finger-tabs and targets, or a baled straw backstop on which paper target faces can be mounted. If equipment is

given the proper care there is very little breakage, hence little or no expense for upkeep. The same sets of equipment can be used by any number of classes, a large number thus being accommodated by a small investment. It is interesting to note that many people who learn to shoot archery want to purchase their own equipment soon after they have had their lessons.

In suggesting archery for the recreation program, a proper question is: "How large a group can be accommodated in an archery class at one time?" The answer, of course, depends largely upon the set-up. If the space is large enough for a class of forty in any other activity, it is large enough for a class of forty in archery. This does not mean forty archers will be shooting at one time, but by using the "buddy" system that number can be kept well occupied. In this plan the class is divided into pairs, one half shooting while the other half is coaching, analyzing, or studying the form of those shooting. It is even possible to divide the class into three's if there is a shortage of equipment, two observing and discussing the shooting technique used by the third.

In as much as archery can be adapted to the indoor or outdoor program, it serves as an excellent year-round activity. In the indoor program, if sixteen-inch target faces are mounted on a baled straw backstop, rounds can be shot using feet instead of yards for the shooting range, since the sixteen-inch target is one-third the size of the regulation target.

On an outdoor range, the important things to remember are these: The grounds must be free from rocks, stones and other hard objects which would tend to injure the arrows that miss the target. All possibility of passers-by walking behind the targets must be eliminated. A space of about ten yards behind the target should be made

"Archery has had its ups and downs. . . With the coming of the firearm to our European forefathers in comparatively recent times, the bow was retired to the realm of sport. In this capacity it has sporadically interested groups in various parts of the civilized world, but it has not flourished to the extent of many other sports. And now again archery is having its 'ups.' Along with the revival of interest in all sports of the individual type, it is being used by a fast-increasing number of men, women and children as an absorbing leisure time activity." — *Reichart and Keasey in Modern Methods in Archery.*

to catch the wild arrows. A bank to catch the missing arrows would, of course, be ideal. The field does not need to be wide, but should be at least sixty yards in length so that the official rounds can be shot. The one most commonly used by both men and women is the American Round which consists of shooting thirty arrows at sixty, fifty, and forty yards. For beginning

classes, a field thirty yards in length is ample space since novices begin shooting at a very close range from as short a distance as ten yards, gradually increasing the distance as the class improves.

From statistics given in Glen O. Grant's article in the October 1937, issue of *RECREATION*, we learn that archery is one of the two sports of equal interest to boys and girls. In tournament participation we find a few more men competing than women, but in local club memberships we find the sport equally attractive to men and women, a fact which offers excellent possibilities for archery as an activity for mixed recreational groups.

An important reason for including archery in the recreation program is supported by the fact that it is adaptable to the physical needs of every individual. This is accomplished by proper selection of equipment. It is possible to procure bows ranging from fifteen pounds to forty-five or fifty pounds for target shooting. Everyone learning to shoot archery should use a light bow until his shooting technique becomes somewhat automatic. After this one can gradually work into a heavier bow until he finds the weight of bow which he particularly chooses to use. The individual who is not physically able to indulge in strenuous activity can continue using a very light bow, from fifteen pounds to eighteen pounds pull. The more athletic type may pull as heavy a bow as he feels able, maintaining good shooting form. The average woman pulls from twenty-two to thirty-five pounds; the average man from thirty to fifty.

Many physically handicapped people who have been unable to indulge in any other active sport have found archery the answer to their needs. On the other hand, the athletic type of man also finds archery the answer to his needs, for after



Russ Hoogerhyde, for five years, national archery champion, and a group of admirers

pulling a heavy bow through a round he feels the stimulating results of the exercise and the mental refreshment of the recreation.

It has been estimated that the average man shooting through a single York Round, 72 arrows at 100 yards, 48 arrows at 80 yards, and 24 arrows at 60 yards, has actually lifted from three and one-half to five tons of weight. During the 1930 national archery tournament, Russ Hoogerhyde, national archery champion, pulled over seventeen tons of weight.

Shooting the bow and arrow is, by all means, fun. But a most important fact to remember in achieving this end is that the leader or in-

structor must have full knowledge of the sport and the technique of shooting. This is all important, for if wrong methods of shooting are presented the purpose is defeated. Instead of experiencing the great enthusiasm resulting from good teaching methods, the beginner becomes discouraged and in most cases will not enjoy continued practice of the sport. If correct shooting technique is presented, the class will have fun! Man seems to possess an innate love for the bow and arrow, and to be able to hit the target does give real joy.

In considering seriously the recreational possibilities of archery and its constructive contribution in group and individual activity, the inevitable conclusion is reached that archery should enjoy a well-defined place in any balanced recreation program affording proper facilities for boys and girls, men and women.

A School of Archery for archers and school and camp instructors was scheduled to be held June 22-28, 1938, at Roxbury, Vermont.

A Call to the Recreation Congress

ALL OVER AMERICA search for the good life goes on. Food and shelter—yes. But that is only the beginning of life. What comes after is living.

What are the people in your community doing to live? Have you provided places for the children to play? Are their pleas—where can I go, what can I do—answered? Are your youth living adventurously and facing life hopefully because of happy hours learning and practicing the innumerable latent skills? What of your men and women? Is life passing them by? Do they go from day to day stirred by the varied possibilities of human satisfaction?

Fortunately for many people in our nation this chance to live is being realized. Public-spirited citizens are giving time freely on boards and commissions whose task are to provide for richer living. Hundreds of progressive communities, urban and rural, have employed trained leaders to make this provision more effective and far-reaching. Public officials are appropriating funds and individuals are donating lands and buildings. Committees are working, groups are studying, schools are training for leisure. Special needs of boys and girls are being faced. Human skills that are the heritage of the ages—music, drama, arts and crafts, sports, games, gardening—are being made available.

In city and in country, in public and in private agencies, this search for the good life through recreation goes on. These efforts are being unified. Gathering under the banner of recreation, the forces for vital living are surging forward. The questions uppermost are not so much Why and What and When, but How.

If you are or would like to be a part of this great and growing unified national recreation movement for effective living in America, come to Pittsburgh in October. Come to the National Recreation Congress. Realize anew that you are not working alone. Bring your questions, share your experiences. Stand up and be counted among the leaders dedicated to the task of seeing that through recreation life in our democ-

racy can and will be a rich, stirring and joyous experience.

An alert local arrangements committee in Pittsburgh is preparing for the coming of the Congress. Adequate hotel accommodations, excellent meeting facilities, the geographical location of Pittsburgh and the nature of the issues before the recreation movement today indicate that this Twenty-Third National Recreation Congress will be a most significant event in the progress of recreation.

Listed here are the topics chosen this year for group discussions. Later further information and data will be sent to all who send word that they are coming. This material will enable each one to come better prepared to contribute to a vital discussion of these and other questions to be faced.

A view of the city
the Twenty-Third Na



Pittsburgh, Pa., October 3-7, 1938

The program committee for the general sessions promises a series of inspiring and helpful messages on fundamental problems facing recreation in America.

There will be opportunities to study exhibits, see films of recreation programs, hold individual and small group conferences on special problems, see old friends, and meet new ones. Time will be set aside so that we may practice what we preach. Yes, we too, will play at the Pittsburgh Congress.

It looks like a full, joyous week of working and playing together. We hope you will be with us.

Topics for Discussion at the Section Meetings

How shall we build sound, city-wide recreation programs?

What are the effective steps in financing growing facilities and programs?

be the host of
recreation Congress



How to secure the cooperation of all agencies concerned in a community-wide recreation program.

The public school building—the people's major unused recreation asset. How shall its use be secured and directed?

Recreation in industrial plants and business offices.

How can we develop more fully the recreation possibilities in family life?

How can educators and recreation executives more effectively train leaders for the recreation profession?

The interpretation of recreation—a clinic on written reports.

In what ways can board members better serve the recreation movement?

Report of the Committee on Standards of Training, Experience and Compensation in Community Recreation Work.

How are the special problems of serving the recreation needs of rural folks being met?

How can the vast resources of volunteer service be related to recreation?

Women and girls in a recreation program—their special needs and methods of meeting them.

Co-recreation and successful ways of promoting it.

How can recreation departments help to meet camping needs of the people?

The church recreation program.

How can the physical equipment of the recreation movement—areas and buildings—be more adequately planned and maintained?

Recreation problems of smaller cities—approximately 5,000 to 30,000 population.

Extending the possibilities of amateur drama.

Music for the enrichment of life.

Methods of inaugurating and directing nature programs.

Methods for starting and developing gardening as recreation for children and adults.

How can we more effectively utilize arts and crafts in meeting recreation needs?

Pet show—a free for all release of new and pet ideas.



Courtesy Cycle Trades of America, Incorporated

The Wheels Go Round and Round

FROM ALL PARTS of the country comes news of the organization, under the auspices of recreation departments and similar groups, of bicycle clubs—groups of merry adventurers organized, in the words of the Lansing, Michigan, Bicycle Club, “to promote riding for pleasure, for adventure and active recreation.”

There are other objectives stated by this club, for safety is a primary consideration in bicycling, and so the objectives continue, “to study and actively promote better traffic laws and regulations; to abide by and assist in the enforcement of present laws; to assist and protect the younger riders.” Finally comes the all-inclusive objective—“to keep the wheels going round and round.”

And “round and round” they go in all parts of the country! In Framingham, Massachusetts, the Recreation Division of the Park Department is sponsoring two clubs, one for boys, “The Rovers,” and another for girls, known as “The Yellow Jackets.” The girls, working in cooperation with the sewing classes, have made uniforms consisting of yellow jackets and brown shorts which have created much favorable comment.

Each club in Framingham has its own officers consisting of president, vice-president, secretary and scribe, with an adviser from the personnel of

the Recreation Division. Regular meetings are held and trips to points of interest made weekly. Some of the places visited have included Henry Ford’s Wayside Inn, Hood’s Dairy, a farm in Wayland, Lake Masponoch in Holliston, and historic Concord. On these trips the starting time was set at 9:00 o’clock; the return at 3:30. Lunches were packed and often dinners were cooked over an open fire. An automobile accompanied clubs on all these field trips, the car being equipped with a large sign carrying the following inscription: “Motorists please drive with care—bicycle club ahead.” The car also carried a complete first aid kit, bicycle repair kit, a pump and other tools. It was also available for transportation for any club member unfortunate enough to break down while on the journey.

The process of organizing the clubs was simplified by the adequate use of publicity. Stories were published telling of the program planned and the objectives sought. The pledge, too, was published.

Organizing a Club

Suggestions on organization are offered by the Cycle Trades of America, Incorporated, which urges the appointment of a membership commit-

tee not only to obtain members, but to make sure that the club is made up of congenial people.

The Cycle Trades of America has suggested the following constitution:

Article I. The name of the club shall be

Article II. The object of the club shall be to promote Bicycle Riding.

Article III. Anyone who owns and rides a bicycle is eligible to membership.

Article IV. Club dues (if any) payable monthly to the Treasurer.

Article V. The duties of the President are to preside at meetings and direct the proceedings. The Captain commands all club runs, while the Lieutenants assist him in keeping the runs in order. The Captain also presides at meetings in the absence of the President. The Secretary-Treasurer keeps a roll of the members, takes care of all money and collects all the dues; notifies the members of dates of meetings and club runs, and keeps a record of the meetings and runs.

Article VI. The club shall hold club runs or other events at the call or discretion of the Captain, acting in conference with the members.

Article VII. The club shall have regular business meetings for transaction of club business, election of new members, etc., every Special meetings may be called by the President.

Article VIII. The order of business at business meetings shall be:

- Reading of minutes of last meeting
- Roll call
- Report of officers and committees
- Unfinished business
- Proposal and election of new members
- New business
- Announcement of runs, special meetings, etc.

When you have obtained enough members to start—say ten or more—you should then hold an organization meeting and appoint a temporary Chairman to direct the proceedings until the election of officers. There should be a President, Captain, First and Second Lieutenants, and a Secretary-Treasurer; all to be elected either verbally or by ballot, and to hold office for six months or a year.

Special Events

There are many special events which add to the fun of bicycling. A field day, for example, with games and races, creates much interest.

Such a day usually starts with a parade of contestants and finishes with the races which should be held on straightaways that have been roped off for protection.

The games may include among others the following:

Plank Ride. Planks usually about four inches wide are laid on the ground continuously for some distance and a prize given to whomever can ride straight enough to stay on the planks without riding onto the ground.

Gym Kana. In this race various obstacles are used—dismounting and getting under a rail fence, and riding over a narrow teeter board that should not be built too high to prevent injurious falls.

Bicycle Potato Race. This is run off in the same way as the usual potato race and always creates interest.

Hare and Hounds Chase. This is good fun. The "Hares," under the leadership of a rider well versed in the mazes of near-by lanes, mark a winding, twisting trail which will baffle and confuse the group of riders known as "Hounds" who are following. The course need not be more than five or ten miles in length, but if it is a tangle of crisscrossing trails it will keep the Hounds busy for several hours. The trail should be marked by sprinkling at all turns in the course either paper confetti or some white substance such as pulverized chalk.

Other events may include breakfast rides, "splash" rides, picnic rides, overnight camping trips and similar events.

The Reading, Pennsylvania, Bicycle Club mimeographs its schedules and sends them to all active members. Postcards are sent out announcing special events for which members are asked to register. There are no dues connected with Reading's club. When expense is incurred it is divided among the group.

Safety Precautions All Important!

As has been suggested, safety is a primary consideration, and all possible safeguards must be provided and careful organization effected.

With the safety of club members always foremost in the minds of the officials of the Framingham Recreation Division, weekly inspections were held when checks were made on lights, brakes, pedals, tires and other essential fixtures of a bicycle. Any defects found had to be repaired be-

fore the next trip. Moving pictures were shown on highway safety and other subjects.

The Pledge. The Recreation Division has found the pledge to be one of its most effective safety measures. The pledge reads as follows:

1. My bicycle must be equipped with a bell.
2. I must not ride on the sidewalks.
3. My bicycle must be equipped with lights if I ride after dark.
4. I will not "hitch on" to a moving vehicle.
5. I will obey traffic lights and intersection signs.
6. I will not go up one-way streets the wrong way.
7. I will follow all the ordinary traffic rules, including keeping to the right hand side of the road.
8. I will use signals when I want to turn in traffic.
9. I will not do stunt riding or carry anyone on my handlebars while riding on the road.
10. In addition to having lights on my bicycle for night riding, I will plan to wear white or yellow clothing so that I will be plainly visible to motorists.
11. I will keep my bicycle in good mechanical condition.
12. I will use the utmost care in approaching street intersections and railroad grade crossings.
13. I will not ride alongside of another bicycle. Single file is the rule.
14. I pledge to obey the traffic laws as faithfully as motorists.

Signed

Address

Telephone

Parent or Guardian

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York City in its Statistical Bulletin issued in March 1938 comments on the increase of fatalities among youthful cyclists and states: "The laws of every state should require that bicycles in use at night be equipped with a front light and tail light or reflector, and these laws should be enforced strictly. Bicyclists should be subject to the highway traffic laws. The most effective means of preventing these accidents would be to provide more cycling paths."

Cycling Paths. Chicago, Illinois, has set aside forty miles of bicycle paths, and New York City is creating such paths in some of the parks. The editor of the *American Bicyclist and Motorcyclist* has said: "Any road good for automobiles is good for bicycles, but it should not be the same one because of traffic problems. An attempt is being made to secure paths along the side of roads to accommodate bicyclists. These paths may be of asphalt, concrete or macadam, and should be wide enough for at least two bicycles to pass. A good dirt road is fine except that rain makes it slippery. The cheapest kind of road is that made by putting

down crushed stone with cinders and fine crushed stone on top. When this is rolled, it allows for drainage and proves quite satisfactory."

A unique feature of the Airport Play Field of Cincinnati, Ohio, acquired in 1933 through the transfer of a 200 acre portion of the airport and improved through a succession of WPA projects, is the provision made for young bicyclers. During 1937 the Recreation Commission acquired a quantity of bicycles to loan children not owning them. Storage space sufficient to take care of those desiring to park their bicycles will be made available. Work is going forward on a system of bicycle trails more than ten miles in length running from the Airport Play Field to the Recreation Commission's day camp at California.

Legal Safeguards. Because of the increase in bicycling in Oregon, the Bureau of Municipal Research and Service at the University of Oregon at Eugene, in cooperation with the League of Oregon Cities, has issued a pamphlet entitled "Bicycle Control in Oregon Cities" which recommends the adoption of a uniform ordinance over the state and a uniform system of bicycle registration.

Note: The Cycle Trades of America, Incorporated, Chanin Building, New York City, has issued some excellent posters on safety in bicycle riding which may be secured by recreation officials and others interested on request. There is also available from this organization a booklet which under the title "It's Fun to Keep Fit on a Bicycle" suggests how to form a bicycle club, describes a number of games and special events, tells how to ride the right way and how to keep in condition, and gives instructions on the care of bicycles.

A Safety Campaign. The Junior Optimist Clubs of Milwaukee each March conduct a safety campaign designed to promote safety in bicycle riding. The week's meeting is devoted to a discussion of the whole problem of safe bicycling. Statistics are gathered on the number of accidents and a bicycle is introduced for demonstration purposes. The policeman on the "beat" is invited to drop in during the course of the week to tell the boys about bicycle riding laws. Meetings are held with speakers from the office of the Chief of Police and the Safety Commission. Home-made posters are displayed and every member of the Club is urged to write an essay on "Why a Bike Safety Campaign" and submit it to the all-city contest.

When the Civic Celebration Was Over

TWELVE MONTHS ago a camping program was not even being considered as a part of the program of the Municipal Recreation Department of Aurora; six months ago it was a remote possibility. Today the city has municipal camping facilities valued at more than \$18,000 which are rich in atmosphere and conducive to a broad program. And not the least amazing feature of the entire project is the fact that these splendid facilities were made possible at a cost of only \$710.42 to the Recreation Department!

We are not saying that such an achievement is a usual occurrence. In our city it came as the aftermath of a civic celebration. Very often it is only through some such special occasion that facilities out of the ordinary are secured.

The Idea Comes!

It happened this way in Aurora. The city held a centennial celebration in which one of the major projects was a pioneer village. The idea of securing the facilities for the Recreation Department came quite by accident. It was during a conference with the Centennial Association president that the recreation director learned of some of the features of the forthcoming celebration. One of them was the painting of log cabins on a canvas background to furnish a setting for such outdoor antique exhibits as wagons, carriages and plows. This exhibit was scheduled to take place in one of the parks. Because the Recreation Department had located a suitable camping site and secured a lease on it last winter, the idea of having a real pioneer village was suggested to the president of the centennial.

After a number of conferences two major difficulties emerged. They were labor and materials. Before the Centennial Association Board would accept the pioneer village project it was necessary for the Recreation Department to present solutions to these two problems. To this challenge the Department made the following suggestion:

Inasmuch as the buildings were to be log cabins, it should be possible to secure telegraph poles from the railroad, in this case the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. Poles ought also be available from the Western-United Gas and Electric Company. Telephone poles, too, should be readily obtainable. It would be logical, we pointed out,

Aurora found itself, at little added cost, the proud possessor of a municipal camp, and all because of careful planning and cooperative action

By RUSSELL A. PERRY
Director of Recreation
Aurora, Illinois

for the Lumber Dealers Association to contribute more to the project in the line of material than in money. The same would be true of wrecking companies. The Recreation Department, we suggested, would make some material contributions and the Centennial Association might purchase the material that could not be donated. The labor problem, it was thought, should not prove a major item of expense to the Centennial Association. The Carpenters' Union, the Contractors' Association and other groups might be persuaded to provide the labor for certain specific buildings. Other groups such as civic clubs, business associations and churches would undoubtedly raise funds for the erection of other buildings. There was, too, the possibility of securing aid from WPA if immediate action were taken.

The Project Is Accepted

The board of the Centennial Association considered the recommendations carefully and checked up the various items. The results were encouraging. President Budd of the Burlington Railroad was happy to cooperate and promised from 1,200 to 1,500 poles would be available. The utility and telephone companies promised smaller numbers of poles. The Carpenters' Union agreed to construct the cabin of Sam McCarthy, founder of Aurora. The Contractors' Association was willing to undertake the building of the town hall.

Encouraged by this display of enthusiasm and cooperation, the Centennial Association accepted the project on the ground that long after parades, antique exhibits and night shows were forgotten the centennial camp would persist as a reminder of Aurora's first hundred years.

The next step was the appointment of the director of the Playground and Recreation Department as chairman of the Pioneer Village Committee. Much had to be done. To arouse more enthusiasm and interest a full page of news stories was published in the local daily paper. These stories included comments by Dr. William G. Vinal, by the director of playgrounds, the president of the Centennial Association, the Boy Scout executive, the Aurora historian and other well known civic leaders. A draftsman laid out the village in a way which would adapt it best to a camping program. The plans included cabins, ground layout, water, light and toilet facilities.

Difficulties Are Overcome

Despite careful planning numerous problems of an emergency nature developed. A section of the island in the village square remained swampy after the low water level had been reached. It was impossible to secure Federal aid through WPA because of lack of time. After several sleepless nights the problem was solved by a promise from the Western-Austin Manufacturing Company to loan a motor grader for the purpose of re-grading the village square. For nearly two weeks the motor grader moved earth from high parts of the island filling in the swampy areas. This did not completely solve the difficulty which was finally taken care of by the digging of a drainage ditch which appeared as a little brook passing through the village commons. The drainage ditch was dredged by a drag line which was also furnished without charge by the Western-Austin Manufacturing Company.

Another local firm, Barber and Greene, came to the rescue by furnishing equipment for the digging of 2,000 feet of trenches for water lines and a loader for loading gravel which was used on all the village roads and walkways. The local Truckers Association furnished a fleet of trucks and drivers without charge to haul the gravel from the city gravel pit to the village. Township trucks also helped in this work.

Another unforeseen situation developed with the construction of stockade type cabins in which the logs are set vertically instead of horizontally. It was found that the usual method of chinking with mortar would be unsatisfactory. After considerable experimenting boiler insulation material was mixed with 30 per cent cement by weight and water and was used to chink the stockade type cabins. When dry the insulation material became very hard and did not shrink away from the logs.

These problems are cited to show what may develop in a project of this type in spite of careful planning. They are the more serious because a project of this kind must be completed in a short time.

Now that Aurora has its municipal camp it is interesting to look back and study the attitude which prevailed during the construction of the village. In the beginning only a small group caught the enthusiasm necessary to make such an undertaking a success. This may have been due to the fact that those in charge had thought so far ahead that in imbuing others with their enthusiasm they failed to start from the beginning and to build gradually a firm foundation.

The spirit needed for the success of the project dwindled during the first six weeks. Those in charge began to worry for fear the village might prove too large a venture to undertake without unlimited financial backing. In the middle of the construction period there was a slight pick-up in enthusiasm which continued to grow in momentum and speed until in the last few days before the opening



Replica of the cabin of the founder of Aurora, Sam McCarthy, which will be used as the camp master's cabin during the camping season

of the village it seemed as though individuals and organizations could not do enough to help! Groups which had failed to respond during the early planning period jumped into action and insisted on making additions to the original plan.

The Kiwanis Club built a town well; foot bridges were constructed by the Lions organization; the Bell Telephone Company erected a flag pole, and many other touches were added.

With only five days left before the grand opening, those in charge were faced with the problem of obtaining toilet facilities. We approached the public-spirited owner of a plumbing concern who, sharing the general enthusiasm, volunteered to bring other plumbers into the project. The result was the construction of toilet facilities sufficient to accommodate the large numbers using the camp.

Another emergency which arose the closing days of the construction period was the completion of the electric wiring necessary to light the village commons, the approach road and the walkway to the toilets. An appeal to the officials of the Western-United Gas and Electric Company brought five truck loads of linemen to the village at four o'clock. They completed the necessary wiring by dark.

The splendid spirit shown by all the groups participating in the construction of the village was notable. All the individuals approached their work as though it were play. The linemen, in spite of the fact that they had already worked for eight hours, laughed and joked throughout their volunteer wiring job. They had been requested to help in the project and not a single man refused the request.

The Facilities

In spite of the setback and unforeseen happenings, the village opened on schedule. It was made up of a blacksmith shop, a general store, the cabin of Sam McCarthy, the city's founder, twin dwelling cabins, a single cabin, a trading post, a schoolhouse, a town hall and a church. When camping time rolls around next season the blacksmith shop



View of one side of the square showing four of the nine buildings. The well in the foreground is equipped with four bubbler drinking fountains

will become a camp kitchen; the trading post, the dining hall. The McCarthy cabin will be the camp master's quarters; the twin cabins, schoolhouse and the single cabin will provide living quarters for overnight campers. The town hall will be converted into an assembly building and will house activities during stormy weather. The church will be kept as a church to remind the campers of the spiritual aspects of camping and nature study.

Two permanent structures built for concession stands were constructed for the celebration. These will remain as shelters for quiet games during rest periods. The buildings were made large enough to meet the special requirements of the camping program. The camp kitchen, for example, is a 16 by 16 foot building conveniently located at the end of the service entrance with sufficient door and window space to permit of the best possible working conditions. The dining hall, a 20 by 40 foot cabin, is located 15 feet from the kitchen to allow the construction of a screened passageway between the two buildings which will afford protection to the food while it is being brought into the dining hall. Other buildings are spaced 25 feet apart. When the water line was laid provision was made to tap in for the water necessary in the camp kitchen. The camp master's cabin is large enough to accommodate a field desk, first aid chest, hospital cot and sleeping accommodations for the camp master. The buildings which will be used for barracks range from 16 by 16 feet to 20 by 20 feet. All of the buildings have at least four windows, while the larger cabins have from eight to twelve. The side walls

of all the cabins except the town hall are $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet, the town hall side wall being 9 feet.

Roofs were constructed with 1 by 10 Number 2, pine and fir. The cracks between boards were sealed by the 1 by 2 batten strip. To protect the roof against rain and to give it the appearance of age, 10 per cent gray paint was mixed with 90 per cent oil. The Playground and Recreation Department is now planning to remove the batten strips and cover the roofs with roofing paper.

Cinder floors were put in all of the cabins, the cinders being obtained from the local power house and wet down and rolled. This type of floor was in keeping with the pioneer cabins as it had the appearance of black dirt and stone. At a future date the cinder floor will be used as a base for a cement floor, and the laying of these floors will proceed as rapidly as the Department's funds permit.

All of the cabins were constructed above the ground on two thicknesses of 2 by 8 planks which were leveled by blocking up to the highest ground point with rock and wood. When the concrete floors are laid it will be possible to pour the concrete under the walls of the cabins and thus further preserve the buildings.

Some of the Accomplishments

When the time of the opening of the village arrived, the Playground and Recreation Department found itself credited with a number of accomplishments. It has participated in the major project of the centennial celebration, and all of the publicity in the newspaper during the planning and construction period referred to the Department as being in charge. All of those participating in the construction of the village had the satisfaction of knowing that they were taking part in a project which would greatly benefit the children of Aurora under the leadership of the Playground and Recreation Department. Groups sharing in the construction included most of the churches of the city, all of the schools, many merchants and manufacturers, civic clubs, a number of fraternal organizations, PTA groups, labor organizations, utility companies, business associations and the railroad. These groups of diverse interests met in a single enterprise. Not only did all the organizations take part but they contributed to the greatest extent possible. It is believed that all who shared in the project will continue their interest in the recreation program.

Not only did the Recreation Department obtain the cooperation of many groups, but during the celebration it was possible to bring thousands of people to the village grounds where they learned what the future of the village was to be. During the eighteen days the village was open it was estimated there were over 100,000 visitors. Special programs were conducted each evening. On the first night the village was dedicated. The program of the second night, known as Burlington Night, was in charge of the railroad employees. Other groups presenting programs were the German-Americans, the Roumanian-Americans, the Woman's Club, the Hungarian group, the American Legion and others.

To handle the crowds that visited the village it was necessary to secure volunteer assistance. The Boy Scouts set up a camp adjacent to the village square, acted as guides and guards, and performed many miscellaneous duties. The American Red Cross supplied a tent at the Boy Scout village and gave any first aid necessary. An ambulance was loaned to the village for emergency use, as were the services of the local utility life saving expert. It was necessary to establish a number of ground rules to insure a smoothly running celebration. Bicycles were not permitted and only a few automobiles were allowed to park near the village square. Morning clean-up duties were outlined for the Boy Scouts. These regulations with many others helped make the centennial celebration extremely successful.

Now that the celebration is over and the camp facilities have been handed over to the Recreation Department, a camp program is being outlined in which the department is attempting to take advantage of all the facilities available. An additional island, the use of which was obtained from the State Waterways Department, will be developed as a wild life park with an approach to the island made through the construction of a ferry. Wild flower gardens and a bird sanctuary, together with quarters for rabbits, squirrels, ducks and many domestic animals, will be established on this island. The Aurora chapter of the Illinois Sportsman League is cooperating to the extent of putting fish into high water channels where the inlet and outlet may be screened to prevent the fish from escaping to the river. An archery range, as well as areas for other recreational activities, will be developed.

Minimum Standards for Recreation Facilities

The Children's Playground

A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND is an out-of-door area used primarily by children of both sexes between the ages of 5 and 15 years of age, and devoted to a variety of play and recreational activities adapted to the different age groups, sexes, and the peculiar needs and interests of the community.

General Requirements

1. It should be large enough to enable children to engage in their favorite play activities.
2. It should be attractive.
3. It should be planned so that each age group can take part in activities with out interference from other groups.
4. It should provide facilities and areas which will permit of a wide range of activities, including specialized features and informal play.
5. It should be laid out with a view to maximum safety and most effective operation.

Location

The location of a children's playground is of primary importance. In selecting a site for a playground, consideration should be given to:

1. **Relation of site to the area it is to serve.** Careful studies show that most attendance on playgrounds comes from within a one-quarter mile radius. Children in sparsely settled districts should not be expected to walk more than one-half a mile to their playground.
2. **Safety and Accessibility.** A playground should not be located on a street bearing heavy traffic, or where there are unusual hazards or obstacles to children in reaching the playground.
3. **Relation to Elementary Schools.** It is usually desirable that a playground should adjoin an elementary school in order that it may be used for both school and community play.

A number of recreation workers have suggested they would like to see more material of a technical nature appear in *Recreation*. In the February issue we published the digest of a study of the lighting of play areas. In this article we are presenting some minimum standards for playgrounds and recreation centers. We shall be glad to receive comments from our readers on these standards.

Size

In order to carry out a diversified type of program, a playground should range in size from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 acres.

Surfacing

Most of the surface of the playground area should be graded to insure proper drainage, from one to two per cent; and covered with material that will be safe and as free as possible from dust.

Fencing

A playground should be completely enclosed with a fence 6 to 8 feet high, with openings at such places as will be most convenient but not to interfere with activities.

Landscaping

Beautifying the playground in keeping with the program is important. Where a playground borders a street, the fence should be set back several feet and plantings arranged outside the fence. There should be trees for shade in appropriate sections and as much turf as conditions justify. Paths should be few and well placed.

Lighting

In the case of many play areas lights should be installed in order that the fullest use may be made of the facilities.

Design—Layout

In order to take care of children of different ages and to provide a variety of play activities for both sexes, the playground may be divided for specific uses. Good results have been secured with the following arrangement:

1. **Small Children's Area.** A special corner of the playground should be set aside for the use of small children. Such areas will need benches and chairs for mothers, some simple apparatus, a large sand court, small lawn area for games, and plenty of shade.
2. **Apparatus Area.** There is less emphasis on apparatus today than formerly. However, it still has an important place on the playground. It should not be scattered about but have a definite location. Among the

essential types are swings, slides, jungle gym, horizontal bar and ladder, giant stride, traveling rings, balance beam, and see-saw. If the playground is to be used for the physical education program of an elementary school, some pieces of the gymnastic type may be required.

3. **Quiet Activities' Area.** Special space should be set aside for quiet activities such as dramatics, arts and crafts, music, and story-telling. It may be a shady corner or a quiet part of the playground building. Tables and benches and possibly a small stage are required for such features.

4. **Open Area.** Much of the play of the six to ten year old group is informal and requires an open space for running and low organized games. These areas should be well removed from the team games of the older groups.

5. **Area for Older Boys.** Boys eleven to fifteen years old need sufficient area for fields and courts for softball, soccer, or touch football, volley ball, handball, and other individual and team games.

6. **Area for Older Girls.** Girls should have their own area where they may play softball, soccer, volley ball, hockey, badminton, etc.

7. **Tennis Courts.** One or more tennis courts should usually be provided on the playground, placed so as to be easily accessible to both older boys' and older girls' sections.

8. **Shelter House.** Unless provision is found in an adjoining school house or other building, there should be a shelter house with an activity room large enough for rhythm and other group activities; if possible, one or two smaller rooms for music, crafts, drama, or club meetings; an office for the director; storage room, and toilet rooms for boys and girls.

9. **Wading Pool.** A wading pool should be provided, preferably adjoining the shelter house.

Supplies

Game supplies should be of a quality and quantity to provide full use of all the areas at any one time. Such supplies should include handcraft supplies, games, and equipment for quiet games and free play activities. A bulletin board, a repair kit, and a first aid kit are essential.

Leadership

Too much emphasis cannot be placed on trained leadership—paid or volunteer. The quality of leadership will determine to a great extent the effectiveness of the playground in a community.

There should be at least two directors, a man and a woman, on the ground at all times.

A good custodian is essential for the care and maintenance of the grounds and its equipment.

The Community Recreation Center

A "Community Recreation Center" is a building in which a variety of indoor recreation facilities make possible a widely diversified program of recreational activities. It serves the needs and interests of children, young people and adults of both sexes. The building may be a separate unit or it may be located on a recreation area such as a neighborhood playfield.—In the latter case it is a part of a combined indoor-outdoor recreation plant.

Location

The center should be located within easy access to those for whom it is intended with due regard to traffic hazards. The community playfield may be used as site if it is centrally located, since this would provide a unit affording both indoor and outdoor facilities.

There should be a neighborhood center for each square mile of built-up area in the city.

The Building

The center building should be ample in size to make possible the activities desired by the people. It should be of simple but attractive design and should have an atmosphere of hospitality. It should be so planned that different parts can be used by different groups at the same time with a minimum of interference. The following *essential* room requirements should be provided:

1. **A gymnasium** meets a widespread interest in games and physical activities. It lends itself to a great variety of uses. The size depends on neighborhood needs, but minimum dimensions are suggested of 50' by 90'. It is desirable, if possible, to have permanent seating facilities for spectators.
2. **Auditorium with stage.** This will provide for entertainments, concerts, dramatic productions and a variety of other activities. Seating capacity will be determined by the size of the community and the degree of interest of the people. A motion picture projector is desirable. (The auditorium and gymnasium may be combined in a single unit using movable seats. This is not entirely satisfactory from the point of view of either gymnasium



Courtesy Memphis, Tennessee, Park Department

or auditorium. Interests of different groups will clash and program will necessarily be limited.)

3. **Quiet game room.** A room of ample proportions equipped with small tables and chairs provides a place where individuals may spend a quiet evening reading and playing games. It also attracts people to the center who have no apparent desire to engage in organized group activities.

4. **Club and small group meeting rooms.** Every community center should have two or more small rooms to serve as meeting rooms for clubs, classes and special interest groups. The number, size and equipment needed for these rooms depends upon the neighborhood, the nature of the program carried on and other factors. These rooms should be equipped with chairs, one or more tables, and ample space for storing materials and equipment.

5. **Arts and crafts rooms.** One or more rooms should be provided for groups engaged in arts and crafts activities. In addition to tables and chairs ample storage facilities are needed.

6. **Kitchen.** Because there are many occasions when it is desirable to serve refreshments and also because the center may be used for dinners and similar functions, a well equipped kitchen is an important feature. It should have ready access to the auditorium or the rooms where meals or refreshments are likely to be served.

7. **Locker, shower and dressing rooms.** These facilities are essential to the successful operation

of the gymnasium. Separate facilities should be provided for the two sexes. These features require careful planning in order to facilitate easy circulation, supervision and maintenance.

8. **Additional recreation features.** There are other additional rooms and services which a building may well provide and in all probability one or more of them should be included in every recreation building, the selection depending on neighborhood needs. Among these are pool room, bowling alleys, swimming pool, special music hall, reading room and library, rough house room, and small social hall.

9. **Offices for the directors.** One or two offices will be needed, located where they provide the most ready supervision over the major features of the building.

10. **Service features.** Essential service facilities are check rooms, ticket selling booth, lobby, storage rooms for equipment, chairs, supplies, etc., janitor's room, dressing rooms in connection with the stage, heating plant and fuel storage.

NOTE: If the center is located on a neighborhood playfield, it will function as a service building for the outside facilities. This may necessitate a more ample provision of showers, lockers and checking facilities and will require an arrangement of these facilities so that they may be readily accessible from the outside as well as from the gymnasium.

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Applying a Treatment for "Boy Trouble"

By E. RODNEY OVERTON
Chairman, Juvenile Welfare Committee
Oakland Junior Chamber of Commerce

ONE TREATMENT of juvenile delinquency which has proven its worth is the application of wholesome leisure-time activities. "Boy trouble" is in a great many instances the outgrowth of the misuse of free time combined with an unfortunate home condition. These factors, plus unemployment and poverty, all contribute to juvenile delinquency.

Providing the boy with activities he enjoys doing and which will help him in his growth spiritually as well as physically is one way of applying a cure. The public playgrounds, Boy Scouts, Y.M.C.A., boys' clubs, and similar organizations are doing this, but they are often handicapped by lack of facilities and trained personnel. A sympathetic understanding of the juvenile delinquent is a crying need today, and it is here that the Junior Chamber of Commerce as well as many similar agencies can make a contribution.

The Oakland, California, Junior Chamber of Commerce has been working along this line during the past few years, and this year the plan has developed into the establishment of the West Oakland Boys' Recreation Center.

A New Center Is Created

In 1935 the Juvenile Welfare Committee of the Junior Chamber of Commerce received its introduction to the problem of delinquency through the practical experience of a number of its members in the legal profession. In an effort to obtain facts the Committee, in cooperation with various welfare agencies and with the public schools, conducted a city-wide survey which showed that delinquency was on the increase in spite of the fact that existing boys' work agencies were doing splendid work in their respective fields. At the completion of this survey and the publication of its findings, a group of Junior Chamber of Commerce members decided to experiment with some preventive measures and to check their values.

A community was selected in which one out of every four boys had at one time or another come in contact with the juvenile court or the

police. With the help of a number of workers from the WPA Division of Recreation, the boys of this community were asked to tell what activities they were most interested in. It was found that boxing, wrestling and tap dancing held the

greatest interest for the largest number of boys. With these activities as a basis for the program, plans were made to open a boys' center. The fact that no money was available for the project did not deter the Committee. The use of an abandoned schoolhouse was obtained from the Board of Education. This was wired for evening use by a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce; lumber and equipment for a boxing ring were donated by several companies whom committee members approached, and equipment for a games room, including ping-pong, checkers, chess and shuffleboard, was obtained from members. A branch library for boys was established at the center by the City Public Library. A craft room and a shower room were added—the latter a contribution of the Board of Education.

The program covers a great many additional activities. There are groups in model aircraft, leather craft and Christmas card designing, and a tap dancing class, community singing and band practice, basketball, baseball, and sightseeing trips are part of the program. Next summer a camp will be established where the boys will go for two or three weeks.

The great majority of the boys are members of the three boys' clubs which have been organized within the center. There is no hard and fast rule that a boy must belong to a club or even that he must participate in its activities. If he comes to the center it is the responsibility of the leaders to make the program so attractive that he will want to take part. On the other hand, there are boys who, like many adults, are immune to organization and do not care to join groups. These boys are given the same privileges as club members, and may come and go as they please.

When it became necessary to raise funds for

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Play in a Children's Institution

By ESTHER YARDLEY

WE HAVE AN ideal location for our Children's Home in Pottsville, situated as we are on a high elevation surrounded by lovely old trees which give us greatly appreciated shade in the summer months. Our playground, which is large and used the greater part of the year, is equipped with various pieces of apparatus. There is space enough for such games as tennis, playground ball and volley ball. Last year we furnished our basement play rooms with tables, book-cases, a play house, chairs, doll tables, lockers and numerous other equipment. One of these play rooms is used as a gymnasium in the winter time and during bad weather. Recently our study hall has been made into a three department room combining the library, study hall and quiet room.

The Recreation Program

Through our recreation program we try to give the children in our care the advantages they would have in their own homes and an opportunity to live as nearly as possible a normal life through recreation and social contacts with the community.

In the Summer. During the summer months each child goes to the swimming pool every day and with few exceptions all of them have learned to swim. During the summer of 1937 we started a "Know Pottsville Campaign" during the course of which we visited in small groups a dairy, meat packing house, post office, a library, a bank, the City Hall, a department store and a grocery store. The children were intensely interested in this project and we felt it had great educational value.

Social dancing, hikes, picnics, eating out in the open, journeys to amusement parks, parties for children who are leaving the home, a circus, a county fair and seasonable games made up our summer program. We make a special point of urging our children to bring their friends to the home during vacation time, and we encourage them in visiting.

Across the way from the home is some vacant land in which last summer we started a garden project, cultivating half an acre. The boys took complete charge of the garden, doing the planting and weeding, and caring for and picking all

In July, 1936, Miss Yardley became the director of recreation at the Pottsville, Pennsylvania, Children's Home. She tells in this article of some of the accomplishments of the past two years. Very recently Miss Yardley was appointed superintendent of the Home and a new director of recreation has been selected.

the vegetables. We ended the summer garden project with a net profit of \$25.30. We found this an excellent experience for our children as they were out of doors most of the time and problems of discipline were materially lessened.

We have secured tools and a work bench for our shop, and here we find the boys during their spare time making benches, tie racks and other articles, and repairing furniture.

In August we arranged for our children to attend the Y.W.C.A. camp for a week-end. The change of environment, the different surroundings, the old swimming hole, the opportunity to play tennis, to boat, fish and prepare their own meals, and eating out of doors all did so much for the children that we are hoping to be able to send them again this summer.

Fall and Winter Program. One of the main features during the fall and winter seasons is the organization of clubs. Each child may become a member of a club, choosing the one he prefers from the following list: athletic; hiking; glee club; skating; stamp collecting; storytelling; sewing and knitting.

We encourage our children to enjoy hobbies. Leaders of the clubs are members of the staff and volunteer workers from town. The boys are attending classes at the Y.M.C.A. on Saturday mornings which offer recreation and swimming. Several of the girls belong to the Girl Reserves, one of them recently being made an officer in her group. A few of the children take piano lessons; many of them sing in the various church choirs. A course in home hygiene given under the American Red Cross has proved most beneficial. We were fortunate in securing tickets for our children to attend the football games in town, and as a special privilege a few of the older children were

(Continued on page 261)

You Asked for It!

FROM A GROUP in a large city comes the following: "We are very much concerned in our city about certain problems of administration, and we shall be very grateful for any information you will give us in reply to the following questions":

Question: How many cities comparable in size to our city have recreation boards?

Answer: There are recreation boards or commissions in Fort Worth and Houston, Texas, in Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco, California, and in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In Boston the Park Department and the School Board have been conducting recreation activities. In the School Board two departments have responsibility for independent phases of the work. In order to secure better interrelationships, the Mayor appointed a recreation committee to study the situation and a careful survey has been made. This survey recommended a recreation commission for Boston, and its establishment is now under consideration by the Mayor.

During the years when Dr. William Burdick worked in Baltimore, he built up a board system of community recreation under his private association whose present name is the Playground Athletic League. It received money from the schools, from the city and the Community Chest, and was a unique type of organization, being built largely around Dr. Burdick's own leadership. Recently the Mayor of the city, at the request of local groups and individuals, appointed a group to study the local situation as had been done in Boston. This committee has recommended a recreation commission, after having a study made, to take over the work of the Playground Athletic League, the parks and the schools. The report of the committee containing this recommendation has just been submitted to the Mayor for his consideration.

Question: In these cities where recreation boards are separate from any of the functional agencies, how is cooperation with the school board, parks and playgrounds developed?

Answer: In cities where there are separate recreation boards, cooperation with other local public bodies is provided for primarily in two ways: (1) by official representation on the recreation board; (2) through direct agreement between the recreation commission and the agency concerned—school board, park board or other public body.

Question: In cities where recreation boards function separately, is the recreation board authorized to appoint the staff through the Civil Service or is an examination set up by the board in cooperation with the Civil Service?

Answer: In practice both methods may be found. Where there is Civil Service most recreation personnel is selected through this channel; in a number of cases the executive is exempt from local residence requirements. This applies in many cities where there are commissions, as well as cities where there are no commissions, as commissions come under or use the Civil Service. In commission cities where there is no Civil Service, the Civil Service techniques are usually used or at least some comparable merit system. Where there is no board or commission and no Civil Service, cities have found it difficult to establish any merit basis for employment. A few school districts, of course, such as Newark, New Jersey, use the educational certification method, but this is very exceptional.

Note: Readers of RECREATION interested in securing information on problems of administration will wish to obtain a copy of a bulletin entitled "The Organization of Municipal Recreation Programs," which reports some of the findings of a study of this subject based on a questionnaire sent to three groups of cities. These included cities having separate recreation boards or

departments; those with municipal park boards, and communities maintaining recreation programs under boards of education. Replies were received from 176 administrative authorities. Copies of the bulletin may be secured at fifteen cents each from the National Recreation Association.

Further information on administrative trends will be found in a reprint from an article which appeared in the January issue of *Recreation* under the title "Recent Trends in Local Governmental Control of Year-Round Recreation." This may be secured free of charge on request. Additional facts and figures are now available from the 1937 Year Book, which has been published in the June 1938 issue of the magazine.

WORLD AT PLAY

A Social Club for the Older Men

ONE of the most interesting features of the program at the Community House at Moorsetown, New Jersey, is a club of elderly men whose ages range from 65 to 84 years. There are twelve regular attendants at this club who meet one morning a week in the clubroom of the Community House to play cards and checkers. At noon they meet for luncheon for which they pay, which is served by the Community House. This club ranks high in the enjoyment which it gives to its members.

Nature Activities at Sheboygan

LAST summer nature activities were stressed as a definite part of the program at Sheboygan, Wisconsin. At least once during the summer the boys and girls of each playground were taken in chartered buses to Evergreen Park to tramp through the park under the leadership of Roy Myhre of the Park Department, who gave a short course in park appreciation, tree, bird and flower identification. In order that this outdoor classroom would not too closely resemble the schoolroom the periods were broken up with nature games, which would serve to emphasize the points brought home. The honor point system had in it the mounting and classifying of leaves and flowers. Nature stories were told.

The Fifth National Folk Festival

THE fifth annual National Folk Festival was held in Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C., on May 6, 7 and 8. More than 500 participants from twenty-nine states took part in the three-day presentation of the American scene in song, dance and story. There were Plainsong Chanters from Kentucky; Dunkards from Maryland singing religious folk hymns; representatives from five Indian tribes with their offering of dances, songs and flute playing; Ballad Singers from Virginia; Miner Songsters from the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania, and many others. The manner in which the folk arts are being preserved and used increasingly was seen in the folk exhibits which were held.

A Municipal Choir

ONE hundred and seventy-five members have enrolled in the municipal choir sponsored by the Playground and Recreation Commission of Springfield, Illinois, and directed by E. Carl Lundgren, director of the a cappella choir of the Springfield High School. Membership in the choir is limited to individuals who have been members of advanced choirs in the local high schools or in comparable choirs of some other educational institution. The choir's first concert was held the latter part of June.

Police Support Playgrounds

A meeting of the Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, Playground and Recreation Association held early in May was preceded by the presentation of a check for \$3,107.13. The presentation was made by Mayor Ostroski on behalf of the city police force, and the check represented the receipts of the policemen's ball plus contributions to the dance program and other gifts. The money will be used for work on several playgrounds. It is expected that volunteer labor will be used on all the projects.

Lawn Bowling for San Francisco

ON May 8th at Sigmund Stern Grove, San Francisco's new lawn bowling green, the first to be constructed by the Recreation Commission, was dedicated. Speaking at the dedication on the history and development of lawn bowling, Herbert F. Brooks pointed out that the first authentic record available tells of the construction of a green in the city of Southampton, England, in the year 1279. This green is still in use although it has been resurfaced many times. In California alone, Mr. Brooks stated, there are over thirty lawn bowling clubs most of which play on public greens built and maintained by the recreation or park commissions in their respective municipalities.

Where Checkers Flourish

THE Washington Park center in Cincinnati, Ohio, was set up to provide for hundreds of transients and home-

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less men who for years have made the park a gathering place. The supervisor of the center is one of the best checker players in Cincinnati and his interest is reflected in the program of the center. To the center come checker players from all walks of life, regardless of economic and social background, because they know that here they will find keen competition. Five out of the first six places in the annual checker tournament for the championship of Greater Cincinnati, held during March, went to the Washington Park players.

A Trailer Camp—A trailer camp was one of the novel projects sponsored last summer by the Sisterhood of Zion and the Jewish Community Center in Buffalo, New York. The camp was organized to give children who could not go to a regulation camp an opportunity to enjoy a program offering some of the features of camping. Trips were taken to the botanic gardens and to shops. After each field

trip visit picnics were enjoyed in a near-by park. After a trip on one day of the week, four mornings from nine until twelve o'clock were devoted to handwork, including work with beads, copper, plaster, wood, felt, leather and paints. All of the activities revolved about the idea of the trailer camp. The Parents' Educational Club, an organization of the mothers of the children participating in the project, furnished milk daily to the children.

A City Skating Carnival—Children of Ann Arbor, Michigan, took part in a skating carnival in January. There were preliminary contests at six of the city skating rinks, with finals held on Saturday afternoon. There were five events open to girls—broom riding race (twelve to fourteen); obstacle race (ten to eleven); skating for girls nine and under; 50 yard speed race (fifteen and over), and a relay race (no age limit). The boys, too, contested in five events—broom riding race (nine and under); obstacle race (twelve to fourteen); speed race (fifteen and over); chariot race (ten to eleven), and dog derby (no age limit). Participants could enter only one event.

To Promote Outdoor Recreation—The Federal government is taking an active interest in hiking, skiing, camp grounds and primitive areas. There have been appointed through the National Park Service regional advisory committees in all of the principal mountain recreation areas of the nation who will assist in formulating policies and practices for these areas.

Play Safe—The Statistical Bulletin of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for December 1937 reports a toll of 104,000 deaths from accidents of one kind or another during 1937—the highest figure for any year with the single exception of 1936 when, according to the National Safety Council's estimate, the all-time high figure of 111,000 deaths was reached. Accident fatalities in the homes or in public places, exclusive of motor vehicle fatalities, apparently were lower in 1937 than in 1936. Motor vehicle and occupational accident fatalities, on the other hand, increased. There was a rise of about 2,000 in the number of motor vehicle fatalities, bringing the total to the unheard of figure of 40,000 deaths in one year—a new high record.

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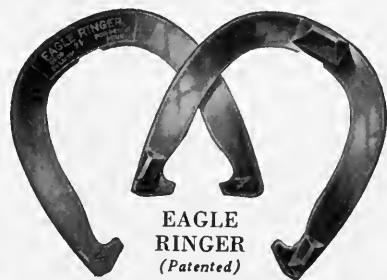
CITY.....STATE.....

In Lewistown, Pennsylvania—An outgrowth of the Fifth Ward Playground of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, which was opened in June 1937 under the auspices of the Fifth Ward Playground Association, was a class conducted during the winter for mothers who attended the playground during the summer. This class met every week at homes of the various members of the group, studying books, playing games and sewing. The Fifth Ward Playground Association is assisting other sections of the city in organizing similar associations which will open playgrounds.

Federalist Papers Available—The sesquicentennial edition of the Federalist papers has been published by the National Home Library Foundation of Washington, D. C., as part of the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Constitution. The volume contains the complete collection of the eighty-five essays on the Constitution originally published by Hamilton, Madison and Jay. It includes 675 pages and may be secured in paper edition for 50 cents; cloth edition for 75 cents, and in a special gift edition at \$1.00

Needlework as a Hobby—A suggestion for an interesting hobby is offered by Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., in a series of needlework pictures she has made celebrating events in the life of her family. Two of the pictures were made as souvenirs of Colonel Roosevelt's service as governor of Porto Rico and his hunting expedition. Another picture, covering for a chair which tells its history, was made in 1817 for Mrs. Roosevelt's great grandmother who took it by ox sled from Vermont to Ohio. Mrs. Roosevelt believes that many women would enjoy celebrating family events in needlework. Even if the work is done crudely, she points out, it still will have individuality and interest.

A Municipal Drama Association—The Municipal Drama Association of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, sponsored by the City Park Department, has entered its second year. Organized to encourage cultural expression, interest and participation of home talent in all desirable forms of the drama, the association is fulfilling its objective. It has sponsored and presented free dramatic productions of a high caliber, and it has established and is maintaining a drama library avail-



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able to all groups working through the association. Its membership consists of representative delegates from all the drama agencies and institutions of the city and of individuals in the community interested in promoting amateur dramatics. No fees are required either for membership or for the production of plays which are written by members of the association.

For a Fitter Britain—In a plea for a "fitter Britain," Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain emphasized the importance of improving health service. Government efforts will be concentrated on teaching the public the variety of benefits in medical and dental treatment offered by social services built up during the past quarter of a century. Efforts will also be made, Mr. Chamberlain pointed out, to encourage athletics. About £2,500,000 has been appropriated for instructing gymnasium directors and aiding in the purchase of playing fields and similar facilities.—From *The New York Times*, October 1, 1937.

Softball in Oakland—During the last season 240 teams were actively engaged in playing softball in Oakland, California, with approximately

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4,000 players on the field. In addition, there were leagues running in all of the neighboring cities, bringing a total within Alameda County to nearly 500 teams. Howard B. Holman, Supervisor of Boys' Recreation, suggests that one of the greatest values of softball is the fact that it brings into the out of doors such large groups of spectators. In Oakland, where no admission charge is made, the games attract an average crowd of 2,500 people per game, four games being played each night during the summer season.

A Conservation Birthday Project—The topic of the 1938 Birthday Project of the Camp Fire Girls is "My Land and Me" or "This Land of Ours," a project stressing nature and conservation. Girls throughout the entire country will be working on this project during the coming months and for those who complete the requirements a special Birthday Honor will be awarded. In order to complete the project the girls must fulfill one requirement in each of five divisions, two of which include individual activities and three, group activities. Group activities include, among other suggestions, making a winter nature trail, planting vines and shrubs to attract birds, starting a conservation library and giving a conservation exhibition or program. Individual activities include maintaining a winter feeding station for birds, making sketches of plants and animals, writing a diary of a plant or animal which has been closely observed over a period of time and making a poster, model or map for exhibition purposes, illustrating any one of eighteen nature and conservation topics.

Once More — Miniature Golf! — Miniature golf, America's most popular game ten years ago, has been successfully revived on the playground of the WPA recreation project at Glendive, Montana. The course, built entirely of salvaged material, has proved popular with Glendive children, many of whom had never heard of this game which was played by millions in 1928.

The Elizabeth Civic Theater — The Elizabeth, New Jersey, Civic Theater has issued an attractive booklet announcing its activities for the 1937-38 season—a program which will offer the community what is in effect a school of the drama and the allied arts. Using the facilities of Battin High School, made available through the courtesy of the Board of Education, the theater will offer six courses in the theater and its allied arts. There will be classes in stage craft, dramatic technique, theatrical dancing and make-up. A course of lectures will be given by outstanding workers in the various fields of the theater, and there will be bi-weekly meetings to discuss current plays and developments in drama. Theater parties will be arranged to New York productions. The workshop will be a laboratory theater in which theories of acting, make-up and production will be tested by actual experience. The workshop will prepare one-act plays for membership parties and for the one-act play festival. Supporters of the theater are known as sponsors and patrons. Sponsors subscribe for two or more season ticket at \$2.50 each, while patrons are holders of single season tickets.

Softball Leagues in Greenwich—Greenwich, Connecticut, with its 38,000 inhabitants, is reported to have more softball teams than any other city in the state and more teams per population than any other city in the country. The Recreation Board organized the Greenwich Softball Association which assisted materially in promoting and governing the sport. Eight leagues were organized with sixty-two teams competing and 930 men enrolled.

The horseshoe pitchers of the state gathered in Greenwich on September 12th under the auspices of the Connecticut Horseshoe Pitching Association for a state championship meet. The Recreation Board provided fifty entrants with a battery of twelve regulation courts equipped with floodlights for night playing.

Educational Radio Scripts — The Office of Education, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, is maintaining an Educational Radio Script Exchange designed to serve as a bureau of information regarding the sources of educational radio scripts. In it are being collected selected script material which is being used in connection with local non-commercial radio station broadcasts, produced as mock broadcasts at

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community meetings, presented in connection with study club programs and used for other educational purposes. Anyone interested in securing these radio scripts may write the Exchange for a copy of its free catalogue in which each script is briefly described and classified according to its subject.

Festival of One Act Plays—On February 15th, 16th and 17th the Department of Recreation of Lansing, Michigan, sponsored a festival of one act plays to encourage drama as a project in the churches and to enable each church group to benefit by the plays presented by the others. The department provided tickets and programs, the plan being for each group to sell as many tickets as possible and to keep for its own use all money above expenses. The festival will be followed by a one act play contest from April 18th to 21st.

Surveys in the Leisure-Time Field—A survey of recreational facilities and needs in San Antonio, Texas, made by Eugene T. Lies and Mrs.

Grace Pettet, may be secured from the City Recreation Department, City Hall, San Antonio. A survey on the leisure-time problems in Shreveport, Louisiana, also made by Lies and Pettet, may be obtained from the Community Fund, the First National Bank Building, Shreveport. The price of each survey is one dollar.

The Chicago Recreation Survey—One of the activities of the Chicago Recreation Commission has been a study of Chicago recreational facilities—a project which has been under way for a number of years. The project was sponsored jointly by four bodies—Northwestern University, the Chicago Recreation Commission, WPA and NYA. Northwestern University from the beginning provided the technical and editorial service, and for most of the life of the project has furnished supplies and other essentials. The Recreation Commission provided sponsorship, funds for publication, and many supplies, incidental expenses and various services. WPA furnished the funds for most of the labor and supplies, while NYA gave

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National Joseph Lee Day

THOUGH ONLY a few weeks have passed since the announcement of the setting aside of July 28th as a special day on which to give thought to the life and work of Joseph Lee, the idea has met with widespread approval. Messages have come from all parts of the country indicating that special activities and exercises will be conducted on July 28th in memory of Joseph Lee.

President Roosevelt has sent a letter commending the idea. Dr. L. P. Jacks of Oxford, England, has written a special tribute for the day.

St. Louis, Missouri, reports that there will be a special speaker on each one of their sixty-eight playgrounds. Jacksonville, Florida, is planning to make use of all playground bulletin boards to make material about Joseph Lee available to all the children. Houston, Texas, hopes to have two new playground buildings finished by July 28th. Their opening will be related to the observance of Joseph Lee Day. A folk festival in which all Houston playgrounds will participate will be dedicated to the memory of Mr. Lee. Los Angeles will emphasize actual demonstrations of joyous play of children. In addition, addresses will be made interpreting the significance of his life and the activities which he helped to stimulate throughout the nation. San Francisco plans radio talks, addresses at service club meetings and dedicatory exercises on playgrounds.

The purpose of National Joseph Lee Day, according to the National Committee that has been organized, is to commemorate the life and work of Joseph Lee and to interpret the importance of community recreation. The Committee has issued a brochure containing suggestions for commemorating Joseph Lee Day, a brief biographical sketch of Joseph Lee, selected sayings, characteristic ideas and ways, favorite games and sports, a brief children's biography of Joseph Lee, a pageant, and other material suitable for use by local communities desiring to share in the tribute being paid on that day to a builder of the national recreation movement. Copies of this material, as long as they are available, may be secured free of charge by writing to the National Joseph Lee Day Committee, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

some essential personnel and equipment of extraordinary value in certain emergencies. Arthur J. Todd of Northwestern University served as chairman of the committee in charge of the study. The report, which is profusely illustrated with maps and graphs, contains a history of public recreation in Chicago, Part 2 considers the administration aspects of public recreation, while Part 3 takes up recreation facilities and programs. Copies of this study are available at all the Chicago Branch Libraries.

Referendum Votes for Recreation in Illinois

—Two cities in Illinois have recently taken advantage of the Illinois Recreation Law enacted in 1921, permitting of a referendum vote on the establishment and maintenance of a recreation program. Champaign cast 2,500 votes for the issue, 1,600 against it; Urbana 1,600 for the issue, 1,900 against it. Oak Park voted at a similar election to increase the local levy for recreation as permitted by a 1937 amendment to the original law.

A Youth Week Celebration—Newark, New Jersey, held its 18th annual Youth Week celebration from April 29th through May 6th, with a varied program of events including the eighth annual harmonica jubilee, the fourth annual model aircraft program, the fifth annual Lieutenant George C. Calnan Memorial fencing tournament, and the second annual table tennis tournament. The final day of the week was devoted to a series of play days in all districts of the city, conducted by the staff of the Newark Recreation Department.

A New Recreation Commission—A Recreation Commission has been legally appointed at

Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and a program will soon be under way in that community. Donald R. Martin is chairman of the Commission.



Charles Hayden

A tribute was paid to the founder of the Hayden Planetarium when a portrait of the late Charles Hayden by William Fiske Noyes was unveiled at memorial exercises held in the planetarium. The portrait was given the American Museum of Natural History by Charles Hayden's brother, Josiah Willard Hayden, president of the Charles Hayden Foundation, established to aid boys and men. The greater part of Mr. Hayden's fortune was left to this Foundation.

For the last ten years of his life Charles Hayden served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Recreation Association.

Pets From the Wilds—"People are continually acquiring queer animals and birds by capture or purchase and trying to tame them," states a recent newspaper article. "Perhaps this is the oldest of hobbies." The publicity given the giant panda has made this previously unknown animal familiar to the newspaper reading public of the country. Many other animals might be listed among those which people are attempting to domesticate. In the big animal category bears and deer have been favorite subjects, but neither is satisfactory for the purpose. The deer is an appealing animal but is always unsafe. "Bears are

(Continued on page 254)

New York Holds a Hobby Luncheon

AS A CLOSING feature of the two day conference on adult education in March, arranged by the New York Adult Education Council and sponsored by the American Association for Adult Education, a luncheon was held at which a number of well known individuals described their own personal hobbies and the satisfactions which have come to them through their hobby interests.

Dr. William F. G. Swann, director, Bartow Research Foundation, Benjamin Franklin Institute, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, discussed his interest in music, particularly his enjoyment in playing the cello. He urged the importance of doing things without utilitarian value, such as participation in hobbies and arts.

Dr. John H. Finley, editor of *The New York Times* and president of the National Recreation Association, showed several books which he himself had made, one of them a book of poems which he had written to his granddaughter. The complete book, including illustrations, was all done by Dr. Finley by hand. He exhibited a second book which he had prepared for private distribution for which he had not only written the copy but designed the title page, setting the type by hand. Dr. Finley's interest in printing started in his youth when he worked in a small printing shop while attending college at Galesburg, Illinois.

Miss Jennie M. Flexner, readers' adviser, New York Public Library, described her enthusiasm for collecting Anthony Trollope, and Gustav F. Beck of New York University told how his interest in puppetry had developed and had found expression in the writing of a full length play for the theater.

Mr. Beck was in England at the time of the World War, and because of certain German background and blood connections he was in an unhappy emotional state. Feeling that he needed some definite interest to maintain his balance and provide some emotional outlet, he decided to take up the making of marionettes for children. When he had equipped himself to do this, he felt the need for plays for the marionettes. He decided the old Greek legends would be excellent for this purpose so he took up the study of Greek. This led from one thing to another until he finally reached the point of writing a play covering one day in the life of Emily Dickinson. The value of

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a hobby, he said, is that it leads you from one thing to another and requires study and exploration in a number of fields of interest.

Remo Bufano, a professional maker of marionettes, told of the fun he derives from sculpture which, as he himself pointed out, is a hobby definitely related to his profession. He described making of marionettes in the highest sense as creating moving sculpture.

Mrs. Garret Smith spoke on gardening, the pleasure of watching flowers grow, and the way in which the gardener is led to study insect and animal pests, soil composition, landscaping and other allied subjects. She told of the experiment in gardening service conducted in cooperation with New York University in the Greenwich Village area of New York City. A garden center has been established in Washington Square North to which anyone in the neighborhood may come for advice, books, seeds, bulbs, and information on subjects of all kinds. The garden center idea, she pointed out, represents one of the practical ways in which recreation departments in large cities can help promote gardening.

Arbitration may seem to most people a strange kind of hobby, but to Sidney A. Wolff it is a deep satisfaction and an avocational interest. Mr. Wolff told how he is called upon by the Labor Mediation Board and similar groups to sit on cases for arbitration. This has required a great deal of study of various industries, and as a result of this arbitration he has had to educate himself on many things such as milk distribution, the marking of garments, and the cost of living.

World at Play

(Continued from page 253)

the most unpredictable quadrupeds in North America." Perhaps the "best bet" of all for a "homemade" wild pet is the crow which is fairly easy to capture when it is a baby. Badgers, skunks, porcupines, squirrels and mice are some of the other common animals sometimes promoted to be pets.

Seen in Paterson, New Jersey—Little girls of six, big girls of sixteen, and small boys ranging from six to eleven filed into the gymnasium of the annex of Paterson's City Hall, many with trout rods in cases under their arms. Promptly at four o'clock they lined up shoulder to shoulder across the gymnasium, and the class in fly casting was on! And very expert indeed were some of these young anglers. The sports writer for the Paterson evening paper, affectionately greeted by the children as "Doc" Gruneman, is the volunteer leader of this class. For eleven years he has been teaching children the art of fly casting, and under his leadership about four hundred children throughout the county are enrolled in classes. Children are instructed how to teach each other, and Mr. Gruneman states that one of the finest teachers he knows is a boy of eleven.

Twenty-three Authors and the Youth Problem

(Continued from page 207)

enrollees was nineteen years, one month; in July 1937 it was eighteen years, three months. Thirty-five per cent of all enrollees from April 1, 1936 to March 31, 1937 had attended high school; in July 1937, it was 53 per cent. In January 1937, 52.2 per cent of enrollees were rural youths; in July 1937, 59.2 per cent. Facts are submitted showing the better health rate and lower death

(Continued on page 256)

Among Our Folks

ESCANABA, MICHIGAN, Watertown, Connecticut and Berwyn, Illinois, have appointed year-round recreation executives for the first time. The appointees were Bevier Butts in Escanaba, Howard Harrison in Watertown, and George Sluka in Berwyn.

Harry Wuelser succeeded Carl Schmitt in Milburn, New Jersey, when Mr. Schmitt resigned to become the first Superintendent of Recreation in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

Joe Schaffer, formerly Superintendent of Recreation in Lima, Ohio, has been succeeded by Harold C. Dillon.

In January, Robert M. Schultz, formerly Director of Boys' and Men's Activities in Reading, Pennsylvania, became the first Superintendent of Recreation to be appointed in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Dyer T. Jones has succeeded Ambler R. Travis as recreation executive in Maplewood, New Jersey.

Upon the resignation of J. R. Wooden, who had been in charge of recreation in South Bend, Indiana, Floyd Merriman, formerly on the state WPA program in Indiana, was appointed to take his place.

Following a civil service examination in Schenectady, New York, the first to be offered for the position of superintendent of recreation, Fae H. Marvin received the appointment as executive.

Harold C. Davis, who for a number of years was in charge of the emergency recreation program conducted in Schenectady, has accepted the position of Director of Recreation in Rhinebeck, New York, a small community providing a full-time recreation program for the first time this year.

Ray Forsberg, who resigned as Superintendent of Recreation in Salt Lake City, Utah, has been succeeded by Jessie Schofield.

Dedham, Massachusetts, has appointed a new director of its recreation program. David R. Kibby succeeds Mrs. Ada B. Pillsbury as Executive Secretary of the Community Association.

Miss Frances White, formerly Superintendent of Recreation in Morgantown, West Virginia, has succeeded Miss Sylvia Weckesser as Superintendent of Recreation in York, Pennsylvania. Miss Weckesser, who resigned to be married, will make her home in England.

(Continued on page 256)

A Tribute to Joseph Lee



DR. LAURENCE PEARSALL JACKS

I AM ONE of those who venerate the memory of Joseph Lee, on the one hand for the breadth, depth and warmth of his humanity, on the other for the single-minded devotion of his life to one beneficent purpose. He was the friend of children, and how could he better prove himself a friend of God? The play of children was for him one of the most precious things in the universe, akin to the beauty of the flowers of the field, which toil not—neither do they spin; and the thought of the many children in America (as elsewhere) whom a cruel fate has deprived of the means to play filled him with the sense of an intolerable evil. Nor was his care for the children only, though I think they were ever foremost in his mind. He would have all of us play wisely and play well, no man, in his estimate, being equipped for life until he has found a playground for his soul. Surely a sound philosophy! And a joyous one too! I will venture to call him one of God's playfellows, than whom God has no more valuable servants, none more effective as His fellow workers, and none with a better title to membership in the Communion of Saints. The National Recreation Association is fortunate in having grown to maturity with such a man, not for its President only, but for its presiding genius. May I not call him so?

NOTE: This statement by Dr. Jacks, Editor, the *Hibbert Journal*, and former President of Manchester College, Oxford, was prepared especially for National Joseph Lee Day.

Donald Wardell has become Director of Recreation in Waterloo, Iowa, succeeding Gordon R. Speers who resigned.

Robert L. Horney, Superintendent of Recreation in Danville, Illinois, has resigned his position to become Superintendent of Recreation in Davenport, Iowa. George Fairhead, who has been the Assistant District Supervisor for WPA in Illinois, has been appointed to the position of Superintendent of Recreation in Danville to succeed Mr. Horney.

Warren C. Smith, who has been assistant to Robert Dixon as Recreation Superintendent in Scranton, Pennsylvania, has succeeded Mr. Dixon who has resigned to take charge of the recreation program in Waverly, Pennsylvania.

Twenty-three Authors and the Youth Problem

(Continued from page 254)

rate for CCC youths than for all youths of the same age group. Mr. Fechner believes that the educational program, vocational guidance, training on the job and the camp experience itself, have all contributed to making CCC youths more employable, more self-reliant and better citizens of the country.

Three articles included in this section review briefly but effectively youth movements in this country, youth labor services in Europe and general government services to youth in the several European countries which have made the greatest progress along these lines. Thomas F. Neblett traces the history of organizations in the United States developed by youth for youth and as distinguished from agencies organized under adult leadership but conducting programs for youth. In presenting what youth groups have themselves accomplished Mr. Neblett points out that they still lack a common dominating ideal around which the enthusiasm of youth may center.

Kenneth Holland, after discussing labor camps for youth, states that they provide opportunities for work, education, and an outlet for the natural desire of youth for adventure and dangerous living and have a permanent place in any social program for youth. W. Thacher Winslow, who has made a careful study of what is being done for youth by European governments, believes that this country can develop a sound program for youth, free from the elements of regimentation and political exploitation prevalent in some other countries where youth programs have been organized on a large scale for political purposes.

"Leadership for Modern Youth" is discussed

by A. G. Knebel, who emphasizes the intangible qualities of leadership so important in dealing with youth. He feels that the present situation for youth demands the best leadership if the responsibility of society for youth is to be met fully and successfully. He writes: "Might one summarize the kind of leadership needed by youth today by saying that its chief function is to give more and more persons opportunities to unfold themselves by means of the aid they give to others in their development?"

Research and References

The four chapters of this final section of the report provide useful reference material on organizations serving youth, surveys on youth problems, and a bibliography of publications relating to youth. One chapter is devoted to outlining the procedure followed by the American Youth Commission in its Maryland Youth Study.

Conclusion

This symposium is of unusual value and includes basic data and interpretations with which every recreation worker should be familiar. Its usefulness would have been enlarged if greater recognition and emphasis had been given to the local aspects of youth services and to the part which local agencies, governmental and non-governmental, must play in meeting present situations adequately. All individuals and groups interested in youth owe thanks to the Academy of Political and Social Science for bringing together in one volume so much of the fact information essential to a proper understanding of the problems which youth itself and society as a whole are facing as a result of the impact of modern conditions of the youth of our country.

A Training Course in Home Play

(Continued from page 213)

Results Encouraging

At the end of the training period, it is fully expected that the results of this venture will prove worthy of extension. Even at the half way mark we are receiving reports that are most encouraging. We learn that there is less tension and less irritation in the homes. Mothers welcome a release from periods of close supervision of their little folks. It tested the ingenuity of our leaders to adjust the proposed activities to the conditions existing in these bandbox homes. Perhaps they would not have succeeded so well were it not for the clever ways and means suggested by the junior leaders themselves.

From these experiments in play in the home, we hope to obtain a fairly definite technique in method of approach, presentation of program and sustaining of interest. It should be a rich contribution of cooperative effort in carrying play into the experience of all the people.

Handcraft on a Shoestring

(Continued from page 215)

laurels. More equipment was turned back at the close of the season than ever before and in better condition. Several groups have continued their craft work by repairing toys for the Boy Scouts' Christmas gift campaign.

We are going to follow the same program next summer, and our Association believes it is an excellent idea to send a delegate to the next Recreation Congress. They have found that the ideas brought back from the last Congress more than paid for the delegate's expenses.

Trailer Units for the Recreation Program

(Continued from page 216)

trailers are standard products of a local manufacturer, and no springs are used under the units. This prevents a shifting of the platforms while in use, and when there is weight on them. It will be noted that all measurements comply with the Ohio state laws concerning street requirements. Safety trailer attachments are used for hauling, which is done by a small half-ton truck. Both units were built with perfect balance.

"Lindy" Started It!

(Continued from page 219)

Quantity	Dimension	Cost
300	— $\frac{1}{8}$ " x $\frac{1}{8}$ "	.45
100	— $\frac{1}{8}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ "	.28
BALSA SHEETS (18" LONG)		
20	— $1\frac{32}$ " x 2"	.15
40	— $1\frac{16}$ " x 2"	.36
20	— $1\frac{38}$ " x 2"	.23
10	— $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 2"	.21
BALSA PLANKS (18" LONG)		
2	—2" x 3"	.36
4	—1" x $1\frac{1}{2}$ "	.20
1 dozen	Balsa carved propellers 5"	.30
1 dozen	bamboo strips, 1/16" x $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 15"	.06
3 dozen	hardwood nose plugs	.15
1 quart	cement	.75
3 dozen	sheets Japanese tissue	.36
225 feet	brown rubber $\frac{1}{8}$ " flat	.50
100 feet	piano wire .028	.30
1 dozen	small thrust bearings	.06
1 dozen	large thrust bearings	.07
		<hr/>
		\$5.59

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

Child Study, April 1938

This issue is devoted to play and playmates and contains many helpful and interesting articles.

The Womans Press, April 1938

Pilgrimage to Washington (American Youth Congress)

Health Education Bulletin, March 1938

A monthly bulletin issued by the Laboratory Division of the National Board, Y.W.C.A. at \$.25 per copy

Child Study, May 1938

Athletics and Aggression, by Laurence S. Kubie, M. D.

The Womans Press, May 1938

Arts as Avenues for Action, by Elizabeth Z. Farrow

Parks and Recreation, April 1938

Facilitating Winter Sports, by Albert H. Good
To Ascertain Trends in Fees and Charges
Winter Sports in Milwaukee County Parks,
by George Hansen
The Game of Marbles
Concerning Caddies, by Harry O'Hare
Nature Lore in the Parks, by Florence Kiefer and
C. E. O'Neal

Games Digest, May 1938

This issue contains some interesting new games and parties.

The Camping Magazine, May 1938

Developing an Indigenous Camp Program, by Frank H. Cheley
Dramatizing the Camp Water Program, by Wilbert Edmond Longfellow

The Journal of Health and Physical Education, May 1938

College and University Outing Clubs, by Arthur S. Daniels
Recreation in a Mental Hospital, by Alfred Kamm
An Experiment in International Education
Enriching the Afterschool Program, by William M. Grimshaw
Editorial—Recreation vs. Physical Education
Phi Delta Pi Camp for Underprivileged Children,
by Opal L. Sherburne
Safety in Athletics, by Floyd R. Eastwood
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (A new game
for first and second grades)
Basketball Darts
Danish Rounders
Fun in the Water

The Nation's Schools, May 1938

Camps of Today, by Herbert H. Twining
A Community Center, Too, by George A. Persell

Leisure, May 1938

Education for Leisure, by Claude V. Courter
Organizational Group Work, by C. E. Ward
Puzzles and Games

25th NATIONAL RECREATION CONGRESS

Pittsburgh, Pa.
OCTOBER 3rd to 7th, 1938

PAMPHLETS

Survey on Community Recreation of Pittsfield, Mass.,
by Charles K. Brightbill
Issued by the Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce

Self-Regulation in the Motion Picture Industry
Annual Report of the Motion Picture Producers and
Distributors of America, Inc., 1937 (New York
City)

Taming Our Forests
Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Available from Superintendent of Documents,
Washington, D. C. \$15.

What Forests Give
Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Available from Superintendent of Documents,
Washington, D. C. \$15.

*A Prospectus Dealing with the Leisure-Time Problem
with Emphasis Placed on Program Building and the
Training of Workers*, by B. G. Leighton
Extension Dept., St. Louis County Rural Schools,
Virginia, Minnesota

Physical Education and Recreation, by Dorothea Leusch
Bureau of Parks, Portland, Oregon

Activities for the Year 1937
Annual Report of the Jewish Welfare Board

*Annual Report of the Recreation Commission of High-
land Park, Michigan, 1936-1937*

Nature Guide School of Massachusetts State College,
Amherst, Mass.

*Summary Report of a Study of Summer Camps Con-
ducted by Boston Social Agencies and Other Organi-
zations, 1938*
Boston Council of Social Agencies, 80 Federal Street,
Boston. \$15.

Exploring Primitive Areas

(Continued from page 221)

ing, the picturesque country of Fremont, Bonneville and Bridger. Here, alpine flora and shimmering lakes break mountainous country in its most rugged form.

Expedition No. 3—August 1 to August 14. The mysteries of the Gila Wilderness of New Mexico will be probed by the Trail Riders. Here the riders will penetrate into the land of Pueblo myths, and will descend into the canyon of the Middle Fork of the Gila, where weird rock formations of everchanging color are fantastic objects. Then on down the trail of the Middle Fork to visit hidden cliff dwellings.

Expedition No. 4—August 3 to August 16. For the first time since their organization, the Trail Riders will blaze trail into the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness of Colorado. Still vastly primitive country, it is the wilderness through which runs Snowmass Lake of renowned beauty. Through the land once inhabited by the Ute Indians, the riders will follow the trail of Chief Ouray.

Expedition No. 5—August 4 to August 16. This band of explorers will ride through the Sawtooth National Forest of Idaho. An afternoon and night will be spent at Sun Valley, famous for its winter sports. Then on to the country of deer and elk, accessible only by trail.

Expedition No. 6—August 6 to August 19. The bold Olympic Mountains of Washington, land of many glaciers will lure the Trail Riders into adventure. Here are enchanting forests rich in plant and animal life. This is excellent game and fishing country.

Expedition No. 7—August 19 to September 1. Through the Kings River Wilderness of California—another pioneer trip for the Trail Riders. This is where the peaks of the High Sierras meet the sky. The riders will explore parts of the Inyo, Sierra and Sequoia National Forests — John Muir's country.

Each expedition is as completely organized as any scientific party seeking fossils or lost cities, with expert guides, packers, wranglers and cooks. Foresters and botanists are along. So is a doctor. Forest rangers will be in contact with each party. An official of the American Forestry Association serves as "boss wrangler" and party leader.

Skiing in the Straw

(Continued from page 224)

organize a permanent winter outing club and make plans for week-end trips and social events.

A complete dry-skiing course should include, besides calisthenics the following: normal and crouch downhill positions, fall and stand-up,

level-skiing with and without poles, standing kick and jump turns; side step, zigzag and herringbone climbing; snowplow stop; snowplow, step, stem, all Christianas, telemark, running jump turns; Gelandesprung or obstacle jump; fence climbing; skating and cross-country formations. The course should also consider the care of equipment, waxing for all snow conditions, and trail first-aid. The teaching of distance jumping we leave to the choice of the instructor, but we do not recommend it for adults, particularly on straw, unless they are qualified skiers.

Some General Suggestions

All turns and jumps should be made on the slope and level, not on elevated runway. Simultaneous turns and jumps are limited only to the height and length of the hill. Proceed gradually from week to week with daily ski calisthenics at home between sessions.

Straw skiing has its limits and should not be accepted as a full substitute for snow. Used as described, it equals the resistance of very wet snow and is therefore, ideal for pre-season training.

Before you tackle fast snow on steep grades or narrow trails, a few practice runs down easy slopes will allow for timing adjustment. Casey Jones literally flew through the air when he transferred his activities from Sterling Park's straw hill to Boston Garden's crushed-ice snow jump. Group members on their first excursion to Bear Mountain found hard-packed snow lighting fast in comparison, but after ten weeks of hitting the hay nothing bothered them.

The next time anyone remarks that lack of snow is a drawback, or that it's too far to the hills, or that week-end skiing is not worth the investment, or that they're either too young or too old, remember that anyone who can cross a busy street safely can ski—with far less risk!

You Can Do It!

(Continued from page 226)

hundred postal cards to the parents of the children in the dancing classes alone, asking their cooperation; this was a key group in our estimation. We used the argument in both articles and talks that Oak Park had always stood for the welfare of its children, and that it could not afford to fail them now. It didn't!

New Play Areas— Their Design and Equipment

- Since 1928, *Play Areas—Their Design and Equipment* has been a guide to recreation, park and school authorities, and to city planners, landscape architects and engineers in helping them solve the technical problems involved in the layout of play areas. In ten years great advance has been made in technical methods and procedures, necessitating a complete revision of the book.

In its new and revised form, the volume should be standard equipment to the designer, and as indispensable in the drafting room as a T-square and triangle.

Order from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

. . . Price \$3.00

Future Plans

And now, what are we going to do with this doubled appropriation next year? We expect to expand the general program; to put on a community-wide athletic program in the fall and winter months; to extend our aviation and radio classes; to replace a dramatic supervisor after an absence of nine years; to decorate the grounds with memorial fountains to characters made famous by the authors after whom the playgrounds were named—James Barrie, Robert Louis Stevenson, Lewis Carroll, Eugene Field, and Hans Anderson; to add murals and bas-reliefs, and to enlarge the play centers themselves. In other words in 1939 we are hopeful of setting up a model program, and of providing landscaped playgrounds second to none in the country, both as to physical facilities and to beauty.

Yes, miracles do happen, if you have the belief in your past achievements that enables you to appeal to your community with confidence.

Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual

(1938 Edition. Vol. VI)

\$3.00 Prepaid

- 220 pages filled with a vast assortment of informative material for those interested in swimming pools in any way.

●
EARL K. COLLINS, Editor

425 Fourth Avenue New York, N. Y.

●
Make all checks, money orders, etc., payable to Earl K. Collins

"So You're Going" Down Romany Road

(Continued from page 228)

seven while traveling with his parents met with an accident. The parents were soon able to return home, leaving John for more than ten weeks a patient little sufferer. Kind nurses and books whiled away many a lonely hour. "Happiness and contentment are skilled portrait painters," and it was then we were privileged to observe a monotonous convalescence turn to an eager interest in books, for within the pages of a book the whole wide world is found.

The gypsy caravan for the two little shut-ins visited the Land of Health where they found it was necessary to obey its laws before one could become a citizen. They met a new order, Knights of the Round Table, crusaders in quest of health. Finally they came to the end of the rainbow and found the pot of gold to be the happiness of being well. The lantern and slides used at the Saturday morning camp fire were taken to the hospital, and the pictures were shown to these children as well as to any new patients. The superintendent was most gracious in making it possible to make the hospital visit in non-visiting hours. The showing sometimes necessitated the moving of beds and other assistance which was always so gladly given

by hospital employees. The pictures were thrown on the wall, and the adults in the ward enjoyed "Alice in Wonderland" almost as much as John, to say nothing of the nurses, while now and then doctor and surgeon paused in their visits to listen.

Book therapy has become an important addition to health making; keeping children quiet and in bed when they begin to feel better demands resourcefulness. It is not always an easy matter to find amusement that will not be harmful while keeping the patient happy and providing fun and interest.

Groups of Mothers See the Project

With the reopening of school the project was presented before each Parent-Teacher group of the city and a mother's club. A colorful and effective gypsy camp was reproduced. Since music, dancing and storytelling have always been a part of every gypsy camp fire, there was singing and the sound of accordions playing gay gypsy tunes as the children gathered round to glowing embers shouting "a Gudlo, a Gudlo," that is, "a story." King Richard, believing in education for his people, greeted his audience with "Sarishan," the gypsy word for "how do you do," and told them a story of Robert Francis Weatherbee by Munro Leaf, a little boy "who would not go to school so of course he did not learn anything." The illustrations of the book had been reproduced upon a large chart which the queen turned as the king told the story. Queen Carolyn then presented the diplomas. There was more storytelling, for gypsy children love to tell stories, and the gypsy version of "Jack and the Beanstalk" was given. There was dancing, and finally softer, softer grew the music, and one by one the children disappeared, each calling "Cushty rati," "Good night," and all was still.

Finally the caravan went over the hill and disappeared from sight. Perhaps it will come again some other vacation time. May the children who enjoyed it realize that as long as they keep the wonder and joy of life they will always find adventure awaiting them around each turn of the road!

What Did It Leave for Us?

What did the caravan leave for us as the echo of "Cashgar bok," the gypsies' farewell, or "Good luck to you," died into silence? It was the picture of a young mother who believed in the work of the library to the extent that nothing was quite so important on Saturday morning as to get the chil-

dren to the library to report on the books that had been read during the week; who was never too busy to scrub two little gypsies and see them across the railroad tracks; to dress Ruth Ann in her brightest dress so as to be able to see them afar off on the return trip; to meet them again at the tracks and see them safely home.

Who can doubt the joy of library work? More than four hundred children registered for the project; 225 diplomas were awarded and more than four thousand books were read. The same project was carried on through the main and branch libraries.

Minimum Standards for Recreation Facilities

(Continued from page 243)

Leadership

In order to secure the most effective use of community recreation center, of this type, a staff of full-time, year-round leadership personnel is required, supplemented by part-time workers employed for specific activities and services, and volunteers. Only by careful planning for the multiple use of the various features by different groups can the maximum service from the center be secured. Such a center will need an ample budget in order that it may be adequately maintained and operated.

Applying a Treatment for "Boy Trouble"

(Continued from page 244)

the purpose of supplies and equipment, stock in the boys' center was put on the "market." One hundred shares were sold for \$1.00 each—dividends to be paid in the welfare and happiness of the boys. By this method, and from the funds raised by a boys' rally to which the public was invited and which included an open-air performance of boxing, wrestling and music, about \$500 was secured as an operating budget.

The certificate read as follows:

THIS CERTIFIES THAT.....
is the owner of 100 Shares of Capital Stock in the enjoyment of future happiness for healthful sport and recreation in the West Oakland Boys' Recreation Center and has fully paid for these shares toward the betterment of said organization.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the said organization has caused this Certificate to be issued by its duly authorized officers, giving said owner full privileges to attend the first stockholders' meeting Friday, October 8, 1937, at 8:00 P. M. at the Recreation Center, Fifth and Grove Streets, Oakland. Boxing, wrestling, tap dancing, music.

A detachable coupon on the certificate gave the name of the person buying the stock, his address and the name of the agent.

The first two months the center was open the attendance averaged over 250 boys per evening. The result was felt immediately by every agency in the community. Instead of hanging about street corners with nothing to do except to seek amusement of the pool hall variety, the boys had a place to go and enjoyed going there. The center is now a member of the Boys' Clubs of America and has made for itself a permanent place in the community. Those who took an active part in the center's organization are amply awarded by the satisfaction they feel when viewing an evening's program.

Play in a Children's Institution

(Continued from page 245)

permitted to attend the out-of-town games. Through the kindness of the managers of the different theaters we are invited to the shows each week.

Hallowe'en is always an interesting time for us. This year we formed committees, as for example, an invitation committee on which the children served. The boys and girls prepared the refreshments, made their own costumes and prizes, and took charge of the decorations. Each child invited one guest.

Christmas is the big time of the year. The children do a small amount of shopping in groups or individually, learning the value of spending money and the pleasure of giving as well as receiving. The after-holiday period centers about winter sports, indoor games and club work.

During the year the children entertain the Board members and teachers at a tea. Our early spring program is a continuation of the winter program, and during this period we hold a lawn party, supper, and a program to raise funds for use during the summer.

It is our hope that when our children leave us to go to various positions they will be prepared to meet life. Because of their recreational and social contacts with the townspeople and with various community organizations such as the churches, library, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., and because of the knowledge they have gained through their club experiences, they are better equipped to meet situations in their new environment.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Indian and Camp Handicraft

By W. Ben. Hunt. The Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. \$2.00.

"USE WHATEVER YOU CAN GET!" is the author's slogan throughout this book in which he describes thirty projects in Indian craft developed especially for Scout masters, camp leaders and club directors. And the problem of tools is solved with equal simplicity since many of the projects require no other tool than a pocket-knife. All of the Indian lore introduced through the various projects is authentic, the result of the author's careful study and research. There are many illustrations which facilitate the making of the articles described.

1937 Year Book—Park and Recreation Progress

National Park Service. United States Department of the Interior. Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. \$25.

PARK AND RECREATION officials and all individuals interested in the widespread extension and development of recreation areas and facilities which have taken place since Federal assistance was made available as an emergency measure will find this book of great significance. It presents a bird's-eye view of many phases of municipal, state and national park developments with information on specific recreational activities, such as winter sports, hiking and camping. There is information on legislation and on the various studies being made. A bibliography is included.

Group Instruction in Social Dancing

By Edith Ballwebber. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$2.50.

THE UNDERLYING principles and forms of social dancing are clearly analyzed in this book and the positions, steps, combinations and sequences are described. The text is graphically illustrated with clever feet designs. Teachers of social dancing to large groups will find the book exceedingly helpful. The lesson plans at the back of the book will be particularly valuable in regular class work.

Chess in an Hour

By Frank J. Marshall. Leisure League of America, New York. \$25.

"ANYBODY," says the author, "can learn to play chess. It is not such a difficult game as most people think. You can learn the moves in fifteen minutes. In another fifteen minutes you can get the idea of the game, and you can play within the hour." To give support to this encouraging opinion, Mr. Marshall explains the game briefly and gives frequent diagrams. The book with its simple, concise language should be helpful to playground directors who by teaching chess to children on the playgrounds are augmenting the ranks of chess enthusiasts.

The New Y. M. C. A. Aquatic Program

Editorial Committee: Professor Thomas K. Cureton, Jr., Chairman, Dr. John Brown, Jr. and John W. Fuhrer. Association Press, New York. \$1.00.

IN MAY 1937 the Y.M.C.A. Aquatic Conference was held in Chicago at George Williams College. Here a group of aquatic leaders met in working sessions and joint assembly to deliberate on the findings of sixteen research committees. This book is the first permanent printed volume resulting from the conference, and recreation workers will find in the material submitted by these experienced officials much practical material.

The Tumbler's Manual

By William R. LaPorte and Al G. Renner. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$3.00.

MORE THAN TWENTY instructors cooperated with the authors in producing this manual on tumbling which offers a group of tested progressively arranged tumbling stunts with directions for their execution. An interesting feature of the book is the 136 illustrations and 35 group stunt diagrams. The illustrations were reproduced in line from slow motion pictures and are so arranged as to show the complete sequence of positions for each stunt. The manual discusses such topics as teaching and safety techniques in their relation to equipment, instructors and performers.

Physical Education Play Activities for Girls in Junior and Senior High Schools

By Therese Powdermaker. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE of this book is to help women graduates in physical education as they enter into their first year of teaching. With this in mind the material presented has been condensed and organized so that it can be quickly read, and no activities requiring great skill have been included. The subject matter is divided as follows: Organization and Administration, Self-testing Activities, Games, Coaching Hints and Technique for Game Skills, and Swimming. The illustrations by Kate Rolland are particularly attractive.

Handbook of Recreational Games and Sports—1937-1938

Spalding's Athletic Library No. 115R. \$25.

THIS BOOK is divided into twelve sections as follows: Introduction, Games for Large Groups in Small Spaces, Group Games, Sidewalk Games, Recreational Sports and Games, Suggestions for the Teaching of Recreational Sports in Large Class Groups, Suggestions for

Adapting Individual and Dual Sports to Home Use, Suggestions on the Adaptation of Recreational Games and Sports for Various Types of Programs and Situations, Technique and Teaching Suggestions, Suggestions for Making Equipment, Bibliography and Track and Field—Individual Athletic Activities (Official Rules, etc., Chart of Details of Competition, Coaching Hints, Sample Score Sheets, Bibliography, Form of Blank for Recording Maximum Performances, etc.)

This is a usable, practical book that should be in the libraries of physical education and recreation workers.

Children and Radio Programs.

By Azriel L. Eisenberg, Columbia University Press, New York City.

Children and Radio Programs is a study of more than 3,000 children in New York and the metropolitan area. It discusses the development of children's radio programs, the listening activities of children, the reaction of children to certain programs—the programs they like best, the programs that keep them awake at night, the programs that make them dream at night, and the programs from which they learn specific things. There are numerous tables indicating the wishes of children in selecting programs, and the popularity of programs. One of the interesting tables describes what other things children do while they are listening to the radio. An appendix to the volume describes sixty-seven programs which were mentioned by one per cent or more of the children. It is well worth a few hours' time of a recreation leader in looking through a library copy of this volume.

1938 Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual.

Hoffman, Harris, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York. \$3.00.

Volume Six of the Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual contains a number of articles on the construction, maintenance and administration of swimming pools which will be valuable for recreation authorities maintaining such facilities. Among these are "Standards for the Design and Operation of Pools" by Earl K. Collins; "Suggestions for Aquatic Programs"; "Public Health and Safety Features in Constructing Pools," and "Swimming Stunts" by Katharine W. Curtis.

Songs and Pictures by a Child.

Arranged by Doreen Bland. The Paisley Press, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

This delightful book is made up of poems and drawings made by a child between the ages of three and a half and five and a half years who from his earlier days has been encouraged to seek beauty and natural things. The poems were not written as such. They are in reality songs chanted by the child himself and taken down unobserved by his parents. Quite apart from any merit in the work itself, it has the advantage of being a true record of a child's preschool efforts and as such is particularly interesting.

The Art of the Story-Teller.

By Marie L. Shedlock. D. Appleton-Century Company, Incorporated, New York. \$2.25.

Miss Shedlock's book has long been a classic in its field, and its value has been proven by the test of time. As in the earlier edition, the revised edition presents all the essentials of good story-telling, explains what to avoid and what to seek in the choice of stories, and tells how to obtain and maintain the effect of a story. The list of stories and books has, however, been completely changed and a new list by Mary Gould Davis, in charge of story-telling at the New York Public Library, has been substituted. Included in Miss Gould's list are the best of the classics and of contemporary tales.

The Big Apple.

By Mignon Q. Lott. Pentagon Court, Baton Rouge, La. \$.50.

If you need an appropriate program for a rural group, are seeking a theme for a party with games and stunts

"to match" or are running a Big Apple dance, you will find many helpful suggestions in this 23-page booklet which contains games, contests, stunts and songs all built upon *apples* as a theme. Suggestions are also included for adapting these activities to various groups or types of programs.

Official Baseball Guide 1938.

Spalding's Athletic Library. No. 322. \$.35.

In addition to the official rules, there are many records and scores, together with accounts of tournaments and league meetings.

How to Draw What You See.

By Norman Moore. Hillmann-Curl, Inc., New York. \$1.50.

The problem of learning to draw, according to Mr. Moore, is as direct and simple as learning to typewrite or to drive a car. "Learning to draw what you see teaches you to look more and better—the more you look the more you see, and the more you see the more you will want to put down your optical adventures in a record of your own." The practical suggestions Mr. Moore has to offer should be exceedingly helpful to the artist.

The Girl Reserve Movement of the Young Women's Christian Association.

By Catherine S. Vance, Ph.D. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.85.

Many social and economic changes which are taking place are focusing attention on youth, and many circumstances are challenging us to the study of organized groups among young people. The evaluation which Dr. Vance presents of the Girl Reserve movement throws a great deal of light on problems with which all leaders of young people are concerned.

The Library Trustee.

Prepared by Anna Gertrude Hall. American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois. \$2.35.

In this book the American Library Association presents answers to many of the perplexing questions which arise in the relationships among library boards and libraries, municipal authorities and the public. The board's selections, organization and powers; its responsibilities to the library from the standpoint of personnel, finances and administration; its responsibilities to the community, and its leadership in state and national library affairs are the main headings under which the material has been organized. Two or three typical dockets for board meetings, sample constitution and by-laws, and a bibliography are included in the appendix.

Your National Capital—Seventy-Fifth Congress.

International Bank, 726 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. \$.25.

This souvenir book of Washington and the Seventy-fifth Congress with its fifty views of buildings and places of historic interest in and around the nation's capital, together with other photographs and a number of articles, was previously offered at much more than this.

The Trailer for Pleasure and Business.

By Winfield A. Kimball and W. Livingston Larned. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

Here is another book to augment the rapidly growing library of literature on trailers. In it the authors supply complete and specific information as to the best types of trailers on the market, desirable equipment, where and how to camp, hints on trailer housekeeping, travel routes, laws and regulations affecting trailers, and many other topics.

Personality Adjustment of the Elementary-School Child.

Department of Elementary School Principals, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. \$2.00.

The fifteenth Yearbook of the Department of Ele-

mentary School Principals of the N.E.A. is devoted to a discussion of the nature of growing children, many environmental factors which influence pupil adjustment, and the methods of diagnosing and correcting maladjustments. A large number of child guidance specialists contributed articles on special topics, and in addition several selected contributions by school people were included. "There is need," says Harley W. Lyon, president of the Department, in a foreword, "for study and for interpretation of behavior in the light of child nature and of social conditions. Childhood is the period of greatest opportunity for personality adjustment. The child's adjustment to his fellows, to his school, and to his home, and to his community will often determine his adjustment to and his place in adult life."

Youth in the Toils.

By Leonard V. Harrison and Pryor McNeill Grant. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.50.

In this consideration of the delinquency problem in New York City and of the system now used in dealing with the delinquent boy, the authors have gone beyond a mere statement of facts. They have made concrete and constructive recommendations as to what might be done to improve conditions. The inclusion of the actual stories of a number of delinquent boys makes this a challenging presentation of a very real social problem which exists in substantially the same form in every large city of the country.

Government Statistics.

Bulletin 26. Social Science Research Council, 230 Park Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

In June 1933, the American Statistical Association and the Social Science Research Council organized a Committee on Government Statistics and Information Services. In this volume the committee offers a report of its study which refers primarily to the status of government statistics at the termination of the committee's work on January 1, 1935. Throughout its work the committee undertook to examine the statistical services as it found them without evaluating in any way the appropriateness of government activity per se in the various fields under observation.

Reading Character From Handwriting.

By Dorothy Sara. Leisure League of America, New York. \$.25.

The "sport" of reading handwriting is not a new one for the first known book on the subject was written about 1630. This more modern version of the subject will give you the secret of reading character traits in handwriting.

The Modern Kindergarten.

Association for Childhood Education, 1201 Sixteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C. \$.35.

The purpose of this bulletin is to set forth the educational implications of modern kindergarten procedures, materials and activities for the benefit of uninformed school administrators and parents and, at the same time, to offer something of practical value to teachers in the field. To this end a model kindergarten is described in informal, narrative style and ways of keeping it clean and attractive suggested. Four- and five-year-old groups are depicted in action and the procedures and activities interpreted as to a visiting mother. The nature of the teacher's preliminary planning is suggested as well as ways of securing cooperation between parents and teachers.

Bibliography of Research Studies in Education — 1935-1936.

Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. \$.30.

A yearly service of the Library Division of the Office of Education, United States Department of the Interior, is the publication of a bibliography of research studies in education. This, the tenth bibliography, covers the school year from September 1935 through August 1936 and lists

3,182 studies. Studies of the use of leisure, play and recreation, playgrounds and equipment, and playground supervision are listed.

Ourselves and Others.

By Emily Veazie Clapp. The Womans Press, New York. \$.65.

This booklet is a work book on the subject of personal relationships. It is planned for the use of the adviser who needs help in developing a series of discussions around the various interests of older girls which are included in the general phrase "personal relations." Questions are provided for discussion, devices are suggested to help the less articulate in the group express opinion, and books for both the girl and the adviser to read are listed. Recreation leaders interested in developing discussion groups among older girls will find this booklet helpful.

Physical Education in Germany.

By John Dambach, Ph.D. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.60.

This study is full of first-hand facts and material that will be of special interest to the student of the history of physical education. It traces physical education in Germany for over a century, from 1807 to 1935. It deals with movements rather than with men and interprets the social and political forces that shape physical education in that country. The book forms a basis for understanding physical education in this country and is also a contribution to the field of comparative education. It contains original material and is up-to-date with information regarding present-day Germany. It has a worthwhile bibliography.

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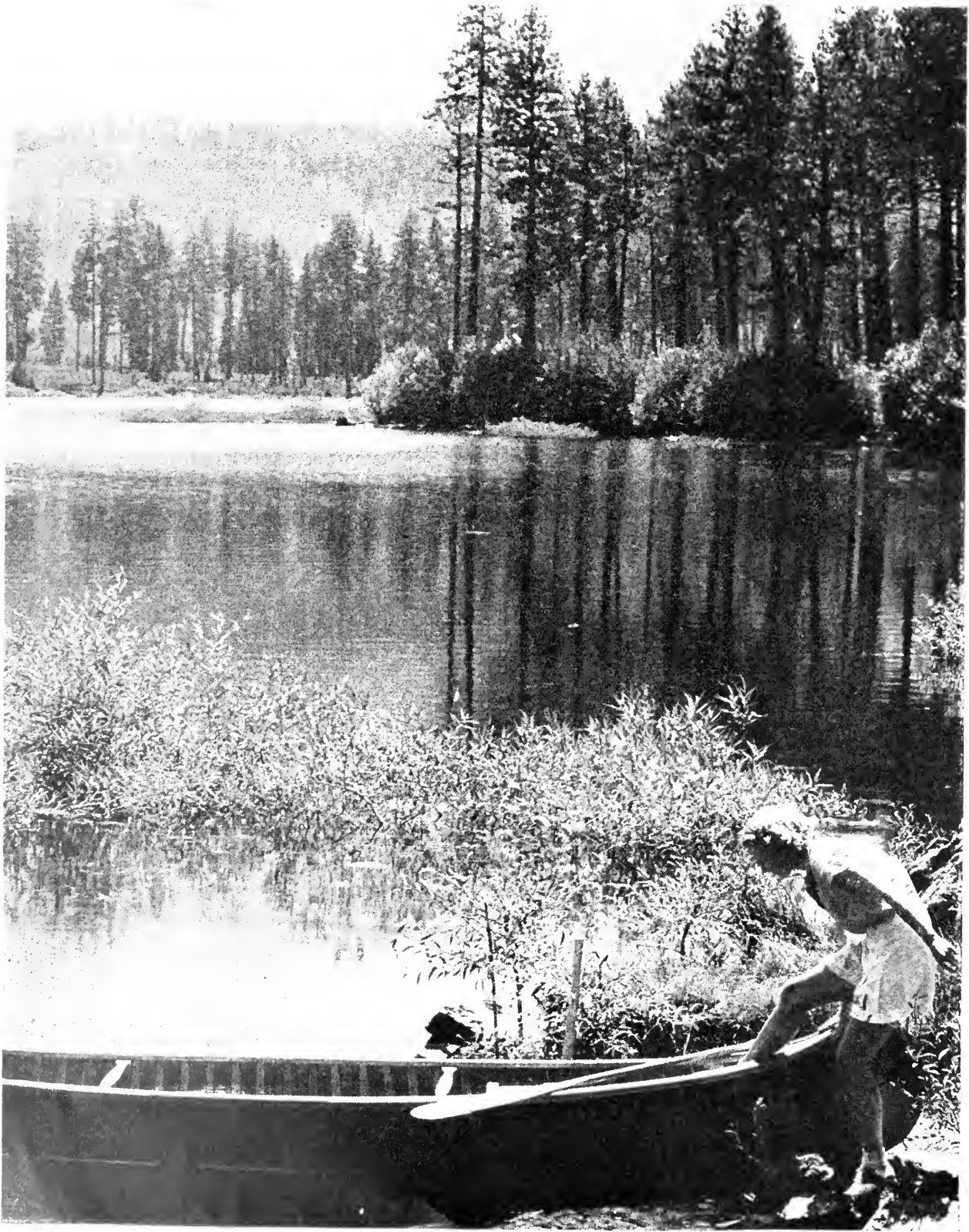
Schooling for Youth in the Light of Adult Education

MOST moderns, sickening and drooping in the absence of any skill to exercise any creative use of their native resourcefulness, have no idea what the matter is. Their education must know how to make the issue clear to them, must know how to bring home to them the fact that from the Stone Age on what has given lasting savor to any human life that has had any savor has been for the most part the possession and use of one or several creative skills rather than many possessions, or much and repeated fallings in love; and that even men who labor with their hands, and far more the many that set down black marks on white paper in the infinite record of commercial operations, are deprived by the machine of the consciousness of exercising creative skill—a consciousness as literally necessary for human health as material food. No matter how well he is paid in cash to make an apparently useless gesture over and over, a man's spirit sickens if he has not in his life some daily effort that produces visibly useful or beautiful results. If he cannot get from his daily work the satisfaction in the exercise of skill which he needs, he must get it elsewhere—and by an accurate miracle, now, at the exact time when the machine takes away his pleasure in skill in his work, the machine gives him time to learn and to exercise other skills—free time undreamed of by his forefathers. As the machine pushes man out of the older creative life, enforced upon him by tangible necessity, and slams the door behind him, it opens before him another door into a new world, vastly larger, vastly richer, but in which the motive power is no longer necessity, the instinct for self-preservation—but his own will, wish, and choice. The quality of the choice he makes, therefore, is of absolute first importance to him, and to society.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER.

Extract from address given at the Twenty-first Annual Meeting of the American Council on Education as published in *The Educational Record*, July 1938.

August



Courtesy National Park Service

Trends in Public Recreation

By E. C. WORMAN
National Recreation Association

others express the judgment of workers of long experience in the field.

THERE ARE certain basic instincts or drives in human life that are enduring and permanent. Upon some of these drives the principles of recreation are based. The outward manner of expressing these drives may vary with changing external factors, but the basic urges remain the same. Man has always sought to express himself through music and rhythm, imitation and acting, making things with his hands, and in countless physical activities. New cultural or racial influences may change the form of music and the nature of rhythmic expression; economic influences may retard or develop the progress of various forms of recreational expression; the growth of new social ideals, health emphases, or educational ideas may change old forms of expression and create new ones.

These changed expressions of recreational interest continue for shorter or longer periods of time. When they continue for some time in certain directions—forward, upward or downward—they indicate trends.

The National Recreation Association has exceptional opportunities to observe those trends in recreation throughout the country. It conducts a correspondence service with nearly 6,000 communities each year. Its field workers make periodic visits to 700 cities annually. By surveys and research and a constant review of the materials prepared by other organizations and individuals it is continuously informed of developments in the recreation field.

These studies and observations over a period of more than thirty years reveal trends, some of long standing and others of more recent development.

This statement attempts a brief summary of the major trends in recreation during recent years, including the depression period. Some trends are indicated by graphs based on statistical records, while

"The movement by the American public toward more adequate recreation facilities is one of the significant trends of modern times. . . . The rank and file of the people are insisting upon the right to participate in amusements and sports which traditionally belonged only to the favored few. Directly or indirectly the movement touches various aspects of the modern scene. Its compelling influence has brought about significant adjustments in government, industry, business, education and religion. Municipal, county, state and federal governments are now assuming responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of public recreation facilities. . . . The modern recreational movement is so firmly entrenched in American life and its positive social results so decidedly outweigh its negative that it is no longer difficult to justify the increasing financial outlays."—From *Recent Social Trends*, 1933.

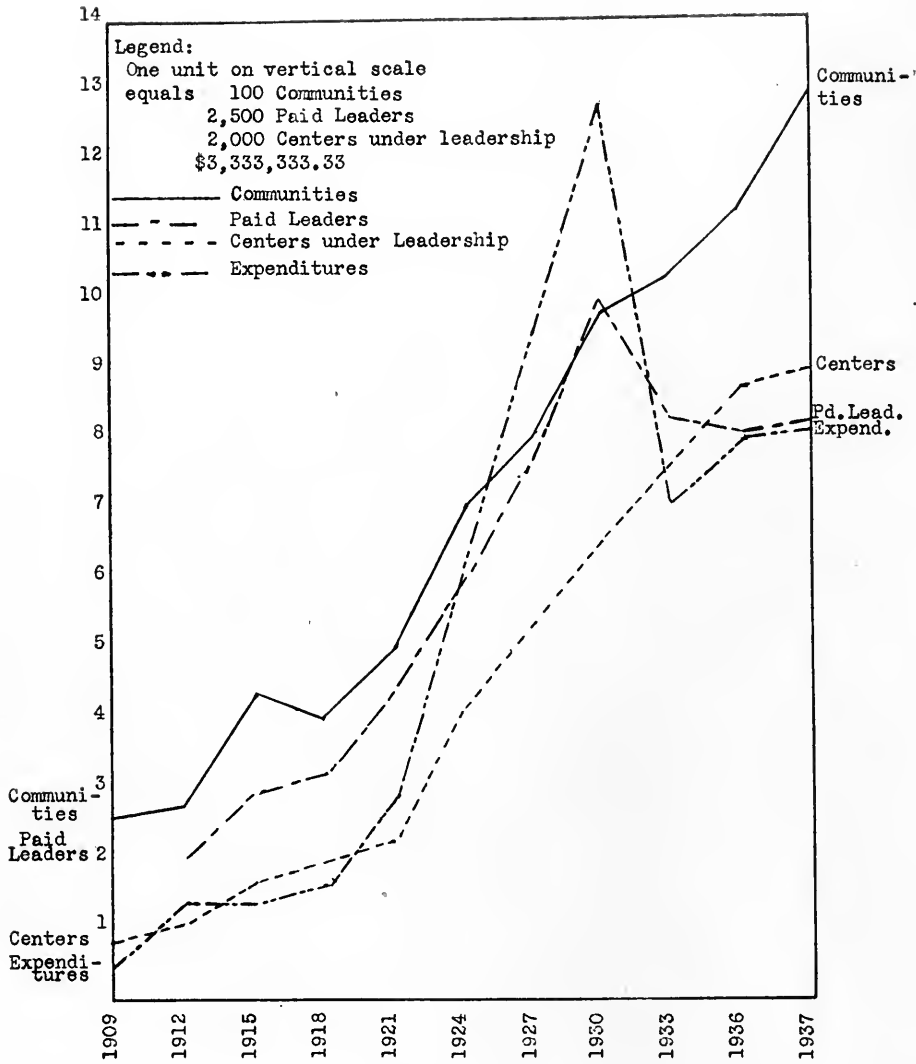
Areas and Facilities

The provision of areas and facilities for public recreation has increased steadily over a period of years. Growth in park acreage has been rapid. Except for a slight decline in the period 1930-33 playgrounds have an unbroken upward curve since 1912. The growth of indoor centers was, on the whole, consistent from the same date. Swimming pools more than trebled in number from 1918 to 1930. In fifteen years, 1915-1930, the number of recreation buildings increased four-fold. Other facilities have shown similar growth prior to the depression period.

With the coming of the depression and the release of emergency funds the provision of all kinds of areas and facilities was given a new impetus. Local, state and Federal agencies have taken advantage of the labor supply created by the WPA, NYA, PWA, CCC and other emergency organizations to expand park areas and to construct numerous recreation facilities. The rate of increase of Federal, state, county and municipal parks has been more rapid and the provision of facilities for hiking, camping, picnicking, water and winter sports and nature activities has been greatly increased in these park areas. Children's playgrounds, neighborhood playgrounds, athletic fields, tennis courts, golf courses, swimming pools,

wading pools and bathing beaches have been constructed in great numbers. As far as areas and facilities are concerned, the public recreation movement has been set forward at least ten years by the use of available emergency labor supply.

The influence of the Federal Government in the field of housing has resulted in increased provision in new housing units of indoor and



Growth of Community Recreation Movement 1909-1937

outdoor facilities for recreation.

There has been a definite increase in the use of school facilities for recreation and other community activities, due, primarily, to availability of Federal emergency workers. Expenditure of local school funds for community use of school buildings has not materially increased in recent years.

The rapid increase of facilities without adequate local appropriations for maintenance is creating a problem in financing which is yet to be solved.

Program

There has been a steady increase in the extent to which older youth and adults have used public facilities.

There is a marked increase in the number of cities providing a broad range of activities. The number of cities has steadily increased which provide for such activities as arts and crafts, drama and music. In arts and crafts, a significant increase has been in the number of cities providing recreational art opportunities for adults.

In the field of drama, puppets, marionettes and the drama festival have shown rapid increase. Federal projects for the employment of recreation leaders have given special emphasis to dramatics, music, and arts and crafts.

Vocal music, particularly in the field of choral singing, has shown a more rapid advance than instrumental music.

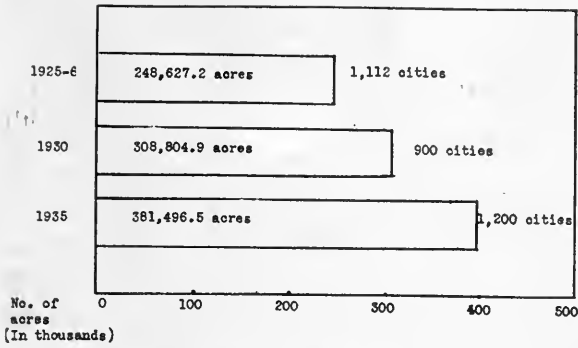
Outdoor activities, such as hiking, picnicking, nature activities and winter sports

are on the increase. Federal and state parks offer the services of naturalists and nature guides to assist the public in the enjoyment of nature. The day camp idea has made gains. The interest in winter sports, developed through the promotion work of railroads, Chambers of Commerce, and state and regional bureaus and councils, has grown rapidly in recent years.

The provision by public agencies of recreation service to institutions caring for various types of mentally and physically handicapped individuals is increasing at an appreciable rate.

Because of the Federal emphasis on play activities of pre-school children in many communities, a trend in this direction seems to be developing.

The past decade has seen a revival of interest



Growth in Park Acreage 1925-1935

has resulted in special attention to the recreational needs of the adolescent. This in turn has resulted in increased attention to the provision for co-recreation with as much reliance as possible on self-leadership.

Personnel

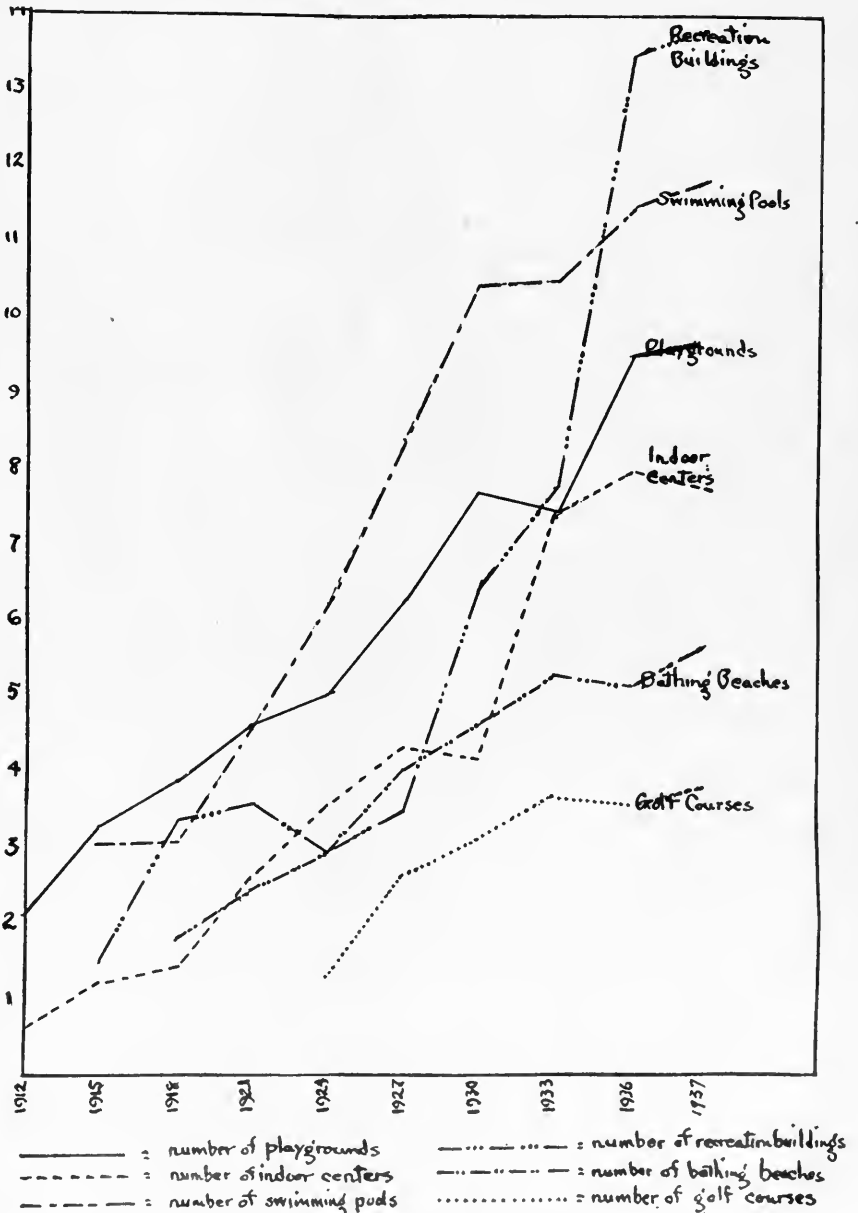
Recreation as a profession is now well established. The number of men and women who have entered the work and the standards of qualifications rose steadily until the depression. From 1917 to 1932 the total number of recreation lead-

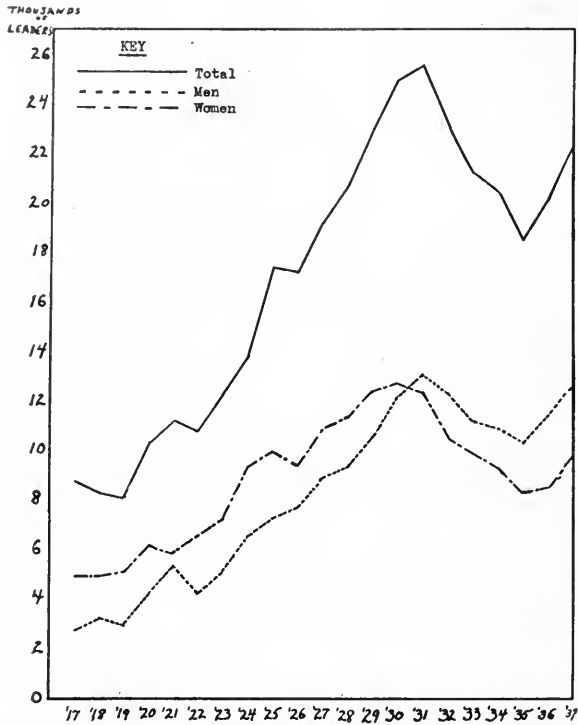
in square dances and in folk dancing. With the shift of emphasis from Americanization of the foreign-born to a recognition of their cultural contributions, the folk arts of many nationalities are being appreciatively recognized through exhibits, demonstrations and festivals.

The activities of the depression period have helped to bring to the attention of the country generally the need for recreation in the rural areas, a need which until recent years has not always been accepted by individuals or groups with urban backgrounds. This increasing understanding of the rural problem and the desire of the rural people themselves for adequate recreation expression, coupled with the comparatively meager economic resources of rural areas, present unusually difficult problems of leadership and finances.

The public attention given to youth and its special problems, particularly the problem arising from the gap between the time when many youths leave school and the time when they can get employment,

Growth in Recreation Areas and Facilities 1912-1937





Recreation Leaders Paid From Regular Funds

During the depression leadership paid from regular funds dropped seriously over a period of three years (1932, 1933, 1934). From 1933 the personnel forces of municipalities were greatly supplemented by the addition of workers paid from emergency funds. This created difficult problems of supervision and training. While many of these workers proved unsuited to recreation leadership, others made a real contribution. To a limited extent some of the more able WPA recreation leaders are being taken into permanent positions in recreation departments.

Perhaps the most hopeful trend in personnel thinking has been the growing emphasis on adequate preparation for recreation work and the necessity for raising standards of leadership.

Volunteer Service

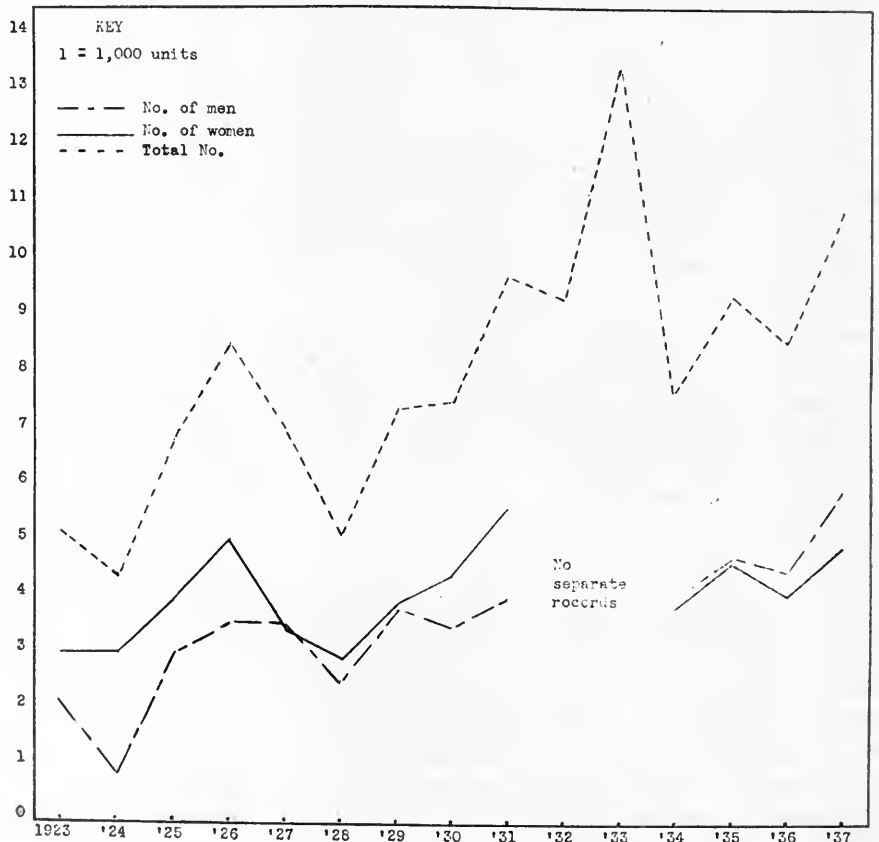
There has been a considerable fluctuation in the curve showing the extent of volunteer service, but a net steady increase until 1933 when there was a heavy loss, probably because emergency workers were made available for the tasks formerly done by volunteers. From 1923 to 1937 there was a

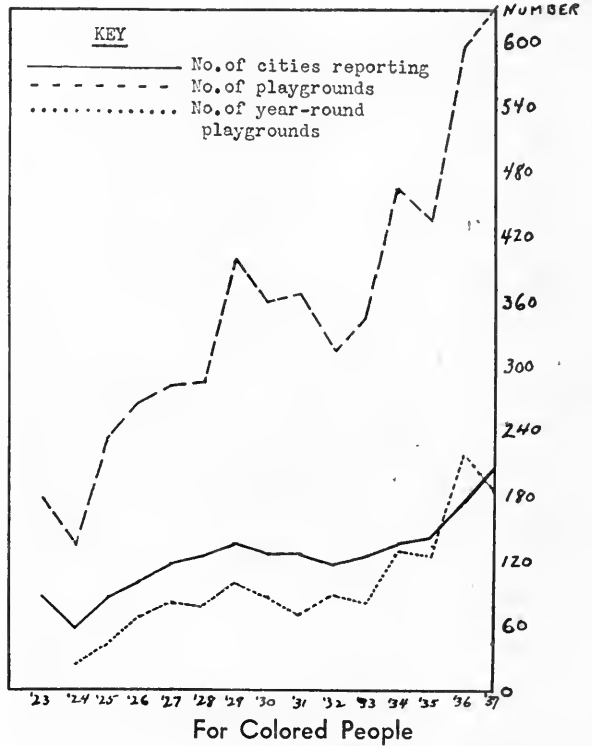
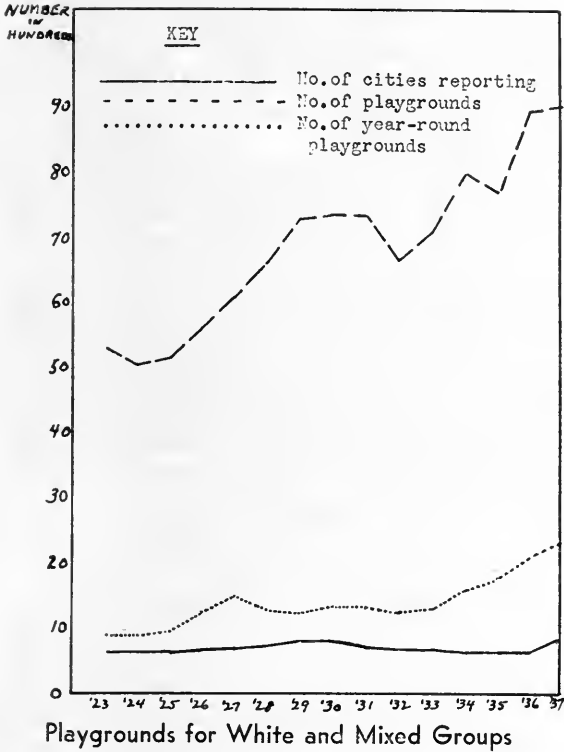
Volunteer Service in Recreation Agencies 1923-1937

ers paid from regular funds rose from approximately 3,000 to 25,500, or an eight-fold increase in 15 years. These gains in numbers and standards have not been as rapid as could have been desired, and much progress has yet to be made.

The number of women consistently exceeded the number of men until 1931 when the order was reversed. Men are now considerably ahead in numbers. In several brief periods when numbers dropped off, women were released a year in advance of men.

The full time year round workers showed only small variation in total numbers.





net gain of 5,626 volunteer workers. A sharp upturn in 1937 is noted. Women volunteers who were in the majority until in the midst of the depression now hold a minority position.

Training

The increased public appreciation of the value of recreation and the many agencies actively interested in it, have created an interest on the part of training institutions in the development of training opportunities for professional recreational workers.

In response to this growing interest, the National Recreation Association conducted a graduate training school in New York City from 1925 to 1935. Graduates of this school now occupy many leading recreation positions in the country. In 1935 this School was suspended to conduct a series of four week institutes for employed recreation leaders in large cities. These courses have been and are attended by leaders employed in private agencies and in WPA and NYA as well as by municipal recreation leaders. Several thousand persons have received instruction at these institutes in all of the larger cities of the United States. Some sixty thousand individuals have attended rural institutes conducted by the Association under the auspices of the Extension Service

of the United States Department of Agriculture. Large numbers of volunteer and paid leaders annually attend courses conducted by municipal recreation departments. Representatives of many churches and private organizations participate in these courses.

Many colleges have established courses for the training of leaders in community recreation. Most of the training, however, is in connection with physical education departments, and many do not cover the wide range of training now demanded by recreation departments. A movement is under way, however, to correct this situation, by having colleges set up a unit recreation course by correlating the offerings of many departments, such as Music, Art, Dramatics, Physical Education and others. Educators and social leaders are emphasizing the necessity of having the public schools train students for leisure.

The education of appointing authorities to the importance of selecting trained personnel and providing salaries adequate to attract competent authorities is a growing necessity.

Recreation for Colored People

Provision of more adequate recreation for colored people has shown marked gains during the past fifteen years. Playgrounds for white and

mixed groups have shown almost unbroken gains. The number of playgrounds for colored people has grown still more rapidly. This number increased from 135 in 1924 to 632 in 1937, a clear indication that certain parts of the South are meeting a long felt need.

Financing Municipal Recreation

Expenditures for municipal recreation increased steadily from 1909 to 1931. The decade 1922-1931 showed the most rapid development. Then followed three years of heavy losses due to the depression. Early in 1934 cities began to rebuild budgets that were curtailed during the lean years. In spite of difficulties which municipal and school authorities have had in securing taxation for local governmental expenditures, the curve of expenditure has risen steadily. Referendum votes in a number of large and small cities showed the willingness of the public to provide increased financial support for good programs. Cities with separate tax levies have suffered less than others. However, the average per capita expenditure for recreation service even in cities having year-round departments is still much below standard.

On the other hand, the Federal Government's expenditures for recreation have been enormously increased and those Federal expenditures for local governmental recreation have been so great that together, even with the reduced local expenditures, they provide for more public funds than have ever before been available for local government recreation work. Federal funds have been made available through approval of projects for construction of facilities, for the development of areas and for supplementary leadership. Leadership has been provided, not through cash appropriation to the locality but through the assign-

ment of unemployed workers paid directly by the Federal Government. The Federal Government has also provided leadership and developed facilities in communities which had previously had no local tax supported community recreation work. This is particularly true in smaller communities and rural areas.

The amounts expended from regular funds and from emergency funds in 1937 are indicated in the following table:

	Expended from	
	Regular Funds	Emergency Funds
Land, Buildings, Permanent Improvements	\$ 3,403,191.54	\$ 7,975,252.32
Upkeep, Supplies, Incidentals (not including wages)	3,783,555.03	.....
For Leadership	7,469,427.76	8,686,805.31
For All Other Services	5,546,421.93	.....
Total Expenditures	\$25,794,537.85	\$22,139,243.36*

* This figure does not include expenditures for "other services and upkeep, supplies, etc."

Sources of Park Funds

The following table which compares sources of park funds of 1930 with 1935 shows some interesting contrasts. In 1930, in 524 cities 39% of the total funds came from city appropriations. Five years later 717 cities indicated that 68% of the total funds came from that source. Bond issues dropped from 28% of the total in 1930 to 2% of the total in 1935.

Fees and charges produced 5% of the total in 158 cities in 1930, and the same per cent of the total was produced in 228 cities in 1935. Nearly two and one-half million dollars was received from fees and charges in 228 cities. More cities reported receiving money from fees and charges for the use of park facilities than from any other source except city appropriations, which were reported in 717 cities.

A COMPARISON OF SOURCES OF PARK FUNDS, 1930 AND 1935, BY TYPE OF SOURCE

Type of source	Number of cities		Amount		Percentage of total	
	1930	1935	1930	1935	1930	1935
City appropriation	524	717	\$38,246,010.40	\$30,770,778.33	39	68
Special tax levy	123	154	15,080,181.18	6,455,865.29	15	14
Bond issues	72	36	27,315,752.45	1,019,499.48	28	2
Assessments	12	18	538,138.54	126,882.11	0.5	.....
Donations	86	55	548,210.16	272,011.87	0.5	0.5
Special funds	69	94	3,300,471.57	1,599,562.59	3	3
Concessions	146	166	2,225,644.82	1,016,617.43	2	2
Fees and charges	158	228	4,866,692.63	2,409,000.62	5	5
Sale of property, etc.	42	33	108,936.42	55,873.44	.....	.....
Other	57	117	6,094,571.41	1,291,084.79	6	2
Total	647	998	98,324,609.58	45,017,175.95	.....	.....

Bond Issues for Parks

Bond issues during the decade 1925-1935 are shown in the following table. Perhaps this reveals one of the most noticeable effects of the de-

pression. In the period 1926-1930, 148 cities reported issues of \$153,000,000, while in 1931-1935 only 78 cities reported issues amounting to \$18,193,940.

BOND ISSUES FOR PARKS VOTED 1926-30 AND 1931-35, INCLUSIVE, BY POPULATION GROUPS

Population group (1930 census)	1926-30		1931-35	
	Number of cities	Amount	Number of cities	Amount
1,000,000 and over	5	\$102,913,266.00	1	\$2,150,070.00
500,000 to 1,000,000	3	8,865,240.83	1	1,400,000.00
250,000 to 500,000	14	14,479,850.00	7	8,390,044.00
100,000 to 250,000	24	12,700,358.11	8	2,722,039.37
50,000 to 100,000	22	5,564,367.93	4	483,000.00
25,000 to 50,000	23	2,543,513.75	11	1,088,380.00
10,000 to 25,000	30	3,566,125.00	20	1,130,600.00
5,000 to 10,000	27	2,628,900.00	16	640,500.00
2,500 to 5,000			10	189,300.00
Total	148	153,261,621.62	78	18,193,940.37

Expenditures for Private and Commercial Recreation

The American people appear to be spending a large and rapidly increasing proportion of the national income for recreation. This trend has been under way for twenty-five years. Commercialized recreation seems to be the dominant use of leisure, but gains have been made in recent years in those types of leisure time activities which involve participation.

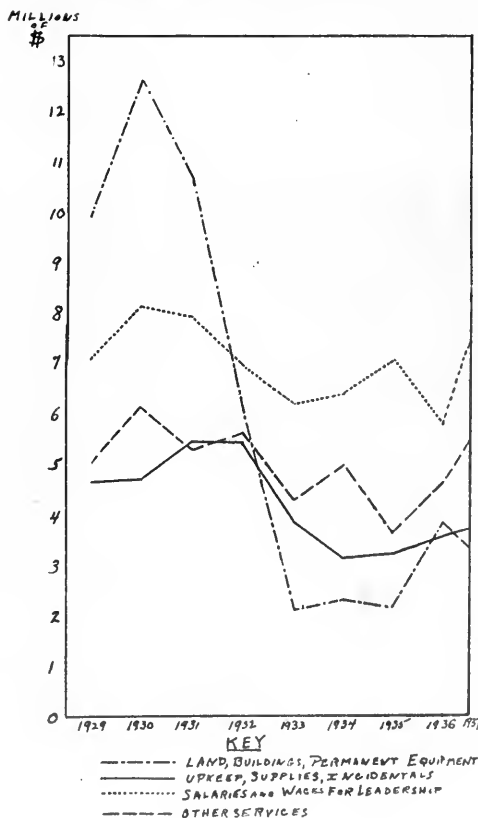
In 1909 recreation products, services and vacation travel consumed 3.8% of the national income.*

In 1935 recreation products, services and vacation travel consumed 8.1% of the national income.*

These expenditures include such products as sporting goods, radio sets and musical instruments; such services as motion pictures and sporting events; and vacation travel expense. Travel expenses have been about as large as expenditures for other products and services combined and have increased more steadily and rapidly during the period studied. (Ordinary expenditures for automobiles are not included, only

estimated costs of recreation travel by automobile.) The total expenditures for recreation are computed to have been a little over a billion dollars in 1909 and more than 4.3 billions in 1935. In 1935 we spent for recreation more than the Federal Government did for recovery and relief, and more than the Treasury collected from all tax sources.**

Four Main Expenditures—Cities Reporting Regular Service



Legislation

The general trend of legislation during the last two decades has been toward enlarging the powers of local government to provide recreational areas and facilities, to conduct services and to increase financial support for public recreation works.

Federal Government Activities

The influence of the Federal Government in the field of public recreation in recent years has been an expanding one. Five permanent agencies of the government are directly concerned with recreation and

(Continued on page 310)

* Harvard Business Review, "Economic Aspects of Recreation," Julius Weinberger, Summer, 1937, Table VI, p. 459.

** From "The Cleveland Trust Company Business Bulletin" for October 15, 1937.



Courtesy "A Review of Two Charitable Trusts"

Playground Circus Days

The Playground Circus is sweeping the land! Is your city planning to have one this year?

THE ONE GREAT EVENT which brings all the children of all the Smith Memorial Playgrounds of Philadelphia together is the annual circus, which has taken place regularly for the past ten years on the first Saturday in June. Recently the United States Naval Home has given us the use of its grounds which adjoin Ferry Road Playground. The broad lawns and shade trees make it an ideal setting.

Some idea of the size of the performance and

the need for definite organization is shown by the fact that over 600 children actually take part in the performance and that there is always an audience of over 2,000.

Early in April a joint staff meeting of all our playgrounds is held at Stanfield, at which time

(Continued on page 311)

The "Polish Village," a pre-circus project which held the interest of twenty boys and girls for weeks, and in which parents aided.

Every year since 1926 the children of the Smith Memorial Playgrounds of Philadelphia have had a circus. It is a gala occasion and one in which the children have a large part from making invitations, painting scenery and constructing animals, to participating in the events. The circus is described by Phoebe Hall Valentine, Executive Director of the Smith Memorial Playgrounds and Playhouses, in her book, "A Review of Two Charitable Trusts."



Courtesy "A Review of Two Charitable Trusts"

Swimming Stunts

Some Simple Stunts

BOBGING. Push down with the arms to raise the body as far out of the water as possible. Then submerge, going directly to the bottom in an erect position by throwing arms high out of the water over head, keeping legs extended and together. Inhale above water, hold breath on the way down, and exhale on the way to the surface again. In order to regain the surface, push down on the arms until surface is reached. This is executed in even rhythm and may be varied by using a circle formation; or it may be done in pairs with both partners going up and down at the same time, or alternating like a seesaw.

Figure Floating. Letters or figures or patterns may be formed with the participants floating on the face or on the back.

Mermaid Prayer. Assume position of prayer and hang in this position, hollow the back and reach folded hands out in front.

Advanced Sculling toward the Feet. Float on back, hands close to sides, low under the hips. Using the arms as sculls, extended but with flexible wrists and elbows, swing the arms away from body about a foot, with little fingers up and a sharply bent wrist, pushing the water toward the head. Return the arms to the sides gently with thumbs up. The emphasis should be on the push away from the body in order to push the body toward the feet.

Advanced Sculling toward the Head. Float on back, hands at side of body. Propel body toward head by using hands as sculls close to the body. This movement starts at the shoulders, using the entire arm extended but with a flexible elbow and wrist. The legs remain extended and together. Swing the arms away from the body, palms out, little fingers up. Return arms to side, turning palms toward body, thumbs up. By relaxing the wrists, making the hands the lash of the whip, a figure eight

Water stunts and board stunts, tricks for single performers and for groups, and water games and races

By

KATHARINE W. CURTIS, B.S., M. A.

will be executed with each hand. The arms work simultaneously and continuously emphasizing the pull in toward the body.

Elementary Sculling toward Feet. Float on back, hands at

sides, slightly lower than hips. Bend wrists so that finger tips are down.

By bending the elbows,

pull the hands in this position sharply toward the head. Relax the hands and arms and reach to the starting position. Repeat, pulling the body toward the feet.

Elementary Sculling toward Head. Float on back, hands at sides of body. Bring hands slowly up to waist, keeping thumbs in contact with sides. Bring tips of fingers above the surface of water by flexing wrists and quickly push the water toward the feet by extending elbows forcibly. Pause and repeat the entire movement.

Side Porpoise. Standing in shallow water, jump body high out of the water, diving sideward, with hands together overhead. Repeat; advancing with each spring.

Spinning Top. (Swimming in a tub). Draw the knees up against the chest, keeping the hips down, and spin around on your own axis, by sculling with the hands below the body, pushing the water forward with the right and backward with the left hand.

Surface Dive. Starting from an arched position on chest, arms extended, sweep arms to side in breast stroke. With an upward scoop of arms, bend sharply at the waist as in a jackknife, chin on chest. This should bring the hips out of the water. Lift the extended legs over the head as in a hand stand, being careful not to raise the head. This motion should force the hands to the bottom. When down, bring the feet to the bottom in a squat position, and push up to the surface.

This stunt may also be executed by turning a half forward somersault in a tucked position and forcibly extending the legs into the air as in a hand stand.

This material, arranged by Katharine Whitney Curtis, author of "A Source Book of Water Pageantry," is used by permission of the 1938 "Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual," published by Hoffman, Harris, Inc.

Swimming with Feet Tied. The swimmer may scull toward the head or feet on back or face, or swim breast stroke, back stroke or side stroke without the legs; or can use the legs by bending the knees and pushing the water with the shins.

Swimming with the Hands Tied. With the hands tied behind the back it is possible to swim on the back or on the face using the frog kick, scissor kick or crawl kick. With the hands tied in front, the same kicks are possible, but the arms may be used also to push the water toward the feet.

Tandem Simple Back Stroke. One of a pair of swimmers swims simple back stroke with arms, feet hooked in armpits of partner, knees stiff, keeping in unison with the second person who swims with both arms and legs.

Wheel Floating. A group of eight swimmers form a circle, four facing in and four facing out. The tallest ones should be facing the center. Those in the center float and join hands in center, thus forming the hub. Spread legs so that the outer circle may grasp them with extended arms, thus forming a wheel which may be turned.

If the outer circle members of the wheel float also with their legs together, two swimmers may turn the wheel by swimming around and pulling the wheel.

Intermediate

Butterfly Floating. Done in partners, floating on back with feet of one at head of the other. Grasp each other's nearest leg with the nearest hand, putting the hand under the ankle. By spreading and closing the arms and legs gently, the pair may turn themselves around.

Double Float. Partners floating on back, one ahead of the other, with arms extended over head, legs close, the first one grasping the ankles of the other. Slowly and deliberately spread arms and legs. Close and repeat.

Figure Swimming. Patterns and figures may be executed, using different strokes and following the leader as in maze marching or any land drill in closed or open formation.

The Foursome. Number 1 and 2 swim on back, using crawl kick, inside hands joined, stretching sideward, and pulling Number 3 and 4 by their outside hands outstretched. Number 3 and 4 swim on face, head up, inside hands joined and stretched sideward, using crawl kick.

Hand Stand. Stand on hands in the shallow water with legs together straight overhead, toes pointed, back arched. It is done by turning half a front somersault, then placing hands on the bottom and extending the legs.

Heavenly Twins. Partners swim with inside arms tied together at the wrist and inside legs bound together at the ankle.

Leap Frog.

1. In pairs, just as on land, with the back member of the pair leaping over her partner, feet spread apart and landing feet first on the other side.

2. As above, but going over head first.

3. In a line. The leaper goes over the first one and under and between the legs of the next one.

4. In pairs. Number 1 floating on the surface on her face with her arms and legs spread. Number 2 swimming from behind glides over Number 1, pushing her to the bottom by pushing on her shoulders and then, by standing on her shoulders, gaining force to move forward and stretch out on the water as her partner had been. Number 2 in the meantime pushes up from bottom. Immediately upon touching it, she slides through her partner's legs and repeats the entire procedure.

Looking for a Sweetheart. In deep water, one partner on land, one in the water. The one in the water shouts for help and disappears. Number 2 dives in, swims over to where Number 1 has disappeared and, standing on Number 1's shoulders, shades her eyes and looks anxiously around. Suddenly the person below pushes Number 2 forward off the shoulders, pulling her down to the bottom and climbs up onto the other's shoulders. So the search continues.

Motionless Sinking. Assume a face float, arms extended over head, holding breath, and then blow out all the air through the nose in a steady stream trying to sink to the bottom. Usually you slide down and back toward the feet. Lie flat on the bottom, face down for a moment, then place one or both feet on the bottom, or simply both hands, and spring to the surface.

Pendulum. Float on back, legs together, arms extended over head. Take deep breath and bring head forward as hands are gently drawn toward the head, causing feet to sink. When perpendicular, breathe again, bring arms gently to front of the body and extend out in front, face in the water, raising heels to face float position. To resume

the back float position, raise head slowly and breathe. Draw hands to back of head, causing feet to sink. When body is perpendicular, extend arms slowly behind head, keeping palms up and

There's no stunt too difficult for those daring swimmers at the municipal pool in Canton, Ohio!

Double Back Somersault—Back to Back. Partners back to back, hands joined, extended to side. With knees tucked to chest, roll backward, pulling on hands, back to back, head to back, head to



head back until the legs rise. Repeat smoothly to resemble swinging of a pendulum.

Revolving Trudgeon. The same as the spiral crawl, but using the trudgeon kick instead of the crawl kick.

Double Back Somersault—Facing. Partners facing, join hands extended to the side and, pulling on hands, roll backward, keeping knees tucked up on chest, foot to foot, back to back, head to head, without breaking group.

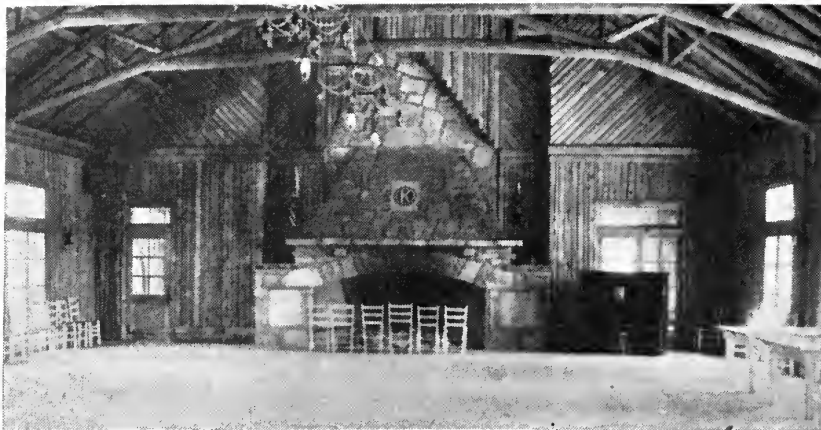
head, without breaking group.

The Double Front Somersault—Back to Back. Partners back to back, grasping hands extended to the side and drawing knees up to chest, turn back somersaults at the same time, pulling away from each other with hands, rolling back to back, sole to sole, and shins to shins.

Double Forward Somersault—Facing. Partners face each other, grasping hands stretched to the

(Continued on page 312)

Cornelia Builds a Social Center



Courtesy Kiwanis Club, Cornelia, Ga.

CORNELIA, GEORGIA, is a community of less than 2,000 people, but it has proved that size is no deterrent to community enterprise. About three years ago, when the depression had reduced the membership of the Kiwanis Club to twenty-five, a call was sent out for proposals for a major activity which would inject new life into the club. In response, someone voiced the opinion that the club should have a better place in which to hold its meetings. From this developed the idea of building a club house which would not only be a permanent meeting place for the Kiwanis Club in all of its activities but would function as a civic center. Immediately all members of the club became interested. A

planning and building committee was appointed to work out plans for financing and constructing the building. The first year was devoted to financing and to planning the details of the project. Later in the fall of that year the actual work was begun. The following year was devoted to building. It was a slow but sure process, and on January 21, 1937, the club officially dedicated the beautiful building and presented it to the community.

In the basement are a large grill, a library, shower baths and a heating plant. On the main floor is a large ballroom 40 by 60 feet. This floor also houses the concession space, cloak rooms,

ladies' rest rooms, a lounge, kitchen and pantry. At one

(Continued on page 313)

The story of the development of a social center in Cornelia, Georgia, is told by Carl E. Endicott in the February 1938 issue of the *Kiwanis Magazine*.



Courtesy Kiwanis Club, Cornelia, Ga.

The Place of the Day Camp in Modern Life



Why have day camps? What purposes do they serve?

By

WILLIAM M. GRIMSHAW

Department of Health and
Physical Education

Public Schools
Springfield, Massachusetts.

OUT OF THE FEVERISH, urbanized environment of noise and crowded living conditions, as found in most cities, have emerged new desires for freedom, country life and the primitive existence. New efforts are being made to satisfy the needs of millions of children and adults through camping activities. The modern camp, though only a little over fifty years old, has become so popular that it constitutes a major portion of the recreation programs of a vast number of persons in the United States today. It is estimated that nearly three million children go camping in some form annually, and yet organized camping has touched only a relatively small number of persons in need of this educational experience.

Historically, camping is probably the oldest of all ways of living. Primitive man is known to have been a camper because of necessity and lack of knowledge of other means of living. Little imagination is required to appreciate that the early settlers of this country were, in many respects, campers. Their everyday living was influenced by primitive necessity as evidenced in the activities of trail blazing, woodcraft, ceremonies and rituals. Modern society has been greatly concerned with a newer program of living and has turned attention away from the country and more primitive life to the city. It has experienced a period of invention and construction and, consequently, has become the product of a mechanical existence. But the artificiality of the present mode of living is a relatively new experience as compared with the time-hallowed mode of camp life of earlier man.

The camp today may be classified into three distinct types. One is represented by the organized mass camps, such as Boy Scout and Girl Scout camps, Y.W.C.A., and Y.M.C.A. camps, and other public and private boarding camps. Another type is the mobile camp. These are usually organized in smaller units and are represented by hunting and hiking groups, tourists camps, and the steadily growing Youth Hostel Movement. The third type, which is a comparatively recent development in camping, is the organized day camp with the organization of a regular mass camp but which does not provide for regular overnight sleeping facilities.

Objectives of Day Camps

Among the purposes of the day camp is that of giving the children the opportunity to spend the day out-of-doors in the woods, submerging them in a healthful environment, affording them a chance to participate in those camping activities that would be carried on in any long-term camp, and at the same time allowing them to return home for the night. It should serve to introduce the art of camping to children, and parents as well, prepare them for a continuous stay in camp for extended periods, and provide a good time in a natural and wholesome way.

There is a definite tendency to recognize the organized day camp as an educational institution, rather than a place where parents can place their children for the day. Those who are thinking of the day camp as an educational agency are not, however, thinking of it in terms of a transplanted school. If the best results are desired the program

ought to be flexible. Organization, of course, is essential but over-organization may be detrimental to the best interests of the campers, and to the management as well. The program should be moulded according to the need of the constituency. The standardized pattern found in many school situations should be at a minimum. The day camp program ought to be based on the natural interests of the children and the camp itself. It ought to be a place where contacts with others and the influences of the natural environment will bring out the various qualities and potentialities of the children. The program should not be imposed but rather should grow out of the situation and the actual, living conditions of the campers.

The Program

Until very recent years competitive sports were regarded by many camp leaders as the core of the summer camp program. Such competition was not confined entirely to athletic games but in many instances included nature study, handicrafts, hiking, singing and other activities. The trend today is away from the emphasis on competitive games to an enlarged program with definite educational aims and objectives. There is, and should be, less emphasis on the required, formal type of program in favor of providing for the desirable interests and needs of individual campers. The educational aim in any good camp or recreation program should involve the whole individual. Camp leaders who plan their programs in terms of desirable educational outcomes are concerned with such objectives as wholesome fun, healthful living, self-reliance, social adjustment and character building. Values received from the many educative experiences in camp should make for wholesome personalities and enrich lives.

The pendulum of public opinion is swinging very definitely toward the acceptance of camping experience as an integral part of the educational program. Influence has been brought to bear to a great extent by educators who have quite generally accepted the fact that camp life benefits children. A well-regulated program of outdoor living with opportunities of working, playing and cooperating together should be avail-

able to every growing child, if not to every adult. Perhaps the greatest single contribution which camping can offer to any group of campers is an experience of successful cooperation. To mould the varied interests, skills, and abilities into an enriched common purpose for all is indeed an accomplishment. The growing interest in camping with its possibilities for educative experiences in the lives of children is shared by parents and educators and promises to continue to be a contributing factor in education.

In the preceding paragraphs an attempt has been made to point out some of the many reasons why camping is emphasized today as an important activity in the lives of children, and why it is truly a significant part of a good educational recreation program. Many of the reasons given are obvious and have stood the test for years. The real problem has been, perhaps, not the already established programs, but how to provide for an equality of camping experiences and privileges.

Helping to Equalize Camping Privileges

It is here that the organized day camp has been at least a partial answer to the problem. Through the medium of this program the educational advantages and pleasures of camp life may be enjoyed without the expense of elaborate equipment, high fees, and overhead costs that are usually characteristic, by necessity, of camps operating for extended periods.

Camping experience should be universally available for the social and educational development of every community. It is interesting to note that in many municipalities either school or non-school agencies are now providing day camping in their curricular, extra-curricular or regular programs. It fills a great gap in the education process that cannot be taken care of in the formal classroom. The splendid example in New York City shows

what may be done in this respect. Here a cooperative experiment carried on by the Board of Education, Park Department, and the Education Division of the Works Progress Administration made possible a workable plan whereby thousands of elementary school children benefit through real camping activities. Another fine example of cooperative

Interest in day camping is growing by leaps and bounds and there is an increasing demand for information on the subject. Mr. Grimshaw, in this article, has given us the "setting" of the day camp movement. He is well qualified to present the objectives of this important phase of camping, for he organized and for a number of years directed the Springfield College day camp, one of the early day camps in New England. He is now making a special study in this field.

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Books and the More Abundant Life

By

LOUISE RICHARDSON

IMAGINE THIS MORNING that we feel somewhat like the character in *Years of Grace* who remarks, "The trouble with education is that we always read everything when we're too young to know what it means. And the trouble with life is that we're always too busy to read later." But one of the solemn obligations of the educated person is to continue his education. Books and reading

play an important part in this post-graduation education, on both the intellectual and the recreational sides. That books are decidedly recreational is evidenced by the study made in 1934 by the National Recreation Association on "The Use of Leisure." Of the 93 free-time activities named in 5,002 answers, reading topped the list for the large majority of those who replied.

Although we like to be left alone in selecting our reading, we are so surrounded by a deluge of printed material that there is danger of drowning in a sea of printers' ink. The sheer quantity of book production makes plain the necessity for selection. Although we belong to a nation of peo-

Very early in life boys and girls may begin to develop an appreciation of the joys of books

This delightful address by Miss Richardson, Head Librarian, Florida State College for Women at Tallahassee, was given before a group of alumnae gathered on the campus for an Alumnae College. It will send you posthaste to your nearest library, if you are not so fortunate as to possess the books which she recommends!

ple who seem to want everything done for them, I shall not suggest any digested magazines nor



Courtesy Nursery School, Cornell University

predigested books. Nor shall I follow the dictates of Mrs. Gossip and say, "My dears, you *must* read this or that. It is a perfectly charming book. Every one is reading it." The reading of that sort of books is often more a matter of vanity than of pleasure.

My suggestions for books and the more abundant life begin with three books which we all commandeer sooner or later, whether we be undergraduate, graduate, or neither. They are the "Three Musketeers" of knowledge: A good atlas, a good encyclopedia, and a good dictionary. These are books which are hourly counselors, arbiters, and companions. A speaking acquaintance with them is tantalizing; a casual friendship with them is unsatisfactory. We must live with them to enjoy and appreciate them.

Fundamental Books

From these we turn to certain other books, primary and fundamental if we would understand and enjoy much of the writings and literature of all ages even to the present. The Bible, the Greek and Latin Classics, *Arabian Nights*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Don Quixote* and many others are so intertwined with our literature that we cannot read even current magazines without at least a speaking acquaintance with them. About five years ago a reader of the *Atlantic Monthly* decided to tabulate, from twenty-four issues of this magazine, the references made to these classic books. Every word of the magazines was read except the advertising, with the result that a total of 2693 references were found in the twenty-four issues. To classics of the 19th century 770 references were made. Included in these allusions were all the great novels of the past century.

The 18th century was well represented also, enough so that it showed that an intelligent reader should be familiar with *Robinson Crusoe*, *Vicar of Wakefield*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Clarissa Harlowe* and *Rasselas*, as well as with the works of Fielding, Smollet, Gibbon and Boswell, and with *The Spectator*.

The 16th and 17th centuries include the great Elizabethan period in literature. The *Atlantic Monthly* contributors assumed that we should have a passing acquaintance with Pepys, Bacon, Shakespeare, Bunyan, La Fontaine, and others.

There were eighty-four allusions to Chaucer, Dante, the *Chanson de Roland*, and the great English and Scottish ballads; 325 allusions to Greek and Roman writings and mythology; 607 to the

Bible; and less than fifty references to any religion except the Christian.

So it would seem that to read our better current magazines we need as a foundation for understanding—a knowledge of the truly great books of the centuries past. Included in these are books of exquisite humor by such masters as Aristophanes, Swift and Mark Twain. It may be that you prefer Leacock, Cobb, Will Rogers or Robert Benchly. They have their place but are in no way comparable to the real masters of humor. Falstaff and Mr. Pickwick, though wholly fictitious, have by the consummate skill of their creators taken on attributes of reality and are worth knowing. Books of humor written by master craftsmen bind friend to friend, youth to age, and families to families. How many households are more comfortable and possess understanding because of Tom Sawyer, Alice In Wonderland, and Uncle Remus! It takes a hard-boiled person not to respond to "the wheezles and squeezles" of Christopher Robin. How many times have you with Alice "run as fast as you could to stay where you are?" Or have you never had the joy of philosophizing with Brer Rabbit and Brer Wolf?

Fiction Has Its Place

Fiction, both literary and that purely for entertainment, has its place, and the lover of one has no cause to scoff at the other. We need not object to *Wuthering Heights* because it is grim, nor scorn *The Good Companions* because it is cheerful. Mrs. Wiggs has a place as well as David Copperfield and Soames Forsyte. But upon what basis do we judge fiction unless we have read such great novels as *Tom Jones*, *Vanity Fair*, *Return of the Native*, *Anna Karenina*, or *Scarlet Letter*? With these as background we read with keener insight and more enjoyment novels of Galsworthy, Willa Cather, Walpole, Thomas Mann, Ellen Glasgow, or Edith Wharton. As we read the *Good Earth* we groan with the poor, but how much more vivid are Philpott's *Children of the Mist*, Chekhov's *Children That Were Men*, and Hamlin Garland's *Prairie Folk*? We have read with a certain pleasure Glasgow's *Barren Ground* and Cather's *O' Pioneers*, but have we remembered to read Zola's *Paris*, Hugo's *Les Miserables*, or Dickens's *Oliver Twist*?

I would be the last to advise one to close his eyes to the new or to shut himself up with the old. I know too well the adventure of opening a new book—the pleasure of hearing the crackle of

new leaves and the smell of fresh print. Yet I know, too, that there is something comforting about old favorites. With Lamb we have an affection for "our ragged veterans." They are a part of one's self.

Keep Essays on Your List!

Essays seem to have fallen into disrepute, perhaps because of the way we met them. Yet Bacon, Lamb and Emerson hold for us charm, humor and inspiration. Emerson might well be speaking this morning as he offers his three guide-posts for discrimination in reading. He says, "Never read any book that is not a year old; never read any but famed books, and never read any but what you like."

If you think you dislike the essay begin by reading some modern, informal essays such as "Do not open until Christmas" in Warner's *Groups and Couples*. Christopher Morley in his *44 Essays* writes our own feelings for us in two essays: "Time to Light the Furnace," and "On Unanswering Letters." A. A. Milne strikes a common ground with us in his collection called *If I May*. Perhaps the best all-round volume of informal essays which are good for beginners in essay reading is Tanner's *Essays and Essay Writing*. The essay on "Pet Economics" is likely to become a favorite.

Drama

For drama and a lot of pleasure introduce yourself to some of the plays of Marlow, Ben Jonson, Sheridan, Goldsmith, and, of course, Shakespeare. You will then be ready to lose yourself in more modern plays which have made people laugh, cry—and think: Such plays as *The Cherry Orchard*, *Death Takes a Holiday*, *Strife*, *Doll's House* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Or let the curtain rise for you on *Dear Brutus*, *Saint Joan*, *Alien Corn*, *Victoria Regina* or the *Barretts of Wimpole Street*.

In short, as Rolvaag says, "Life is what matters. To learn about it, I must seek out the great interpreters — poet, dramatist, novelist. Their senses are keener than mine; they have strained their vision; they have laid their ear close up to the aching heart of humanity and listened breathlessly; they have seen and heard things unspeakable. So I go to them to get wisdom, under-

standing and beauty. Every time I am with them my fellowship grows more intimate." In other words, he says that great books cannot be swallowed at a gulp—we must live with them to know them.

Choose Friends from the Great of the Earth

From biography we can pick friends from among the great of earth and take our place in the best society of the world. These books are not just paper, ink and cloth; they are persons, and for the most part a company of immortals.

I can mention only a few: Ruskin's *Practerita*, Plutarch's *Lives*, Franklin's *Autobiography*, Beveridge's *Marshall*, Gosse's *Father and Son*, Nevin's *Grover Cleveland*, and Freeman's *Robert E. Lee*.

There is a group of biographies of men and women of science I cannot refrain from recommending: Vallery Radot's *Pasteur*, the *Life of William Gorbas*, De Kruif's *Men Against Death* and his *Hunger Fighters*, and the very recent *Madame Curie* by her daughter—these among many who faced death lightly that the rest of us might live. As we read Pupin's *From Immigrant to Inventor*, we almost believe that we stood with him as he talked to the immigration of-

ficial, declaring that he has three friends in America. "What friends?" asks the official. "Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Harriet Beecher Stowe," answers the lad. Then there is the near-perfect love story in Parker's *An American Idyll*, while in Mowrer's *Journalist's Wife* we adventure in modern Europe and have the isms thereof reduced to understandable terms.

I should like to mention the world books in economics, international relations, peace, conservation, and many other subjects, but time does not permit. I must, however, invite you to travel the arm-chair way through books. By this method no passport is needed. There are no clothes to buy, sort and pack, no seasickness and no dangers of war. Without sore and weary feet, and with little expense, one may go *North to the Orient* with Arne Lindbergh, adventure with Earhart on her *Last Flight*, visit *Mexico* with Stuart Chase, take *A Vagabond Journey Around the World* with Harry Franck, eat *Red Bread* or see

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"Little fragments of eternity, quietly ranged along the plain wall, you stand there unpretentiously in our home. Yet when the hand frees you, when the heart touches you, you break through the everyday, prosy surroundings; your words lead us as in a fiery chariot up from pettiness into the eternal."—Stefan Zweig.

Are You Planning a Summer Party?

SUMMER PARTIES may be made very attractive affairs by basing them on seasonal themes and introducing activities suggestive of summer. For example, why not take a summer cruise?

Ship Ahoy! A Sailor Party

Buy "passports" on shore and pin them on before going on deck. Passports of four colors divide the party into four groups, each gathering under its own pennant or ship flag, perhaps the Neptune, Isabella, Yan Shan, and Moby Dick. Each group chooses a sailor captain and a steward to assist in songs and contests.

The admiral of the fleet makes all announcements of events, confers with the judges in deciding on the winning group and presents prizes at the end of the party. His first mate acts as scorer. Each group captain explains the events to members of his crew, lines them up for contests, and sees that all participate and keep rules. Three judges sit in the "Crow's Nest," some place of vantage where they can see well. The nautical band plays sailing tunes as crews come on deck, such as "Nancy Lee," "My Bonnie," and so on. All sing "A Ship Is Made of Metal."

Here are a few suggestions for games:

One Bell: Deck Promenade. All participate in a Grand March. End in formation eight abreast, spaced down length of gym, straight lines, facing north.

Catching the Stowaway (Thief in the Alley). Hold hands with guests on either side, forming alleys running east and west. The four stewards act as stowaways who try to escape being caught by their bloodthirsty captains, each captain chasing his own stewards up and down the alleys. The admiral blows his whistle and each player faces east and grasps the hand of the person on either side, forming alleys running north and south. The stowaways must escape through these newly made alleys. The admiral blows again, everybody faces east, and so on until each captain has captured his own stowaway. Unwind the formation and make a huge single circle, counting off by threes.

Finding My Cabin (Squirrel in the Hollow). One and two of each group of three hold hands making a hollow or "cabin" in which three stands. Three extra passengers have no cabin. At the whistle all Number Three's vacate their cabins, finding new ones. Three extra passengers attempt to steal into a cabin. Whistle blows at short intervals eight or ten times. Then Number One's become the passengers, seeking a cabin; next Number Two's, until everybody has had a good chase.

Two Bells: Swabbing the Deck. Six from each group are lined up in single file behind the starting line for this relay, each group having a large empty water bucket and scrub brush. At the signal "go" the first person in each group begins scrubbing the deck, going on all fours with brush and bucket for a certain specified distance, and back again to the starting line where brush and bucket are passed to next person. The group finishing first wins ten points.

Three Bells: Turtle. The turtle race calls for eight paper pie plates, two for each group. There are eight participants in each group. Wearing "turtle" shells (pie plates) for shoes, the members of the crew walk over burning sands of a desert island. At "go" the first player in each group steps into two pie plates, walks as fast as he can the designated distance and back to starting line without losing or stepping out of the turtle shells, which he passes to the next player who repeats the performance. The winning group receives ten points.

Four Bells: Feeding the Monkeys. This requires two from each group, one the monkey, one the feeder. Both are blindfolded and sit facing each other in chairs three feet apart. The feeder, at the signal "go" begins feeding eight marshmallows to the monkey, one at a time, until the monkey has swallowed all and then hops around his chair. The winning monkey scores five points for his crew.

Five Bells: All Hands on Deck. Six people from each group pile their shoes in one heap, forty-

**On Friday the fifteenth we set sail,
Be here at eight bells without fail.
We're off seeking treasure of diamond and gold.
So come and be a sailor most bold.**

eight shoes in all, then each group lines up behind the starting line. At the signal "go" all dash madly on deck, find their own shoes, put them on, then report back behind the starting line to the captain who checks in all his crew when they are fully clothed in proper shoes. Ten points go to the winning crew.

Six Bells: Filling the Water Tank. This requires twelve people from each group. These four lines of twelve each face in the same direction. At the head of each line is a bucket of water and an empty tin cup; at the foot, an empty quart milk bottle. At the signal "go" the person at the head of the line fills the cup with water and it is passed down the line to the last one who empties the water into the milk bottle. The empty cup is passed back to the head of the line, refilled, passed down, emptied, and so on until the quart bottle is filled. The line filling its bottle first wins ten points.

Seven Bells: Walking the Plank. This game calls for five people from each group lined up single file behind the starting line. Three feet from the starting line a narrow plank about 1"x4"x60" is laid on the floor. The first one in each group is blindfolded by the captain, turned around three times and started walking on his plank at the signal "go." He has to walk, hands behind him, to the end; then from the end, backwards, to the starting point. If he steps off, he must get back on immediately. When he arrives at the starting point the captain takes off the blindfold and puts it on the next player, who repeats the feat. The five contestants on one team walking the plank and completing first win ten points.

Eight Bells: Pirate Parade. One girl or boy from each crew is chosen to be painted and dressed as a terrible buccaneer. The members of each group can help dress their "pirate," each group having the same kinds of materials to decorate the pirate—black eye-brow pencil, lipstick, strips of colored cloth or crepe paper, curtain rings. Let the girls of the crew contribute to this "decorating" from their own adornments, if they like. Allow ten minutes for dressing the pirates, then have them parade before the whole company and judged. The one judged the most typical and fierce wins five points. Have your pirate act the part.

While the whole party sings songs the scorer, judges and admiral confer, deciding upon

the winning crew. The prize is presented by the admiral of the fleet to the captain of the winning crew. The prize may be a bag of gold (yellow lemon drops or wine balls), a toy ship, or anything else nautical and inexpensive. (Special music, stunts, tap dancing and the like may be put in between events.)

Refreshments: Raid on the Galley. Punch, sandwiches and cakes.

Dog Days

Highly appropriate for these "dog days" is a party featuring our canine friends! Here are a few suggestions:

Do You Know Your Dogs? Find pictures of ten different breeds of dogs, such as Scotties, greyhounds, setters, poodles, Boston terriers, collies, Pomeranians, police dogs and others that frequent the magazine pages. Give each person a slip of paper marked from one to ten. Number the pictures and pass them, one at a time, to your guests. They are to write the name of each dog opposite the corresponding number found on their slips. Prizes are awarded for the one having the largest number of correct names. See that the pictures are passed quickly.

Jumbled Dogs. Cut dog pictures into five sections—heads, legs, tails, bodies and ears—and make as many piles on a bridge table of these different sections. Place a jar of paste and a pad of paper and enough pieces to assemble a complete dog. Paste these sections in their proper positions on the sheet of paper to make a dog. The results will be side-splitting and far from true to form. Lay the models on the table for selection and vote for the most grotesque animal, awarding a prize to the same.

Name Your Pet Dog. Everyone thinks of a name he would choose for his pet dog and in ten words gives his reason for choosing this name but does not mention the name. The rest of the group must guess the name. They may ask any questions to help them.

Dog Biscuit Race. Ask the guests to form two straight lines. Place a medium sized box directly in back of each line about three feet from the last person. Hand everyone three puppy biscuits. At a given signal the first one in each line hands a biscuit, one at a time, over his shoulder into the box, then whistles and the

The suggestions for "Dog Days" and "Off to the Races" have been taken from "Summer Activities and Independence Day Celebration"—Activities Bulletin Series Number 8, issued by the Chicago Park District.

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Municipal Golf Makes "Hole in One"

By TAM DEERING
Director of Recreation
Cincinnati, Ohio

CINCINNATI has always stood out in this country as a center for sand-lot baseball and is one of the two or three outstanding cities in the country from the standpoint of the numbers participating in the playing of baseball and softball on an amateur basis. The situation is rapidly changing, through the developments brought about under the leadership of the Public Recreation Commission during the past five years. Since 1932 the number of ball diamonds has been increased from 64 to 159, and the number of players has increased by thousands.

Baseball has long been a popular sport in Cincinnati. Ball diamonds are increasing, but interest in golf is record breaking!



Courtesy Trenton, N. J., Park Department



Courtesy Trenton, N. J., Park Department

Baseball and softball, as played in Cincinnati, are now facing two rivals—golf and tennis, both of which are gaining in proportion of players in spite of the great increase in ball playing. In 1932 there were 50 tennis courts. In 1938 the season opened with 160 courts in play. During 1937 the number of different individuals playing reached a total of 12,000.

It is in golf, however, that the most phenomenal increase has taken place. During 1937 13,000 different persons registered on the two municipal golf courses. This was in contrast to 4,000 different players in 1934.

In 1930 there were 14,000 greenfees sold at Avon Fields—the only municipal golf course at that time. Since 1935 the first nine holes of the new California Municipal Golf Course have been in play. By 1937 the number of greenfees at the two courses had reached a total of 41,000. It is predicted that during 1938, with the opening of the second nine holes on the second municipal golf course, there will be at least 16,000 different players and 55,000 greenfees sold.

It is not the purpose of the Recreation Commission to substitute golf for the great team games such as baseball, football, basketball and hockey. There can be no adequate substitute for these, but

all team game players must recognize the fact that the time will come at last when they will not have wind enough in their lungs to last them around the ninety foot bases. When that time comes, the Recreation Commission would save them from "spectatoritis." Instead of deteriorating in the bleachers, it would have retired ball players go on as long as they live with interest-driven, stimulating, re-creative play in the outdoors.

The Recreation Commission does not propose to substitute golf for music, dramatics, art or other creative or scientific leisure time interests. It would have every man attain his highest cultural attainment. But cultural activities alone are not enough. Throughout the ages, during an infinite period of time leading up to very recent years, man was an outdoor creature, a hunter, a fisherman, an agriculturist. Now for the first time he is trying to adapt himself to the cooped-up confinement of factory and office and kitchen. Hence he is homesick for the open skies, green fields and woodlands. Harnessed to the machine during working hours, and going to sleep physically and mentally at the "movie" or beside the radio in his leisure hours, he faces rapid degeneration unless he can regain his active life in the outdoors. Hence the well-considered plans of the Recreation Commission in Cincinnati to teach the game of golf free of charge to boys and girls of high school age and to all interested adults. The results have been amazing.

New Attitudes Created Toward Golf

Our analysis of the situation as it exists today indicates that the new policies and new methods applied to municipal golf in Cincinnati have succeeded to such an extent that several additional courses will be required to take care of the new demand on the part of people for golf facilities. The two municipal golf courses in Cincinnati are now over-crowded to the point of discomfort. Players are delighted with the facilities, but a great many of them give up playing on the municipal courses and go on to private courses because on week-ends and holidays there is no room to play.

The new interest in golf at Cincinnati is not due to any one thing but to a combination of many things. It is due to the decision of the Recreation Commission no longer to operate municipal golf with the object of deriving an excess of receipts over expenditures for use on playgrounds and

other recreational activities. It is due to the earnest efforts which have been made by the Commission to transform the thinking of the people of Cincinnati with reference to golf. The Commission has endeavored in every proper manner to educate the people to a realization of the possibilities of golf as the most universal of all outdoor sports, appealing to the entire population, the old and the young, the rich and the poor.

Not a Rich Man's Game

The attitude in Cincinnati, like the attitude in most parts of America, has been that golf is a rich man's game. The attitude has been that golf is a game for a particular class and social group—not a game for the masses. It has not been merely the matter of the cost of the game. It has been the feeling that golf necessitated membership in an exclusive social set; that it involved wearing unusual types of clothes. Golf has been the game of the leisure class. The average American who worships work and whose social traditions necessitate work as the very taproot of his life, has maintained a deep antagonism toward the game of golf. As a Cincinnati citizen confessed to me, "Years ago, before I took up municipal golf, I would remark to my wife, when we passed a golfer, 'See that fellow with the silly clothes and clubs—he's crazy.'"

Up until the year 1932, the Recreation Commission of Cincinnati operated golf along lines which did not eradicate the common citizens' opposition to the game. Since 1932, new policies have largely swept away the old antagonism.

How It Was Done

This reversal in public opinion toward golf has been brought about as the result of sweeping changes along many lines. Minimum prices were dropped from \$1.00 to \$.35. High school boys and girls were invited to play at \$.15. Free group lessons were opened to anyone in the neighborhood, in the factories, in the department stores, in the physical education classes at high schools. The cooperation of the newspapers was secured in making a new interpretation of golf and in making known to everyone the new policy. The community has been made to see that not only can anyone afford to play golf who can afford to go to the "movies," as the price is no greater, but that one can be sure he will not be embarrassed because of his awkwardness. When we opened the new course at the California Water Works in

1935. 60 per cent of the players were beginners. The word spread about that working men, clerks, and those of all ages and groups were taking up municipal golf.

The writer introduced the idea of group golf lessons and group tennis lessons to the Recreation Commission Staff in the year 1932. At that time he did not know that golf and tennis were being taught in group lessons. Since that time he has learned that other cities have been doing that sort of thing, at least in golf. However, the idea was not original with the writer. He had observed, in the year 1918, how swimming was being taught through group lessons in the city of Seattle, at a time when he was organizing recreation in that city. Group lessons for golf in Cincinnati started with the realization of the necessity for some means of teaching the masses to play, or of introducing them to the game, at least.

Starting with a few classes in 1933, registration in the classes has increased until in 1937 there were more than 6,000 different persons taking the group golf lessons.

Local Newspapers Render Invaluable Assistance

The Cincinnati *Daily Post*, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, has featured our group golf lessons, following our introduction of the idea in 1933, and has had a large part in popularizing both the golf lessons and municipal golf in Cincinnati. The city-wide beginners' golf school conducted by the *Post* and the Recreation Commission is held every spring. Classes are arranged at both private and public courses throughout the city. The Recreation Commission furnishes the executive leadership for the handling of the *Post's* free golf lessons. Twenty golf professionals volunteer as teachers for this event. During the larger part of the year when these lessons are not being sponsored by the *Post*, the Commission continues its teaching of group lessons. Four Civil Service employees of the Commission and three WPA recreation leaders organize and teach most of the classes during the winter season when play on the courses is least heavy. By careful planning, this arrangement stabilizes employment of golf personnel, substituting a heavy year-round program of work for the seasonal employment of previous years. Classes are organized in both public and private high schools, in neighborhood centers, in industrial plants, in offices, and in department stores. The Commission will furnish leadership

for any group of twelve or more persons who have never previously played golf. It will conduct classes in any part of the city, whether in office, factory or school room.

The Organization of Classes

A series of seven lessons is arranged. Industrial classes meeting in the company's quarters are ordinarily held following the working hours. Neighborhood classes are usually held in the evening at school gymnasias. High school classes are held during school hours in connection with the regular physical education program. During the summer, golf classes are conducted on the golf courses.

The steps taken in arranging neighborhood classes are as follows:

1. The neighborhood organization is interested in backing the class.
2. The local gymnasium or other facilities are secured for the class.
3. Publicity is given in the daily and neighborhood papers.
4. Mimeographed circulars describing the classes are distributed in the neighborhood.

Industrial classes are arranged as follows:

1. The personnel manager or other official of the company is interested.
2. An effort is made to create an interest in the lessons on the part of the employees directly, as well as through the management.
3. Some member of the firm is designated to handle the registration.
4. Golf circulars are given out, announcing the class.
5. Publicity, including editorials, pictures and stories, is handled through the papers.

Instruction Procedure

Robert J. Strauss, Golf Supervisor for the Recreation Commission, has outlined the instruction procedure as follows:

LESSON I—A Lecture on the Game of Golf

1. Brief outline of the history of the sport and reasons for playing the game.
2. Describe the layout of a course (by use of a blackboard when indoors). An excellent plan is to describe a match from the time a foursome of golfers arrives at the first tee until they return.
3. Golfing terms, rules, etiquette, etc.
4. Local facilities for golfing.

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Robert Moses—Park Creator Extraordinary

ROBERT MOSES—"Park Creator Extraordinary," "probably the ablest public administrator in America," "one of the most exciting personalities on the national scene," "scholar-athlete," "human firecracker," "persistent hell-raiser who combines intelligence with the temper of a wounded lion," "the worst politician in America," "one of the first officials in this country to recognize that adults not only enjoy but actually require active recreation," "the creator of the largest park system in the world."

These eulogies and epithets gathered from the press in recent months are a bit of the effervescence that has bubbled over as writers have tried to describe the man and his work. Let us take a look at this very colorful personality and the achievements which call forth such comment.

Robert Moses is the son of a well-to-do department store owner in New Haven, Connecticut. As a student in Yale he championed the use of athletic money for tennis, hockey, swimming and basketball as against its almost exclusive use for football. He locked horns with Coach Walter Camp and won. He was a star at water polo, which in his day was said to be "the nearest to homicide of all the sports." During four years in Oxford University, England, he made a brilliant record as a student of government and was elected to the presidency of the Oxford Union—the only American to achieve that honor. His doctor's thesis in Columbia in 1914 was on the English Civil Service. As he



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President of the Long Island State Park Commission, Chairman of the New York State Council on Parks, Chairman of the Jones Beach State Parkway Authority and the Bethpage Park Authority, and Park Commissioner of the City of New York.

entered his public career he knew government thoroughly and was motivated by the highest ideals of public service. When offered a salary as head of the New York State Reconstruction Commission in 1918 by Al Smith, then governor of New York, he said, "No—in America you can get a lot of service out of people for nothing. The minute you put a salary on the job it becomes an item for the politicians." He took the job of reorganizing the State Government and reduced it from a confused accumulation of 180 to eighteen departments. Naturally enough, from that time forward, he was no friend of the politicians.

During that process of reorganizing the State Government, Moses became interested in the parks of the State. His studies revealed that while the State had forty parks, it had no adequate set-up to care for them

or to provide for future acquisition of land. He proposed a plan to Governor Al Smith providing for eleven park districts in the State, each district headed by and represented on a central council by a man appointed by the Governor to serve without pay. In 1924 this plan was adopted. Robert Moses was made chairman of the Council, and a \$15,000,000 bond issue provided the means for advancing the plan.

Robert Moses chose to represent Long Island, which he considered the hub of the whole New York park system. Three quarters of the total population of New York State live within twenty miles of New York City. This vast population is

less than thirty miles away from the shores of Long Island—the only beach land of any consequence in the State. Ten millions of people within easy reach of 475 miles of beach on Long Island! And all you had to do was to build public beaches on the Island, and then cut great highways through New York City out to the rest of the State! This was the dream and such was the simple plan. But when the plan was started the fun began.

The land on Long Island was owned by old settlers on their modest farms and by the wealthy possessors of large estates. When it was said that the opening of beaches and parks would allow the "rabble" of New York City to trespass, Governor Al Smith spoke up. "Rabble," he said, "that's me," and he proceeded to back the Moses plan. When confronted by one of the sporting magnates with the argument that this was the only real fox hunting country left in the State, and that the hounds would lose the scent if the fox had to cross a concrete roadway, Commissioner Moses replied with a malicious glint in his eye, "Perhaps we can build a tunnel under the roadway for the fox."

The land was secured by gift, by purchase and by condemnation. Some of the leaders who first opposed Bob Moses later generously donated large plots of land. Those who held out had their land condemned. The smaller land owners sold to good advantage. Thus loose acres have been turned into State parks, golf courses, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, playgrounds, picnic grounds, camping sites and beaches to which the city's millions could come.

Jones Beach, the prize of them all, is not only a Moses masterpiece but a model for future builders to emulate. The beach area cares for 300,000 people without congestion. There are two bath houses 4,000 feet apart, connected by a board walk. The bath houses have lockers for approximately 15,000 bathers and there are two miles of beautiful beach. Both houses provide for eating arrangements from a thirty-five cent lunch to a meal costing \$2.50. In 1937 four million people came to the beach to swim,

sometimes 100,000 on a Sunday in the heat of summer. Children enjoy kindergarten and playgrounds. Families picnic on the beach. There are dances, light operas, orchestras. The plant cost \$15,000,000 to construct and requires nearly a half million to operate annually, but is a self-supporting project.

In 1924 there was one State park on Long Island, while in 1937 there were fourteen State parks with 20,000 acres. In thirteen years sixty miles of parkway have been built to connect these areas with each other and with the city. Many of the people who fought Robert Moses most bitterly in his initial efforts are now ready to share the credit of what he has accomplished.

Ten years after Commissioner Moses took on the New York State Council of Parks, Mayor LaGuardia needed a man to clean up the park situation in New York City. There were five boroughs and five separate park commissioners receiving a total of \$62,000 a year. LaGuardia offered Moses the job. "Fire the five commissioners and I will take it on alone," said Moses. A salary of \$10,000 was practically forced upon him, the only paid position he has held. After taking on the job he wrote in an early report:

"The parks were in a disgraceful condition. Fences, playground equipment, iron benches, steel bridges, piers and other iron work had been allowed through neglect to rust. Walks, paths, roadways, were acres of broken pavement. Lawn areas were meadows of woods. Thousands of trees were butchered or hacked down to provide firewood for political favorites. There was not a single park building in the city that did not need immediate repairs and painting. Roofs leaked, toilets were out of order, the zoos were firetraps."

In tackling this great job of rehabilitation and construction, Commissioner Moses discarded all old organization. A new plan coordinating the work of the five boroughs was devised. Departments of Landscaping, Engineering and Architecture rapidly produced a vast array of projects including menageries, swimming pools, playground buildings, golf clubs, and flagpoles. In all construction work the

"No man works alone on major public undertakings—at least not to a successful conclusion—and then, too, there are always in the background the all but forgotten forces of those who first thought of the projects, accustomed the public to expect them as ultimate realities, so to speak, made the interference for them, but for some reason or other could not themselves quite make the goal. It is well to admit that few large-scale improvements are entirely new conceptions. We in our generation picked them up where others dropped them too discouraged, exhausted or disillusioned to carry them further; and if there is any credit due to us it is for the energy and vitality we have brought with us, and for good judgment in picking the occasion for victory."

use of durable materials has been demanded.

When, in 1934, Robert Moses took over the five boroughs of New York, there were 14,827 acres of park in the whole city, about 7.28% of the total area of 203,442. There were 119 playgrounds, two swimming pools, seven golf courses and 355 tennis courts. Two years later, park acreage had been increased to 18,184 or 8.95% of the total. There were 274 playgrounds, twelve swimming pools, ten golf courses and 567 tennis courts. The Astoria pool has accommodations for 6,200 bathers. Crotona, the largest, has a bath house for 2,700 men and 1,600 women. These ten pools cost approximately \$1,000,000 each. They are built for summer and winter use, with skating on the pools and basketball in the locker rooms in winter. In summer, before noon, children are admitted free. Afternoon all under fourteen years pay ten cents, while those over fourteen years pay twenty cents. On this basis the income has more than covered the expenditures for upkeep.

The dynamic personality of Robert Moses is nowhere better revealed than in his approach to the problem of rebuilding the city's parks and playgrounds. He was offered the job in November, 1933, and was appointed on January 19th, 1934. Within two months, with the help of engineers, he made a survey of every park and parkway of the city! He entered office with plans for 1,700 work relief projects calling for the labor of 75,000 men. He inherited 69,000 relief workers, of whom 20,000 could not be found! He needed 500 supervisors who were technically trained. When he met resistance to this appeal he threatened to resign. Within a week he had his money and was ready to hire men. On Saturday he sent out 1,300 telegrams to possible employees. On Sunday afternoon the interviewing began and kept up until Monday morning at five. By that time 453 men had been approved and at sunrise wires went out ordering them to report that morning! "Not one was hired on account of personal or political influence." Seventy thousand men were soon engaged on the job.

The acquiring of the site for the Worlds Fair in New York in 1939 reads like a fairy tale. The Fair authorities were scouring the environs of New York City for a site; Moses was doing the same thing for more park space. They got together and decided on Flushing Meadows, "a stretch of 1,250 acres of smelly, boggy meadows, a springy vegetable mat laid on a jelly marsh of muck." This area had to be acquired, filled in and

landscaped with shrubs and large trees for a Fair site—and later a permanent park. The area was so soft that an ordinary truck would be sucked under if it stood still to unload. There were six hundred owners.

On May 1st, 1936, the Board of Estimate voted the money and authorized Mr. Moses to go ahead. By the 15th of May he was in possession of the property. (The courts were to decide later how much should be paid!) Then came the problem of filling. There was a mountain of ashes—thirty years' accumulation—ninety feet in height. With specially designed trucks this mountain was spread over the swamp twelve feet thick and given a coat of top soil sucked from the Sound. Meantime, condemnation proceedings were going on. The whole process, which ordinarily would have taken many years, was cleared up within six months! The filling, grading, and landscaping were done in record time. Trees from the Adirondacks "grew" overnight. Buildings began to rise, streets were paved. Within a period of eighteen months the Worlds Fair grounds were so far advanced that they drew a crowd of 500,000 for a "preview" of the mighty works of Moses.

Space will not permit the telling of the story of the Triborough Bridge which opened up a great thoroughfare for upstate New York people to Long Island and its beautiful new parks and beaches, or the west side parkway which transformed a dump heap owned by the New York Central Railroad into a beautiful parkway of 132 acres along the Hudson which was then connected with the former Westchester County Parkway to the north by the construction of the Henry Hudson bridge—a project which had been contemplated for fifty years but was realized through the efforts of Robert Moses.

Called Facist by those who see his fearless cutting of red tape to achieve his ends; called Socialist by those whose interests have been subordinated to the common good; called Republican by those who know his political ancestry, Robert Moses stands and his work stands as monuments to integrity, free from political bias or taint, and dedicated to the service of all of the people.

"We must realize that in park work we are dealing with conservation in its broadest meaning. Our job concerns not only conservation of natural resources, but conservation of human resources."

—Conrad L. Wirth.

Education Comes Alive

THERE IS NO growth which is not preceded by skepticism, chaos, and investigation. There is little progress not impregnated with vision and with courage. Nor is there truth which is unable to endure analysis. Conclusions are none the less dependable because they are tentative and subject to the change necessitated by new evidence. Nor is the effort predicated by those conclusions any less effective because it is experimental.

At a recent national conference of the Association for Childhood Education two thousand men and women met in an unusual adventure. To the layman called to active participation, the purpose was evident from the beginning. In every study class, at every chance meeting, in the straightforward and searching talks of the leaders at general sessions, that purpose was clear—to put their own procedures to a test. Now it is not unusual to find experts questioning the results of programs other than their own. But here were exponents of Progressive Education voicing a warning lest their slogans grow so familiar that they become “a pattern jelling in the name of Progressive Education.”

The constant self analysis of which most of us talk, but seldom practice, was here in action, as in the Children's Literature Class, where the question was universal, “But what does the *child* think about this book?” Their definite conclusion was that “There is a great lack of the kind of literature for children that makes reading, as it should be, a pleasurable experience.” There was constant challenge of their own deep rooted theories, and a frank testing of their practices. One felt an unaccustomed spread of intellectual curiosity and a higher level of emotional adjustment and social understanding than is found in many another of the educational, sociological, or recreational conferences which have of late filled so large a part of the American picture. With no time wasted on polite inanities and a minimum on recognition of rank, there was an educational goal in every session of the conference. The

Educators meet to test the effectiveness of their own procedures, and to determine whether today's program would stand the strain of a new tomorrow

By IVAH DEERING

unchanged from day to day. Working on the theory that tastes of intellectual food are too often deceiving and that the tactics of the butterfly are highly unsatisfactory in the intellectual field, the program was planned to make it possible for an individual to register for two classes or one studio group (which was experimental and in the nature of laboratory work) and derive from them full benefit.

Each of the classes was guided by a leader, co-leader, and secretary, with a total of six hours for group A and four and a half hours for B. They were, in the main, informal discussion groups. There was a total absence of that so-called “discussion” consisting of one lecture followed by other set speeches dealing more or less with the original presentation which the “discussion leaders” had neither seen nor heard before the conference convened. There was an unusual amount of active participation by the registrants in each class, and the group conclusions were significant and encouraging. Even Arithmetic was presented in terms of social adjustments, while Curriculum was offered as a possible improvement of democratic living. Again and again, in classes other than Parent Education, groups voiced the need for “parent education of a more significant kind,” which will include parent participation in programs, since there is little progress when the methods of the school outstrip the understanding of the parent. The ultimate elimination of all awards, whether in the forms of grades, prizes or ribbons, seemed almost a universal aim.

The Recreation Study Class was a new venture, but attracted a sincere, efficient and able group. Within this class, as in the general sessions, the need was stressed for a coordinated play program which will carry

We are indebted to Mrs. Deering, author of "The Creative Home," for this report of the national conference of the Association for Childhood Education held in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 19-23, 1938.

over from school and playground and home into the life of the child now and later. Even the parent, the man too frequently forgotten except when money is to be raised or some educational idea is to be put over, was here accepted naturally as a co-educator who has much to contribute to the teacher and to the school.

Some Group Conclusions

A few of the study class group conclusions, taken from personal notes or from the summaries of secretaries, are worthy of consideration, since they were in no case dictated by the leader, but were syntheses of opinion of from 28 to 240 teachers of young children, and arrived at by the informal discussion method:

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

Teacher visiting in the homes is essential. The Visiting Teacher is playing a great part in a growing understanding between home and school.

The path between the school and the home must be kept open.

We must take the child where he is, help him to acquire knowledge of his own community, and from this knowledge help him to build up his own evaluations.

Friendliness is more important than the discussion of difficulties.

Since community relationships are essentially human relationships, the need is for individual growth on the part of the teacher and child.

James: "If we looked more for opportunities, we would have fewer difficulties."

TEACHER GROWTH

Determination to grow is important.

Procedures should change and grow better.

When we question and analyze our work, we are likely to go into better and better action.

There must be time for parent contact, even though it means lightening the load of the teacher in order to have time for it.

Parent-teacher meetings are too often inane.

Students should go out and experience the community.

Social planning is more important than ever before.

EVALUATION

(of social needs and of specific behavior of children)

Teachers need to:

Formulate their objectives.

Formulate and describe concretely what these objectives mean in terms of behavior involved.

Canvass all possibilities of securing evidences of growth.

Find ways to record growth so that others may interpret it.

Interpret behavior in a way to unify seemingly conflicting elements.

Accept the goal of developing children who are able to take their part in society.

Watch lest the broadening of interests endanger the continuity and depth of experience.

Do a better job in promoting an understanding of human relations.

Study the vocabulary of young children to determine what words and phrases have a misleading emotional content.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

We are not interested in grading books as such.

Literature is the record of human speech.

Literature for children should be traditional as well as contemporary.

It should have to do with the whole range of the child's experience.

There is need of using literature to build international understanding.

Old folk tales should never be changed.

In the presentation of literature lies the success or failure of its enjoyment.

The younger the child, the more close should be the words and the action.

Fanciful material in literature is more important than factual.

More poetry should be given, for pure enjoyment.

Folk tales, as folk art, represent the life of the people and are of prime importance to young children.

UNITS OF WORK

There is need to examine our procedures to see if they be outmoded, wasteful and ineffectual.

The tensions of parents must be removed.

We must guard lest we bail out the boat instead of turning the thing upside down to find and mend the leak.

We must help the child develop attitudes of cooperation rather than competition.

There is need to develop right attitudes toward change.

There is great need for critical thinking power.

More discrimination is needed by all who work with children.

The words we use must be understandable.

PARENT EDUCATION

It is better to have friendly and cooperative contacts with the parents before conflicts arise.

We are seeking to benefit ourselves. We have much to learn. It is a mutual adjustment that we are after.

The term *parent education* puts parents on the defensive. *Child study*, designating a joint project, is better.

Parents have been made to feel inferior and insecure.

Teachers benefit as much as parents from joint activities.

The experience of parenthood would be helpful to teachers. In lieu of it, contact with parent point of view is essential.

The parent must learn to make his interest felt in the large social problems.

The need of the parent is to gain facility in analyzing and solving his own problems.

There is a cathartic benefit to the individual from joining in group discussion. The expression of his ideas is an important part of his education.

RECREATION

The need is for guidance, *not* teaching.

It is the task of the adult to provide a suitable place, correct environment, and to see that the child's time is not over-filled with adult-like activities so that there is no remaining time for play.

The school ground should be used more fully after school hours.

It is the responsibility of both parents and teachers to help the child build his standards and make his own selections in the group with which he plays. Play is a part of life.

Many a young child of today has his time too well filled with music lessons, concerts, home work and dancing. He needs more time to play and more time to be alone.

Children lose themselves most completely in creative play.

There is great need for enrichment of the environment to provide the right stimuli for the imitation which is natural to the little child.

The skills necessary for a full appreciation and enjoyment of a recreational activity should be taught only when the child realizes his need of mastery of the skills involved.

It is important that the recreational groups be flexible in their programs and less "organization-minded."

The greatest recreational problem is the education of the adult community as to the need for and philosophy of play.

Adults still are playing to their own advantage in the recreation of children, showing them off, instead of taking into consideration the individual desires and needs of the child.

The child must be helped to determine for himself what he needs.

The child is frequently pushed into too many activities, but the need is not fewer organizations but greater selectivity on the part of teacher and parent.

There is no longer any place for the adult educationally or recreationally who gets his own needs satisfied at the expense of the development and welfare of the child.

In all programs, the emotional adjustment of the child is paramount.

It is time for teachers and recreation leaders to consider play not as competition but as a means of growth.

The games taught at school and on the playground should carry over into the home.

Facing Facts

The need for sensitivity on the part of any adult who deals with the child to what is significant, has been felt not alone by teachers but by parents, social workers and recreation leaders. Too often the immediacy of the tree in the foreground destroys the beauty of the view and impairs the choice of the road. The complaint by a parent which puts the leader on the defensive is a sign of that initiative for which we profess to look. It offers a point of friendly contact, ready for constructive use.

The constant analysis and ability to face the facts of their profession shown in this conference gives to the layman faith in the ultimate personal adjustment of the great body of teachers. It commends itself also the consideration of all professional workers with children. The slow progress in many social fields may be due not to the "dumbness" of the public, but to our inability as workers to face our own pettiness, lack of vision, and un-social point of view, with a determination to do something about it.

Overlook No Living Thing

A presentation of conservation as "a way of living day by day, and hour by hour."

By E. L. SCOVELL
Extension Forester
State of New Jersey

USUALLY, when we consider conservation, the stress is on soil conservation, forest conservation or wild life conservation, as though these fields were entirely separate. With the conservation of song birds and flowers, the tendency is to stress their beauty rather than their economic value plus their beauty. We fail to impress the people with the all-important fact that all nature is bound together by a fine network of dependence and inter-dependence, and that we cannot disturb a part without disturbing all.

These are the things I feel should be stressed in our educational programs on conservation:

First, that soil and climate are the staff of all life on the earth. They are the basic things which determine what forms of life can live in any region, county, township or individual property—from the smallest plant or insect to the largest animal or tree.

Second, that all birds, animals, insects, fish and reptiles are directly or indirectly dependent upon the plant life. One cannot change greatly the plant life in any region without affecting the lives of all living things in the region. Even the smallest act may set in operation a whole series of changes and adjustments that may reach out far beyond what we would dream possible.

Third, that this

inter-dependence on all forms of life, including humans, is what keeps nature in balance. No species of wild life, be it bird, animal, insect, fish, or reptile, can get and stay out of control for a long period. As it increases in numbers its enemies likewise tend to increase in numbers, and in time bring it back into a natural balance. Man is the only exception. He appears to do so only because he employs the plants, fish, animals and birds to maintain an artificial balance of nature. In spite of man's intelligence and abilities, he is constantly forced to fight against the forces of nature. Often he fights a losing battle. Nature takes the upper hand. His crops fail. Insects or animals destroy his crops and kill his live stock. But nature helps man more than she fights him. Authorities tell us that if we removed the birds from the earth, the insects would so increase in numbers in ten years as to destroy every living plant, and cause all other life including man to die of starvation. Remove all the animals from the earth and man would face the same fate. Re-

move all the insects and the end would be the same. The same is true of the plant life. Man cannot escape his dependence on all forms of life. Yet here is a point that is rarely, if ever, stressed in programs on conservation. All too often the stress is placed on the good

Looking down the Mohawk Park Nature Trail, Tulsa, Oklahoma



and the bad plants, animals, birds and insects; on the good and bad things persons can or should not do. Who knows what is good or bad, friend or foe? Under certain conditions a plant, animal, bird, insect, fish or reptile may be an enemy. Under other conditions it may be a real friend.

Fourth, many things that a land owner does each day have some definite effect upon the wild life of that region. When he erects a building, lays a sidewalk, makes or cares for his lawn, spades a garden plot, plants flowers or vegetables, cuts down, prunes or plants a tree, plants, trims or removes shrubs, drains or floods an area, sprays his trees, shrubs or plants, picks his flowers, harvests his crops, keeps a dog or cat, kills or befriends a bird or animal, and does many other things, he harms or benefits the wild life of the region.

Likewise, when one dumps refuse in the woods or streams, picks wild flowers, digs trees, shrubs or other plants, picks berries, nuts or other fruits of plants, disturbs the homes of birds or animals, gathers pine cones, or does many other things that are done so commonly by persons, he harms or benefits the wild life of the region.

The individual act may seem insignificant—of no great importance—but when it is multiplied by hundreds or thousands, which is usually the case, the total effects are of tremendous proportions. Let a thousand persons in a state each pick ten quarts of berries and the combined effects of these harvests might be as great or greater than those of a hundred boys spending an equal period of time shooting the birds and animals which depend in part upon these berries as staple foods. It is equally within reason to believe that the killing of all the chestnut trees in the northeastern part of the United States by the chestnut blight had far greater and more far reaching effects upon our squirrel population than all the hunting of these small animals since then. And more than 100,000 gray squirrels are shot in New Jersey alone each year.

Fifth, conservation is a way of living day by day, and hour by hour. It has to be a part of us. It has to color and influence us in the countless things, big and little which we do each day. Just

because we do not hunt, trap or fish we must not think that we are conservationists. Many little things we do may be as harmful. We as individuals have it in *our* power to give conservation a big boost. What we do, think and say will do more to assist or to defeat real conservation than all the legislation we can cause to be placed in our statute books. There must be within us a small voice that challenges our every act with the thoughts, "What effect will this have upon the plant life and wild life?" and "What would happen if thousands of other boys and girls, men and women should do as I am about to do?"

Sixth, conservation is more a function of the head than of the heart. It is a reasonable thing. A conservation program based solely on sentiment is a wish-washy affair entirely lacking in substance and without a backbone. It is foolish and very shortsighted to urge conservation purely on the basis of being kind to all creatures. Conservation is vital to man's interests, comfort, pleasure and very existence. Conservation is helping nature to help us. It is protecting our properties, and making this a better, more beautiful and happier place for ourselves and the coming generations to

live in. It is the making of a wise truce with all nature to the end that we and nature will work together for the common good. It is an alliance with nature so that we and the generations yet to come can continually enjoy our great natural resources.

Seventh, such an interpretation of conservation is all-inclusive. It means the full development of our soils by preventing erosion, building up and maintaining their fertility, and having each soil type used for the purposes for which it is best qualified. It means maintaining on each area a balance between plant life and all other forms of life.

To make such a program in conservation effective, we cannot overlook any species of living thing from grass to trees, from the smallest insect to the largest bird, from the smallest mouse to the largest animal, from the tiny minnow to the whale, from the lightest rainfall to the largest body of water.

"Conservation is a task in which every person can and must take an active part through his or her government agencies and as an individual. Regardless of how much power and money we give the government agencies, the bulk of the responsibility and work must continue to rest on the shoulders of the individual citizen. Unless we stop doing the little and big things which we have been in the habit of doing without any regard for their effect upon the plants, trees, birds, animals, insects, fish and reptiles, we will continue to destroy faster than the government can conserve."

Aquatic Playgrounds in Long Beach

By

FRANK M. DAVENPORT

ONE OF THE departments under which recreational activities are organized in the Long Beach, California, Recreation Commission, is the Aquatic Division which has the following objectives:

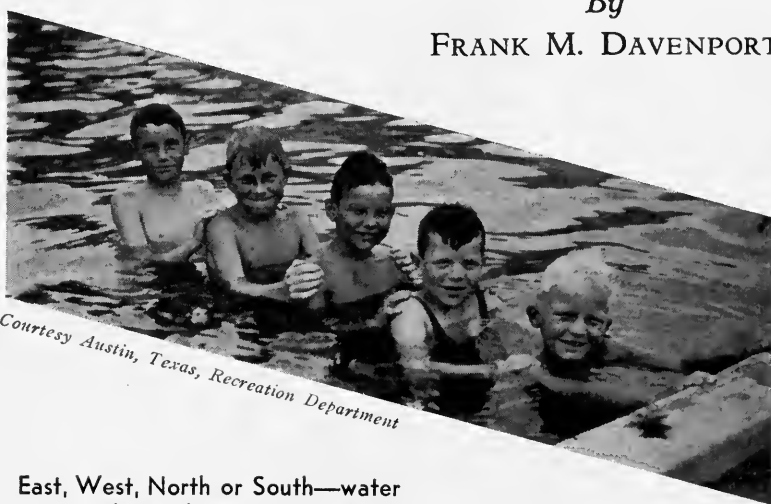
To assist in every possible way the furtherance of water safety principles in the minds of the general public; to teach the public, particularly the children, as much as possible concerning the recreational possibilities of a large number of aquatic activities; to develop to the fullest possible extent the potential recreational usages of local waterways.

With these objectives in mind, a program was inaugurated in the summer of 1929 featuring free instruction in swimming, diving, life saving, beach games and calisthenics on the first aquatic playground at Alamitos Bay. Soon after the initiation of this program a similar one was opened at Colorado Lagoon. From that time on the effort has been to enlarge and adapt the program so as to develop as far as possible the different types of aquatic recreation for which local waterways are suited. The program has grown to considerable proportions, and a large measure of success has been achieved in devising and operating a program throughout the year and in avoiding to some extent the heavy seasonal pressure of mid-summer and the typical let-up of the winter months.

Equipment and Facilities

To accomplish this a number of aquatic playgrounds have been established, each of which includes a complete playground set-up for land games such as volley ball, paddle tennis, croquet, horseshoes, tether tennis, checkers and others. In addition, the typical aquatic area includes developments designed to utilize to the best advantage the potentialities of the particular area of water on the shore line on which the playground is situated. Among these are several varieties of boating.

The Colorado Lagoon provides one of the finest model boat courses on the southern coast. On



Courtesy Austin, Texas, Recreation Department

East, West, North or South—water sports always lead in popularity!

this area a model boat shop has been established where the boys are taught to build and sail racing models. Throughout the past seven years a strong effort has been made to increase interest in model boating, and the success of the effort is evident in the large attendance in the shop building. Interest has developed in the technicalities of sailing and racing models, and it was largely through the influence of this shop and sailing course and enthusiasm created by the instructors that the Southern California Model Yachting Association was formed. This association now includes a half dozen model yacht groups and is doing a great deal to further increase the popularity of model boating. It is hoped that next year the National Model Yachting Association will meet at the Colorado Lagoon.

The Long Beach Marine Stadium was the scene of the 1932 Olympic crew races. Being adjacent to the Colorado Lagoon, it has practically no land playground set-up and is primarily used for shells and other types of crew boats and motor boats. Through cooperation with the Board of Education, physical education classes in rowing are conducted here. During the school vacation season similar classes are conducted on a recreational basis for children and adults. These activities have proved their value from both a recreational and physical education point of view. They are very popular, and it has been necessary to restrict enrolment of participants to a point in keeping with the equipment available. Junior high

school boys and girls are taught simple rowing, seamanship and boat handling, using navy type cutters or similar boats. The high school, junior college and college students row in practice barges and later in rowing shells. Naturally the racing program is severely curtailed in order to afford a properly balanced program for the different sex and age groups.

In addition to providing an excellent rowing course, the Marine Stadium serves as a very fine course for outboard motor boats and probably more of the Southern California outboard races are held here under the auspices of the Southern California Outboard Association than at any other course in this part of the country.

The water area in the vicinity of Bay Shore Playground at Alamitos Bay is best fitted for small boat sailing, and it is in this area that the sport is assisted and encouraged. There are two clubs in the area, the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club and the Leeway Sailing Club. The former, which is assisted considerably by the Recreation Commission, is a private yacht club; the latter is a junior organization formed and sponsored by the Commission. Within the past few months the various small boat organizations have been brought together into the Small Boat Division of the Southern California Yachting Association, which has resulted in a combined fleet of over five hundred boats.

The Rainbow Lagoon area, being located at the central downtown beach, provides an excellent spot for renting boats of various kinds. Canoeing is emphasized and class competitions are held weekly. This lagoon also provides an excellent setting for aquatic festivities, most important of which is the annual Long Beach Water Sports Carnival. The actual program of this carnival comprises events which are planned and rehearsed at the various aquatic playgrounds and later assembled into a complete show for the Water Sports Carnival. The 1937 carnival included 182 separate events which took place in six areas laid out in Rainbow Lagoon, all operating simultaneously to make a three hour show.

In the westerly part of

the city is Tulare Playground. It is near the outer harbor and although protected by a number of breakwaters, offers ready access to the open sea. This area, therefore, is popular with the owners of larger boats, and here the Long Beach Yacht Club has its anchorage. At Tulare Playground the Commission organized and sponsors the Windward Sailing Club, membership in which mainly includes the older boys and girls interested in sailing, most of whom own boats more or less seagoing and too large to be properly used in Alamitos Bay.

Summarizing our program, the endeavor is to show by means of instructional class groups the recreational possibilities and safe usages of bodies of water. This necessitates primarily instruction in water safety through swimming and life saving groups from which the children are encouraged to branch out into other forms of aquatic activity, either in or on the water. The assistance and instruction become less as the activity becomes more complex and better organized—from the extremes of the beginners' class, in which each participant must be closely watched and carefully supervised, to the sailing, yachting and motor boating clubs which are assisted through the furnishing of occasional committees, surveys, equipment and meeting places.

There may be some individuals among our readers who do not know of the Swimming Badge Tests—a graded series of water events for boys and girls arranged for the National Recreation Association by a national committee. If you have never seen these tests we hope you will send for a copy. It may be secured free of charge. Certificates and emblems for boys and girls passing the tests may be secured at a nominal charge. Another helpful bulletin containing suggestions for your program of water sports is "Water Games and Sports," which may be obtained from the Association for twenty cents. In it are to be found suggestions for a number of games adapted for playing in the water, novelty features and fun provoking stunts. They will add interest and enjoyment to the summer's activities.

ANNUAL CLASS ATTENDANCE FOR 1936-37

(Not including short term or intermittent classes)

Calisthenics	47,472
Swimming	51,181
Life Saving	8,165
Diving	18,497
Crew	34,796
Canoeing	3,349
Sailing	16,077
Model Boat Shop	13,645

Total Class Attendance	193,182
Free Play	2,615,798
Spectators	1,403,606

Gross Total Attendance

4,150,586

Wading Pools in New York City

By

JAMES V. MULHOLLAND
Director of Recreation
Department of Parks
New York City

THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS of New York City installed the first large wading pool about fifteen years ago in Tompkins Square Park, Tenth Street and Avenue A. The attendance at this wading pool during the first season of its operation averaged approximately 1200 children each day.

The wading pool served to attract the children from the neighboring streets and gave them an excellent substitute for the street hydrant and street shower.

Many years ago the Fire Department and the Sanitation Department of New York City provided showers for the children on the streets. As a result of these street showers it was found that pedestrians made many protests, traffic was tied up, there was a possibility of accidents from children running in front of cars and trucks on the slippery pavement, and the children would remain under the showers longer than was advisable from the health standpoint. For these reasons, it was proposed by the writer that wading pools be located in the public parks and playgrounds of New York City.

After the experiment with the large wading pool at Tompkins Square Park, another district on the lower East Side wanted a wading pool for their particular locality, and so a wading pool was designed for Hamilton Fish Park. This pool, which proved as successful as the first, was so constructed that it could be used as a wading pool for children during the summer months and for other activities throughout the remainder of the year.



Courtesy Department of Parks, New York City

One of the most popular facilities New York City's parks and playgrounds have to offer children between the ages of three and nine years is the wading pool

So many thousands of children use the wading pools of New York City that it is necessary to check carefully on their sanitation. Tests of the water are made regularly from the central office. Samples of the water are sent to the laboratories of the Department of Water Supply where they are analyzed for the bacteria and B. Coli count.

Surrounding each wading pool maintained by the Department of Parks is a fence. The children are inspected by the playground directors prior to entering the pools. There are also chlorinated footbaths provided at entrances to these pools.

Using the Pools for Other Sports

In some cases, facilities have been provided where children might check their clothes but the playground directors have found that in the majority of cases, the children come to the wading pools in their bathing suits. After the wading pool

(Continued on page 317)

A Folk Festival in Hawaii

M AUI, one of the five major islands of the Territory, was the scene of a beautiful pageant presented under the title "The Festival of Dances" and sponsored by the Women's and Girls' Recreation Department of the Alexander House Community Association.

Previous to this event, dances of the Hawaiian and Japanese groups had been held periodically in various parts of the island — Hawaiian dance programs for special entertainments; Japanese dances in celebration of the Japanese national and religious festivals. The other national and racial units had never investigated their own groups to find what talent existed or could be developed. Therefore this festival was the means by which these groups revived old customs and dances of their native lands.

The first step in organizing the group was the establishment of a Folk Festival Committee made up of the key people of each racial and national group represented in the social structure. In addition to this group, other members of the community who were interested in pageantry and festivals were added to the committee which represented not only a cross section of national groups, but a cross section of professional people. On the committee were two Filipinos, a minister and his wife; two Hawaiians, a public office holder and a school teacher; two Koreans, both school teachers; two Japanese, one a plantation worker and a member of the board of supervisors, and a school teacher; a Samoan plantation laborer; two Chinese, a school teacher and a housewife; a supervisor of schools, the Boy Scout director, head worker of the association, and the director of the Women's and Girls' Recreation Department. There were seven men and eight women in the group.

The committee members secured from the groups they represented the dance directors who were to take charge of choosing and coaching the dances. In some instances, the committee members themselves served as directors.

There were no funds with which to carry out this project, and it was decided in the committee meetings to have each group a self-supporting unit responsible for its own costuming, place of meeting, transportation, and other expenses. The dance directors volunteered their services, and no

Racial groups in Maui combine to extend international knowledge and good will in a community situated between the eastern and western civilizations

By MILDRED R. LEE

Director

Women's and Girls' Recreation Department
Alexander House Community Association
Wailuku, Maui Territory of Hawaii

one was paid for his part in the production. All other expenses incurred in the project were to be financed by receipts from the festival.

The director of the festival visited the various groups once during practice periods and made suggestions where necessary, keeping in mind how each group was to fit into the whole.

About a month or two before the performance was to take place chairmen were selected to take charge of programs, tickets, ushers, publicity, transportation, lighting and decorations. Assistance for supplies and equipment was secured from the six major industries on the island. The police department cooperated by sending officers to direct traffic and protect the premises. The Girl Scouts gave their services as ushers.

The committee members representing the racial groups secured help from the community clubs to which they belonged, such as the Club Filipina of Maui, Hawaiian Women's Club, Korean Club, and the Chinese Ladies' Aid Society. The number of people and organizations giving their services made it a genuinely cooperative affair.

Such decorative greens as banana and papaia trees, cocoanut tree fronds, bamboo and coffee trees, ginger and hibiscus flowers, ferns and marigolds, formed the setting for the performance. Overhead border lights and floods were installed in the gymnasium.

The Program

Before any players came on the stage a dim orange-red light was focused on the stage and

scenery. During this time the Hawaiian group chorus, standing behind the scenery, sang "Across the Sea." The lights gradually increased as the group came on the stage and proceeded with their program of Hawaiian songs and hula dances. There were seven Hawaiian dancers and a chorus of twenty-eight men and women. Hawaiian string instruments were used including the melodious steel guitar. The women wore their long colorful holokus (long silk dresses with a train introduced by the early missionaries to take the place of the grass and tapa skirts used by Hawaiian women). All the men and women wore flower leis around their necks made of carnations, roses, ginger flowers and mauna loa flowers.

This colorful group was followed by a program of South Sea dances and singing put on by the Samoan group dressed in tapa skirts with colorful tops. Tapa is a material made from tree bark which was used by Samoans for clothing. The men and women wore leis of maile leaves around their necks and colorful flowers in their hair. The tempo of their dances and songs was much faster than that of the Hawaiian group. A colorful addition to this group were the two Samoan sword dancers who gave a remarkable performance. One of the dancers came from the Island of Hawaii and paid his own transportation by boat to be in this performance. Thirteen young men and women took part in this event.

The Chinese group pantomimed the ceremony of an old man's birthday. Each man and woman, dressed in beautiful Chinese robes, laid presents before the old man, according to the traditional Chinese manner. While the presentation of gifts took place, an old Chinese man played on the moon harp. This was followed by a Chinese fan dance by young girls, while the rest of the group in their lovely costumes formed the background. Twelve men and women, six girl dancers and three musicians took part in the Chinese performance. Since there were no gorgeous Chinese costumes available on Maui, they were rented from a Chinese store in Honolulu on the Island of Oahu.

"For centuries the peoples of the earth have mingled in peaceful appreciation of a common interest in folk lore, dancing and music. . . . Histories tell us that wars were forgotten, dread raids suspended, differences patched up, temporarily at least, while courtyard and castle staged enormous tournaments and gala folk pageants. Here in happy Hawaii, with all the opportunity we have to learn more of the ancestral background of the many races which make up our citizenry, we scarcely concern ourselves with the matter. Little do we know of their legends and traditions; of their bright costumes kept for holiday or fiesta; of their strange musical instruments and folk dancing. . . . The Maui Folk Festival will no doubt bring about a better understanding of the interesting background of these varied races living in our midst." — Extracts from editorial in *Maui News*.

This group was a distinct contrast to the Portuguese group which followed with their "Charmarita" dance of typical Spanish rhythm. They danced in their colorful peasant costumes with their full skirts, bolero jackets and peasant kerchiefs. Five musicians accompanied them with typical Portuguese string instruments. "Charmarita" was followed by "Fado" and "O Vera," which caught the fancy of the audience. There were ten dancers.

After the Portuguese came forty-one Paia schoolgirls of the fourth and fifth grades in the Japanese dance "Sakura Ondo." All these girls were Hawaiian-born Japanese youngsters who made a beautiful spectacle as they circled around in their varicolored Japanese kimonos. This group filled the entire stage with their circle dance. A Japanese record furnished the music. A Paia school teacher (Hawaiian-born Japanese married to a Hawaiian-born Chinese boy) coached the dancers.

Then came two Japanese sword dancers accompanied by the shrill, weird voice of a Japanese man interpretive-singer. Their dances were artistic and very effective. They wore long, black robes with wide sashes and white bands around their heads. One of these sword dancers was a man about fifty-five years of age who formerly instructed sword dancers in Japan.

The next Japanese group was made up of girls from ten to twelve years of age—Hawaiian-born Japanese girls of Okinawa ancestry. Their dances were typical province dances and were different from the first group dance. The girls wore kimonos and different types of headdress, one type of hat being large and flat with tassels hanging down from the brim. The precision and execution of their dances were excellent, and they won the hearts of the audience with their fine performance. There were ten dancers, three players and singers, including a Shamisen player.

The sixth group was made up of ten high school age girls in the Korean scarf dance. All of these girls were Hawaiian-born of Korean

(Continued on page 317)

Science and Recreation

“IF THE LEGISLATORS, governors and presidents, since the beginning of the century could have foreseen the development of six industries based on the telephone, the automobile, the airplane, the motion picture, rayon and the radio and could have anticipated their influence on society and the changes they precipitated,” says the report on Technical Trends and National Policy, “they would have been in a much better position for directing the policies of the state.” President Roosevelt, in releasing the report stated, “More than jobs and investments are affected by technical change: family, church, community, state and all industry are subject to its influence.”

Looking Backward

In order to visualize to some extent what the future may hold, we need only think back a few years over the development of some of these well-accepted and utilized inventions. The motor car has made possible recreational and vacation travel that accounts for the greater part of the \$6,000,000,000 average expenditure for recreation and amusement during the past several years. The amount spent is steadily increasing. The place the automobile holds in the recreational life of people of all classes is evidenced by the findings of the Lynds in their restudy of Middletown after ten years of boom and deep depression. The lower income group, as well as others in higher brackets, they say, were willing to give up almost anything but the motor car. No matter what its age or condition, “the car” was the last thing to be let go.

Motion picture theaters constitute about one-third of all amusement places in the country and account for \$508,196,000, or about 70% of the aggregate receipts of all amusement places. The cost of production of movies in 1935 was 58% over 1933 and well over the peak of 1929. Commonly-accepted facts indicate that motion pictures affect the lives of a vast portion of our people

The National Resources Board has released a report called "Technological Trends and National Policy." The committee producing the volume states that it is the first major attempt to show the kinds of new inventions which may affect living and working conditions in America in the next ten to twenty-five years. We may at once predict that any new invention which will affect living and working conditions will likewise affect recreation. If we are wise planners as well as capable administrators we will want to scan the future with the scientist and inventor to see what lies ahead for recreation.

during their leisure time.

It is estimated that there are some 33,000,000 radios in homes, cars and meeting places in the nation. Last year total sales were approximately 7,000,000 units, with retail sales reaching \$315,000,000.

We need not detail the influence of these three inventions on the recreation of the American people. Let us think from there to a few new gadgets that are about to come.

And as for the Future

Two days ago the writer stood with an old man looking at a range of beautiful Connecticut hills. “The crests of those hills,” he said, “are all being taken up by wealthy people who want private landing fields for their planes. The private airplane is coming,” and with a twinkle in his eye, “if I were young I’d go for it.”

The Committee states, “The changes in habits of life that would result if the promise of steep flight aircraft came to realization would be more significant than those that will result from long distance aviation. The consequences to aviation and civilization from the power of landing and taking off almost anywhere promise to be immense. Almost all the globe would be open to air traffic, including all the places least accessible to fast land or air transport, such as wilderness, mountain tops, ships and city centers.” Steep flight aircraft is in the experimental stage, but is clearly on the way to practical use.

The electric eye can now see all that the human eye can see and more. It can detect colors better than man; it detects counterfeit money. When joined with an electric tube it opens doors and prevents possible accidents in elevators; it sorts tin cans on a conveyor belt, regulates traffic, measures the density of smoke, times horse racing and performs mathematical calculations! Such a gadget will surely be seen working its way into recreation further than timing horse racing.

Television, if and when widely developed, may result in bringing theaters into millions of homes, providing talking books as a boon to the blind, and in revolutionary effects on libraries and all educational processes. The effects of the home theater on the movie house and the general home habits of our people are incalculable.

The influence of an invention was vividly dramatized the other day when a spokesman of the Department of Labor stated that in a study of 330,000 wage earners' families whose average income was \$26 a week, the only thing of which the family had enough was silk stockings. The worker's wife would sacrifice almost anything to have "silk stockings"—for which she could thank the discovery of rayon! Clothing makes a difference as to where the worker's wife will go and what she will enjoy in her limited leisure time!

All of this leads me to the problem which gives most of us concern.

Nystrom, in his book "Economics of Consumption," says that the main conditions for the enjoyment of leisure are:

- (1) Health and surplus energy—a fundamental necessity for the enjoyment of leisure.
- (2) Education and social background—which determine the kind and degree of pleasure derived.
- (3) Freedom from worry.
- (4) "Probably the most important condition of the enjoyment of leisure is the possession of money wherewith the means of enjoyment as they are understood may be obtained. The outlay of money in the pursuit of leisure activities is in rapidly increasing proportion to the income received and standards of living enjoyed."

There is a vast section of our population who do not enjoy more than one or two, if any, of the conditions cited. A great part of our wage earning class have an annual income too small to allow for expenses beyond bare necessities; they have health, perhaps, but no excess of energy. They are subject to constant worry of losing the job or having an unexpected illness or accident for which no reserve was laid aside.

Many Family Incomes Insufficient for Recreation

The average family income for man and wife and two children, the man having full time employment—fifty weeks in a year with two weeks vacation—would be \$1,430. But many get less. In

New York City, one out of five families has less than \$1,200 a year; in Philadelphia, one in three; in Pittsburgh, one in four; in Kansas City, one out of four; in Nashua, N. H., one out of three families has less than \$1,200. That means, by and large, that every third family of employed wage earners in this country gets less than \$1,200 a year. And what do they do with it? Food takes one-third; rent one-fifth. Fuel, light and other household supplies fifteen percent; clothing sixteen percent. That leaves \$192 of the \$1,200 for education, transportation to and from work, recreation, doctors' bills and silk stockings!

But how do workers buy a car? Does not every American workman have a car? The facts are that in a large western industrial city it was found, in studying a period of one year, that only fifteen out of every hundred families bought a car. Twelve of these bought used cars and three bought new ones. In one of our eastern cities, four out of every hundred families of employed wage earners bought a car in the course of the twelve months covered, three buying used cars and one a new car.

The investigation showed that about one-third of the wage earners' families find their income insufficient to meet the requirements of living. In short, it is only in the higher brackets of income among wage earners (i.e. \$30, \$40, \$50 a week) "that they can afford frequent movies, a car, clothing that meets the needs of the weather, and at the same time has an element of style in it. Even at these levels, after taking care of the family needs for food, clothing and housing, it is only infrequently that the amount left over for the purchase of other things, such as medical care, education, recreation, is equal to as much as a third of the total family income."

Influence of Technological Developments

Technological development, therefore, poses two problems for those who are concerned with recreation. On the one hand, we see the marked effect of auto, airplane, movie, radio and other commercial developments on the general social welfare of the people in the middle and upper economic levels. All of the suggested new inventions call for the expenditure of money. Home theaters will cost more probably than present-day radios and common use of airplanes will for some time cost more than autos. For those who have money the new inventions will mean much in enlarging the recreational horizon of large sec-

tions of the population. This development is to be welcomed, but it will set up some neat problems for those who plan public recreation facilities in the future.

The other side of the picture does not look so bright. Technology is credited now with a goodly proportion of the millions of unemployed in the country. The popular use of the electric eye and the mechanical cotton pickers carries a threat of further widespread unemployment which social workers fear to contemplate.

The Challenge to Public Recreation

Add to these millions of actual and possible unemployed the other millions whose income does not allow for the use of mechanical or commercial recreation and we have a vast group of people whose recreation needs are partly caused by the advances of science and invention, but whose enjoyment of recreation will have to be outside the mechanical and commercial field, except perhaps for occasional movies. Herein lies the real challenge to public recreation. Drab life, health hazards, delinquency areas all crowd in upon those whose lives are on a bare subsistence level.

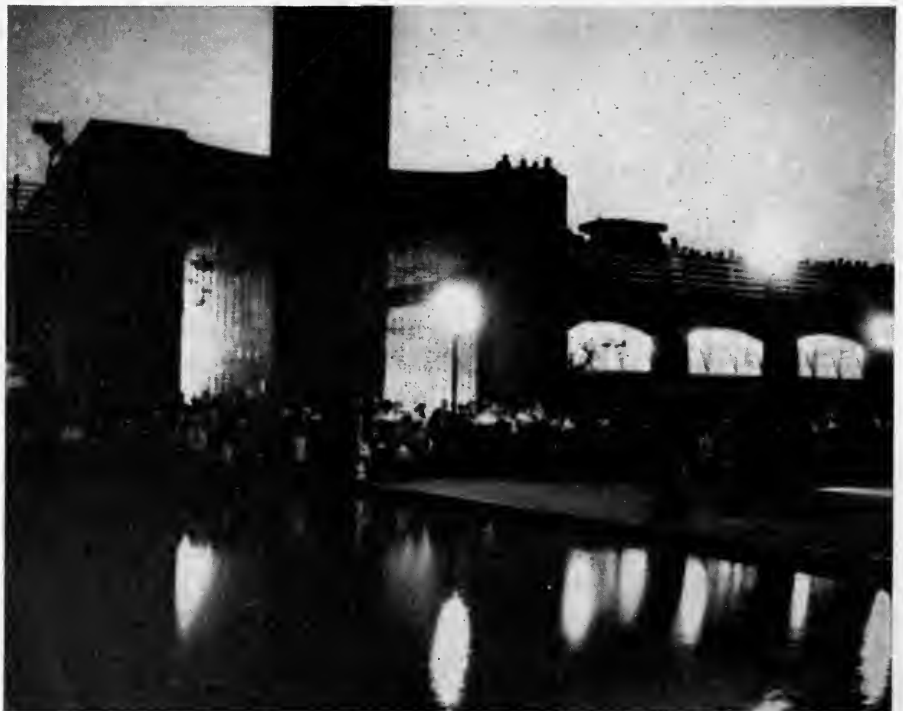
Public recreation has done much for these people with its parks and playgrounds, but there is much yet to do. One needs only to look over the facilities of many cities to be convinced of that. "Beautiful golf courses on the rolling hills outside the city are not for them. Many parks and beaches are denied them because of lack of cost of transportation. In city after city, the playgrounds are found to be smaller, with less landscaping, poorer equipment and a less effective leadership in the congested 'over the

track' areas. The argument is advanced that these people will not take care of good equipment and landscape values." This leaves one cold when he sees in other cities those same typical areas under good leadership and with carefully kept grounds and equipment.

So technology means one thing to the upper economic levels and quite another to those who are on a bare subsistence level or whose personalities have been submerged in the nondescript sea of the unemployed. The wise recreation leader, the commissioner or executive will increasingly study the trends of scientific invention as it affects *both* of these groups.

"We are appreciative of the blessings of our industrial age but will not be misled into accepting material comforts in exchange for our eternal souls. We know full well the price we pay for our mechanized existence and gladly pay it, for the machine has released us from much debasing drudgery and has given us a measure of leisure unheard and unthought of in bygone days. This leisure we possess as the supreme gain of a mankind unchained. And there we stand, with fetters broken—at once blessed and cursed—for as yet we do not know what to do with our new-found freedom."—*Richard Lieber.*

Public recreation, with playgrounds, parks and swimming pools, has done much, but much remains to be accomplished



Courtesy *Architectural Record*, June, 1927

Photo by New York City Park Department

You Asked for It!

Question: Please give us suggestions for one or two very simple handcraft articles which require little in the way of equipment and supplies but which will be a little "different."

Answer: Does the walnut or hickory nut slip, causing you to crack your fingers instead? Then make yourself a nut holder by cutting a hole about the size of a dollar in an inch board about six inches square. Put the nut in the hole and crack. It will not skid or bounce away. Neither will the nut be smashed into a shelly paste. For smaller nuts the hole should be cut of smaller size in a thinner board.

Your own marble mill? A clever boy in the Ozarks showed me how he made his own marbles. Perhaps you, too, would enjoy trying your hand at making marbles.

In hard rock along the edges of a stream or a spring of water find a round hole into which a rivulet constantly pours. Select a chunk of sandstone or other somewhat soft rock, one to two inches thick. Drop it into the small pool of water. The constant churning of the rivulet will keep the chunk turning. This wears it into a round shape, making a good marble for all except "taws." These are made of harder rock and require a much longer stay in the pool. If you do not live near a stream, you can use the drip in rock garden pools as a marble mill.—From *J. C. Baker*, Peru, Nebraska.

Question: What kind of an athletic program can be arranged for boys between the ages of eight and twelve which will give them some training in the major sports and will permit all boys desirous of engaging in competition an opportunity to take part?

Answer: Pee Wee teams, so-called, may be the answer to your program as it was to ours. In 1928, when I was appointed director of boys' work at the Catholic Neighborhood House in the crowded Ironbound District of Newark, New Jersey, I had my first opportunity to put into practice some of the ideas which I had long had in mind for such a program. We had an improvised gymnasium which had been made from two rooms. In one room the ceiling was two feet higher than the other, with the result that it was necessary to place one basket eight feet high and

the other nine feet high. (The regulation height of ten feet would have been too close to the ceiling.) We organized the boys into clubs, and after a few lessons in the fundamentals of basketball a Pee Wee League was organized with most successful results. The program grew so rapidly that in two years we had more teams than could be accommodated. Through an arrangement with the Newark Board of Education we secured the use of the Hawkins Street school gymnasium. We noticed that here fewer points were scored because of a larger court and higher baskets. Our experience has led us to recommend smaller courts, lighter and smaller balls, and lower baskets if possible and, because of the age and physical capacity of the boys, shorter playing periods.

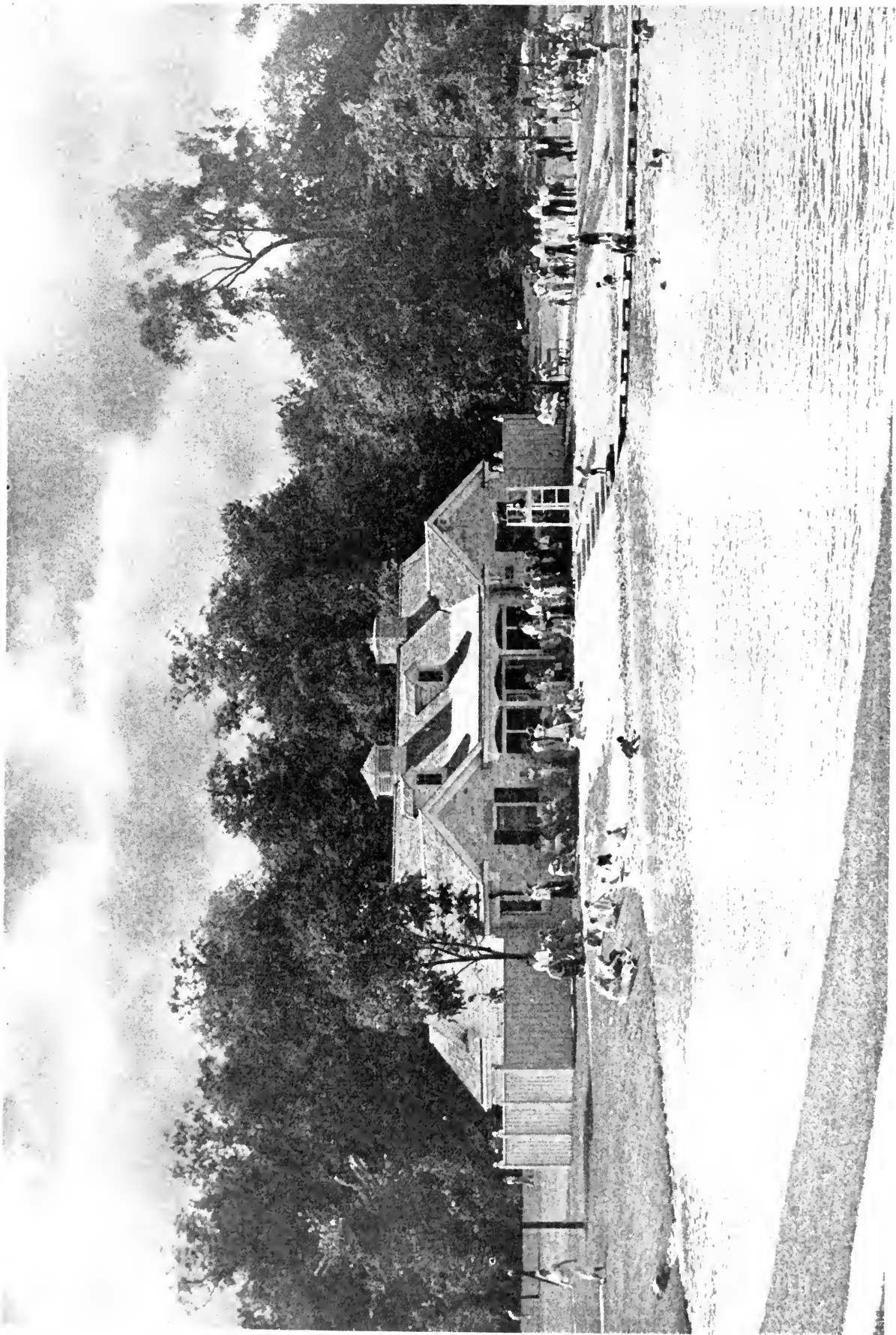
We conducted a hunt for smaller scale balls which was successful except in the case of football. (I have just found a small football of a good grade skin which meets the needs.) Pee Wee track and field meets and softball, baseball, touch football, soccer and basketball leagues were organized at each center. The play periods were put in charge of the boys themselves, and it was our experience that giving them responsibility at such an early age instills proper ideas of sports and sportsmanship.

The various games, we found, compose an excellent intra-curricular activity for the boys. It gives them a feeling of belonging to a group or team, and the skill developed carries over to the higher grades. Although that has not been our objective, we have discovered many fine athletes in our league.

At the West Side High Playfield we divide our large court into two, playing across court, and two games are played at the same time. The referees selected from our midget leagues have a whistle of a different tone from the others. For each game soccer balls are used instead of regulation basketballs, and the playing time is sixteen minutes for a full game. Referees are instructed to drop some of the restrictions of the game until the boys have become adapted to it.

More than 1,100 players participated in the Board of Education recreation basketball leagues held during the past winter and 106 teams played in fifteen different leagues. There were 610 league

(Continued on page 318)



WORLD AT PLAY

Thirty Years of Camping

THE Emma Kaufmann Camp at Harmony, Pennsylvania, maintained by the Emma Farm Association of which Sidney A. Teller is Director, this year celebrated its thirtieth anniversary. Much publicity was given the event, and newspapers and weeklies paid tribute to the work of the camp. The cartoon which is reproduced here attracted a great deal of attention.

In a Community of 5,500 People

"SEVENTY-FIVE acre city park, much in virgin state, artificial spring fed lake, modern bath house and bathing beach, large ten acre athletic field, municipal airport, nine hole sporty golf course, ten beautifully wooded lakes for fishing and other recreation within a few miles of the city." Thus the fourth annual report of West Bend, Wisconsin, summarizes the park and recreation facilities offered by this community of about 5,500 people.

Several years ago the city decided to develop a park. This was done at a cost of approximately \$100,000, about fifty per cent of which came from tax funds; the remainder from Federal allotment. The park, with its natural setting, is a half mile wide and two miles in depth. One of its features is a swimming pool fed by natural springs. Children may enjoy bath house privileges for a ten cent fee. Thousands of adults also use the pool which is cared for by one chief guard and ten volunteer assistants who act as life guards and take care of the bath house. There is one swimming instructor who gives lessons to about two hundred individuals each summer. Free swim-

- SUMMER CAMPS FOR CHILDREN -

ABROAD



AT HOME



Reproduced by permission of Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, published June 11, 1938

ming lessons are offered the children. (See page 306 for picture of the bath house.)

In 1937 the decision was made to expand the recreation program by adding playground facilities and activities. Through the Board of Education an active athletic program is in operation including sports of all kinds. The high school track includes 25 acres.

The Modern Recreation Series of Booklets

THE Recreation Division of the Chicago Park District has issued a folder giving a brief description of each of the twenty-four booklets now available in its "Modern Recreation

"Series." The subjects covered are: Archery; Animated Toys; Honeycomb Weaving; Whittling; Wood Inlay; Leathercraft, Games and Gameboards; Grotesque Heads; Organizing and Administering Camera Clubs; Manual for Caddies; Chess; Checker Problems and Puzzles; Flowering Perennials for the Home Garden; You Can Have a Good Lawn; Diving; Badminton; Winter Activities; Christmas Tree Ornaments; Simple Puppets; Hooked Rugs; Boondoggling; Simple Weaving; Baseball and Basketry. With the exception of Archery, Diving, Badminton, Baseball and Winter Activities, which are listed at 35 cents, the cost of each booklet is 25 cents.

Recreation workers, club leaders, camp directors and others conducting activities in the recreation field will find these booklets very valuable. Orders and communications should be addressed to the Recreation Division of the Chicago Park District, 57th and Cottage Grove Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

The Child Explores His World—There is now available through the Division of Visual Experiment, Harmon Foundation, Inc., a motion picture, "The Child Explores His World," which is based on the work of the Brooklyn Children's Museum. The picture shows that any community may create a children's museum to help the child enjoy the larger world of rocks and earth where plants and animals grow and men build cities. The film may be rented at \$3.00 per showing or by the week at three times the single rate. Reference outlines to aid leaders in planning programs may also be secured at a nominal charge. The film represents thirty minutes of child life in a two-reel, 16 millimeter, silent film. Further information may be secured from the Harmon Foundation, 140 Nassau Street, New York City.

Puppetry in San Francisco—The San Francisco, California, Recreation Department has a puppet show trailer known as "Joe Michelangelo" which can be hooked to the back of a machine and transported with all its equipment from playground to playground. One side of the trailer has a puppet stage where the figures are operated by hand; the other side has a stage for marionettes operated by strings. The trailer is equipped with a new loud speaker and has a victrola attachment which is used for dances and marches. Play-

ground children are taught the manipulation of the puppets as well as the plays, which are usually given on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the summer at various playgrounds.

Dads' Clubs at Playgrounds—The Northside Dads' Club at Alton, Illinois, has raised approximately \$1,700 to purchase a five-acre tract of land and present it to the city. Through a WPA project the area is being developed for playground purposes. Not to be outdone, the Water Tower Dads' Club purchased two lots adjoining the city softball area and constructed permanent bleachers. A small charge is asked of those occupying bleacher seats, the receipts to be used to defray expenses and improve the grounds.

Recreation Centers for London School Children—The correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor* states that every London child between the ages of ten and fifteen years not otherwise provided with healthful playing space is to be given one day a week in the open country near the metropolis. Combined play and teaching centers are being set up on sites which are being acquired for this purpose so that children from crowded streets may attend classes in the fresh air.

Lakewood's Play Schools—The Board of Education of Lakewood, Ohio, is conducting ten play schools this summer open to all children having one semester of kindergarten through the fourth grade. Three are located on city property, the remainder on school property. In addition, the high school swimming pool is used, a charge of ten cents being made. The program, which is informal and varied, includes crafts, games, dancing, music, a story hour, picnics, walks, dramatics, nature study and swimming. A fee of 25 cents is required to help pay for arts and crafts materials. The paid staff at the centers is supplemented by volunteers from high school boys and girls. The play schools are open for six weeks.

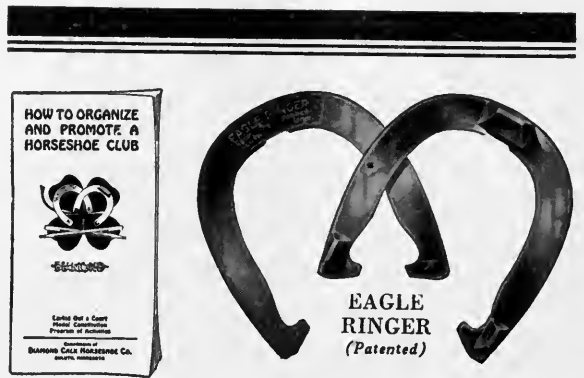
Detroit's Annual Women's Demonstration—For sixteen years the Detroit, Michigan, Recreation Department has presented a demonstration of its activities for women, and each year the event has become more popular. This year the demonstration, which was directed by Lottie A. Collihan, took the form of a pageant of popular holidays in which 1,600 girls and women took part.

There were fifty-two costume groups, forty-one classes contributing to the demonstration of calisthenics, six new episodes presenting in picture the origin of the holidays celebrated in America, and a different floor pattern was brought into use for each one. Sixteen thousand enthusiastic spectators watched the pageant.

More About Recreation in Chicago—In the July issue of RECREATION mention was made of Volume I of the Chicago Recreation Survey which is devoted to a report of the study of public recreation facilities and activities. Volume II, which is now available, contains a report of the various forms of commercial amusement from movies to ballrooms and dancing schools. It shows that Chicago's total investment in the various forms of commercialized recreation is somewhere between \$700,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000, the average annual per capita expenditure for these forms of recreation being \$80. Volume III of the Survey, now in process of publication, will deal with the private recreation agencies such as settlement houses, boys' and girls' clubs and churches. The fourth volume will break down the information on public commercial and private recreation facilities according to the city's seventy-five local communities. Volume V will evaluate the findings and present the recommendations of the Chicago Recreation Commission for future action and development based on the facts of the Survey. This volume will probably be issued in the fall of 1938.

Copies of Volumes I and II, now available, may be secured from the office of the Chicago Recreation Commission, 1634 Burnham Building, Chicago, Illinois, at \$1.00 each.

In Northeastern North Dakota—Grafton is an incorporated city of 3,000 inhabitants in Northeastern North Dakota, fifty miles from the Canadian boundary. In January the community employed a recreation director for four months and at the end of that period re-employed him for three additional months. It is now hoped that the work will be placed on a year-round basis. A two-room recreation center is being maintained in the school building. The chairman of the committee in charge of the program writes that her group knows of no other city or town in North Dakota with a paid director of recreation, even on a part-time basis.



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Activities in New York City—The Department of Parks is conducting community singing this summer on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at a number of different locations throughout the city. The singing at Washington Square Park on Sunday afternoon, July 10th, was so successful

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that it was decided to extend the activity to all boroughs.

The Department of Parks has also announced the first photographic contest to be held under its sponsorship, with the Park Association of New York City cooperating in the project. The subject is "Youth and Age in Our City Parks and Playgrounds." Class A will present spring and summer activities; Class B, fall and winter. To be admitted to the contest, all pictures must have been taken during 1938 before September 10th in parks, parkways, pools, beaches or playgrounds under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks.

Public Parks and Playgrounds Tennis Championships—The Sixteenth Annual National Public Parks and Playgrounds Tennis Championships, sponsored by the National Public Parks and Playgrounds Tennis Association and sanctioned by the U. S. Lawn Tennis Association, will be held on August 15th to 21st, 1938, at Los Angeles, California. Public court tennis players

throughout the U. S. are eligible to participate. Local and sectional tournaments will be held for qualification of participants for the national tournament. The national finals at Los Angeles will be conducted by the Los Angeles Municipal Tennis Association of the Department of Playground and Recreation. Further details may be secured from Dudley C. Shumway, Director of Municipal Sports, Department of Playground and Recreation, City Hall, Los Angeles, California.

The Parks of Pueblo—Attendance figures compiled by the Park Department of Pueblo, Colorado, show a daily attendance at the city park zoo, animal pits and bird house of 1,000 individuals during the summer months. At the dance pavilion there were four community parties a week, while 500 people attended the softball games played at the park at night. Skeet, tennis, horseshoe and shuffleboard courts were in continuous use, while summer participation at the recently constructed 18-hole golf course ran well into the hundreds. In Mineral Palace and other Pueblo parks attendance was equally large. Mountain Park near Pueblo, which is operated by the city officials, drew many out-of-state visitors. A count taken over 61 days during the busiest part of the vacation season showed a total attendance of 47,000 people.

Trends in Public Recreation

(Continued from page 273)

each of these has enlarged its program during the past decade.*

In addition to these permanent government agencies, there are thirty-two other bureaus or offices of the Federal Government, including the emergency group, engaged in some form of recreation service. A joint committee has been formed representing all of these various national agencies interested in recreation. This committee has reported to the President including recommendations for the further development and coordination of recreation.

The emergency agencies of the Federal Government, including the WPA, the NYA and the Resettlement Administration, have spent approximately one billion dollars directly or indirectly for

* (1) National Park Service; (2) United States Forestry Service, Department of Agriculture; (3) Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture; (4) Agricultural and Home Economics Division, Department of Agriculture; (5) Office of Education, Department of the Interior.—Quoted from *The Annals*, November, 1937—Article by E. C. Lindeman.

recreation purposes. At one time there were 49,000 persons employed by the Recreation Division of the WPA and a similar number by the NYA. Over 20,000 citizens have served on local recreation committees under the auspices of the Recreation Division of the WPA. The close relationship of the Federal Government to local public recreation systems can be understood in part when one realizes that 3,467 social and recreational buildings costing \$24,529,856 (of which the Government paid 73.1%) have been constructed in all parts of the country as facilities for local recreation use.

Problems

The trends in recreation are upward. A growing movement, however, is faced with problems of serious nature. These problems of municipal recreation center about finance, quality personnel, political influence, and the difficulties of securing adequate lay support. In many places the lack of public conviction regarding the necessity of recreation for all of the people is the greatest obstacle to progress.

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 - (b) *The Government's Responsibility for Youth*, Aubrey Williams, page 119.
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- Standards of Training, Experience and Compensation for*

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Playground Circus Days

(Continued from page 274)

criticisms of the last circus, as well as constructive suggestions for the next, are received. Innovations are welcomed. Committees are formed which accept the responsibility for different parts of the circus. Among the most important committees are Grounds and Property, Costumes, Decorations, Animals and Cages, Clowns, Music, Tumbling and Pyramids, Dancing, Wild West Show, Side Shows, and Punch and Judy. A director is elected who receives weekly reports of the progress and passes them on to the general office.

From April on the whole scene changes at the playgrounds. Interest groups are centered around circus needs. The staff is as engrossed as the children in preparations for the big event.

At Martin Center, about twenty boys and girls spent weeks constructing what they called a "Polish Village," though in reality it is only one little

thatched house with a yard and a mural painting for the background that depicted more houses and landscape typical of the Polish scene. The well in the foreground, the pottery, and other bits of native craft add atmosphere; most alluring of all were the little Polish children in their native costumes. Polish parents advised and helped in assembling it at the circus grounds. They agree that the picture from the *National Geographic* for May, which gave the inspiration for the mural, is just like the old country. The children were pleased and proud that their parents could help in the circus.

The staff member in charge of Indian lore is a specialist with a wealth of knowledge, and his time is divided between the playgrounds. Small boys make Indian costumes, including feather headdresses, beaded belts and similar articles. Indian crafts come to the fore—pottery and weaving. By circus day these boys have become so imbued with Indian atmosphere and spirit that their performance is a bit of startling realism.

The early settlers must make their covered wagons, their pioneer costumes, and learn the customs of that period, while cowboys are practicing lariat throwing and emulating the Texas Ranger.

The Indians, settlers, and cowboys are all features of the Wild West Show, which is only one small part of the whole. There are folk dances—old and some newly created ones—clowns and acrobatic acts, wild animals, including a life-size elephant constructed of wire and canvas growing more lifelike under the paint brushes of small boys until they exclaim with awe at their own handiwork, "He's almost real!"

And there are side shows where children from the different playgrounds vie with each other in presenting the most amazing freaks and curiosities. An octopus made from old inner tubes and a bicycle pump caused many shudders by its life-like gyrations.

Altogether it is a very rollicking affair and an important event in the lives of the neighborhood children and their parents. In addition, it directs the interest of children into many new channels, stimulates study and research, and requires the finest kind of team work.

Swimming Stunts

(Continued from page 277)

side, double knees up to chest and both turn at the same time by pulling away from each other

with hands and ducking heads, rolling shoulder to shoulder and hip to hip.

Back Somersault. Draw the knees sharply up to the chest and snap the head backward, exhaling slightly to keep the nostrils clear of water. At the same time, the arms turn the body either by reaching up behind the head and pushing the water forward, or by reversing the movement of the forward somersault and circling the arms from a forward position, downward, backward and upward.

Front Somersault. Take a deep breath. Draw the knees to chest, duck head and with arms at right angles to the body, palms down, whip the body over by swinging the arms back, then down, and forward and upward in a circle several times. Keep the legs tucked until somersault is completed. It is possible to do several in one breath.

Steamboat. On face, scull forward with hands below hips, thrashing the water with a sharp crawl kick, and tooting like a tug.

Sunfish. (Goldfish, Bluegill). Lie on side used for side stroke. Extend arm overhead, the other straight behind. Swim, using scissor kick while splashing the surface of the water by fluttering movement of both hands. Smile sunnily.

Swimming with Both Hands and Feet Tied. With the hands and feet both tied, this is a slow procedure. It looks difficult, but is quite simple. Hands may be tied behind the back or to the body, in which case the performer swims on the back, propelling the body by bending the legs and pushing the water with the shins and tops of the feet. If the hands are tied in front the performer may swim on the side, scooping the water with the tied hands at the same time that she kicks. Or on the chest, the performer may swim pulling the water and kicking at the same time. Be sure that there is an assistant to help the performer at all times.

Tandem Simple Back Stroke and Breast Stroke. Partners face each other. Number 1 lies on her back, hooking her feet in the armpits of her partner, knees stiff. Number 2 swims breast stroke. Number 1 uses arms on her back in unison with her partner's arms.

Treading Water. Treading water is supporting the body in the water in a perpendicular position without the use of the arms. In elementary treading the hands may be used to assist. The feet may be used in a scissor, frog, crawl or spiral move-

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ment. And the hands may be placed on the hips or fingers held out of the water in front of the performer. The breathing must be easy and regular. When practising this stunt, it is a help to hold on to a support with one or both hands until kick is strong and breathing regular.

Triple Swims. Number 1 swims on back using crawl kick and pulling Number 2 and Number 3 who are on their faces, head up, using crawl kick, outside hands grasped by Number 1 and inside hands joined, arms stretched sideways.

Underwater Swimming. May be done on breast, side or back.

Cornelia Builds a Social Center

(Continued from page 278)

end of the ballroom is a large beautiful fireplace with the Kiwanis emblem carved in the chimney. A second fireplace is to be found in the lounge. Both these fireplaces are made of Georgia stone. A large balcony occupies one end of the main floor room.

The interior of the building is rustic in design,

the walls and ceilings being finished in slab work. All lighting fixtures are designed to carry out the rustic scheme. Each room has hardwood floors. Five French doors on each side open on broad verandas. The kitchen is complete in every detail and large enough to meet the needs of one hundred members.

Many of the evils of road houses and public dance halls have been eliminated because the young people of the town are using the club house for dances and social events under desirable leadership. Every civic and social organization is utilizing the club house which has become a real social center.

The Place of the Day Camp in Modern Life

(Continued from page 280)

effort in maintaining day camps is noted in Pittsburgh where the Federation of Social Agencies and the Bureau of Recreation carry on an extensive program. Other examples could be cited.

(Continued on page 314)

The National Music Camp

THIS YEAR marks the tenth anniversary of the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan. It also marks an advance in public school music education which is accorded the major credit for the widespread increase in interest in music among the general public. Dr. Joseph Maddy, president and founder of the National Music Camp, and president of the Music Educators National Conference, has had a large part in making America music conscious.

The camp is situated on the shores of two lakes in the pine wood of northern Michigan and is composed of three units: the high school division, the college division, and the supervisors' division. The college group consists of students just beyond the high school age and those who have completed the camp courses outlined for the high school division. The supervisors' section was originally planned for teachers of music wanting enrichment in their own field, but any adult who wishes to study music at the camp may enroll in that group. The camp has become the Mecca of musically talented youth of America. The faculty is made up of musicians of national prominence, and world famed directors volunteer their services as guest conductors for the weekly Sunday concerts which are broadcast over a national hook-up. Attractive field-stone practise studios are scattered over many acres of woodland. Swimming, boating and tennis constitute the principal pastimes. Within a stone's throw of the great Interlochen Bowl on the shores of Wa-Be-Ka-Netta, where the girls' camp is located, is the Interlochen Bowl Hotel operated by the camp for the accommodation of guests.

"As director of the National Bureau for the Advancement of Music," writes C. M. Tremaine, "I was impressed by the great possibilities of the basic idea upon which the National Music Camp was founded, and my enthusiasm has increased as the idea has steadily taken tangible form in physical equipment of a hundred or more buildings and the bringing together of the exceptionally youthful music talent of the country and of music educators highly qualified to instruct them."

Mr. Tremaine suggests that recreation leaders acquaint themselves with what the camp has to offer as they may have in their groups some boys

or girls of outstanding music talent who ought to enjoy the advantages of the camp.

The Place of the Day Camp in Modern Life

(Continued from page 313)

Every boy or girl, regardless of financial circumstances, should have the opportunity of camp experience. The camp brings to every child an opportunity to gain a deeper appreciation of the wonders of nature, a chance to learn to adjust himself to rules and routine so necessary in the intimate life of the camp, and a means of understanding the importance of his self-reliance in doing for himself as well as caring for the welfare of others.

Educational agencies, whether they are school or non-school, official, unofficial or private, have a real opportunity in making camping universally accessible through the popular and rapidly growing day camp movement. As a means of introducing the art of camping, with its desirable educational outcome, and of preparing younger children for extended periods of camp life, the day camp fulfills its purpose.

Books and the More Abundant Life

(Continued from page 283)

Humanity Uprooted with Maurice Hindus, put in at *Ports and Happy Places* with Cornelia Stratton Parker, explore the *House of Exile* with Nora Waln, go *Loafing Down Long Island* with Charles Hanson Towne, or witness through the eyes of Elliot Paul the *Life and Death of a Spanish Town*.

Whether we have time to read much or not, I think we can all join Stefan Zweig in his *Thanks to Books* with which I close:

"You leisure hours, carrying us away from the tumult of the day; you books, truest and most silent companions, how can we thank you for your ever present readiness, for this eternal lifting, elevating influence of your presence! What have you not been in the darkest days of the soul's solitude, in military hospitals and army camps, in prison and on beds of pain! You who have always been on the watch, have given dreams to men and a bit of tranquility in moments of unrest and torture. God's gentle magnet, you have always been able to draw out the soul into its own sphere if it were lost in everyday routine. You have always in all periods of gloom widened the inner heaven within us to something greater."

Are You Planning a Summer Party?

(Continued from page 285)

person in front runs to the back. The passing continues until one line finishes and wins. Any biscuit that falls outside of the box must be dropped again until it lands inside.

Bow-Wow Stunts. Divide the players into groups. Give each group so many minutes to plan a clever dog stunt. It may be some trick a pet dog is noted for, or perhaps a stage or circus stunt one of the players has seen. The performance receiving the most applause is awarded a box of candy.

Off to the Races

Wooden Horse Race. Brooms and umbrellas are needed for the Wooden Horse Race. The number you plan to race will depend upon the space which is available. Choose the jockeys by picking numbers from a hat. Jockeys must follow a given track—a twine or string pulled straight on the floor. Each jockey has a string of his own which he follows, riding straddle the broomstick. He must not step off the string or broom and any obstacles he meets he must hop over. A glass of water, rubber ball or square box make excellent obstacles.

Jumbled Jockeys. Pin race horse names to backs of your guests. Pick fairly familiar horses as found in the daily papers. No one is to reveal the name on his neighbor's back, but he can give all sorts of leading hints. For example, if the name is "Gypsy Fiddle," someone might hum a bit of "Gypsy Fiddles Are Playing," make the motion of playing a fiddle or repeat the saying, "It's a gyp, sec." Players may ask questions from members of the party to help in guessing their names. The following are good names for a guessing stunt of this kind: Dark Wizard, Party Spirit, Laddie Stone, Hasty Hanna, Great Shakes.

The last four failing to guess their names compete in an obstacle race. Hand each player two celluloid chips and at a given signal give them instructions to snap one chip with the edge of the other chip (similar to Tiddly-winks) across the room and back again. It is quite difficult to do.

The Old Gray Mare. Pick someone of the party to take the part of the Old Gray Mare. Tie large paper bags over his hands and feet. Two people either sing or play "The Old Gray Mare" during the whole game. At a signal the man in the paper bags walks on his hands and feet doing all sorts of ridiculous stunts to make his audience laugh.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

- National Parent-Teacher*, June-July 1938
The Family Players, by Mabel Foote Hobbs
- The Womans Press*, July-August 1938
A World Cruise in Music, by Susanna Myers
- The American City*, June 1938
Organizing Recreation to Attract All Tastes,
by Pat Dawson
Recreational Use of Water-works Reservoir
The Recent Community Forum in Knoxville
Picnic Tables in Arizona Parks
- Parents' Magazine*, July 1938
Tell Us a Story, by Dorothy Gordon
Family Fun, by Elizabeth King
- Leisure*, June 1938
Loop Tennis, by Harry F. Wild
Time to Eat, by Ernest A. Dench
Professional Group Leadership, by C. E. Ward
- School and Society*, May 14, 1938
Recreation Centers for London School Children
- The Municipality*, June 1938 (League of Wisconsin Municipalities)
A Recreational Plan for Wisconsin, by J. M. Alkers
- Parks and Recreation*, June 1938
Rejuvenating Washington's Older Parks
Recreation — The Municipality's Opportunity for
Character Building, by Dr. Frank S. Lloyd
Wings (Oak Park Playgrounds' Aviation School),
by Josephine Blackstock
Recreation Forces Organizing, by V. K. Brown

PAMPHLETS

- Changes and Trends in Child Labor and Its Control*,
by Homer Folks
National Child Labor Committee, New York City
- Atlanta, Ga., Summer Activity Program*
- An Evaluation of Sherwood Forest Camp Experiences of 1937*
St. Louis, Mo., Society for Crippled Children
- Where Shall We Play?*
A Report on the Outdoor Recreational Needs of
New Jersey. New Jersey State Planning Board,
1938
- Soft Ball Achievement Tests*
Chicago Park District, Recreation Division
- An Indian Project Planned for Bergen County,
New Jersey, Playgrounds*
Works Progress Administration of New Jersey
- Activities of the Detroit, Mich., Department of Recreation,
Winter 1937-1938*
- Annual Report of the Playground and Recreation Department,
Aurora, Ill., 1937*
- Annual Report of the Department of Recreation, Akron,
Ohio, 1937-1938*

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Anyone laughing or even smiling must change places with the Old Gray Mare. It will be very difficult for anyone to keep a straight face very long.

Municipal Golf Makes "Hole in One"

(Continued from page 288)

LESSON II—Chip Shot

1. Organization of class. If the class is not too large, a circle is the most satisfactory formation. Otherwise, arrange class so that all may have a clear view of the teacher.
2. Procedure—explanation of shot, demonstration, practice in unison and individual correction.
 - a. Grip
 - b. Stance and footwork
 - c. Body position
 - d. Back-swing
 - e. Down-swing and follow through

Keeping in mind that correct form is the most important factor when learning, do not allow pupils to hit the ball until they have developed a fair swing.

Emphasize to the class the value of practice. Give them a clear picture of the use of the particular shot by referring to the first lesson.

The technique outlined should be followed in all

swinging lessons. At each lesson, review the previous one.

LESSON III—Pitch shot using half swing

LESSON IV—Full Iron Swing

LESSON V—Full Wood Swing

LESSON VI—Putting Lesson

LESSON VII—A Review of the Six Previous Lessons

Cost of Promotion

It is estimated by Mr. Strauss that the cost to the city for the teaching of group golf lessons during a year's period is approximately \$2,000. This includes the proper proportion of salaries, the necessary supplies and other costs. The golf clubs used for the lessons are the clubs rented during the season. As the Commission's rentals of sets of golf clubs reached a figure in excess of 21,775 during the year 1937, it is obvious that the Commission is obliged to have a considerable supply of equipment for the golf group lessons. Cotton balls, which are used in place of the regular balls, in order to make it possible to conduct the classes indoors, cost \$1.50 per dozen. The Commission uses about fifteen dozen each year. Cocoa mats, another indispensable item in the layout for the lesson, cost about \$1.00 apiece.

Benefit to Private Courses

We have demonstrated in Cincinnati that our group golf lessons are of benefit to the private golf clubs. We accept only beginners for golf instruction. Many of those we introduce to the game become members of private clubs.

It is self-evident that the free, group lessons do not in any way hurt local golf professionals. Rather, these lessons serve to introduce beginners to the game, and arouse the interest in the sport which leads on to the taking of private lessons. We have observed that many private lessons given on both private and public golf courses in Cincinnati have been given to those who have finished the series of group lessons and wanted to learn more. When we first launched the group lessons, many professionals objected to the Commission's policy. Since that time their attitude has changed to one of approval. The fact that so many of them are assisting in connection with the group lessons evidences their support.

We have noted that the semi-public courses in and around Cincinnati are being played much more heavily now than during previous years. We believe that some of the play is due to the municipal promotion of the game.

Wading Pools in New York City

(Continued from page 299)

season is over, the areas are used for such activities as group games, paddle tennis, volley ball and roller skating. Perhaps one of the most colorful events ever to take place in the Department of Parks was a roller skating carnival held some years ago in one of the New York City wading pools.

In order to use a wading pool for various activities the area must be so constructed that there is just sufficient grade to carry off the water. In the Department of Parks, all wading pools are usually graded towards the center; they are approximately nine to twelve inches deep in the center and four inches deep at the edges. In fact, when the water is drained out, a person not familiar with playground work would not know that a particular area is a wading pool.

During the past four years, under Commissioner Robert Moses, great progress has been made in New York City in the establishment of recreational facilities. Wading pools were not forgotten; in fact, in nearly every new playground a wading pool is provided. In some cases there is not sufficient room for a wading pool, and so a shower basin and shower are provided in order that the children of the particular playground may obtain the benefit of this refreshing activity during the hot summer days in New York City.

It is advisable to see to it that the children do not bring bottles or glass containers of any kind into the wading pool. It is also desirable to prohibit sale of any bottled soft drinks in the vicinity of the wading pool.

A Folk Festival in Hawaii

(Continued from page 301)

ancestry, and were coached by a school teacher also of Korean ancestry. Unlike the Japanese group, no one knew the dances, and it was only by talking with old Korean-born people of the community that the dance steps and costumes were made possible. The girls wore long brightly colored Korean costumes with sleeve-like scarfs that fitted over the hands. The "Jhang-goo" player—drum beater—was dressed in a Korean man's costume.

An outgrowth of the participation of this group is of special interest. Through coming together for the folk festival, the group decided to form a Korean Club which has since given a dance to help pay for the University tuition of an out-

(Continued on page 318)

Junior Leadership

THE AMERICAN LEGION of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is cooperating with the Park Department in the development of the Park Monitor's Association whose purposes are stated as follows:

1. To encourage self-leadership and participation in all playground activities.
2. To engender the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play among all groups using privileges on the playgrounds.
3. To cooperate with the playground supervisors in carrying out the recreation program in the community.
4. To provide opportunities for service which will include such duties as the following: Watching apparatus, checking equipment, acting as ushers at community programs, helping in the swimming activities, assisting children in sand play, handcraft, club work and first aid lessons, respecting rules and city regulations regarding neatness and orderliness on the playgrounds.

According to the plan which has been effected, playground supervisors will guide each member of the association according to his interests and capabilities. Local club meetings will be held once each week for the purpose of outlining the duties and activities for the coming week, and officers from each local club will meet once a month in a city-wide council to exchange ideas and promote useful projects. All park monitors must be qualified by the local playground director in order to become eligible for the official American Legion badge. A complete roster will be kept of each club, together with a report of its achievements during the summer.

Each member in the Park Monitor's Association may coach eight new members in public safety and other projects of the club for a period of not less than thirty days. At the end of this period candidates will be qualified as official junior helpers, provided they have been approved by the playground supervisor, to wear the junior helper's button. When park monitors and those who have graduated from the junior helper's rank shall have completed all or part of one summer's activities, they are eligible for the community service honor rank. This may be earned by giving three hundred hours of useful service on the playground under the leadership of the playground super-

visor. From one to four hours of service may be earned daily by each boy or girl seeking to attain this rank. It shall be accumulative from day to day or from one summer to another until certified. A fitting public ceremony will be arranged each season by the American Legion to award boys and girls attaining community service rank.

A Folk Festival in Hawaii

(Continued from page 317)

standing Korean girl. This was probably one of the most worthwhile results of the festival.

The next group to take the stage consisted of about fifteen Filipino women and fifteen Filipino men effectively dressed in their native costumes, the men wearing embroidered shirts of pina cloth. The women wore very colorful pina cloth dresses with the large butterfly-like sleeves. Their numbers included "Cariniosa" and "Planting Rice"—the first a romantic dance; the second, a field worker's dance. There were five musicians to accompany the group. A great many of the men of this group were pineapple and sugar cane field workers.

This unusual group was followed by the grand finale called "The Spirit of Hawaii." Two kahilis were placed in the back center of the stage. It is an old Hawaiian custom to have the kahilis whenever the king is on review. These were originally long poles with a two foot cylindrical form on top covered by feathers of colorful red and yellow birds, now extinct. Ours were made of crêpe paper instead of feathers.

After the kahilis were in place, the Hawaiian chorus took the back center position while from both side entrances the mingled groups—Samoans, Chinese, Koreans, Portuguese, Japanese and Filipinos, approximately two hundred people in all—marched onto the stage, all blending into a most unusual and colorful spectacle.

When all the groups were on the stage, King Kamehameha and Liberty entered, followed by the dance directors in native costumes. The Hawaiian dancers placed a flower lei on King Kamehameha and Liberty, and one on each dance director. After this King Kamehameha gave the signal for the audience to rise, and the performers and audience joined in singing "Aloha Oe." Thus the first Maui Folk Festival came to a dramatic end.

The festival was accepted with so much enthusiasm by the public and the performers that it was decided to make it an annual affair, and as I write this plans are under way for a pageant

which will go on from the dances, building into the performance other old customs of these interesting peoples.

In addition to this plan for an annual festival, the groups have discussed the possibility of having an International Club which would meet monthly or bimonthly. Each national group would have charge of one meeting, serving their native foods and having a speaker tell about some phase of their national customs and traditions. Plans have also been discussed for an international cooking class for women who are interested in learning how to cook different foreign dishes.

You Asked for It!

(Continued from page 305)

games played with an active participation of over 9,000. It is estimated that 60,000 spectators watched the contests.—From *Vincent Farrell*.

Swimming Pool Charges

In the February issue of RECREATION some suggestions were offered in the "You Asked for It!" page on methods of handling the age limit problems in the swimming pool program. *David G. Adams*, City Manager, Florence, South Carolina, has sent the following information:

"We used to make a charge of ten cents for children under twelve and fifteen cents for all those above. We merely tried to charge enough to pay operating expenses.

"Last year we changed this as follows: ten cents to everybody until four in the afternoon; fifteen cents to everybody after four. Those coming in on the ten cent ticket were allowed to stay in until five. The baskets of clothes were kept separately. Any who did not come out on call at five o'clock paid the additional five cents to get their clothes. We also eliminated the practice of allowing any concessions at the pool. Our swimming pool is on the edge of the city, and if they want refreshments they can get them elsewhere. The concession rule came as a result of so much filth and eating of candy in the water. The system of charging was recommended and we like it.

"The pool became a children's pool until five o'clock. Then it became a young people's and adults' pool after five. There was a better sentiment. Formerly they could stay in all day long, in and out, eating and drinking, and many would go home sick and blame it on the pool! Now they get a real good swim and do the 'Adam's apple' exercise at other sports, and go on somewhere else when they get enough. And we have stopped making liars out of those just above the age limit."

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Jewelry, Gem Cutting and Metalcraft

By William T. Baxter. Whittlesey House. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

AMATEURS WHOSE interests lie in the field of jewelry making and metalcraft will find this book very helpful. Mr. Baxter who is Instructor in Art Metal and Jewelry at the Woodrow Wilson High School, Washington, D. C., has based his methods on those which he uses in teaching high school students. The photographs of the various objects illustrated are of student work with a few exceptions and many of the pieces of jewelry shown are the work of boys and girls who in many instances have been receiving instructions for only a short time. Dr. Henry C. Dake, Editor of *The Mineralogist Magazine*, has contributed a chapter on the identification of gem stones and gem minerals. A list of dealers was given from whom supplies may be secured.

Art in Iron—School and Homecraft Series

Wrot Iron Designers, 541 West 35th Street, New York.

SIMPLE PROJECTS in wrought iron are presented in a series of work sheets for children in the lower school grades. All the projects outlined are within the scope of the ability of eight to ten year old children. Anyone wishing information on the prices of these sheets may secure it by writing Wrot Iron Designers.

From Plan to Reality—Two

Staff of the Regional Plan Association. Regional Plan Association, Inc., 400 Madison Avenue, New York. \$2.00.

THE FIRST GENERAL REPORT on progress in the regional development of New York and its environs, following the completion of the Regional Survey and Graphic Regional Plan and the organization of the Regional Plan Association in 1929, was published in 1933 under the title "From Plan to Reality." A similar survey of progress has been made for the second four-year period—1932-1936. The report includes material on general traffic highways, parkways, boulevards and express highways, rail and air transportation, and other public services. In addition, there is a section on the development of parks and reservations, and local parks and playgrounds in New York and its environs which will be extremely interesting to recreation and park officials. One of the conclusions reached is: "Although economic conditions have been responsible for a curtailment in the normal expansion of park areas, they have created a demand for the development of existing parks. This activity has taken place in general in locations most urgently needing the facilities. The satisfaction and enjoyment resulting to the general public are expected to strengthen the pressure upon public officials to supply facilities where they are still needed."

The Public Library—A People's University

By Alvin Johnson. American Association for Adult Education. 1938. \$1.00.

THIS IS THE NINTH in the series of studies which is being issued over period of five years by the American Association for Adult Education. It is based on personal investigation of libraries and library methods, and the special relation to the adult education movement. The contents include a definition of adult education and library service, a discussion of library service as adult education, the place and growing importance of the readers' adviser, the use of forums, lecture courses and classes in library adult education programs, the function of the public library under democracy, and a discussion of the library as a people's university. The book contains a clear statement of the facts in regard to the relation of library services of the country to the adult education movement.

Six-Man Football

A Handbook for Coaches and Players. By Stephen E. Eyer. The University Publishing Company, New York. List Price 20¢.

MR. EPLER in preparing this booklet has kept in mind the needs of the boys in small high schools where frequently there are too few boys to make up and maintain a regular football team throughout the season or lack of funds makes it impossible to afford the necessary equipment to play the game with safety to players. The adaptation of rules which he has made is based on the assumption that "the game is fun."

Physical and Health Education

By Helen Norman Smith, B.S. and Helen Leslie Coops, Ph.D. American Book Company, New York. \$2.25.

HERE IS A TEXTBOOK whose purpose it is "to explain the work of the specialist from the standpoint of the classroom teacher, and to indicate relationships and responsibilities in the administration of the program and to give practical program material." After clarifying the subject through definitions and a discussion of relationships and basic meanings, the authors present the principles of curriculum building and its development in physical and health education, following this with practical information on how to plan the program of physical education and methods of presenting the material. In a chapter on Related Physical Education Activities recreation programs have an important part. Other sections of the book deal with health service and health instruction. There is a chapter on Sources of Material and Reference Readings which recreation workers will find valuable.

Where Shall We Play?

New Jersey State Planning Board, Trenton, New Jersey.

Under the title "Where Shall We Play?" the New Jersey State Planning Board has issued its report of a study of the outdoor recreational needs of New Jersey. Russell Van Nest Black served as consultant director for the study. The report is divided into two parts: (1) Present Facilities and Future Needs, and (2) The Recreational Situation by Localities. The report is accompanied by a number of maps and charts, and some very definite and practical suggestions are offered for meeting existing needs. "The correction of present recreational deficiencies and reasonable provision for future needs," states the report, "ultimately will require substantial expenditures by municipalities, by counties and by the state. The purpose of this report is not to advocate or to precipitate abnormal public expenditures for recreation, but rather to show the necessity for giving greater attention to our recreational needs and to encourage a comprehensive and intelligent approach to the policies and financial problems involved."

Problems of a Changing Population.

Report of the Committee on Population Problems to the National Resources Committee, May 1938, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$75.

The United States will reach its population peak within fifty years with a maximum of approximately 158,000,000, according to a report to the National Resources Committee from its Committee on Population Problems. After this peak has been reached, unless growth is accelerated by a changed immigration policy, a period of slow population decrease is predicted. Some of the problems involved in a changing population are discussed in this report which deals with the human resources of the United States in the same comprehensive way in which America's natural resources were treated in the 1934 report of the National Resources Committee.

Gay Decorations for Parties, Dances, Banquets.

Dennison's, 411 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$10.

Short cuts to the solution of the problem of decorating a room or a hall will be found in this pamphlet. A number of different themes for decorations are suggested, and information is given on how to work them out.

Educational Experiments in Social Settlements.

By Gaynell Hawkins. 1937. American Association for Adult Education. \$1.00.

This little book is one of a series of studies in the social significance of adult education in the United States. It is well written and full of challenging thoughts. Whether its findings are accepted or not it can be read with profit by all who are concerned with the settlement movement or related social organizations.

Little Sammy Cricket.

By F. E. Austin. The Austin Workshops, Hanover, New Hampshire. \$25.

Here are facts about crickets that few people know. Recreation leaders who are developing a nature program will find in this booklet much information told in popular style.

Outdoor Handicraft for Boys.

By A. Neely Hall. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. \$2.00.

This new book by a well known author of volumes on handcraft offers a large variety of projects requiring inexpensive materials and, for the most part, hand tools found in the average household. Among the articles described are model airplanes, simple model boats, an outdoor gymnasium, bird pools and baths, an aquaplane, outdoor fireplaces, and archery craft. There are more than 400 illustrations from photographs and diagrams.

Ventriloquism.

Treasure Chest Publications, Inc., 62 West 45th St., New York. \$10 plus \$.03 postage.

History repeats itself, and once more the ventriloquist and his dummy are front-page entertainment, as ventriloquist dummies and their masters chatter over the radio and frolic across the movie screen. To meet the rising interest in this old form of entertainment, Treasure Chest Publications, Inc., has prepared a very usable and copiously illustrated booklet, showing step by step how to make and operate a ventriloquist dummy with movable eyes and eyebrows and, of course, a mouth that opens and closes. It would be difficult to go wrong in making one of these humorous fellows, so clear are the directions. To top it off, there are two skits ready to use.

Follow the Leadership, and Other Skits.

By Barbara Abel. The Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City. \$1.00.

Dramatics as a tool for interpreting the programs and policies of an organization is the subject of the book, and in this instance the organization is the Y.W.C.A. In her preface, Miss Abel tells how to use dramatics as a publicity medium. "Grasp every opportunity to hang a skit on any known public interest that sticks out at the moment. Is it the Supreme Court? Why not try your organization's case before it? Is it the Constitution of the United States? Dig up your own organization's constitution and see what's in it." The book contains a number of the skits used by Y.W.C.A. workers in putting a program before groups of various kinds.

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The Reality of Recreation

WHAT is real, lasting, permanent, abiding?
Machines? Engines? Roads? Bridges? Tunnels? Skyscrapers?
These wear out and must be replaced.

These are constantly changing.

What abides is what cannot be touched, cannot be seen, cannot be measured.

The mother playing with her child is never forgotten.

David and Jonathan hunting and fishing, walking and talking—"good companions"—understanding each other—able really to communicate with each other about things that matter—perhaps without words, a comradeship that gives meaning to days, to time.

Beauty—the beauty of road, of trees, of mountains remains remembered after the road, the trees—yes, even the mountains perhaps are no more.

Pianos and violins change, but their music is remembered. The sound of the ocean, the sound of the wind in the trees enters into men's souls from generation to generation.

Sports. Bats and balls change, chariots give way to automobiles, to aeroplanes, but the race goes on. Each century has its own forms of ball games. But sport ever commands the spirit of men. And the tales of sport are passed down from Homer even unto modern times.

Nature. The flowers in the garden change from day to day. Yesterday the bud—today the blossom and tomorrow the glory of color that will be gone ere another dawn. Yet the memory of Nature is eternal in the soul of Man from aeon to aeon.

A dog's life is short yet there is no sympathy and understanding so deep as that of your dog as he nuzzles you when you are low of spirit.

Books. Mere collections of words—ink on paper. Yet the thoughts of Jesus, Aristotle, Shakespeare, Dante, Goethe are shared—as the rain comes down without and the wind howls. One is a member of a goodly company with common interests. But the book has reality only as a living soul comes to it to give meaning to its symbols.

Machines, engines, roads, bridges, tunnels, skyscrapers, even books have meaning and reality when living men use them, use them to ride up and across, use them for comradeship, for beauty, for sport, for worship, for putting together a world for the soul of man.

Machines, engines, roads, bridges, tunnels, skyscrapers are not ends in themselves. Build them we must. But building them is not nearly as important as building or rather growing a life, an immortal soul.

Work there must be for every one—of course—much of it making and serving machines. So there must be air to breathe and water to drink and good solid earth to tread upon. But after that what?

We do not talk all the time about the air we breathe, or the water we drink or the earth we walk upon. We take these elemental things for granted.

Man *must* harvest the wheat and the cotton, cut the wool, pump the oil, build machines and yet more machines, fashion the steel into buildings.

But what then?

Man was made to sing, to dance, to run and not be weary, to sail the seas, to climb the skies, to adventure, to find beauty, to create beauty, to find romance.

Man was made to do his duty—yes—but without talking about it all the time.

Work is no God to be worshipped.

I will not bow down to the machines, engines, roads, bridges and tunnels which man himself has made—as if they were the end of life.

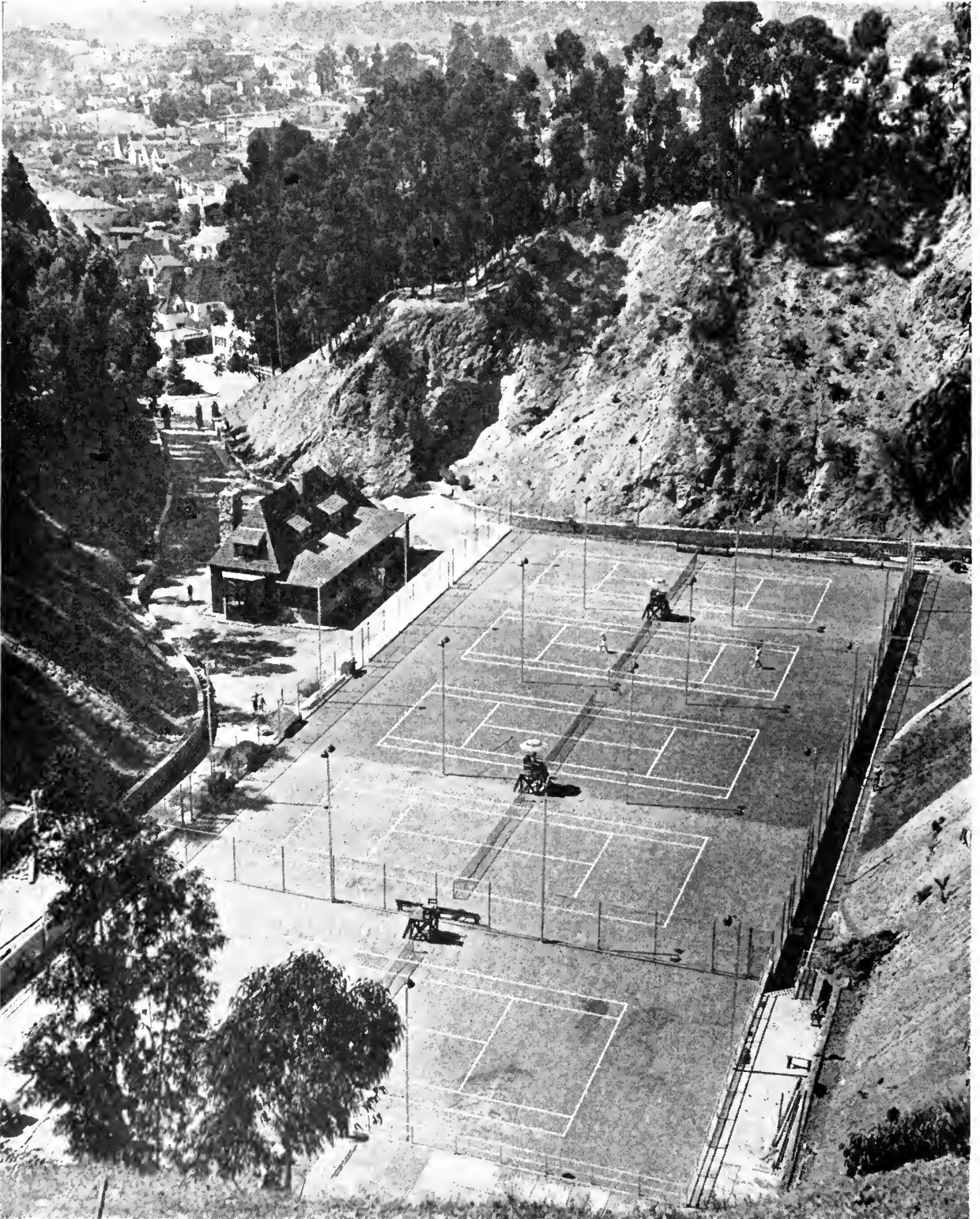
I will bow down before life itself, before life abundantly lived.

Some day in the not too distant future—if we are ready to will it—we shall think and talk more of beauty, sport, adventure, art, literature, of life and of God.

And work and machines like the breathing of air and the drinking of water will be taken for granted in their proper place.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

September



The Professional in Recreation and His Responsibility for Personality Development

By

BRUCE B. ROBINSON, M. D.

RECREATION WORKERS would seem to have an advantage over most other professions from the standpoint of personality. For good personality development, a good recreation program throughout childhood, adolescence and early adult life seems necessary. The men and women who go into recreation have usually been attracted to that field because of the satisfaction which they have always had through their recreational experiences. It is then quite likely that the professional in recreation will start with a distinctly better personality, and that the average of desirable personality among recreation workers should be much higher than the average in other professions. Many of the women going into recreation work are likely to have a background of "tom boy." Experience with mothers and particularly with teachers proves that having grown up as a tom boy gives markedly increased chances of superior success in child training or in education. (So far I have never found a thoroughly superior teacher who was not raised as a tom boy.)

Certainly among recreation workers you would expect to find few "bookworms," few of the much talked about "introverts," and few "poor sports."

The recreation worker who fails to have the professional point of view would be overimpressed with "things" to be done. He would be overwhelmed with the mechanics of his job and by the executive duties. He would think of his work in terms of keeping people busy, organizing clubs, increasing attendance. He would think of discipline in terms of helping his program run smoothly rather than of the help or

injury to the personality of people involved which might come from his disciplinary measures. The individual participants would be lost in group activities. The recreation worker would feel no responsibility for the recognition, study and treatment of personality needs. To the worker his program would be one of occupying leisure time rather than a thoroughly important part of progressive education which has a major interest in personality development.

The recreation worker with a professional point of view would recognize that he is an educator; that the primary interest of his program is in personality development. His interest in the personality of participants would be constant and active. He would think of his program in terms of its effect on their personality, and he would be willing to modify it to give participants experiences which he knows from his professional study are necessary for increase in maturity, in self-confidence and self-respect, and in social ability. He is willing to take the time to work with problems of individuals who can profit so largely from special help in recreation. His treatment of participants shows that he is sensitive to the effect on personality of even his routine contacts with participants. Certainly when it comes to handling disciplinary problems or any other special problems of emotion he attempts to make the episode into a constructive, educational experience helpful to the personality development of the individual involved. Because of his feeling of responsibility for such development there are many habits of behavior which the layman or the

Dr. Bruce B. Robinson, Director of Child Guidance, Newark, New Jersey, Board of Education, speaking before the Eastern Association of Recreation Workers, pointed out that just as the personality of the teacher and of the social worker has become more important than it had been under old-fashioned teaching and social work, so, as the profession of recreation develops, we shall find an increasing emphasis on the personalities of participants and of recreation workers. We quote extracts from Dr. Robinson's address with its stimulating challenge to the recreation profession.

unprofessional recreation worker has, which the professional has abandoned—anger, irritation, impatience, sarcasm, “bawling out,” causing a participant to “lose face,” and the careless use of social pressure to force conformity or cooperation, or anything resembling revenge.

What the Recreation Worker Should Know

If the recreation worker is to aid in personality development he must know the technical information now available in regard to the subject. He must know how the normal child develops and what sort of experience he must have to aid him in desirable personality development. He must know what type of experience leads the child to the development of undesirable personality traits. He must be so trained as to note developing difficulties of personality and must know something of the procedures necessary to correct such personality defects. He must be able to recognize personality difficulties in their early stages so that correction is fairly easy, rather than having to wait until the situation has developed so far that the difficulty is obvious and, at the same time, hard to modify.

Personality development occurs at home, at school and through recreation. The recreation worker dealing with personality needs to know the attitude of the school in regard to personality development and the experiences given to the child in school as a part of his classroom experience which are designed to help him in personality development. The recreation worker must work closely with the classroom teacher on this common problem of personality development, and therefore he must not only know what the classroom teacher believes is desirable, but what common educational practice is, and what is being done in a specific room with a particular child.

The recreation worker must know the problems of child training in the home. Certainly this matter of giving aid to the child in personality development must be a cooperative affair with the teacher, the parent and the recreation worker combining as a team to carry out a desirable program. Each member of the team must know what the other is doing, and what the other could do to help develop a more desirable program for the normal child as well as for the problem child.

The matter of child training is so important, and so few communities give the parents the necessary help either before marriage or after marriage that it seems to me the recreation worker with an interest in personality development will accept his responsibility for carrying on parent education and child training courses in his recreation center. It probably will be necessary to bring in a specially trained worker to carry on this parent education, but certainly the professional in recreation will be thoroughly at home in this field of child training.

Emphasis should be placed on the personality complications of their discipline problems. Certainly the whole subject must be approached from the standpoint of the effect upon the participant of the disciplinary measures employed by the recreation worker. The worker must think of the participant rather than of himself; he must think of the effect on personalities involved rather than merely the effect on his program. In the final decision, the rights of the group exceed those of the individual, but adults tend to do a great many indefensible things injurious to personality with the excuse that they are taking care of the majority. Analysis of methods used with such an excuse usually shows that the worker was giving plenty of evidence of an immature response to a somewhat difficult situation.

"Certainly the first of the responsibilities which the professional in recreation faces is the responsibility for his own personality and for its further development which in most people is necessary for adequate professional success."

"Tutoring" in Recreation

The progressive in education is going to be sufficiently interested in the individual child and in personality development to be willing to take the time to work out a proper recreation program for one child and to do his share in educating him to enter into such a program and to profit from it. This may involve conferences with parents and with teachers. It will, most certainly, take time away from group activities, but the progressive worker will not only be willing to give such individual service, but will insist that a certain amount of attention to individual cases is absolutely necessary to his satisfaction and his professional development.

One of the interesting corollaries of this work with individual children is the matter of "tutoring" in recreation. Many children have been handicapped by lack of previous recreational experi-

(Continued on page 368)

Virginia's Better Mousetrap

A new recreation area is opened to the keen delight of the public who come for miles to enjoy it

DOWN IN OLD Virginia the National Park Service has recently completed a project which proves the correctness of an old maxim beginning "If a man builds a better mousetrap. . ."

The mousetrap is known as the Swift Creek Recreational Area.

In the county where it is located, much of the land is wooded, covered with thickets or stunted timber. From this land, useless for agriculture, a tract has been selected that will grow a crop and it is being planted for a harvest in public recreation. Federal emergency funds were used to develop 7,600 acres. There is a swimming lake of 152 acres; another lake of thirty acres well stocked with pan fish. Log cabins have been erected for overnight campers. A sand beach 400 yards long and 150 yards wide has been pumped up from the bottom of Swift Creek, which flows through the area, and deposited attractively under the shade of giant trees near the water. The CCC boys and WPA labor have built miles of gravel roads, nature cabins, lavatories, laundry huts. The development represents a several million dollar investment in the physical equipment for public recreation.

Here is the playground. Sixteen miles away is Richmond, with a population of 185,000 people. Petersburg, Hopewell and Chesterfield County make up enough to bring the total drawing population up to 300,000. The people are there; the main problems now are those of administration and drawing the crowds to a rural playground to which, at present, there are no means of transportation other than the automobile.

A Recreational Council Is Organized

Wisely the National Park Service has decided on a new method of making this area known to



By **LEE G. CRUTCHFIELD, JR.**
Community Recreation Association
Richmond, Virginia

the public. Instead of handling the promotion themselves, the Government officials have organized a committee of seventeen citizens from the cities of Richmond, Hopewell and Petersburg, and from the county of Chesterfield, to take charge of the public use program of the area for the first year of its operation. At the end of this time, the plan is that the State of Virginia shall assume control of the area and add it to its chain of State parks, of which there are six. For the present, title to the property remains with the Federal Government.

The Council is to be divorced from any connection with the State and National Governments, except for supervision, and is to present to the public, for acceptance or rejection, this newest of Virginia's playgrounds.

Composition of the Recreational Council charged with this important mission is varied. Its president is a member of a County Welfare Board; its vice-president, personnel director of a huge rayon plant; its treasurer, comptroller of a bank, and its secretary, director of the Commu-

nity Recreation Association, a group-work agency of the Richmond Community Fund. Scattered through the remainder of the Council are a newspaper editor, a furniture store salesman, a foundryman, a department store executive, a Boy Scout leader, an insurance salesman, a county agent and a Community Fund executive. Truly it is a representative council of citizens.

Such was the group which took over the responsibility, late in June of 1938, for explaining the use of the Swift Creek Recreational Area to the public. Another task was to persuade the people to visit the place in order to see what was there.

"Industrial groups, Sunday Schools, civic and fraternal organizations, churches, and employees' associations" were the bodies, according to the Council prospectus, which were to be invited. Generally, all those who could not afford to go away for summer relief were to be encouraged to use this free backyard playground with its beach, diving towers, and fishing lake.

Assuming its rôle with great enthusiasm, the Council swung into action. Stories went to the papers of the three cities, which were very cooperative in securing pictures. A radio program which included representatives of the Council, the National Park Service and the Virginia Conservation Commission was presented.

The Independence Day week-end drew on apace, and the result of the opening of this new venture was awaited.

The People Came!

The people came. They had found something in the recreational field, evidently, which they had been seeking for a long time—a free-admission, public playground in Virginia, with bathhouse and concessions charging minimum rates, with trained leaders in the various games and crafts. For these were here—two lifeguards and seven counselors in dramatics, dancing, handcraft, singing, nature study. These staff members were supplied by the Works Progress Administration.

The people liked it. They came in droves. Five thousand the first day; 7,000, the second; 6,000 the third. From Chesterfield Court House to the camp entrance is four miles. On July 4th this stretch was packed with automobiles. At three o'clock, as no more parking space was available within the park, the gates were closed. Fifteen hundred laden automobiles were turned back.

In the nine days from July 2nd through July 11th there were over 26,000 visitors. Figures of

the State Park Commission indicate that the *annual* attendance at a State park throughout Virginia is between 35,000 and 40,000.

The people wanted a playground.

Facilities Provided

Experts have said that the location of the Swift Creek Recreational Area is the best in the State. A variety of activities are available. In a grove of trees near the fishing lake is the nature study cabin with a full time counselor on duty, where interested persons may have supervised study of the flora and fauna. Down the hill, the lake is stocked with perch, bream and crappie. Ten boats are for hire and State fishing laws govern the taking of fish.

The swimming lake, two and one half miles long, was formed by damming the creek that flows through the area. Two steel and wood diving towers with springboards are situated in the deep water. An enclosed beach for waders or beginning swimmers is marked by floats. Lifeguards are in attendance from the time the park opens at 10:00 A. M. until it closes at 8:00 P. M. A number of picnic tables and stone fireplaces are adjacent to the beach. These may be reserved for picnic parties.

Game equipment, furnished free by the Recreational Council, includes large rubber beach balls, softball and softball bats, a badminton set and horseshoe pitching courts.

Dancing is taught by a staff member on a large wooden stage provided with a piano, and this stage is also used for dramatics. Handicraft and pottery making under direction of trained counselors are offered.

The refectory operated by the Council is outstanding. Perhaps the most frequent comment concerning the whole public playground has been that of the reasonable prices that prevail. Bathhouse facilities are very inexpensive, being only fifteen cents for adults. Other prices follow the same trend, with drinks and other refreshments at a minimum cost.

Equally as attractive are the group camping grounds. Two completely equipped mess halls, with refrigerators, cooking ranges and pantries are available for lease by large groups. In addition, overnight or week-end cabins are rented to smaller groups, with a minimum of fifteen campers, for twenty-five cents per head per night.

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Prepare for Retirement

By J. Y. SHAMBACH

It is generally agreed that one of the best ways to prepare for a happy retirement is to engage in a well-balanced program of active, vigorous work and recreation. This may be done by including in a schedule of regular activities the development of an avocation. An avocation is just as important as a vocation. An activity that is different gives the busy person

an opportunity to occupy his leisure time advantageously and at the same time relieves the tension which prevails when he is working continually and vigorously upon his regular duties. Fortunately there is a wide variety of avocations which some people prefer to call hobbies.

A Wide Variety of Avocations

Walking and Geography. An editor of one of the largest city newspapers is engaged in a very pleasant avocation. At one time he was a successful educator. He carries a pedometer in his vest pocket. At the age of seventy-four years he pretends that he is walking around the world. He makes it a habit to walk at least ten miles each day. At the close of the day he plots on a map the distance he has walked and pretends he is spending the night at the place indicated at the end of the diagram for the day. He uses his Baedeker's Guide to study the areas parallel to the highway along which he pretends he has walked that day. This procedure furnishes physical as well as mental stimulation.

Any person who walks should remember that although it is one of the best forms of exercise it is even

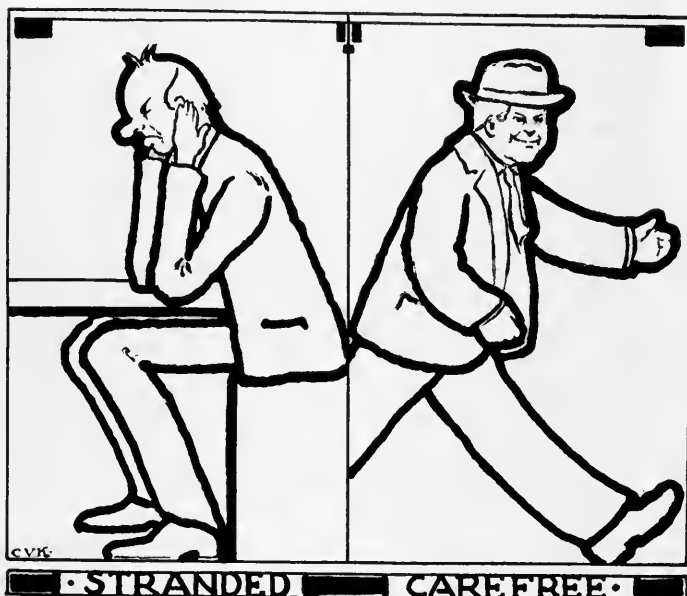


Illustration by C. V. Kirby

more invigorating when there is an objective. One man invented errands in the country surrounding the borough in which he lived. He walked out to various farms and conversed with the owners or helped them with some work such as husking corn. At other times he walked to farms with the idea of sharpening cutting tools used about the kitchen, in the

work shop, or elsewhere on the premises. He also walked to buildings that were being erected or highways that were being improved.

A former county superintendent of schools made it a practice to start early in the morning so that he might walk to the schools he planned to visit that day. He spent parts of his vacations walking in his own state and in other states. Since retirement he continues to enjoy this form of exercise. At present he is planning a walking expedition through the Great Smoky Mountains. He hopes to realize a dream of walking through England and Scotland before he comes to his journey's end.

Some ladies walk and exercise enough while performing the regular duties about their homes and flower gardens. Others prefer to go to a gymnasium to engage in varied exercises.

Fishing, Study, and Speaking. One retired educational leader who has lost the use of his eyes can still tell the person who rows the boat just where to go so that he may demonstrate to others in the party what constitutes either real or reel fishing. He has prepared and given talks on life out-of-doors where he spent a great deal of his lei-

This article by Mr. Shambach, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Public School Employees' Retirement Fund, Harrisburg, appeared in the May 1938 issue of the *Pennsylvania School Journal* and is reprinted by courtesy of the *Journal*.

sure time when he was teaching and serving as a school administrator. One day at his State Education Association convention he gave a remarkably helpful address on "The Blessings of Blindness."

Geology. One retired school man is interested in geology. When he was a superintendent of schools in one of our cities his son, at that time eight years of age, reported gleefully to a playmate that he and his father enjoyed a short vacation hunting "chalybites." The superintendent spent much of his leisure time as an amateur geologist. At present his son is an active teacher. He is still enthusiastic about the field trips he enjoys with his father during vacation periods. They find many interesting as well as puzzling formations.

There are unsolved problems to challenge the imagination of the amateur geologist as well as the skilled thinking of the professional geologist. At the time of the writing of this article there is a rock formation in York County, Pennsylvania, which no geologist has been able to explain. Furthermore, geologists are trying to discover where the oceans were when the canyons were formed by erosion that are now from four thousand to ten thousand feet beneath the surface of the ocean.

Naturally the solution of such problems should be the work of a professional geologist. However, knowledge of the facts and other unusual phenomena in geology and other sciences can extend easily a person's mental horizon and his interest in his surroundings.

Writing. For many years one retired teacher wanted to write poetry as well as prose. He is finding time now to create literary productions of a high grade. Even though his writings may never become as well known as those of standard authors who is there that can predict accurately that some day he may not complete something that will become as well known as " 'Twas the Night Before Christmas," "Alice in Wonderland," or other selections that were written as avocations?

A retired school administrator is engaged in writing a biography of one of his favorite educators, a widely known Superintendent of Public Instruction with whom he worked for some years.

Making Violins. An educational supervisor who is looking forward some time to retirement makes violins as a hobby. When he disposes of his product he charges for material only. His friends know the value of his violins. They know that he

secures the best material he can find and that he takes plenty of time during his leisure hours to put his best efforts into the work. For two reasons he charges for material only. One reason is his idea that if he should accept pay for his time he could not think of this avocation as a hobby, consequently it would lose much of its appeal.

Welfare and Secretarial Work. One retired school employe scheduled his time in such a way that he was able to do a great deal of welfare work in his community in addition to his work as secretary of the fraternal organization of which he was a member. A number of retired teachers are engaged in welfare work of different kinds for which they receive no remuneration.

Mental Contests, Travel, and Real Estate. One retired superintendent enjoyed his participation in a contest conducted by a metropolitan newspaper. The contest was based on a knowledge of history and written composition. He won the first prize of ten thousand dollars. Part of the money he spent traveling. In this way he saw places which for many years he had wanted to visit.

A number of retired teachers engage in mental contests of various kinds even though they have no assurance that they will win. Some of them work on contests when they do not intend to forward their completed productions to those who conduct the contests.

Many retired teachers travel. They find that it costs very little more and sometimes less to live in a warmer climate during the winter months. The cost depends, of course, upon various factors such as distance, management, and the places visited.

A retired man and his wife live in a trailer in the south during the winter months. He uses the summer months to add new features to two delightful summer cottages and their surroundings in a beautiful setting in his native state.

Occupations After Retirement

Teachers sometimes retire and engage in other occupations not connected with the public schools in the state in which they were employed. A man retired in his native state and became a university professor in another state. An educator retired and served for a time as a coordinator in a business college. Later he acquired a teachers' agency which he is conducting at the present time.

One man retired and served as a superintendent of schools in a city in another state. Athletic contests constitute one of his hobbies. He attended

the college activities connected with his daughter's graduation exercises. One of the Commencement events was a track meet. He saw the judges award a close race to a person he thought was not entitled to win. Because of his desire for fair play he protested. Later the motion pictures of the race showed that he was right. He learned that the real winner was a junior preparing to teach. At the close of the senior year of the winner he received a contract to teach in the schools of the superintendent who met him on the day of the track meet.

The cinder track winner became a real winner of the attention of students which resulted in their desired development. He was also able to do post-graduate work at a nearby university where he had hoped to be able to study some day. Thus a man, while following a hobby, met a prospective successful teacher and helped a school system as well as an individual.

A retired teacher is a successful insurance salesman. Another plans to serve as a librarian. It should be noted, of course, that it is unusual for a retired teacher to secure a remunerative position. However there are exceptional persons who are as energetic at seventy or beyond as others at forty or fifty. If they can contribute to the world's work who would deny them the privilege of engaging in such work? They illustrate the adage regarding a will and a way.

Two of the efficient members of the Public School Employes' Retirement Board are retired teachers and educators.

Jig-sawing and Gardening. Several retired persons have secured jig-saws and have spent many happy hours making various articles for their homes. One man operates his jig-saw and other wood working machinery with a motor he removed from a replaced electric washing machine.

One man is not only interested in jig-saw activities but also in propagating and cultivating common and unusual garden and house plants. He shares with his friends the products of his labors.

Two lady teachers who are twins retired after forty years of achievement. They plan to devote their time to their flower gardens. Since they included in their accomplishments the solution of Pacal's Mystic Hexagram, it is fair to assume that

they will continue their mental activity as well as their physical exercise.

Cabinet Making. One man prepared for retirement by spending his leisure time as a cabinet and furniture maker. He made various articles of furniture including cedar chests, chairs, tables, and a writing desk. Before attempting elaborate pieces he developed real skill as a cabinet maker.

Value of Hobbies

A properly subordinated avocation not only prepares a person for retirement but also fits him to serve more efficiently in his present position. It is assumed that every person who adopts a hobby such as golf will retain proper perspective and, unless he becomes a professional golfer, will have sufficient mental acumen to prevent the hobby from becoming a task-master, taking more than the proper amount of time. If a person adopts a hobby and loses his perspective, it increases tension rather than serving as a helpful side line.

Physicians who seem to know most about the workings of the nervous system agree that, much as medicine and treatment may be needed at times, a hobby or two well directed will do much more than either medicine or treatment in giving tone, poise, and a feeling of well-being to a person

with a nervous temperament or a capacity for developing such a temperament. Under some conditions nearly every person has a capacity for developing a nervous temperament. Hence, it may be logical to conclude that a hobby or an avocation properly planned is beneficial for every person. One physician who had a large practice including many teachers said he had concluded that teaching must be one of the most nerve-racking occupations a person can find. He deliberately prescribed hobbies for a number of his school teacher patients as well as for others. He had the ability to prepare a cleverly phrased hobby suggestion which he handed to a patient on a prescription form either with medicine or with another prescription for medicine to be obtained at the drug store.

Selecting a Hobby

It has been said that a person should select an avocation or a hobby very much as he selects a

(Continued on page 370)

"Having a hobby is like taking out an annuity. You pay now; it pays you later. As a substitute for work, as a relaxer, as a balance wheel, every individual should have at least one hobby. Whether the hobby be making something, learning something or acquiring something, it matters not."—*Agnes R. Wayman in A Modern Philosophy of Physical Education.*

A Suggestion for a Musical Evening

By NEIL BOARDMAN
St. Paul, Minnesota

ASSUMING that in your group there is a fair amount of talent—several good vocalists, one or two instrumentalists and a capable accompanist—you may present what may be called “an opera review,” “a light opera review,” or “a musical comedy review,” depending upon the type of music you are to perform. Then, selecting someone with directorial ability and a flair for program balance, you plan your performance with as much or as little staging and costuming as you desire. If you have a stage and curtain available, so much the better; but they are not essential. You proceed to concoct a number of acts, some of them scenes from opera or musical comedy, some simply individual numbers, sung or played as concert pieces, and you have a kind of vaudeville show, with the acrobats and trained seals left out!

The guests are presented with programs, but their surprise and possible chagrin these programs tell nothing, for they are made up of numbers followed by blank spaces. The guests are then informed that they are to fill in the blanks with the names of the numbers they are about to hear, and that the contestant who identifies the most numbers will win the roses, the Stradivarius violin or the *papier-mache* tuba. Both you and the guests will be surprised to learn how many heart-breakingly familiar pieces they do *not* know!

As a sample, the following is suggested as a program for lovers of grand opera:

A Grand Opera Review

The Quartet from Rigoletto. It is always wise to start out with an easy one; it gives the musically uneducated a “break,” and the more sophisticated a great deal of false confidence. This scene should be done “full stage,” and acted out just as it would be in a regular production. It would possible, too, to precede the Quartet with *La Donna e Mobile*; in that case, of course, spaces for both numbers must be pro-

vided in the blank programs, *e. g.*—
I. 1.)
 2.)
 from.....

More and more, in church, school and home, evenings are being devoted, in one way or another, to music; and those in charge of programs are sometimes hard put to it to provide a novel and at the same time entertaining bill for their increasingly exacting guests. Here is a suggestion for a musicale that will prove of special interest to those who consider themselves musically well posted, and at the same time will be entirely enjoyable to the uninitiated.

Meditation from Thais. Provided, of course, that you have a capable violinist. There are many purely instrumental selections available—a piano or organ transcription of some overture, *not William Tell*, would do nicely.

Ballet Music from Faust. One or two parts may be used.

Further contrast is here provided by putting on a full-stage dancing act. It is *not* necessary to perform the ballet itself! Any graceful dancing, however simple, is acceptable, provided the music is authentic.

Elsa's Dream from Lohengrin. (Done simply as a concert piece.)

The Bartered Bride. (One of the several comedy scenes may be used.)

And so on, until at least an hour's time is taken. Still greater opportunity for variety may be found in the field of light opera. It is quite possible, of course, to mix the two—and what could be more delightful than a grandiose scene from Wagner followed by the capers of Ko-Ko and Katisha!

If the party is private, copyrighted material may be used; if public, arrangements must of necessity be made with those who control the rights of performance.

The important thing is to suit the program to your audience. For a gathering of music teachers, the lesser known portions of even the popular operas and operettas are mystifying enough; for those who take their music more leisurely, more familiar numbers can be used. And above all insist that the performers take what they are doing seriously, and perform to the best of their abilities; for the programs are most successful when they are only one half game and the other half genuine musical entertainment.

"The Biggest Show on Earth"

"This type of project," in the words of Alice Dietz, Director of Playgrounds of the Recreation Department, Board of Park Commissioners, Minneapolis, "has many advantages. It provides a worthwhile activity on the playgrounds when opportunities for outdoor recreation are limited. It fosters a spirit of giving in children who participate, and it centers the attention of the community on the work that the playgrounds are doing."



Fifth Grade children at the Michael Dowling School for Crippled Children glean some ideas on how circuses are constructed by examining their gift from children of the playgrounds.

EVER SINCE P. T. BARNUM gathered together all the movable wonders of the world and set about plastering the towns and hamlets of America with the most colorful and exciting advertising the country had ever seen, the circus has had a greater hold on the American popular imagination than any other type of entertainment. And so it was not strange that when the children at Minneapolis playgrounds were asked as to what they would like to build for their Christmas craft project last year, the response was almost unanimous for miniature circuses.

The project was begun on November 1 and continued up until the week before Christmas. This is the time of the year in Minneapolis when opportunities for outdoor recreation on the playgrounds are most limited. Nineteen playgrounds were furnished with materials for circus construction and each playground was given full leeway in working out its own ideas of construction. The only restrictions were that the circuses should be easily transportable and be so constructed that they could be set up and taken down in just the same way as a real circus.

Imagination Ran Riot!

This "laissez faire" policy produced some interesting results. One playground built a "Big Top" complete down to a hot dog stand which used

clippings from red rubber bands to simulate its wares. Another ground built a calliope from an old coffee can in which was placed a small music box. A number of the circuses had Ferris wheels and merry-go-rounds powered by miniature motors and geared to the apparatus. One park used an old phonograph turn table for its merry-go-round.

A typical circus was the one constructed by the children of Bryant Square, one of the smaller playgrounds. This circus was composed of the following articles: a base, four feet square and hinged in the center, which served as the circus grounds, one performing ring made from a wooden barrel hoop, three circus wagons with cages containing wild animals cut from wood with scroll saws, six cages of wild animals, a Ferris wheel, a merry-go-round, a canvas tent with stakes and poles made from meat skewers, four clowns made with scroll saws, a troupe of performing horses, a hot dog stand, and a ticket booth.

All of these articles were separate from the base and had to be assembled according to the plan of

the circus. The material used in construction consisted of discarded boxes, burlap, pieces of canvas, meat skewers, wire, glue, nails, and paper. The tools used were a plain saw, a scroll saw, a hammer, a planer, and a ruler.

At the conclusion of the project, the circuses were placed on display for two days in the Mayor's reception room at the City Hall. After that they were distributed to orphan homes and hospitals as Christmas gifts from Minneapolis playground children. The circus made at the George A. Brackett Field was sent to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, at the request of the children. A warm letter of appreciation was received from Mr. Keith Morgan, vice-president of the Foundation, thanking the Brackett children for their gift.

Another of the circuses was sent to the Michael Dowling School for Crippled Children in Minneapolis. According to Miss Gladys McAllister, the school's principal, the children were very enthusiastic about their new circus—so much so in fact that the Fifth Grade boys are making a similar circus to present to a hospital for crippled children.

Mrs. Alice Dietz, Minneapolis playground director, and Walter T. Halloran, superintendent of the WPA park recreation project in Minneapolis, are convinced of the value of a Christmas handcraft project

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED

By Mrs. Alice Dietz

"We're going to have great fun playing with that splendid circus this winter. It is one of the best surprises we ever had. We think it was very kind of you to send it to our school. Thank you for being so good to us."

"We thank you very much for selecting our school to send a circus to. I like the ferris wheel very much. The boys in our school are trying to make a circus. We hope it will be as nice as yours."

"We want to thank you very much for the circus. I thought that the little girl on the fareswell was cute."

be an incentive to the study of plays and the theater.

There are many ways in which recreation and park departments can be of service to institutions. Too often institutions do not enter into the activities of the recreation department or take advantage of its many free services. It has been suggested that personal invitations from a recreation department to the institutions of its city would be greatly appreciated. Specialists from recreation departments have much to offer.

A storyteller or handcraft worker traveling from one playground or park to another might well include Children's Homes in her itinerary. Institutions are glad to receive apparatus, scenery, game supplies, books and similar material discarded by recreation departments if the articles are usable or repairable.

Children at the Glen Lake Sanatorium erecting their miniature circus with adult assistance



Public Recreation in Cleveland

The story of two years of progress in making the recreation program of a large city more effective

By H. E. VARGA

Director

Department of Parks and Public Property

During the past few years Cleveland has made considerable progress in the development of a more adequate public recreation program. In this article Mr. Varga, who is Director of Parks and Public Property, with the cooperation of Edward A. Levy, Secretary of the Mayor's Advisory Board on Playgrounds and Recreation, tells of the major developments undertaken to date. For further information regarding the Cleveland program we refer our readers to the article, "Model Playgrounds for Cleveland," by Edward A. Levy and Leyton E. Carter of the Cleveland Foundation, which appeared in *Recreation*, February 1938.

tion system additional and more effective personnel would be required. This fact was further emphasized in a report of the local public recreation situation which was being made at the time by the Cleveland Foundation. The immediate personnel problem facing the new administration was, then, the method of obtaining more and better qualified recreation workers in a short time and under prevailing financial limitations.

Early in February, 1936, the first step was taken in the appointment, by the

Mayor, of an Advisory Board on Playgrounds and Recreation. As originally constituted by the Mayor, the Board consisted of nineteen members—representatives of social and civic and religious organizations. Leyton E. Carter, Director of the Cleveland Foundation, was named chairman of the group. Early in 1938 the Board was reconstituted and membership increased to twenty-seven, with industry and labor interests given representation. The Board serves, in general, to advise the administration on matters of policy affecting the local public recreation situation. From the very beginning it has been motivated by a two-fold purpose. First, it has sought consistently to recommend to the administration means for improving the existing municipal recreation set-up, and second, it is endeavoring to formulate a long-time program for the future development of public recreation in Cleveland.

Soon after the creation of the Mayor's Board the administration undertook to improve and increase the administrative personnel within the Division. J. Noble Richards, then Director of the Cuyahoga County Recreation Commission, was given a temporary appointment as Commissioner of Recreation. At the same time Julius Kemeny,

THE CITY of Cleveland has maintained a Division of Recreation for many years. The administration of Mayor Harold H. Burton, which took office in November 1935, has been the first, however, to make substantial and consistent progress in the development of an adequate public recreation system. In spite of severe financial handicaps, the new administration accepted the responsibility for developing a system of public recreation facilities for its people, and in the past two years has made much progress.

Attacking the Problem of Personnel

No single factor has more to do with the successful operation of a unit of the municipal government than the personnel connected with it. When the Burton administration took office the Division of Recreation was unquestionably one of the most understaffed operating units within the municipal government: There was a Commissioner of Recreation at the head of the Division; the other administrative official was the Superintendent of Bath Houses. Two clerical helpers completed the year-round working force. In addition, seasonal employes were retained for playgrounds and outdoor facilities during the summer, and in the bathhouses and recreation centers during the winter. Fourteen playground supervisors, eighty-five playground directors, seven handcraft instructors and seven tennis instructors were employed during the summer of 1935. Bathhouse personnel included eight superintendents, nine physical instructors, seventy attendants and four licensed firemen.

The new administration recognized immediately that to effect a reasonably adequate public recrea-

Superintendent of Bathhouses, was promoted to the Assistant Commissionership and granted full Civil Service status in that position. Early in 1936, also, careful check was made of all personnel connected with the city's bathhouses and community centers, and several improvements were made. A policy of semi-annual physical examinations for all employes was initiated.

It was clearly recognized that the financial limitations of the city introduced the most severe handicap to the program for a more adequate staff. However, in June, 1936, funds were made available for the employment of a Supervisor of Women's and Girls' Activities and for a Superintendent of Maintenance. During 1936 the regular summer playground staff was increased, and additional physical instructors were employed in the recreation centers. The quality of playground personnel was substantially raised by classification with Civil Service status of all playground positions within the municipal service. Examinations for the various positions attracted a large registration. Upon the request of the Mayor's Board, the Commission departed from regular procedure and allowed authorities of the various out-of-town schools and colleges to conduct examinations for applicants unable to return to Cleveland.

Considerable staff assistance on playgrounds and in the centers was obtained during 1936 from WPA and NYA. The WPA provided supervisors of special activities such as handcraft, music and dancing. NYA playground leaders, trained at a special institute conducted by NYA, worked along with city leaders on the playgrounds. Several tennis instructors were supplied by NYA.

As a means of making positions within the recreational service more attractive by virtue of permanency, Civil Service examinations for several positions were conducted in 1937. Playground examinations for the 1937 season were held during the 1936 Christmas holidays so that a large registration could be had. The Commission also conducted an examination for the position of Commissioner of Recreation. Residents requirements were broadened to include anyone living in the United States. J. Noble Richards, acting Commissioner of Recreation, received the permanent appointment. The position of Supervisor of Women's and girls' Activities was also filled by Civil Service examination. All positions in the city's bathhouses and recreation centers, with the exception of attendants, were placed within the classified service during the year.

Some additions were made to the staff of the Recreation Division during 1937. A few additional playground directors and leaders were employed when several new playgrounds were opened. Services of WPA special supervisors were retained both on playgrounds and in the centers.

The year 1938 will, it is hoped, see a continued expansion of the Division's staff. Progress has already been made in this direction with the recent employment of a Supervisor of Men's and Boys' Activities. The present budget of the Division, if approved by Council, calls for a number of additions to the staff including 125 playground leaders and directors—a 50% increase over the 1935 total. At least four full time laborers and six part-time workers are specified. In addition, other personnel will be added to provide for administration of certain municipal functions recently been made the responsibility of the Division of Recreation, and for operation of the new recreation warehouse. All life guard personnel and municipal golf links employees will in the future be a part of the Division of Recreation staff.

Obviously there is still much to be done. Additional personnel is needed, but a good start has been made. In numbers alone the present staff represents a material increase over the 1935 figures, and several capable employees have been secured.

Improvements and Additions to the Physical Plant

For many years preceding the Burton administration no improvements had been made to the physical plant and little new equipment had been procured. Further, many of the normal functions of the Recreation Division had been assumed by other units of the city government.

Playgrounds. The administration set out to improve the situation as best it could. It was recognized first of all that much of the physical plan was in need of complete overhauling. As city funds for improvements were woefully inadequate, it was fortunate that Federal funds could be made available from WPA and NYA. During the past two years NYA has aided the city in reconditioning a number of municipal play areas and in rehabilitating playground equipment. In 1937 alone \$16,000 of the city money was spent as sponsor's contribution to the various NYA projects. WPA is working full time preparing equip-

ment for use during 1938 and has also completed certain rehabilitation work in the recreation centers. Much of the reconditioning work in the bath houses and at recreation centers, however, has been financed by the city.

Sizable expenditures have been made by the city during the past two years for the improvement of municipal playgrounds, tennis courts and baseball diamonds. It is recognized that these facilities are not yet in perfect condition, but a start in this direction has been made and it is hoped will be continued during 1938.

The present administration fully aware of the inadequate physical plant operated by the Recreation Division, has made a special effort to increase the physical facilities for play. Progress along this line has been slow principally because of the scarcity of available public land and of city funds to purchase the necessary property. Rather than deprive the people of much needed play space, the administration in 1936 embarked upon a program of "leasing" private property from public-spirited citizens for playground and other recreational purposes. Many such areas have been improved and equipped. In 1935, the city operated thirty-eight playgrounds. The administration increased the number during 1936 to fifty-five by obtaining leases to seventeen playgrounds. In 1937, eleven additional private properties were operated as playgrounds. It is expected that the number of playgrounds in 1938 will reach seventy-five — a 100% increase over the 1935 figure. An outstanding addition to the city's playground system during 1937 was the development by the Cleveland Foundation of three so-called model playgrounds. Two of these areas are permanent developments and have been illuminated for night play. They are Cleveland's first brightly lighted, year-round playgrounds.

Baseball. Only fifty-nine baseball diamonds were operated by the city during 1935, obvi-

ously an inadequate number. Early in 1936 a WPA project was initiated in Woodland Hills Park and several diamonds were torn up. During the past few years a few large parcels have been leased from private owners to be used for baseball, but at least until WPA park rehabilitation programs have been completed it is expected that municipal facilities for baseball will remain inadequate.

A significant development in 1937 was the inauguration of night softball. Three softball diamonds were illuminated for night use with funds provided by the Cleveland Baseball Federation, the Cleveland Foundation, the Municipal Softball Association and a public-spirited citizen, with the city's Utilities Department furnishing technical assistance. These diamonds were in constant use last summer. It is expected that a lighted field for night regulation baseball games will be completed at Brookside Park for the 1938 season.

Tennis. Tennis enthusiasts have for many years been without adequate facilities for play. The administration, however, has recently made a special effort to provide additional areas, and prominent in plans for WPA rehabilitation of city parks are many new tennis courts.

Other Facilities. During 1937 and the first part of 1938, comfort stations were built on six city-owned playgrounds and more are in process of construction. Plans have been prepared for the erection of stations on all city owned playgrounds. Recently ground was broken by the WPA for the construction of a warehouse for the Recreation Division. The Division of Landscape Architecture of the Park Department has prepared detailed plans for the complete rehabilitation and modernization of the seventeen city-owned playgrounds. These plans, to be carried out by WPA, call for the surfacing and landscaping of the playground areas, for the construction of game courts, and the



Courtesy Playground and Recreation Department, Los Angeles



Photo by Charles H. Cunningham, New York

development of other playground facilities. Projects are now in operation at seven playgrounds.

Equipment and Supplies. When the new administration took office the Division of Recreation was in possession of a scant amount of equipment, supplies and materials, and little money was available to replace worn out supplies. Slow progress has been made with the help of NYA and WPA in restoring playground equipment. NYA was persuaded to put in operation, late in 1936, a project for the manufacture of concrete benches and drinking fountains, paving blocks, wall blocks and curbing. Early in 1937 a recreation storeroom and warehouse was established in the basement of City Hall, and the storeroom clerk was put in charge of the making of recreational supplies. In the past year the clerk, with WPA assistance, has turned out much game equipment including checker and chess boards, ping-pong tables and paddles; much old and delapidated equipment, such as baseballs, horseshoes and bats, has been put in usable condition.

Increasing Responsibility

While the administration has consistently sought to improve existing recreation facilities and to extend the system, it has not lost sight of the fact that certain recreation facilities and activities should be placed within the Division of Recreation. Consequently, consideration has been given to relocating responsibility for the operation

In the revamping of Cleveland's recreation program, much attention has been devoted to the extension of handcraft activities

and maintenance of the city's recreational facilities. Previous to 1936 maintenance of all recreational areas was in the hands of the Commissioner of Parks. On January 1, 1937, responsibility for the maintenance of all playgrounds, whether in the parks or outside, and also for the upkeep of all municipal recreational facilities outside the parks, was placed in the Recreation Division.

Recently additional duties were transferred to the Division of Recreation when responsibility for the city's life guard personnel and for the operation of the 36-hole municipal golf course was handed over to the Commissioner of Recreation.

The shifting of responsibility for the operation and maintenance of municipal recreational facilities is in itself a large and complicated task made more difficult by limited financial resources.

A comparison of the condition of the Recreation Division's physical plant in 1935 with the present situation offers definite proof of progress. Improvements to facilities have been extensive. The physical plant has been enlarged by the addition of several playgrounds, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and other important improvements. Furthermore, distinct progress has been made in reallocating responsibility for the operation and maintenance of municipal recreation facilities to the Division of Recreation.

Revising the Program

One of the most important items of a recreation system—public or private—is unquestionably the program which it offers. It is the program which, more than any other factor, encourages the individual to participate in the various activities. It therefore follows logically that the more interesting and varied the program, the greater the popularity of the facility upon which the program is conducted.

For some time previous to 1935 the recreation program had been lopsided and haphazard. Approximately eighty per cent of the community center program was devoted to active sports such as basketball and volley ball, with baseball the

dominant activity in the summer playground program. Lack of capable personnel to supervise programs at the various recreation centers and playgrounds was, it is believed, the primary cause for this situation.

Considerable progress has been made during the last two years in the development of more adequate activity programs. Emphasis has been placed upon a well-balanced program suited to the needs and desires of a given neighborhood and prepared to accommodate young boys and girls as well as adult groups. Greater stress has been placed upon so-called low organized games and the crafts. This does not mean that high organized games have been entirely eliminated from the schedules. Recently additional active sports were added in the introduction of boxing, archery, paddle tennis, badminton, deck tennis, open-air basketball, shuffleboard, handball and ping-pong.

The significant change in the programs, however, has been the expansion of the art and craft activities and of low organized games both on the playgrounds and in the community centers. Sewing, weaving, knitting, crocheting and rug making have become immensely popular. Instruction is being given in poster making, painting, drawing, sketching and ceramics and participation in these activities is increasing daily. Emphasis has been placed upon musical activities with the creation of orchestras and bands in the centers and jug bands on the playgrounds. Groups in choral singing, spirituals and other glee club activities have made considerable headway. Dancing of many types is now very popular, including clog, soft shoe, American folk and modern. Considerable enthusiasm has been shown for the drama. Several plays are produced each year and inter-center contests are held. Marionettes have a wide appeal. Much improvement has been made in popularizing low-organized games. Checkers and chess are played

continuously, and many other progressive games are in constant demand.

But these activities are only a few of the large number being carried on in the centers and on playgrounds. Much attention is given on the playgrounds to the making of kites and model airplanes and "Soap-Box Derby" autos. Classes in model yacht building are conducted in the centers under the direction of skilled workmen who volunteer their time. Some of the centers have initiated news sheets containing monthly reports of activities and items of interest to center participants.

One of the most significant extensions of program in the past two years has been the recent organization of a nursery school at Central Bathhouse. The school has been in operation for several months and has at the present time an enrollment of thirty-five. The cooperation of the Child Health Association was obtained to establish an adequate program and secure a competent staff. Funds to furnish the school were provided jointly by private contribution and the Cleveland Foundation. A health and parent education class is held for mothers of children attending the nursery school. The leader for this activity has been furnished by the Health and Parent Education Association.

In addition to a more varied and interesting program of activities in the community centers and on playgrounds, another important improvement has taken place in the lengthening of the



Many additional games and varied activities are helping to make the present program more satisfying

Photo by William F. Newkirk, Cambridge, Mass.

program during the past two years. Heretofore the playground season was ten weeks long, there were five days to the week and approximately seven hours to the day. Now several after-school, spring and fall playgrounds are being operated. In addition, two city play spots carry on year-round programs. That city playgrounds are open but ten weeks in the year is due to lack of funds for employment of additional supervision. Every effort is made to keep some of the grounds open on Saturdays and all of them in operation more than seven hours a day. The two lighted playgrounds are supervised until 10:00 P. M. every night except Saturdays, and all of them are in operation more than seven hours a day.

The building up of more adequate activity programs for the playgrounds and community centers has not been a spontaneous development but a gradual one carried on under serious financial handicaps. It has entailed constant instruction of playground and recreation center personnel. Formerly little time was spent in instructing playground workers. Now considerable attention is given to coaching the leaders in making out activity schedules, to methods of instructing young people in low organized games and the arts and crafts, and to methods of organizing tournaments, parties and festivals. An institute for all playground workers, with attendance compulsory, is conducted the opening week of the regular season. Each week of the season one morning is spent by the staff in reviewing program forecasts, in discussing mistakes of the previous week, and in obtaining instruction in methods of teaching games and crafts to the children.

Similarly, much stress has been placed upon instructing community center personnel to develop more adequate activity programs. Weekly staff meetings are held at each of the centers and a general staff meeting is conducted once a month. At all of these meetings emphasis is placed upon the necessity for setting up interesting and varied programs of activity and upon discussion of program objectives for the next week and of the accomplishments of the past one.

Mention should be made of the increased cooperation with municipal sports associations. The city has come to realize that it owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to those civic-spirited individuals who work untiringly and without compensation for amateur sports in Cleveland. Accordingly serious effort has been made to cooperate in every way possible with organizations such as the Cleveland

Baseball Federation, the Municipal Basketball Association, and the Municipal Soft Ball Association. The Commissioner and his assistant act in an advisory capacity to the various groups and the facilities of the Division have been placed at the disposal of these associations. Two new groups—the Cleveland Tennis Federation and the Cuyahoga Amateur Boxing Commission—were recently organized. All other associations have expanded greatly and the increase of participation in high organized league activities has been truly amazing.

The Budget and Other Financial Considerations

In 1926 the appropriation for the Recreation Division amounted to \$87,870. When the present administration took office in 1935, the Division of Recreation was spending less than \$30,000 a year. Immediate steps were taken, with the help of the Mayor's Board, to increase the annual allotment. In 1936, the City Council appropriated \$44,000, an increase of approximately fifty per cent over the previous year. The major portion of the appropriation was spent for salaries and wages. In addition, larger appropriations were provided for supplies and miscellaneous equipment, and a truck was purchased.

The amount spent by the Division in 1937 was practically identical with the 1936 figure. The failure to increase the amount was due primarily to the emergency relief expenditures by the city of several million dollars. As of August 1st, small increases in pay were granted to the playground personnel. Although responsibility for maintaining all playgrounds within the municipal system and all other city play areas outside the park was transferred to the Recreation Division on January 1, 1937, it was not found possible to appropriate additional funds to carry out these new duties effectively.

The 1938 budget for the Division of Recreation when passed is expected to show a total appropriation of close to \$70,000. This amount, however, represents in reality only a small increase over the 1937 total. The lifeguard personnel budget has been transferred, in accordance with provisions of the administrative code, from the Bureau of Parks and Boulevards to the Division of Recreation. Therefore, \$15,156.00 of the increase represents salaries of the lifeguards. Another large slice of the \$70,000.00 allowance will

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Learning to Ride the Right Hobby Horse



By
J. E. WALTERS
Purdue University

the activities you most prefer or think you would like best to do in your leisure time." You may say that you haven't time to try out four, five, or eight or ten different activities,

but after all if you really think about it, isn't leisure time just what you do have?

All you have to do is to start! "How can that be done?" you may ask, when an individual does not know which of many leisure activities he prefers.

One of the best ways of becoming interested in something is to obtain information about it. Consequently the first approach would be to think over the various things you have done in your leisure time, those which you have enjoyed most and the things you would really like to do in your free hours. Then make a list, after much thought and rearrangement, of the ten leisure-time activities or hobbies which you most prefer in the order in which you prefer them.

Just to start your thinking you may wish to consider the following:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Art appreciation | Astronomy |
| Etching | Billiards |
| Painting | Bridge and other card games |
| Water colors | Camping |
| Art work | Collecting |
| Painting in oil | Stamps, antiques |
| Sketching | Cooking |
| Sculpture | |
| Water colors | |

- Crafts
 - Woodworking and book-binding
- Dancing
 - Ballroom
 - Fancy
 - Old dances
 - Tap
- Dramatics
 - Acting and producing
- Flying

"The best way to find the right hobby may be for you to choose several of those you like best, learn all you can about them in the order of your preference, read the best books on how to do them, take lessons from experts—if you can afford it—and practice sufficiently for you to be able to tell yourself whether or not you want to ride that particular hobby horse."

CARLYLE ONCE SAID, "Happy is the man who has found his work." True as that still is, we must remember that then man worked most of the day and had little time for play. When we realize that twelve hours was not an unusual day's work for six days a week in Carlyle's age, there was not much time or inclination for leisure activities. But now with an eight hour work day for five days per week, and an agitation for less, there is more time for recreation. So we must also add that "happy is the man who has found his right recreation."

Both the business executive and his unskilled laborer have the task of finding the most enjoyable thing to do after work is over. One hears the question so often, "What shall I do with my leisure time?" After counseling hundreds of young men on how to find their best use of leisure time, I have hit upon a plan by which almost any person can find the right hobby horse for him to ride.

One of the difficulties is that so many people do not know what leisure-time activities they want to carry on or what they can do well. By "well" I mean with sufficient skill so that they really enjoy doing them. Moreover, many of those who have selected some hobby do not know whether they really prefer that to some other activity. One reason for this is that most people have not really tried out a hobby to see if they really like it and can do it, or have not participated sufficiently in a number of their most preferred leisure-time activities to tell which they most enjoy.

My suggestion to these people is, "Try out a number of

Gardening	Politics
Flower and vegetable	Radio
Home games	Raising animals
Motorcycling	Reading
Music	Smoking
Playing musical instrument and singing	Sports
Music appreciation	Boating
Nature study	Fishing
Trees	Golf
Wild flowers	Handball
Wild life	Hiking
Birds and animals	Horseback riding
Pets	Hunting
Dogs	Shooting
Cats	Squash
Photography	Swimming
Picnics	Tennis
	Studying people
	Writing

Let's assume, for example, that after much thought and study your selection of the three most preferred activities included painting, golf and fishing, in the order named. Then how are you to learn to ride your first hobby horse, painting?

A general plan of approach is to learn everything you can about that hobby (or hobbies) by reading the best books on that subject, by talking to the people who know or are expert at it, by taking lessons (if your pocketbook will permit), and then by practicing until you are good enough to enjoy it.

You may say, "That sounds very well theoretically, but how does it work out practically?" Let me relate the actual case of Ed who selected landscape painting in oils as his hobby at the age when "life begins." He had never painted before and did not get a very good mark in drawing when he was a boy in school. He liked to go to art exhibits, and even helped to plan them and hang the pictures.

One day at one of the exhibits an artist told him that if he really wanted to learn to appreciate paintings, he ought to try to paint himself. So he decided to try out the plan recommended in this article.

He wrote to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Chicago Art Institute and his state art museum, from each of which he obtained a list of the best books on landscape painting in oils. When the three museums agreed upon the best books, he bought four of the most recommended ones. He studied them carefully, and

made notes on what he thought were important things for him to remember and do.

With this information in his head, he went to a lumber yard, made an easel, found a box which he could use as a paint box and beaver board on which to paint. Brushes were obtained from the five and ten cent store, and paints from the hardware shop. He then talked to several of the local artists about painting and a good amateur agreed to help him. He began to practice what the books told him to do and in a few weeks he was going sketching with the new art friend, enjoying learning how to paint. In two years he had painted pictures that had received favorable comment from the best artist in the town. As he improved he bought better art supplies to do better painting, which he enjoyed more and more. He tried similar plans of approach to golf and fishing but now finds the most enjoyment in painting which he has chosen as *the* hobby horse for him to ride.

I also remember Gordon who selected golf as his first preferred hobby. He read and studied everything in the local library on golf, talked to golfers about the essentials, rented a set of clubs and played on the municipal course until he learned sufficiently well to tell him that he would like golf as a leisure time activity. Some of the good amateur golfers helped him, too. Birds of a feather seem to flock together.

How will *you* ever know unless you actually try?

Here is a plan of avocational self-guidance or self-education. As all education is really self-education, so it is necessary for each person to find out his hobby by educating himself as to what leisure activity he will enjoy most by learning about and trying out several avocational pursuits. Informed, factual self-guidance usually results in greater happiness than the policy of following an avocation someone tells you you should pursue. Take the lead. It's yours for the asking. And you have the time to do it or you would not need to find a use for your leisure time!

"A hobby makes you interesting to other people. It is an old rule that to be interesting one must be interested. The special skill or knowledge that comes from pursuing a hobby makes you more entertaining to others, and vastly more interesting to yourself; gives you something to show, to talk about to your friends as well as something to do in your spare time."



Courtesy Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia

A Museum for Children

In the Children's Charter occur these words: "For every child a community which recognizes and plans for his needs . . . provides him with safe and wholesome places for play and recreation and makes provision for his social and cultural needs." This Palo Alto, California, is doing through its Children's Museum.

IN JANUARY, 1934, the Leisure Time Committee of the Palo Alto Community Center decided that a program which would allow for developments in the next ten years should be planned. At that time there was much enforced leisure, and it was easy to see that the future promised even shorter working hours for adults. With this long view in mind, it was felt that the adults of the future would be better prepared to employ this extra leisure if taught, as boys and girls, to fill their free time with worthwhile activities, many of which would carry over into adult life.

A committee of nine citizens was appointed by the Community Center Commission to develop a children's museum, and Mrs. Josephine O'Hara, a local woman of broad vision and understanding, was selected as the curator.

This was, for the West, a new venture, although a children's museum had been established some years earlier in Los Angeles, and Palo Alto's beginning in 1934 was in every sense a try-out. The museum board, of which the first chairman was Mrs. Frank B. Duvneck, Director of the Peninsula School of Creative Education, was enthusiastic, and the townspeople were most cooperative. A room in the Public Library was loaned for three months, and as the attendance and interest were both sustained at the end of that period, it was decided to find a location where the museum could develop.

The great lack then, as now, was money. The Board had set up a membership fund and this was the only source of income. However, the superintendent of schools and the Board of Education felt the aims of the museum should be encouraged, and granted the use of a basement in one of the grade schools, with janitor service and utilities free.

Between 1934 and 1937 the museum grew so fast that there were too many exhibits for one room, and too many cases, too! Cases were then placed in five of the city schools, exhibits were rotated and allied talks were given at these schools. In the fall of 1937 the museum board asked permission to use space in Palo Alto's beautiful Community Center. On December 10, 1937, the large basement in the children's theater wing of that building was opened as a children's museum. Now two units are maintained: the headquarters at the Center, and the small room in the grade school in a distant part of the city.

The membership dues and benefits given for the museum are not sufficient to cover salaries, and since January, 1936, funds for these have been provided by the WPA and the NYA. The museum also has volunteer leaders.

So much for historical background. Now, to give a picture of the organization and some of the activities.

Exhibits and Work Sections

First, there are exhibits in cases and on the walls, not too many things on view at a time, and all labeled in simple language. These exhibits touch several fields of interest: costumes and customs of people in other lands, model boats and planes, nature specimens of local interest and current event items.

Then there are the work sections: in the Center, museum space is made possible by means of movable screens donated by a local lumber firm to separate the group working on airplanes or ships from the group which is editing the museum newspaper, or the one making clay models, one of the most popular activities.

On Saturday morning one may stand at the entrance to the museum and see a group of boys sawing and whittling on boats; a group of boys and girls sketching in crayon or pencil; another making bows and arrows so that they can compete in archery contests; and looking into an exhibit case are a couple of youngsters trying to figure out the size of a mammoth's jaw if one tooth were really that big!

Clay modelling, wild flower collecting, stamp collecting! "What do you like to do? The museum will be glad to help all children." "You don't want to *collect* anything? You don't like to *make* anything?" "Oh, well! Don't you like to hear talks and see movies? We have these interests, or you may take some of the magazines or books and get off in a corner to read."

At the children's museum emphasis is laid on the individual. Here he is given every opportunity to develop and create. He is also given responsibility; the materials he uses must be replaced, and in his conduct he must consider others working with or near him.

A Junior Advisory Board

The Junior Advisory Board has recently been inaugurated, an idea borrowed from the Indianapolis Children's Museum, with nine members drawn from the junior and senior schools, to meet bi-monthly with the curator. They make suggestions regarding exhibits and lectures and act as publicity agents for the museum. This very live Junior Board promises to prove most valuable, obtaining at first hand, as it does, the reactions from boys and girls using the museum. At its last meeting this board proposed that posters be made and put in both the Boy and Girl Scout houses,

showing how the museum can help Scouts who are working for merit badges.

Projects of Various Kinds

The extensive nature collections—birds' skins, mounted birds and birds' eggs, marine specimens, geological specimens and pressed wild flowers, all carefully labeled—can be used by students interested in these subjects. Members of the Stanford University faculty have been most generous in contributing to these collections and in helping to classify gifts from other donors. The collections are not all on view, one reason being that there is not enough space to show them, and the other that there are seasonal interests to be followed and stimulated by exhibits.

The new Center unit was opened with "Indians of America" as the main feature exhibit. This was chosen because the junior grades had been studying Indians and enjoyed finding something familiar and yet new. When questions are asked about these exhibits the cases are unlocked and the articles may be handled and discussed. Children frequently bring their easels and draw at the cases. The Indian exhibits were largely loaned and have now gone back to their owners; the feature exhibit at the present is "Transportation," for which exhibit the museum is particularly indebted to the Union Pacific Railway for the electric working model of a railway. Pictures and maps, models of ships, airplanes and wagons are included in this exhibit. The Junior Board members were helpful in assembling these models.

In conclusion, it would be well to mention the helpful corps of able volunteers who conduct the stamp club, the newspaper staff, the painting group and the garden project. Without these many willing workers, the interest of the Palo Alto Community Center, and the cooperation of both the public schools and Stanford University, few of the worthwhile achievements of the children's museum could have been accomplished during the past four years of its existence.

"Children's museums solve important leisure time problems of children. They motivate activities which are carried on in the home, which protect a child from harmful influences and stir his ambition to engage in educational and cultural pursuits. They enable children to build up a rich mental background for their future reading, school work, and all other undertakings of their lives."

—Anna B. Gallup.

"More Games, Please!"

THE FOLLOWING games are suggested as particularly well suited for a family party and home recreation in general.

Games for a Family Party

Progressive Ping Pong. The equipment for this game consists of a table five feet by nine feet or one of smaller size;

two to four ping pong paddles, one ball and net. The game is played according to the rules for ping pong with one exception—it is played by partners who take turns in returning the ball across the net. For example, A and B are playing C and D. A serves, C returns, B serves, D returns, and so on until one person misses and a point is scored. Partners may use separate paddles or both may use the same one, thus making the game more difficult.

Blow Ball. For this game it is necessary to have a ping pong ball—a blown out egg may be used as a substitute—a regulation ping pong table or a dining room or kitchen table, or from two to four card tables placed together. A line should be drawn in the center of the table. The object is to blow the ball from one side of the table past the center line and off the opposite side before the opponent can return the ball to the starting point. The game may be played by two people or more.

Four in a Row. Each player is provided with a piece of paper on which are drawn sixteen squares. The first player calls out any letter he wishes. All the players write it down in any one of the sixteen squares. The second player calls out a letter, and so on until sixteen letters have been called. The object of the game is to place the letters in the squares in such a way that they form four letter words. The player with the largest number of words wins. Words may be read across, diagonally, or up and down, and may start with any letter in the line.

Jack's Going Strong. The players are seated around an open fireplace. One person places a long splinter in the coals until it is glowing but not burning. He then passes the splinter to his neighbor saying, "Jack's going strong." The object of the game is to pass "Jack" to the next person before it goes out. The person left with

"Please send us more games and suggestions for social recreation and parties." Possibly no request comes more frequently than this. And so, in the first fall issue of the magazine, at a time when many recreation workers are planning their indoor programs, we are presenting a few games. Many of them will be familiar to you. You may, however, find some you have never used.

the splinter when it is burned out must pay a forfeit. Great care must be taken to make sure no one is burned.

Call Another. Players are seated in a circle. Beginning with Number One all are numbered consecutively until each has a number. Number One calls a number. The person whose number is called must

immediately call another. This continues until a player misses or fails to answer. The player who misses goes to the foot of the line. All players beyond him move up one place, and each changes his number as he moves toward the head. The object of the game is to secure Number One seat and stay there.

How, When and Where. One player, the questioner leaves the room and the other players decide on a word, which should be a noun. The more different meanings it has the better. Good examples are cord, pane, and hand. Then the questioner comes back and begins by asking each of the others "How do you like it?" If "hand" has been chosen one might say "full of money" or "with lots of aces" or "strong and willing" (a hired hand). When he has all the "How" answers, he asks "When" he likes it. The answer might be "During harvest season," "When I have to reach," "When my head itches." Finally, the "Where" question is asked. Replies might include "In the cookie jar," "In my pocket." Usually the word is discovered before all questions are asked. The player whose answer gives away the word becomes the next questioner.

Old-Fashioned Spelling Bee. A variation of this old time favorite is to require the speller to raise his right hand to the height of his right ear and bring it back to his side again instead of repeating the letter "A," and the same for the left hand, for "T." Some words which will make a great deal of fun out of this are:

cat	artist	abstract	Antarctic
atlas	attest	attract	Atlantic
state	Alabama	toothache	tablet
altar	attain	transact	tantalize
battle	attach	maintain	anthracite
tatter	tartar	martial	automatic

If it is desired to make it still more difficult, have the speller nod his head for the letter "E" in addition to the above. The scoring may be done by sides or individually.

Robinson Crusoe. A card is given each player with the following question written upon it. "What ten essential things would you choose from a sinking ship if you were being wrecked upon a desert island?" Experts have answered the question with the following list:

1. Gun and ammunition
2. Fishing tackle
3. Axe
4. Magnifying glass (start fires)
5. Bucket
6. Tent
7. Cooking pan
8. Binoculars (to sight ships)
9. Volume of encyclopedia (for flora and fauna)
10. Knife

Party Games

Big Fat Hen. Here is a game to play at table or with a group seated in a circle. The first player says, "A big fat hen." The second player, repeats it, and so on around the circle. The first player then says "Two ducks and a big fat hen." This goes around. Then: "Four plump partridges, two ducks and a big fat hen," and so on, using the list given below. Each person must repeat the statement quickly and without error. If a mistake is made, or the player hesitates too long, he is out of the game. If any survive the "Ten thousand domesticated chimney swallows," make up more and longer sentences.

- A big fat hen
- Two ducks
- Three wild geese
- Four plump partridges
- Five pouting pigeons
- Six long-legged cranes
- Seven green parrots
- Eight screeching owls
- Nine ugly black turkey buzzards
- Ten thousand domesticated chimney swallows.

Pull Over. Draw a line across the floor or on the ground. One team stands on one side; the other, opposite the first. Members of one team try to pull the other players across into their own territories. Pulling must be "hand to hand" and not involve clothes or other parts of the body. Players struggle with single opponents—two against one isn't fair.

Tin Can Boxing Match. Two opponents are blindfolded and each is armed with a can containing pebbles in his right hand and a boxing glove on his left. They rattle the cans continually in an endeavor to locate each other by ear in order to land a blow with the gloved hand. Spectators should form a circle to serve as a ring.

Copenhagen. All the players but one stand in the circle with hands on a rope. The odd one, or "it," stands in the center. The center player tries to slap the hands of the other players as they rest on the rope, and the players in turn try to elude him by withdrawing their hands. It is a rule of the game, however, that only one hand may be withdrawn at a time. "It" may use only one hand in slapping.

Whistling Women. Type out the titles of popular songs. Line men up thirty feet from the girls. Give each girl a folded paper bearing the title of a song. On "go" she runs to her partner and whistles the tune called for. As soon as her partner recognizes the tune, he runs back to the judges, carrying the folded slip. He states the title, the judges check with the slip and, if this game is a relay, the second girl runs up to whistle if the title was correct, otherwise the first girl must whistle again.

The Riddle of the Cider Barrel—A Mathegram. When Bill Jones wanted to buy a barrel of cider from Farmer Brown, the farmer had left only about half a barrel. Bill looked into the barrel and thought it was less than half full, while the farmer thought it more than half full. How did they settle the matter without using any kind of measuring device?

They tipped the barrel until the cider was just about to overflow. If any of the bottom was visible, it meant that the barrel was *less* than half full. If none of the bottom was visible, the barrel was *more* than half full.

Missing Letters. This game may be played with any number of people. To begin the game a player makes up a sentence in which one letter occurs frequently. After that has been done, he takes that letter out of the sentence and joins all the rest of the letters together in proper sequence. A good sentence would be, "Sam Simpson saw some sissal grass." With the letter "s" taken out, the sentence would look like this:

Many other suggestions for games and social activities are to be found in "Games for Quiet Hours and Small Spaces," a booklet obtainable from the National Recreation Association for fifty cents.

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At the National Conference on State Parks

A report of the Eighteenth National Conference of State Parks held at Norris, Tennessee, May 11-14, 1938

The Banquet Program

High spot of the conference was the banquet which closed the formal program. Governor Browning informed the group that no greater material question confronts the American people than conservation. He declared that Tennessee aims to have a recreational area within an hour and one-half drive of all its citizens to provide leisure time occupation at modest cost. "We cannot afford as a State not to make an investment in our worn out lands," he said. "It will pay dividends if we wait long enough—and we can wait." He revealed a plan to convert into forest lands properties taken over by the State for non-payment of taxes, and pledged that Tennessee is prepared to cooperate fully with the National Park Service and other Federal agencies in conservation programs. "We shall live up to our heritage by re-building our resources," the Governor said.

Warning against competing forms of land use which threaten the park movement was issued by Director Arno B. Cammerer of the National Park Service, who urged that all true park conservationists unite to protect the interests of the people in this field. "In the development of local, State, and regional plans," said Mr. Cammerer, "each organized commercial interest has used every power at its command to be certain that every square foot of the territory should forever be open to that interest's particular type of exploitation. Not one organized commercial interest is will-



Courtesy American Forestry Association

RESULTS in terms of human values which are being revealed after five years of state, county and metropolitan park development with the assistance of Federal emergency funds were reported to the National Conference on State Parks at meetings in which approximately 140 persons were registered.

Reports by representatives of Southern States revealed that State park systems are just beginning to make their full value known in this region. Various technical phases of park acquisition, development and administration were discussed by State officials and representatives of the National Park Service and other Federal agencies. The newly organized Tennessee Department of Conservation was host for the conference, and Governor Gordon Browning spoke at the conference banquet. Colonel Richard Lieber of Indianapolis, president of the National Conference on State Parks since 1933, was re-elected.

The Conference decided to hold its 1939 annual meeting at Itasca State Park, Minnesota. The next regional meeting will be held in New Jersey in October. Definite dates will be decided later.

ing to keep its hands off of an area of park caliber until it has plowed, harrowed, winnowed and sifted every particle of the area for the last possible measure of value; then it is quite willing to turn the area over for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, to be restored and rehabilitated at public expense. The story and the play are old, but the cast is organized and modern."

The National Park Service director urged that the National Conference on State Parks, in conjunction with the American Planning and Civic Association, be "more than a clearing house of information," and constitute a "nation-wide organ for focusing park opinion and leading park support. Such an organization could implant parks so firmly into our national consciousness and into our national scheme that no selfish drives, no predatory raids, would be successful."

Pearl Chase, park and conservation leader of Santa Barbara, Calif., emphasized the need for conservation education in the schools and recommended that while those in the movement should supply the information, the method of teaching should be left to educators.

The First Day's Session

The first day's session of the conference was devoted to greetings, introductions, and reports from the Southern States. Governor Browning's initial message to the conference was conveyed by Mr. Brewster. In his annual address to the conference, Colonel Lieber touched on park selection, planning, development and administration. Emphasizing the importance of avoiding mistakes by placing parks in the hands of competent personnel, he urged that civil service be generally applied.

"It should be improved by putting the whole 'works' under competent civil service," he said, "and by the whole 'works' I mean not only the unprotected part in the National Park Service, but the entire CCC. The building, planning and maintenance of all parks is so completely bound up with public weal that we should eliminate from it all partisan politics. It has truly been said that Democracy is the luxury of a rich nation, but are we really so rich that in the wasteful turnover of politics we can afford to sacrifice knowledge and experience and bog down once more to hit or miss practices of the rule of the thumb?"

Anticipating a report submitted later in the conference on a plan for training park men, Colonel Lieber observed that the plan "means even more than the offering of opportunity to the individual; it means the serving of a national ideal that to each citizen however humble be guaranteed equal chances." Observing that "a park to live must earn its living," he declared that ways have to be found by the States to put their investments on an income basis and warned that if they are made dependent on appropriations, these appropriations will either be treated by the legislators as charity or as a political investment. It is better, he advised, to place parks on a business basis and operate them "in the interest of the people."

Colonel David C. Chapman of Knoxville, one of the early leaders in the movement for establishment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, described some of the efforts to create this park. Miss James gave her annual report as executive secretary of the Conference. The session was presided over by Charles G. Sauers, general superintendent, Cook County Forest Preserve, Illinois.

What the States Are Doing

The afternoon session was in the charge of Herbert Evison, associate regional director, Region I, National Park Service. Colonel Page S. Bunker, State forester and director of parks, reported for Alabama that the State now has fifteen State parks and two State monuments, all but one of which have some degree of development. They total 27,000 acres, including 3,000 acres acquired in the last year. Recent emphasis has been on more systematic administration and development, he said.

Speaking for Georgia, Charles N. Elliott, director of State parks, said that with the State's park organization little more than a year old, there were four State parks opened last year. The State advertised for patronage of the parks, he said, and more people responded than could be cared for. Fees and charges grossed \$10,000 for the parks, which made it possible to acquire more equipment.

S. G. Davies, director of State parks in Arkansas, said the State's ten State parks, five larger wilderness areas, one local recreational park and two historical parks total 15,835 acres. The State, he said, is proud of the work

done by the Civilian Conservation Corps under technical supervision of the National Park Service. A Negro park has been established in Arkansas.

In the last four years Mississippi has acquired ten State parks totaling 12,500 acres, it was reported by J. H. Fortenberry, director of State parks. The State is planning its first Negro park near Jackson. Mississippi is aiming to develop parks convenient to all the people and is basing its planning on the fact that Mississippi people are largely rural and enjoy getting away from the crowds.

R. A. Walker, assistant State forester, said for South Carolina that State park development there has been very rapid since the system was established in 1933. There are now fourteen parks totaling 21,000 acres, and the State also contains two Federal recreational demonstration areas, one of which adjoins an existing State park. All South Carolina parks are within sixty miles of the people. The State feels its park system is complete as to the number of areas, although some may be enlarged. State authorities are opposed to admission fees, believing they would exclude many persons most in need of the parks. There are, however, charges for special services. Visitors to the parks last year numbered 453,873.

R. E. Burson, director of State parks for Virginia, said the State's system was started in 1930 as the result of interest aroused over the movement to establish Shenandoah National Park. Policies governing the system were evolved from study of other States, he explained. The State charges admission fees, feeling it cannot afford to operate "free" parks. Thus, the parks are sixty-nine per cent self-supporting. The State has six State parks in addition to the national park and a national historical park.

The State park system in Kentucky began in 1936 with the gift of a park to the State, although the serious acquisition and development program started in 1933, according to Bailey P. Wootton, director of State parks. Of the nine State parks, only five or six are open for extensive use. Two or three more are expected to be opened next year. All the parks are "self-supporting," General Wootton said. An admission charge of ten cents for adults and five cents for children is made. The speaker warned against over-development of

parks, but observed that more publicity is needed to attract people to the areas.

Scenic, botanical, and historical values were the basis for selection of Florida's State parks, said H. J. Malsberger, director of State parks. He explained that although the system is three years old only one area is open to the public. The State has nine parks totaling upward of 16,000 acres. On the area in use—Highlands Hammock State Park—an admission charge of thirty-five cents is made for a car and driver, and fifteen cents for each additional passenger. This nets the State \$500 to \$600 a year exclusive of the collector's salary. Mr. Malsberger observed that six per cent of Florida drivers and nine per cent of drivers from other States turned away from the gates on learning the admission charge. He said Florida's State park needs call for parks along the State's 3,000 miles of seacoast and within a 50-mile radius of cities as well as for rural areas.

Opposing an admission charge to parks, Nicole Simoneaux, secretary of the Louisiana State Parks Commission, said he believed people would rather spend ten dollars in a park than ten cents to get in. A bill proposing a tax on gifts to finance State parks failed in the Legislature, he reported.

From R. A. Livingston, director of State Parks for Tennessee, the conference learned that the State's parks have been established and developed since 1933 with Federal aid received through the Civilian Conservation Corps, Tennessee Valley Authority, and other agencies. It is expected the system will ultimately total fifteen areas comprising 60,000 acres. Tennessee parks are now situated within two hours drive of practically all the people. Mr. Livingston stressed the fact that the State must maintain and protect the developments accomplished by Federal agencies.

The part which TVA has taken in recreational developments in Tennessee was described by C. A. Towne, engineer connected with the Authority. Citing an agreement on recreational developments reached in 1934 between the TVA and the National Park Service, Mr. Towne described the present as a "period of transition" during which TVA is "getting out of the park business" and cooperating more with State agencies as developments near completion.

The Second Day's Program

The second day of the conference included a trip by boat and automobile to Big Ridge Park where a program devoted to discussion of various technical phases of park acquisition, development, and administration was given in the park lodge. This session was presided over by Tom Wallace, editor of the Louisville (Ky.) Times. "Elements of a Good State Park Plan" was the subject of S. Herbert Hare, landscape architect, of Kansas City, who said a system of parks is recognized as an important element in any State plan. He urged that specific provision be made for park financing with a State park division under a Department of Conservation.

Albert H. Good, consulting architect of the National Park Service, spoke on "State Park Architecture." He advocated the building of necessary structures in less scenic parks near population centers, on the ground that "the justification for structures varies inversely as Nature's endowment of the park area." Deficiency of natural values in parks "can only be compensated for by introducing other values, recreational in character and very generally dependent on structures," he observed.

Speaking as a park administrator on "State Park Landscape Architecture," D. N. Graves, secretary of the State Game and Fish Commission, Arkansas, observed that State park landscape architecture is now superior to the standard formerly acceptable for national parks. He urged that park personnel be placed under civil service.

James F. Evans, director of State parks for New York, discussed financing of park systems and programs. He recommended the bond issue method as used in New York. He also advocated that parks be made to produce revenue. Mr. Evans urged that park personnel be placed under civil service.

"State Park Engineering" was the subject of Charles C. Estes, chief construction engineer of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Ill. Mr. Estes recommended that State park engineering be given a separate classification as "landscape engineering" because of the special field it embraces. The park engineer must have a feeling for landscape architecture as well as for his own work, and must subordinate his structural work to the landscape. The National Conference on State

Parks would do well to promote this idea with universities, Mr. Estes believes.

The duties and responsibilities of a State park superintendent were discussed by Harold W. Lathrop, director of State Parks for Minnesota. Involved in the superintendent's work, he explained, are such problems as land and water protection, wildlife conservation, maintenance and improvements, and fiscal procedure.

Paul V. Brown, associate regional director of the National Park Service for Region II, spoke on what the average man expects to find and do in a State park. He urged that park people avoid regarding their areas as sanctuaries and "resenting" public intrusion. Facilities which people can and will use should be provided.

In an evening session presided over by Frank A. Kittredge, regional director of Region IV, National Park Service, covering the western States, John C. Caldwell, educational director of the Tennessee Conservation Department, explained how the Department is conducting conservation education in the schools by assisting in setting up courses and providing information.

A comprehensive report on the program of the Park, Parkway and Recreational-Area Study which is being conducted throughout the country jointly by the National Park Service and the States, was given for Conrad L. Wirth, assistant director of the National Park Service, by Robert C. Robinson, recreational planner of Region I.

Mr. Robinson explained that preliminary reports on the Study have been completed by Illinois, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Virginia. He gave a digest of each of these reports and observed that it is expected preliminary reports will be completed before the end of the year by Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. As soon as preliminary reports have been received from a group of States forming a recreational region, the Study will be advanced to the regional stage. The object of the study is to produce

State plans for park and recreational areas and programs for each State.

The Park, Parkway and Recreational-Area Study in Indiana was discussed by C. A. de Turk, State park engineer of the Department of Conservation, who said the absolute necessity of the study became apparent in the first six weeks after it was started. It was found that many facilities emphasized by the park authorities in the State were not the type most used by park visitors.

Policies and Developments

At the morning session on Friday, at which Earle S. Draper, director of the TVA Department of Regional Planning Studies, presided, Roberts Mann, superintendent of maintenance of the Cook County Forest Preserve District, Illinois, presented his report on "A Program of Education in Landscape Management." He declared that the development of native landscape areas for recreational use has proceeded faster than the development of men trained in their design, operation and maintenance. He presented a comprehensive plan providing for short courses of instruction for groups of partially trained men in the lower income brackets, at universities or regional centers, and for undergraduate instruction in the universities. Also considered in the report were "return courses" for men in the higher income brackets actively engaged in landscape management, and "institutes" or "congresses" to keep such men abreast of the latest developments in their profession, as well as summer employment of undergraduates specializing in landscape management and the selection of a short but inclusive title for "this hybrid profession." He suggested the title "Landscape Management."

In discussing "Interstate Agreements and Compacts," George W. Olcott, park planner, of the National Park Service, explained that such agreements are effected for the purpose of providing for proper management of park areas which "straddle" State boundaries, and explained the provisions of the compact through which the Palisades Interstate Park Commission of New York and New Jersey was established.

Dr. Carl P. Russell, regional director of Region I, National Park Service, spoke on "Recreational Development in the National Parks." He observed that park authorities

must be prepared to give the people what they want within the limits of the park facilities which can be provided. Facilities for active recreation will not injure the inspirational values of State parks. Observing that national parks can handle only a certain maximum of visitors, Dr. Russell pointed out that people must turn to State and local parks for more frequent and more intensive use.

Trends in organized camping on public areas were discussed by Julian H. Salomon, field coordinator of the National Park Service, who emphasized the value of camping in the education and character development of the child. Children learn things through camping that they could never learn in the class room. The organized camping program of the National Park Service through the recreational demonstration areas it is developing was explained.

A year's review of State park legislation was presented by R. A. Vetter, assistant attorney of the National Park Service. The tendency in establishing park organizations favors three forms—the departmental form, such as a conservation department; the board of commission form, in which are centered two or more conservation activities; and the board or commission concerned with parks only.

In the field of administration, Mr. Vetter said, there is a tendency to favor the appointment of administrative bodies of persons familiar with and actually interested in the work. There is also a tendency toward elevation of park standards. Unification of control and administration is making progress, and better coordination is thus being effected. "State park legislation of varying character, but representing in the aggregate a considerable mass of laws, has been enacted during the past few years. Underlying much of this legislation has been a search for the best form of park organization. Other measures have been designed to strengthen and extend existing agencies."

The story of the Appalachian Trail now covering 2,050 miles from Maine to Georgia, by Paul M. Fink, member of the Board of Managers of the Appalachian Trail Conference.

Mr. Draper discussed the subject of "Parkways and Freeways," explaining the freeway, while not primarily a recreational drive, fea-

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A Wisconsin city discovers a successful method for developing leaders among school boys

By ARTHUR ECKLEY
Director of Recreation
Two Rivers, Wisconsin

A Recreation Council of Boys

THE BOYS' RECREATION COUNCIL of Two Rivers was created in an effort to evolve a more effective method of publicizing our activities in public and parochial schools. For many years we had been announcing our activities for grade school children in the newspapers and through bulletins furnished the teachers, but we discovered that many children were not participating and that schools would sometimes drop out of an activity with no apparent reason for such action.

Responsibilities Are Delegated

We asked each teacher of a grade served by our program to appoint an outstanding boy in her class to become a member of our newly-created Boys' Recreation Council. These boys were designated as counselors, and at the first meeting we explained the purpose of the organization and the functions we hoped they would perform. All publicity on recreation activities was to be sent to them, and they were to be responsible for presenting it to their grades either through word of mouth announcements or on the bulletin board, or both. They were also to be responsible for the organizing and reporting of all competing groups and for serving as "trouble shooters" when some group failed to appear according to schedule. Each counselor was expected to report the percentage of participa-

tion of his grade and to explain why it may have had a low percentage. The counselors were to sound out the students in their grades regarding new activities they might be interested in taking up.

We feel that the project has developed into a very effective course in leadership for boys in grades five to eight inclusive. The boys enjoy the responsibility given them and regard it seriously, and through the plan they are developing into good leaders. Our program has been greatly enriched through suggestions from the boys, and we know we are getting greater participation. The teacher appreciates being relieved of this responsibility, and we are satisfied that every child is informed of the recreational opportunities open to him. We can reach several hundred boys and girls through our twenty-eight counselors with a minimum of time and expense. We do not have a girls' council, but as far as I can see, there is no reason why such a council should not be equally effective.

Outstanding citizens, such as the Chief of Police, Fire Chief, and presidents of the various civic clubs give ten-minute talks at the semi-monthly Council meetings. Once a month we hold a jamboree to which the counselors may invite their grades. The program at the jamboree consists of games, a movie, and a short question and answer period on the recreation program.

Many of the recreation activities in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, center in the beautiful community building presented to the city by J. E. Hamilton and intensively used by boys, girls and adults. In addition, school gymnasias and a variety of outdoor facilities are used in the well-rounded program operated by the Recreation Commission.

A Rural Community Takes to Singing

WHEN THE LEADER arrived for the first meeting, an assemblage of vehicles — old cars, new Fords, horses and buggies and decrepit wagons — was grouped about the little schoolhouse. From the darkness came a voice: "The singin' teacher is here!" Dark forms darted quickly through the door.

Inside, hovering over the one large coal stove in the dark corner, were the farmers, their wives and children, eighteen or twenty in all, each one trying to get a little closer to the heat. A man in great hip-boots came forward in friendly fashion. "How do, Miss! Here we are, awaitin' for the singin' school. Ain't sayin' just how good we'll be, but you'll soon be findin' that out." Turning toward the stolid group around the stove, he announced, "Better be taking seats now. The singin' teacher is ready." It was no use, they wouldn't be pried loose from the stove. One man protested, "Reckon we can sing right here good as any place." Perhaps it would have been better to let them stay there to begin. But after much coaxing and more or less pushing of each other about, they sat at the double desks.

The oil lamps were the next problem. They were hung in brackets and nailed high up on the walls. No one would be able to read the words of the songs! After some manipulating they were got down and put on the desks. One man held a lamp over the leader so she could see the music.

There was no musical instrument of any sort, so all sounds must originate with the leader. She talked with them first, drawing them out as she could. Did they like music? Which kind best? Did they listen to music on the radio? What interested them most? Did they sing at home? Did their children like to sing? What songs were their favorites? One man answered for them all. There wasn't time for singing around the house — too much work to be done. In the evening, when there was a breathing spell, they turned on the radio. There was a "right good blues singer" — that was about the only good music there was to listen to.

The song material brought by the leader scarcely fitted into this interest. In fact she now saw that most of what she had brought, though it was simple, was still too advanced for them. However, she handed around a collection of folk-songs

This account of the first meeting of a community singing class in a tiny, isolated village, is taken from "Enriched Community Living," a publication which records the findings of a number of interesting studies made under the leadership of the Division of Adult Education, Delaware State Department of Education, Wilmington. The group described was composed of farmer folk who had to struggle hard to eke out a living from the soil. The meeting came at the end of a day of hard work for these people, and for the leader as well. "But the experience of the evening amply compensated for the effort involved."

and rounds and suggested trying one they all knew. Would someone choose a song? Silence. "Suppose we try 'Old Folks at Home'," she proposed, and started in herself, not too sure what would happen. After some minutes she was joined by the man who had acted as leader in all the crises so far. His great voice was far from harmonious but still exceedingly welcome. Almost any sort of noise would help — if there were enough of it so they couldn't hear themselves perhaps others might venture. Presently a timid voice back of the stove came in too, then a child, and then all the children; the noise was growing, the leader was delighted!

The second verse was still noisier. The children in front had lost their reserve and produced amazing volume. Surely they couldn't last long under these circumstances, their throats would never stand the shrill rasping tone. But, as long as they sang, no matter what the quality — that could be improved later. About a third of the group was singing now. The others sat, faces placid, eyes watching the leader intently.

Encouragement and praise after each verse wrought wonders. They thrive on being told they could really sing and began to urge those not singing to "come on and help." Now for something funny — if they could laugh surely that would help. The leader asked them to listen while she sang "Mistress Shady." Soon they were singing it also, and after each time they had a good laugh. They enjoyed that song tremendously and wanted to sing it over and over again.

Were they ready to undertake a round next? The leader decided to try. "Are You Sleeping" was proposed as the simplest to begin with. The leader sang it slowly and asked them to try it with her. After several trials this way, she asked if they could do it alone. They made a brave start, but broke down and had to go back to practice again. But how delighted they were when they could sing each part without help! The next step, singing it in groups as a round, was left until another time.

"Do you suppose we could try 'Swanee'?" asked a boy from the back seat who had not made a sound before. The boys near him laughed boisterously. So the group sang "Swanee," and the boy sang every verse with them. More Stephen Foster songs followed, the men and boys singing a verse alone, with everyone joining in the chorus, then the women alone having their turn at a verse. Competition set them all singing as nothing else had done. The children fairly panted with exertion.

By the next week the leader had assembled material of a different type. Folk-songs, humorous songs, religious songs, patriotic songs, state songs—all had been collected and if necessary mimeographed. Nothing was scorned which might appeal to their interests.

Twenty-five persons were waiting around the coal stove for the second meeting. There was no trouble this time to get them from the fire. They took their seats and eagerly pointed out new members. Two seemed to be very special, one man a choir singer in a country church in his day, and the other a younger man who commanded tremendous admiration for what he knew about music. He could even read it, "and that's more'n any of us can do."

The men and boys chose seats far away from the women, but after much coaxing some of them moved a few seats nearer. Lamps were placed on desks, music given out, and all was ready. First they were determined to sing the old songs, the ones sung the last time. So they went through them all, varying by competition between men and boys, women and girls.

"Let Dan do a piece alone," someone suggested, "and we'll all help out near the end." The old choir singer was flattered and said he'd "do what he could on it."

When he finished his part and it was time for the chorus to come in, there was a long pause and a scramble to find the line—the group had been too busy watching the soloist to keep the place. Eventually everyone began, but each at a different time. The second attempt was much better. They learned to start at the same time and with no pause after the verse had been sung.

With the help of the two "real" singers, "Are You Sleeping" was sung as a round. They divided into three groups, the two men and the leader each taking charge of several persons. Soon each group was singing as loudly as possible. No one listened to find whether they were all together—that meant nothing to them. Harmony—what was that? To get through without "breakin' under" was the main thing, and to their great pleasure they did it!

"Would you like to listen to three of us sing the round?" asked the leader. "Hear how it sounds when the three different parts are sung together. We call that harmony." So the two "singers" and the leader went through the round and finished amid a burst of applause and cries of "Go at it again." The three repeated it, and then the group wanted to try it, "to see if they could come out right." Great was their pride as they finished, having learned that when they sang lightly they could both hear the other parts and also keep together. From then on rounds were the favorite. This led to the two "specials" singing bass, while the others "kept the tune goin'." When they were sure of the melody, the leader added the alto. The group was delighted. "We'll have this place clean full the next time, teacher," they assured her.

True enough! The third week there were nearly forty. That night they worked on tone quality, so cautiously, however, that none of the enthusiasm was lost. One woman sang alto, her own special alto to be sure, one that seldom harmonized with the bass of the two "specials" or with the melody. The leader inveigled two other healthy voices to join forces with her, but after a few attempts they gave up, saying they didn't like it—it "didn't sound right," they wanted to go back to the "right part" (the tune).

A request for "Santa Lucia" was made by a new

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Recreation workers in urban as well as rural communities will be interested in the report of the cooperative efforts of leaders of adult groups in the State of Delaware, which was published under the title "Enriched Community Living—An Approach Through Art and Music in Adult Education." Copies may be secured from the Division of Adult Education, Delaware State Department of Public Instruction, Wilmington, Delaware, at \$1.00 per copy, paper bound; \$1.50, cloth bound.

A Basketball Sports Council

One community has found the solution of a number of its athletic problems in the organization of a Basketball Sports Council

By **FRED C. COOMBS**
Recreation Board
Greenwich, Connecticut

From the information on the individual application blank the Eligibility Committee may either accept or reject the player for membership with the Council.

To be eligible a player must be a resident of the Town of Greenwich, except in the case of students attending Greenwich schools or those regularly em-

ployed by a Greenwich concern and participating with a team representing that concern. Individual and team applications are considered by the committee only once each week, such a regulation preventing last minute additions to team rosters on the night of a game.

The application blank reads as follows:

Individual Application Blank
GREENWICH SPORTS COUNCIL

Date.....

I,, hereby make application for individual membership in the Greenwich Sports Council and agree, if accepted, to fully comply with all provisions as set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Sports Council. I further agree to abide by all decisions made by the Executive Committee or Board of Governors of the Sports Council.

I desire, if accepted, to represent the..... (Name of Team or Club) during the season of 1938 and further agree that during this season I will represent no other team within the Town of Greenwich without the full consent of the Executive Committee or Board of Governors of the Sports Council.

I hereby certify that I am a resident of the Town of Greenwich.

Name

Address

Tel. No.

Approved....., 19...

Chairman, Sports Council

Signature of Manager.....

As teams are accepted by the Council the Recreation Board provides an opportunity for practice periods during November and December previous to any league openings.

On November 16th the Council sponsored a stimulating and instructive program to which local basketball fans were invited. A college coach

IN NEARLY all towns sport fields are monopolized by the more skillful players of the community. Unless precautions are taken, these players are likely to use the sports areas to the exclusion of the players of average ability.

This was the situation in Greenwich before the organization of the Basketball Sports Council, the purpose of which is to promote the game of basketball in a manner which will tend to encourage mass participation of those with athletic interests and to foster a desire for higher standards of sportsmanship.

The Council is composed of men who, as representatives of agencies in the town, have control of a basketball floor or playing surface, and three additional members elected at large at the annual meeting for a period of one year. This group, known as the Board of Governors, at the present time consists of the following: a sports editor, a minister, the superintendent of recreation, director of the Boys' Club, a high school teacher, the Y.M.C.A. director of physical education, the high school director of physical education and the assistant superintendent of recreation.

The functioning of the Board of Governors is delegated to an Executive Committee composed of three members of the Board of Governors, one of whom is Chairman of the Council. Sub-committees are appointed by the Executive Committee. Each sub-committee consists of three members, two selected from the Board of Governors and one from the members of the Executive Committee. Sub-committees include: (a) Education and Publicity, (b) Rules and Regulations, (c) Membership and Eligibility.

The Sports Council, working in cooperation with the Recreation Board, organizes well defined basketball regulations, such as the following:

The Regulations

On or about October 15th required Council membership blanks are distributed to all sections of the town.

was the speaker of the evening, and, in addition, the sound-on-film entitled "Basketball" was presented. This film, recently released, illustrates the coaching techniques of six nationally prominent basketball coaches.

During the month of December the Recreation Board conducts an examination for officials, selection of which is not based entirely on the written tests. Two officials are used in the "A" league. In the others only one official is employed. Scorers are provided for all leagues.

How are the teams for the various leagues selected? This is the responsibility of each individual team, and has proven most satisfactory. League organization meetings are held the first of December.

Benefits Derived

The number of players participating has increased over thirty per cent since the organization of the Sports Council. At the present time fifty-three teams representing 550 different individual players are members of the Greenwich Sports Council. These teams are playing in four leagues conducted by the Recreation Board.

As the central body the Council coordinates all agencies associated with basketball. It has proven of great value in the program of the Recreation Board for the following reasons: It has made possible a reasonable control over players, playing areas and managers; it has increased participation in the sport, promoted programs for the improvement of coaching and playing techniques and emphasized the importance of fair play.

Constitution of the Greenwich Sports Council

Article I

The name of this organization shall be the Greenwich Sports Council.

Article II—Purpose

The purpose of the Greenwich Sports Council shall be to promote sports in a manner which shall tend to encourage mass participation of athletes and to foster a desire for higher stands of sportsmanship in Greenwich.

Our ideal shall be to educate players, teams, spectators and all others directly concerned, to appreciate fair play and clean sport.

Article III—Membership

Any organization which applies and signifies its intention to abide by the purpose of this organization as stated in Article II of this Consti-

tution and who agrees to observe the by-laws of the Council shall be eligible for membership in the Council, on approval of its application to the Greenwich Sports Council. This application shall be made out upon a regular form to be supplied by the organization.

Members to be eligible for the Board of Governors shall have control of a floor, or playing surface, in the Town of Greenwich, or they shall be elected by the Board of Governors at the regular annual meeting. To remain eligible for the Board of Governors any and all members shall be required to attend fifty per cent of the regular meetings occurring in any given year.

Article IV—Function

This organization shall function through a Board of Governors composed of Council members in good standing having control of a floor or playing surface in the Town of Greenwich, and three additional members of the Council elected at the annual meeting by the Board of Governors for a period of one year.

The function of the Board of Governors shall be designated to an Executive Committee composed of three members of the Board of Governors, one to be Chairman of the Council.

The Executive Committee may act with full power at all times except while the Board of Governors are in meeting.

Article V—Sub-Committees

Sub-Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and each committee shall consist of three members, two to be selected from the Board of Governors and one who shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

1. Education and Publicity
2. Rules and Regulations
3. Memberships and Eligibility

Article VI—Eligibility

(Section 1) Participation shall be limited to teams or organizations of Greenwich that have made application and have been duly accepted by the signatory members of this organization.

(Section 2) Individual participants to be eligible must be residents of the Town of Greenwich except in the case of students attending Greenwich Schools or those regularly employed by a Greenwich concern and participating with a team representing that concern.

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Recreational Training at a College

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY at Antioch College means more than taking part in a wide-spread intra-mural sport program, acting in plays, singing in Glee Clubs, and the usual gamut of undergraduate activities. The Antioch program is very conscientiously developed with the aim of producing a symmetrical individual, and each student is specifically guided into effective use of his leisure time. In addition there is the unique fact that Antioch students—regular liberal arts students—work under the cooperative system which enables them to alternate periods of regular academic study with equal-length periods of holding down regular jobs under regular circumstances. The habits, skills, and ambitions developed on jobs provide intellectual stimulus, vocational exploration, and avocational interests.

This year the college placed twenty-three undergraduates (eight men and fifteen women) on jobs involving recreational planning and leadership. These positions are scattered from Provi-

dence, Rhode Island, to Mooseheart, Illinois; the employers include schools, clubs, hospitals, and social settlement houses.

One of the opportunities was in a large psychiatric hospital. There, in addition to working with patients individually, Antioch students organized literary clubs and classes in modeling and nature study, and taught music.

In settlement houses in three cities Antioch girls worked with foreign-speaking mothers' clubs, taught tap dancing, crafts and swimming, and coached dramatics. Recreational work in hospitals involved, on one job, student nurses; on another, convalescent children.

Other jobs held by Antioch students in the field of recreation included working with underprivileged children and with East Side boys, coaching high school athletics, and assisting in the intra-mural athletics program of Antioch College.



While still studying at Antioch College, this girl is having the opportunity of learning through actual experience with such organizations as day nurseries, how to play with young children, and is acquiring skill as a play leader

Painless Adult Education

By CHARLES J. STOREY
Stanton, New Jersey

NOT SIX MILES from the New Jersey town of Flemington which sprung into so-called fame a few years ago, lies the little village of Stanton. It consists of about a dozen houses on a main road that meanders over a saddle of the mountain, with Pickle Mountain on one side and Round Mountain on the other. But out of this small and old-fashioned group of Revolutionary houses have come some very new and modern things.

Stanton was the first place in the county and, in fact, in all rural New Jersey, where a school playground was equipped, through the self-inspired efforts of the community, with play apparatus, homemade swings, seesaws and equipment. This happened over fourteen years ago. Red Cross headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland, asked permission to publish the plans and description of this rural playground in a bulletin circulated in a dozen languages all over the world.

And the same one-room schoolhouse has been the gathering place, last winter, for Stanton's adult education school—a rather imposing title for such a simple enterprise. An active-minded young farmer's wife, a member of the local book review club, read of schoolhouses in large communities being utilized for this purpose and proposed that we should branch out from literature to the arts and sciences and reach a larger audience. From this idea grew the school which has been held all winter with increasing interest and attendance.

Of course it is a leisure-time activity, if leisure can be obtained in the country, and no serious children's school would allow the hilarity and interruptions which occasionally burst forth. When the very young French teacher asks a mature-minded scholar to stand up in class and describe in French what he is wearing from *chapeau* to *soulier*, his classmates can hardly be blamed from getting some fun out of his mistakes! Or when the astronomy lecturer is seriously telling how a man who was making his own telescope accidentally dropped and broke the lens and some one asks, "What did he say then?"—you can see that there are mature minds at work!

The program of lectures was decided on by asking people what they would like to study. Then

the availability of teachers for these subjects was discussed. Volunteers had to be pressed into

service as funds for lecture fees were scarce. Yet the financial part of the enterprise so far has been easily cared for.

The program finally decided on—and most of it was, after the first lecture, for we were impatient to start—was a lecture or class every Wednesday evening. So, on the first Wednesday of the month there is astronomy; and on the second and third, French and geology. On the fourth Wednesday a different subject each month is given and we have had talks on travel, local history and weather forecasting.

All of the faculty with but one exception come from the immediate vicinity. The geology professor is from Rutgers University, some thirty miles away. His profession is forestry but his hobby is geology. His course is very popular because he relates geology to everyday country living. And that is not easy. We are learning about the geological ups and downs of Jersey, what makes soil and all sorts of entertaining and interesting things about the hills and valleys and streams with which we are so familiar.

The teacher of French, an expert young woman from the high school at the county seat not many miles away, probably enjoys her fifteen earnest scholars who really want to learn more than some of her classes of young people that she teaches every day. And it is scarcely compulsory education with the older folk. And why do people in a farming district want to learn French anyhow? That has been asked and the only answer is that some of the people around here want to know another language. If we don't go traveling very far at least we shall be able to read it and know what a *filet mignon* is when we see one! It is a heartening sign when people want to learn about something that has nothing to do with earning bread and butter.

We are rather proud of the astronomy course. It draws the capacity attendance, between thirty and thirty-five persons. The amateur astronomer, who in private life is concerned with a garage, knows his stuff and has inborn teaching ability. On fair nights he brings along his homemade tele-

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Pittsburgh Awaits the Recreation Congress

By LOUIS C. SCHROEDER



Honorable Cornelius D. Scully, Mayor of Pittsburgh, host city to the Twenty-Third National Recreation Congress

PITTSBURGH AWAITS with real pleasure the arrival of its hundreds of welcome guests for the Twenty-Third National Recreation Congress which will be held during the week of October 3-7, 1938. The Local Arrangements Committee, basing the estimate of attendance on conferences to Pittsburgh, expects a gathering of visitors which will surpass in numbers the Congresses of past years. The city, because of its central location and accessibility, attracts large numbers of delegates.

The impression of the casual visitor who passes through the city by train or by automobile is not a favorable one. Pittsburgh does not put its best foot forward alongside the railroad tracks or its automobile highways. One must visit its residential sections, civic center, city and county parks, and the innumerable vantage points along the three rivers. The Local Arrangements Committee proposes that all visiting delegates be given the opportunity to see this better side of Pittsburgh. Many tours have been planned during the free afternoon sessions, the most important of which will be held on Wednesday afternoon when there will be a general tour of the city.

Leaving the William Penn Hotel in the early afternoon, the automobiles will proceed along the Boulevard of the Allies. This highway runs parallel to the Monongahela River and permits an excellent view of the steel mills which make Pittsburgh famous. River navigation can also be observed. A drive of three miles brings one to Schenley Park. Passing through the park, on the right one views the Carnegie Institute of Technology. To the left one locates the Forbes Field, home of the National League's

Mr. Schroeder, Superintendent of Recreation in Pittsburgh, who is serving as the chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 1938 National Recreation Congress, tells of the interesting trips and tours which are being planned.

"Pittsburgh Pirates." Leaving the park, the visitor finds himself in the heart of the civic center, the place of outstanding interest in the city. There are located the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, a forty-one story structure built to accommodate 12,000 students. The Heinz Memorial Chapel, Mellon's Institute of Industrial Research, the Board of Education, Syria Mosque, Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial, Stephen C. Foster Memorial, Pittsburgh Athletic Club, and other important institutions surround the Cathedral of Learning.

The tour will proceed along Bigelow Boulevard and out to Highland Park, returning along Butler Street, which parallels Allegheny River, passing many mills, factories, refineries and shipping wharves. At Fortieth Street a turn is made crossing the Washington Bridge, and the tour continues through the North Side to the famous H. J. Heinz food plant. Passing through the business section, the tour reaches the Point Bridge. Instead of entering the Golden Triangle, we continue over the Point Bridge. We are now at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers which form the Ohio. One square east is the old Block House formerly known as Fort



There will be distinguished speakers on the program of the Pittsburgh Congress. We present a few of the outstanding individuals who will take part in evening meetings and other general sessions about whom definite announcement can be made. Other speakers will be announced at a later date.



"What Youth Wants" is the topic to be discussed by Dr. George F. Zook, President, American Council on Education

Honorable Harold H. Burton, Mayor of Cleveland, will talk on "The Role of the Layman in the Recreation Movement"

Pitt and Duquesne. The original Fort Pitt was built in 1759.

The tour proceeds to Mt. Washington, and an increasingly impressive view of the city is presented as we climb one of the innumerable hills of Pittsburgh. This first visit for many will lead to a second or even a third. The tour then returns to the starting point.

Special tours will be arranged for those who are interested in the free-time activities of the public school system. The Board of Education, during recent years, has extended the use of its gymnasias, swimming pools, class rooms and athletic fields to adults. It furnishes a corps of men and women, all trained in physical education and recreation, to direct the leisure time activities. Those interested in modern physical education

plants and recreation facilities, should profit by these trips. Descriptive pamphlets will be distributed by the Department of Hygiene and Physical Education.

Sanford Bates, Executive Director of the Boys Clubs of America, will speak on "Recreation and the American Family"



The University of Pittsburgh is arranging a special tour for those inclined to view the university aspects of city life. The personally conducted tour will begin at three o'clock in the Cathedral of Learning, then proceed to the Stephen C. Foster Memorial, next to the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, then to the Stadium, returning at 5:00 o'clock to the Commons Room in the Cathedral of Learning.

The Municipal Planning Association plans a trip to the North Side Commons, Grand View Hill, and Chatham Village. The latter is one of the best of modern housing developments in the country.

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Teachers and Recreation

By MARY W. ROACH, B.S.
Elizabeth, New Jersey

RECREATION is not an escape from the toil of education but a vitalizing element in the process of education itself. Labor and leisure are not to be treated as separate departments of life. They act and react on one another. The efficiency of the worker is obviously affected by the way he spends his leisure time.

Teaching, with its intimate contact with children and its opportunities for service, might well become the ideal life toward which the privileged classes would aspire. The teacher has ample time for recreation. But leisure, the great advantage of the teaching profession, is largely wasted because the teacher has no plan for it.

There are five rather obvious reasons for the recreation of teachers: (1) that she may maintain her health; (2) that she may be personally attractive; (3) that she may continue to grow mentally; (4) that she may be successful as a teacher; (5) that she may enjoy life.

Health. We have usually sought to guide into teaching those with the highest academic standing. In our training schools we have placed the emphasis upon methods and course in psychology, but the teacher's health and social qualities are always among the largest elements in her success.

The most characteristic ailment of teachers is "nerves." Teachers are also peculiarly subject to tuberculosis and the percentage afflicted is found to increase at a rapid rate with their years of service. Teachers are notorious for their negligence of the elemental laws of health, so much so that cartoonists long have pictured the pedagogue as an emaciated neurotic. Disregard for proper exercise contributes to the illness of teachers. A study of teacher illness—"The Cause of Absences Among Teachers"—which appeared in *Hygeia*, September 1931, revealed that sixty-three per cent of those affected took no daily exercise.

Personal Attractiveness. Apart from her clothes, if a teacher is to be as attractive as she may be, she must have perfect health. Exercise has always been regarded as the rational cure for

Miss Roach, who writes that she has been a reader of *Recreation* over a period of years, has pointed out to us the fact that she has failed to find any space devoted to the recreation of teachers. Miss Roach is undeniably right! This has been a neglected field. And so we are particularly glad to publish her opinions and suggestions on the subject.

over weight. Grace and beauty of movement are brought about by play and dancing, while drudgery and overwork produce awkwardness.

Growth. Teaching is a profession with a short working day and week, with many holidays and at least three vacations. Many business men long for such a life of leisure and freedom. The working life of the teacher is short, the age of retirement being quite

low. School boards in many cities refuse to employ any new teacher who is over forty-five years of age. A life that calls for the retirement of a teacher at fifty, has in some ways been unduly strenuous or injurious to her best growth and development. It has been estimated that the strain of one hour of teaching is equal to that of two hours of study. This means we have the equivalent of a ten-hour day, together with the correction of papers and the preparation of lessons.

The teacher, in order to grow, must continue to study. But perhaps her greatest difficulty is that her work tends to become routine and causes no mental reaction. To avoid this, she should lay it aside completely at frequent intervals through some absorbing recreation, that she may come back to it with a fresh point of view.

Success. It is necessary that the teacher be a wholesome physical type. If we can get a real love of the outdoors and its activities instilled into the teaching force, we shall largely solve the problem of organized recreation and of outdoor activities for both children and adults. A teacher with an enthusiasm for outdoor life will be a more wholesome example for children. She will be more popular. Her health and vitality will be a large element in her success in teaching.

Enjoyment of Life. In a large way we do not need any reasons for recreation. The teacher should do these things which she loves to do because it is in such experiences that life itself finds its fulfillment and satisfaction.

What Sort of Recreation Do Teachers Need?

On the physical side, the teacher needs relief from the bad air of the schoolroom; from standing still, and from nerve strain of teaching discipline. To overcome these effects, the teacher should get out of doors at the close of school and take some form of exercise in the open air. There are many forms of exercise that may be taken indoors, and these, unfortunately, are the forms which teachers select.

The teacher's problem is not entirely physical fatigue. Teacher weariness, in the main, is fatigue of the attention due to teaching and maintaining discipline at the same time. She seldom drops her school work when it is over. The first condition of any successful recreation for her is that it must be interesting enough to cause her to forget school. If we wish to forget it, we should get away from any place which has associations with it, and it may be best to avoid the company of other teachers. Recreation may not consist so much in what we do or where we go as in our frame of mind. Teachers are the most conservative of people. It is difficult for them to get new points of view. The person who never takes any recreation, who carries the thought of the day over to the next, who thinks of her business interests Sundays and holidays, seldom sees her work from a new angle on which her larger growth is so dependent.

College professors and high school teachers seldom remain after school for their school work in the same way that elementary teachers do. However, all work which the teacher does then could be done better and more quickly at some other time.

The Teacher's Evenings

There are five main activities which must find a place in any normal program for the teacher's evening. They are: work, study, reading, society and play. The teacher who finds her work hard and unpleasant during the day should devote more of her evenings to play.

"A master in the art of living draws no sharp distinction between his work and his play, his labor and his leisure, his mind and his body, his education and his recreation. Education which is not also recreation is incomplete. Man the worker and man the player are not two men, but one."

The teacher as a rule does not have enough social life. However, the form of recreation which seems best suited to the teacher is, perhaps, travel. This is the most desirable because of its educational and social value to herself. It gives a breadth of view and an intimate

touch with life which can scarcely be secured in any other way.

Neglected Opportunities

While teachers supposedly have more leisure than most other workers, this leisure is seldom utilized to advantage. The teacher has abundant time to keep herself in perfect physical condition, to grow strong and well, thereby becoming efficient. She has abundant time and opportunity to continue education. There is no other profession which offers possibilities so great for both service and development as teaching at its best.

In *Physical and Health Education* by Smith and Coops, the authors have the following to say concerning the health of the teacher. "Good mental and physical health leads to vitality, energy, joy and enthusiasm. Ill health leads to nervous disorders, irritability, gloom and lack of interest. These qualities, good and bad, are sensed by pupils, who react accordingly. The teaching profession is no sinecure in which actual working hours constitute the measuring stick of service. The teacher's point of view is reflected in pupil behavior constantly. This principle of pupil reaction to attitudes may be subtle in its application, but it is a vital part of the teaching process. Teaching cannot be impersonal, consisting merely of the treatment of subject matter. Any good teacher is aware of his direct and indirect influence upon the emotions and minds of his pupils. This inevitable reaction should serve as a

continual challenge to the teacher to keep his physical and mental health up to the highest possible level. Recreation according to individual taste is essential. Golf, riding, tennis, swimming, hiking, music, dramatics and collecting of various sorts provide fine personal hobbies."

A report which has been prepared by the Educational Publicity Committee of the Recreation Teachers' Association of Newark, New Jersey, stresses the importance of hobbies for teachers. Replies to a questionnaire showed the following recreational activities preferred by the teachers in order of their frequency: Reading, Tennis, Golf, Swimming, Fishing, Arts and Crafts, Music, Four-Wall Handball, Stamp Collecting and Social Dancing.

The Theater as a Community Center

A plea for less specialization in theater buildings and their increased use as centers of communities' cultural interests

By
LEE SIMONSON

AS THEATER consultant I have been particularly interested in the proposed Union addition because the problem it presented was *not* that of building an isolated and specialized theater. I have, for a number of years, maintained that the specialized theater building was an essentially wasteful and extravagant form of building. An auditorium and a technically well equipped stage always involve a comparatively large cubage and a high building cost per cubic foot. But a theater that is nothing more than a stage house and auditorium represents the maximum of expense and the minimum of use—often as little as thirty-two hours a week, even if used for a performance every night and for two matinees. Whereas in association with other units with relatively lower building cost per cubic foot, the maintenance overhead and running expense can be apportioned, and its use as well as its social usefulness greatly increased.

In an article on theater building originally published in the *Architectural Forum* in 1932, I said, in part:

"The demand for new theaters has not stopped; it comes from a new source: community centers, universities, colleges, schools and high schools. . . . Throughout the country a theater will presently be as necessary an adjunct to a completely equipped school or college as a science laboratory or a gymnasium is today.

"These theater buildings cannot be wholly specialized. They are the center of all a community's cultural interests and must be flexible enough to be easily converted for concerts, choruses, moving pictures, public lectures, regional

conventions, traveling or local art exhibitions. Attendance may fluctuate from a few hundred to a few thousand. . . . These theaters will be meeting places for an entire community, social centers where conversation between the acts with acquaintances, colleagues or neighbors will be part of the festiveness of an evening in the theater.

"Planning these new theaters is therefore an architectural problem of the first order. The standardized commercial theater plan, like the standardized city apartment plan, could be done from the top of an architect's mind. Non-commercial theaters, like the new housing developments, require maximum architectural imagination and resource."

The unique value of the theater activities as incorporated in the present plan is that they *are* part of such a social and cultural center, that they do not exist in specialized isolation, but are part of a building of which all the major portions are capable of constant and multiple use. And this is possible because of the plan for recreational activities submitted by the Planning Committee of the Union, and approved by the student body and the various faculty departments of dance, radio, music, drama and speech.

I therefore wish to call attention again to the fact that the main auditorium is not only a theater, but due to its elevator forestage can be easily and quickly converted into a concert stage for orchestra, choruses, soloists, dance recitals, or a lecture platform. The auditorium is easily reduced in size to two-thirds or to one-half of its total capacity to fit the audiences expected.

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The Memorial Union at the University of Wisconsin is a great house in which the extra-curricular life of the college community is centered. It has substantially changed, by its presence and program, the design of college living and has started new currents of social and cultural interests in the communities where students of the past ten years now live. The building is now to be enlarged, and one of the additions will be a theater and arts section. This is described in the January 1938 issue of the *Bulletin of the University* by Lee Simonson, who is serving as theater consultant. Through the courtesy of the *Bulletin* and of Mr. Simonson we are permitted to present Mr. Simonson's article.

You Asked for It!

Question: We have almost no money for game supplies and equipment. Won't you suggest some games for which equipment may be devised at little cost?

Answer: This problem was discussed by Harry D. Edgren in an article in *Camping Magazine* from which we quote.

Axle Quoits. Procure a pair of old axle housings, preferably from a Ford, and cut the tube off so that when sitting on their flat ends they are eighteen to twenty inches high. The grease and dirt can be easily cleaned from them by sticking a long poker through them and holding them in the furnace for a few minutes; the scale resulting may be easily removed by a few sharp taps of a hammer. Make four rubber quoits as follows: Take a thirty-inch length of old garden hose, whittle a small wooden plug that will fit snugly into one end, draw the other end around, and fasten by tacking through the rubber into the wood. Tape the joint and the ring is ready.

Set the housings some distance apart and attempt to toss the rings over them. Only ringers count and topping the opponent's ringer cancels both. Singles and doubles may be played as in horseshoe pitching. Five points make a good game. A distance of eighteen feet is suggested for adults which may be shortened to six or eight feet for small children. If the stakes are kept close enough together so that frequent ringers are made, this proves to be a very acceptable game.

Ring Tennis. Make a quoit or ring six or eight inches in diameter, using garden hose following the instructions given for axle quoits, or make it from heavy rope. Stretch a clothesline about five feet from the floor and if possible mark out on the floor a court on each side of the rope, according to what space is available. If this is deemed unwise, disregard boundaries and just play for errors.

The game is played by tossing the quoit back and forth across the rope. Each player must catch the quoit with one hand only without allowing it to touch either his body or the floor. He must return it immediately using a side-arm motion only. Score by errors committed.

Tether Ball. Many ways have been used to set up the pole for this game, but the following will be found both usable and convenient. Get a section of 1¼-inch pipe thirteen feet long. Get another section thirty-six inches long and just large enough to slip over the longer pipe. Drive the shorter piece into the ground so that it is flush with the surface and then insert the end of the longer pipe into it. The pole should extend up from the ground ten feet. If it is desirable to dismantle the game temporarily, the longer pipe may be simply lifted out. Using an old tennis ball, cut very small slits on opposite sides of it, then run the end of the rope leading from the top of the pole through these slits by means of a screw-driver and tie. A more effective way of attaching the ball is to use a leather thong run through the slits as described, long enough to lead away from the ball for about sixteen inches, the end of which is attached to the rope. The leather will not wear out as rapidly as the clothesline. This is a good use for old tennis balls. The cord from the ball to the top of the pole should be seven and a half feet long.

It is advisable to mark off the playing area into quadrants by means of two lines which intersect at the base of the pole and extend about eight feet in each direction. Players take their positions in opposite quadrants and may not step beyond their boundary lines. Play may thus be carried vigorously without danger to either player. Such lines are rather important for safety sake, particularly if wooden paddles or tennis rackets are used. Paint a line around the pole six feet from the ground, above which the rope must be wound to score. Further zest may be added by scoring one point for the opponent each time the ball hits a player on any part of his body except the forearm or hand holding the racket. Five points should then be allowed for winding the rope around the pole above the line. Should the rope become wound around the racket or arm of a player his opponent is allowed a free swing at the ball when tossed.

WORLD AT PLAY

A Sports Clinic

THE annual report of the Bureau of Recreation of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, tells of a number of sports clinics which have proved popular. One of these was a water polo clinic, the first hour of which was devoted to a theoretical discussion of the various phases of water polo. This was followed by a practical demonstration by the Duquesne Dolphin Team. At the basketball clinic held in December coaches and officials from schools and colleges gave talks on the following subjects: Interpretation of Rules, Conditioning of Players, Basketball (Past and Present), Hints to High School Players, Offensive Play and Defensive Play.

Three Hundred Years Later

Community, the Journal of Social Service, published in England, reports that community centers have been started in a variety of buildings from a £20,000 community hall on one end to a farmhouse, council house or cottage on the other. "The palm of novelty," states an article in the May-June, 1938 issue, "must go to Coventry where a community center has been started in the old barn in Farm Close, Keresley. The barn, so the local legend runs, was the headquarters of a band of brigands and sheep stealers. Under the center beam of its sloping roof Edward Broome was hanged, and his ghost continued to haunt the vicinity for many days." Today—three hundred years later—in this same barn another band was formed of voluntary enthusiasts pledged to collect by more peaceful methods the sum of £500 toward the cost of erecting a community center to meet the growing needs of the district.

Broadcasting in Waco

THE Recreation Department of Waco, Texas, is conducting a series of broadcasts, using talent from the playgrounds and from the city at large. In addition to vocal and instrumental selections, one-act plays and talks on recreation are given. There is no cost involved for the Recreation Department which is given fifteen minutes of time every Tuesday evening.

Arts and Crafts Exhibit

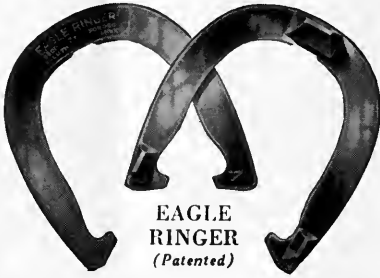
MORE than seventy arts and crafts classes representing sixty recreation centers contributed to the gigantic display of articles placed on exhibit at the main office of the Detroit, Michigan, Recreation Department in May. Demonstration classes were conducted with the exhibit to permit visitors to see the many forms of handcraft as they are taught in the recreation classes. Various women's organizations, such as the Federation of Women's Clubs and the Parent-Teacher Association, served as hostesses at the exhibit.

Modern Swimming Pool Opened

THE city fathers of Jefferson, Iowa, are justly proud of their new swimming pool opened last summer. To meet their share of the cost of \$30,000 the city officials floated a bond issue of approximately \$9,000. The WPA supplied the cost of labor and \$6,000 worth of materials. The dimensions of the pool are 75x120 feet, with a bath house of tile and brick construction 22x88 feet. One end of the bath house contains the purification and filtration plant. The shallow end of the pool has a depth of three feet with a slope to the deep end where the depth is eleven feet. The attractive bath house contains all modern fixtures and appliances. Instead of baskets the city has installed partitioned canvas bags for storing clothing. A six-foot wide concrete walk surrounds the pool. A part of the money raised was used for landscaping the area about the pool.

Community Centers in Cincinnati

THE community center boards of Cincinnati, Ohio, decided this year to change the method of choosing board members. In the past the board members have been elected by the community at large. This resulted in the election of the best known persons, who might or might not make the best workers. Often the elected members never attended the meetings or they were indifferent to the success of the center. This year the active board members requested this department to appoint a board of directors from among those members of the community who had



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shown their interest in the work of the centers and who would be sure to support the program.

Flint's Civic Orchestra—From February 28 to March 8, 1938, Flint, Michigan, enjoyed its seventh consecutive season of civic opera under the auspices of the Flint Community Music Association which has made possible a number of local music groups, including the two major music organizations, the Flint Symphony Orchestra and the Flint Choral Union. The season's repertoire of the civic opera included "Aida," Verdi; "Cavalleria Rusticana," Mascagni; "Pagliacci," Leoncavallo; "Il Trovatore," Verdi. All of the parts were sung in English.

A Play Writing Tournament—The Northern California Drama Association, sponsored by the San Francisco Recreation Commission, is conducting a play writing tournament which will close September 30, 1938. It is the hope of the association that it will be well represented by plays of merit at the Golden Gate Exposition to be held in 1939, and it therefore urges wide participation in the contest. All plays submitted must be

original, not adaptations, and not previously produced. Each contestant may submit as many as two full length plays or three one-act plays. The playing time of the one-act plays must be not shorter than fifteen minutes nor longer than forty. All manuscripts must be typed double spaced on one side of 8½x11 paper, with stage directions underlined or typed in red. All plays must be entered under a pen name, and each manuscript should be accompanied by a sealed envelope with the title of the play and the author's pen name written on the outside. The author's own name, complete address and the title of the play must be sealed in the envelope.

Further information may be secured from Hester Proctor, executive secretary, 2435 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California.

One Year Old—The Playground Recreation Board of Forest Park, Illinois, presents a very attractive 1937 Yearly Report. Its cover page is done in water colors. The purpose of the Department is clearly stated. A minimum report of improvements is given and a detailed outline of interesting and some unusual activities. Forest Park is to be congratulated on this excellent record of facts, figures, interest and achievements that have been accomplished in its Department of Recreation. The report is especially commendable because it is the statement of the first year's activities with a trained, year-round director and staff.

For Girls and Women—The Department of Recreation of Ann Arbor, Michigan, is sponsoring a program of activities for girls and young women this summer. Classes have been organized in tennis, horseback riding, golf, archery and hosteling. Group instruction in riding is being given for a fee of 50 cents a lesson. Instruction is being offered in swimming, golf and archery at a small fee.

Junior Fire Fighter Clubs—A few years ago a city fireman and a newspaper man, Park Roberts and Clyde Mason, organized the first club of the Junior Fire Fighter Clubs of America, Inc., a movement that has grown to such an extent that there are now clubs in five states, and international interest. Organized as an educational adventure for boys and girls to eventually reduce the tremendous loss each year through fire and false fire alarms, the program incorporates splendid opportunities for recreation. Organizing clubs in

elementary schools with the cooperation of firemen, the movement has become an institution in Akron, with two full time firemen-teachers teaching a regular curriculum to both boys and girls. The summer of 1937 saw such clubs being organized on typical playgrounds, so that this fine educational program might continue on a year-round basis. The outdoor club meetings offer opportunities for demonstrations that are not practical during the in-school classes.

Summer Reading — Summer book stations for the circulation of children's literature during the vacation period was organized by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation in the seven counties of its Michigan Community Health Project Area. Some 14,000 books were distributed among the forty-two stations established in homes, stores, filling stations and libraries in villages and rural centers. One station was located in an automobile trailer which became a library on wheels.

Marimba Band on Good Will Tour — The Marimba Band is a colorful organization composed of ten finished musicians from Guatemala on a good will tour of the United States. In El Paso, Texas, several thousand people enjoyed the two open-air concerts and applauded the band for many encores. The first concert was given during the noon hour in the San Jacinto Plaza and the evening performance was held in the beautiful Hill-top Gardens of Memorial Park.

Toledo Broadens Its Recreation Program — The 1937 report of the Division of Parks and Recreation of Toledo, Ohio, tells of an encouraging growth in the city's recreation program. More than fifty play areas were established in 1937, strategically located. One of the most important phases of the Division's program was administered through the Knot-Hole Gang, a baseball-minded group of boys numbering more than 40,000, the membership embracing schools, orphanages, hospitals, crippled and deaf and dumb schools in Toledo and its surrounding areas. Baseball schools and tournaments, movie parties, toy gift parties and other leisure-time activities were provided the gang. In addition, members were admitted free to all home baseball games of the Toledo Baseball Club three nights a week.

A Bond Issue in Wilkes-Barre — Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is using a \$400,000 bond is-

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sue passed by the city for the development of new projects and the completion and improvement of the existing play areas. The development will result in two large outdoor swimming pools, which will give the city a total of three, four wading pools, new tennis courts, and the beautification and grading of park recreation areas.

Dance Concerts — In Akron, Ohio, the Department of Recreation, in conjunction with the *Times-Press* and the Browne Dancing Studio, is presenting a series of dance concerts to the public in the outdoor theater at Waters Park each Sunday night for six weeks. Programs include ballet, tap and acrobatic dance groups and local native groups in costume.

From Stone Quarry to Tennis Courts — An interesting project in Oakland, California, has been the conversion of a rock quarry, the gift to the city of former Mayor John L. Davie, into a modern tennis playing area of five acres. In addition, a caretaker's house has been provided. Rubble rock retaining walls have been built, and

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trees, shrubs and flowers planted on the high banks. The courts have been planned by the Board of Playground Directors purely for individual use and are available on the registration system. See page 322 for illustration.

An All-City Club Rally—In May the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, held an all-city club rally at one of the social centers. Attendance was limited to club members whose groups have been in existence at least one and a half years. Sixty-four such clubs were given charters by Dorothy C. Enderis, director of the department. The granting of these charters is another step in advance in the development of club work in Milwaukee since the receipt of a charter signifies that the group has high standards in integrity and achievement.

Shuffleboard in Pomona—Shuffleboard was first introduced to Pomona, California, at the initiation of their Recreation Department in 1935. When the building was set up at Washington Park as a community center, two courts were included but nothing was done to popularize this particular game until December, 1937. A few people played the game but little interest was shown. Having so many people at the center with nothing to do, a league was made up consisting of six teams with eight persons to a team. This league ran for three weeks, and each individual player's score was figured, as in baseball. That is, each player received one point for winning a game or he lost one point for losing a game. At the end of the three weeks' period a new league was set up consisting of ten teams and covering a period of eight weeks. So

much interest has been created in this activity that a demand for two more courts has been made and these will be supplied at once. A trophy will be presented to the winning team who will be able to keep it only on the condition that it is the winner of three leagues in succession. The women are also becoming interested in this game, and a women's league is being organized.

The Pomona Recreation Department sponsors many major games, but none have created so much interest in so short a time as shuffleboard.

The Children's Garden in Fargo—Children in Fargo, North Dakota, will have a chance to be small-scale farmers this summer, for the Fargo Garden Society, aided by the Park Board, WPA Recreation Department and schools, is sponsoring a junior garden project. Children from the fourth grade up through high school may sign up through newspaper entry blanks and need only parental consent and fifteen cents for seeds. Youngsters having back yards will plant at home in eight by sixteen foot plots, while those from apartment houses or with no yards will be assigned plots 125 feet square in two large Park Board areas, one on the north side and one on the south side of the city. It is recommended that each child plant his garden in six rows sixteen inches apart and that a third of the space be devoted to flowers and the rest to vegetables. Suggested crops include radishes, carrots, lettuce, tomatoes, beans, beets, zinnias, marigold, larkspur and nasturtiums. Children lacking tools will be able to borrow them free of charge. At the end of the summer the gardeners will submit their best results for prizes in a Junior Section of the Garden Society's fall flower and vegetable show.

A College Hobby Show—Typical of the growing interest in hobbies in colleges and other educational institutions was the hobby show at Columbia University, New York City, on April 11th, 12th and 13th. Among the exhibits were papier-maché masks, photography and clay masks. Stage settings designed for the productions of the Columbia Theater Associates were also on exhibit.

Nebraska Youth Versus Nebraska Society—In connection with the annual meeting of the Nebraska Council of Churches and the Ministers' Convocation of the state, a trial of Youth versus Society was held on January 9th at Omaha. The purpose was to fix attention upon the responsi-

bility of society for the youth of today and the ways in which society is failing to serve the needs of youth. Three judges from the Supreme Court of the state presided, and the governor of the state was foreman of a special jury to decide the issue. Four prominent attorneys represented the prosecution and the defense.

American Education Week—The National Education Association, the United States Office of Education, and the American Legion, are again uniting to promote an American Education Week program in 1938. The general theme will be "Education for Tomorrow's America."

The following program is suggested: Sunday, November 6, Achieving the Golden Rule; Monday, November 7, Developing Strong Bodies and Able Minds; Tuesday, November 8, Mastering Skills and Knowledge; Wednesday, November 9, Attaining Values and Standards; Thursday, November 10, Accepting New Civic Responsibilities; Friday, November 11, Holding Fast to Our Ideals of Freedom; Saturday, November 12, Gaining Security for All.

Amateur Photographic Contests in Chicago—The Recreation Division of the Chicago Park District sponsors an annual photographic contest open to all amateurs. Entries in the competition are limited to pictures taken in parks, on boulevards or beaches under the jurisdiction of the Park District. The second annual photo contest exhibit, which was held at the Stevens Hotel, closed on November 1st. The Park District sponsors a number of camera clubs throughout the city which make it possible for photography enthusiasts to exchange ideas and discuss new methods. These clubs are furnished with the necessary equipment for developing, printing, enlarging and doing other technical photographic work.

Joint Planning Conference—The Joint Conference of Planning, sponsored by the American City Planning Institute, the American Planning and Civic Association and the American Society of Planning Officials, was held in Minneapolis on June 20-22. This year the plan was followed of having ten or twelve round tables on different subjects with a committee appointed to prepare a report for each of the subjects which will be the basis of discussion. On the final day of the conference a summary of the round tables was given at a final joint session. Among the

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We Apologize to Seattle!

On page 243 of the July issue of RECREATION there appears the photograph of a recreation building incorrectly credited to Memphis, Tennessee. The building shows the Green Lake Field House constructed and operated by the Seattle, Washington, Park Department.

subjects discussed were State Planning; County Planning, the Integration of State and National Planning, and Planning Education in the United States.

The Professional in Recreation and His Responsibility for Personality Development

(Continued from page 324)

ence and are unable to do those things which most children of their age have been doing for years, such as throwing a ball, running, jumping, batting, playing various games, wrestling. A child cannot be sent into a group to learn such fundamental skills; he will be called a "sissy" and

be scared out of further attempts. Such a child must be given the same sort of individual tutoring which might be given to a child who had missed certain of the fundamental processes in arithmetic.

The professional in recreation will know enough of problem children and of the treatment of problem children to be able to cooperate with child guidance clinics or with social workers who are also interested in the treatment of the individual child. The recreation worker will accept summaries of clinic studies and from those summaries work out the recreation program which is necessary for the particular child. Certainly every child guidance clinic should have available the services of a professional in recreation to take the responsibility of working out such recreation programs. Few problem children can be helped through the clinic without improvement in their recreation programs, and a great deal more needs to be done than is being done now.

Responsibility for Community Education

It would seem that the recreation worker has some responsibility for educating his community

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to an understanding of the importance of recreation in the personality development of the child and of the adult. Too few parents realize that a good recreation program is absolutely essential in child training and that such a program would help them with many of the difficulties which they are experiencing in child training.

The same thing is true of the public schools. Education has a primary interest in personality development, and school officials must realize more than they do now that adequate recreation is an utterly essential part of real education. Recreation workers must help teachers to understand this problem so that cooperation between the two professional groups will be markedly improved. A teacher is not doing a good job of educating along progressive lines unless he is regularly recognizing the personality needs of his pupils and confers with professionals in recreation, as well as with the parent, in the working out of a desirable participation in recreation.

Virginia's Better Mousetrap

(Continued from page 326)

The hearty response on the part of the populace has indicated several things. Twenty-six thousand people drove from twelve to sixteen miles to a new recreational area — when public bathing ponds operated by private concerns were within a mile or two of their homes. Church groups which had been traveling ninety miles by train to the Virginia seashore for their annual picnics are now motoring sixteen to the Swift Creek Recreational Area, because, as they say, it is cooler, cleaner and closer—an indication, perhaps, that recreation begins at home, and while distant pastures are sometimes greenest, home pastures are sometimes cleanest! The rigid policing of the area by the National Park Service insures that.

All profits made by the Recreational Council, if any, are to be used, under terms of its constitution, to purchase additional playground equipment and services. The profits are ploughed back into the enterprise. While it is a voluntary, non-salaried job, each Council member feels that he is doing something for his locality and for his State.

Industrial groups are finding this area "just what the doctor ordered." In this industrial section of Virginia, many shift workers who have idle time on their hands during the day are coming in greater and greater numbers. For here is

Magazines and Pamphlets

{ Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker }

MAGAZINES

- Games Digest*, July 1938
Magic Shadows—Instructions for Shadowgraphs
- Leisure*, July 1938
Chessmen's Holiday, by F. K. Perkins
Little Wings, by Ralph Severin
The Job of Recreation, by W. L. Stone
Lawn and Beach Games, by Sid G. Hedges
- Parks and Recreation*, June 1938
Landscape Development of National Forest Roads, by Harold L. Curtiss
Recreation — The Municipality's Opportunity for Character Building, by Dr. Frank S. Lloyd
Recreation Forces Organizing, by V. K. Brown
- National Parent-Teacher*, June-July 1938
The Changing Family in a Changing World, by Dr. Paul Popenoe
- American Forests*, July 1938
Boulder Dam—Power and Play, by John C. Page

PAMPHLETS

- Recreation Centers for Young Children*
A manual of activities published by Recreation Department, Board of Education, Newark, N. J.
- Leisure-Time Leadership*, WPA Recreation Projects
A study of program and participation. WPA, Washington, D. C.
- Toy Loan Centers*
Los Angeles County, California
- Youth in the World of Today*, prepared in cooperation with American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education. Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 22. 8 West 40th Street, New York City. \$10.
- Summer Activities and Independence Day Celebration*
Activities Bulletin Series, No. 8. Chicago Park District
- Problems of a Changing Population*
Report of the Committee on Population Problems to the National Resources Committee, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.
- A Brief School Guide*
Boarding Schools, Day and Country Day Schools, Junior Colleges and Schools for Specialized Training, by Porter Sargent, Boston, Mass. \$.25.
- Recreation Facilities for Brooklyn* (New York)
Prepared under the Supervision of Division of Information and Inquiry, Department of Welfare
- Softball or Gun*, by Lieutenant John D. Leonard
Reprint from December 1937 *Parks and Recreation*
- Minimum Sanitary Requirements for Swimming Pools and Bathing Places*, with Additional Information and Suggestions in Design, Construction and Operation. Department of Public Health, State of Illinois
- Housing the Metropolis*
Progress Report of the Citizen's Housing Council of New York, 470 Fourth Avenue, New York
- National Park Service Bulletins*
Zion and Boyce Canyon Parks, Utah, and Yosemite Park, California

Patriots' Day—Program of the Annual Joint Celebration by Eight Massachusetts Cities and Towns

Prepared by the Patriots' Day Committee, Boston

Tips to Volunteers

Phillips Brooks House Association, Boston

The Hobbyist, 1938

Published annually by the Hobby League of the Playground and Recreation Association, Philadelphia

Artificial Light and Its Application

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The Hiking Trips Bureau, Ho-ho-kus, N. J.

something that the public wants. The land is no good for anything except what it is—a public playground. The public realizes that here the Government has made for them the kind of recreational area they want, and they are beating a well-worn path to the door.

Prepare for Retirement

(Continued from page 329)

vocation. He should not feel as though he is going to engage in something that is distasteful or that some person is trying to force him to do something against his will. Sometimes a hobby that seems at first to have little promise as an interesting avocation later surprises its followers and reveals unusual possibilities.

Usually each person is in a better position to select hobbies for himself than any person else can be. It has been suggested that it would be well to include in this article a list of hobbies that might stimulate the thinking of persons interested in the selection of avocations. Space prohibits an attempt to include an exhaustive list of such activities because they are so numerous. Some of those that may interest readers are as follows: Archery, astronomy, athletics, bees, boating, bowling, camping, carpentry, cabinet making, carving—soap, wood—, checkers, chess, chickens, collecting—antiques, arrowheads and other Indian relics, autographs, books, butterflies, coins, college and university insignia, etchings, match box tops, samplers, sea shells, and stamps—, crocheting, embroidery, fishing, gardening, geography, geology, golf, jig-saw, mental contests, metal work, modeling—clay, wax—, molding, music, paper folding, pets, photography, pitching horseshoes, pottery, puzzles, quoits, quilting, reading, sculpture, shuffleboard, sketching, speaking, swimming, travel, typewriting, walking, wood turning, and writing.

Public Recreation in Cleveland

(Continued from page 338)

be consumed in continuing the salary increases instituted during the middle of 1937. The largest increase in the 1938 budget is the amount appropriated for the maintenance of the city's playgrounds and recreational facilities outside the parks. The salary of a supervisor of Men's and Boys' Activities has also been added. Other items in the budget are, for the most part, similar to the appropriations for 1937.

During the past two years the daily rate for play leaders and playground directors has been raised fifty cents. Playground supervisors have also obtained small increases. In addition, the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner have been granted larger pay. The situation of the bathhouse and community center employes has been slightly battered.

The effects of the broader program inaugurated have already manifested themselves in a tremendous increase in attendance at playgrounds and community centers. When additional money is provided for the Division, the programs will be expanded further to meet more adequately the needs and desires of the community, and there will result a larger attendance and participation. But until that time the city may be justly proud of the creditable expansion and extension during the past two years of its community center and playground programs, all of which has been done with limited personnel and under severe financial handicaps.

"More Games, Please!"

(Continued from page 344)

a m i p o n a w o m e i a l g r a

Once the sentence is made up and prepared for circulation by removing the key letter, a copy may be given to every player, with some sort of prize to the one who first finds the missing letter. If every member of the party has made up a sentence, the players may be paired and exchange sentences so that each has a different sentence to work on.

Playing Card Quiz. How do you play cards? How observant are you and your fellow players? Here is an interesting list of questions for your party. Try them on your guests.

1. What King shows his profile?
2. What King has no moustache?
3. What King holds a battle axe?

4. What King wears ermine?
5. What King holds no sword?
6. What King has a daisy belt buckle?
7. What King's beard is not parted?
8. What Queen holds her flower between her first and second fingers?
9. What Queen wears a breast pin?
10. What Queen shows her hair next her face on one side?
11. What Queen has a long belt buckle?
12. What Queen has bands of Grecian keys?
13. What Queen has a sceptre?
14. What Jack wears a leaf in his cap?
15. What Jack shows his full face?
16. What Jack holds a leaf to his lips?
17. What Jacks carry battle axes?
18. What Jack carries a staff?
19. What Jack has no moustache?
20. What Jack has two rows of curls?
21. What Jack wears buttons on his coat?

Correct answers to these questions may be found by examining a deck of playing cards. (Bicycle Brand.)

At the National Conference on State Parks

(Continued from page 349)

tures controlled access with no right of light, air, or access on the part of the abutting property owners. This plan eliminates undesirable roadside development, he pointed out, illustrating this feature by the Norris Freeway.

Major William A. Welch, superintendent of Palisades Interstate Park, presided over the afternoon portion of the last day's session.

Entertainment provided by the Tennessee Conservation Department included Cherokee Indian Tribal dances, music by a mountaineer orchestra, and folk dances. The conference ended with a trip through Great Smoky Mountain National Park, North Carolina and Tennessee, and a luncheon session at which the park and plans concerning it were discussed by Major Ross Eakin, superintendent, and Colonel David C. Chapman of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association.

A Rural Community Takes to Singing

(Continued from page 352)

member of the group who had heard the tune over the radio and wanted to learn to sing it. The leader explained the meaning of the title, and after they had tried it and were resting she told them of the street singers in Italy and their serenading, and other tales of life there. "Have you really been over that big water?" they asked.

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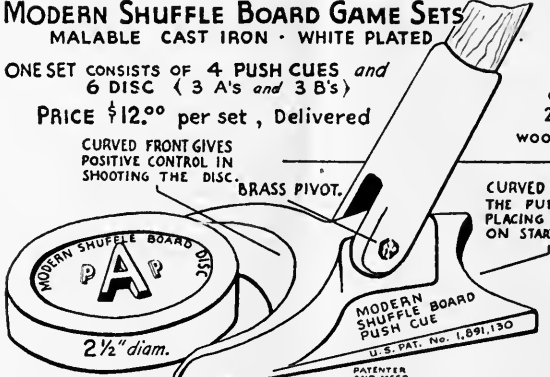
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"Tell us some more of those Italian stories. Do you know more songs?" She sang them street songs in Italian and they beamed. It sounded a little queer to them; they like the tune, but not the words.

But it was quite apparent that a change had come over the group. The friendly chatter and warmth had not been there before. A new relationship with the leader existed. When she went after the meeting to the gasoline station to wait for the car to take her home, a dozen men and boys came along too and begged her to tell them more about Italy and even about Wilmington—almost as far away to many of them.

The next week fifty persons were in the group. The men learned the bass of "Oh Mary, Don't You Weep." Over and over they practiced their part, but on trying it with the group found themselves going back again each time to the melody. They kept at it, however, until they had learned it and could carry their part independently. That same night the group learned how to tell when the music should be soft and when it should be loud. Then back to all their old favorites they went to try out these new "tricks." At the end several members asked to take home the music to try over before the next time. One child asked to take home the music, so she could "learn it to pa and ma at night before bedtime. Might even get the words so's we could do it without the piece of paper."

By the end of the session the group had grown to sixty. There was no more of the blasting tone. They could hear each other in part singing. Even a bit of sight reading was taught from the blackboard. The radio programs took on new meaning. Families sang together in the evening. One woman went all the way to Wilmington to hear her first concert. A certain amount of feeling for

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people of other lands had grown from the singing of folk-songs. But most worthwhile of all was the growth in friendliness and expansiveness.

At the last meeting they voted to continue their "singin'" next year and proposed, moreover, to find out whether there was any way the state could let them "go on for a longer spell right now!"

The leader watched them set out for home over bumpy dirt roads, swinging their lanterns to light the way. "'Night, Joe—goin' to storm 'fore mornin'." "Good — night — ladies —." "Careful 'bout those hens—cold night tonight." "Mer—ri —ly we roll a—long—, roll a—long,— roll a—long." "Bring the baby over—I'll tend her while you market." "O'er—the—deep—blue—sea."

A Basketball Sports Council

(Continued from page 354)

Article VII—Officers

The following officers shall be elected from the membership of the Board of Governors: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting on the fourth Tuesday of September.

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Article VIII—Meetings

(Section 1) Meetings will be held regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 8:30 P. M.

(Section 2) Special meetings may be called by the Chairman.

(Section 3) The annual meeting shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of September.

(Section 4) A quorum shall consist of half or more of the Board of Governors. A quorum shall be necessary to transact business at any meeting.

Article IX—Amendments

The Constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the Board of Governors at any regular meeting providing each member of the Board of Governors shall have been notified of the amendment in writing at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Painless Adult Education

(Continued from page 356)

scope—two lenses in a cardboard tube. This is set up in the school yard for a practical demonstration after the lecture. Astronomy appears to be a fitting subject for study with country dwellers who have the best possible opportunities for observation and who feel the sky overhead unblocked by tall buildings and smoke clouds as in cities.

The financing of the project is rather elementary. The township school board donates the use of the school with heat and light. One of the class tends the stove. A registration fee of twenty-five cents is charged and a fee of five cents a night is collected. Our instructors practically donate their services as we can only pay them what amounts to their traveling expenses. But as registration increases this will, we hope, be increased.

In the old days in New England they had the Lyceum where lectures on cultural subjects were given. We have the same need today in spite of the movies, the radio and the automobile. We want to meet together with our neighbors and learn something new. It is called adult education but it comes from the same cultural urge the old New Englanders had. And it is the concern with educators and recreation workers.

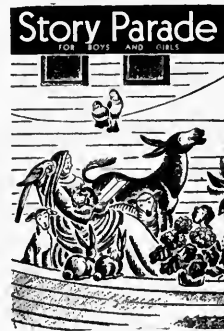
Pittsburgh Awaits the Recreation Congress

(Continued from page 358)

A tour for those especially interested in the

city parks has been arranged by Ralph E. Griswold, Superintendent of the Bureau of Parks. The itinerary is based on an exhibition of recreation activities unique with Pittsburgh Parks. The first stop will be at Schenley Park. The delegates will see Phipps Conservatory, the largest in the world, the outdoor theater on Flagstaff Hill, and the newly-constructed quarter-mile cinder path with its 220 yards straightaway on Schenley Oval. The second stop will be at Frick Park, well known for its Nature Museum, bowling green and trails. The third place to be visited will be Highland Park, where two of the city's largest outdoor swimming pools are located, and the Zoo, famous for its bear dens and reservoirs, is to be found. Arsenal Park comes next in order. Here are tennis courts and playing fields, as well as an outdoor theater. The trip to the parks terminates with a visit to Riverview Park where are located the Observatory, the Trailside Museum, and the Wissahickon Nature Cabin. At the latter place will be shown moving pictures of park activities and nature recreation. A typical talk on the latter subject, as used in the public schools, will be

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given by the Naturalist. The parks mentioned are only five of Pittsburgh's twenty-four parks covering 1,857 acres.

Ben E. Giffen, Director of Recreation for the Allegheny County Parks, has made extensive plans for visitors to visit two outstanding County Parks—North Park and South Park. These two areas have recreation facilities that every delegate should see. North Park has the largest outdoor swimming pool in the state, 315 feet long and 200 feet wide. South Park has two large outdoor pools. Both parks have dozens of shelter houses and picnic grounds. Camps have recently been constructed which may be used by organizations for a full week. Space does not permit one to describe the numerous recreation facilities in the county parks. One must see to appreciate.

Those who are interested in the many fine settlement houses will have the chance of seeing programs of activities at the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, the Kingsley House, Brashear Settlement, the Manchester Educational Center, Soho Community House and others.

The recreational centers of the Bureau of Recreation, such as the Washington Center, Leslie Center, which were outstanding places several years ago, will be visited by those interested in such facilities. Visits will also be paid to the numerous playgrounds, outdoor swimming pools, and other recreational centers.

In addition to the facilities cited, which should have a professional interest to the delegates, there will be opportunities for sight-seeing which may, with certain reservations, be termed unparalleled. These include the open hearth furnace; the modern steel mills recently erected which remain unsurpassed; Heinz's Food Establishment, the largest of its kind; the Pittsburgh Plate Glass plant and the Westinghouse Electrical plant in East Pittsburgh. These are only a few of Pittsburgh industrial units that are offered. There are enough other outstanding industries to suit the tastes of all.

Some believe that the best time to view Pittsburgh is at night. A quick trip to Mt. Washington, only ten minutes by automobile from the William Penn Hotel, after the evening sessions, will present a never-to-be-forgotten sight. This still remains the favorite show-off spot of native Pittsburghers.

At the time of writing this article an attraction of special interest looms up. The Pirates look like potential pennant winners of the National

League. Should the baseball team be fortunate in winning the coveted championship flag, then the games of the World Series will be held during the week of the Congress. It was during the Congress in Chicago, 1935, that the baseball fans among the delegates had the opportunity of seeing some of the games. Such an opportunity might present itself again in Pittsburgh.

Those interested in golf will be glad to learn that golf courses abound in Allegheny County. Pittsburgh has a municipal 18-hole course in Schenley Park, just 3.5 miles from the William Penn Hotel, headquarters for the Congress.

That we are going to have a splendidly attended Congress seems to be a foregone conclusion. Pittsburgh is accessible. Two-thirds of the population of the United States and one-half the population of Canada can reach Pittsburgh overnight by train. The real story of Pittsburgh has not been told in print. One must see for himself to appreciate this Wonder City.

The Theater as a Community Center

(Continued from page 361)

The corridors are not only ample enough to be social centers during the entr'acte but can be used also as supplementary art galleries, rehearsal rooms, or informal meeting rooms. The smaller laboratory theater is not only a theater particularly suited for experimental work in the coordination of body and speech and experimental setting and lighting; it is also a small lecture hall—badly needed by the Union, is as well designed for experimental movie projection and radio rehearsal and broadcasting.

Thus in addition to its other facilities, from bowling to ping pong, and the varied craft facilities in the upstairs workrooms from photography to metal work, the proposed building will be a center of life, alive from top to bottom almost every hour of the day and night.

It is precisely this which makes this proposed addition valuable. Its completion should be epoch making from the point of view of the creative use of leisure on the University campus, and make not only the Wisconsin Union but the University a leader in the field. For this reason the proposed building, once in use, should prove a genuine stimulus to the development of the arts in the university world and demonstrate, as few theater buildings have done up to now, how all the arts can be housed so that they can be an integral and vital part of American life.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Index to Puppetry

Compiled under the supervision of Alwin Nikolais, Hartford Park Department, Hartford, Connecticut. \$.50.

THE DIRECTOR of the Hartford Parks Marionette Theater, WPA Recreation Division of the Hartford Park Department for some time has been directing the research work of a number of individuals who have listed and classified magazine articles published between 1910 and 1938 on the subject of puppetry. The result of their research is a sixty page bibliography which will be of interest to puppetry enthusiasts, of whom there are more every day. Copies are available through the Hartford Park Department at 50 cents each.

Outposts of the Public School

By Watson Dickerman. American Association for Adult Education, New York. \$.75.

THE ADULT SCHOOL, as I see it, is not an institution but a spirit, a new leaven working within the public evening school." Thus the author introduces his study of evening schools which are experimenting with ventures in informal adult education. Mr. Dickerman has made no attempt to make a scientific analysis of the programs with which he came in contact and the result, to use his own words, "is more of a sketch than a photograph," and it is characterized to a large degree by personal impression and opinion. This perhaps is the reason why we find the book so interesting. Mr. Dickerman takes us to visit some old friends—the Milwaukee social centers, the centers of Washington, Boston and other cities whose programs are familiar to recreation workers. With him we visit communities whose centers are devoted more to formal education than to recreation.

"Lights are bright in many a schoolhouse these nights, and there is a zest in the air that was absent from the night school you and I knew."

Graded Lessons in Fundamentals of Physical Education—A Program for Grades One to Six

By Gertrude M. Baker, Florence M. Warnock and Grace D. Christensen. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

A CONTRIBUTION to the planning of sound curriculum procedure is offered in this volume in which the authors have outlined a steady progression of fundamentals from grade to grade. The subject matter covers lesson plans for grades one to six.

Entertainment Bulletins

Good Housekeeping Bulletin Service, 57th Street at Eighth Avenue, New York. Each \$.10.

THROUGH the Good Housekeeping Bulletin Service may be secured a number of attractive bulletins on entertainments, such as *Inexpensive Parties for Old and Young*; *Money Making Entertainments for Churches, Schools and Clubs*; *Patriotic Party*; *Through Seven Circles of Hades and Other Hallowe'en Parties*; and *Singing Games for Good Times*, with words and music. A list of the bulletins may be secured on request.

Public Administration Organizations—A Directory 1938-1939

Public Administration Clearing House, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois. \$1.50.

THIS, THE FOURTH biennial edition of the directory of voluntary organizations working in the general field of public administration or allied fields, has been compiled for the use of these organizations themselves, of public officials and of students of government. Information is given regarding each of the organizations listed.

Technological Trends and National Policy

By National Resources Committee, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$1.00.

THE NATIONAL RESOURCES BOARD was appointed in 1934 "to prepare and present to the President a program and plan of procedure dealing with the physical, social, governmental and economic aspects of public policies for the development and use of land, water, and other national resources and such related subjects." This Board appointed a committee of nine distinguished scientists, designated by the National Academy of Sciences, the American Council on Education, and the Social Science Research Council. The first report of this committee, *Technological Trends*, is the first major attempt to show the kinds of new inventions which may affect living and working conditions in America in the next ten to twenty-five years. It indicates some of the problems which the adoption and use of these inventions will inevitably bring in their train, and emphasizes the importance of national efforts to bring about prompt adjustment to these changing situations, with the least possible social suffering and loss. Some suggestions of national policy directed to this end are sketched. The book is fascinating reading from a technological or sociological standpoint, and will merit the most careful study.

Technology and Planning is a small pamphlet which reviews much of the material presented in the former volume, with special relations to inventions as they affect industry, travel, agriculture, new markets, and forestry techniques. This may be secured for ten cents.

Inexpensive Books for Boys and Girls.

Compiled by the Book Evaluation Committee of the Section for Library Work with Children of the American Library Association. American Library Association, Chicago, Ill. \$.50.

The selection of titles—890 in all—which appear in the second edition of this useful pamphlet covers a wide range of subjects asked for by children. Non-fiction and the standard fiction titles predominate; no book over \$1.00 is included. Entries are listed under the author's name and the publisher and price are given. Of unusual value is the part which analyzes and briefly evaluates the more important publishers' series.

Church Group Activities for Young Married People.

By George Gleason. Published by the author, 715 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, California. \$1.00.

The social climate of southern California seems especially congenial to the development of church groups for young married people. 222 such groups, located in 173 churches, ranging in membership from 70 to 4,528, and in towns and cities ranging in population from 200 to 1,250,000, form the basis of this study. The book describes how these groups originated out of spontaneous demand, the motives that dominated them, the nature of their programs, the educational procedure in the groups, and the place of the groups in the church structure. A desire for friendship and sympathy, an opportunity to serve, and a common desire to know more about early training for marriage and home life are the basic motivations of the groups. The weaknesses and failures of these groups are described as well as their successes. The educational contents and methods are emphasized more than the social and recreational values. The book should be very helpful to those who are responsible for the leadership of young people in churches.

Associated Country Women of the World.

Proceedings of the Third Triennial Conference. Department of State Publication No. 1092. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$.50.

Over 6,000 country women from twenty-two nations gathered in Washington from May 31 to June 11, 1936 to discuss ways of improving country home and community life—how they could best contribute to the larger phases of social, economic and civic needs. Their discussions included art in rural life, drama, folk dancing, folk singing, handicrafts, library service, motion pictures, music, radio, etc. The summary of discussion groups contains contributions from people in different parts of the world describing their activities in music, drama and art called the "open window" in the farmhouse.

Everyday First Aid.

By Walter Frank Cobb, M.D. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York City. \$1.50.

In compiling this book, the author has adopted a novel scheme which provides workable solutions to many emergency first aid problems. Each chapter begins with a newspaper account of an accident. Thus the stage is set for the amateur first-aider. Then the author, using the situation outlined in the story, discusses the various steps of first aid in that particular case under the following heads: Analysis of the Situation, First Aid, Subsequent History, and Comment.

American History Through Fiction.

By D. S. Otis and Jacques Ozanne. Service Bureau for Adult Education, New York University, New York. \$.50.

No. 3 of the "Reading and Study for Pleasure and Profit" series suggests a novel study plan for individuals and groups. Nine novels chosen because of their literary merit and historical integrity form the basis of the study to illustrate the four general periods in the history of our

country—the American Revolution; the Struggle for Democracy; a Preface to the Civil War; and the Civil War and Reconstruction. The nine books selected do not give a complete story of any of these interesting periods, but they do contribute largely to the individual's understanding of the life and times, of the kinds of people and why certain historical events occurred.

Science Book List for Boys and Girls.

Prepared and published by the Section for Library Work with Children of the American Library Association.

This series of fourteen leaflets has been provided to supply sources of information in the form of brief, well-selected bibliographies on science for boys and girls from six to fifteen. The books listed all offer "satisfying and exciting adventures into the delights of the natural world." A complete set of the lists may be secured for 35 cents by writing Miss Elsa Clark, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland.

Better Bridge.

By Samuel Fry, Jr. Leisure League of America, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. \$.25.

If you are one of the people who find recreation and relaxation in bridge playing and, according to Mr. Fry, contract bridge is played at least to some extent by about one out of every two adults in America this booklet will make a strong appeal. Mr. Fry states as his purpose in writing the book "to promulgate the fullest enjoyment of the game with the fewest possible disasters which may cause bickering and squabbles."

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October



Abundant Living

Worn-out words? Yes. Inescapable? Yes.
Words of the future? Yes.

In the recent past, conscious values have been pretty largely work values. Non-work values were for a future heaven in another world.

There has been, in the practical everyday world, a sense of guilt when a man "did things" because they were fun, adventure, romance, abundant life.

Unconsciously and yet nevertheless in reality the Baal to which America has tended to build altars for worship has been money, the symbol of Property—a symbol of stored up work of oneself and others.

Education the country over has been primarily for "getting on," "accumulating property," "bettering one's condition."

In the pioneer days, values were not in terms of capacity to accumulate goods. The good hunter. The good fisher. The valiant fighter. The story-teller on the cracker barrel at the country store. The neighbor who was good fun. The rollicking leader at the neighborhood dance. The man among the lumbermen who could lead the singing as the men paddled on the long voyage up into the forests. The good horseman. The man who was good with dogs.

Men knew the stars, the woods, the ways of animals, had a kinship with horses and dogs that you cannot have with autos and autogiros. Nature and comradeship gave opportunity for immediate abundant living in spite of, if not because of danger, uncertainty, hardship. (Of course a workman was a good and accurate worker, but he needed to be much more to be fully a man among men—no matter how many acres he owned.)

We cannot turn the hands of the clock back in America. To a limited degree only can men of imagination make the machine operations of producing and distributing the necessary clothing, the housing, the food—really abundant living. No poetry can quite transform dishwashing 1095 times a year, carrying out of ashes, shoveling of metals, even if most of this be done by machinery. Do all that we can to transmute the monotonous repetitive work of the world into the gold of abundant living—Yes—but the return will be meager. Still, we must try harder than we have ever tried yet. We must have as one element in the measure of industry this yardstick of value—how much juice is there in it for the soul of man. For example, the cost may be greater in certain industries to manufacture "parts" in factories in scattered villages and small towns where the workers may have their own gardens, and live closer to the open country, but if there be more "abundant liv-

ing" for men, then perhaps the immediate profits should be less and the abundant living greater.

But in the field of government, of politics, of human relations, of housing, of building of cities, of so-called social work, of education, above all in the field of leisure and recreation—let the judgment as to value be in terms of abundant living now and here, and in the not too distant future.

Playgrounds, recreation centers, mountain parks, public beaches, choral reading groups, orchestras, discussion groups—all that goes to make up the modern recreation movement is simply a great tidal wave of the people themselves rising to abundant living. It is like a great new continent of strength and joy and depth and height and thickness of living rising out of a partly dry and arid and desert continent of work made dull largely because we were too limp to will it otherwise. The amount of dreariness, and drabness, and dullness, and hell on earth we have been ready to tolerate has been beyond all necessity because we have made of work a God rather than a servant to the soul of man.

Great as is the immediate contribution of the recreation movement to the happy growth of children and the deeper current of life and continuing growth through fresh interests of those no longer children in years, yet the greater contribution is that the recreation movement is like a flag to hold in increasing measure before the American people that what they care most for is not money, property, work in and for itself, but real living for all. It is a satisfying revelation of the true nature of America.

It is not to build an all powerful state, to reduce crime, to build health, to create workers who are more alive who will produce more—but primarily and first of all to produce men and women who live more—

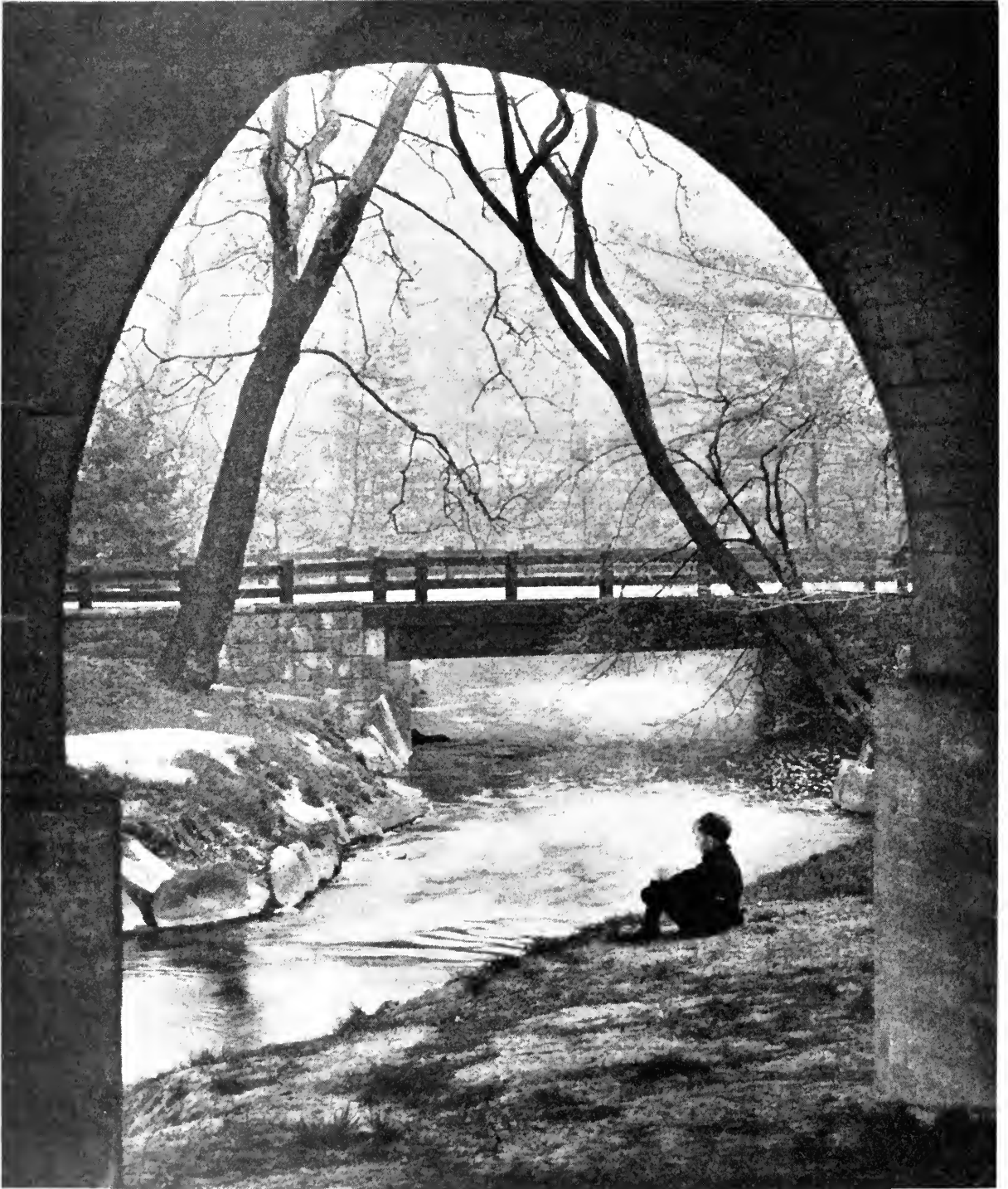
Give us, O Lord, this day our daily life.

If we care enough for daily living, there is in our caring enough dynamite to change housing, working and all else.

First in all the world is religion—What kind of God do we worship—Is our God one who cared first that they might have life and have it abundantly?

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

Day Dreams



Courtesy Gayle A. Foster, A.R.P.S., Greenwich, Conn.

"Rest, repose, reflection, contemplation, are in themselves a form of recreation and ought never to be crowded out by more active play."

Almost "As Good As New"

By C. H. ENGLISH
Executive Secretary
Playground and Recreation Association
Philadelphia, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA'S Christmas Toy Shower, developed and directed by the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia, will enter its tenth year in November with the amazing record of having sent to the social and recreational agencies of the city a total of 550,752 renovated toys, "almost as good as new." Our Board will, perhaps, be forgiven for a little boasting on the score of having achieved the largest and most productive project of its kind in America. Last year 104,751 toys were distributed to 124 local agencies. An outlined review of our set-up may be helpful to those who contemplate developing a similar project.

One of the greatest values of this enterprise is the excellent community cooperation always obtainable because of the desire of everyone to be of service at Christmas time. It is truly thrilling to enlist hundreds of agencies and thousands of individuals into a smoothly working organization. People are eager to be affiliated with a successful movement which has such service goals, and welcome the opportunity of helping in a practical and inexpensive way. They also approve the development of an excellent method of control over the distribution so that duplication is avoided and all needy cases are provided for.

Steps in Organization

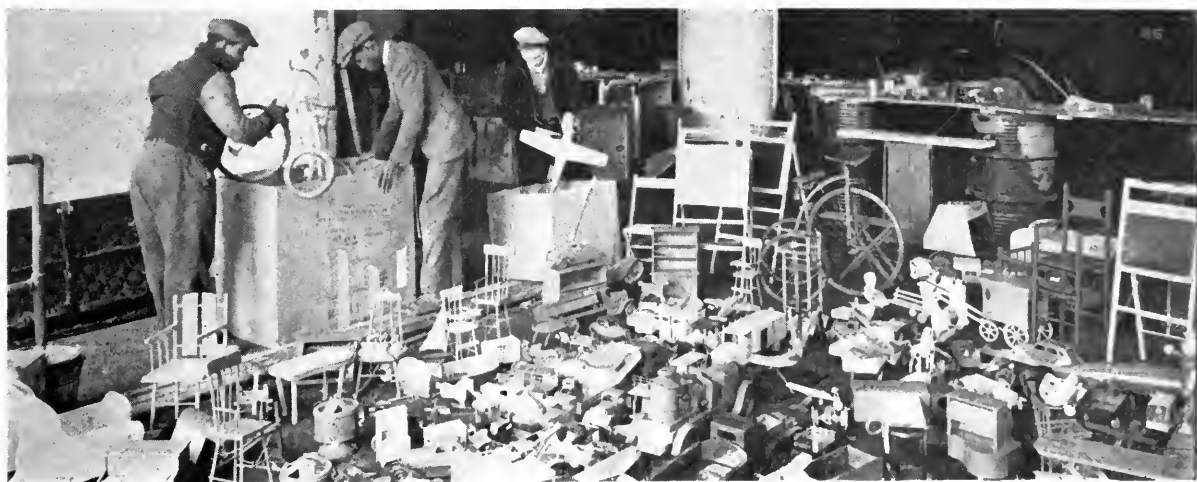
A time schedule is very important. Our public, parochial, and private schools are the main source

The toys are packed preparatory to their distribution through social and welfare agencies

of toy supply. Since the schools always have a collection of food and clothing as a Thanksgiving offering, collection of toys must be delayed until after that holiday. Moreover, the Christmas spirit does not develop until about December 1st. Consequently the usual season for collecting and repairing toys is confined to about four weeks. To crowd this activity into that time requires numerous organization and administrative details that need to be developed early. Here are the preliminary steps which we have found essential:

October

1. Secure approval from the authorities of the school systems for the collection of toys. Details of dates and assembly programs, are worked out.
2. Select the building for the repair shop. In order to house the project we have to use space in Convention Hall. An Armory or a similar building centrally located would be excellent. We have used vacant store buildings. The use of buildings should be granted free of expense.
3. Arrange for trucking service, for the pick-up at schools and delivery of finished toys to the agencies. In our case one of the newspapers has in the past provided a fleet of delivery trucks. Last year a local trucking company



gladly gave us over 4,000 miles of trucking service.

4. Approach WPA or NYA and set up a project for manual labor. Reports from all over the country indicate that both these Federal agencies are willing to include this type of project. Last year WPA approved a \$40,000 budget for our Toy Shower.

November

1. Send out letters requesting donations of needed supplies. Just a few items will show what is required—paper, string, paint, brushes, hardware, dress goods, disinfectants. Last year 140 gallons of quick drying paint was donated. It is not hard to get what you need. Everyone is generous around Christmas time.
2. Send out a requisition to the agencies which will want toys. This requisition calls for their request for toys according to number of children of both sexes in the following classifications: 2—6 years, 6—8 years, and 8—10 years. We make it plain that in order to receive the toys they will be expected to cooperate to the extent of sending ten volunteers for one day's work during December. These volunteers are scheduled so there will be an even distribution.
3. The women directors of our Board take complete charge of this project. The various committees are at work in November. The Executive Secretary becomes just a handyman, although plenty busy at that!
4. The shop is set up the last two weeks of November. A foreman or superintendent is employed by the directors who, with WPA workers, sets up the work benches and shelves.

By using odds and ends from the previous year he is able to start on the work of repairing by December. 1st. The WPA workers must be trained for this specialized job, including the women in the Doll Department who learn repairing, plastic surgery and beautification.

It may seem early to be talking about Christmas plans, but as Mr. English points out a time schedule is important if you are going to make the collecting and repairing of toys a part of your Christmas program. So here is a brief résumé of the way Philadelphia attacks the project—a method which has resulted in the reconditioning and distribution of over 500,000 toys.

tinsmiths, painters, metal workers and helpers all turning out thousands of toys each day. And in the Doll Department are eighty WPA women workers and scores of volunteers making the dolls look like new with new dresses, new coverings of body and, of equal importance, a face-lifting job!

The sorting and packing department is closely supervised by the Association's directors who have become expert in assembling the right kind of toys for the various age groups. Mention should be made here about the new doll dresses. Nearly 5,000 were received last year. These dresses, made by volunteers, cannot be completed in two or three weeks. As early as June the chairman of this department sends out patterns (there are eight that will fit any doll made) to several hundred women who are glad to make the dresses during their leisure time, mainly the vacation period. These volunteers buy up remnants and in many cases the work is done as carefully as it would be on adult dresses. We are told that hundreds of dresses are made in New England vacation resorts and homes.

The publicity received always helps in securing toys from private homes and the enlistment of volunteers. It also brings in a flood of requests for toys, both by letter and in person. The letters we send to the Christmas Exchange, a clearing house. We refer individuals to the nearest agency to whom we supply toys. We never give out toys to individuals.

December

A busy month, this! Toys by the truck loads come in each day, and others, repaired and usable, are delivered daily to social agencies in packing boxes supplied by the large department stores. It is a busy scene—with 160 WPA carpenters, cabinet workers,

Merchants are glad to cooperate, especially those selling toys. We clear out for them sales made last year and the children who receive the renovated toys are not prospective customers. There is a lot of satisfaction felt by the workers on the afternoon of December

(Continued on page 420)

The announcement has been made that New York City, through WPA, is to conduct a Christmas toy project on a large scale. More than a hundred workers have already been selected for the task of repairing old toys and making simple new ones from surplus and scrap material. When the activity reaches its peak before Christmas, it will put to work between two hundred and three hundred men and women, the majority of whom will be recruited from the ranks of the handicapped.

A Nature Program in a County's Parks

OUR NATURE PROGRAM in the Essex County parks may justifiably be said to be well established since it has rounded out two years of successful operation—successful because at relatively little cost, children who attend the playgrounds in the neighborhood parks, as well as those in the larger parks where there is abundant natural background, have been able to

prints, recommended a good deal of source material, suggested leaf collections in scrap books, and took the leaders on trips through the parks for the purpose of identifying birds, shrubs, and trees. Our staff specialist, or nature “ranger” as we called him, led these initial walks and worked with the play leaders to give them a fund of information which they might pass on to the children.



Opie Hildock (Nature Story Man), an honorary chief of the Penobscot Indians, gives a group of play leaders instruction in nature lore at a three day institute at Grover Cleveland Park

enjoy experiences which otherwise would have been impossible.

Believing that a nature program could not be successful without a specialist in charge to see that the nature activities are thoroughly integrated with the rest of the program, we included in our playground staff a young man whose preparation and training for the most part had been in the realm of trees, birds, shrubs, and flowers. Had his natural bent not been in this field and had he not been both resourceful and enthusiastic about the subject, the project would have lacked the quality necessary to give it life.

We gave each play leader a copy of Dr. William G. Vinal's pamphlet on trail games, taught them how to make spatter outlines as well as leaf

The project was so successful the first year and so many organizations availed themselves of our

invitation to use the services of the ranger in conducting nature walks through the reservations on Saturdays and Sundays and through the larger parks during the week that a new plan item appeared in the Recreation Budget for 1938 headed "Uniform for Nature Ranger."

In anticipation of the program, our tree pruning gang had been asked to give us samples of as many different types of wood as were to be found in the parks and reservations. During the winter these were sawed in such a way as to present clearly as many interesting phases as possible in the growth of a tree. They were sandpapered, shellacked, and waxed, and each playground re-

ceived a set of from fourteen to twenty wood samples lettered in code with a key given to the leader so that they could be accurately identified. In addition to this we were fortunate in securing for each of the playgrounds a chart 16" x 20" with cross sections showing diseased wood, insect damage, retarded growth after a fire and the increase of growth after thinning. Another figure in the chart showed heart wood, sap wood, cambium layer, inner bark and outer bark, as well as roots and leaves.

Although some of the trees in all of the parks had been labeled from time to time, many of the labels had been deliberately destroyed, while others had succumbed to natural wear and tear. It seemed to us that if a project of identifying and labeling trees could be made interesting to the children, the labels themselves would have a better chance for a longer life! While it is too soon to predict the length of life, we do know that the projects have been enthusiastically received on the part of boys who are very anxious to identify more trees than we can possibly supply labels for.

This year terraria, aquaria, and live animal boxes have supplemented the project started last year, and elementary astronomy has been carried a little further. In addition, the nature program has been correlated with handcraft in the making of plaster of paris casts of leaves, cones and acorns, the building of bird houses and bird feeding stations, and the cutting out both in wood and paper of bird and tree silhouettes. The silhouette game was the contribution of one of the children who conceived the idea of having a youngster stand near a tree while the rest, provided with scissors and some newspaper, proceed to cut out a silhouette of the tree and the live subject. The use of blueprint paper for making leaf prints has been added to the spotter outlines and roller leaf prints, and collections of insects, and nests, and minerals have, of course, made their appearance. At one of the parks the live animal collection included bees, one little colored boy catching them with bare hands and dropping them into a bottle.

Recognizing the fact that the children in the neighborhood of city parks have much less opportunity for trail games and nature explorations than those in the parks of one hundred acres or more, we arranged last year to take bus loads of

For this account of the nature program promoted for the past two years by the Essex County, New Jersey, Park Commission, we are indebted to L. C. Wilsey, Supervisor of Recreation of the System

nature club members for a day's outing in the South Mountain Reservation where we have nearly two thousand acres. This proved so worthwhile that plans were made to double the number of trips this year, giving the less privileged groups two days in the reservation or in one of the larger parks.

Nature recreation and exploration would not be much fun, however, unless opportunities were given to cook meals over fires. So during the three-day instruction period which was given the play leaders' staff, our Eagle scouts were invited to demonstrate the different types of fire which might be useful in the playground. Each playground was given permission to set aside a spot where a fire could be built every day, the understanding being that it would never be used except under the supervision of a member of the instruction staff. While some of the fireplaces were rather elaborate and two or three of them which were in favored positions were built by the children in more or less permanent form, most of them were, by intention, of the temporary type and were disassembled as soon as the meal was over in order to avoid any temptation to start a fire unsupervised.

Among the subjects in which instruction was given our staff members were the telling of nature stories and the correlation of handcraft with nature work. Our women leaders were given an opportunity to practice the art of driving nails. If Dr. Vinal believes it is good nature recreation for children to milk cows, gather honey, and do other chores incidental to farm life, then we may well be justified in classifying under this heading our nail driving contests! They are certainly recreative in character, and they involve skills that are ultimately useful to the individual.

The sum of six dollars provided us with one hundred and twenty 3' pieces of 4 x 4 spruce—second hand, of course—into which more than 300 pounds of nails were driven, using all four sides and both ends. The girls enjoyed this as much as the boys, and became champions in their own right.

In casting about for some way in which to use a large amount of very soft wood which had been donated by a local cigar box maker, we hit upon the idea of taking these 5" squares of wood, outlining a leaf on them and then with a light ham-

(Continued on page 421)

Prescriptions for Hallowe'en Hoodlums

OR, IF YOU PREFER, we'll just call them well-meaning but over-ambitious pranksters.

After all, what with Christmas being the holy day, and Thanksgiving more or less on the serious side, and even the Fourth of July slipping into the exclusively patriotic class, there must be one holiday when the youngsters can cut loose with all their pent up inhibitions!

If it weren't for Santa Claus, Hallowe'en would be the favorite holiday for all children. Even so, it is the most delightful to many of them for two reasons: (1) it appeals to the child's imagination, and (2) it stimulates his "inner urge" to be something he isn't, to do things he would never think of doing any other time. Both of these reasons are perfectly understandable when we consider the old tradition that has come down to us that elves, witches, goblins and other evil spirits held revels on the night of October 31st, that it is a night of supernatural powers, a time when spirits walk abroad and commune with the people of the earth.

Hallowe'en rightly should be a time when children may lose themselves in their fun without

stopping to think about the Pilgrim Fathers! It should be the time for any inhibited emotions or suppressed desires, so to speak, to find an outlet. But did you ever stop to think that most children do not go around all the year carrying suppressed desires to steal automobile tires or saw down telephone poles? Ten to one they never think about tearing down a fence or smashing a window until Hallowe'en rolls around! No, their suppressed desires are many and varied, but they are more "substantial" than that. Probably the "most suppressed desire" of children *en masse* is to be grown up so they can go to *real* parties, or to the movies, or learn to dance, or be G-Men or Cowboys! One thing you can count on for sure, they think it is exciting to be grown up, and they are eager for thrills and excitement. The only reason they knock out street lights is for the thrill of defying the corner policeman.

There seems to be enough cleaning-up to do in the country already without any additional debris as a result of anticipated Hallowe'en "destructionism." So why not offer the anticipating destructionists a substitute that is equally as exciting

Dayton, Ohio, under the leadership of the Bureau of Recreation, celebrates Hallowe'en hilariously!



and thrilling as soaping a window? That shouldn't be hard to find.

In dealing with "Hallowe'en age" boys, there are three things to remember: (1) the substitute must be appealing enough to attract them in the first place; (2) it must be exciting enough to hold them; and (3) it must be strenuous enough to relieve them of any excess energy which might otherwise be put to some unconstructive use. If you must wear them out, do it subtly and entertainingly. Don't forget their suppressed desires—above all, they want thrills and grown-up excitement.

Our suggestions are:

A Community Celebration. The latest and most constructive kind of entertainment, according to numerous reports, is a community-wide, or city-wide celebration designed to attract everybody, young and old. Minneapolis was one of the first of the larger cities to introduce a program of successful and legitimate merry-making on Hallowe'en, in cooperation with the mayor, the park board, schools, churches, and civic and commercial organizations. Notes written by the Citizen's Hallowe'en Committee were sent home by every school child, urging the parents to cooperate by inviting boys and girls to private parties. Thousands of home parties and hundreds of public parties were held throughout the city. Mystery, excitement, thrills, and amusement were offered to every boy and girl, either in his home or that of a friend. Such a large-scale program takes careful planning and supervision.

Fort Worth, Texas, last year, gave a large pageant in which nearly four thousand school children took part. There was a long parade with a queen, "Miss Hallowe'en," and her attendants, floats, bands, etc. The streets were decorated and illuminated in the elaborate fashion of a mardi gras. Hundreds of prizes were awarded for costumes, floats, impersonations, etc.

Other communities have decided if there is any cleaning up to do in connection with Hallowe'en, the youngsters can help do it, so they subtly combine cleaning-up campaigns with city-wide celebrations, which usually begin with a general parade for everyone. Huge sectional bonfires are built where different groups compete to see who can burn the most rubbish, so to speak. Replicas of the town hall and other buildings are made with barrels, with the rubbish inside, and prizes are given for the best "building." If little Oscar has an urge to do something destructive, let him get it

out of his system by throwing his mother's old worn-out mattress on the fire. She probably had it stored away in the basement with a lot of other fire-hazard junk, anyway. Some groups may also burn witch effigies after prizes are awarded for the best ones.

Greenwich, Connecticut, practices the "wear them out" theory by marching the youngsters through the town before bringing them to the auditorium where the entertainment is to be held. The parade is planned to attract all youngsters, with simple prizes for the best this and that, and plenty of entertainment within itself. Costumes are judged in the line of march and tickets are given to the winners who must proceed on to the auditorium to receive their prizes. This induces the children to take part in the parade, since they cannot compete for the prizes at the auditorium without a ticket. A platform is built across one end of the gymnasium where such traditional games as "Bobbing for Apples," "Black Cat and Bat," take place. The smaller children are entertained first so they can be taken home early. Short movies, simple prizes, and refreshments are sufficient compensation for the evening's activities, and children are usually tired and willing enough to go straight home to bed.

A Barnwarmin'. This can be made quite an elaborate, though inexpensive affair, if desired. In the first place, why not let each boy ask a girl to go with him as his partner? More than likely he has never had a real "date" before, and you may be sure this is one of his suppressed desires, whether he will admit it or not. Needless to say, the party should be well supervised by adults, but the boys themselves could form an entertainment committee, and have great fun thinking up things to scare the girls. Invitations might be written in appropriate language and delivered at night a few days before the event is to take place. In Columbia, Missouri, the boys rent a wagon and horses and clatter around over the streets amid much hog-calling and other weird noises, making a gala affair out of the "invitation night" itself. The couples might dress either in Hallowe'en costumes or in aprons and overalls. A "Spook Alley" or "Chamber of Horrors" should be the only means of entrance to the gymnasium which is decorated appropriately. Games, contests, square dancing, or social dancing should provide enough entertainment for the evening. Perhaps the boys can dig up a brass band to furnish music and comical numbers. Don't worry, they'll put every effort

into creating something really unique for their "first dates." They won't have time to remember that fence they meant to tear down this year!

A Masquerade Ball. Boys and girls grow up fast nowadays, you know. At least *they* think so, even if you don't. "Hallowe'en age" boys don't "go for" parties.

Just plain old parties are too "sissified." But a masquerade ball, now that's different. In fact that's even better than an apron and overall party to most of them. Why? Because it offers them an opportunity to be grown-up, dignified. And because children associate mystery, romance, and thrilling adventure with a masquerade ball. Give a boy his choice of a nice, big window to soap or a masquerade ball with his best girl, and see which he takes! Such an event should be planned as much like a grown-up affair as possible. Everyone should come masked, and a grand march, dancing, games, and costume prizes should be arranged. This kind of entertainment, too, should be under careful adult supervision, but it can be fun for the children, none the less. A boy can get over the Andy Hardy stage, but not *around* it, and here is a chance to get part of it out of his system.

A Strawstack Wiener Roast. If you really want to give the boys and girls good, clean, exciting fun on Hallowe'en, something different, something thrilling, and something they will remember many years, your best bet is a strawstack wiener roast. Make arrangements with a country farmer ahead of time to save one of the large strawstacks or haystacks he was going to burn down anyway; rent a wagon and horses from him, and cover the bottom of the wagon with straw. Each person comes in costume, brings his own package of "buttered buns," and "chips in" on the wieners. The trip to the country in a horse-drawn wagon will be loads of fun, especially for city children. Many games can be played on top of the strawstack, with small lighted stacks burning all around it. Other games can be played on the stubble-field around the large stack. Ghost stories and fortune telling have a definite place for a group like this. After the wiener roast, light the big strawstack, and sit around it singing songs. Then comes that unforgettable, merry ride back

"A Hallowe'en party can be the most fascinating of all festive occasions. Superstitions that came down from pagan ancestors, who celebrated the origin of the day as a druidic autumn festival 2,000 years ago, wrap it in mystery and set it apart from other holidays. Old games like bobbing for apples and looking for a future mate's image by candlelight in a darkened room still persist after many years and add their quaint charm to more modern forms of Hallowe'en play."—*Leo V. McCarthy.*

to the city, in the bottom of the straw-covered horse-drawn wagon, all the group singing at the top of their lungs, and a full, harvest moon grinning down approvingly. What could be more complete? For young and old alike the old-fashioned strawstack party has everything—thrills, excitement, mystery, and joy.

And more than that, it has the right kind of wholesome impressiveness for the children to grow up with.

Parties

Just "parties" doesn't mean much. There are a thousand and one parties you can have on Hallowe'en. Parties for small groups, and large groups, for small children and teen-ones, for grown-ups and grandfathers. There are church parties and school parties, and parties with special themes, like Pumpkin Parties, Witch Parties, Spook Parties. Well, somewhere we must draw the line. Since we are dealing primarily with suitable substitutes for potential pranksters, we can, for our purpose, divide the parties into two main groups, *indoor* and *outdoor* parties.

Outdoor Parties. "There is something in the autumn sets the gypsy blood astir, something magic, something grand" — Those words hold more truth than poetry. There is only one thing a boy's better nature loves more than the wide open spaces, and that's the wide open spaces in the autumn. The strawstack party described above is, of course, the epitome of what a boy expects of the out-of-doors in autumn, but runners up for this distinction are Gypsy, Cowboy, Pirate, Indian, or Hobo Campfire parties planned in somewhat the same manner. Or better still, an overnight mystery hike, provided there are adequate adult supervision and safety precautions. Have the group assemble at four o'clock in the afternoon prepared for hiking. Your route is well chosen, but the destination remains a secret. Somewhere along the way, have a treasure hidden, and the crowd halts at a nearby spot to search for it. You might also have a scavenger hunt, and a wiener roast. Afterwards, tell ghost stories around dying campfire embers, and camp out for the night.

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Toy Loan Centers

A FEW YEARS AGO a child's request to borrow a beach ball from the Manchester Playgrounds, Los Angeles, to take to the seashore had to be refused because of the rules of the playgrounds. The little fellow's disappointment so impressed one of the playground leaders that he determined to work out some method through which children in every walk of life could secure toys. His idea was endorsed by the Los Angeles County Coordinating Councils, and from this germ has developed what is undoubtedly the largest Toy Loan organization in the country.

The Los Angeles County Toy Loan was first established in January, 1936, with headquarters for office and workshop in a garage. This location served one branch situated on the Manchester Playgrounds. The plan proved so successful that during the next three months nine branches were in operation in different sections of the county. A reorganization of personnel and methods was effected, and the rapid growth of the Toy Loan idea made it necessary to obtain larger quarters. Present headquarters are at 106 West Third Street, Los Angeles, California.

By the end of 1937 the Los Angeles County Toy Loan was operating eighteen branches. Three months later twenty-eight were in operation, with twelve more planned for opening before the close of the year.

In 1937 funds for the project were first appropriated by the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County for the Probation Department. Personnel for the office and workshop, as well as for the branches, was furnished by the Works Progress Administration and National Youth Administration under the supervision of the Central Coordinating Council office.

Organization

The Los Angeles County Toy Loan includes a centralized administrative office for control and supervision and a departmentalized workshop where used toys are repaired and new ones manufactured. A system of district distributing points called "Toy Loan Branches" is operated by full-time workers known as "toyrarians." The community activities for Toy Loan are carried on by district Coordinating Council Toy Committees and a board composed of the district Toy Committee chairmen constitutes what is known as the Toy Loan Advisory Board. This board passes upon applications for new branches and determines general Toy Loan policies.

The purpose of the organization is to supply toys for the play needs of boys and girls between the ages of two and sixteen. All children in the district are eligible to use their Toy Loan Branch. The only requisites are the parents' consent and signature on an application card. No dues are charged nor are there any fines for breakage or for the tardy return of the toy.

Sponsorship and Supervision. Works Progress Administration Project 8130 and National Youth Administration Project 7946-Y, both sponsored by the Probation Department, together with the Executive Board of the Los Angeles County Coordinating Councils and the Toy Loan Advisory Board, cooperate in guiding the program. Monthly meetings under the direction of the Advisory Board chairman are held to coordinate the county-wide policies of all districts. The activities and operation of the central workshop, of the branches

Toy Loan centers have been established on so extensive a scale in Los Angeles County that they are now a highly organized part of the program of the Los Angeles County Coordinating Councils. The Works Progress Administration, one of the cooperating groups, as one of its projects has prepared a booklet telling of the methods and procedures used and of the results obtained. The material used in this article has been taken from the booklet.

and of the toy committees are in charge of the director of Toy Loan activities.

Coordinating Council Toy Committees. Any Coordinating Council desiring a community Toy Loan Branch or wishing to assist some other district of the county in securing toys appoints a Toy Committee chairman through its Coordinating Council chairman. This chairman then appoints other committee members from the Coordinating Council. These members are representatives of local organizations such as the Parent-Teacher Association, women's clubs, service clubs, schools and civic groups of various kinds. Three members of the committee serve for one year; the others for two. This method makes it possible to retain some experienced members on the committee at all times.

Coordinating Council Toy Loan committee chairmen make reports at the Executive Board meetings and the general meetings of the council in order to keep the council members advised of local Toy Loan activities. In general the duties of the local committee are to guide the progress and activities of the local Toy Loan Branch. This is done by maintaining the requirements of local branches, by conducting annual toy drives, by releasing accurate publicity to local papers and magazines, and by presenting constructive publicity to the public at large regarding the project.

Toy Loan Advisory Board. The membership of the Los Angeles County Toy Advisory Board is made up of the chairman from each local Toy Committee, the director of Toy Loan activities, and the supervisor of the workshop and branches. The chairman, vice-chairman, the secretary and treasurer of the Advisory Board are elected annually from the general membership.

Requirements for Opening Branches

The following requirements must be met by all local Coordinating Council districts desiring to establish branches:

1. A suitable location for the Toy Loan Branch must be obtained. (This location should be apart from a room

used for any other activities and should be of sufficient size to allow for expansion of the Toy Loan Branch.)

2. One thousand usable toys (exclusive of dolls) must be secured. These toys become the property of the Toy Loan to be used as desired.

The required number of toys must be obtained within sixty days after the first toys have been forwarded to the workshop for credit. If the entire number is not obtained within sixty days, all toys sent to the workshop become the property of the Toy Loan and will be considered as a donation to be distributed to the existing branches for circulation.

3. Five hundred usable toys (exclusive of dolls) must be secured annually for each Toy Loan in operation.

Toy Loan Facilities

Toy Loan Branches. As has been stated, each Toy Loan committee must provide a suitable location and, through donations, services and materials, shelving, storage space, chairs and desks. Branches are established in various types of locations such as schools, public libraries, Boy Scout headquarters, playgrounds, community centers and parks, according to a community's facilities. Ample quarters are required which will permit the use of space that can be devoted exclusively to Toy Loan work. It has been found undesirable to house a Toy Loan Branch in a room with any other activities.

In deciding upon the location of a branch consideration should be given to the distance children will be required to go from their homes and schools. The ideal location is one between the schools and the children's homes on a thorough-

fare not too heavily trafficked. Many of the branches have been attractively decorated by artists and club groups have provided curtains, flower boxes and other articles which help to beautify the center.

Toy Loan Centers. The popularity of Toy Loan Branches has in many instances necessitated



removal to larger quarters. Farsighted communities have provided new locations with sufficient space not only for the lending of toys but for the expansion of Toy Loan activities. Frequently Toy Loan Branches become centers which offer, in addition to facilities for lending toys, quarters for cooking and sewing classes, for airplane building instruction for the older children and storytelling periods for the younger. Such Toy Loan centers have become recognized as community resources, and social work agencies are referring to them many children who lack recreational opportunities. Several of the centers are already being built on city and county owned property so that they will become permanent locations for the Toy Loan activities in their communities.

Central Toy Loan Office. The central Toy Loan office is located in the same building as the workshop, thus permitting close supervision of all activities. The central office provides office space for the director of Toy Loan activities, the supervisor of the workshop and branches, chief toy-rarian, the statistician, timekeeper, secretary and supply clerk.

The Workshop. Operating as a central repair department for all toys used in the Toy Loan Branches, the Toy Loan workshop is beyond doubt the most highly specialized doll and repair center in the country. Skilled workers are employed and special repair materials from all parts of the nation are used in efficiently rehabilitating the many types of toys, dolls and games received. Six departments carry on their special duties under the direction of a shop foreman. Toys received are segregated and placed in the wood-working, mechanical, wheel goods and doll departments for repair. Repaired toys are taken to the paint department for final rejuvenation and then sent to the stock room for numbering and delivery to the branches. A biweekly schedule is maintained by the delivery department to service the branches.

During the twelve months of 1937, 20,451 toys, dolls and games were repaired in the various departments as follows:

Woodworking Department . . .	6,757
Mechanical Department	8,963
Wheel Goods Department	2,244
Doll Department	2,487

Through the efforts of the toy committees, the number of toys on hand in December, 1937 was 17,389. Of this number 7,150 toys were in the eighteen branches, 5,134 toys were repaired and

on hand ready for delivery to the branches, and 5,150 toys were in the various departments of the workshop in the process of being repaired.

The Toyrarian Training School

A training school for new toyrrarians is located in the central Toy Loan office and workshop to instruct new branch workers in the uniform lending system used in all branches. These workers are chosen on the basis of qualifications which enable them to meet the threefold requirements of work in the district branches. They must be familiar with community organization, understand child psychology, and have a working knowledge of reports and general operating systems. Every toyrrarian is given a complete training course for a sufficient period of time to indicate that she is familiar with the required operations of a Toy Loan Branch. The proximity of the training school to the office and workshop enables the new worker to familiarize herself with general operations of the repair department and know what types of toys are available for lending.

Methods of Procedure

Any child between the ages of two and sixteen may become a member of Toy Loan by making application for a card which is signed by the child's parent and returned to the toyrrarian. A borrower's card is made out in the name of the child and retained in the branch. Toys may be borrowed for seven or fourteen day periods. Special cards are issued to schools and churches giving one person the right to take out sufficient toys for a group of children for a period of a month.

To instill the value of honesty, promptness and care of property in the members of Toy Loan, a code of honor is encouraged by a system of "honor borrowing." When a child borrows a toy and returns it on time and in good condition, his card is marked with an "S," which indicates satisfactory treatment. After a sufficient number of "S" marks appear on the card the borrower becomes an "honor borrower." This places his name on the honor roll plaque in the branch and entitles him to choose toys which are most desirable. Periodically incentive presents are distributed to the honor borrowers. These are usually attractive but non-durable toys or games received in toy drives. Toy branch parties are often given for honor borrowers.

Dolls are the one exception to the rules of Toy Loan. Since almost every little girl becomes attached to a doll and wants it for her own, even though she may never have owned one before, to have to return it might cause sorrow. Any little girl may choose a doll and take it home with her on probation. At the end of each two weeks' period for six weeks she returns to the branch with her doll. If it has been properly cared for during this period the child becomes the legal guardian of the doll and receives an adoption paper similar to a legal document of adoption. During the years 1936 and 1937, 1,871 dolls were adopted.

A delivery of newly repaired and painted toys is made to each branch every two weeks in exchange for the broken ones and those which have become less popular. This provides a constantly changing group of toys from which the children may make their selections and provides a wide variety of toys and games available to each district operating a Toy Loan Branch in the county.

Suggestions for Organization

1. Set up a Coordinating Council Toy Committee of active members, who are willing to work.
2. Request the presence of the Director of Toy Loan Activities at the preliminary committee meeting for advice.
3. Find a suitable location for the branch.
4. Devote four weeks for toy drive publicity, devoting the first two weeks to educational Toy Loan information and the second two weeks to specific information regarding the toy drive.
5. Make direct contacts with organizations to encourage individual drives.
6. Forward the Council application for a Toy Branch to the Toy Loan Advisory Board.
7. Plan on several types of drives, such as, house to house, schools, general community, theaters, and special organizations.
8. Obtain locally donated truck services for toy drive pick-ups within the community and for all toys to be taken to the workshop.
9. Arrange for shelving, storage cupboards, chairs and desks, and other desired equipment for the branch, through community donations of services and material or equipment.
10. Notify the central office two weeks in advance of opening, to permit a Toyarian to be requested and trained for the branch.
11. Notify the community at large of the opening date and establish open house.
12. Publicize Toy Loan within the community, through a weekly newspaper column and inform parents regarding the local branch. This will increase membership and community cooperation.
13. Establish a permanent monthly date for Toy Committee meetings and advise the central Toy Loan office of this, so the Director of Toy Loan Activities may be present.
14. Carry on permanent Toy Committee activities and report such activities to the Coordinating Council.
15. Build up branch activities and notify the public of them.
16. Encourage visitors from the community to see the local branch and the central workshop in Los Angeles.

The Toy Loan Application Card
 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
 L. A. COUNTY TOY LOAN

Name..... Address

Age..... Grade..... School.....

I agree to see that reasonable care is taken of toys borrowed and that they are returned promptly.

No responsibility is assumed by Toy Loan for any accident which may occur in the use of toys.

Parent's Signature.....

Dear Parent:

Your child is interested in the local Toy Loan Branch at

Toys are loaned free on a 7 and 14 day time period. The toys are completely renovated and disinfected before releasing to another child. There are absolutely no fines for delay in returning toys or for toys that are broken. However, we want the toys taken care of and returned in as good condition as possible.

We would appreciate your cooperation and feel sure that your child will benefit by using Toy Loan, which is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Probation Department through the Los Angeles County Coordinating Councils.

Please fill out and return both cards.

More Than "Mere Puppets"!

By GRACE MOORE PATRICK
Decatur, Illinois

IT ALL STARTED in September, 1936, when the Recreation Department of WPA brought George New, a young puppeteer, from St. Louis to Decatur to supervise recreational puppetry in the central part of Illinois. It was then that a group of Decaturites actively expressed themselves by asking the city's Recreation Association for a class in puppetry. George New was given the task of developing this interest. Now, two years later, Decatur has a permanent puppet play shop with complete facilities for making and producing plays with any kind of puppets. Here enthusiastic children and adults come from all over the city to play together under skilled leadership. Puppetry is definitely a part of the year round program of the Decatur Recreation Association.

This city-wide puppet program grew out of the activities of Decatur's first puppet organization—the Decatur Marionette Guild. The Guild is a dramatic organization purposing "to develop and further puppetry as a community-wide and creative leisure time activity." There are no fees for membership, the only requirement being a signed pledge to cooperate fully with the director. Membership is open to any adult or older child, and in December, 1937, there were forty members ranging in age from fourteen to sixty, including people interested in such fields as art, music, dramatics, design and writing.

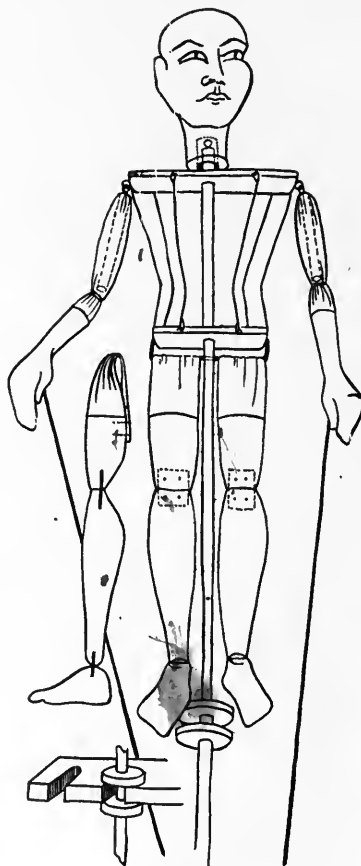
The best things the Decatur Marionette Guild has accomplished cannot be put down on paper—the satisfaction of self-expression of a great number of talented individuals; the feeling of comradeship developed by working and playing together; the awakening of a community feeling for puppetry—these are things we have accomplished. But it is impossible to get a

Guild member to admit anything more noble or sentimental than "loads of fun." In fact, as a newcomer to the Guild last summer, I had to borrow the official scrap book of the organization and read newspaper clippings in order to find out just what kind of an institution I had joined. Everyone was always too busy making a puppet, painting a scene, rehearsing lines or adjusting lighting effects to explain any elaborate organization plan to me. There was no such plan—no one had ever stopped to worry about a "stuffy" constitution!

Through clippings I discovered that the Guild, with the cooperation of WPA, the Association of Commerce, and the city's Recreation Department brought Decatur its most popular and democratic Christmas gift in 1936—puppet shows in the specially built puppet theater in Central Park, the heart of Decatur's shopping district. These shows

were so well received that 50,000 citizens asked for the same gift annually—indefinitely. On December 1, 1937, the Guild presented the results of another six weeks of concentrated cooperative work, "Santa Claus's Toyland Revue," and the sacred "Nativity" play. A permanent puppet stage was built in Central park, a stage that can be moved from one park to another all through the year, and the Association of Commerce opened its purse wide to furnish the stage with an elaborate switchboard, rheostats, cyclorama, public address system—in fact, all the physical equipment our hearts desired.

Standing on straw which protects the beautiful Central Park lawn, 3,000 citizens of Decatur, a third of them children, saw the opening of a month of daily puppet shows on Friday after Thanksgiving. The next day, 5,000 people, with as many broad



Courtesy Decatur Marionette Guild

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Development of Rhythmic Therapy for Women

By MARION BOW HAMMOND, B. A.
Recreational Director for Women
Milwaukee Sanitarium

DURING the past thirty years rapid strides have been made in the treatment of the mentally ill. These experiments have developed a new therapy called recreational therapy.

Rhythmic therapy, as an adjunctive of recreational therapy, is an attempt in physical education made by the therapist to induct the mental or nervous patient into suitable corrective and postural exercises by way of music. The music not only creates a pleasing background of attention but through beat, accent and rhythm, much of the confusion of command is eliminated. In other words, because of its simplicity and its regulation of tempo, it creates an ideal set-up for class work in physical exercise for the nervous or mentally ill. The instructor demonstrates the exercise; then the accompanist, instructor and class work together, the class following principally by imitation.

Importance of Trained Leadership

Many patients work much better when the instructor continues to work with them. This is quite a different method than that commonly accepted as best, pedagogically speaking. Herein lies the difference; individuals who are in normal mental health can be carried through by one demonstration of the instructor and, upon signal, continue to exercise until stopped, giving the instructor a chance to observe their execution, to criticize, encourage and correct the individual during that time. In the case of the mentally ill, experience proves that the patient's enthusiasm and perfection of execution is directly imitative, conditioned, of course, by the individual inhibitions of age.

A class of this kind works through imitation and depends so much upon it that time and again a member will imitate even the mannerisms of her instructor, tuck in a lock of hair or scratch her nose when she does. So it behooves the instructor to imbue patients with some of her own enthusiasm by actually doing an activity with them, thereby emphasizing the way it is to be done rather than the consequence or even the perfecting of it. In this connection it is important to note that the instructor should have such a per-

sonality that this method may operate successfully.

Because this therapy is a specialized prescription, it is important that the instructor be a trained therapist either with a specialized degree in physical education which would include a thorough knowledge of bones, muscles, and body functions and ground work in recreational teaching, or else at least a year's training in physical therapy with additional work in recreation. Dr. Coulter, in a paper read at the Tri-State Hospital Assembly held in Chicago, Illinois, emphasized the importance of such qualifications of training in therapists.

Such an attitude of instructor to class should and does reach both neurasthenics and hypochondriacs. In the case of the former the response is splendid, because the activity is non-competitive and limited enough to avoid fatigue; in the case of the latter, the music, which induces smoothness and ease in execution, also redirects the mind from the continuous attention to the "function" of the bodily organs to a "pleasure" in the use of the muscles of the body rhythmically and correctly.

Dr. William van de Wall has conducted many experiments proving that music is a "mood conditioner." He has used it in mental hospitals as has William James. Dr. van de Wall's findings and demonstrations are thoroughly explained in an article by Dora K. Antrim in the May 1937 issue of the *Rotarian*.

The Musician and the Music

Special care must be taken in the choice of a musician. Notice the word "musician"—not "piano player"—one who has a feeling for fine music and a technique that can produce tone either to infect the patients with more pep or to soothe. Tact should be used in the choice of suitable selections. One rendering of "Old Kentucky Home" reduced three out of six in a class to tears, and one playing of Sibelius' "Valse Triste" with its minor cadences caused a patient to become excited. Familiar pieces are splendid if some care is taken in their choice, and above all a variety is desirable; one can't march to Grainger's "Country Gardens" every day of the year!

Since there is this proved value in music therapy and it is then added to the modality of exercise which is so much needed in the social and physical rehabilitation of the mentally ill, the combination is the secret that will motivate the patient into action. Some of the same patients in one sanitarium have attended a class using this modality daily for eighteen months at a time, with no undue pressure to attend brought to bear, and found it "the shortest hour of their day."

When the spirit and mental processes are congealed, as in the case of depressions, the physical posture also congeals, so to speak. The posture crumbles; the head drops forward; there is an abandoned expression of the torso as well as the face, taking effect in a relaxed abdominal wall, sagging knees, and shrugged shoulders. Postural corrective exercises can be administered painlessly when there is music to make it easy and a good instructor to demonstrate, correct and direct. In one sanitarium this experiment was called "rhythmic therapy" and was established as a regular daily routine for the convalescent patients. In the class were manic depressives, early cases of dementia praecox, and the psycho-neuroses.

Class Procedure

The class routine must be diversified with a prevalently slow tempo. The day's lesson carries the opening exhilaratory and respiratory exercises, two or three deep rhythmic breathing exercises, several big muscle exercises using extension, flexion and stretch, at least one tension and release exercise, one or two postural exercises that will lift the ribs, line up the shoulders and hips and strengthen weak feet, and some floor work, with its unsurpassed value for women in the way of correction of pelvic tilt. Finally, some dancing—tap, folk, modern creative, or social, all in a simplified form—should be included.

Large muscle activities must be the only kind used because of their special strengthening and circulatory value. If the patients have objects in their hands to work with, such as Indian clubs for simplified club swinging, small rubber balls for musical ball drills, jump ropes, strips of cloth for tension and release exercises, their attention is more closely held and the tendency to jerk is eliminated.

In the State Hospital at Elgin, Illinois, roller skates have been used with success. Mr. Viggo Bjarberg, in his vast and venturesome experience in the use of recreational therapy, has found

music very valuable. His research work at Kankakee and Dundee, Illinois, proved how much can be accomplished with very manic patients. Dr. Bush of the Burke foundation at White Plains, New York, and Mr. John Eisele Davis, play director at Perry Point, Maryland's veteran hospital, also agree on these points.

All exercises must be interspersed with moments of complete relaxation to music, and a theme song for relaxation may be used with success. This hour class must vary every day in the form in which the exercises are presented; their aim, the dose, should be maintained, but the administration changed daily and "swing" added. The last fifteen minutes of the lesson, the only part that will carry daily repetition, consists of a group game involving teamwork and necessary cooperation among the participants. This form of cooperation is alien to anyone in a depression because of his ego concentration at that time. Therein lies its value. The patients have to depend on each other to make the ball go over the net in order to get any fun out of it. This cooperation occurs in spite of themselves and a patient that responds to nothing else will often respond here.

Values of Games

The game which is most suitable for this purpose for women is bounce ball. The rules are simple, resembling volley ball; the timing is simplified because of the bounce, and the game, with slight changes of rules, can progress from a simple game to a more skillful one. This game may also be played outdoors on a grass or clay court in good weather.

Correct timing, which is natural and instinctive in a person of normal mental health, is often very poor in depression, and it is fascinating to see it slowly improve in a game of this sort. One patient who was tied up into an almost crippled posture because of extreme tenseness, gradually acquired enough freedom in a class of this sort to run a few steps, and even to skip a little, to raise her foot over head when lying prone, and to dance with enjoyment. She was not a young person, probably between fifty-five and sixty-five years of age, and her first sign of interest, which came during the game period of the hour, took the form of a decided interest in the score—a desire to win. The first words of social conversation she ever uttered in class were about the score.

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Brockton's Art Project

A PAINTING ten feet long and four feet high depicting an old-time scene from Brockton's history is now in the possession of Massachusetts' "shoe city" as the result of a WPA project conducted under the leadership of Daniel M. Creedon, Director, and Sidney V. Wright, Instructor.

Participants in this project spent more than three months completing this picture, the subject of which is Caleb Howard's "Grist Mill" which, in 1820, was a landmark in the community. There were no pictures of the site available, so the students were assigned the task of studying the history of the city and looking up old maps of the period. The public library gave splendid cooperation in the project. Four students left their individual assignments for half-hour periods to work on the project; at the end of the period other students relieved them.

When this large painting had been completed each student was given a subject associated with the city's history on which to do further research. Following the research the individual artist made a pencil sketch of his interpretation of the subject. From these sketches he proceeded to make individual paintings four feet long and three feet high.

Not one, but twenty artists, took part in this pictorial excursion into the history of a Massachusetts' community

Interest in the art project is maintained by exhibits at public places. Each exhibit is planned weeks in advance, and a story is given the local newspaper before the exhibit and again when the pictures are being shown. The story gives the names of the students and tells of the work they have done.

There is always an increase in attendance at the classroom after each exhibit. Classes are conducted very informally; students may walk around, talk to one another and exchange ideas. There are no restrictions as to the subject students may work on. Some like to paint landscapes, while others prefer portraits, boats, or still life.

Other arts and crafts projects in the Brockton program include poster-making, metal craft, clay modeling, and wood craft. Drawing and painting, however, have the first preference, with poster-making second.

The Federal Arts Project of the Works Progress Administration, which operates under four subdivisions—art, music, writing and the theater—has employed thousands of actors, artists, writers and musicians, and has utilized their talents for the benefit of the entire country. The writers created the American Guide series which has come to be widely known.

Music and the Theater for American Children

WITHIN THE LAST four years there has been a long delayed awakening in the United States to the need for the cultural education of children. Until then the philharmonic concerts in a few big cities were the only attempts at bringing fine, artistic programs to young people in their after-school hours. The small-town youngsters all over the country and the children with very little money to spend for the most part knew only one form of entertainment—the motion pictures produced for adult consumption. A few theaters for children had grown up, but many had vanished. Except for local amateur plays produced by groups such as the Association of Junior Leagues of America and some commercial touring companies with varied standards of production averaging little above the mediocre, music, opera, ballet and the stage with living professional actors were unknown to the American child. Dozens of marionette and puppet shows sprang into being, but only in a few cases were they of high artistic quality. Parents, and even schools, were so glad to have any experience in drama or music offered to the children that they welcomed everything and anything without discrimination.

A Small Community Leads the Way

Then, about four years ago, one small community changed the entire picture of cultural entertainment for children. A group of mothers representing the parents' and women's organizations of the town organized a special committee and brought in eight entertainments by fine professional adult artists. One performance a month, at ten cents a seat, was offered the children—each program being entirely different from the others. Among them were a small opera company with "Hansel and Gretel"; a symphonic ensemble of fifteen men; a play; a naturalist with films of animals; a marionette show. The variety offered attracted children of different interests. The season ticket brought children to performances which they would not have come to otherwise, but which they were surprised to find they enjoyed.

To the amazement of the committee 2,000 children

bought season tickets, and it was necessary to repeat each program twice to accommodate the audience. The series of entertainments was a success in every way, even financially. And soon other towns nearby asked the committee for help in organizing similar projects in their own school auditoriums. Some offered performances on Saturdays, when there was no school. Others found that weekday performances given immediately after school attracted the children in large groups. All kept their ticket prices as low as possible and gave away many seats to children who couldn't afford to purchase tickets, including the inmates of orphanages and hospitals for the crippled. At last the average child and the underprivileged were given an opportunity to see beautifully staged plays, to hear fairy tale operas and ballets, symphonic concerts and folk songs, to watch skillfully manipulated puppets and marionettes, to learn what fun monologues and travel tales and other forms of amusement could be.

A New Service Is Organized

Educators awoke to the educational value of such material, absorbed by young audiences under the guise of fun amid laughter and applause. Small towns and large cities began to clamor for suggestions as to methods of bringing such programs to their youth. And so in August 1936, after a period of several years' careful study and experimenting, a non-commercial service organization named Junior Programs, Inc., was formed. The board of directors and advisory council were made up of educators, patrons of the arts, and representatives of national organizations interested in child welfare and recreation, music and drama. Junior Programs was set up to serve as a clearing house for educationally valuable entertainments for youth. The staff and advisors preview and carefully select artists who have done or want to do programs for children, sometimes holding special previews before children so that their reactions may be observed to suggest needed changes.

The organization produced the first story-book ballet, with narrator, "Pinocchio,"

Two years ago a new, non-commercial organization came into being to assist community groups in providing the best possible type of cultural entertainment for children. Junior Programs, Inc., with headquarters at 221 West 57th Street, New York City, will be glad to send you further information regarding its activities.

ever to tour America, an extremely successful production which continues in the repertoire after two seasons. Anderson's tale, "The Princess and the Swineherd," was next produced in ballet form, proving further the success of the novel theatrical technique devised for children. And for the coming season still an-



other narrative ballet based on Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be produced. Heading the Junior Programs Ballet Company is the eminent American dancer Edwin Strawbridge, who also devises the choreography for these productions. He is capably assisted by a corps of professional ballet dancers.

Junior Programs also has its own opera company, composed of youthful stars associated with the New York Opera Comique, San Carlo, Chicago and other opera companies. Their calibre may be measured by the fact that three of them have already graduated to the Metropolitan. In the opera repertoire are the classic "Hansel and Gretel," and a new opera adapted from Rimsky-Korsakov's "Tsar Saltan," which was renamed "The Bumble Bee Prince" and given its premiere in America before audiences of children.

An original play, "The Reward of the Sun God," based on an authentic Hopi Indian legend and adapted by the author John Louw Nelson from his best-selling book on Indian life, *Rhythm for Rain*, is also included in the repertoire. It toured successfully last year, performing before nearly 50,000 children and proving a valuable aid in classroom studies of Indian life as well as entertainment with a special appeal to youngsters.

Other performances in the Junior Programs list include various instrumental and vocal groups who present the more intimate type of young people's concerts, a naturalist who shows films of bird life; an artist who draws stories of the ballets of Debussy and other famous composers while their music is being played; illustrated

From "The Princess and the Swineherd," as presented by the Children's Theater of the University of Oklahoma at Tulsa

travel talks; marionettes, puppets, and skillfully devised shows dramatizing scientific progress, a chemistry show and an aviation show.

Junior Programs sent out these offerings last season to twenty-nine states and Canada, as far West as Wisconsin, and South to Georgia and Oklahoma, its performers traveling 30,000 miles to play 242 times before an audience of half a million children. Its field secretaries assisted the local committees, parent-teacher groups, schools, women's clubs and Junior Leagues, who sponsored the performances, in selecting and promoting their series of entertainments. In each community the activity inspired the enthusiasm attendant upon projects related to the general welfare, and always the ticket prices were kept down to the ten, fifteen, and twenty-five cent average to make the opportunities available to every child.

Audiences at Junior Programs' performances have ranged from a few hundred to over 6,000 children of the ages of four to fifteen. They are usually presented in school auditoriums in order to keep expenses down and take advantage of the light and airy atmosphere impossible in a theater. Some towns give only one or two programs a year; others present more. Many include their local amateur plays in the series and have raised their standards of production in the process. The ballets are probably the most popular productions,

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How Two Cities Did It!

IN AN ARTICLE published in the *Corpus Christi on Parade* of June 1936, entitled "Recreation for Corpus Christi," the question "Why should a public recreation program be provided for in Corpus Christi?" was raised. Now, after a vacation season in which a foundation has been laid for a public recreation department, we can look back for our answer—the need for, and response to, such a program on the part of the city's citizens.

During May of 1936, members of the local Parent-Teachers organization took action to have a supervised play center for children established and maintained throughout the vacation months. The cooperation of the Parks Department was obtained and a supervisor employed.

The chosen center, South Bluff Park, was opened on June fifteenth with very little equipment other than stationary apparatus. Fortunately for the success of the program, civic-minded individuals, organizations and business concerns without solicitation soon donated further equipment. Some of the gifts included two softballs and bats, two volley ball sets, two croquet sets, two horseshoe sets, two sets of dominoes, several checker games, jump ropes and lariats, washer-toss games, a water cooler and bulletin boards.

The center was opened under supervision on week days from eight until eleven A. M., and from three P. M. until dark, and on Saturday from eleven P. M. till dark. As more playing time was warranted by increased attendance, the softball field lights were used for after-dark, free-play periods. No regular Sunday leadership was provided, but special activities such as tennis meets and softball games were carried on.

All the equipment was put into use every day. Little cliques of children began to form which appeared regularly shortly after the open-

It is always of interest to groups planning for a community-wide recreation program to know how other cities went about starting their activities, and to follow the steps they took in an effort to make the work permanent. And so we are presenting a report of recreation progress in Corpus Christi, Texas, and in Painesville, Ohio.

ing of the center. The smaller children of pre-school and primary ages sought out the croquet sets, jump-ropes and stationary apparatus. The larger ones took part in varied programs which included daily tennis instruction, softball games, shuffleboard, acrobatics, croquet, volley ball, tap dancing, general

first-aid instruction and safety study. Dominoes and checkers were in constant use in the shade. A few adults, too, slipped in on the tennis classes and some of the games.

Each week terminated with a special informal Saturday program. Group and individual contests were held in rope jumping, bar-chinning, ball-throwing, horizontal ladder stunts, relay races and "parlor" stunts. Saturday attendance was always high.

In addition to the games for children on Saturdays, picnic and family groups were given special attention. They were encouraged to use the equipment and to share in games. Upon request special supervision was provided for large picnic groups.

Tennis proved to be the leading summer sport. The appearance of new paint, a practice board and bulletin boards at once enlivened the general atmosphere of the courts. And even more to the expressed satisfaction of the players was the establishment of definite rules governing the use of the courts. The "first-come, hog-it-all-day" play-

ers who had monopolized the courts learned to concede them with good grace to waiting players when the allotted time was up. Business people welcomed the privilege of reserving courts after 4:30 P. M. The thirty minutes allotted for singles and forty minutes for doubles held throughout the day.

The open elimination tennis tournament held in July received an enthusiastic response from some fifty players. Prizes and awards donated by local sporting goods

In May 1936 Corpus Christi took its first step to establish a public recreation project when, under the auspices of the Parent-Teachers Council and with the cooperation of the City, a temporary Recreation Council was appointed and funds were made available to employ one play director and purchase a minimum of play equipment for a four-month trial period. In November 1936, under the sponsorship of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, a permanent Recreation Council was appointed. In February 1938 a constitution was adopted. On June seventh of this year an ordinance was passed by the City Council making the Recreation Council an official municipal body and defining its powers and duties.

stores geared sportsman rivalry to high pitch. From the results of this elimination tournament a ladder tournament was drawn up and actively conducted throughout the remainder of the season. Many players from the beginners class found their way into this tournament before the end of the season.

Tennis challenges were accepted for inter-city matches with Laredo and Ingleside. These meets were conducted as special Sunday afternoon activities due to the fact that the players, being for the most part, business people, were unable to play on any other day. Non-playing spectators formed large, interested groups on the side lines.

The "Bike Rodeo" held August 10 to 15 proved to be one of the outstanding special programs. Some sixty cyclists matched their wits and skill in the week's activities. Educational trips through a bottling plant and an ice plant were taken by this group. Special attention was given to industrial safety precautions. A retired professional cyclist performed on a monocycle and bicycle and lectured on bicycle and traffic safety as a climax to the last day's "rodeo" events.

Shuffleboard and croquet champions were named at the end of informal elimination tournaments in those games.

The information regarding Corpus Christi was sent us by Hugh T. Henry. His statement, it should be noted, was published a month after the closing of the demonstration period of four months which he describes for us. Since that date the program has expanded greatly, and on the twenty-eighth of September the fall season opened at seven recreation centers including three school grounds. Sixteen workers are to be employed. Material advance has also been made in the provision of additional park facilities.

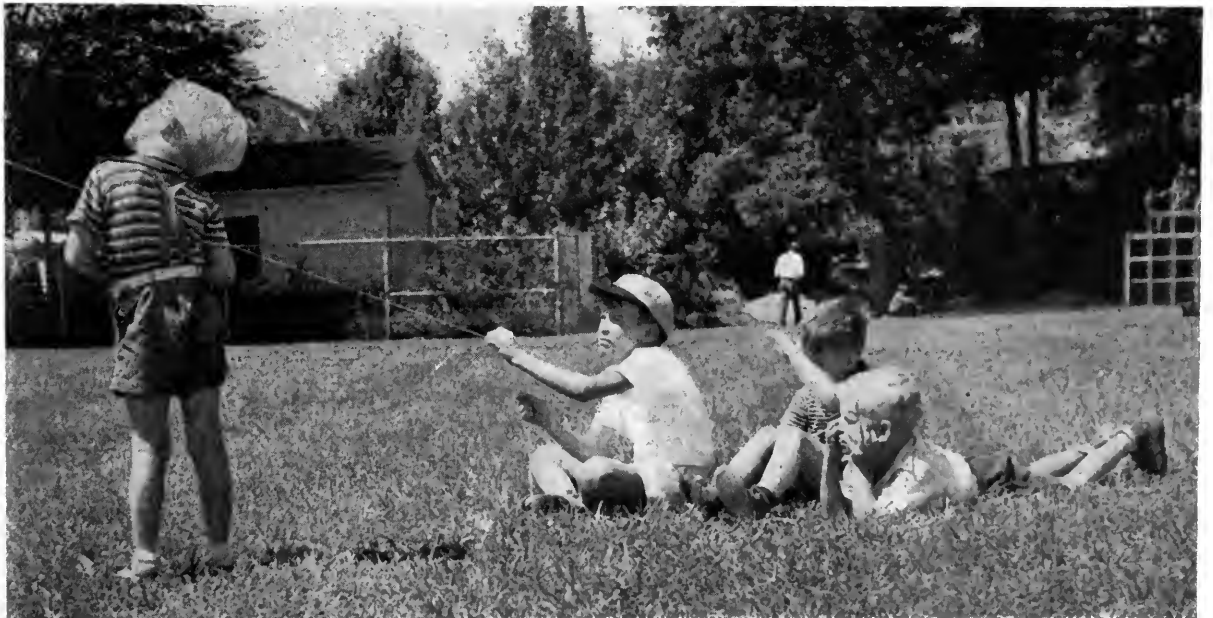
In response to several requests a softball league composed of four fraternal club teams was formed. Its success was attributed largely to the use of the softball field lights, which permitted after-dark play in the cool of the evening. These games afforded pleasure to many spectators as well as to the players. Interest was especially high on the one night

that an amplifying system was used to announce the play.

The need for extended play time in the cool of the day when more persons were free resulted in Tuesday and Saturday play periods under the lights from 7:45 till 9:30 P. M. The group using these periods grew steadily until as many as 200 persons were using the lighted field at the same time as participants or spectators. This increase in attendance was particularly great in the older adolescent groups and the family groups.

Throughout this program the development of individual physical and mental well-being, social cooperation, civic interest, sportsmanship and leadership were the objectives held foremost in planning and carrying out those activities which answer the recognized human need for recreation.

Need for public recreation program has been proven by the response of the citizens of Corpus



Courtesy Leo Meister, Photographer, Newark, N. J.

Christi. As people became aware that the recreation center afforded them more than free-play apparatus, they began turning out in larger numbers and with increasing regularity. Thus the 600 scattered participants of the first week increased to approximately 1,500 by the last week, proving that there is a desire for appreciation of a supervised recreation department for this city. That this desire is held on the part of adults as well as children is attested to by the fact that the final weeks found about fifteen per cent of the participants to be adults even though no great attention had been given to them.

If this degree of success can be achieved with one recreation center and one active worker, we might well turn our thoughts to the potential benefits of a city-wide, year-a-round recreation program.

Recreation Progress in Painesville

It is significant to note that back of the organizing of recreation in Painesville, Ohio, was a study inaugurated by the Kiwanis Club, after a talk by the Juvenile Court judge had brought home the fact that certain areas of the city lacked the facilities of any organized recreation program. With this information, a group of citizens headed by the chairman of the Kiwanis Underprivileged Child Committee, and the principal of the high school, went before the City Council with the proposal that if the City Council would pay the salary of a director a group of citizens would raise the funds necessary to pay for the equipment.

As a first step, the City Council appointed a city-wide Recreation Council composed of delegates from the various interested groups. This Council is still at the head of the program.

On June 20th of this year, the director, with three paid summer assistants, began work on one playground, Recreation Park, located on the East edge of the city. By July 20th there were eight playgrounds in operation at strategic points, with five local councils actively engaged in promoting the work. Only one person in the more than fifty asked to serve on the local neighborhood councils refused!

At the Southside playground, the local Council went out and secured enough materials and

labor help from the people in the community to set up four teeters, six swings, two ball diamonds and two horseshoe pits. The other local councils have taken their cue from this start.

The actual program started with city-wide softball and baseball leagues at each of the playgrounds. At Recreation Park alone more than twenty teams entered the first year of play. For several weeks local field days were held at the various neighborhood playgrounds in which more than 800 children participated. As a fitting climax to this program, a city-wide field day meet was conducted for the winners of the local grounds. Approximately 300 children participated in these finals. In the evening, the Recreation Department, in cooperation with the local paper, the *Painesville Telegraph*, staged a big amateur show. Fifty-one persons took part before a crowd of more than 2,000 persons, the largest gathering ever had for such an outdoor event in this community.

Stanley Prague, Director of Recreation in Painesville, Ohio, attributes the success of the program in that city to the whole-hearted service rendered by public-spirited citizens who volunteered to serve on local councils, and to promote in their respective districts the general plan which the Director of Recreation had outlined.

In organizing the local neighborhood councils the chairman of each group saw to it that every man and woman on the committee had a definite job to do. The publicity chairmen have found that if they do not put in the articles that they wish published they aren't printed! One publicity chairman is so inter-

ested in his work that when he picked up an edition of the paper at 11 P. M. one evening and it failed to carry the story that he had sent in, he called the office immediately to see why it was left out!

This interest which has come from the rank and file of the citizenry did not die out as a paid director took charge, as is too often the case, but rather has increased as the program has grown. As an example of this interest, one of the staff of a local garage has volunteered to lead a class in mechanics. This same sort of response is being found among all the local councils. A large degree of responsibility for the carrying out of the program is placed upon the councils.

One of the essential features of the recreation program in this city is that it does not usurp an activity already started by any other organization. For instance, the Y.M.C.A. has always conducted a marble tournament. The City Recreation De-

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Looking into the Recreational Past

IF THERE is any fact that can be stated with certainty it is that all peoples of the world have some form of recreation.

Regardless of their state of culture, even when it is akin to that of the Stone Age, aborigines have a few well-developed games. In some instances, as with the Witotos Indians of interior Brazil and the Ainus of Japan, the aborigines did not even know how to kindle a fire. Yet these two tribes, separated in distant parts of the world, had games that could be played in their leisure time.

Today there are people in America who engage in sports not for the joy of it but because of the health element involved. The anthropologist, in studying primitive recreation, finds that in the case of ancient peoples the majority of games were not played for the sheer fun of it. Most of the games were devised by the tribes to train youths for battle; thus there was a definite connection between games and physical combat. Among the American Indians, games were developed to the point where they became an actual part of preparation for war.

The Samoans still have a variety of games of a competitive nature, as they had before civilization. Both sexes engage in boxing and wrestling. The men enjoy throwing spears for accuracy, and distance throwing. The Samoans are also fond of tree climbing as a sport. The entire village comes out to watch these matches. Canoe racing is another popular sport. Other amusements are hide-and-seek, forfeits, and riddles. As with other primitive people, however, dancing is their favorite pastime. This activity is so important to the Samoans that a poor dancer labors under a decided social handicap!

The Ainus of Japan, a tribe of hairy aborigines who considered bathing an admission of filthiness and did not regard themselves as dirty, enjoyed an odd sort of game in which a man leans forward and allows another man to beat his bare back with a club wrapped in a cloth. The winner of the game is the player who can take the most blows.

The Kazaks (not to be confused with the Russian Cossacks), living in Siberia, and one of the few peoples on the earth practicing polyandry, have a very low state of culture but a highly organized group of games. They play knucklebones

Through deep delving into little known or forgotten books and old documents, some interesting facts about primitive recreation have been brought to light

By BERT SEIDELL

—a kind of checkers, guessing games, forfeits, riddles, and masquerades. They enjoy wrestling and high jumping over a rope. A highly favored sport is a running broad jump over the backs of three or four squatting comrades.

The Polar Eskimos are one group of individuals, according to Peter Fruchten, Rasmussen Amundson, and other Arctic travelers who have observed them, who are capable of enjoying themselves thoroughly. The Eskimos like to gather together in a large hut and take part in boxing and wrestling bouts, pulling and lifting contests, and ball-playing with a stuffed sealskin ball. They also enjoy playing a cup and pin game in which a bone perforated with two holes is tossed in the air and caught with a pointed stick.

The Hopis of Arizona are fond of games of all kinds. The children play with stilts, pea-shooters, and tops spun with whips. The adults cast reed dice, throw feathered corn-cob darts at a ring, and play cup and ball. The object of the latter game is to guess under which of four wooden cups a pebble is concealed. The Hopis also carry on archery contests and impromptu wrestling bouts, and play shimmy with an oak club and a buckskin ball. Long distance running, however, is the great national sport. The swiftest runners are honored, and a foot race forms an integral part of nearly every religious ceremony. Dancing is also extremely important, and has a recreational and religious significance.

The Todas of Southern India, like other primitive peoples, enjoy lifting and jumping contests. They are also fond of riddles. The Tasmanian, off the coast of Australia, for his recreation sets up marks and throws spears at them.

On Lake Victoria in Africa live a Negro people called the Gandas of Uganda. In addition to

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A Texan Community Introduces Roque

RESIDENTS of Quanah, Texas, with enthusiasm characteristic of the great Southwest, are experiencing alternating delight and exasperation as they struggle to master the intricacies of roque, a game played with paraphernalia similar to croquet but as different from that front lawn pastime as 18.2 billiards is from pool.

Subtract "c" and "t" from croquet and you have roque—that game of skill which to many players is as fascinating, and as aggravating, as golf!

"high-falutin' croquet," quickly found it was a far different game from anything they imagined. The story goes that many years ago a group of crack croquet players, feeling that the game was much too simple, decided to make it harder. They did. They cut off the "c" and lopped off the "t" and there they had roque, pronounced "roke."



For years roque has been popular in many sections of the country where it is recognized as a sport requiring a high degree of skill, but in the minds of most Americans it was considered little more than a refinement of croquet—that is until they tried it. Then they discovered, as the folks down Quanah way are learning, that it can be as fascinating, and as aggravating, as golf.

Quanah's keen interest in the game has resulted from the construction by the Works Progress Administration of six regulation roque courts as part of a recreational development of a plot 600 feet by 300 feet which will contain tennis courts, a wading pool, a play bed, lily pool and baseball diamond. Landscaping of the grounds also is included in the project.

The six courts, each 32 by 64 feet, were completed, and Quanah's citizens, having a go at this

The Quanah courts are of rolled sandy clay four inches deep, enclosed by concrete walls sloped at an acute angle to give the balls the proper rebound. There are ten arches—don't ever call them wickets—of which four are at each end of the court and two are in the center. These arches are of fine, durable steel and are set in cement.

The balls, usually made of sycamore wood, are $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, and to give you an idea of what the beginning roque player is up against, the center arches, or cages, are $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide and the others only $3\frac{1}{2}$; and that doesn't leave much clearance when a ball rolls through!

The mallets are elaborate jiggers, too. They are smaller than croquet mallets, with two hitting surfaces, one of rubber for "follow," or "draw"

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For a Less Hilarious Hallowe'en

By RALPH E. HENSLEY
Superintendent of Recreation
Chico, California

THE DEAN of boys broke in on us with the question, "How can we get eight hundred high school boys to stay at a party from seven until midnight?"

Without looking up the recreation workers replied in solemn unison, "Feed 'em."

As a result the Recreation Department went begging. First to the service clubs and second to the churches. Alms were asked with which to secure cider, doughnuts, apples, and candy, the best known method of keeping not only the eight hundred boys but the entire student body of the elementary school, out of mischief for five consecutive hours!

The total cost of the party was approximately eighty dollars, and the funds came without hesitation from the various organizations of the city. The program was of a vigorous, enthusiastic nature, with the feature spot of the evening devoted to a football game between two local community high schools. The day after Hallowe'en police reports indicated that even such minor items as soaping windows, painting buildings, breaking flower pots, fences, or the usual movable paraphernalia of private citizens, had not been attempted. In fact, the police officials were amazed.

Planning for 1938

This year we are planning again for Hallowe'en. And this year we are trying to be even wiser in our plans. For example, we are starting preparations earlier, and are enlisting the presidents of the service clubs and the ministers of our churches to help us gain a greater participating cooperation.

Our hope again is that we may be granted fifteen dollars from each of our six service clubs, the money to be spent for cakes, candy, and other goodies. We hope also that these funds will be supplemented by donations of apples or pumpkins from the ranchers of the area. It is our plan to borrow teachers, college seniors, and members

Few of our observances have undergone so great a transformation with the passing of the years as has Hallowe'en. Today we have forgotten the awe-inspiring religious rites of the druids and the ancient Romans to which the origin of Hallowe'en has been ascribed, and our celebrations consist of light-hearted and care-free activity. The weird superstitions and pagan practices of a long ago era have given way to a celebration which is one of the most delightful of the entire year.

of the Recreation Department to assist us in planning the program for the evening.

In order to gain all these objectives we have found it essential to spend much time and effort in securing the serious interest of the service club men, the school administrators and boards, and the college authorities. Once interested, these people make such a mass party a comparatively simple performance.

Our last Hallowe'en party was held on a lighted football field in our community, taking care of approximately one thousand youths, with several hundred younger children coming and going. This year we are planning again to make use of the lighted field for some of our physical activities. The field will also be the center for children from grades four to twelve inclusive. But in addition, we hope that each church will hold an individual Hallowe'en party of its own to see that the small children have a specialized night of pleasure. We found in our previous party that to hold our anticipated midnight luncheon, it was necessary to keep the small children up and active until midnight. Obviously, this is not a sound or healthful procedure, so with the cooperation of our churches there will be scattered over the city a series of parties for small children.

Having found in our previous Hallowe'en party that we had little to interest the high school boys and girls whose major interests are of a social nature, this year we expect to have a Hallowe'en dance as our attraction for the more socially-minded older students.

The party will start promptly at seven o'clock and will close at midnight, except for the younger

children who will be sent home from their individual parties at an earlier hour. We have found that with the older boys and girls five hours of entertainment and physical activity will leave them in a sufficiently fatigued condition, so that they have not much excess energy to use for provoking pranks on the way home. It

is possible, too, that our police department's order that children found on the streets after one o'clock be taken to the station house, may help a great deal in preventing after-party pranks.

As to the actual program of the evening we have found that building up rivalries between the various schools in such combination activities as football, touch football, soccer, wrestling, boxing, to be played off at the Hallowe'en party, is an excellent method of attracting the youthful population at the lighted field.

Laying out our program we follow the usual procedure of breaking our areas into sections and placing one or two leaders in charge of a section, with a list of consecutive activities to be used in the section. To insure continuous performance and interest in games of low organization and in races, we have used the policy of distributing small pieces of wrapped candy (at a cost of ten pieces per cent) as an award for victory in a race or game. The agent distributing the candy is given to understand that losers shall be awarded also in case of consecutive losses. In planning for the program of the younger children there will be mostly games of low organization, with some special entertainment.

It is practicable and logical to select as basic for the major program those activities mainly in use on the playgrounds and school athletic fields. For example, in addition to individual participation we have found that a specialized contest such as an official high school football game has an appeal for a certain group not otherwise interested, and offers opportunity for a breathing spell for both leaders and participants.

Since we are anticipating a total attendance of about 2,500, or approximately eighty-three per cent of our entire school population, one of our problems has to do with the distribution of the food. We have found that forming lines frequently causes rough-housing and

Visitors to Hamilton, Canada, look on in astonishment when that dignified city "steps out" for its annual night of frivolity and nonsense. No other occasion catches the fancy of Hamiltonians in the same way as does Hallowe'en, and they indulge their fancy with a roguish abandon! All the city is their playground, and funny costumes and comic faces are the order of the evening. Rowdiness, senseless depredation and property damage are eliminated.

general disorder. This time we are going to serve from automobiles at a distance of more than three hundred yards from the field proper, thus eliminating any great uproar around the distributing source.

In our small city a party of this size represents the peak of participation. And to us, the engineers of this operation, it is especially pleasing, for it offers practice for our citizens in an all-embracing co-operation.

And so—we are planning for less hilariousness but more friendly fun on a new Hallowe'en!

In one middle-western city at least eighty per cent of the children and adults of the community were attracted to the Hallowe'en celebration as participants or spectators. All of the larger civic organizations cooperated to make the event a success. Women's Club members spent many days making muslin faces which the firemen placed on the electric lights the day before Hallowe'en and removed the day after. These pumpkin faces, which provided a gay setting for the parade, were laundered immediately after the celebration and stored away in readiness for the next season. A thousand children and adults marched in gay costumes, and along the line of march of the parade were judges who handed cards to the marchers whose costumes they felt merited further consideration. Two bands and a drum corps, all local musical groups, furnished the music. Members of the Police Department and Boy and Girl Scout leaders were in charge of the parade.

Typical of the many Hallowe'en celebrations which will be held this year throughout the country is the annual Hallowe'en Mardi Gras at Centralia, Illinois. As a result of this popular yearly event property destruction is unthought of because something is planned for every minute to engage the excess energy of pranksters. For the past three years not a single telephone call or complaint has come to the Police Department. A mammoth parade with a central theme held on the night of October 31st marks the high point of the observance. Drum corps and bands add much to the atmosphere of this gala event, and individuals and organizations of all kinds don costumes and make merry.

Following the parade a program of Hallowe'en games and activities of various kinds was staged on an outdoor, lighted platform erected by one of the local business concerns. Here the final judgment on costumes was pronounced. At about ten o'clock the crowds dispersed. The expense involved in this very successful community enterprise was only \$25.00!

That's the Shot!

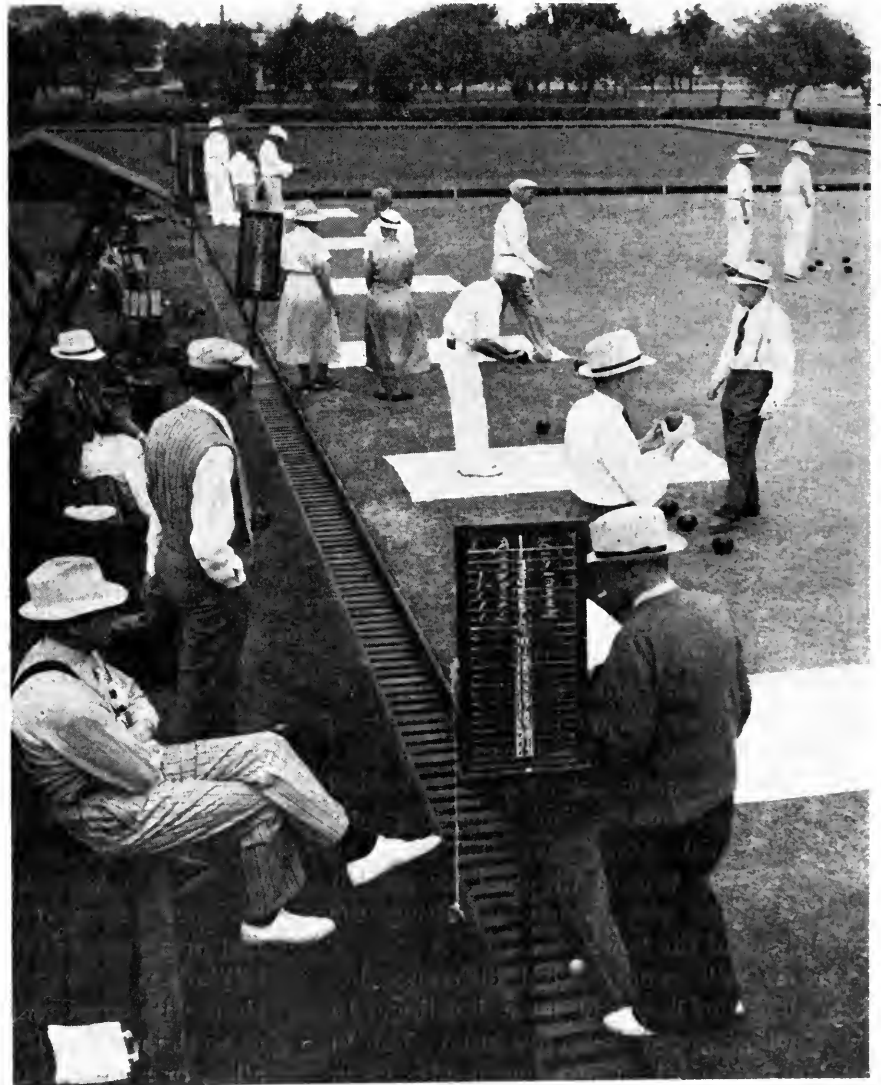
Heard 'round the world when they're
bowling on the green at Long Beach!

By F. W. REHBOCK

BOWLING ON THE GREEN! There is something pleasing in the very name of this fine old game. It suggests spring, verdurous landscapes, and care-free play. It is a cheerful, humorous pastime, and yet, notwithstanding its modest aspect, it lends itself to as nice strategy as one may wish, and is entirely worthy of the concentration it receives at the hands of experts. Bowling on the green has withstood the test of time; there must be something to the game; let's investigate a little.

Here on one rink we see half a dozen players in a huddle near the "jack" deliberating on how the next shot should be played, never arriving at a unanimous decision, and absolutely certain to criticize the shot, whether by friend or foe, if not made as all present know it should be made! It's not a hurried, restless game. Take your time, you're in no one's way! This much, if you are out merely for an afternoon's relaxation, to enjoy the landscape and talk about the weather.

But if you wish to do justice to the game itself, you'll have to do better. Younger and better bowlers are taking to bowling on the green, which is capable of more technique



View of a section of the
municipal bowling greens
of the city of Long Beach

Courtesy Long Beach, Calif., Bowling Club

than you will be able to absorb for some time after enrolling with your neighborhood lawn bowling club. The bowl will take spin, and draw, and follow-through. And though you may not see the average bowlers making themselves conspicuous demonstrating the fine points, don't think they are not being shown! Attend any major lawn bowling tournament anywhere to see how well good bowlers can bowl in close competitive play.

Bowls! The reader will have noticed that we have written "bowls" in referring to these tools. We are now really getting somewhere in our exposition. In lawn bowling, the sphere is called a "bowl," not a ball. It will be well to remember this.

Alley Bowling a Different Matter

In this connection, lawn bowling is sometimes mentioned as being similar to alley, or tenpin bowling. Now, tenpin bowling is a mighty fine sport, but it is no more like lawn bowling than football is like baseball. In alley bowling we have a round ball, with or without finger holes; but the lawn bowl never has finger holes. And further, the lawn bowl is not round but oval; and still further, it is a biased bowl, turned off-center so as to enable the bowler to "draw" it around another bowl that may be in its path to the goal, which is that little white "jack" at the far end of the green. So much for the difference in tools between alley bowling and lawn bowling.

But now we come to a vastly greater difference between the two games. In alley bowling we have one stated length, and, being played indoors, wind resistance is of course negligible. But in lawn bowling we have as many different lengths as the choice of the opposing player may offer, and since the bowling is out of doors, wind resistance must be taken into account. A head wind will hold your bowl very noticeably, and a tail wind will speed it up; a cross-wind depending from which side, will either give the bowl an enormous sweep toward the goal, or send it almost straight, very nearly offsetting the natural draw of the bowl.

There is still another vital difference between alley bowling and lawn bowling. In alley bowling speed is an essential; but in lawn bowling, while a fast one is always in order when you are hopelessly blocked to the

goal, and therefore choose to "kill" the end, the perfection of lawn bowling lies in the fine touch, the "feel of the green" which enables one correctly to size up the exact length to that little white jack. To sum up, in alley bowling you aim to knock something down; in lawn bowling you aim to roll up to something.

But to continue with our lawn bowling, now once we have found the length to that little white jack, and have placed one or two bowls nicely close to it, our next concern is to protect those close ones by properly placed position shots either in front of the jack, or behind it. Thereby we make it hard for our opponent to displace the jack and our close ones next to it; but if by reason of a well-directed shot our opponent should displace it, then, by our having placed some position bowls where they should be, we will at least have prevented a big score against us.

So it seems there is more to lawn bowling than is apparent at first glance. In fact, the sport looks so easy to beginners and onlookers that, should they enroll, slipshod methods of learning must be guarded against. The Encyclopedia Britannica has several pages devoted to "Bowls." Anyone interested in a thorough exposition of lawn bowling is referred to it.

It is well known that the poets of old loved to refer to lawn bowling, or bowling on the green. And not long ago we ran across a sixteenth century water color captioned "Lawn Bowling in Front of a Village Inn." There was the little white jack in the foreground with several players bending over it and watching the approach of a bowl from the other end of the green. Obviously the game hasn't changed any fundamentally. Sir Francis Drake, playing his favorite position, "Lead" or "Skip," would feel right at home on a twentieth century green.

A Last Word

When you, as a casual spectator, are watching a lawn bowler of some year's experience getting no closer than a couple of feet or a yard to the jack, when at tenpins or billiards you have seen the same man make his shots with consistent accuracy, don't be misled as to the reason. If you can visualize a tenpin alley, or a billiard table the size of a bowling green, namely, one hundred and twenty feet

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Michigan Goes into Action

And as a result, in cities all over the state delinquency is vigorously combated with recreational weapons!

By **WILLIAM G. ROBINSON**
District Representative
National Recreation Association

PUBLIC SUPPORT of recreation from local tax budgets has been increasing again in Michigan. One of the factors in the increase was the recognition of the place, in any well thought out plan of crime prevention, of facilities and guidance for leisure hours. With the assistance of the Michigan Delinquency Information Service, three years ago the Federal Works Progress Administration made studies of the areas of greatest juvenile delinquency in ten cities in the state. A number of the cities studied took action to remedy conditions. They realized the value of bringing impressionable boys and girls under the healthy, constructive environment of playgrounds and recreation centers, and of developing interest and skills for leisure. Demands for an increased public recreation program resulted.

In Monroe, a Youth Council was formed after the delinquency study was made. This Council requested an appropriation from the City Council, made a study and report at the request of the Mayor, developed popular support and was rewarded by an appropriation of \$8,000 in the budget effective July 1, 1938. This will be spent through a Recreation Commission of six members of the Board of Education, two members of the City Council and an additional citizen at large chosen by each group. With the generous use of school facilities and the continuation of a \$1,800 budget from the Board of Education which has been spent on summer playgrounds heretofore, a community-wide, year-round program is assured.

In Battle Creek, joint action by the City Recreation Department, the Kellogg Foundation and the Exchange Club has resulted in the purchase of play areas in two crowded sections of the city which had been without such facilities, and in their equipment and supervision. In addition, the



Courtesy Austin, Texas, Department of Recreation

In fighting juvenile delinquency horseshoes are invaluable allies

Kellogg Foundation has within the past year built two indoor swimming pools at school buildings, and has provided funds for their operation year round, after school and evenings, as well as during school hours.

The development in Flint by which the facilities of twenty-four schools, indoors and out, have been opened for community use under experienced leadership, with funds from the Mott Foundation, are the most spectacular in the state. It is worth noting that the original program started in three or four schools in districts where the delinquency study showed most need, and that it was this appeal which first aroused the interest of the Foundation. It was soon realized that the citizen-building values of such a varied recreation program including athletics, music, drama and crafts, were not confined to any one section of the city, and the program is now city-wide. It is carried on under the Board of Education and is in addition to a city park department program which includes two community center buildings and twelve playfields.

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Homemakers' Clubs

By **MRS. H. R. HARVEY**
Director of Recreation
Lansing, Michigan

IN LANSING, Michigan, Homemakers' Clubs were inherited from the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration and are now being directed by the city Recreation Department. The clubs were organized by sending out workers to call on neighborhood women whose names were secured from relief rolls. From fifteen to twenty-five women were enrolled in each club, and fire stations, community halls, school buildings and homes were used for meetings. A place near by or within walking distance was the first requisite.

Clubs have been meeting once a week for the past three years and many experiments have been tried with gratifying success. Today about six hundred women are enrolled in thirty-three clubs. WPA supervisors each have five clubs and meet regularly with them. Weekly staff meetings are held for these supervisors at which they talk things over with the city recreation director, plan for the future, and receive lesson sheets. Clubs have their own officers, and a simple business meeting is conducted at each meeting. Mimeographed sheets dealing with one of four subjects—health, food, child training and home beautification—are prepared in advance by the Recreation Department, each woman receiving one of these lessons. This is read and discussed at the meeting, and members are asked to contribute any added information they choose from their experiences. The lessons are kept by the members and arranged in book form so that in a short time they have a store of helpful suggestions.

Social Features

In many clubs a few games are played. Most of the clubs enjoy sewing and quilting. At least two thousand quilts have been made, largely from scraps donated by the WPA sewing project. These quilts are given to their own club members or to friends in need as the club chooses. Many other useful articles for the home have also been made, such as children's dresses, mittens, table runners and pillow cases.

Twice a month about two hundred members — or all

who can manage bus fare—congregate in a community hall for a general meeting. An interesting speaker is secured to talk on

something vitally pertaining to the women's everyday life. Short skits, songs or other kinds of entertainments are provided by the club members themselves. Group songs or games are followed by light refreshments. Coffee is furnished, and each member brings her own sandwiches or cookies.

Is It Worth While?

What do we accomplish? So many things that we feel this is one of the Department's most worthwhile projects. Unless you have been really "down and out," it is difficult to realize how much "just getting together" means to people. Many remarkable stories could be told of the rehabilitation of these women who were almost crushed by the strain of struggling with well-nigh impossible home conditions and who found new life and interest in the companionship and friendship of neighbors. A smile and a friendly hand are of inestimable value to anyone, but especially to people who have had any misfortunes. The unpretentious educational program is absorbed week by week, and it is only at the end of a period of time that one suddenly realizes that something has been accomplished, that homes do look a little better, and that mothers are using a bit more intelligence in feeding and caring for the children.

Who can judge the benefits enjoyed by women who create and make things with their own hands? If it is true that we learn by doing, then the quilts and art work that these women have made definitely contribute not only to their happiness but also to their education. As their skill increases, the clubs are looking forward to more beautiful and satisfying work. Many articles can be made with native materials, and as the quality of work improves a market may be secured for these finished products, which will mean a source of added income. And beyond this is the opportunity for social life and companionship which the clubs make possible.

"Is this recreation? Not perhaps as we have been accustomed to thinking of it, but if we actually mean that recreation brings new life and hope and inspiration to people, we can think of no better place to start than with our mothers."

A New Deal for Cards

IN THIS SCIENTIFIC age of vitamins, wave lengths, and behavior studies, practically everything a person eats, hears, does, or thinks is analyzed as to whether it is good, bad or indifferent for him or society.

Such diligence on the part of our scientists has uncovered such things as cod liver oil—and spinach. But occasionally they find that something we already like is good for all of us.

In the field of recreation new light has recently been turned on the value of playing cards and card games. It appears possible, in this regard, that many of us recreation directors haven't played our hands to the fullest extent.

The fact that playing cards have definite educational and social aspects is not a new discovery, however. Rather, it is something rediscovered.

Such an eminent scholar as Dr. Samuel Johnson observed two centuries ago that "card playing is very useful in life; it generates kindness and consolidates society."

The comparatively recent recognition of the recreational values of playing cards has been slow getting under way mainly because many people have carelessly dismissed cards as "time-killers," never bothering to analyze the appeal and psychology of card playing. Moreover, in some sections of the country people persist in associating cards with gambling despite the fact that the greatest proportion of the nation's card players play only for fun.

Two cards from a fifteenth century deck in the collection of Melbert B. Cary of New York. Playing cards appeared in Europe early in the fourteenth century. It is thought that soldiers returning from the Crusades brought them back with them from the East.

By JAMES V. MULHOLLAND

Director of Recreation
Department of Parks
New York City

and that gambling can just as readily be associated with baseball, football and other sports.

The real truth of the matter is that in today's highly mechanized and integrated society card playing can be an invaluable safety valve. Dr. Henry C. Link, in *The Return to Religion** not only urges the use of cards for both young and old as personality builders but declares "children should be taught to play bridge at an early age."

The card players in this country constitute a cross-section of the population, and because of their universal appeal and acceptance, cards easily fit into the recreational program. It is reliably estimated that there are twenty million bridge

* The Macmillan Company, 1937.

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Cincinnati's New Sports Field

FOR A NUMBER of years the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati has carried forward its plans for the development of the Airport Sports Field in the face of almost insuperable difficulties. In addition to criticism and skepticism on the part of the public, the Commission has had to confront all the technical difficulties involved, not the least of which was the necessity of raising thirty acres of land two feet in the air.

In constructing the field the Commission has had a fourteen-point program in mind as its objective. They are as follows:

1. To provide adults with the game of their choice, and to provide recreation in the cafeteria style, where each one may select what he wants.
2. To provide a large recreation field, easily accessible to the entire city. The Airport recreation field provides auto parking for thousands of cars; the Mt. Washington bus stops at the very center of the sports field; the street cars stop within a short distance. An incline completed during the past week now enables the pedestrian to get from the bus stop on Beechmont to the lower level with ease.
3. To provide a place where the whole family may play together.
4. To provide groups such as neighborhood, lodge, church, labor union and social organizations with such abundance of accommodations and such variety of activities as to insure a delightful holiday.
5. To provide the young men and young women with a place where they may play games together, where there are sports suitable for mixed groups, and where the emphasis is on skill rather than strength.
6. To provide games suitable to those of advanced age.
7. To provide a place where it is not necessary for the player to await his turn, where there are enough facilities and equipment to take care of everyone simultaneously.

A few weeks ago, with little publicity, the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati, Ohio, opened the Airport Sports Field which had been under construction for several years. Although still incomplete and lacking a number of necessary facilities, it has already made an important place for itself. The fourteen point program which the Commission has had in mind throughout the development of the center will be of interest to other communities planning extensive developments of this type.

8. To provide for parents who want to play games while their children are being taken care of at a children's playground.
9. To provide a place where one can escape the "spectator" and avoid "spectatoritis" because the emphasis is on participation.
10. To carry on sports in a manner which will give emphasis to the whole-

some good times together rather than to winning a game.

11. To create a great sports center for adults that will be self-liquidating, that is that will pay its own cost of operation.
12. To provide play for everyone in an environment of beauty.
13. To provide an absolutely safe place for bicyclists. At no point along the three and a half miles of bicycle trails is there any occasion for a bicyclist to come in contact with motor vehicles.
14. To provide night lighting for a sports field large enough to accommodate all those who desire to play in the cool of the evening.

At the Airport Sports Field the recreational facilities are laid out in the midst of a two-hundred acre meadow, with open skies, long vistas and forested hills in sight at all times. Already there are fifteen different sports on the alphabetical bill of fare with ten or fifteen more to be added in the near future. These include archery, badminton, baseball, bicycling, children's playground, gardening, golf driving, horseshoe, picnicking, pony rides, softball, table tennis, lawn tennis and volley ball.

Besides serving the fourteen purposes, there are several by-products or subsidiary purposes of the Airport Sports Field. The children's playground is serving a large district in the vicinity heretofore unserved, because of the long, thin line of the population along Columbia Avenue. Another by-product has been the large production of garden products by the several hundred community gardeners. During all of the years that

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Toy Shops on Wheels

Recreational therapy adds much to the enjoyment of life for physically handicapped children of Detroit

THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION of Detroit has taken steps toward solving the problem of entertaining underprivileged and handicapped children in settlement houses, orphanages, and hospitals of Detroit.

Each morning a toy cart is wheeled into the children's wards of the various hospitals and institutions, and those who have been "good little boys and girls" are allowed to choose from the cart-load of bright-colored game blocks, story books, dolls, puzzles, and other toys, made by the WPA Toy Project of Detroit.

Under the supervision of Commissioner C. E. Brewer of the Department of Recreation, and with the financial aid of the Children's Fund of Michigan, the WPA Toy Project which started in September, 1936, has served a real need in the community by making special types of toys to fit the needs of the hospitalized child. Invalid trays, wooden book covers, as well as soft little hand puppets, bunnies, donkeys, and clowns, tempt the little sufferers to develop coordination, and to bring afflicted arms or hands into use. Interesting educational toys, bright in color, help keep minds busy and alert; wheelbarrows loaded with blue, yellow and red blocks increase confidence in walking and assist unsteady little feet. And there are spastic checker boards, with tall checkers slipped into grooves which hold them steady so that the child with unsure fingers may enjoy the game.

In conjunction with the Toy Project the Recreation Department has successfully carried out a program of recreational therapy begun in the winter of 1935 in the Children's Hospital, whereby trained leaders are employed to assist in handicraft, story-telling, and quiet games in the sick room. Although realizing, several years before, the need of such service to the physically handicapped child, the Recreation Department was not in a position to embark on such a program until 1935, when many eager and willing workers volunteered their services, and so the first

work for the hospitalized child was started.

Most of the workers at that time, however, were untrained, and it was soon decided to adopt a short training course from which leaders could be chosen for the various institutions. Two leaders were selected and sent first to the Children's Hospital, where they started with a story hour, going from one cubical to another, entertaining four children at a time. The demand on their time was so great that two more leaders were immediately assigned, and handicraft and games were added to the program.

The work progressed so rapidly during the first six months that Miss Margaret Rodgers, Superintendent of the Children's Hospital, asked the Recreation Department to furnish additional leaders for the clinic. Leaders took over the new work eagerly. Besides furnishing toys already made by the Toy Project, they gave the children scissors and bright-colored paper to make their own toys. Nurses and leaders sent out appeals for magazines, Christmas cards, attractive pictures, etc. Kindergarten craft and scrap books were started, and the children took great pride in displaying bright-colored paper chains, pictures, or puzzles they had made themselves. At the present time there are six leaders at the clinic in the Children's Hospital, who rotate from the hospital wards to the skin and eye clinic and to the medical clinic. They plan parties, movies and musical programs, thereby speeding the time for the little sick children and keeping them interested and happy.

In 1936 a leader was sent to Grace Hospital where men and women, as well as children, were supplied with useful recreational hobbies. Older girls and women were taught to knit, crochet, and make quilt tops, curtain tie backs, place mats, and small rugs. Men and boys learned leather tooling and copper work. Games were also introduced for the grown-up patients. One of these, hospital golf, has become very popular with the men and boys.

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Woodmere Plays

The story of an experiment in recreation at the Evansville, Indiana, State Hospital

By WILLIAM C. MURPHY

The therapeutic values of recreation for mental patients have come to be recognized as very significant in the social adjustment of these patients. Mr. Murphy, who is psychologist at the Evansville, Indiana, State Hospital, writes of the excellent results secured from an experiment which was carried on in that institution.

DURING the past few decades has come a realization that mental disease can be divided roughly into two general classifications: those individuals suffering from organic disturbances, and those suffering from disorders that are largely functional in nature. In this first group, of course, medical treatment is all important, whereas in the case of individuals suffering from functional disorders, the treatment is primarily one of social adjustment. Recreation can therefore play a very important part in assisting in the adjustment of these individuals and teaching them to live together, and as such, is of vital importance in any state hospital program.

Prior to the advent of the fall of 1937, although various attempts had been made to expand it, the recreational program of the Evansville State Hospital largely followed that of the commonly accepted practice in many state hospitals in Indiana and other mid-western states—namely, that of requiring passive participation in large group activities. Each Tuesday there was a general hospital dance at which there was both round and square dancing; every Friday during the winter season the hospital theater presented a feature motion picture and two short subjects, and occasionally there were special programs by community groups, treats, picnics, Christmas trips to town by patients and activities of similar nature. This, then, was almost the entire scope of our recreational activities.

In the fall of 1937 it was decided to try to broaden this program of activity, and it is with these experiences that this article has to deal. Since it was felt that any recreational program should be based upon the desires and needs of the patients, a social committee of patients was formed to meet weekly to discuss and plan the social program. The number of patients on this committee has varied during the period, but ranged from six to twelve members depending upon the number furloughed from the hospital.

It was found, however, that a committee of twelve members proved rather unwieldy and that the optimum number varied between six and eight. The members were selected upon two bases: those patients who clearly demonstrated unusual ability along social lines, and, as such, could offer valuable suggestions and do much of the work in carrying through to completion the proposed activities, and a second group, who, although

they could offer little, would nevertheless derive great benefit and therapeutic value from the social contacts made. This second group was comprised almost entirely of young schizophrenics. The work of the committee was not only to plan, but to carry out their plans, and upon the occasions of parties or other social activities each volunteered to carry out certain portions of the general work to be done.

A Dancing Class Is Organized

We approached various recreational activities with hesitancy, since we were warned on all sides that psychotic patients simply could not be enrolled in many of our proposed activities. This fatalistic attitude was found to be erroneous. A careful analysis of our regular Tuesday night dances indicated that only a small number of patients were participating actively, although a large number attended. This was largely the result of a compulsory attendance rule on the women's wards and of the fact only a few of the patients knew how to dance. An actual count showed that only twenty to twenty-four patients were dancing the round dances and about the same number, but frequently different patients, were engaging in the square dances.

As a result of this study one of our first steps was to form a social dancing class, and despite the fact that we desired to keep the enrollment down to fifteen persons per session we were forced to expand it to twenty-five. Even with this added number, and with the frequent vacancies

resulting from patients returning to their homes, there has always been a long waiting list. There has been so great a demand that it is probable that in the fall we will inaugurate classes in tap and folk dancing as well. Largely as a result of the dancing class instruction the number participating actively at our regular dances has more than doubled.

A Dramatic Club Proves Popular

Several of the patients requested the opening of a dramatics club, and at the first of the year this class was started under a WPA teacher. Enrollment in this group was necessarily limited and soon was completely filled. We have had very little difficulty in continuing the group, and there have usually been sufficient applicants to keep it at full membership. Although principally composed of the younger age group of patients, we have nevertheless had a considerable sprinkling of older persons. It was early found, however, that because of constant changes in the group personnel it was almost impossible to try to present even one-act plays, since the participants might leave for home during the period of rehearsal. Then, too, many of the persons most interested, and to whom the experience would prove of greatest therapeutic value, found it difficult to memorize long parts. Consequently we turned to short, short plays or "black-outs" as they were technically known, which would require only a day or two for rehearsal. Pantomimes and monologues proved of great enjoyment to the hospital audience. In all, the group presented three entertainments over a period of five months, all of which have been received very favorably by the audience. Dramatics have proved so valuable as a form of recreational therapy at our hospital that it is without hesitancy that we place it on our recreational program for the next year.

Substitutes for Dancing

As a result of the survey made of the regular dances and the discovery that only a small group of patients were participating actively, it was decided to lessen the frequency of the dances and hold them every other week rather than each week. Various activities were

planned as substitutes. Bingo parties were found to be a very popular form of entertainment after the group had been taught how to play, and a very large group of active participants attended each of the parties. However, to interest an even larger group and to break the monotony of long periods of play some other form of entertainment was usually provided in addition at each of these sessions. Three community sings were held. A spelling bee proved of interest and later, due to popular demand, a second was held. A cyphering bee was suggested by a number of the patients, but due to lack of time, was never tried. An amateur night was held, and as a result of an hour of very interesting impromptu acts a more pretentious show was staged, the first Woodmere Revue.

In addition to the planned activities, an occasional "Game Night" provided much pleasure for the group. Games of all types were supplied and tables were set up for each. The individual was permitted to play any game he might desire, and at any time to circulate to another table. At various times we have held tournaments in some of the more popular games to determine the hospital "champion." Through these various types of activities it has been possible to reach a much larger group than through our former weekly dances.

Summer Activities

At the time of writing this article the Social Committee is hard at work making plans for the summer season. It has been officially decided to continue the dancing class and the dramatics class through the summer. In addition, the Committee feels there is sufficient interest evidenced on the Wards to open a class in Bridge and one in tennis. It has also recommended that a soft ball team for men be formed and games with outside teams scheduled. Plans are also being made for variety programs to be held at frequent intervals in an outdoor theater.

Principles Evolved from Experience

Out of our experimenting, and experimenting it has been, several definite principles have evolved which we feel are vital for a successful recreational program.

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"In hospitals for the mentally ill a highly diversified program of recreational activities is now considered a most important factor of rehabilitation, as well as an indispensable condition to a good morale so necessary to the effective functioning of all forms of physio- and psycho-therapy. While for normals recreation is accepted as a most necessary part of a balanced regimen of work, rest and play, it is even more necessary for the mentally sick because of the comparatively fewer outlets they can open and develop for pleasurable and constructive activity."—*John Eisele Davis in Principles and Practice of Recreational Therapy.*

More Songs for More Singing

ANOTHER LEAFLET of songs, Set III of *Songs for Informal Singing*, has been issued by the National Recreation Association. Like Sets I and II of this series, it contains the melodies as well as the words of songs that have been loved and sung with keen pleasure by countless numbers of people, are easily learned and long remembered, and yet will be for many people as new and fresh as the Seven Dwarfs' "Heigh, Ho" was when they first sang it in our theaters. Among these are three chanteys, a fine cowboy song, a Riddle song from the mountains of Kentucky, a jolly ballad, "Old Bang 'em," from Virginia, and two hiking songs. A couple of Czech dance songs add still further to the gaiety of the collection, and a Spanish Vagabond's song to its beauty.

Like its preceding sets, this one includes some Rounds, two of them for the camp fire and another the more familiar "Come, follow me . . . to the greenwood tree!" But unlike them it contains also some descants to familiar songs, and several 4-part songs (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) including a Spiritual, some other brightly arranged folk songs, and a stirring Bach chorale. So it offers a happy introduction to, or continuance of, part-singing as well as some more unison singing.

The Association has for many years provided material for community singing through its leaflet, *Community Songs*. This contains only the words of songs, of songs already lastingly familiar among the American people everywhere. The need for more good songs for the purpose, as easy to learn and lastingly lovable as most of those others, caused the making of the first set of *Songs for Informal Singing*, containing necessarily the melodies as well as the words. This found such wide use that a second set was prepared. Guiding the making of this one was the belief that people who come to love to sing songs like those in Set I invite them to do want not only more and more such experience and more and more such songs, but, as in any other sport or

art, they want also to get more fully and deeply into it. So, included in the second set, among a large number of folk songs, were some bigger songs, great yet simple songs by great composers. One of these, "Where'er You Walk," by Handel, has become especially beloved by all sorts of recreational groups of young people and adults who have only recently sung it for the first time. It is like swimming in the sea after having enjoyed only the local pond or stream.

Another way to get more fully and deeply into music is through part-singing. Set III provides for this in interesting ways. The Rounds are jolly, easy to sing and yet make pleasant harmony. Each descant or counter-melody, sung by only a few treble voices while all the rest of the group have the very easy part of singing the familiar tune, places everyone within the resulting flow of harmony or counter-point. A number of the unison songs are such as suggests harmonic parts that many a group could "make up" spontaneously. And the four-part songs have been chosen and designed to have as much keen interest and imagination throughout the parts as we enjoy in a good, live folk-tune. The Bach Chorale, taken from the Christmas Oratorio, is one of the simpler ones but, along with the stirring instrumental interludes between its phrases, it reaches toward utmost greatness of spirit and expression.

With such music-making carried on under inviting leadership, the steps from ordinary community singing to choral singing and, if desired, to the formation of a chorus, should be readily made. Then as the group, led by enthusiasm over these initial experiences, goes forward with a will to sing better and better and to explore other such music, it will have before it the whole bright, varied world of first-rate choral music.

The cost of this Set III, as of the other sets of *Songs for Informal Singing*, is \$.10 per single copy or \$7.50 per 100 copies when 50 or more copies are purchased.

A. D. Zanzig of the National Recreation Association tells here of the new song leaflet just off the press. Set III of *Songs for Informal Singing* is a collection of twenty-six songs, including descants, rounds and choruses. Among them are descants to such familiar songs as "America the Beautiful," "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms," and "Old Folks at Home." "Children's Grace," "Listen to the Lambs," "Over Hill, Over Dale," "Morning Hymn," and "Rolling Home" are among the other songs incorporated in this interesting collection.

WORLD AT PLAY



The Newest Recreation Building in Toledo

THE Walbridge Park Shelter House is the second new building to be completed

in Toledo, Ohio, within two years, bringing the total number of community buildings in the city to nine. Constructed as a city WPA project, the newest building is similar in design to the Wilson Park Shelter House completed in 1936. It was constructed at a cost of \$42,000, the city supplying all materials while WPA furnished labor. Built of rubble stone from the city quarry, the structure is beautifully situated on a site overlooking the river and has a veranda facing the river bank. It is one story high and measures 100 x 42 feet. Interior walls are of brick lining; floors and base are of terrazo, with the ceiling masonite. The roofing consists of wooden shingles. A wood-burning fireplace is an attractive feature.

Included in one wing of the building is a community kitchen, boiler room and lavatory. The other wing contains living quarters for the caretaker, a lavatory and an assembly room seating 500 persons. The large recreation room measures 33 x 60 feet. The Division of Recreation permits free use of the house's facilities for all types of social functions such as dances, dinners and weddings. A small fee is charged for the use of tableware and the piano.

Deserted Recreation Field Restored

THROUGH the generosity of industrial firms of Hamilton, Canada, Bird Playground, deserted and overgrown with weeds for several years because of lack of funds for its operation, is again seeing service this year. Over \$400 was collected from fourteen industries, and the money was turned over to the Playground Commission. Men were put to work clearing out the weeds and debris; swings and play devices were reconditioned and painted, and the Commission arranged to provide leadership.

England's Five Million Club

LAST year according to the August 27 issue of *School and Society* there was founded in England a Five Million Club which now has twenty thousand members. The main objective of the group is to focus popular attention on the fact that in spite of all that has been done by progressive local authorities and by the National Playing Fields Association, there are still at least five million boys and girls in England and Wales between the ages of three and sixteen, out of a total number of 8,250,000 who have no public recreation ground within reasonable walking distance of their homes, to provide the National Playing Fields Association with an annual income

which it may spend in consultation with the officers of the club, on the acquisition and equipment of playgrounds for children.

The existing membership has been recruited almost entirely from the 2,500 schools in England and Wales which are described as "privileged" schools, and which have at least one playing field of their own. Boys and girls were invited to pay a membership fee of 4d. or 6d. a term. The appeal has met with such success that in some cases as many as 82 per cent of the pupils in a school have joined the group. It is now proposed to bring within its membership undergraduates at the universities of England and Wales, members of sports clubs and motorists.

Westchester County Promotes Sports—The annual report submitted to the Westchester County Recreation Commission by the County Supervisor of Parks shows badminton, basketball and track and field events close competitors in the athletic program. Basketball topped badminton and track and field for spectator attendance, with audiences totaling almost 6,000 at seven tournaments. Five swimming meets attracted 1,490 participants, with an estimated gallery of 4,850 looking on. Over 1,400 tennis fans watched 117 players in two staged matches. No county-sponsored sport, however, took such a spectacular leap into popularity as did softball. E. Dana Caulkins, Superintendent of Recreation for the Commission, commenting on the report, emphasized the importance of cooperation on the part of local recreation executives who conduct local and district events. He pointed out that 1,000 members of committees and 800 to 1,000 games officials—80 to 90 per cent of whom gave their services—cooperated to make the sports program a success.

Children's Library Movement in Sydney, Australia—Three libraries of Sydney, Australia, have become community centers. After school each day the younger children come to the centers to read and borrow books, to enjoy arts and crafts, and to listen to stories. In the evening the older boys and girls attend to read, study or play. Music is taught them, folk dancing and eurhythmics are enjoyed, and other cultural opportunities are offered. In one center there is a percussion band and in

another a pipe band on the Indian model for which bamboos were sent from India. In connection with one of the libraries there is an open air theater.

Unique Money Raising Plan—At Schuyler, Nebraska, an unusual method of obtaining sponsor contribution has been put into operation. Here the city contributed all available funds to buy a site for a municipal park. To obtain funds for improvements, the city officials leased the proposed pavilion to the American Legion which paid rent before construction was started. When the building was completed the Legion used it for dances over the term of their lease, making a profit on their investment. A citizens' committee was then organized which took over a new lease on the building for the purpose of operating public dances. They agreed with the city that they would work without pay on the condition that all profits from operating the dances would be turned into a fund to pay for additional improvements to the park. These funds have kept one project after another operating until at the present time in addition to the pavilion the city now has a swimming pool and bathhouse. The entire tract is being beautified and provision is being made for outdoor sports such as golf, tennis, baseball and a children's playground.

At the Congress for Work and Joy—A Congress for Work and Joy opened in Rome, Italy, on June 26th and closed at Lake Como one week later on July 1st, 1938. Over fifty nations were represented by their citizens. From Germany came 200 delegates, from Roumania 30. Among the five citizens of the United States present were Gustavus T. Kirby, Emma Howe and Ruth McIntyre. There was a special performance of the opera *Aida*, given in one of the many traveling theatres of Italy. Over 10,000 Italian boys and girls gave an athletic and calisthenic drill. There were visits to the reclaimed Pontine Marshes, Florence, Milan, and the Northern Italian lakes. In the Boboli Gardens at Florence, Italy the chorus consisted of fifteen hundred and the orchestra of one hundred and fifty. The proceedings, resolutions and recommendations of the study sessions will be published later. Several speakers pointed out that what is a

good and proper method of recreation in one country is not necessarily good for another.

City Forest Areas—E. W. Tinker, Assistant Chief of the Federal Forest Service, urges the establishment of community forests in American cities, pointing out that while the plan has been successfully utilized in European cities for many years it is comparatively new in this country.

Danville, New Hampshire, has operated 77 acres of forest land almost from its settlement in the 1760's. More than a thousand towns and counties in the United States, according to Mr. Tinker, have municipal or county forests. Of these Ohio lists 21 municipalities and Pennsylvania 31. Chicago is notable among midwestern cities for having planned a Greenbelt. Cook County administers the 33,000 acres of forests and recreational land which now encircle the city. Newington, New Hampshire, has a town forest of 112 acres. During the past fifty years timber sales have helped to pay for a library, build a new school house and pay off a town debt. Westfield, Massachusetts, has 5,000 acres of land for a forest in which 750,000 trees have been planted, and a return of \$20,000 a year is expected eventually.

States which have enacted legislation authorizing acquisition of community forests include New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska and New Mexico.

Safety in Bicycling—The Department of Parks of New York City has issued a pamphlet entitled "Program of Proposed Facilities for Bicycling" which outlines the location of all bicycling paths proposed for the immediate future. The pamphlet states that the Park Department is planning more than fifty miles of additional paths exclusively for bicyclists throughout the five boroughs. All paths will be surfaced with permanent materials so as to require as little maintenance as possible. They will be wide enough to permit two lanes in each direction; grade crossings at park drives will be protected with traffic lights and definite barriers placed, if necessary, to prevent careless riders from starting across at high speed, while at grade

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crossings of pedestrian paths warning signs will be placed for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Some interesting figures are quoted in the pamphlet. In 1899 bicycle sales totaled 1,089,000. From this figure they dropped steadily to a low of 180,000 in 1932. Since 1933, however, sales have been rapidly on the increase until last year when they totaled 1,300,000, an all time high.

Roller Skating Program—The third floor of the Ford assembling plant in Des Moines, Iowa, has been leased by the Recreation Department for a year at \$75.00 a month, including light, heat and water. The department has turned the floor space of 66,000 square feet into a skating area and has purchased 150 pairs of skates which are rented for ten cents an evening. The space is divided into three areas—a children's lane, a fancy and speed-skating lane, and a regular skating circle. The average weekly attendance is 3,000. One worker is employed by the department to serve as supervisor and ten WPA leaders assist with the program.

Minimum Space Required, 32 inches by 20 feet

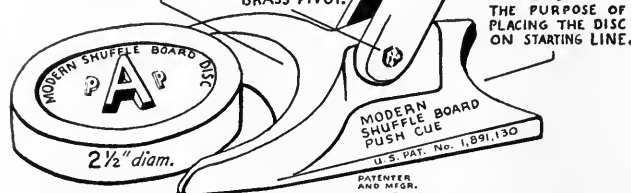
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A Welcome to New Citizens—In Highland Park, Michigan, the Recreation Commission conducts a Citizenship School in cooperation with the School Board and city government. Last Spring nearly two hundred new American citizens were given their diplomas in a setting of patriotic decoration at Hackett Field House. The Commissioner of Immigration, James L. Houghteling from Washington, Judge Bushnell of the Michigan Supreme Court and other dignitaries, friends and well-wishers came to honor the graduates.

Pittsburgh Votes on Bond Issue for Recreation—On August 2 the citizens of Pittsburgh voted favorably on a bond issue of \$8,000,000, of which \$825,000 will be allocated for recreation in parks and playgrounds. With the funds available many improvements will be made and new recreation buildings and swimming pools will be built.

Tips to Fishermen—The Department of Public Recreation of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, has issued a bulletin giving the location of trout streams, bass waters, sunfish and catfish streams, and the haunts of the yellow perch. The bulletin ends with the admonition, "Know your fish warden!" and gives the name, address and telephone number of the fish warden for the district.

"Treasure Islands" Await Discovery—Treasure islands—590 of them—wildwood hideaways in northern Wisconsin have become the vacation playgrounds of anyone who wants to discover them. With many thousands

of acres set aside as wildlife refuges, the Wisconsin Conservation Department has decided to provide islands in northern Wisconsin's inland waters as human refuges. These undeveloped water-bound retreats, varying in size from less than one acre to twelve acres, are now permanently reserved for the enjoyment of fishermen, picnickers and vacationers. The islands, many of them heavily wooded, are now a part of Wisconsin's extensive system of state parks and forests and will be preserved in their native state for recreational purposes.

The Chicago Civic Opera Orchestra—Last summer the Chicago Park District presented the thirty-seventh of a series of sixty-seven open-air concerts given in cooperation with the Chicago Federation of Musicians and rendered by the Chicago Civic Opera Orchestra in Grant Park Band Shell. Guest artists were presented at the concerts. On August 15 Efrem Zimbalist played.

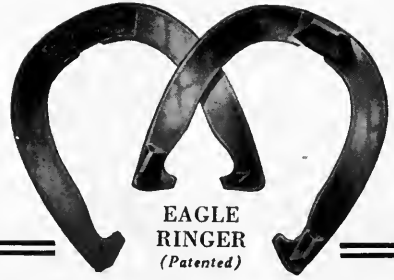
Notes from the Essex County, N. J., Park Commission—The August issue of *Park News* published monthly by the Essex County, New Jersey, Park Commission reports that nineteen table tennis outfits have been built this year making twenty-five in all. Fifteen new work tables were found to be so useful in connection with the handcraft and nature programs that fifteen more will be made during the winter for use next year. Less than ten dollars provided each of the playgrounds with two pounds each of eight different colors in cold water paints. The advantage of this type of paint lies not only in the low cost but in the fact that fewer brushes are needed because they can be so easily washed.

County Fairs Draw Crowds—This is fair time, not only in the New England States, but in states of the South and West, writes Diana Rice in the *New York Times*. Year by year state fairs, with their hundreds of exhibits, have become more imposing, while small local or county fairs continue to increase in number and importance. This year in Vermont, where fairs get under way early in September, villages of less than 500 inhabitants are sponsoring programs of sports events and livestock displays. Prizes for the largest

gladioli, the finest cake, the best canned fruit, the biggest turkey challenge all members of a household to take part in these annual shows. The 4-H Clubs, particularly, bring out the farm youngsters with their exhibits. These boys and girls raise their pets from infancy and personally tend and show the animals they believe worthy of blue ribbons. Near New York the Danbury Fair at Danbury, Connecticut, opening October 3 for a week, is perhaps the most popular and largest exhibition of its kind. Here pavilions are full of fancy fowl, sheep, cattle and show horses. In addition, there are halls devoted to handicraft, including the old-fashioned patchwork quilt and crocheted bedspread. Here, too, choice recipes are sometimes exchanged as white fruit cake, damson plum jam and raspberry jelly are sampled and passed on by worried judges.

For Book Week in 1938—The twentieth anniversary of Children's Book Week will be held November 13 to 19. The American Library Association announces two books which will be of special interest in connection with this week. "The Activity Book for School Libraries," by Lucile F. Fargo contains many suggestions for Book Week activities, including assembly programs, book parades, book interviews, skits and pantomimes, guessing games and poster contests, hobby shows, parents' night, and other entertainments. The book will be ready for distribution about October 15th. Further information may be secured from the American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois. The other book, to be ready about November 1st, is "A Recreational Reading List for Young People" containing a selection of 1,200 books listed and described under such titles as Adventure, Tales of Mystery, the Modern World, Romance, Humor, Sports and Hobbies, and Careers. Additional suggestions for the observance of Book Week, the theme of which is "New Books—New Worlds," may be secured from R. R. Bowker and Company, 62 West 45th Street, New York City, headquarters for Children's Book Week.

A Sub-marginal Tract for Public Recreation—A Department of Agriculture sub-marginal land project of 10,290 acres in eastern Connecticut is being turned over to state management for ninety-nine years, according



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to the *New York Times*. In accepting full responsibility for the protection, maintenance and proper use of the area, Connecticut becomes the first state to take over a project of this kind. Known as the New London Land Utilization Project, the project involves selected areas of poor land in which farming has been unsuccessful and which will be developed for public recreation, forestry and wild life conservation as part of a nation-wide program for the more constructive use of land in depressed rural areas. The Resettlement and Farm Security Administration and the WPA have been improving the land for these purposes in the last two years, building recreation facilities, dams, reforestation and developing fire prevention facilities.

Camping Informally—Following the close of the regular camping season, residents of Oakland, California, desiring to use the camp facilities and provide their own meals were permitted to do so until October 1st. The charge for using the tent accommodations was 50 cents per person per day.

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How San Francisco Spends Its Tax Dollar—

Of the tax dollar in the city and county of San Francisco, California, \$.0306 goes to parks; .0185 to recreation; .0143 to the library; .0141 to juvenile courts; .0763 to police, and .1751 to schools. For health .0635 is expended and .0431 goes for unemployment relief. The rest of the dollar is spent for employees' retirement, lighting streets and buildings, emergency reserve, public works, county welfare, bond interest and redemption, fire and miscellaneous departments.

A Hobby Show in Elizabeth—On May 13th and 14th a hobby show sponsored by the Boys' and Girls' Week Committee of Elizabeth, New Jersey, was held at an armory. Competition was open to boys and girls sixteen years of age and under, living within the limits of the city. The chief requirement for exhibitors was that any article or exhibit submitted by an entrant must have been entirely prepared by him. The classifications were arts, crafts, collections, woodwork and cabinet making, models, mechanical and

technical, natural history and camera craft. There was also a classification of special hobbies which covered any exhibit not included in the other classifications.

Buffalo's Mardi Gras—On March 1st, Buffalo held its All-Nations Mardi Gras. Many citizens served on the committee which made arrangements for the event and a large number of organizations were represented, among them the Buffalo Museum of Science, Women's Clubs, the Historical Society, groups of foreign-born citizens and many others. The program included a concert by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and a pageant. A parade of nations introduced eighteen nations with their dances and music. A period of general dancing concluded the program.

Almost "As Good As New"

(Continued from page 382)

ber 24th when the last loads of toys are gone. To enable 104,000 children to keep their faith in

Santa Claus is worth all the effort. It helps the agencies, too, for it has been long since they had funds to supply toys to their constituents. If there is any money it goes for food these days.

An Excellent Project for Recreation Departments

We think this is a good project for playground and recreation organizations because:

1. We know from long experience how to make something out of little.
2. We have continuing experience in organizing the energies and capacities of community forces.
3. We feel the project lends itself to the use of our facilities and skilled personnel.
4. We think it is well for us recreation people to implement the direction of a natural emotion during a Christmas season.

In all this large undertaking our expense, as an organization, does not run over \$500 to \$600, most of which is the salary of the superintendent who is an exceptional artisan. Even this sum is raised through a letter appeal for funds.

Even if we wanted to discontinue this project after a decade of experience I doubt whether we would be permitted to do so by all concerned. So perhaps we are moving in the direction of a MILLION toys, and we are happy in the doing.

A Nature Program in a County's Parks

(Continued from page 384)

mer and a thin nail chipping away the background to a depth of 1/16" leaving the outline in bas-relief. The ingenuity of the children themselves produced many different effects, one boy getting a very good likeness of an autumn leaf from a piece of brown wood and a red crayon. We have been indebted not only to manufacturers who have given us scrap leather, cardboard, and wood for both handcraft and nature projects, but also to parents of children who have contributed other scrap materials which we have been able to use.

One ingenious instructor asked his boys to collect metal caps from various types of bottles which were nailed with the corrugated surface up to a piece of wood to form a scraper to be placed at the entrance of the building. This was made a combined handcraft and nature project by asking the children to learn all they could about the

(Continued on page 422)

A Recreation Building for Wellesley College

WELLESLEY COLLEGE is to have a new recreation building into which has gone much careful thought and planning.

The swimming pool, seventy-five by thirty-five feet, will occupy the entire west wing. Offices, dressing rooms, and showers for the swimming instructors and life guards will be located at the north end of the pool, entirely shut off from the pool except for observation windows and an antiseptic footbath through which the instructor or life guard must walk before entering the pool area. The only other entrance to the pool area will be the swimmers' entrance likewise protected from street shoes by an antiseptic footbath. The entrance and exit to the gallery will be from the second floor. Coat rooms, lavatories and phones for spectators for special swimming or dancing programs will be conveniently located at the foot of a short stairway leading directly from the entrance lobby. A student coming to the building to swim will pass through the spacious entrance lobby with its fireplace and comfortable chairs, after joining her friend who has been waiting for her in the attractive lounge at the right of the entrance. They will secure their bathing caps and sandals from their tote boxes and swimming suits from the matron with whom they register. Dressing rooms, toilets and showers reserved for swimming will be so arranged that no unnecessary steps need be taken to assure personal cleanliness before passing through the antiseptic footbath which will lead to the pool area. Both individual showers and open showers will be available. Students will leave their bath shoes in individual compartments in the drying room. Upon leaving the pool, the bath shoes will be reclaimed, wet suits deposited in the drying room, and the student will return to her dressing room in a bath sheet. Drying rooms and the matron's office will be connected by lifts with the linen rooms on the ground floor, conveniently located with reference to the service entrance. After leaving her cap and sandals in her tote box, the student may take advantage of the electric hair dryers before checking out at the matron's office. Similar facilities for both men and women faculty will be avail-

able not only for swimming but for general recreation. The architect's plans include the most up-to-date systems of water sterilization, air conditioning and lighting.

The east wing of the building will contain two dance studios. The smaller unit, the floor of which will be three feet higher than the second dance unit, may be converted into a stage, with costume and scenery storage rooms adjacent. The larger unit will accommodate an audience of approximately four hundred. A balcony, equipped for motion pictures, will seat approximately sixty spectators. Below the dancing units and separated by sound proof floors will be bowling alleys and a club room with adequate space for small groups of spectators.

On the second floor a recreation room large enough for three badminton courts, will also be equipped for other games. This room will serve for wall tennis practice during the outdoor sports seasons when weather conditions prohibit the use of the courts. Golf and archery ranges, and an attractive club room with kitchenette will also be located on this floor. A solarium with dressing and rest rooms is planned for the roof over the central and southern portions.

The recreation building will be the center of a large recreation unit made up of Mary Hemenway Hall, housing the original gymnasium and recreation facilities, which was erected in 1909, the athletic fields and lake, Alumnae Hall, and the new outdoor theatre. The new building, 115 by 238 feet, will face and overlook the athletic field.

The building will provide opportunities for recreation for every member of the college faculty as well as students, and will serve as a strong incentive for students to spend more weekends on the campus where they may entertain their guests, men as well as women.

(Continued from page 421)

source and manufacture of the glass bottles as well as the material from which the caps were made and the paint which formed the decorations.

Having learned that Joseph Lee loved picnics and hiking through the woods, we built part of our celebration of National Joseph Lee Day around a nature program. This involved having two rangers at South Mountain Reservation and one in Grover Cleveland Park, which is a naturalist's paradise. Each ranger conducted at least

two different groups on nature walks, some of the groups numbering more than 100 persons, ranging in age from children to adult members of the summer session of one of our State Teachers' Colleges.

We believe that nature recreation for all age groups has come to stay in the Essex County Park System where we have a wealth of material forming the natural background. This background lends itself admirably to many phases of a well-rounded program, from trail games and other activities already described for children, to nature walks for adults. To stimulate hiking by individuals or small groups we have published a pictorial trail map of South Mountain Reservation where there are more than twenty miles of foot trails clearly marked with numbers and direction arrows. One thousand of these maps have already been sent out to those requesting them, some finding their way not only to other counties but to other states.

Prescriptions for Hallowe'en Hoodlums

(Continued from page 387)

Indoor Parties. If it must be an indoor party, be sure and call it something attractive enough to lure the boys who want a good scare. Make it a "Haunted House Party"—every community has a haunted house around some place—or a "Spook Party," or a "Graveyard Party," or a "Witch Party," (with Walt Disney realism if necessary, though not for small children), or a "G-Men Party." No party is spooky enough for "Hallowe'en age" boys unless it has a Chamber of Horrors or a Trail of Terror. The following games and stunts should be sufficiently spooky:

Murder. Shuffle playing cards (as many cards as there are players) always having the ace of clubs and the king of spades. Pass out one to each person, who does not make it known the card he holds. The guest holding the ace of clubs is the murderer, and the one with the king of spades, the attorney. The attorney turns out the light, leaving the room in complete darkness. While everybody is moving about, the murderer, unknown to all, also moves about until he comes upon some person whom he grabs very gently by the neck. The person who is grabbed must scream and fall to the floor. Three seconds and no more time must elapse from the time of the scream until the attorney turns the light on. Everyone must remain in the position he is at that time in

order that the attorney may look for clues, etc. After his inspection the attorney instructs the court to come to order. And then guests sit down and the trial begins. The attorney can begin questioning anyone he wishes. Everyone but the murderer must answer truthfully to the attorney's questions. Each witness can be asked only three questions. The attorney must guess who the murderer is in only one guess. It might be well to have a good attorney for the first time, and he or she should be appointed. This game is full of chills and thrills, and should go over with a bang in a cooperative and congenial group. The boys will also find an ego outlet in getting to be D.A.'s.

John Brown's Funeral. After the telling of ghost stories, the host or hostess might announce in a solemn manner that John Brown had met with an automobile accident on his way to the party and that his body had arrived in sections. All the guests should be requested to kneel on the floor, and a large sheet should be brought in. Each person should grasp the sheet with the left hand and hold it about a foot from the floor. Lights are turned low. The remains should then be brought in in a covered basket, and the different parts passed around the circle under the sheet by each person's right hand which is free. The hostess could start things by saying: "Poor John had only one eye," and a grape might be passed around to represent this. A bit of false hair or a doll's wig would do for his scalp, and a number of spools strung on stiff wire would serve as the spinal column, odd lengths of corn stalks for various bones, a large rubber bath sponge, slightly moistened for the brain, a kid glove stuffed with sawdust and dipped in ice water for his hands, and so on.

Bluebeard's Wives. A sheet is hung from horizontal rod six feet from the floor. The bottom is tacked to the floor to make it taut. Girls standing behind protrude their heads through slits which are fastened closely about their throats to cover the places where their necks touch the sheet. Splashes of carmine on the sheet below produce the effect of blood. The hair of each head is gathered up and fastened to a rod above with ribbons. Faces are powdered and eyes with a dash of lead color under them are kept closed. Bluebeard seated on the floor dressed as a Turk constantly sharpens monstrous butcher knives one against the other. Attempts by the spectators to touch the heads is met by angry lunges forward by Bluebeard.

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• Recreation workers who have never secured the party books by Ethel Bowers will now have the opportunity of buying the series at a reduced rate. The three booklets offered are:

Parties—Plans and Programs

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They will be invaluable to you in
your social recreation program

Originally priced at 50 cents each, the three booklets may now be secured at \$1.00 for the series—send your order to



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With a full evening of specially planned "gorified" entertainment such as this, it is doubtful that many of the group will go "hoodluming" about after the party is over. They have had enough thrills for one night!

More Than "Mere Puppets"!

(Continued from page 392)

grins, received the fifteen productions in twelve straight hours.

Decatur is not only puppet conscious—it is marionette mad. We even like to believe our city of 65,000 is well on the way to becoming the puppet center of America—a center of a folk art by the people and for the people.

We are now more busily engaged than ever in plans for the future—a state-wide organization of all amateur and professional puppet groups to be affiliated with the Puppeteers of America; an idea for exchanging productions between recreation groups in any part of the state, and most especially plans for the third annual Christmas marionette productions—Decatur's biggest recreational activity.

Development of Rhythmic Therapy for Women

(Continued from page 394)

Mr. Bjorberg tells of an experiment of his with a patient completely snowed under his own hallucinations, at whom he threw a ball daily, week in and week out. He finally met with success when the man involuntarily lifted his head and a flicker of interest came into his eyes.

Bowling on the green, archery, bat-ball, deck tennis, badminton, horseshoe, shuffleboard, ping-pong, and other activities may be used, but they do not prove so successful except in individual cases. One patient got the most value out of ping-pong. The game was mild enough to temper her tendency to over-exert herself as she did in other games. Besides this, the carry-over value of such a game as ping-pong is invaluable; it gives a patient a wedge into society, a sense of belonging again when she returns to her own circle. Patients who became interested in a class of the sort described while in a sanitarium, seek something similar when released and carry on their activities. If something can be prescribed for the patient in class that recreates a former experience, perhaps as far back as childhood, which was a successful and normal experience, the resulting pleasure of recalled success gives satisfaction.

For example, jump ropes in the average case give much pleasure. The reaction is: "Oh, I haven't jumped rope since I was a child. I never can do it." For a patient to find that she can, for even a very short period, is actually fun. On the other hand, one patient admitted that she had never jumped rope when a child. She tried it very unsuccessfully, felt frustrated, and left the class in tears.

The Objectives

The aim of rhythmic therapy is to recreate a normalcy. Deeply deluded patients cannot be reached by oral methods, according to Dr. Mays; control situations must be used. Therefore, when using physical education to rehabilitate the mentally ill, the impressions must be simple in order to emphasize White's three objectives; i.e., the physico-chemical level of such functions as circulation, the reflex, and the psychic-symbolic level.

The points of emphasis to obtain these objectives are:

Relaxation—learned and abetted through music.

Posture—the starting point of good health, mental and physical because of the correct support and position of the vital organs which follows good posture.

Rhythmic exercise which includes the dramatic element found in folk dancing, modern creative dance, and even tap and social dancing.

Reflex reactions found in the playing of a team game such as bounce ball with their relation to social response.

The carry-over value of pleasure in using the body as an instrument toward better physical and mental health whether in a sanitarium or out of it.

The new interest which keeps the patients coming day after day, an interest outside themselves plus the social value of working together, mingling and adjusting themselves to several others through class discipline, are the results to be obtained.

Music and the Theater for American Children

(Continued from page 397)

because of their lively action, beauty of color and costuming, and synchronized dialogue in many voices rendered by the narrator. But all of the programs have been enjoyed by thousands of children.

Valuable Results Secured

Through these efforts of Junior Programs children are being led into new interests and hobbies, and at the same time new audiences are being created for the musicians, actors and dancers of the future, audiences whose horizon will encompass more than just the motion picture. This helps in a measure to fulfil a real and crying need in the country today, where the theater, the opera and concert have generally been considered luxuries to be enjoyed only by the privileged class. Recently, through the efforts of the government, especially low-priced music and drama are being offered to adult audiences. But it immediately became apparent that the public must be educated to these higher forms of art before they will attract the necessary audiences. The average American, unfortunately, has a horror of being considered "highbrow." A genuine enjoyment and understanding of cultural entertainment must, therefore, be developed in children at an early age, and this is what Junior Programs, Inc., is hoping to accomplish. Even in the short time of its exist-

tence it has proven that American children—just like European or any other children—appreciate the very best. It is not their fault that great masses of them are growing up to be “cultural illiterates.”

Fortunately the Junior Programs movement designed to change this state of affairs is beginning to take root, and a firm foundation is being laid for increasing the scope of its activities on a national basis. Although, in order to maintain the highest standards of professional quality, pay specially trained performers Equity rates or better, and at the same time keep the average admission price within the range of all children, it has been necessary to obtain subsidies of \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually from members and patrons, it is confidently expected that the movement will be entirely self-sustaining within two years.

How Two Cities Did It!

(Continued from page 400)

partment will not start a marble tournament in competition, but rather will aid the already existing one.

In building its program, it was necessary for the Recreation Department to begin with a children's program exclusively, but now the interest has grown to such an extent that the facilities of the department are extended to those older girls and boys out of school and to adults who have welcomed the program and shared in it enthusiastically. Three of the local committees challenged the best teams from among the boys playing on the playgrounds in their areas. In the first game played, the fathers and committee members defeated the boys by a score of 19 to 14 in spite of the many errors.

Thus, not only are the volunteer workers providing recreational facilities for the children in their communities, but in many cases they are themselves rediscovering the art of playing.

Looking into the Recreational Past

(Continued from page 401)

wrestling, spear throwing, and other games, they like to watch contests in which participants kick at each other's legs. Another game known as Mwess is played on a board containing thirty-two holes with counters that are moved according to intricate mathematical calculations.

Wide and varied indeed are the ways in which men spend their leisure time!

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

School and Society, August 13, 1938

The Challenge to Education,
by James Edward Rogers

Leisure, September 1938

Caricatures in Wood, by Helen M. Douglas
By the Side of the Road, by Ethel L. Rourke
The Last Embers of the Campfire,
by Alice Gee Kelsey
The Little Men, by Alta L. Skelly

Child Life, October 1938

Hallowe'en Novelties, by Dorothea J. Snow
Things to Do for Boys and Girls

Parks and Recreation, September 1938

New Trends in Park Design in Milwaukee County
Parks, by Alfred L. Boerner
What Parks Mean to City Dwellers,
by Frank L. Bertschler
Refectories in Milwaukee County Parks,
by Fred A. Rieser

Character and Citizenship, September 1938

Leisure-Time Guidance, by Victor H. Evjen
Human Relations in Transition, by Hugh Hartshorn
Prevention of Personality Breaks,
by Dr. Walter H. Baer
Methods of Recruiting Leaders,
by Tracy W. Redding

PAMPHLETS

Puppet Teaching

News Bulletin, WPA of New York City. Mimeographed suggestions on paper bag puppets, including stagecraft for marionettes.

The Place of Radio in American Life

An Address by Neville Miller, President, National Association of Broadcasters, August 19, 1938.

Toledo, Ohio, 1937 Annual Report of the Recreation and Parks Division of the Department of Public Welfare

Long Beach, California, 1937 Annual Report of the Recreation Commission

Summary Report of the Philadelphia Charter Commission, September 1938

Outline and explanation of suggested charter.

Mirthful Meals

Mignon Quaw Lott, Pentagon Court, Baton Rouge, La. \$50.

How to Make Backyard Playthings for Children

New York Herald Tribune, Reprint 071738

Swimming Pool Data and Reference Annual

(1938 Edition. Vol. VI)

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ski trails. At the same time WPA has improved 1,360 athletic fields, 3,210 parks, 3,792 playgrounds, 143 swimming pools, 47 wading pools, 186 golf courses, 1,174 tennis courts, 50 handball courts, 56 horseshoe courts, 159 skating rinks, 4 ski jumps and 31 ski trails.

The six roque courts at Quanah cost \$515.91, while the entire development of the recreational center will cost \$11,943, of which WPA will provide \$7,894.

That's the Shot!

(Continued from page 406)

long, with wind conditions and nap of the grass to be taken into consideration, then the reason for your friend's "off form" at bowls is apparent.

Get in the game by phoning your Chamber of Commerce as to the location of the nearest bowling green, and then put your name on the dotted line as a prospective member of the Lawn Bowling Club. You'll never regret it. It's the very easiest game to play at. And if, after a while, you step into tournament play, it will be music to your ears to hear your well-directed play rewarded with "That's the shot."

A Texan Community Introduces Roque

(Continued from page 402)

shots, the other of wood for banking and speed shots. The really good roque player can duplicate practically every shot made on a billiard table, even putting "english" in the ball. Three bank shots are not uncommon. In a singles match, the player must make four trips around the court, going through all the arches each time.

The Quanah Park project is similar to thousands of similar recreational developments undertaken by the Works Progress Administration throughout the country, upon which at last reckoning employment was being provided for 246,274 relief workers. One roque court built by the WPA at Cleveland Park in El Paso, Texas, has resulted in the organization of a roque club, with the sport supervised by W. E. Holland, a former state champion.

During its operation the WPA has contributed to the national trend toward improved recreational facilities 1,534 new athletic fields, 881 parks, 1,303 new playgrounds, 433 new swimming pools, 324 wading pools, 123 new golf courses, 3,535 new tennis courts, 569 handball courts, 716 horseshoe courts, 731 skating rinks, 29 ski jumps and 28

Michigan Goes into Action

(Continued from page 407)

Other cities have had to depend altogether on tax funds. About a year ago Escanaba established a year-round recreation department with a full-time director and a park and recreation budget of \$18,000 spent in the fiscal year 1937-38. With WPA help a varied city-wide program of winter sports and athletics, crafts and playground activities have been carried on. The city manager secured citizen support by claiming that such a program would result in a lessening of petty mischief and destruction of public property and the year's experience has verified his claims.

It is a little over a year since Wyandotte established a year-round program under full-time leadership. Its budget for the current year appropriated by the City Council is \$6,238, and the facilities include the use of school buildings and play areas, as well as city grounds.

In its new city budget Saginaw provides for a full-time director of recreation for the first time in over ten years. The response to a limited playground program last summer and to a skating

Levi D. Wines

In August, Levi D. Wines of Ann Arbor, Michigan, died at the age of eighty-six. For fifty years Mr. Wines had been a member of the faculty of the local high school and his interest in youth was never failing. For forty years he served as a member of the advisory board of the High School Athletic Association, and his name has been perpetuated in Wines Field, the high school athletic field named in his honor. He was active in the establishment of the University School of Music and since 1890 has been its treasurer. Mr. Wines was one of the original Park Board members when the Board was established thirty-seven years ago and was serving on it at the time of his death. As sponsor for the National Recreation Association in Ann Arbor, he had been associated for sixteen years with the national as well as the local recreation movement.

program this winter justified the city fathers in this expansion.

On June 15th, the first year-round recreation leader under public funds to be employed in Albion took charge. With joint city and school financing, he will work under a Recreation Committee of members of the Board of Education and the City Council. He will be responsible for some intramural activities in the school system afternoons, but the rest of his time, including the whole summer, will be devoted to community recreation with special emphasis on out-of-school youth.

Marquette has made provision for its first city-paid recreation director to take charge of its WPA staff this summer, with the expectation that this will result in a year-round program.

In addition to these new programs, there have been increases in facilities and budgets in many of the cities which have had public departments for years. Detroit's budget for the recreation department for the coming year will be over \$600,000 in addition to the portion of the park department budget spent for play purposes. Dearborn's budget nearly doubled in 1937-38 over the preceding year and included the addition of a full-time boys' work director.

Hamtramck added a member to its staff last year and Highland Park dedicated a community building, erected as a PWA project, and having a fine gymnasium and club rooms. Kalamazoo has added leadership in music groups for high school graduates and others to its increasingly varied

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program, and Lansing is developing a new school building as a community center in a section of the city where many of the colored people live, and has the finest lay-out of lighted play areas in the state. Midland has all plans made for the construction of a swimming pool this summer, which will add to its facilities of community center, athletic fields and playgrounds.

The support of recreation from tax funds does not depend on its relation to delinquency prevention. In a machine age, with the shortened working hours (or with none at all), with the crowding into cities, with the monotony and specialization of much labor and with the traffic hazard of the street as a playground, there is general acceptance of public provision for play as a builder of health, citizenship and happiness for the individual and the community. That a community with adequate recreation facilities and leadership tends to have less crime is so self-evident as to give every reason for including the prevention of delinquency as a reason for the support of recreation.

A New Deal for Cards

(Continued from page 409)

players alone in this country—people who play the game for the fun it gives, and for the relaxation, mental stimulation and companionship found at the card table. It was also shown by a recent survey of *Time* Magazine readers that card playing was the predominantly favorite sport or hobby, 69.1 per cent of them playing. Gardening was second choice, with 46.9 per cent, and photography, fishing and golf followed in order.

It should also be remembered that most people know a card game or two—rummy or hearts or pitch—thus providing a good basis to work from. Yet because there are so many new card games, variations of old ones and really lively games that most people have never played before, there is little difficulty in maintaining interest.

Another feature of cards is that they lend themselves, through parties or tournaments, to large gatherings. Boston, for example, with eighteen card rooms is reported to have had considerable success with room, inter-room and city-wide card tournaments.

For all who have budget worries (and who doesn't?) cards have another special attraction. They are inexpensive. Even new decks are cheap and in many communities slightly used decks may be had from clubs, social organizations and even private citizens, for the asking. Cards require

comparatively little play space and are readily adaptable to almost any conditions.

Another cost-cutting point in their favor is that cards need very little direction, leaving the all-too-few directions free for other things.

And for solving the age-group problem, "fun for those from 7 to 70" was never more true than when applied to card games.

Cards are an equally valuable aid in helping the adolescent to adjust himself or herself to society. The card table, providing a common meeting ground for both girls and boys of the "awkward age," supplies just the right amount of social contact in which they are becoming interested and serves an excellent purpose of impressing them with the basic principles of etiquette. A good card game goes far to break the social ice which encases the boy and girl of this age and brings them together under wholesome circumstances.

At this point, and without going into the pros and cons of how far a recreational program should or should not "carry-over" into the home, it should be pointed out that card playing may be projected into the living room in a natural, easy manner and provides an all-family game, regardless of number or age differences, which can do much toward maintaining the ties of the American home.

In this regard, bridge classes have been found to be a boon to the "budget brigade"—young married couples with limited incomes but with a desire to entertain their friends and social obligations galore. If they can learn bridge, which is the most popular card game in the United States today, many of their entertainment problems are over.

Because they require no physical exertion, cards, like checkers and chess, fit nicely into any program for old folks. They provide the competitive outlet so necessary for maintaining well-being of the "actively retired" group. Daily, semi-weekly or weekly schedule of card games for the oldsters does much to maintain the purpose and tempo to living.

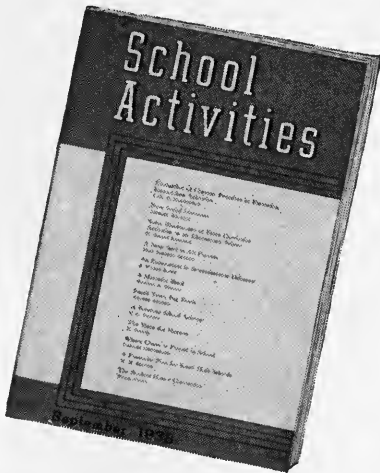
When you come right down to it, cards seem to be recreation's oldest—yet newest aid.

Cincinnati's New Sports Field

(Continued from page 410)

the sports field has been under construction, provision has been made for several hundred gardeners who have garnered approximately \$25,000 worth of vegetables each year. The gardens have

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been carried on under the Community Gardens Association with the cooperation of the Recreation Commission. The interest of the Recreation Commission in these gardens has been the recreational interest. It is the belief of the Commission that great numbers of people want to come close to the soil and get their greatest recreational enjoyment from gardening.

"If the Commission had accomplished no other purpose than to provide a safe place for bicyclists," states the report of the Director of Recreation, "the Airport recreational development would have been abundantly worthwhile. None could see the swarm of bicyclists pedaling through the great stretch of green meadows of the Airport Sports Field without sensing the joy and satisfaction that young and old derive from this activity under ideal conditions. In the laying out of the bicycle trails the Commission has avoided straight lines and has created the atmosphere of a country road amid great open spaces in the layout. In a city with so much topography as Cincinnati, it is most fortunate that the Commission has the control of a property providing opportunity not only for the already constructed three and one-half miles of trails on comparatively level ground, but also the opportunity to add many more miles when the project is fully constructed. Ultimately, when the Commission has adequate storage facilities, it is anticipated that hundreds of people will own their own bicycles and that the Commission will take care of them the year around for nominal rental."

Toy Shops on Wheels

(Continued from page 411)

Holes are punched in a square piece of cardboard, covered with wall paper, and red golf tees are used as in "real" golf.

A year later, in 1937, a leader was requested for the arthritis ward at St. Luke's Convalescent Hospital. Here it was her job to encourage the use of hands that were slowly becoming useless, and it was only with persistent effort that work was accomplished. Patients soon grew eager to get started each day, and before long pocketbooks and other fine work was being turned out by them.

Last spring Eloise Hospital asked for aid, and here again the work began in the arthritis wards. The results have been so encouraging that more leaders are being added whenever possible.

Both the Toy Project and the Recreational Therapy Program have met with huge success in the institutions of Detroit, and together they have solved many of the problems which must inevitably arise in caring for the sick and underprivileged.

Woodmere Plays

(Continued from page 413)

1. There are two general types of cases in a state hospital—the chronic cases which will probably require permanent hospitalization, and the more hopeful cases which may leave the hospital eventually and return to their local community to attempt to make a normal social adjustment. These group lines are not strictly defined, since there is a frequent passing of patients back and forth between them. Types of recreational activities must be planned for each of these groups: for the chronic cases, with the aim of providing them with pleasure in an effort to make life more enjoyable, and for the more hopeful cases with the aim of helping them to make a better social adjustment and eventually to leave the hospital.

2. Active participation in group activities is much to be preferred over the passive participation to be found in such activities as the movies, attending plays, and watching of others engaging in sports. The latter, although providing pleasure, has, as a general rule, little actual therapeutic value.

3. Psychotic patients represent a cross-section of the general population in interests, and, as such, any social activities which are normally engaged in outside of a hospital can be utilized in the recreational program of a state hospital.

4. Interest in recreational activities must be built up through a "selling program" in the institution. We were fortunate enough to have a small Sunday School paper which we expanded to serve as a general Hospital News sheet. In addition, we attempt to make personal contacts with all those patients whom the physicians feel should be "drawn out" and try to interest them in certain phases of our program.

5. There is an acute need for the employment of a trained full-time person to handle the recreational program in any state hospital if the optimum therapeutic value is to be derived. We have found that one of the greatest handicaps in our program is the fact that many of our activities must be curtailed simply because we have no trained person to initiate a program and supervise it.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Park and Recreation Structures

By Albert H. Good. National Park Service. Available in three volumes at \$.75 each. United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

IN NOVEMBER, 1935 the National Park Service published a volume entitled "Park Structures and Facilities." The demand for the book soon indicated that another edition must follow. The new edition, greatly revised and enlarged, has taken the form of three volumes: Part I—Administration and Basic Service Facilities; Part II—Recreational and Cultural Facilities; and Part III—Overnight and Organized Camp Facilities. Each volume of this exceedingly valuable series is profusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams and plans. Taken together, the series represents a comprehensive encyclopedia of information on park facilities.

Folk-Dances of Germany

Collected by Elizabeth Burchenal. G. Schirmer, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

THIS COLLECTION of twenty-nine dances and singing games, including full directions for performance and with accompaniments arranged by Emma H. Burchenal, has been made possible through fellowship grants made for the purpose in 1933 and 1934 by the Oberlaender Trust. The study which produced the collection was made at first hand in different communities of rural Germany where the old folk-dances have survived changing conditions and are still a vital part of the life of the people. Miss Burchenal saw and took part in most of the dances contained in the collection and recorded them by notation on the spot, while present as a guest at weddings and festivals or as a visitor in the homes of hospitable farm and village families.

Gardening as a Hobby

Allen W. Edminster. Harper Brothers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York. \$2.50.

THIS CONCISE VOLUME for the beginner covers the fundamental information necessary in planning and maintaining a varied planting of flowers, shrubs and lawn about the home. The essentials of garden practice are discussed in short chapters on soil preparation and plant foods, plant propagation, coldframes and hotbeds, insects and diseases. The information about plant materials is summarized in convenient charts that include the use of the plant, its soil and light requirements, its color and season of bloom and methods of propagation. These charts are a special feature of the book, for one can see at a glance the varieties of annuals, perennials, roses and bulbs that are commonly planted and the procedure for growing them.

The Civic Value of Museums

By T. R. Adam. American Association for Adult Education, New York. \$.75.

THIS BOOK is an attempt to answer the question as to the educational values which may be derived by the ordinary adult citizen from the existence and functioning of our metropolitan museums. That museums play an important part in adult education is the conclusion of the writer. "Museum education," he says, "whether in art or science, stands ready to fill some of the gravest cultural gaps in our civilization. It is capable of providing adult citizens with access to primary sources of knowledge concerning their own environment in ways that are not open to any other institutions."

Field Hockey Guide 1938

American Association for Health and Physical Education. Endorsed by United States Field Hockey Association. Spalding's Athletic Library. No. 438. \$.25.

IN ADDITION to the rules prepared by the National Section on Women's Athletics, the 1938 Field Hockey Guide contains a number of articles on the techniques of the game.

Swimming and Diving

Prepared by the American Red Cross. P. Blakiston's Son and Company, Inc., Philadelphia. \$.60.

WITH THIS BOOK the Red Cross takes a step toward a greater training program in the art of swimming as a means of water accident prevention. It presents to the American people what may well prove to be a somewhat original approach to the subject of the art of swimming. It is hoped that the information given in the book will simplify the learning process for all who study its pages and that it will make swimming a far happier and safer sport than it has been in the past. The contents include Introduction to Swimming (an interesting statement of the development of the sport); Learning How to Swim; Elements of Swimming; Styles of Swimming; Other Forms of Swimming; and Diving. There are sixty-seven illustrations in the book.

Treasure Chest Publications

Published by Treasure Chest Publications, Inc., 62 West 45th Street, New York. Each \$.10, plus \$.03 postage.

THE COLLECTIONS of songs and of piano music issued by this company are probably so well known, though recent, that notice of them is scarcely needed. A tribute is due, however, to the publishers for venturing to issue so attractive a series of booklets at only 10 cents a copy. Many of them may be secured at five and ten cent stores.

Each booklet contains full piano accompaniments along with the tunes. Several contain old but seldom used songs which might well be added to community sing lists. The printing, binding and illustrations are in themselves enjoyable as well as adequate. The suggestion might be made regarding some of the songs that the harmonies added to many a fine, simple song might advantageously be displaced by the wholesome ones with which the song was born.

Among the booklets of special interest to the recreation worker are the following: *Treasure Chest Community Songster*; *Treasure Chest of Christmas Songs and Carols*; *Treasure Chest of Dances—Old and New*; *Treasure Chest of Cowboy Songs*; *Treasure Chest of Home Spun Songs*; *Treasure Chest of Songs Never Forgotten*; *Treasure Chest of Old Time Song Hits*; *Treasure Chest of Children's Songs and Games*; *Songs of Sacred Beauty*; *Songs We Love*; *Gems for Piano*; *Darn Fool Ditties*; *Piano Tricks—Imitations and Novelties*; *World-Wide Songs*.

Neighborhood—My Story of Greenwich House.

By Mary K. Simkhovitch. W. W. Norton and Company, New York. \$2.50.

In this book Mrs. Simkhovitch tells, in a charming and readable manner, the story of her early home life, college training, apprenticeship in College House on the lower East Side, and finally her own development of Greenwich House.

The trends of life in Greenwich House prior to the war, the transition of Greenwich Village during and after the war, the results of the depression upon the lives of the people and the institution, and finally the description of powerful economic and social forces now at work in the city of New York reveal a breadth of understanding which many years in the service of the peoples in these communities has developed. We would recommend the reading of *Neighborhood*, not only for an understanding of social conditions and the work of a nationally known settlement house, but to catch the spirit of the social pioneer.

Starcraft.

By William H. Barton, Jr. and Joseph Maron Joseph. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

Amateur astronomy as a hobby has made a place for itself in the recreation programs. The lore of the stars and the drama and history of their discovery have a fascination hard to escape. *Starcraft* not only gives a detailed guide to the study of the stars, but tells how the reader can build his own instruments for making observations from a cross-staff to a simple reflecting telescope.

The Geography of Reading.

By Louis R. Wilson. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago. \$4.00.

This volume presents the findings of an extensive survey of the distribution of libraries and library resources in the various states and regions of the nation. It also shows the relation of this distribution to that of book stores and rental libraries, magazines and newspapers, and to the status of other social institutions and media of communication of ideas such as the school, the moving picture theater and the radio. Many tables and diagrams are included in this exhaustive study.

New Trends in Group Work.

Edited by Joshua Lieberman. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. \$2.00.

The National Association for the Study of Group Work in this volume has presented articles by nineteen leaders in the field. These particular articles have been chosen by the Editorial Committee because together they represent a unified picture of the group work frontiers. Recreation workers will be especially interested in the article by Neva L. Boyd on "Play as a Means of Social Adjustment."

Reading—A Tool for Learning.

Compiled by Nila Banton Smith. Association for Childhood Education, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. \$35.

In this bulletin Miss Smith stresses the importance of normal growth of the whole child in the nursery school and kindergarten years, the development of readiness for reading, the program of abundant living, and the natural introduction to reading activities when the child is old enough to find satisfaction in them.

Sharing Experiences Through School Assemblies.

Compiled by Agnes L. Adams. Association for Childhood Education, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. \$35.

There are many values to be gained from school assemblies with their rich opportunities for learning to share and live together. This bulletin presents a variety of opinions as to the purpose, preparation, organization and production of assembly programs.

Municipal Index and Atlas 1938.

American City Magazine Corporation, 470 Fourth Avenue, New York. \$5.00.

The fourteenth annual edition of the *Municipal Index and Atlas* deals, as it does each year, with municipal services such as streets and highways, water supply and purification, light and power, and public safety. The book contains directories of municipal officials such as mayors, city engineers, waterwork superintendents, and street superintendents.

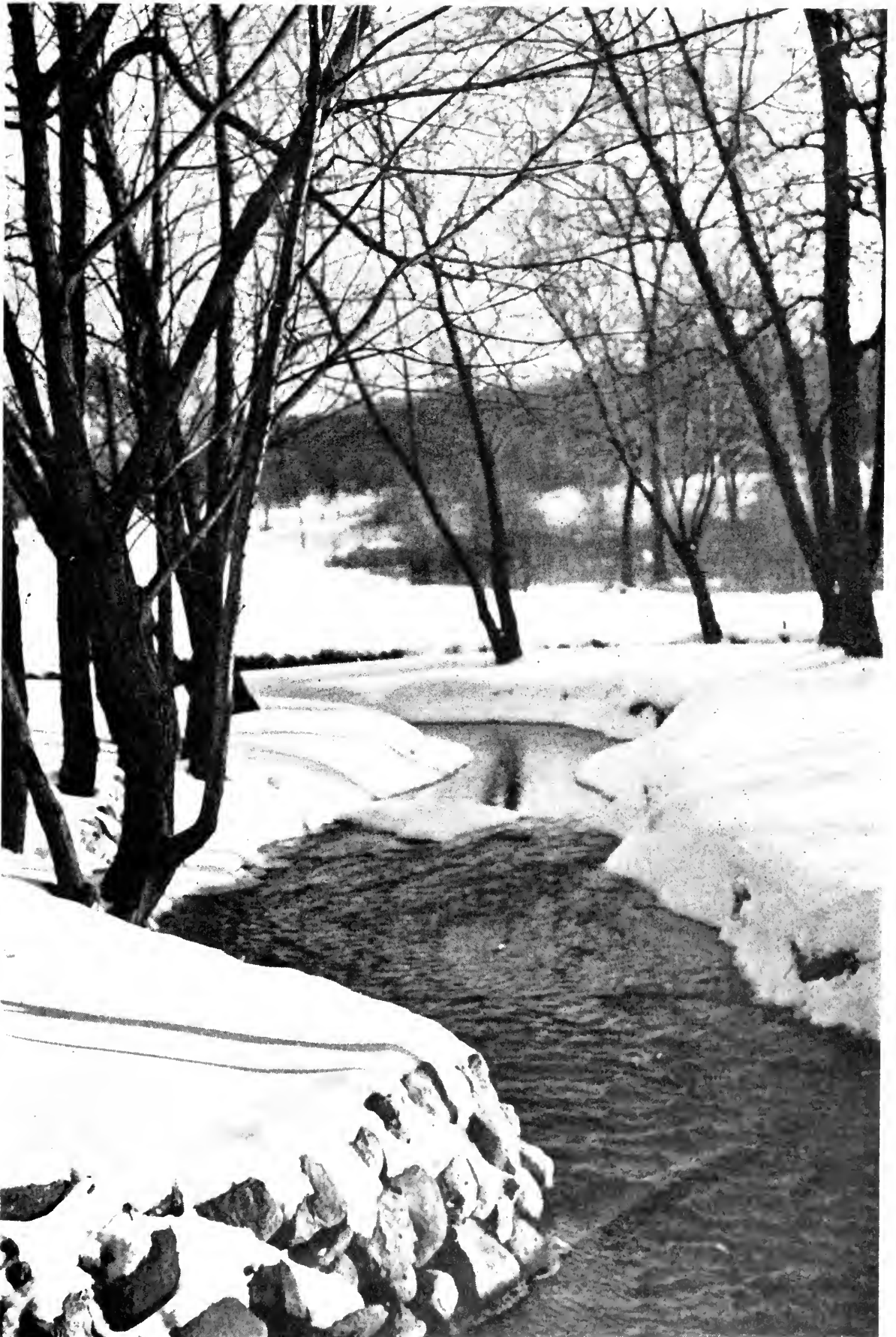
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 STANLEY WOODWARD, Washington, D. C.



Wetland, West Bend, Wisconsin

As Seen by Your Dog

Who are you really?
What are you?
What can you do?
What does your dog see in you?
What does your little child think of you?
Do dogs and little children like to be with you?

Can you pitch an outcurve ball?
Can you sail?
Can you paddle a canoe through the rapids?
Do you garden?
Can you play the violin?
Can you swim?
Can you climb a mountain, a real mountain?
Can you paint a picture?
Can you tell a story?

Well—what can you do—besides just earn a living, or clip coupons?
That's something of course.
But it does not count much with your young child or with the dog.
The dog may be partly right at that.

Can you teach a dog tricks?
Can you ride horseback?
Can you golf?
Can you make a willow whistle?

Do you know the sassafras root?
And the wintergreen berries—and worse luck, the spruce gum?
Just to be able to wiggle your ears counts a little in making you really a person
to your young child.

Just being a good worker is not enough to make you a good companion to your
child or to yourself.
Being able to do useless things makes a man out of you.
It is worth while to be a good companion to your dog,—and to yourself.

What are you to your child and your dog?
Not what have you.
Not what do you know.
What are you to yourself?
A good companion?

Alone in the twilight, perhaps with your pipe,
Have you found peace?
Can you sit still?
Is there anyone home?
Have you learned to live?
Have the years brought a richly satisfying life?
What does your dog think about it?
Your dog knows.

A final test of all our play and recreation systems.
In the end when men and women go West—
What light is in the eye?
What of good cheer, of courage, of truth and sureness, of maturity and rich
fulness of living?
What of comradeship with horses and dogs, and children and people and all
the wide world?

HOWARD BRAUCHER.



Evansville, Indiana, last year celebrated Christmas in a novel way when it inaugurated a Santa Claus parade on a large scale. It all started when the representatives of the Recreation Department attending the Midwest Recreation Conference saw a colored movie of the Santa Claus parade sponsored by the Lincoln, Nebraska, Recreation Board. Borrowing the film, the Evansville representatives showed it to some of their merchants and city officials, who were enthusiastic over the idea of having a similar parade.

Santa Claus and His Fairyland on Parade

HOW CAN we raise the money and get the necessary material?" "Where is the labor to come from?"

These were some of the questions we faced in 1937 in planning for our Santa Claus parade.

Our first step was to get in touch with the Works Progress Administration who agreed to cooperate in every way possible by furnishing all the personnel for the making of the various floats, figures and costumes, and by putting on several extra men for the period so that the parade would be ready in time. The Retail Merchants Bureau gave us \$1,000 for materials and supplies and for the transportation of bands.

The Mayor and the city officials, including the Park Board under which the Recreation Department functions, whole-heartedly endorsed the Christmas idea and agreed to support it, believing that it would not only be a source of great enjoyment to the city and residents of the Tri-State, but would emphasize the city's position as metropolis of the area and help develop a real community spirit around Christmas time.

Having decided that the Christmas parade was to be held, and with personnel and materials and supplies assured, the next step was a hurried trip to Lincoln, Nebraska, with five members of the staff to familiarize ourselves with all the details involved. With only six weeks in which to com-

By JAMES R. NEWCOM
City Recreation Director
Evansville, Indiana

plete our plans, it was necessary to start our activities immediately.

A workshop was set up at the community center, and we were

able to secure the use of an old unoccupied building for the construction of the floats, papier-mâché figures, heads and costumes. The making of the floats and figures was started at once by WPA and NYA.

The Mayor appointed an executive citizens' committee to work with the Recreation Department, WPA and NYA. This committee was selected from various organizations in the city, representing as many of them as possible and covering the various sections of the city. One of the responsibilities of the committee was to bring the parade to the attention of the public. The city and parochial schools cooperated in every way possible by furnishing personnel for our executive committee, bands, and children to wear the papier-mâché heads and costumes. It is impossible to say too much for the work done by the executive committee and its very ambitious chairman who worked day and night for three weeks before the parade.

The Characters

In order that the floats and figures would have meaning for the people watching the parade, it was decided that the theme should be the story

book and comic strip characters with which everyone was familiar.

Our purpose was to make inexpensive floats and figures which would tower in the air as high as the trolley lines would permit. Thirteen floats and 125 papier-mâché heads with their colorful costumes were made. The floats were constructed chiefly from thin plywood and bamboo which were secured from old rug poles and boxes of various kinds. These were all covered with papier-mâché and painted with oil paints to make them waterproof.

There was "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary," represented by a large flower garden with flowers of many kinds made from crêpe paper. The spirit of Christmas was exemplified by an attractive little church mounted on wheels, bearing a Christmas tree and accompanied by a marching unit of youthful Christmas carolers.

Six large figures, some of them fifteen and a half feet high, leaving barely enough room to get under the trolley wires, included the colossal King and Queen of Hearts, a gigantic Mother Goose moving along on rollers propelled by marchers concealed by her billowing skirts, and an equally large Old King Cole. Trailing the parade was a huge figure of Pop Eye, the Sailor Man, with one eye, a pipe and all his accessories. These large figures were made for the most part of bamboo framework on a round base of wood, approximately eight feet across with rollers on the bottom. The entire framework was first covered with burlap and the costume was then sewed on to the figure. A large papier-mâché head placed on top and completing the figure would turn from one side to the other. The huge papier-mâché hands and arms, which moved up and down, were manipulated by two men on the inside concealed by the colorful costumes. These figures, which everyone found most entertaining, were very inexpensive.

The workshop where ap-

proximately 125 papier-mâché heads were made by the WPA and NYA workers was a very busy place. About fifty frames were made and two sculptors were put to work modeling the heads out of clay. WPA and NYA workers applied the many layers of paper necessary—in itself a lengthy process. At one time there were fifty heads under construction on these frames, and the process was managed in the manner of a production line in a factory. Some workers were putting on first layers of paper; some second layers, and others third, while another group of workers was removing the clay bases. Eventually the head moved into the paint shop where the face and features were painted, giving a very lifelike appearance.

After the paint was thoroughly dry, the head or figure went down to the costume room where the costume was fitted to it. All of the costumes were prepared under the direction of the assistant recreation director, and each was designed in keeping with the character it was to adorn. It was something of a task to make the costumes for the large figures; the costume and train for the Queen of Hearts alone required over a hundred yards of material.

Presenting Lil' Abner and Mammy Yocum ready to take their places in the march



The Parade Starts!

After working day and night for approximately six weeks, the workers were ready to present the parade to the public and the Christmas season was opened at 10:00 A. M., the morning after Thanksgiving. Threatening gray skies and a chilly, damp atmosphere were ignored as 50,000 Evansville and Tri-State residents, children and adults alike, packed the sidewalks along the thirty block line of march to watch the fabled story book and comic strip characters come to life and join the march led by St. Nick. According to the newspapers it was the largest group ever to assemble at one time in Evansville.

Planning for 1938

Immediately after the parade it was decided to make it an

annual event and to present it each year to Evansville and the Tri-State on the day after Thanksgiving. Plans are rapidly progressing on the 1938 parade, and many improvements have been made. The motif of the parade will be the same as the last; the new figures, however, will be much larger. Gulliver of *Gulliver's Travels* is fifty-five feet in length, with a head of approximately eight feet high and hands six feet long. The figure is made of very light framework composed chiefly of scrap lumber covered with burlap. A very colorful costume completes the ensemble. Gulliver will be wheeled down the street on a chassis made of salvaged automobiles drawn by four Shetland ponies. He will be on his back with his hands and feet tied with ropes held by small children walking alongside of the figure to represent the Lilliputians. A man riding on the inside of the big figure will turn the head from one side to the other to represent Gulliver attempting to break the ropes.

This year we shall have a large float thirty-five feet long representing Santa Claus, his sleigh and eight reindeer. With the exception of the sleigh, the entire unit will be made of papier-mâché, painted white and covered with silver metallic to give a shiny effect. Other floats made on car frames will include Dinny on a framework similar to that prepared for Gulliver and mounted on a car, with mouth and lower jaw moving up and down, and a rocket ship of similar construction to that of Noah's Ark and the Toonerville trolley.

This year, as an added attraction which will be unveiled a week after the parade, we plan to have a large papier-mâché Santa Claus twenty-one feet high who will shake his head "No." A public address system will be installed in Santa, and he will be able to talk and answer questions from the boys and girls. A large papier-mâché bag on the right side of Santa Claus will hold two people. From their places of concealment they will manipulate Santa and talk for him.

Everyone Enjoyed It

We believe that last year's parade was a success from every point of view. The people who watched it from the side lines thoroughly enjoyed it. A spectator from a neighboring city wrote one of the local newspapers and the recre-

Mr. Newcom writes: "We are always happy to help any cities planning for a Santa Claus parade similar to ours, and we especially invite delegations from interested communities to come to see our material and equipment. Only in this way can they get a clear idea of the organization involved."

ation director requesting that the parade be repeated at night at a later date so that more people of the Tri-State could enjoy it. The WPA, NYA and Recreation Department workers who had so important a part in preparing for the parade became absorbed in it. WPA and

NYA workers received much praise for the major part they played in the activity.

Newspapers were generous with their publicity, especially with their photographs and their coverage of the various developments in the preliminary stages of the work. On the day of the parade one newspaper carried one large cartoon on the front page and two smaller ones. The afternoon paper on the same day devoted about half of its front page and all of its second and third pages to photographs and articles describing the parade. Both papers gave front page streamers on the day before the parade and on the day it occurred. Radio officials cooperated in every way even to the extent of writing plays which were put on the air several weeks before the parade and which lasted from fifteen to thirty minutes. A proclamation by the Mayor in behalf of Santa Claus and his fairyland on parade was issued which appeared in the newspapers the Sunday before the parade.

The municipalities of all Tri-State towns within a hundred miles radius of Evansville were requested by the Evansville Mayor to appoint "junior mayors" and "first ladies," boys and girls between the ages of ten and fourteen years of age, to represent them at the Santa Claus parade. A special reviewing stand along the line of march was arranged for this group of children who in most instances were accompanied by the mayors of the Tri-State towns. This tended to create a closer relationship with the official families in communities near Evansville.

A second special section on the line of march was reserved for cars for crippled and shut-ins. This was greatly appreciated as evidenced by the letters received by the committee.

Much Interest Aroused

It was decided from the very start that all figures used in the parade would not appear at any other time, for we believe that if people see something only once a year it will be fresh and

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The Pittsburgh Recreation Congress

By T. E. RIVERS

Secretary
Recreation Congress Committee

THE PITTSBURGH Recreation Congress was in a very real sense a mobilization of the recreation forces of America.

This was true in numbers, in agency representation, in problems considered, and above all in revelation of the inner spirit of the recreation movement.

No one who paused even for a brief period in the corridors of the William Penn Hotel during the week of October 3rd and watched the delegates eagerly and purposefully availing themselves of the varied opportunities offered could fail to be impressed with the fact that here was a gathering truly and happily dedicated to a high purpose.

In numbers the Pittsburgh Congress exceeded all others. Over fourteen hundred delegates from thirty-eight states and nearly three hundred cities were present. Perhaps never before has the agency representation been more varied. The stake that America has in its recreation movement is rather clearly indicated when one realizes how many groupings in our political, social, economic and religious life were interested enough to have active participation in the Congress.

The main concern or reason for the Congress was not in itself new. The problem faced—"Search for the Good Life"—was an age-old one. But the stirring realization that America has in its national recreation movement an implementation of the aspirations, skills and purposes that satisfy fundamental human needs, added weight and zest to the discussion of practical ways and means of its further extension.

The inner spirit of a movement is hard to describe. It must be felt. Yet certain characteristics stood out. The seriousness of purpose was manifested throughout the week. Meetings—over fifty in number—were attended to capacity. There was little coming and going during meetings. Discussions continued until the bell rang. Additional meetings were arranged and discussions were continued at luncheons and dinners.

In the Consultation Workshop, where specialists were

available to give help on individual problems, six hundred and eighty-four scheduled conferences took place and the ma-

terial display for study by the delegates was in use from eight o'clock in the morning until midnight. The afternoons were crowded with additional meetings, discussion groups, and special demonstrations. The showing of motion pictures of local recreation programs aroused much interest.

This obvious seriousness of purpose in no way interfered with the joyous spirit that permeated the group and expressed itself in folk dances, singing, and games. Time was reserved each evening for games and dancing, and there were afternoon sessions at which folk dancing, square dancing, and other old-time dances were taught. Ralph B. Teffteller of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee, directed the Monday evening Play Hour and other recreation periods. One evening was set aside for social dancing.

Pittsburgh received the Congress royally. The adequacy of the hotel facilities, the cooperation of the Convention Bureau, the wholehearted backing of Pittsburgh's Mayor, Honorable Cornelius D. Scully, and his entire administration, together with the active cooperation of social, civic and business agencies, added greatly to its success. Many trips were planned by the local arrangement committee for the delegates who were given every opportunity to see the parks and local recreation centers, Mellon Institute, the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Institute of Technology, the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, and other local institutions. Trips were also planned to such nationally known industries as the Westinghouse Company and the steel plants. Nothing was left undone for the comfort and enjoyment of the city's guests.

A Recreation Congress may mean many different things to different people. However, certain emphases stand out clearly as we think of the Pittsburgh meeting. First, that the recreation movement offers unusual opportunities for public-spirited laymen and volunteers and that its

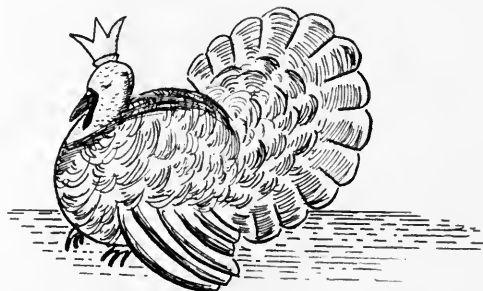
(Continued on page 479)

The Twenty-Third National Recreation Congress was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., during the week of October the third. Friends of the recreation movement who were unable to be present, as well as the delegates attending, will welcome the information that the Congress Proceedings, in printed form, will appear early in November. Price \$1.00.

Promoting Thanksgiving Sociability

Compiled by

JULIA ANNE ROGERS
National Recreation Association



Once a year King Turkey reigns in homes and holds court at Thanksgiving parties

ONE OF THE things that people want most at Thanksgiving is sociability. They want to share the holiday joy that bubbles up in them—a joy as old as the change of seasons and the heaped fruits of the harvest. But busy, repressed individuals sometimes do not express the full spirit of fun and fellowship that is in them unless some skillful host or hostess draws it forth. Such a host or hostess, it will usually be found, does not leave the matter of entertainment to chance. He or she plans games, stunts or a program suited to the group he has to entertain. As a possible help to program planners, we are offering suggestions for three types of entertainment that will be in demand around Thanksgiving time.

Thanksgiving Sociability at Home

Thanksgiving sociability in the home begins around the festive dinner table. But it does not end there. The first step in the Thanksgiving social program at home may well be coffee in the living-room, after dinner. (If this is not an everyday custom, it lends a gala touch to the occasion.) Coffee may be served from a coffee table in demitasses, or handed round by the children, in generous cups. Relaxed and cheered by the first sip of coffee, the family is ready for the first little stunt.

Fortune Telling. Hold a lump of sugar (the oblong, not square kind) upright in a teaspoon. Lower it into the hot coffee, making a wish at the same time. If the sugar falls forward, the wish will come true; if backward, it will not.

Aunt Hattie's Thanksgiving

Dinner Game. "I went to Aunt Hattie's for Thanksgiving dinner and I had ham for dinner," says the first player. The next player repeats "I went to Aunt Hattie's for Thanksgiving dinner" and adds "and I had mush for dinner." Or he might say

Thanksgiving, with its many colorful, seasonal traditions, is, naturally, a time of great sociability. It is a time when home ties are renewed and friendships strengthened. To promote sociability at the fall festival, a planned program of recreation and entertainment is a great help in deepening the day's values.

he had mulberries, or macaroni. The idea is to mention some food that begins with the last letter of the word which the previous player has said.

Huckle, Buckle, Bean Stalk. One half of players leave the room. The others hide some small object, placing it in plain sight, but where it would not be likely to be seen, as on the top of a picture frame, in a corner on the floor, or behind the steam pipe. It may be placed behind any other object, so long as it may be seen there without moving any object. When the object has been placed, the players are recalled and all begin the hunt. As soon as one spies the hidden object, he goes at once to his seat saying "Huckle, buckle, bean stalk!" This indicates to the group that he has discovered it. When all have discovered the object, the other half of the players go out of the room, and the person who found the object first proceeds to hide it. The game continues till everyone has had a chance to locate the hidden article.

Guessing Contest (written)

Part of a turkey that assists a lady in dressing?
(comb)

Part of a turkey that opens the front door? (last part—key)

Part of a turkey that appears after Thanksgiving? (bill)

Part of a turkey that is part of a sentence? (claws—clause)

Part of a turkey that is used for cleaning? (wings—dusters)

Part of a turkey that the farmer watches carefully? (crop)

Part of a turkey that is an oriental? (first part—Turk)

Why ought the turkey be ashamed? (We see the turkey dressing)

Why is a fast eater like a turkey? (Both are gobblers)

What color gets its name from a turkey? (Turkey red)

When the turkey is cooking what country is he in? (Greece)

What part of a turkey is a story? (tail—tale)

What part of the turkey appears on the battlefield? (drumstick)

Apple Walk. A prize (candy turkey or other trifle) is offered for this stunt. Each member of the group, one by one, is given an apple and told to walk the length of the room with the apple on his head. Those who fail are out. If more than one succeeds in doing it, hold an elimination contest. Line up the two or three successful ones and have them walk side-by-side. It is great fun to see dignified Uncle Henry pussyfooting gingerly along with an apple perched on his bald spot!

Nut Bowling. For this game adjourn to the game room or to the dining-room where the table must be cleared. Set up ten large peanuts fixed to stand up on three short toothpick legs. Divide the company into two teams. Players stand six to ten feet from the table and roll walnuts to bowl over as many of the upstanding peanuts as possible. Regular bowling scores, (spares, strikes) may be used, or a point given for each peanut knocked down. The team score and individual high score may be suitably rewarded.—(From Cooperative Recreation Service.)

Other games that may be played at home are parchesi, crossword lexicon, dart-throwing, ring toss, indoor croquet.

The home celebration should end with singing around the piano and roasting chestnut or popping corn. (The *Golden Book of Favorite Songs*, which may be ordered from the National Recreation Association for twenty cents, is one of the inexpensive booklets appropriate for home use.)

Sociability in the Small Thanksgiving Party

While the winter season is still bright as a new penny, and before winter parties have been overdone, an enterprising hostess or small club will issue invitations for a small Thanksgiving party. The following party is for from twelve to thirty adults.

Decorations and Invitations. Chrysanthemums, marigolds and autumn leaves should be massed about the room in baskets, jars and on the mantelpiece. Of course, let there be a fire in the fireplace, if there is one. Paper streamers of yellow and brown may be hung from the ceiling; and silhouettes of squirrels, pumpkins and turkeys cut from brown and yellow paper may be pinned to window curtains. Paper shields of yellow, brown and red crêpe paper may cover the lights.

The following invitation is sent out:
A THANKSGIVING PARTY is now being planned

For which it is hoped that you'll be on hand.

Don't let bad weather keep you away
And remember, the 's the day.

Time:

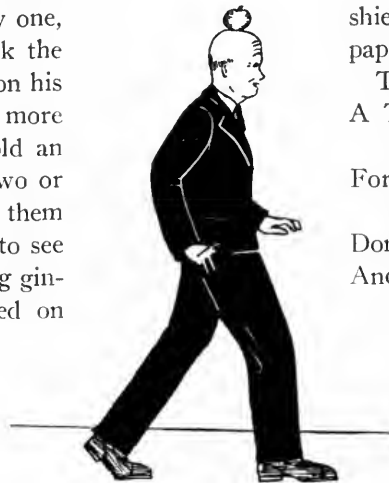
Place:

Date:

Thanksgiving Dinner. Opening get-acquainted game for party. Paste on sheets of type-writer-size paper pictures of different foods cut from magazines. Have guests form a circle and pin one of these sheets

on the back of each. Give each guest pencil and paper. Stand in center of circle and explain that at a signal group breaks rank and each person tries to see and list as many of the foods as possible. Each player tries to keep the rest from seeing his picture, but he may not hide it by leaning against anything. Signal when the game is over. Each player counts the number of foods he has identified and the list is read and checked. Prize may be given for this game. (Adapted from *Girl Scout Game Book 1929* edition.)

Turkeys Fly. Players stand in a circle. The person who is It stands in the center of the circle and says "Turkeys fly!" raising arms to shoulder height and down to imitate flying. All of the players follow suit, saying "Turkeys fly!" and waving arms. The leader goes on to mention name



Uncle Henry pussyfoots gingerly with an apple on his head!

of birds saying "Bluebirds fly!" or "Sparrows fly!" After giving successive birds' names, the leader suddenly changes to the name of something that cannot fly, moving arms as before, while the players must keep theirs still. If a player makes a mistake (for example, waving his arms when the leader says "Kittens fly!") he must take his seat. The last player standing is the next leader. Suggested below is list of birds and animals to give:

Turkeys	Geese	Bears
Ducks	Mules	Squirrels
Owls	Hornets	Goats
Crows	Whales	Frogs
Bats	Beetles	Horses
Mice	Pigs	Snakes
Larks	Cats	Rabbits
Doves	Parrots	Puppies

(From Cooperative Recreation Service)

Gobble Relay. Equipment: A table for each file, on which is placed a number of articles of food corresponding to the number of players in the file. For instance, if there were ten in the files, each table might contain a pickle, doughnut, piece of cheese, candy, cracker, water, peanut, apple, piece of celery, olive. Formation: Players stand or sit in a file facing the tables. At a starting signal the first player in each file runs to the table, takes his choice of the foods, eats one article completely and returns to touch off the second player. The file wins which first clears its table. (From Cooperative Recreation Service.)

Crown the Turkey. At Thanksgiving time turkey is king, so we crown him. Place a large turkey cutout on a wall shoulder height. Prepare a number of crowns and number each one consecutively. Blindfold the guests one by one, turn them around three times and let them pin the crown on the turkey. The one finding the best spot wins.

Turkey Modelling. Pass around a tray containing peanuts and other nuts, gum-drops, coffee beans, apples, toothpicks, pipe cleaners, feathers, crêpe paper. Have also on the tray paring knives, scissors, paste and plasticene. Announce that people are to select their own materials and construct turkeys. The best turkey in the opinion of the judges should receive a prize.

Suggested refreshments for this party: Pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream, and spiced coffee.

fee recipe, (from *Woman's Home Companion*), using four cups of water, place a two-inch stick of cinnamon, four whole cloves and two allspice berries in the lower bowl of the vacuum coffee maker, into the water in a percolator or pot for steeped coffee and into the bottom of a drip pot. As the water heats or the hot coffee drips onto the spices their flavor is steeped out.

Pilgrim Entertainment and Party

A large Thanksgiving entertainment and party may have the following invitations sent out:

Pilgrim Party

By Indian Scout this note is sent
From Pilgrim Folk on pleasure bent
To beg your Honored Company
Upon this date, if you are free.
Entertainment: 8:00 p. m.

Date: Games: 9:30 p. m.
Place: Refreshments

If invitations are not used, change the words "this note" to "the word" and put it on a poster. Make invitations and posters on rough-edged brown paper. Silhouette of Indian scout, running should be painted on the invitations and posters. The entrance to the hall or large room where party is to be given should be made to look like a primitive log cabin exterior. Paint logs on a screen of wall-board. Hang on it skins. Stack corn shocks around it. The ushers are dressed as Pilgrims. Inside the hall, decorations consist of iron kettles full of marigolds, chrysanthemums and autumn leaves; old-fashioned cooking utensils; spinning wheels; guns; corn shocks; pumpkins. Copies of the Blue Laws are posted here and there on the walls. Just as the program is about to begin, an Indian runs through the aisle and up on the stage. He is the curtain-puller.

Program:

1. Song. Landing of the Pilgrims by Felicia D. Hemans. Sung by a quartette in Pilgrim costume. (*Twice 55 Community Songs*—Green Book. 25 cents. Order from N. R. A.)
2. One-act play. The First Thanksgiving Day. Characters: 4 Modern, 3 Pilgrims, 2 Indians (*Hallowe'en and Thanksgiving*. The Harvest Festivals. Samuel French. 50 cents).

The Blue Laws Party is an amusing new Pilgrim Thanksgiving dinner and party program prepared by the National Recreation Association which features a beadle who tickles with a squirrel's tail those committing such offences as "Powdering ye Nose," or "Staring at ye Maidens." A copy of this party bulletin may be secured free on request.

(Continued on page 479)

Plays, Pageants, Festivals and Other Entertainment Material for Thanksgiving

Junior Groups

At the Turn of Tide, by Georgia Stenger. A Thanksgiving drama in one act. 7 girls and 9 boys for speaking parts, as many extras as desired. A story of Colonial New England. Patience saves the life of a baby of an enemy Indian Tribe, and the White settlement is saved from starvation by the timely gifts of the now friendly Indians. Womans Press. 35¢

The First Thanksgiving Day, by Emma L. Johnston and Madalene D. Barnum. One act drama. A simple elementary play especially suited to the acting abilities of young children. 11 characters, plus extras who are Pilgrims and Indians. 15 minutes in length. Included in "A Book of Plays for Little Actors," obtainable from the American Book Co. 42¢

Harvest Festival, by Mari R. Hofer. Story of the Ingathering told in Processional, Pantomime, Dances and Song. The Harvest enacts the story of Mother Earth and her children celebrating the ingathering in a series of Harvest Dances preceded by a Processional and a Prologue chanted by an aged Harvester. Can be adapted for use by children of high school age and younger boys and girls. Clayton F. Summy Co. 75¢

Harvest Time, by Alice C. D. Riley. A festival in which large numbers of children can be used in songs, recitations and dances. May be given out of doors or on floor of a hall. A sense of nature runs throughout the festival in the leaves, winds, seeds, autumn flowers and songs of the harvest. John Church Co. (New York Agent—Harold Flammer and Co.) 25¢

The Meaning of Thanksgiving Day, by Carolyn Wells. A play of one act, calling for cast of 13 children. Emphasizes the spirit of thanks and grace of giving in rhymed verse set to old, well known tunes. Penn Publishing Co. 25¢

Red Shocs at Plymouth, by Esther Olson. A 20 minute play for 4 boys and 7 girls of primary grades. The generosity of a Little Puritan averts an Indian attack. Walter H. Baker Co. 30¢

The Thankful Heart in "A Child's Book of Holiday Plays," by Frances Gillespy Wickes. 7 children, 1 adult. 1 act, interior set. A beautiful Thanksgiving play in which Elsie, a little lame girl, through the Spirit of Thanksgiving, meets a Hebrew Boy, an Indian Boy, a Greek Maid, a Roman Girl and other Thanksgiving children. The Spirit of Thanksgiving tells them that Elsie has the greatest gift that can be bestowed upon any one. The book also contains eight other splendid holiday plays. Macmillan Company, 88¢

Thanksgiving Festival, by Orpha D. Burns. In three parts: (1) The Past—Progress of Nations; (2) The Harvest; and (3) Peace. Large cast, including choral group and dance groups, reader. National Council for Prevention of War. 5¢

Thanksgiving in Plymouth, by Lucy Cuddy. A Puritan play in 3 acts. 40 characters. One splendid scene in an

Indian camp. Gives a very good idea of the life of these early settlers. Two boys are lost in the woods and believed by the little village to have been killed but are returned by two Indian women. Rand, McNally Co. 75¢

The Three Thanksgivings, by Faith van Valkenburg Vilas. A play in 3 scenes with a short prologue and epilogue. One setting. 12 adults, 8 children. The purpose of the comedy is to show that the modern Thanksgiving with its tendency to selfish indulgence is not half so much fun as one wherein the host brings to his table the lonely and less fortunate ones, filling their souls with cheer and their bodies with wholesome food. The play is original in treatment and has a delightful vein of humor. Runs one hour. Suitable for young and old and especially good for a community Thanksgiving celebration. National Recreation Association. 25¢

Turkey Red, by Marjorie Woods. A 25 minute modern Thanksgiving play for 6 girls. Two school girls and their house guest have an unusual Thanksgiving. Walter H. Baker Co. 35¢

Adult Groups

The Burning Altar, by Ethel G. Rockwell. A Thanksgiving ceremony which may be given in hall, club house or community house. 2 prolocutors, several groups: people of the earliest times, the Hebrews, Greeks, Pilgrims, and the World Today. Can be used as a pageant of peace and international cooperation. Womans Press. 25¢

The Captain's Dilemma, by Marion Holbrook. A 25 minute comedy for five people, 3 women and 2 men, based on the famous courtship of the Plymouth Captain. National Recreation Association. 10¢

The Coming of the Mayflower, by Rosamond Kimball. Indoor pageant, with 6 episodes, 40 female and 30 male characters and extras needed. Charming songs interspersed through pageant. Full description of dances and costumes. Background of curtains may be used. Especially adaptable for church and school programs. Missionary Education Movement. 50¢

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fact and also contains a scene of the first Thanksgiving. This episode alone would form a splendid number on a Thanksgiving Program. The second part of the pageant deals with the Faith of Our Fathers in modern times. National Recreation Association. 25¢

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Harvest Festival, by Marion Holbrook. An outline for a simple festival including a dance of the autumn leaves, the Gleaners, an Old English Harvest Revels, a Pilgrim Procession and a Husking Bee. May be produced indoors against a plain curtain or out of doors against background of foliage. Production notes included. National Recreation Association. 10¢

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What the Moon Lady Sees, by Dorothy G. Spicer. The Moon Lady in high Chinese costume surveys from her throne the harvest festivals of different lands. Some are celebrated with songs and dances, some with feasts and merrymaking. Cast consists of the Moon Lady (who does not speak), a reader, and 9 groups of varying numbers. The Womans Press. 35¢

Collections

Glad Time Thanksgiving Book, by Marie Irish and Lenore K. Dolan. Includes recitations, songs, drills, plays. Something for all grades and all ages. Willis N. Bugbee Co. 40¢

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Hallowe'en and Thanksgiving—The Harvest Festivals, by Nina B. Lamkin. A book of program material for

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The Harvest Moon Thanksgiving Book, by Dorothy Middlebrook Shipman, William Lindsley Middlebrook and others. Includes recitations, songs, drills and exercises, and plays. A program handbook. For all ages from 5 to 15. Dramatic Publishing Co. 50¢

Novelty Thanksgiving Collection for Children, by Lenore Dolan and others. Contains recitations, exercises, songs, drills and dances, plays and dialogues, entertainment suggestions. More suitable for the grades with a few numbers which can be given by junior high schools. Eldridge Entertainment House. 50¢

Thanksgiving, by Robert Haven Schauffler. A volume of Our American Holidays Series. Dodd, Mead and Co. \$2.00

Thanksgiving Programs for the Lower Grades, by Julian Lee. A collection of recitations, songs, drills, exercises, short playlets, and other program material. Of particular help to teachers in grade schools. Dramatic Publishing Co. 40¢

Miscellaneous

Thanksgiving in Many Lands, by Marian Schibsky. A bulletin containing much interesting information regarding the holiday customs in many countries of the world—Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Scandinavian countries and Finland, Armenia, Italy, Syria, also Jewish customs. Parts I and II. Foreign Language Information Service. 25¢ a set.

A bibliography of non-royalty plays for Hallowe'en, Thanksgiving and Plymouth Days is obtainable from the National Service Bureau, Federal Theater Project. 25¢

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Thanksgiving in Hawaii

A harvest festival of
dancing and color



By

TRUDE MICHELSON-ASH

Supervisor, Activities for
Girls' and Women's
Playgrounds of Hawaii

THE OPEN AIR court of City Hall with its large balconies and wide staircases is crowded with light and dark skinned people—plump Hawaiians, almond-eyed Chinese, shy Japanese, serious Koreans, shining black haired Filipinos, Samoans, Portugese, Puerto Ricans, White Russians, Spaniards and others. They have come to see their sisters and brothers and fathers and mothers perform.

"My Ah Min, she dance plitty," you hear a Chinese mother proudly say to her friend. "Pua is doing the hula tonight," says a three hundred-pound Hawaiian who is squeezing his way to the front row in the balcony. "Umesan and Fujisan, they, too, here," announces a Japanese father.

Perhaps you wonder what it is all about. This is a Thanksgiving festival given by twenty-two of our playgrounds with the assistance of forty-two directors. There is much to be thankful for—harvests of luscious tropical fruits, vegetables and succulent sugar cane, and more, Hawaii's largest harvest—children. Children, children and more children! The playgrounds are full of them!

A Thanksgiving in Hawaii isn't turkey with the "fixings" and pumpkin pie; neither is it a cold bleak day with the smell of snow in the air, nor the dramatization of the Pilgrim fathers and their hardships that first winter. It is just another season of the gathering of a bountiful harvest from the fields, where the air is warm and languorous. Perhaps a slight drizzle or rain falls gently, but only for a few minutes, and the yellow and white plumaria and pikaki (jasmine) and orange blossoms and hibiscus bloom and fill the atmosphere with nectar and ambrosia. That is Hawaii's season of Thanksgiving!

Boy Scouts with brown skins direct the crowds. Thousands of people pour into City Hall. The band begins to play. You see sixty boys from McKinley High School dressed in blue and white uniforms. The color of their skins blend from a pinkish white to a rich soft delicate brown, but they are not conscious of the difference!

And still people squeeze their way into City Hall. It seems as though every one in town has turned out for the gala fete.

After the band, much applause, but not the kind you would, perhaps, hear in the mainland—no stamping of feet or hooting or calling "bravo." Our Oriental mothers and fathers are not demonstrative, but they are appreciative and they applaud quietly.

The jolly Hawaiian on your right shifts from one foot to the other. You have reason to be glad he hasn't stepped on your toes! The Japanese family on your left have discovered some friends a short distance from you and are conversing in their native tongue—but only for a moment.

"See," and "Ah" and "M-m-m-," you hear, as all eyes are turned toward the entrance.

The Harvest Procession! Eight color-bearers of different races appear carrying the American and Hawaiian flags. The Queen is coming—a tall stately girl, dressed in silk holiku (Hawaiian dress with train, originally introduced by early missionaries) and wearing long leis reaching to her feet. To her right and left are flower maidens in whose outstretched arms are fragrant ginger and carnation leis.

And what do these boys in Malos represent? (Malos are special loin cloths worn by men and

(Continued on page 480)

Indoor Recreation "According to Hoyle"

THE PRESENT-DAY scale recreation program in the city of Boston began in the early

By GORDON L. NORTON

mit people to talk, laugh and enjoy themselves beyond the limitations of a library reading

1930's during the depression period. Mayor James M. Curley appointed a City-Wide Emergency Committee on Health and Recreation composed of a number of outstanding public-spirited citizens of Boston charged with the responsibility of devising ways and means of providing healthful recreation for the thousands of citizens who had been thrown out of work or who were working shorter hours. The whole emphasis of the program at that time was placed on the unemployed.

The first thought of the committee turned to an educational program to include lectures, current events, economics, and art appreciation. Next the committee turned its attention to drama, music, choral, and entertainment. Since all these programs were planned to take place in our municipal buildings, it was felt that a waiting room would be desirable in each building where individuals attending the various activities might rest, read or play quiet games while waiting between the meetings of the groups in which they were interested.

It was also felt that some people might be attracted to the rooms who would not care to participate in the activities scheduled. With this in mind, a Subcommittee on Reading and Game Rooms was formed with Milton E. Lord, director of the Boston public library system, as chairman. At the first meeting of this committee it was decided that games such as backgammon, checkers, chess, dominoes, lotto, parchesi, jackstraws, bagatelle, cards, and jig saw puzzles would be suitable. Reading was limited to magazines and newspapers because the supplying of books in the rooms would be a duplication of the service offered by the branch libraries. The whole idea behind the movement was to provide rooms that would retain some of the dignified atmosphere of the libraries and yet per-

mit people to talk, laugh and enjoy themselves beyond the limitations of a library reading room. They were to be rooms where hundreds might meet and discuss common interests without fear of disturbing someone else who might be deep in study, or where they might gather round tables and play games which the crowded quarters of their apartments would not permit.

On February 2, 1933, the committee was successful in opening game rooms in ten of the municipal buildings throughout the city. This program ran for a period of ten weeks and served 134,619 people. Unfortunately the rooms were in charge of untrained workers, and destruction of property and lack of good leadership militated against the success of the centers. The program, however, was revived in 1934 and struggled along with inadequate leadership until the furnishing of workers by ERA and WPA made it possible for the program to be expanded.

In giving the history of the Boston game rooms we do not wish to lead you to believe that the game room idea originated in Boston or that it was a "child of the depression." Game rooms have, of course, been conducted for years in private organizations and school buildings, aboard ships and various other places. An elderly Scotchman visiting our game room not long ago informed us that he was a regular patron of a free game room in his home town in Scotland fifty-four years ago, before he came to America. We have no way of knowing the history of the free

game room idea, but we do know that it dates back to before the Revolution in America. Not long ago, while doing some historical research work, I came across an article stating that a very prominent minister in a town near Boston had been discharged from his position as pastor of the church because he had opened a free reading and game room in the base-

Last spring the WPA Adult Recreation Project of Boston sponsored a course in indoor recreation given by Gordon L. Norton, WPA supervisor. The course was conducted in a series of ten sessions of two hours each, the first half hour being devoted to a talk on game room operation, while the remaining hour and a half was given over to instruction and participation in a variety of games. The topics discussed were: Purpose and History of Game Rooms; Facilities and Equipment; Organization and Leadership; Publicity; Program and Tournaments. The games discussed were Camelot, Checkers, Contract Bridge, Chess, Cribbage, Hearts, Pinochle, Rummy, Whist and Table Tennis. We present here a few extracts from Mr. Norton's material.

ment of the church. This happened a few years before the Revolution. The minister had in mind social dancing and some of the games that are still being played in American homes. We can see by this that we have not originated the program but have merely built on the ideas of recreation-minded people who passed before our time.

To quote from the history of a few cities which have conducted game rooms through their recreation departments, it is interesting to note that the Recreation Department of Los Angeles, California, conducted a game room in a downtown building for a number of years before the depression period of 1933, including in its program many of the games that we teach in Boston today. York, Pennsylvania, had its quiet reading and game rooms for a number of years prior to the depression. These rooms were opened in public school buildings and the program included activities such as chess, checkers, ping pong or card games for men and women over eighteen years of age. Minneapolis, Minnesota, operates twenty game rooms open for minors and adults. Hartford, Connecticut, conducts rooms in nineteen centers, with one or more rooms in each center devoted to game room activities. James H. Dillon, Director of Recreation, states that he considers game room activities an indispensable part of the city's recreation program.

Chicago, Illinois, has had an important part in promoting this activity as a part of its recreation program. At the present time eighty-seven game rooms are being conducted, and in most cases these rooms are devoted to mixed groups of adults although in some instances several rooms are set aside for women's activities. Chicago has been outstanding in building its own equipment and game room supplies through its manufacturing plant set up to provide the rooms with ping-pong tables, shuffleboard courts, indoor horseshoe equipment, bean bag boards, equipment for dart games, pin board marble games, hand shuffleboards, and four-men soccer games. They have even carved out their own chess sets. Among other games offered in the rooms are bridge, pinochle, Lexicon, cribbage, dominoes, two-hand, three-hand and four-hand checkers, eleven-men and twenty-one-men halma, fox and geese, Mill, and many varieties of puzzles. Many of the rooms have billiard and pool tables.

Boston has had as many as thirty-nine game rooms in operation at one time. At present there are sixteen game rooms in schools, libraries,

neighborhood houses, recreation centers, vacant stores, and a Y.M.C.A. As a contrast to this, consider Hartford, with nineteen game rooms operated in municipal recreation centers, and the larger city of Chicago with a game room in each of its eighty-seven municipal recreation centers. Some of Chicago's game rooms are confined to as low as 600 square feet, while others run as high as 3,000 square feet, and in many instances two and three rooms are devoted to this activity. Boston's largest game room covers about 1,500 square feet.

Facilities and Equipment

Outdoor Game Room Facilities. Game room activities are not restricted to indoor facilities but can be conducted equally as well and as successfully in a number of outdoor rooms. Every playground should have a place set aside for quiet games—one space for children and another for adults.

The Lincoln Bath Playground in Cleveland is an example of modern play area planning. It was equipped with facilities of a permanent type of construction and planned so as to accommodate as large a number of people as possible at all times. A slab of concrete covers 10,800 square feet of the play area, and the majority of its facilities are constructed of reinforced concrete. The concrete covered area provides two regulation basketball courts with a volley ball court marked out inside each, and two paddle tennis courts. In addition, five concrete ping-pong tables and three horseshoe courts were provided. The entire play area is flood-lighted so adequately that it is possible to read a newspaper without difficulty at any point on the playground.

A space on this playground 40' x 40' would provide room for twenty-five regulation 30" card tables seating a hundred players. These tables could be constructed of concrete and made as permanent as other facilities. Colored cubes could be used to make checker and chess boards in the table tops. Chairs could be made of concrete with an awning stretched over the area during the noontime heat. Such facilities would bring the game room to the playground and add to its activities. Chess, checkers, Camelot, halma, cards, and other quiet games.

Public Parks. Shaded areas of our public parks provide excellent places for quiet games. Such areas should be roped off, and in them should be provided tables for quiet games, three or four

ping-pong tables, possibly a pool and billiard table, a few horseshoe courts, equipment for bowling on the green, and an outdoor library.

Equipment. The size and success of the game room depends to a large degree on the amount of equipment and supplies on hand. It is necessary to buy such articles as ping-pong balls, rackets and nets, cards and similar items, but the majority of equipment needed can be home built. In my opinion every public recreation department should have its own manufacturing plant to build the equipment needed.

As an illustration of the economy of this self-service our experience in supplying the rooms with tables might be cited. Under the ERA we purchased folding card tables for all of the rooms but were forced to replace them so often that it became a drain on our budget. To remedy this we had two carpenters assigned to the project, purchased materials and built stationary tables, obtaining material to build two hundred tables for the amount required to purchase sixty folding tables. We then built ping-pong tables at a cost of less than \$8.00 per table.

A manufacturing unit could provide tables, chairs, benches, ping-pong tables, table shuffleboard courts, table bowling alleys, dart games, table box hockey, checker and chess boards, cribbage boards, and dozens of other games too expensive to purchase.

In a letter from Chicago, Mr. O. C. Rose, Area Supervisor of the city's game room program, states: "We make all of our games except the card games. We found that we could make much better ping-pong tables, shuffleboard equipment, imitation inlaid checker boards of all kinds, dart games from tree stumps, and many other games that are far more serviceable than commercial games. Our typical game rooms have from three to twelve ping-pong tables, one to four shuffleboard courts, indoor horseshoes, bean bag boards, dart



Outdoor game room facilities should be provided. Reading, Pa., has equipped sections of its parks for the purpose

games and pin board marble games, hand shuffleboards, four-men soccer game, table games, including bridge, pinochle, Lexicon, cribbage, dominoes, two, three and four handed checkers, chess, eleven and twenty-one men halma, fox and geese, Mill, and many varieties of puzzles including wood, wire and jig saw.

Home Play Rooms. While we are striving to give the community bigger and better municipal game rooms we should also be thinking in terms of giving it home play rooms—rooms in which the whole family can enjoy the game that they have learned in our rooms. While we are teaching them to play we might also teach them to provide their own play facilities and equipment.

To demonstrate what I mean, we might learn that Mr. Jones has a large cellar in his home that is serving Mr. Jones only as a storage place for his coal and housing for the heating plant. We might point out to him the fact that this idle space could be giving rich returns in happiness for his whole family. How? By turning it into a play room. We might advise him in planning the room, or the recreation department, through a bulletin service, could give Mr. Jones plans for home play space and keep him informed on the latest developments in home play rooms. We might even conduct classes in home playing planning.

How, Mr. Jones may inquire, is this to be accomplished? How is it possible to remodel the dust-covered cellar into a summer and winter resort for his family? At very little expense he can cover the stone or cement walls with beaver board or plywood and add a coat of light paint to brighten up the dark corners, or he can paint the natural walls a light color. This, of course, depends on his taste and pocketbook. After the paint job has dried he can wash the floor, borrow a few scatter rugs from other parts of the house, or he can cover the floor with linoleum. Next he brings down the folding card tables, some of the extra chairs, a divan or studio couch, the radio, and one or two bridge lamps. He can build a ping-pong table and a magazine rack for the room. As a last touch, he might decorate the windows with curtains borrowed from the household collection and brighten up the walls with a few travel posters or inexpensive pictures. Then Mr. Jones may corral the family, collect his supply of games, and proceed to have a grand time right next door to the coal pile.

Now Mr. Jones has covered a good deal of the field of adult recreation in producing this room. He has designed it, built a wall, made a ping-pong table and magazine rack, used a paint brush, dabbled in interior decoration, and is now prepared to tackle leadership. He is going to teach his family how to play and enjoy themselves at home. He has provided a meeting place for his pipe-smoking cronies, for mother's sewing circle, brother's baseball team, sister's glee club, and a place for brother and sister to entertain their one and only.

Perhaps Mr. Jones has no cellar. Then why should he not set up an outdoor play space in his backyard? He can stretch an awning over a part of the yard, bring out the furniture suggested, run out an extension wire for night lighting and add a plywood wall if he wishes? To the games that he already has on hand he can add a sand box for the children, box hockey, a horseshoe court, and a dozen other games that take up very little space. While he has his family outdoors he might add another branch of education and recreation, nature study, by having his family start a garden to add color to the play space. Mr. Jones is giving his family something to stay at home for!

But suppose that he has no cellar or backyard. Well, let him move the play space to the roof and add sun bathing to the program. The family could hold picnics out there and imagine that they were

at the seashore. Whether it's in the cellar, backyard or on the roof, by all means Mr. Jones should provide his family with a place to play!

Leadership

Leadership in the game room is as essential as it is in any other phase of recreation. Some authorities have voiced the opinion that the game room might be conducted with volunteer workers, that a trained staff is unnecessary, and that a game room program can conduct itself with very little leadership. I cannot agree with these statements because very few fields of recreation bring together under the roof of one room and under the leadership of one or two people so many different interests and so many different types of individuals. Very few programs offer the large variety of activities that can be carried on at the same time. A capable leader must be present to keep the participants engaged in a smoothly running program, to help them find expression for their desires, to act as referee, to issue and take care of games, and to supervise the room so that disorderly conduct will not interfere with the games being played.

The game room worker should have knowledge of the psychology of recreation and its socializing effect on the people of the community, an appreciation of the social service being rendered and of the moral standards of the work being performed. He should have personality and the ability to meet and mix with people easily, to make them feel at home, and to lead them in activities from which they will gain the most benefit. He should be mentally alert and physically able to withstand nervous strain and hard work with a pleasant manner. And, finally and most important, he must love the work.

A capable instructor must have a pleasing disposition, a comprehensive knowledge of all games played in the rooms and must be constantly on the lookout for new games that might be added to the program. He must be a diplomat, a psychologist, an organizer and, most important of all, he must be a real teacher. He must be able to teach games, organize teams, conduct matches and tournaments, and direct social activities in the rooms when necessary.

Conducting the Game Room

The game room leader must realize that he is not conducting an orchestra or choral group in which the participants all take part in one type of

activity. He must realize that he is offering a variety of games to permit the participants to follow out their own inclinations. If he intends to force people to play checkers, he might as well discard the other games and call it a checker room. If he intends to force instruction classes on the participants, he might as well close the other activities and call it a classroom. If he is going to attempt to force people to play the games that he chooses, he might as well close the room before the program starts!

On the other hand, if he offers a good variety of games and permits the participants to choose their own from the very beginning, he has a good chance of conducting a successful room. He should assist them to master the game that they choose if they so desire, but otherwise should permit them to play without interruption. He can very subtly lead their interests into other games if he uses the right technique. He can lead them into classes, tourneys and special events, but he will never be able to force them.

Normal Routine. By normal routine of the game room we mean the routine scheduled which permits people to play any game they choose at any time they choose during the period the room is in operation, on the principle that individuals play these games because they have the desire to do so and not because we plan that they shall, and that they enjoy their playing with as little apparent leadership as possible. Normal routine is more desirable in the game room than planned programs because it is possible to entertain a larger number of participants with a smaller amount of leadership and supervision. These two elements are necessary, of course, but they should not be apparent.

Our job in conducting the normal routine program is to make our visitors feel at home and to make their visit a pleasant one. We should greet each individual and extend a personal welcome to him. We should become their friends from the very first meeting and should not lose that friendship. We should chat with them long enough to learn what games they are interested in, and then introduce them to others with the same interest. We should never permit a visitor to feel like a stranger in our midst.

After our visitor has become acquainted with other visitors in the room, we should become

better acquainted with him. We should learn his likes and dislikes and be a source of outlet for his pentup feelings. If he cares to boast of his accomplishments, bewail his troubles and confide his personal secrets in us, we should let him. We are gaining his confidence and friendship, and he will the more easily be led into a variety of games.

Once we have gained his friendship and confidence, we should go a step further and make each individual feel a personal responsibility for the room, for its appearance, discipline and program; for the happiness of others who visit the room, and for teaching games to newcomers. We should make the good contract bridge players feel that they are responsible for making their game the most popular in the room by instructing newcomers and converting the habitual players of other games. We should do this in all games, selecting the best players and selling them the idea. By acting as our allies they can be instrumental in acquainting each individual with a variety of games. We are now promoting leadership within the group and making it possible for participants to conduct their own activities.

Our idea is not to have the new leaders force participants into new games, but to lead them. The leader can very often accomplish this by adopting the ruse that a fourth hand is needed in bridge, or that he requires a partner for a game of table tennis, or feels like playing a game of checkers. While he is playing the leader has a chance to sell the visitor the game.

Why are we interested in having our participants learn a variety of games? Because the more games they know, the more fun they will have. If Mr. Jones, an habitual checker player, arrives in the room and finds no other checker players, he either leaves or sits down to wait for a partner to show up. But if Mr. Jones has learned a variety of games, he is prepared to have fun while he is waiting for more checker players to come in. He may be a table tennis enthusiast but limited equipment will not permit him to bat a ball all of his time in the room. Others must have their chance

to play. He should know other games to play while awaiting his next turn at the table. In other words, Mr. Jones should be prepared to enjoy himself to the fullest extent while in the room.

But while we are considering our visitor's welfare and happiness during his sojourn in the

"Cramped living quarters, fast life and divided interests have practically wrecked all home life. In game rooms I see an opportunity to go a long way on the road to restoring the lost art of family life and happiness, the companionship of father and mother and their children."

room, we must not overlook the fact that he may wish to "sit out the dance," so to speak and chat with his friends. We should not object to this so long as we feel certain that he is doing the thing he wishes to and is enjoying himself. But, on the other hand, we must not permit those "sitting out the dance" to raise a rumpus and heckle other players. The minute we permit a group to become boisterous we lose control of the room.

There are numerous other things we must consider in conducting our normal routine program. We should appeal to our participants and community people for magazines and reading material for the room. A few chairs should be set aside near the best lights for those who wish to read. If we have a radio in the room it should be so placed that when listeners sit around it they will not interfere with the players. If the room is open to mixed groups, we should always try to give the women tables to themselves if they wish to be alone. And above all the room must be clean, orderly and comfortable.

Planned Programs. The planned program, as we apply it to the game room, means a series of selected activities that we have planned and scheduled for the pleasure of our participants. This program may consist of a series of weekly room tourneys or a series of inter-room matches, and may include our city-wide events.

In planning a program of scheduled activities for our rooms we must consider the likes and dislikes of the participants. If we have only a few checker players in the room it will be useless to schedule a series of checker tourneys in that room. If we have a majority interested in checkers, we can hope to conduct a successful series of tourneys. We must select activities that the majority are going to be interested in.

Although we consider the planned program important to the life of the room, it should never be permitted to interfere with the normal routine. Why? Because we never find a crowded room of participants who are all interested in the same game. If we stop the normal activities to conduct a tourney in a certain game, we are doing an injustice to those who are not interested in that particular game, and if we schedule these tourneys as regular events, we are inviting a good many of our patrons to stay out of the room during the hours the tourneys are being conducted.

If we are to conduct a successful planned program in conjunction with the normal routine it

must be done in such a manner that one does not interfere with the other. If we wish to conduct our planned program in the room it must be done during the natural lull in the normal routine. If this is impossible, then we must conduct our planned program in a separate room or a different building. If we have the use of two or more rooms in the building for our game room activities, the problem is solved by conducting the planned program in one and the normal routine in the other.

Spontaneous Programs. The spontaneous program is an event which has had no previous planning. It follows the natural feeling, temperament, impulses and desires of the group as a whole. Its success depends on the voluntary spirit of the group and the willingness to comply with suggestions. For instance, if we suddenly find everyone in the room is a table tennis player, the mere suggestion of a tourney may begin a spontaneous program. Or we may find that at this particular time the participants are in an unusually friendly mood, and by suggestion it may be possible to start a series of group games that will be enjoyed by all.

The real leader should be able to sense the feeling of the group to adapt his suggestions accordingly. If his suggestion does not meet the approval of the group as a whole, he should either abandon the idea or segregate those interested in a separate part of the room, or, better still, in another room.

No leader should overlook an opportunity to conduct spontaneous events because it keeps life in the room, maintains the participants' interest, and demonstrates to the group that the leader is interested in their pleasure.

Classes. Instruction classes in popular games are an important part of our planned program and open channels for broadening the knowledge of games among the participants. We should conduct classes in as many games as possible and encourage as many students to join as possible. In so doing we increase the activities of our normal routine and guarantee a larger participation in other phases of our planned program.

These classes should be conducted by instructors who are thoroughly familiar with the game to be taught, who have the ability to gain and hold the interest of the students, and to make the instruction period more play than study. The instructor should get away from the classroom idea

and retain the game room atmosphere as much as possible if he wishes to keep his students happy and interested.

The classes should be planned so that they do not conflict with the normal routine and held during the day and time most convenient for the largest number of participants. They should be held on the same day, at the same time, and in the same place every week to avoid confusing the members. If we continually change our time or place the participants soon become discouraged and our attendance dissipates.

Special Events

Room tourneys should be conducted to promote interest in the games and develop individual skill. Competition encourages study, practice, application and personal pride in ability to play well. Room tournaments may be promoted as a stimulant to interest in the individual room's activities, inter-room tournaments to promote interest in the community, and city-wide tournaments as a means of practical demonstration.

Team Matches. Teams should be organized in the various rooms and team matches encouraged. Through team play we offer a medium for cooperation among the participants. . . . If a team is to be successful there must be cooperation among its members, and if it is to compete with other teams it must have the cooperation and backing of every participant in the room which it represents.

Special Events. We should encourage special events such as social nights, ladies' nights, men's nights, and game carnivals. Most of these events should be conducted under the direct supervision of the local committee members.

City-wide Events. We should plan on conducting city-wide tournaments and game carnivals at least once each year for championship competition between the players from all of the rooms. These events stimulate activities, develop individual skill, and promote a feeling of personal pride in the room to which the competitor belongs.

Values of the Program

The results we have secured can perhaps be best illustrated by giving you the story of an elderly man who visits one of our rooms. The story is told in his own words.

"I draw a small pension and live in a cramped room in a thickly populated section of the city. I

am getting on in years and have lost the ability to hold friends as I did in my younger years. Occasionally friends would visit me, but there seemed to be little in common between us. With nothing in common to hold us together we gradually drifted apart, and I was left alone. I have gone to the library and read newspapers, but the people I met there were all strangers and even when I met someone that I knew we couldn't talk above a whisper. I took out books and attempted to interest myself in them at home. I always did like reading but after a while it began causing headaches. I went to the movies occasionally when I could afford it, but the love mush tired me more than the reading. I began to get into a monotonous rut of existence of eating, reading, eating, movies, eating, sleeping, and so on.

"One day I met a man who told me he was on the way to the game room and asked me to join him. It was my first visit to one of these rooms. At the room he invited me to play a game of checkers with him, and I accommodated him. It wasn't much of an accommodation, though, because I was no match for him. I had been a pretty good player in my younger days, but I hadn't played for a long time. Soon he grew tired of me and gave his attention to another player. I watched him play his new opponent and found that my interest in checkers was returning. One of the game room instructors saw me all alone and asked me what game I was interested in. I answered that checkers was my favorite game but that my friend couldn't be bothered with me because I couldn't offer enough competition. 'Is that so!' he said. He took me over in a corner where we could concentrate and began showing me the openings, the way to build up formations, and many of the tricks of the game. He also pointed out my bad moves. I won't go into detail—I spent several periods with him, and the old play began to come back to me.

"After his coaching I got my pal into another game, and much to his surprise I won. And he was more surprised when I won the next three games. The instructor led me into the room tourneys, and I was soon beating the best players in the room. I feel very happy now because every time I come into the room I receive half a dozen challenges. In fact, I am getting more fun out of life than I have had in the last dozen years, and I owe it to your project. . . . Let's have more game rooms."

What They Say—About Recreation

IF YOU ASK me why I hate the materialistic, atheistic philosophy which robs the hearts and invades the minds of so many people, I will tell you. First, because I think it is not true, and, second, because it takes the play out of life. In a world coming from nowhere, meaning nothing, and going no-whither, life will not dance. The Master was right. He came, with his deep philosophy about what life ultimately means, that we might have life and might have it abundantly.”

—Harry Emerson Fosdick.

“Not the speediest automobiles, not the strongest gin, not the most violent amusement park, not the dirtiest stories and actions can long distract human attention from the terrible inner emptiness that comes when they have allowed themselves to be cheated out of their rightful heritage of doing, or constructing, or creating, or thinking or growing something successfully.”

—Dorothy Canfield Fisher.

“There is a chance for vicarious enjoyment in our platform of leisure and this should be made clear. When direct enjoyment and participation is impossible, vicarious enjoyment is the best and a necessary substitute. Books and movies help to satisfy the human wish for new experience. Through the medium of the imagination, every man can be a hero or an athlete or an actor. This play of the imagination does serve a real purpose by releasing personalities into wider experiences than they would otherwise enjoy. In other words, we can window shop the life we know exists but which we cannot have for our own.”—Elmer D. Mitchell in *The Phi Delta Kappan*.

“It is apparent that the ideal of devotion to work must be altered and enriched by placing alongside another ideal although it may conflict with the development of the first. This other ideal would state that play belongs in the good life, that it requires no apologies for its followers, that its justifications are rooted deep in

At the Recreation Congress at Pittsburgh the request came from a number of recreation workers for a page of quotations in *Recreation* about recreation and the leisure time field in general. Such quotations, it was felt, could be advantageously used in connection with annual reports, publicity material and addresses. If this idea appeals to you we hope you will say so. And we further hope that our readers will help by sending us interesting quotations which they have come across. We may not have heard of them.

the basic nature of mankind, and buttressed by the kind of world in which he lives today.”—Jesse F. Williams, M.D., in *Principle of Physical Education*.

“Beauty is its own excuse for being and is spirited, vital, real in relationship to the depth of feeling of the doer. The ‘how’ of this creative thing, like the big, black bugaboo of cradle days, just jumps right out at you. It never comes twice in the same shape, size, form, or color. It simply comes dancing, laughing, singing, filled with the sheer joy of living, for it dwells in depths of inspiration, the marble castles of idealistic youth.”

—Beatrice Harrison in “Youth Creates Beauty,” *The Call to Youth*.

“Recreation is as necessary for the boy as oil for an engine. His recreation needs just as much thought, planning and supervision as does any other phase of his development. Unsupervised, his play may resolve itself into all forms of amateur gambling, and the formation of other bad habits which may later lead to delinquency and crime. Supervised play develops poise, self-reliance and balance. It also develops character, thereby training the boy to become a useful citizen.”—C. H. Lewis, General Superintendent, State Reformatory for Boys, Pontiac, Illinois.

“It is extremely important that every individual learn to play. Most tragic are the lives of those persons who do not know how to relax and enjoy themselves. As the young people from high school and college are likely to be attracted into some special sport, it is well that in grade school they

be encouraged to become interested in a wide variety of physical activities which may last as long as they live.”—From *Hygeia*, September 1937.

“Recreation, in its broad sense, is one of the greatest social and educational forces yet available to man. We have only begun to realize

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Drama—A Community Responsibility

By FERDINAND A. BAHR
Director of Recreation
Sioux City, Iowa

WITH THE development of drama as an outstanding part of a municipal recreation program, it is important

that leaders in the recreation field organize a program which will be fundamentally sound and adapted to the interests and abilities of the people in their community. The number of adult dramatic groups throughout the country is growing. These groups are offering opportunities to high school and college graduates who have had dramatic experience to continue that interest as a leisure time activity, and are giving those who have had little drama experience encouragement in developing this splendid art. It is estimated that there are over one thousand little theater organizations in the United States that are carrying on a program of diversified drama activities. Many of these are being conducted as part of the municipal recreation program.

The planning of a community-wide drama program involves a wide knowledge of community interests and prejudices. Many little theaters have been organized only to disband after a few years of activity. Lack of success in keeping up the interest of a drama group can usually be traced to internal jealousies, a program not sufficiently diversified, over-expansion and absence of good leadership. Before launching a program of drama in a community it is of primary importance for the recreation director to have the whole-hearted cooperation of the drama leaders of a community.

How It Started in Sioux City

The Sioux City Recreation Department believes that it has a definite responsibility to help those interested in drama find an outlet for their talents and abilities. With this thought in mind an Advisory Drama Committee was appointed, representing a cross section of community life. Among those serving on the committee: the Superintendent of Schools, two members of the School Board,

the drama chairman of the Junior League, a member of American Association of University Women, the chairman of

the Women's Club drama group, a leader in drama in the Catholic Church, a banker, a leader of drama in Jewish organizations, the drama editor of the local newspaper, a representative from each of the College, High School and Junior High School drama departments, and a leader of the labor organizations.

The purpose of the committee, as outlined at the first meeting was to assist the Recreation Department in developing a well-rounded drama program for the citizens of Sioux City through a one-act play contest, through courses in the art of play production and play writing, children's dramatics, the organization of a radio drama group, and planning for the establishment of a community theater.

The Play Contest

The first activity to be launched by the Advisory Drama Committee was a one-act play contest. Within three weeks of the official announcement regarding the registration of entrants, sixteen organizations had signified their intention to participate in the contest with comedies, tragedies, and fantasies on the program.

Judging the Plays

Each group entering a play was asked to furnish one judge capable of acting as a dramatic critic. This judge witnessed and graded all plays except the one given by his particular group. The judging was upon the basis of first, second, and third place. First place was given one point, second, two points, third, three points, and so on in the tabulation, with the group having the fewest points in the tabulation awarded first place. The plan of judging was as follows:

Plan for Judging

Choice of Play. This depended not on whether the judge liked the play, but whether it was wisely

chosen from the standpoint of the age level and of the apparent ability of the participating group. 15%.

Directing and Acting. Did the presentation reveal adequate attention to climaxes, rhythm, tempo, groupings, movement, development of minor characters, stage business, ensemble playing? 25%.

Stage Craft and Management. Were the setting, properties and lighting satisfactory? (Remember that playing before a draped curtain was a requirement.) Was there evidence of adequate and harmonious back-stage management? 25%.

Costumes and Make-up. Were the costumes satisfying as to nation, period, season, social status, and attention to color values of harmony and contrast? Was the make-up convincing? 20%.

Pronunciation and Enunciation. Did the characters pronounce their words accurately and did they speak clearly enough to be understood? 15%.

It was felt that a contest of this type, as an end in itself, was not meeting the full needs of the community. To help the organizations better their presentation of future productions, an outstanding dramatic critic from the University of Iowa was selected to analyze the plays each evening and give constructive criticism to the participating groups on the plays they had presented at the tournament. In addition, the critic selected the outstanding actor of each group taking part in the contest. The persons selected formed a nucleus of a group of actors who are producing more difficult productions under outstanding leadership.

Rules of the Contest

The complete rules of the contest are as follows:

Eligibility and Registration. The contest is open to all dramatic groups in Sioux City. Strictly one-act plays with one set shall be used. The maximum time of playing, from the rise of initial curtain to fall of final curtain, including the time used in lowering the curtain to show passage of time, will be forty minutes. No fewer than three persons shall be in the cast in any play. Propaganda plays are not eligible.

Staging of Play. Each group will be responsible for the arrangement of its own stage property and also for clearing it off immediately following the curtain. Only ten minutes will be allowed between plays. Because of limited space back stage, and to save expense of transportation of furniture, the committee will have a quantity of fur-

niture available which can be used by the competing groups. Articles necessary for a particular play must be furnished by the individual groups. The list of furniture which will be available will be sent to the groups two weeks prior to the tournament. Such special property as is needed must be removed from the auditorium the day after the production. The properties and effects of each group must be in the auditorium on the morning of the day the play is to be given.

The same cyclorama curtain must be used by all contesting groups. A complete plan of the stage showing the grouping of properties, entrances and fireplace must be in the hands of the stage committee at least two weeks prior to the tournament. All groups must take care of the opening and closing curtain.

Ordinary lighting equipment such as footlights and borderlights will be supplied. Special lighting will be arranged for, if possible, if the request is made to the stage committee at least two weeks prior to the tournament. A stage electrician and two stage directors will be at the disposal of all groups. Each group will be allowed to bring six helpers including stage, make-up, and property hands. No group will be allowed to handle the switchboard; the group's electrician may, however, assist the tournament electrician in taking care of the lighting.

Program. It is important that each group submit to the tournament committee as soon as possible a copy of its play. The play will be looked over by the committee and decisions will be made regarding length of playing time, type of stage setting necessary, and other details. After all entries have been turned in, the groups will draw for the time and place in the program.

The contest will be limited to sixteen organizations, since it is felt desirable to run the contest not more than four nights and to give not more than four plays each evening. The first sixteen organizations to enter their plays will be permitted to take part in the tournament. Any others wishing to enter will be placed on a waiting list to take the place of any groups which may withdraw from the tournament.

Rehearsals. The auditorium will be available on Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday preceding the tournament for the use of participating groups for a complete property and lighting rehearsal. Ample time will be given the actors to gauge their voices and become familiar with the

stage. A complete dress rehearsal will be possible only if it can be held in the time allotted for the scenery rehearsal. Each group shall be allowed an hour and a half for its rehearsal.

Dressing Rooms, Costumes and Make-up. Players, in so far as possible, are asked to dress at home. Each group will be given a room in which to make final preparations for stage showing. Make-up materials must be supplied by the groups. Groups will wait in their dressing room and a call boy will inform them ten minutes before their time of appearance. They will then wait at the back-stage door entrance.

Each group is asked to cooperate in every way possible to limit the amount of time between plays. Stage hands should be ready to place the stage equipment as soon as the stage is clear, and material must be removed as quickly as possible.

Admission. The admission per night for the tournament shall be twenty-five cents. For all four nights of the tournament the admission price will be fifty cents. The money received will be placed in a fund for the purpose of stimulating dramatics in Sioux City during the coming year. A block of tickets will be given to each of the organizations participating, who are asked to do everything possible to help build up the audience at the tournament.

Publicity. Continued publicity on the contest and your group in particular is absolutely necessary. Anything of considerable interest on the author of

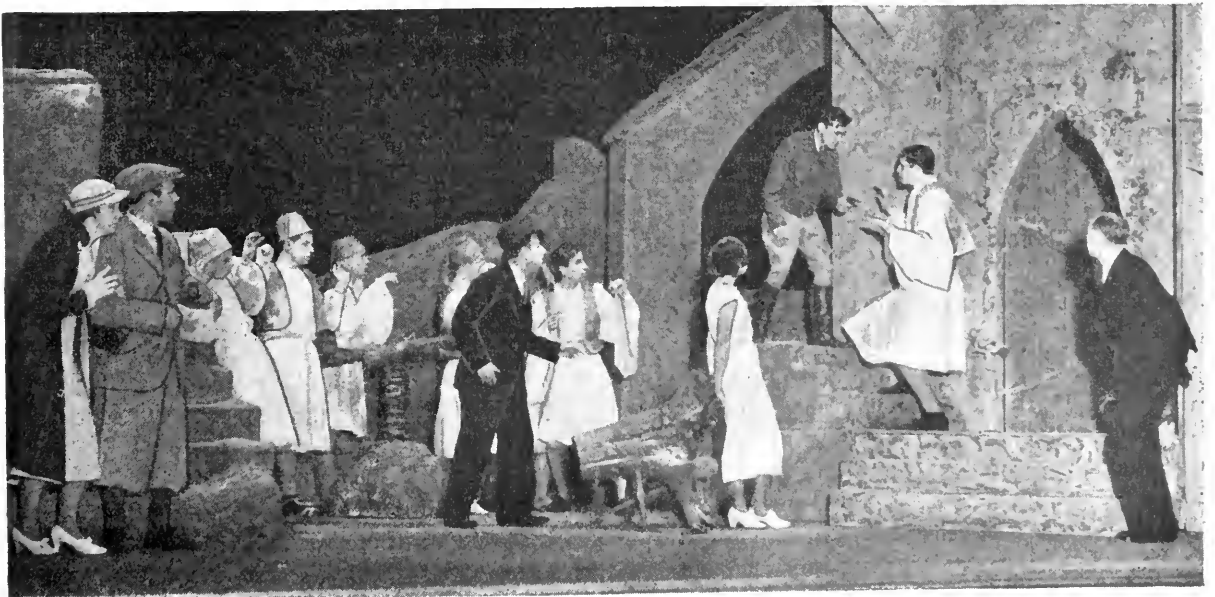
your play or anything your organization has done which can be used for newspaper publicity is desirable. An article regarding each play entered will also help build up the publicity of the contest.

Awards. A beautiful trophy will be awarded to the group presenting the best play. This will be kept by the winning group for one year. A second place trophy will be awarded to the group presenting the second best play. Winning the first place trophy three times, not necessarily in succession, will give the group permanent possession of it.

Royalty Plays. If a royalty play is used, a maximum royalty fee of \$5.00 will be paid each group out of the net receipts, providing the organization competing has sold enough tickets to equal this amount and a sufficient amount has been taken in to cover all expenses. The royalty fee must be paid to the publisher before the group presents the play in the tournament. Changing the name of the play or any other method of trying to avoid the royalty fee will not be tolerated, and any group failing to pay the royalty fee will be disqualified.

Back-Stage Ruling. The very limited back-stage space has necessitated the rule that no persons can be back-stage except those connected with the play being presented at the time. This may seem a harsh rule, but it is not fair to the group presenting its play to have people laughing and talking back-stage. It is desirable to give each group

A scene from "The Devil in the Chase," Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Community Players



full use of the stage without any handicap during the presentation of its plays.

Constructive Criticism. An outstanding dramatic critic will be selected to analyze the plays each evening and give constructive criticism on the plays that have been presented. It is hoped that the criticisms will assist the organizations to give better presentations in the future.

Committee Organization

The success of a program of this type clearly depends upon the cooperative effort of the entire community. It is necessary, therefore, to plan committees' membership carefully and outline all duties in detail.

The plan of committee organization for our one-act play contest was as follows:

Stage Furnishings and Properties. To see that proper stage furniture is on hand for various plays. This committee should see that deserved acknowledgment is given on the programs.

Play Reading. To see that each play which is being considered for entrance be carefully and thoroughly read. Particular attention should be given to such things as the proper classification as to type; playing time; profanity; vulgar lines and situations; propaganda themes; too difficult stage settings; complicated lighting effects. If necessary, the whole play may be ruled out, or the committee may make recommendations as to the cutting of lines, or anything else which will make the play presentable.

This committee should see that all recommendations be carried out, and should prepare a synopsis of the play that can be used for publicity purposes.

Reception Committee. To see that all groups are made to feel at home; to do anything that will make everyone glad that he came; to create an air of good fellowship.

Music. To make contact with music organizations to provide music for the four nights of the play, and to make those organizations feel that they are an important part of the tournament.

Judging. To pass on the qualifications of all judges offered by the various groups; to meet with the judges and to make sure they understand the proper procedure for judging of the plays; to outline the procedure for the critic judge and to make recommendations to him for the procedure to be followed in offering his critical analyses to the various groups; to formulate a

plan for the selection of the outstanding performer in each group; to collect, record, and tabulate the result of the judges' findings; and to work out a plan whereby recognition can be given to the outstanding player in each group.

House Committee. To select, and instruct ushers, ticket takers, doormen, and other workers.

Publicity. To initiate any publicity for the general welfare of the tournament.

Finance Committee. To supervise all affairs of finance of the tournament.

Staging Committee. To supervise the staging of the plays. With the aid and help of the Recreation Department, the committee will supervise the electricians, the carpenters, stage hands and others. It will meet with the head of each group, decide on the type of set to be used, and determine the location of exits, fireplaces, furniture, and lighting equipment.

The Little Theater

The Recreation Department's responsibility for a drama program goes beyond the development of a one-act play contest. Through the tournament a community-wide consciousness of drama is developed, making it possible to expand into many diversified fields of the theater.

At Sheboygan, Wisconsin, a little theater was developed that is unique in its background. It has no patron memberships and the many phases of the program are available to the citizens at a nominal membership fee of one dollar. This fee permits the member to attend all productions given by members, all monthly theater nights, and all lectures, courses and reading clubs of the organization, and to take part in any productions that the players may give. At the present time the little theater has about 1,000 members.

The history of the drama program at Sheboygan shows a careful planning for the development of a little theater. Six years ago, under the Advisory Drama Committee which was selected by the recreation director, a one-act play tournament was successfully presented. The next year a course in the Art of Play Production was presented with an attendance of over 150. The keen interest in the one-act play contest and lectures showed that this community was ready to launch a little theater city-wide in scope.

The Superintendent of Schools, enthusiastic over a city-wide drama program, assisted the Recreation Department in securing a capable director for

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How Many Are Served?

OUR PROGRAM is so varied that any individual in Chicago, aside from infants or those

too old or infirm to get outside the home, can scarcely avoid some form of service by the park system, if one construes all of the attractions of the parks as constituting a recreation service.

The concerts in Grant Park are sometimes attended by an audience of over 100,000, when noted soloists are to appear; but on these occasions the concerts are also broadcast by one or more local radio stations, and the musical program service of the Park District multiplies the actual physical attendance by several fold.

Distinguished guests are tendered reception in Soldier Field; Lindbergh was so recognized, for example, and Hugo Eckener; and again the Soldier Field audience of 100,000 or more was magnified by radio.

I dare say there is not a pleasure car in the city which on occasion, at least, has not borne a capacity number of passengers along park boulevards where the car occupants were aware of the landscape vistas through which they passed; and if the presentation of beauty in land-

By V. K. BROWN

scaping is considered a recreation service, hardly a Chicagoan can be said to have wholly avoided that

form of park service.

Checked on numerous occasions, our bathing beach crowds have repeatedly been found to exceed the estimated attendance turned in by the beach management, whose figures each year aggregate from twelve to sixteen million, or more, to say nothing of the numbers recorded as using swimming pools in the hinterlands. Every effort is made by us to count, where possible, but where estimating is employed, we check estimates, whenever opportunity and personnel permit. Airplane photographs of crowded beaches, for example, are usually dated when they reach our hands, and by squaring off areas and making actual count of such areas as of a typical pattern of occupancy, at least a semblance of check is possible.

We asked Mr. Brown, Director of Recreation of the Chicago Park District, to give us an estimate of the number of people reached by the recreation program of the District. His reply was so interesting that we have decided to share it with our readers.

Similar check of crowds attending baseball games, Fourth of July celebrations and major occasions which bring out large numbers, gives us confidence that they bear some relation to actual fact.

Our statistics do not reflect repeat attendance by the same

individuals on different occasions. One or two studies have attempted to get at this problem:

The University of Chicago, for example, took Ogden Park as a center, and on the map of the city drew radiating lines extending for a mile and half in every direction. Wherever these lines on the map passed through a building, they interviewed the occupants of that building, asking them whether they or other members of the family ever went to Ogden Park, and inquiring as to frequency of such attendance. Although Ogden is only one of the 137 parks of the city, the astonishing fact was that practically every person interviewed stated that he or she had been in the park himself, and intimated that all members of the family had, on some occasion, visited the park.

As to frequency of such attendance at the park, the study proved that people rationalize answers to inquiries of this sort. Parents, for instance, stated that their children went to the park on an average of twice a week. Taking the known density of population, and assuming that the answers by the people actually interviewed were representative, and computing the indicated frequency as characterizing the entire known and recorded population of the area covered, the study was shown to be invalid by the fact that Ogden Park could not accommodate the average daily attendance which people told investigators was their habitual attendance. In other words, they over-estimated the frequency with which they or their children actually went to the park.

I think the study, however, does have some value in answering the question asked as to how many people, at one time or another, really are served by our recreation facilities, since it is not probable that people who had never, at any time, been in the park, would claim that they made a regular practice of going there. It is highly probable that they over-estimated the frequency of their attendance, but some occasional attendance, I feel, is almost certainly indicated by the results we got in that inquiry.

We made another study at the same park, maintaining a control for five successive days at every gate and avenue of entrance, and asking people to sign cards, which were filled, and which, thereby, permitted checking of repeat entrances. There were some few who refused to sign, fearful that some other use might be made of the records, and no pressure was brought to bear on those reluctant to cooperate. Unfortunately, the weather in the five-day period was unfavorable. It was a sum-

mer period in which baseball diamonds were unusable because of daily rain, and cold weather, limited swimming. Clay tennis courts were used on only one day of the five, and there were no major attractions to bring unusual crowds. The period did not include a week-end, with its normal heavy outpouring. But notwithstanding these adverse conditions, over 9,800 different individuals, pursuing at most only their normal use of the facilities provided, actually passed through the park gates.

Since we have over sixty park centers similar in facilities and attractions to Ogden Park—to say nothing of the large parks which have a greater variety of attractions, and some sixty more smaller parks which have lesser attractions—this study makes it safe to assume that the recorded attendance at the one institution in question over the period of five days only, can safely be multiplied by sixty as an index of more or less regular and habitual park use during the summer months.

Use of larger parks, such as Lincoln, Jackson, and Garfield, is undoubtedly much greater than the use of such a park as Ogden. Seasonal variations add other individuals and I believe I would be safe in making the statement that this study indicates, at least, a more or less habitual park use by a minimum of one million out of Chicago's three million population.

Occasional use, then when one considers all of the varied uses which people make of our parks in the city—the enormous picnic parties, the zoo and floral attractions, the miscellaneous strolling or motoring along the lake shore in the evenings or on warm Sunday holidays in spring or fall, visits to the lake shore for the sake of the cooling breeze in the heat of summer, attendance at major attractions such as firework displays on July 4th, civic celebrations and receptions, spectacular games or tournaments, etc.—occasional use, in all of its multiple forms, I think, touches almost every resident of the city; but frequent and habitual use, I think, is conservatively, rather than extravagantly, estimated at one-third of Chicago's population.

The parks in Chicago are centers for almost every adult community group, such as civic improvement associations, parent-teacher groups, women's clubs, cultural associations, luncheon clubs, these all make use at some time or another of our facilities. Chicago seems to have an established habit of park usage. There is a well de-

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Home Recreation

By DANIEL CARPENTER
Hudson Guild
New York City

HOME RECREATION, as spoken of to-day, is rooted in the past. Many of the activities we now think of as recreational were essential functions of the home in the simple rural society that preceded the growth of large factories and the concentration of population in large cities. The city home is no longer a productive unit. It is now merely a place where the family members live, as contrasted with the homes of a generation ago where the family not only lived together but worked together to produce the necessities of life. The loss of close family relationships that came from sharing the burdens and pleasures of this kind of an existence has robbed the home of much of its completeness and has taken away the satisfaction that came with the adventure, creative work, and thought inherent in sustaining life in a non-industrial society.

Although these facts have long been recognized, they have added significance today because hours of work have been reduced so that now there is an abundance of leisure, and it is quite evident that in the future there will be an increase of leisure time. Great concern is felt over the unpreparedness of our population for its use. It is not necessary to give examples here of the questionable uses made of leisure time. All of you can look about in your own circle of friends and acquaintances and find many who are completely bored and lost with extra time, or those who use their free time in such a way as to leave them physically exhausted and mentally sluggish. It is said that in the offices throughout the city, Mondays are often dull days—hangovers, sore muscles, and sunburn are frequent results of our present consumption of leisure time.

This over-indulgence on the part of adults is reflected in the lives of their children. First, somewhat indirectly, it is establishing a social pattern for them to follow; and secondly, it is affecting



Courtesy Child Study Association

their physical well-being. For example, on Mondays in the Play School of Hudson Guild the teachers report large numbers of restless, tired and nervous children. Investigation almost invariably reveals that the family routine has been disrupted in week-end pleasure. It is of utmost importance that parents begin to realize how their use of leisure affects not only the play time of their children but their health, social attitudes, and happiness.

It is impossible to predict what vocation or profession our children should choose until they are able to decide intelligently for themselves, and it is likewise just as impossible for us to select an avocation, hobby or leisure time activity for them. The only thing we can do is to give them every opportunity to develop to their fullest capacity, to have as many and as varied experiences as possible, so that they will be able to discriminate and choose wisely for themselves. The home, then, should be a place where children's interests count for something, where the mother and father are sympathetic with their needs, and where children feel the affection of other members of the family.

Home recreation does not require expensive or elaborate equipment or large spacious rooms. It is not a matter of resources, but rather a desire on the part of the parents to live with their children. The important factor is an atmosphere of happiness, affection, and understanding between

parents and children, and perhaps, even more important, an awareness on the part of the parents that their children live in a child's world where play is a serious business.

Parents are usually at a loss to know what they can do at home together with their children because their homes are small and they do not have the money for extra entertainments. Home recreation fortunately has no boundaries as far as the range and nature of the activities are concerned. There are many interesting and exciting things, such as games, stories, crafts, singing and dramatic play, that can be done in a crowded living room or kitchen, with no additional strain on the family budget, if mothers and fathers employ a certain amount of ingenuity in using what they have for play as occasions arise.

Children sometimes find more real pleasure and satisfaction in playing with pots and pans from under the stove than they do in owning the most expensive toys. For example, in one home two small boys, both four years old, enjoy a rainy afternoon having a tea party under the kitchen table, using cups and saucers that no longer matched, while a whole corner full of very colorful and exciting toys were completely forgotten. Recently a parent told of a series of games he had made from odds and ends he had found on the top shelf of the kitchen cupboard. One game, ring toss, was made from clothes pins stuck on cardboard, with mason jar rubbers serving as rings. It might be interesting for parents to know that a trained recreation leader invariably goes to the kitchen for most of his equipment for children's parties and games.

Fathers and mothers often ask: "What can I do about my boy? He doesn't seem interested in anything I think he should be. He continually hangs around on the street with his gang. He just won't listen to me any more. Won't you talk to him?"

If you ask this mother: "Do you encourage your son to invite his pals up to the house? Does he have anything at home that would interest a real

live boy?" usually the answer is "No; since he was old enough to play on the street and go to school I haven't paid much attention to him except to see that he changes his clothes regularly, has enough to eat, gets to bed and to school on time, and goes to church regularly."

This taking for granted our children's self care and resourcefulness has resulted in a loss to them and has been reflected in the lives of the youth of today. The suggestion that young people spend an afternoon or an evening at home with the family is usually met with the reaction that the initiator of such an idea cannot possibly be in earnest! In other words, young people haven't learned to feel "at home" at home. On the other hand, in every community a few families do stand out as examples of a finer kind of home life. The children have an entirely different attitude about the home and the family, and this attitude is reflected wherever they go. They seem to have security and a certain amount of stability. They invite people to the house and enjoy having their mother and father around. These parents are considered "regular" and good sports by their children and their friends. They have learned the joy of living *with* their children rather than *for* them or *in spite of* them.

Parent-Children Activities in Chelsea

Last winter and spring were very trying periods for mothers due to the unusual number of children's diseases which kept the children away from school for several weeks at a time. One mother with four young children varying in age from five to ten and living in four small rooms, was in-

genious enough to build and completely furnish a doll house with rugs, curtains, upholstered furniture, bookcases, and a fireplace. This was done with just the odds and ends of material on hand, remnants of cloth, paste, cardboard, needles and thread, and two orange crates from the corner grocer. It kept the children busy and happy for several days during their convalescence from chicken-pox. Re-

At the meeting on Home Play at the Recreation Congress, the following conclusions were presented:

The will to play is the most important element in home recreation.

Parents must be helped, not replaced.

Planning is more important than equipment.

The parents' attitude toward their children must be that they are play *mates*, not play *things*.

Time must be budgeted to provide for play.

Genuine interest does not need the stimulation of prizes or competitions.

Families must be encouraged to relax and enjoy hours of leisure.

The value of bringing the family *out* of the home to recreation lies in their taking it back *into* the home.

Most important of all, neither the playground nor the home can alone bring success. It must be a united effort.

cently the father of the family made a small chest with compartments of various sizes in which to keep odds and ends to be used on other occasions.

In another home, a rear apartment in a tenement, live a father and his two sons, one nine and one eleven, who work together on stamp collections. Several evenings each week these collections are spread out on the dining room table and are discussed excitedly. Trading is carried on with all the seriousness of an important business deal. Frequently this father and his sons can be found together at stamp exhibits throughout the city. This illustrates how through a hobby one father is getting much pleasure in sharing a common interest with his children.

Music has a very important place in the homes of Chelsea, especially in those families with Italian or other European backgrounds. One of the most interesting homes is on Tenth Avenue. Here, while the mother and oldest daughter are finishing the housework after dinner, the father plays the violin, accompanied by the two boys, one with harmonica and the other with a violin. When the work is done the mother and daughter join with them in singing. An appreciation of music is one of the most socializing and satisfying experiences a family group can have.

One home I have known since childhood is reminiscent of the play, "You Can't Take It with You." Though it would not in all probability appeal to the fastidious taste of most housekeepers, was a real paradise to the family and to the children of the neighborhood. The father was somewhat of an amateur inventor, and from basement to attic there were all kinds of fascinating gadgets that were supposedly labor saving devices. Fortunately he was pleased at the children's interest in his hobbies and spent much time building things with them, such as a sidewalk auto, engines and kites.

The home, too, offers a natural setting for reading and storytelling, which appeal to children of all ages. In many homes there is a definite story hour, usually just before bedtime. One family takes great pride in a collection of books that has been added to as the children grew older. It now fills a large bookcase, and in addition to developing an interest in their own books, it has encouraged the children to use the public and private libraries of the neighborhood. A good selection of children's books is now available at many of the large stores, and many parents are taking advantage of this fact.

Crafts are often considered too space-consuming and inconvenient to encourage in the home. Nevertheless, several of the children and mothers who attend the craft classes at the Hudson Guild do clay modeling, weaving and woodcarving at home, and bring in the articles for the craft teacher's criticism and advice. In many of the homes the mothers and daughters do a great deal of sewing and knitting. In one home nearly half a room is devoted to photography equipment which is the hobby of three members of the family. Several families in the neighborhood derive satisfaction from making scrapbooks. At a recent exhibit of homecrafts over twenty mothers exhibited scrapbooks which were all attractively bound, the contents of which covered a wide range of interesting subjects.

Although parties are the right of every child and are always enjoyed by them, they need not be elaborate or expensive. It is not always advisable to have parties for children under six or seven years of age, for they are liable to be too exciting. For the child this age occasionally to have one or two of his playmates at his home just to play is usually enough. Older children should be encouraged to want parties at home and to help plan the games and refreshments beforehand.

Last winter a small committee of mothers in the Hudson Guild Parents' Association worked out a series of Christmas parties adapted to a small apartment. Everyone was amazed at the small cost involved and at the fun it was possible to have when careful planning preceded the party. They found that for an expenditure of only sixty-nine cents, a party for ten children could be made very successful. Birthdays and holiday eves are excellent occasions for parents to meet the friends of their children and at the same time make the home a place where their friends are welcome.

Family recreation need not be confined to the four walls of the apartment. It can be an ever-expanding number of adventures with the home as the center. In New York City the family can find the treasures of the world in museums and art galleries; libraries and parks are near their homes. As parents, it is not only our privilege to enjoy these opportunities but it is also our responsibility to introduce our children to them. The city or state can only provide opportunities for a more satisfactory kind of recreation. It is up to the home to encourage a more complete use of the outlets the community offers.

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Calendar for Public Recreation Administration

Compiled by CHARLES K. BRIGHTBILL
National Recreation Association

IF A CALENDAR of the type which follows is to be of practical

use, it must be flexible; thus the items listed below are not particularly arranged in chronological order.

Administrative Tasks During the Winter Season

- Prepare budget for the new year. ‡
- Check program and plans made at the beginning of the year with what has materialized. ‡
- Prepare plans and program for the new year. ‡
- Take annual inventory of stock, supplies and equipment. ‡
- Prepare supply and equipment list for the new year. ‡
- Write "thank you" letters for the fall season.
- Prepare and forward data for recreation YEAR BOOK of the National Recreation Association.
- Have department books audited. ‡
- Bring costs records up to date. * ‡
- Prepare annual report. ‡
- Hold annual meeting. ‡
- Secure "mid-season" ratings on recreation workers.
- Hold winter volunteer leaders institute.
- Prepare fees and charges list and collect any necessary "entrance" fees for the spring season.
- Secure end-of-season reports from directors on suggestions for improving next years fall and winter programs.
- Publish spring directory. **
- Make winter season awards.

Administrative Tasks During the Spring Season

- Secure registration, attendance and other necessary details from centers.
- Take inventory of fall and winter supplies and equipment at the end of indoor season.
- Write "thank you" letters for winter season.
- Secure ratings on recreation workers at end of indoor season.
- Have winter workers' personnel records brought up to date.

This is not a calendar on program and activities! It is designed to aid administrators of municipal recreation programs in systematizing some of the details of their administrative responsibilities. The National Recreation Association will appreciate receiving from recreation executives and officials their comments on the calendar and their suggestions as to how it may be made more practical and helpful.

Secure reports from custodians on condition of buildings, equipment

and supplies at end of indoor season.

Prepare list of suggested changes and improvements to centers and present to proper authorities.

Secure financial reports from clubs (parent recreation clubs and others) at end of indoor season.

Prepare summer program.

Prepare material and make arrangements for summer playground leaders institute. ***

Interview applicants and select workers for the summer positions.

Prepare fees and charges list and collect any necessary entrance fees for the summer season.

Interview high school seniors on plans for recreation activity after graduation.

Check grounds, apparatus and equipment for the outdoor season.

Make spring season awards. .

Publish summer directory. **

Administrative Tasks During the Summer Season

- Write "thank you" letters for the spring season.
- Hold playground leaders institute. ***
- Secure registration and attendance for playgrounds, parks and other centers.
- Secure "mid-season" ratings on recreation workers.
- Secure end-of-season suggestions from recreation workers on suggestions for improving next year's spring and summer programs.
- Secure end-of-season reports from caretakers on condition of grounds.
- Check supplies and equipment of outdoor season.
- Secure end-of-season rating on workers.

Make summer season awards.

Prepare fall program.

‡ Dependent upon ending of fiscal year

* Cost records for the operation and development of areas, centers and facilities

*** List of all playgrounds (or centers or other places), program, capacity, location, facilities

*** Including instructions to new workers on rules, regulations, routine, assignments, schedules

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More Parks for the People

Since its establishment in 1921, one man has served continuously in guiding the development of the Akron Metropolitan Park District

HAROLD S. WAGNER, who was elected president of the American Institute of Park Executives at the annual meeting held at Fort Worth, in September 1937, is the director-secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Akron, Ohio, Metropolitan Park District. This district, formed in 1921, now has a total acreage of 2,026 acres acquired through gift and purchase. Mr. Wagner has been its superintendent from the beginning and the director of its entire development. Prior to that he was for about three years superintendent of the Park Department of the city of Akron, having come to the city in 1917 as director of the real estate development known as Fairlawn Heights. From his childhood days he had been associated with the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, where he was born, and at one time was an associate of Warren H. Manning.

The Metropolitan Park District of Akron includes all of Summit County with the exception of one township and the village of Hudson. It is financed by a one-tenth of a mill levy and by a small direct county appropriation. The present budget totals about \$45,000. It was not until 1924 that the first direct appropriation was made and in 1928 that the special levy was first passed by popular vote, about two years after Mr. Wagner became superintendent. The district has had considerable Federal aid of recent years, having been the location of a CCC camp.

The park area is divided into five distinct parks varying in size from 128 to 550 acres, which have



HAROLD S. WAGNER

been developed to provide varied activities. It is estimated that they are used by about a million people a year. Four of the areas include lakes, all of which are used for skating, and two for swimming.

Virginia Kendall Park

One of the most interesting developments of the district is Virginia Kendall Park, a tract of 430 acres, embracing a wooded plateau of some twenty-five acres, which stands from seventy-five to a hundred feet above the surrounding land. In 1925, when the survey for the development of the local metropolitan park system was drawn, Olmsted Brothers indicated that this area would provide one of the finest park sites in the vicinity.

In the year 1928 Captain Hayward Kendall passed away. He was a Cleveland man who had been in the coal business and who had acquired fifteen or twenty separate parcels of land in order to control the sandstone ledges, originally known as the Ritchie Ledges. He made a bequest of the property to his widow, who in turn relinquished her interest in it and permitted the terms of the Kendall will to be carried out to the end that the property might pass into the hands of the state of Ohio. The state accepted the land in 1929 and continued its administration until 1933 when by an act of the General Assembly the control passed into the hands of the Akron Metropolitan Park District. The income from the balance of Captain Kendall's estate will eventually come to the park administrative authorities for the mainte-



nance and development of the area and the acquisition of additional adjacent land.

The local Park Board, which took control of the property in September 1933, was fortunate in securing the assistance of the National Park Service under the CCC program early in December of that year. A company continues on duty there and up to this time it has constructed a thirteen acre lake, two park roads which take the form of culs-de-sac terminating in parking areas, the one to the family picnic place on top of the plateau and the other to a large group picnic place on the lowland west of the ledges. In addition, it has been necessary to construct a complete water supply system and sewerage disposal system, together with the customary trails and open spaces for play. Actually the area is a dozen miles from Akron and twice as many from Cleveland, but the facilities offered are of such a varied nature that the use is about equally divided between the metropolitan cities. Great care has been taken not to overdevelop the area and some degree of success has been achieved in this objective. The structures which have been completed have been built of lumber derived from the fabrication

of chestnut logs from trees killed by the chestnut blight disease and from stone quarried in a near-by property of the Park Board. The planting is entirely native, no exotics whatever having been used. From these standpoints the area probably has a wholly unique character.

A remodeled farmhouse has served for the past four years as a day camp for children of Akron. Between fifty and a hundred boys or girls are transported from the city playgrounds to the area for a full day in the country. Many of these children have never had this kind of an opportunity. The co-

operation of the Akron Board of Education has made the project possible.

In the vicinity of the lake all forms of winter sports can be enjoyed. Judging by the experience of the winter of 1935-1936, the skating, tobogganing and skiing activities of the Cleveland-Akron area will center at this park.

In the development and preservation of this area great care has been taken to undertake projects which later may be maintained at a minimum cost. Special facilities, such as bathing, which involves the employment

In the Virginia Kendall Park a lake of thirteen acres is being developed as a bathing and boating area. At the left there is a parking area. A pier separates the boating area from the bathing space. The upper level of the bath house includes an open shelter providing space for the checking of clothing. The two wings are open stockades with some dressing rooms.

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Professional Reading and Its Values

By MILDRED WALTON

THE PRIMARY purpose of professional reading is for individual growth. The individual who reads exhaustively along the line of his own interest will gain in power and knowledge, and if he reads extensively in related fields he will have not only a better comprehension of his own particular problem but an understanding and sympathy for the problems of others. This promotes group integration and growth. A teaching staff, all of whose members are reading in a wide field, will have a basis for exchange of ideas and the means for working out new ideas together. Professional reading is necessary if workers are not to get in a rut. A teacher may be working out an activity program, but unless she has read widely and exposed herself to different presentations of the subject and made the philosophy back of the idea her own, her work is quite likely to become stereotyped and to lose the life and spirit that the real activity program should have.

This is just one example; others could be made in the fields of Social Service, School Teaching and Occupational Therapy. We must be constantly careful not to lose sight of wide horizons while concerning ourselves with pebbles under foot.

Sources of Help

For professional growth a worker needs to be ever on the alert for new ideas and for substantiation of old ideas and philosophies. The Special Education Staff of the University Hospital has found a few outstanding reference books to be especially helpful and interesting. Time permits specific reference to only a few of these.

In the Field of Art. The book entitled *Teaching Creative Art in Schools* by Rosalind and Arthur Eccott has helped miraculously to clarify some of the basic principles of art teaching with little children. It is brief and specific combining a discussion of art with many practical and useable suggestions.

In this article Mrs. Walton, who is the Supervisor of the Special Activity Program of the University Hospital at Ann Arbor, tells how the extensive reading of books relating to special interests has aided in developments in the fields of art, music, drama, nature study and literature. Although the program outlined is carried on with children who are physically handicapped, there are many suggestions in Mrs. Walton's article for leaders of normal children.

In the Field of Music. An excellent chapter on old and new education and two on the nurture of creativeness will be found in *Creative School Music*. It is a very interesting book and has much material that is directly helpful in the teaching of group music.

In the Field of Literature. In *First Experiences with Literature* by Alice Dagleish we have a book which serves in

the understanding of Literature for young children as the *Teaching Creative Art in Schools* does for the understanding of children's art. It has simple and direct style with a wealth of illustrative material.

In the Field of Dramatics. A book on *Creative Dramatics* by Winifred Ward contains some very good material on the meaning and value of creative dramatics.

In the Field of Nature Study Comstock's *Handbook of Nature Study* is in almost constant use. This is an excellent reference book for Nature Study.

General Reference Books: A book well worth reading just because of its readableness and its clear and concise presentation of the meaning of activity program is *The Activity Program*, written by A. Gordon Melvin. It also contains many practical suggestions of use in planning special activities programs. The plan of the book as expressed in the first chapter is "to outline an approach and a method of teaching which will enable children to fulfill their own lives and in so doing enrich the lives of their fellow men."

Helping with Special Interests

The type of professional reading done may be determined by individual problems based on special interests. The value of such research lies in the fact that it gives the individual teacher an opportunity to carry through a more or less complete investigation of a pet interest—research which is bound to result in a real contribution to the children with whom the teacher has contacts. More-

over, the staff of which the teacher making the study is a member is sure to benefit from her work.

The outstanding individual interests in the Special Education Department which have borne fruit this year are:

"The Study of Art Appreciation in Children," by Mrs. Piat

"The Study of Creative Art for Children," by Mrs. Bannow

"The Study of Puppetry," by Miss Dickinson
"Story Telling," by Mrs. Evers

Art Appreciation. In her study of art appreciation Mrs. Piat has outlined her objectives as follows:

To give the child the opportunity to look at good pictures is to expose him to good pictures whether he gets anything out of it or not.

To enrich the child's experience with a picture, if he is ready for it, by telling its title, its painter, and perhaps something about the story in the picture.

To have a file of noteworthy pictures that can be used by everyone. This study began because of the teacher's own interest in pictures, her desire and willingness to spend time reading and studying and working out a method of presentation of pictures that would appeal to children. The first two objectives are being realized constantly, and the children are profiting immeasurably. The third objective has also been realized, for the file of pictures has grown from a very few to 125 medium sized pictures mounted in single colored folders and 200 small prints which are being used individually and also with stereopticon glass. From time to time the Art Library in Alumni Memorial Hall loans us large prints of famous pictures with which the children have already become familiar. The lives of all children who have had experience with this program have been enriched.

Creative Art. The study of creative art for children as conducted by Mrs. Bannow has as its objective the discovery and pointing out of new opportunities for self-expression. The reading and study done have been for the purpose of finding out all possible means for pro-

viding an environment which is rich in suggesting materials for the creative impulses.

Some of the conclusions reached through this study are that it is important to guide the child rather than to instruct him, and to understand what he wants to do. The teacher should never interfere with the child's image by telling him how to begin. Once he has begun, assistance is helpful but getting an idea started is the most difficult part of a teacher's task.

Still another conclusion is that the child must be helped to the fullest expression within the limits of the natural stage of development. He should have free use of materials to draw, model and paint at will, just as he plays with blocks and toys. For children over twelve years of age we must encourage good work from those whose creative urge, as is usual between the ages of twelve and fourteen, has died down. We want to stimulate interest and keenness in these older children. To this end materials must be presented in attractive ways.

If through such a study and its resulting attitudes our children, while here in the hospital, can learn the joys of creating beautiful things with their hands, all the time expended will be worth while.

Puppetry. The study of puppetry by Miss Dickinson has produced very tangible results. Several puppets have been made which have become delightful personalities to the children. An attractive puppet theater was constructed in the Galen Shop and has already made its debut in the wards with the presentation of "The Little Red Hen." There are endless possibilities in puppetry.

Miss Dickinson's primary objective was to use puppets to add variety and interest to the afternoon ward program. When she began this project she did not realize how widespread the interest was to become among teachers as well as children. Puppets are more than just a means of entertainment. Real artistry is employed in their construction, and they are invaluable in stimulating imagination and dramatic expression.

Storytelling. The study of storytelling by Mrs. Evers has as its objective

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"A wide reading experience makes every other experience more meaningful. Every lecture, every professional conference, every individual contact contributes more to the person who reads than to one who does not. If a teacher has been interested, for example, in creative art, and has read much concerning it, she will get twice as much out of a lecture on the 'Place of Creative Art in Modern Education' than she otherwise would: If the lecturer says nothing new, what he says, if it is a good lecture, will clarify what she has read. Everyone who has attended professional meetings knows this to be true."

Noon Socials

By G. M. PHELAN
Director of Recreation
Kenosha, Wisconsin

INAUGURATED in the fall of 1937, the noon activities conducted by the Kenosha Department of Public Recreation in cooperation with the high school, will be resumed this November.

The "noon socials," as they are popularly referred to by the high school students, were planned in order that high school students eating their noon lunch at school might have some place in which they could enjoyably spend their leisure time. During the six months it is estimated that approximately ninety per cent of the students who remained in school during the noon hour have been active participants in the center. Activities of a varied nature were carried on.

The Background

Being the only high school in the city with a population of over 50,000 inhabitants, the Kenosha High School has a student enrollment of over 2,200. Located just three blocks from the center of the downtown business district, the student body consists of pupils from various sections of the city and county. Coming as they do from the surrounding rural areas and distant parts of the city proper, many students find it necessary to bring their lunches and remain at school during the noon hour. Thus the problem arose: "How can I spend this extra time I have on my hands?" Not only did the school itself have a problem to tackle, but the merchants were also victims of this dilemma.

Although there was a room provided in the school in which the pupils could eat their lunches, there was always a large group of idle students. With this extra time on their hands, many of the students roamed around the business district of the city. Some wandered through the five and ten cent stores, loafed in pool halls, or joined the proverbial "drug store cowboys" on the street corners. A few diligent scholars remained in the classrooms and made use of their time doing home work and studying.

What was to be done with the group of uncared for boys and girls, numbering over 200, how could some means of utilization of leisure be pro-

Kenosha's "noon socials" are solving the problem of the idle noon hour recess when the student, having eaten the lunch brought from home, has nothing definite to do. The center established in Kenosha has met with great success and has been made a permanent part of the recreation program.

vided? Was it worth while to make an effort to solve this perplexing situation, or should the city and merchants ignore it, adopt a cynical attitude and say, "who cares what they do in their extra time? It's their business, not ours."

Believing it was highly desirable to make this leisure time count, the high school and the Recreation Department in the fall of 1937 attempted to work out a solution of the problem. A survey of the conditions existing among the boys and girls who remained at school during the noon hours was made. The Department tabulated and recorded the predominating interests of the 200 students who were in school during the noon hour. With the statistics gathered from the study, an established plan for social recreation was outlined.

The Plan

Patterned after the majority of interests of the 200 students that were indicated by the survey, the high school provided a director in charge of the "socials"; the Department of Recreation furnished play leaders. Using the empty classrooms and gymnasium provided by the high school, over 180 students out of the 200 who remained in the school during the noon hour took active part in the activities. Following the plan of the evening social centers, the program was arranged so there was always a definite enrollment for each activity. It was not imperative, however, that everyone take part in an activity. Participation was left to the discretion of the individual. Nevertheless, although participation was not compulsory, the student was not allowed to duplicate more than his share in other activities because he failed to be interested in some other one.

Developing the technique in dramatics which was taught twice a week, assembly programs for the entire school were originated and presented. Game rooms were provided for in which instruction in checkers, carroms and chess was given. Together with table tennis, these games were carried on four days in the week.

Classes in gymnastics were formed in which the skills for

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A Marine Museum

THE LOS ANGELES, California, Department of Playground and Recreation has long recognized the value of nature as a hobby and has been doing pioneer work along this line. The department is conducting nature hobby classes in a number of its playgrounds, and by taking advantage of its beaches as an asset for nature study it is developing a marine museum at the Cabrillo Beach Playground in San Pedro which is known as the Cabrillo Marine Museum.

The museum, which has the distinction of starting from "scratch" without the backing of any interested society or financial support, was conceived by C. P. L. Nicholls, Supervisor of the Aquatic Division of the Department. As no funds were available for the project, a start was made in a small room on Sunset Pier, Venice, California. Scrap lumber from the storeroom was used for shelves and tables. Cardboard boxes were donated by dry good stores, and used bottles were secured from restaurants. Word was sent out in the community that specimens were needed, and soon the museum was under way. A nature hike along the beach two mornings a week resulted in many specimens. Crippled and dead birds, shells, crabs, and many other forms of sea life, including algae, began to pour in.

In six months the museum room was overflowing and larger quarters were needed. The museum was then moved to Cabrillo Beach in San Pedro, where a large room was set aside for a marine museum. This was soon filled and the space was doubled. Now, at the end of three years, we are again crowded and must seek new quarters.

The museum now contains 10,000 specimens and

A fascinating but inexpensive project which is serving both educational and recreational ends

By WILLIAM L. LLOYD
Director, Marine Museum

is valued at about \$20,000. Not a single specimen has been purchased and more than half of them have been presented one or two at a time by children and adults, many of them visitors from other states. In every instance the name of the donor is placed with the specimen.

This has resulted in increased interest and a feeling of proprietorship in the museum by people representing many states.

The Collection

The museum collection is composed of a large number of shells, both Pacific Coast and foreign, many other invertebrates such as crabs, sea-urchins, starfish, and marine worms. It also includes fossils, and over a hundred specimens of birds to be found in or around the water. The fish collection ranges from tiny minnows to eight-foot sharks. About 150 species are now represented. We also have a small aquarium of twelve units, and a small group of seals now has a place in the museum.

Several ship models, an Eskimo canoe and fishing equipment, and a collection of sailor knots represent a start toward a maritime museum.

Our Visitors

The museum was visited the past year by 148,666 people, and of these about 15,000 have come for study or help with their nature problems. Among the groups visiting the museum for study are Boy and Girl Scouts and similar organizations, nature clubs, schools, colleges, universities, and societies of various kinds. The museum also furnishes material for nature study and for exhibits and lectures throughout the city.

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"Nature study meets all the requirements of a good hobby. It deals with life itself and is therefore intensely interesting. Without any cost children can collect flowers, leaves and seeds, press them and make drawings, spatter prints or other forms of impression work. Later, as interest grows, notes may be kept of the specimens gathered. Insects, minerals and shells may be collected. Geology and the study of the stars can be pursued at little or no cost. If money is available nature photography makes an intensely interesting hobby."

Land Utilization in Great Britain

THE IMPORTANCE of making a careful study of the potential and actual uses of different types of land has been emphasized by Dr. L. Dudley Stamp of the University of London who served as Director of a Land Utilization Survey of Britain. Dr. Stamp spent a year in this country, through a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, for the purpose of observing American methods of land utilization and also to interest American leaders in studying the best possible land uses. In a visit to the office of the National Recreation Association, Dr. Stamp raised a number of questions about the recreational use of land and also pointed out a number of respects in which land planning in Great Britain differs from that in the United States.

One of his comments related to the fact that he had observed comparatively little hiking in this country as compared with Great Britain. On the other hand, a much more widespread use of the automobile as a means of getting from place to place was noted. The greater popularity of hiking in Great Britain is due in part to the relatively short distances between communities and perhaps even more to the net-work of trails found in that country. Most of these trails have existed for centuries, and although they extend for the most part over private property, they cannot be closed to public use. An association has been formed in England to maintain and extend these trails and also to develop trails to points of special interest. In some cases where the ownership of the land is in question, the society has entered into an arrangement with the person claiming ownership whereby in recognition of his vested rights to the property he is willing to sign an agreement that on the payment of a nominal sum each year by the society, the land is to be open to the public in perpetuity. This disposition also provides that in the case of transfer of the land, the public shall continue to have access upon payment of the annual fee.

The absence of fences and hedges in this country was a matter of special observation by Dr. Stamp. He emphasized the fact that Englishmen

love to have a garden and that they desire the privacy which is secured by having it enclosed with a hedge or fence. Practically all of the housing developments in England since the war have provided for an individual garden with each home. The love for privacy in Great Britain is in contrast to the tendency in a number of recent developments in this country to eliminate fences and hedges and to provide common open space between the houses.

A number of differences in the ownership and use of land as between this country and Britain were pointed out. So many towns in England have common open spaces which, although privately owned, cannot be fenced nor can the public be kept out of them. Under the laws governing the use of these open spaces, many of which date back for centuries, no building can be erected in these areas. Essential service buildings, however, are set up along the highways serving them. The ownership of so much of the open space in England is uncertain that when the maps were published by the Land Utilization Survey it was found impossible to designate public open spaces because of the uncertainty as to ownership and the liability of law suits resulting from the publication of the maps.

One of the subjects of special interest to Dr. Stamp was the various methods whereby American communities acquire land for park purposes. He indicated that there are practically no publicly owned large parks in England, although there is beginning to be an interest in acquiring them. He mentioned, for example, that a large section in North Wales is now being considered for acquisition and development as a public domain, primarily for out-of-door recreational use. The plan contemplates the building of motor highways from Liverpool and other large cities in order that large numbers of people may have ready access to the area.

The value of land-use maps in guiding the acquisition of land for park and recreation purposes was emphasized by Dr. Stamp. He illustrated this fact by exam-

(Continued on page 486)

"Each year adds increased emphasis to the fact that public use of national forests for a wide variety of forms of outdoor recreation is a major use and service for which adequate provision should be made in all plans of administration and management. The social values and beneficial consequences of such use are incalculable." — From the Report of the Forester, 1933, United States Department of Agriculture.

You Asked for It!

Question: Our group of young people wants to hold a treasure hunt. Will you send me some suggestions to help us in planning it?

Answer: You did not mention in your letter whether you wanted suggestions for an indoor or an outdoor treasure hunt. Such events are generally conducted out of doors for there they are more exciting. They may, however, be held indoors.

Whatever the nature of the treasure hunt, there are certain considerations which must be kept in mind. We suggest a few of them.

Hints to the Treasure Hunt Leader

Plan your hunt to fit the group. If the group cannot run or exert much physical energy because of space or age, plan a hunt depending more on wits than brawn.

Do not include allusions or material with which the majority of the group are not familiar.

If a hunt is laid up hill, someone may have trouble since hunters *will* run and may strain themselves. Lay it on the level or down hill.

If the prize is very valuable, the losers may feel unhappy. Use inexpensive prizes and have something for everyone (candy or fruit), especially when children are the treasure seekers.

If the treasure is concealed near the start of the hunt, hunters feel let down and disappointed because of the long way they have come.

Be sure all the clues were read, especially by the winners. (See page 486 for methods of checking.)

Go along to interpret clues. What may seem clear to you may stump the group. Help as a last resort.

Near the middle of the hunt use some harder clues to slow the group down so stragglers may catch up and not be so far behind at "the kill."

Read the first clue so all may start at once and not be crowded out by a large group trying to read the clue at once.

When only one copy of a clue is used, hunters must put the clue back exactly where they found it.

The Basic Formula

There is a basic formula for laying a treasure hunt which can be used no matter what novel

ideas you may introduce, and that is to lay your trail backward, thereby saving yourself much energy and time. Go to the place where you plan to hide the treasure, pick out the spot and write a clue to place very near by giving directions for finding the treasure. Suppose that this is Clue 10. Now walk to a likely spot and write Clue 9 telling how to get to Clue 10. It will be easy to do for you have just been over the territory the hunters will cover. Find another spot for Clue 8, writing on it directions for finding Clue 9, and proceeding in this fashion, and gradually moving to the spot where you plan to start with Clue 1.

Clues

The age and background of your hunters will determine what kind of clues to use. The younger the group the more simple they must be. Here are a few suggestions for various types.

Simple Directions. "Look at the mail box at the corner." "Walk three blocks east, look on doorstep of the school."

Simple Rhymes. Nobody will stop long enough to criticize your "poetry." (This one is for a Pirate Treasure Hunt at the beach.)

"If you would unbury the pieces of eight,
Heave away due east lest you be too late,
And look under a plank on the pier's starboard side
Where the water never comes, even at high tide."

Riddles in Rhyme. You can make these up.
"Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight,
Backward, read backward, O ye of keen sight,
What fish do you eat, what fish do you pass,
Haddock, cod, pike or P.L.P. bass?" (Kip Dock)

(.....)

"What makes a blanket snug and warm?
Who on earth wins development's race?
What do you walk on, what do you ride on,
Over what do you get to a place?" (Woolman Road)

Cryptograms and crossword puzzles may also be used, and Indian signs made of rocks and twigs.

False Clues. Only the true clues lead to the treasure. In this type of clue do not have the false lead take the hunter far from the true clue or else he will drop too far behind. False clues should be used sparingly unless the entire hunt is based on factual knowledge of this kind. Here is an example:

"If Oxford is in France go to 46 Baker Street and look at the lamp post; if it is in England go to 45 Clark Street and look at the elm tree."

(Continued on page 486)



Courtesy League of Wisconsin Municipalities

A Village Hall and Community Building

THE village of Eleva, Wisconsin, according to *The Municipality*, has completed a vil-

lage hall and community building which is located in the center of a three acre landscaped area. It houses the village board rooms, the library, and a hall to be used for community gatherings, dances, basketball and other indoor sports. The building, 36' by 74' in size, was constructed as a WPA project, the rock used in the building being quarried by WPA labor and the logs secured from the woods in the same manner. The total cost was \$20,000, of which the village contributed \$4,000. Benches and tables and a stone fireplace for cooking have been provided in the landscaped area for picnics.

Tennis for Everybody

ONE plus one equals tennis. At least this is the conclusion the *Detroit News* reached

after sponsoring another novice tennis tournament in August. Tennis is now more than a sport: it has become a fashion, a nice one though, and different from other fashions in that it is definitely doomed to remain "in" as long as there are two people, two rackets, and a ball that bounces. For everybody from the cradle to the grave gets a thrill out of "swinging it." A state-wide event, the Sixth Annual Novice Tennis Tournament, sponsored each year by the *Detroit News*, attracted more than seven thousand citizens to participate in the contests at the various centers provided throughout Michigan. Hundreds of entry applications had to be turned down long before the final date of registration. Old and young alike came to try their luck for the medals and trophies awarded in the state finals. Many were juveniles, engaging in their first competitions; others were gray-haired veterans. At many centers it became

WORLD AT PLAY

a family affair—father and son, or mother and daughter played against each other. Numerous brother and sister combinations, as well as cousin teams, added excitement to the matches, and not too infrequently there appeared the last word in tennis—a team of doubles all in one family.

Pittsburgh Presents Historical Pageant

APPROXIMATELY 300,000 persons attended the presentation of "The Western

Gateway," historical pageant depicting the growth of the county from earliest times down to the present, held nightly from September 16 to 20 at South Park Stadium as a feature of the Allegheny County Sesquicentennial celebration. The outdoor dramatic spectacle was produced through cooperation of the Allegheny County Commissioners and the National Youth and Works Progress Administrations. Entirely a local production, the various staffs and entire case were composed of county residents.

A Round-up for Day Campers

THE second annual round-up of the day camps conducted in various social agencies

by recreation workers of WPA was held this year on August 31st on the grounds of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The celebration began with a tour of the day camp operated at the Hebrew Orphan Asylum during the summer. The visiting camps were then assigned to special sites for the remainder of the day. Lunch was prepared over fires laid at each visiting camp site. This was followed by a program in which every group took part. There were contests in wood chopping, fire building, spike driving, and leap frog, and demonstrations in roping, knot tying, and other activities of this type. Turtle races, a tug-of-war, a plank race, and pail-running races added excitement to the program. These activities were followed by story telling, dramatic skits, folk dancing, and group singing. There were 23,245 boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 16 who made up the average weekly attendance at the camps during July and August.



This Way to the County Fair!—The children of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement in Pittsburgh had their field day on Thursday, August 25 when they successfully manipulated a Kiddies County Fair, officially opened by the mayor of the city, and including all the thrills and surprises of a real county fair. Games and contests continued throughout the afternoon. The main attraction, however, was the "Better Neighborhood Contest" in which prizes were awarded to children who had made the best gardens in the Hill District of Pittsburgh, where there is very little or no garden space and soil. The ceremonies climaxed fifteen years of effort to encourage the children of Pittsburgh's dirty Hill District to beautify their homes. Other features of the celebration included various displays and exhibits, novelty relays, crazy contests, side-shows, amusement booths, and a concert, a carnival and a roof dance. There were also special activities and events for adults.

Programs for the "Fair" were printed on pink paper. "Play money," which was needed as part of the admission to all events specified, was given free with every bottle of sweet milk or chocolate milk sold at the "Milk Well."

An Alumni Chorus—One of the newest of the musical groups sponsored by the Recreation Commission of Long Beach, California is the Alumni Chorus composed of young people who have completed high school and are under twenty-five years of age. One of the purposes of this organization is to provide a means for boys and

girls who have participated in musical activities during their school years to carry on their interest in music and continue to develop their talent.

Something New in Model Making—School children in Fairfield County, Connecticut are being taught something unique in model making. Their subjects include traffic intersections, parks, playgrounds and athletic fields, and the results of their first year's efforts was an exhibition at the annual field day of the Fairfield County Planning Association held in July, where prizes were awarded to the pupils whose presentation and designs of the models were outstanding. The County Planning Association has also initiated a program of lectures in the public schools throughout the county, giving instructions in model making. These lectures portray with the use of slides, good and bad roadside conditions, good landscaping and design for parks, playgrounds, triangles, etc., and are supplemented by sample cardboard models which demonstrate the simplicity of their construction.

Street Playgrounds in Great Britain—The British parliament has passed a measure enabling selected roads to be used as playgrounds for children. The council of any county, borough, or urban district may make an order prohibiting or restricting the use of any specified road by vehicles on particular days or during particular hours. The National Playing Fields Association points out that no street can be regarded as a satisfactory substitute for a properly equipped and adequately managed playground. "It is therefore hoped," says the association in the July issue of its journal, "that councils will not regard the right to close streets as an excuse for not providing such grounds."

For the Children in Institutions—The children at Sayre and Eckhart Parks in Chicago, Illinois, have presented to the younger children in the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children and St. Mary's Home for Children the toy grocery stores which they made in their art crafts clubs. The stores were quite realistic and gay with shelves of canned goods, their contents identified with pictures painted in color, boxes of brown sugar, rice, cocoa and similar supplies. There were also boxes of salt and flour. The most inviting of all were the stands of fresh vegetables modeled in clay and

then enameled. Increasingly children attending playgrounds through channels such as this are sharing their play with less fortunate comrades.

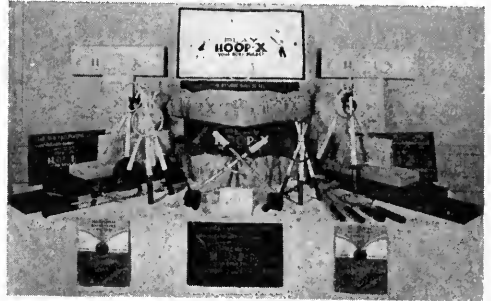
Symphonic Music Still "In"—Proof that the country has not gone completely "swing" crazy is indicated by the fact that WQXR, Long Island City, a small radio station heard only within a radius of seventy-five miles, is broadcasting more quality music per hour than any other station in the United States, and is still a moneymaking proposition. Over three thousand requests came in for individual compositions last month, with Beethoven, Tchaikowsky, Wagner, Brahms, Mozart and Bach leading in the order named. Sixty-three out of seventy-four broadcasting hours weekly are devoted to music, forty of them to symphonic and other serious compositions, seventeen to light classics, six to popular tunes. Swing bands, comedians, and amateur hours are taboo on WQXR, and announcements of selected advertisers are held to a strict standard of dignity and terseness. And yet—the station has already grossed some \$40,000 in 1938.

Nature Corners for Playgrounds—The Junior Recreation Museum in San Francisco is extending its service by making available to all playgrounds a portable "nature corner." Facilities are so designed that they may be used even in very small spaces. Both an exhibit case which hangs on a small wall area and a hanging bulletin board type of exhibit are in demand. Where space permits, an easel-like stand, which supports both bulletin boards and exhibit cases, affords the most comprehensive nature corner that is now available. Terrariums, aquariums and many other forms of exhibits sent to the different playgrounds are changed at frequent intervals. The particular type of exhibit desired by each individual playground may be requested, and where desired an assistant at the Junior Recreation Museum may be periodically assigned for special work on individual playgrounds.

In Scranton, Pennsylvania — Quilting is a popular activity in Scranton. Under the auspices of the Bureau of Recreation eleven quilting clubs with approximately eight members each are in operation. There are two drama clubs—senior and junior—which conduct a one act city-wide play contest in the winter and a similar tournament in the summer on the playgrounds. The clubs have a play loan library and an equipment loan service.

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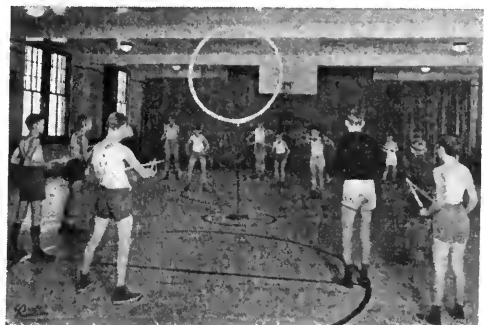
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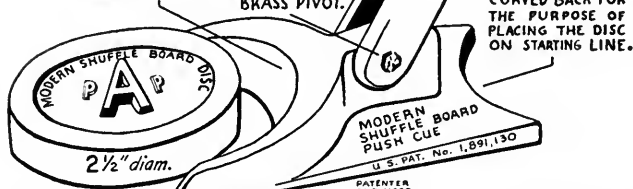
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Activities in Hibbing, Minnesota — There have been approximately forty teams in hockey leagues organized in Hibbing during the past season and sixteen teams in the national basketball tournament. Eight schools have been used for the indoor program, some three or four nights a week and others two nights weekly. Whist and cribbage tournaments were popular. The Minnesota Melody Band of sixty players has broadcast every Monday evening. The total attendance at the Memorial Building for the year 1937 was 300,197.

Where Colleges Share with Their Communities—In reply to a request for information on instances in which colleges share their recreational interests and activities with the communities in which they are located, from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, comes word that McMaster University, located in Hamilton, sponsors a varied program under the faculty and students. One method of cooperation on the part of the faculty consists in giving weekly addresses over the local radio station on such topics as "Christmas Music and Nativity Plays," "Sports and Athletics in College," "Fine Arts" and "Political Economy." Weekly lectures are given to sanitarium patients, and there are frequent addresses before clubs and young people's societies. The college conducts, during fall and winter, the Workers' Education Association class at the Collegiate Institute, and college officials serve as Sunday School workers and community leaders in church and social service agencies. The college also provides service to the Athletic Club, Aquatic Club and the Hospital Board. The students represent the university at various clubs in the city and serve as student aids in much the same capacity as do faculty members

in community welfare societies. Athletic directors at the college serve on the boards of such associations as the Canadian Physical Education Association, the Interscholastic Athletic Commission, and the Hamilton and District Basketball Association.

A Hayseed Party — Last winter a Hayseed Party was scheduled at Palmer Park, Chicago, Illinois, and the old-time dancing group had an old-fashioned party with all the trimmings. As a preparatory step the group appointed a music committee whose responsibility it was to find music for the old-time dances, evaluate it as to its suitability, and find people who liked to play it.

Activities in Yonkers, New York — Nearly every school building in Yonkers — twenty-three grammar schools and five high schools — were used as community centers five days a week from 3:00 to 5:00 P. M. and from 7:00 to 10:30 P. M. from November 1st to March 31st. The afternoon programs for children consisted of games such as basketball, touch football, newcomb and volley ball, tap dancing, sewing, paper craft and manual training. The evening programs have been most popular, and the "lighted schoolhouse" has become an actual fact in Yonkers. No longer are the gymnasiums the only portion of the school equipment used. There have been concerts, forums and dramatic presentations in the auditorium, while the gymnasiums have hummed with activities such as basketball, badminton, social dancing, volley ball, and game nights. The classrooms were utilized for club activities and classes of various kinds, while the corridors were pressed into service for shuffleboard and ping-pong.

Oklahoma City's Recreation Festival — A representative committee of the Association of Commerce of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, each year cooperates with the Park Department and the schools in putting on what is known as the Recreation Festival. Many special events are run off with the purpose of making the public aware of the opportunities offered in the city for wholesome recreation. In addition to newspaper publicity, a mimeographed bulletin is sent into homes of the city through the school children during the last week of the school year. The festival program includes the following activities:

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This book will be particularly valuable in camps and recreation centers not only as activity material but also for library use. Dancing teachers will find the description of percussion instruments of particular interest. Recreational groups of every kind will find much that appeals to the interest of both children and adults. Libraries should have it for constant reference. The Contents: *Drums the World Around, The Craft of Drum Making, Indian Hand-Drums, Large Dance Drums, Drums of the Log or Barrel Type, Water-Drums, Drumsticks, Using the Primitive Drum, Dance Rattles and Other Sound Makers. Bibliography, Index.*

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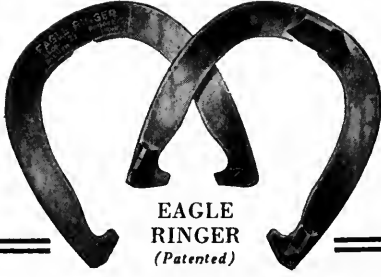
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Getting Community Support — In one city a National Recreation Association worker spent two and a half weeks studying the local situation and recommended an increase of the local municipal recreation budget from \$20,000 to \$60,000. Delegates from various civic groups vigorously backed up the recommendations. The delegates from the Council of Social Agencies numbered seventy-five persons! Press releases early in February report that the City Council granted a budget of \$45,350 to the Recreation Department. This gain of over one hundred per cent is well worth the effort expended and shows very clearly the value of using well-informed groups in the community in interpreting to the city authorities the local recreation needs.

A Year-Round Recreation Program for Escanaba—Escanaba, Michigan, has recently developed a year-round program of public parks and recreation. Bevier Butts has been employed as full-time executive.

A Nature Leaders' Training Course — The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in cooperation with the American Camping Association, the Philadelphia Council, the Boy Scouts of America, the Philadelphia Girl Scouts, and the Playground and Recreation Association of Philadelphia, last spring held its first nature leaders' training course. In a series of eight meetings from 7:00 to 9:00 on Monday and Wednesday evenings, from April 18th to May 11th, classes and discussion groups were held under the leadership of W. Stephen Thomas, Director of Education. The lectures were supplemented by a number of field trips. Registration for the classes was limited to adults over eighteen years of age who had had nature lore experience or who showed special aptitude for the work. The following topics were discussed: Nature Study Today; the World of Plants; Nature Recreation in City Parks; Treasures of the Earth; Methods of Bird Study; Nature Crafts for Camp; the Camp Nature Museum, and Nature Trails.

The Goldsboro Swimming Association — As the swimming pool in Goldsboro, North Carolina, has no income other than derived from general admissions and season tickets, it was found necessary in order to carry on the activities connected with the pool to form an association which would help toward maintenance costs. The Goldsboro Swimming Association was accordingly formed with a membership of approximately sixty citizens. The purpose of the association is to show that through practice and growth in skills a desire will be created among the boys and girls of the community to learn to swim well and to be helpful in cases of emergencies.

A Hobby Show in Muncie — The youngest exhibitor in the first annual hobby show to be held in Muncie, Indiana, was seven years old and his exhibit was a miniature garden. The displays ran the gamut from collections of candy wrappers to the creative arts. There were approximately 300 exhibits on display at the field house. Two hundred exhibitors cooperated with the Recreation Department in making this event an outstanding one. The general classifications included models, camera craft, creative art, home hobbies, handcraft, antiques and historic relics, and money collections. Practically all of the classifications were divided into two groups, adults and juniors.

Nampa Is on Its Way! — Nampa, Idaho, with a population of 10,000, is making recreational history. An area opposite the high school has been acquired on which a new sports field for community use is being developed. A new civic auditorium and recreation center, with a large recreation hall, club rooms and classrooms, has been built as a WPA project on an elementary school area. Known as the civic auditorium, it will be utilized by the community as a whole.

A Better Neighborhood Contest — The Irene Kaufmann Settlement of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is conducting a better neighborhood contest among the children. An attractive certificate signed by Sidney A. Teller, director of the Settlement, is issued to each child taking part. It reads as follows: "This is to certify that is enrolled in the contest and promises to plant and care for a garden and to help make our neighborhood and our city clean and beautiful, and is therefore entitled to display this certificate."

A Recreation Pilgrimage

SEARCHING for new projects which might be helpful in the development of the area around the city of Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Henry S. Curtis, Executive Secretary of the Huron-Clinton Parkway Committee, visited by automobile last summer a number of park systems throughout the country. His first stop was made in Cleveland where in a conference with W. A. Stinchcomb, Director of the Metropolitan Park System, Dr. Curtis secured details regarding the law providing for the organization of metropolitan park districts in Ohio which was passed twenty-one years ago. Under this law five cities—Cleveland, Cincinnati, Akron, Toledo and Defiance—have organized their park systems.

Dr. Curtis next visited the Niagara Frontier Planning Board with headquarters in Buffalo and territory ranging from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, and covering Erie and Niagara Counties. While nominally a planning board, it has been engaged in promoting many large projects and has a Citizens' Advisory Committee of 750 people who help to advance the projects recommended by the board.

Coming to New York City, Dr. Curtis had an opportunity to see the developments of the Park Department made possible through the program instituted by Robert Moses, Park Commissioner, through which there has been a tremendous increase in the number of playgrounds, swimming pools, beaches, park acreage, and parkways.

Boston, too, was in Dr. Curtis' itinerary. Here the metropolitan district includes seventeen municipalities scattered about the port of Boston. The district has charge of police, fire, water, sewerage, and parks outside the limits of the city and more and more within them.

After leaving Boston, Dr. Curtis drove to the Palisades and the White Mountains where he was assured by a number of officials that they had come to feel their greatest resource was not in their lands or forests but in their recreation. "At Mt. Belknap we found a county devoting itself to the creation of winter sports. A ski jump of 175 feet had been created with four ski trails down the mountain. The skiers were carried to the top of the mountain in chairs suspended from an endless cable. At South Conway they assured us that their winter crowds for skiing and tobogganing at week-ends were now greater than their summer attendance.

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NEW YORK CITY

"In New Brunswick, Canada, the province seemed just to have awakened to the value of the tourist and was hastening the construction of a system of good roads which by the end of the summer will be nearly complete. The trip up the St. Johns River is one of the most beautiful in America."

In Somerville's Community Theater—Since February 1932, the Somerville, Massachusetts, Community Theater sponsored by the Recreation Commission has produced an imposing list of plays, including "Lady Windemere's Fan," "The Crisis," "The School for Scandal," and "Another Language." On April 3, 1938, "The Upper Room" by Robert Benson was produced in collaboration with the Somerville High School Alumni Glee Club and the Federal Music Project. In addition to public presentations, the activities of the theater include twice-a-month one-act plays for members and guests, and twice-a-month lectures and addresses by outstanding authorities. The subscription membership at \$1.50 a year entitles the subscriber to five reserved seat admissions for five public productions in a season.

Kokomo, Indiana, Develops Participation in Recreation—Interest in recreation on the part of citizens in Kokomo, Indiana, has doubled in the last year, according to Howard Sharp, staff writer for the *Kokomo Tribune*. Summarizing the semi-annual report made by Charles G. Abrams for the first part of 1938, Mr. Sharp notes a 66 per cent increase in participation over that of a year ago, with over 110,000 spectators in attendance. The main features of the program have been junior league baseball, rhythm bands, craft work, an athletic club, branch libraries, a recreation service bureau, and community amateur nights. Especially

outstanding is the Braille Club designed to teach Braille and the use of the typewriter. The rhythm band program for the blind has also created much interest. In its activities for the blind the Recreation Department has the cooperation of the Lions Club. A new crafts shop has made possible the establishment of craft classes at Bible schools in several churches. A great deal of equipment and furniture used in the recreation center is made in the shop.

In cooperation with the public schools and the public library, three branch libraries are being conducted.

Children Tell Inner Thoughts with Paint—

One of the most interesting of recent "psychological" experiments on children has been performed by Ernest Harms with the permission of the Board of Education of New York City, not by subjecting the child to aptitude, intelligence, or reading tests, but by using art as a medium to explore the child's world of feeling and imagination. Two hundred boys and girls between the ages of fourteen and fifteen in the high school art classes of the city were asked to convey an idea, preferably an abstract idea, in form and color. In the "mental pictures" thus produced the whole inner world of the infantile mind spoke directly as it never could do in words. Conditions of home life and physical and social handicaps were reflected, as well as humor and fancy. Such experiments, Mr. Harms believes, are an important contribution to the discovery of artistic impulses and emotional releases which may prove of great value in the child's adjustment to life.

Santa Claus and His Fairyland on Parade

(Continued on page 437)

interesting to them. Because of this decision we have been obliged regretfully to refuse many requests from surrounding cities who would like to borrow or rent some of our units.

Since the first parade was held we have received many delegations from cities in this territory including Springfield, Centralia and Harrisburg, Illinois, Louisville, Kentucky, and Indianapolis, Terre Haute and South Bend, Indiana. These representatives have wanted to know just how to go about the organization of such a parade. We are glad to give them all the help possible, remembering the assistance which we received from Lincoln, Nebraska.

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The Pittsburgh Recreation Congress

(Continued from page 438)

future growth is dependent upon the degree to which they are enlisted. Coupled with this was the thoughtful and careful way in which the Society of Recreation Workers of America—the organization of professional recreation leaders—was launched, and the genuine pride and sense of responsibility that leaders evidenced in thinking of the growing profession of recreation leadership. The minimum feeling of institutionalism and the constant emphasis upon cooperation was most commendable. The joint emphasis both of public officials and recreation workers upon high standards of leadership for all phases of recreation work ran through discussions, meetings and conferences.

In a statement as brief as this, it is possible to give little more than a partial impression of the rich experience of those who came together for a week of study, inspiration and fellowship, that they might better serve a movement which has so important a part to play in the life of our American democracy.

Promoting Thanksgiving Sociability

(Continued from page 441)

3. Solo. Cloud Song. Hopi Indian Harvest Song (*Folk Songs of the Four Seasons*. Schirmer, Inc., N. Y. \$1.75)
4. Puritan Blue Laws—a humorous pantomime (N.R.A. bulletin.)
5. Poem. Recitation. *Thanksgiving Day* by Robert Bridges. (*Our Holidays in Poetry*, compiled by Harrington & Thomas. H. W. Wilson Co. Also in *Thanksgiving Entertainments*. A. Flanagan & Co. Price 40 cents)
6. Indian Corn Dance. By six persons in Indian costume. (Directions given in *American Indian and Other Folk Songs*, Mary Severance Shafter. A. S. Barnes & Co. \$3.00)

Hidden Turkeys. One out of every ten or twelve guests is given a small candy turkey wrapped in tissue paper as guests arrive. Guests are to conceal them and let no one know they have them. When time for this game, announce that certain other guests hold magnificent prizes and that the ninth person to shake hands with each of these

Order Your Copy of Congress Proceedings

- The Proceedings of the Twenty-Third National Recreation Congress held at Pittsburgh October 3-7, 1938 will be ready for distribution early in November.

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unknown persons is to get a prize; that these prize holders are to secretly count the people shaking hands with them and when the ninth person shakes hands with them just make a mental note of it. After three minutes of violent hand-shaking, the prize holders are asked to come out front and announce their "ninth hand-shakers." The magnificent prizes are then awarded. Names should be exchanged while people are shaking hands. From Edna Geister's *The Fun Book* (via Thanksgiving Party Suggestions, Recreation Division, Chicago Park District, Washington Park)

Farmer and Turkey. Guests use the grand march to form lines of eight. They are asked to hold the hands across their lines, but when the whistle blows to take a sharp quarter turn to the right and quickly take hold of their new neighbors' hands. Every time a whistle blows they are to do this, always turning to the right hand and always taking their new neighbors' hands immediately. A farmer and a turkey are chosen, and it is, of course, business of the farmer to chase the turkey. The turkey is given a bit of a head start and then the farmer is after him, running up and down the constantly changing streets and alleys formed by the constantly turning lines.

(From Thanksgiving Party suggestions, Recreation Division, Chicago Park District, Washington Park. Adapted from Streets and Alleys, Cooperative Recreation Service.)

Pop Goes the Weasel. Folk Dance. Music and directions in *American Country Dances*, Vol. I, by Elizabeth Burchenal, Schirmer, Inc., New York.

Refreshment Suggestions: Cider or hot coffee and doughnuts.

A Blue Laws Pantomime

In addition to the Blue Laws Party, there may be secured from the National Recreation Association a bulletin outlining an amusing Blue Laws Pantomime. There is no charge for this bulletin.

Thanksgiving in Hawaii

(Continued from page 444)

boys in early days.) And girls in tapas? (Tapa cloth woven from bark and designed with moon, stars, harvest.) These children are the old Hawaiians, walking in slow procession to the throne of the Queen and offering her their harvest of pineapples, cocoanuts, guavas, sugar cane, coffee, mango, taro, paipai, bananas and breadfruit. The Firemen's and Policemen's Glee Clubs chant "Imi Au Ia Oe" (I Am Searching for Thee).

Now the Queen is standing on her throne. As the boys and girls deposit the fruits and vegetables at the Queen's feet, their finely shaped, strong bodies glisten in the bright lights. They bow low, move slowly backward and form a large semi-circle around the throne. The chants, the rhythm, the color, the children; it is like a beautiful dream. The central theme of the program is expressed in music and dancing at the Queen's court, just as the old Hawaiians might have done years ago.

All is quiet again. You look at your program to see what is coming next. Oh, yes—English folk dances for the pleasure of the Queen, for the joy of the harvest, for the love of the dance. Here come dozens of children—Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiians and all the rest—tripping along to the fast tempo of the music. Now it is "Sweet Kate," then "Gathering Peascods." Another group dances "Rufty Tufty" and still another "Jenny Pluck Pears." The older girls present "Black Nag," "Sellers Round," "Parson's Farewell," "Grimstock," "Ribbon Dance," and many others. The children "set" and "turn single" and "glide" until at the end they bow and skip away.

The "Malahini," (new arrival on these islands from other parts) seeing Hawaiians, Filipinos,

Chinese, Japanese and the rest of the melting pot, dance the English folk dance, is very much amused. But these children from the playgrounds are part of the great crucible of the races, and eventually will be the citizens of this country. They are learning to adjust themselves every day. Just as they catch the spirit of play, so do they catch the swing of the English folk dance.

Then come the national folk dances—Japanese fan and parasol dances; Korean, Filipino, Spanish, Chinese and Hawaiian dances—all danced by children of these races. Gorgeous colors and costumes—like a huge tapestry.

Perhaps the large Hawaiian next to you is clapping his hands and giving a few war whoops of hearty approval as the hula girls wiggle off the stage. More applause. The hula is repeated.

The concert part of the program is an entertainment in itself with its "Song of the Islands," "Beautiful Ilima" and other songs about our hills and waters and flowers.

Finally, an American flag is lowered from the aperture in the roof while the band plays "Hawaii Pono" and the "Star-Spangled Banner." Until then you had almost forgotten you were still in the United States.

You want more. You clap and clap, but the twelve hundred children who have performed must go home—it is past their bedtime and our Japanese and Chinese and Hawaiian parents are very particular about their children retiring on time.

You leave City Hall with the four thousand other people, hearing one of the city officials saying: "That was fine, Recreation Department. Let us have more of these festivals."

And everyone has had a good time.

What They Say—About Recreation

(Continued from page 452)

its potentialities. The sudden emergency of universal leisure found us ill prepared to use it well. In a world preoccupied with the necessity for material advancement, recreation was relatively unimportant. It was either the means for relaxation from arduous work or the frivolous play of the idle class immune from work. Now it is coming to have a new and dynamic meaning. It may be made the source of cultural salvation and regeneration. It is the activity of life in which people may live creatively."—George Hjelle.

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Drama—A Community Responsibility

(Continued from page 456)

the major productions. An agreement was made whereby a dramatic director was engaged by the School Board to teach part time in the English Department and to direct plays for the little theater. The major portion of his salary was to be paid by the Board of Education and the balance from the funds of the drama group. The Board of Education gave the use of rooms for rehearsals, tryouts, building of scenery and storing of costumes. The school auditoriums were available at no cost to the Recreation Department for lectures, monthly theater night programs, workshop nights, and for staging major productions.

In drama we have a hobby that offers many delightful hours of diversion and one that we as recreation leaders should support with all our resources. If we plan the program carefully, study our community needs and secure the cooperation of those interested in the development of the amateur theater, we shall be able to carry out a program of drama that will give all our citizens an opportunity to take part in this splendid activity.

How Many Are Served?

(Continued from page 458)

finer attitude, evolved over years of promotion, which makes the public think of parks not as a decoration, but rather as a utility in the city's life. People have not the slightest hesitation in wandering freely off the formal walks and paths onto the grass, and this sense of utter freedom to do whatever one chooses to do, has made citizens feel possessively that the parks of the city are their own front yards, where they have every right to legitimate enjoyment of them. The throngs frequenting them are not bench warmers, and from observation in other cities I am personally convinced that in no place which I have seen do so many of the people of the city actually live the outdoor part of their lives in the city parks as is the case here in Chicago.

Home Recreation

(Continued from page 461)

One final point should be emphasized. Children are natural doers. They seldom gain pleasure or knowledge from watching others work or play. In other words, they do not have the spectator habit which is so widespread among adults today. It is the hope of those interested in the recreation

movement that the home life may be able to help other agencies nourish and perpetuate this habit of doing, so that the future use of leisure time will be more constructive, more creative and more satisfying to our children than it has been to us.

Calendar for Public Recreation Administration

(Continued from page 462)

Prepare fees and charges list and collect any necessary entrance fees for the fall season.

Prepare material and make arrangements for community center leaders institute. ***

Publish fall directory. **

Administrative Tasks During Fall Season

Write "thank you" letters for the summer season.

Have summer workers' personnel records brought up to date.

Secure financial reports from clubs (parent recreation clubs and others) at end of outdoor season.

Prepare list of suggested changes and improvements to areas and refer to the proper authorities.

Interview applicants and select workers for the fall and winter positions.

Hold community center workers institute. ***

Prepare winter program.

Prepare fees and charges list and collect any necessary entrance fees for the winter season.

Check buildings and equipment for the indoor season.

Make arrangements and prepare material for the winter volunteers' institute.

Make fall season awards.

Publish winter directory. **

Activities Occurring Periodically Throughout the Year

Meetings: Recreation Board (or other managing authority)

Committees

Staff

Other departments, agencies and organizations.

Daily, weekly and monthly reports from staff workers.

Banking.

Publicity campaign (news releases, reports).

Mailing of reports, bulletins and reports to National Recreation Association.

Analysis of community needs.

Research problems (program effectiveness, etc.)

Library additions.

Specifications for letting of contracts.

Graham Taylor

May 2, 1851—September 26, 1938

GRAHAM TAYLOR was interested in the national recreation movement from the very beginning. His own thinking and his own spirit fitted in so well with the recreation movement. Life to him was a joyous thing. All his experiences brought interest and excitement. One felt he was ever learning and that he derived great personal satisfaction in giving freely of his own life to all those about him. He tried in every way he could to further the national recreation movement. He believed greatly in education toward more dynamic citizenship and never lost his faith in humanity.

Insurance renewals.
Handling complaints.

Non-Recurring Activities

National Recreation Congress.
District Recreation Conferences.
Miscellaneous conferences (local, state, national).
Assistance on special drives (within and without department).

More Parks for the People

(Continued from page 464)

of life-savers, bathhouse attendants and the chlorination of water, have been subjected to a system of charges. A concession which sells only packaged candy, ice cream and soft drinks is operated by the Park Board. In addition, wood and charcoal are sold since all of the picnic units are provided with individual picnic stoves planned in such a way as to avoid disfiguring the area. The practice of providing one of these stoves with a combination table and bench seating eight people has resulted in the acceptance of the idea that an outdoor picnic involves the preparation of at least a portion of the food which is consumed.

Little supervision of the activities of the people using the park is exercised. It is the intention of the Park Board to engage a naturalist who will make his headquarters in the park.

One of the interesting things about the system is that it has been developed in the last ten years almost wholly on the basis of a levy of one-tenth mill on the dollar. This is the maximum amount that can be voted by the people at any time. This levy was renewed on November 2nd, more people voting on the park issue and a greater majority having been given than in the case of any other issue or candidate on the ballot.

Special Announcement To Leaders Engaged In Group Work

The magazine, *CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP*, announces a special club subscription offer to leaders engaged in group work. For the sum of \$10.00, eight copies of the magazine will be mailed to a group for an entire year. Groups which desire more than eight copies per month may secure as many additional subscriptions as they desire at the rate of \$1.25 each. The price of a single subscription is \$2.00 per year.

CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP is now the official organ of the National Council on Education for Character and Citizenship, a non-profit group directed by a board of nationally-known educators and laymen. The magazine has been enlarged to sixty-eight pages per issue and has been greatly improved in style and content.

During the current year, *CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP* will emphasize the following topics as they relate particularly to the different aspects of character and citizenship education; the dilemma of youth, community activities, the challenge of democracy, conservation of natural resources, the church in the community, consumer problems, activities of young people, democracy in school life, adult education, current movements relating to character and citizenship education, cooperation of community agencies, all from the point of view of character qualities and vital citizenship.

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CHRISTMAS SEALS

**Help to Protect Your
Home from Tuberculosis**

Professional Reading and Its Values

(Continued from page 466)

“to learn to use to the best advantage the splendid possessions of valuable stories, and to learn new and worthwhile methods for their telling to the children in our care.”

Reading on the subject has resulted in a number of conclusions:

There should be tests for selecting stories to tell which must consider the psychological advisability of the story for the age group concerned. Has it good literary form? Is it worth telling?

The purpose of storytelling is not merely to entertain although it does and should do this, but in addition to delighting young listeners it is desirable that the stories should contribute to the mental, moral, and spiritual growth of the child.

There are periods of growth or story interests which may be classified as rhythmic, imaginative, heroic, and romantic.

A knowledge of the technique of storytelling and of preparing for it is essential.

Stories can be correlated with other subjects. They may be used to awaken an appreciation of literature, art and music, and to illuminate such subjects as history, geography and nature study.

Experimentation in storytelling has resulted in the employment of many different devices in the presentation of stories. Large, colorful pictures are used in connection with the telling or reading, as are story figures and scenery cut from wood. Various kinds of puppets are utilized for drama-

tization. Stories are sometimes told by a storyteller in costume, and they are told in wards and on the roof with the aid of an amplifier. Stories may serve as a motivation for creative art and to stimulate project activity.

As a result of these various studies new life is instilled into the program with the children. There are no ruts. All this work is still in process. It is already bearing ripe fruit, but many new problems interesting and worthy of investigation are constantly presenting themselves. In our experience this method of individual research which directs professional reading and the results of which are shared with the group are the most profitable. This kind of project serves to integrate the group and to stimulate and inspire all its members. It is a sure means of growth, both for the individual and for the group.

Noon Socials

(Continued from page 467)

the various games were taught. Three groups were organized — one for the boys, one for the girls, and a mixed group for both boys and girls.

Through the cooperation of the local museum, which is located just a half a block from the high school, sound moving pictures were shown on Fridays of each week. These were of the instructional type rather than being purely entertainment.

The teachers and merchants of the city have fully endorsed the noon socials. They agree that the plan provides good, wholesome recreation, and is a factor in the molding of the characters and personalities of many of the high school students.

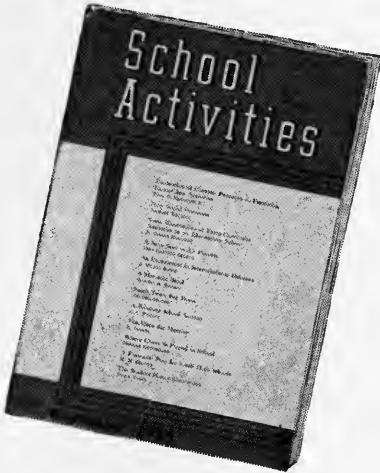
A Marine Museum

(Continued from page 468)

The Cabrillo Marine Museum is very fortunate in having a strong Advisory Council composed of such scientists as Captain G. Allen Hancock and prominent individuals connected with the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History and with the principal colleges and universities. Twenty-three outstanding men and women make up the council.

Our experience has shown that a museum may be developed with very little money if interest and cooperation are secured. The Playground and Recreation Department feels that with the beginning which has been made and the interest shown in the enterprise, a museum and aquarium will result which will be truly repre-

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sentative of the life of the oceans and which will be equipped to assist materially in satisfying the rapidly increasing desire for knowledge of nature.

Land Utilization in Great Britain

(Continued from page 469)

ples of instances where town planning developments had been materially revised, after the publication of the maps, in order that the development might interfere as little as possible with existing effective use of property and at the same time take advantage of the opportunity to acquire and use at reasonable prices land which was suitable only or primarily for park and recreational purposes. Examples were cited where, through the presentation of a map, city councils had been able to visualize the opportunity in the acquisition of parks and that schemes which otherwise could not have aroused the interest of municipal authorities had met with hearty support.

You Asked for It!

(Continued from page 470)

Suggested Clues. Clues may be given in the form of a quotation of a song which will reveal the location of the treasure or the next clue. The song "Come Out and Play with Me" with the words "and climb my apple tree, holler down my rain barrel, slide down my cellar door." may lead to a search in all those places or any of them existing where the group is gathered.

Ways of Checking the Hunt

To have your treasure hunt successful and fun for all, it is necessary that every one, especially the winners, should have found each clue. Nothing makes leading hunters more upset than to be trailed by a group which does not read the clues but tags along and may even be lucky enough to find the treasure at the end. There are several devices to stop this. Here are a few:

1. Make duplicates of all clues so each person or group may take one. The winner must show one of each in order to keep the prize.
2. Draw a different symbol (a simple one) on the corner of each clue. The hunters must copy these in order.
3. Slips of paper of a particular color or pebbles dipped in a showcard paint are left at every clue. Hunters take one, so that at the end they may show a full series.

4. Some person is stationed near each clue (or gives the clue as hunters come) and checks off names.
5. After each clue is found a duplicate of it must be checked with a central checker before the next clue may be found.

An Indoor Hunt

If you are interested in having an indoor hunt for your group, a couple hunt makes an interesting activity for mixed parties of girls and men.

At the party each girl is given what seems to be a cardboard windmill, really a piece of a jig-saw puzzle of about forty-eight pieces. Each boy receives a small sealed envelope. When directed to pair off, they discover that the letter on the back of the cardboard piece and on the envelope correspond. They are then directed to open the envelopes and follow the clue. If by chance they come upon an envelope bearing a letter other than theirs, it is to be replaced carefully where found. After the other five envelopes have been found the puzzle is to be pieced together on one of the available table spaces, the first puzzle completed to win the prize.

This sample trail will give an idea how the clues may be worded.

Clue 1, in the envelope given to the boy:

"I come from the place where they found Moses. He is dead. Now they sit on me and lean on my arms." A reed armchair on the sun porch. There Clue 2 is found:

"Even when they look at me they are so interested in themselves they do not see me." A mirror in the hall, behind which is Clue 3:

"They step all over me as they go in and out." Underneath the rug in the hall they find Clue 4:

"They set me sailing until I find myself anchored on the wall in no time at all." This leads to a banjo clock on the wall with a decoration of anchor and sailing vessel, and the next clue:

"Or they set me in such a tight place I feel all needles and pins in my legs." A sewing basket on the porch table reveals the last clue.

"Guess it will always be like this until m'call comes over the Jordan." And so they reach the last envelope in a *McCall's Magazine* on a table in the living room.

Then they piece the puzzle together. Of course the trail for each couple was different, but all were equally difficult and had the same number of clues.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

An Operetta in Three Acts by Jessie L. Gaynor. Clayton F. Summy Co., Chicago-New York. Full vocal score and libretto, \$1.25. Orchestration on rental.

THE LIBRETTO AND MUSIC of this operetta are as happily engaging as its title has recently become. They are here arranged for performance by boys and girls from about ten to fourteen years of age, but the fairies and gnomes whom Snow White meets in the woods—merry and friendly they all are, not gruesome—could well be in reality younger children. Only two stage sets are necessary though a third is suggested. If a theater is not available the interior sets can be created with neutral screens, and the out-of-door one (if the playground or park setting will not itself do) can be done with a single curtain on which some trees or even only one conventionalized tree has been painted. The music is sincere, unpretentious and delightful throughout, and it is well within the powers of an ordinary group of school or recreation center boys and girls. Most of it is either for unison chorus or solo; the rest, for two- or three-part treble chorus, being also easily learned. There might well be greater variety in the music, but regret over this lack will probably be forgotten or never felt after the first section of the marching song of the dwarfs has been learned.

The operetta is for a full evening's entertainment. There is no royalty charge, but the publishers ask that at least twelve copies of the vocal score be purchased in return for necessary permission to perform the operetta.

—A. D. Zanzig.

Nebraska Nature Trails

Prepared by Ruth Fleming. Nebraska WPA, Union Terminal Warehouse Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED BULLETIN of seventy-five pages contains a fund of material which nature recreation enthusiasts will want to have. A limited number of the bulletin is available to individuals outside the state, and copies may be secured on request from Nebraska WPA as long as the supply lasts.

Child-Welfare Legislation, 1937

Bureau Publication No. 236. Children's Bureau. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$1.10.

LAWS AFFECTING CHILDREN and young people from birth to marriage were passed by forty-six states, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico last year, according to a compilation recently released by the Children's Bureau. Laws for the protection of child health and public health in general were passed in a number of states, and physically and mentally handicapped children were also the subject of new legislation. Public concern for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency led to legislation re-

lating to offenses against minors, delinquency and juvenile courts, probation and parole, and institutions for delinquent minors. Closely related to delinquency prevention were laws providing for new or improved recreational facilities or regulating certain types of amusement which were enacted in sixteen states. A number of these laws regulated or prohibited marathons, walkathons, and other endurance contests.

Fist Puppetry

By David Frederick Milligan. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$1.50.

MR. MILLIGAN knows all the answers—how to keep a puppet from being popeyed or how to make Jack climb the beanstalk! Whatever the question may be about fist puppetry, the information is here in one of the most complete, compact, and concise books yet written on this intriguing subject. In the simplest manner possible Mr. Milligan gives detailed instructions for operating a fist puppet, selecting and adapting a play for puppets, making the head, costume, and puppet booth, and producing a puppet show. In the last chapter he outlines briefly ten "fairy tale" plays adaptable to the puppet stage. In a style distinguished for its directness and clarity Mr. Milligan has accomplished his purpose to leave the reader with complete and understandable information so that he can organize his own theater group and "produce puppetry plays to the delight and enjoyment of all concerned."

Famous Trees

By Charles E. Randall and D. Priscilla Edgerton. Miscellaneous Publication No. 295, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. \$1.50.

ON ALL SIDES there is abundant evidence that forests are essential to civilized man's welfare. The individual tree, however, has an even more intimate part to play in human experience, a part so universal that every country has its famous tree citizens." Because trees are by their very nature landmarks and memorials closely identified with human happenings, the Forest Service has felt it worthwhile to compile several hundred descriptions of, or incidents about trees, taken from reports coming to its offices and from records and library references. The result is a most interesting and attractive illustrated pamphlet.

Recent Trends in Rural Planning

By William E. Cole and Hugh Price Crowe. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$3.50.

THIS VOLUME is designed as a handbook for that great army of workers whose duties take them into the rural field, and for the layman who has a constructive interest in rural problems. Chapter XIII deals with planning for

effective rural recreation. What is the meaning of recreation? What are the problems of rural recreation? What are the rural agencies that re-create? What are recreational areas? These and other topics are discussed under the head of Recreation Planning. Other chapters of interest to those who are concerned with rural life and development deal with the economic basis of rural planning, human resources and planning, tax problems of rural communities, and rural juvenile delinquency.

Urban recreation leaders are dealing with many adults whose early days were spent in just such rural communities. It is becoming more and more clear that in order to understand many of the baffling problems of urban life it is necessary to understand the roots from which they spring in the rural areas of the United States. This is a good book to have available either in the recreation or public library.

Portfolio on the National Park and Monument System.

American Planning and Civic Association, 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. \$75.

Four beautifully illustrated booklets comprise this series of publications which tell a graphic story of the development of the national park and monument movement, and of the work of the government in conserving our natural resources. The series is dedicated to the late Stephen T. Mather, first Director of the National Park Service. The titles are as follows: "What Are National Parks?"; "Conservation of Nature"; "Preservation of History"; and "Facilities and Services."

Man-Made Culture.

By Frank Ernest Hill. American Association for Adult Education, New York. \$1.25.

"As self-educators men are queer. Often they take their clubs with a professed casualness they do not really feel. They employ secrecy and indirection, and sometimes mask an almost mystical enthusiasm with a deceptive buffoonery." This little book is the subject of those "queer self-educators"—the members of men's clubs throughout the United States—who represent fifteen per cent of the total population of the country.

The Junto Club, founded by Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia in 1727, is the oldest known American club. From that heritage have sprung a host of clubs with names formidable and mysterious. The work of some is "thin, dull and monotonous," but on the whole these clubs give mental and, to an extent, aesthetic and skilled stimuli to a million men. Social fellowship, art, music, handicrafts, nature and gardening interests are participated in for conscious self-improvement or for the sheer joy of creative cultural activity. Whatever slant the reader may have, he will find in these countless clubs a latent power for good.

Measuring Achievement in Physical Education.

By Ruth B. Glassow and Marion R. Broer. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia. \$2.75.

Methods of evaluation and selection of physical education tests are discussed in this textbook which is designed for use in undergraduate and graduate courses in the subject. There is a complete discussion of currently available measures and standards of skill for each phase of the physical education program. Detailed charts describe individual tests, giving dimensions, distances, trials, scores, and test procedures.

Rural Youth on Relief.

Works Progress Administration, Division of Social Research. Research Monograph XI. By Bruce L. Melvin. United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

This volume, Number XI in the series of research monographs prepared by the Division of Social Research of Works Progress Administration, deals with the number and location of rural youth in relief households, changes in the number of rural youth, personal characteristics, educational status, occupations, and youth pro-

grams of emergency agencies. The final section contains the conclusions reached. The volume, well illustrated by photographs and graphic charts, is an unusually good statement of the problems of rural young people, and is worthy of careful reading by any persons having responsibility for rural work. Furthermore, since impoverished youth will in time find their way to urban communities, city recreation work is likewise concerned.

Motion Pictures in Education—

A Summary of the Literature.

By Edward Dale, Fannie W. Dunn, Charles F. Hoban, Jr., and Etta Schneider, The H. W. Wilson Co., New York. \$2.50.

In order to help research workers, teachers and administrators in evaluating what has been done in the field of educational motion pictures, in considering what ought to be done and what can be done in this field, a 475 page, comprehensive, selected bibliography with digests has been prepared. There is material on the administration of visual aids, teaching with motion pictures, selecting instructional material, film production in schools, experimental research in instructional films and teacher preparation in visual education.

A. Y. H. Knapsack.

The American Youth Hostels, Inc., Northfield, Massachusetts. Each issue, 15 cents.

Four times a year this friendly little magazine edited by Isabel and Monroe Smith makes its appearance. The Spring 1938 issue is a travel number. With its attractive sketches and photographs and its descriptions of trips and travel schedules it is bound to stir one to adventure! The subscription price is 60 cents a year.

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Measure - Measure - Measure

Measure of human happiness,
Measure of human despair,
Measure of character growth by the hour, day and week,
Measure here and measure there.

Measure of mother love,
Measure the mother's joy in her first unborn babe,
Measure of what mother is and does,
Measure of "atmosphere" in the home,
Measure of human distance between white and colored, Jew and Christian.

Measure, measure, measure.
Technique, technique, technique.
Death and death and death
When there should be life and lift.

Measure Mona Lisa,
Measure with a slide rule the Sermon on the Mount.

God forbid.
Measure what a painting does to you,
Measure the sunset,
Measure the Toscanini concert stretching your soul.

Keep records of Jesus on the boat with Peter—just what happened to Peter hour by hour.

Keep records of your own children in the home, prayer after prayer.

Record every bad deed and how good they become,

What the "group" did to each child.

When O when will we learn that the human soul is not a bit of matter to be measured hourly
and hourly recorded!

What crimes we commit in the name of science!

How easy to blaspheme against the spirit of man and try to take over God's work and become
gods ourselves.

We talk of case work and wonder why we are so misunderstood.

We make the social worker a little lower than the banker.

We use cold words for warm human life.

We use long words and big when words little and simple would go straight home.

We make our phrases so involved we cannot tell ourselves what we meant.

And the trouble is we think of ourselves and our own importance

Instead of thinking of the men and women and children we serve.

When with our techniques and our mechanisms and our cold terms we have turned beauty into
ugliness—

We wonder why the best youth are not attracted to work for the better way for the children of
the earth.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

DECEMBER, 1938

December



Courtesy Essex County, New Jersey, Park Commission

"A white snowy world summons young and old to invigorating play. The brilliant winter sunshine transforms the ice fields into 'acres of glittering jewels.' Where snow falls and water freezes, the varied sports and games of

winter call forth a host of ardent devotees—a happy throng on skates, skis and snowshoes, in toboggans, sleighs and on swift-speeding sleds! A Merry Winter to All!" From "Winter Activities," issued by Chicago Park District.

What Do Americans Need?

WHEN I WAS GRADUATED from high school, there was one thing that was always said to every class that got out to face the world. It was this: "There is absolutely no limit to what you can do. There is absolutely no limit to what your country is going to do. Every one of you can make a fortune and be a great success."

That point of view has lasted in the United States from 1790, and perhaps from 1630, until now. It is the pioneer philosophy. The main tenet of that philosophy is just this: There is no limit to human growth, or to the growth of man's power to create material things, because there is no limit to the value of material things to add to human happiness and welfare.

It was by that same theory of life that human thought has been dominated from the time of the erection of the first great pyramid at Gizeh, some six thousand years ago, down to the opening of the Great War. Our country was built, and all that we have here—this ballroom, the City of Pittsburgh, the City of New York—were created on that philosophy, and we had every reason to believe for all those years that it was true.

The only people who fought that philosophy were preachers and poets, a few lone men bucking the tide, men like Henry Thoreau. And Henry Thoreau for his generation was wrong, because in his lifetime, seventy or eighty years ago, there was no limit on human possibilities. There was no limit on what the world could do to create material things and to get use out of material things, because the world was poor in material things and had always been poor in them, save for one very brief period at the height of the Roman Empire.

Today that is not true. Today something that has been true for six thousand years is no longer valid for men, because that reaching out, that expanding, which has extended to every avenue of the human spirit, to every possibility of the human hand, has attained its material goal. Boys of twenty and younger, and girls of twenty and younger, know all this better than their parents do, because the parents of this generation, and even people of your ages, were brought up in a world which is different from the present world.

Something has happened in our lifetime that had not happened in six thousand years. Now, if I begin to say to you that we are not going to

By ROY HELTON

Mr. Helton, author, lecturer, and member of the State Planning Association of the State of Pennsylvania, speaking at the Recreation Congress at Pittsburgh, urged upon recreation workers the necessity for seeking new goals and new services. "Art, science, adventure, health and fun," he said, "these are the human needs to which all of you here have dedicated your lives."

grow any more, I will not be telling the truth, because we are bound to grow. If I should try to say to you that America has reached the limit of its possibilities, I would be telling a lie, because America is almost at the hour of the beginning of its possibilities, and yet something that I am trying to tell you is true.

When we began as a nation, there was one great need in this country—space. The westward movement of migration that started out from the eastern cities, from Jamestown and St. Mary's, from Philadelphia and Plymouth, moved on and on, reaching forth in every direction, but mainly fighting for that great road to the West. "Give us land!" That was the cry of America, voiced by all our earlier pioneers. We needed to make a nation on this earth, and we had to have an adequate scope of earth to make a nation. That tide which started so slowly and seeped so painfully westward, took on great impulse with the Louisiana Purchase and with the acquisition of Texas, but had to end.

A time came, and it came in the administration of President McKinley, after we had acquired the Philippines and Puerto Rico, when the American people knew that they had enough land. They had those scattered islands to the west to defend their shores, and they had a solid America from coast to coast.

Then that kind of growth had to end, or we had to become a party in the struggle for imperial domination of the world, and realizing that crisis the American people decided then and there that

their limit had come, and that they would accept that limit and live within their own boundaries. That was the first check on our expansion.

The second growth was in people. We had a vast continent, thinly populated, and our great cry for nearly fifty years was for growth in men. With that growth went the growth in the railroads that made possible the conquest and the settlement of the great plains, the transportation of food East, and the transportation of manufactures West.

You know very well how even in your own early memories growth was the big thing in our national life. Every American college wanted to be bigger and bigger; every American town wanted to be another New York. Boosters associations were out for that one thing, and we down in the State Planning Board in Pennsylvania know how bad a job that did for us, when we realize the terrific shambles that has made of the American city life, that unrestrained, headlong growth that came to us before we knew how to handle it.

Now that growth also is ending; the increase in population of the United States has gone down to about 10 per cent a decade. It had held at 40 per cent for nearly two hundred years. It had then gone down slowly to 25 per cent and then to 15 per cent, and now it is going on down. So in Pittsburgh, and so in New York, and so also in Philadelphia.

As a people we have decided that growth in men is not of itself all we are in this world to achieve, and in that decision we are not accepting defeat. A young man does not feel defeated when you tell him that he is not going to grow any taller. He realizes that after his physical growth ends comes the time when his life is really beginning.

When I first said these things, people were shocked at the thought of our growth ever ending. But growth is not ending when physical growth has to pause. That is the time when a real growth can begin.

This is not a phenomenon that is peculiar to America. It was manifest first of all, perhaps, in France. It spread from France to England, and thence to Holland and Scandinavia, so that only one country in Central Europe has not now ac-

cepted a limitation on growth, and that one country is Germany; and that one Mediterranean country which has not accepted a limitation on growth is Italy.

What produced the World War? A sense that this philosophy of growth was reaching a limit, a conviction on the part of Central European peoples that they could not go on growing the way they wanted to grow any longer, and a violent rebellion at that reality.

What has produced this terrible destruction in China? The fact that one country in the Orient has not accepted any limitation on the possibility of human growth. It wants to go on; it wants to expand; it wants to dominate the Pacific and to dominate Asia.

Now, that impulse, at its extreme, in countries that are still fighting to expand, and so are threatening our civilization with a final and utter collapse, in America has also reached a limit, and, thank God, we are accepting that limitation—not easily, and even with pain, with struggle, and with a sense of frustration.

But why has this limitation been reached so soon? Because in America, as in Europe, through the invention of machinery, through the discovery of oil and of coal deposits, it was possible for man, within sixty years, to utilize the resources of five or six million years of earth's history in his effort to conquer the earth. And that is why, now in our lifetime, this thing has happened.

A year or two ago we were using a billion barrels of petroleum. We were producing in America 60 per cent of the world's supply. Petroleum had been manufactured by the chemistry of millions of years. We have burned it up in one generation. We have gone on at that rate, using all the riches of geologic history, in our battle to solve those simple, fundamental problems that confronted mankind for so long, the problems of shelter and clothing and food. By the use of those resources, not only we but all the peoples of Europe have solved their problems, have conquered the earth, and that conquest is the end of the pioneer philosophy. The pioneer philosophy is a philosophy of growth, of ruthless, unending growth; and

"None can say there are no more challenging tasks in the world, no more frontiers to be conquered. In most respects the material world has been mastered, but the world of man opens before us like a great wilderness which holds within its unexplored depths the secret of man's nature and his needs. . . . Today is a pioneer age in a new sense. The call for leaders with courage, understanding and determination rings throughout the world and fires those who have vision with a new enthusiasm to meet the challenge."—Helen A. Prendergast in *The Library Journal*.

ruthless, unending growth in a settled civilization cannot be endured by the capacities of men.

Now, I am not going to go into statistics; I have no time to do that. But I can point out to you a few very simple facts that illustrate what I have been saying. One I got from Frank Lorimer, in Washington, last week. One-half of all the farmers of the United States now produce 89 per cent of all the food.

That means that if half of all the farmers work a little harder, the other half can sit down and do nothing, and we can still be well fed in the United States.

That is due to the invention of the machine, to the use of gasoline, and to the motor tractor, which have enabled us with a constantly diminishing manpower to feed not only the United States, but many other parts of the earth. That is one of the facts that we have now got to face.

The rate of increase of the registration of automobiles in the United States is diminishing to one tenth of what it was in 1916. The mileage of the American railroads is going down. There are too many railroads, and we know there are too many railroads.

The total product of all the American manufacturers is describing a flattening curve, like that of our population. Are there discouraging truths? Let us consider a minute.

Supposing our progress should go on in the old-time way. Suppose we proceed to manufacture, every decade, 60 per cent more than we did the decade before, which is the historical basis on which our philosophy is founded. In twenty years, each one of us would be consuming two and one-half times as much as we are consuming now. By the end of the century we would have to be consuming sixteen times as much. We would have to turn ourselves into a nation of robots, not to make things but to use them.

Now, here is the whole point of this economic argument: With the help of the machine, a man can make enough for two men to consume. But there is no ma-

chine that has yet been invented that will help a man to consume twice as much as he ordinarily could. Machinery is all on the side of production, not of consumption.

So finally, we have reached the point—I don't say for everybody, because that is not true—but for the great mass of our people—where this disparity between the power of the machine to enable the man to produce more and more, and the poor, human limitations of our one hundred and fifty pounds of meat to consume these things, have locked horns and we cannot go on with that battle any longer.

What are we going to do about it? You can grow wheat, but you cannot make me eat wheat. You can produce more and more beef, but you can make me eat only a certain amount of the stuff, and you can pour steel, but I do not need more steel. And that is what men are saying now. That is what they are registering now in their conduct. They are refusing to buy as much as is produced.

Every man, woman and child in the United States is responsible for some seven hundred pounds of steel, and four hundred pounds of pig iron every year. How much more do we need than that? I do not know. But there is a limit to how much more we need than that, and that limit is being reached, and that fact is registered in the figures of production and consumption.

It comes down to this: Would you rather have a new town car, or would you rather have a good long trip in the old one? That is the dilemma that is confronting man right now. We can go on buying more things, and we can go on making more

"What do men need? Men need to create things with their hands."



Courtesy Works Progress Administration

things, but if we do we cannot have any surplus left to use those things; we cannot get the enjoyment out of them that they were intended for. More life or more things—that is our problem.

Despair, violence and confusion have come to the world because of this dilemma. In 1929 we became the laboratory in which the powers of industrialism to create were measured against the power of man to consume. Those years were not good years. They were prosperous. We all could buy silk shirts then if we wanted to, but they were years of moral and social confusion; they were years when the heart failure mortality went higher and higher, and the pace of life became faster and faster, and they were years that broke down for the young of a whole generation all those values that had been built up in this country for two hundred years.

Now, what is the answer to our economic and social problems? Is the answer that after we have used a car for six months or a year we must junk it and buy a new car? That is the answer of waste. When one man who is making enough for two to consume, must we also put the other man to work making enough for two more to consume?

Shall we take the produce of both of those men and throw it away half used? Well, there is something in the American temperament that recoils from that answer. We are realists. We believe in the use and value of human labor, and we do not want to see human labor thrown away. Attempts to lead us into that kind of waste by great manufacturers through their philosophies of replacement have failed to take hold of the American people.

They cannot believe that it is right that when a thing is still good, to have to discard it in order to keep on producing more things of the same kind. And that is the meaning of that process of premature replacement. The end of the philosophy of waste is in the one kind of waste that will keep the industrial machine surely going. That end is war, because war is the only kind of destruction that operates rapidly enough to provide an outlet for all our possible productive capacity.

We know already by what happened from 1920 to 1930 that that is the way of self-destruction.

Distribution is another answer and one that is right and necessary; but distribution is a hard, mature problem, and it is not a boom problem. To

get goods into the hands of those who need the goods without destroying the enterprise and initiative of our people is a job that our government has attempted and has gone on with, but it is not a job that can be done in a hurry, and it is not a job that will push us into the ascending spiral of a great boom.

Will new industries help us out? Well, what do most of our new products attempt to do, products like the airplane? What are they really but new devices for saving time? And what does an excess of man-power in the United States mean but that we have too much time?

Last year we killed thirty-six thousand people and injured a million more, hurrying along our roads trying to save time.

Yet people with time on their hands are in every street and in every village. Is there any sense in that? It is a kind of razzle-dazzle that makes reason doubt its own validity.

What is the answer? Why do we want to save time? Well, the answer for that is with you. Why we want to save time is because we do not yet know what time is for and we do not yet know what life is for. I ask you again, I put this one problem before you: When one man can make enough for two, what are we going to do with the other man? That is the problem of modern civilization. You can throw him onto a battlefield and get rid of him that way. Or can we find another use for his time?

We should be glad that we have solved the problem of making enough things for human use. Under that old philosophy man had to struggle for food, shelter and clothes, for fuel and transportation. Now, if he wants to use those things, if he knows how to get them into circulation, he has them ready to his hand. And that was never true before in human history.

Those goals have at last been attained. They were the kind of goals that can be attained. But what is there left? What do men need? Men need love; men need happiness. Men need joy, adventure, fun. Men need to satisfy their curiosity through the pursuit of science. Men need to create things with their hands.

Back in the Stone Age, before any human problem had been solved, men were painting pictures on the walls of remote caverns and were making things with their crude tools, struggling to use

"In the end this is the real inventory of a man and his life: Not, how much, but how well. Not how many years but what he poured into them and how much in spiritual content they gave him in return." — Gabriel Heatter in Faith.

that power of creation that is in us all. Now those are the things that we have left over. Those are the goals that can never be fully attained. They are the rest of human history.

Art, science, adventure, health and fun. That is all of the illimitable future for man. Those are the human needs, and those are the needs, as I see it, to which all you who are here have dedicated your lives, and there is the basis of the future occupation of half our people, because half of the people in the United States, those who are not engaged in agriculture and are not engaged in manufacture, are available for that use. The arts and the sciences of our helping each other could now occupy half of the energies of man and, in the future, with the advancement of science, can occupy two-thirds and even three-fourths of those energies. That is where you come in, for you are the pioneers in that field.

I see you instinctively following what seems to me the true path, with your program for more recreation grounds, for more forests, for more wild life, for more of all the things that we have cast aside in this once necessary struggle to conquer Nature.

You are the ones preserving those things and restoring them to human use and satisfaction, those crafts that have been forgotten and cast aside for machine-made things, and had to be, for a while, but now have to be no longer.

Your business is to preserve the pioneer virtues of independence and physical hardihood and strength, and to fight the pioneer vices, for those pioneer vices are still hanging on, and are the things that endanger the peace and the welfare of the world. They are bigotry, suspicion, belligerence and callousness. I have lived among pioneer people, and I know that they are good and bad. I know how hard they are, and I know how strong they are. I know how independent they are and I know how little they care for a stranger, and how willing they are to fight about nothing.

You can see how those pioneer vices still work in Germany and Japan. You see them everywhere where the passion of growth is meeting with a set-back.

Now, it seems to me that the business of recreation in the United States, taking recreation in the broadest sense, is to maintain those qualities that enabled us to conquer America, and that enabled us to make these machines which I commend and am all for, without softness following our change of pace.



Courtesy Department of Public Recreation, Reading, Pa.

**"Art, science, adventure, health and fun"—
all fundamental needs of the human spirit**

You have to take up the change of pace. You have to show people what to do with their lives and show them that their lives cannot go on into a mad, competitive struggle to make more and more of material things. I do not believe anything is so great a contribution to the peace of the world as this thing you are trying to do.

If we have in the United States thirty million healthy young men and women who are strong and yet hate war, that is an argument that any dictator or any aggressor will listen to, and there is no other argument that will be so quickly heeded.

That is not all of it. Guiding healthy young bodies to healthy maturity is the primary purpose of recreation. But look at what is now happening. Our birth rate is going down. It reached its peak, which the census authorities believe may be the all-time peak for the United States, in the early 20s', a little over a decade ago. That age group which contains the largest element of our popula-

(Continued on page 532)

What They Say About Recreation

WHAT DO MEN NEED? Men need love. Men need happiness. Men need joy, adventure, fun. Men need to satisfy their curiosity through the pursuit of science. Men need to create things with their hands. . . . Art, science, adventure, health and fun. That is all of the illimitable future for man. Those are the human needs, and those are the needs to which recreation workers have dedicated their lives."

—Roy Helton.

"A playground or park is not in general a profit-making activity. It is a recapture job. We are taking back, at large expense and by the creation of more debt, a piece of God's green earth which we squandered some years ago." *A. A. Berle*, City Chamberlain, New York City, in *National Municipal Review*.

"Leisure is yours if you want it! The real question is, is it worth planning for? Is it worth training for, not as something which you can, shortly, in some clever way, cash so as to increase your material income, but as a new attitude toward life which will very greatly increase your own personal happiness and consequently your usefulness."—*Frank H. Cheley*, in *Investing Leisure Time*.

"Recreation calls for an early start and no stops. You will miss many values of recreation if you do not learn to use leisure time when you are young. Interest yourself in sports that you can always engage in. . . . Become a person trained in the lore of the outdoor life. Learn the fine art of reading, which opens windows upon endless vistas of beauty. Build up hobbies which help you to keep on learning. . . . Finally, never stop educating yourself by better use of your leisure time. . . . Leisure offers the gateway to an interesting, vivid life, but you must open it by choosing your recreation wisely."—From *Our Times*, February, 1, 1936.

"It will not do to say that play and religion are alien. As in music and in art so in religion, the loveliest things have come from that margin over and above bare necessity where men have been religious not because they felt they must but because they loved to be."—*Harry Emerson Fosdick*.

"No program is so important that it can't be changed to meet a human need. There is a rich fellowship and no sacrifice in doing the thing one wants most to do. Happy are we who are dedicated to making a way of life. Our service will go on until it means the enrichment of life for all men. Happy are you who with the new methods, new machinery, can carry on into new times toward a new way of life for all the people."—*Harriet E. Vittum*, Northwestern University Settlement, Chicago.

"The words play, education, leisure are the names of a great opportunity for awakening the dormant creativeness of human beings which other circumstances of their present lot are tending to suppress, and which education has hitherto neglected."—From *Public Education Bulletin*, Pennsylvania.

"The folk arts are the very expression of our efforts to understand, to give voice to the beauty and pathos and joy of life. Here in America the folk arts have never assumed a part in our life comparable to the rôle they have played in the lives of the peoples by whom our country was settled. We have missed much of the spontaneous poetry of motion and music which in other lands has found expression in the festivals that mark the unfolding of the seasons and the mysteries of life and death. Perhaps our newer Americans will help us to make up for that loss."—*John H. Finley* in *Folk News*.

"Leisure is an affair of mood and atmosphere rather than simply of the clock. It is not chronological occurrence, but a spiritual state. It is unhurried, pleasureable living among one's native enthusiasms."—*Irwin Edman*.

"The playground is an excellent laboratory in which to test the value of the new educational method; although not as controlled as the school, the response of children is more natural and genuine. Most important of all educational concepts is perhaps respect for the personality of the child. If in the zeal for 'putting on programs' the grace of hospitality and the courtesy of fine human relationships are absent, no finished performance can compensate for the loss."—*Phoebe H. Valentine* in *A Review of Two Philanthropic Trusts*.

Christmas

IT IS NEVER possible to give a complete picture of Christmas as it is celebrated by recreation departments throughout the country for these celebrations take so many and such varied forms, ranging as they do from simple parties and puppet shows to elaborate pageants, that any description of them cannot fail to omit many interesting features.

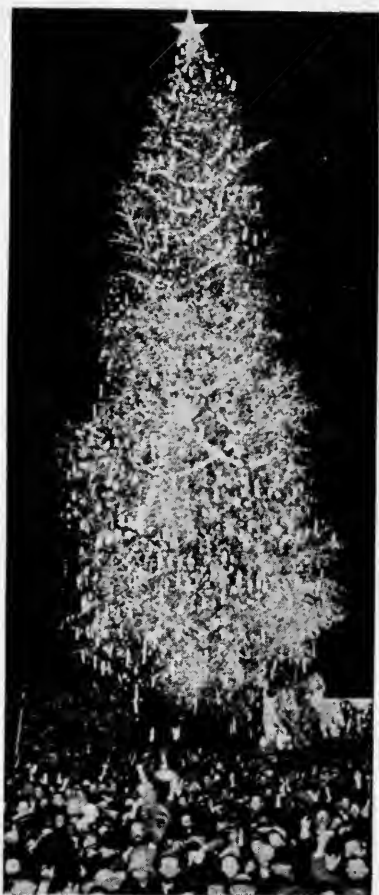
Christmas in 1937! Before us passes a procession of brightly lighted Christmas trees on playgrounds and in village greens, in parks and in market places of great cities; of groups of caroling children and adults, and of Santa Clauses by the hundreds distributing toys and good cheer!

Operettas, pageants, plays, choruses, gay parties, puppet shows—they are all in the picture of America's Christmas celebration.

Christmas Toys

More earnestly than ever recreation departments and other recreational groups are seeking through Christmas workshops and toy rehabilitation centers to see to it that no child shall be without toys at Christmas. Through WPA and NYA, as well as through recreation departments, many thousands of old toys each year are being collected, repaired and distributed by local agencies.

Last year isolated children in the mountainous regions of Kentucky, some of whom had never seen a Christmas card, received reconditioned cards transported by horseback by WPA workers. Counterpane toys—small soft dolls and toy animals easily handled in bed—were made in Milwaukee and other cities and sent to crippled and bedridden children in hospitals. Ten disabled war veterans on a WPA toy project in Brockton, Massachusetts, renovated seven thousand toys. In seventeen cities WPA toy repair shops last year



Everywhere!

Christmas, the day that all of us love, is the most festive season of the year, symbolizing as it does, light, warmth, and good will. So much that is fine and beautiful has been passed on to us through the inspiration of this cherished holiday. A rich heritage of customs and folkways, legends and lore, carols and madrigals is ours to preserve. Colorful folkways have, down through the centuries, perpetuated these traditions. Ours is the trust to keep alive and make increasingly vivid these glorious customs of the ages!

employed workers skilled with paint brush, saw and hammer who repaired old donated toys and created new ones from scrap material.

A Christmas Proclamation

CITY OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Whereas, Santa Claus arrives in Decatur on Friday, November 26, 1937, I, Charles E. Lee, Mayor of Decatur, Illinois, hereby proclaim Friday, November 26 as the day of the official opening of the Christmas season, and do designate and establish the Christmas Village in Central Park as official Santa Claus headquarters during the period November 26, 1937, through December 25, 1937.

Let us, therefore, on the day appointed receive Santa Claus as the official Ambassador of Christmas and welcome him to our city with all the joy and happiness appropriate to this season.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Decatur to be affixed.

Done at the City of Decatur this twenty-third day of November in the year of Our Lord, 1937.

(Signed) CHARLES E. LEE, Mayor,

City of Decatur, Illinois.

Thus was Santa's arrival in Decatur officially heralded. Escorted to his headquarters by a

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Christmas Festivals, Masques and Pantomimes

- A Christmas Ballad*, by Florence S. Page. To be acted in pantomime. Included in "Christmas Pageants." *Womans Home Companion*. 15¢
- Christmas Book*, by Mary E. Phipps and Marjorie Van Horn. An elaborate Christmas entertainment for a school or center with physical training and music department to direct dances and songs. A mother and her little boy and girl sit before the fire and talk of the Christmas holidays. The children want to look through the Christmas Book. As they turn the pages of the book the pictures come to life in song and dance. 26 characters. One hour in length. *Womans Press*. 35¢
- The Christmas Caravan*, by Edith Wathen. An interesting festival which will meet the needs of those looking for a holiday production calling for large groups of children of different ages, with music, songs and dances. The story centers around an elderly man who travels around the world with his puppet children in a gaily painted cart. The Christmas Creche is the culmination of his puppet-master's art. The author has included notes on the various phases of production—costumes, properties, music and the like. *Walter H. Baker Co.* 35¢
- A Christmas Carnival in Carols and Pantomime*. Included in "The Christmas Book." *National Recreation Association*. 50¢
- Christmas Everywhere*, by Edna Randolph Worrell. A pageant of reading, song and tableaux. A young girl is discovered looking over her Christmas postcards from different countries, and reading of the holiday customs observed in these lands. Through tableaux these customs are depicted, accompanied by appropriate music. *Eldridge Entertainment House*. 25¢
- Christmas Windows*, by Mayme Christensen and Flora M. Frick. A pantomime drama of kindness. Cast may be large or small. Easily produced. For children of all ages up to 16. The Christmas Child looks into the window of a toy shop, of a home where there is a Christmas party, of a church, and of a minuet dancer's home. He is turned away with harsh words until he stops at the lowly cottage where he finds a welcome. He rewards the humble family with His blessings. *Dramatic Publishing Co.* 30¢
- Christmasse in Merrie England*, by Mari R. Hofer. A charming celebration with old English songs and customs and a short masque in rhyme. From 30 to 80 may take part. *Clayton F. Summy Co.* 25¢
- Christmasse Revels*. A Christmas festival in three scenes, written by Millis Caverly. One interior. Plays for one and a half hours. 35 main characters and extras. The author pictures the hearty celebration and quaint and pleasing customs of the Christmas season in England, beginning on Christmas Eve and lasting for 12 days. Adaptable for community use. *Banner Play Bureau*. 75c. Royalty \$10.00 where admission is charged; \$5.00 where it is not.
- Holly and Cypress*, by Anna J. Harnwell and Isabelle J. Meaker. A Christmas play with pageantry, in 2 acts and an interlude. 5 men, 3 women, and extras. Interior. Costumes, 15th century English. Pageantry is part of action of play and consists of old English Christmas customs. Can be adapted to meet varying needs. Suitable for community celebration. *Samuel French*. 50¢. Royalty \$10.00 when admission is charged; \$5.00 when it is not.
- St. Francis of Assisi*, by Margaret Lynch Conger. 35 characters. 40 minutes in length. The animals hold court in the woods, but their peace is broken by quarreling. St. Francis' kindly spirit quiets them and they flock to him just as children dressed as Christmas mummers enter and give their presentation of the story of the Christ-child. *Womans Press*. 35¢
- Southumberland's Yule-Tide*, by C. Arthur Coan. One act. 20 men, 20 women, and extras. 45 minutes in length. A festival written in the spirit of the traditional yule celebration of olden days and so conceived as to permit the whole school or community to take an active part. *Samuel French*. 50¢. Royalty \$10.00.
- The Star Gleams*, by Florence Lewis Spence. So often are there inquiries for Christmas programs calling for large casts of characters and few rehearsals, yet being simple, dignified and moving in nature. Here is a pageant which meets many of these qualifications. The old story is told entirely in pantomime with singing rendered by choristers and the audience, the scene of which is laid before the doors of a church or some other suitable building. Complete notes for production have been included. *Samuel French*. 35¢
- Ten Good Christmas Pantomimes*, by Ethel Eldridge. A collection of well-known hymns, songs and recitations that will add novelty to a Christmas program. *Eldridge Entertainment House*. 40¢
- Three Christmas Pageants of Other Lands*, by Helen P. Curtis and Jeanne H. Curtis. A collection of three children's pageants based on typical Christmas customs of France, Italy and England, presented in outline form, depending entirely upon pantomime and music to carry the narrative. Adaptable for simple or elaborate production. Music suggestions included. *Womans Home Companion*. 15¢
- Twelve Festival and Dance Programs for Spring and Christmas Exhibitions*, by Margery Coe Hawley and Mary Kate Miller. *Burgess Publishing Co.* \$1.50
- Ye Olde Christmasse Masque*, compiled and arranged by William Baines. With carols, dances, jousts and friscols as performed in Merrie England in Ye Olden Dayes. One act, one scene. *Oliver Ditson Co.* 40¢
- Yuletide in Other Lands and the Hanging of the Greens*. Two ceremonies for Christmas time. The first one is a series of tableaux bringing in customs of many countries, with carols and hymns in which the audience may join. The second one is a ceremony to use when the Christmas greens are hung. *Womans Press*. 20¢
- Yuletide Revels in Merrie England*, by M. A. Lewis and E. M. Verni. An entertainment embodying the customs and spirit of the Old English Christmas in dramatic form. Includes many old carols, songs, and dances. *Samuel French*. 35¢. Royalty on individual plays on application.
- Yuletide Wakes, Yuletide Breaks*, by Dorothy Gladys Spicer. A Christmas revel centering around episodes in which 11 nationalities are represented. The author includes full directions for production. May be as elaborate as one desires. *Womans Press*. 35¢

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Courtesy Irene Kaufmann Play School Settlement

If parents, before they are led away and bewildered by the crowded shops at Christmas time, and by the masses of toys displayed, will only pause to consider what presents will give the greatest pleasure to their children, then their Joans and Peters will not be disappointed!

"Speaking of Toys"

CHRISTMAS is approaching, and it is time to talk of toys, for many persons will soon be concerned with them. The craft leader, for one, will be selecting toy-making projects for his classes and clubs. Will he consider not only the value of the project to the child, but also the suitability for little sister of the gift which John makes for her? (All too often this latter part is carelessly considered.) Extra "Santas" are rehabilitating old toys and making new ones in much-publicized Toy Shops for needy children. Will these "Santas" fit the present to the child who is to find it in his stocking? Or will it come again to the Christmas Toy Shop next year because it did not fit? What will the leader of the Mothers' Clubs tell mothers about gifts when they ask, as they surely will, "What can I get or make for Mary and Jimmie which doesn't cost a lot?" Will the gifts you and I give bring joy or sorrow on Christmas morning?

It is not so easy as one would imagine, this selection of the proper toys. It is more than a matter of choosing what strikes our adult fancy (as we are so apt to do), or spending ten dollars, or getting something bright and shiny which "works" when wound with a key. It is necessary to turn back the clock of time and find out what children need and really enjoy at each age level. We might well start with the very small child, consulting Irving E. Miller, Ph.D., Child Psychologist on the faculty of Washington State

Normal School, who wrote an article in the *Kiwanis* Magazine on "Toys for Tiny Tots" from which we quote.

Toys for Sensory Experiences

We are all made on the plan of responding to stimuli from our environment. Hence nature has seen to it that we all enjoy a great variety of new sensory experiences. Little children get a great thrill from bright colors—gorgeously colored bits of paper, glass or china. Let toys that you buy for them be gay. Noises that are distressing to our jaded nerves are highly interesting to them. They represent new and exciting experiences. The possibilities of touch and muscle sensations never seem to be exhausted. Baby feels of everything that he can get hold of. And how easy it is for poor as well as rich to find in every environment the toys that will make him happy! Buy the bright and the rapidly moving things that delight the eye; the noise making things, however crude, that excite the ear; the host of simple things that provide abundant opportunities for touch and muscle sense.

Toys that Involve Activity and Control

The second great principle of satisfaction in playthings is that they must involve activity. Little children seem to like activity for its own sake. Baby thrusts with his hands and kicks with his feet in sheer joy of life activity. He babbles, coos and gurgles. As soon as he can creep there is endless going to and fro. As soon as he can walk, running back and forth is exciting. Climbing up in a chair and down again, over and over—this

is lots of fun. But there is a third principle here involved; the activity must be one in which he participates, in which he gets the joy of being a cause, in which he experiences the power of control, control over some part of his bodily mechanism, some external thing or some person. The activities of creeping, of walking or climbing, previously mentioned, are not mere activities. They represent certain types of growing control over arms, legs, and hands. And while these forms of control are new they bring thrills of delight. So there is a time when a baby may take a cork out of a bottle or a cover off a box at various intervals throughout the day; and this he may do for many days, off and on, until it becomes easy and loses interest. Madame Montessori discovered that children below kindergarten age love to take pegs of different sizes out of holes and put them back again. I saw a little girl about two years of age play about an hour with cake tins. These tins had a funnel rising up in the middle. She had a grand time putting one tin inside the other and taking it out again—activity, yet not mere activity; rather doing something that was suited to a growing sense of power; interesting because new, interesting because ministering to the sense "I can do it."

The Suitability of Toys

Three principles thus far have been stated, explained and illustrated. Let us now apply these principles more explicitly to typical toys for tiny tots. First of all comes the traditional rattle. Why is this a good toy for baby? It may be of some striking color to please the eye; it yields quite a range of thrilling noises; it furnishes abundant muscular activity, and that within the range of baby's ability to control. Drums very early yield an abundance of striking sensory effects as well as furnishing easy activity. Tops are more difficult to manage, and to be satisfactory must wait for the degree of development of the hand that makes it possible for the child to operate them himself. The new sensations of buzzing noise of a top have considerable variety and to watch the great variety of motions is especially enticing to the eyes, and yet, if the child cannot operate the top himself, let me warn you that the toy may bring more grief than pleasure to the tiny tot.

The ball is a universal toy. It satisfies every physiological condition. It is easily manipulated and responds to the will of the child. It yields fascinating sensations to the eye as it moves and

rebounds like a living thing. It may be made more resplendent with color. It has endless possibilities of activity as motor control increases with growth. It may be played with alone, but it is much better as a toy for more than one. In it there is fun for every stage of growth and development, provided you remember that the game to be played with it must be suited to the child's age and ability to participate in it freely.

With the ball go all the other things that roll or can be made to roll—the hoop, the wheel, the cart, the wheelbarrow or anything else that operates mainly on rollers or wheels or that can be turned by hand, or anything that swings or slides or whirls with sufficient ease to be operated by the child himself.

The doll is also a universal toy, found among all races of man. It is universal because it satisfies all three of the fundamental principles laid down. With dolls go the various forms of animals, such as the teddy bear with movable arms and legs and head. These are attractive forms of the doll for boys. However, the more exclusive adaptation of the doll to the girl of the family, at least in early childhood, I believe is due more to suggestion from adults than to the strength of any urge inherent in sex.

The Importance of Simplicity

Repeatedly I have emphasized the importance of simplicity in toys for tiny tots. Let me develop this idea more fully. Children of this age do not notice minute details. It is the general form of the things that stands out. If you do not believe this, just watch how they draw pictures. So with dolls, they do not care about the exact proportion of parts, the proper placing of eyes, ears, nose and mouth. Minute details are bewildering; hence the little tot may be happier with an old rag doll than with the most finished product from Paris. The same is true with mechanical toys. There must be simplicity of whirling, buzzing parts. Almost all the commercial erector sets are unsuited to tiny tots for two reasons: first, the high degree of complexity of structures to be built; second, the difficulty little fingers have in manipulating the many burrs and bolts and small parts. Such toys are better suited to boys and girls from seven to ten years of age. Building blocks from time immemorial have been found suited to tiny tots. It is largely because of their simplicity and their ease of manipulation. The child can control them himself. Only the traditional cubes should be supple-

mented with other simple forms — blocks of double the length and half the thickness.

The Kitchen as a Source

While I am speaking of simplicity of toys, let me remind you that while commercial firms are meeting the demand more and more adequately with an infinite variety of ingenious toys that are very simple, nevertheless, it is not necessary to go very far from home to find a great many satisfying simple toys. Mother's kitchen is full of things that please tiny tots and at the same time are very inexpensive. A tin pan and a spoon, tin dishes to fit one inside of another, empty spools to roll, clothes pins to stand on end or to fit together, the egg-beater to turn are "treasures" for the child. A little pile of box wood furnishes endless opportunities for play. And a sand pile — well every tiny tot is entitled to a sand pile. Give him a little pail, a spoon, a funnel and an old sieve and there are hours of delight in store for him. Parents who will give a little thought to it can discover and invent endless numbers of toys for little children. Particularly is this true in a rural or semi-rural community.

Toys for Children Seven to Ten

LLse Williams in the *New Era*, an English periodical, in December 1936, tells of Christmas presents suitable for the child seven to ten.

There are games of skill which develop the physical ability—such games as punch ball, badminton, bagatelle, table tennis for the elder ones. These would be welcome gifts. So would skates, or a set of riding lessons. And for those who have a bicycle—a basket, lamp, puncture outfit. All these contribute to the child's desire to acquire skill and help him to gain control both mentally and physically.

Social play, the beginnings of which show themselves in "make believe" of every day life, in play with dolls and doll's houses, when the little girl makes the clothes and furniture from scraps of material. A completely ready-made present is unsatisfactory because the desire to create is stifled by the quantity of clothes and furniture usually

given. There is no longer phantasy play, but the interest in acquiring skill in domestic occupations as a preparation for life. This finds expression in cooking with "real—and their own" utensils, washing, gardening, painting. Small tins of paint with brush and a bottle of turpentine make a happy gift and could be used in the garden or shed for painting old garden chairs, a fence round the garden and many old boxes that are useful for storing.

Social play also shows itself in spontaneous story-play of all kinds. It is the foundation of gangs and clubs, games with trains—dramatic representations which take the form of playing out story book ideas and real experiences, seen or heard. For this, gifts of material such as cloth and old clothes, paper, paste, thread and pins are needed for dressing up, making crowns, armor, animal heads, and so on. There must be paints for the scenery—a ten-year old boy would probably like a simple toy stage for which he could make his own figures and produce his own plays, experimenting with the use of colored lights and scenic effects.

Responsibility and independence are fostered by a feeling of "my own." To possess is to take responsibility and the normal child delights in looking after his own things in an orderly way. But the parents must see to it that adequate provision is made for this, and that the child has some place to keep his treasures. Bookshelves, a small chest of drawers, a chest or store box would make a welcome present—somewhere to keep his own scissors, paste, ruler and paper; a small attaché case for traveling, however short the journey; a sewing basket, boxes for the trains or meccano. Children love nice boxes and one with a lock and key gives added joy. A pot or jug for one's own flowers makes a most acceptable gift.

(Think of the delight and satisfaction shown by the small boy who has pockets for the first time, and the little girl carrying her purse!)

Into these boxes and drawers go the children's tools, which provide further suggestions for presents. There are woodwork tools, sewing materials, paints, bottles of poster colors which give fresh

"In the present-day educational scheme, toys assume values that are positive and intrinsic. Instead of serving merely to kill time until a child is mature enough for so-called useful things, toys are now regarded as constructive tools of the growing personality. Toys of the right kind may educate just as truly as doing sums in arithmetic. They may, indeed, make demands upon a child's ingenuity and imagination, develop skills, suggest principles, arouse curiosities, and open up vistas of thought and inquiry just as legitimately as does any of these things."—From *Play and Play-things*, Child Study Association of America.

vivid color, and fat brushes, in preference to the small fine brush and hard paints of the ordinary little paint-box. A packet of large sheets of paper, plain and colored, that can be used freely at any time, rubber bands and clips, seccotine, balls of string, pencils and penknives. The care of all these develops a feeling of responsibility.

Then, too, there is the question of pets. One rather selfish, irresponsible boy of nine years was given a puppy. It needed exercise and regular feeding. He began to enjoy having something alive that would come when called, that depended on him for existence, and gradually he developed a feeling of ownership and responsibility that had hitherto been lacking.

Around seven years of age children show definite desire for constructive play, and if denied opportunity for such they grow up deficient in constructive imagination.

A box of materials, including wood, nails, tools, sandpaper, hinges and so on for a ten-year-old, supplies a growing need, and the bricks and blocks Jack and Peter (ages eight and nine) played with gave real satisfaction. So often one finds that wooden blocks are confined to the three or four year old, whereas the boy of seven or eight years, though he uses them differently from his younger brother and sister, needs them as much. They should be strong, large, and of varying size and shape such as any carpenter would supply on request and there should be planks which can be used for bridges and for paths along which small cars will run.

Tom (aged seven) had been given a ready-made toy "with nothing left for him to do," and he was beyond the stage of being content with mere activity. He was ready for meccano, jig-saw puzzles, clay and plasticene with which to express his own ideas.

To help their developing social sense, children's presents should include games of mental skill, such as card games, draughts, dominoes, snakes and ladders. During this stage from seven to ten years of age, children will in varying degrees spend long periods of time playing such games with deep concentration and enjoyment. I know a boy of nine years who insisted on playing Reversi daily for a week till he had formed a technique of his own and could nearly always win.

If a boy of eight is interested in ships, a book on ships pleases him. Books of reference begin to make their appeal now; sources in which the boy or girl can look up what he or she wants to

know—natural history books and magazines—a dictionary—an atlas to help the stamp collector. Add a book of blank pages where the child can copy his favorite poems and short stories or riddles or anything that attracts him. Robert, a boy of eight years, at his "Prep" school always had a small book with him, "because I often think of something I want to remember and I like to write poems."

Cheap exercise books are useful for writing stories or pasting interesting pictures cut out of newspapers. In this way a "bookworm" will become more active over his reading.

In choosing reading books a visit to a good bookseller would help, and if the children's interests are not known, a book token so that they can select their own is better than a bad choice.

Giving money as presents, as one is often tempted to do because one doesn't know what to give, is undesirable. Children live in the present before they can take sensible thought for the future, and to encourage thought for a possible future leads to such boasting as "I've got *so* much in the bank, how much have you got?" This is but the adult attitude reflected in the child and is neither natural nor desirable. But where the friend knows that the child wants a specific thing and would like to choose it himself, as, for instance, a pair of skates, then the money has a definite purpose which is concerned directly with today and not the distant future.

In conclusion, I would suggest that a sense of well-being should be the permanent outcome of our children's presents, so that from our gifts they will have more fun, increased responsibility (from the possession of a puppy perhaps), greater skill, through being able to say "I've learned to ride" or "I can spell everything now with my dictionary," greater imagination, wider sympathy and a love and joy in giving as well as receiving. If parents, before they are led away and bewildered by the crowded shops at Christmas time and the masses of toys displayed, will pause and think out what present will give the greatest pleasure to their children, then their Joans and Peters will not be disappointed.

"With a well chosen toy, the child will become absorbed in play. There will be evidence in his every attitude of his interest and satisfaction. A good toy fills the child's need for development by exercising those faculties which are at the time most actively growing."—*Beatrice Gelber*.

Wandering

IT WAS IN the period of the Great War, and the place of action of the Wandering Storytellers was a thriving substantial New England city that almost overnight had had its active placidity greatly interfered with by the advent of thousands of newcomers who had come to fill the demands for munition workers that the great plants had created with the onset of the war. On and on they came — Russians, Spaniards, Italians, Swedes, Norwegians, Poles and others—bringing their families and many of their customs and national likes and dislikes. Overcrowding piled on overcrowding; city limits, except on the water-bounded side, kept stretching out and out far beyond the paved and surveyed area. Jitneys bustled everywhere; crowds of unassimilated men, women, young people and children surged here and there, met other huge groups very different from themselves. Especially little children and the young boys and girls, uprooted from their native towns or cities, stood estranged in a new city which boasted of an inland and a shore-exposed park, one outstanding hotel, three or four movies, many schools, churches, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., and at that time a large barrack where almost any time one could catch glimpses of khaki-clad figures entering or going out on pleasure or duty bound.

Wise men of the city felt the restless pulse of this great mass, knew human nature well enough to be convinced that some kind of pleasure would be sought. They realized how far from adequate the supply was and saw that unless some wholesome

A former recreation worker revives memories of the wandering bands of storytellers who, during the summer, roamed the city dressed as gypsies. At Christmas time, attired in red, holly-trimmed capes, they went out into the highways and by-ways telling stories of Christmas and folk tales from foreign lands.



By HAZEL COLEY HAYMAN
Formerly Supervisor, Special Activities
Board of Recreation
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Storytellers

plan was devised the welfare of this huge cross-section of humanity, for whose presence they were in some degree responsible, would be threatened.

Out of their cogitations came the decision to ask the City Fathers for an appropriation and the authority to create a City Board of Recreation. To the City Hall went the petition, and from the City Hall came back the permission and the appropriation.

Soon the board began to function. It was spring-time, and plans for playgrounds (twenty-two in number), band concerts, beach parties and numerous other activities were launched.

Then Came the Gypsy Storytellers

“Brr-brr.” One day in early summer the telephone bell sounded at the Recreation Department. To the query “Who is calling?” came the answer, “The head of the Dramatic Expression Department of the High School.” The gist of her message was this: that from among her students she had been able to train many good storytellers and they, with her, were anxious to do their bit of war service work. And so, at her suggestion, they had volunteered to wander in pairs through the city to tell much loved and new stories to the children they met. To add the elements of color and imagery they had decided to adopt the dress of the gypsy. Then after a pause came the question, “Would the Recreation Board like to have these high school students (girls) as a volunteer part of their staff for the summer months?”

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On Twelfth Night

EIGHT YEARS ago, after years spent abroad in countries where Christmas evergreens are limited in quantity by forestry commissions, G. M. Haushalter of Rochester, New York, was troubled to see how the city threw its lavish decorations into the gutter after the holiday season. Mr. Haushalter's concern found expression in the formation of a committee to save the evergreens and give them an affectionate farewell. As a result of the activities of the committee, city trucks delivered the municipal Christmas trees and greens to a hill in a park; families sent their decorations, and children brought their own trees to place on the great mound. At nightfall on Twelfth Night the greens were set afire. As the flames rose, fragrant and crackling, boys and girls sang their forest and fire songs. A thousand voices joined in "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

It was found that the children were greatly intrigued with this festival since it prolonged Christmas into the drab winter days and acted as an antidote to the reaction which follows the usual holiday festivities.

Each year Rochester's Twelfth Night bonfire has become increasingly popular, and other cities have adopted it with enthusiasm. Inquiries have come from as far away as England where formerly Twelfth Night was a joyful festival.

Last year the San Francisco, California, Recreation Commission, following Rochester's example, planned a colorful procession for Twelfth Night to be accompanied by appropriate music. Unfortunately, due to prevailing high winds, the Fire Department felt it wise to cancel the observance two days before the scheduled date. The idea, however, had made a wide appeal, and at the time of cancellation hundreds of trees had been taken to the designated area atop Twin Peaks. Everyone liked so much the spirit of the observance that plans were made to place the trees, wreaths and greens which had been collected on a large

How do you dispose of your Christmas trees and greens when the holidays are over? Why not make their passing a veritable blaze of glory?

barge which could be towed a few hundred yards off shore at one of San Francisco's attractive beaches and set on fire. Thus the trees and the greens which had given so much pleasure were saved from the "ignominy of the refuse heap."

History of Epiphany Celebrations

Early Christians celebrated the feast of the Nativity of Christ for twelve days, placing special emphasis on the last or Twelfth Day, which was observed as the anniversary of the manifestation of Christ's divinity to the whole world, as personified by the Three Wise Men of the East.

It was not until later, some time in the fourth century, that Christmas came to be especially celebrated as the anniversary of Christ's appearance "in the flesh."

The observation of Epiphany, or Twelfth Day, as a special festival has for a long time fallen into disuse, but during the Middle Ages, and even as late as the seventh century, it was a very important holiday in the calendar.

In both England and France, Twelfth Day was celebrated with ceremonies called "the Feast of the King of the Bean." According to the tradition, a large cake was baked with a bean hidden inside it. Then at the ceremony, which was a family or community affair, the cake was cut and a piece given to each one present. The one receiving the piece containing the bean was crowned King of the Bean and preserved his regal character until midnight. In England, this was frequently varied by putting both a bean and a pea in the cake, the bean designating the king, and the pea the queen of the festival.

This festival is still observed in some sections of France where it is called "the King's Day." Evidence of its one-time popularity is found in the French proverb applying to one who has had good luck, "He has found the bean in the cake."

In Italy, the festival of Twelfth Day was celebrated

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The facts which we are presenting in this article regarding the history of Epiphany observances were assembled by Norman M. Howser of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. The material was forwarded by Mr. Haushalter to Miss Josephine Randall of the San Francisco Recreation Commission who sent it to the National Recreation Association.

Let's Decorate!

SHOULD a recreation center be decorated for beauty's sake, or is it merely a place in which youth and adults may romp and play without regard to the appearance of their surroundings? As our educational level is raised we constantly ask for more of the finer and more cultural things, the so-called luxuries. Education means culture; culture means refinement, and refinement is more likely to exist in reasonably attractive surroundings. These surroundings need not be elegant, but at least they should be satisfying. Leisure and refinement will give much larger returns to the individual than if the surroundings are barren and crude. Hence we may claim with doubtless justification that a recreational program will be more effective in an attractively appointed recreation center.

On the other hand, decoration should not be thought of as mere beautification. To insure defensible educational results, this decoration should go much deeper. It should serve as the medium both for developing refinement and for encouraging self-expression on the part of all who come within its influence. It has long been recognized that the child who makes his own toys will not only enjoy them more completely but have a more lasting affection for them than will the child whose toys are all of the expensive type provided without any effort on his own

A plea for the decoration of recreation centers with articles which will be the expression, in some creative form, of the ideas of those attending the center

By **WILLIAM RALPH LAPORTE**
Professor of Physical Education
University of Southern California

part. This is equally true of all phases of artistic expression. Neither child or adult can gain as complete satisfaction from observing or making use of the completed work of another creative artist as he can through some completed expression medium of his own.

A recent newspaper article carries the description of a home-made orchestra with each child, under the encouragement of his

teacher, building some kind of musical instrument through his own efforts. Without question, each of these children will gain far more in creative interest from his participation in such an orchestra than he would from a similar group equipped with prepared instruments.

All of this is by way of introduction to the thought that a recreation center should be decorated as far as possible through the medium of the creative, expressive hobbies, particularly in the field of creative arts. In most cases, however, such handiwork is exhibited for the observation of others only on very rare occasions. Why

shouldn't it be possible to keep a continuous exhibit in each recreation center of the handiwork of members? Many of the more hesitant and backward individuals who have native talent would thus have an opportunity for expression and others would see and recognize their abilities.

(Continued on page 536)



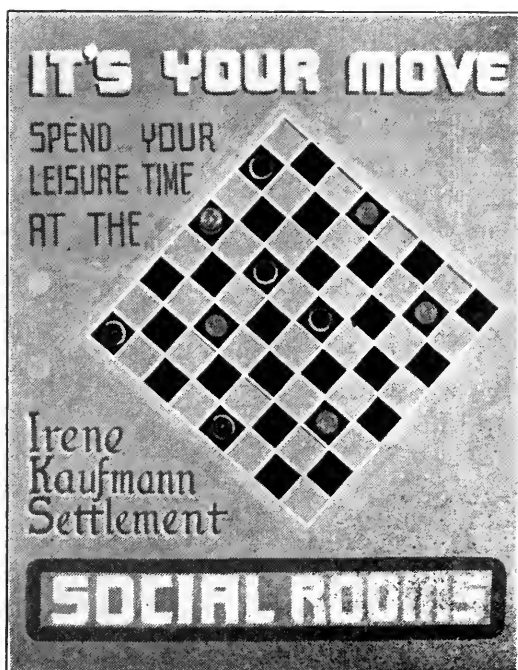
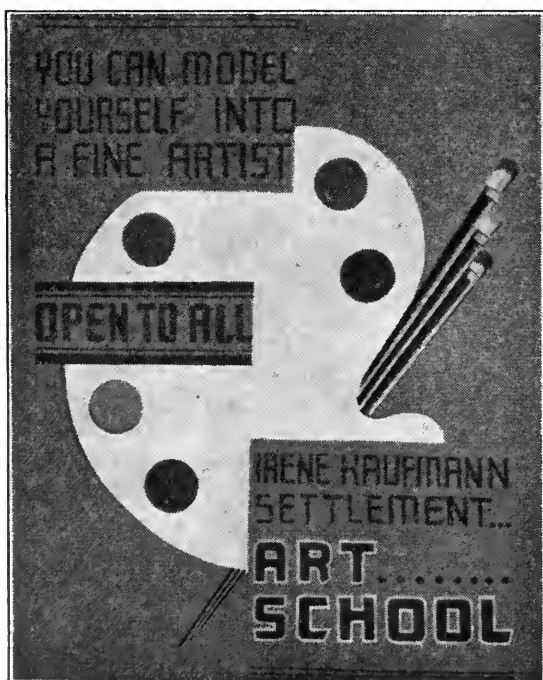
Photo by W. A. Moss, Kodak Ltd., England

Advertising Your Center's Activities



THE IRENE KAUFMANN SETTLEMENT of Pittsburgh, Pa., advertises its activities through an attractive series of postals. A number of the postals are reproduced here through the cour-

tesy of Sidney Teller, Director of the Settlement. At the bottom of each postal appear the address of the Settlement and an invitation to join the activity pictured on the card.



That Amazing Golf

By FRANKLIN L. BURDETTE

Department of Politics
Princeton University

GOLF," SAYS Estelle Lawson Page, women's national champion in 1937, "is the coming game of America."

From an acknowledged even if self-taught expert, that statement might be regarded as prejudiced. Whatever one's opinion of its worth, it remains a fact that there is more interest in golf today than ever before; new courses are being built and new devotees, old and young, are daily being recruited. Most players, without thought of the glamour of championship matches, are interested in the pure joy of golf, in the magnificent sweep of the outdoors, in the high adventure of play in the open.

Mrs. Page, youthful, robust, and determined, is a symbol for American womanhood, and perhaps a challenge for American manhood, of the possibilities of golf as a hobby, golf without profit, but as a builder of health and a never-failing opportunity for recreation. Mrs. Page has had no instruction in golf, but with a few years of practice and a tremendous interest in the finesse of the game, she is today one of America's premier golfers among women. Having achieved the coveted title of the nation's championship, she has demonstrated irrefutably that golf can be played, and played gloriously, without professional instruction.

Golf lessons can be made as simple or as elaborate as the pupil is minded. Beginners who have a constricted purse are ever conscious of the green fees. But practice, and effective practice, can be had without seeing a golf course. Putting (rolling the ball into a cup) is commonly practiced on one's lawn or even on one's carpet. But Mrs. Page, in the back yard of her home in North Carolina's picturesque university town of Chapel Hill, also developed her swing. She adopted the resourceful expedient of tying between two trees a bit of canvas measuring perhaps fifteen feet each way. Against this "backboard" she

"There is no 'secret' to playing golf well any more than there is to throwing a baseball, or playing a piano. . . . Good golf is easy to play, and easy golf is enjoyable golf."—Ernest Jones in *Swinging into Golf*.

drove her balls until she had acquired near-perfection in balance and timing. Such an expedient can be used by any novice, and it is not necessary to obtain an expensive set of clubs, or even many clubs. Practice balls, too, may be bought quite cheaply, and even a reconditioned ball is serviceable. For that matter, the beginner may profit by borrowing or renting his clubs and balls till he has tested his in-

terest in the game.

Practice, then, is quite practicable before the student golfer has seen a course. Familiarity with the rules, too, is simple: copies of golf rules may be obtained at a nominal price from any golf association and from many clubs.

In choosing a course for his first play, the golfer can exercise further discrimination in economy. If there is a municipal or other public course nearby, fees there are likely to be moderate. Once on the course, the golfer will probably develop his skill most rapidly if he tries to play with those who are better than he.

Golf as a game has advantages peculiar to itself. Unlike tennis and other strenuous games, it need not be abandoned as years advance and frailties increase. The aged may well avoid hilly and treacherous courses, but they can still play, and even the infirm can find sunshine, exercise, and amusement on the putting greens. For the strong or the feeble, golf is a health-giving activity, and it is often used as a complete bodily exercise by persons who would take no other form at all. It has frequently been prescribed for the relief of nervous tension, for it gives satisfying mechanical expression to those who deal with ideas and figures. From one to four may play, and consequently no golfer need bother, unless he chooses, to find a competitor.

Doubtless it is no sin that most players of golf are aware of the social advan-

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"There is no reason why anyone with ordinary physical qualifications cannot learn to play golf well, given the opportunity to approach it in a sensible and intelligent way, and assuming that he is willing to give the time and effort necessary to practice. Not all can or will develop the same degree of skill with the same amount of effort. . . . Yet to a considerable extent in all cases one gets out of the game what one puts into it."—Ernest Jones in *Swinging into Golf*.

The Community Theater at Lancaster

IN PREPARING for the drama institute held at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, last spring and summer, the local Recreation and Playground Association enrolled approximately a hundred young people, many of whom were doing dramatic work in their churches and clubs and others who were interested in various phases of play production.

At the beginning of the institute three classes a week were held covering such subjects as Organization of the Production Staff, Play Analysis and Rehearsal, Acting Technique, Theater Make-up, Pantomime, Direction Hints, Acting Principles, Color and Stage Lighting, the Speaking Voice, Costuming, Scenery, Plays, Rehearsals, Books on the Theater, Religious Drama, Radio Drama, Motion Picture Drama and Marionettes. As the interest increased it was necessary to hold several classes in special phases of drama at different times during the day.

The institute culminated in a two night drama festival at which a number of one-act plays were

By GRANT D. BRANDON
Director of Recreation
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

As the result of the institute held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, under the leadership of Jack Stuart Knapp, the drama specialist of the National Recreation Association, a group of community players was organized and a drama program inaugurated which each week grows in interest. Mr. Brandon tells in this article about the institute and the values for a permanent community program which came from it.

given by the students. The plays produced were: "Nearer My God to Thee," "Esception," "Four Hundred Nights," "Boccaccio's Untold Tale," and "The Doctor Comes from Moscow."

The institute was held in the Diagnothian Literary Hall of our Franklin and Marshall College. This hall, with no facilities for drama, was converted into a theater, and experience was gained not only in the production of these project plays but in the art of stagecraft, lighting, and other technical

problems.

A Permanent Group Organized

As a direct outgrowth of the institute we now have the Community Theater of Lancaster, a small group of twenty-one charter members and a governing board of six. This executive committee is composed of a chairman elected by the executive committee, a secretary, a treasurer, and three others. In addition to these regular officers, every member of the committee

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The Community Theater of Lancaster in a presentation of "To Meet the Prince," by A. A. Milne



Extracurricular Leisure Time Activities

Report of a study of the reaction of high school students to extracurricular recreation activities

By T. EARL SULLENGER, Ph.D.
Professor of Sociology
Municipal University of Omaha

THE FIRST ITEM of interest considered in the recent study made in the high schools of Omaha, Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa, is an enumeration of the students' recreation activities.

†Sixty-one different forms of recreation were mentioned. †For the boys, the largest number indicated that dancing, baseball, basketball, football, golf, reading and swimming led the list. †For girls, dancing was by far the largest group, representing nearly one-third; swimming, a close second. Hiking, skating, tennis and reading were the next largest groups. More twelfth grade girls than eleventh graders were interested in reading and swimming. More of the twelfth grade than eleventh grade boys preferred dancing. The same was true in respect to swimming. †In general, the twelfth graders of both sexes were interested in recreation activities which afforded them an opportunity to associate with the opposite sexes. The eleventh grade age is characterized more by group activities of the same sex.

‡As to hobbies, one would not anticipate so many different interests, yet ninety-five different hobbies were mentioned on the replies. Airplane modeling was the activity most frequently mentioned by the eleventh grade boys. Needlework received the highest vote by the girls, especially the twelfth graders. About ten per cent of the girls gave music as their hobbies. Reading and scrap books also rated high among girls. Eighteen per cent of the girls and ten per cent of the boys stated that they were interested in collections of various kinds. The list included stamps, photos, autographs, coins, perfume bottles, handkerchiefs, match covers, match sticks, chewing gum wrappers and many others. The entire list of hobbies represented diversified interests which might serve as a basis to determine talents and special "bents" in human personalities. Dolls and pets received the lowest vote.

This article is the result of an analysis of the reaction of 667 boys and girls of the eleventh and twelfth grades of high schools in Omaha, Nebraska, and Council Bluffs, Iowa. Replies were recorded to a questionnaire pertaining to recreation, hobbies, athletics, clubs and school parties. The results secured represent a cross section of the activities of modern youth in their most active period of life.

For the 151 eleventh grade girls, 214 twelfth grade girls, 124 eleventh grade boys and 178 twelfth grade boys, we found that the distribution of club membership was as follows: Eleventh grade girls—62.3%; eleventh grade boys—52.4%; twelfth

grade girls—71.5%, and twelfth grade boys—50%. †It is noticed that there is a steady decrease of club membership among boys as they ascend the academic scale, while there is a marked increase with the girls. This is to be expected, as it is the natural tendency. Seventy-three different clubs were listed. The Motor Club seemed to attract the largest number of the students studied. Hi Y came next in importance.

‡This group was asked what type of clubs were best liked. †Their replies indicated that educational, social and dramatic types were the favorites. The general distribution is as follows:

	<i>Social</i>	<i>Educational</i>
11th Grade Girls	52.6%	17.2%
11th Grade Boys	43.6%	24.2%
12th Grade Girls	52.8%	32.3%
12th Grade Boys	41.6%	23.3%

‡The girls showed much more interest in social clubs than did the boys. The twelfth grade girls showed an increase in interest in educational clubs, while twelfth grade boys showed a small decrease. †Among the definite types of clubs receiving the largest number of votes as being best liked were athletic, character building, fraternities, sororities, aviation, debate, discussion, music and many others.

High school students are in the period of development which calls for social expression. Their club life serves as one very important outlet for this expression. This value naturally comes first, the educational value, as such, ranking second. Frequently the latter serves as a means to the end—the social. This characteristic is in order with normal development. Our insti-

tutions would do well to recognize this fact and plan their activities accordingly.

This study attempted to determine the desires of the high school student along this line. They were asked if they would like to belong to more clubs in school if it were possible. Their replies were as follows:

Class and Sex	Yes	No	Percent Desiring More
11th Grade Girls..	113	26	74.8
11th Grade Boys..	79	29	63.6
12th Grade Girls..	134	58	62.6
12th Grade Boys..	99	60	55.6

There seemed to be a general desire for additional clubs on the part of all, especially the eleventh grade girls. The numerical distribution of their desires was as follows:

Type of Club	11th Grade Girls	11th Grade Boys	12th Grade Girls	12th Grade Boys
Any kind	8	8	12	11
Educational	19	23	37	25
Social	32	14	40	24
Dramatic	14	1	13	7
Recreational	1	1	3	0
Musical	1	1	0	0
Public Speaking ...	1	4	9	2
Sororities	2	0	4	0
Fraternities	0	2	0	2
Hobby	1	0	0	0
Character building ...	0	2	0	4

✕ Young people are not satisfied with passive activities. They want clubs and organizations that call for activities in the form of individual and group participation. This same group of nearly 700 young people were asked if they preferred clubs that offered opportunities for discussion. Their replies indicated that 63.8% of the eleventh grade boys were strongly in favor of an opportunity to carry on individual discussions, while 51.7% of the same grade girls were of the same opinion. The twelfth graders were not so sure, as only 49.1% of the girls and 48.3% of the boys favored more discussion.

This same group was asked a question concerning their attendance at school parties. The eleventh grade girls led the affirmative column with 15.5%, while the boys of this grade dropped to 59.7%. The twelfth grade group did not rate so highly in attendance as the eleventh graders. The girls led off with 64%, while only 53.4% of the boys attended the school parties. Of the 527 students who expressed their desires for additional school parties, 422,

or 80%, said that they favored more of these events. Most of them desired mixed parties; especially was this true with the girls.

The question frequently arises as to the frequency of attendance of the high school students at the athletic events sponsored by the school. The replies showed that of the group studies, 87.4% of the eleventh grade girls, 91.6% of the boys, and 84.6% of the twelfth grade girls and 87.6% of the boys attended the athletic events. The percent of participation did not rate so high. Only 35.8% of the eleventh grade girls and 56.5% of the boys participated, while 35.1% of the twelfth grade girls and only 42.3% of the boys took part. ✕ Actual participation in the athletic activities seem to reach far less than half. The main activities participated in by the girls were swimming, baseball, basketball, golf, and tennis, with tennis and swimming heading the list. The boys were more active in baseball, basketball, golf, football, track and wrestling. Many of the minor activities were mentioned by a few individuals.

This study indicated the various phases of leisure time activities that need the most emphasis in our modern high schools. No doubt a well organized leisure time program would be one of our most important assets in our public school system.

“The child should devote more time to healthful, satisfying play and recreation. This includes out-of-door play, swimming, hikes, camping, fishing, music, art, dramatics, puppet shows, dancing, reading for enjoyment, and many other similar activities. Again, many of these activities would take place outside of the school building and off the school grounds. Today teachers, supervisors and administrators think there is no time for such activities because there has to be an arithmetic lesson every day, a spelling lesson, a reading lesson, and so on through the long list of school subjects. Actually, we are inhibited by tradition, by fear that children would fail to get educated. . . We refuse to recognize that these omitted activities are educative, and that children actually are not being educated owing to our failure to include these activities in the program.”—*Alonzo F. Meyers* in “Public Education Bulletin,” Pennsylvania.

“It is natural for youth to search out those channels through which they may demonstrate their capacity to accomplish something which they may call their own. This is why they are so deeply interested in extracurricular activities where success depends almost entirely upon what they themselves are capable of doing and where they are greatly stimulated by the discovery of their own unobserved talents awaiting development.”—Otis E. Randall, Dean of Brown University in *School and Society*, January 8, 1938.

Square Dancing in College

By AILEEN CARPENTER
Southern Illinois State Normal University
Carbondale, Illinois

ALTHOUGH Chicago means Illinois to the average individual, those who have spent a little time in the Southern part of the state, who have turned off the hard roads of "Little Egypt" onto the often single tracked lanes of our thirty-mile stretch of Ozark foothills, or have visited a few of our famous old river towns such as Cave-in-Rock or Shawneetown, know that we have a country vastly different from the Illinois which Chicago represents. Here, as Miss Saylor says of the country dances from Alabama to Arkansas, "The dances of our fathers are living today."

In small towns and rural communities a family frequently "gives it out" the afternoon of the dance and the message is so quickly relayed that neighbors from miles around come to dance in the house or barn or on a platform built for the purpose. That square dancing is a vigorous, lively and thoroughly enjoyable form of recreation has been demonstrated conclusively in Southern Illinois State Normal University. For more than three years two student groups on our campus have sponsored square dancing one evening a week with parties several times during the year. Students who have danced and "called" in their home communities in Southern Illinois have taught their dances to the group, which has grown from approximately twenty to around one hundred regular participants. Several students—old-timers at playing "Turkey in the Straw" and the like—formed an orchestra consisting of violin, banjo and guitar. To these was soon added a washboard, the player of which wore thimbles on index and middle fingers of each hand in order to strum the board effectively.

Each fall the group has re-organized through the efforts of students who took part in the dancing the previous year. This year again the group danced all through the hot spring weather to a grand finale, the third of its kind, held out of doors the last week-end of the term.

Delegates to the National Recreation Congress held at Pittsburgh in October greatly enjoyed the evening of square dancing led by Ralph B. Tefferteller of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee. Other leaders also taught square dancing during the Congress sessions; and so keen was the interest that the National Recreation Association is making available in bulletin form a list of the dances taught together with source material and various other facts of interest. Copies of this bulletin may be secured on request.

Several of our dances are similar to those described in the few publications on square dancing available.

Invariably, however, differences occur. Even within our own group students from communities not more than sixty miles apart danced the same quadrille in a different way. The collecting of these dances from descriptions given by various students has been an interesting undertaking.

The couplets interspersed with the real calls are typical "running fire" of the caller who is practically never quiet. A few of our most popular couplets follow:

Couplets

- "Chicken in the bread pan kicking out dough—
Do-si your partner and a little more dough."
- "Stay at home and shake your shoe—
Swing your partner, corner too."
- "Meet your partner, pat her on the head—
If she don't like biscuits, feed her cornbread."
- "Dance, dance, everybody dance—you dance, too—
You swing a pretty and a pretty swing you."
- "Once and a half, how do you like that?
Hogs in the cornfield getting mighty fat."
- "Everybody dance and hammer down eggs,
Swing on the corner like a hinge on the gate."
- "Meet your partner, pass her by—
You love women, so do I."
- "Next old boy, you know your load—
Light team, heavy load."
- "Just a few more days and it won't be long,
You'll look for me and I'll be gone."
- "Meet your partner, pat her on the back—
If she don't like biscuits, feed her slapjack."
- "Oh, my goodness! Oh, my gracious!
My little wagon has gone to pieces."
- "Same old boy and same old mule—

Same old boy and same old fool."

"Everybody home and everybody dance—
Swing that girl with the hole in her stocking."

"Whatcha going to do when the river goes dry?
Sit on the bank and watch the crawfish die."

"Watch your partner, watch her close—
She's got fever, double dose."

"Swing 'em high and swing 'em low—
Swing that piece of calico."

Preliminaries or Introduction

The preliminaries are used at the beginning of the dance and after each couple has finished a figure, before the next couple starts out. The remarks in single quotation marks are not essential parts of the call.

"Partners in your places, hitch up your traces," or "Circle eight and all get straight."

The quadrille (usually eight) forms with ladies at the right of their partners.

"Join hands, circle left."

All dance to the left. The step varies with the individual. A jig two-step is common.

"Circle back, drop hands, lady lead, men in track." or "Break the line, ladies in the lead, gentlemen behind."

Drop hands, dance in the opposite direction so that the lady is ahead of her partner.

"Stand still and shake your shoe,
Swing your partner, corner too."

The partners take regular dance position (hereafter implied in "two arm swing"). They swing once around then the gentleman gives his left hand to the lady at his left, his "corner," and swings her once around.

"Right and wrong as you go through." Or, "Grand right and left."

Partners give right hands to each other then progress in the direction they are facing (ladies go clockwise, gentlemen go counter clockwise) giving alternate left and right hands until they meet their own partners again.

03

"Milk that cow and wean that calf—"
Swing your honey once and a half."
Partners swing in two arm swing.

X4

04

"Two arm swing"

Partners progress in opposite directions as in Grand Right and

X3

02

X2

01

X1

Fig. 1

Left, but this time each couple swings before going on.

"Promenade" or "Run away home."

When partners meet again they join hands in skaters' position and dance back to the position from which they started.

"Face Six, Cross the Hall"

Preliminaries

"First couple out, by the right, back by the left, don't forget that two arm swing." Or "First couple out, do-si by the right, by the left, two arm swing."

The head couple step forward slightly. The gentleman dances past the lady, touching her right hand, back past her, touching her left hand, then takes her in a dancing position for the two arm swing.

"Take that lady and circle four."

The head couple makes a circle with the second couple and they dance once around.

"Leave that lady and circle three."

The head man leaves his partner with couple two, goes to the third couple with whom he dances once around.

"Take that lady and circle four."

The head man takes the lady of the third couple, leaving her partner alone, she must hesitate a moment so she will be at his right. These two hook up with the fourth couple and dance once around.

"Leave that lady."

Gentleman leaves the lady of couple three with couple four, and faces the gentleman of couple three. (See Fig. 1.)

"Face six, center and back."

The groups of three are facing each other. They dance forward and back.

"Two lil' gentlemen center and back."

The head man and third man dance forward and back.

"Face six, cross the hall."

The groups of three change positions by dancing across the hall. Ladies of first and third couple lead.

"Two lil' gentlemen cross the hall."

Gentlemen one and three change places. (See Fig. 2.)

Repeat above four calls so they are all back as at first.

"Dance, dance, everybody dance."

Partners dance.

"Promenade your left hand lady."

Each gentleman takes lady to his left once around the ring, stopping when he is back home.

The dance continues with the first gentleman leading out with a different lady each time until each man has his own partner. Each couple serves as head couple before the end of the dance.

Bird in the Cage

Preliminaries

"First couple out, by the right, by the left, two arm swing."

Gentleman of first couple dances past his lady, touching her right hand, dances back, touching her left hand, swings her around once.

"Hook up four."

First couple joins hands with second couple and dances around.

"Left hand lady come right hand round."

Gentleman gives his right hand to the lady on his left, not his partner, and they swing once around.

"Right hand lady come left hand back."

Gentleman gives his left hand to his own partner and they swing once around.

"Don't forget that two arm swing."

Gentleman swings opposite lady with two arm swing, then swings his own partner with two arm swing.

"Couple up four" as before.

"Bird in the cage."

Lady of leading couple steps into the center; other three dance around her.

"Bird flew out and owl flew in."

Lady steps back into the circle and her partner steps in.

"Whoop ol' owl and gone again!"

The gentleman steps back into his place in the circle.

"Hook up six and don't you mix."

The four now dancing join the third couple and all dance.

"Bird in the cage."

As above, lady in, out; gentleman in, out.

"Hook up eight and all get straight."

Add couple four and then repeat "Bird in the Cage," etc.

"Everybody swing and everybody dance."

Each gentleman swings his own partner. Then they dance the preliminaries and the second couple leads out with this figure again or changes figures.

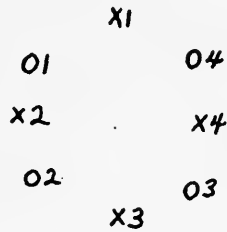


Fig. 2

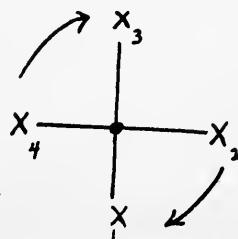


Fig. 3

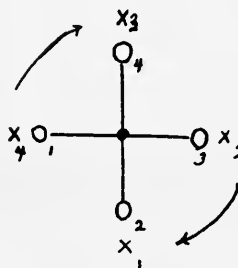


Fig. 4

"Form a Star"

Preliminaries

"Ladies to the center and back to the bar."

Ladies dance to the center of the circle and back.

"Gentlemen to the center and form a star."

Gentlemen dance into the center, join right hands with opposite gentlemen and dance around clockwise. (See Fig. 3.)

"Left hands back and star you are."

Gentlemen drop right hands, swing around so left hands are joined and dance counter clockwise.

"Pass your partner by one."

Gentlemen dance around, pass partner, hook right arm with left arm of the next girl who thus joins in the dance.

"Ladies swing in and gents swing out."

Gentlemen drop hands, ladies swing in, join right hands and all dance clockwise. Gentlemen are now on the outside of the circle.

(See Fig. 4.)

"Circle eight"

All fall back into a circle, each gentleman with a new lady.

Repeat until partners are back together again by calling "Pass your partner by two, three, etc." If there is still time repeat the preliminaries and let the ladies form the original star.

"Grapevine Twist"

Preliminaries

"First couple out, by the right, back by the left, don't forget that two arm swing."

Gentleman of first couple dances past his partner, touching her right hand, back, touching her left hand, and then swings her.

"Come around, lady, come around straight,

Come around the gentleman and cut the figure eight."

The gentleman, followed by his partner, dances between the second couple, around the lady, between them again and around the gentleman. (See Fig. 5.)

"Hook up four."

The first and second couple join hands and dance once around.

"You swing mine and I'll swing yours, I'll swing mine and you swing yours."

Gentleman swings lady on his left, then his own partner, then first lady in two arm swing, then his own partner in the same way.

"Hook up four."

Again first and second couple join hands and dance around.

"Come around the lady, come around straight—etc."

Headman leads the line of four between couple three, around the lady, between, and around the gentleman.

"Hook up six, and don't you mix."

All six join hands and dance once around.

"You swing mine—etc."

Gentlemen swing ladies on their lefts, then their own, two arm swing in the same order.

"Hook up six."

All six join hands and dance once around.

"Come around lady, come around straight—etc."

Head gentleman leads line between couple four around lady, between, and around gentleman.

"Hook up eight."

All eight join hands and dance once around.

"You swing mine and I'll swing yours—etc."

Same as when six joined hands.

Grapevine Twist:

The head man breaks the circle by dropping hands with the lady on his left, leads the line under the raised hands of his partner and the

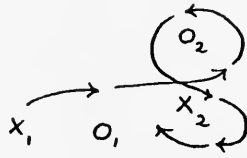


Fig. 5

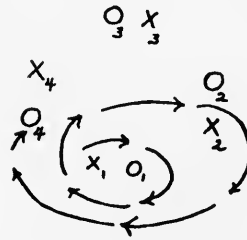


Fig. 6

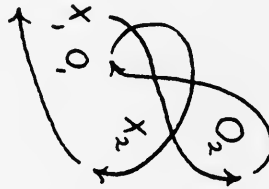


Fig. 7

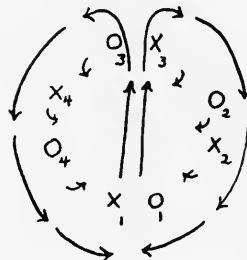


Fig. 8

gentleman to her right (second gentleman) around and under the raised hands of the second couple, around and under each succeeding pair of hands, until he and the line following have passed under the arms of each couple.

(See Fig. 6.)

Preliminaries and repeat with second couple leading out.

"Figure Eight"

Preliminaries

"First couple out, by the right, by the left, two arm swing."

As previously described.

"Come around the lady, come around straight,

Come around the gentleman and cut the figure eight."

As described in the Grapevine Twist — or

"Round that lady —

Whoa, haw, gee, back, around that man."

Head gentleman leads partner between second couple, around lady, dances round in a circle making the second loop then between couple and around the man.

(See Fig. 7.)

"Hook up four."

All four join hands and dance around.

"Left hand lady come right hand round, right hand lady come left

hand back."

As described in Bird in the Cage.

"Hook up four."

As before.

Repeat calls from "Come around lady —" adding each succeeding couple to the line. In each case the head man leads the line around the lady, back and around the man. When all eight are hooked up for the second time they do the Cow-boy Loop:

First couple leads forward across the circle (all still holding hands) and go under the arms of the pair across from them, drop hands and the lady leads her line around to the right, the gentleman

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Federal and State Planning for Recreation

CONRAD L. WIRTH is Supervisor of Recreation and Land Planning of the National Park Service in charge of the Branch of Recreation, Land Planning and State Cooperation. He is the administrative officer of the Service immediately in charge of Civilian Conservation Corps work in national parks and monuments, state, county, and metropolitan parks and recreation areas. As a member of the Advisory Council of the CCC, he represents the entire Department of the Interior in its relations with the Civilian Conservation Corps.

National Park Service activities which center in Mr. Wirth's branch and come under his supervision include several important programs through which Federal cooperation is extended to the States in the field of recreation. Among these is the Park, Parkway and Recreational-Area Study which is being made in every state under authority granted by Congress in 1936. The object of this Study is to make an inventory of existing and potential park, parkway and recreation areas, facilities, and programs, and, from analyses of these data, to formulate recommendations for long-term recreational programs for the States. The United States Tourist Bureau, organized in February, 1937, is also part of the Branch of Recreational Planning and State Cooperation. Through this Bureau the Service aims to assist recreational travel by coordinating travel information from all sources and developing new and more extensive methods of circulating information to the public.



The task of administering the machinery through which the National Park Service of the Federal Government cooperates with the States in certain important areas of the field of recreation carries with it heavy responsibilities. Conrad L. Wirth is the official responsible for this task.

Mr. Wirth was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and was graduated from Massachusetts Agricultural College. For many years he lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where his father, Theodore Wirth, was superintendent of parks, and claims Minnesota as his "home state." Before his appointment to the National Park Service as an assistant director in 1931, he was associated with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission where his work was of an executive nature in connection with the acquisition of land for the

park system of Washington, D. C. His familiarity with parks — national and state — fits him particularly well to deal with that part of the CCC program under technical supervision of the National Park Service, and with the broad recreational activities of the

Service which come under his branch.

"Action compelled by emergency often produces an awakening to human problems which otherwise would await solution too long delayed. There have been many such instances in our national history, and some of the most important movements bearing on the development of American life grew out of circumstances or conditions which forced an issue and set in motion a chain of events leading finally to organized and planned procedure.

"In exactly such manner has the present park and recreation movement in the United States gained momentum until we now find ourselves at a point of departure from which we must carefully and intelligently chart our course if we are to give the Nation a program adequate to meet its needs."

Music and t



Courtesy Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department

THE PROGRAM of recreational activities of the Los Angeles, California, Department of Playground and Recreation is closely correlated with the curricular and extracurricular program of the public schools. The Department supplements the work of the public schools in leisure-time activities, and endeavors to organize and provide leadership in activities in which young people have already acquired interest and enthusiasm because of the splendid program of the public schools.

In no activity is this plan better illustrated than in music. In the past two decades the public schools have developed an extensive program of music. Many students graduate from high school with years of experience in playing in bands and orchestras and singing in glee clubs. The Department is seeking to capitalize this experience for the benefit of the community by organizing music groups of many kinds. Many of these groups have volunteer leaders, for certain talented musicians find their recreation in leading as others do in playing an instrument or singing. Groups are open to all and are graded according to skill.

Among the most interesting of the groups are four young people's choruses and one symphony orchestra, all of them composed entirely of recent graduates of local high schools. They meet weekly and they are usually engaged in preparing for concerts or musical performances. Such groups offer those who have persisted in musical endeavor through the high school and college years

an opportunity to continue without interruption the splendid training received in the schools.

Each year new groups are formed. More and more musically educated young people are fed into the music activities of the community, and by this process, because the framework of organization has been perfected, the Department looks forward to a much more extensive community music program in Los Angeles.

The success of the so-called alumni music groups is due chiefly, it is believed, to two factors. One is that only recent graduates of high school are eligible and these groups are composed almost entirely of those who have not continued their education in college or university. The fact that they are all of comparatively one age means that they find great pleasure in being together and that many find social activities developed as a by-product of the plan.

The second factor which should be emphasized is that only the best type of leadership can be considered for these groups. The leader must not only be competent musically but must have had experience in handling young people. It has been advantageous to enlist the teachers of high school music on a part-time basis for leadership in the alumni music groups as this insures leadership familiar with the problems of youth, and provides the necessary liaison between the community and the school programs.

After several years of operation leaders among the young people themselves are emerging. Some of these have organized groups of their own from the alumni groups. One young leader has been so successful that he has been given a part-time appointment to organize another alumni chorus in a near-by neighborhood. The department anticipates more and more of such leadership to be developed through the activity.

The Individual Groups

The amateur music groups now active in Los Angeles include four large choruses of which three are alumni—the Los Angeles Civic Chorus composed of three hundred men and women of varying ages, the Choral Crafters Chorus of forty-five, the symphonic chorus or choir to which approximately forty-five Alumni belong, and the Rhapsodians which boasts of an equal number of

e Municipal Recreation Program

members. There is also a symphony orchestra whose members are alumni.

The original chorus was the Los Angeles Civic Chorus previously organized as a civic body which was transferred some years ago to the Recreation Department where it has been developing to its present large membership and national standing, especially in broadcasting, and is also used for singing in many civic and playground programs.

The activities of the groups consist of weekly rehearsal meetings at various playground centers when preparation is made for the presentation of operas, concerts and other programs. The programs are put on at playground centers or in school auditoriums for which a small admission is charged to cover the cost of production, any surplus which may accrue being turned into the general fund of each group. Membership drives are carried on by the different groups through dances or social get-togethers to which friends of the members are invited. This results in interesting many to become members.

Among other music groups which should be mentioned are the Exposition Orchestra of ten boys and girls between ten and fifteen years of age; the Concert Orchestra made up of twenty-five men and

women; the Boys' Hollywood Trumpeteers of twenty-four boys; and the Barnsdall-Harvard Recreation and Opera Club with thirty-eight members. In addition, there are two radio clubs and a number of harmonica bands, toy bands and whistling groups.

The expense to the Playground and Recreation Department in maintaining the groups lies in the following: salaries of the chorus and orchestra directors; supervision of activities; the supplying of weekly meeting quarters; the furnishing of a part of the music used and the guaranteeing of production budgets and meeting of any deficit in attendance receipts. The department also loans musical instruments belonging to the department if the players do not own their own instruments.

As an example of the type of musical performance given on September 17th in the Griffiths Park outdoor Greek Theater the department presented a program in commemoration of Constitution Day which was called the "Festival of Song and Music." Over four hundred members of chorus, orchestra and radio club groups sponsored by the department participated in the festival which was a splendid artistic success. Many selections of sacred, patriotic and classical music were rendered. The com-

(Continued on page 538)

The Girls' Municipal Orchestra at Wilkes-Barre ready for a concert



Society of Recreation Workers of America

ON OCTOBER 3rd, 1938, the organization of the employed recreation workers was completed with the unanimous adoption of a constitution, and on October 6th officers were elected, again unanimously. The fine cooperative spirit in which problems were faced and worked out will long be remembered. With reason, the recreation workers were proud of what they had accomplished. There had been full opportunity for discussion and finally unanimous votes.

V. K. Brown had served as Chairman of the Steering Committee and Arthur T. Noren as Secretary. F. S. Mathewson had given much leadership to working out the constitution.

The other members of the Steering Committee were: W. Duncan Russell, Boston, Mass.; George Hjelte, Los Angeles, Calif.; Josephine Blackstock, Oak Park, Ill.; Charles H. English, Philadelphia, Pa.; W. C. Cammack, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Kathryn Krieg, Des Moines, Iowa; A. O. Anderson, St. Louis, Mo.; Josephine Randall, San Francisco, Calif.; Ernest Johnson, St. Paul, Minn.; J. J. Syme, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Tam Deering, Cincinnati, Ohio; Nash Higgins, Tampa, Fla.; C. R. Wood, Durham, N. C., and the Secretary of the National Recreation Association. The members of the Nominating Committee were: Charles H. English, Kathryn Krieg, and Raymond W. Robertson.

At the October 6th, 1938 meeting the officers and geographical representatives elected were:

President, V. K. Brown, Director of Recreation, Chicago Park District, Chicago, Ill.

First Vice-President, George Hjelte, Superintendent, Department of Playgrounds and Recreation, Los Angeles, Calif.

Second Vice-President, Dorothy C. Enderis, Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee, Wis.

Secretary, Arthur T. Noren, Superintendent of Recreation, Elizabeth, N. J.

Treasurer, Lewis Barrett, Coordinator and Executive Secretary, District of Columbia Recreation Committee, Washington, D. C.

It is suggested that recreation workers interested in securing a copy of the constitution of the Society of Recreation Workers of America or desiring further information regarding the organization communicate with Arthur T. Noren, Secretary, at City Hall, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Geographical Representatives

New England—Ernest Hermann, Superintendent of Playgrounds, West Newton, Mass.; J. S. Stevens, Superintendent of Recreation, Greenwich, Conn.

Mid-Atlantic—John V. Smith, Acting Chief, Bureau of Recreation, Department of Public Welfare, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. S. Callowhill, Executive Director, Playground Athletic League, Baltimore, Md.

Canada—Eastern—William Bowie, Executive Secretary Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada; J. J. Syme, Superintendent of Playgrounds, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Canada—Western—Ian Eisenhardt, Department of Education, British Columbia, Canada; George Ward, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

East Central—C. E. Brewer, Commissioner of Recreation, Detroit, Mich.; Russell J. Foval, Superintendent of Recreation, Alton, Ill.

South Eastern—R. S. Marshall, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Birmingham, Ala.; K. Mark Cowen, Director of Parks and Recreation, Roanoke, Va.

South Western—Lucyle Godwin, Director of Recreation, Monroe, La.; Ralph H. Schulze, Superintendent of Recreation, Waco, Texas.

Mid-Western—Ernest W. Johnson, Superintendent of Playgrounds, St. Paul, Minn.; R. K. Bliss, Director, Extension Service, Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Ames, Iowa; Frank C. Kammerlohr, Superintendent of Recreation, Great Falls, Mont.; Howard Beresford, State Director, WPA Recreation Project, Denver, Colo.

Pacific—George Vestal, Department of Recreation, Oakland, Calif.; Ben Evans, Superintendent of Playgrounds, Seattle, Wash.

Five at large—De Hart Hubbard, Public Recreation Commission, Cincinnati, Ohio; F. S. Mathewson, Superintendent of Recreation, Union County Park Commission,

(Continued on page 540)

An Experiment in Leadership

SERVICE LEADERSHIP of a voluntary nature has been known to recreation executives since the inception of playground programs. Its value is reflected in the reduction of certain factors of routine administration that continually harass and burden a playground personnel which is usually limited in numbers. It has been maintained that experimentation with the tool of service leadership would be effective both in aiding the administration of the program and in terms of personality development for children who have practically lost their identity in homes of pitiful insecurity.

Hell's Kitchen is an appropriate name for the areas immediately surrounding the Morton Playground where a predominantly colored population, highly impoverished, forms the nucleus of a widely divergent socio-economic grouping of individuals. Children with this community heritage have, by virtue of their birth, heavy odds to combat.

The personality factor is, in the opinion of many, one of the most serious considerations involved in the question of encouraging leadership, and it was primarily with this in mind that our experiment was undertaken. The objective of service, although of great importance, was felt to be secondary.

A Junior Service Leadership Plan on a Large Scale

Our experimental plan of leadership, which has shown encouraging results, differs from most other systems in that it consists of an almost supernumerary force of leaders, though not a superfluous number. It is our conviction that the molding of such a large group into a well organized, functioning corps, has gone far towards balancing playground forces. It will be noted, too, that the leadership system described is of a service type only. Achievement, it was felt, was undesirable as a goal, as the emphasis would then become a striving for skill perfection and

By LEWIS K. SILVERMAN

Play Leader
Morton Community Center
Newark, New Jersey

is contrary to the real reason for encouraging leadership.

The number of leaders involved in this experiment approaches sixty and will exceed seventy before the maximum is reached. This is made possible by an arrangement whereby each leader serves for a minimum of three hour periods a week under a plan of assignments which is posted on the leaders' bulletin board. If a leader wishes additional assignments beyond his regular three hours per week, he submits his request to a staff member.

Morton Playground has found leadership most desirable for the following functions: library assistance, hall duty, playground and play room aid, checkroom duty, and secretarial work. The secretarial work mentioned is in conjunction with records of the leaders' corps. It holds particular value as an added channel of service for girls.



Courtesy Reading, Pa., Department of Public Playgrounds and Recreation

Personality Considerations

The interests of the leaders are not the chief determinants in the selection of service activities. The staff member suggests very subtly the service for which he believes the leader is best suited and from which he may benefit most. More important than the initial placement of leaders is continual alertness as to their adaptability, and speedy re-adjustment to procure the desired effects. The writer is reminded of one instance in which it seemed almost impossible to find a station for a leader. He was disliked by nearly every one and any duty which involved social contact invariably brought friction. Each time this conflict would occur the lad gave vent to tears and threatened to leave his leader's job. His was distinctly a personality difficulty. A special conference of the staff members was held and a clear picture of his type of behavior was sketched, as each staff member had observed him under different conditions. It was decided to give him the most non-social activity available — the arranging of books in the library room. After several weeks of this type of work, during which suggestions were offered, indirectly, as to how to get along with people, he took the initiative in requesting the task that had previously caused him difficulty. This time, however, he has made a successful effort at adjustment. Not all difficulties are solved so easily. Eternal vigilance is the price demanded for real success.

Mention should be made of the principle underlying the recruiting of leaders. The type of child who needs the duties of leadership most seems to be the one who is continually unoccupied. This, in itself, is a sign of maladjustment, and it is this type of child who should be approached first. The second source of leadership lies in the group that becomes curious about the various bulletin board announcements making reference to activities of leaders. When the children make inquiries about these announcements, the staff member talks diplomatically about the standards of the organization, its highly selective calibre, and the benefits that can be derived. Invariably the child asks how he can join. This request

is met politely but with not too great a show of warmth, one reservation being made — the boy may join if some reputable person will vouch for his behavior and if he can procure the approval of the director. In nearly every instance the director approves, but first he makes an ostentatious appearance of pondering over the advisability of admitting this applicant. Finally he approves, after impressing the child again with the selective qualities of the leaders' group. We find this helps greatly in imbuing the child with a feeling of respect for the opportunity given him and a desire to make good.

The Insignia of Honor

From a child's point of view, an element as intangible as personality development is not an objective. Definite inducements must be offered.

Quite successful is the promise of a certificate upon the attainment of 500 points of credit. One hour of service will normally gain for the leader five points; however, during the winter an hour of service out-of-doors merits six points. When the leader passes the 300 point mark and shows by his actions that he is entitled to an emblem, he is given one. This emblem is nothing more than

a thin piece of felt cut into an "M," initial of the center. The girls will gladly make these emblems.

The leader who passes the 300 point mark is entitled to wear a badge while on duty. It is believed that if a leader has discharged his duties with honor to the extent of amassing 300 points he will be able to wear his badge without being overcome by it. It is then little more than a means of identification of good leaders. Thus the deleterious effects of badge-wearing are, under the circumstances, considerably lowered, and the privilege of wearing a badge is made to depend not on mere points, but on freedom from "cockiness" and genuine qualities of character.

Occasionally it is well to stress the honor which the awarding of a certificate represents. If the certificate can be awarded during a regular school assembly the child feels the honor to be a very special one. From a practical point of view, the records of the leaders, as they grow older and

(Continued on page 540)

"The training boys receive through our leaders' club is, in my opinion, a definite asset in later life. They learn to carry through definite assignments, to be courteous, dependable, cooperative and of help to others. When they participate in the program they unconsciously set a good example for other children to follow. The successful results attained are readily seen in the development of better playground children."
— *Miles G. Stroup, Director, Morton Playground and Community Center.*

Is There Carry-Over from Camp Experiences?

"THOSE OF US who believe whole-heartedly in camping," says Harold E. Wands, "recognize that it should be an on-going experience, not just an affair of eight weeks in the summer. What can we do to make camp a continuing factor in the lives of our campers?"

Among the various suggestions which have been offered in an attempt to answer this question, the following seem very much worth while.

Earning, or saving, some part of one's own money for camp.

Family excursions and activities which utilize camping skills and interests.

Family discussions on the fun of camping; an understanding interest in camp ways on the part of brothers, sisters, and parents.

Membership in own age group which has a year-around outdoor plan such as school clubs, Scouting, outing and hiking clubs, Audubon Societies, and so forth.

Association with camp friends or leadership from own community or school.

Correspondence or occasional meetings with members of camp staff or other campers.

Reading interesting books on outdoor activities, camping, pioneering in the early days, frontier life, and so forth.

Out-of-door hobby which can be carried on in camp and at home.

Definite camp interests incorporated in winter activities which may be done indoors, such as the swimming program suggested by the American Red Cross, wild animals, pets, museum groups, dramatic production, and other interests.

Keeping in Touch with Campers

My Impressions of Camp. Encourage youngsters to write of their camp experiences and impressions. Publish the best in periodic bulletins.

Recognition of Birthdays. A simple card or a brief letter received on the occasion of a birthday will provide a real thrill for the camper.

Monthly Bulletins. A mimeographed edition of the camp paper sent regularly through the winter

The October issue of *The Camping Magazine* contains two articles on the carry-over values of summer camp experiences. These are "Summer Camp Goes into Winter Quarters," by Edith M. Conant, and "Camp as a Continuing Experience," by Harold E. Wands. In this article we present a few extracts from these two articles. We suggest that those of our readers who are interested in camping will find it well worth while to read these articles.

months will help keep alive camp spirit, bind campers together, and serve as a constant reminder.

September—Refer to the season just closed and the value of continuing worthwhile elements of the camp experience. A list of home addresses of counselors may prove

valuable.

October—News of campers and counselors. An article on "Hallowe'en" or the colors of camp in the fall. Notice of coming events.

November—Thanksgiving theme, including thankfulness for camp and a thought for the less fortunate. Advance notices of reunions, and news of campers.

December—Make it a Christmas remembrance; a bit of poetry, a sprig of evergreen, or a picture of camp in winter. Final announcement of reunion plans.

January—Resolve: to make the next camp season the best ever. Announce counselors who will return. From now on emphasize the coming season.

February—A story about camp in mid-winter or possible emphasis on Washington, Lincoln, or Valentine's Day. A statement concerning new projects under way, and more news of counselors and campers.

March—A feature concerning the Lenten season or plans for a Vesper Service. Announce preliminary plans for the coming season, and secure names and addresses of campers. Advance notice of a Spring Reunion. It is interesting to the youngsters to tabulate the number of months, weeks, days, hours, minutes to the opening of camp.

April-May-June—These issues should be filled with details of plans for the approaching season. News preparatory to opening camp. Spring is in the air. How long until camp? Return of old counselors, reunions, meetings of counselors, and similar.

Reunions. Make much of reunions. Many camps hold reunions at some central point during Christmas holidays, providing a place to swim, eats, entertainment, and reminders of camp. If the camp constituency is not too widely separated, monthly parties may be successful. A Spring Reunion "peps" things up for the coming season. Make invitations and content of reunions attractive. It is worth it not to count the cost too carefully. Camp movies are always effective; tent reunions, under guidance of the counselor, are highly successful.

Chain Letters. Tent groups keep in touch by circulating letters; attach to the letter list of dates and person to whom letter is finally sent.

Work at Camp. If camp is not too far away, the director or responsible counselor might take a few campers to camp on week-ends for the purpose of working on special projects.

Winter Camping. In locations where this may be feasible, a whole field of opportunity for contact and continuing camp experience exists.

Minute Man Service. One camp reports this idea for rapid contact with campers by means of telephone: campers divided into geographic areas headed by counselor or responsible adult; areas divided into units headed by a team captain. A call goes from headquarters to the area heads or counselors, who in turn call the team captains, and the team captains contact each member of their respective teams personally.

Keeping in Touch with Counselors

Letters. Most of our counselors are located at widely divergent points between camp season and the only point of contact is by correspondence. This is important, and if they are too numerous for personal letters, an occasional form letter may be valuable.

Correspondence Courses. All of our counselors need training and information which will keep them abreast of the rapid development of the camping movement.

Encourage Camper Contact. Suggest visitation or correspondence between counselor and camper. Tent reunions, birthday remembrances and letters make important contacts.

Training Courses. Available leaders may be enrolled in training courses.

Counselor Fraternity. If circumstances permit, an organization of counselors, both present and former, can be most worthwhile for both members and camp. Junior counselors could have a similar organization.

Keeping in Touch with Parents

Letters. At close of the camp season a letter to parents would prove interest in the child as an individual. This letter should be appreciative and in no degree critical. Problems should be met by personal contact only.

Questionnaire. Sometimes a questionnaire may be used. A 40% return would be about the maximum, but occasionally the results are significant in the study of camp values from a parental viewpoint.

Parents at Reunions. The atmosphere of camp reunions is undoubtedly more realistic when parents are not present, but on occasion it may be beneficial to all concerned if parents are included.

Home Visitation. No other contact compares with the visit to the home. Make it a social and friendly visit and the business angle will take care of itself.

Parent Association. Where conditions permit, an organization of parents may serve as a welfare group and assist camp in many ways. In some instances a separate group of fathers or mothers may be advisable.

Parents as Committeemen. No persons are more vitally concerned with the policy and conduct of our camps than those parents who are aware of the values of the camp experience as evidenced in the lives of their children. If the committee serves as a governing body, a majority group of parents might not provide unbiased judgment, but a representation would unquestionably make a definite contribution.

"The best campers we have ever had, and those who profited more enduringly from what was offered, came from homes or from groups where camping was understood and honored for what it really is: the culminating point of a winter's work well done, the place for delightful experiences and adventure not possible in our daily environment, the place for developing self-reliance and spiritual values which are absorbed and used to add strength, imagination, and fresh impetus to the business of the average young person—his education and preparation for life."—*Edith W. Conant.*

With the American Institute of Park Executives

PARK NEWS is real news. Publicize your system, not yourselves. The park business is the people's business. Parks are for the service of all of the people. Park executives must constantly tell the people what the parks offer or they will not be park-conscious. Only education will secure money for park development and program.

These were among the suggestions offered and accepted by the 647 delegates attending the thirty-ninth annual convention of park executives.

The problems of small town parks were constantly in the minds of many executives. How to secure areas; how to finance facilities secured by WPA grants; how to police small town areas; what fees and charges are fair and acceptable; these were among the many topics under discussion. The auto was praised as an instrument of extending the park's range and service. It was dubbed a vicious problem because it made park construction and maintenance more costly. Too many drives are required. Autos should have access to park borders, then people should walk.

Public buildings should not be in parks. Golf courses, rose gardens, tennis, bowls — all these raise the costs forever. These factors must be considered in planning.

Park Cost

Robert Kingery of the Chicago Regional Planning Commission spoke on "Park Costs." In Illinois, the cost is \$10 per acre. Milwaukee County has a cost of \$60 per acre per year. In 161 cities the costs were given as follows:

24	Parks in Cook County reached \$420 per acre
29	" " Illinois " " 74 " "
26	" " Wisconsin " " 100 " "
82	" " Indiana " " 180 " "

The highest cost per acre was \$1,452; the lowest, \$20. The average for 16 cities was \$103.

As to the cost per capita of users, \$2.39 was high, 12¢ was low. The average was 89¢.

Evanston, Illinois, with 88 acres or 2.6 per cent objective, showed 53¢ per capita user; Oak Park \$1.23. Glencoe, with 19 acres to 1,000 population, showed \$122 per year maintenance, while Berwyn,

At the 39th Annual Convention in Milwaukee, September 18-22, 1938

with .4 acres to 1,000 population, showed a cost of \$300 per year, indicating an increase of acreage and a decrease in cost of maintenance.

Principles of Good Design

The efforts of the Federal and CCC projects to develop general principles of good design was the subject considered by S. Herbert Hare of Kansas City. Among these principles were the following:

1. To preserve characteristics of flora and fauna.
2. Types of recreation related to picnics and scenery.
3. Historical, biological, geological features retained.
4. Baseball and golf in parks near cities.
5. State parks are to the state what Federal parks are to the nation.
6. Should be from 500 to 1,000 acres in state parks.
7. Preserve forests and lakes.
8. Recreational use subject to local conditions.
9. Turnout places at scenic points under State Park Department supervision and located at stream crossings and high spots.
10. Roadways should preserve natural boundaries.
11. A Mississippi highway from Minnesota to Louisiana.
12. Wild life preserved. All state parks should also be wild life preserves.
13. Natural scenery should be preserved.
14. Provide shelter and recreational areas for human use; this involves aesthetic judgment.
15. Roads limited.
16. Entrance at one point; parking places not on road.
17. Roads should follow topography of land.
18. Reduce speed of driving to minimum.

10. Prevent unnecessary scarring of hillsides.
20. Provide overnight cabins, possibly a hotel, located at area of concentrated use.
21. Main shelter with concessions and boat houses, etc.
22. Don't ruin landscape by poor buildings; they should merge into the landscape.

Swimming Pools

Mr. Klassen of the Illinois State Sanitary Commission spoke on the subject, "Sanitation of Pools." He shocked his audience by stating that swimming pools are pretty dirty at the best. They are not much better than dilute sewage in being sources of pollution. The big problem is to control the causes. Clean up bathers before entering the pool, he said. This is a hard thing to do. Even clean people need to bathe. A pool sinks to the level of its least desirable bather. Regulations and personal inspections were stressed for:

1. Evidence of disease. He mentioned one pool where 200 cases of syphilis were discovered.
2. Provide warm water and soap for bathers.
3. Statue of Liberty bathing caps.
4. Private showers. Believes one such enough and would solve the problem of the person who wants privacy.
5. Quality of water. Some places advertise water pure enough to drink that isn't clean enough for swimming.
6. Turbidity to be watched—
p r e v e n t
d r o w n i n g s —
c a u s i n g
g r o w t h o f
a l g y. There should be a turnover in water every six hours.

Perennial border
at Lyndale Park,
one of the attrac-
tive parks of
Minneapolis



7. Trained personnel is needed to run as well as supervise a pool. Operating a pool is no picnic; there are problems of the engineer who runs the city water system and many more. Operation reports are very valuable.
8. Pool location is of vital importance; it should not be too near a railroad because of soot.
9. Transportation and parking a problem.
10. As to size, the desire for big pools is dangerous from a sanitation point of view.
11. Provide a non-climbable barrier between pool and sand box, wading pool or grass lawns.
12. Recommended bath houses of the open court dressing room type. Pitch in floor 3 inches in ten feet.
13. Recommended three sets of toilets: one for spectators, one for wet people and one for dry people.
14. Not scum gutters but overflow gutters, open type, so arranged as not to permit diving from gutters.
15. Walk areas concrete. Pitched 3 inches to ten feet with a curb outside to prevent dirt washing into pool.

R. E. Behrens of Milwaukee County spoke on swimming pool design. He referred to the special help that government had given in stimulating

(Continued on page 541)

We Too Are Happy!

By HAZEL STEWARD, M. A.

It's not as difficult as you might think to be happy in a hospital which has a "Tinker Shop," lots of things to do, and where, at Christmas, joyousness is in the very air!

TO THOSE WHO are accustomed to the home fire-side and assembled relatives at Christmas time, it may be a surprising thought that Christmas in a hospital, away from home and family, can also be made into fun.

If you could look into the Crippled Children's Ward of Noyes Hospital in Columbia, Missouri, on any day between now and Christmas, you would find a group of happy, busy youngsters. Some are writing letters, each to tell Santa Claus just what he wants most for Christmas—perhaps a train that runs, or a big black dog that barks, or a doll with eyes that shut and open.

In the "Tinker Shop" linoleum blocks are being cut out so that each child may have his own hand-made Christmas cards. There is general excitement in the air as plans and decorations are being made for the Christmas party. Tinsel and bells are hung up in the ward, and there is a Christmas tree and a mantel in the corner where the stockings are hung up for a week or more before Christmas. The climax will not come until Christmas Eve, when Santa Claus himself calls in person at the ward to deliver just what each child asked for in his letter.

Months, even years, in a hospital with a constant round of operations and casts is not a pleasant thought. Yet in the ten years I have observed the occupants of the Children's Ward of Noyes Hospital who are brought in from all over the state for treatment by the Missouri State Crippled Children's Service, I have found not despondency and despair, but rather an enthusiasm and an outlook of hopefulness. Perhaps their whole evaluation of the situation is best summed up in that statement which is heard often in the ward, "Now I can be like the other kids!"

There are some possible explanations for the happiness which persists where gloom and despair might be expected to thrive.

In the first place, the physically defective child finds that in the hospital he is only one of a group of children each of whom is handicapped or de-

fective in some way. In this group he feels happier and more at ease than when he is with normal children who may regard him as different, or even as an object for favoritism or pity. In the hospital group there are some one or more particular things each child cannot do, but there are also certain things which each can do not only

for himself but for other children. Children who cannot read are read to by those who can. Those who can walk, even on crutches, bring water to those who must remain in bed.

One day a nurse discovered that an enterprising little Irish boy had accumulated several pennies. She made inquiry and was told, "I charge them a penny a drink." Perhaps it would be worth a penny for a trip to the fountain and back, managing a cup of water besides one's braces and a pair of crutches!

Some of the children have come from homes not only bare of material comforts but also devoid of affection and consideration. To such children the hospital offers not only the most comfortable environment they have ever had, but here they have also the novel experience of being loved and cared for. It is not enough to straighten the spine or heal the burn or make the legs of equal length. In the hospital every effort is made to restore to the child emotional balance and to fill his days with interesting and worthwhile activities.

One room of the hospital is known as the "Tinker Shop" where children may work from eight to eleven o'clock each morning. Here, under direction, tiny hands use cast-off orange crates to construct wooden toys and finish them in gay colors. There are enameled elephant doorstops and little Dutch boys with blue trousers, yellow hair, and big red buttons. The children learn the knack of finger-painting and bring into being designs both attractive and weird. They weave little rugs and doilies on hand looms. They model clay and make papier-mâché masks. One little girl who undertook to embroider vegetables on dish

(Continued on page 542)

You Asked for It!

Question: I have heard of groups called the Play Right Clubs. Can you give me information regarding them?

Answer: The Play Right Club is not another organization. It is a game, an attitude toward life expressed through play. It is composed of individuals and groups of individuals who believe in constructive, creative, cooperative playing and thinking. Anyone who plays the game belongs. The Play Right Club originated with children and is their own.

Honesty, fairness, courage and industry and the underlying principles of our national life. Upon them depend life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Yesterday's children expressed these things spontaneously when they played at being mother, father, doctor, teacher, minister, storekeeper or pioneer. Today's children play with toy guns. The cowboy, one of our earliest American institutions, has become in the eyes of children, a highly specialized and glamorous killer, who rides out on his pony and shoots people. The Indian is a killer. The policeman is a sort of overlord of questionable motives. He takes people to jail and makes them pay to get out. The hero is a glorified gangster. Cops and robbers is played universally. These ideas produce upon the child's mind a false outlook on life and create wrong social attitudes.

What do children think about it? The Play Right Club holds an answer since it originated with children. We were holding a Story Hour in a slum district in Chicago. "That policeman was a helper!" exclaimed a boy in surprise at the end of a story. "That is what policemen are for—to help," I said. "We'll be your helpers," said the children. "Very well," I said. Then to assure their returning another time I added, "How would you like to play you have a club? We shall need a name." "Yes," responded the children, "We will call it the Play Right Club because we will play the policeman *right*." Thus the children on their own initiative conceived the idea of playing all characters correctly and as they should be portrayed.

One day a group of boys and girls were earnestly considering the cowboy. The con-

versation turned to Will Rogers. The children learned he was of Scotch, Irish and Indian descent—Irish for humor and generosity, Scotch for business ability and Indian for dignity and reserve—a great combination his biographer, Mr. P. J. O'Brien, assures us.

Talking of Will Rogers we learned that cowboys worked long days, often with almost no time for sleeping; that they not only drive cattle in all kinds of weather, but build fences around dangerous places, clean out water holes, fight fires and do many things for the protection of their cattle.

We had progressed this far when one of the children said, "When can we have a cowboy play?" "Now," I replied. "There is the stage." "This is a real cattle cowboy play," he announced. The boys fell to work building a corral; girls helped as horses. The fence-mender examined the corral; cook, chuck wagon driver, and singing cowboy arrived. Will Rogers came as guest of honor, bringing his kindly jokes. There were contests, a cowboy relay race, and songs in which all joined.

When the cowboy becomes to the child the picturesque American pioneer, noted for strength, courage, strenuous work, endurance and devotion, it does something to him. He sees beyond cheap display and pageantry and chooses that which is of real value. Thug and bandit drop of their own weight and are no longer interesting.

The Play Right Club has the simplest and most democratic plan possible. It gives no honors or rewards, has no officers and exacts no charges. This is not because these things in themselves are not desirable, but rather because the club having begun as story hours in which such features were unnecessary, has come to stand for free, spontaneous living together in the home or on the street among one's associates. It exchanges the glamor of gangsterism for the fascination of a club. It is adaptable for groups in churches, parks and playgrounds, schools, libraries, settlements and dooryard groups.

The Play Right Club is a play group. It is a game. Whoever plays the game belongs.

—Bertha Marilda Rhodes, Minneapolis.

WORLD

A Photographic Contest

THREE hundred and thirty-four photographs were submitted for the amateur photo contest conducted by the Park Department of New York City.

Awards were given for four of the photographs and honorary mention was made of seven others. The picture shown here won third place in the contest.



Photo by M. Moskowitz, New York City

Newark Toy Show Stirs Memories

included playthings from many parts of the world, chiefly of nineteenth and twentieth century manufacture, although a few dated back to the seventeenth century. Dolls were shown in great variety, many of them dressed in national costumes representing a dozen countries. The oldest was a French doll made before 1683. Two doll houses were exhibited completely furnished in every detail; one in Victorian style, the other of modern period. Toys were of almost every description, and a number of toys of modern manufacture were selected to illustrate life in other lands. Those of olden times recalled the youth of our grandfathers. Particularly stirring to Victorian memories were the peep shows which took various forms from the simplest arrangement of cut-out pictures to real model stages.

The Hiking Club of Berkeley

dred and six hikes were planned and managed for the club, showing a total registered attendance of 4,022 persons, an increase of 1,127 persons over the same period last year. There

AN interesting exhibit recently shown at the Newark, New Jersey, Museum, in-

HIKING has been one of the special events of the year in Berkeley, one hun-

AT PLAY

were sixty-six daytime hikes and ten overnight camping and hiking trips.

New York City's Swimming Pools

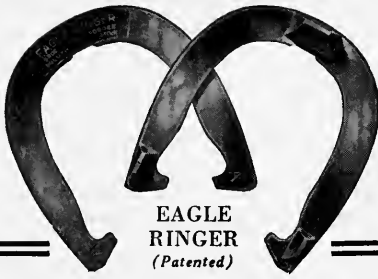
IN 1937, the first year of operation, 2,371,983 patrons visited the pools of which 678,040 were children admitted free during week-day mornings. 923,529 were children who paid a 10-cent admission charge and 770,414 were adults who paid twenty cents, giving a total revenue to the city for paid admissions of \$246,435.70. During the past summer three old floating baths in the Hudson River were completely reconstructed into a single unit providing two pools and dressing facilities for men and women. This floating swimming pool has proven one of the popular recreation attractions in the city.

Not One Fatality

FIGURES compiled by the Los Angeles, California, Playground and Recreation Department for the period between June 25th and September 11th, show that 6,364,691 visitors enjoyed the Los Angeles municipal beaches; swimming pools entertained a splashing throng of 443,005; an attendance of 3,377,111 was recorded at playgrounds, and 42,785 campers' days were counted at municipal camps. In spite of the record crowds there was not one drowning in Los Angeles municipal strands. According to Recreation Department officials, this is a tribute to the accident prevention program and the effective rescue work of the corps of municipal life guards.

When You Travel In 1939!

THE United States Travel Bureau has opened new Western headquarters in the Sheldon Building, San Francisco, nearly a year ahead of schedule in order to cooperate with



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the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition and its "See all the West in '39" travel program. The Bureau will assist those interested in recreational travel in the United States and its territories. Inquiries will be answered and travel stimulation work will be carried into schools, libraries and organizations. Inquiries concerning rates and on specific transportation and accommodations will be referred to private travel agencies. The Bureau will confine its activities to the broader aspects of geography and natural wonders, assisting in planning "hobby trips" for maximum fun and education, to suit the individual's taste and purse.

Musical Broadcasts — The most extensive series of symphonic programs ever offered to the American radio audience was inaugurated by the National Broadcasting Company on October 17th, when the first of ninety concerts to be broadcast this season from Rochester, New York, was heard over the coast to coast NBC blue network. The ninety programs scheduled are being presented in six different series beginning with the initial concert on October

17th, by the Rochester Civic Orchestra from 3:00 to 3:45 P. M., over the NBC blue network. Among the orchestras broadcasting, in addition to the Rochester Civic Orchestra, are the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Eastman School of Music Orchestra.

Miniature Aircraft — Miniature aircraft activity in Westchester County was one of the most attractive hobbies during the past summer. Over 402 children attended classes held by thirty-eight local leaders in recreation in different parts of the county. Over 1,600 miniature aircraft designs of various kinds were made by participants.

Understanding the Child's Needs — Herbert R. Stolz, chairman of the National Education Association Committee on Individual Guidance, writing in the Journal of the National Education Association for October, 1938, urges that each child has need of, belonging to a group; that each child also needs to have one or more strong friends; that a third need of a growing child is to understand the requirements of the world in which he lives.

Recreation can help with all three of these fundamental needs of children.

Photographic Study of Marine Life—Near St. Augustine, Florida, a radical departure from the standard type of aquarium has been made. Two aquaria which are said to be different from anything in the world have been built. The windows are so arranged that visitors view exhibits from above and the major requirement in the construction has been to make the best photography possible. The effect is to give the action of a porpoise, for instance, as seen from the standpoint of another porpoise. These aquaria have given an entirely new view of ocean sharks and their habits. The marine studios with these outdoor facilities give a vast opportunity to make valuable scientific studies to which neither straight field work nor laboratory work lends itself in any appropriate sense.

Square Dance Clubs — Square dancing has become very popular in El Paso, Texas, according to James R. Clossin, Assistant Superintendent, WPA Project No. 9926, in that city. He writes that at the present time there are

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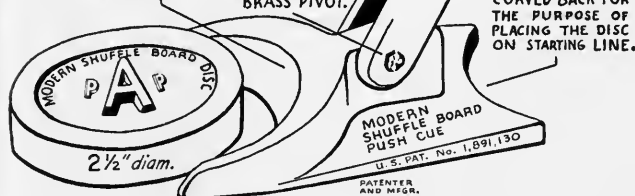
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twenty-five or thirty square dance clubs in the city. Last August a public square dance festival was held, attended by from 1,200 to 1,400 people. Mr. Clossin is personally conducting beginners' classes in square and old-time dances six nights a week. He will be glad to answer inquiries and give information regarding the organization of clubs and classes to anyone requesting it. He should be addressed at 2924 Van Buren Avenue, El Paso.

An Arts and Crafts Exhibition — The Westchester County Recreation Commission conducted its eighth annual county-wide Arts and Crafts Exhibition November 14-26. Many of the exhibitors of this county-wide show were enrolled students in the arts and crafts courses conducted by the Westchester Workshop.

Old-fashioned Pioneering for Ann Arbor Pupils — To learn pioneering by pioneering was what Lawrence E. Vredevoogd of Ann Arbor, Michigan, had in mind when he decided in 1931, to purchase property for a camp site for his Tappan Junior High School pupils where they might drill their own wells, build their own bridges and roads, and meet the conditions met by the pioneer fathers. Proposing "to explore past and present conditions of the state, not from books, but from reality," faculty members and students raised money to buy 258 acres of land (by tax title at one dollar an acre) near Moddersville, which they have named Wilderness Lake Camp and where each Friday in the fall about twenty-five or thirty students go for a week-end camping trip to take part in a little government of their own. The experiment so far has been widely recognized as an interesting success.

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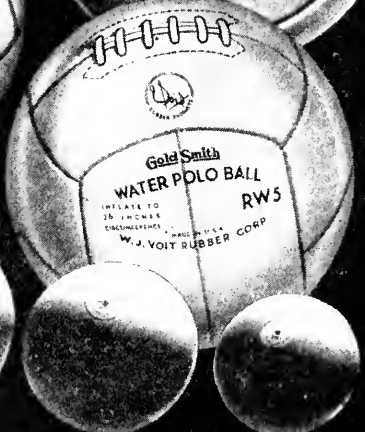
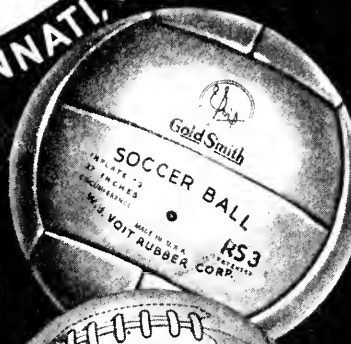
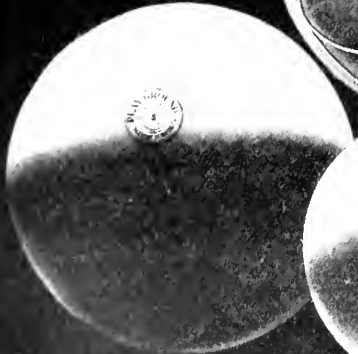
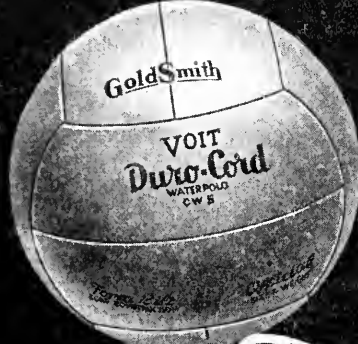
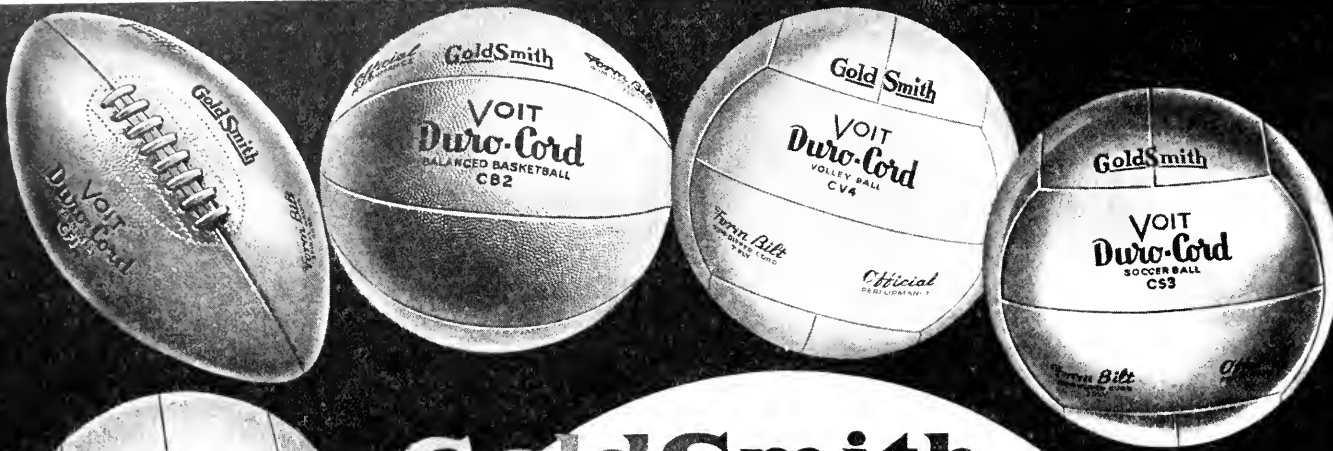
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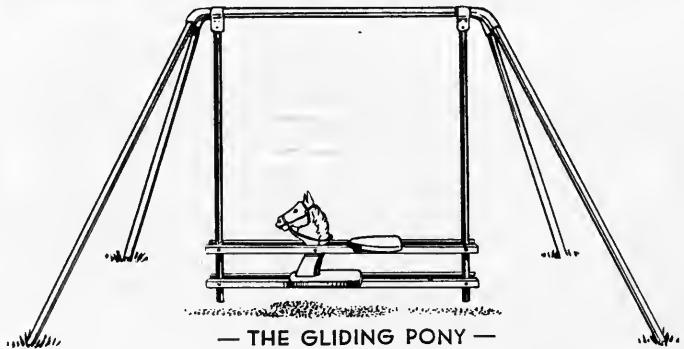
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Atlanta Presents "Carnival of Venice"—Atlanta's city swimming pool was transformed into the Grand Canal of old Italy—gondolas, Neopolitan love songs and all—for the second annual water pageant sponsored by the City Parks Department, the Atlanta Red Cross and the recreation department of the WPA on August 4 and 5. A crowd of more than fifteen thousand persons witnessed the colorful "Carnival of Venice" which was so successful the first night that it was presented a second time. A series of choruses, dances, and various demonstrations was performed in the picturesque setting of old Venice. The climax of the program was the aquatic demonstration featured by a water drill of swimmers. There was also a demonstration of swimming, diving, and life-saving methods sponsored by the Red Cross.

Where Taxation Is Welcomed!—The San Diego Director of Recreation reports that people seem to be more willing to pay the bill for recreation even if taxes are high and difficult to pay. In one instance a group of citizens raised \$900 by subscription to accompany such a request, and the City and School Board assisted so that a \$22,000 project was carried through to complete an excellent recreation center on a large school ground. This center is now in operation and includes two cement tennis courts and an excellent athletic field with backstops. Equipment for children to be added later.

Street Dances in New York City—Weekly dances in the street in front of Hudson Guild, New York City, proved so popular that they were extended through September. The dances were managed by groups of young men in the neighborhood in cooperation with the staff of the Hudson Guild and recreation teachers assigned to the settlement by WPA. Beginning promptly at nine o'clock the dances attracted an average of 300 young people each night. Many older neighbors gathered to watch the dances, and not infrequently to join in, especially when old-time waltzes were played. The music was furnished by victrola records sent into the street through a public address system from the upper story of the Guild.

A State-Wide Book Service—The Library Division of the Minnesota Department of Education, St. Paul, Minnesota, is maintaining an exceedingly valuable service through (1) its traveling libraries designed primarily for small communities without local library service, and (2) the provision of reading material for individuals through mailing books, pamphlets, magazine articles, clippings and pictures to meet requests for material on any subject. The only charge is for transportation. The Division has issued bibliographies of the material it is prepared to furnish through these two services. Among these bibliographies are excellent ones on various phases of recreation.

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Public Wants Good Parks—The overwhelming majority of Americans can be relied upon to cooperate in the care and protection of parks and recreation places if the best is provided, Robert Moses, Park Commissioner of New York City, has stated. On the contrary, the American public is contemptuous of shabby parks, playgrounds, and recreation facilities, and quickly despoils them, Mr. Moses' experience has shown.

Community Parties in Lancaster—For seventeen years Saturday night community parties have been held by young people of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, under the leadership of the Recreation and Playground Association. The enthusiasm with which the young people attend them is as high as ever. The parties, which are held in the gymnasium of the Y.W.C.A., are managed by a board of young men and women, representing the schools and various organizations in the city and county, that meets once a week to plan for each dance. Chaperons are usually selected from the friends or parents of the group in charge each

week. During the past season twenty-four parties were held with an average attendance per evening of 260. The activity is self-sustaining.

A New Year's Eve Dance—An event which brings much pleasure to hundreds of boys and girls under twenty-one years of age is the annual New Year's Eve Dance sponsored by the Oakland Junior Chamber of Commerce and conducted by the Oakland Recreation Department. It is held in the auditorium arena.

What Do Americans Need?

(Continued from page 495)

tion is now in high school and is growing older. There are fewer in the younger group of those in the elementary schools, and we are already seeing that fact affect our school enrollment. But our population as a whole is growing older, and in my opinion the great task of recreation, of education now is to follow that growth up through the years.

We cannot end recreation any longer with the period of adolescence, because if people are to live

happily in these United States twenty years from now, when there will be three times as many sixty-five-year-old people as there are today, something has to be done for them. We have got to follow through. We have to let our services grow up with the population, and I think in that problem lies perhaps the most important thing that you have to face during the next twenty years.

But if you do your work, if you make a world that is good to live in, a world of open spaces and happy people, of roads with something good at both ends of them, you will be doing the job that is the job for the other man who is displaced by machinery.

There, it seems to me, is the American answer to the problem of industrialism. Through recreation, through education, through health services, through all the things which we do for each other, and which add to human happiness and to the meaning of life, we can employ our population as you create the demand. The creation of that demand rests with you. As you make people want more from life, employment will have to flow into those channels which provide more and there is no other place for it to flow. There is no other place. It has to be that way. There is not any other answer.

Christmas Everywhere!

(Continued from page 497)


parade of children, he was soon comfortably established in his Christmas Village, with a post office, workshop, and a little theater prepared for him by the Community Recreation Association, the Marionette Guild, and the Retail Merchants Bureau.

Each afternoon at the close of school there was a Christmas circus for school children in which marionettes performed. On Saturday nights until the week before Christmas another type of marionette show was given designed to interest adults as well as children. During Christmas week the Nativity play was given every night.

Ten foot Christmas trees sprayed with aluminum paint were set up along sidewalk edges, and each intersection carried lighted evergreen wreaths and roping.

The "Spirit Sprig"

The Centralia, Illinois, Recreation Department found a novel way to spread the Christmas spirit last year when one of its girls' clubs within a Sunday school decided to say "Merry Christmas" to



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those who are unfortunate enough to be traveling by train on Christmas Day and cannot be in their homes. The girls, neatly dressed in fresh Christmas colors, each carrying a festooned basket filled with evergreen sprigs boarded the train and gave each passenger a "spirit sprig," a smile and a cheery "Merry Christmas." The sprigs were made as follows: Small evergreen trees were stripped of their sprigs and each was carefully cut so that it formed a natural "Y." One end of a piece of spool wire six inches long was wrapped around a tuft of cotton about the size of a cranberry. Red cellophane was used to cover the "berries" which were placed at the "Y" of the sprig in clusters of three. A pin with each sprig completed the token.

The day after Christmas telephone calls from the Illinois Central System, with main offices in Chicago, began to come to southern Illinois. "Where did those sprigs come from?" was the query. Travelers on the Illinois Central System had written to the railroad officials or called them to tell of their appreciation. Later came a letter from the president of the company congratulating the girls on the success of their way of saying "Merry Christmas."

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Christmas Festivals, Masques and Pantomimes

(Continued from page 498)

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Burgess Publishing Co., 426 South 6th, Minneapolis,
Minn.
Oliver Ditson Co., 359 Boylston St., Boston, Mass.
Dramatic Publishing Co., 59 E. Van Buren St., Chicago,
Ill.
Eldridge Entertainment House, Franklin, Ohio, or 829
15th St., Denver, Colo.
Samuel French, 25 West 45th St., New York City, or
811 West 7th St., Los Angeles, Calif.
National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Ave.,
New York City
Clayton F. Summy Co., 321 S. Wabash Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.
Womans Home Companion, 250 Park Ave.,
New York City
Womans Press, 600 Lexington Ave., New York City

Wandering Storytellers

(Continued from page 503)

So came into being the storytelling part of the summer's program. Newspaper feature stories prepared children and adults alike for the "soon to be expected" appearance of the gypsy storytellers in the neighborhoods. All through the summer they wandered. Week by week their popularity grew, their circle of friends widened, and their own enthusiasm carried them on and on. So closed the first summer of their work. Through the winter they received more training, grew familiar with more stories, and when spring came again and they returned to the board to tell of their willingness to serve again, the board welcomed them back and scheduled them regularly so that each weekday, Saturday excepted, was definitely planned for, and the places and hours for appearance listed in the Sunday city papers. Usually five sets of two were out each day.

Before the season opened representatives from the board toured the outlying sections where no playgrounds were established and found a huge tree affording shade, an open field, or the shaded side of an out-of-the-way store. Having found such places, they trailed down the owners and asked permission to use them weekly as play centers where the storytellers might for a while stop their wanderings and settle for stories, games, a chat, etc. A small sum may have been paid these girls during the second summer but nothing in comparison with what they gave.

The spontaneity and the stability with which this work was done made the board members who were most closely connected with the direction of the gypsies feel that certain recognition of the girls would be a very desirable thing. And so it was arranged with the principal of the High School that honorary credit would be given them in their scholastic record.

Christmas Brings Them Out Again

Early in the fall the storytellers came to report that they could be counted on for Christmas stories up to ten girls a day for about two weeks before Christmas through to New Year's. They had heard us say we wanted to have the various folk stories of the different peoples represented in the neighborhoods as well as the Christmas story of the Christ Child told through these weeks, and here they were to fill the need. They and we, with the help of library specialists, social and religious workers, Italian cobblers and Polish

mothers, gathered the stories, and they learned them. Children and adult parties could hear them; stores, kindergartens, as well as the hundreds of children playing in the streets between the close of school and the coming of evening.

Snow was falling often those December days, and somehow snow and gypsies did not seem to go together. So we ordered ten red military capes made of bright red sateen, to be worn over their winter coats. These were trimmed around the high standing collars and all the way down the front with a wide band of cotton batting which was sprinkled with artificial snow. The snow was kept in place by a covering of thin, cheap white tarlatan. Skull caps of red, with a white band near the face, and high boots completed the picture. Of course a touch of holly appeared on the collar and on each side of the opening, and at the left side of the cap.

A pile of children packed close on parked hand sleighs, the overflow being accommodated on the near-by courtyard railings . . . many little heads stretching up above the ward beds to hear it all, ears and eyes fastened on the storytellers . . . old men and women in wheel chairs or on crutches gathered listening in the Old People's Home . . . children of shopping mothers around the storytellers in a secluded but easily available spot in the stores . . . these are some of the memories that come back to me as I write the record of those days.

They were happy minutes, those minutes when together listeners and tellers wandered with the elves and fairies, met defeat or victory with some hero of Greece or more modern country, or waited with the shepherds near the manger.

On Twelfth Night

(Continued from page 504)

with the usual Latin joyfulness. Their traditional figure in the festival was Befana, represented as an old woman who, according to the legend, was cleaning her house when the Three Wise Men passed on their way to worship the infant Christ. When she was told that they were coming, she said she was too busy to come to the door and she would see them on their way back. But they went home by another road, and Befana is still watching for them, says the legend.

Effigies of Befana were carried through the streets in gay processions, and in Florence the procession ended on the bridge where the old lady was precipitated unceremoniously into the Arno River.

As Long As They Last-- \$1.00!

• Recreation workers who have never secured the party books by Ethel Bowers will now have the opportunity of buying the series at a reduced rate. The three booklets offered are:

Parties—Plans and Programs

Parties for Special Days of the Year

Parties—Musical Mixers and

Simple Square Dances

They will be invaluable to you in your social recreation program

Originally priced at 50 cents each, the three booklets may now be secured at \$1.00 for the series—send your order to



National Recreation Association
315 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

On Twelfth Eve the children were put to bed early, where they waited impatiently until the cry "Ecco la Befana" was raised, when they jumped up and rushed for their stockings as American children do now on Christmas morning. Good behavior was rewarded with presents of toys and sweetmeats, but the child who had been bad found only dirt and ashes in his stocking.

Among the English peasantry in Devon, Twelfth Eve was celebrated in a very interesting manner. Each farmer, with his workmen, went into the orchard and gathered about the best tree. They took with them a large panful of cider in which were floating roasted apples. Each member of the party took an earthen cupful of the cider with a fragment of an apple, drank a toast to the tree, and then threw the remainder of the contents of the cup at the tree. Tradition had it that this was necessary to insure a good crop from the orchard next year.

In Gloucester, on Twelfth Eve the farmers went into a wheat field where they lighted twelve fires, one much larger than the rest. Gathered around the large fire, they drank toasts to a good crop, trusting that this ceremony would prevent

We Announce . . .

"ON A RAINY DAY"

By DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER
and her daughter
SARAH FISHER SCOTT

Illustrated by JESSIE GILLESPIE

And we are happy to be able to tell you that this charmingly illustrated booklet has come off the press in time to be available as a Christmas gift.

On a Rainy Day is the story of the adventures of two little boys and one little girl left to their own devices on a rainy day. The tale of what they did and the ingenious games they made up not only makes a fascinating story but suggests a number of home activities which mothers will find helpful to put into practice when children are confined to the house.

Price \$5.00



NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

315 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

rust on the wheat. This custom is still practiced in some sections of the shire.

Practical jokes used to be one of the popular ways of celebrating Twelfth Eve in Spain. In Madrid, a group of young bloods would search through the streets until they found some simpleton credulous enough to believe their tale. He was to assist them in their search for the Three Wise Men who were expected to enter at one of the city gates that night, he was told. If he entered into their plan he was given a ladder which he had to carry to each of the city gates. Then he had to mount on the ladder to see if the Three Wise Men were in sight. Often his support was pulled from under him, and he came tumbling down at great risk.

It was in Germany that the method used in Rochester of celebrating Twelfth Night by burning the Christmas trees originated. It was thought that this observance would save the trees from the disgrace of the refuse heap, and at the same time the fire of the burning trees would be a fitting commemoration of the light of the Star of Bethlehem which guided the Three Wise Men to the stable where the infant Christ lay in the manger.

Let's Decorate!

(Continued from page 505)

Unique, rare things in the field of art are interesting to all. We like to see them and study them. As we have already mentioned, however, our keenest satisfactions come from the effort and expressions of our own ideas in some creative form.

The display of one's own artistic products has three distinct values for the individual. First, it gives him the opportunity to enjoy continuously the results of his own creative effort, dealing with some imagined idea which he felt sufficiently worthwhile to attempt to reproduce or develop. Second, it offers continuous opportunity for him to study the possibilities of improvement and refinement of this same product of this effort. Third, it gives him an opportunity to secure the criticism or approval of others. These three things should provide a never ending source of satisfaction and pleasure. If these deductions are sound, we may safely say the recreation center should provide liberal opportunities for its members to maintain some of their products on permanent display. These products may be of a wide variety of types, including various forms of painting and sketching, woodblocks, photography, wood craft, leatherwork, beads and basketry, metal work, weaving, soap carving, and the many other forms of craft hobbies now so commonly encouraged in recreation centers.

Such permanent displays can easily be taken care of by providing wall space for hangings, glass cabinets for certain types of smaller products, these to be hung or inset in the walls or lobbies or club or library rooms. Even large glass table cases might be provided for display of all types of collections. Each product should be tagged with the name of the owner or producer. Naturally, some means of safety in keeping such objects from thievery is essential. It is also important that space not be sacrificed from important activities to take care of such permanent displays. The imaginative director will find ways and means of taking care of such problems. Even though the opportunities and facilities be very limited it will be immeasurably worthwhile to encourage each child and adult to attempt some of the creative hobbies, and to enjoy the satisfaction of such permanent displays of the results of his efforts.

NOTE: These extracts from an article by Professor Laporte have been taken from the "Recreation Round Table," a bulletin issued by the Division of Recreation, California W.P.A.

That Amazing Golf

(Continued from page 507)

tages of the game. It has been said frankly that the élite of society are often found at club houses. A well-equipped golf club will provide more than mere facilities for playing. But social functions are an adjunct rather than an indispensable part of the spirit of golf, and players of course follow their own tastes in deciding how much they will participate.

Mrs. Page has said, "Golf requires the patience of Job and all the rest of the gentlemen in the Bible combined. It can improve or ruin a disposition." She advises men and women with choleric temperaments, utterly unable to control their emotions, to avoid the temptations and irritations of the game. But to those who find self-control even in meeting obstacles surmountable only by skill, she offers golf as a great builder of character. Decision and mental alertness, patience and endurance, poise and self-confidence, are essential to victory in golf.

The Community Theater at Lancaster

(Continued from page 508)

is chairman of one of the following committees: Production, Promotion, Experimental Group, Play Selection, and Membership. The members of the theater then compose these various committees.

The Experimental Group represents what might be called the junior division of the theater. It is the training and testing and experimenting station. Into this group came all the members of the institute who attended regularly. At present the entire membership of the theater is about eighty, and applications for membership are constantly coming in. Anyone in the community may join the Experimental Group, but membership in the senior group is governed by invitations. The Membership Committee acts as a scouting or talent committee, going to as many amateur performances in the county as is possible.

The senior group of the Community Theater has planned three major productions for this current season. They opened with "To Meet the Prince," a three-act comedy by A. A. Milne. In this performance the Little Theater of Franklin and Marshall College was used. Popular admission prices were charged because we are a non-profit organization existing purely for the cultural enjoyment of the community.

Magazines and Pamphlets

{ Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker }

MAGAZINES

- American Girl, The*, November, 1938
Fur, Fins, and Feathers, I, by Mary Grahn
Official Results in the Hobby-Horse Race
- Character and Citizenship*, November, 1938
Ideals for Today's Life, by H. O. Burgess
Methods of Recruiting Leaders, Article VII,
by Tracy W. Redding
- Commonwealth Review*, July, 1938
Co-Recreational Planning
The Importance of Leadership in Recreational
Planning
Recreational Survey in Oregon
- Journal of Health and Physical Education*,
September, 1938
Coordination of Recreation Agencies,
by George Hjelte
Play Streets, by Ruth Mullaney
- Kiwanis Magazine*, November, 1938
Just a Lot of Children Playing, by Merton S. Heiss
- Mental Hygiene*, July, 1938
Are We Teaching Our Children to Fight in their
Play?
- Municipality, The*, November, 1938
The Issuance of General Obligation Bonds,
by R. J. Cunningham
- Nation's Schools, The*, November, 1938
Outline of a Plan for Play, by Thomas Lyon White
- School and Society*, October 29, 1938
Who is the Superior Student?
by Dean Harold E. B. Speight
- Parks and Recreation*, October, 1938
Recreation for Negroes Down in Dixie,
by Frank L. Bertschler
- Planners' Journal, The*, September-October, 1938
Qualifications and Duties of Planning Personnel,
by Arthur L. Shepard
Land Use Planning in Rural Areas,
by David I. Rozman
- The Child*, September, 1938
"Stories for Parents" series issued by Child Study
Association
- Leisure*, November, 1938
Make a Photo Enlarger, by H. H. Brauer
(Description and plans)
The Leisure Book Shelf—Color Photography for
the Amateur, by Keith Henney
- School Activities*, November, 1938
Transfer Value of Women's Sports,
by Minnie L. Steckel
The Social Dance Class—A Laboratory for Acquir-
ing Social Ease, by Elizabeth G. Dunkel
A Thanksgiving Pageant, by Russell T. Roddey
- Minnesota Journal of Education*, November, 1938
The Responsibility of the Community for Recreation,
by Carl L. Nordly

Science Digest

Taming the Wild Flowers, by Dr. P. L. Ricker
(Condensed from a Science Service Radio Talk)

Minnesota Municipalities, November, 1938

Anoka Builds a Community Center

PAMPHLETS**New Hampshire Public Recreational Areas**

Issued by State Planning and Development Commission, Concord

Report on Progress of the WPA Program, June 30, 1938

Statement on Recreation, p. 20 ff
Statement on Recreation, p. 76 ff

Puppet Teaching—News Bulletin, November, 1938

U. S. Works Progress Administration for the City of New York Recreation Project

Group Technique in Club Work, by R. K. Atkinson

Outline of sixteen sessions offered at the Recreation Training School, New York City. Recreation Project of the U. S. Works Progress Administration for the City of New York

The Westfield (N. J.) School for Adult Education

Announcement of courses 1938-1939

Fun and Work for Future Farmers

Compiled by L. L. Scranton, Department of Agricultural Education, North Dakota Agricultural College, State Adviser, F.F.A. Published by the Interstate Printers and Publishers, Danville, Ill. A collection of games, programs, and community activities with practical ideas and suggestions for social and recreational programs for rural boys' organizations.

New Contributions of Science to the Exceptional Child

Proceedings of the Fourth Institute on the Exceptional Child of the Child Research Clinic, The Woods Schools, Langhorne, Pa., October, 1937

Water Pollution, Series B, No. 1, November, 1938

First of a contemplated series of brochures designed to inform, educate and guide the 5,000,000 people of the Delaware River Basin. Published by the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin.

The Experimental Group of the theater has been presenting radio dramas, using "The Unlighted Cross" by Dorothy Clark Wilson as the medium for its cooperation with the churches in the observance of Religious Education Week. This play was presented by permission of the Walter H. Baker Company, Boston.

During the fall season both groups cooperated in the local welfare drive by presenting two plays. One is "The Undercurrent" by Ehler; the other, "The Free and the Brave" written by Gerald Lestz of Lancaster. In addition, the Experimental Group is planning to prepare and present twelve one-act plays from 1938-39. Some of these will be open to the public.

In order to keep all members of the theater constantly informed about plans, meetings and plays, the theater publishes in modest form a bulletin known as "The Callboard." As soon as

finances permit this bulletin will be increased from its present four pages to a much larger edition. In it will be published articles on the various phases of the theater and other interesting bits of information.

It has been our purpose to cooperate in any possible way with the various drama groups in the community. As a result, we are already being called upon to loan our scenery, our technicians and our directors. One of our executive committee members is teaching two classes in the local Y.W.C.A. As soon as we have our permanent home, it is our intention to have regular drama classes both for the members of the theater as well as for the community at large.

Another phase of the work which has not as yet been developed is a Drama Service Bureau. In order to give assistance to groups in the city and county, this bureau will attempt to coordinate drama interests by setting up a lending library and a costume department, and by making available information on play directors.

The interest in the various phases of the work is high. The Community Theater is filling a long-felt need for dramatic expression in the community.

Square Dancing in College

(Continued from page 514)

leads his line around to the left so that each person goes under the arch (the last two practically "wring the dishrag") the head couple meet, join hands and the circle is complete again. The second couple do the same, the third and fourth follow suit. (See Fig. 8, page 514.)

NOTE: Miss Carpenter suggests that a helpful book on music is an inexpensive publication called "Twenty-five Old-Fashioned Tunes for the Piano," which may be obtained from Belwin, Incorporated, music publishers, 43 West 23rd Street, New York City. Price 40 cents. This booklet contains a number of old favorites such as "Soldiers' Joy."

Music and the Municipal Recreation Program

(Continued from page 517)

bined choruses and orchestras gave a thrilling rendition of the stirring patriotic songs: "Hail, America!" and "Hail to Our Native Land!"

Music Groups in Wilkes-Barre

The Civic Opera Company of Wyoming Valley, organized in January, 1938, is a direct outgrowth of the Woman's Municipal Chorus now three years old which was organized by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. With the help of a

number of male voices the Woman's Chorus during the first year of its existence gave "Iolanthe." So enjoyable did the participants find working together that the opera company was decided upon as the best means for making possible further projects. The Woman's Chorus accordingly submerged its identity.

Miss Edith M. Hoffman, who has been director since the beginning of the movement, has directed the three operas given—"Iolanthe," "Yeoman of the Guard," and "The Gondoliers." Her training and experience have given her unusual equipment for the community work she is doing.

At the present time the opera company has ninety-four members who come from all walks of life. Some of them are professional people, some industrial workers and many are mothers and homemakers. The only qualification for membership is a good voice. When an opera is announced tryouts are held before several judges for all the principal parts, and people wishing to sing in the chorus must have an audition before the director. Dues are low and proceeds from the operas are used for the advancement of music in the community.

Another interesting music group in the city is the Girls' Municipal Orchestra organized in the fall of 1936 for the purpose of giving girls out of school the opportunity to continue with their music. There are twenty-eight girls in this group under the leadership of Pompilio Forlano, a local musician of unusual training. The group meets once a week. No fees are charged, the director being paid by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley.

Progress in Bloomfield

The Bloomfield, N. J., Symphony Orchestra which gave its initial concert in March, 1932, before an audience of sixty-four people, was recently acclaimed by an enthusiastic gathering of more than 1,200 at the High School auditorium. From its initiation the orchestra has had as its director Walter Kurdewicz, a resident of Bloomfield, and under its leadership it has had a steady development.

Expenses are underwritten by the Recreation Commission. These include the salary of the conductor, who is also director of the Civic Chorus and of the Civic Glee Club, rental of facilities, and music. Silver collections at each concert, ranging from \$45. to \$110., help defray some of the expenses.

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COMMUNITY PLANNING IN ADULT EDUCATION

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members of the staff of the
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New York University

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Four concerts are given each season. Two have been broadcast over Station WOR. From five to seven professional musicians take part in each concert, while the chairs occupied in the orchestra range from seventy to one hundred and ten. The repertory includes approximately 140 different numbers. Several have been played for the first time by this orchestra; one or two were written especially for it.

Society of Recreation Workers of America

(Continued from page 518)

Elizabeth, N. J.; Mark McCloskey, Board of Education, New York City; Charles B. Cranford, Westchester County Recreation Commission, White Plains, N. Y.; Virgil Dahl, Recreation Division, WPA, Washington, D. C.

V. K. Brown as President appointed the following Chairmen of standing committees:

W. Duncan Russell, Boston, Mass., Membership and Affiliation

Alden W. Thompson, West Va., Study and Research

E. Dana Caulkins, White Plains, N. Y., Training

Charles H. English, Philadelphia, Pa., Auditing

C. E. Brewer of Detroit presented a report of the Committee on Reservation of Recreation Areas Near New Housing Construction which emphasized the immediate and urgent importance of the permanent reservation of adequate outdoor recreation areas within or near all new housing units. A resolution was unanimously adopted asking that the National Recreation Association appoint a committee of not more than three and request representatives of other interested national organizations to confer with this committee for the purpose of determining reasonable standards of size, location and type of outdoor recreation

areas which should be permanently reserved near or within new housing units.

George D. Butler, Clarence E. Brewer and E. Dana Caulkins agreed to serve on this committee.

Charles Peterson of Chicago presented an ivory gavel to the Society of Recreation Workers of America.

The Administrative Council of the Society appointed F. S. Mathewson, C. E. Brewer and Virgil Dahl to serve as the three additional members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee was empowered to approve all memberships, and authorization was given for the printing of 2,000 copies of the constitution. The Secretary was authorized to take steps to incorporate the Society.

The constitution of the Society makes the annual dues for active members three dollars and states: "The active membership shall consist of full-time professional employees in executive or leadership capacity associated with the recreation movement."

Recreation workers wishing a copy of the constitution and a membership blank or desiring further information about the Society should write to Arthur Noren, Secretary, City Hall, Elizabeth, N. J.

Few organizations have ever been launched under happier circumstances. All the leaders in the National Recreation Association wish the new Society well.

An Experiment in Leadership

(Continued from page 520)

more experienced, serve as a basis for making recommendations for positions. Especially is this the case in poorer areas where boys and girls seek employment early in life.

Bulletin board announcements regarding the leaders and their work do much to arouse a justifiable pride in achievement. Having a picture taken of the group is an award children enjoy. An additional gymnasium period may be offered. Usually the leaders' corps has a team that can enter into competition with the other groups of the playground, thereby calling attention to the activities of leaders. There are numerous other minor privileges that can well be extended to a group which has met leadership tests and carried its honors modestly.

Leaders' Meetings

A meeting is held each week at a time when most leaders are off duty. After the election of officers, adoption of a constitution and determina-

tion of purpose, the question of weekly programs should be considered. The central theme of the meetings should be in line with personality development factors. Any of the following characteristics might well serve as a theme for a meeting: punctuality, orderliness, industry, persistence, self-reliance, initiative, cooperation, sociability, self-control, cheerfulness, sense of humor, loyalty, unselfishness, courage, honesty, reliability, vitality, and even determination by the group of policies of conduct to which they would like the playground children to conform.

Prior to the holding of leaders' meetings, the relationship has been primarily between the leader and the school, but with the establishment of a leaders' organization there begins to develop a feeling of loyalty and friendship among the leaders. The result is a consolidation of the entire plan, a molding into a unified whole, with each unit working toward the same goal. Beyond this is the opportunity of additional leadership, in that leaders may be offered an opportunity for leadership among their own group. This is important, as any plan that hopes for success must include social approval for its constituents. Occasionally a conscientious leader fails to receive social approval, and he may be made a subject of ridicule by non-leaders. This experience may be counteracted by achievement in the leaders' club where social approval is generously offered for earnest application to responsibilities.

With the American Institute of Park Executives

(Continued from page 524)

pool construction. Their pools have the following principles:

1. Location according to density of population.
2. Circular type; diving, or deep part in center.
3. Rectangular in center for meets.

Pools have three uses—diving, swimming, wading. Size provides a thousand gallons to each twenty bathers. Wading pools should be twelve inches deep. At first 635 gallons of water were provided to each person, now 329 are provided. At first they had too much deep water. They now provide 53.2 per cent of the entire pool for waders. Lights under the water and a tunnel outside of the pool permit access to all wiring and piping.

Mr. Igner of Milwaukee stated that the value of lighting reduces delinquency, doubles the time of playground operation, is a safety factor, adds to the value of pleasure drives, prevents vandal-

The True Christmas Spirit

THE greatest happiness comes from serving and helping others. For hundreds of years men and women have presented their friends with presents at Christmas time as tokens of their desire to add happiness to the world. The question of what makes an appropriate gift is always a perplexing one.

We believe that a subscription to the magazine **Character and Citizenship** will make the ideal gift for Christmas this year. If you will decide on this magazine as a token for this season, we assure you that you will be giving your friends a present which will enlarge their horizon of reading, contribute to their happiness, and be of practical help to them in being useful citizens.

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ism, increases the radius of police protection, lights up displays, winter sports, playgrounds and game areas. Milwaukee has fifty permanently lighted playgrounds and eighty tennis courts. They use one-third as much as street lighting takes. It is easier to get money for good installation than to maintain a poor one. Lighting playgrounds alone cost \$200,000. Of the playground attendance, 60% of the 3,900,000 used the playground under lights.

We Too Are Happy!

(Continued from page 525)

towels had no trouble in finishing the vegetables she liked to eat, but those she disliked were left until the last.

Each child makes two of everything; one is his own to keep, and the other the Tinker Shop keeps and sells to nurses and visitors. This "tinkering" has the two-fold value of occupational therapy and vocational possibilities. The Tinker Shop, through its diversified types of work and equipment, has greatly aided the crippled child to assume the traits of a normal individual as he discovers and proves to himself new abilities.

One boy, though totally blind, became so skilled in handicraft that he passed all of his Boy Scout

tests and earned, by selling his creations, enough money to buy his Scout uniform.

Regular instruction in school work is given to all children at the hospital through the cooperation of the University School of Education, so that children do not fall behind in their school studies while they are in the hospital.

Then on Sunday morning there is Sunday school. Here many things happen which are that peculiar blend of pathos and humor. Sometimes the lesson is almost drowned out because some baby likes the sound of rattling his encasted leg against his high chair. One little girl sits in a wheel chair, her foot entirely covered with a cast, except that just the tip of her toes stick out. They are too great a temptation to a neighbor who finds it amusing to tickle her toes with the ice from her drinking cup.

One boy explained that part of the bone was removed from his right leg and put in his left leg, and he added, "So when I get home I'm going to have my mother guess where my bones are."

Not only Christmas but all special days are observed in the Children's Ward. For days before Easter the children assist the Easter bunny by making colored eggs for the egg hunt. There are Valentine, Hallowe'en and Thanksgiving parties. Washington's Birthday is observed with cherry pie. In between times there are birthdays of the children which give occasion for a party on the roof or for a picnic on the lawn. Then there are those exciting times when the Y.M.C.A. or a local theater brings in a Snow White or Mickey Mouse film for a real picture show in the ward.

A special library of children's books has been built up through the donations of interested friends for the use of the children. A collection of toys is also kept on hand.

Not long ago the children made a little clay bowl and gave it to the superintendent of the hospital, and every morning two of the children go out to pick roses or dandelions (or whatever variety of flower or foliage the season offers) and present them to the superintendent to keep in the bowl. They have also presented her with a book of poems which they wrote themselves. One of the poems is entitled "A Garland":

Suppose you were a pretty rose—
The fairest flower that ever grows.
In this garland you would stand
Shaking a pretty rose by the hand.
Wouldn't that be a delight
To dance with roses every night?

Air castles? Perhaps. But a glimpse into the happiness of crippled bodies with well-kept souls.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Songs and Pictures for Little Folks

Words and music by Helen C. Knowles. Photographs by Ruth Alexander Nichols. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$1.50.

RARELY DOES A book appear which is so satisfying from an artistic point of view as this volume of songs for little children. The photographs of Ruth Alexander Nichols, have to an unusual degree, caught the beauty and charm of childhood. They will appeal both to children and adults. The songs—there are twenty-seven of them which accompany the photographs—are simple, as is the music.

The March of Games

A Quiz and Fun Book for Young People. Compiled and edited by Natalie Purvin Prager. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. \$1.35.

IF YOU ARE familiar with the Columbia Broadcasting System's "March of Games" program, you will know what to expect from this intriguing quiz and fun book for young people. There are many topsy-turvy and multiple choice questions, right or wrong statements, memory quizzes, tongue twisters, radio puzzle plays, and all kinds of brain teasers. In attempting to play the games, you will add to your store of information while you are having a lot of fun.

Rubber Inner-Tube Toys

A Manual of Instructions. By Charlotte Wilmot Brook. Universal School of Handicrafts, Inc., Rockefeller Center, New York. \$1.00.

THE SEARCH FOR inexpensive materials for handcraft articles goes on and the problem of "making bricks without straw" is one recreation workers are constantly facing. In this book Mrs. Brook gives simple, concrete directions for every step involved in making toys from inner-tubes and offers patterns for over twenty-five articles. The recreation worker will find this manual exceedingly helpful and practical.

Figure Skating as a Hobby

By Diane Cummings. Foreword by John R. Tunis. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$2.00.

THIS ADDITION to the Harper hobby series, just off the press, with the arrival of winter sports comes in time to help skating enthusiasts in getting ready for winter sports, for figure skating is no longer a sport to be enjoyed by a few and watched by many from the side lines. It is becoming increasingly popular among skaters of all ages—on indoor as well as outdoor rinks. Miss Cummings has written her manual for the beginner and advanced skater alike, and through the use of simple step-by-step diagrams and photographs she has shown how waltzes, dance steps, and other figures are done. She has also offered helpful information on skating equipment, and the formation of skating clubs.

New Directions in Physical Education for the Adolescent Girl in High School and College

A Guide for Teachers in Cooperative Curriculum Revision. By Rosalind Cassidy, Ed.D. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$2.50.

MISS CASSIDY, Professor of Physical Education and Chairman of the Department of Physical Education of Mills College, California, has given the physical education profession a challenging presentation of new aims in this book which is especially concerned with the methods of replanning the school curriculum for girls of secondary school and college age. A part of the book is devoted to understanding the adolescent girl's need, and here Miss Cassidy shows a genuine understanding of the present-day girl. Actual case situations are cited. Following this a method is suggested by which teachers may think and study together in order to plan programs. The volume is designed for use in round table discussions among teachers and students, and the appendices containing case material will be particularly helpful for such discussions. Throughout Miss Cassidy stresses the need for "weaving larger patterns of play abilities and interests into the lives of boys and girls."

Six-Man Football

By Stephen Epler. Harper and Brothers, New York \$3.00.

COMplete with illustrations and diagrams showing formations and plays, this book presents in detail the history, philosophy and fundamentals of six-man football for coaches, players, and spectators. For small schools with not enough players and equipment for the eleven-man game, six-man football is particularly desirable. Large schools are finding this modification of football desirable for intramural purposes. It brings the game to more and more boys in a way which is safe and still exciting.

Curriculum Problems in Physical Education, School Health and Recreation

Edited by Margaret Bell. Bureau of Educational Reference and Research. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$1.00.

FOURTEEN SELECTED LECTURES from a two-week institute course given at the University of Michigan, July 18-29, 1938, have been included in this monograph. The majority of them deal with health and physical education, but three will be of special interest to recreation workers. These are "Play and Mental Hygiene," by John M. Dorsey; "Changing Fashions in American Recreation," by Jesse F. Steiner; and "Physical Education's Contribution to the Use of Leisure Time," by Elmer D. Mitchell.

The Country Dance Party.

By Beth Tolman. The Countryman Press, Weston, Vermont. \$.25.

This booklet tells you "how to generate fun and frolic with an old-fashioned dance party." It not only gives the directions for a number of dances and suggestions for music for each, but it contains a glossary of the terms heard most often in the dances of New England.

Better City Government.

The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, September, 1938. 3457 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. \$2.00.

In considering better city government this symposium includes articles on principles by which municipal government should be judged, analyses of existing city governments of various types, agencies which contribute to the improvement of municipal government, and suggestions for appraising some of the individual functions of municipal government, such as housing, welfare, public works, police, education and recreation. The articles frankly face the difficulties of measuring city government services and of comparing one form of government with another. It is encouraging to note the consideration given to the extent to which community needs should enter into any appraisal of municipal government services as well as the economy and efficiency of operation of such services as are operated. Consideration is given also to the fact that although the form of government is important, the caliber of government personnel is even more important, and that citizen understanding of and interest in government is perhaps the most important factor of all in securing and maintaining efficient and adequate municipal services.

Dr. J. B. Nash of New York University prepared the statement on municipal recreation. He analyzes the recreation needs of communities by age groups, suggests methods of organization for meeting these needs and bases for judging effectiveness of municipal recreation services. The methods of organization suggested by Dr. Nash are those which he first put forward in his report for the National Municipal League, published in the National Municipal Review for July, 1931. The tests of adequacy presented by Dr. Nash in the form of twenty-two questions should be helpful to anyone wishing to make a general appraisal of municipal action in the recreation field.

Block Printing Craft.

By Raymond W. Perry. The Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Illinois. \$3.50.

This book is about the old craft of block printing—about prints and how to make them. It will serve both as a guide to the making of block prints and as a source of appreciation of the art. The technique of both wood and linoleum block making in black and white and in colors, is given by an authority on the craft. The many illustrations, some of which are in color, make the volume an interesting and beautiful addition to the library, even for the reader, who may not himself be interested in undertaking the project.

Art Education Today.

Editor in Chief, Belle Boas. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University. \$1.25.

Members of the fine arts staff of Teachers College, Columbia University, have sponsored this annual devoted to the problems of art education. A number of art instructors in educational institutions throughout the country have contributed articles which discuss such topics as "The Meaning of Art in Education," "New Directions for Art," "Modern Art and Social Problems," "The Modern Dance Form," and "Art as an Approach to Children's Emotional Problems."

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933 OF RECREATION, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1938.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
COUNTY OF NEW YORK. } ss.

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared H. S. Braucher, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of RECREATION, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:

Publisher: National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Editor: H. S. Braucher, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
Managing Editor: Abbie Condit, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Business Manager: Arthur Williams, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers, during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is (This information is required from daily publications only.)

H. S. BRAUCHER.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1938.

[SEAL] MIRIAM DOCHTERMANN,

Notary Public, Nassau County.

Nassau County Clerk's No. 286. Certificate Filed in New York County, Clerk's No. 10, Register's No. 0 D 5. My commission expires March 30, 1940.

Included in the Field of the National Recreation Movement

- Every child in an orphan asylum needing recreation
- Every person in a home for the aged sitting in idleness
- Every person with tendency to mental trouble who could be saved by normal recreation
- Every person in hospitals for the insane for whom life could be made more bearable by recreation
- Every child risking life and limb playing in the street because no playground has been provided near by
- Every child growing up without appreciation or power of expression in the field of music, drama, arts, crafts, nature
- Every child without an opportunity to sing or play a musical instrument
- Every child longing to make model airplanes, kites, water wheels
- Every child without opportunity to know and enjoy the birds, the trees, the flowers
- Every child who longs to act the part of king or queen or prince
- Every boy and every girl in school needing to be trained to live
- Every boy and every girl in the schools in the states which have not yet established physical education in the schools
- Every boy and girl who ought to go to a day camp or a regular camp during the summer months
- Every boy who is acquiring bad habits, loafing, while there is no playground in his neighborhood
- Every man and woman who needs opportunity to go to a community center in the schools or in the community buildings for his evening hours
- Every father and mother who wants help with the play problems of children in the family and in the home
- Every church worker who wants help in building the normal recreation life within his church
- Every American Legionnaire, every Rotarian, Kiwanian and other service group member who wants help to make him more effective in working for the recreation interests in his community

HOWARD BRAUCHER

JANUARY 1939

January



Courtesy National Park Ser

"Nobody knows when skating started, but it was a long time ago. Some date it from a period only two hundred years after Christ, when the Swedes and the Norsemen are said to have used wooden snowshoes to travel over the frozen snow. Others refer to an early collection of Icelandic

literature, 'The Edda,' wherein Saemund the Wise, who lived in the years around 1100, mentioned skating. Written about the same time, an old chronicle of Fitz-Hugh also speaks of skating as a means of transport." — *Diane Cummings* in "Figure Skating as a Hobby."



Courtesy Minnesota Journal of Education

Litchfield, Minnesota, believes that providing recreation facilities helps to prevent crime. Here are a few of the outdoor recreation activities the community furnishes: a sled race; a swimming contest; a bicycle club; a winter carnival, and an "On Wheels" contest.

very moment are being raised in the breeding grounds of crime. It reminds us of the policy of controlling fires by merely putting out the flames and sitting back to await more fires, or the old way of trying to stop the spread of typhoid by segregating the typhoid carrier, while we failed to clean up the conditions which

caused the disease to flourish.

We have learned much about crime in recent years. No longer do we in New Jersey sentence an offender upon the basis of his offence or a judge's "hunch." In juvenile courts and county criminal courts we have studies made of each individual delinquent by a trained probation officer. We call in doctors, psychiatrists and psychologists in order that we may have scientific knowledge concerning the mental and physical condition of the defendant. We like to call this the "individualization of justice" as distinguished from the former mass treatment of offenders. From tens of thousands of these case histories we have learned a great deal about the underlying causes of crime. We are anxious to know not only what crime the offender committed, but who the offender is and what factors in his life caused him to embark upon a criminal career. This enables the courts to judge the nature and character of the delinquent and determine what should be done to reform and rehabilitate him.

Recreation and Crime

By HENRY S. WALDMAN

IN SPEAKING OF CRIME, I am reminded of Mark Twain's comment about the weather when he said: "Everybody talks about it, but nothing is done about it." Yes, we do get excited about crime and criminals when we read of a Dillinger, Gerald Chapman and other sensational characters. We demand that the law be vindicated when these men have been shot or executed. Then we forget all about crime until screaming headlines once again arouse our emotions.

This circular type of thinking about crime will never solve the problem. We are out to catch the criminal, but in our desire to punish him we overlook thousands of potential criminals who at that

There is no single cause of crime! There are generally numerous causal factors. Outstanding causes are incompetent parental control, broken homes, poor housing, slum areas, lack of recreational facilities, mental deficiency and school maladjustment.

It is obvious that our age-old policy of pursuing and punishing the criminal has not gotten us very far. We continue to build bigger jails. We continue to recruit a new criminal army. How much longer are we to ignore the fact that crime cannot be controlled if nothing is done to prevent it? Prevention is the key to the crime problem. We know the conditions which make for crime. Then let us be up and doing! By a systematic community organization and an aroused public opinion we can abolish the evils which make crime possible.

Crime prevention groups are today at work in many communities in New Jersey. These people realize that society must make a broad frontal attack on the nests of crime and the forces of crime. We spend taxpayers' funds to prevent typhoid, diphtheria, tuberculosis and other dreaded diseases. Prevention in this field has saved many from costly institutionalization. Every dollar spent for crime prevention will cut down the criminal class and reduce the size of our jails. This may sound like the statement of a rabid idealist, but we have facts to show that every word is absolutely true.

Tonight we are to discuss what part public recreation can play in a community crime prevention program. At the very outset, may I say that I am not prepared to go on record as saying that recreation will eliminate crime. But we do know, from surveys made by experts and statements made by penologists and social workers, that recreation can play a tremendous part in reducing and preventing crime. We know, furthermore, that a vast number of juvenile delinquents have absolutely no contact with character-building organizations or recreation groups. We know, too, that fewer than 10% of our juvenile delinquents were active members of such groups when they committed their offences. Obviously, there is a crying, imminent need of expanding our recreational facilities so that the needs of our underprivileged youth may be served. Modern city life has brought in its wake slum areas, crowded tenements, lack of play areas and a tremendous

increase of juvenile delinquency. More than 275,000 children pass through juvenile courts in the United States each year. Of this number tens of thousands would never have become delinquent if society had taken an honest interest in them. We have treated most of our underprivileged children with calloused indifference. We create leisure time for children and adults, and do not care how the time is spent. Small wonder, indeed, that children swarm the streets in poor areas, form gangs and cellar clubs, become prematurely hardened and worldly wise, and too often learn to follow sinister and evil examples.

Children have urges which we must guide. They love group activity, sportsmanship, competition, adventure and friendship. Shall we allow them to get it in the gutter or in the neighborhood center? I say to you that society has a bounden duty to overcome the forces of evil by the advantages of goodness.

Recreation a Public Function

Public recreation is an integral part of municipal government. Once regarded as a "fad," it has achieved the status of a necessity. It is as vital to city life as the school. It supplements and complements the school by guiding our young during their leisure time. We cannot delegate the task of recreation to private agencies alone. If we did, it would reach a limited number only, and chiefly those who already have many of life's privileges. Public recreation by its very term connotes recreation for the general population. Collectively, the citizens can afford through taxes to pay for property and leadership which are beyond the resources of individual families and private groups. Furthermore, since public recreation serves children without reference to creed, nationality or financial circumstances, it is but right that it should be municipally supported and operated. Recreation includes health building, safety, character growth, delinquency prevention, mental growth and training in good citizenship. These fundamentals have been community's pride and obligation since the days of the Athenians.

Our system of compulsory education compels our children to attend school daily until they are sixteen years of age. A corresponding duty compels municipalities to provide a common school educa-

This address was given at the meeting of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities held at Atlantic City on November 17th. It is of special interest in view of the fact that Mr. Waldman is Presiding Judge, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Elizabeth.

tion for every child. But after school, what?

When the school day is over and the child's leisure time begins, do we take an interest in him? Do we care what he learns, where he spends his time, with whom he associates, what habits he is forming? Very little, if at all! We cast him aside as driftwood and leave him to the ebb and flow of the tides of chance. Left unguided and unguarded, to his own devices, the child becomes an easy prey to every evil and undesirable influence in his neighborhood and environment. If it is not the community's business how a child spends his leisure time, then whose business is it? We applaud the police officer who discovers a child committing a wrong, but what does the community do to offer a more wholesome avenue of diversion for the child? The community must keep a boy or girl away from police and juvenile courts not by harboring him after the crime, but by preventing him from committing the crime. We should so properly guide a child through recreation during his leisure time that he will not have the heart nor the mind to do a wrongful act. To that end, in a community crime prevention program, public recreation is the most powerful influence for good that has yet been offered. Guide the boy and you form the man!

The Cost of Public Recreation

We must all be keenly aware of the rising cost of municipal government and the increasing burden on the taxpayers. Many will say that local communities cannot include in their budgets an appropriation for recreation. They believe it to be "enormously expensive." Yet that is not so. Recreation is not a "self-liquidating" project, but it pays dividends to the community in the form of healthy children and good citizens that cannot be calculated in dollars or shown on a financial statement. You cannot measure the value and worth of a municipal service or a municipal function by the financial return to the community. Otherwise, we would eliminate our schools, police and fire departments, courts and many other governmental agencies.

The only local service that brings a small capital return to our municipalities is a license bureau. Would any taxpayer argue that we should close our schools, disband our police or close up our

"Public recreation is not traveling, it has arrived! It is for the city of today as well as for the city of tomorrow. No longer an experiment, it is a vital branch of municipal government. Municipalities cannot afford to ignore it any more than they can deny a common school education to their young."

fire houses because they are not revenue producing? We must give at least as much attention to the safety and welfare of our children as we give to culverts, street cleaning and an annual display of fireworks. The growth of slums, the economic stress of the times, the complexities of

modern city life, the great amount of leisure time, the rise of unsupervised amusements and the enormous increase in juvenile delinquency and crime have all tended to make public recreation a governmental necessity. It is an antidote to many insidious influences upon a child's life.

The last Year Book of the National Recreation Association reported that fifty cities in New Jersey and three counties expended for public recreation through local budgets and local funds the sum of \$1,122,190.79. It is quite impossible to number accurately the millions of play hours represented by this expenditure, or the tens of thousands of children who benefited thereby, but it is possible to say safely that in proportion of the use to the expense, public recreation is the least costly of all municipal functions not to mention the fact that it probably does the most good.

Perhaps we can get a clearer picture of public recreation when we realize that in 1937 incomplete figures report 539,292,664 visits during that year to recreation areas in cities reporting for the Year Book of the National Recreation Association. Various estimates indicate that in all probability 60% to 70% of these visits were made by children or young people. The amount expended for public recreation, as last reported, was \$47,933,781.21, which included over \$22,000,000 of Federal recreation funds. More than 1,280 cities in the United States have recreation facilities supported by public funds and we must be glad to note that nearly 1/20th of this number come from our own State of New Jersey.

No one should complain about the small cost of public recreation when he is aware of the tremendous cost of other governmental services. I have yet to hear a single voice raised in protest when we build new jails or mental hospitals. Why should anyone complain when we spend a modest sum of money to try to keep our young men and women out of jail? Let me quote a few figures to show how much we spend on our penal institutions in New Jersey. But lest you think I am criticizing the socially-minded men and women who

run our humanitarian institutions, may I say that these figures in no way indicate that they are extravagant; I simply want to make comparisons between the cost of recreation and the cost of jailing people.

<i>New Jersey Institutions</i>	<i>Cost 1937</i>	<i>Per Capita</i>
State Prison, Trenton.....	\$562,614.00	\$498.77
Boys' Home, Jamesburg		674.79
Reformatory, Rahway	477,500.00	552.02
Prison, Bordentown	244,937.00	501.92
Prison, Leesberg	101,815.00	441.61
Reformatory, Annandale	269,711.00	566.62
Reformatory, Clinton	164,303.00	457.67

And this does not include city or county jails, or the cost of policing the state. Millions, millions and more millions for bigger and better jails in New Jersey! Yet we spent a little over a million dollars for public recreation in New Jersey at a cost of less than thirty-five cents per annum for everyone who uses our recreational facilities. Need I say any more about the economy of public recreation?

In every one of our municipalities there are abundant sites available for public recreation. Our public school buildings, in which hundreds of millions of public funds are invested, can be utilized for recreation programs after school hours. Auditoriums, gymnasiums and classrooms can be put to beneficial use at little expense. School grounds should be opened after hours so that children can enjoy free play. Playgrounds can be purchased or rented at a nominal cost. Community centers can be located in rented buildings or properties owned by municipalities. None of these undertakings need be "showy" or expensive. The important consideration is that playgrounds and centers should be in areas where they are most needed. Recreation must be brought near the child who can make the most use of it. Our juvenile court records indicate that we seldom have the case of a boy or girl who uses private or public recreational facilities regularly.

Delinquency and Lack of Recreation

Lack of recreational facilities is undoubtedly an outstanding cause of juvenile delinquency. Looking over the 1937 report of the Union County Probation Office, it is significant to find that out of 198 boys and girls placed on probation that year, 141 children were victims of bad neighborhood conditions. Only fourteen boys and girls had the benefit of character-building agencies. Many of the children were members of gangs. They banded together because they yearned for group activity. They got into trouble because



Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Commission

We need more activities of this type with their strong appeal to children

there was no one to guide them the right way. Legally, we were obliged to call them juvenile delinquents, but morally the responsibility for their waywardness rests squarely upon the community.

The New Jersey Juvenile Delinquency Commission in 1937 made a survey of inmates of our reform institutions and prisons to ascertain what started them on a career of crime. The majority of offenders admitted that as children they played in

the streets most of the time. Of 663 State Prison and Rahway inmates who testified on this point, 531 said they played in the streets; 132 said they did not; of 779 Annandale and Jamesburg inmates, 374 said they played in the streets and 405 said they did not. Those who said they had playgrounds near home said also that they tended to use the playgrounds rather than the street. That certainly is cogent evidence that bringing playgrounds close to children takes them off the city streets.

The study also showed that a relationship existed between the places in which the offenders played and the kind of companions they sought or found. Those who played in the streets went with bad or mixed gangs in greater number than those who used the playgrounds. From this we may conclude that where there are supervised playgrounds there is less likelihood of young people forming undesirable companionships.

Many of those interviewed confessed that their out-of-school time was spent in loitering, gambling and stealing. A goodly number admitted that they associated with former inmates of institutions when they were first arrested.

I think we can all agree that these excerpts from the Commission's report make interesting reading. It is safe to say that if these offenders had enjoyed the fruits of supervised public recreation, many of them would never have gotten into conflict with the law.

How Public Recreation Helps

Two communities in Union County have shown what can be done toward crime prevention through recreation. One is a residential community, the other, an industrial town. Each made a careful study of sections within their recreational facilities in the spotted areas.

An example of what can be done in a suburban community is found in Union Township, Union County, New Jersey. A few years ago we had a number of boys from that Township before our Juvenile Court. Our investigation showed appalling conditions existing in certain sections of the Township. One day I told several of the officials that they were unwittingly creating a rural slum and denying a large group of children a wholesome environment. At first they resented my remarks. Then, under the leadership of Commissioner Biertumpfel and Rev. Joseph A. Keiper, a recreation group was formed in the blighted areas. They called in a representative of the National

Recreation Association. A community recreation center was established. They set up a WPA Recreational Project and in the basement of the center fixed up a machine shop where boys can tear apart auto motors and reassemble them. Leagues and teams were formed. A Youth Welfare Council was organized to do pre-delinquency work and bring boys and girls to the recreation centers.

And what was the result? Whereas we used to have not less than twenty-five cases a year from this area, we have had fewer than eight cases so far this year. This showing is due to the civic-mindedness of the local government in aiding underprivileged youth. They brought the children into the center, established thirteen playgrounds and baseball fields in all sections, provided 113,000 play hours of recreation and they did all this at a cost of only \$5,000.00 to the Township budget. This splendid example can be followed by every urban community in New Jersey.

Elizabeth is a prime example of what can be done when public recreation is developed at its best in a larger city. A few years ago our system there was lagging. We opened a few playgrounds and used a few schoolrooms and that was all. Our good Mayor, Joseph P. Brophy, was enthusiastic about recreation. The National Recreation Association made an intensive survey of Elizabeth's needs and then we appointed Arthur Noren as our Recreation Director. Things began to hum. The budget was increased, a program was formulated, more playgrounds were opened under better supervision, more than four good-sized centers were opened, a swimming pool was built. All these recreational facilities were wisely placed in selected areas where delinquency predominated. What was the result? Thousands of children left the slums and the city streets and made their headquarters at the centers and playgrounds. In 1931, 464 children from Elizabeth were summoned to Juvenile Court. In 1937 only 179 local children were complained of in court, giving Elizabeth the lowest delinquency record in the United States for a city of its size.

In 1937, the Elizabeth Council of Social Agencies made a detailed study of juvenile delinquency in that city, from the years 1931 to 1937 inclusively. The report credited the Elizabeth Recreation Commission for its part in reducing delinquency. It said: "The establishment of new supervised play areas, the progressiveness of its

(Continued on page 584)

Digging Out for Recreation!

A "Treasure Hunt" in the basement of your school building may well result in the discovery of additional space for recreation

THE PROGRAM of the community centers of the Board of Education of Cleveland, Ohio, has been expanded through the discovery of unexcavated space in the basement of a number of school buildings. Through labor supplied by WPA, this space has been cleared and made suitable for such activities as horseshoes, archery, golf, rifle practice, table tennis, wrestling and boxing.

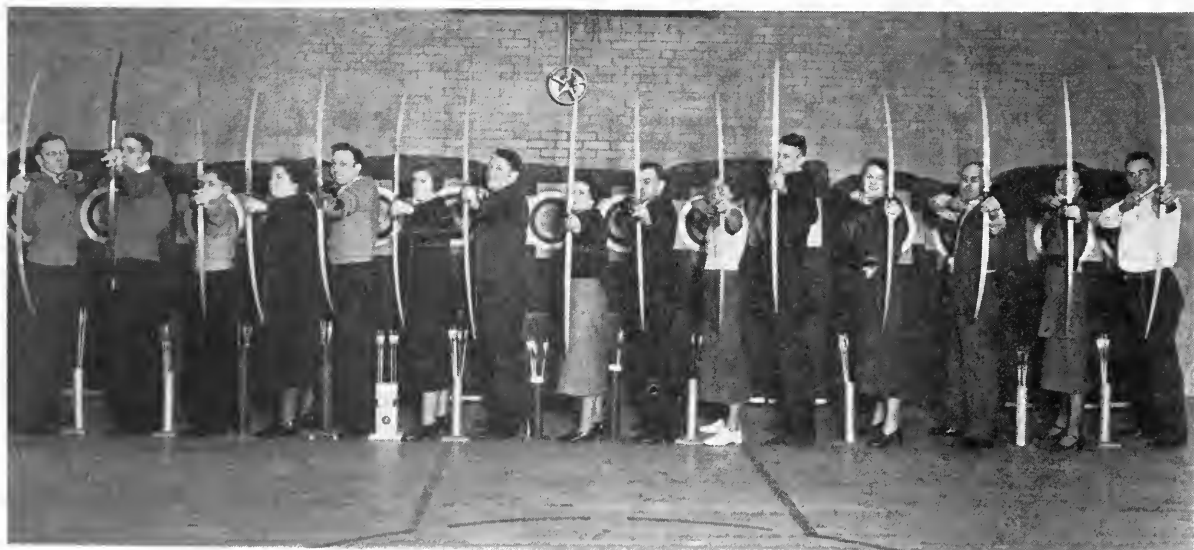
In one center a dark dismal room filled with dirt has been transformed into a well lighted area equipped with eight horseshoe courts, five rifle ranges, five archery ranges, and space for instruction in golf. Additional space is now being made available for shuffleboard, table tennis, wrestling, boxing, and a game room. By utilizing this newly discovered space in the basement for activities which formerly required the gymnasium, we have

By G. I. KERN
Supervisor of Community Centers
Board of Education
Cleveland, Ohio

been better able to meet the demand for such activities as bait casting, tennis, badminton, dancing, gymnasium classes, social dances, and social mixers.

An increased interest is apparent in many of the hobby groups which include knitting, painting, sketching, metal craft, art jewelry, paper craft, clay modeling, photography, radio, sewing, and cooking. Most of these activities require no special instruction and are offered free of charge. Some organization, however, is necessary to stimulate interest in participation. This is accomplished by securing for each group a volunteer leader with some experience and with a keen interest in the particular activity. The leader of each activity group becomes a member of the Community Center Council, and as a member he assists the director of the center in formulating policies and planning activities for the community center in general.

One of the sports for which space has been found in the community centers of Cleveland



The Recreation Calendar

JANUARY

Special Days—United States

- 1 New Year's Day
- 1 Negro Emancipation, 1863
- 7 Gregory XIII (Ugo Buoncompagni) 1502.
(Our present calendar is known as the Gregorian Calendar)
- 8 Battle of New Orleans (at New Orleans only)
- 14 Maury Day (Virginia)
- 17 Benjamin Franklin's Birthday
- 19 Edgar Allen Poe, 1809, Poet, Writer
- 19 R. E. Lee's Birthday (observed in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia)
- 25 Robert Burns, 1759, Poet
- 28 Child Labor Day
- 31 Franz Schubert, 1797, Composer

Special Weeks—United States

- 17-23 National Thrift Week
20-25 National Drama Week

Special Days—Foreign-Born Groups

- 7 Christmas (Balkan States, Ukraine and Greece)
- 20 Chinese New Year or Spring Holiday (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Special Events

- Snow and ice events (skating, hockey, polo, etc.)
Various types of indoor ball games
Quiet games
Story telling
Pageants (Inauguration Day)
Minstrel Shows (Negro Emancipation)
Poetic readings (Poe and Burns)
Dramatic presentation (National Drama Week)
Musical numbers (Franz Schubert)

FEBRUARY

Special Days—United States

- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 8 Boy Scouts of America, founded in 1910
- 12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, 1809
- 12 Georgia Day (in that state only. Date of Oglethorpe's landing in 1733)
- 14 St. Valentine's Day
- 14 Admission Day (in Arizona)
- 22 George Washington's Birthday, 1732

Special Weeks—United States

- 18-23 Better American Speech Week

Special Events

- Same events as for January, plus:
Demonstration by Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts of America)
Recitation—Gettysburg address, etc. — (Abraham Lincoln)
Valentine party (St. Valentine's Day)
Pageant (Georgia Day; Admission Day)
Story acting, biographical sketch (Lincoln and Washington)
Appropriate party (Leap Year)

MARCH

Special Days—United States

- 1 Mardi Gras (observed in Alabama, Florida and Louisiana)
- 2 Texas Independence Day (in Texas)
- 2 Sam Houston Memorial Day (in Texas)
- 4 Pennsylvania Day (in that state, whose charter was granted March 4, 1681)
- 6 Michelangelo, 1475, Art
- 7 Luther Burbank, 1849, Nature
- 8 Birthday of Joseph Lee
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 21 First day of Spring
- 25 Maryland Day (in that state only)
- 30 Seward Day (in Alaska)
Easter (earliest possible date March 24; latest possible date April 25)

Special Weeks—United States

- 17-21 Clean-up and Paint-up Week
Girl Scouts International Month

Special Events

- Same events as for January, plus:
Pageants, floats, contests, etc. (Mardi Gras)
Trip to museum (Michelangelo)
Nature talk, garden club, etc. (Luther Burbank)
Parade and community singing (St. Patrick's Day)
Hike through woods (First Day of Spring)
Choral festival (Easter)
Handcraft activities (Girl Scouts Month and Clean-up and Paint-up Week)

APRIL

Special Days—United States

- 1 All Fool's Day
- 3 John Burrough's, 1837, Nature
- 6 R. E. Peary discovered the North Pole, 1909
- 11 Arbor Day and Bird Day
- 12 Anniversary of founding of National Recreation Association in 1906
- 12 Date of passage of Halifax Independence Resolutions (in North Carolina)
- 13 Thomas Jefferson's Birthday, 1743 (in Ala.)
- 18 Paul Revere's Ride, 1775
- 19 Patriots' Day, (Battle of Lexington and Concord, 1775) (in Maine and Massachusetts)
- 21 Battle of San Jacinto (in Texas)
- 27 Grant's Birthday
- 30 Washington Inaugurated First President of United States, 1789

Special Weeks—United States

- 7-12 Forest Protection Week
20-26 National Garden Week
Be Kind to Animals Week (latter part of April)
Better Homes Week
Health Promotion Week (latter part of April)
International Boys Week (April and May)
Own Home Week (first week in April)

Special Events

- Party (All Fool's Day)
Tree planting, gardening, nature activities (John Burroughs, Arbor Day, Forest Protection and National Garden Weeks)
Track activities
Sidewalk games
Roller skating
Ball games
Musical and dramatic presentations (Easter)

MAY

Special Days—United States

- 1 May Day
- 1 Child Health Day
- 4 John J. Audubon, 1780, Birds, Nature
- 9 R. E. Byrd flew to North Pole, 1926
- 11 World Good Will Day
- 18 World Peace Day
- 20 Anniversary signing of Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence (observed in N. C.)
- 21 Charles A. Lindbergh flew the Atlantic, 1927
- 21 American Association of the Red Cross founded 1881
- 22 National Maritime Day (observance by flag display, commemorating first successful transatlantic voyage by steam of SS Savannah from Savannah, Ga., 1819)
- 25 Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803, Poetry
- 30 Memorial Day or Decoration Day (all states and possessions except Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina)
Mother's day (second Sunday)

Special Weeks—United States

- Music Week (beginning first Sunday, annually)
- 3 Boys Week—Rotary Clubs
- 4-10 Mothers and Daughters Week
Poetry Week (fourth week)
Youth Week (first week)

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 1 Labor Day (in Philippines)
- 3 Constitution Day (Polish)
- 17 Constitution Day (Norwegian)

Special Events

- Outdoor athletics and ball games of various types
- Maypole party, contests, health exhibitions (May Day, Child Health)
- Nature activities (John J. Audubon)
- Model Aircraft display, contest, party (Byrd, Lindbergh Days)
- Outdoor exercises, demonstrations, debates, contests, first aid, dramatic portrayals, pageants (World Good Will Day, World Peace Day, American Red Cross founding, Memorial Day, etc.)
- Essay and poetry writings (Emerson Day and Poetry Week)
- Folk festival, folk singing and dancing (Polish and Norwegian Constitution Day)
- Craft, art, dramatic, music skills, physical activities (Youth Week)

JUNE

Special Days—United States

- 3 Confederate Memorial Day (in Tennessee)
- 3 Jefferson Davis' Birthday (in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia)
- 5 Rose Festival
- 14 Flag Day, 1777
- 15 Pioneer Day (in Idaho)
- 17 Bunker Hill Day, 1775 (in Massachusetts)
- 20 West Virginia Day (in West Virginia)
- 21 First day of Summer, longest day of year
- 21 Daniel Carter Beard, 1850, Boy Scouts
Father's Day (second Sunday)

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 5 Constitution Day (Danish)
- 10 China, Dragon Boat Festival
- 11 Kamahameha Day (in Hawaii)
- 24 Mid-summer Day (Sweden and Finnish)

Special Events

- Playground activities
- Garden activities
- Picnics, hikes, outdoor games, boat trips
- Appropriate party (Father's Day)
- Outdoor exercises, special patriotic pageant (Bunker Hill Day, Idaho Pioneer Day, Confederate Memorial Day, Flag Day, etc.)
- Pageant, floats, community concert, singing (Rose Festival, First Day of Summer)
- Folk dancing, folk singing, (Swedish, Finnish and Danish Days)
- Concert. Hawaiian guitars, (Hawaii Day)
- Dramatic presentation, dances, parade, floats (China Dragon Festival)

JULY

Special Days—United States

- 1-3 Battle of Gettysburg, 1863
- 4 Independence Day, 1776
- 6 John Paul Jones, 1747
- 13 Birthday of Gen. Bedford Forrest (in Tennessee)
- 14 Rembrandt, 1607, Art
- 24 Pioneer Day (in Utah)

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 14 Bastille Day (France)
- 17 Munoz Rivera Day (in Puerto Rico)
- 21 Anniversary of National Independence (Belgium)
- 25 Occupation Day (in Puerto Rico)
- 27 Dr. Barbosa's Birthday (in Puerto Rico)

Special Events

- Outdoor swimming and water sports of various types
- Tennis, badminton, ping pong and other ball games and contests
- Archery, quoits, croquet, etc.
- Trips, outings, playground activities
- Outdoor pageants, flower shows (Gettysburg, Independence Day)
- French folk dances (Bastille Day)
- Trip to art center (Rembrandt Day)
- Patriotic rally, songs, story-acting (John Paul Jones, Utah Pioneer Day)

AUGUST

Special Days—United States

- 1 Colorado Day (in that state only)
- 9 Izaak Walton, 1593
- 15 Sir Walter Scott, 1771, Author
- 16 Anniversary Battle of Bennington (in Vermont)
- 17 David Crockett, 1786, Frontiersman
- 29 Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1809, Poet

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 13 Occupation Day (in the Philippines)

Special Events

- Fishing, motor boat races, model boat sailing contests
- Swimming, water sports and carnivals
- Nature activities, craft activities
- Story telling, story and poetic readings (Scott and Holmes Days)
- Story acting, pageant, play (Colorado Day, Battle of Bennington, David Crockett)
- Camping, musical entertainments, picnics, hikes
- Outdoor concerts

SEPTEMBER

Special Days—United States

- 6 Lafayette Day, Marquis de Lafayette, 1757
(also the anniversary of the First Battle of the Marne)
- 9 Admission Day (in California)
- 12 Defenders' Day (in Maryland)
- 14 Star-Spangled Banner written by Francis Scott Key, 1814
- 15 James Fenimore Cooper, 1789, Author
- 17 Constitution Day, 1787
- 22 Emancipation Proclamation, 1862
- 23 First day of Autumn
Labor Day (first Monday)
American Indian Day (fourth Friday)

Special Weeks—United States

- 16-22 Constitution Week
- 27-30 Indian Week

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 20 Unification Day (Italian)

Special Events

- Bicycling, roller skating
- Hunting, shooting, horseback riding
- Archery
- Track and field events
- Soccer, football and other field ball games
- Reading, debating, discussion, (particular emphasis on Constitution Day, Emancipation Proclamation Day, Labor Day, etc.)
- Harvest festival, exhibit handcraft projects (First Day Autumn, American Indian Day, etc.)
- Folk singing and dancing (Italian)

OCTOBER

Special Days—United States

- 1 Missouri Day (in that state's schools)
- 7 James Whitcomb Riley, 1853
- 9 Fraternal Day (Alabama only)
- 9 Fire Prevention Day (Chicago Fire—1871)
- 12 Columbus Day (America discovered—1492)
- 18 Alaska Day (in Alaska only)
- 20 Will Carleton Day (Michigan)
- 23 Frances C. Willard Day
- 27 Roosevelt Day
- 27 Pennsylvania Day (Pennsylvania)
- 31 Hallowe'en
- 31 Admission Day (in Nevada)

Special Weeks—United States

- 8-11 Good Citizens of America Week
- 8-13 National Fire Prevention Week
- 24-31 Good Health Week
Apple Week (latter part of October)

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 28 Independence Day (Czechoslovakia)

Special Events

- Same events as for September, plus:
- Football and volley ball type activities
- Races
- Hiking
- Paper craft, dramatic presentation (Hallowe'en)
- Essay contest (Fire Prevention Week, Good Citizens Week, etc.)
- Exhibition physical skills, contests (Good Health Week)
- Harvest festival (Apple Week)
- Folk dancing and singing (Czechoslovakian Independence Day)

NOVEMBER

Special Days—United States

- 2 Daniel Boone, 1734
- 11 Armistice Day, 1918
- 11 Indian Summer
- 13 Robert Louis Stevenson, 1850
- 19 Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, 1863
Election Day (first Tuesday after first Monday)
Thanksgiving Day (last Thursday)

Special Weeks—United States

- 5-11 World Court Week
- 11-17 Children's Book Week
- 11-18 National Father and Son Week
- 18-23 American Education Week
- 19- Open School Week (New York City)

Special Events

- Gymnasium activities, indoor swimming
- Indoor ball games
- Fencing, boxing, wrestling
- Ice skating and other ice rink activities
- Sleigh riding, skiing, tobogganing and other winter sports
- Hobby clubs, music clubs, dramatic groups
- Book clubs, forum groups (Book Week, World Court Week, etc.)
- Essay contest (Armistice Day)
- Current events, political discussion clubs (American Education Week, Election Day)
- Craft activities in connection with harvest festival (Thanksgiving, Indian Summer)

DECEMBER

Special Days—United States

- 7 Delaware Day (in that state; U. S. Constitution ratified on that date, 1787)
- 14 Amundsen reached South Pole, 1911
- 17 Red Cross
- 21 First day of Winter, shortest day of year
- 21 Forefathers' Day (landing on Plymouth Rock, 1620; celebrated by New England societies everywhere)
- 25 Christmas Day
- 28 Woodrow Wilson's Birthday (in South Carolina)
- 31 New Year's Eve

Special Weeks—United States

- 6 Safety Week

Special Days—Foreign-born Groups

- 30 Rizal Day (in Philippines)

Special Events

- Same events as for November, plus:
- Community singing of Christmas carols (Christmas)
- Craft activities for decorating community Christmas tree
- Pageant depicting activities (Red Cross)
- Story-acting (Forefathers' Day, Amundsen)
- Patriotic rally, addresses, essay contest (U. S. Constitution, Woodrow Wilson, etc.)
- Winter carnivals
- Parties (New Year, Christmas)

What They Say About Recreation

THE VERY NATURE of youth demands adventure, the opportunity to be active, the chance to create and discover, the challenge of a career, the promise of achievement, the right to be identified with a cause, and a reasonable hope to give reality to high ideals."—*Thomas H. Nelson* in *Planning the Future with Youth*.

"A hobby is a pursuit which adds zest to life through the sheer satisfaction of doing, not something dropped into an unfilled space simply to fill it. No hobby is satisfactory unless it simultaneously satisfies and stimulates curiosity and intellectual interest. It must give us joy on the road but interest in pressing on to new revelations."—*Bessie D. Sharp*.

"Leisure is here and here to stay. The Western World as a whole has more hours of leisure than of work. Leisure can be a blessing to men and women or it can be their complete undoing. One of the most important functions of the schools today is to educate boys and girls for the wholesome, wise use of leisure time. Culture has been built upon leisure. Until a civilization advances far enough to free some of its people for art and music and science and philosophy, mankind remains in a barbarian state."—*Carleton Washburne* in *Our Schools*.

"If I have learned anything throughout these many years it is surely this, that it is our common life that matters, and that to stay apart from it is the death of art, of politics and of religion."—*Mary K. Simkhorvitch* in *Neighborhood*.

"I want to make a plea for a program in your schools and playgrounds which will prepare folks—and particularly children—in the art of outdoor living and in the appreciation of those values in nature which are indescribable and which one must experience for himself. . . . Conservation of nature's gifts is a sacred duty of this generation and all generations to follow. To conserve does not mean to refrain from human use and enjoy-

ment but rather to use understandingly and with respect for nature."—*Frank A. Kittredge*, Regional Director, National Park Service.

"We shall never have any great art in this country until many people are doing things with their hands. How can we understand the man of skill unless we try to do some of the things he does? We should all try painting and modelling—not with the idea of becoming great artists, but to know something of the difficulties of the arts and be able to appreciate it when we meet the triumphant achievements of the great masters."—*Lorado Taft*.

"It should be a principle, inflexible, a policy, fixed, unshakable, that recreation shall not be ruthlessly, recklessly exploited for private profit. A policy of ample community recreation should be unalterably established; like law enforcement and the police department, like fire protection and the fire department, and health and sanitation."—*Austin E. Griffiths*.

"The use of leisure is a highly individualistic problem. It cannot be solved by anything but independent thought and a fair-minded investigation of its possibilities. It is an all-important problem, for upon its happy solution depends the quality of life necessary for the development of a personality capable of serving, cooperating with, and contributing to humanity, and finally of enjoying the happiness which is the fruit of living wisely."—*Austen Fox Riggs* in *Play*.

"The criterion of play for the child should be fun, zest and spontaneity. Dry and cold formality will chill the spirit. One should seek here neither a training in discipline nor a disciplinary process, but an expansive and expressive adventure in enlarging life. . . . Play is something more than an arrest of the child's turbulent power. It should carry the child deep into friendly human life, and bring him back with enriched understanding and faith."—*John Eisele Davis* in *Play and Mental Health*.

Recalling Old Times

If you're giving a party, now that the old year is a thing of the past, why not make it a new and timely one?

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days of auld lang syne?*

ONCE UPON A TIME there was an old, old man who went about at the end of every year unmercifully mowing down everything in front of him. But there were two things which escaped his relentless scythe. These were old friends and old times. They were too good for Old Father Time.

And so each New Year we snatch a minute or two from our hilarity to pause and consider the significance of "Auld Lang Syne," to remember old friends and "the good old days."

Suppose you have already had your big celebration—with other, newer friends, perhaps? What about the "gang"? Should auld acquaintance be forgot? By no means! And there's no time like the present to have that party you've always wanted for them.

First, pin on the walls of the entertainment room a miscellaneous collection of cartoons, snapshots, or newspaper pictures illustrating past "red-letter" days in your community. Mix in with these any kodak pictures from your own or friends' memory books—scenes that are reminiscent of the gay times you and "the crowd" have enjoyed together. Only the happy events should be among your pictures. A few cartoons featuring amusing predicaments which have befallen some of your old buddies usually causes great merriment. For instance, if you have a picture of Rosalind in the costume that won her first prize at the Tacky Picnic, by all means use it!

Naturally there are limitless possibilities for the kind of party you can have, but since you're giving it for your old friends, and in memory of "the good old times" you may be able to use some of the following games:

Time Tables. Make a timepiece by placing a white paper cover over a round table and marking



it with bold black hours and hands. The hours should be cut out of black paper and pasted in place. Black cardboard should be used for the hands which are fastened with a pin to the paper tablecloth. The leader "sets" the hands of the table clock, and then asks the person sitting by the hour hand to draw a slip from a box marked "The Pass-Time of the Hour." When the stunt is drawn, the unfortunate victim is not asked to perform alone, however. The minute hand is pointing to her companion in misery, and the two perform together.

Timely Tots. To make sure that your party gets off with a hilarious start, dress each guest, regardless of sex, size, or protest, in a baby bonnet made of crepe paper. Make the long paper strings in a bow tied under the chin. Prepare the bonnets beforehand and appoint a few "nurse maids" who can be relied upon to see that the "babies" are all arrayed in the timely garb!

What Time Is It? Now give the men a chance to get in the spotlight and show off their new bonnets. Have each one drawn from a hat a slip of paper on which is written a sentence pertaining to time. The girls draw from another hat which contains duplicate slips. Each man in turn steps forward and demonstrates his particular kind of time. His only chance to get out of the spotlight is to act so effectively that the girl with the matching time slip will recognize him as her partner. No one is allowed to show his card.

Cards might have "times" that are easily acted, such as Killing Time, Beating Time, Saving Time,

Marking Time, Losing Time, the March of Time, Two-four Time, Six-eight Time, Fast Time, Slow Time, Night Time or Supper Time. Or more difficult ones like a Stitch in Time Saves Nine, Once upon a Time, Time will Tell, Time Is Money, the Nick o' Time, Punching the Time Clock, Time and Tide Wait for No Man, Time Heals All Wounds, Backward Turn Backward, Oh Time in Your Flight, Time on My Hands, Time Out, and Footprints in the Sands of Time.

Time to Sing. An impromptu singing contest can be great fun. Select two leaders and let each in turn choose a singer for his choir until both choral societies are assembled. Now tell them that you have a pathetic little song which has no tune. Give them fifteen minutes to compose a suitable tune, and then require them to sing the song with actions. Emphasize your demand for actions! Then hand the rival choruses about half a dozen "song sheets" on which the following is written:

I wish I wuz a little clock
That didn't have a chime
Or strike or nothin' all day long,
But just be tellin' time.
I'd run on slow time all my life;
I'd never run on quick,
And if they didn't wind me up
I wouldn't even tick.

The applause of the audience—if any—determines the winner.

The Riddle of Life. Each couple is supplied with one pencil and a sealed envelope containing a set of riddles. On the word "Go!" all the envelopes are torn open and the riddles attacked. Each couple works together. Here is an easy list.

1. What makes a striking present? (A clock)
2. When is a clock dangerous? (When it strikes one.)
3. What day of the year is a command to go forward? (March 4.)
4. When the clock strikes 13, what time is it? (Time to take it to the repair shop!)
5. What is always behind time? (The back of a clock, of course.)
6. I have hands but no fingers; no bed but lots of ticks. What am I? (A clock.)
7. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but not once in a thousand years? (The letter M.)
8. What is it that every living person has seen but will never see again? (Yesterday.)
9. What is time and yet a fruit? (A date.)
10. What does the proverb say time is? (Money.)

Set an alarm clock to ring in five minutes, and warn the players beforehand that this

will be the signal to stop. If at the end of this time nobody has solved the entire list, give them another few minutes. Then read off the answers. Award the winning couple two little calendars tagged "Time Will Tell."

Up with the Times. Guests are given sheets of paper marked into seven divisions to resemble a week's page of a diary. Each signs his name at the top, and folding over the paper passes it to the player at the right. In not more than seven words, players write in Monday's space an account of what they did on that day. Then the diaries are passed to the right again after being carefully folded. The next player writes in the space for Tuesday. This continues until a full week has been entered. Then each in turn loudly announces the name at the top of the page he is holding and reads the confession.

Passing of Time. Here is one of the old "passing" games, always exciting while they last. Provide a double set of tiny tokens symbolic of the months of the year, such as calendars for January, hearts for February, rabbits for March, paper umbrellas for April, Maypoles for May, paper roses or pictures of a bride for June, flags or firecrackers for July, oak leaves or pictures of a picnic for August, schoolhouse pictures for September, Jack-o'-lanterns for October, nuts or turkeys for November, Santa Claus for December. Most of these may be illustrations from magazines, while a few could easily be miniatures of the actual thing. With your "months" prepare two large cardboard sheets on each of which you have marked in black crayon twelve squares and above the squares, in correct order, the names of the months.

Divide your guests in equal sides and line them up facing each other with the leaders at the head and the calendar charts at the foot of the lines. Each leader is given a tiny tray containing a year of jumbled "months." On the word "Go!" the leaders start their months, one at a time, down their respective lines. When they reach the end player, he puts them in their proper places on the calendar. The side whose end man is the first to do this accurately wins the race.

The activities suggested for this party are based on material taken from "Summer Activities and Independence Day Celebration," Number 8 of the Activities Bulletin Series issued by the Chicago Park District, and used by permission.

Time to Retire. Father Time stands in his "sphere" which is chalked off from the rest of the room. He has a white

forelock, beard, and a cardboard scythe. He stalks solemnly back and forth, trying the edge of his scythe from time to time.

"O Father Time, what time is it?" the leader of the mortals asks. Father Time does not look at his questioners but replies, "One o'clock" or "Three minutes past two," or some other figure. Whereupon the mortals sigh with relief and repeat their questions. This goes on as long as Father Time feels like keeping them in suspense. When he gives the time to retire, which is *twelve o'clock midnight*, the mortals must turn and run to the goal for their lives. Father Time is pursuing and should his scythe touch them, they are called "dead ones" and must fall out of the game.

A clever Father Time can give the mortals palpitation at any time of the game by merely replying, "Twelve o'clock," and stopping. There is instantly a wild stampede for the goal, but since he did not say "Twelve o'clock midnight" it was not retiring time, and so these would-be "fly-by-nights" have their names listed to pay forfeits later on. When all but one have succumbed to Father Time's scythe, the survivor becomes Father Time.

Wishing Time. A half sheet of note paper is handed to each guest as chairs are drawn around a large table. Holding their papers under the table the players are asked to tear out "by guess" the shape of some "thing" they particularly desire. It may be a dog, a car, a diamond ring, or an airplane. Pencils are passed, and still without looking, each one puts a "trade-mark" on his masterpiece. When all have finished, the papers are passed around the table from player to player. Each one examines the torn out object as it reaches him and jots down on a card the "trade-mark" and what he thinks it is. Then one by one the "artists" arise, exhibit their own works of art and announce what they represent. Prizes are given to the best guesser and the most skillful artist.

Timely Stunts. "Slow Time" requires only three characters, the Stranger, Old Timer, and the Scene Shifter. The Stranger stands hesitatingly beside a cardboard mile-post which reads "Busy Corner." He looks up and down the street, tries repeatedly to cross but retreats to the sidewalk before the imaginary stream of traffic. If the Scene Shifter honks a horn off stage, the little man's narrow escape of being run down by a taxi can be made almost as breathtaking as the real affair.

Finally the Old Timer strolls up and the Stranger hails him, "Say, does the Riverside bus come along this way?" (Use local name) "Sure," replies Old Timer. "Just watch for No. 51." "Thanks," says the Stranger, and Old Timer leaves. The Stranger continues to wait. He yawns and looks at his watch. The Scene Shifter shuffles in and places a large sign marked "Four Hours Later" where all can see it.

Old Timer comes in again. He stares in utter astonishment at the Strangers. "Well," he cries, "for pity's sake! Hasn't your bus come along yet?"

The Stranger smiles patiently. "Not yet," he says, "but it won't be long now because I've counted forty-nine so far. Two more will make the fifty-first." Old Timer puts his hands to his head, staggers dizzily and falls dead on the rug.

By this time Old Father Time has probably had enough frolic for one evening. You may still have time for a little ragtime at your party. But then you'll want to depart in pretty fast time because it's way past time for your slumber-time.

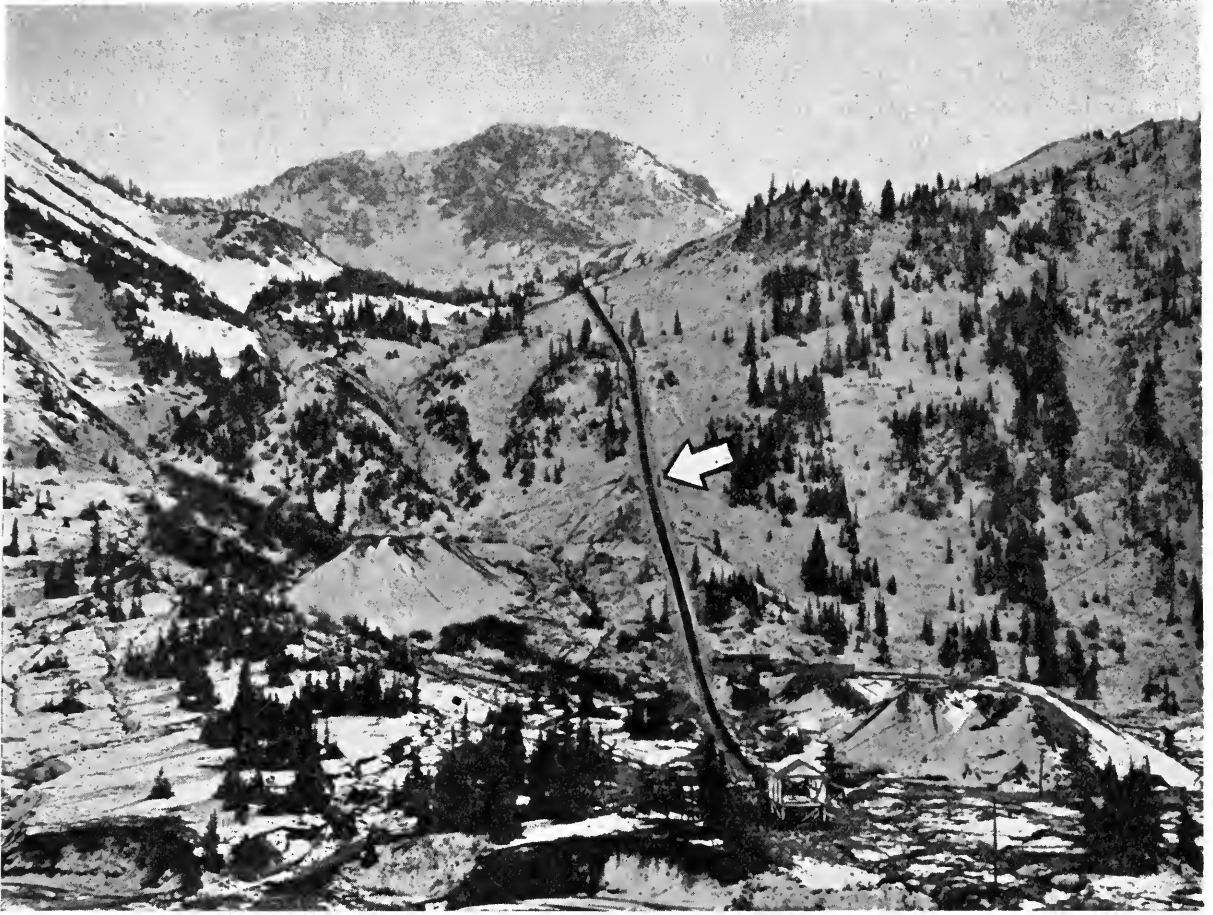
But from time to time you will remember that this time you really had the time of your life. You and "the gang" . . . and auld lang syne . . . singing farewell till next time!

Here are a few additional activities:

The Game of Months. One of the players is appointed to be Father Time. He appoints the other months beginning with January and proceeding through the year, giving each player a month. Everyone is then lined up in front of Father Time who throws a ball toward the line, at the same time calling out the name of some month. The player who has the name of that month must either catch or get possession of the ball before Father Time can count ten. If he is unsuccessful he must take Father Time's place.

Lost Time. Cardboard hour-glasses have different amounts of time written on them, such as one day, thirty seconds, six hours, twenty-five minutes, etc. The hour-glasses are hidden about the room and the leader announces that much time has been lost during the year and that a prize will be given to the team finding the most time in two minutes. Time is counted according to the amount written on the hour-glass.

NOTE: Suggestions for parties of various types will be found in "Parties for Special Days of the Year," published by the National Recreation Association. Price fifty cents.



The Great Recreational Adventure

IT'S SNOWING in Salt Lake City and the ski enthusiasts are thrilled with the knowledge that a long season for winter sports is promised! Since the last of October, with fall sports taking the spotlight and with weather conditions ideal for golf and football, each week end the more adventuresome have wended their way into the mountains surrounding Salt Lake where the skiing is already good.

With four feet of perfect powder snow in the winter resorts, skiers report the snow deep enough for safety and so light and fluffy turns can be made with great ease. This year, with skiing starting in October, and the hope that it will last until the first of June, as it usually does, Salt Lake City can now boast of being one of the few cities with a seven month skiing season only thirty miles from Main Street.

By JESSIE SCHOFIELD
Superintendent of Recreation
Salt Lake City, Utah

The ski shops are open and merchants are displaying their wares in fashion shows, at dinner meetings and afternoon teas. The Recreation Department is cooperating with the Chamber of Commerce, Forest Service and the *Tribune* newspaper in conducting its third annual Winter Sports Show, which was held November 28th, 29th, and 30th to inaugurate officially the winter program. Each of the merchants selling ski equipment and apparel has been invited to have a booth in the hall in which to display his merchandise and apparel. An entrance fee of \$10.00 is charged to cover the cost of the show itself, the booths being built by the newspaper in whose auditorium the show is held.

The program for the Winter Sports Show will feature a showing of the "Ski Chase" film and a Fashion Review. Each merchant who wishes to

enter the Review—and no extra charge is made for it—is limited to two models, a boy and a girl. Ski clothes and lounging clothes to be donned after skiing will be shown. Because of the large number of people who are interested in skiing and the limited seating capacity of the auditorium, admission is by tickets. These are distributed through the newspaper office at no cost.

An additional stimulus to winter sports in Salt Lake has been added this summer by the completion by the National Forest Service and Salt Lake County Road Department of a wide highway to Alta, the former world-famed mining town just an hour's drive from the heart of the city.

From Mining Camp to Ski Paradise

Many ski experts and professionals of the United States and European countries have visited Alta in the past few seasons when access to the town for skiing was possible only in the late fall before the heavy snows closed the road, or by skiing some six or eight miles over the mountain tops from Park City and Brighton. All have extolled it as a skiing paradise second to none in the United States and comparing favorably with skiing areas in the Alps.

A ski lift is being built at Alta financed by local ski leaders as a community enterprise. The dedication of the lift was held November 27th as the first event in the Winter Sports Show and the only event in the festival taking place at a skiing area.

Alta has a romantic history. In 1868 it was established as a mining camp. Seventy years have ticked off since its "bonanza days"; now it is virtually deserted, dozing high on the northern flanks of Mount Baldy, a lofty peak of the Wasatch range, and looking off west to the green Salt Lake Valley far below.

It has dreams to dream—of the estimated \$37,000,000 in lead, silver, copper and gold it produced in its heyday years of the 60's and 70's and of its possibilities as a gold producing center of the future. Alta was a prosperous camp of the first magnitude when its mines produced much high-grade ore. There were some fifteen large mines with many small ones. At its zenith in the gilded age it boasted a popu-

lation in excess of 5,000. Then it had a hundred buildings, some of them three-story affairs. Now its population numbers two, both of whom vote religiously each year, and all that remains of the town is a mere handful of buildings along the faded Main Street; their roofs beaten down by the crushing snows of many winters.

Until the railroad was completed in Salt Lake City ore was hauled by ox team down Little Cottonwood Canyon to Ogden some sixty miles away. Then it traveled by rail to San Francisco, by sailing vessel around Cape Horn to Swansea, Wales, where it was refined. There were no smelters in this country for ore at that time.

The story of the Emma Mine perhaps describes best the life of the mining camp, showing as it does its feverish years of prosperity, its fitful flashes of reviving production and its many years of unproductivity. Four early miners spent ten months sinking a shaft ninety-three feet through hard rock—and found ore. The Emma poured out its riches with a lavish hand. It was operated by its discoverers until early in 1871 when it was sold for \$1,500,000 and the Emma Mining Company of Utah was formed. The size and extraordinary richness of the ore had gained by this time international fame for the Emma. British capital became interested, finally buying it for \$5,000,000 half in money and half in shares.

Due to the demonetization of silver and the excessive cost of getting the ore to smelters, 1873 saw the virtual cessation of mining in the district. Now in 1938 this romantic old mining camp is receiving a "shot-in-the-arm" by the hardy ski rider. The new road built by the United States Government through the National Forest Service and the Salt Lake County Commission has made it possible for winter sport enthusiasts to get into this famous old district by car the year round. The road will also afford low cost transportation for

the mines of the district with the hope of Mr. George N. Watson, Mayor of Alta and now ski enthusiast, that again it will become a mining center of note.

Making the Area Accessible

The Utah State Road Commission and the Salt Lake County Commissioner have made plans and have pur-

"Have you ever stood on the summit of a high mountain in winter on a clear, frosty morning and drunk in the beauty around you? Have you ever felt the keen wind on your face as you glided on long skis silently, smoothly and swiftly down a twisting mountain trail carpeted with soft and brilliant snow? If you haven't done these things then you haven't experienced some of the finest pleasures life has to offer." — From a bulletin issued by the Western Massachusetts Winter Sports Committee.

chased equipment for keeping the highway cleared of snow throughout the winter. A lodge is being built by the Forest Service to provide shelter for "after skiing." The snow averages eleven feet deep in the area; the average elevation is 8700 feet above sea level, and therefore the finest powder snow exists in this area affording splendid skiing for seven months of the year.

Salt Lake City's winter sport enthusiasts will long sing the praises of the National Forest Service who have assisted in opening this and other ski areas to the population as a whole. This increased enthusiasm has only come during the last five years. Previous to that time only the more daring knew the thrills of skiing over the mountain tops some 10,000 to 12,000 feet high on a long six mile trek to Brighton, one of the most popular mountain resorts near Salt Lake, carrying bedding and food in packs on one's back. When the destination was reached one had to "dig down" to the cabins to get in, and woe betide if enough wood had not been left in the fall for a three day stay!

The new road will not bring the thrills those days afforded. The worst experiences came if an unforeseen storm came up on the long trek over Windy Pass which even in clear weather always has a wind which threatens to blow skier and snow right off the mountain side. The fears and hard work in reaching Brighton were soon forgotten as soon as a cup of hot soup had been devoured. The ecstasy in viewing the beauties of winter by moonlight, of skiing through the dark pines in the hush of night when the stillness was broken only by the shouts of one's comrades and by the sound of one's skis on the snow was worth the hard grind of "Skiing to Brighton."

The second day was spent skiing on those marvelous slopes which now, because of the diligence of the County Road Commission, can be reached by car. The third day the more ardent and enduring skied over the mountains (another six miles) to Alta and then home, while the remainder skied the long fourteen miles to the mouth of the canyon where friends saw that cars waited. Fourteen glorious miles of downhill unbroken snow (if you were the first down or none in front of you had fallen) afforded the thrills of steep slopes for the better skiers and gentle slopes for the others—fourteen miles of just "skiing" without having to climb back up the hill. What a thrill if the next day one could proclaim, "I skied right to the mouth of the canyon without a fall."

The new roads into all the skiing paradises around Salt Lake—and only a few have been mentioned—mean that many, many more people are skiing, and are skiing much better. Gone are the days when the best skier was the one who could ride the steepest and longest hill in the shortest time and stand up in a straight down hill run. Now the talk is of "Gelandesprung," "Christiana" and of "Slalom." Now the best skier is the one who can turn the best, is the most graceful and adept in all the intricate phases of skiing.

And is it fun? The thousands of cars filled with skiers of all ages and sizes which each week end or holiday are seen wending their way to the hills prove the popularity of winter sports. The National Forest Service has also cleared many lakes for ice skating which heretofore has suffered in the city itself for lack of cold enough weather. Tobogganing has always been popular wherever enough snow was found on a steep slope. Now all three winter pastimes—skiing, tobogganing and ice skating can be enjoyed the same day in the same area. Winter sports are truly the great recreational adventure!

Salt Lake City invites the world to come and ski.

"It never ceases to amaze me what pleasure the elongation of one's feet—which is really what the ski is—can give. It also never ceases to amaze those who try it for the first time, no matter what age they are. The beginner can get real enjoyment from the slightest slope. The expert, on the other hand, can never run out of ticklish places to try his skill. Skiing is adaptable to everybody. After this fact of universality, I think the most valuable aspect of the sport is in the realization that it gives you a freedom undreamt. With skis on your feet the whole wide, snow-covered world becomes your playground. The untrailed vastnesses of mountains are made accessible, and new beauties opened up which are never seen except by this medium.

"Skiing is the least monotonous of the universal sports. No two hills are alike, no two trails offer the same curves, runs and surprises; and even if you are limited to an after-supper radius of miles, no two days are alike as to speed and other conditions. . . . On the ski trail lies health, tingling, muscular, ozone-made health, on it lies beauty, and at the end a self-satisfaction which is the basis of content."—*Ornulf Poulsen* in *Skiing*.

Royal Games in the Land of Loch Lomond

FROM THE modest country dance on the village green to the might and pomp of the modern Olympic Games, the world today is sport conscious. Football, wrestling, weight throwing, high jumping—athletics are athletics the world over. Except in Scotland!

Months have passed, leaving in their wake the memory of a glorious sunny day in September, the Royal Gathering on Deeside, perhaps the most successful and most glamorous of all the one hundred years of Scottish Braemar Games since the time of Queen Victoria. And almost before the new year has both feet on the ground, Scotland will be dreaming and planning for even a greater Royal Braemar Gathering in 1939—and years to come.

True, the Scottish Games include the broad jump, the 100-yard dash, pole vaulting, and the other usual events of track and field common to most countries. But it was not only these tests of athletic skill, speed, and endurance that drew over 25,000 people to the Royal Deeside last year for the Braemar Gathering. No other country is quite so rich in historic color and tradition—lovely, romantic Scotland, the land of Loch Lomond and Glen Derry, the Auld Brig o' Balgownie and Aberbrothock Abbey, Invercauld House and Bonnie Glen Shee; the country of the romantic, beautiful Highlands and the sweet, storied Borderland with its Palace of Holyroodhouse and its haunting memories of Mary Queen of Scots, tragic and beautiful. Yes, the kilts and the clans, the birches and the bagpipes are all a part of that enchanting country immortalized by Bobbie Burns and Sir Walter Scott, a part the cherished tradi-



tion of old Scotland which new Scotland cannot let die.

And so—each year the Royal Highland Gathering is planned once more, to rekindle in the souls of the Scots something of the ancient fire; to restore and to keep alive in their minds something of the national pride and love, the tradition, the color, the pageantry of that Scotland so loved by Victoria.

And so—they come, thousands of them, to see the hammer-throwing and high-jumping contests, but even more eagerly to watch the march of the Duff Clansmen, the massed piped bands, the Highland Fling, to look upon the panorama of Scotland's grandeur, a kaleidoscope of color and romance, and to visit the historic haunts of Scotland—the abbeys, cathedrals, castles, towers, and glens.

And so—the Braemar Games, combining successful athletic interests with picturesque, story-book tradition, have become a world-famous Scottish Highland event.

The Legend of King Malcolm Canmore

Even the Scottish Games have their own legendary foundation which adds another dash of color to Loch Lomond traditions. Like the Olympic games of ancient Greece, these old Highland con-

tests grew out of the necessity of the times, that of training the young men in feats of endurance, skill, and strength; and how could that be better achieved than by pitting the strength of man with man and of clan with clan in friendly contest?

Legend says that King Malcolm Canmore in his royal residence at Kindrochit realized the need for strong, swift messengers to serve His Majesty and the country when cause arose. Here in this Highland region there were men of brawn, endurance and courage. So the King called a great gathering of the men of the strath and the glens to meet on the wide level haugh between the Dee and the precipitous cliff which was known as the Rock of the Lion's Face. And in the haugh of the Dee at Invercauld, the King saw the big, strong Highland men prove their fitness to be a King's messenger in many forms of athletic prowess. But the competitors reached so high a standard that the King knew not how to choose his man, till looking around, his eye caught the towering face of the Lion Rock.

"Who first wins the summit of yonder rock will be King's messenger!" he said. It was a gruelling race, but in a second three gallant brothers sprang to the task. The youngest was a mere stripling, and everything favored his elder and more seasoned brothers. But he was very game, and his mind was set on gaining the coveted honor. Within a dozen yards of the crest of the rock he drew level with his foremost rival. A superhuman effort gained him a foot or two of ground, but his brother, equally determined not to lose the prize at this stage, seized the youngster's kilt as he swung past. In a flash, the garment was loosened from the stripling's waist, and he had mounted the rock in triumph.

The feat was talked of for a long time, and it is a fact that the race which tradition says was instituted by Malcolm Canmore in the tenth century formed a feature of the Braemar Highland Gathering up to the time when Queen Victoria herself became a deeply interested patron and showed her practical interest in many ways. One of these was to request the discontinuance of this dangerously strenuous trial of strength.

Queen Victoria's Patronage

It was in 1832 that the first Scottish Games were held at Braemar, but many years passed before they attracted really wide interest. In the royal palace at Kensington the Princess Victoria had read and re-read Scott's novels and had

steeped herself in the history and description of this romantic nation. When on the advice of a physician, the young Queen Victoria was sent to Deeside in search of a healthful change of air, she immediately fell in love with the valley, and before long Her Majesty was in possession of a castle of her own, the royal estate of Balmoral. Here she learned more about the Highland Clans and how much their heritage of kinship meant to them.

She had heard how in the old days the Highland Gatherings were contests between champions of local repute. She was thrilled by the knowledge that for weeks before the event the glens had resounded with the music of bagpipe practice and that the local joiner, shoemaker and blacksmith rehearsed with one another in tossing the caber and putting the shot in preparation for the great day. She encouraged the idea of local competition, realizing the advantage of developing the individual in those things that come nearest the spirit. In this way she had a great bond of understanding with her retainers at Balmoral. She brought back to Scotland something of the clan spirit of equality. Attempts were often made to influence her to postpone her frequent Scottish visits, because of the difficulties encountered in England by her long absences, but these were seldom successful. She longed and waited for the early days of spring when she could visit her beloved Balmoral.

The Queen, at an early stage of her occupancy of Balmoral, manifested a lively interest in the Highland Gathering, and many marks of royal favor were bestowed upon it. Not only was the Society itself honored by the designation "Royal," but its annual Gathering was invited many times to hold the meeting at Balmoral. Her Majesty on these occasions extended to the clansmen lavish hospitality, and in the words of an old chronicler, treated them more as friends than subjects. The gatherings of the later Victorian days had begun to take hold of a wider public outside the neighborhood of Balmoral, and grew from a modest occurrence concerning mainly the people of the glens of Upper Deeside to a royal event of importance in the district. The patronage of the dearly beloved Queen Victoria made of the Gathering the glorious spectacle that it is today.

Other Sovereigns Approve

The sovereigns who followed the great Queen carried on the Royal traditions that had gathered

around the Braemar Games. King Edward gave his patronage to the Braemar Royal Highland Society, and he and his Queen and their family were always present at the Gathering. The accession of George V set a further seal upon the popularity of the Braemar Gathering.

The Princess Royal Park, presented by the Duke of Fife to the Braemar Royal Highland Society, was carefully laid out and many improvements carried out in the early years of George V's reign, and by August, 1914, everything seemed set for an unprecedentedly successful Gathering. But the war intervened, and for five years there was no great assembly of royal and noble residents of Deeside, of famous athletes and pipers and dancers, of eager spectators from every part of the compass, gathered around the green arena with its circling hills at Braemar.

The revival of the Gathering came in the autumn following the cessation of the war; cars and coaches rolled up in hundreds by all the routes that lead to Braemar. The Braemar Gathering had become an event of world-wide interest!

The coming to the throne of the present King and his much loved Queen Consort meant a great deal to the Balmoral countryside. A Scottish Queen stirred the romantic hearts of the Highland folks that had always beat strongly with royal regard for the reigning house. They knew how genuine and deep was the attachment of the new King and Queen and their daughters to their Highland home and indeed to all that pertains to Scotland.

The 1938 Gathering a Success

With sprigs of holly and fir in their bonnets and standards proudly borne at their head, to the skirl of the pipes the Duff Clansmen and the Invercauld men marched to the Princess Royal Park where they circled the arena before disbanding to await the arrival of the royal party.

The enthusiastic greeting that awaited the King and Queen and Princesses as they rode in the picturesque semi-state coach with outriders through cheering crowds lined by the Duff and Farquharson Highlanders was worthy of the occasion. The obvi-

ous enjoyment of the Royal Family and their relatives and friends in the Royal enclosure added zest to the interest of thousands taking in the whole splendid scene from the arena.

The 1938 Gathering at the Princess Royal Park, one of the most perfectly successful gatherings ever held in the long history of these events, was notable for its return to the ideals of earlier years which gave opportunity for local athletes to show their prowess to the folks of the immediate surrounding countryside for the mere love of sport. Amateurs only were allowed to compete, a requirement which proved an added attraction to what was already a most popular annual event.

Again there were hammer throwing contests, caber tossing, 100-yard sprints, running high leaps, wrestling, and other heavy and light events. But there was as much interest in the pipe band competitions and the dancing to a sailor's horn-pipe as in the number of athletic records broken. Ever since Donal' Dinnie, Scottish showman and athlete, who is as much a part of Scottish tradition as Malcolm Canmore and Robert the Bruce, conceived the idea of swinging the hammer round his head in a complete circle before throwing it, the Scottish Games have been emphasizing skill as well as power in their contests.

The climax of the whole day's proceedings was the magnificent spectacle of the march of the massed pipe bands. This parade was an innovation in the Coronation year, and was an immensely popular one. The King and Queen asked the massed pipe band at the Braemar Gathering to play "Over the Sea to Skye," a song which was sung by boatmen to their Majesties when, as Duke and Duchess of York, they visited Skye. The revival of the Highland Reel, which was so popular at the Gatherings of Queen Victoria's time, was a picturesque feature, and was followed with keen interest by Their Majesties and the Princesses.

The Empire Exhibition

In connection with the Games and as a part of the Braemar Gathering was the Empire Exhibition where different countries of the Empire gathered

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"The Braemar Royal Highland Society has been in existence for over a hundred years. Its chief object has been the creation of a Fund for Widows and Orphans and Maintenance of Sick and Superannuated Members. The ordinary funds of the Society are applied entirely to this purpose. Any Lady, Nobleman or Gentleman may be admitted as an Honorary Member by making a donation of not less than five guineas. The Funds obtained from such sources are devoted to the encouragement of Athletic Sports and are given as prizes at the Annual Gathering which takes place each year by approval of His Majesty the King and other patrons." — From the Games program.

Hints for the Hiker!

SPONSORED by the Recreation Department of the city, the Bethlehem, Pa., Hiking Club has as its purpose the stimulating of interest in nature and the out of doors through hiking. The club is divided into two groups—a senior branch for those sixteen years of age and over, and a junior branch for those under sixteen years. Dues are 50c a year for seniors; 25c for juniors. The money derived from the dues is used for club correspondence, printed forms and a magazine, and for club equipment such as first aid kits and topographical maps. On payment of dues membership cards are issued which place the members upon the secretary's correspondence list to receive the club magazine and notices of all activities. Members may invite guests at any time except at special events, but guests may not participate in more than two hikes without joining the club.

Short and long hikes alternate at two-week intervals throughout the year. The short hikes are planned over comparatively easy country and for moderate distances to permit inexperienced or handicapped hikers to join the group. The longer hikes are scheduled over rougher terrain and are designed for more hardy and ambitious hikers.

The planning of club activities is done mainly by the Executive Committee and com-



mittee chairmen. General membership meetings are held twice a year, and on these occasions special entertainment such as moving pictures and lectures are supplied. Activities are not restricted solely to hikes, but include special functions such as dinner hikes to an inn where games may be enjoyed in the evening, sleigh rides, overnight camping trips, seasonal social parties and excursions to such points of interest as the Philadelphia Zoo and Horticultural Hall.

The officers of the club consist of the president, vice president, and secretary and there are committees on membership, hikes, leaders, publicity, transportation, entertainment and projects.

Hiking Equipment Hints

The club has issued the following suggestions on equipment and procedure:

One of the most perplexing questions for inexperienced hikers is relative to what to wear and what to carry along on a hike. In the matter of clothing, comfort and durability are the main requisites and appearance only secondary. Rough clothing that can withstand rain, brambles, etc., is essential.

The most important item is footwear. Shoes should be flat-heeled and heavy-soled. If used solely for hiking, they should be heavily

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Public Recreation on Exhibit

THE GOLDEN GATE International Exposition will open on Treasure Island in romantic San Francisco Bay on February 18 and will continue through December 2, 1939, commemorating the completion of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and the Golden Gate Bridge.

Charles W. Davis, Administrator of Recreational Exhibits, who is Director of Health and Physical Education in Berkeley, California, in an article in the November issue of the *Journal of Health and Physical Education* states that the Exposition marks the first time in the history of World's Fairs that public recreation, as such, has been given financial support and recognition. As an important part of the exhibit, recreation—its place in the life of every person in the community, its relation to the general welfare, the facilities provided and supervised by the municipalities—will be told and shown to the visitors attending during the 288 days of the Exposition.

Adjacent to the athletic stadium where football, rugby, soccer, baseball, softball, track and field, volleyball, and other outdoor competitive sports will be held, a space of 30,000 square feet has been set aside for the building of a large recreation pavilion. This building will occupy approximately 20,000 square feet of the total area, with a children's playground and model backyard recreation area, such as any home owner might wish to build for the enjoyment of his own family, taking up the remainder of available space.

In the recreation pavilion, which will be 200 feet long, will be found a complete little theater seating two hundred, where dramatic groups will present plays, music organizations will give recitals, puppet shows will be held, and moving pictures of interest to recreation groups will be shown. A large room will house a craft and hobby exhibit and a Junior Museum. A kitchen for the preparation of refreshments, offices and information booth, a recreation library and study room, and the large entrance rotunda and exhibit spaces comprise the interior of the building.

The Exhibits

The recreation exhibits, prepared by some of

A preview of the exhibits of public recreation which will be shown at the Golden Gate International Exposition

the outstanding artists in the United States, will be especially noteworthy. They will be presented in the form of dioramas—the

modern display form which tells a pictorial story through the use of models built in perspective, in conjunction with scenic background, all skillfully handled to preserve the illusion of looking through a window upon the actual full size scene. Four of the ten displays will be animated and synchronized with a mechanical voice reproducing system, so that a complete interpretation of the story behind the visual picture is given at the same time.

The subjects of these displays will cover the entire field of recreation. One large central exhibit will present the general theme of recreation—the story of the gradual transition in working conditions that has taken place since the introduction of the machine, during which the hours of labor have been shortened and the hours of leisure time increased in number. It will tell the history and background of recreation in this country. It will depict the modern concept of recreation as being any form of sport, athletics, hobbies, music, art, crafts, or games in which persons of all ages take part during their leisure time.

The complete recreational area comprising playgrounds, athletic fields for outdoor sports, tennis courts, roque and croquet courts, horseshoe pits, archery, golf, picnic tables, and outdoor fireplaces, field house and many other facilities, will be shown in one display. Night lighting of various athletic fields will be shown. Water sports at ocean beaches, plunges, pools, lakes, swimming holes, wading pools and the many facilities provided for their enjoyment will be the theme of still another exhibit. California's winter sports and the splendid municipal camps in her high Sierras will receive recognition through one of the animated dioramas.

Summer vacation facilities in municipal mountain and ocean camps will be presented in another exhibit. Three of the displays will show the various handicrafts which afford recreation for thousands of young and old alike. Wood-working, metal craft, basketry, weaving, leather tooling, model making, carving, and many other crafts will

be demonstrated by workers in these three "craft niches."

A great demonstration program of physical education and recreation activities is being planned by San Francisco and East Bay leaders for the afternoon of April 6.

On November 20th Governor Merriam of California with a silver spade broke ground for the recreation building at a ceremony attended by a number of prominent citizens and recreation leaders of California. The ceremony was preceded by a luncheon at which Charles W. Davis pointed out marked improvement in playground planning nationally and stressed California's important position in modern planning for recreation for youth. Hollis Thompson, City Manager of Berkeley and State Commission Committee Chairman for Recreation, praised the results being achieved by the State in fostering playground activities, while Governor Merriam stressed

the necessity for providing for the boys and girls of today the best possible recreational opportunities. He predicted far-reaching results from the recreational exhibits and activities to be associated with the Exposition.

It was announced by State Commission engineers that work will begin immediately on the recreation building dedicated to "better public playgrounds and wider opportunities for the youth of this and succeeding generations."

"Almost unknown or comparatively incidental but a few generations ago," states a release from the Public Relations Department of the State Commission, "planned recreation today is decidedly a reality of major proportions with all progressive municipal governments. Through the

California State Commission, in cooperation with the Golden Gate International Exposition, the State is planning an exhibition which will bring the advantages of healthful recreation—more leisure time—directly to every community within the State."

Left to right: Hollis R. Thompson, City Manager, Berkeley; Josephine Randall, Superintendent of the San Francisco Recreation Department and Chairman of the Citizens' Recreation Committee; Mrs. Sigmund Stern, member of the San Francisco Recreation Department; Governor Frank F. Merriam; Charles W. Davis, Recreation Administrator for the State Commission; Mrs. Vernon Skewes-Cox, member of the Citizens' Recreation Committee, and Mr. Paul Fay, also a member of the Committee.



Play Nights or Circus—Which?

AFTER WE HAD presented playground circuses in Chico for two years, we found we had learned some valuable lessons. The circus if well done was an expensive project. Because a high type of leader on a playground or on a special assignment was unwilling to put on a ragged act, the circus proved itself to be something of a disintegrating force as far as the continuity of the playground program was concerned. Ambitious circus directors and their helpers and parents of the children, uniting in their desire to place a creditable performance before audiences, forgot that the children were on the playgrounds for the primary purpose of wholesome free play activity. There was no place in the circus preparation for the unskilled child; instead greater emphasis was placed on his lack of skill, thus creating an unwholesome situation.

Over all of these objections, however, rode the demand for another large scale exhibition. What were we to do about it?

Weighing the credits and debits of a city-wide exhibition, the Recreation Department workers proposed a plan of education for board members and a substitute for the circus. The educational phases of our program included a long-time plan involving visits to play areas by board members, reports with added emphasis placed upon the educational features of the program, and conversations with experienced workers who continually stressed the importance of the everyday playground program.

The substitute for the large scale performance thought by many necessary in order to secure public approval of the program came as the result of an accident and by evolutionary process. Our city, in common with others throughout the

A substitution which worked out happily for everybody concerned

By ELDRIDGE FARNSWORTH

WPA Supervisor

and

RALPH HENSLEY

Superintendent of Recreation

nation, had gone in heavily for softball. It was noticed at the softball contests which were held at night that there was an ever increasing attendance on the part of children and youth. Because of the method of organization softball was primarily used as an activity for adults, leaving no place for the children. Nevertheless children came in growing numbers to these nighttime play areas and organized their own tag games and activities, eager to play along with their fathers. From watching these children came the idea of a series of play nights as a substitute for the circus.

The Idea "Took!"

The play nights were an instantaneous hit. The first required several leaders for the various activities; the second called for a larger number, and those which followed made it necessary for the entire staff to be on hand to take care of the huge crowds of children. Unlike the circus or other types of shows, play nights required little or no preparation on the part of the children. The fields, which were lighted, were blocked off into sections for softball, games of low organization, and sports such as croquet, badminton and horse-shoes. Special leaders were in charge of each section. The chief preparation for the night parties was made by the play leaders and directors.

Equipment that the department had on hand and, in some cases, organized games scheduled ahead of time were the main requisites other than leadership training for play nights.

Interestingly enough, the parents approved and were on hand in growing numbers to view the programs. Of course there were not as many spectators as there

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Chico, California, announces a change of heart on the subject of playground circuses! In the November 1937 issue of *Recreation*, under the title, "Don't Double Your Show," Mr. Hensley shared with us his experience in producing circuses, as a result of which he had reached the conclusion that they can be too big! And now he and his associates have come to feel that in spite of the approval of the public, and, it may be, of recreation board members, circuses have definite drawbacks, some of which he and Mr. Farnsworth have set forth in this article. And so Chico has substituted play nights for circuses.

Recreation for the Mentally Ill

By EDNA KIRKER GEIS
Recreational Director
Longview State Hospital
Cincinnati, Ohio

PROVIDING recreation for a mental hospital is a responsible and important task, being the counterbalance, as it is, of occupational therapy, and counted as one of the most beneficial therapeutics employed in dealing with the mentally ill.

Various recreational activities are being conducted by the Recreational Department of Longview State Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, all tending to dovetail with other therapeutics developed by our Superintendent, Dr. E. A. Baber, in order that complete relaxation may be experienced during recreation periods.

Under the leadership of this department classes are formed for definite activities such as soap sculpture, dancing, dramatics, sketching, floriculture, nature study, hikes and literary circles. Twenty social clubs consisting of patients from various wards meet in the recreation room for games and refreshments, each at its own allotted hours. Tournaments in cards, checkers, chess, horse-shoes and shuffleboard are arranged for both men and women. Social contacts are made possible every day on the wards. Cards and singing are enjoyed by those who are not able to attend classes and clubs. Pageants and shows are given twice a year by the patients, under the leadership of the director.

In the fall an outdoor carnival is held for the patients, sponsored by organizations and clubs of Cincinnati. This is composed of all concessions such as found at amusement parks with prizes for all winners of the games. Tickets to everything are gratis to the patients, who have the privilege of inviting their friends and relatives to spend the day with them.

All classes are under the direction of teachers who are qualified to direct the activities. The first requirement for this work is an understanding of the condition of the individual with whom one is working. The method of approach must be such that it will not intimidate the patient, and inferiority or supersensitive complexes must be carefully studied and properly approached. Full credit for all efforts made, with constructive explanations for further progress will accomplish wonders. Tactless criticism causes the patients to

become reluctant to continue activities and to lose interest in recreation assignments.

A ward library is maintained by the Recreational Department.

Here the patients may rest and enjoy good books that are donated by the city library and organizations. Each ward in the hospital is furnished a number of books each month. This is in charge of a privileged patient who has proven valuable in this capacity, and who, through the activity, is being provided with an outlet for her energies. All clubs have their own secretaries. As far as possible the patients are made to feel that their activities are free of rigid discipline, and good fellowship is the keynote of all recreations.

We are justly proud of our splendid vested choir of thirty patients, men and women, who sing at all services. They are led in their choral work by a competent nurse. The Sunday school, which has a membership of 265 patients, is divided into eighteen classes and taught by volunteer teachers from various churches. Catholic, Protestant and Jewish services are held.

Every Wednesday evening there is either a picture show, dance or a show from the outside which is enjoyed by more than 700 patients in our auditorium. During the summer months there are band concerts and out-of-door shows on the lawn.

The picnics which are held at city parks are attended by large numbers. Outings to the city zoo, with lunches and dancing, and drives through parks and points of interest are made possible by cars donated for the occasion by persons interested in the patients. An outing to the County Fair every year is anticipated eagerly by all.

A garden club recently formed will appeal to a large number of women. It will have as its objective not only the beautifying of the gardens, but also the furnishing of sick wards with flowers. Thus, with everything undertaken, there is some motive which, it is hoped, will stimulate interest and provide the feeling of work and play well done, thereby accomplishing the end for which recreational therapy is intended in a mental hospital.

Progress of the Recreational Study

By **SIDNEY S. KENNEDY**
Park Planner

THE RECREATION study is providing pertinent data for the formulation of policies for an integrated development of park and recreational facilities. It is taking inventory of existing facilities, analyzing present and future needs, investigating potential areas, and examining the financial resources of the states with the view toward establishing a system and administrative organization commensurate with their ability to pay. In addition to these major objectives, special studies are being made on a nation-wide basis covering park use, fees and charges, legislation, organized camping, personnel, leadership training and programs.

In general, the study is based upon an approved procedure which is sufficiently uniform to permit comparison, analysis and study on a nation-wide basis and also to allow necessary adjustments to meet the requirements and conditions in each state.

The National Park Service has set up a small organization to cooperate with the states in carrying out this undertaking. A small staff of techni-

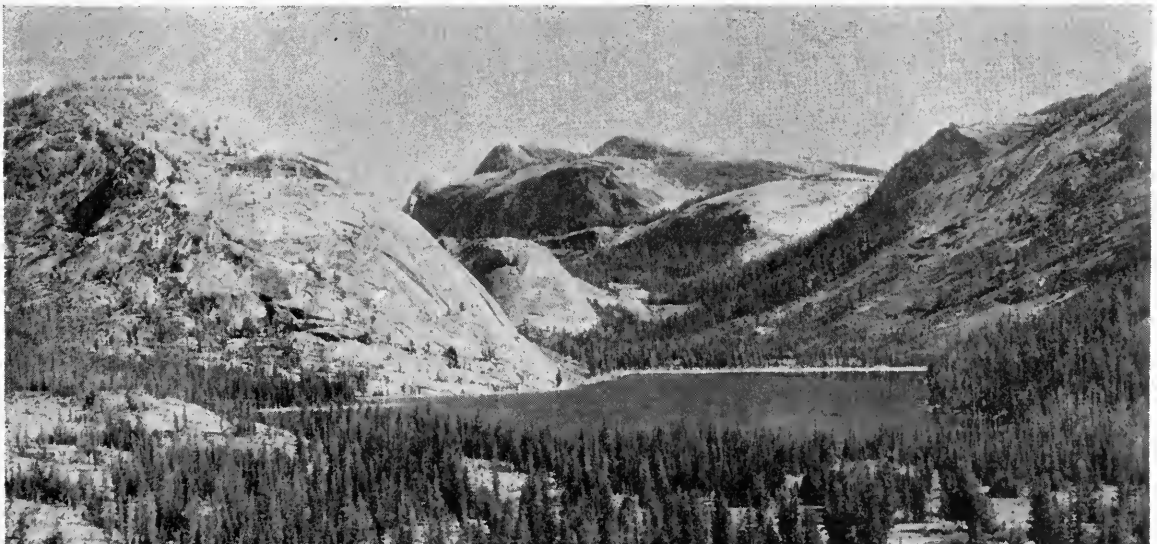
In the September 1938 issue of the *Regional Review* published by Region One of the National Park Service, Mr. Kennedy tells of the present status of the Park, Parkway and Recreational Area Study which is being conducted by the states in cooperation with the National Park Service. The study was authorized by an Act of Congress, Public 770 $\frac{1}{2}$, approved June 23, 1936, which provides for the collection of "data helpful in developing a plan for coordinated and adequate public park, parkway and recreational-area facilities for the people of the United States." We present extracts from Mr. Kennedy's article.

cal, administrative and clerical personnel in the Washington office works through corresponding staffs in each of our four Regional offices, which in turn have a limited number of state supervisors. Each state supervisor is assigned to a state or group of states and is the direct representative of the National Park Service in cooperating with the state agencies concerned.

The serious interest of the states in this work is shown by the fact that twenty states are contribut-

ing funds or detailing personnel specifically to assist in the conduct of the study, and seventeen others are making more limited contributions through the part-time assignment of regular personnel and facilities of state agencies. Twenty-four state agencies also have obtained WPA projects to assist in the conduct of their part of the study.

Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Virginia have already completed pre-



Courtesy National Park Service

liminary or tentative final reports, and it is expected that seventeen other states will have completed similar reports by the end of the calendar year. These reports vary considerably in scope and in the detail of analyses and recommendations. In general, the states which have had an established park organization for a number of years have proceeded further in the way of specific recommendations for perfecting and rounding out their systems and for providing for the recreational needs of the people. The other states have not had the springboard of experience from which to start and have necessarily had to proceed more slowly. Most of the reports have covered quite fully the inventory phase of the work. The reports for Louisiana and New Jersey have been published by the states and the reports for Illinois and Nevada will be off the press shortly.

Park Use Study. Material progress has been made in several of the special related studies enumerated above. The Park Use Study is being conducted in 292 state and local park and recreational areas throughout the United States by National Park Service, CCC, WPA, state and local personnel. The purpose of this study is to collect information on attendance, origin and income of patrons, use of facilities, habits and interests, etc., which will be valuable in determining the adequacy of present facilities and the need for additional provisions.

Fees and Charges. Last spring the National Park Service, in cooperation with the American Institute of Park Executives, initiated a comprehensive study of fees and charges covering the practices and policies of some three hundred state and local park authorities throughout the country. The results of this study will be made available during the coming year.

A Study of Camps. Since the beginning of the recreation study, the National Park Service has been cooperating with the American Camping Association and the states in conducting a census and study of organized camps throughout the country, with a view toward obtaining a complete picture of this activity and formulating certain policies and standards. The inventory has been completed or is well under way in all of the states except Indiana, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Ohio and Tennessee. The National Park Service Advisory Committee on Camping is interested in

compiling data on the design, construction and operation of camping facilities on public areas and in formulating standards for health and safety.

Recreational Planning. Recreational planning problems which are under consideration by the National Park Service Advisory Committee on Skiing include observation and reporting of snow conditions; first aid, health and safety for skiers; desirable practices in the design, construction and maintenance of winter sports structures and facilities, and desirable policies in the regulation and use of public lands for winter sports. A special study of winter sports structures and facilities is under way, and it is hoped that a monograph on this subject will be ready for publication sometime during the coming year.

Topics now under consideration by the National Park Service Advisory Committee on Hiking include desirable practices in the development of trails; first aid, health and safety for hikers and climbers; desirable policies in the regulation and use of public lands for hiking and climbing; development and protection of "trailways," and the distribution of hiking information.

Leadership. It has been realized that the appropriate use of park and recreational areas is fully as important as the provision of physical facilities. Park authorities are becoming conscious of the need for trained leadership which will assure the optimum use of areas and facilities with the resulting maximum benefit to the people. Because no provision for program leadership has been made in most of the state park systems, the National Park Service, in cooperation with state authorities, the Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration, inaugurated demonstration programs in a number of state parks throughout the Middle West in the summer of 1937 and has continued this work in 1938.

An extensive leadership program is being conducted in the greater share of the state parks in Michigan and Wisconsin by means of personnel and supervision supplied by the Recreation Division of the Works Progress Administration. Similar programs are being carried out or are contemplated on several areas in Nebraska and Minnesota. A naturalist program is being con-

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The story of the Swift Creek Recreational Area development mentioned by Mr. Kennedy is told in the September 1938 issue of *Recreation* by Lee C. Crutchfield, Jr., under the title "Virginia's Better Mousetrap."

Teaching Safety by Make-Believe

By **STANLEY ROUGH**
General Supervisor
Parks and Playgrounds Association
Montreal, Canada

SMALL BOYS and girls with home-made badges, hats and traffic officers' white bandoliers, proudly directed other youngsters with signs on their chests informing the world at large that they were automobiles of modern and ancient make, up and down whitewash marked streets on the playground. The air was tense with excitement; make-believe motorists changed gears, put out hands when making turns and stopped for stop signs, lights or traffic officers. A radio patrol car weaved through traffic at terrific speed; a peanut vendor whistled shrilly, and a farmer with a load of hay hugged the curb as his old horse shied at passing cars. The traffic officer left her position to assist an old man on crutches across a busy intersection while "traffic lights" and "automobiles" applauded enthusiastically.

That's how the new traffic game of the Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association looked to hundreds of startled adults who stopped to see what all the excitement was about.

Safety Week Comes to Montreal

Dramatizing traffic by making it a game provides opportunities for a child to obey traffic rules hundreds of times during the time the game is in progress. The game was one of the features of Safety Week sponsored by the Playgrounds Association last autumn.

It overshadowed safety talks, poster contests and visits to fire stations. Each demonstration was in charge of playground supervisors and an officer from the Police Department who had been doing special safety education work in schools.

At the commencement of Safety Week all supervisors on whose grounds the game was to be staged met with the director of playgrounds and the police officer who had been released by the Traffic Bureau to work with playground officials. The idea was carefully explained and the supervisors made many valuable suggestions. Some of the supervisors were rather hazy on several of the traffic laws and these points were made clear.

On returning to their grounds the supervisor talked over the proposed game with the children. Very little encouragement or promotion was needed, however, as imaginations ran riot and there was little that the agile young minds did not think of. There was an ambulance with a doctor and nurse, the ambulance consisting of a small cart drawn by two small boys. The crew of this mercy vehicle were suitably garbed and equipped even down to a home-made first aid satchel and a stretcher. When an accident occurred with someone trying to cross in the middle of a block, the ambulance rushed to the scene escorted by motorcycle police. Traffic was rerouted and the victim rushed to the hospital. For obvious reasons supervisors allowed only a limited number of accidents and fires.

One hundred and fifty children participated in each demonstration. Of this number sixteen were

officers, sixteen traffic lights, chosen from the ten to twelve year age group, and the rest were cars, trucks and pedestrians, with ages ranging from eight to ten years. A tremendous number of children up to eight years of age were the most interested spectators. Each demonstration

Two peanut venders have a collision at a busy intersection to the despair of the constable!



Courtesy Montreal Daily Star

lasted one hour, and at its conclusion all those taking part were given a talk by the police officer in charge and urged to put into practice what they had learned during the time they were playing.

Traffic officers were changed frequently to give as many as possible a chance to take part. Different setups were tried. All traffic would be directed by officers, then the officers withdrawn and lights installed. Next stop signs were added, and finally a combination of all three was in force at one time. It was discovered that many of the children were not at all familiar with what traffic lights stood for, or with the fact that it is dangerous to cross in the center of a block or run out from behind a parked car. When anyone made a mistake, the director, supervisors, officers, lights or stop signs told the offender about it. Second offenders were rushed to the police station in the patrol car.

The big moment of each demonstration came when two six-foot traffic cops from the Traffic Squad solemnly took their places at busy intersections and directed traffic.

As a result of these demonstrations the children talked of the affair for days; they played "Traffic" at home, and the press and police departments are enthusiastic about carrying it on next summer.

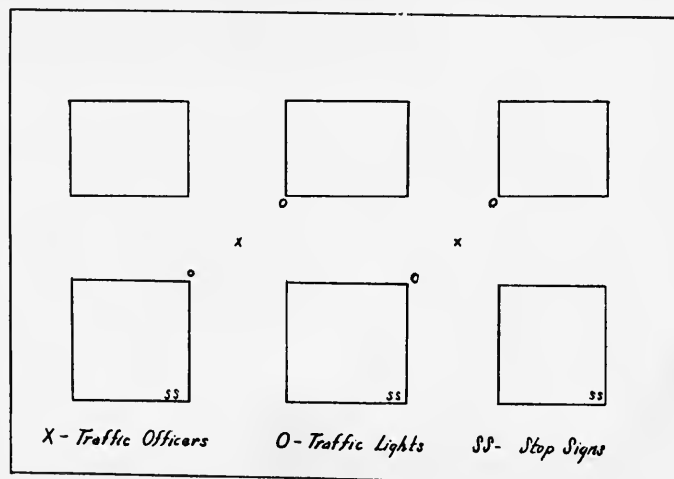
Many things were learned in the three demonstrations conducted. The streets must be narrow and the number of blocks limited so that the area covered by streets be sufficiently small so that those in charge may easily observe mistakes.

"There is no doubt that the 'habit-forming' principle is of paramount importance when it comes to educating children of the pre-school and elementary school age in the various phases of traffic safety. The practice followed in the United States whereby safety education in the elementary school places its chief emphasis on safe pedestrianism and the development of proper attitudes toward safety has been productive of very beneficial results. This is amply demonstrated by the fact that child fatalities in the 0-9 year age group have decreased twenty-five per cent since 1922, while all other age group rates have increased. The consistent teaching of safety psychology in the schoolroom, graphic picturing of traffic dangers and how to avoid them, and extracurricular activities such as School Boy Patrols and Junior Safety Councils have stirred the children's interest in safety and have been largely responsible for improved fatality rates." — *Fernand Dufresne*, Director of the Montreal Police Department and Past President of the World Police.

chesters designating what type of car they represent. The outer white line enclosing the six blocks represents the boundary of the area where traffic may go, and traffic going into a street made by this boundary must turn either right or left. With smaller groups a four block setup should be sufficient. Traffic lights are children with colored cardboards, red and green. Lights change on whistle signals given by the director.

Seven hundred and fifty individuals took part in the three demonstrations and there were 1,500 spectators. The cost for cardboard and whiting was \$4.00—surely a small cost for the lesson taught.

"There is a natural relationship between playgrounds and safety. A playground is a place not merely for more play but for better play—and in our crowded cities better play must mean safer play. A safe playground should be a place for the better adventure that has been made possible by safety, a better adventure, for example, than dodging traffic on a crowded thoroughfare."—*Albert W. Whitney*.



The Dimond Athletic Club

By JUNE E. KISTNER
Supervisor and Publicity Director
Oakland, California

ALMOST ANYTHING worth while has "a reason for being," and the Dimond Athletic Club's reason for existence was the presence of "Old Man Depression" who stalked through our midst about five years ago. Money was scarce, and people were greatly in need of good wholesome recreation. And so in August, 1933, a community gymnasium class for women was started. The class was to be free, an important factor at that time. The Oakland Board of Education cooperated with us by giving the use of a school auditorium one evening a week. The class was started by two women in the community who had no real training for the work but who did have the desire to promote good fellowship in their neighborhood. The first night thirty-two women, most of them mothers, attended and joined in the fun.

The response of the community was greater than had been anticipated, and the leaders soon realized they must have assistance. So they called on the Oakland Recreation Department and told of their need. The Recreation Department was then, as it always has been, ready and willing to cooperate, and in a short time a free class in gymnasium leadership was sponsored by the Department at the local recreation center. Several members of the class attended and were given instruction in marching, games, and the many other activities which help make up a balanced recreation program.

The routine program of the evening was gone over each week by the two leaders before it was presented to the class. They learned just how much of each activity the members were prepared to participate in. The program included marching, games, folk dancing, exercises, community singing, and volley ball.

An award system for perfect attendance was started, and a small felt emblem was given to a member who had been present at each meeting for six months. This system proved that adults, as well as children, enjoy working for an award, and at this time we have two members who have

There are clubs and clubs! In the October issue of *Recreation* we published an article on the Homemakers Clubs—the clubs for women sponsored by the Lansing, Michigan, Recreation Department. This month we offer you a type of recreation club for women primarily athletic in its nature, though many other activities are included in the program.

attended the class every meeting night since the class was organized five years ago. These two were presented with a small gold numeral "5," to be attached to the Dimond Athletic Club pin which all members are privileged to wear.

It was decided that beginning with the fall semester, in 1936, the class would be managed by a board of directors, each director to have charge of a separate activity. These directors meet each month and handle the routine business of the class. We started with eight directors—a director-in-chief who took charge of marching; a supervisor who presented the business to the class, called the roll, wrote publicity and managed the games; a treasurer; a director of music, a director of exercise, a director of dancing, a volley ball director, and a sunshine director. Later two more were added—a secretary and a pianist. Thus the responsibility of keeping a growing organization running smoothly was gradually distributed. At this time, too, a new uniform was adopted consisting of gold blouses, royal blue shorts, blue anklets and white tennis shoes.

After the director system had been in effect for one year, we decided to give more people an opportunity to help so each director appointed an assistant to aid her. At the present time we have many sub-committees at work, as we have found that people like to be doing things, and the surest way to keep them happy is to keep them busy.

Beside our routine gymnasium work we have special nights and parties. Sometimes they are costume affairs; sometimes the regular uniform is worn. Stunts are presented by members, and there are special games and dances. Refreshments are served, with the table decorations carrying out the theme of the evening.

We have had competitive volley ball with other gymnasium groups from time to time, but we find that the spirit of competition is likely to overshadow the spirit of good fellowship, so we do not indulge in outside games very often. We do, however, have inter-

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What Kind of Leadership?

“WE DON'T need professors of ballistics to teach the average (New York) boy how to play baseball; instructors of mechanical engineering to conduct classes in top spinning; or associate professors of mathematics to apply the principles of plane geometry to show playground children how

to shoot marbles. Our supervisors, therefore, find their principal duty lies in seeing that the games and exercise of the children are conducted in a fair and orderly manner. I have found no difficulty in obtaining the services of a high type of personnel for just this purpose from the playground directors' list established by the Municipal Civil Service Commission. The major purpose to be served (by a recreational program) is to give healthy children adequate opportunities for the development of their bodies in proper surroundings.”

These words portray an attitude toward the use of qualified leadership on the playgrounds of a large city. In contrast we add the words of a superintendent of recreation in a smaller city, whose years of experience and leadership have contributed greatly to the enrichment of the life of that city.

“A play leader who perfunctorily carries on activities and guards his playground against physical mishap has a job. He who adds skill and technique to these duties creates a profession, but he who crowns his profession with consecration and devotion performs a mission, and the children, youths and adults who come to him for play and sport carry away deeper values and greater riches than the mere memory of a happy day, and the community which has intrusted to him the leisure hours of its citizens shall call him blessed.”

A committee made up of some of the most experienced recreation superintendents in the county in an effort to set up standards of selection, training and experience of recreation personnel, states:

“Society can afford the trained leadership and facilities needed for effective recreational activities. It can afford the socialized educational programs the times require. It can afford the laughter of little children, the guidance of youth for purposeful living, and the extension of educational advantages to adults. It can afford a renaissance of recreation and education.”—*Agnes Samuelson.*

“The recreational agencies of the community offer not food, but leadership. The cost of this service is small in proportion to the number of people it reaches, but it is definite, nevertheless. We need more and better leadership if we are to save the spirits as well as the bodies of our people from stunting and disease.”—*Mary C. Burnett.*

“The object for which community recreation work is conducted and the ideals of the profession of recreation leaders demand high standards of personal character, devotion to the work and belief in the high calling of the profession. The fact that a large part of the work is conducted on behalf of children necessitates the

exercise of the greatest care in the selection of those who are to do the work.”

Perhaps the most discerning analysis of playground leadership was made by two groups of children, one in Chicago and the other in New York. These children, in schools, settlements, and recreation areas were asked what qualities they most liked in their leaders. The two outstanding requirements named by these children were kindness and a knowledge of activities, especially games, and skill in performing and teaching them.

It is significant that kindness was ranked first by both groups, and that a knowledge of games with ability to teach them was second! Neither of these qualities would necessarily be required by the first executive quoted. Kindness, the supreme qualification, cannot be tested by a civil service examination, and “the lists” might fail, therefore, to include persons with that qualification most desired by the children. Their desire for leaders who can *teach* games would seem to refute the arguments that “the average boy does not need to be taught how to play baseball and that we do not need instructors in mechanical engineering to conduct classes in top spinning!”

We know full well that children want to play, that most children need no urging. Wide experience has also clearly shown that with skilled play leadership a much larger number of children will

make use of a given area and enjoy themselves more fully. Various age groups are guided in activities suitable to their age. The more backward children are encouraged to come forward and with careful guidance take a nor-

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Horses Preferred!

By EDWARD L. JOHNSON
President
Wyoming Valley Equestrian Club

AT THE TIME of the organization of the Wyoming Valley Equestrian Club in June, 1933, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and the surrounding towns boasted of only two riding academies. As the interest in horseback riding stimulated by the activities of the Equestrian Club grew, new facilities became more numerous.

From the very beginning the group has governed itself under regulations and by-laws approved by the Wyoming Valley Playground and Recreation Association. Miss Iva Reynolds, staff member of the association, has served continuously on the board of directors since the group was created, and through her contact is maintained with the parent organization. The club has steadfastly clung to its original purpose with the result that today it is recognized as a community asset, offering adults, both young and old, an opportunity to participate in a healthful outdoor activity.

The club is now incorporated and its destinies are guided by the usual president, secretary and other club officers, and by a board of directors elected by the club. The board outlines a general yearly plan and program, and the executive officers arrange the details involved in putting the program into effect. Membership is representative of widely diversified interests, and school teachers, college students, and business and professional men and women are to be found on the roster.

Originally only weekly horseback rides were undertaken, but as interest and ability developed more varied features were initiated. Overnight eighty mile rides, introduced in 1935, have become a much enjoyed part of each year's program. Constant application and practice have brought a number of the members to a point where they are able to compete in local amateur horse shows. At first competition was limited to horsemanship classes but later several members participated in hunting and jumping events. The many prizes and ribbons

which adorn the trophy room of the club house belonging to the group attest to the members' success and ability.

In 1937 the club obtained a long-term lease on a house located on a bluff overlooking the up-to-date riding ring of the Harvey's Lake Riding Academy, and since that time the members have worked together to furnish and equip the site as a club house. Many splendid events have been enjoyed here. Breakfast rides and moonlight rides have wound up at the club house where riders and their friends enjoy either a breakfast or supper at the occasion warrants.

Through the courtesy of State Senator Andrew J. Sordoni, the club has been given permission to use his private bridle paths and the auxiliary state game preserves which he maintains at Alderson. This natural habitat of Pennsylvania wild life furnishes some of the best trails available in the country. Several "drag and paper" hunts have been held and overnight camping trips enjoyed.

During the course of a year the club sponsors four social functions, usually dances, and these are always well attended by members and friends. While the club is an adult organization, it assists juvenile activity by making its facilities available to children at certain times during the week. Several interested members give instruction to the children of local high school riding clubs and take them on rides.

At one time the club had both a men's and girls' polo team, but the inability to secure mounts has to a great extent handicapped this activity. A few members have, however, purchased mounts and as time goes on others are looking forward to acquiring private mounts. Polo will then be resumed.

This year the club sent fifteen members to the opening of the national horse show in New York City where they gathered the latest ideas and practices available to prepare them for the annual

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You Asked for It!

Question: A few people in our small town in Northern Michigan are deeply concerned over the effects of a long winter's idleness on many of our community residents. As a means of combating it, and also of adding to the incomes of many, we have discussed the possibility of home industries. Attractive articles made in local homes would have an excellent market during the summer since there are many resorts in this region.

We feel that at first it would be best to keep to crafts where the initial cash outlay is modest. We do feel, however, that the articles made should be attractive and valuable. I feel sure of being able to get from local people and a few interested summer residents enough money to finance a modest beginning and the salary of a technical adviser, if that would be the way to go about it. There are two quite skillful woodworkers in town and several other people who, with some technical training, would make good leaders. Our sense of the need of this work is much greater than our knowledge of how it should be undertaken.

Any advice and help you can give from your own experience in developing such projects would be most welcome.

Answer: Many of the recommendations that I make in this letter are due to my experiences in New Hampshire where I spent a number of years in the organization of a state-wide craft program.

I agree with your plan of starting in a modest way. I would suggest that at the beginning your craft activities be limited to simple woodwork for men, including the making of benches, trays, small tables, and similar useful articles which would be of practical use in the summer homes of people vacationing in your community. Today there is also a keen interest in pine and maple furniture. Women's craft activities might at first be limited to needlework and weaving. They could make inexpensive articles, such as attractively styled table squares, aprons, guest towels and luncheon sets. In both woodwork and weaving there should be special emphasis on proper style and color so that the articles for sale will fit into the home settings of the summer residents. During the first year of the New Hampshire program the making of inexpensive articles that could be sold from \$1.00 to \$2.50 was stressed.

The method followed in the organization of arts and crafts centers in the small towns in New Hampshire may interest you. First of all, contact was made with a few of the leading civic-minded people of the community in order to get their wholehearted support of the project; secondly, a meeting of the townspeople was called at which time handcraft opportunities, programs and organizations were presented. Organization of the group and the development of a program of production and marketing resulted. In the third place, a local exhibition and meeting was planned with a few outstanding craft articles brought in from another locality for display purposes. For example, one community was interested in the making of fine hooked rugs. At an exhibit of local work there were on display a few exceptionally beautiful rugs from the collection of a gentleman living in a near-by city. Local people became aware of the fact that the collector's rugs were old, more beautiful, more serviceable and better made than those exhibited by themselves.

Learning of the slowly increasing market for the finely hooked rug, they have been willing to hook by the old method, although it is slower. People were discouraged from making rugs if they were not willing to work with creative and original patterns and hook closely and firmly. It has been found that the same thing is true of weaving, needle and other handcraft. We cannot compete with a machine-made article so must therefore work completely from the point of view of handwork and fine craftsmanship. Articles properly styled and designed to meet a practical and useful need backed up by good design and color do have a ready sale.

At this meeting, those interested in forming craft groups were brought together, each selecting a temporary leader and at the same time making plans for the next gathering. Someone was invited to be present at the next meeting to speak on a phase of craft work that would be of interest to the group. A nominating committee was appointed and a general organization plan agreed upon. The organization usually consisted of president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and the following committee chairmen: education, mar-

(Continued on page 588)

WORLD AT PLAY

Snow Modeling in St. Paul

SNOW modeling, also known as Snow Sculpture, was conducted at twenty-one playgrounds, divided into five districts and judged on originality, design and performance. This activity was conducted as a regular part of the program, but during St. Paul Carnival week special stress was laid on exhibits in the downtown area. Competition was entered in to not only by the playground groups but by many of the neighborhood houses and community chest agencies. This workmanship of this exhibit was commended very highly by the judges, who were appointed by the Carnival Association. A total of 720 children took part; 18,000 witnessed the exhibits.

Children's Theater for Reading, Pa.

READING, Pennsylvania, is to have a children's theater sponsored by the Public Recreation Department. Meetings are being held each Saturday morning in the Southern Junior High School, which is making its auditorium and stage facilities available to the group. Instruction in making stage scenery and handling stage lighting is a part of the course. Such materials as still movies, pantomimes, imitations and story dramatizations will be used. The first project of the children's theater was a presentation for the community Christmas party given each year at City Hall.

Who Uses the Library?

THE Guild Regional Branch Library in Chicago, according to an article in the American Library Association Bulletin, indicates that 60% of its patrons are adult; 62% of them are employed. The users are rated in the following order: housewives, clerical workers; professional service; manufacturing and mechanical industries; trade, domestic and personal service; transportation and communication; agriculture and forestry.

For Safety in Recreation

THE October, 1938, issue of "Safe-T-Gram" published by the Greater Springfield Safety Council, Springfield, Massachusetts, states that the past summer was one of the most active and effective in recreational safety ever had in Hampden County. The Council was able to carry on a program which included the issuing of posters and safety material, the registration of bicycles, storytelling, contests in poster making, and the writing of essays on safety and radio programs. In Springfield, in cooperation with Arthur Gardner, Director of Recreation, and Robert Clement, WPA Supervisor of Recreation, the Council was successful in having a member of WPA staff appointed as safety supervisor for all the playgrounds.

Sledding and Skiing in Akron

THE Airport Center at Akron, Ohio, with shelter house, fireplaces, sled and toboggan rental service, food service and recreation facilities, last winter was a veritable "St. Moritz" surrounded by the ski jump, ski run, toboggan slide and sled hill. A registry kept at the shelter showed visitors from twelve states.

Honoring the Memory of William L. Ward

THE Poundridge Reservation, a 4,000-acre public camping ground and recreation area established by the Westchester County, New York, Park Commission in 1925, was rededicated on October 15th as the Ward Poundridge Reservation in memory of William L. Ward, who did so much for the county's system of public parks and parkways. Among the speakers at the dedication were Gerard Swope, Chairman of the William L. Ward Memorial Committee; Robert Moses, Park Commissioner, New York City; William F. Bleakley, former Justice of the Supreme Court and William J. Wallin, President of the Westchester Park Commission.

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basketry, dressmaking, metal art and jewelry, weaving and woodworking. A course in dramatics for children offers training to three age groups, six to sixteen inclusive, who will stage and produce such plays as "The Snow Queen" and "The House of Heart's Desire."

City Employees' Recreational Activities—Four major recreational activities were participated in by the official city family of five hundred of Berkeley, California, during the fiscal year. The activities included a Halloween party, a Christmas party, a picnic and a camp opening.

A Club for Young Fishermen—Each Thursday night a group of young fishing enthusiasts known as the Tackle Busters Club, meets at the Belmont Recreation Center in Long Beach, California. There are about fifty-nine members in this club who, in addition to their weekly meetings, go on fishing trips on Fridays. Interest is added to many such meetings by the presence of state, county or municipal officials who give talks regarding fish and game regulations. Occasionally an experienced deep sea fisherman relates some of his interesting tales. The Long Beach Fly and Bait Casting Club assists the Recreation Commission in promoting the activities of the club.

A County Arts and Crafts Program—The Westchester Workshop, fostered by the Westchester County, New York, Recreation Commission, has entered its ninth year of service. The 1938-39 program which began on September 19th, shows a variety of new or advanced courses that will greatly broaden the scope of the workshop's usefulness. These include the layman's music course designed to induct the non-musical, the amateur and even the professional into the joy of listening to music through a series of twenty demonstration lectures. New courses have also been introduced in French and international relations. Significant progress in the teaching of the fine arts and the several crafts is reflected in the steadily growing enrolment in some twenty-two individual courses now offered by the workshop. A new class in commercial art and cartooning has been added to the art program. Mural painting also makes its bow this year. Handicrafts taught at the workshop include

The Seemen—The Seemen of the North End Union of Boston is a group of approximately sixty boys between the ages of fifteen and eighteen years, who seek "to break down group barriers and club differences, and attempts to develop a cooperative and sympathetic spirit in the minds of the members and to stimulate thought and action on personal conflicts and community needs." The great majority of boys are Italians. A full-time worker is employed who is assisted by a number of part-time workers.

The Seemen, who meet every other Friday night, have their own elected officers and conduct the meetings themselves. They secure competent speakers for monthly meetings on subjects associated with their objectives such as information on safety, fire and police procedure, law and court machinery, prisons and delinquency, and recreation including arts and crafts, sciences, forums and social programs. Each season they have one major objective. This year leisure and hobbies are prominent in the program. During the summer the group held 250 "boy nights" at a nearby overnight camp.

Boys Win Doll Contest—"Sad-faced Sweetie-Pie," orphan doll adopted by the Rinky-Dinks Boys Club of New York City, brought first honors to her benefactors in a raggedy doll contest at the Roosevelt Street Playground last summer. Defying anyone to call them sissies, the Rinky-Dinks (all seven of them), after reconditioning the broken, unsightly doll which they had found across the street from their headquarters, and entering her in the contest, were jubilant when the judges an-

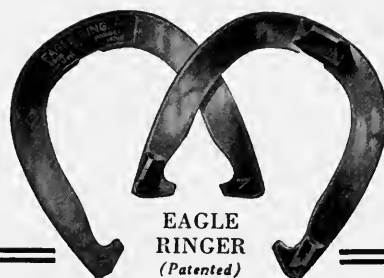
nounced that "Sweetie-Pie" had won. The girls, slightly disconcerted at such masculine intrusion, had to content themselves with mama-doll and prettiest-doll prizes. The occasion was part of the fourth anniversary program of the 83 Roosevelt Street Playground, where five hundred children from the East Side neighborhood were entertained with music, songs, dances, and contests. The playground was vividly decorated with gold, silver, and purple bunting.

Helping to Build Their Own Facilities—The 1938 senior class of the Watertown, South Dakota High School, contributed \$125 toward the cost of tennis courts to be constructed at Northside Park. The Park Board is planning to start the development of the Northside area in the near future.

Recreation Program Is Popular at Ann Arbor—When figures on the attendance at parks and playgrounds were released recently in Ann Arbor, it was found that approximately 167,622 persons had made use of park or playground facilities, or had participated in supervised games. More attention is being given to the needs of adults in Ann Arbor's recreation program, as well as to the fact that some sort of activity is desirable for children during the summer. The already extensive program which the Ann Arbor Recreation Department boasts will be expanded to include more adequate facilities for winter recreation.

Regarding Personnel—Of outstanding importance in a report of the Board of Playground Directors in Oakland, California, was the completion of the Civil Service Board's survey of the personnel department. In line with its findings, new job titles, more descriptive of the work being done, were adopted; new salary scales better correlating the compensation within the department and putting it on a comparable basis with the rest of the city personnel were set up and all part-time positions under the jurisdiction of the department became subject to Civil Service procedure.

Recreational Progress in Akron, Ohio—During the past summer the Recreation Commis-



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sion of Akron, Ohio, employed 41 summer playground workers paid by the Board of Education. In addition, six women students at the University of Akron worked three hours a day on special activities, and 141 WPA and twelve NYA workers aided in the program. Twenty-one playgrounds and 48 tennis courts, six of which were lighted, were maintained. An interesting development has been the organization of four neighborhood associations formed to work with the Recreation Commission, particularly on the problem of securing facilities. One of them conducted a camp to help raise the sponsors' share in a PWA swimming pool. They all conducted special Fourth of July and Hallowe'en programs. The associations are made up of representatives of such organizations as churches, parent-teacher associations, and boards of trade. In one association forty organizations are represented.

A Puppetry Institute—On November 11th and 12th, the first New England Puppetry Institute was held under the sponsorship of

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Curry, Boston's College of Expression. The program included a puppet clinic, demonstrations on various phases of puppetry, the presentation of plays, lectures and discussions.

Outings for Playground Children—Each of the playgrounds in Steubenville, Ohio, last summer enjoyed a weekly visit to local industries and other places of interest. Over 2,000 children made 95 such trips during the course of the season. A civic project was introduced through which the children carried on a campaign for playground officers involving speech making, election parades, the election and installation of candidates, and visits to City Hall and the court house. The follow-up program included the witnessing of an actual case tried in the municipal court and playground trials in which offenders were brought before the court of justice.

A Picnic Shelter for Fritz Memorial Park—A new picnic shelter constructed from the materials which originally formed the home of the late Michael J. Fritz has been completed in

the Fritz Memorial Park, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The shelter is built with an outdoor fireplace at either end and is equipped with picnic tables.

Fritz Memorial Park is the former Schutzenbund Park, an historic landmark famous as the scene of German gatherings and celebrations. It was given to the city in 1936 by Mrs. Elsa Fritz DeFries and John C. Fritz, niece and nephew of Michael J. Fritz. The park consists of a wooded area of five acres. The gift carried with it the provision that the Fritz homestead be carefully razed and the material used for a shelter. Ornamental trees and shrubberies at the Fritz homestead were a part of the gift. Michael J. Fritz was a member of the Board of Park Commissioners for twenty years and was instrumental in obtaining a center tract of land vital to the development of West Park.

A Mexican Party—The new Century Community House of Oakland, which is the center of a great deal of Mexican activity, celebrated Mexican Independence Day, staged the typical Mexican pinata party at Christmas, and a special Mothers' Day Fiesta for the Mexican colony. Other social parties and club activities among colored groups and Slovonians also played an important part in this center's program.

A Festival of Music and Dance—An interesting festival of music and dance was produced by the Indian Federation of America in the Sculpture Court in the Brooklyn Museum on American Indian Day, September 24. The program consisted of presentation of the tribes, call of the dances, storm dance, squaw dance, boot dance, feather dance, drumming, blanket sign language, Iroquois war dance, papoose dance, corn dance, hunters dance, etc., etc. The names of performers were interesting—Chief Blowsnake and Swift Eagle, Bright Eyes, Princess Chickadee, Dave Little Bear, Chief Little Moose and others.

Recent Children's Books—The American Library Association, Chicago, Illinois, has issued a circular listing thirty-one noteworthy books of the year, which are recommended for children's reading. They were selected from hundreds of 1938 titles carefully examined by

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Elizabeth A. Groves, assistant in charge of children's books on the staff of the American Library Association's Booklist. Copies of this circular may be secured from the American Library Association, Chicago (100 copies, \$1.00; 500, \$3.00; 1,000, \$5.00).

Physical Training in English Villages—The National Fitness Council for England and Wales has announced that it is prepared to recommend grants toward the erection and equipment of village halls in order to encourage their use for physical training. This is undertaken under the Physical Training and Recreation Act of 1937.

A Program of Lecture-Discussions—Westchester County has taken a further step in the direction of making democracy work by establishing a series of lecture-discussions at the County Center, White Plains, under the auspices of the Westchester Workshop, a department of the County's Recreation Commission. The course on International Relations is to be

conducted by Nathaniel Peffer, an international writer of note. The discussions will be modeled on the New England Town Meeting, that is, the audience participating in the discussion that follows the formal talk. The program at the Center will be kept professional and controversial, no conclusions being drawn and no indoctrinations being intended.

A more formal part of the program entitled "Government" will be a general survey course covering the more important factors of international relations.

A Monthly Golf Ticket—Because of the demand on the part of the public for a monthly playing ticket which included Saturdays as well as weekdays, Oakland has set up a \$3.00 monthly ticket good every day except Sundays and holidays.

American Camping Association to Meet—The sixteenth annual convention of the American Camping Association will be held at St. Louis,

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Missouri, February 2-4. The Jefferson Hotel will be headquarters for the convention. The theme will be "Camping Problems Today." On the first day of the conference problems having to do with health, safety and sanitation will be discussed; on the second day problems relating to the camper will be in the foreground, and on the final day problems of personnel and administration will be taken up. Further information may be secured from Karl G. Johanboeke, Chairman, Convention Publicity Committee, at 613 Locust Street, St. Louis.

National Drama Week—February 5th to 12th, 1939 is being observed as the Nineteenth National Drama Week. It has been suggested that encouragement and support be given to the production of plays by local groups; that there be displays of costumes and photographs in connection with school libraries, clubs and shops; that where possible there be radio announcements and production of well-known plays, lectures, discussion of current plays, editorials and special announcements in daily papers and in the bulletins of libraries.

At Penderlea Homesteads—At Penderlea Homesteads, one of the Farm Security Administration's projects at Raleigh, North Carolina, a new school has been erected which is planned to meet the recreational needs of the community. The building contains a separate auditorium equipped for visual education, music, arts and crafts; a gymnasium for athletics and various forms of recreation, a social building for home economics and clubs; a cooperative community store, an agricultural and woodworking shop for vocational work, and a 50-acre farm to be used in connection with the administrative building for the office force in charge of the administration of the community. In addition, there is a well equipped teacherage for the teachers in the school. It is planned to utilize all the opportunities and possibilities available in and around this center for broad educational purposes. The project employs a full-time recreation supervisor who works with the young people of the schools and with the adults of the community.

Recreation and Crime

(Continued from page 551)

program on a city-wide scale, has undoubtedly acted as a preventive cause."

Public recreation in Elizabeth is responsible in a large measure for this notable decrease in juvenile delinquency. Incidentally, every juvenile delinquent who is placed on probation in the Union County Juvenile Court must attend a recreation group. This has materially reduced probation violations and checked delinquencies. The City of Elizabeth today has one of the finest public recreation systems in New Jersey and officials elsewhere would do well to study it.

Royal Games in the Land of Loch Lomond

(Continued from page 565)

together to show their skill in their many varied ways under the unifying presence of the "Crown," and where many different individual aspects of Scottish life and history were shown. Welcomed with the true Highland hospitality to people from all over the world, the Exhibition provided interest and entertainment for as many different visitors as possible, producing a really constructive work in which the arts of peace was the main theme, hoping that on the ancient soil of Scotland

a contribution to the friendliness and peace of the world could be made. Buildings were painted the gayest and brightest of colors, magnificent fountains danced and sparkled, flood-lit by night in a hundred shimmering colors, and the avenues were lined and terraced with flowers.

Years roll on, but Braemar remains the same, the Mecca of loyal subjects of the Crown, the rallying ground of sportsmen and of great athletes. When the spirit wanes on Deeside, then, and then only, will the glory of Scotland's great traditions be in danger of fading away into a sadly forgotten past.

NOTE: Information for this article has been taken from *The Scottish Annual and Book of the Braemar Gathering*, printed and published by the Herald Press, Arbroath, Scotland.

Hints for the Hiker!

(Continued from page 566)

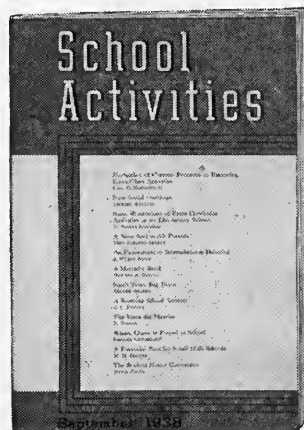
painted over all, but particularly at the seams with a water-proofing liquid, procurable for a small sum at any shoe dealer's. Such treatment will not only prevent wet feet in rainy weather and in crossing swampy ground or over slushy trails, but will also soften the leather, moulding them better to the feet and preserving them against cutting on sharp rocks, etc. Never wear silk stockings or socks. Heavy wool socks or stockings will not only cushion the feet, but will also prevent undue chafing by absorption of excess perspiration or water.

Top clothing should be sturdy and comfortable. Many girls wear shorts in hot weather, but these are little protection against insects and brambles. The majority of experienced women hikers wear sturdy slacks, jodphurs, ski-trousers or riding breeches. Be certain, however, that such garments are not too tight and do not chafe the skin. Most men wear washable slacks in hot weather and heavy trousers or hunting breeches in the winter time. Suede or leather jackets are best in winter because of their warmth, snugness and imperviousness to wind and brambles. A wool sweat-shirt or water-proof jacket should be carried in all weather against possible rain or sudden changes in temperature.

It is advisable to procure a small weather-proof haversack or rucksack, costing about \$1.00—\$2.00, which will permit carrying of extra clothing, lunches, cameras and extra

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equipment without burdening the hands or arms, which should be left free. Odds and ends, which will fit into the pack and which may prove handy, include first-aid equipment such as gauze bandage, iodine, cotton, adhesive tape and foot powder; a small can opener; safety pins; needle and thread; pencil and paper; a pocket knife; cord; matches; and a light metal cup. The rule to remember, however, is to travel as light as possible, for each pound grows ten times heavier on a long trek.

Lunches should include only easily digested foods. Many experienced hikers carry only such foods as fruits or fruit juices, either fresh or canned, crackers and cheese, raisins, dried fruit and pure chocolate. Hikers should always guard against drinking copious quantities of water, which tend to tire one more quickly without actually assuaging thirst. Far better to carry a pack of gum, or chew on dried fruit, or drink small quantities of fruit juice.

The rule of the trail is comradeship. No introductions are needed on a hike. Grumbling or complaining is absolutely taboo, but this rule is seldom violated because hikers are by nature invariably the best of sports.

Play Nights or Circus—Which?

(Continued from page 569)

were in the crowds who watched the much “ballooned” circus, but the purpose of these parties was participation, and this purpose was achieved. The sight of several hundred children playing at one time on the green turf under bright lights had an element of “exhibitionism” all its own and seemed to fill the void left by the omission of the circus.

The cost of each play night was approximately \$5.00. This money represented the cost of the electricity for lighting the football field used as the play area. The cost of the circus each year had totaled approximately \$150, and having budgeted for a circus, it was a considerable saving to have ten play nights at \$50 to replace the circus.

The outstanding argument in favor of the play night was the close relationship between the day program of playground activities and the featured nights of play. The transferring of certain championships in special activities and the feeling of anticipation which the play nights aroused were of assistance to the continuity of the playground program. The leaders found that assigning duties

to be performed on the play nights helped greatly in training in child leadership.

Progress of the Recreational Study

(Continued from page 572)

ducted by means of state and WPA personnel in a number of areas in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri and throughout the state of Nebraska. Naturalist programs have been conducted in the Indiana state parks for a number of years. Several of the state universities have assisted by conducting naturalist training schools and providing naturalist personnel in the state parks.

A Practical Demonstration. This past summer the National Park Service initiated a recreational program on the Federally owned Swift Creek Recreational Demonstration Area near Richmond, Virginia, for the purpose of demonstrating the value of such a program on a large natural area. A Recreational Council representing several communities was organized as a non-profit corporation and assumed responsibility for the organization of the recreational program. It is also responsible for the operation of the revenue-producing facilities, the profits from which will be used to finance the program. Assistance in this work is also being received from the Works Progress Administration which is supplying fifteen recreation workers, including life guards, a music leader, a dramatics and dancing leader, an art and handcraft teacher, a pottery teacher, two nature leaders, two bathhouse attendants and a games person. A clearing house has been set up in each community for scheduling events in the area, and NYA workers were secured to communicate with organized groups in order to present the opportunities for group outings.

The various items which have been discussed briefly outline the scope and progress of the Recreation Study. Although the study has not advanced to the point where definite conclusions may be drawn, it does point the way toward certain trends and to the solution of certain problems in the park and recreation field, as well as the development of certain planning techniques.

The Dimond Athletic Club

(Continued from page 575)

class competition which creates greater interest and makes for better playing.

Last year, for the first time, we had "open house" night and invited our families and friends. A hundred visitors came, and we demonstrated

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MAGAZINES

- Recreation News*, October 1938
(Chicago Park District)
Employees Welfare
- School Management*, November 1938
New York Schools Use Ferryboats in Study of Civics.
- Child Study*, November 1938
Family Life—Then and Now, by Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg
- Education Abstracts*, October 1938
Measuring Achievement in Physical Education, by Ruth B. Glasgow and Marion R. Broer.
New Directions in Physical Education for the Adolescent Girl in High School and College, by Rosalind Cassidy.
Coordination of Recreation Agencies, by George Hjelte.
Personality Growth Through Athletics, by Goodwin Watson.
Standards for the Selection of Persons to Be Trained for Placement in Health and Physical Education, by Elmer Bert Cottrell.
Recreation in Church and Community, by Warren T. Powell (Ed.)
The Physical Education Director, by Jay B. Nash.
Tests and Measurements in Physical Education, by John F. Boward and Frederick W. Cozens.
- The Camping Magazine*, November 1938
What Method of Behavior Recording Do You Use? by Melvin Dorsett
- Childhood Education*, November 1938
Guiding Children's Social Development, by Dorothea McCarthy
(Section on the Importance of Play Materials)
- Community*, October–November 1938
The Greatest Athletic Event in the World, by Sir Patrick Hannon, M.P.
- Educational Dance*, December 1938
Dancing and the Recreational Program, by Lillian Powell
- Youth Leaders Digest*, December 1938
The Play Street Fails, by William M. Wener

PAMPHLETS

- Camp Parker*, Pembroke, Mass., Season 1938
Camp of the North End Union, 20 Parmenter St., Boston, Mass.
- "What Price America?"
Outline of a series of twenty-six radio programs on conservation, to be broadcast in 1939. United States Department of the Interior, Division of Information, Washington, D. C.
- Persons Participating in Leisure-Time Activities by Economic Status*—Greater Cleveland
Prepared by Howard Whipple Green, Cleveland Health Council, 1001 Huron Road. 1938.
- Library Bulletin No. 9*, October 1938
List of lantern slides available from the Recreation Division Library, Chicago Park District.

The Federal Government and Education

Summary of findings and proposals of the Advisory Committee on Education. Available from the Committee, North Interior Building, Washington, D.C., or from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price 10¢.

Report of the Mayor's Advisory Board on Playgrounds and Recreation, January 1, 1937—July 1, 1938

Issued by the Mayor's Advisory Board on Playgrounds and Recreation, 638 Terminal Tower Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

Annual Report, Recreation Commission

Highland Park, Michigan, May 1, 1937 to May 1, 1938

Short Courses in Colleges of Agriculture,

by E. L. Kirkpatrick

Report of findings of a specific phase of the rural youth situation. Includes chapters on the extent of the agricultural short course movement, the present situation, schools maintaining general course in agriculture, etc. Published by the American Youth Commission, American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. November 15, 1938.

our regular program. The evening was a great success and it was decided to make it an annual event.

We also have our anniversary dinner each year, held at one of the local hotels or restaurants. This is the one big social event of the year, but we keep it informal in order that all members may feel free to come and enjoy themselves.

For the past year we have had a Dimond Gym Bee which meets once a month from 10:30 A. M. to 3:00 P. M. Each member brings her sewing, crocheting or knitting, and ideas and designs are exchanged by the members.

Still another activity is our crew which meets weekly on Oakland's beautiful Lake Merritt and makes possible an enjoyable morning filled with healthful outdoor exercise.

A dramatic group is one of our outside activities, and members interested in giving plays meet once each week while rehearsals are in progress. The plays are presented for gymnasium members, fraternal and church organizations.

Our gymnasium class is open for enrollment only the first two weeks in the fall semester. We do not meet during the summer, and we find when fall comes our members are ready to start the new term with greater enthusiasm after their absence from classes. This year our enrollment closed with 113 members, possibly the largest class of its kind in Oakland. We have some unmarried girls but the majority are mothers, and there are even a few grandmothers! So we have a well-balanced membership representing both "pep" and stability.

We have purchased equipment as we have

added to our treasury. Now we have a fine collection of gymnasium equipment, dishes, silverware, tablecloths, dish towels, a large coffee urn and a duplicator machine. We mimeograph our own song books, include songs we like to sing and many parodies about our gymnasium class written by members.

Our philanthropic work consists of giving Christmas baskets to people in our community and in making substantial donations to the school where our meetings are held.

What Kind of Leadership?

(Continued from page 576)

mal place in the play of the group. Children who are poor in coordination need to be given opportunity for practice in various games without being made to feel inferior to the better players. A well-trained leader is familiar with a wide variety of activities for special occasions and has a store of knowledge upon which to draw in order to add zest and variety to the daily program.

"Only as competent leadership is available can the benefits of participation in organized games and play activities be assured and the potential evils eliminated."

Horses Preferred!

(Continued from page 577)

interclub competition sponsored to promote public participation in the activity. Last summer members of five clubs, composed of employees in local department stores and silk mills, met in riding competition, and trophies and ribbons were awarded the winners. A local horseback riding enthusiast acted as judge. The affair was highly successful.

All applicants for membership in the Equestrian Club are placed on probation for three months. During that time they must complete ten hours of supervised riding. This entitles them to membership but they are not permitted to wear the club pin until they have had twenty-five hours of riding, using standard equipment (English saddle). Membership dues in the club are \$5.00 a year.

You Asked for It!

(Continued from page 578)

keting, production, and publicity. This group made up the governing board which was called a council, usually consisting of seven or eleven members. At monthly meetings of the group there are discussions on production, marketing, sala-

bility of articles, good design, color, craftsmanship, and an education program.

In New Hampshire there were three problems that had to be solved: first, the training of local people to make beautiful, salable articles; second, the establishment of a marketing outlet, and third, the education of the buying public to the desirability of possessing meritorious handmade articles.

In planning for instruction it was realized that the townspeople would not be able to meet the demands of the discriminating public unless they were trained to be craftsmen. Good craftsmen were more expensive teachers than mediocre craftsmen. Instructors were secured from leading near-by universities and colleges and from other individuals and organizations who knew and understood the objectives of the newly organized group. A salary of \$5.00 a day and expenses was paid to all instructors, with the exception of one person who received a larger amount.

Many interesting experiences have resulted in the marketing of handmade products, both as to location and type of shop as well as displays. It was found that a shop which would not appear like a store or just a "gift-shoppe" was highly desirable. The objective was to create a museum-salesroom atmosphere. It was found that introducing craft demonstrations such as having someone weaving, doing needlework, knitting or some other activity helped create interest. It seemed best to present in another section the picture of how the articles for sale could be arranged in a home by making provision for shelves and cupboards supplied with a great variety of the various crafts from which the customers could choose.

The method of managing the shop might be of interest to you. A volunteer manager possessing good business judgment and excellent artistic taste was secured. That person would be responsible for the general running of the shop, the arranging of displays, the proper shelving of goods, bookkeeping, and the supervision of salesladies. When the shop showed sufficient profit to pay the manager, this was done. Volunteer salesladies were also secured. They were usually not the local crafts people but residents who had some interest in the community. In some cases they were summer residents who were vitally interested in the cultural life of the community. Very careful leadership is needed when other than native people are used as volunteers in the shop. The local people must realize that it is their organization and that they are running it.—*Frank A. Staples.*

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Nat. Rec.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Keep on Playing

An Album of Ensembles for Chamber Groups, Band and Orchestra, edited and arranged by Irving Cheyette. Paull-Pioneer Music Corp., 1657 Broadway, New York City. Piano Book, 75¢; all other parts, 40¢.

WITH A REMARKABLE increase in the number of civic orchestras and the like, and also in the number of school-trained players who might be in such orchestras, this set of orchestral accompaniments for songs in the same publisher's "Keep on Singing" should be very welcome in communities all over the country. The songs are of very good quality and lasting enjoyment, suited to all sorts of groups liking to sing, and the arrangements are by a man who is not only very skillful, but who also has had a great deal of experience in arranging music for players of modest skill. Indeed, even where there is no singing, a group of instrumentalists could enjoy very much playing these accompaniments. These have been so arranged as to be adaptable to any combination of instruments which provides a solo part, second part, third part and bass part.—*A. D. Zansig.*

Recreation

A Selected Bibliography. Compiled by Grace P. Thornton. Russell Sage Foundation Library, 130 East 22nd Street, New York. 10¢.

THIS LIST IS GENERAL in scope and represents material published between 1928 and 1938, on the general subject of recreation and play areas. Special phases of recreation, such as camping, athletics, games and similar activities, have been omitted because of space limitations.

A Study of the Modern Drama

By Barrett H. Clark. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. \$3.50.

IN THIS, the second revised edition of his book, Mr. Clark has revised all play lists and bibliographies, has brought up to date vital statistics about the authors, has completely overhauled all biographical lists, and has written two additional chapters—one dealing with American drama from 1928 to the present; the other with significant drama which has arisen in Russia. All the significant dramatists from the time of Ibsen to the present day are given a place in Mr. Clark's volume, and each playwright has a chapter which includes his bibliography, an account of his achievements, a general commentary, and a complete list of his plays.

Fishing Memories

By Dorothy Noyes Arms. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$3.00.

THIS IS SOMETHING more than just a book about fishing for through it runs an appreciation of the beauties of nature and a sympathetic understanding of the people who cross the pages of the volume, which make it a delightful book for everyone who loves the out-of-doors. The illustrations by William J. Schaldach are outstanding.

Make It Yourself

By Julian Starr, Jr. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

HERE IS ANOTHER book for the amateur craftsman who enjoys making things at home with tools. It offers complete detailed instructions together with working drawings for sixty projects, including chairs, tables, screens and fences for out of doors, furniture and accessories, games, toys and holiday projects, novelties, and useful things around the house. A few special playrooms are described, and information is given on tools required and methods of work.

Rural America Reads

By Marion Humble. American Association for Adult Education, New York. \$1.00.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION for Adult Education estimates that there are nearly forty million people in the United States living in rural districts who have no public library service. In *Rural America Reads*, Miss Humble tells us of the efforts which are being made to supply books to rural districts through libraries, library stations, by mail, messenger service, truck, car and horseback. It is an interesting story which takes us behind the scenes into the heart of America.

Everyman's Drama

By Jean Carter and Jess Ogden. American Association for Adult Education, New York. \$1.00.

IN THIS STUDY of the non-commercial theater in the United States a wide range of groups has been surveyed in twenty-seven states, and information has been gathered about such well organized little theaters with full-time workers such as the Cleveland Play House and the humble dramatics club with volunteer leadership in rural North Carolina or Wisconsin. The result is a fascinating portrayal of amateur groups and their activities so clearly set forth that each group of players comes alive and assumes a real personality.

A look into the future indicates that the direction of developments, if present trends are trustworthy indicators, is toward a theater which is polycentered both geographically and as to auspices; toward larger and more discriminating audiences; toward increased opportunities for development and utilization of talent of actors, playwrights, and the many creative artists required by the theater; and toward the continuance of experimentation with new forms, new techniques, and even new purposes.

The Game of Weaving

By Osma Couch Gallinger. International Textbook Company, Scranton, Pennsylvania. \$1.00.

THROUGH THE PAGES of this book, Fanny and Bob, ten and fourteen years of age, follow the romantic step-by-step story of the sources of fibers, how they are gathered, washed, spun and woven into real cloth. The volume is a picture book of twenty-one lessons in weav-

ing designed for the instruction and entertainment of boys and girls who enjoy making worth-while things with their hands.

Singing Games from the South.

"Kit" 44. Edited by Katherine and Lynn Rohrbough. Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. 25¢. Twenty-six singing games are described in this new member of the Recreation Kit family, and the air of each song is given.

A New Deal for Youth.

The Story of the National Youth Administration. By Betty and Ernest K. Lindley. The Viking Press, New York. \$3.00.

In this book the authors have given us a panoramic picture of the NYA and its activities, with some of the new aspects, problems and evolutions that have emerged as the program has developed. "The National Youth Administration," state the authors in a concluding paragraph, "has not solved and cannot solve the basic problems of the groups of youth it has touched. These problems are interwoven with and inseparable from the general social and economic enigmas of this era. NYA does demonstrate that, given the chance, these youth show a willingness, often an eagerness, to work, to learn, and to assume their responsibilities in this civilization."

Fellowcrafters Series of Instruction Manuals.

Fellowcrafters, Inc., 64 Stanhope Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

The series of nine inexpensive manuals covering a variety of craft activities which is now available from Fellowcrafters, Inc., should prove particularly helpful to elementary craft classes. The directions for each activity are clear, concise, and well illustrated. The manuals are *Gimp Braiding Projects* and *Metal Tooling*, both by Charles E. White, Jr., 15 cents each. Other 15 cent booklets are *New Clays for Old Uses*, *Chip Carving*, *Easycweaving*, *Leathercraft for Beginners*, *Metalcraft for Beginners*, and *Amberolcraft*. *Silk Screen Process Printing*, giving a method of printing often used in making posters, magazine and book covers, and Christmas cards, may be secured for 25 cents.

Offstage.

Making Plays from Stories. By Marguerite Fellows Melcher. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. \$1.50.

This is a book on making plays from stories and in it Mrs. Melcher gives us the fundamentals which will make it possible for us to go about dramatizing or acting for ourselves. The book also serves the purpose of increasing our enjoyment of the stage and various forms of drama.

Community Planning.

By Wayne D. Heydecker and W. Phillip Shatts. Regional Plan Association, Inc., 400 Madison Avenue, New York. 25¢.

This manual of practical suggestions for citizenship participation attempts to answer briefly the questions: "How organize for community planning?" "How determine what community improvements are needed?" "How obtain community improvements through planning?" A few suggestions are offered for the evaluating of recreational facilities.

Basketball, 1938-1939.

With Official Rulebook. Edited by Wilhelmine Meissner for the National Section on Women's Athletics of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. 25¢.

This attractively printed booklet is the first of the series of the Official Sports Library for Women now to be published by A. S. Barnes and Company. The guide

contains the revised rules for 1938-39, published as a separate booklet, and a number of articles and other information of interest to athletic directors and all concerned with establishing high standards in the playing of basketball by women.

Report of an Investigation into Recreative Gymnastics for Older Women.

Published by the Central Council of Recreative Physical Training, Abby House, Victoria Street, S. W. 1, London, England, Price 1 Shilling.

This concise and clear booklet gives the problems arising from recent Keep Fit and other movements in England with very fair analysis of the exercises used, their benefits and dangers. Thirteen pages are devoted to descriptions of exercises and criticisms of their values. Excellent recommendations are offered, especially on programs and leaders. A two-page summary is of value to both English and American leaders, and the seventeen pages of sketches illustrating the effect of unsuitable exercises on posture and movement are excellent. Every physical educator and recreation leader interested in women's gymnastics can profit by this booklet.

Ventriloquism as a Hobby.

By Sydney Vereker. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$1.75.

It is a fine ambition, the author states, to take up ventriloquism only as a hobby, but he urges those who have shown special aptitude in it to make it a profession and help preserve this ancient art. Mr. Vereker in his book presents by a step-by-step method the techniques involved in ventriloquism.

The Program Supplement.

Compiled by Jesse L. Murrell. Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 740 Rush Street, Chicago. 15¢.

This descriptive bibliography of program resources for young people covers a wide variety of subjects organized under twelve areas, including the church, citizenship, the economic area, friendship, health, home, recreation, school, vocation, and world relationships. Six hundred and fifty-five booklets and pamphlets are listed from 171 publishers and distributors. The average price of these pamphlets is 15 cents.

Effective Group Discussion:

A Guide for Group Members.

By Thomas Fansler. Revised Edition. Service Bureau for Adult Education. Division of General Education, New York University. 15¢.

In his introduction to this practical little pamphlet, Dean Dearborn of the Division of General Education of New York University says: "Small group discussion can be one of the most effective ways of learning. It can also be one of the most wasteful ways. At its best it assumes the active, constructive participation of each member of the group."

American Youth.

An Annotated Bibliography. By Louise Arnold Menefee and M. M. Chambers. The American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education, Washington, D. C. \$3.00.

What is youth thinking about work, wages, war, religion, marriage? Twenty-five hundred books and pamphlets have been written on this subject, most of them since 1930. This remarkable bibliography lists them all under such headings as: The Problems of Modern Youth, Attitudes of Youth, Education, Health, Family Life and Housing, Leisure and Recreation, Citizenship, etc. Each book or pamphlet is described in a paragraph giving the name of the author, name of the volume, and the date of publication, and a brief statement about the contents of each document. Recreation executives or laymen seeking help in compiling materials or preparing addresses will find this an invaluable guide for locating materials.

The Principles of Physical Education.

By Jesse Feiring Williams, A.B., M.D. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia. \$3.00.

In this, the third edition of his book, Dr. Williams has brought the text up to date by rewriting a number of important subjects and making significant changes in almost every chapter. Two of the four aims of the book will be of special interest to recreation workers: "The development of favorable attitudes toward play" and "the development of standards of conduct by instilling standards of fair play."

Adult Abilities.

A Study of University Extension Students. By Herbert Sorenson. The University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis. \$2.00.

That adults learn much better than is commonly believed is the conclusion reached by Dr. Sorenson after a study of many thousands of adult students in university extension classes. Dr. Sorenson further states that the diminution of mental powers with age is very moderate if those powers be systematically exercised. This study will be very valuable for all interested in adult education.

Safety for Myself and Others.

By George L. Bush, Theodore W. Ptacek and John Kovats, Jr. American Book Company, New York. 44¢.

This is a complete and separate unit on safety covering home, school and outdoor safety, safety in industry, safe driving, highway and traffic safety—all the major problems of personal and public safety.

Seventy-five Years.

Volume XVIII of the Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.

This history of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, 1861-1936, is as Chauncey Hamlin, its president, says: "a scientific record of pioneering, of evolution from collecting things for the sheer sake of collecting to collecting ideas for the sake of disseminating a coherent concept of the universe, the earth, and the living creatures that people it." The museum was the first in the world to pioneer in work with children; the first to plan its exhibits so that they would tell a continuous and related story of man's scientific knowledge, and it is a pioneer in adult museum education in evening exhibit hours to make the museum available to business people. Its record of accomplishment places it in the foremost rank among museums of the world.

Judo.

By T. Shozo Kuwashima and Ashbel R. Welch. Printice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

Here are thirty lessons in the modern science of Jiu-Jitsu, a sport which offers a method for keeping fit and at the same time is equipment for self-defense. The book contains over 140 photographic illustrations of performers in action.

Directory of Hobbies and Spare-time Opportunities.

Park City Book Supply, Bridgeport, Connecticut. 25¢.

While this is not an exhaustive bibliography of hobbies, it offers a wide range of source material and, in addition, lists a number of magazines dealing with hobbies. There are also some brief articles and interesting notes on hobbies.

"Honor Your Partner."

Ten Square Dance Calls with Explanations by C. L. "Buck" Stinson. Available from James R. Clossin, 2924 Van Buren Street, El Paso, Texas. 75¢.

This attractive little book has been prepared to assist those who are learning to do square dancing and to know the calls and their meanings. Some of the most common figures danced at dances today are included, with accompanying calls and explanations as to how each figure is executed.

Literature as Exploration.

By Louise M. Rosenblatt. D. Appleton-Century Co., New York. \$2.25.

The Commission on Human Relations of the Progressive Education Association has been charged with the responsibility of helping young people with the urgent problem of personal and social living today. One of the means of rendering such help was the publication of *Literature as Exploration*. While this book is addressed to teachers of literature in high schools and colleges, its ultimate purpose is to give the study of literature a central place in the growth of the social and cultural life of the democracy. Literature is dealt with as a form of art. Its enjoyment by students is the source from which all other values spring. Reading brings the student into the experience of other people. It combines literary appreciation and social understanding. This book will be of importance to recreation workers who are deeply interested in reading and its place in the personal lives of readers as well as in the program of the recreation department.

Guide to the Appalachian Trail in Maine.

Publication No. 4. The Appalachian Trail Conference, 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. \$1.50.

This publication supplies detailed trail data in both directions for the now completed 266 miles of Appalachian trail in Maine. It includes a series of ten maps of the trail route, one of them a large scale map of the entire route across Maine.

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The Spirit of the National Recreation Movement

NEVER HAS the national recreation movement been a centralized national movement with control at the top.

The effort has always been to help local recreation units to become strong, vital, dynamic, adventuresome, experimental.

There has always been effort to have centralization of knowledge and experience on a cooperative basis.

Many have wished that the National Recreation Association would make an effort to secure greater uniformity so that the work in various cities would be more alike.

The leaders in the Association have believed that there is in the long run greater strength in individualization, in encouraging originality, in helping cities to be different from one another—while knowing all about one another.

This desire and effort to encourage differences is rather contrary to the strong world tendency at the present time toward centralization, toward control.

Of course in the national recreation movement there never could be any large degree of centralized control because the local work is so largely governmental, municipal. Yet the national recreation movement has studiously avoided accepting the degree of "leadership" control which localities have often desired.

Recreation is an expression of the inner life of a people, of what the people really are and desire. It is more important in recreation than in other fields that there be the greatest encouragement of freedom, variation, creativeness, originality.

Clerk mindedness, red tape, bureaucracy, regimentation, systematization are contrary to the true spirit of recreation. Music, art, sport, recreation on the national side need a light and not a heavy touch. Any national leadership in recreation which is not in the direction of spontaneity and creativeness would be a step backward.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

February



Courtesy Butler Hospital, Providence, R. I.

Toward an Understanding of Leisure

What preparations are you making for the leisure which will be yours on retirement?

By DR. ELIOT D. HUTCHINSON
Department of Psychology
University of Rochester

INSURANCE advertisements often picture men of 55 or 66 as they are retiring on an annuity for life.

These men are shown wreathed in smiles upon the reception of their first check. You are left with the impression that they spend the rest of their lives in contentment, laughing secretly at the toiling world, and dying at a ripe old age at least four years older on the average than the non-annuitant. The picture embodies the imagined success of many a hard-pressed American.

The chances are small that these men remain contented for very long after their period of retirement begins. It has been my observation that the cessation of a busy routine, the precipitous stopping of a regular occupation, often makes men

restless, neurotic. The situation is usually this:

For a brief time after retirement they enjoy their freedom, revelling in the thought that now at last they can do as they please. But suddenly they wake up to the fact that they do not please to do enough, that for active people managing leisure time is a serious responsibility. Furthermore, they are now out of the running; they have a different occupational status than formerly. The rest of the world, including their business and professional associates, continues its routine. But they are not needed any more—driftwood caught in the backwash of events. They lose grip and self confidence; they become introspective, frightened of social contacts which formerly they made so

The leisure of retirement has much to offer men who are interested in creative activities



Courtesy Iowa WPA

easily, even hypochondriacal. The less discipline they impose upon themselves the greater is their depression. Something is wrong: and they struggle desperately, pathetically even, to regain confidence, self-respect and zest. Leisure which promised so much in happiness, yields so little in actual reward.

Particularly is this situation apparent in those who are forced into idleness by unemployment or by the increasingly shortened hours of modern industry. Few have plans for such an emergency. Not long ago a large group of unemployed salesmen were interviewed in an attempt to determine their relation to such leisure. Their attitudes ranged from a sense of personal failure to one of fatalistic acceptance of misfortune. A new and subtly undermining social distinction arose between them and the fortunate ones who still had jobs. During the initial phases a feeling of uselessness prevailed. Then hopeless indifference which lacked the energy for open political rebellion took its place. The effects of enforced leisure upon personality are usually these: increased instability (seen even in children), lowered morale, increased indulgence in escape mechanisms—movies, alcohol, sex and other outlets—and disorganization of personal and social habits. Leisure, in the sense of just undirected time, is not only unsatisfying; it is often psychologically disastrous. If undisciplined, it soon makes men unemployable, producing peculiar mental effects which frequently persist even after ostensible readjustment has taken place.

The hopeful aspect in the national situation, however, lies in the fact that there are now thousands of people in early and middle life who are saving money under the Social Security Act for retirement at age sixty-five. These people are facing with a new seriousness the problem of planning for their coming leisure. What was formerly only a dream of delights that could never be theirs, is now an imminent reality. Little wonder that they are looking forward to the possession of leisure with an interest born of adventure and release. But somehow we need a new conception of the nature of leisure, an appreciation of the principles which make it tolerable. To this end let us bend our thought.

In the first place, I think that we must revise the common notion that leisure is just unorganized intervals of time. Sheer loafing is possible only when there has been strenuous activity preceding it. It is ordinarily tolerable only when

it is the necessary relaxation following constructive effort. Under such conditions a man may spend some time in recuperative idleness. But when one is facing an extended period of time, such as years of unemployment or retirement, idleness can be no solution. There is not enough activity in it to impose a discipline on living. The moment of transition to retirement, with its change of pace, becomes thus a particularly critical and dangerous period. How can it be met successfully?

Preparing for Leisure

Such a transition obviously demands preparation. One cannot plunge into a period of extended free time without being ready for the change. And that preparation begins not only at the moment of retirement but mentally much prior to it. Activities that are to be the chief interest after retirement must have been in progress before it. The age of sixty-five is, by very nature of habits already long established, a difficult time to start really new interests, but an excellent time to mature older ones. I have seen many men who have long devoted themselves exclusively to their routine work, who, upon retirement, have found themselves too old, too inflexible, too habit-ridden to commence a consuming interest successfully. A particular example may be of value.

A man, now sixty-six, who had been a successful business manager for a large eastern concern, retired last year. All his life he had followed a strict routine, failing to develop secondary interests because of what he thought were the engrossing demands of his position. Now he has gone to live in a pleasant New Hampshire town where in the meantime his wife has had the foresight to rebuild a charming old house. But within the first month after his retirement he nearly went to pieces, became depressed, irritable, discouraged, a misfit—unhappy with his new neighbors, and forgotten, so he thought, by his old.

What such a man needs is not further relaxation; he has too much of that already. He needs, rather, major interests to direct and consume his now unused energies. But these, owing to his age, are difficult to promote and will grow only slowly, while in the meantime he has to suffer. The point I want to make clear is this: had he tasted avocational interests years ago—gardening, hobbies, intellectual pursuits, creating something—he could not now wait to seize the opportunity to carry these reserve interests into action. They would

Prepare for future leisure
by cultivating an interest
which will be lifelong

have given him spiritual adventure and saved him from the neurotic danger of introspection. Whatever you think of the moral values of having definite purposes in life—interests, usually the more the better, directed toward some long term end and continuing through life, are certainly of immense psychological import. The particular type of interest matters little; it's functional effect upon character, a great deal. Men lacking such absorbing concerns usually fail to meet the advent of leisure successfully; they fail, that is, in their own estimation, if not in that of others. Thus for most people leisure programs should be carried along with their struggle for existence as a parallel enterprise. Dividends may be deferred, but are payable eventually with rich reward.

And yet it is not always impossible to begin an interest late in life. Sometimes in fact men grow faster in regard to such work, accomplish more in less time, than do the young. They have greater preparation and background for a productive enterprise. They have greater motivation. Consequently, if they can maintain a degree of mental flexibility, they have greater accomplishment. I know a man who did not begin painting until he was forty-five, but so great was his matured insight and so true his perceptions that he rapidly became one of the foremost artists in a large eastern city. He grew more in reference to his avocational interest in five years than he had in reference to his routine work in twenty. It is not impossible, but merely unlikely, that such new reaches of enthusiasm will come late in life to a man who has not entertained them earlier. The time to begin an avocational interest is the present.

In the second place, leisure for most people must be devoted to things which require little expense, and in the main are non-profit making. The man whom I have just mentioned has only a mod-



Photo by William Newkirk, Cambridge, Mass.

erate retirement annuity. He cannot afford yachts, or horses, or extensive travel. His activity must be near at home. Four main types of avocational interests offer suggestions for his thought — (1) those connected with sports and games; (2) learning something; (3) creating something; (4) collecting something. All of these, especially the first three, are open to him at little expense. It is not necessary to list his opportunities. The important thing is that he take them, as he took his regular work, seriously. The thing he lacks is not the opportunity to employ himself at moderate cost—almost everyone has that—but the discipline of living which his former work imposed upon him. That work was the directing factor of his life. Now somehow he will have to develop new interest so coordinated and so exacting as to invite for himself a similar routine—freer perhaps in some respects—but a routine nonetheless which will relieve him of the necessity of making every morning the decision as to what he will do. The thing that is wearing him down is *not the lack of things to do*, but the necessity of making decisions *about what to do*. The function of his interests is, then, this: to act as a director for his general habits of living, dictator of his routine practices. In short, to relieve him of constant worry about things normally decided automatically.

In the third place, leisure for most people will become an opportunity for individual employment. When a man ceases his routine work and retires, the type of activity in which he subsequently engages is usually different from his former work.

He changes not only pace but content of activity. No longer does he work at a machine, in an office, or in competition with others. By force of circumstance his interests are now related to what his personal efforts can accomplish. They are cultural in the same sense that his previous avocational interests functioned as a relief from too routine a life. In particular, therefore, their effect upon his own growth is more immediate.

One of the things leisure does for a man is to allow him to experience many things personally, freshly and for the first time. He can, therefore, cease to be herd-minded, opinionless, and inarticulate. He learns what he wants, what he likes, and almost invariably he chooses those things which have the greatest expressive value for his own personality, which yield the greatest ego-satisfaction. And since his leisure activities are thus related to his fundamental desires, they are in a real sense of the word character-forming, *creative*. And because they are creative, they are more likely to put him eventually in a position of leadership among others. Thus, although his interests start as individual, they wind up with a strong social import. It is always from others that we gain support for our own legitimate self esteem.

Dangers Inherent in Use of Leisure

But in the use of leisure, as we have intimated, lurk a number of specific dangers. What are some of these? The first is the danger of allowing standardized amusements to usurp leisure time. Recently there have been several studies reported on the diagnosis of leisure time activities. One of these deals with the activities of young people on New York's lower west side. Diary schedules covering a period of four accurately recorded days in early spring were obtained from 1,100 Junior High School students of 75% foreign parentage. On analysis it was found that the most frequently reported leisure activities were, in order: (1) listening to the radio (chiefly entertainment features); (2) attending motion pictures (84% of which were considered unsuited to children); (3) reading tabloid newspapers, (five-cent magazines, adventure story books); and (4) spending time outdoors (84% unsupervised play on the streets).

In another study of the leisure time activities of Illinois and Georgia students in schools ranging in size from 90 to 650 pupils, a questionnaire revealed the same control of time by these standardized and effortless forms of amusement. The type of radio program which ranks high in interest

value for these adolescents is concerned with the transient and more superficial aspects of life. The effortless nature of these presentations, the immediacy and continuity of them makes them not only enticing but also unproductive of self-sustaining attitudes.

While the same proportion of older people may not indulge in these pursuits, it is my guess that the habits of youth carry over little changed into adulthood. A study of the reading of 46,000 older people is reported. Popularity was found to influence greatly the types of books read, as well as the magazines and newspapers. Three-fourths of the reading done was light fiction. Sixty per cent of the people had read no books for six months. In such reading there is little to develop judgment, discrimination and the critical faculties. Again standardized content takes the place of constructive interests. A study of the movies, the radio, and the newspaper indicate that their appeals, because regressive, recurrent, and accessible, are as captivating to the old as to the young. While no harm, perhaps, results from moderate use, they often develop attitudes of dependence which are hard to revise when leisure becomes compulsory, and positive readjustment of life necessary. Herein lies at least one danger—that leisure may not foster that self-reliance which is capable of meeting further leisure with equanimity.

A second danger in the possession of leisure lies inherent in the vagueness of the ambitions it contains. Few people ever formulate what they want definitely enough to do anything about it. Their conversation is of yesterday, their thought of a vague tomorrow when things will "break" for them in a half dream world where anything may supposedly happen, and "some day their Prince will come." They do not see leisure time as a period in which their unexpressed longings may find fulfillment. Hence they are forever looking beyond the present, never realizing the solid satisfaction of actual accomplishment. But day by day we hammer away at the marble which is time; chip by chip it falls at our feet, and unless we have some model or design to objectify, the result is simply a heap of wasted chips, formless and pitiable. Witness the pathos of unrewarded age.

The necessary sense of direction is best achieved by a concrete statement of projects or goals. And these like charity begin at home, grow out of potentialities already realized. It is a matter of choosing some aim, realistically within the power

of the individual, and of applying to it all available energy and persistence. The adventure at once becomes the foundation upon which more extended success is built.

All this, to be sure, is an old truism, but it takes on new significance when we realize that it means for the individual a statement of self respect, a sense of comradeship with others in a common adventure, often a public appreciation of value to society, a stimulating substitute for formal employment. But the danger, I say, is that owing to the fear, hesitation and lack of knowledge as to how to proceed, the individual never gets under way with anything. So many people want to write, to act, to paint, to sculpture, to engage in handicrafts, to be of service. Ambitions toward such goals, especially now in time-free adults, are amazingly widespread. Counted in millions today, such people have, it is estimated, increased five fold since 1930. You only have to show the results of your own labors to them and they say, almost wistfully, "I wish I could do that." And for the moment they do. But when they learn that creative accomplishment requires discipline, persistence, insight, and long periods of tedious elaboration, they fall by the wayside for lack of the will to expend the necessary energy. It takes a dogged wrestling with the fates to achieve the "integrity of one's own soul." So I say, begin easily, choose a project within reach, climb slowly, achieve solidly. The satisfactions of patient endeavor should never be dissipated. Otherwise passivity and indifference may contribute as an obstacle to social welfare in this country.

A third danger lurks in our lack of imagination as to the possibilities of leisure. Not long ago, in Des Moines, Iowa, as similarly, I know, in Rochester, New York, a hobby show was held. Now hobbies are only one form of leisure activity. But what happened was amazing. The show was started as a leap year adventure by a department store in one case and as a museum project in the other, and confined exclusively to men. At first the men were timid and sent in their wives with entries. Later they came openly. Presently contributions became an avalanche as newsboy and millionaire, store

clerk and banker, brought in his own handwork—anything from collections of coins to antique furniture. Over a thousand articles were submitted. Space had to be roped off and attendants placed to direct visitors. Educators came filled with curiosity and remained to admire. One man who had done his puttering in secret, suddenly found himself with city-wide and state-wide recognition—certainly an ego-satisfaction of real import to him.

It is unnecessary here to list the exhibits. There were hundreds of them from model ships to hand woven rugs, from prints to—*mirabile dictu*—embroidery, from collecting stamps to collecting beetles and old glass. The point to realize is the variety. It opens one's eyes to the number of such legitimate secondary interests, and confirms the opinion that no one need lack suggestions as to how to use his time profitably. And yet the danger is that we do not advertise this wealth in avocational possibilities. The failure is in part a failure of imaginative and directive power, which too constant insistence from sources of standardized stimulation has produced. We have often failed to see leisure as necessary and formative; now, when we must depend upon the imaginative flexibility which its proper use should have engendered, we are hopelessly inadequate and prosaic.

Avoiding Pitfalls in Leisure

These dangers, then, are inherent in the possession of leisure. How can we avoid them? How reap the fullest reward from those years of freedom which almost certainly will crown the lives of thousands of us? The answer is in one sense simple; its challenge to fulfillment more difficult. By way of summary and conclusion, I suggest the following:

(1) We should, I believe, take regular vacations long before the period of retirement begins. We should learn the taste of leisure, have some acquaintance with its essential problems, estimate in some part its rewards.

(2) We should, I believe, launch really stimulating avocational interests early in life in order that the transition to such interests at the time of retirement may be made easy. Only in

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"A person who has rarely, if ever, played, who has been over-serious, over-strenuous, and has become stale and humorless, looks forward to retirement, often plans for it, but when the plan is realized he is apt to go to pieces immediately and rapidly. Why? Because he is a confirmed, chronic specialist in work and has no other interests. Take that away from him and he is lost. Without work his self-importance dies of starvation. He has leisure but he doesn't know what to do with it, for he has lost the ability to play as well as the opportunity to work, and consequently is a thoroughly miserable person." — Austen Fox Riggs.



The National Recreation Association will make available to anyone requesting them a copy of the rules of sound baseball and a diagram of the playing field used in this modification of the game which is being used so successfully in San Francisco.

Adapting Baseball to the Needs of the Blind

By J. P. LANG
Supervisor of Athletics
San Francisco Recreation Department

IN AN EFFORT to provide physical activity for blind people, the San Francisco Recreation Department has included in its athletic program a sound baseball game. The game was originated by R. V. Chandler, Superintendent of the Industrial Home for the Adult Blind of California which is located in Oakland, California. It has been experimented with by the inmates of the Industrial Home and has proven quite successful. Since adopting this activity the athletic staff of the San Francisco Recreation Department has worked consistently with the blind and now has several teams using the equipment.

The game is quite simple and is played with eleven men on each team, the only seeing person being the pitcher. Inasmuch as he has sight he is not included as a regular member of the team and is not allowed a time at bat, nor can he field the ball.

The nine players in the field line up an equal distance apart facing home plate. They kneel on a continuous pad placed five feet immediately back of the base paths between first and second,

and second and third bases. When the game is called for play they are to be on their knees and in a position to field the ball when it is batted in their direction.

The base paths are constructed of round wooden dolls three feet in width and thirty-three feet in length, each doll being separated by three-quarters of an inch. These paths tie into the wooden bases thirty inches square which are open to release sound. There is a bell or buzzer of a different tone located under each base, which is used as a signal for the batters and runners and to indicate the location for the fielders. The bases are bevelled on each side to prevent obstruction of the ball. The ball is seventeen inches in circumference with jinglers inside for sound. The ball is rolled by the pitcher to the batter who listens intently for the approach of the ball and attempts to hit it with a standard outdoor hockey stick. When the ball is hit, the buzzer at the closest base to which the ball is being directed rings as a warning to the fielders that the ball is located in their territory.

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Fees and Charges for Public Park Services

By THEODORE WIRTH
Superintendent Emeritus
Board of Park Commissioners
Minneapolis, Minnesota

PARKS ARE in every sense of the word a vital necessity.

They are an essential to the welfare, health, and orderly enjoyable life of every community, commonwealth, and the nation as a whole. Every inhabitant should take pride—and I am sure the great majority of thinking people do—in the fact that they have common ownership in their parks, be they municipal, state, or national in character.

There are, generally speaking, no free parks nor park services. The common ownership is based on the fact that all of the people are contributing to their establishment, operation, and upkeep through both direct and indirect taxation. "Free" park service is a misnomer. The more we bring it home to the people that as joint owners of those properties they must share in the support and protection as well as benefits of their parks, the greater will be their appreciation and participation in the proper use and enjoyment of these their common properties. We must make more use of the word "public" in referring to such possessions and service. Instead of advertising "free concerts," for instance, in such and such a park, we should say "public or park concerts."

I maintain that public parks are a necessity and must be provided for through public funds obtained through some manner of public taxation. If so acquired, they must be open to all people alike. To charge admission to enter them is, to say the least, unjust and unwise. I want to think of parks as God-given to all alike—owned and supported in common proprietorship—which they certainly are. To exclude those who cannot or will not pay for admission is, to my mind, fundamentally wrong. Such parks would cease to be "public parks" in the true sense of the word. The justification for their existence as universally-beneficial common properties is greatly diminished and their claim to universal public support naturally impaired.

Public parks—municipal, state, or national—are worthy of all the public support they have received

We are very glad to have the opportunity of presenting to our readers extracts from a letter discussing the propriety of levying taxes and charging fees for services rendered through commonly acquired, owned and administered public parks, which was sent by Mr. Wirth to a number of officials in the National Park Service. Mr. Wirth's statement of opinion will be of great interest to park and recreation officials.

in the past, and if their real value is more and more appreciated, the willingness to provide such support will increase. It must increase as the demand for com-

mon ownership and public service increases. The general taxpayer is willing to carry a reasonable share of that burden, just as he is for other public services rendered by the community, state, or federal government. Because some people cannot or do not care to visit parks is no reason why they should be exempt from such general taxation for the benefit of all—not any more than they can be exempted from general taxation for schools because they have no children.

What our park men have to watch for, with the at present so-wide-awake movement and demand for outdoor life and recreation facilities, is that we keep within reasonable bounds in providing them, giving careful consideration to available or prospective means of operation and upkeep in the future. Let us not solicit or accept gifts or bargains for things which we do not need badly or which we know or have grave doubts about our ability to utilize or maintain in the future.

I have thus far devoted my remarks to advocating the justification for general taxation for park purposes. I have in mind mostly municipal parks. However, the same principles, I feel, apply also to state and national parks.

The question of taxation is an ever-present, perplexing, unpopular problem, not only all over the country, but in the world at large. Nevertheless, it has to be solved, and there are more ways than one of doing so. There is no universal rule that can be justly applied everywhere.

There must be some way in most communities to find means to accomplish such desirable objectives. Every community has its own problems to solve, but in most instances, where there is a will, there is a way to be found—if there is leadership and public spirit behind it.

Of course there is a limit to the extent of the needs of such public ownership and provisions for recreation, entertainment, and

pleasure. I believe it is generally assumed that one acre of such property per 100 inhabitants is a fair ratio of sufficiency in that line of public provision, provided the area is properly distributed. The general taxpayers in providing the community with such grounds for common ownership and reasonable facilities and service to make them safe and useful for their intended purpose are doing their full share towards such community service. Many of the facilities offered by those grounds, while open to all, are made use of by only a part of the population—in fact, some of them by only a small percentage. For example, our bathing beaches may serve a total attendance of 300,000 people a season, but most likely it is less than 20% of our population that makes use of the opportunity—utilizing the facilities over and over again—and that comparatively small percentage of users, in all fairness, can be charged a reasonable fee for using the facilities provided by the general taxpayer. I think it is agreed by all seasoned, experienced park men that there is a justification as well as need for making a charge for the use of special facilities which are used by only a limited percentage of the population.

The real problem, in all probability, is to decide what accommodations are really desirable or essential and can be classed as such special facilities, and what is a reasonable charge for their use. That is indeed a perplexing question, greatly influenced by demand and patronage. Take tennis, for instance, for which we have provided 199 courts in our park system, 87% of which are concrete courts. We do not furnish nets and there is no charge made. They are spread over our entire system and are located chiefly in neighborhood parks and playgrounds. However, we have a battery of thirteen special clay tournament courts that are available for reservation for the use of which charges are made.

Without going into detail of character and accommodations and amount of reasonable fees and charges, I would list the following services that should be classed as special and for which charges may be justified:

1. Tourist accommodations of all kinds in all parks.

"What is a park? In my opinion it is an area of land selected and preserved or designed, developed and maintained for the purpose of satisfying the fundamental need for recreation. The latter may be active or passive in character and its satisfaction may vary from lying on one's back and contemplating the beauty of the clouds to the most active sport you can think of, but that this need exists among all ages and all classes will, I believe, be unquestioned." — Markley Stevenson, National Park Service.

2. Bath houses, swimming pools, and beaches.
3. Golf—no course to be operated unless self-sustaining.
4. Refreshment-commissary establishments—none to be operated unless self-sustaining, and to be operated by the department.
5. Tennis courts where practical.
6. Dancing facilities.
7. Seating accommodations for theatrical, musical, or other entertainment.
8. Parking for special occasions.
9. Boating.
10. Docking and anchoring facilities for private boats.
11. Seating accommodations for special athletic competitive or exhibition games.
12. Exclusive use of facilities by individual groups or organizations.
13. Certain picnic accommodations.
14. Various other facilities for outdoor games not indulged in by the general public.
15. Toboggan rentals, skate rentals, checking.
16. Cabins, fuel for heating, cooking purposes.

The earnings of such revenue-producing activities should revert to the department's treasury and be a part of its budget calculations.

We all theorize about problems before us and come to certain conclusions which influence and determine our policies. Conditions change more or less in most things from time to time, and what was a sound policy years ago may not be so today or in the future. We must be willing and ready to change our policies if the changes in conditions are correct and for the better. We must resist them if they are not so. That we should differ as to the best solution of such questions of theories and facts as well, is obvious and only human nature. My theory is that a reasonable tax levy for the establishing, operation, and upkeep of facilities and services commensurate to the requirements of a community is justified.

I may explain, for the sake of discussion, what my theory is. For illustration, let us use a municipality of 500,000 population, with a modern, up-to-date park, parkway, and playground system of 5,000 acres—or one acre per 100 inhabitants. Let us assume that the park system pro-

vides all the proper equipment for the efficient operation of necessary functions to render satisfactory service through recognized, essential and highly beneficial activities and uses within reasonable requirements, and that such properties are properly maintained and safely protected. The probable annual cost of such efficient operation and maintenance would be \$1,000,000, or an average per annum of \$2.00 per capita.

If we figure the school population to be 20% of the total population, the tax population would be reduced to 400,000, and the average cost per capita increased to \$2.50 per year. To this can be added the income from such revenue-producing services which may be provided.

Assuming that the total tax levy for all municipal activities and purposes is 100 mills on the assessed valuation (about 35% of full and true valuation amounting to \$250,000,000), the park tax would be 4 mills or 4% of the tax dollar. What a small contribution from the individual towards this great and so-very-beneficial community service, when we consider how liberal most all of us are in spending money for other recreation and pleasures such as movies, automobiles, smoking, and drinking!

On such a minimum tax rate a department can give fairly adequate and efficient service with proper compensation for labor and material. Considering the great variety of service given, the benefits of which are obtainable and enjoyed by every inhabitant, young and old, I claim that such taxation is amply justified and will be gladly paid by the well-informed taxpayer — especially if he considers also the aesthetic value which a well-devised, appointed, and maintained park and recreation system gives to the city as a whole.

The question has been raised as to whether parks can be made self-sustaining. There is a publicly owned amusement park in Westchester, New York, which is more than self-sustain-

ing, I believe. There is a difference between a strictly amusement park and a regular public park. The latter cannot be made self-sustaining through admission and other fees without losing its character as such, and its sound, desirable spirit of public service and ownership.

Wherever practical at all, all required service in parks should be rendered by the department direct and not through third parties, lease-holders, or concessions. This I realize is for adequate reasons not always nor everywhere possible. I believe public parks should not be used and manipulated for private gain; that by rendering such direct department-controlled service, the public's interests are best protected; and that all earnings from such service should revert to the department for the good of the public. This service should be rendered in a way not to create unfair competition with outside commercial establishments. The aim should be good merchandise, good service, reasonable, modest profit. It stands to reason that such service, or at least the total services as a group, must be self-sustaining and should not be rendered unless they are self-supporting. They ought to earn money for the department. We

have successfully operated along such lines for the past thirty years — to the public's as well as the department's benefit.

My comments on the questions of policies regarding charges for special accommodations and privileges are based mainly on my observations and experience with municipal park administration over a period of more than forty years, during which interval many changes in the service, functions, and utilization of park properties have taken place. The whole country has become park conscious, and during the past two decades, thousands of communities, large and small, and practically all commonwealths have acquired such properties for the use and benefit of all their people.

Lacking the public park many a boy would be without a place to skate



Photo by William Newhirk, Cambridge, Mass.

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What They Say About Recreation

“WHAT YOUTH as well as age needs is zest for the world in which they live. How can this be acquired? You know as well as I. You get it from the best people you have ever known or the best ones you have read about, like Jesus Christ, through contagion of personality. Bring young people in touch with vital people. The tragedy of life is those people who have never had a chance to see the best, and therefore they are satisfied with the second best, or the fiftieth best.”—*Richard Cabot*, M.D., speaking before the Girls Service League, October 25, 1938.

“The significance of our free time activities is that they place us in a sharing mood. Thus in hiking through the country, in games, in music, painting, weaving, in the discussion of ideas, we issue from our isolation. We learn the fine art of companionship and of wishing for others the happiness we ourselves enjoy.”—From report of conference of Cincinnati Schoolmasters Club.

“Recreation, rightly interpreted, is a re-creating of the vital energies of man whether by physical exercise, creative activity, entertaining absorption, or mere relaxation. It is as essential to his well-being as food, sleep and work. It is a pressing need in the present-day tempo of life, and will be a future necessity for today’s youth because of the routine, monotonous jobs in which most of them will engage.”—*Dr. Homer P. Rainey*, speaking before the Fourth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference.

“The drama is of all the arts perhaps the most important and rewarding for neighborhood life. The awakening of intellectual interest, beauty of scene and costume, purity of diction, grace of body, the discipline of ensemble, the group development that comes from working together for a common end, combine to make the drama one of the best mediums for social development.”—*Mary K. Simkhovitch* in *The Settlement Primer*.

“Recreation, if it is to accomplish its real purpose, must have a recreative value, a social value and a creative value. If the individual and the community are to benefit to the fullest extent, these three ends must be considered as a whole.

Any plan for the utilization of leisure time, therefore, must consider these ends and must properly evaluate them. The whole program for leisure should be integrated with the community’s needs and should serve the spiritual, as well as the material, needs of the community.”—*Philip L. Seman* in an address before the Fourth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference.

“We are not a factory or a construction gang. We are dealing not with tangible things but with spiritual forces. Our results are counted not in yards of earth nor thousands of bricks nor in dollars banked. We are engaged in building character into the very warp and woof of our citizenry. We are not merely teaching people how to play; we are taking their hours of leisure and manufacturing them into worth-whileness.”—From *Our Times*.

“Recreation has come to us as the great challenge. It stands beside the home, the school, and the church as one of the most profitable areas for the realization of the ultimate aims of democracy, namely, a people who will be able to live finely, expressing themselves as individuals in socially desirable ways.”—*Frank S. Lloyd* in *The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, June 1938.

“Recreation means the opportunity to experience those satisfactions which arise from the dignity of work, from joy in play, from appreciation of beauty in art, drama, literature and music; from a love and understanding of the world around us, from the pleasures that arise in the pursuit of some special interest, and from the happiness that comes through fine human relationships in work, play and other activities.”—*Eduard C. Lindeman*, at the Fourth Annual Chicago Recreation Conference, November 21, 1938.

“In the interests of democracy we must not depend on regimented recreation for the people of this country. We must find as many different ways as we can for the development of individual personality, and more satisfactory ways than we have at present for the use of leisure time. In recreation there lie as important values as in any

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Hatchet and Cherry Blossoms



WHEN IT COMES to thinking up new party ideas it seems a little too bad that the symbols for important events do not change every year so we might have something different to work on. . . . No, we are only joking. We wouldn't have it so even if it were possible. For the cherry tree and the hatchet rightfully belong to George Washington just as the log cabin and the split rail belong to Abe Lincoln and Santa Claus to Christmas, and hearts and flowers to Valentine's day, and fire crackers to the Fourth of July.

Perhaps you have been overworking the twelfth and fourteenth of February these past few years. If so, how about holding your party over a few days this year and having it on the twenty-second in honor of that southern colonial gentleman who hacked down a cherry tree and became the first president of our country?

You needn't spend much time trying to decide what kind of George Washington party to have because no matter how long you consider, it always boils down to one of three choices: (1) for a jolly good time you will have a party whose theme is the hatchet and cherry tree; (2) for an historic appreciation and good entertainment you will have a purely patriotic party; (3) and for dignity and atmosphere you will have a colonial cotillion. If you have a feeling that any one of these would cramp your style, then make it a combination!

Cherry Blossom Party

Whether you believe the "I cannot tell a lie" story doesn't matter. At least it has provided us with the cherry tree and the hatchet, the most novel of themes for George Washington day parties. This is the simplest kind of party to give and usually the most fun, too. Invitations should be written on brown paper hatchets in little-boy scrawl, as follows:

This is the truth, so help me
I cannot tell a lie,
I want *you* at my party
To help eat cherry pie.

Time..... Place.....

The guests need not come in costume, although there may be one "Martha" and "George," prob-

ably the host and hostess. Cherry earrings made with cranberries and thin wires may be given out to the girls, and cherry boutonnieres to the boys. Paper caps with painted cherries might also be used.

Decorations are easy. You can make hatchets, cherries, and even artificial cherry blossoms out of crepe paper. Barricini's candy cherries are not expensive, but cranberries may be used as substitutes if desired.

Naturally, cherry pie deserves a conspicuous place on the menu, but sometimes cherry jello is used instead. Or you might bake a cake in the shape of a log and cover it with roughish chocolate frosting to give the appearance of a tree. Place a cluster of candy cherries on one end of it to help get the idea across, and then cut it with some kind of a novelty hatchet.

Any of the following games are appropriate for such a party:

Snatch the Hatchet. Line up the boys on one side and the same number of girls on the other so they are facing each other. Fasten a hatchet made of light wood or cardboard into something for a base so that it will stand up. The guests in each line number from one to ten (or whatever the number happens to be). Be sure and number from opposite ends so that number one stands opposite number ten, etc. The leader calls out a number such as "Number Three," and both Number Three's grab for the hatchet. Each one who succeeds in snatching the hatchet scores a point for his or her line.

Cherry Race. Each player in turn puts his hand palm down into a large bowl of cherries (cranberries may be used here), taking as many as possible on the back of his hand. Then he must run (not walk) to the end of the room with them. The one who carries the most on the back of his hand is the winner.

Hatchet Hunt. Hide small paper hatchets about the room and have the guests look for them. Give a prize to the one who finds the most.

Blowing Cherries. Stretch a string across the floor, dividing it into two fields, the girls on one side and the boys on the other. A giant cherry

(large rubber balloon, inflated) is thrown to the ceiling in the center of the room. When it comes down, each side blows it around, trying to make it touch either an opponent or the floor on the opposite side of the line. Nobody may step over the line nor touch the balloon nor be touched by it, or it goes to the opposite side. The side who succeeds in getting it across the line puts the cherry into their basket and another is tossed into the air. The side which first gathers ten "cherries" wins.

Nothing But the Truth. Guests form a circle, girls and men alternating. "It" in the center swings around unexpectedly and points an accusing finger at somebody in the ring, snapping in a stern voice, "Who did it?" The flustered player must immediately notice whether "It" is pointing with his right or left hand. If with the right, he must say, "I cannot tell a lie. So-and-so did it," mentioning as the culprit the player who stands on his right. If the left hand is pointing, he must blame the whole thing on his left-hand neighbor. In either case he must act before "It" counts ten. The idea is to get the players so rattled that the smartest of them cannot remember his left hand from his right nor the names of friends he went to school with. Those who fail to tell right from left or to answer before the count of ten are penalized by being called upon for forfeits—either to tell a true "hatchet" story, an account of some time when they "got it in the neck" or to pronounce the famous sentence, "Father, I cannot tell a lie, I did it with my little hatchet" thirteen times, each time emphasizing a different word and striking a different melodramatic attitude.

A Purely Patriotic Party

The birthday of the nation's greatest heroes cannot help but inspire thoughts of patriotism. If this theme is to be carried out in your party, you should begin by writing the invitations on small paper American flags. Or you may use white cards with flag-seals or tiny crests in red, white and blue. Two tiny crossed American flags would be attractive and easy to paint. At any rate, your invitation should read something like this:

For the good old U. S. A.
And Mister Washington
We're celebrating on *his* day
And we want *you* to come.

Time..... Place.....

If the guests wish, they may devise some kind of red, white and blue costumes but this is not necessary. However, they should be provided with

Uncle Sam hats, red, white and blue boutonnieres, or tiny flags.

Here again decorations will not require much thought. Flags and bunting, or red, white and blue crepe paper are all that's needed to make a room look as patriotic as Uncle Sam himself. Tables should also be decorated in patriotic colors and designs; and for a patriotic snack you can have tomato-jelly salad, sandwiches cut in the shape of stars, and cakes with icing put on in stripes.

For a patriotic party a few games to test one's knowledge of American history will not be amiss.

Picture Gallery of Presidents. Arrange pictures of presidents of the United States around the room, numbering each one. Pass out cards and pencils, and give a prize to the one who knows the most presidents.

Our Flag. Give a prize to the person who knows the most correct answers to the following questions:

- How many stars in the flag?..Forty-eight
- How many stripes in the flag?..Thirteen
- What do the stripes represent?..Thirteen original colonies
- Are there more red or white stripes?Red
- How many stripes of each color?..Seven red, six white
- Which star does your State represent?Second from the left in the first row
- What do the stars represent?..Forty-eight states
- Who made the first flag?.....Betsy Ross
- In the navy what is the meaning of a flag upside down?..Distress
- Where was the first flag made?..Philadelphia
- What is the meaning of the flag at half mast?.....Death

Our Nation. The guests are handed paper and pencils and told to fill in the word—part of which is *nation*—which will appropriately fit into the following statements:

1. "Heaven's *My Destination*."
2. His actions need no *explanation*.
3. The *assassination* of Lincoln was most unfortunate.
4. The *nomination* was unanimous.
5. Children live in their *imagination*.
6. He was filled with *consternation* at the sight.
7. His choice showed great *discrimination*.
8. The Red Cross would appreciate a *donation*.
9. Character and personality are a fine *combination*.
10. He accepted the verdict with *resignation*.
11. Those who succeed must have *determination*.
12. She stamped her foot in *indignation*.

Paul Revere Relay Race. The group divides into sides forming separate lines. The leader of each side is given a broomstick to ride and a toy lan-

tern to carry. He must rush down his line rapping each person on the head and shouting, "Wake up, the Red Coats are coming!" Then, handing his lantern to the last player in line, he takes his place while that player becomes Paul Revere. The side who first gets the original Paul Revere at the head of the line wins. The prize may be a toy lantern filled with red, white and blue wrapped candies.

Cornwallis and Washington. Players are divided into two groups, each with a general who "manoeuvres" his "men," selecting those best suited to the type of characteristic called out by the leader, as for instance, "the tallest man," "best looking girl," etc. The leader may call the same characteristic as often as he pleases, but each person may be played only once. It is best to set a time limit of thirty seconds for generals to decide which of their group to play. At the end of this time the leader blows a whistle and entries must be sent to the center to be judged. Have one judge who can act quickly. The army who sends the person best suited to the characteristic wins the battle, and the one winning the most battles wins the war.

Patriotic Charades. Charades are older than the Revolution itself, but they are always fun. At this party you can act out different colonial events such as Washington taking command under the Washington Elm, Washington at Valley Forge, crossing the Delaware, throwing a half dollar across the Potomac, giving his Farewell Address, fighting at Bunker Hill, and Betsy Ross making the flag. To make the game more difficult, do not speak or use any properties. Perform by pantomime only.

If you want to make things really patriotically difficult you might give a prize to the one who can repeat the most of the Declaration of Independence and demand forfeits from those who remember the least of that famous speech.

A Colonial Cotillion

The nice thing about a colonial party is that it may be as simple or as elaborate as desired. If done up properly it would be a good deal more expensive than the others, but with skillful management and a few of Grandma's old nightgowns to make over into Martha Washington costumes, it is possible to give a delightful colonial party at very little expense. It is best when planned for a large group, perhaps a combination of church

groups, school children, or playground boys and girls. Such an elegant affair deserves a suitable place—the high school gymnasium, church basement, or playground field house. Again, let your invitations set the tone of your party by writing them in flowing script that looks old-fashioned, on white cards with a tiny crest or a George and Martha Washington silhouette. They might read something like this:

We wish the honor of your presence
At a grand colonial ball,
'Twill be quite a merry occasion,
So come in costume, wig and all.

Time..... Place.....

Girls should try to imitate a Martha Washington costume, wearing kerchiefs and dresses with tight bodice and full skirts. Boys should wear knee breeches, hose, and slippers with buckles on them—also lace ruffles on their coat sleeves. The costumes need not be too elaborate; they may be easily improvised. Some of them perhaps can be made from your old organdie afternoon dresses of two or three summers ago, and prizes should be given for the best costumes. Frilly paper kerchiefs, nosebags, and cotton curls might be provided for the guests.

Decorations should be in the old colonial style, with pictures of Martha and George Washington hung on the walls and soft, blue and gray lights reflected on them. Blue-gray cotton or flannel curtains may be used as a background, and candelabras with white and blue candles would be effective. You might have large mirrors hung around the walls to reflect the candle-light and the costumes.

Old-fashioned, home-made cookies and punch might be served.

No colonial party, however simple, is quite so successful without an opening grand march and the master of ceremonies. As its name suggests, the cotillion should also include other dancing, for this pleasure was not neglected by the grand old colonial dames, nor indeed by Mr. and Mrs. Washington themselves. There might be a minuet as a special feature, and certainly the party cannot close without the Virginia Reel.

If games are needed, here are a few that would not be inappropriate in a colonial atmosphere:

Washington Curtsy. Have three men stand about ten feet apart so that they form a triangle. Place a tricornered hat on one of them who will be "Washington." Place a girl in the center of the

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Cutting the Cloth to Fit the Pattern

A superintendent of recreation defines some of the limitations placed on executives in the development of their recreation programs

By G. M. PHELAN
Superintendent of Recreation
Kenosha, Wisconsin

AN IDEAL recreation department is one that meets the needs of the community by offering, or seeing to it that there is offered, a program that covers the entire field of leisure-time activity. As this ideal state will never exist, the director must attempt to put into effect a program that can be carried on with the limitations that are placed upon him.

There are a great many of these limitations, but the three principal ones seem to be facilities, finances, and leadership. Because of these limitations it is not possible to achieve many of the desirable activities; consequently the director must decide which are to be included and which omitted. In deciding the question a plan or basis should be established in the determining of his choice.

First consider facilities. It is not possible to carry on activities unless there is available space or an area in which to work. If none can be found, forget that activity at least until the available space or area can be provided. You may find that you have facilities that are suited for a great many activities, but in the distribution of these a time element en-

Luckily the problem of facilities may sometimes be solved by the use of natural hills and vacant lots!

ters in that would prevent you from sponsoring all the desirable ones. In this case you will have to consider other standards of measurements in determining your choice.

The following considerations are not given in the order of their importance but should be taken into account.

Consider first the possible number of participants or those who may take part. Second, is there any similar activity being conducted by another group that may be available? Third, what are the values of this particular activity from a social or character-building standpoint? Is it a passing fancy here today and forgotten tomorrow? Next, is it interesting to watch or would spectators be interested in this particular activity, and can you afford it? And, finally, have you the good leadership available?

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Photo by William Newkirk, Cambridge, Mass.



Card Playing in the Modern Recreation Program

AFTER FIVE and one half years of experience in conducting community game rooms, we are convinced that the value of cards in our modern recreation has been almost completely overlooked. When we read recreation reports from departments all over the country we find much space and high praise devoted to so-called cultural arts, but it is quite evident that the majority of our recreation heads frown on the lowly game room as a desirable form of recreation.

Yet anyone who has watched the growth in Boston of game room for cards, checkers, chess, and table tennis, cannot help but realize that this form of recreation makes a definite contribution to the daily lives of our community people. There is, perhaps, no other phase of recreation that has the general appeal to all age groups and to people from all walks of life.

Mr. James V. Mulholland, in his article in the October issue of RECREATION, says, "Boston, for example, with eighteen card rooms is reported to have

By GORDON L. NORTON
Supervisor, Community Games Division
Adult Recreation Project, WPA
Boston, Massachusetts

had considerable success with room, inter-room and city-wide tournaments." It is true that we have had remarkable success with card tourna-

ments, but this success is not nearly so important as that enjoyed by having members of the community gather in the rooms night after night to play cards for the love of the game and for the recreation that it offers, rather than the competitive appeal engendered by tournaments. Considering the large following of card players that visit our rooms daily, we might list our tournaments as complete failures.

To illustrate this point, during the past year, our rooms have entertained over twenty thousand

different individuals. Less than five percent of these people knew anything about card games. The others had some knowledge of at least one card game, and in the majority, they were quite proficient at the game they chose. Out of the thousands who play contract bridge we had an attendance of only one hundred and four in our last contract bridge

In an article appearing in the October issue of *Recreation* under the title "A New Deal for Cards," James V. Mulholland expressed the opinion that in the matter of card playing "many of us recreation workers haven't played our hands to the fullest extent." Mr. Mulholland's opinion finds corroboration in this article. Mr. Norton's experience as Supervisor of the Game Room Division conducted by the Adult Recreation Project, WPA, Boston, has given him an unusual opportunity to pass on the value of card playing as a part of the recreation program.

tournament. This would seem to indicate that although they enjoy card playing, they are not interested in competition. This fact is more significant when we realize that from ten o'clock in the morning until ten, and in some instances eleven o'clock in the evening, card games are in progress in some game room in the city.

Our daily average runs around 1,242 individual participants for the eighteen rooms, or sixty-nine players per room. And yet there were only 144 players at our largest tournament. Doesn't this seem to indicate that the large majority of card players prefer to enjoy their favorite game without the restrictions of tournament rules?

We have had far greater success in organizing contract bridge groups. One evening a week is set aside for the followers of this fascinating pastime. The following procedure is at present being used in thirteen of our game rooms with excellent results:

The groups are not organized as classes, but one period of the evening is devoted to instructions. The instructor usually gives a half-hour lecture, using a blackboard to illustrate points, and then devotes the rest of the evening to play. While the games are in progress he visits the tables and answers questions that are puzzling the players. He acts as instructor, host, and public relations man, and during the course of an evening, he makes certain that every person in the group has met every other person present. When partners lose interest in playing with each other, it is his job to provide new partners. When husband and wife object to each other as partners, that is his problem, too!

Although contract bridge leads in city-wide appeal, other games are more popular in certain communities. Strange to say, each community has its own favorite game—one game that is more popular than the rest. In Roxbury, among the Irish lads, pinochle takes the lead, and it is the favorite game of the Negro population in our Outer South End. Bid whist follows the lead of pinochle among the Negro players and contract bridge is now running a close third among them. In the Italian sections of East Boston, rummy leads the race and cribbage predominates in Jamaica Plain. The Jewish groups are in the large majority bridge fans. Although all of these games are

played in every room, each has its own favorite.

We have been unable to determine the reason for this favoritism in the various groups. Whether it is due to racial inclinations, home surroundings, or just "happenstance" is still uncertain. This we do know: that card games give us one of the most convenient means of bringing neighborhood people together for an evening of fun. They require less supervision, less planning, and are perhaps the most inexpensive form of group adult play available.

The field is a cosmopolitan one, giving enjoyment to people from all walks of life. Among the professional people who visit our rooms are prominent doctors, lawyers, dentists and leaders in the field of education. Others are salesmen, chauffeurs, office workers, laborers, tradesmen, housewives, maids, waitresses, and even recreation workers. In the game room the barriers are down and the groups join in the spirit of fun unconscious of their class distinctions. Chambermaids play cards with doctors, and never hesitate in censuring their opponents or partners for transgressing the laws of the game; waitresses feel free to claim the revokes on those who profess to

know the law; the so-called meek housewife rises in her might and demonstrates that taking care of babies is not her only accomplishment.

Consider this as compared to other forms of non-physical recreation, and name one that has a more general appeal. Drama draws from all walks of life but is limited to those who are interested in play acting, stage craft, or playwriting; the orchestra appeals to those who are musically inclined; arts and crafts to those who wish to use their hands in making useful articles for the home or for sale. The game room, with its large variety of card games, chess, checkers and table tennis, appeals to the whole community because it is a place to play.

Recreation leaders who frown upon card games are overlooking a valuable avenue for building up the attendance in other activities. Through the general appeal of these games, many people are attracted to our centers who would not otherwise visit them. Once they are in the groups, their interest may be directed to other activities that are more in accord with the leader's own inclina-

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Anyone desiring it may secure free of charge from the Association of Playing Card Manufacturers, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York City, a copy of *The Official Rules of Card Games* (Hoyle up-to-date), containing directions for playing a large number of card games.

Giving Joy to Life

WHATEVER may be done to improve the material standards of living will be handicapped and will not come to the best fruition if means

are not taken to bring more joy into rural life. This may be promoted through better recreation and the encouragement of appreciation of the beautiful. Time permits only a mention of this phase of our problem, but I cannot neglect calling attention to it, or it may be lost sight of in our subsequent discussions.

Life is drab without some fun and without wholesome social contacts. Healthy amusement is an antidote and preventive for many of the ills of humanity, whatever its social or economic status. Recreation and social life need not involve expense and are within the reach of all if there be some leadership. The school, the church, and the extension service have an opportunity and an obligation to train this leadership in programs of simple and enjoyable forms of recreation and social life.

And life is sordid where there is no appreciation of beauty. The house with a few dahlias in the yard, or red geraniums in the window, with a few shrubs and a little green lawn, is thereby labelled as a better home. Last summer I

Extracts from presidential address given by Dwight Sanderson, American Country Life Association, reprinted from "Rural America," December 1938

made a short trip by motor through the highlands of Virginia, Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina. I went into some out-of-the-way places

and visited some places which I had not seen for forty years. The one thing which gave me most satisfaction, and which is doubtless in part due to the penetration of good roads, was the improvement in the home grounds. Village yards were attractively landscaped, and many a humble mountain cabin had flowers and shrubs, and the veranda shaded by trumpet-vine or moon-vine. The very definite increase in the love of beautiful surroundings, however simple and inexpensive, is a notable advance in our rural culture in recent years.

The people who have a little music in their lives are thereby given a source of strength and enjoyment, and this is native to some of the disadvantaged rural classes. Is it not remarkable that the only distinctive American music has come from the Negro folk songs, the ballads of the Mountaineers, and the songs of the Western cowboys; from the work songs of the common people?

So in any program for improving the life of the disadvantaged classes consideration should be given not only

"The people who have a little music in their lives are thereby given a source of enjoyment and strength."

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Courtesy WPA, Des Moines, Iowa

The Planning of School Grounds for School and Community Use

A problem in functional design which many cities are facing in their recreational planning

By F. ELLWOOD ALLEN
National Recreation Association

The Plan Analyzed

IN 1928, despite bitter protest, the School Board in a small, growing community on Long Island purchased at a reasonable price a ten-acre tract of land as a site for a future elementary school. The land, irregular in shape and rough in topography, was located in the "wilderness" on the outskirts of the town. Today, ten years later, the "wilderness" has vanished and in its place there is a substantial residential community. Highest praise has replaced the bitter protest—praise for the courage and foresight of those responsible for the acquisition of a school site ideally located, as well as of sufficient size for the development of adequate facilities, particularly since the cost of the land would be prohibitive today.

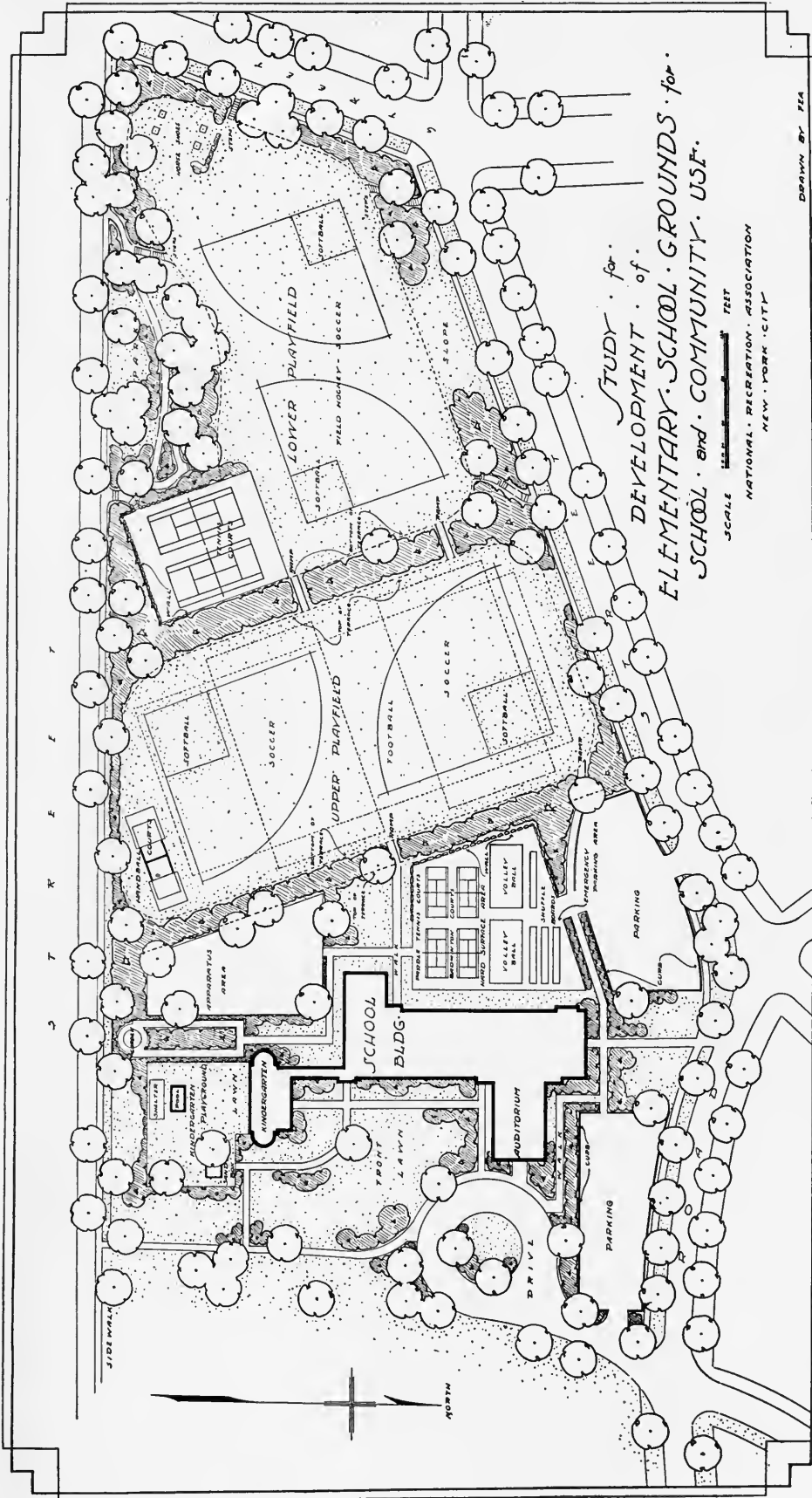
The present School Board, like its predecessor, believes in careful planning. It feels that the school is more than an institution for instruction during a few hours of the day. It believes in the wide community use of the school and its facilities both inside and out, and feels that the School Board has a definite responsibility to provide recreation opportunities where few exist.

The school building is now in the process of construction and will be completed for the opening of school next fall. The National Recreation Association has cooperated with the School Board in preparing a study for the development of the school grounds for the physical educational program of the school and for a program of recreation for the community. While the plan indicates facilities for football, soccer, and other sports not applicable to children of elementary school age, it should be borne in mind that such facilities are necessary as a part of the community recreation use of the area.

Variations in elevation of twenty feet from the east to the west ends of the property and the grade of the existing boundary streets already established presented an interesting problem in relating areas to topography. Economy in grading necessitated the division of the property into three distinct levels. The first level, in the immediate vicinity of the school building, contains such facilities as the kindergarten playground, apparatus area for small children, a hard-surfaced, multiple-use area for various types of activities, parking space, lawn area, and a small garden. The second level, approximately eight feet below the upper level, provides for an athletic field, correctly oriented. A further drop of approximately five feet was necessary in establishing the grade of the third level. This level is more informal in character and provides an open area for a variety of additional facilities. Because of existing trees on the south bank of this level, a small informal park has been introduced. The slopes separating the three levels are to be planted solidly with shrubbery to reduce maintenance costs and to establish definite boundaries.

From an aesthetic point of view the division into three levels is very pleasing; from a functional point of view it is extremely valuable. Functional design provides for the most efficient and economic use of space. It is an essential problem in the landscape development of an area and must take into consideration the broad concepts of recreation and physical education with the related problems of leadership, programs, budgets and maintenance.

The upper level of the area contains facilities for those activities which require closer super-



A PLAN FOR THE MULTIPLE-USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS

Such a development as is outlined in this plan, if properly supervised and maintained, should have a decided effect in increasing property values. It will offer opportunities for broad programs of physical education in the school and will give the community a chance to enjoy a wide variety of recreational activities.

vision such as the kindergarten playground, the apparatus area, and the hard-surfaced multiple-use area. French doors in the kindergarten room lead directly into the play area. Actually, the playground is merely a kindergarten room out of doors. There is an open lawn for informal games, a sand box in partial shade, a small wading pool and shelter, and a few pieces of standard apparatus. The playground is completely enclosed by a chain link fence for protection, and by a shrubbery border for screen and aesthetic purposes. A gate on the north side of the area affords an opportunity for the use of the kindergarten playground after school hours. Thus it becomes a play-lot, or a substitute for the backyard playground.

The apparatus area is also completely fenced and planted. It is of hard-surfaced construction and contains playground apparatus such as a jungle gym, slides, seesaws, and swings. Between these two areas a small garden has been introduced not only for its aesthetic value but also in connection with the gardening and nature work of the school. It also acts as a transition between the two areas.

Multiple-Use

The multiple-use area is one of the interesting features of the design. Multiple use is an integral part of functional design. It is the adaptation of a facility to several uses to meet the requirements of the wide range of physical education and recreation activities. Of hard-surfaced construction the multiple-use area serves a variety of purposes. Game courts can be painted on the surface and portable standards used to support nets. When not in use for active games it can be transformed into a roller skating rink, and for social dancing. During the winter it can be sprayed and used for ice skating. In connection with evening activities in the auditorium of the school it can be used as an emergency parking area. Such an area is very valuable in any school or playground program. When the turf areas are soggy and wet, the hard-surfaced area is available for active use. Because of its concentrated use, it is essential that this area be located near the point of control. After school hours it also becomes a center of activity and can be used both by children and adults.

The Upper Playfield

The second level has been designated as the

upper playfield. The direct approach is by means of ramps. From the standpoint of physical education it becomes the outdoor gymnasium for boys and girls during school hours. It is provided with facilities for after-school recreational use. The area is of sufficient size for laying out a regulation football field adaptable to all of the variations of the game, for soccer, field hockey and for many types of organized games. Two softball diamonds with sixty foot base lines can be used simultaneously without interfering with each other. At the southeast corner of the field two handball courts have been suggested. Space is available for bleachers if desirable, although the field has been designed primarily for participants.

The Third Level

The third level is the lower playfield which also contains two softball diamonds with forty-five foot base lines. Two standard tennis courts, horseshoe courts and a lawn area for all types of informal games have also been provided. The tennis and horseshoe courts, while not necessarily a part of the physical education program of the school, are an essential factor in a playground of this type.

Beauty has been combined with utility in the entire landscape development of the area by the judicious use of trees and shrubs. The problems of supervision and maintenance have been correlated throughout the design.

"The modern school should be a community school. . . . In the shops adults, as well as youths, working together or separately, should enjoy new experiences and acquire new skills. . . . The gymnasium facilities, including locker and shower spaces, should be planned not only in terms of the requirements of basketball, but also with due regard to the requirements of games adults like to play. The school auditorium should not be merely a place where citizens come to listen, as its name implies, but a place in which adults constantly participate in all activities associated with stage productions of their own, in forum discussions of important current issues, and in experiences leading toward higher appreciation and greater skills in the fine arts. A school adapted to meet present-day community needs can be developed adequately only as new criteria of planning are recognized, and faulty, traditional concepts of planning are discarded."—*N. L. Engelhardt.*



GEORGE HJELTE

GEORGE HJELTE, First Vice-President of the Society of Recreation Workers of America, is Superintendent of the Department of Playground and Recreation, Los Angeles, California. He served for a number of years as Superintendent of the Westchester County, New York, Recreation Commission.

ARTHUR T. NOREN as Secretary of the new Society is carrying heavy responsibility. He is Superintendent of Recreation in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and is also teaching in the Department of Physical Education and Health at New York University

ARTHUR T. NOREN



Officers of the Society of Recreation Workers of America



DOROTHY C. ENDERIS

MISS DOROTHY C. ENDERIS, Second Vice-President of the Society, is widely known for the work she has carried on over a long period of years in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she is in charge of the Department of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education, Milwaukee Public Schools.

Formerly Superintendent of Recreation at Des Moines, Iowa, LEWIS R. BARRETT is now Coordinator and Executive Secretary, District of Columbia Recreation Committee, Washington, D. C. He is serving as Treasurer of the Society of Recreation Workers of America.

LEWIS R. BARRETT



V. K. BROWN

The President of the Society of Recreation Workers of America is V. K. BROWN, Director of Recreation, Chicago Park District. In May, 1934, when the twenty-two park districts of the city were consolidated Mr. Brown, who had been in charge of activities at South Park, assumed the task of administering recreation for the entire Park District.



Hartford Celebrates Christmas—

AN OPEN AIR reproduction of the Nativity of Christ was the outstanding feature of this year's municipal observance of Christmas in Hartford. Set in the hillside of historic Bushnell Park, it was a magnificent spectacle of twenty-two life size figures grouped around a replica of the Bethlehem stable. Remarkable in the perfection of minute detail, natural and appealing in color, authentic in adherence to history, it was an impressive sight, particularly from dusk to dawn when a battery of spotlights illuminated it in soft shades of midnight blue and amber.

Throughout the hours of day and night from December 20th to January 2nd, long lines of townsfolk and visitors—more than half a million of them—passed before the scene. Words of praise were on everyone's lips. Newspapers devoted columns of space and pictures to it, and city officials were enthusiastic. Clergymen used it to illustrate their sermons on the century-old Christmas message of "Peace on earth, good will to men."

Aside from artistic considerations, it was a notable achievement which might well stand as a symbol of the united efforts of municipality, Federal government, and private industry in a community service which merits serious attention of park and recreation officials.

Preliminary Planning

The idea for the Nativity scene had its inception last August in the mind of J. H. Dillon, Director of Recreation for the Board of Park Commissioners. Mr. Dillon, in planning the observance, wanted something that would be a change

from the customary municipal Christmas tree program and which would be more lasting in nature and more picturesquely symbolic of the Yuletide. An outdoor reproduction of Christ's Nativity was his selection, and he soon took steps to enlist the cooperation of local agencies and insure their participation. From the outset he had the wholehearted support of George H. Hollister, Superintendent of Parks, who gave impetus to the movement in its final stages by offering a site in Bushnell Park.

In launching his plan, Mr. Dillon obtained the approval and assistance of WPA and its Federal Art Project, the city of Hartford and its Board of Aldermen, and of private persons through the corporate body of the Hartford Electric Light Company. Through the cooperation of these groups he was able to arrange the necessary financing through the WPA with the aldermanic Amusements Committee, which annually is in charge of the city's Christmas program, assuming the rôle of sponsor and making the sponsor's contribution. It assured him the services of talented artists from the Federal Art Project, the money, labor and materials for the undertaking, and the technical staff of the lighting company, which assigned its lighting engineer, Wilbert D. Gorman, to the task of designing and installing the system of illumination, as well as furnishing without cost all electrical current that was needed.

The Location

Superintendent Hollister's choice of Bushnell Park was admirable and singularly fitting, for Bushnell holds a place of distinction and honor



And the Nativity Is Presented

among American parks as it was the first in the United States to be purchased, back in 1853, with the proceeds of public taxation. Furthermore, it had natural advantages unexcelled and unequalled. Near the heart of the business district of Hartford, it was the north lawn of the State Capitol and in the direct line of vision of thousands of pedestrians and motor vehicles that daily pass along Asylum Street, one of the city's principal thoroughfares. In addition, it was the first sight to greet the eye of a traveler alighting at the Union Station, and in full view of every passing train on one of the main lines of the New Haven Railroad. It was, too, so situated that vehicular traffic could not approach near it, thus eliminating problems of congestion, and it can be reached only by foot for a close-up view.

The Artists Go to Work

Mr. Dillon's preliminary plans were complete by September first, and the way cleared for the project, which actually was launched in mid-September when the Federal Art Project assigned six artists—Theodore Monaghan, Vincent and Gerard Rossi, Walter O. R. Korder, Louis LaBrecque and Nicholas Angelotti—to the creation of the set. These artists collaborated in drafting a rough sketch of their visualization of the scene that transpired 2,000 years ago in the stable outside the inn in the foothills of Bethlehem. From the sketch, Mr. Monaghan, a sculptor, fashioned a clay model of each figure scaled to life size. The model was covered with a coating of plaster of Paris by the Rossi brothers to make a "shell" into which later was poured another mixture of plas-

By JOHN M. HURLEY
Board of Park Commissioners
Hartford, Connecticut

ter that, when extricated, became an unpainted figure for the finished set.

As the next step, the model was taken to a studio in Colt Park, where Mr. Korder, Mr. Angelotti and Mr. LaBrecque painted it in the realistic colors that won the commendation of discerning art critics and added enormously to the picturesque setting.

In spite of the comparatively brief period allotted them, the artists completed in record time the group of twenty-two figures, which were removed to Bushnell Park, the difficult task of transporting them being accomplished by encasing them in special cases made from 2 x 4 wood lined with soft rags and excelsior.

On the evening of Tuesday, December 20, the Nativity set was formally opened to the public and illuminated for the first time when Mayor Thomas J. Spellacy threw the switch that turned on the electric current. The simple ceremony was witnessed by city, civic and WPA officials and a crowd of a thousand spectators.

It was a magnificent scene, nearly a hundred feet long and twenty feet high, that was revealed in clear detail. The stable was the focal point, its thatched roof of straw surmounting a structure of stout, unfinished, weather-stained beams flanked on either side by the natural brownstone face of

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Bob Davis Reveals

TIME IS ON THE WING.

How many days do you have to squander before the curtain falls?

What are your prospects for rubbing elbows with life between now and eternity?

It is important that you measure with eye and heart the short gap between today and tomorrow lest you miss the measure and the strain.

Quite recently in the lounge of a trans-Atlantic steamer, while attempting to entertain—at their request—a covey of undergraduates, I mentioned the fact that in a comparatively short period during my travels I had looked upon the highest peaks of Asia, North America, South America, Africa and Australia, as well as into the Dead Sea at Palestine, the lowest point of the earth's surface, stressing the fact that between Indo-China and Alaska, where Mount McKinley keeps cool at 20,464 feet, but eighteen months of time had elapsed.

"That's looking at 'em," remarked one of the boys, tapping a cigarette on the back of his patrician hand, "but have you seen a model of the new gearless, stern-drive motor car soon to be put on the market?"

Before I could reply that I had never seen Clark Gable or Robert Taylor or the shrinking Howard Hughes except on a film, another lad, spread out like a sport shirt thrown on a chair, wanted to know whether it had ever been my privilege to see Donald Budge deliver a backhand sock at a tennis ball. Another boy took the answer out of my mouth, and before I could again grab the conversation, the little company had thrown my entire range of high mountains and low levels into the discard and taken up the question of who would capture wreaths at the Olympiad billed for Finland in 1940. Fact is, my audience ran out one at a time, leaving me alone to contemplate the innocuous and mildewed past.

It wouldn't have mattered one tinker's dam to that flock of electrons had I summoned them back to hear that once, in the unforgettable past, I had seen and heard Adeline Patti sing and Henry Ward Beecher preach; that I have known Edward Everett Hale,

The art of growing old without loss of precious hours

Marion Crawford, Bret Harte, Mark Twain, and ridden over a Nebraska prairie on the rawhide pommel of Sitting Bull's

saddle; or that Colonel William F. Cody, in the dust of 300,000 moving buffalo, rode past our prairie home on the banks of the Missouri when I was a kid. I could have told those upstart college boys some stories about Geronimo the Apache. Rain-in-the-Face, Red Cloud, Nana, Chief Joseph and Yellow Hand that would have kept them awake the rest of the night. But they were in a hurry and quit me.

Indeed, had they but known, I could have retailed some surprising first-hand stories about Thomas Edison, George Bernard Shaw, John L. Sullivan, Hermann the Great and Sir Henry Irving, to say nothing of Kalakaua, last King of the Hawaiian Islands. Then again, I was in Carson, Nevada, forty-one years ago come St. Patrick's Day when Fitzsimmons took the heavyweight championship from Corbett. Yes, and to make it close to the rail, as they say in billiards, I was in the next house when Maurice McLaughlin, the "California Comet" of lawn tennis fame, was born. Maurice was my cousin by marriage. That would have been something for Donald Budge's admirer to hear about. It would require a little time to hear these things, but there was no more time left, so it seemed. Hurry! The hours are gliding by; the clock is cutting coupons with tireless shears.

Reverie is for those who sit alone. It is much easier to think without an audience. And so, taking advantage of the forced isolation, I allowed myself to drift backward, to appreciate fully the realization that I had lived in the golden age, and that whatever the future had to offer, there would never be another era so productive of progress, or another transformation in human affairs upon so vast a scale. During my own lifetime, and in my own country the air brake, the quadruplex telegraph, telephone, talking machine, linotype and motion picture mechanism had come into existence. The submarine, automobile and airplane appeared in three successive years—1894,

This article, which appeared in the December eighth issue of *The Sun*, New York City, in the column, "Bob Davis Reveals," has been reprinted in *Recreation* through the courtesy of Mr. Davis and *The Sun*.

(Continued on page 635)

The Board of Recreation Commissioners

WE SHALL take for granted that a board of recreation is a lay board, unpaid, and appointed by the mayor or city manager, with or without the approval of city council.

What are the functions of a board of recreation? A board of recreation should act as legislative and not as an executive body. The board must use good judgment on problems or proposals as presented either by the superintendent, who is the executive official, or by individuals or groups from the town or city at large. When a board makes a decision the execution should rest with the superintendent. The board has many other functions such as relating the desires of the community to the superintendent; acting as a coordinator between school, park and city planning boards and other groups; shouldering the responsibility of securing adequate financial support; appointing efficient personnel without regard to politics; providing adequate facilities for a well rounded recreation program and planning for the advancement of the recreation movement in an orderly manner.

The wise executive will acknowledge the fact that each board member should have a definite assignment of work either as a member of a sub-committee or as an individual. When sub-committees are appointed by the president of the board, much time consumed in worthless debate at board meetings can be avoided. The superintendent may easily call a sub-committee together to discuss personnel, finance, program or other problems and the sub-committee will be better prepared to suggest a solution to the problem before the whole board.

Board members often have particular hobbies or represent the school board on the recreation board. When this is the case, to give a board member a specific assignment is quite advantageous. For example, school board members might well have as their assignment "the wider use of school property for recreation activities." Members of the

The functions, responsibilities and possibilities of a recreation board as viewed by a recreation executive

By **THOMAS W. LANTZ**
Superintendent of Public Recreation
Reading, Pennsylvania

board who are of the same political faith as those in power at city hall might seek the cooperation of the mayor and city council in providing new playgrounds, tennis courts or a larger appropriation of funds. Another member who may be interested in a civic club could

seek the aid of his club or the combined civic clubs in a new venture such as a municipal camp for children.

Other specific objectives for board members might well be that of stimulating interest in youth participation, especially among those who have just graduated from high school; representing the board at meetings of the leisure time division of the Council of Social Agencies; seeking ways and means of creating more interest in the cultural side of the recreation program.

Board Meetings

The meeting of the board of recreation is essentially a most important part of its duties. Every board should meet at least once a month at a stated and regular time. Meetings can be held more often if necessary, but usually lay people who are members of the recreation board are very busy people and usually sit upon other boards. They will respect the plan of monthly meetings rather than the one of holding meetings every two weeks or more frequently. A board needs by-laws to govern its procedure. The superintendent, after conferring with the president of the board, should, by all means, send an agenda of the meeting at least a week in advance. This step permits board members to give some thought to the problems which are to be discussed. A typical agenda might read thus:

1. Roll call
2. Reading minutes of last meeting
3. Communications
 - (a) School Board grants permission to use school playgrounds this summer
 - (b) Parents Association requests permission to sell refreshments at playground during adult baseball games

Some of the responsibilities of recreation boards as seen by a board member are presented in the April 1937 issue of *Recreation* in an article by Clyde Doyle under the title, "The Duties of a Recreation Board Member."

4. Report of superintendent (should be brief and covering period of one month)
5. Report of standing committees
 - (a) Personnel—summer playground leaders to be appointed
 - (b) Property—new WPA projects to be started
 - (c) Program—summer playground program to be discussed
 - (d) Finance—financial standing to date
6. Report of special committees
 - (a) Bond issue committee to report on meeting with City Planning Commission
7. Election of officers (takes place once each year)
8. Appointments
 - (a) Summer playground leaders
 - (b) Lifeguards
 - (c) Extra maintenance men
 - (d) Extra office clerks
9. Unfinished business
 - (a) Discussion on progress of mayor's special committee for a free municipal children's camp
10. New business
 - (a) Council of Social Agencies wishes board to operate Community Gardens as recreation project
 - (b) Local branch, American Federation of Hosiery Workers, wishes use of travelling theater for one month
 - (c) Approval for the purchase of summer playground supplies
 - (d) Children's Division, Council of Social Agencies plans to make study of juvenile delinquency and requests our assistance
 - (e) Information on the playground leaders' two weeks institute
11. Adjournment.

Records

The minutes of each meeting should be kept fully and accurately as a permanent record. Although it is the custom for the board to elect one of its members as secretary, the superintendent should likewise take copious notes at the board meeting and confer with the secretary on the minutes before they are sent to each member of the board. A copy of the minutes should always be sent to the mayor to keep him fully informed on the progress of the board. Board minutes are often not read at board meetings, but this policy is not at all good. The minutes of the previous meeting will insure a continuity of thought on discussions which may again come to the attention of the board. By all means keep an accurate indexed record of all discussions for ready and easy reference.

First-hand Information

From time to time have members of the supervising staff present at board meetings to keep

board members posted on the workers' particular part of the program. For example, in seeking more funds for maintenance having the supervisor of maintenance appear at a board meeting will give members a better insight into his and your problems. Board members can evaluate the work of a supervisor by having first hand information from him.

Good Politics versus Bad

Most boards of recreation are presumably appointed without regard to politics. Yet every board member, selected by the mayor, has some political affiliation and perhaps has been active in party affairs. The *wrong* kind of politics and an efficient recreation system do not go hand in hand. The board member who injects politics into a board meeting or forces his political views upon the superintendent does more harm than good. Newly appointed members active in some political party may attempt to coerce the superintendent into employing some political friends. Here is a real problem and it requires careful attention. The superintendent, as the executive officer, must be the person to determine the qualifications of the person to be employed and the standards must be of such a high calibre that a board member will not try to force an unwelcome person upon the superintendent. When newly appointed board members, with political inclinations, understand that the superintendent interviews each applicant for a position impartially, using an interview rating system and requiring college students or graduates for jobs, a different attitude usually results. An efficiency rating system requiring high standards among personnel to maintain a high percentage, will eliminate the problem of politics to a great degree.

On the other hand, one cannot refrain from stating that *good* politics is important to a recreation system. No matter who the superintendent is or where he may be located, he must play *good* politics. Any recreation system, be it a part of the schools or the municipal government, is a part of a political unit where governing bodies are elected by the people. In order to accomplish certain things the superintendent must be a tactful politician. Perhaps we should say that he should use indirect methods or leadership to gain his point. To be more specific, our system of government works on the "pressure group" principle. A "pressure group" is nothing more than the voice of the

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The Will to Endow

By PAULINE R. V. SCHAEGLER

SEVERAL excellent reasons exist for making a will.

An individual who has got over the hurdle of procrastination in this matter and has faced this responsibility, for such it is, experiences a sense of deep satisfaction. This is true whether he possesses little or great wealth. Drawing or redrawing a will, thereby providing for dependents, making provision for the institutions which have won admiration, respect and active support, is to have discharged an act—in a sense a duty—often not performed because of that bane of our existence mentioned above, procrastination.

Our probate and surrogate courts report that over 70 per cent of estates administered are without wills. This means heavy costs in settling estates. An hour or so applied to the business of making a will might have eliminated a great deal of that cost and would in some cases have avoided suffering on the part of dependents. It may be due to sentiment or sense, but records reveal that more wills are drawn, re-drawn or codicils added to already existing wills during the months of December, January and February than during any other time of the year.

What Can It Mean?

Rabbi Stephen Wise once said, "A will ought to be the expression of personality," and he further implied that the projection of that personality into the future was a practical and satisfying experience for the individual. An even greater satisfaction comes to those persons who go a step farther than the wise act of providing for their interests in the future. These people, very sensitive to present-day conditions, experience a second major satisfaction by distributing portions of their estates during their own lifetime and by watching these gifts at work. The act of drawing a will causes the individual still a third satisfaction in that, having thought through his holdings and having evaluated his estate, he becomes a better steward of his possessions.

Through the courtesy of the *Womans Press* we are permitted to reprint this article which appeared in the October issue of the magazine. In order to make the material more generally applicable, a few paragraphs referring specifically to the work of the Y.W.C.A. have been omitted and the term "organization" has been substituted for "Y.W.C.A." We wish to express our gratitude to the *Womans Press* for making it possible for us to use the material.

The Donor's Problem

The problem that often confronts a prospective donor either as he gives directly or through his will is:

1. Whether he shall give freely to an established endowment fund, trusting to the judgment of its trustees as to how the income from that gift shall be used

2. Whether he shall follow his own personal inclination and thereby restrict the use of such income to a particular phase of the work in which he is interested

3. Whether he shall give to an organization in which he is interested a "special gift" to be used both as to principal and income as revealed by the needs of the institution and determined by the wise judgment of its trustees.

In any case the nature of the fund should be clearly interpreted to the prospective donor.

What Is an Endowment Fund?

There is a great deal of confusion in the use of this term endowment. According to Mr. Webster, to endow means "to furnish with a *permanent* fund or source of income for support." A fund so established is inviolable and should not be used for any purpose; the income alone may be used.

If for any reason a gift is not to be added to the permanent endowment of an organization, it would be well to create a fund of a special nature, in order to distinguish such gifts from permanent funds. "Once endowment, always endowment" is recommended as the only safe and clear rule.

Types of Endowment

There are two types of endowment: restricted endowment and unrestricted endowment.

1. Restricted endowment confines the use of the income to purposes designated by the donor. If a donor will make a gift only if it be designated for a particular purpose, he should be helped to make that purpose as broad as is consistent with his desire. Many philanthropists and others

deeply concerned with varying aspects of the business of giving, question the wisdom of restricting a gift for all time.

2. Unrestricted endowment permits the use of income for the general work of the organization.

Policy for Endowment or Special Funds

Every organization should adopt a policy for the wise use and investment of any funds left or given to it. In seeking gifts to such funds it is incumbent upon the organization to assist the donor to a realization of the changes which constantly come about in the social fabric of each community and also in the everyday life of an institution. These call for a continuous appraisal of the institution's program and methods of work, for elasticity of purpose and skills in the adaptation of its program to the needs of the present day.

A trend in giving today reveals a desire on the part of many donors to see the more or less immediate use of their gifts. They feel that this generation should not usurp the responsibility of oncoming generations in the matter of facing their responsibility to human needs, nor should the present generation condition the future.

Both the principal and the income from "special" funds may be used at the discretion of the organization, under proper action by those responsible. It is, of course, the part of good financial management to conserve the principal of such funds for the extraordinary needs of the organization.

Use of Income from Endowment Funds

The use of the income from endowment or other funds should be determined most carefully. As a rule such income should not be used for reduction of mortgages. In each instance when this question arises, the particular situation should be dealt with on a case basis. Careful analysis of all the facts should be made and weighed in the light of the present and the future. Efforts should be made to reduce mortgages and debts by means of debt-reduction campaigns. These have been remarkably successful. Through the latter procedure the interest and participation of the community are secured, the organization is freed of debt, while at the same time income from a carefully invested endowment fund has been available for budget requirements.

The income from endowment should not be used for new buildings, unless as restricted gifts to the fund they are so earmarked. A community

collectively raising money for a new building will have a greater interest in the structure and an attendant sense of responsibility to it through having shared in its erection.

Reasonable Endowment

It is well to note here that a situation may develop wherein an organization may protect the future at tremendous cost to present needs. Very often the fact that an institution possesses a sizable permanent endowment precludes the acquisition on its part of additional gifts to such a fund. The above fact raises the question of the wisdom of over-endowing any organization. When the income from an endowment fund is adequate to meet a reasonable portion of budget requirements, then it might be considered wise to center attention at the point of securing gifts for a "special fund."

Tax Exemption

The federal and state governments encourage philanthropic gifts by tax deductions and exemptions. In all probability if more people of wealth were well informed on this point, their gifts and legacies to philanthropy would be increased rather than lessened. According to *Estate and Tax News*: "The Revenue Act of 1936 and corresponding sections of prior statutes permit individuals to deduct from gross income, contributions or gifts made during the taxable year to a corporation, association, trust or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes. In any one year the total deductions for such gifts may not exceed 15 per cent of the taxpayer's income as computed without the benefit of the deduction."

No More Large Gifts?

Some say that no more large gifts are to be had. Granted that, as a result of the recent depression, values have so changed that in many instances estates have literally disappeared, an assumption of responsibility for social needs by many people heretofore indifferent is evident all around us. If recent gifts to private social work agencies, to community chests, to colleges and universities, to churches, were carefully analyzed, that analysis would substantiate this. It takes courage and vision to give! It takes courage and vision to administer wisely such gifts!

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At a Fiftieth Anniversary Conference

MARTHA ELIOT, Assistant Chief of the Children's Bureau, in opening the meeting devoted to "The First Years," said that the foundations of democracy are laid in the early years of a child's life. She urged that all individuals, organizations and governmental units cooperate to secure the application of known facts concerning the rearing of children in the many places where they are unknown.

In a telegram to the conference Angelo Patri, well-known educator and writer, emphasized the fact that the home is the first and best school, the mother the first and best teacher. The home, he believes, performs the important function of setting values for an individual. He concluded his statement by asserting that the home is essential and that community agencies and institutions only contribute to the development of individuals.

"Every child should have leisure, space and quiet," said Jessie Stanton, Director of the Harriet Johnson Nursery School. She emphasized the need of children for experiences and the importance of letting them learn all they can by themselves. Children of nursery school age need raw materials such as clay, brushes and paint, and blocks.

Sanford Bates, Executive Director of the Boys' Clubs of America, made the statement that an individual's real character is made in his leisure hours. He pointed out that there is much competition outside the home and between undesirable influences and desirable leisure-time activities for the free time of the child. Every boy, in Mr. Bates's opinion, needs five things: recognition; adventure; a friend; power of achievement; and security.

"Most knowledge of children must come from their parents," said Dr. William E. Blatz, Director, St. George's School for Child Study, University of Toronto. Dr. Blatz was greatly concerned over the fact that in most of our schools today pupils have little or no chance to express disagreement with what the teacher has to say. He believes a definite opportunity to express doubts is essential for the pupil.

"What do we know today about rearing children and developing better family life that we did not know a half century ago?" This was the theme chosen by the Child Study Association of America for its fiftieth anniversary conference held in New York City, November 16-18, 1938.

"A somewhat disillusioned religious educator" was the description applied to himself by Arthur L. Swift, Jr., Associate Professor of Applied Christianity at Union Theological Seminary. He feels we are educating youth

for a world that does not exist. Mr. Swift decried the competitive system and called for a practical education, a planned economy, and a commonwealth of nations.

Some of the modern trends in youth education were cited by Charles Maxwell McConn, Dean, Washington Square College, New York University. The three major trends in education today he enumerated as follows:

(1) The trend toward an enriched curriculum—toward the idea that a curriculum is not so much a list of subjects as it is a portion of life to be lived.

(2) The trend toward guidance. The future of guidance rests on the further development of three things: (a) testing; (b) cumulative records; (c) counseling.

(3) The trend toward the realization of the educational value in extracurricular activities.

Caroline Zachry, Chairman, Committee on the Study of Adolescents, Progressive Education Association, pointed out that our culture has no plan for introducing adolescents into adulthood and its accompanying responsibilities. Miss Zachry listed the needs of adolescents on an emotional level:

(1) Youth needs an attitude toward a changing body.

(2) Youth needs an attitude toward sex behavior: he needs to know what the place of a man or a woman, as such, is in our society.

(3) Youth needs to build a conscience. Pretty generally young people do it by visualizing an ideal man or woman and then striving to be like him or her.

(4) Youth needs an adjustment to the changing relationships between himself and his parents, his sisters and brothers, other people.

(5) Youth needs a definite purpose. The purpose will change as he grows, but it is essential. Whether it be called a religion, a philosophy, a code of ethics or something else, it is an essential.

(6) Youth needs a sense of achievement.

At Chicago's Exhibit

TEN OR TWELVE years ago the amateur photographic program conducted by the Chicago Park District started with the idea of juvenile photographic clubs. One of the clubs flourished, and by the time the Chicago park officials put on their display at the Century of Progress in 1933 the club had developed some creditable examples of photographic art which were shown in one of the booths at the Fair. The display was accompanied by the request that individuals interested in joining photographic clubs in their home neighborhoods register so that they might be communicated with later. This registration, which was surprisingly large, provided the park officials with nuclei for clubs in many sections of the city, and there are now twenty-one of these groups.

The clubs have no difficulty in attracting from the largest business concerns and most expert circles in the city speakers and demonstrators who in a volunteer capacity greatly enrich the skills and technical abilities of the members. The Park District provides merely a sink and water and electric connections. The clubs furnish all other equipment, sharing personal and club possessions alike in their darkroom and developing quarters. As a result of this cooperative planning, the exhibits progress from year to year in quality and artistic merit.

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Photo by Marion Aldrich

You Asked for It!

Question: Can you suggest a use for old automobile tires? We have a number of them and it occurred to us that something might be done to make them usable for family and neighborhood recreation.

Answer: Nine used tire casings, nine broken high jump cross-bars, nine paper pennants with numerals in successive order from 1 to 9, a bag of several dozen discarded practice golf balls, enough old mashies (usually out-of-date with their wooden shafts) to go around, a vacant lot or back-yard, and you have all the elements necessary for a game of tire golf.

The chief attraction of tire golf is its simplicity and ease of immediate performance. Teeing up an old golf ball at a definite starting place (a tee) and with a smooth pitch stroke using a mashie, the newcomer is quite likely to drop a sixty yard shot into the hole for a a hole-in-one on his first attempt. The object of the game is to play the ball from the tee to the hole in the least number of strokes, or at least in a smaller number than those taken by the opponent.

A tee is designated by a stake or marker. The hole, from which the game derives its name, is constructed by excavating sufficient earth from a hole to allow a discarded automobile tire to be placed in such a manner that the tire is the boundary of the hole. The size of the hole will be the same as the circumference of the wheel from which the tire was taken. This large hole, a feature which allows for a large amount of successful shots, does away with the necessity for putting in the game.

The limited areas used make it a rule that tire golf be a one-club game. This club is a mashie (or number five iron). (Golf professionals often state that this club is one of the simplest to master.) The nature of this club sends even the poorest shot into the air and results in immediate satisfaction for beginners. Wooden-shafted mashies are at present rapidly disappearing from regular play and can usually be had for a small sum. As there is no putting in the game, low priced seconds, repaints, or practice balls may be used.

Some courses have but one or two holes placed so that club control must be used to keep from going out of bounds into the street or the neighbors yard with the holes placed anywhere from 20 to 100 yards apart. Fortunate people with large areas arrange nine-hole courses with the

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WORLD AT PLAY

Nativity Players of New York City

DURING the week before Christmas New Yorkers doing last minute shopping

noticed groups of players moving from church to church, from corner to corner, singing Christmas carols and recounting the tale of the Nativity. They were the Nativity Players of the WPA Federal Theater Project who made a very successful debut during Christmas week a year ago. There were two companies of players, Negro and white, and each evening of the week the groups met at the steps of the New York Library. From this point they headed in different directions, each company with its own electrical and scenic equipment transported on Federal theater trucks. Sixteen carol singers accompanied each of the groups.

Winter Use of Golf Courses

IN discussing golf courses in the Detroit area, Dr. Henry S. Curtis, Executive Sec-

retary of the Huron-Clinton Parkway Committee, emphasizes the desirability of using golf courses for winter sports. He cites as an example of such use the Huron Hills Golf Club which last winter opened its club house and grounds to the public for a \$2.00 fee. The club offered tobogganning, skiing and skating on its tennis courts, ping-pong and shuffleboard in the club house. The plan was so successful that an extended program is being offered this winter. The Pleasant Valley Golf Club will make similar provisions during the coming winter.

Winter Sports in Union County, New Jersey

THERE will be winter sports to suit everyone's fancy in Union County, New Jersey,

this winter, and residents of the county may have their choice between the mile-a-minute speed of a toboggan or the leisurely pace of a horse-drawn sleigh. In addition to tobogganing and sleigh riding, there will be facilities for skiing, skating and coasting. Many days of skating are predicted as the result of the Commission's decision to flood seven shallow areas in addition to keeping cleared, whenever there is sufficient ice for skating, thirteen ponds and lakes in the park system. Some

of the shallow areas as well as the lakes will be floodlighted for night skating, and at the larger lakes heated shelters will be maintained. Galloping Hill golf course is slated to be Union County's winter sports center, and here work has been completed on the erection of two chutes for tobogganing, each 800 feet long with a twenty-five per cent grade at the start. Fairways 2, 3 and 10 of the eighteen-hole golf course have been officially designated for skiing and coasting, and a practice fairway not far from the club house has been flooded for skating. A new skiing trail three-quarters of a mile long has been developed by CCC workers in the Watchung Reservation.

A Pay-As-You-Go Park Program

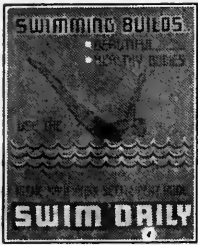
ON November 8th the voters of Portland, Oregon, approved by referendum vote a ten

year sewerage disposal program and a ten year park program, both to be financed on a pay-as-you-go basis. The park program involves the establishment of a system of public recreational areas consisting of neighborhood parks, playgrounds and play fields in locations of the city where they are most needed. The City Council has been authorized to acquire the land by purchase from private owners, by exchanging with private owners any of the real estate owned by the city, or by leasing land with an option to purchase.

Home-Centered Recreation Bulletin Service

THE Oakland, California, Recreation Department is issuing a series of special holi-

day party suggestions which is known as the Home-Centered Recreation Bulletin Service. For over a year the Department has been preparing and distributing these bulletins to any individuals who wish them and the list now numbers in the hundreds, including many parents who wish the material as a means of promoting family parties and home recreation. The bulletins are also distributed to executives of all youth serving organizations in the city, such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Eastbay Church Federation, orphanages, and children's homes.



Poster Postal Cards Available—In the December issue of RECREATION we reproduced, under the title “Advertising Your Center’s Activities,” four cuts showing activities at the Irene Kaufmann Settlement in Pittsburgh. Sidney Teller,

Director of the Settlement, 1835 Center Avenue, Pittsburgh, has written that a set of the poster postal cards may be obtained for ten cents (stamps accepted). The Settlement also issues a set of etching reproductions on postal size cards of fifteen different activities which are obtainable for ten cents a set. Requests should be sent directly to Mr. Teller.

City Coordinates Its Recreation — On December 1st the City School Department and the Municipal Playground and Recreation Department of Los Angeles, California, began a closely coordinated program of school and municipal recreational activities. This is being accomplished through the creation of a new administrative position, that of Supervisor of Coordinated Recreation, for the purpose of aligning school and municipal recreation. W. H. Orion, who has been Chief of the Division of Health and Physical Education of the California State Board of Education for the past four years, has been appointed to the post as the liaison officer between the public schools and the city recreation system. Mr. Orion will work to bring about the maximum public use of the facilities of both organizations to effect increased service and economy and avoid duplication. It will also be his responsibility to set up uniform rules and regulations, help conduct carry-over activities for former school students now under Recreation Department guidance, and to study procedures for meeting growing community recreation needs. He will be employed both by the City School Department and the Playground and Recreation Department, working under the administrative supervision of the Superintendent of the Playground and Recreation Department.

Film Strips Available—The Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture announces that prices for film strips issued by the Department for the fiscal year 1938-39 are lower than those in effect during the past fiscal

year. The prices until June 30, 1939 will range from 45 cents to 65 cents each, depending upon the number of illustrations in the series. The majority of the three hundred series the Department has available will sell for 45 or 50 cents each. The subjects covered include soil conservation, farm crops, dairying, farm animals, farm forestry, plant and animal diseases and pests, roads, farm economics, farm engineering, home economics, and adult and junior extension work. Lecture notes are provided with each film strip purchased, with the exception of those that are self-explanatory.

A Community Shell—The community shell completed in Ann Arbor, Michigan, may be considered a memorial to the joint cooperation of many organizations and agencies in the community. Its dedication on August 14th marked the beginning of a series of musical, dramatic and civic events which it is hoped will contribute vitally to the cultural development of the community.

Recreation for Shut-Ins—Although varying to some extent in different seasons of the year, the activities for shut-ins in Akron, Ohio, homes have been and are as follows:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Children Participating</i>
Airplane modeling	48
Reading and Story Telling.....	92
Instrumental Music	116
Handcraft	104
Number in convalescent homes served.....	326

The swimming pool at Lincoln School was also reserved one night each week complete with instructors for the adult handicapped group.

Planning for Michigan—Commenting on the establishment of a permanent State Planning Commission for Michigan, the *Ann Arbor News* says: “There are many things for a State Planning Commission to do in Michigan. Parkways need to be built, recreation areas have to be developed, and all of Michigan’s mighty resources must be utilized to the best advantage.”

A Radio Regatta—Through the cooperation of all of the aquatic bodies of Chicago and of the Radio Industry, a novel event was staged in the progressive program along the lakefront last summer. North side boats, a joint fleet of over 200 vessels, South side craft, only slightly smaller in number, moved toward the heart of the city and

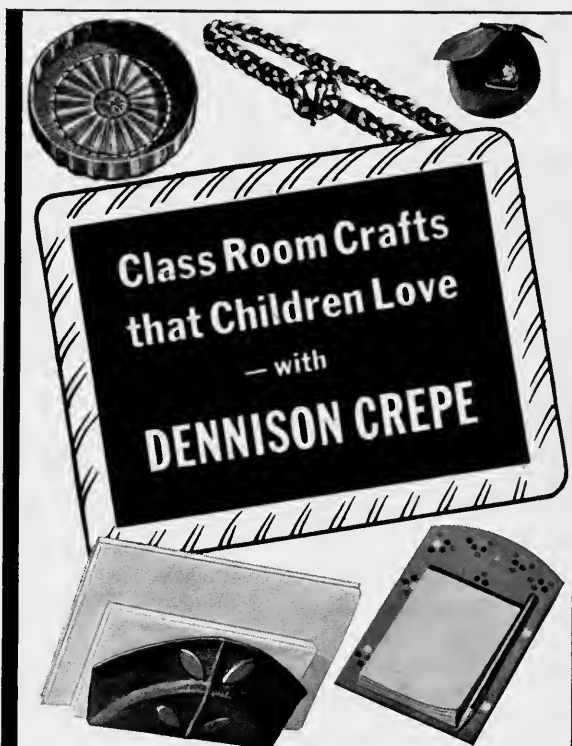
staged programs off-shore at all beaches from concentration points, ending in final evening program north of Municipal Pier. Ideal weather conditions prevailed, and small and large craft made a very colorful picture. Close in shore there were drills and boating spectacles, hydro-planing and various entertainment repeated at each stopping point. The fleets kept contact with headquarters by short wave radio, and during the evening several stations staged their regular feature broadcast programs from the boats out on the water.

Lest We Forget!—The Everwear Manufacturing Company of Springfield, Ohio, has issued a poster decorated with American flags and calling attention to the significance of Armistice Day. Under the caption "Lest We Forget" the poster reads in part: "Today we commemorate the time spent in our country's service and recall the joy of November 11, 1918. With clouds of discord darkening the sky and guns again thundering overseas, we must meet the new challenge and dedicate ourselves to work for national and international unity."

The Polk County 'Possum Club—The only club of its kind in the world, the Polk County 'Possum Club, originated and organized in the hills of Arkansas, has for the past twenty-six years held an annual feast to which everyone is invited. Here lawyers, senators, governors and bankers rub elbows at the banquet table with carpenters and road builders, and here everyone becomes Bill, Jack, Tom, Mary, Susie and Jennie. "We feel," writes Sarah Jane York, Recreation Supervisor, "that it is one of the happiest and gayest festivals that takes place in the world today."

The club in planning for its 1938 banquet issued a formal bid blank stating that about a hundred and fifty possums would be needed. Under "terms of payment" the contract states: "Each bidder will state cash discount he will allow. This discount will be (cheerfully) taken by the club treasurer. Payment will be made when we have the money." Another item falls under payment: "On presentation of invoice to club treasurer bidders have a 25-75 per cent chance of getting paid."

Feeding Stations for Birds—A few days after the first snowfall of the season, six bird feeding stations were set out in Watchung Reservation



CCOORDINATION of mind and hands in craftwork brings out artistic talent and lays the foundation for pleasant hobbies. Here are just a few of the things children will be proud to make: a bright basket for the living room at home, an attractive costume belt for mother, desk accessories for father, an apple penny-bank. All are easy to make of Dennison Crepe. Instructions for these and other craft objects are in the Dennison book, "New Dennison Craft Ideas," 10¢ a copy. Write today, in time for the Spring term.

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areas maintained by the Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission. These are wooden structures with a roof which prevents the food being covered by snow. In addition to the grain supply, which is replenished as often as necessary at each station, stale bread supplied by the CCC veterans' camp at Clark Township is scattered about. Help in the feeding program is given the Commission by Boy and Girl Scout troops, 4-H Clubs, and other youth organizations which maintain auxiliary feeding stations in the county parks in their communities.

With the National Association of Audubon Societies — Among the highlights of the 34th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Audubon Societies, held at New York City, October 21-25, 1938, were the Reunion of the Audubon Nature Camp, two field trips, one to Montauk Point, L. I., and the other to Cape May, New Jersey, unusually interesting and effective colored motion pictures of familiar birds, and a special lecture "The Artistic Talent of John James Audubon," with an interesting use of colored slides. Considerable discussion was

aroused by the paper presented by Dr. Ralph T. King, urging that the resources and energies of those interested in preserving wild life in America be used to increase native wild life rather than to replace depleted stock with exotic types.

During the meeting the association held a house-warming at its new quarters, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Skiing in New England — Ten years ago a hearty skier could have covered all of New England skiing trails in one afternoon had they all been located in the same township. Today he could not do it in an entire season. According to the New England Council, the runs would stretch 600 miles if laid end to end. Two hundred trails have been completed in the past year. Other developments of 1937 include twenty new ski tows, fifteen new jumps, nearly forty shelters and cabins, and the careful grooming of some one hundred open slopes. Thirty new winter resort communities have been added.

"Ash-Canning" — A winter sport which is proving a popular diversion in Yosemite, Rainier and Sequoia National Parks is known as "ash-canning." The equipment consists of an ash-can lid minus the handle, a burlap bag for a cushion, and a great deal of nerve. The courageous sportsman sits in the lid, is given a push at the top of a toboggan slide, and goes whirling around and around and down to the bottom — or to a point where he goes head over heels into a near-by deep snowdrift!

English Folk Dance Authority Visits America — Douglas Kennedy, Director of the English Folk Dance and Song Society, and successor of Cecil Sharp, will visit this country during February and March. An authority on the English folk dance and folk song, Mr. Kennedy illustrates his lectures with demonstrations and solo and group singing, also drawing on his wide knowledge of related American dances and songs. His emphasis on the folk dance and folk song as contributions to the field of recreation reflects a growing recognition of their importance by leaders in this field.

Mr. Kennedy will lecture in a number of colleges in the East and Middle West, will speak before associations of teachers, and will lecture and teach at the Conference of Southern Mountain

Workers to be held in Knoxville, Tennessee, March 7-9. His visit to the United States will be under the auspices of the English Folk Dance and Song Society of America, with headquarters at 15 East 40th Street, New York City. Further information regarding Mr. Kennedy's engagements may be secured from Miss Catherine White, Secretary of the Society.

Annual National Folk Festival Schedule —

The sixth annual National Folk Festival will be held at Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C., April 27, 28 and 29, 1939, under the sponsorship of the Washington Post Folk Festival Association. Miss Sarah Gertrude Knott, National Director of the festival, holds very much that this year a number of recreation groups will take part in the festival, and she urges anyone interested to communicate with her at the Washington headquarters of the National Folk Festival Association, 1337—43 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Neighborhood Committee Secures Rink—A

favorable reply was received when a committee representing residents of the southwest side of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, appeared before the Board of Education and requested the use of a portion of the Hayes School grounds for a skating rink. The Recreation Commission will maintain and supervise the area, together with three other rinks and a hockey rink for league play. A portable building 6' by 36' by 8' to be used as a warming house at the Roosevelt rink has been purchased by the Recreation Commission at a cost of approximately \$330. It will accommodate about seventy-five skaters.

An Outdoor Recreation Conference —

The sixth annual Outdoor Recreation Conference held under the auspices of Massachusetts State College will take place at Amherst, Massachusetts, March 9-12, 1939. The theme of the conference will be "Coordination of Outdoor Community Recreation." There will be a section on nature study and gardening under the leadership of Dr. William G. Vinal, Director of the Nature Guide School which will hold morning and afternoon sessions for two days, with well-known leaders in nature recreation participating. On the afternoon of the second day there will be an auto-caravan trip to see dinosaur tracks and the proposed reservation. The Nature Guide School dinner and re-

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union will be held at night, and there will be exhibitions and talks by Nature Guide students. A colored film will be shown of the Nature Guide School activities.

National Americanism Week — Marion H. Marshall, Vice-Chairman of Americanism of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lansing, Michigan, has announced that the annual observance of National Americanism Week will be February 12-22, the time being set aside by a statement of the President of the United States and proclamations by the various state governors. There will be nation-wide radio broadcasts, newspaper publicity, local observances and a continuation of the program of education in the public schools. The cooperation of all the recreation systems throughout the country is sought this year as in other years.

February always seems particularly appropriate to think of the fundamental principles on which our government was founded, since Lincoln's Birthday and Washington's Birthday both come in this month. In connection with the observance of these two birthdays, recreation systems do have a special opportunity to consider the problems which are facing democracy, to call attention to the way in which our country has been built up through the years.

Toward an Understanding of Leisure

(Continued from page 599)

this way can we rescue leisure from banality, and retirement from neuroticism.

(3) Further, we should plan new enterprises which will begin *at the moment of retirement* and mature at a still later date. By such a program we shall assure zest, anticipation and enjoyment

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of the future much in the same spirit as a young person looks forward to life—an antidote to the hopelessness of age.

(4) We must see to it that both the enterprises now in progress and those begun at the time of retirement are serious enough to employ time fully. They must offer a discipline to life, must command a routine—an antidote to the aimlessness of age.

(5) We must see to it that some of our activities are shared with others. When a man retires from active life he is in danger of letting his social contacts lapse. Almost inevitably an increased seclusion is forced upon him. He must, therefore, deliberately plan activities of a social and cooperative nature as an antidote to the friendliness of age.

(6) We should, I believe, plan not only financially for the period of retirement, but plan also for emotional independence from family and children. The younger generation, however much its affection, does not like to be burdened with responsibility for the older. As an antidote to the impositions of age, therefore, we should plan for

independent residence, and for social contact largely with contemporaries.

(7) We should, I think, prefer creative enterprises to stereotyped ones, capitalizing always on previous experience. The man with a creative interest leads two lives, one routine, one exhilarating—the latter an antidote to the boredom of age.

And what are the rewards? They are as multiple as the uses to which men put their time, as individual as the person. I would leave with you this thought, a routine system of habits becomes for some men so compulsive that they dislike to be disturbed. They are literally afraid of leisure in any quantity. It calls for readjustments which they are loathe to make. But just because it does so, it is mentally therapeutic for those millions who need self-expression, who are caught by the machine age in work which has no continuous satisfaction. And when leisure is intelligently planned, its rewards are endless. It maintains flexibility, increases contact with the outside world, keeping a man oriented in interest healthily away from himself. Evidences of neurosis and frustration, therefore, disappear. In addition it offers op-

portunity to learn a new discipline, to increase aesthetic appreciation, to become an authority in some field. Life, in short, becomes progressive, integrative, leading one constantly to review his philosophy, to add new reaches of meaning and experience to it. All this builds into character the stuff of which real personality is made; and that, I take it, is the true function of leisure.

Adapting Baseball to the Needs of the Blind

(Continued from page 600)

They listen for the approach of the ball and after making a catch attempt to throw the runner out at the closest base. All that is necessary for the put out is that the ball pass in front of the runner prior to his touching the base.

The buzzers for the various bases are operated from a control box located behind home plate by one of the officials of the game.

Each batter is allowed five strikes and five balls. Balls and strikes are determined by the umpire who is a seeing person. He rules upon the pitch in relation to its passage over the home plate, which is divided into three lanes. Players bat from one of the three lanes depending upon stance etc. in relation to the position of home plate.

In the games played to date the scores have been quite large, proving that the batter does hear the approach of the ball and is able to hit it. The big weakness now is that the ball travels with such speed that the players are unable to locate it fast enough. However, the players feel that within a short time, with practice, they will be able to play a much better game.

Fees and Charges for Public Park Services

(Continued from page 603)

It takes time to bring full realization to the whole population of the value of their state and national parks and the benefits and enjoyment they have in store for them. As the number of park visitors grows, so will the popular sentiment for their retention and support increase. I believe that all visitors to our state and national parks cannot help but be impressed most favorably as they enter a park to register at the gate or contact stations and receive a courteous greeting of welcome from the ranger who is well-informed and willing to furnish them guidance and advice about the park and how to see it to the best advantage.

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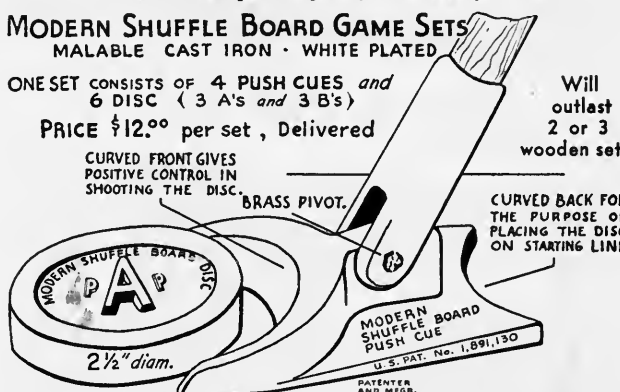
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Does not the name "State and National Parks" convey the meaning that they are the public's property, and is it not strange that the public should be required to pay an admission fee to enter such property? Let there be a reasonable charge for all special accommodations, privileges, and facilities that may be offered within the park, but do not exact a toll from the public to get into and enjoy by ordinary travel and observation the beauty, nature's gifts, inspiration, and happiness which the scenic attractions convey, and for the conservation and enjoyment of which the parks have been acquired at the expense of the public at large. The road fee charged at some national parks is a misnomer. It is an unjustified admission charge, pure and simple. . . .

I believe it is not so much a well-grounded feeling that the great public in general will resent such admission charges that is the cause of the reluctance with which most park administrators, I believe, look upon this movement to collect sustaining revenue of this character, as it is the conviction that in principle such charges have no justification, constitute a wrong application of authority, and are an imposition. I trust I am not wrong in this assumption and hope that such a contention among park men will prevail.

What They Say About Recreation

(Continued from page 604)

other branch of education, in spite of the fact that in our schools the people who come to study arithmetic go in by the front door, and those who come to play basketball go in the side door. As soon as the public recognizes that the recreation program is just as important as any other part of education, then we will have a real educational program."—Mark McCloskey in *Child Study*, April 1938.

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Hatchet and Cherry Blossoms

(Continued from page 607)

triangle, blindfold her, turn her around three times, and tell her to advance eight steps and curtsy to Washington. The girl who succeeds in doing this is rewarded with an old-fashioned nosegay.

Quaker Meeting. Guests are seated in rows and warned not to laugh or speak out loud during this game. The person on the right end of each row must shake hands with the one on her left and whisper to her some absurd thing to do such as, "Thee is to walk sedately to the front and set Sister Agatha's kerchief straight." Each one passes this message on, accompanied by a handshake, to the next person. The one at the end of the row is to carry out the whispered bidding as she has heard it. Any one who laughs or makes undue noise must rise and stand facing the wall until the game is over.

Truth. Cut pictures from magazines which illustrate common phrases not literally true. Patch pictures together if necessary to get complete phrase. Number them and pin them on the wall. How many can guess the meanings as George Washington would have seen them? Examples are "Her eyes fell to the floor" (eyes cut out and

dropping to floor); "She went all to pieces" (person cut in pieces); "She ran across a man" (car on top of man); "She devoured a book" (person holding a book with a bite out of it). Others are: "drank in the music," "swept into the room," "burst into tears," "time flew by."

Writing Lists. Have some writing games. For instance you can see who can make the most words out of "George Washington," "Martha Washington," or "Revolutionary."

Any one of these three parties can be given successfully and made worthy of the occasion if you but keep in mind that it must be centered around the things that are generally associated with Washington and colonial times.

Cutting the Cloth to Fit the Pattern

(Continued from page 608)

Assuming that you have decided on a program that will use up all your facilities, money or leadership, your work is only partly done because the preparation of the groups or the community for this program is a determining factor of its success. May I give an example of what I mean?

Several attempts had been made in Kenosha before the present recreation director took office to organize and operate a civic orchestra. Friction between union musicians and non-union players, fear on the part of the unions, and misunderstanding caused a collapse in a very short time. When we decided to introduce the activity, a great deal of time was spent with both of these groups working out very clearly and definitely policies and misunderstandings, and at the present time we have the union and non-union players sitting side by side in a civic orchestra. As a matter of fact, the president of the local union played in this orchestra for several years.

Choruses have been attempted and failed because factional groups broke up the harmony in the activity. If we had selected as the director of our choral society a leader from one of the church choirs, friction would no doubt have developed, but the plan of choosing a leader from outside existing organizations has worked harmoniously for several years.

The program, to grow and prosper, must be built slowly and on the same dignified basis as education. Do not overadvertise and thereby cheapen your department. Cooperate with other agencies; you will find them willing to cooperate with you. Your business as a recreation director is to see that your town as far as possible has ade-

quate recreation. Your department cannot operate it all. Church groups, Y.M.C.A.'s, lodges, industrial organizations and unions are all carrying on a recreational program. It is your responsibility to work with them and to help them achieve the objective of offering to the people they are trying to serve a program which will be to the best interests of the community. See that they get the credit for the work they do and you will find them willing to help you in your programs whenever they are given an opportunity.

It would be utterly impossible for us to attempt to say what should be an adequate program for any city of a population of 50,000, for example, because of the different interests and problems that arise in these various towns. I am convinced, however, that the conscientious director will go a long way toward solving community problems if he takes a common-sense view of the situation, if he is sincere in his efforts and desires to be of real community service.

Card Playing in the Modern Recreation Program

(Continued from page 610)

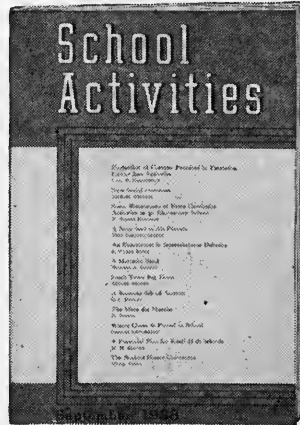
tions. The rooms can be used for recruiting stations for all activities.

Those who have little enthusiasm over card games usually present the argument that it is the lazy man's form of recreation; that no lasting benefits can be derived from playing cards, and that it does not build one physically. They overlook the fact that through card playing we learn to concentrate, to improve our memory, to develop our reasoning powers, to overcome obstacles and to instill confidence in ourselves. We take to the game, whatever it may be, with a zest, keeping our minds alert and functioning all the time. The competition of the game stimulates effort within us, and subconsciously we are broadening our thinking capacities and training ourselves.

The card games that are played in the game rooms can be equally as successful and popular in the homes. For instance, the woman who has learned contract bridge has done herself a service which she can share with her neighbors. She is in a position to transform a dull evening at home into a period of fascinating mental entertainment for her friends. And, an ordinary deck of cards is her medium. Her presence will be continually in demand to enlighten the uninitiated with the knowledge she has acquired. Each deal of the cards produces kaleidoscopic changes in the pat-

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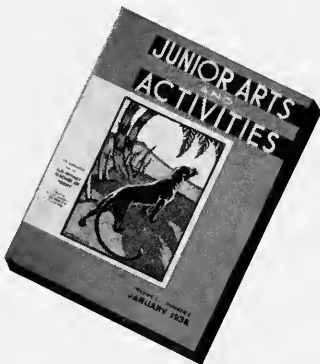
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terns of the hands. An ever changing series of situations lends variety enough to provoke interest in the most uninterested. Competition in bidding keeps this verve at white heat, and the uncertainty in fulfilling a contract engenders a suspense that is not dispelled until the last card is played.

Giving Joy to Life

(Continued from page 611)

to those means which will give them more of the so-called necessities of life, but it must be recognized that the fulness of life is in the human spirit and that better recreation and social life and the appreciation of the beautiful are what give joy to life.

Hartford Celebrates Christmas—And the Nativity Is Presented

(Continued from page 617)

an historic terrace which had been built into the hillside back in 1866 and had been used as a pedestal for two ancient cannons that saw service on the U. S. S. Hartford during the engagements on the Mississippi River and Mobile Bay.

The interior of the stable was reproduced as nearly as possible to the life that research showed was contemporaneous with the time of the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. The floor was earthen, and the furnishings few and crude. On one side sat the Virgin Mary with the Christ Child on her lap, Joseph standing slightly in the rear, and at her side was the little wooden manger with her white cape draped across it. Kneeling in adoration before her was the figure of a shepherd boy, while opposite, a sedate donkey, gazing stolidly at the scene, stood near an ox whose head and shoulders protruded from a stall.

Approaching from the right, past a row of evergreens and cedars transplanted from the Batterson Park nursery, were three brightly caparisoned camels bearing on their backs the Wise Men of the East who held in upraised hands their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Coming from the other direction were shepherds and a flock of sheep passing three open archways that revealed a panorama of the town of Bethlehem in the distance.

In front of the stable, other shepherds knelt, while high overhead a huge electric star shone on the setting. Hidden under bushes and shrubberies placed at advantageous points were powerful spotlights of blue and amber that shed a soft radiance over the scene.

A wire fence set in a wide, sweeping arc formed an enclosure that kept spectators at a distance, thereby increasing their visibility and improving the perspective. Behind the stable and also hidden from view, an electric orthophonic phonograph played a continuous program of Christmas carols.

Never-ending streams of pedestrian traffic filed past the set and thrilled at the lifelike reproduction of the immortal scene. At night, it was impossible to find parking space for blocks around, and visitors came from far and near drawn by news of the spectacle. Their numbers amazed even a city used to crowds.

The setting drew particular attention from park executives who visited it from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and all parts of Connecticut, and the Hartford department was besieged with inquiries seeking information and details, many of them originating from an intention of duplicating it next year.

The Nativity scene was a success far beyond Hartford's expectations, but Mr. Dillon regards it only as the beginning of the ultimate set he hopes will become an annual feature in his city. From the inauguration of his earliest plans, he has insisted upon permanency in design and material, and the nucleus that has resulted offers opportunities for improvement and enlargement year by year.

Bob Davis Reveals

(Continued from page 618)

'95, '96—followed by radio and wireless as an introduction to the twentieth century.

Time and space were annihilated; the globe ceased to be a dimensional problem. Europe, augmenting American inventions and discoveries, advanced scientific rivalry to a competitive point that baffled prophecy. To what heights man's imagination would ascend and transmute into accomplishment became the universal query.

Seated in a corner of the luxury liner, alone with my thoughts, it was borne in upon me that practically all I had seen and heard and lived in a lifetime could be brought back from the past and reenacted in all its original magnificence and drama before one parked in an easy chair in a closed room; that all things occurring today, anywhere in the world, could be made to leap the hemispheres and be summoned in the twinkling of an eye to any given spot.

(Continued on page 637)

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

The Journal of Health and Physical Education

December 1938

Umpiring Must Keep Pace with Hockey, by Martha Gable

Beach and Pool, December 1938

An Elementary Treatise on the Construction, Sanitation and Operation of Swimming Pools, by Louis J. Day and C. W. Stedman

Public Management, November 1938

The Broadening Scope of City Planning, by Hugh R. Pomeroy

Scholastic Coach, November 1938

Girls' Invitation Sports Days, by Catherine O. Dreher

The Journal of Health and Physical Education

October 1938

Re-Evaluation of the Professional Curriculum
by D. Oberteuffer

The National Elementary Principal, December 1938

Teacher Relations to School Playground Activities
The Assembly—A Socializing Agency, by Mrs. Homer L. Wilson

The Womans Press, December 1938

Volunteers for Conflict, by Helen Beavers
General Without Portfolio, interview by *The Womans Press* of Elisabeth L. Richardson

The Nation's Schools, December 1938

Intercepting Juvenile Crime, by Sam Allen

Parks and Recreation, December 1938

Why Do We Want Parks? by L. H. Weir
The Horticulture Gardens of Cleveland, by Mrs. Robert H. Jamison
Exceptional Late Blossoming of Flowers in Calgary
Parks, by William R. Reader
A Step Toward Making Skating Rinks Pay,
by George B. Caskey

Public Management, December 1938

Thirty-Six Cities Get Federal Funds for Public Forums
Community Centers Built by Nearly 200 Cities and Towns

The Girl Scout Leader, January 1939

Pleasurable Learning, by Margaret Needham

Parents' Magazine, January 1939

This Way to Creative Play, by Elinor Fitch Griffin

PAMPHLETS

Improving Our Rural Civilization — Youth Section, American Country Life Association, January 1938, by A. M. Boynton and E. L. Kirkpatrick

Study outline to stimulate interest in group discussion on the topic of the Youth Section, A.C. L.A., 1938 conference: "Improving Our Rural Civilization."

Recreational Activities for the Pre-School Child

By Elizabeth D. Emblar, Program Specialist, Pre-School Activities, WPA Recreation Project for the City of New York.

Porter Sargent Publications

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HUMAN AFFAIRS, 204 pages, \$1.00.

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Agricultural Extension Work with Older Rural Youth

By Agnes M. Boynton and E. L. Kirkpatrick. Published by the American Youth Commission, American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. October 1, 1938

Recent Surveys Pertaining to Rural Youth

By E. L. Kirkpatrick. Published by American Youth Commission, American Council on Education, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. September 1, 1938

The Activities of Rural Young People in Missouri

By E. L. Morgan and Melvin W. Sneed. A Survey of 2,297 Young People Attending High School. Research Bulletin 269, November, 1937, issued by the University of Missouri, the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Missouri, and the Rural Section, Division of Social Research, Federal WPA cooperating.

Essex County Park Commission

Thirty-ninth report of the Park Commission of Essex County, New Jersey, 1936-1937

Roadside Improvement

Supplement to Planning and Civic Comment, October-December 1938

Rural Youth: Their Situation and Prospects,

By Bruce L. Melvin and Elna N. Smith.

An analysis of the present situation and future prospects of rural youth. Research Monograph XV, 1938, Publication of the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration. Available from U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Chicago's Recreation Conference

ABOUT 2,000 public and private leaders and prominent persons interested in the best use of leisure time conferred on November 21st regarding the best methods of interesting in the widest possible way many thousands of Chicagoans and suburbanites through participation in recreation. It was anticipated that through the leadership gathered on this important day of training, 50,000 more public citizens could be interested.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Chicago Recreation Commission, and all of the greater organizations of Chicago were represented on its committee. These included the parent-teacher associations, women's clubs, American Legion, various workers' groups, the churches, local groups with active memberships on central coordinating committees, youth in the junior district recreation committees, professional recreation workers, and Federal emergency recreation workers.

Speakers on this occasion were Dr. Eduard C. Lindeman, Miss Ethel Bowers of the National Recreation Association, V. K. Brown, Dr. Philip Seman and many others from Chicago. There was one grand session in the ballroom with a dozen sectional meetings by other organizations. Social recreation claimed its place during the leisure period. Extensive exhibitions with demonstrations and consultation were features of the conference.

The major topic of the conference was "The Community's Function in Recreation." Following the discussion of this subject, recreation leaders took a look at Chicago's 1939 recreation program. The highly successful event was climaxed by a gala dinner in the grand ballroom with speakers dealing with the topic, "The Community's Part in Making Recreation a Positive Force." This event was said to be a red letter day for all recreation forces in the Chicago area.

This is the fourth annual conference which the Chicago Recreation Commission has held, and each has been attended by large numbers of people who have enjoyed interesting programs and stimulating speakers. Dr. Philip Seman is chairman of the Commission; Edward L. Burchard, Executive Secretary. Over fifty outstanding citizens of Chicago are serving on the Commission.

(Continued from page 635)

For what purpose need one travel, seeking the material splendors of far countries; why sally forth in restless wandering to hear distant voices of mountebanks and prophets; why jostle with the mobs of other countries and exhaust ourselves in strange places, breasting wind and tide, discomforts and disappointments, dangers and pestilence, when the entire panorama can be re-enacted at will? Why?

From the bowels of the ship echoed reverberations of harnessed horse-power, the mighty hull swaying gently under the control of gyroscopic domination, undulating seas gliding by in the imponderable dark.

In a flash I escaped from the impending coma! It was not enough for me to see and to hear. I wanted to touch and taste and smell, to be drenched in rain, to feel earth under my feet, to sense sunlight and the next dawn, to experience exhaustion and hunger, to keep in motion until, fatigued at last, it was my portion to reap that great rejuvenation prefaced by the mystery of sleep.

And so I prefer to spend in the companionship of my five senses those precious hours, such as they are, with whatever joys and sorrows belong on the program—in short, to take all there is of life, advancing to meet the oncoming pageant rather than waiting for it to arrive.

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The Board of Recreation Commissioners

(Continued from page 620)

people and surely it is more potent than the voice of one man, professionally engaged in recreation and paid for the job. Board members can be used to advantage by having them create sentiment in a neighborhood for a new playground site, using this idea as an example. A board member visiting his own political groups within a neighborhood to create an "asking group," is a powerful factor in securing an area where badly needed. Then, too, if the majority of the board members are of the same political faith as the majority of city council members, there is every opportunity of getting closer cooperation and the always needed funds for expansion.

Board Members as Coordinators

Board members make excellent coordinators. School board representatives on the board of recreation are able to bring about a better under-

CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP

brings each month to its readers a story of what community organizations, institutions, and agencies are doing — or not doing —

- To lay the foundation for good citizenship
- To build good character
- To develop personality
- To solve community problems
- To safeguard democratic institutions
- To improve family life
- To promote recreation and good health
- To encourage cooperative activities

The magazine is the medium of expression for the National Council on Education for Character and Citizenship. It is of particular value to:

- Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Secretaries and Directors
- Boy and Girl Scout Executives
- Parent-Teacher Association Officers
- Leaders of Youth Clubs and Activities
- Directors of Recreation
- Leaders of Other Character Building Agencies

Miss Maria Leonard, Dean of Women, University of Illinois, says: "I wish to tell you how much help I feel CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP is to us who are trying to build youth. The name of the magazine itself emphasizes the two greatest goals in building youth. The sooner that character and citizenship can be made the basis not only of all human relations but of education itself, the sooner a new era will be ushered into America."

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standing between janitor and playground leader, between school principal and recreation center director, between the superintendent of schools and the superintendent of recreation. Once a board member has been introduced to the objectives and philosophies of the recreation movement, it is remarkable to see them work on representatives of other agencies which are closely allied to the recreation department. Other board members should be asked to attend meetings of the leisure time division of the Council of Social Agencies, or to sit in juvenile court, or the mental health clinic. One might well be definitely connected with the athletic organizations of the city since athletics usually has the largest number of participants in a recreation program. Another might be used better to coordinate the functions of the park department and the recreation department, especially with reference to administration and maintenance of facilities.

Looking to the Future

Finally, the board of recreation needs to think of the future at all times. Planning for new playgrounds, additional community centers in school buildings, for a larger participation in the cultural activities, for every normal, healthy child to have the experience of camping, for a continuation of hobby clubs after graduation from high school, for support of the recreation system on a millage basis rather than by an annual indefinite appropriation from city council each year, these are vital problems the solution of which keep boards of recreation alive and alert.

Fortunate is the city which has an active city planning engineer and city planning commission to whom the board of recreation may go for counsel. Joint meetings of the two boards or commissions are most valuable to the success of future developments. Boards of recreation must continually be doing research and making surveys in order to be assured that they are on the right way for future activity.

The majority of members of boards of recreation who take an active part feel that it is a real education for them and they serve with a great amount of enthusiasm. The possibilities and the successes to come in the field of recreation lie with a conscientious, enthusiastic and cooperative board of recreation.

The Will to Endow

(Continued from page 622)

Is Yours an Informed Constituency?

It goes without saying that every organization

should keep its constituency so informed of its work and of its aspirations in behalf of the community as to cause that community to wish to support it both through current gifts and through legacies. Many gifts are lost annually because of neglect at this point.

It is wise to secure the interest and appreciation of this work from the legal and banking professions since more often than we realize clients and customers seek the advice of these professions when they are about to distribute their wealth. Many of these clients and customers, when they finally decide to draw their wills or to create trust funds, have no specific organization in mind when asked the question, "Do you wish to leave a sum to an organization of a charitable, religious or educational nature?" These donors often ask their legal advisers this question. "To what organization shall I leave the residue of my estate?"

At Chicago's Exhibit

(Continued from page 624)

At the exhibits which are held periodically the judges determine the blue-ribbon exhibits, using their own judgment as to what constitutes art photography, but as a means of registering public reaction to the exhibit, which now runs to thousands of pictures almost all of them enlargements and beautifully mounted, a voting box is provided in which the public at large deposits votes for the picture which appeals most to the individual visitor.

The picture which received the largest popular vote in the exhibit held recently is reproduced here. It was taken by Mrs. Marion Aldrich.

You Asked for It!

(Continued from page 624)

holes ranging in distance from 40 yards to 200 yards. In all cases, low scoring and satisfactory performances are dependent upon the short 8 to 10 yard pitching ability to put the ball in the tire, rather than the might of long hits.

The work of placing the tires in the ground is light, the materials for play may be collected at low cost, and the result is a back-yard recreation whose attraction reaches both children and adults. Best of all is the startling fact that Dad will find his scores on the real course improving because of the accuracy he is developing by playing tire golf with the family at home.—*Ralph E. Hensley*, Superintendent of Recreation, Chico, California.

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Folk Dances of Tennessee

By Lucien L. McDowell and Flora Lassiter McDowell. Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan. \$1.00.

MR. McDOWELL is principal of a county high school in Smithville, Tennessee, where he has done some remarkable things in developing play party games at recess and at noon with rural children. His wife is a ballad singer and musician. Working together as joint authors, they have produced an authentic and delightful book which will be an invaluable addition to the recreation worker's library. In collecting material for these old play party games, Mr. and Mrs. McDowell visited many aged people of the isolated Caney Fork Valley where ancient songs and customs survived until within the memory of the authors. No pains have been spared in verifying the accuracy of both words and tunes. Each dance includes words and music of a song, with a complete description of the steps and actions which went with it. Many diagrams are given.

Extra-Curricular Activities

By Harry C. McKown. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$3.25.

IN THE REVISION of his book, first published about eleven years ago, Mr. McKown has given us practically a new volume. The new edition includes discussions of newer activities, emphases and procedures, improved methods of organizing, supervising and handling the older activities, and references to more recent literature on the subject. There is much valuable material here in the discussion of recreation activities which will be of interest to recreation workers as well as school officials.

The Nature Science Series

By Clyde Fisher, Ph.D. and Marion L. Langham. Noble and Noble, Publishers, Inc., New York. \$.96 each.

EACH BOOK of this series—and there are six—is full of fascinating facts and stories about birds, flowers, trees, insects, marine life, minerals, stars and planets. There are over 450 separate topics. Conservation of natural resources is stressed throughout the books in the series which are: *Our Pets* (First Grade); *On the Farm* (Second Grade); *World of Nature* (Third Grade); *Ways of the Wild Folk* (Fourth Grade); *Our Wonder World* (Fifth Grade); *In Field and Garden* (Sixth Grade).

Key to the Out-of-Doors

Compiled by Richard James Hurley. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. \$2.50.

IN THIS BOOK Mr. Hurley has given us a bibliography of nature books and materials under the following titles: Heavens Above; Sunshine and Storm; Earth Beneath; Flowers, Ferns and Allies; Green Arches; Six-legged People; Cold Blooded Neighbors; Fish—and Others; Wild Wings; Four-footed Friends.

The Administration of Intramural Athletics for Men in Colleges and Universities

By Carl L. Nordly, Ph.D. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. \$1.60.

THIS VOLUME is the result of study made to ascertain the *status quo* of intramural athletic programs and of various administrative policies in selected colleges and universities and to formulate recommended procedures for the administration of intramural athletics. There are many practical and concrete suggestions to physical educators and recreation workers who are developing intramural activities. Methods of administering the program are presented with recommended procedures on such subjects as program content, organization of program, health safeguards, personnel, publicity, budget and finance.

Leisure Reading

For Grades Seven, Eight, and Nine. Prepared for the National Council of Teachers of English by Its Committee on Recreational Reading—Stella S. Center and Max J. Herzberg, Co-chairmen. The National Council of Teachers of English, 211 West 68th Street, Chicago, Illinois. \$.20.

THIS WIDELY USED LIST of books for junior high school reading which is issued periodically has been entirely revised and brought up to date. The new arrangement of material makes the list more readily usable than ever before. Annotations have been rewritten to give them an appeal to young people. New classifications include the Animal Kingdom, Discovery and Exploration, Etiquette, Games and Sports, Handicrafts, Hobbies, and Photography.

Mexican Folk Plays

By Josephina Niggli. Edited by Frederick H. Koch. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. \$2.50.

A COLLECTION OF FIVE one-act plays originally produced by Professor Koch and the Carolina Playmakers at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and on various tours North and South. Three of the plays are hilarious comedies of Mexican village life; one is a drama of the Agrarian Revolution of 1910, and the fifth pictures a great Aztec ritual.

The Book of Major Sports

By William L. Hughes. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

THIS IS THE FIRST time that the basic fundamentals of the four major sports—football, basketball, baseball, and track—have been incorporated into a single volume, and a very excellent and authoritative performance it is. Each of the sections is written by an expert in that special field—football by W. Glenn Killinger of the West

Chester, (Pennsylvania) State Teachers College; basketball by Charles Murphy of the Bristol (Connecticut) Boys' Club; baseball by Daniel E. Jessee, Trinity College, Hartford; and track and field by Ray M. Conger of the Pennsylvania State College. The editor and collaborator, William L. Hughes, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Physical Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, states in his preface that the book is designed to aid coaches who are frequently called upon to coach two, and sometimes three, of the major sports. "Only those techniques and tactics which have been thoroughly tried and found satisfactory have been included." The style is straightforward and the explanations brief. At the end of each chapter is a set of "questions for discussion," and one of "true-false test questions." The book is generously illustrated by Katherine C. Tracy of the Art Staff of *Scholastic Coach*.

3,000 Books of Leisure.

Published by *Leisure*, 683 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. \$1.0.

In this bibliography, issued under the auspices of *Leisure*, the Magazine of a Thousand Diversions, books have been listed on a wide variety of subjects including hobbies, recreational activities, and other phases of the leisure-time movement.

Youth Education in a Changing World.

By Walter L. Stone, Ph.D. Informal Education Service, 2622 West Ashwood Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee. \$1.00.

There are seven chapters in this mimeographed bulletin which deals with character and personality development, vocational guidance, methods of religious education, sex education, and the place and function of the home in the life of youth. Of special interest to recreation workers is the final chapter on "The Uses of Leisure" which deals with the philosophical aspects of leisure.

Community Planning in Adult Education.

Prepared by the Staff of the Department of Adult Education, School of Education, New York University. Published by Service Bureau for Adult Education, Division of General Education, New York University, New York. \$50.

This booklet has been prepared as a practical guide to the administrator of adult education in meeting the many problems with which he is confronted. It is addressed to those who are actually conducting programs in centers of all types.

Shepherd's Pipes.

"Kit" 45. Edited by Katherine and Lynn Rohrbough. Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. \$25.

Directions for making shepherd's pipes for amateurs are offered, along with suggestions on how to play the pipe and a list of sources for music for pipes. A number of melodies for the D pipe alone are given.

Developing Volunteers.

By Idelle Scott Jeffery and Julia F. Capen. Womans Press, New York. \$35.

This publication has to do with the selection, training and guidance of volunteers in the service of the Y.W.C.A. It emphasizes the fact that for sound administration more serious thought should be given to selection, placement, preparation and training. It suggests a committee on volunteer personnel, and urges an understanding on the part of staff members of the value of volunteer service and an understanding of how to work with volunteer leaders. The pamphlet has helpful suggestions for all leaders working with volunteers.

Aeronautical Occupations for Boys.

By Captain Burr Leyson. E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

This book is intended for those who have an interest in aviation as a career, and it offers careful details as to the training required for each job, where and how it may be obtained and at what cost, and opportunities for promotion. It covers the entire field of major occupations in aviation.

The School Health Program.

By C. E. A. Winslow. The Regents' Inquiry. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York. \$1.50.

This book is one of the reports being made as a result of the Regents' Inquiry into the character and cost of public education in the State of New York. The Inquiry, organized late in 1935 under the direction of the Special Committee of the Board of Regents, has been divided into three major undertakings having to do with the educational enterprise of the state and an appraisal of policies and programs. A section of the book is devoted to an appraisal of physical education and recreation, and the Committee as a result of its study recommends "a program of physical education and recreation designed to promote the sense of well-being which comes from vigorous physical activity, to promote social adjustment and furnish wholesome outlets for the energies of youth, and to lay a foundation for the leisure-time activities which will increasingly occupy a more and more important place in the adult life of the future."

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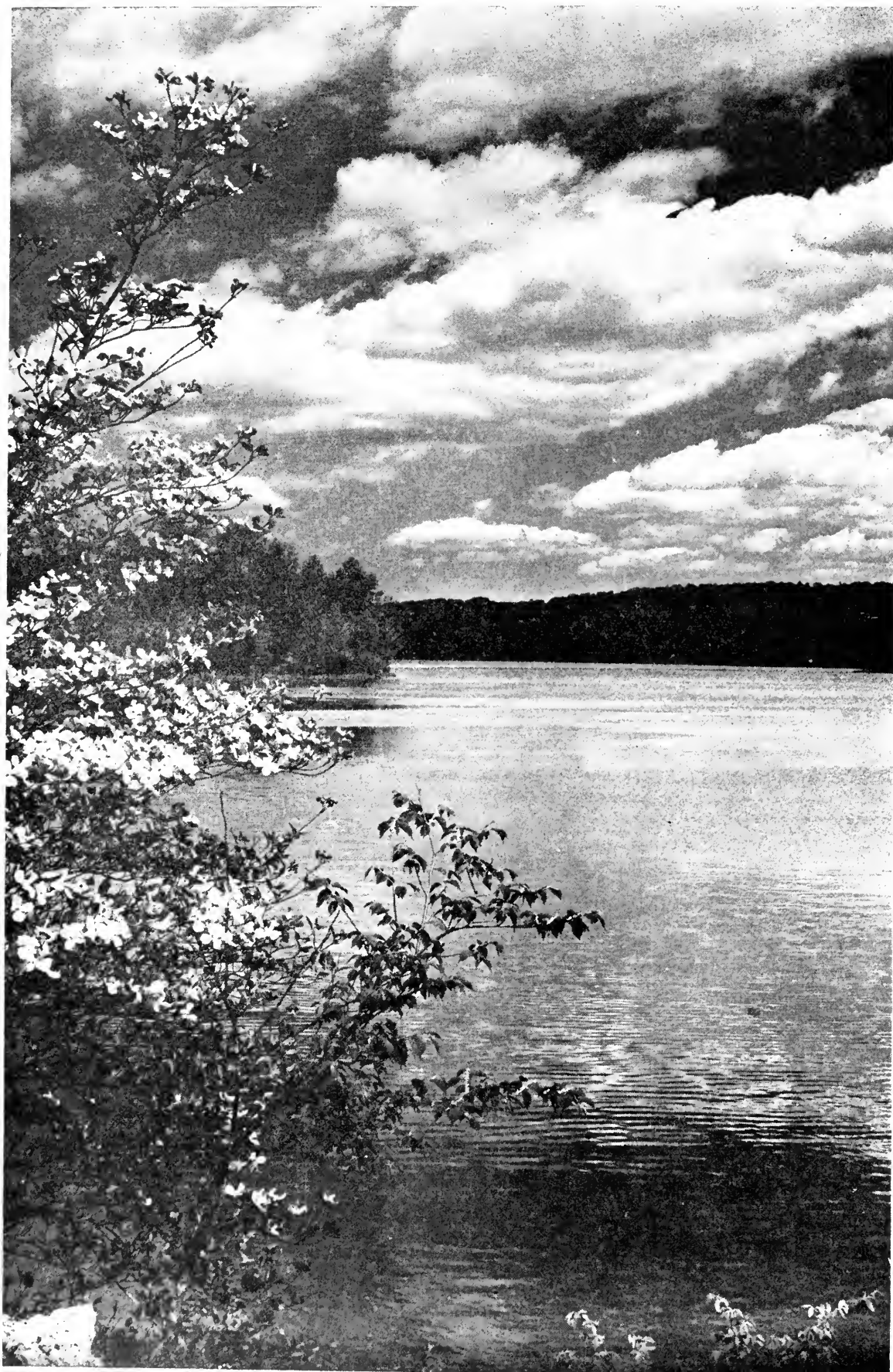
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What Is Recreation?

WE THINK of play and recreation activities as those which men and women and children engage in because of inner desire and not because of any outer compulsion. The same activity may at one time be recreation and at another time not, and there are, of course, all degrees of recreation values. Of course recreation fades into education, into religion, into work. Man is after all an integrated human being and he does not try to separate his activities into compartments. Recreation has the greatest value when it creates the spirit in the human life which permeates all the waking hours and to some extent all the sleeping hours as well. In other words, we like to have a play spirit created which is the spirit of vital living which makes all that the human being does more thoroughly worth while.

Of course contact with nature is a very vital part of any recreation program. The handcraft activities, the making of beautiful things, art in all forms, music, drama, as well as athletics, games, social recreation, are a vital part of the joyous human recreation activities from which human beings can choose according to their individual desires.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.



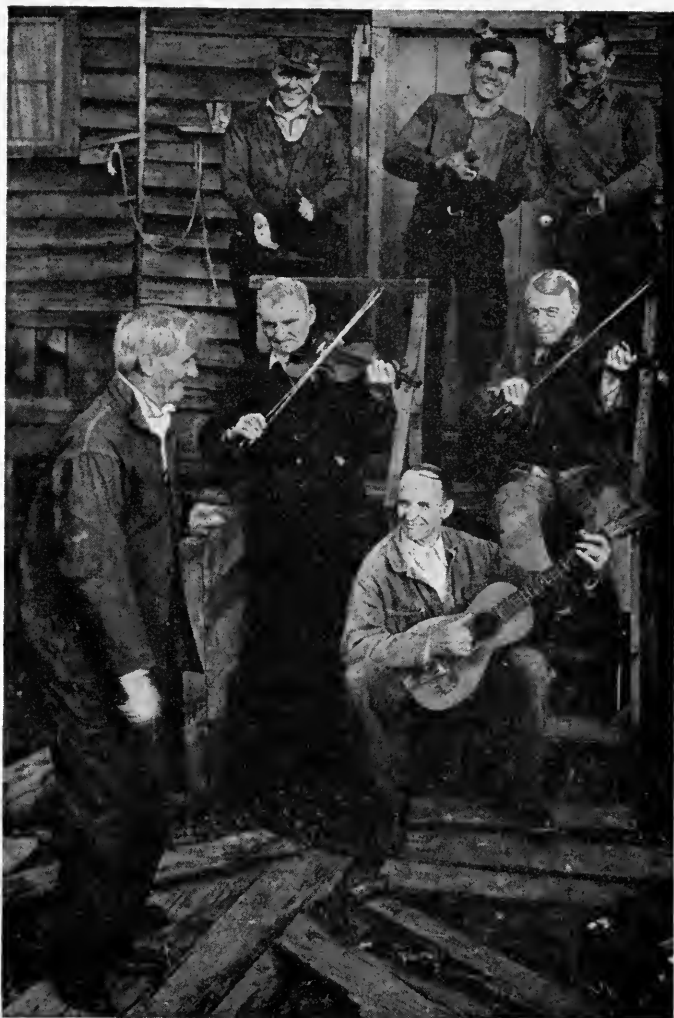
Courtesy Cleveland Metropolitan Park District

The Traditional in Recreation

By

SARAH GERTRUDE KNOTT
Founder and Director
National Folk Festival

"Few nations, if any, have as many living folk expressions as we have in the United States, and none of them has the great variety which the different racial groups give to our country. A nation with a great folk art deserves a great classic art built on those roots."



Anthracite coal miners had a part in the Pennsylvania Folk Festival at Bucknell University

A NEW CIVILIZATION has beaten its way into the once peaceful, isolated communities of our country, destroying much of our rich traditional heritages, before we as a nation have become conscious of it. Five years ago the National Folk Festival came into being in St. Louis, bringing together representative groups from fourteen states, with the folk songs, music and dances handed down traditionally by people from the different sections of the country. Its objective was to call attention to the amazingly rich variety of our folk expressions and encourage continued participation by giving opportunity to the people who have it in their hearts to sing and dance and play for the sheer joy of it.

Since that time annual National Folk Festivals have been held in Chattanooga, Dallas, Chicago and Washington. In many communities throughout the country the fiddlers are now taking down their fiddles to "resin up the bows," and dance and play-party groups are stepping to the old tunes, singing again the old ballads, and getting ready

for the annual pilgrimage to the National Folk Festival which will again be held in the nation's capital, April 27, 28 and 29, under the sponsorship of the Washington Post Folk Festival Association, through the interest of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Meyer of Washington.

Local Folk Festivals

Through the incentive of the national festival, preliminary state and community festivals have sprung up in the last few years in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Ohio, from which the best representative groups of the different regions have been sent to the national festival each year. Throughout the year festivals have been held through the cooperation of the National Folk Festival under the

direction of leaders in the state, giving many people a much needed cultural leisure time activity. Twenty-seven states sent their representatives to Washington for the last festival, with the songs, music and dances used around home fires or in community gatherings.

We Are Still Pioneering

These traditional expressions play an important part in the lives of our people today as they did in the lives of our pioneer forefathers during the early Colonization days. We are pioneering in many respects again today, searching for new and better ways of life in a civilization much more complex than our fathers found here. We need a song, as they did. It is said, "Man cannot live by bread alone." The "staff of life" is not enough. There must be beauty and something to challenge the imagination to lift us from the dull prosaic surroundings of everyday life, something in which the people themselves can have a part. Mankind has always had an urge for self-expression of one kind or another. Dance, drama, music and other arts, classic or folk, have been the creative expressions that have come down to us throughout the ages, showing how people in other days have felt; what they have dreamed; what they have wanted; what they failed to get. History has recorded facts, but the finer sensibilities of man, his inner emotions, have been recorded only in some form of artistic creation.

We sit on the side lines and hear great symphonies play the works of old masters. We hear eminent concert artists performing with finesse and see impressive dramas unfold before us by actors who know the art. But this is one of the "golden ages" when the people are not satisfied to sit and listen. They too must play a part. Folk songs, music and dances made by unknown and unsung creators, used by the folk trained only by tradition, fit admirably into the need of the present and furnish one of the finest types of recreation because of their universal appeal. They serve as a recreational source—and how much more! They reflect, as nothing else could, life as it has been lived here in all its varied moods and must be the basis for future creative endeavor.

America is a young nation. Our literature has not been written. It has just been begun. The pictures with the coloring of America have not been painted. They, too, are in the making. We have merely glimpsed the possibilities in the great music to come from the employment of America's distinctive rhythms in composition. When our national art is created, if we run true to the history of other nations and ages, much of it will no doubt be based on the folk songs, music and dances which express the inherent characteristics and heart-throbs of our people.

An Age of Transition

But conditions of life are rapidly changing as civilization marches onward. We do not know what the record of tomorrow will show. We do know, however, that this is a significant age of transition, one in which we see the last generation of old Indians whose memories carry them back to the time when the War Dance and Indian ceremonials had genuine significance to Indian life, when their rich store of legends and traditions were handed down orally from one generation to another. While, in the case of the remaining pueblos of the Southwest, time has touched lightly and changed little ceremonial customs and traditions, the Indians who live outside the pueblos have taken on the white man's ways, in many instances, and are forgetting the traditions of their great mystic race.

We have today the last generation of old "before-the-mast" sailors who used the sea chantey as the work-song of the sea. It is the last generation for the lumberjacks who had a part in making the lumberjack songs and legends during the golden age of lumbering in the great north woods. The Anglo-Saxon ballad singers, fiddlers and square dancers who, until a few years ago lived in isolation in their cabin homes, during the recent "war scare" were connected with faraway England by radio. Strange new music has been brought into the mountains which until recently knew only the traditional. Good roads, winding their ways up hill and down into the valleys, have taken the place of the mountain paths so recently traveled only by foot or on mules, as the fiddlers

Miss Knott, Founder and Director of the National Folk Festival, and in charge of the courses in American Folk Expressions given each summer at Washington University, St. Louis, expresses the hopes that recreation workers will bring to her attention folk groups who might be interested in participating in the forthcoming festival at Washington. Miss Knott may be addressed in care of the Washington Post Folk Festival Association, 1337-43 E Street Northwest, Washington, D. C.

or dancers from the communities found their way from one mountain cabin to another for the Saturday night square dance, where the people, cut off from the world, made their own recreation.

Now the people can come from one corner of our nation to the other to the National Folk Festival with almost as much ease as when they went only from one community to another in the old days. No longer do we have the isolation that kept our traditional expressions in their purest form or gave incentive to the creation of the folk song, music or dance. So if the surviving traditional expressions which have gone into the making of our nation are to be continued, a more conscious attitude toward them must be taken by the people themselves, as well as by educators and recreational leaders.

Today anthropologists, ethnologists, sociologists and other specialists are making intensive studies of the folkways of various peoples of the world in the hope of arriving at a better understanding not merely of specific groups but of the human race in general. No doubt students of the future will look back to our own time and find, in the folk expressions surviving now in the United States, a light upon our racial heritages, our social life and conditions. Perhaps they will find them characteristic of this age as other folk expressions were of preceding epochs. The chances are that the expressions growing up in our country today will be found in the records of tomorrow when the popular songs and fashionable dances of the moment, not connected with the folk life will have gone with the wind.

Early Traditions Must Be Pre- served

Collectors have
for a number of

A square dance and singing game group from Tennessee taking an enthusiastic part in the Fifth Annual Folk Festival held last year in Washington, D. C.

years been energetically recording the folk songs, music and dances, believing that with the passing of a few generations many of the early traditions will be gone. While it is important to preserve them in black and white as a future record of the early and later social life in America, that is not enough. Their importance in today's picture should be emphasized now. Recording them saves them from history but fails to pass on the vital spark which oral transmission gives. While many of these traditions are passing, since new conditions make new customs necessary, many with their roots in the remote past have a place in the present as the "living past" and should be projected into the future. Both the old expressions and the ones being made today have a place in our American social, cultural and recreational life.

Some of these expressions will be passed on from one generation to another whether anything is done about it or not; others need stimulation. If our leaders in education and recreation have sufficient vision, while this material is still a living force, there is no reason why there should not be a transition from the unconscious traditional art to a more conscious one, keeping the sincere honesty and simplicity of expressions that characterizes the folk. Much can be done to make the material live longer in its original form if the people who know it are encouraged to use it. For with the radio, picture shows and other new methods of recreation within easy reach of all, many of the forms that served an older, simpler America, will



pass unnoticed from the scene unless stimulation is given to those who carry in their hearts these fine traditions. A more abundant life will be given to those who do not have this heritage if information is disseminated and encouragement given so that these expressions will be more generally used.

Leadership Needed

Intelligent leadership is necessary if the use of the traditional in the future is to be really significant. Such leadership is often found among the groups themselves, in people who are steeped in the traditions. On the other hand, recreation leaders who do not have the heritage can do much by familiarizing themselves with the expressions which are likely to be right around them, and by going further into research in the various fields already pioneered by collectors whose works can be found in every library. Both the trained and untrained leader should include either genuine survivals or sincere revivals. To be able to distinguish between the real folk songs, music and dances, and the popular ones, is the first of several problems that confronts the leader.

To meet the need of teachers and leaders who want to make use of the folk songs, music and dances in their work, the English Department of Washington University, St. Louis, has put into its summer session a course on The American Folk Expressions, giving a general background of the expressions found in the various communities in the country, and practical suggestions as to their use in educational work. We find a great enthusiasm among those taking the course, as they are made more conscious of the color and vitality in our national folk life and feel new interest and possibilities in the expressions they had not seen in their own communities.

World-Wide Recognition of the Value of Folk Lore

People of every nation have, at one time or another, seen the value of folk songs, music and dances to national life. Often, however, they have failed to recognize their worth until it is too late. In the past few years many European nations have been interested in encouraging survival of folk songs, music and

"That which is a product of our racial life should not be blown away with the changing environment, but should remain to enrich the soil from which it sprang." — Howard Odum.

dances where they are dying out, or, if they have altogether passed from the scene, efforts to revive them have been started. Three years ago, eighteen European nations came to-

gether for the first International Folk Dance Festival in London. England has had for a number of years its English Folk Dance Societies; Russia and Germany have their folk-movements encouraging the revival of traditional folk songs, music and dances, as well as developing their own of today, giving to people a fine activity and form of expression that makes them happier; Ireland has its Folk Tale Association; Hungary, its National Festival; France its Folk-Museum. Bolivia and other nations have movements which are definitely tied into national life. Leaders in these nations recognize the cultural leisure time activity value in national and international folk movements, because they give better international understanding among nations and create more sympathy among varied racial groups living in one nation. Such associations give a basis for comparative study and meet a very real need in the social life of today.

America should profit by the experience of older nations. We should not let our folk heritages pass without recognition. We hope that the National Folk Festival is making a contribution in awakening interest in these treasures that lie just beneath the surface of our somewhat monotonous American life. We have our varied racial groups who live side by side with their distinctive folk cultures which have poured into our country from many lands. Unlike the European nations in the International Folk Dance Festival, we are bound together by common language and laws. Our Old World traditions transplanted here give richness to our folk life, while the newer expressions which have grown up from our own soil, expressing the conditions of life under which our people have lived here, add the vitality of a new nation whose folk songs, music and dances are still in the making.

If we as a nation, rich in Old World heritages and in the freshness of our New World creations, can fully appreciate the possibilities; if all cultural-recreational associations in the country will move forward

(Continued on page 680)

"With life changing to meet modern living conditions, a new attitude toward folk music and dances had to be developed if they were to survive. . . The folk songs, music and dances of old world origin give us a richness and cultural background. The newer ones add vitality and the color of a new country." — Sarah Gertrude Knott.

The Parks of Metropolitan Cleveland

Public approval of the conservation of natural beauty spots and far-sighted planning on the part of park officials have resulted in this outstanding development

Cuyahoga County Mr. Stinchcomb consented to act in the capacity of consulting engineer of the Metropolitan Park Board, the following statement was made:

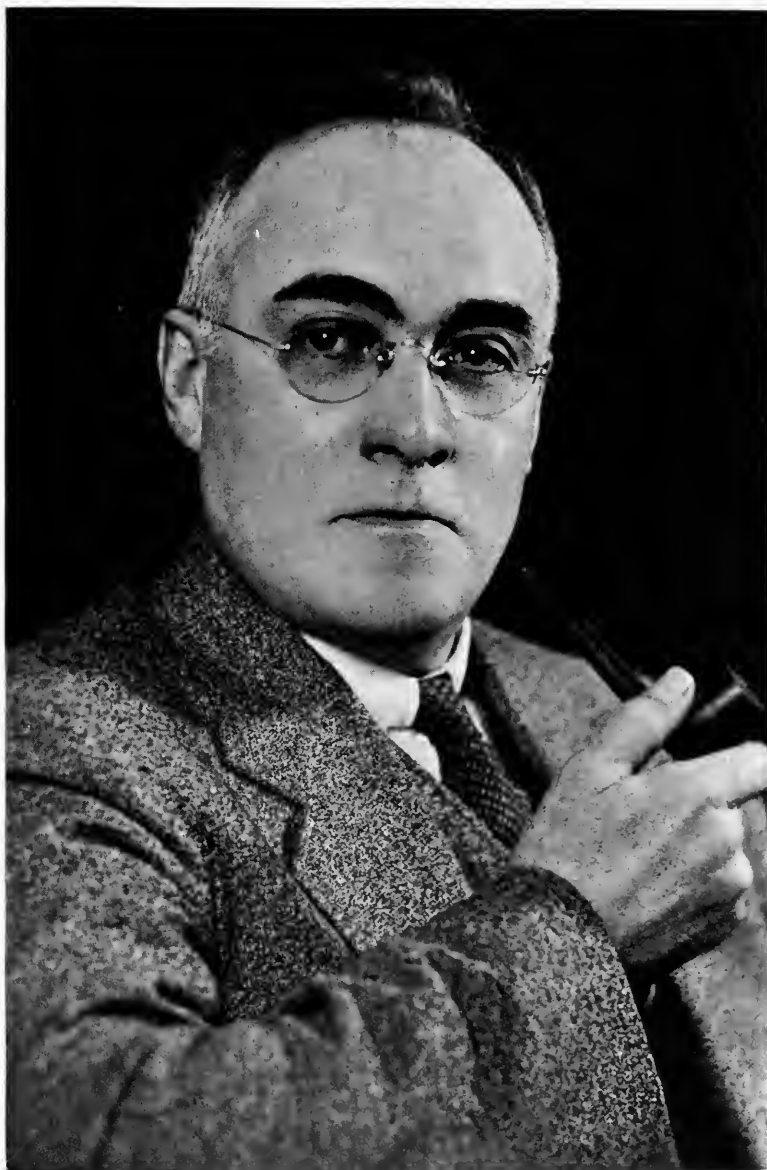
"Mr. Stinchcomb has made a life-long study of parks and park development in the district, and combines not only the practical knowledge, but the vision that is required for the work upon which the board is engaged.

WILLIAM A. STINCHCOMB

FOR THE PAST eighteen years William A. Stinchcomb has been superintendent of the Cleveland, Ohio, Metropolitan Park System, one of the outstanding examples of metropolitan park development in the country.

It was in 1901 that Mr. Stinchcomb first received public recognition for his abilities. At that time he was appointed assistant city engineer of Cleveland; five years later he became city park superintendent. In his report to the Mayor the next year he stressed the importance of securing reservations and properties outside the city limits, and he drew up a county park law which was passed by the legislature in 1909 permitting such purchases. No plan for financing was included, but it was provided that the County Commission might make an appropriation.

In 1912 Mr. Stinchcomb was elected county engineer, and \$40,000 was appropriated by the county for a survey and plan of a regional park. The Park Commission made him its consultant and planner, and specified that the money appropriated was to be expended under his direction. When as county surveyor of



Courtesy Parks and Recreation

"He is thoroughly familiar with the entire effort to establish these park areas from the time of the original agitation, several years before the board was created. He has been of immense help in the initial stages of the work, both in his professional capacity as engineer and in his ability to favorably interest the individual property owners to be affected."

In 1915 a suit was brought questioning the legality of the county park board and its appointment by the county courts, and the next year the law was changed to provide for a Metropolitan Park District and Park Board as now constituted.

Elected city engineer

Glimpses of natural beauty, undisturbed and "unimproved," are to be had in all the areas of the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District

four times, Mr. Stinchcomb was made Superintendent of the Cleveland Metropolitan Park System in 1921, a position in which he has served ever since.

Recreational and Cultural Opportunities

The Cleveland Metropolitan Park District is one of the finest examples of regional park areas, containing as it does 10,000 acres and some of the most beautiful scenery in the region. It offers outstanding recreational, educational, and cultural opportunities to the people coming to the parks.

Special emphasis is laid on nature education. Through

(Continued on page 681)



Planning a Community Recreation Building

By F. ELLWOOD ALLEN
National Recreation Association

CERTAIN ELEMENTS are important in determining the success of a community recreation building: 1. Proper location; 2. Functional design; 3. Intelligent leadership, and 4. Adequate maintenance.

The neglect of any one of these four factors may lower seriously the operating efficiency of the community recreation building. Each one deserves equal consideration and attention in the planning of the building. It is, however, the field of functional design which taxes the ingenuity and imagination of the planner. This is due to the fact that problems of leadership and operation are so closely related to the physical layout of the building.

Every part of a building—room, corridor, stairway, fixture—has a specific function to perform. The size, form and arrangement of these elements for the most economic and efficient use is functional design. It is an essential architectural problem, yet it must take into consideration the broad concept of recreation with all its related problems—leadership, programming, budgeting, maintenance. The principle of multiple use is an integral part of functional design. Multiple use is the adaptation of a facility to several purposes, made necessary because of the varying requirements of the activities to be carried on. For example, a room designed for club activities may be adapted for use as a dressing room for dramatic productions. A room may serve as a club room at one time, a craft room at another, and a game or music room on still another occasion. A gymnasium is sometimes combined with an auditorium. There are, however, certain specialized facilities, such as bowling alleys, swimming pools, rifle ranges, or billiard rooms, that cannot be adapted to other uses than the particular one for which they were designed.

In the detailed planning of the community recreation building it is desirable to employ an architect who has had wide experience in this specialized field. Regardless of his experience, however, the architect should in any case collaborate with a recreation specialist in the formula-

The purpose of this article is to point out some of the important principles and features involved in the planning of a community recreation building. It is assumed that before any attempt at actual planning is made, a careful study of local conditions will be conducted and the real need for a building established.

tion and preparation of the plans.

The Site

The community recreation building can be located on a site acquired for its exclusive use; on land adjacent to or a part of an existing play area; or on land acquired for the development of a new recreation center with indoor and outdoor facilities. In the latter case the building becomes the architectural feature and the center of administrative control of the area. It also serves the dual rôle of "field house" for outside activities as well as supplying facilities for a diversified indoor program.

Before the land is purchased the building should be carefully thought through and an estimate made of the approximate size and type of facilities to be provided. It is axiomatic that the building should be designed to fit the site, but it is equally essential that the site should be of sufficient size to meet all the requirements of the building. A site too small will prevent circulation of air, the proper architectural setting of the building, and will exclude valuable natural light. Accessibility is one important factor in selecting the site. Unless people can reach the building easily it will lose much of its value. It is generally conceded that the building should be located as near the center of the area to be served as possible. Other influencing factors are: trends in the growth of the neighborhood, main thoroughfares and traffic conditions, location of railroads, zoning, and the price of the land.

Planning the Building

The following are considered desirable features in a community recreation building:

- A gymnasium with locker, shower, and dressing room facilities
- An auditorium with stage
- Rooms for games, club activities, and arts and crafts
- Kitchen
- Lobby, lounge and office

Other service features: toilets, checking and heating facilities, fuel and storage rooms, janitor's supply room and storage.

The Gymnasium

In planning a gymnasium for a community recreation building it should be remembered that the activities will be of a different nature than those of the school gymnasium. The emphasis will be placed largely on group activities and games. These activities do not require elaborate apparatus such as vaulting bucks, parallel bars, traveling rings, pulley weights, and other gymnastic equipment. There may be some communities, however, where interest in gymnastics is so pronounced that some such apparatus will be necessary. The gymnasium should be designed for the type of activities for which it will be used, such as basketball, indoor baseball, paddle tennis, handball, badminton, volley ball, dancing, wrestling, boxing, and social games and activities. It should be of sufficient size to meet these various game requirements. A floor space of 50 x 90 feet, with a ceiling height of 20 feet, may be considered a desirable standard, although a smaller space may serve. A basketball court is usually considered the criterion for determining the minimum size of the gymnasium floor. A minimum distance of three feet free of all obstructions should be allowed outside of the boundary line. Minimum dimensions for a basketball court are 60 feet in length and 35 feet in width.

It is usually advisable, in connection with the various activities in the gymnasium, to provide some seating facilities for spectators in the form of portable bleachers. In estimating floor space requirements, nineteen to twenty inches should be added for each row of seats. There are a number of types of folding and collapsible bleachers designed especially for gymnasiums. The accordion, or telescopic, recessed type of bleachers are exceedingly popular because they are simple and quick to operate and take up little space. When not in use they fold back, forming a smooth wall around the gymnasium. It is always wise to install a type that can be set up with a minimum of labor. A balcony is sometimes introduced on one side of the gymnasium equipped with permanent seats on a sloping floor.

In a gymnasium, safety demands smooth walls, free from all projections. This means that radiators, piping, and ventilating apparatus should be recessed and screened. Impervious glazed brick or

tile is considered desirable for wall construction. Glass brick has many possibilities although it is still in the experimental stage. If the gymnasium is to be combined with an auditorium, soft brick should be used to absorb sound. Certain sections of the wall can be smooth for handball, tennis serves, and similar activities. Plaster should never be used on the wall of a gymnasium.

The floor of the gymnasium deserves careful consideration. It should be durable, resilient, easy to keep clean, and non-slippery. If the floor boards are narrow and laid parallel to the short axis of the room, the joints and grain of the wood help to prevent slipping. Hard maple, 1½ inches wide, tongued and grooved, laid on felt fastened to a sub-floor of hard pine which is laid diagonally, makes an excellent floor. The layer of felt increases resilience and reduces noise.

The maximum amount of sunlight and fresh air should be sought in the design of the gymnasium. This necessitates locating the gymnasium on or above the ground floor. Where the building is used in connection with an outdoor area, it is desirable to locate the gymnasium on the ground floor so that the adjacent locker and shower facilities will be easily accessible from outside. Windows of adequate size should be on at least two opposite sides for proper cross ventilation. Whenever possible, they should be brought down to the floor. Skylights on the roof have not proven satisfactory.

Sometimes folding doors are introduced to divide the gymnasium into separate areas. The doors are usually hung on tracks and operated either mechanically or manually. It must be remembered, however, that it is difficult to make folding doors soundproof and that they are also expensive to install.

Locker and dressing rooms, showers and toilets. Lockers, dressing rooms, showers and toilets should be provided for each sex, the size, type and equipment in proportion to the approximated average use. It is rarely advisable to plan for capacity use of the gymnasium, because of the high initial cost of installation, space requirements, and the problem of maintenance. Here again the situation differs from that in the school where lockers, showers, toilets, and dressing rooms must be capable of serving an entire class at one time. If these facilities are to be used in connection with activities outside the building, then a special problem in arrangement and equipment is presented.

Accessibility, circulation, ventilation, supervision and maintenance must be carefully considered in the planning process, as well as correlation with other facilities, involving problems of water supply, heating, and sewage disposal. Much emphasis should be laid on adequate light and ventilation. Whenever possible, locker and dressing rooms, showers and toilets should be located on or above the ground floor in order to take advantage of natural light and air. Where used in relation to an outdoor area as well, they should not be above the ground floor.

Non-absorbent, easily cleaned, non-rusting appointments should be specified. The use of wood for walls and floors should be avoided. Hard, smooth surfaces are most satisfactory because they are easy to keep clean.

The locker and dressing rooms, shower and toilet combination should constitute a unit.

FIGURE I

(Illustration of typical women's and girls' unit, showing arrangement of facilities.)

Figure I provides for a dressing room with individual booths, toilet facilities, and individually controlled showers with separate booths. The unit is adjacent to the gymnasium.

FIGURE II

(Illustration of typical men's and boys' unit, showing arrangement of facilities.)

In Figure II the private dressing and shower booths are eliminated. Benches are provided in the dressing room and each shower head in the open shower is individually operated.

FIGURE III

(Illustration of typical arrangement of two units.)

Figure III illustrates the typical arrangement of two units showing the relation of the various plumbing facilities for economy and maintenance. Note the passage between the two showers and toilet, housing the plumbing features and providing easy access for repairs.

The locker and dressing room. Walls and floor should be constructed of a material easy to clean. Glazed brick is an excellent wall material and should be carried to a height of at least six feet. Hard plaster and paint above the wainscoting and on the ceiling makes an excellent finish.

Dressing booths are usually provided in the women's unit. There are a number of metal products now obtainable for satisfactory partition purposes. Individual wall lockers in various combinations from full-length lockers to lockers in tiers are available and their respective merits should be carefully weighed before specifying. The floor should be of non-slip construction. Tile, terrazzo and cement have all been used satisfactorily.

Sometimes it is desirable to install a basket system of checking and here again there is a wide field for selection. Space requirements as well as initial cost and operating personnel often determine the type of system and facility. A drinking fountain or bubbler should be included in every locker room and dressing room. Artificial lighting should be so designed as to illuminate the entire room, and windows should be so placed that natural light may reach as much of the room as possible during some portion of the day.

Showers. The shower should be a separate but adjacent feature to the dressing and locker room. It is desirable to provide at the entrance of the shower a footbath filled with a fungicidal solution. In the women's and girls' units the showers are usually individual, although there is a growing feeling that the open shower is preferable. However, the type of shower will naturally be governed by local opinion and custom. Individual showers are expensive to install and they occupy greater space than the open shower. Tile or

FIGURE I
SINGLE UNIT- WOMEN

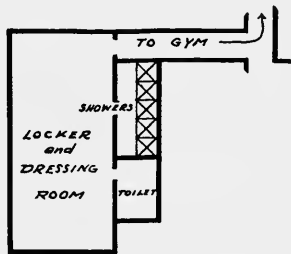


FIGURE II
SINGLE UNIT- MEN

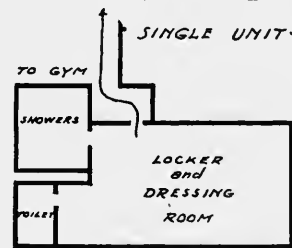
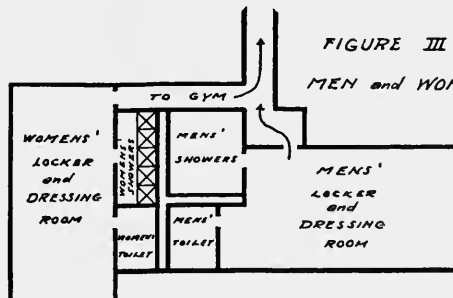


FIGURE III
MEN and WOMENS' UNIT



cement non-slip floors, and tile, terrazzo, or glazed brick walls are satisfactory for shower rooms. Basketweave tile prevents slipping. All materials should be non-absorbing.

No pipes should be exposed in the shower rooms, and no pipes should go through the floor. Adequate drainage is an important factor and must be provided. The recessed type of shower head should be placed three feet apart in the open shower and should be shoulder high. The overhead type of shower is not desirable either for women or men. There should be individual hot and cold mixing valves at each shower, but a master thermostatic mixer is desirable in order to prevent scalding. There should be adequate space provided for drying. This does not necessarily mean a specific drying room. Showers in field houses are sometimes operated under gang control, but this does not seem practicable in the community recreation building, unless it is used for a field house as well.

Toilets. A room equipped with toilet and lavatory facilities should be provided in each unit. These do not in any way substitute for the general toilet facilities of the building, and for this reason they may be reduced to a minimum in size and number of fixtures. Wall and floor materials are similar to those used in the construction of dressing and locker rooms, and they should be non-absorbing and easy to keep clean. Ventilation is an especially important feature and must be adequate. It should be understood that toilet facilities in connection with the locker rooms should be restricted to persons using locker, shower and dressing room facilities.

When funds are limited it is sometimes necessary to combine a gymnasium with an auditorium. This is not an ideal arrangement from many standpoints. The interests of different groups sometimes clash, causing conflicts in programs. The activities in the gymnasium must be suspended during dress rehearsals and dramatic productions. Constant changes necessary in adapting the unit to different uses increase operating expense. The physical requirements of the gymnasium and the auditorium in regard to floors, walls, acoustics and heat, vary widely. For example, the gymnasium floor should be non-slip, while the auditorium floor, if used for dancing, should be slippery. Certain commercial products are available to make the auditorium floor temporarily slippery, if the floor is non-slip and used as a gymnasium. This, however, also adds to the operating cost. In

an auditorium, the stage should be seen from the seating on the floor; in the gymnasium, the floor should be seen from the seating on the stage. This makes it difficult to incorporate a stage in a gymnasium-auditorium, because a stage running the length of the gymnasium is not desirable for dramatic productions, but it provides the best opportunity for watching activities on the gymnasium floor. Nevertheless, many communities cannot afford to construct and to operate a building with separate gymnasium-auditorium units and the combination of the two is the only solution to their problem.

An Auditorium with Stage. In order to provide facilities for dramatics, music, social dance activities, moving pictures, forums, lectures, and various other types of entertainment, an auditorium with stage is necessary. When the auditorium is used for a variety of activities, a level floor will be necessary. The sloping floor is applicable only to an auditorium where permanent seating is required. This is seldom the case in community recreation buildings. The size of the auditorium will depend largely upon the required seating capacity. In determining seating capacity, six square feet per seat, exclusive of stage, can be used for rough estimate. For example, a room 30 x 60 feet will comfortably seat approximately 300 people.

The auditorium should provide a stage, dressing room facilities, and storage space for chairs, tables and stage properties. In addition there may be special facilities such as a moving picture booth and a balcony.

The Stage. This should be permanent and elevated. The elevation of the stage will depend on the length of the room, but three feet is considered a minimum. Whenever possible, the front wall of the stage should extend across the entire width of the room. The most important feature, and certainly the one most neglected in the stage design, is sufficient depth. Depth is necessary to provide ample space for communication and circulation between wings. It also assists backstage operations, when space is at a premium. A depth of less than eighteen feet presents a severe handicap in the production of dramatics.

The proscenium opening is also important. Too large a proscenium can often be corrected by curtain control or by the introduction of a special tormentor. For a room 40 feet wide a proscenium width of 28 feet, with a six foot wing space on each side of the stage would be satisfactory. The

height of the proscenium is proportionate to the width and is often regulated by the overall height of the room. Whenever possible, at least three feet should be left between the top of the proscenium arch and the ceiling. This affords an opportunity to hang and conceal drops and light borders. Light plugs should be placed at strategic points on the stage. The switchboard should be located where the operator can easily observe the action on the stage. It is usually placed against the inner stage proscenium wall, on the right.

When not in use for dramatic productions, the stage can be adapted for many purposes. When the curtain is drawn, the stage becomes a room apart from the auditorium and adaptable to many types of activities. The stage is often used as a game or club room, and where size permits, active games such as shuffleboard can be introduced. This multiple use of the stage should be given careful consideration in the early stages of the design.

The need for a permanent stage has been emphasized. However, experiments in semi-portable stage construction are now in progress. One type suggested consists of the front portion of the stage constructed in a series of uniform sections securely locked together and adaptable to other uses. These sections may be of various dimensions, as, for example, 3 feet wide x 8 feet long, as is illustrated in Figure IV. The sections can be placed end to end on the auditorium floor to form a three foot walk for special types of entertainment, such as fashion shows and various contests. This is shown in Figure V. Figure VI

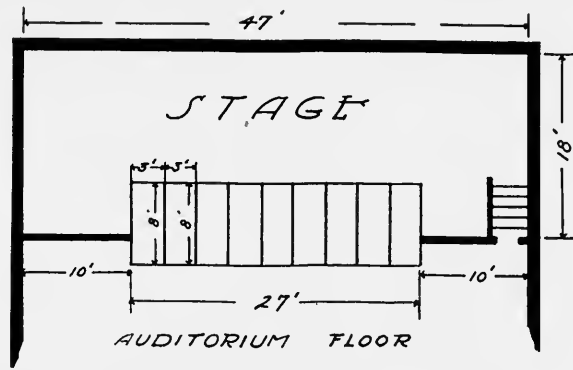


FIGURE IV

connection with special stage productions they can serve as bases for tableaux. This type of construction has many possibilities, but it must be remembered that two factors are necessary for its success—perfect uniformity and rigidity of construction and a device for locking them together securely.

The auditorium in a community recreation building is not in any sense a theater, except in rare cases where an unusual interest in community dramatics exists. For this reason extensive facilities such as fly galleries, elaborate scenery sets, intricate switchboard and lighting facilities need not be considered. Such equipment increases the initial cost and leaves little for the imagination and resourcefulness of those engaged in this form of activity.

Dressing room facilities will be required in any program which includes dramatic productions. These facilities consist of two or more rooms equipped with make-up tables, mirrors, closet space, washbowl, and adequate lighting. The dressing rooms should be adjacent to and connecting with the stage whenever possible. It is also desirable that they be readily accessible to toilet facilities. Because of limited space the rooms will of necessity be small and compact. Sometimes, where space does not permit the provision of special dress-

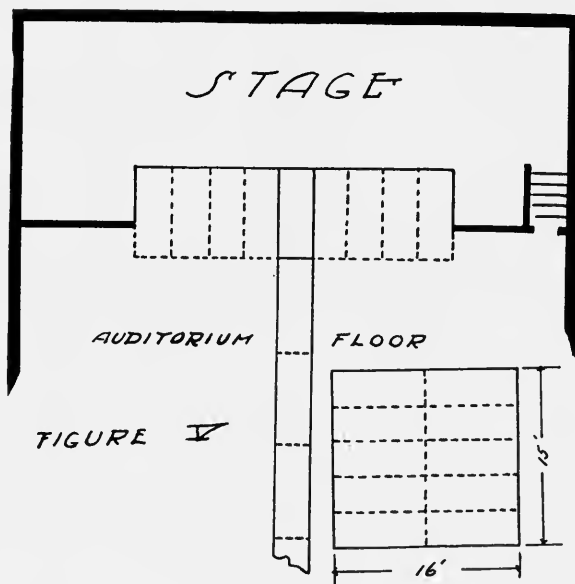


FIGURE V

FIGURE VI

ing rooms, improvised temporary facilities can be set up in the wings or in the rear of the stage.

The provision of dressing rooms offers an excellent opportunity for putting into practice the principle of multiple use. Any room which is accessible from backstage can be adapted for this purpose. There is no reason why a club, game or activity room or even a kitchen cannot serve as a dressing room during the dramatic production. There are many examples of ingenuity in adapting rooms. For illustration, a cafeteria beneath the auditorium of a high school is used as a dressing room for all school dramatic productions. It has at times served a cast as large as one hundred people. Local dramatic enthusiasts may insist on specialized dressing rooms, but for wide community interests to be served such a room often becomes an expensive luxury.

Storage space for chairs, tables and stage properties must be provided. The space beneath the stage is often used for this purpose. While this provides a certain amount of space, it often causes much inconvenience and expense as it is difficult to utilize the space in the extreme rear of the understage area. This can be accomplished, however, by the introduction of low trucks or dollies on casters or wheels, upon which chairs can be piled. They can be pulled from under the stage into the auditorium, loaded, and then pushed back, thus using the entire space. Sometimes these trucks are placed on tracks under the stage so that there is no swerving to right or left. In this way the maximum storage peak is reached. Trap doors are sometimes placed in the floor of the auditorium for the purpose of dropping chairs and tables to a specially designed storage space in the basement. If such an arrangement is used, great care should be taken in fitting the door to the floor and providing a secure locking device. It is sometimes necessary to design a room adjacent to the auditorium for the special purpose of storage. In planning the auditorium a careful study of chair and table storage requirements should be made so that adequate provision can be provided. Special care should be given in the selection of chairs and tables which can be folded to occupy as little space as possible. The size and shape should be considered before designing the storage space in order to make the most use of the area.

Special features. Many auditoriums are equipped with such special features as a motion picture booth. This is an expensive item in construction and should be carefully investigated in advance.

It is now possible to offer excellent moving pictures with sound from a 16 mm. projection machine, as there is a wide variety of material available and the subject matter is being constantly enlarged in the fields of education, drama and comedy. Compared with expense of installing a moving picture booth, the 16 mm. projector which requires no booth deserves careful consideration. Another factor to be considered is the cost of renting the films, for here is another point in favor of the 16 mm. projector. An elaborately equipped moving picture booth and projector at one of the larger community recreation buildings in the west has been discontinued in favor of a 16 mm. machine.

Another special feature is the construction of a balcony in connection with the auditorium for additional seating. As most balconies are designed for a specific use, they are usually constructed with sloping floor. This gives an opportunity for the installation of permanent seats. The balcony is an especially important feature in a combined gymnasium-auditorium as it supplies seating facilities for spectators without taking up valuable floor space.

Rooms for Games and Club Activities

Every community recreation building, large or small, will require two or more rooms for arts and handcraft work, club and social activities and for a wide variety of quiet games. It is sometimes advantageous to include a library and a quiet place for reading and study, and also rooms for special purposes, such as a photographic dark room, a room for the installation of metal and woodworking machinery, and for other types of specialized activity.

Most rooms can serve many purposes, and the possible uses to which a room may be put should be carefully considered in the preliminary stages of the design. For example, a room used both as a craft room and as a room for club meetings and games will require ample cupboard and storage space for craft materials and tools as well as unfinished articles. It is always an excellent plan to include a built-in exhibition case, and provision should be made either in or adjacent to the room for the storage of work tables and chairs. The installation of a sink with both hot and cold water is also recommended.

Careful consideration should be given to the orientation of the rooms. Those devoted to arts and crafts should be favored with north light,

while club and game rooms can be located on almost any exposure. Natural light should be provided whenever possible, but if natural light cannot be supplied then ample artificial light should be provided.

The metal and woodworking craft room is usually placed in the basement because of the vibration from the machinery. The size and arrangement of benches, space for supplies and portable equipment, location of the lighting figures—all must be given careful consideration in all rooms for specialized use.

It is often desirable to place light switches to all main rooms in the director's office. Where switches are placed indiscriminately throughout the building there is always a temptation to turn lights on and off, or to turn lights on when it is not necessary. By locating the main switches in the director's office, the director has a further check on the occupancy of the rooms.

The interior decoration and appointments of the rooms have a direct psychological value, not only because they produce an environment pleasing to the eye but also because they may reduce the tendency to mutilate and destroy. The introduction of a fireplace in a library or a club room not only adds an architectural feature of beauty but provides the necessary background for fireside activities. The storytelling hour is far more impressive when held before the open fireplace. Great care should be taken to select color schemes that are quieting and non-irritating. Materials should be selected which will stand the wear and tear of use and reduce maintenance. The floor of the rooms will depend entirely upon the type of use to which the room is to be put. Hardwood floors well joined, cement, or cement overlaid with linoleum are all durable and easy to keep clean. Built-in chalk blackboards have many advantages and they also provide a special activity in themselves. They need not necessarily be black as these facilities are now available in green, brown, grey-blue, and even maroon, and a color scheme may be selected to harmonize with the interior of the room.

The Kitchen

A community recreation building should be equipped with facilities for the serving of light refreshments and

in many cases for the preparation of complete dinners. Such facilities vary from a small kitchenette to a completely equipped kitchen. The kitchen should be readily accessible to the auditorium, gymnasium or other room where meals and refreshments are to be served. The problem of serving meals can be quickly and easily solved by providing two doors between the kitchen and the room where the meal is to be served, by having space for serving tables in that room, and by an economic and efficient arrangement of cooking facilities. The walls of the kitchen should be of sanitary finish, non-absorbent and easily cleaned. Mechanical ventilation is important to carry off all cooking odors and excess heat. In planning the location of equipment attention should be given to gas, water, electricity, and sewage connections. It is sometimes desirable to supply refrigeration for milk, cream, butter and other perishables used in the preparation of a meal. The sink should be arranged in such a way as to provide maximum efficiency and ease in use.

In the larger community recreation buildings both a kitchen and kitchenette can be included. The kitchenette can be used for small groups with minimum equipment and the kitchen will serve larger groups. It is sometimes desirable to introduce a special serving pantry in connection with the kitchen. This pantry will also store the glass, china, and silverware, and should be equipped with lock and key. Special emphasis should be placed on noise reduction and elimination.

Lobby, Lounge and Office

The first impressions of the building are gained through the principal entrance. A lobby is an important feature of the entrance and great care should be taken to design a lobby which will radiate the spirit of welcome. It often becomes the gathering place before meetings or during inter-

missions, and for this reason it should be supplied with comfortable chairs and appointments. Sometimes a portion of the lobby is treated as a lounge, harmoniously furnished, where an atmosphere of hospitality prevails. The lounge is in reality the "community parlor," and it can be used for informal gatherings as well as by the general public at all hours of

"There is no standard pattern for a community recreation building. Each building should be designed to meet the needs of the people it is to serve. An elaborately constructed and luxuriously equipped building does not necessarily mean a satisfactory structure from a functional point of view. A community recreation building, like any other project in design, should combine beauty and utility. Simplicity is a fundamental principle of functional design, and often the simplest structure may be the most beautiful."

the day. Here one can meet friends and find pleasant companionship. The provision of newspapers and periodicals offers an opportunity for those who wish to while away a leisure hour. The lobby may contain some of the service features of the building, such as the check room, public telephone booth, bulletin board, and drinking fountain. Attention should be given to the interior decoration of the lobby, and a homey atmosphere created by the selection of attractive rugs, furniture, pictures and window drapes.

The office is usually adjacent to, or a part of, the lobby. Every recreation building should have a central point of control. This control point is usually the office of the director, which should be so located that those entering and leaving the building can be easily observed. This obviously means that there should be but one main entrance to the building. Secondary entrances and exits will be necessary and will be regulated by the local building code and by the requirements of the building. In the case of the auditorium or gymnasium separate entrances are often desirable so that the unit can be completely shut off from the rest of the building. The importance of central control cannot be overemphasized. It is necessary for the leader or director to know at all times who is in the building.

It is sometimes desirable to provide an outer and an inner office, the former for the attendant or office secretary, and the latter as a private office for the director. The outer office is the information center of the building. The stranger on entering makes his first contact there and for this reason it should be convenient to the main entrance. It should also be accessible for the issuing of permits, tickets for various events, and for arranging for special uses of facilities.

Other Service Features

Other service features usually consist of toilets, checking and heating facilities, fuel and storage rooms, janitor's supply room and storage. The type and extent of these features depend upon the size, design and use of the building. As far as possible, public toilet facilities should be centrally located and easily accessible from any part of the build-

"Few communities can afford to build as large a building as they want. The perfect building usually costs too much. In estimating the money required for a new building, future needs should always be considered, for there is little economy in cutting down the cost of the original unit to the extent that new, expensive additions must be made within a year or two. Inferior quality building materials are not economical, for replacements and repair may also be costly." — From *Community Buildings for Farm Families*.

ing. If the building consists of more than one floor, they should be incorporated on each floor.

Heating is a subject requiring special technical knowledge. It must be remembered that it is sometimes more economical from the standpoint of operation and maintenance to install a dual heating system rather than to attempt to heat the entire building from a central point. Adequate hot water for showers and taps will require special heating apparatus.

Checking facilities should be provided either in the form of a special check room or by the adaptation of an existing service or activities room for checking purposes. The check room is usually located near the main entrance of the building and convenient to the auditorium. Where the auditorium and gymnasium are separate units and can be completely isolated for use, it may be necessary to provide additional checking facilities.

General storage rooms will be necessary in different parts of the building, and a special supply room and storage space for the janitor should be located conveniently for his work. On each floor of the building a small closet should be installed with slop sink and space for storing brooms, mops and other implements for the janitor's use in cleaning.

Drinking fountains should be distributed at strategic points throughout the building. Occasionally a special ticket booth is provided for use at activities in the building for which a charge is made, such as dramatic productions. Also, if funds permit, it is sometimes well to install a fire alarm system with "break glass" stations distributed throughout the building.

Specialized recreation features. It is sometimes desirable to include in the community recreation building special features such as bowling alleys, swimming pool, billiard room, a rifle range. Often there is a community demand for such facilities and they fill a very definite need. Sometimes a small charge can be made for the use of these facilities to help defray their operating expense. However, the cost of operation is rarely met by this means, and such facilities should not in any sense be considered revenue-producers. It

must be remembered that all of these specialized features are expensive to install, operate and maintain. They should be considered only after a careful study has been made as to the benefits derived from them and the ability of the community to finance and maintain them.

There are many technical problems involved in the construction of a swimming pool not only in the design of the pool itself but also in the installation of such pool equipment as filters, chlorinators, and the pumps necessary for recirculation. The swimming pool is a valuable accessory to the community building, but if not carefully planned it may become a serious liability. The same consideration must be given to the bowling alleys and the other specialized facilities. These too require special technical assistance in planning details.

General Considerations

Good design should demonstrate its function. Too often the emphasis has been placed upon the exterior appearance of the building with little regard to functional use. It is therefore important to consider carefully the floor plans of the community building before elaborating on the exterior walls which enclose them. A building should be designed from within, not from without.

There is a distinct relation between the design of the building and financial resources, supervision, operation, and maintenance. The financial resources—that is, the money available for the construction of the building—determine to a large extent its size, the type of construction, and the physical equipment. The designer is interested in getting the most out of every dollar. The type of facility and the kind of materials used in the construction must be selected and planned to come within the limits of the financial resources available. It is here that the planner will invoke the principle of multiple use in order to serve a wider community need. The old saying that it is not the initial contract but the extras that break the camel's back may be as true of community recreation buildings as it is in the construction of private homes.

Anticipating all possible emergencies by studying past mistakes due to the lack of functional design will eliminate a great deal of unnecessary expense. This is one of the reasons for a close cooperation between the architect and the recreation specialist. A discriminating selection of build-

ing materials, interior fixtures, and special equipment should be made before plans are completed.

The building can be planned to simplify the problem of supervision. The arrangement of rooms and facilities should be such as to require the smallest possible staff. Reference has been made in this bulletin to the importance of control. Often it is possible, in small buildings where the operating budget seriously limits the size of the staff, to incorporate partial glass partitions between rooms. This makes it easy for the leader to know what is happening in various parts of the building without making a tour of inspection. Excess corridor space, poor circulation, and scattered facilities are factors in design which increase problems of supervision. There should be direct access to all rooms so that activities will not be interrupted by people passing to and fro. A clear understanding of the type of program and the variety of activities to be carried on will greatly assist the architect in designing a building that will reduce supervision to a minimum.

The operating budget of the building should be approximated before the plans are completed. This budget should take into consideration leadership, the cost of heating, lighting, water, insurance, supplies, repairs, maintenance, depreciation, and other miscellaneous items. A careful study should be made of the minimum income that may be expected from various activities, if such a program is to be contemplated, such as the renting of gymnasium and auditorium, membership fees, and fees from other activities.

The ability of a community to support the building after it is constructed should be carefully weighed. Too often funds have been set aside for the construction of a community recreation building that is far beyond the resources of the community to operate and maintain.

The maintenance of the building should also be carefully considered. Only materials that are durable and free from yearly repair should be used. A building improperly maintained is a liability to the community. All waste space should be eliminated. Floors, ceilings, walls, plumbing and lighting fixtures, and other accessories should be selected with an eye to maintenance as well as to practicality of use and appearance.

NOTE: It may be of interest to readers of RECREATION to know that reprints of this article on the construction of community recreation buildings may be secured from the National Recreation Association at twenty cents each.

What They Say About Recreation

PLAY IS EXPERIENCE with satisfactions. This experience may be an anticipation, a realization, or a memory of satisfactions. Ordinarily play is a sociable experience in which voluntary motor activity (physical exercise) is prominent. But play may be passive. It may be solitary. Fantasy, day dreams, and air castles are different names for unsociable passive play. One may secure his play, in part, watching the active play of others. Absorbing work, mental or physical, is play."—*Thomas A. Storey, Pd.D., M.D., in Principles of Hygiene.*

"I like to think of hobbies primarily as builders of companionship. Collect something, and instantly you have thousands of friends in every part of the world who share with you a common interest."—*Francis Hatch in Leisure.*

"As case workers we recognize that the differences of people are assets, that it is upon these that we build societies. . . . Difference is a precious thing to the individual and its recognition is one of the contributions that we as case workers have to make to the understanding of human relationships. It implies fundamentally that we accept the gifts that each one brings to the common wealth and refrain from any attempt to mold everyone after a single image, no matter how fine that image may be."—*Margaret E. Rich in The Family, January, 1939.*

"When words and signs and exclamations fail to show forth the depth and strength of our emotions, we break out at last, and all at once into music, poetry and dancing."—*Confucius.*

"I say I'm going out to play a game of tennis, but what I really mean is—I'm going out to have a wonderful time under the sun, under the sky. I'm going to rush around feeling the motion of the air and the movement of my body through space. I'm going to forget everything except the game. For a while to me the world does not exist. I won't know how old I am; I may be a child again, or I may be grown up, but I don't know. I shall lose myself in the fun of the game, in the competition which seems very real at the moment

but which is not important. I am going to play!"
—*Helen Wills Moody at the Herald Tribune Forum.*

"The person who plans, organizes, and administers leisure programs for the future should be something more than an athlete; he should be, in fact, a fit representative of the best in our cultural life. Since it will be a part of his task to restore to human dignity the losses incurred through our present use of the machine, he should be a personality of dignified proportions, that is, an educator of the first caliber."—*Eduard C. Lindeman.*

"If persons can find no sense of worth and dignity in doing work of a routine character, no chance to utilize their abilities, skills, and creative capacities, from what source may they develop that sense of self-respect without which life is barren and empty? It is a great tragedy in the modern world that individuals must get their meanings in life, if at all, outside of their work. And the only other source from which a sense of worth may be engendered, the only other channel for creative expression, is that of avocational and leisure time experiences."—*Hedley S. Dimock in Religious Education, October-December, 1938.*

"We are on the threshold of an entirely new approach to the problem of juvenile delinquency. . . . The content of the new chapter will be largely determined by the presence or absence of the things which go to enrich life and promote individual security."—*Dr. Milton E. Kirkpatrick.*

"It costs a community no more to train a good citizen than to train a 'good' gangster. At the end of his training the gangster is a heavy charge on the community. It costs society \$300 a year to maintain an adult prisoner in an institution; \$400 for a juvenile delinquent. The good citizen at the end of his training begins to support the community and contributes to its resources. The cost of keeping a youth in school averages \$100 a year."—*From Youth—How Can Communities Help?*

A Mad March

When Alice's Adventures are made the subject of a very merry party!



Hare Party

By

DOROTHY C. LEIFFER

SINCE OUR social affair for the student body was to be held in the middle of March, we decided that it should be a Mad March Hare party, with *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* for its inspiration. Our committee and enthusiasm were large but our financial resources were comparatively small, so we knew that the success of the party must depend on our ideas and ingenuity. We anticipated an attendance of around 120 adult young people.

Preliminary Arrangements

Our first assignment was to become familiar once more with "Alice," for decorations, costumes and games were to be dictated by her. The rooms available for our use were the library reading room, two large classrooms, and the "commons" for the serving of refreshments. The entrance to the library was contracted to a small "hole" by the use of curtains of wrapping paper. A large sign reading "Rabbit, His Hole" (the paper antiqued with candle smoke) was in evidence nearby. The two classrooms were labeled "The Duchess's House" and "The Courtyard" respectively. Inside the library, which was the preliminary meeting room for the entire group, a few decorative pieces symbolized the theme of the party: a dozen large crayon sketches of various characters in *Alice*, copied from the Tenniel originals; a toadstool created out of an open umbrella tied on to a hat rack and clothed in taupe colored crepe paper; perched on this, a rubber balloon caterpillar, lifting an inquisitive head; two or three large cardboard bottles, labelled "drink me," and other appropriate sketches.

It was decided that the guests should be classified in three groups as they arrived. A label

To a class in recreational leadership which she taught last winter at Garrett Biblical Institute, Mrs. Leiffer assigned as a project the planning of a party for the student body of the school. The party which was evolved was voted the most enjoyable the school had had for years. We suggest that you try it!

was provided for each guest—a six-inch paper plate — on which his name was to be printed in large black letters.

A ribbon loop fastened to each plate served to attach it to lapel or dress, and pasted in the center of each plate was a small colored hat, rabbit, or heart, which placed the guest in his proper classification. In order that each group might be automatically divided into two teams, half the paper cut-out motifs of each pattern were green and half red.

The members of the committee were given definite assignments of responsibility. First, there were the leaders of games which were to be played in the library and the two classrooms, or, as they were now called, the rabbit's hole, the duchess's house and the courtyard. A young man and woman were chosen to be in charge of each room and to conduct the games for each of the three groups of guests in succession.

Alice and the White Rabbit held sway over the rabbit's hole, the Duchess and the Cheshire Cat in the Duchess's house, and the King and Queen of Hearts in the courtyard. Each of these leaders wore some costume elements which were suggestive of the part he played: the King and Queen wore pasteboard crowns, carried scepters, and had attached large paper hearts to their clothing; the Duchess was resplendent in a lamp shade head-dress and a silk shawl, while the Cheshire Cat sported large furry ear muffs and an extended grin. The White Rabbit had long pasteboard ears and white shirt and duck trousers, and Alice was a charming creature with long hair and a little girl dress. Other leaders-at-large were in costume. The Mad Hatter secured a twenty-five cent cardboard opera hat and a black

silk lounging robe; the Dormouse had small furry ear muffs and a tiny rubber mouse pinned to his lapel, while the waiters who passed refreshments had two-foot "playing cards" over their shoulders, fore and aft.

The Program

The affair was scheduled to start at eight o'clock. The first fifteen minutes were spent in labelling guests. Three committee members sat at tables outside the rabbit's hole, equipped with broad nibbed pens, india ink, and paper plate labels—and some time was spent in admiring the decorations. At 8:15 the Mad Hatter, assisted by the White Rabbit, led the group in a grand march. In accordance with directions guests marched on toes to represent Alice when tall; they bent over and represented Alice after she had drunk from the magic bottle; they jumped along in imitation of the rabbit; they waddled from side to side, as did the Duchess; they undulated up and down in honor of the caterpillar. Promptly at 8:25 (there was a timekeeper whose function it was to see that all groups moved at exactly the right time) the group was divided into its three classifications. The "Hats" went to the Duchess's house; the "Hearts" to the courtyard, and the "Rabbits" stayed in the rabbit's hole. Three twenty-minute periods were spent in playing games in the three rooms, the groups rotating until all had played all the games.

Croquet in the Rabbit's Hole. In the rabbit's hole was staged the Queen's croquet game under the leadership of Alice and the White Rabbit. The equipment was simple, consisting of two boxes and two balls. Ten persons were selected from each team to form the nine wickets. Two players from opposite teams stood with joined hands raised to form the arch and two stakes of the conventional croquet court. The rest of the players from each team lined up behind their respective "stakes." At the starting signal, the first player in each line seized the ball which reposed in the box at his stake's feet and ran through the wickets in the direction taken by a ball in a croquet game. After returning to his own end, he dropped the ball in the box once more and the second runner started. In the meantime runners were also operating from the opposite end. But woe to the runners if they touched each other in passing! If they did, they had to stop and take the places of the persons forming the nearest wicket, who then continued the race. The team whose mem-

bers completed the course first won, of course. If there was time in the twenty minute period, the game was repeated, the wicket members being given a chance to run.

Quiet Games in the Duchess's House. In the Duchess's house, presided over by the Duchess and the Cheshire Cat, quiet games were going on. The first half of each twenty-minute period was occupied with a "Mad Spelling Match." Guests ranged themselves in two teams on opposite sides of the room and engaged in a regular old-fashioned spell-down—regular, that is, except for the fact that in the spelling every vowel was to be replaced by a whistle. The words were selected from Alice and were reminiscent of her adventures. During the second ten minutes, the Duchess served up her pie. Thirty names of characters appearing in *Alice* had been chosen—such as dormouse, cheshire cat, mock turtle, gryphon, caterpillar—and thoroughly pied. Slips containing the pied names were passed out and guests competed in deciphering them.

Courtyard Activities. In the courtyard the King and Queen were giving guests a lively time. Here again the twenty-minute period was divided between two games. First came "the Muddy March Relay" in which the guests lined up in two teams, relay fashion. The leader of each line was given two bushel baskets. He started with both feet in one of these baskets, placing the other one a long step ahead of him. He then stepped into the second basket and again moved the first one ahead. Thus he progressed to the goal and back, and the next person in line followed suit. It might be added that reserve baskets were provided ahead of time, as large masculine feet were known to split out the sides of their "boats." The latter half of the period was spent in playing "Storks." One team formed a large circle. Inside the circle were the members of the other team, each standing on one leg. A large rubber ball was provided for the first team, whose members took turns in rolling it, attempting to hit one of the "storks" (below the knee) or to force him to put down the other foot. The storks were permitted to hop around, but if hit were required to leave the game.

With twenty-minute periods in each room, and each group occupying five minutes for movement from one room to the next, an hour and a quarter was consumed in games after 8:30. Promptly at 9:45, then, the entire company assembled in the

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Skiing Comes to Essex County

By L. C. WILSEY
 Supervisor of Recreation
 Essex County Park Commission

WHETHER or not "skiing" is an English or a Norwegian word and no matter whether it's pronounced *Sheeing* or with the hard sound of the letter K, it is all the same to spectators and to many of the participants, particularly novices.

Five years ago the sport was considered something for persons of wealth, and one at which the individual must be an expert; but with the railroads and purveyors of sports equipment popularizing it as a form of active recreation, even those of us in the sections where snow has been relatively scarce found it necessary to take stock of physical facilities.

After looking over our facilities in Essex County, New Jersey, in the company of experts whose skiing had all been done in this country, we were convinced that the county, in its parks and reservations, held the answer to the question: "Where shall we go for winter sports?" We could not claim scenery which would rival that of the Alps but we were fortunate in meeting Mr. Sveinung Paulsen who was born in Telemark, George von Lillienfeld, an exchange student at Harvard, who taught skiing as a hobby while at the University of Munich and at Innsbruck, Arthur Sedelmeier, who spent his first twenty winters on skis in the Black Forest, and Madame Helen Zechmeister, an Austrian ski instructress who stopped off here for a few weeks on her way to Chicago. These four confirmed the reports of our local experts, and assured us that South Mountain and Eagle Rock reservations offered practically everything that experts in both downhill and cross-country could ask, for there are bet-

ter than 30 per cent grades with natural slalom courses on our bridle trails, to say nothing of open slopes in the reservation and

on the golf courses for the accommodation of beginners, novices and expert skiers.

When we decided to conduct the first cross-country race in the county—certainly the first one to be open to the public—we were convinced of two things: (1) The courses through the reservation were much too difficult for any except experienced skiers; (2) Our open slopes in the reservation were not accessible from the trails. In the end we finally chose Brookdale Park which had two open slopes with plenty of room for spectators, judges, and timers.

Since we desired to accommodate in one race Juniors (boys and girls under 13), Intermediates (boys and girls 13 to 18 inclusive), and Seniors (19 and over), careful planning and scheduling was necessary. Clearly identified trails with yellow markers for Juniors, green for Intermediates, and red for Seniors, with enough inspectors to make sure that none took the wrong turns, were essential since parts of the courses were used by all three classes, timing had to be perfect, because the stop watches were permitted to run from the time the gun was fired until the last contestant crossed the finish line.

After receiving their numbers and giving their names and addresses to the clerks, the contestants lined up in pairs before the starter. The Maintenance Department had cooperated in the breaking of parallel trails by having a tractor drag a stone boat over the course, so that it was possible

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Golf for the Common Man

By E. F. VOLTMER, Ph.D.
University of Iowa

AT THE PRESENT time the game of golf, one of our most enjoyable recreative sports, is beyond the reach of many who would like to play. It is beyond the reach of some because of the cost involved, of others because of the time required to play, and of still others because of the initial discouragements that make them desert the fairways before they learn the game well enough to enjoy it.

Providing a Training Ground

Certain communities need a modified type of golf course to provide for those who are learning and for those who play only occasionally. This is not a substitute for our present courses but a training ground for golfers. In one sport, softball, a substitute for the game of baseball has been offered. This game fits the needs of the less active and less adept performers and costs less money for equipment. Different bats, balls, size of playing areas and cheaper equipment for the various positions have been introduced until the game is a real competitor of baseball in many communities.

To provide for the less adept at golf, I propose only a change in the type of course. (The balls, clubs, bags and wearing apparel are to remain as they are.) This should make the modified game a preparation for, and an aid to, the game of golf. Two significant alterations might well be made for the eventual good of the game.

First, the cup should be increased in size to ten inches in diameter. Then there will be joy where there has been sorrow, and smiles where profanity has held sway! It is on the greens that amateur golfers suffer. With a larger cup some of the over-emphasis that the novice must place on putting will be eliminated. The larger cup will also help in the matter of reducing the cost. The greens will not need to be as smooth as they are now supposed to be. A slightly improved section of the fairway may suffice. Since it will cost less to provide an adequate putting area the duffer will be able to play for a smaller fee. Then too, less time will need to be spent on

the greens and play can move along more rapidly.

In the second place, there will be practically no traps, rough, bunkers and the like. Those expensive handicaps are well enough for the experienced golfer. He gets enough out of the game to make it worth what the additional sporty elements cost. The newcomer and occasional player does not have enough control to avoid these hazards and consequently should not be compelled to pay extra for additional, unpleasant obstacles to his game.

In this modified game the drive—that delight of golf—is still with us. The real thrill comes from hitting the ball hard and seeing it fly. Hitting hard and having something happen because of that effort is an elemental human urge. We also retain the shot from the fairway, second only to the drive in enjoyment. There will be more time available for hitting the ball if there is less time spent hunting in the rough or wading in the pond. After all there is nothing sacred in the present cup size or the amount and nature of the playing hazards. They make the game more interesting for the better players but not for most poorer players. The duffer feels that he must put up with them because they are there. He would not ask for them but he has little caste in the realm of golf and feels called upon to accept the situation as it is. From the viewpoint of recreation it is better to play golf for fun than to follow all established forms. Then, too, it is not uncommon for poorer players to feel embarrassed when playing ahead of good players and for the better players to be annoyed because of being held up by the former. The novice course will provide a means of eliminating at least a part of this unpleasantness.

Those who wish to graduate to the regular golf course can try their hand at it and if they like the more difficult game better can continue to play it. Those who prefer to return to the less difficult course for further seasoning can still do so and enjoy novice golf. There will be some who will always wish to play there because they do not have the time or money necessary to play regularly

Dr. Voltmer suggests here an ingenious plan for making golf less expensive and better adapted to the requirements of less active and less adept players. He emphasizes the fact, however, that his suggested plan is not intended as a substitute for the present courses, but as a training ground for golfers.

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It Has Happened Here!

WITH BATTERIES of statistics to the right of it, with miles of roads and pipe lines and linear feet of sewer description to the left of it; in the midst of lawn mowers and the reports of the number of monkeys, mammals, amphibians and vertebrates in the zoo—250 pages of this—stands a report on recreation, without any statistics, without categories of activities for the various seasons and moods, and in fact without most of the types of substance found in most reports of recreation systems.

The author instead writes of such themes as the promotion of the general welfare, the results of competent leadership, the values other than physical, developing attitudes toward life, putting ideals of democracy to work and reconciling youth to society. Each subject is illustrated with human interest stories that clinch

the point and make the average person feel that the job is worth while and well done. Without mentioning names we will go so far as to say that the very refreshing report is from the Director of Recreation of the Chicago Park District who is at his best in this report philosophizing about recreation in a great city and in dramatizing its significance for public consumption. Glimpses of his thought are evident as we follow him through his report.

It was clearly an implied meaning of the Federal constitution that local government might

Some thoughts on reading the report of the activities of a park system

concern itself with the public well-being — with promoting the “general welfare” of the people. On this premise the parks’ community service was based. The parks with their various facilities have been centers to conserve the health and productive vigor in succeeding city-bred generations. From the start they set about conditioning youth for life’s responsibilities on their athletic fields, in swimming pools and gymnasiums. How well these efforts have succeeded on the physical side was demonstrated in the great war, when young manhood reared under the smoke of our factory chimneys proved more fit on the average than the product of the open country. The tendency toward physical degeneration, the historic human menace of the city, had here been reversed.

The provision of sports offers one means of promoting the “general welfare of the people”



Courtesy Cleveland Foundation

As evidence of one contribution which the parks and playgrounds of the city have made, the author states: “Knut Rockne was an Eckhart Park athlete before going as a student to Notre Dame. Ralph Metcalf was a runner of note in Chase Park when he entered Marquette. George Lott started his tennis in Washington Park, Chick Evans his golf in Jackson — both to rise to international fame. Billy Webb, now coach of the White Sox, was a product of Fuller Park. Frank Motis, representing Cornell Square, won the national amateur heavy weight wrestling champi-

onship. Johnny Weismuller was a product of Oak Street Beach. Al Green, Olympic champion, did his early diving in Stanton Park pool. Bobby McLean started skating at Garfield Park, to win world renown."

In illustrating values other than physical that arise from the parks, the following instance is cited:

"One of our later champions was member of a boys' gang, engaged as its major occupation in theft from one of the railroad yards. He was so sickly he had been removed from school. He could encircle his arm with the fingers of the opposite hand. When the park opened, he came over daily to play baseball. At the end of the summer, stepping out of the shower before a mirror one evening, and reaching up to scratch his head, he noticed a little lump of muscle beginning to show in the right arm, with which he had been pitching. He rushed in to the gym instructor, tensing his arm, and said, 'Look here!' The instructor countered by telling him, 'Listen! If you'll lay off your cigarettes, quit drinking, and do as I tell you, I'll make a man of you!' The boy was so overcome he was unable to reply. He went home, to throw into the stove his cigarettes and tobacco. That night he resigned from his gang association. He was awaiting the instructor at the park gate next day. Five years later he won the diamond medal for the national championship in one of the most vigorous sports on the sporting calendar.

"He had to battle to overcome a violent temper, on his way up. Observing that as he was losing his temper he was in the habit of muttering curses at an opponent, under his breath, merely to gain control of himself he decided to quit profanity, and later even slang, sensing that such explosions were a loss of self-control. He told us the story on the way home from the national tournament where he won his championship. He kept looking at the medal in his hand, as he reflected on the step-by-step process by which he had earned it—a step-by-step process of self-mastery."

Under the caption, "Putting Ideals of Democracy to Work," the author goes on to say:

"Civilization demands more than the cultivation of a gladiatorial spirit, a spirit of unrelieved selfishness of aim, either personal or national. Civilization depends on socializing that spirit, on making it more considerate of the welfare of others

than ourselves. It depends on relating that spirit to voluntary disciplines necessary to its control. Those disciplines, in turn, depend on a broadened point of view. They depend on contacts, appreciations, practical ideals, expressed and become a habit in everyday relations with one's fellow men. They even involve our attitudes toward all mankind, beyond national boundaries, as well as within one's own community or country. And if we accept responsibility for appealing to the intense purposes of our youth, then we must see that these other responsibilities are accepted also.

"Here in Chicago, we reflected, are gathered representatives of all the races and cultures of all the world. America believes old wrongs can be forgiven and forgotten. We do not hold with hymns of hate. We think that as men come to know and appreciate each other for their present and personal worth, they may discover ideals we all hold in common, and join hands in a self-disciplined society to put those ideals practically to work in everyday life together. If that is ever to be proved, our city is an ideal place to give our warring and suspicious world a prophetic demonstration of that 'Parliament of Man' toward which poets point, statesmen labor, all the faiths of mankind aspire, and the masses of humanity can only grope in a hope that often wavers, but never completely dies. In the mounting tide of paganism that hope lends a spiritual note to secular life.

"So, since recreation consists of what people do together, since it involves the enthusiasms and purposes which most profoundly affect their social development, it follows that if in affording opportunity to people to engage in their leisure doings together we should emphasize the neighborly spirit, take bitterness out of competition, develop more of sharing and less of contention, we might indeed effectively 'promote the general welfare' and contribute in essential ways to the strengthening of our democracy.

"That purpose now fires the imagination of the park staff; it is their inspiration. As one of our workers recently stated it—it is the 'soul' of the park organization, in contrast to its body—those facilities, equipment, and operations with which the public is perhaps better acquainted. We state it here that citizens may know the spirit in which their park servants approach their work; the ideals, not realized, perhaps, but nevertheless held before us as distant goals, unattained, yet inspiring effort because they are conceived as attainable."

The Problem of Community Recreation in a Manhattan Neighborhood

A study conducted recently in one of the "blighted" areas of Manhattan showed a lack of facilities which only adequate planning and united community action can remedy

By DANIEL CARPENTER
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NEIGHBORHOODS in and around which there is a concentration of industry, transportation and retailing are faced with the problem of providing recreational facilities such as athletic fields, gymnasiums and meeting rooms, not only for the residents of that community but for the working population as well. This is not a new problem, but one of increasing significance, first, because it has not been sufficiently recognized in recent park and playground developments, especially within Manhattan; and second, because of the increasing participation of the industrial and civil service workers in recreational activities which demand use of athletic fields and gymnasiums originally planned for neighborhood use.

It has been estimated that Manhattan provides approximately seventy-three per cent of the employment in greater New York but only forty per cent of the working population live on Manhattan. Employees come from all boroughs in Greater New York, from Jersey and from Westchester, to work in Manhattan. If this working group is to enjoy the benefits of leisure by participation in organized sports, facilities must be found conveniently near their place of work. Otherwise it is practically impossible for them to get together due to the limited amount of time available for twilight sports and the inconvenience incurred by extended traveling on subways and buses.

There is no statistical data available to draw upon to determine to what extent industrial employees depend upon their organizations for recreation. Nevertheless, when men work side by side there grows up between them a certain bond of friendship and understanding which carries over into leisure time activities. It is quite natural

that in New York City much of our social life is built around our associations at work and business. Families live side by side for years at a time without knowing each other or speaking to each other. In other words, New Yorkers have little chance for community life and participation in community recreation except through membership in local settlements, churches and clubs, which are insignificant as far as total population is concerned.

An investigation of this problem in Chelsea, a "blighted" residential area mixed with industry and surrounded by the fur and needle trades districts, large department stores, warehouses and the docks—an area bounded by Fourteenth Street on the south, Fifth Avenue on the east, Forty-second Street on the north, and the Hudson River on the west—reveals that thirty-three per cent of the public and private facilities available for adults were used by groups brought together by their employment. For example, the only school in the district adapted for community use as far as gymnasium and pool facilities are concerned is used almost exclusively by industrial groups.

Approximately thirty-seven per cent of the permit time in Chelsea's only athletic field has been used by industrial groups. During the months of April and June of 1938 all twilight permits were granted to industrial teams. Consequently neighborhood groups had no opportunity for evening use of the park for games or practices. This situation was finally altered this past summer after the local groups organized and worked out with the Park Department an arrangement whereby local teams were given preference in the use of the field. It is also interesting to note that the

seven private agencies in the district with gymnasium facilities are receiving an increasing number of requests from unions and industrial groups for the use of their facilities between the hours of 5:30 and 8:30 in the evening, which cannot be granted because every gymnasium is being used to a maximum.

If the above condition is indicative of a trend in adult recreation as far as highly organized, vigorous sports are concerned, it reveals a growing and pressing need which city planners will have to consider in planning for adequate recreational opportunities.

Furthermore, Manhattan is faced with the problem of providing social life for the thousands who have moved to Long Island, the Bronx and other boroughs, but who still have their social roots in their original neighborhoods. Many social agencies have a large part of their adult membership no longer living on Manhattan but nevertheless returning for their social and recreational life. In Chelsea this is particularly true. During the last thirty years nearly one half of the population has been forced to move to other parts of the city because of the lack of satisfactory housing. Adequate low or medium rent housing in these old neighborhoods would have prevented this population shift and resulted in a more satisfactory social life.

There is still another aspect of the problem which must be acknowledged, and that is the question of adequate outdoor recreation space around the public schools. The policy of the Board of Education in the past has not taken into consideration the recreation needs of the students and consequently little provision has been made for outdoor facilities. In Chelsea, Textile High School and the Central Needle Trades High School have a combined enrollment of 11,000 students. According to minimum standards as used by city planning commissions, boards of education and the National Recreation Association, these schools should have at least twenty acres of outdoor playground space. Actually, they have none! Here again the limited outdoor facilities in Chelsea (inadequate as far as the resident population is concerned) must be shared with the 6,400 students who come into the district from other parts of the city to the local high schools.

From the standpoint of leisure time of adults it is important to have occasional open spaces attractively landscaped and provided with benches for quiet repose in the sunshine and air. In

Chelsea, with a population of 55,263, we have only seventy-eight benches available for such use. This need is accentuated by virtue of the fact that the surrounding businesses and offices have thousands of men and women taking time off at various intervals throughout the day, thus crowding out mothers with small babies who need a convenient and pleasant place to spend time out of doors. For example, the Federal employees and postal workers from the Morgan Annex of the Post Office, one block away, on pleasant days throughout the year, spend their lunch hours in the landscaped end of Chelsea Park. There is great need for a desirable place for relaxation in the textile and fur districts. The sidewalks on Seventh Avenue and the side streets between Twenty-fifth and Thirty-eighth Streets are practically impassable during the noon hour when the workers congregate on the sidewalks for a breath of fresh air and relaxation. This not only results in a serious traffic problem, but is very unsatisfactory to the workers themselves. It is a city, industrial and union problem which might be jointly worked out to the satisfaction of all three groups by securing the cooperation of those concerned in the use of roof space and vacant lots.

Although nothing has been said in the discussion thus far concerning the play life of children it is, of course, of great importance. In Chelsea the outdoor facilities do not measure up to the needs of the child population of 8,691 children under fourteen years of age. In relation to standards established by city planners and recreation experts the present facilities are adequate for only twenty-five per cent of the children in Chelsea. This lack of play space would not be so serious if the facilities were more equally distributed over the area and if the children had exclusive use of them. The point is the 2.68 acres of actual accessible play space must be shared with the youth and adults, the industrial workers and the high school teams, thus creating a serious lack of space for all groups concerned.

United Action Essential

What is the answer to this difficult problem? Undoubtedly it will take years before it comes in terms of adequate facilities. However, plans must precede the real accomplishment. The plan must include the vital elements of the problem which have been briefly touched on in the foregoing discussion. The one and only way to approach it

(Continued on page 684)

One Step Back of the Bad Boy

Back of the boy is his mother. Are we giving a fair chance to the girls who will be the mothers of the next generation of boys?

By DORA E. DODGE
Worcester Girls' Club

"BACK OF EVERY problem I have ever tried to solve for boy, girl, man or woman, the mother has been the important factor in the case." This statement was made by a psychiatrist who directs a well known child guidance clinic.

Seated in his audience, I wanted to cry aloud, "Then why not start with the potential mother of the next generation and solve some of these problems at the roots? Why not give more time and thought to the hundreds of little girls of our country who live in crowded communities and in homes that do not measure up to the minimum accepted standards of well-being? While they are still in the plastic stage is the time to prepare them for the most important job on earth, producing and rearing our future citizens."

Educators have told us repeatedly that the first five years of a child's life are the most formative, and therefore the most significant. This is especially true of a boy. During that time he is formulating the basic ideas that will dominate his later life.

Who is closest to him at that time? Who supplies the important foundation of physical fitness? Who is most responsible for the environment that adjusts the sensitive mental system of a little child for good or bad? When the mothers in the majority of homes in any community face life with the right attitude, and have assurance that society will safeguard them, the security of that community is assured.

We seldom stop to think that the mothers of the majority of children in our crowded communities are not those who have had opportunity to take courses in child care and psychology, or even to prepare themselves in the practical sense. The majority of mothers are not college graduates, nor even high school graduates. Too often they have had no desire for an education, because their environment did not prompt them to want it. School frequently was something to "get over with,"

like bad medicine or the measles.

The most recent report of the United States Office of Education shows that fewer than fifty per cent of the children of the country stay in school after fifteen years of age. These young people, who leave school so early to find employment, are those who mate early and rear the greatest number of children. It is safe to say that the majority of homes in most urban communities are mothered by women who have had little education beyond the first year of high school. Yet we expect them to produce children mentally and physically healthy, able to cope with present-day confusing standards, and to develop them into citizens equipped to run the nation.

It may be that these mothers are not succeeding very well. Perhaps it is they who, in their misfortune, are the determining factors back of many present-day evils. But in my search for help in formulating a leisure-time program for girls, I have become strongly conscious of the fact that few communities give sufficient thought to the needs of girls in congested areas, *while they still are young enough* to accept training.

Little boys are very vivid creatures. In revolt against their environment they make themselves felt in the community by "ganging up" and leaving a trail of destroyed property, thievery, noise and confusion. Their need of leisure-time guidance was recognized early in the history of our slum areas, and it is to the credit of the United States that we possess the wonderful club houses and other facilities placed in the hands of trained men, to meet this need. There is ample proof that leisure-time training for little boys has been a decided factor in helping to stem delinquency and crime.

Understanding the Girl

Little girls react differently to poor environment. They are just as much affected by their

surroundings but, being more individualistic, they do not travel in gangs and they are not so destructive because they lack the mass courage. They shut up within themselves the results of misery, frustrations and resentment. While they are young, the community is not aware that their need of leisure-time direction is as great as in the case of their brothers.

At about fifteen they don their warpaint and enter the so-called "boy-crazy stage," and for the first time are observed and censured for their lack of standards. Then some communities belatedly try to do something to "keep them off the streets." But if they have not learned how to be safe in the streets by this time, they are bound to be a disappointment to their would-be benefactors.

"What to do for the boy-crazy girl?" was the question before the house at a recent conference of social workers. One woman who commanded the respectful attention of those present because of the position she held in her city, arose and answered the question with apparent finality.

"You can't do anything for them," she said. "We have tried and had to admit failure. We brought them into community centers, to teach them child care and housekeeping and how to make hats and dresses. But they were not interested in child care and housekeeping. Some of them made their hats and dresses, but put them on only to be more attractive while chasing the boys. So now we just try to keep the boys busy, and to keep them away from the girls. We can do a great deal for the boys."

There in a nutshell was the whole sad story of misunderstanding of the needs of little girls—the mothers in our congested communities, and the vital factors in our social problems of tomorrow. They do not want to learn housekeeping and child care, at fifteen. But show me the little girl who does not want to cook and play house at any age from four to ten, or who does not want to learn all about the care of a baby from the age of ten to fourteen, and I'll show you the real abnormal girl. Since the God-given instinct for play is the greatest force for good or evil in a child, we must recognize and foster it; we must apply it in training our girls, as well as their brothers.

If they want the companionship of boys when they are fifteen, let us give it to them. Is there any reason why they shouldn't have it, and aren't there plenty of reasons why they should?

Co-Recreation an Important Factor

About six hundred boys take part yearly in group activities for girls fifteen and over in our club. We could not accomplish a quarter of what we do for the girls without their brothers and boy friends. These mixed groups have been the sanest and happiest I have known throughout the depression period. They lack judgment, yes, but they do not lack appreciation of standards, and they keep me in touch with the thinking of their times and alert to the added possibilities of making my work more effective. The boys have been quicker to accept the high standard we insist upon for the mixed groups. I have found girls willing to go wherever the boys will take them. Again and again boys come

"I bequeath to little girls gladness, rhythm and life and silence, for these things are the great need of. And I bequeath to boys, birds and trees and God's playground, and a curiosity about growing and harvest. . . . And I bequeath to them the right to run, to dance, to be free on the hearth, and to wish on an evening." From "Her



back to renew membership tickets with the remark, "This is the only place I want to take my girl."

Contact with these groups over a period of years shows plainly the difference in attitude between the girls who have grown up through our club program from the age of six and those who come to us for the first time at sixteen for the mixed group activities only. These are the girls who, as mothers, are likely to become involved in social problems since they lack the background and poise needed by girls of their age. Compared with our club girls they seem silly and shallow, and the contrast makes us certain that we must meet the needs of girls more adequately before they reach this age, if we are to make progress in social adjustment.

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Girls Club versus Reformatory Treatment

In a recent publication of Drs. Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck of Harvard, entitled *Five Hundred Delinquent Women*, is an analysis of the lives of that many women offenders after their release from a Massachusetts reformatory. The authors delved back into the history of the offenders to their early girlhood. Less than ten per cent of them had had any constructive recreation at any time in their lives, and a vivid picture was painted of what they found in its place to fill their play time.

The following quotation from the book is a brief analysis of their early environment. "Physical and mental handicaps, broken and inadequate homes, early uprooting of family ties, abnormal environmental experiences, limited educational achievement, necessity for early support, poor industrial adjustment, hazardous recreation and habits, unwholesome companionship and haunts, and early signs of anti-social habits. By the time they fell into the hands of police courts and correctional institutions they were finished products, the failures of all our socialized efforts." Then they were taken into a reformatory and, for the first time in their lives, given medical treatment, education, trade instruction and wholesome recreation. But all this did not adjust them socially for the rest of their lives. Most cases slipped back into their former habits within two years after their release. The authors ask a very pertinent question: "Why should accident of arrest and conviction result in belated furnishing of medical treatment, education, trade instruction and wholesome recreation, when their sisters who do not chance to be arrested and convicted, go without these basic advantages of civilized communities?"

The minimum figure of the cost per year for keeping the five hundred women in the reformatory was \$250,000. When we consider how little was accomplished for them and the community, it is time to do some serious thinking about what might have been done if we could have used the money for the little girls the authors found to be back of these social failures.

In a program such as we are attempting to build at the Worcester Girls Club, this is what we could have done:

First of all, we could have supplemented those inadequate homes by giving them a cheerful club house to play in in their leisure hours. We could

have given them contact with friendly leaders who would make them feel that "some one cared," and so given them a sense of security.

By means of health examinations, which should be required for gymnasium and swimming pool, we could have culled out the physically unfit and placed them under medical care in time to prevent a much greater cost to the community. Even those mentally unfit to profit by group work with their more fortunate sisters could have been segregated and through supervised play taught habits which make for happier living.

For the rest, we could have given them, through graded games and dancing in our gymnasium, an increasing desire for a healthy body and alert mind. Fair play and loyalty, friendliness and tolerance are by-products of team play, when the organized games are planned for all and not just an outstanding few. Individual skill in sports, such as swimming and tennis, are social assets in later life. We could have provided an opportunity to acquire it, and so sent troops of little girls off the street into fresh air and sunshine.

Every little girl wants to play house. We have proved at our club house that through play we can treat the whole field of home economics upon a small scale and form habits of cleanliness, order and appreciation of beauty with a direct carry-over into the girls' homes. Our six-to-nine-year-olds can offer a demonstration of housekeeping that would put many a housewife to shame. This demonstration includes setting the table correctly, serving the meal and eating properly, washing dishes, polishing silver, washing and ironing clothes, sweeping, dusting, general cleaning, bed-making, and putting the dolls to bed. All utensils are large toys and the whole course is taught through play, but many a little girl has insisted upon setting the table at home because she knows how, and many a little girl's brother has mended his manners because sister learned how things should be done at the Girls' Club. We never can know how much the future homes of these girls will benefit, but surely to an incalculable degree, for themselves and society at large.

Not long ago a film of the Girls' Club activities was shown to three hundred inmates of an industrial school. These girls, ranging in age from twelve to seventeen years, remained unresponsive while the classes in gymnasium, music and dramatics registered upon the screen before them. But when the scene changed to the homecraft kitchen the reaction was like an electric shock. They

leaned forward, their faces became animated for the first time and a long-drawn "Oh-h-h!" seemed to come from the entire group. They were absorbed watching little girls washing, ironing, cleaning silver and bathing a baby doll. No movie star could have asked for better attention. When the picture ended they asked to see it again, and to those of us watching it seemed as if they had changed into an entirely different group of girls.

Girls of eleven and twelve years of age eagerly join home-nursing classes simplified to meet their understanding because, thanks to their frequent contact with the District Nursing Society, every one of them wants to be "nice like a nurse." Very few want to work for a certificate as that sounds like drudgery, but they all love to play nurse. So we can teach them how to bathe the baby doll, dress and feed her properly; how to care for the sick-room and patient. Every little girl who attends one class can go away with some knowledge and desire for better living. "Why do they all want to be patients?" asked an interested visitor in one class. "Because the bed is so clean," said a little girl shyly. "It's the cleanest bed I ever knew about." And we shall never forget the Polish mother who watched the process of baby-bathing. Almost angrily she uttered in broken English, "Why for them? They just play. Why couldn't I know, when I needed it for my baby?" When the instructor explained that if the little girls "play at it now" they will know when they need to know, a light of understanding broke over the stolid face of the mother who hadn't known. "Oh!" she said, "I wish I had one million dollars to give so they all could know!" This mother has come closer than any other visitor to the vision back of the club program.

Nine-year-old Eleanor's eyes were glowing as she announced to the homecraft teacher, "My mother says 'God bless the Girls Club!'"

"Why did she say that?" The leader was curious to know.

"Well, she was tired last night, and she had all the kids to feed and a big basket of clothes to sprinkle and she was kind of sick, so I said, 'You lie on the bed and I'll sprinkle the clothes'; but she said, 'No, it'd be just as hard to show you how.' But I told her, 'You don't have to tell me how 'cause they've already showed me at the Girls Club.' So then she layed down 'n watched me do it, and when I got it done she said, 'God bless the Girls Club!'"



Members of the Senior Department of the Girls Club are given instruction in playing the game of pool

What was drudgery to the tired mother was

fun for the little girl who had become skilled in a household art as she played at keeping house. And knowing "how to do things right" means that her own housework will seem less like drudgery.

The girls the Gluëcks described were social outcasts at fourteen. We could have given them assurance through hostess clubs, afternoon tea clubs and etiquette discussion groups. The beloved cosmetics which seem so important to girls in their teens can open up an avenue of training in personal hygiene, when presented as beauty culture courses instead of sermons. This training makes girls social assets instead of outcasts, and it is a social sin that they are so generally left to the influence of the movies, cheap magazines and beauty advertisements, at the age when they are groping for ideas.

We could have taught sewing and handicraft and provided opportunity for many hours of happy occupations even in squalid homes. If a girl can have instruction in knitting and dress-making she sometimes will stay a year longer in high school, because she does not need to "look different" from other girls. And for the tomboyish ones, a hammer, nails, and saw can work off energy that otherwise might go to waste or actual harm.

With an eye to cultural values in future homes, we could have created for those little girls a background of good music by means of nature danc-

ing, music memory contests, choruses and

operettas. It is very difficult to learn to love unfamiliar good music if you have been raised on jazz. We could have capitalized every girl's desire to be a "movie star" by giving her parts to play in a dramatic program. The finest qualities of great characters can best be acquired by imitation, and all that is best in literature placed in the lives of any children allowed to participate in graded courses of dramatics.

Clare came to us at thirteen. She was a beautiful girl of Greek extraction, with one of the most expressive faces that I ever have seen. She spent every hour of her free time in the club house, even bringing her lunch and supper, and always seemed reluctant to leave at closing time. She excelled in dramatics and music but enjoyed every activity of the club, and was prompt to find a means of helping the younger girls, although she was quiet and retiring. It soon became apparent that she possessed a lovely singing voice and a decided talent for music.

One day she revealed to the leader that she did not like to go home because her mother was employed, and an unemployed man boarder who hung around the house "made her afraid." So she was welcomed at the club house during the hours the mother was absent.

Finally, we were able to announce to her that she had won a scholarship which entitled her to a year of vocal training in the Girls Club Music

School. Clare seemed quite overcome and left the room murmuring, "Oh!—oh! *Thank you!*"

But it was a long time afterward when we learned the real story of what that day meant to Clare.

"That was the day when they took all of the furniture out of our house and there wasn't even a bed to sleep on," she said. "I went to the club trying to get up courage to talk to some one because it all seemed so hopeless, but you called me to the office and told me about the scholarship and then it seemed as if I had *wings*, and it didn't matter about the bed any more."

Clare spent three years with us before circumstances carried her to a distant city, where she hasn't had a very happy time. But she still writes to us because the "Girls Club seems like my real home." And the question she asks, over and over, the writer passes on to those who may read this story: "Why don't all big cities have Girls Clubs where a girl can find real friends?"

With the \$250,000 spent on the cases the Gluecks describe, we could have put this kind of a "real home" into the congested area of any city and opened its doors to every girl who had need of a "real friend." We could have made their friendship with boys a happy, sane adventure. Just by granting their desire to learn to dance, we could have taught them not only social dancing but the etiquette of mixing, and given them a poise which would have put them at their ease. Through social evenings and parties we could have taught them to play together and to accept standards they could take pride in maintaining all through life, instead of leaving them to flounder through the awkward age; and gaining their confidence, we could have supplied useful instruction for wifehood and motherhood, to make future homes as secure as it is possible to imagine them.

"Every little girl wants to play house. We have demonstrated at our club house that through play we can treat the whole field of home economics on a small scale."

But best of all, we would not have been doing this for five hundred potentially delinquent women, nor even for five hundred problem girls. We would have been doing it for every girl in any fair-sized city who had need of our program, and at the age when she could best absorb it. We could have served at least 18,000 in our own club.

A Program for All Girls

The program outlined is built upon increasing knowledge of the needs of every girl in any community. Too often the so-called "underprivileged" girls do not come from the poorest homes, in the sense of lack of money alone. They are just any girls whose homes and communities do not furnish the opportunity to train them for abundant living.

It is not easy to arouse interest in the need of a leisure-time program for little girls. Tradition still has it that they are protected in their homes, and tradition dies very hard. The fact that homes may be broken, unadjusted, or in many ways poorly equipped to provide adequate training for life, is seldom considered in the case of the girl. The consensus of opinion is that social work for girls can and should be done with very little money.

(Continued on page 684)



You Asked for It!

Question: The Recreation Department is planning to stage a playground pageant during the coming summer and would appreciate your sending advice and suggestions which would help us with such a production. Does it warrant the amount of hard work, time and expense involved? How would one organize and rehearse a pageant in which children from a number of city playgrounds would participate? Would you advise speaking parts for an out of door production? The question of costuming frightens us, and we would appreciate your sending information on this special subject.

Answer: The subject of playground pageantry is not a small one. In answering the questions raised in your letter we can but briefly relate general impressions gathered from reports on these special events conducted by recreation departments and other community agencies and from our own personal experiences. In addition, we would suggest that you consult in a nearby community library some of the references which are listed at the end of this letter. We believe you would find particularly helpful the information and suggestions included in articles which have appeared in back issues of the RECREATION magazine. Besides practical suggestions on how to plan, write, organize, and produce playground pageants, there are summarizations of a number of pageants presented by recreation departments throughout the country. Some of these were done in pantomime, while a reader told the story; a few stressed music and the dance; and others followed special production plans to get desired results. Many of the latter could easily be followed or adapted for use by others.

There is probably no type of dramatic entertainment that provides opportunities for the participation of such a large number of children, that creates such opportunities for making use of the abilities and talents developed through drama, music, handcraft, dancing, games, sports, and other activities conducted during the summer playground period. Pageantry certainly can be one of the highlights of the summer program. It does provide an exciting and thrilling climax to the playground season. Through pageantry one is able to present productions of a size and beauty that are not usually achieved on the restricted in-

door stage, providing countless opportunities for originality in their staging. It is an excellent means of bringing people together. Surely it should be considered as one way of bringing the work of the department to the attention of the public.

The success of the pageant depends a great deal on careful and thorough organization. Simple as it may be, it should be worked out and rehearsed in every detail. Since your pageant is to be a fairly large one, it can be most easily handled if it were written in distinct episodes and brought together by comments of one or more speakers stationed in positions overlooking the scene. Probably your whole cast will be brought together for an epilogue or some sort of a finale. In this way each episode can be handled as a unit at each of your playgrounds, with its own casting, costuming and props committees, and its separate rehearsals. Perhaps all of the episodes will not then meet until the final rehearsal. Of course these unit organizations should be under the supervision of a director and should be rehearsed by him. He should also be in active touch with committee chairmen. All the staging and settings, the lights and the large properties should be taken care of by committees of the pageant as a whole. Careful consideration must also be given to such special questions as publicity, transportation, arrangements for handling of large audiences and other problems. The plan of organization will always depend to a great extent upon the size of the production. It will in every case rest in the hands of the director who in turn sees that the various details are handed over to responsible committee members.

There is no doubt that in presenting playground pageants and other outdoor spectacles amplification is a real problem. It is usually necessary if the audience is to get the real pageant story. Varying circumstances and factors have to be taken into consideration in meeting local needs. Amplification was the biggest question faced by the Kenosha, Wisconsin, department in the production of one of their pageants. They did not want to restrict the action of the performers but wanted them to be free to move not only on the pageant stage but on the grassed area in front of the plat-

(Continued on page 686)

WORLD AT PLAY

A New Use for Jail Stones

THE Reading Pennsylvania, Department of Public Recreation has erected a new field house in Baer Park

which was presented to the city twenty-five years ago by the family of the late George F. Baer, who for many years was president of the Board of Public Works of the city. Situated on the slope which leads from the lawn portion of the park to the playing field, making it one story on one front and two stories on the playing field side, the structure is built of solid stone most of which was taken from the walls of the old Berks County jail. The total cost of the building will be \$26,000 the funds being provided by PWA and a city bond issue.

Playground Replaces Old Tenements

THE latest playground in New Orleans, Louisiana, will not only provide a much needed facility for a thickly populated neighborhood, but will mean the elimination of a full square of old Negro tenements. The city is buying the tenements for about \$39,000 and will spend approximately \$75,000 in developing the playground. This is the fourth major new playground space added to the city's facilities in about a month's time.

Windsor Castle Land Given for Play

A letter received by the Mayor of Windsor from the King's private secretary announces that his Majesty has decided to give to the corporation of Windsor eighty acres of land adjoining Windsor Castle. The letter adds that in



Courtesy Reading, Pa., Department of Public Recreation

making the gift the King hopes that in considering the future use of the land the council will be mindful of the requirements of the youth of the district and that everything possible will be done to provide recreation to increase physical fitness. The land is at the side of the Thames and is overlooked by the north terrace of the castle.

Adult Recreation in Cincinnati


GOLF is the first choice of Cincinnati's adults in so far as they have indicated a preference for the activities conducted by the Recreation Commission. Sixteen thousand different adult citizens have played golf at two municipal golf courses this year. Tennis is second choice with more than 12,000 different citizens participating. This year both golf and tennis have had the heaviest play recorded in the history of the Commission, the increase in the number of golf players being twenty per cent over any previous year. One of the reasons for the growing popularity of these two sports is the increase of facilities, the number of golf courses having been doubled and the number of tennis courts trebled in the past six years. The second reason is the encouragement given beginners in these sports through the reduction of permit fees, rental of equipment, and the year-round maintenance of free golf and tennis group instruction. Tennis and golf group lessons were started earlier this year than has usually been the case. Sixteen hundred people are now enrolled in the tennis courses, while a number of

golf players are enjoying group lessons. The Recreation Commission has greatly facilitated winter playing of tennis by increasing the number of hard surfaced tennis courts and making available tennis nets and equipment to permit players continuing their games on all pleasant days.

Winter Centers in Akron — October 17 marked the opening of fourteen winter indoor recreation centers for children and adults in Akron, Ohio, under the supervision of the Recreation Commission, supplemented by the WPA and NYA. Ten elementary schools are open for evening programs through the cooperation of the Board of Education and three park shelter houses are occupied by programs through the cooperation of the Parks Department. Altogether they represent thirty-three afternoons and evenings of community recreation per week.

Concerts at an Art Museum—*The New York Times* of January 14th mentions editorially the symphony concerts being held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art as a fresh illustration of the "reaching out of thousands toward the things of beauty." "Last week an audience of 9,000 persons, the greater part standing, listened to the first symphony of the Brahms cycle and showed signs of deep appreciation. The remaining three symphonies of the series will be played on successive Saturday nights. The arts which are represented in the galleries of the museum must look with favor upon the gathering of such vast audiences under the same roof with them, for incidentally some of their own treasures are open to the view of these added thousands."

Workers Utilize Play Facilities—In its report for 1938, the Linden, New Jersey, Recreation Commission stresses a six hundred per cent increase since 1936 in recreation for employees of industrial plants. Beginning with a softball league for five teams in the first year, the program has grown to include bowling, basketball and table tennis, in addition to the ever popular softball in which last year thirty-two teams participated. Fifteen local plants, large and small, took part in the program, including DuPont's, General Motors, Standard Oil, Cities Service, American Cyanamid, General Aniline, and others. The permanent registration record system used by the Commission shows that over 400 individuals played in one or more leagues during the year, with 15,277 spec-



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tators for the season. In 1938 the per capita cost for recreation was 43 cents.

Sioux City's Civic Chorus—The civic chorus which was organized several years ago in Sioux City, Iowa, has a membership of about one hundred and fifty. The Department of Recreation as its contribution to the development of the chorus is providing through the Board of Education a meeting place for rehearsals and is serving as a clearing house for ticket sales and for business details. "The Messiah" and two other productions make up the offerings for the current winter season. A registration fee of \$1.00 per person is charged to defray the cost of music. The director of music of Morningside College has volunteered his services for a number of years.

Winter Activities in Kalamazoo—The Recreation Commission of Kalamazoo, Michigan, has made provision for skating at seven locations, two of them lighted, and for coasting slides on five hills. Nine schools are being used for community center activities.

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Women's Division to Meet—The Women's Division of the N.A.A.F. will hold its annual meeting on April 2nd at the Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco, California. There will be greetings from Mrs. Herbert Hoover and Dr. Margaret Bell, president elect of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Speakers will include Dr. Jay B. Nash of New York University, Dr. Rosalind Cassidy of Mills College, and Miss Mabel Lee of the University of Nebraska. Reports will be presented from the executive committee of the Women's Division and from state committees. A number of sectional meetings have been scheduled from March 28th to 31st, with a meeting in New York from May 3rd to 6th. Further information may be secured from Miss Mary Van Horn at the headquarters of Women's Division, 303 West 42nd Street, New York City.

The Elizabeth Civic Orchestra—The Christmas concert presented by the Elizabeth, New Jersey, Civic Orchestra offered an interesting sampling of the programs presented by this group which is sponsored by the Recreation Commission. On the back of the program appeared this invitation: "It is hoped that many of the young musicians who graduate from our high schools will continue their music with the Elizabeth Civic Orchestra."

A Convention on Education for Character and Citizenship—On March 23-25 the Chicago Convention of the National Council on Education for Character and Citizenship will be held at the University of Chicago. The general theme will be "Education Today for Character and Citizenship." Many topics relating to this general

theme will be discussed at the four general sessions of the convention and at the numerous conferences and discussion groups which are being arranged. At one of the general sessions current problems will be discussed by young people who will present a variety of points of view. Discussions and speeches will deal with realities rather than generalities, and reports will cover concrete problems and achievements. Further information may be secured from the National Council on Education for Character and Citizenship, 5732 Harper Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Recreation or Mal-Creation?—In a review of Dr. Jerome Davis' book, "Capitalism and Its Culture," Dr. Philip L. Seman of Chicago mentions particularly Dr. Davis's discussion of recreation, which in our society he thinks often becomes mal-creation. Much of our commercialized recreation Dr. Davis places in this category, since he believes it creates negative values. Recreation, which should provide wholesome re-creation of the individual and group, has in his opinion fallen into the hands of profit-makers. Dr. Davis points out that probably the two most important forms of recreation in the commercial field are the radio and the moving pictures, the moving picture industry ranking fourth in importance in the annual production of America. It represents an investment of some \$2,000,000,000, and there are more than 22,000 moving picture theaters in the United States. Each week some 77,000,000 people attend the movies, 11,000,000 of them under fourteen years of age. The moving picture industry spends about \$5,000,000 a year in advertising alone. America controls about 80 per cent of the world's production.

Nature Study in Santa Barbara—The Santa Barbara, California, Recreation Commission has given a series of talks on animal and bird life illustrated with motion pictures and slides. Such subjects have been covered as housekeeping of the wasp; how the racoon lives; natives of Glacier Park; and Catalina bird cages.

Civic Sports in New York City—More than 600,000 rounds were played last year on New York City's municipal golf courses. Golf is only one of a number of sports fostered by the community. During the summer New Yorkers have the use of a strategically located group of splendid swimming pools which in the winter are

turned into ice skating or roller skating rinks. There are municipal yacht basins for small sailing craft and motor boats. The city playgrounds are equipped for every form of juvenile sport, and there are football fields, baseball diamonds and tennis courts. In two of the parks cricket fields are to be found. There are municipal bridle paths, lanes for bicycling, ski runs and toboggan slides. One can go dancing or pitching horseshoes at the city's invitation. "In fact," says *The New York Times* of December 3rd, "there are no rich men's sports any more. Just being a citizen with a modest pocketful of change and reasonably good manners entitles one to recreation which a century ago would have been a luxury."

A Colored Work Conference—This year the regional conference of recreation workers, with colored groups promoted by the National Recreation Association, will be held at Raleigh, North Carolina, beginning Sunday, April 2nd, and extending through April 3rd and 4th. Mr. E. T. Attwell, field director of the Bureau of Colored Work, will preside at the sessions. The local arrangements will be cared for by a committee of citizens of which Reverend E. C. Lawrence, 708 Manly Street, is chairman. G. M. Matlack, Director of Recreation of the Raleigh Recreation Commission, St. Augustine's College, and Shaw University are cooperating in making arrangements for the conference. Colored workers supervising community recreation programs in cities, towns, or counties in the Southeast and adjacent territory, and colored executives in recreation projects are planning to attend.

Huge Camp Site Presented—The Executive Board of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, has accepted a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Waite Phillips of Tulsa, Oklahoma, of 35,857 acres of wilderness a few miles northwest of Cimarron, New Mexico and \$50,000 to be used in improving and developing the land for camping purposes.

Church Recreation — Plans, fun and programs for young people were announced by the Collingwood Presbyterian Church of Toledo, Ohio, as it opened its community house for the fall season. The cover page of the announcement states that "Guidance, not repression, is our policy" and quotes "A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like a Medicine," from Proverbs 17:22. The purpose of the recreational department of the

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church is stated to be a means to an end, a training ground for young people in Christian living. It is affirmed that in this department it is possible for the young people of the community to learn more about getting along with people and practicing Christianity during the impressionable years than in any other place in the community. The broad outlook of the leadership of this enterprise is indicated by the following statement. "This entire church plan is not only intended for the service of our congregation but of the entire community. Group meetings of a civic and social welfare nature will be welcome."

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Story Art, a magazine for Story Tellers, is issued six times a year by the National Story League.

Quarterly bulletins are issued by the various districts and departments.

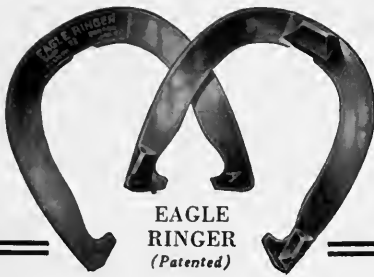
The 1939 year book, of special interest to schools and libraries, will be ready March 15.

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Make your plans for the RECREATION CONGRESS!

The Twenty-Fourth National Recreation Congress
will be held in Boston, Massachusetts

OCTOBER 9 - 13, 1939

Headquarters will be at the Hotel Statler

*Additional information will be
issued at an early date*

A Handcraft Exhibit — The Recreation Department of Springfield, Illinois, had a display of handcraft articles at the State Fair, and as an additional feature the Department presented a series of transparencies illustrating the activities of the playground program. These pictures will be used on various occasions throughout the year.

Recreation in a West Virginia County — Under the sponsorship of the Monongalia County, West Virginia, Recreation Council recreational progress is being made. New centers are being formed and new clubs organized. One of the new centers in process of organization is at Laurel Point, seven miles from Morgantown, in a rural area which will serve four small communities. A games institute for workers was held in September at which workers were asked to learn how to play 120 different games including relays and quiet, active, singing and rhythm games. The examination proved that the average worker could name and teach seventy-three games at the end of the conference.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Serve as Host—From March 27th to 30th, Tulsa, Oklahoma, will entertain the members of the Southern Section of the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation whose members will meet in convention on those dates. An interesting program is being prepared. Delegates from the southern meeting will go on to San Francisco to attend the national convention.

A Community House for Wabash, Indiana—Wabash, Indiana, is to have a new community house as the result of a referendum vote with 3,790 favorable votes and 700 opposed. The community's provision for \$6,000 was successful with \$200 "over the top."

Model Airplanes—Making model airplanes is a very popular activity in Akron, Ohio, and plane

construction is going on at seventeen afternoon extracurricular centers, nine evening centers, and in the homes of fourteen shut-ins. According to the annual report of the Recreation Commission, 4,000 models were constructed during the fall, and approximately 5,000 boys and girls are enrolled. Materials and leadership are furnished by the Commission.

Recreation as a Curb to Drink—The New York State Liquor Authority announces that a survey has disclosed a link between poor recreation facilities and "temptation to excessive drinking." Opinions were gathered from recreation authorities and home demonstration agents engaged in extension work by the state. Consensus of opinion was that in most rural communities the recreational facilities lagged behind those in urban centers. Commissioner Henry E. Bruckman, Chairman of the Authority, has urged "a complete study of the recreational needs and opportunities of the state."

To Promote Square Dancing—Under the auspices of the El Paso, Texas, Square Dance Council a national square dance contest was held on December 31st. The contest was open to all squares, each of which consisted of four couples. Each group contesting furnished its own callers and music was supplied by the Council. Winners were determined by a process of elimination, judging being on the basis of ease, gracefulness, uniformity, and the fewest number of mistakes.

Appraisal of Extracurricular Activities—Pupils were asked to state which activity had, during the year, given them the greatest satisfaction. The per cents voting for the several activities were as follows: athletics and sports, 37.9; literary activities, 9.2; musical activities, 9.0; social, stunts, etc., 5.4; religious, service, and character building activities, 3.1; student government, 2.6; publications, 2.1; vocational activities, 2.0; academic clubs, 1.6; assemblies, 1.4; hobby activities, 1.0; miscellaneous, 10.6; blank, 14.1.

(From "What Secondary School Pupils Think of Pupil Activities," by Walter C. Eells.)

Community Sings in Washington Square—Every civic organization in Greenwich Village joined with the local publication, *The Villager*, in promoting community sings in Washington Square during the summer months. The first



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Play Space in New Neighborhoods

- Last October the Society of Recreation Workers of America requested the National Recreation Association to appoint a committee to draw up standards for outdoor recreation areas in housing developments.

The committee, assisted by an advisory committee of city planners and housing experts, has presented its report and recommendations which will be of interest to recreation officials and many other groups.

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National Recreation Association

315 Fourth Avenue

New York City

Special Recreation Program for National Convention

IN CONNECTION with the National Convention of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation to be held in San Francisco, California, April 3-6, there will be a recreation demonstration on April 5 presenting the activities and accomplishments of the San Francisco Recreation Commission. Miss Josephine D. Randall, Superintendent of Recreation, is program chairman for the demonstration in which several hundred young people will participate. A number of musical groups will take part in the program. The Junior Civic Symphony Orchestra, which will play the overture and all musical accompaniments, is composed of sixty young men and women interested in music and group playing. During the past year the orchestra has illustrated the constructive nature of its accomplishments in several concerts, one at the San Francisco Museum of Art, two at the midsummer musicals held at the Sigmund Stern recreation grove, and at the Civic Christmas Festival in the Opera House.

The junior and senior dance groups are composed of girls of high school age and of young women who may or may not be attending school.

The playing of games to music is an activity that is currently receiving considerable attention. A number of play groups in San Francisco, particularly basketball teams, have experimented with the idea, and it has been interesting to observe how quickly the players sense the fact that each of the several elements of every game has its own peculiar rhythm and how smoothly they coordinate the movements of the game to the rhythm of the music. With the musical accompaniment a game becomes a veritable symphony of movement. This will be vividly illustrated at the demonstration.

The work of camera club members will be on exhibit, and there will be a showing of colored films portraying the activities of the Recreation Department in dancing, games, dramatics, handcraft, and other activities.

sing was attended by more than 400 persons. Intended to develop a community spirit akin to the "little villages most of us left behind," the various groups of Greenwich Village were well represented. In this heterogeneous group of people, however, some of the songs like "Old

Black Joe" and "The Long, Long Trail," were scarcely familiar. The sing was led by Allen Hinkley, Director of the Village Light Opera group. Miss Ida Tarbell is honorary president of the Villager League of Friendship.

Golf at Bargain Rates!—On November 1st the winter schedule of greens fees at the Galloping Hill course maintained by the Union County, New Jersey, Park System, went into effect making it possible for players during cold weather to make use of the course at bargain rates. Through the new schedule, Union County residents will be able to play all day, any day, for 50 cents. The fee for non-residents will be double this amount. Advance registration, which has proved very successful, will be continued in spite of the lower rates.

Official Sports Library for Women—The Official Sports Library for Women prepared by the National Section on Women's Athletics of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, formerly published by the American Sports Publishing Company, is now being issued by A. S. Barnes and Company, 67 West 44th Street, New York City. The booklet on basketball has appeared. Other guides to be published during the winter and spring will include Individual Sports, Recreational Games and Sports, Aquatics, Softball—Volley Ball, Soccer—Speedball, Field Hockey and Lacrosse. These booklets will be available at 25 cents each. It will be possible, however, to subscribe for the entire library by paying \$2.00. Each new volume will be sent the subscriber immediately upon publication.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Is Honored—On January 25th John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who between 1917 and 1937 contributed \$17,871,533 for the restoration and preservation of historic structures and antiquities and \$20,928,755 for public parks and roads, was the recipient of the award for distinguished service for conservation made by the trustees of Public Reservations, a Massachusetts organization.

The Traditional in Recreation

(Continued from page 646)

together in continuing survivals wherever it is possible, making revivals where it is necessary, while there is still a pattern to go by we can do

much in creating a "roots-in-the-soil" culture, at the same time giving joy to thousands who want to sing and dance and play.

This is, of course, the chief concern of recreation leaders in the challenging present, when leisure time, with the search for constructive uses, sweeps over us like the tidal wave.

The Parks of Metropolitan Cleveland

(Continued from page 648)

cooperation with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and with Dr. Arthur B. Williams, park naturalist, four nature trails have been kept constantly labeled, and two field museums have been maintained with a naturalist constantly in charge during the summer. Lectures are given at the council ring at the museum on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and on holidays.

During the spring bird walks are conducted in at least two of the reservations. Garden clubs have shown an increasing interest in the parks, and some of them have furnished plant material for various locations.

Eleven camps were in operation during 1936-1937. Permits for various organizations maintaining children's camps in the parks are cleared through the Cleveland Camp Council operating under the Welfare Federation. This group certifies to the need of the camping service, the adequacy of its personnel, facilities and services, health and sanitary standards of the program.

Provision is constantly being made for active recreation, and as new areas are opened up and new picnic grounds provided, additional play or ball fields are established. Riding trails have increased, and more riding stables have been built. The return to popularity of the bicycle has resulted in the building of a bicycle path through the Rocky River reservation. Bathing facilities have been improved, and golf courses are maintained at a high level. Under the Cleveland Archery Club this sport has become popular. Encouragement is given to winter sports, and coasting, skating, and skiing are enjoyed when the weather permits.

Close cooperation with the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., and other local groups has resulted in an extensive use of the areas. It is estimated that there is an annual attendance in the metropolitan parks of approximately 5,000,000 people.

During the past twelve years steady, consistent progress has been made under Mr. Stinchcomb's

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leadership, and a number of plans have been outlined for further development, including a west side shore line highway with developments which would involve a total cost of about \$14,000,000.

Mr. Stinchcomb has been the recipient of many honors. He was president of the American Institute of Park Executives in 1936-1937. He is a trustee of the Ohio Engineering Society, a fellow of the American Engineering Society, a director of the Automobile Association of America, and chairman of its committee on terminal and park facilities. He is vice-president of the Cleveland Automobile Association and of the Ohio State Automobile Association, and chairman of the PWA Board of Ohio. He is a past president of the Cleveland Kiwanis Club and the Cleveland City Club, and has served two terms as a director of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce which last year gave him the Cleveland medal for public service with the following citation:

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(Continued on page 682)

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Recreation Center for Alton, Illinois

By JEAN PATTERSON COUSLEY
Alton Evening Telegraph

HALF A MILLION DOLLARS for recreation is the dream of enterprising Altonians who are basing their vision on an expected PWA grant of \$225,000 and the probability of floating a local bond issue of \$275,000.

With the half million in hand, plans are under way to build a recreation center for the city of Alton whose population of over thirty thousand has never had available a municipal auditorium, a skating rink, or a place to stage commercial and industrial shows of local interest. The community center will have space for many forms of recreation including, besides the main auditorium which will seat 5,000, a Little Theater to seat 400. Additional rooms may be had for club rooms, ping-pong, billiards, and perhaps a rifle range.

The central auditorium, versatile in its makeup, may be turned from a skating rink into a dance floor overnight. The floor will be designed to accommodate four basketball games at once. Acoustics in the auditorium are being considered so that when the huge stage at one end is the scene of a concert, spectators may hear equally well from the side bleachers and center seats covering the basketball courts.

The plan of supervised recreation which may be enjoyed by masses, who heretofore have crossed the Mississippi river to enjoy stunts and sports in St. Louis auditoriums, is not a new one. Vague plans for such recreation centers were recently shaped into more tangible form when the Mayor appointed a citizens' committee of three city aldermen and several business men, as well as the manager of the Recreation Commission, to investigate possibilities.

An architect's plan for the 320 foot by 200 foot building has been secured and a resolution is to be drafted to put before the city council in regard to the bond issue. The plan has been enlarged since its inception, so that the money used in the recreation center will include the building of a separate smaller center for Alton's Negro population.

A tentative site for the modern building is centrally located between the city's two most thickly populated sections. The center, it is planned, will

also draw from Alton's fast growing subdivisions near the east end of town. Near-by industrial workers and their families will not have far to go to find their fun. The tract tentatively chosen also allows for expansion of grounds which eventually will include landscaping, baseball diamonds, and tennis courts. A wooded land to the north of the site will furnish ideal picnic grounds. The site is on one of the city's through streets.

If plans for the recreation center are successful, Alton's need for community recreation will some day be embodied in a beautiful modern building of stone and glass where crowds may seek an interesting, wholesome diversion in their leisure time.

On January 24, 1939, Alton voted favorably on a playground and recreation tax referendum, authorizing a minimum tax of one and one-third mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for playground and recreation purposes. This will make it possible for the city to enlarge its program and help meet growing needs.

The Parks of Metropolitan Cleveland

(Continued from page 681)

his fellow citizens for exemplifying to them the highest type of the career man in public service. Appointed assistant city engineer thirty-six years ago, he has employed his unusual professional talents almost continuously since in advancing the interests of this community. In particular he has made an enduring contribution to the public welfare in the upbuilding of the Metropolitan Park System, whose trustees he has served as director-secretary for sixteen years. For this posterity, as well as the present generation, will remember him gratefully."

A Mad March Hare Party

(Continued from page 660)

large front hall (which was on the way to the commons) where, grouped appropriately around a long table, sat Alice, the March Hare, the Dormouse and the Mad Hatter. With necessary properties, such as a tea pot, plates and cups, bread and butter sandwiches, a worthless watch, which would with impunity be dipped into a cup of tea, and other accessories, these players dramatized the Tea Table Scene from *Alice* (Chapter VII), to the entire satisfaction of the audience. At its close, when Alice arose in disgust to leave the

Mad Hatter's table, she invited all to follow her to the commons, where they might find a real tea party.

Refreshments, served at daintily decorated tables, consisted of a mixed fruit salad, nut-bread and butter sandwiches, tea, and frosted cookies cut out in the shape of rabbits. After refreshments there was a brief "sing." On mimeographed sheets were the words of a half dozen of the poems appearing in *Alice*, and for each one a familiar tune had been discovered. Guided by a pianist and a song leader, the crowd joined in with a vigor and enthusiasm matched only by that of Father William himself.

At 10:30 the party was ended with a short speech by the Mad Hatter, and the crowd soon emerged from the magic underground realm of Wonderland.

Skiing Comes to Essex County

(Continued from page 661)

for a fast contestant overtaking a slow one to pass him without danger of fouling. Although there were forty-nine entries and the maximum distance was 3,300 meters, by starting them in pairs every thirty seconds and turning the Juniors off at a point where they could finish on a slope after 800 meters, and the Intermediates where they could complete 2500 meters before finishing on the same slope, we were able to have the last Senior cross the finish line in less than thirty minutes from the time the gun was fired.

The best time for the Juniors was 3'-28", the best for the Intermediates 11'-14" and for the Seniors 15'-55".

Every one who entered received a green contestant's ribbon, while those taking first, second, and third place in each class were given blue, red, and gold ribbons respectively. Those establishing the best time in their classes received small silver cups.

From the enthusiasm exhibited by contestants, parents, and spectators alike, there is no question that the cross-country ski race will be an annual affair, and that skiing has come to stay in Essex County. Our next sponsored contest will, by popular request, doubtless be a slalom race, for we have a 3200 foot trail in South Mountain reservation that is replete with curves, the grades varying from 10 per cent to 30 per cent.

NOTE: The photograph shows the judges and the first nineteen contestants to finish in the Intermediate class (2500 meters).

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

- The Journal of Educational Sociology*, January 1939
The Support of Public Education in the United States, with Special Reference to Negro Schools
by Fred McCuiston
- The Parents' Magazine*, February 1939
For the Sake of Our Children by Clara Savage
Littledale, Editor (An Editorial)
- Recreation News*, January 1939
(Chicago Park District)
Archery
- Parks and Recreation*, January 1939
Cost Accounting for Park Departments
by R. R. Murphy
- Child Life*, February 1939
Let's Build a Wren House by James Marquette
Outdoors and Indoors in February
by Verna G. McCully
- The Phi Delta Kappan*, December 1938
(Issue devoted to Camping Education)
Socialization of the Camps by Raleigh Schorling
(Editorial Comment)
Camping, A School Responsibility by Jackson R. Sharman (Editorial Comment)
The National Park Service and Camping
National Park Camp Areas
- Camping World*, January 1939
Morale Goes to Camp by Robert C. Marshall
- The Nation's Schools*, February 1939
Evaluating a Club Program by Enid S. Smith
- The Regional Review*, January 1939
Signs and Labels for Nature Trails
by William H. Carr, Director
Bear Mountain Trailside Museum, Palisades Inter-
state Park, Bear Mountain, New York
National Park Service, Region One, Richmond,
Virginia
- Playing Fields*, October 1938
A Playing Fields Association for South Africa
- Rural America*, November 1938
Rural Family Life, by Mrs. Raymond Sayre
- Religious Education*, October-December 1938
The Current Needs of Youth and the Church
by Hedley S. Dimock
- Review of Educational Research*, October 1938
Trends in School Architecture and Design
by Howard Dwight Smith
- The Guardian*, January 1939
What's Right with America? (Submitted by
Hermann Hagedorn)
- The School Government Chronicle and Education Review*
December 1938
Cultural Centres in Rural Areas (Editorial)

- The Regional Review*, December 1938
How a State Operates Organized Camps
by R. A. Walker
- School and Society*, December 24, 1938
Garden Villages for Children in Great Britain
Policies on Public Service Training of the Regents
of the University of the State of New York
- Public Education (Pennsylvania)*, January 1939
Teacher Education and Certification, by Henry
Klonower and Harry L. Krimer
- Illinois Physical Education News*, December 1938
Where Are We Going? by A. H. Pritzlaff
- The Womans Press*, January 1939
The Year 1939, by Rhoda E. McCulloch
Social Action and the Group Worker, by Margaret
Williamson
Collective Bargaining in Ideas (The Role of the
Volunteer, by Mrs. Ralph P. Merritt)
- The Municipality*, January 1939
Mid-Year Park and Recreation Conference
- School Activities*, January 1939
Los Angeles County Toy Loan
- The Journal of Health and Physical Education*
January 1939
The Dance in the Museum, by Grant Code

PAMPHLETS

- National Story League*
Year Book 1937-1938. Obtainable from Headquar-
ters, Marysville, R. D. 1, Pennsylvania. Price 25¢
- Recreational Interests of College Alumni and Their
Evaluation of College Physical Education* presented
by Professor H. S. DeGroat, Springfield College, at
meeting of College Physical Education Association,
December 1938. (Abstract of Thesis submitted by
John R. Newell, July 1938)
- Catalogue of Recreational Activities in New York City*,
January 1939
Issued by U. S. Works Progress Administration for
the City of New York, Recreation Project, 70
Columbus Avenue, New York City

Golf for the Common Man

(Continued from page 662)

enough to keep their game up to the place where they can enjoy standard golf competition.

Possibly the use of this plan will enable more people to play because it will cost less to keep the novice course in reasonable shape and, hence, less to pay; it will take less time to play because of less hunting for balls and reduced putting time on the greens, thus enabling the semi-busy to play; and fewer will be discouraged in their effort to make golf one of their leisure time activities.

The Problem of Community Recreation in a Manhattan Neighborhood

(Continued from page 666)

satisfactorily is through joint planning of all groups who have an interest or stake in the com-

munity. The city, the local businesses, the large industries, the unions, the public and private recreation organizations, the churches, the schools and civic groups in the community working together can do much in this direction.

In Chelsea such an association has been organized, with fifty active member groups participating in a program of neighborhood improvement. The Chelsea Association for Planning and Action aims to provide a medium through which the man on the job, the mother in the tenement, youth from the local teams and clubs, the politician, the welfare worker, the churchman, the business man and the property owner can attempt to understand the needs of each other through joint consideration of their common problems within a neighborhood. The Association recognizes that local self-organized groups often think of their needs as a separate entity and without relation to the same needs in other neighborhoods. Therefore it has made an attempt to study local problems in relation to the city plan and the program of the city administration. By this method Chelsea is focusing its attention on the recreation problem in its broadest aspects. The Association, however, recognizes that the one hope for blighted areas, such as Chelsea, where there is a concentration of employment, will be the progress of the rehousing program now under way. Low rent government projects, housing the lower income groups within walking distance of their employment, will reduce the continual shifting of population and will stabilize land values and make possible improvements that have been considered too costly heretofore. Ultimately this program will provide a kind of community pattern where all recreation needs are more adequately met.

One Step Back of the Bad Boy

(Continued from page 672)

Because of the individualistic tendency of girls, constructive work of mass groups becomes extremely difficult. With the right equipment it can be done at as low per capita cost as for boys, but I see no reason to believe it can or should be done more cheaply.

The idea that the sponsorship of girls' work is a "woman's job" also seriously retards interest in the need. Women seldom are philanthropists in this type of work. Many wealthy men once were poor boys and most men never get too far away

from their boyhood, but few wealthy women were ever very needy and to them the poor little girl is an entirely different creature.

Boyhood and dirt are linked together without too drastic results, and even in rags a small boy can be most appealing, while a dirty, skinny little girl, unattractively clad, is a bit hard to accept as a possible useful citizen. So those of us who are deeply conscious of this great need find it difficult to awaken the response necessary to do much about it. It is not easy to interpret the almost inarticulate voices of these little waifs, but if they could speak of their need, their plea would be something like this:

"We are the girl children of the American slums. We were born into a mad world which shuts out light, pollutes air and prohibits grass, flowers, trees, birds and sweet silence and all other things that God meant for our playground; having them, we might understand life. We were born into a world that substitutes instead crowded homes and streets, filth, noise and crime, and bids us find among them our place to play. Play is our most important business, because what and where we play determines how we shall grow and what we shall become. We have capacity for beauty in all its forms, sound, motion and composition; but we can absorb as easily ugliness, discord, and disorganization. So it seems strange to us that the world takes so little heed of what we are about.

"We may not seem so important to some because we are the girl children. Our brothers will grow up to be men who will build or break the nation, who will solve its problems and build its bridges and temples, or who will rob its banks, terrorize its people and conceivably destroy it. So, if the world sets them straight, it would seem to have met the need.

"But listen, O people of America, and we will tell you a secret. We hold in our small hands a power that is gigantic; a force that is ours to use, either for good or for evil. We procreate life itself, and once it exists we mould it through its most precious years, for the strength or the weakness of the nation. Try as you will, you cannot undo all of the good or all of the bad that we can put into the first few years of the lives of our children.

"We are potential motherhood, the greatest force in life.

"Go one step back of the boy and build upon us, if you truly would raise aloft the standard of humanity and keep it there secure and unsullied."

Cactus Clubs in California

IN FEBRUARY, 1935, a group of lovers of "cacti and other succulents" began meeting once a week under the sponsorship of the Los Angeles Playground Department with Manchester Playground as Headquarters. The attendance at these meetings was around thirty to fifty each week. The study of succulents was taken up seriously, and clear and concise instruction in preparing exhibits for shows was one of the main features.

Since that time the "Los Angeles Cacti and other Succulents Show" has become one of the horticultural events of Southern California in beauty, in horticultural standards, and in educational value. Last year the Southwest Cactus Growers gave their annual show in the spacious gymnasium at Manchester. It ran for two days and was free to the public. There was an average attendance of 9,000 to 10,000 visitors and some fifty exhibitors. Ribbons were awarded by the Recreation Department and cups were presented by city and county officials and by local business associations. Each year many fine educational exhibits are entered, and the use of succulents in decorative arrangements and landscape work is ably demonstrated.

Less than a year after the first meeting of the cactus club, a plot of ground was set aside at Manchester Playground for a succulent garden, plants to be furnished and cared for by the members of the group. The Southwest Succulent Garden lies in one corner on a perfectly flat piece of ground, but in spite of this handicap it is being steadily landscaped and planted, with plants correctly labelled and the botanist and habitat given. Much of the work is done on Sunday mornings since most of the members are employed during the week. Trips are taken often to study the plants in their natural growing locations, and recently a trip lasting several days was made by caravan into Lower California.

The plants are constantly segregated according to geographical nativity, and the garden eventually will be of considerable value to the student of this type of plant. The succulents include around 20,000 plants and cover the globe. Some of the Sedums and the Sempervivums come from cold countries; Aeoniums, Kalanchoes and Euphorbias from tropical climes, while cacti ranging from the Canadian Border to the southern line of Argentina and from hot deserts to high mountain peaks, are found only in the Western Hemisphere. All of

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- Boy and Girl Scout Executives
- Parent-Teacher Association Officers
- Leaders of Youth Clubs and Activities
- Directors of Recreation
- Leaders of Other Character Building Agencies

Miss Maria Leonard, Dean of Women, University of Illinois, says: "I wish to tell you how much help I feel CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP is to us who are trying to build youth. The name of the magazine itself emphasizes the two greatest goals in building youth. The sooner that character and citizenship can be made the basis not only of all human relations but of education itself, the sooner a new era will be ushered into America."

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these genera and many of the species are being acquired by the Garden through donations or trades, while a nearly complete collection of California cacti has been picturesquely arranged in an individual planting. It is the earnest hope of Don B. Skinner, leader of the Cactus Growers, that this garden will be developed into an instructive and beautiful affair.

One of the outgrowths of this enterprise is the Junior Garden Club whose members number over thirty and range in age from three to twelve years. The enthusiasm of these youngsters is remarkable. They are usually early and waiting at the door on regular meeting days. They work earnestly at removing offensive weeds, and instruction is given them in transplanting, watering, cultivation, propagation, etc.

At first glance it might seem inadvisable to take such small children into so spiny a place as a garden of cacti, but a short period of observation proves the value of the lessons learned. The children, of course, must be careful not to step on the plants; they soon learn the penalty of forgetfulness. Each child makes a selection and takes home a plant after each garden session, and although other types of plants may be chosen usually it is a succulent of some kind which is carried carefully away with a card bearing its name, cherished in a grimy hand. Who knows—perhaps a future botanist or famous plantsman is being born.

The Recreation Department has earned much gratitude for sponsoring such an organization and for setting aside the generous allowance of ground which gives the opportunity to grow large specimens and to make provision for future years of study and enjoyment.

You Asked for It!

(Continued from page 673)

form. To overcome this difficulty an unusual device was used to make sure that the voices of the actors could be heard. Of the characters only six had speaking parts but the outdoor theater and the movement necessary for these characters made amplification a problem. This was solved by choosing six duplicate characters to speak for the actors. These six were seated behind the stage at its center, shut off from view of the audience by grill-like Venetian blinds through which their voices came clearly amplified by a loud-speaker system. The grills made it possible for the duplicate characters to watch the characters on and in front of the stage.

In some instances where the pageant theme emphasizes pantomime, music and the dance printed programs are distributed to the audience in order that they can follow the story. Brightly colored programs are inexpensive to print, especially if a cheap quality of paper is used.

Pageantry offers unlimited possibilities for brilliant and gorgeous color effects in costuming. Costumes for each episode of a pageant should be worked out with great care. Careful consideration must be given to the effects desired, whether the pageant is to be given at night under artificial lights or during the daytime, costs of material, and other related questions. Expensive materials for costumes are certainly not necessary. Canton flannel, unbleached muslin, cheese cloth, certain types of paper, are all satisfactory for costumes. Through the use of dyes and paints attractive costumes can be evolved. Rich embroidery can be represented by stenciling designs on materials such as burlap and muslin. Wigs and braids can easily be made from rope and old stockings. Attics may be explored for cast-aside dresses and other pieces of wearing apparel. Properties such as crowns, shields, swords, and other pieces of armor can be made from gilded corrugated cardboard.

A few references which may interest playground pageant directors are listed below.

- Art of Producing Pageants, The*, by Esther Willard Bates. An excellent handbook for the community director. A thorough discussion by a competent pageant writer. Walter H. Baker Co., 178 Tremont St. Boston, Mass. \$1.75
- Costume Book, The*, by Joseph Leeming. A comprehensive and elementary book on costumes and directions for their making. Frederick A. Stokes Co., 443-4th Ave., New York City. \$2.50
- Historic Costume for the Stage*, by Lucy Barton. The heritage of European and European-American dress, traced from Egypt through the lands mentioned in the Bible to Greece, Rome, Byzantium then to Europe proper and finally to its offshoots in the New World. Walter H. Baker Co., 178 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. \$5.00
- How to Produce Plays and Pageants*, by Mary M. Russell. A guide to their preparation and production for church and community. Doubleday Doran and Co., 14 West 49th St., New York City. \$1.50
- Inexpensive Costumes*. Reference is made to the costume workshop, suggesting suitable material for costumes as well as types to be worn by various symbols and other characters. National Recreation Association, 315-4th Ave., New York City. 25¢
- List of Music for Plays and Pageants, A*, by Roland Holt. Suggestions for organizing the musical program to accompany plays and pageants. Lists of music suitable for any type of dramatic situation. D. Appleton-Century Co., 35 West 32nd St., New York City. \$1.00
- List of Plays for Children From 5 to 15, A*. Includes special section devoted to formal plays, pageants and festivals. National Recreation Association, 315-4th Ave., New York City. Free
- Lists of Pageants, Masques and Festivals*. Also offers an outline to be followed in the writing and presentation of these productions. National Recreation Association, 315-4th Ave., New York City. 25¢

Travel as Recreation

INSPIRED BY READING the column, "What They Say About Recreation," J. R. Anderson, Supervisor, New York office, United States Travel Bureau, National Park Service, has sent us the following:

"Recreation, broadly speaking, is simply change, any change, from the eternal daily job of grinding out a livelihood. Few of us are so fortunate as to have work which uses up all our natural enthusiasms. Here at the Travel Bureau we are visited daily by both experienced and would-be tourists from all over the world. Included in the range of variety seekers is the clerk or stenographer who saves religiously for fifty weeks out of the year and comes to us for advice on how to extract the last drop of recreational pleasure from their precious two weeks' vacation. Perhaps they can afford an occasional week end of nearby winter sports, but have no idea how to get the most from a limited budget. Then there is the typical American family who has been saving up for years to take a little trip, or the devoted old couple who have looked forward all their lives to 'seeing America first,' or the European family who has at long last realized their dream of coming to the States, the college students planning hiking tours, and countless others, all recreation-bent.

"Shakespeare has perhaps given us the best definition of recreation. We are all familiar with Marc Antony's reading of Caesar's will, in which he left his vast parks and estates to the people 'to walk abroad and recreate themselves.' This is the literal meaning, yet how few of us stop to think of leisure-time activity as the much-to-be-desired recreation of our entire mental and physical equipment."

Recreation Magazine, 315-4th Ave., New York City. 25¢ a copy

May, 1938—"When the Finale Is a Pageant." This is an article summarizing a number of playground pageants presented by recreation departments throughout the country.

August, 1936—"Producing a Playground Pageant." Offers practical suggestions on how to plan, write, organize and produce a playground pageant. Pageant outline included for the story of Rip Van Winkle.

June, 1935—"Start Your Planning Now for the Summer Closing Festival."

July, 1933—"Plays and Pageants for the Playground," by Helen Board.

Technique of Pageantry, The, by Linwood Taft. A reliable guide giving detailed directions for every phase of a pageant. A. S. Barnes and Co., 67 West 44th St., New York City. \$2.00

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

The Cokesbury Game Book

By Arthur M. Depew. Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tennessee. \$1.75.

MANY RECREATION WORKERS have used with great profit the *Cokesbury Party Book* published in 1932 and the *Cokesbury Stunt Book* which appeared in 1934. Faced with the problem of selecting from a great mass of material six hundred games and activities which would be most helpful, the author's first consideration in his game book was the provision of a ready reference book for recreational leaders and workers with church, school, and playground groups. He has also kept in mind the needs of the individual using the book. The book accordingly offers 50 active games, 50 quiet games, 50 writing games, 50 outdoor games, 75 games to make and play, 100 mental games, 25 cultural games, 50 musical games, and 150 games for special occasions.

Table Tennis

By Coleman Clark. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. \$1.60.

IN SPITE OF THE popularity of the game, comparatively little has been written on the subject of table tennis. The purpose of this book is to tell how table tennis is played, how to get the most fun out of it, and to answer questions which have arisen about the game. It should be as beneficial to beginners as to more advanced players and a helpful guide and reference book for recreation workers and teachers of physical education. A history of the game is presented, and there is a discussion of equipment as well as techniques. The final chapter is devoted to the organization of tournaments, leagues, and clubs.

Community Buildings for Farm Families

By Blanche Halbert. Farmers' Bulletin No. 1804. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \$1.10.

HERE IS A PRACTICAL pamphlet with many suggestions for the construction of rural community buildings of both many-use and special-use types with plans and photographs. There are suggestions for remodeling old buildings and for using school buildings. There are notes telling what many communities are doing to provide centers. Not the least valuable sections of the pamphlets are those which point out when a community should not erect a building and enumerating the mistakes to be avoided, for "white elephants" in the form of unused community buildings unfortunately exist both in rural and urban communities.

Children's Play, Indoors and Out

By Elizabeth F. Boettiger. E. P. Dutton and Company, Inc., New York. \$2.00.

HERE IS A BOOK which contains suggestions for setting the stage for satisfying play—"play that provides ample and varied physical activity; gives the opportunity for exploration and achievement; fulfills intellectual and

emotional needs; and allows wholesome social contacts." With this objective in mind, the author gives us information and suggestions on first toys, materials for block building, picture making, clay modeling, woodworking, music making, storytelling, use of outdoor play space, gardening, pets, and many other subjects. The volume is a very practical guide for parents and teachers and for leaders having the responsibility of caring for children, particularly those from two to six years of age.

Square Dances of the Great Smoky Mountains

Kit 47. Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio. \$2.50.

ONE OF THE RICHEST sources of our colonial heritage lies in the Southern Highlands, Mr. Frank H. Smith points out in a foreword to this booklet which contains fourteen dances for large circles, twelve for small ones, together with four mountain folk songs and a number of dance tunes collected in the Great Smoky Mountain region and carefully edited.

Children Come and Sing— Seasons and Such

Words and music by Clara Lyden. Illustrations by Mary Hellmuth. E. M. Hale and Company, Milwaukee, Wis. Paper bound, \$1.15; cardboard, \$2.25.

HERE IS A REMARKABLY good collection of songs for little children of nursery, school or kindergarten age. It is rarely one finds composed songs for children of this age which are so genuine, spontaneous, and yet so well suited to the interests and capacities of the children. They are well suited, too, to the pianist of limited skill. Delightful illustrations accompany the songs.

Dolls to Make: For Fun and Profit

By Edith Flack Ackley. Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York. \$2.00.

IN THIS BOOK Mrs. Ackley, author of "Marionettes: Easy to Make! Fun to Use!" tells simply and exactly how to make dolls and gives patterns both for dolls and their clothes. Careful drawings show every step of the making, as well as the finished dolls.

Coordinating Councils in California

By Kenneth S. Beam, Executive Secretary, Coordinating Councils, Inc. State of California, Department of Education Bulletin, September 1, 1938. \$2.25.

MORE AND BETTER recreation is one of the major interests of Coordinating Councils. Twenty years ago two men lunched together in Berkeley, California—one a school man and the other the city chief of police—to discuss certain "cases" in which both were interested. They soon found, however, that if they were to do the

best work with these problem cases they would have to consult a wider group of interested people. This led to the inclusion in a larger luncheon group of guidance and psychiatrist specialists and representatives of health and public welfare. This group was the beginning of the Berkeley Coordinated Council. Ten years later this Berkeley group was "discovered" by a State Commission for the Study of Problem Children. The report of this Commission led to the rapid growth of the Coordinating Council in California, so that in a period of ten years there were developed 126 coordinating councils, varying greatly in nature and effectiveness. More than one-half of these were in cities of less than 15,000 population.

This booklet of more than fifty pages describes the rise of the movement, its rapidly changing objectives, varied types of organization, and some of the results achieved. The new idea which is emerging on the horizon is that if whole communities are to be made better places in which to live *all* constructive agencies in the community must be enlisted in cooperative effort. This goes beyond the public departments originally included, beyond the council of social agencies in the commonly accepted sense, and includes the schools, the churches and civic clubs. The booklet is well written and will be of interest to recreation workers and other community leaders.

Tennis—Fundamentals and Timing.

By Ethel Sutton Bruce and Bert O. Bruce. Prentice-Hall, Inc. New York. \$2.50.

This book is novel in presenting a simple "accounting method" for the rapid mastery of the basic tennis shots. Each stroke is analyzed from start to finish in such a way as to fix the correct method in the player's mind before his racket even touches the ball. This method puts rhythm into timing, footwork and balance. It offers a natural, easy way for learning how to play tennis. Eighty-six action photographs and many drawings illustrate the system.

The Education of Youth for Leadership.

By Arthur J. Jones. Published by McGraw-Hill Books Co., Inc., New York. \$2.00.

The author of this volume bases his thesis on the assumption that the schools have the chief responsibility for the selection of leadership. The effort of the schools, then, he says, is largely mechanical and unintelligent. The purpose of the book is to help the schools in the selection and training of leaders and in stimulating research along these lines. The author analyzes the problems of youth for leadership, submits data regarding the characteristics of leaders and discusses the best methods of discerning these traits early in life. The chapters on The Meaning and Function of Leadership, The Characteristics of Leaders, and the Fundamentals in a Leadership Program are suggestive to recreation leaders who are responsible for the selection and training of workers.

The Cokesbury Stunt Book.

By Arthur M. Depew. Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tennessee. \$1.75.

While this is not a new book, it may be timely to remind readers of RECREATION of the availability of this book containing more than six hundred stunts for the stage, banquet, luncheons, party, boys' camp and similar occasions. Most of the stunts and skits described are purely simple and nonsensical and are intended to be. They can be adapted to the good-time hours of any occasion.

A Professional Outlook on Group Education.

By Hedley S. Dimock, Charles E. Hendry and Karl P. Zerfoss. Association Press, New York. 35¢.

"The discovery of group experience as a highly significant educational resource is not new despite the recent wave of interest in group work or group education.

Some of the major leisure time agencies from the beginning have depended largely on the small volunteer group as a central means of achieving their purpose."

With this frank acknowledgment of the long standing use of the group method, the authors describe briefly the origins of the present emphasis on group work, the social function of group education, established criteria of group education, discuss the distinctive role of the private leisure time agencies, and in the second half of the book discuss the case for professional training of informal educators.

American Planning and Civic Annual.

Edited by Harlean James. American Planning and Civic Association, 901 Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. \$3.00.

Here is a record of recent civic advance as shown in the proceedings of the Conference on National Parks held at Washington, D. C., the National Conference on State Parks at Norris, Tennessee, and the National Conference on Planning at Minneapolis, Minnesota. The papers presented at these conferences represent an exceedingly valuable body of material on our national and state parks. A section has been included on planning. Each Annual as it makes its yearly appearance contains an increasing amount of material on the recreational uses of national and state parks.

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