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American Park and Outdoor Art Association



VOLUME FOUR
PART TWO

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1900

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VOLUME IV.

PART II.

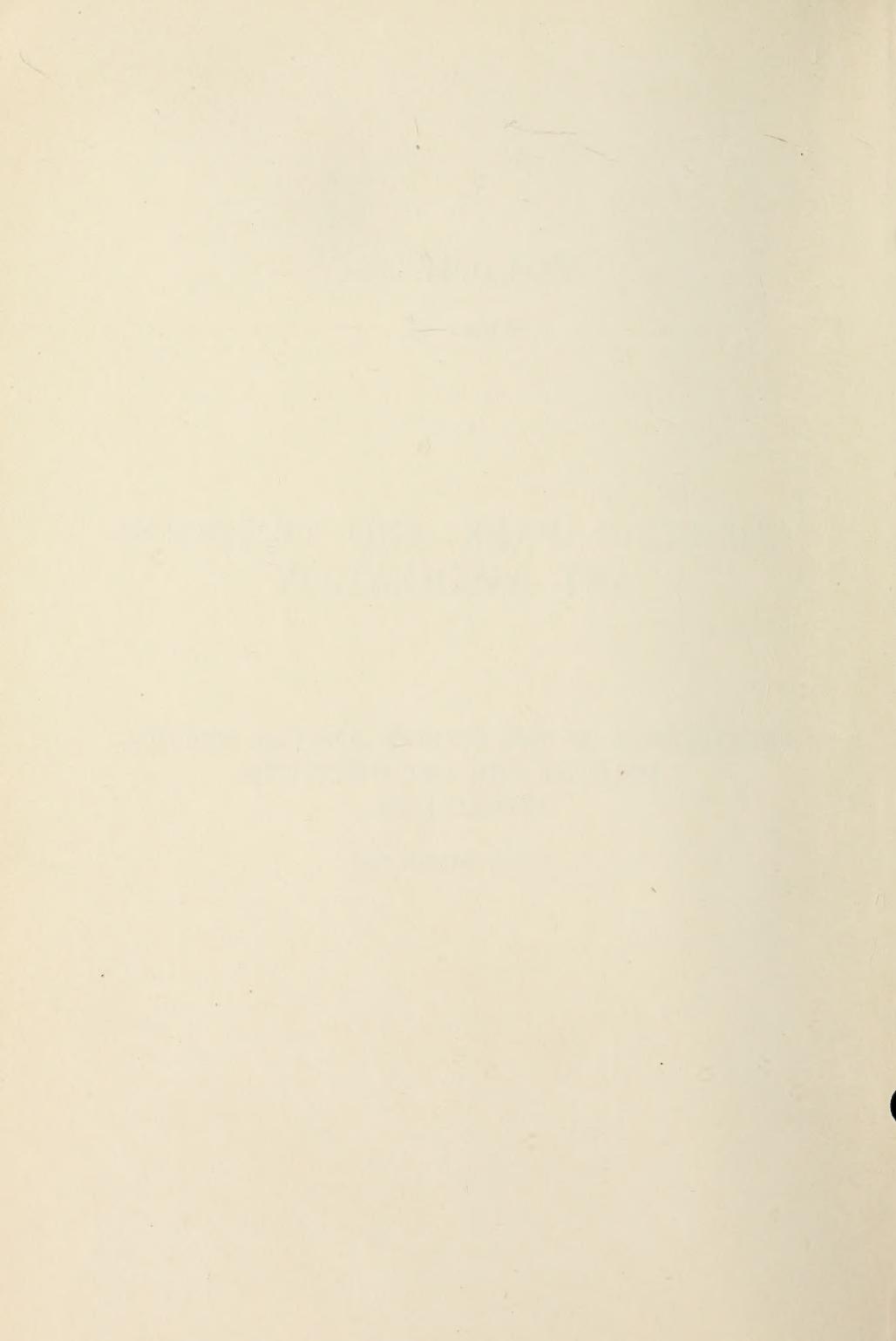
OF THE

AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING
HELD AT THE ART INSTITUTE
CHICAGO, ILL.

June 5, 6, and 7, 1900





THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

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L. E. HOLDEN	Cleveland, Ohio.
CHARLES M. LORING	Minneapolis, Minn.

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.
CHICAGO, ILL., JUNE 5, 6, AND 7, 1900.

BUSINESS AND ENTERTAINMENT.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1900, 10 A. M.

The opening session was called to order by President Charles M. Loring, in Fullerton Hall of the Art Institute, with an attendance of seventy.

Mr. Howard S. Taylor, representing His Honor, Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, welcomed the Association to the city. Mr. Wallace Heckman, president of the Art Association of Chicago, and Mr. Peter B. Wight of the Municipal Art League of Chicago, presented addresses of welcome from their respective organizations. (See paper 45, page 21.)

President Loring, after responding to these words of welcome, delivered his annual address. (See paper 46, page 28.)

The secretary then presented his report, of which the following is an outline:—

In order that the work of the Association should come to the attention of its members and others at more frequent intervals, the Council voted to have the annual report issued in parts, as there was money available in the treasury. Accordingly, Parts 1 and 2 of Vol. III were issued in December, 1899, and Part 3, completing the papers read, in May of this year.

Our membership comprises two honorary, ten life, and

two hundred and ninety-six annual members, from one hundred and fourteen communities in twenty-nine states and Canada, a gain since our last meeting of one hundred annual members, thirty-three of whom were added by members as a form of subscription to the treasury of the Association. Six annual members have become life members, and two new life members have been added. Two annual members have died, Mr. Robert Gillham and Mr. S. B. Armour, of Kansas City, Mo., and twenty-four in arrears have been stricken from the membership list.

The financial showing for the year beginning June 22, 1899, and ending June 4, 1900, is as follows:—

Total receipts handed over to treasurer,	\$971 92
Received from treasurer on orders from Council,	938 13
	—
Balance in hands of treasurer,	\$33 79
Expended for running expenses from sum received from treasurer,	\$890 05
Balance in hands of secretary,	48 08
Total balance to credit of Association,	\$81 87
Liabilities,	262 31
	—
Deficit,	\$180 44

ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES.

Printing 1899 report :—

Vol. III., Part 1,	\$81 00
Vol. III., Part 2 (Illustrations to Part II. being paid for by writer of paper),	76 50
Vol. III., Part 3,	114 50
	—
General printing of circulars, application blanks, letter heads, programmes, paper, etc.,	36 65
Postage and government envelopes,	47 46
Telegrams and express,	2 07
Clerical expenses, salary of assistant secretary,	151 16
Traveling expenses of assistant secretary,	38 16
Papers, "Christian Works," containing article on work of A. P. and O. A. A.,	10 02
Stereopticon at Detroit (subsequently paid by gentlemen who used instrument to illustrate papers),	20 00

Typewriting at Detroit,	\$5 65
Sundries,	3 10
To partially reimburse secretary for moneys advanced to the Association,	303 78
Total expenditures,	\$890 05

ITEMIZED LIABILITIES.

Secretary's bill of June 22, 1899, for moneys advanced to the Association,	\$526 71
Expenses paid by secretary from June 22, 1899, to June 4, 1900: —	
Traveling expenses of assistant secretary,	\$13 57
Expenses of secretary in endeavor to secure special trans- portation rates,	7 00
Telegrams, telephones, and express,	10 13
Postage,	8 34
Sundries,	34
	—
Total,	39 38
Secretary received on account, August 12, 1899,	\$566 09
Secretary received on account, May 28, 1900,	153 78
	—
Total amount due secretary for moneys advanced,	\$262 31

The following was the report submitted by the treasurer,
Mr. O. C. Simonds:—

O. C. Simonds, treasurer, in account with the American Park and Outdoor Art Association.

Dr.

To cash received from secretary,	\$971 92
----------------------------------	----------

Cr.

By sundry payments to secretary on orders from Council: —

August 12, 1899,	\$228 40
November 20, 1899,	130 00
January 4, 1900,	131 02
May 28, 1900,	448 71
	—
	938 13

Dr.

To balance, June 4, 1900,	\$33 79
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These reports were accepted and referred to the Auditing Committee, who reported at the closing session, as follows:—

Having carefully examined the accounts of the secretary and treasurer of this Association, we beg to report that we find them correct, and that the condition of the treasury on June 4, 1900, exhibits an indebtedness to W. H. Manning, Esq., the secretary, for warranted expenses, of \$262.31, with a cash balance on hand of \$81.87; the treasurer having on hand \$33.79 and the secretary \$48.08 of said balance.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. W. FOLWELL,
JOHN C. OLMSTED,
LEWIS JOHNSON, } *Auditing Committee.*

President Loring then called for the report of the Committee on Park Census, and Dr. W. W. Folwell, the chairman, stated that it had been found impossible to secure the special legislation required for the appointment of a special agent to collect information on parks.

This report was accepted and it was voted that a special park census committee be continued to collect such information.

Mr. J. A. Ridgway, acting chairman of the Committee on Park Accounts, reported that on September 1, 1899, a circular letter was sent by this committee to secretaries of park commissions throughout the country, to carry out the suggestion embodied in a paper presented at Detroit by Mr. G. A. Parker, of Hartford, Conn., that "park accounts would be rendered of much more importance for comparison if park boards could fix upon some common method of keeping their accounts." The circular stated that it was hoped that some general system of park accounting might be devised which would result in a greater degree of uniformity, to the

end that comparisons of cost, as well as the compiling of park statistics and other valuable information, might be more readily made; that the necessity for such change must be apparent to every interested person who had examined the financial reports of the various park secretaries, hardly any two of which have been prepared along similar lines or upon a common basis. The hearty assistance, good will, and co-operation of all persons interested in park accounting were solicited. To the extreme disappointment of the committee, only five replies were received, of which but two manifested an active interest; and this had deterred the committee from further work, especially as the chairman, Mr. F. C. Bangs, who up to April had been secretary of the Cleveland Park Commission, had found it necessary to withdraw from the committee. Mr. Ridgway believed that it might be well for the committee to formulate a system of park accounting in outline, to be presented at the next annual meeting for action. The report was accepted, the committee continued; and instructed to report at the next meeting.

The report of the Committee on Offering Prizes for the Design of Home, School, and Factory Grounds, submitted by Prof. Wm. J. Beal, of the Agricultural College, Lansing, Mich., chairman, and Messrs. Shuey of Dayton, O., and Folwell of Minneapolis, was then read and discussed. (See paper 47, page 35.)

A paper on "Landscape Gardens" by Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago, was then read, but, owing to the lateness of the hour, it could not be discussed. (See Part 3, paper 48, to be published at a subsequent date.)

President Loring then closed the session, urging all present to bring their friends to the evening session to hear the addresses by Messrs. Patterson and Shuey, of Dayton, Ohio, on the "Improvement of Grounds about Factories and Employees' Homes."

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 5, 1900.

At 3.30 P. M. the delegates and their friends visited by invitation the Field Columbian Museum, and were then, by courtesy of the South Park Commissioners, driven through the South Park System, and entertained at a luncheon in the Washington Park Refectory. President Joseph Donnersberger, of the South Park Commission, welcomed the Association, referring in his remarks to the persistent opposition against parks which had to be overcome in the beginning of Chicago's park history and the difficult situation in which the commission found themselves by reason of the barrenness of the soil. Notwithstanding an expenditure of \$16,000,000 and the accomplishment of much work they had much yet to do. He said that the work of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association would be certain to make friends for the park movement in Chicago.

President Loring in his response called attention to the remarkable transformation that had been wrought by the South Park Commission since the time when he remembered the region now occupied by the parks as a waste of sand ridges, bogs, and scrubby oaks.

The return was made through the Drexel and other prominent boulevards of the city.

SECOND SESSION, JUNE 5, 1900, 8 P. M.

President Loring opened the session by introducing Messrs. J. H. Patterson and Edwin L. Shuey, who addressed the Association and a large number of friends upon "The Improvement of Grounds about Factories and Employees' Homes," illustrated by stereoscopic views. The condensed report of these addresses and the discussion following is published with the article on "The Improvement of Factory, Home, and School Grounds. (See paper 47, page 42.)

After the addresses the meeting adjourned until Wednesday morning.

THIRD SESSION, JUNE 6, 1900, 10 A. M.

At this meeting the evils of the prevalent advertising methods were set forth in a lantern talk on "The Defacement of Chicago," by Dr. George Kriehn, of Chicago; and in a report of the Committee on Methods of Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising, of which Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., is chairman, and Messrs. F. W. Kelsey, Charles W. Garfield, and J. C. E. Hanford, members. This report was published in full in the Boston *Transcript* and the liberality of this paper in allowing the use of its plates and of our president, Mr. Holden, in defraying the cost of printing, has enabled the Association to offer this publication to all applicants free of charge. It is published as Part 1 of Vol. IV. A summary of this report and of Dr. Kriehn's address is given, together with the discussion that followed, on page 46, paper 49.

Mr. William M. R. French, director of the Art Institute, Chicago, was then introduced by the chairman and read his paper on "Trees in Composition," emphasizing the various points, as he read them, by colored crayon sketches in a forcible and exceedingly interesting manner. (See paper 50, page 57.)

The session then adjourned until Thursday morning.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 6, 1900, 10 A. M.

By courtesy of the West Park Commissioners, the delegates and their friends were driven through the western boulevard system and parks, and were given an opportunity to examine the administration buildings, stables, outdoor gymnasium, and natatorium, in Douglas Park, and provided with a luncheon in the refectory at Garfield Park. President J. W.

Suddard of the West Chicago Park Commissioners gave a brief address of welcome to which a response was made by President Loring.

THE BANQUET, AUDITORIUM HOTEL,

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

At the complimentary banquet given to the Association by the citizens of Chicago one of the most attractive features was the floral display provided gratuitously by Messrs. Bassett & Washburne, the Chicago Carnation Co., and Weiland & Co., and arranged by Mr. P. J. Hauswirth, who loaned the vases. Mr. S. M. Millard was toastmaster. (Abstracts of the toasts and responses will be found in paper 45, page 25.)

FOURTH SESSION, JUNE 7, 1900, 10 A. M.

Owing to the illness of President Loring, Mr. S. A. Foster, of Des Moines, occupied the chair until Vice-President Johnson was relieved from committee work. At this, the closing session of the meeting, the following papers were presented, the first two and the last being read by their authors, and the third by the secretary: "Park Roads," by Mr. J. Frank Foster, superintendent of the Chicago South Park System (see paper 51, page 62); "Art in Landscape," by Mr. S. M. Millard, of Chicago; "The Statue in the Park," by Mr. Wm. Ordway Partridge, of New York (see paper 53, page 74); and "The Moral Influence of Parks," by Rev. J. A. Rondthaler, of Chicago (see paper 54, page 79).

After the reading of the above papers, the following officers were elected by a ballot cast by the secretary in accordance with the unanimous vote of the meeting:—

President, L. E. Holden, Cleveland, Ohio; Vice-Presidents (re-elected to serve for three years), Edward J. Parker, Quincy, Ill.; John C. Olmsted, Brookline, Mass.; Secretary (re-elected to serve for three years), Warren H. Manning, Bos-

ton; Treasurer (re-elected to serve for two years), O. C. Simonds, Chicago.

A Local Improvement Committee was elected. (See page 4.) The Committee on Indebtedness was discharged as recommended by its chairman. It was voted on the recommendation of the Council that the membership of the Committees on Auditing, Resolutions, Publications, Finance, Park Census, Park Accounts, Methods of Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising, Advisory to the Pan-American Exposition, and Prizes for Designs, stand as given on pages 3 and 4 of this volume.

A petition signed by the women members present at the meeting, asking that the women members of the Association should be permitted to organize a Women's Auxiliary to the Association, which should join the General Federation of Women's Clubs and thus secure their aid and co-operation in promoting the cause of outdoor art, was referred to the Council. (The Council has since voted to authorize the women members of the Association to form a Women's Auxiliary, and acting under this authority the Auxiliary have organized by the choice of Mrs. Herman J. Hall, of Chicago, as president and Miss E. A. Canning, of Warren, Mass., as secretary. Special circulars have been sent out and forty members have been added since December, 1900.)

The following resolution was offered by Mr. E. C. Van Leyen, Park Commissioner, Detroit, Mich. :—

WHEREAS: The American Park and Outdoor Art Association was organized for the advancement of parks and of outdoor art, and,

WHEREAS: Many of the park commissions are paying the expenses of their commissioners and executive heads to attend this convention for the purpose of gaining valuable information relative to park work, and,

WHEREAS: The subjects treated upon and information given at this and the past two annual meetings, have been very instructive, but mostly foreign to park work, and,

WHEREAS: This Association is in need of funds and the burden should be largely met by the park commissions, be it

Resolved: That the Constitution and By-Laws be so amended as to direct that a majority of the Council shall consist of park representatives and that park commissions be members instead of individuals, at annual dues of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) permitting one or more delegates from such commission, and that all other members of the Association pay dues the same as provided by By-Laws now.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. E. L. Shuey, of Dayton, Ohio:—

Resolved: That the Council of the A. P. and O. A. A. be requested when preparing the programme for the next meeting, to arrange, in addition to the general topics, a series of sectional conferences for the discussion of special subjects of interest: that this be done with a view to offering opportunity for the discussion of practical subjects of interest to the varied classes of members.

The following list of practical questions was recommended for consideration by Sidney A. Foster, Park Commissioner, Des Moines, Ia.:—

Recognizing that to the individual or to municipalities very considerable expense must be involved to send representatives to this meeting, it is with pleasure that I urge that attention be given to the practical questions concerning public parks which should be made the study of this organization.

In order to epitomize briefly the real meaning of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association there are submitted herewith a few subjects concerning which many commissioners would like to be informed.

Technical work of various park systems; Work being done and methods adopted; Uniformity of laws governing parks and rules of regulation; Building pavilions, providing entertainment, and construction of park conveniences; Places of refreshment—in what number and with what restriction; How far shall parks be educational? Are plants and zoölogy for educational purposes, for entertainment, or for both? Providing a system of exchange of plants, animals, and fowls; Boulevard-making—shall the curb be high or low, or

shall there be none? Shall the line of the boulevard be straight or irregular? The maintenance of parks (this question to be divided to cover various departments); Résumé of park census and statistics; Best method of preserving or reviving decaying forest trees; Best method of pumping water from wells or reservoirs; Manner of providing and employing labor—should not the florists' department require a civil service examination? Shall parks cultivate their own nurseries? What is the best method of spraying? Methods of preserving roads and roadways; What makes the best walk for a park? Flowers versus shrubs in parks; Is it cheaper for parks to own or hire teams?

It is submitted that there are other questions of even greater importance which this organization can profitably adopt for its business meetings each forenoon and let special papers be given in the afternoon.

Mr. Harry W. Jones, of Minneapolis, Minn., moved that the Council be requested to consider an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws permitting the Association to pass upon business presented to it.

Messrs. Loring, Folwell, and Jones, of Minneapolis; Van Leyen and Hurlbut, of Detroit; Dr. Standish, of Galesburg, Ill.; Messrs. Shuey, of Dayton; Foster, of Des Moines; Cornish, of Omaha; Johnson and Baker, of New Orleans, took part in the discussion of these resolutions and recommendations. It was finally voted, on motion of Mr. Van Leyen, that a committee of five be appointed to consider and prepare amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, to be submitted to the Council for its final approval or rejection; that this committee be appointed by the retiring president and be composed of two park commissioners, two landscape architects, and one representative of outdoor art in general. (For Committee, see page 3.)

The Association then accepted unanimously the invitation to hold our fifth annual meeting in Milwaukee, Wis. Invitations from the mayor and various organizations were presented in person by Messrs. Rebhan, Weber, and Starke, of

the Milwaukee Park Commission. It was the sense of the members present that this meeting should be called about the middle of June. The exact date has since been set for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 26, 27, and 28, 1901. The gentlemen of the Milwaukee Park Commission were instructed to extend the hearty thanks and expression of good will of the Association to the city of Milwaukee for its cordial invitation.

The following resolution was presented to the Association for action by Edw. C. Van Leyen, and unanimously adopted:—

WHEREAS: The American Park and Outdoor Art Association has undertaken to discourage the defacement of public streets and grounds by offensive billboard advertising, therefore, be it

Resolved: That the Secretary of the United States Treasury be and he is hereby requested to have paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Section 13 of "Instructions to Superintendents of Public Buildings," amended so that all advertising and signs other than necessary legal notices be prohibited upon all fences and inclosures upon or around government grounds or buildings.

(The Secretary of the United States Treasury has since replied through the United States Supervising Architect to the above resolution, "that a modification of the paragraphs referred to was made November 19, 1890, by the department, to read as follows: 'The practice of rental of fences for advertising purposes has been discontinued.'")

In connection with a letter from Dr. C. P. Ambler, secretary and treasurer of the Appalachian National Park Association, asking our Association to indorse their movement for the establishment of a Southern National Park in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, the following resolution was presented by the Committee on Resolutions, and unanimously adopted.

Resolved: That the American Park and Outdoor Art Association indorses all well considered movements for the acquirement, by the nation or state, of mountain or forest reservations, that will be for the use or benefit of the people.

The following is an abstract of the report of the Committee Advisory to the Pan-American Exposition, which was read by Mr. William Scott of Buffalo, in the absence of Mr. C. C. Laney, the chairman:—

Horticultural work on the Pan-American Exposition was begun in September, 1899, by establishing propagating houses and purchasing plants, many of which were set this spring. The site of the exposition, excepting the park, is mostly flat. The Horticultural building will have a place opposite the Government building. The southern one hundred acres of the Exposition grounds includes the beautiful "Gala Water" of the Buffalo Park, the natural contour of the ground affording an opportunity for the best landscape effect. In short, the Exposition's landscape gardening and general adornment thus far bids fair to surpass any previous attempt of a similar nature upon this continent.

A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to the various bodies which have made the visit of the Association to Chicago such an enjoyable and successful one: to the Local Committee on Entertainment and Finance, comprising the following members,—Henry Wade Rogers, president Northwestern University, chairman; Franklin McVeigh, president Municipal Art League of Chicago; Wallace Heckman, president Art Association of Chicago; William M. R. French, director of the Art Institute; J. W. Suddard, president West Chicago Park Commissioners; George B. Byron, Lincoln Park Commissioner; Joseph Donnersberger, president South Park Commissioners; Prof. George E. Vincent, director National Chautauqua University of Chicago; Bryan Lathrop; Mrs. Arthur Edwards, president Woman's Club; Mrs. Herman J. Hall, chairman Art Committee, General

Federation Women's Clubs; A. D. Philpot, John W. Ela, S. M. Millard, R. J. Haight, publisher of "Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening"; Dr. George Kriehn, lecturer on Municipal Art; O. C. Simonds, superintendent Graceland Cemetery; and Edwin A. Kanst, assistant landscape gardener, South Park; especial thanks being due to Messrs. Kriehn, Haight, Philpot, Simonds, and Kanst, upon whom fell the brunt of the work; to the South, West, and Lincoln Park Commissioners of Chicago, who have made our afternoons such delightful times of recreation; to the trustees of the Art Institute for the privilege of meeting in Fullerton Hall, with its exceptional advantages of ventilation, lighting, and acoustics; to the Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and to the Chicago Architectural Club for the use of their club rooms; to the Chicago Drainage Canal Commissioners for the excursion upon the Drainage Canal; to the following gentlemen for the floral decorations at the banquet: Messrs. Bassett & Washburne, the Chicago Carnation Company, Weiland & Company, P. J. Hauswirth; and to all others who in any way contributed to make our meeting a success.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 7, 1900.

The Lincoln Park Commissioners, who were in charge of this afternoon's outing, provided carriages for the delegates and many friends, who were driven to Lincoln Park and there given ample time to examine the many interesting and attractive features; from thence they were driven to the estate of Mr. William A. Peterson, one of our members, who entertained them most pleasantly. The visitors were especially interested in his system of drainage and irrigation, and the large trees which had been transplanted successfully after they had attained full growth. Lunch was served out of doors in true Swedish style.

FIFTH SESSION, JUNE 7, 1900, 8 P. M., FULLERTON HALL.

At this, a joint meeting of the Architectural League of America and the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, Mr. William M. R. French presided. A summary of his remarks will be found on page 84. A paper upon the subject of "Municipal Improvement," by Mrs. Edwin D. Mead, of the Twentieth Century Club, Boston, Mass., was to have been read by Mr. Charles M. Loring, president of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, but owing to illness he could not be present, and it was read by Prof. James W. Pattison of the Art Institute. (See paper 55, page 85.)

Mr. Albert Kelsey, president of the Architectural League of America, then delivered his paper on "Municipal Development," in which he suggested a solution of some of the problems introduced by Mrs. Mead, as well as others which he brought to the attention of the audience. (An abstract will be found in paper 55, page 93.) Mrs. Mead's and Mr. Kelsey's papers were accompanied by stereopticon views.

This joint meeting closed the sessions of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1900.

On this day about thirty delegates and friends took a very novel and interesting trip down the Chicago Drainage Canal to Lockport, returning by train. This trip was made possible by courtesy of the Drainage Canal Commissioners.

THE PHOTO EXHIBIT.

A feature of the meeting was an exhibit of photographs in an upper corridor of the Art Institute, arranged to illustrate good and bad examples of landscape art, as well as scenes devoid of any attempt at improvement. The collec-

tion was arranged under the following headings: The Setting of Statuary; The Value of a Single Tree; Foliage about Buildings; Treatment of Shore-lines, Basins, and Rocks; Roads and Paths; Cemeteries; Lawns.

These pictures were loaned by Messrs. Olmsted Brothers, Brookline, Mass., Messrs. O. C. Simonds, and R. J. Haight, of Chicago; Mr. Warren H. Manning, of Boston; and Mr. George H. Hazzard, of St. Paul.

There was also a collection of photographs of billboards, principally taken in Chicago and loaned by Dr. Kriehn; and a fine set illustrating the planting about factories and employees' homes, loaned by Mr. J. H. Patterson, of Dayton, O.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL AT THE CHICAGO MEETING.

The Council passed the following resolution:—

WHEREAS: In order to maintain a thoroughly independent and impartial position, be it

Resolved: That it is the sense of the Council that from our meetings and programmes all exhibits and discussions of a purely commercial nature be rigidly excluded.

It was voted to recommend that the Association accept the invitation of the City and Park Commission of Milwaukee, to meet in that city in 1901. (See page 15.)

It was voted to discharge the Committee on Indebtedness; to incorporate a new Committee on Local Improvement; to indorse all well considered park movements (see page 17); to consider the advisability of holding a mid-winter meeting, during the month of February, 1901, in New Orleans; that Councilors Manning and Olmsted comprise a committee of two to prepare and submit to the next annual meeting a design for a permanent button for members of the A. P. and O. A. A.; and that the women members of the Association be authorized to form a Women's Auxiliary.

(It was the sense of the Council after considerable correspondence that it would not be advisable to accept the invitation of the Park Commission of New Orleans to hold a mid-winter meeting of the Association in that city, as few members would find it possible to attend a meeting at that season. It was hoped that the invitation would be extended for another year.)

(It has been voted since the meeting to publish the report of the Committee on Methods of Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising as Part I of Vol. IV of the A. P. and O. A. A. proceedings, the expense of printing being defrayed by President Holden.)

ADDRESSES AND DISCUSSIONS.

(45) WELCOMING ADDRESSES, RESPONSES, AND TOASTS.

THE WELCOME OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

Mr. HOWARD S. TAYLOR, representing His Honor, Mayor CARTER H. HARRISON.

The City of Chicago extends to the members of this Association a most hearty welcome. Our citizens will be benefited by your deliberations, and we are sure that you will find objects that will interest and instruct you in our city, which is in itself an example of what may be accomplished by indomitable will; for no more unfavorable situation could well have been found for a great city than this, with its deep bogs, sandy wastes, and shallow river. Not far to the north was a fine harbor with solid land about it and underlying beds of limestone, but our pioneer fathers ignored it and builded a city upon a swamp. The pressing needs of business and transportation did not at first permit much attention to outdoor art, but the time has now come when the people can devote some care to these matters and they are doing so.

Your Association can clarify our views and give a great stimulus to this movement throughout the country. Your scope and aims are not mere matters of taste—they add to our intellectual pleasure and enter in a most virile way into the development of a community.

The amount that a municipality is expending for public parks and open-air breathing spaces is a standard by which you may judge of the well-being of its people, as well as of their standing in the scale of civilization. Last year the fire losses in this city from firecrackers alone were sufficient to pay for three small parks. In that same time \$58,000,000 was expended for drink. If we were able to devote one quarter of this sum to parks and breathing spaces, what an advance there would be in the prosperity of the people—what a civilizing influence would be introduced! With more frequent and attractive places for rest and recreation, where people could be influenced by nature, the saloons and dens of vice would be less patronized.

Again we welcome you. You doubtless will object to the smoke and noise of our city, but you must accept this as an evidence of our business energy. I trust you will observe, however, that we have ordered a period of exceptional weather for your especial benefit.

THE WELCOME OF THE ART ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO.

MR. WALLACE HECKMAN, President, Chicago.

As the representative of Chicago's Art Association, composed of thirty-six art, literary, social, and political clubs, I welcome you to our city. Some there are who care more for a city wherein the Creator has etched a plan to govern its creation on stronger lines. They may be unable to appreciate the greater skill and energy required to build a beautiful city with little more than a blank to work upon. We have no sea with its rugged shores, no Hudson with its palisades, no

Fairmount Park of a thousand acres, and no beautiful Wissahickon Drive; yet we have already created much that is beautiful in our city, and it is growing in beauty day by day. The builders of Venice created upon a hundred and a score of low, sandy islands, whereon were only a few fishermen's huts of thatch, a city so marvelously beautiful that it has given to all its citizens æsthetic pleasure for hundreds of years, and drawn a continuous stream of admiring visitors from all parts of the world.

The builders of Chicago found neither land nor water—they found, as Mr. Taylor has told you, a dreary swamp. The genius of man has cut through it a stream of the blue Lake Michigan, tying the waters of the Niagara to those of the Mississippi. We point with pride to the stately monuments that we owe to the genius of John W. Root, who in the zenith of his powers was led away by the shadowy hand.

On the borderland between the blue of our Mediterranean and our city, the Gem of the Prairie, there rose a city of white so beautiful that men have made it the standard in passing judgment upon other cities of its kind—a city so beautiful that orators, painters, and poets have failed to express its beauty, so altogether lovely that those who looked upon it for the last time wept.

We welcome you to a city that has done much and that has yet much to do. We welcome all who can help us by word or counsel, and this your Association can surely do.

THE WELCOME OF THE MUNICIPAL ART LEAGUE OF CHICAGO.

Mr. P. B. WIGHT, Chicago.

The American Park and Outdoor Art Association and the Municipal Art League are naturally affiliated societies and should co-operate with each other. It is the aim of the League constantly to foster all the arts of this city, not bending its energies to architecture and sculpture alone, but in-

cluding the useful and industrial arts of the people. Many of our citizens do not decorate the surroundings of their homes because they do not know how, or because they fail to appreciate how much beauty a few simple things will add to the home surroundings. One season I counted fifty door-yards gone to seed just because their owners did not get a good variety of seed. These are small things to occupy our attention, perhaps you say, but we know that large things grow from the little and we should strive to help our fellow-citizens in all these little ways.

Let me outline some of the work of the Municipal Art League during this year. The Trustees of the Drainage Canal have asked our assistance in the design of their numerous bridges; and steps have been taken towards the remodeling of the old Lake Front to the east. This is one of the greatest fields for improvement in any city of the world, and here we may help civilization as well as art, for these shores are the lurking place of thieves and the shelter for disease and crime. In all these things our work is closely connected with outdoor art, and consequently we are greatly in sympathy with you and your work, and hope you will succeed in all you are attempting. May your example be followed in this city and throughout the country.

RESPONSE.

President CHARLES M. LORING.

The cordial greeting which you extend to the delegates of this convention is characteristic of the hospitable citizens of Chicago, whom you so honorably represent, and I assure you that it meets with hearty appreciation.

Through the courtesy of the Trustees of the Art Institute our sessions are to be held in this beautiful hall, situate in a building filled with works of art; a monument to those who have devoted their time to its management, and to the

patrons who have so liberally provided the works of art—the pride of a great people who have built a wonderful city upon a site that, within my recollection, was a naked prairie.

In this Art Institute, in the great University, in the many institutions for the care of the sick, the unfortunate, the aged and infirm, for the education of youth in useful arts, in the grand parks and parkways, we see evidence of culture, refinement, ability, and philanthropy unsurpassed in the history of the world. Amid such surroundings we cannot fail to imbibe some of the spirit of improvement which has enabled the people of Chicago to build a great city, unequaled for beautiful homes and great municipal improvements, under adverse conditions, and be stimulated to greater efforts in our work.

In behalf of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association I extend sincere thanks.

TOASTS AND RESPONSES AT THE BANQUET, WEDNESDAY
EVENING, JUNE 6, 1900.

Mr. S. M. Millard, of Highland Park, Ill., acting as toastmaster, addressed the members as follows: Your welcome from the City of Chicago and its art associations could not be more sincere than that from the lovers of art in nature. You have opened our eyes to the full significance of the billboard nuisance with which we have become so familiar as to overlook its real hideousness. You have noticed what we have not, the unsightliness which lurks behind these boards. We will profit by your criticism. There is one redeeming feature about these signs which you have overlooked—the opportunities they give for amusing combinations and suggestions. Mr. Millard emphasized this phase of the billboard question by relating a number of incidents growing out of amusing poster combinations that placed his audience in the best of good humor. Continuing, he introduced as the first

speaker of the evening Pres. Chas. M. Loring, with a few well expressed words in appreciation of Mr. Loring's services to the Association and to the cause of outdoor art.

President Loring said that this banquet was an event of mingled joy and sorrow—a joy it was to be present, and a sorrow to be obliged to say something. It was, however, an easy and pleasant task to express the appreciation of the Association for the royal entertainment that had been so generously provided by the citizens of Chicago.

Mr. Albert Kelsey, of Philadelphia, the President of the Architectural League of America, said that in European countries municipal affairs were decided by a paternal form of government. It was the custom there for members of different professions to co-operate in working out a problem. In building a bridge, for example, the bridge engineer is asked to co-operate with the architect in order that the bridge may be mechanically and structurally correct, and at the same time beautiful and symmetrical in design. We see, therefore, in European cities more of unity, convenience, and beauty than we have yet been able to secure in our own cities. Here this work must be accomplished by individual effort working independently or in organized bodies. There is a growing tendency for the various professions to work together, of which the joint meeting of this Association and the Architectural League of America is an example. With the powerful stimulus that comes from many individuals and many societies working toward the same end—the improvement of our cities and homes—we may hope for the accomplishment of even greater results in a less time than has been taken to accomplish like results in European countries.

(Mr. J. H. Patterson's remarks are published with his address upon the improvement of grounds about factories and employees' homes, page 46.)

Dr. George Kriehn urged co-operation among men of different professions to prevent the unfortunate results in the

design and location of expensive public buildings that we see in many of our cities. In this city we have an art commission on which is a sculptor, a painter, and an architect, but no landscape architect, an omission that should be corrected; for it is to this profession that we would look for the sound and wise advice with reference to the location and surroundings of buildings.

Mr. Edw. J. Cornish, of Omaha, Neb., spoke for the politician on the park board, saying that he was elected as a politician. His board had secured the land for four and one half miles of boulevard, a speedway, and five public squares, averaging twelve acres each, at a reasonable price and without litigation—all this wholly by political methods. In this work they had found Mr. Cyrus Peck's pamphlet showing the value of parks to be of great service. He said: There is a right kind of politics and any good issue fairly presented by the politician to the people will have popular support. Out of three thousand assessed property owners only thirty-six appeared in protest, and not one has entered suit. I want to testify also to the correct taste of the people; they like to look at the showy floral displays and to talk about them, but they always come back to the natural landscapes, the grass, the shrubs, and the trees, for real enjoyment.

Mrs. Herman J. Hall, of Chicago, suggested that there be formed a Women's Auxiliary to the Association in order that through such an auxiliary the co-operation of the General Federation of Women's Clubs could be secured.

Mr. J. Frank Foster, of Chicago, referred to the success of the city in acquiring a fine park system and to its need of more small parks. A movement in this direction was under way and it was bound to succeed because it was one of the things that the people wanted and would get because they deserved it and needed it.

The speeches of the evening were brought to an end by Mr.

A. D. Philpot with a number of humorous stories, the memory of which will bring a smile to the face of every person who was so fortunate as to be present.

(46) · PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

CHARLES M. LORING, Minneapolis, Minn.

As the president of this Association, as one most enthusiastic regarding its aims and ambitions, having faith in its continued success, and in the desire for improvement which I see reflected from your faces—faces which have grown familiar and dear to me—it would be my natural wish, were it possible, to compass in this address a brief summary of the work accomplished by the members of this organization since our last meeting held at Detroit. For obvious reasons, however, I must deny myself the gratification of this desire; for many of you will give this information during the convention with far more interesting details than I could hope to give. Therefore I will confine my remarks to the work of improvement associations and the education of the young; subjects which have especially attracted my attention since last we met.

During the past year there has been a large increase in the number of these associations. From every section of our country we have received letters of inquiry asking for information as to the best methods of organization, and for forms of constitution and by-laws. In many towns and cities the children of the public schools have been organized into improvement associations. The zeal which they show in the work and the results which they have achieved are proofs of what, for several years, I have believed to be true, that if the early advocates of parks and breathing places had begun their work among the children, by this time the parents of to-day—the voters—would insist upon these necessary institutions for

promoting and maintaining health, comfort, and pleasure; and the children in densely populated neighborhoods would be provided with playgrounds, which, in the light of recent experience in the cities of New York and London, are so necessary for their healthy physical and moral development. Furthermore, instead of the almost universal ignorance among the masses regarding the simplest methods of planting and caring for trees and shrubs which results in disappointment and the ragged appearance of so many streets and home grounds, we should now have uniformly planted streets, the most modest homes surrounded with green lawns, shaded by thrifty trees, and embellished with shrubs, vines, and flowers.

A movement for the organization of the school children of Springfield, Massachusetts, resulted in their becoming the guardians of the trees in the city streets. Indeed, through the watchfulness of the children who constituted themselves special policemen, forty-five arrests were made for hitching horses to trees. In this way public sentiment was roused that obtained from the city council an appropriation of \$20,000 for the care of street trees, and this in a city of only 60,000 inhabitants. This most remarkable public acknowledgment of the value of trees should encourage the members of every improvement association in the country to renewed effort.

Conclusive evidence of the value of improvement associations and the advantage of organizing the school children comes to us from other cities, notably from Carthage, Missouri, where the superintendent of schools has taken an interest in educating his pupils in the study of nature. They are taken to the woods by their teachers and given practical lessons in arboriculture, taught the names of trees, shrubs, and flowers, and how they grow. This superintendent, whose example should be followed by every one who has the responsibility of educating children, issues instructions in circular

letters which he calls Nature Study Letters, from which I quote a few sentences.

"To the Pupils of Carthage Public Schools.

"DEAR FRIENDS: Shall we not do our part during the coming summer toward making Carthage a more beautiful city? We can do this and at the same time have lots of fun and learn many things of interest about the soil and plants.

"We can learn to grow vines and flowers about our homes and to arrange them so that the effect will be pleasing to all who pass by.

"We can also learn to use a few square feet of ground in the back yard so as to decrease the family expenses by supplying fresh, crisp vegetables.

"You remember how much we learned about the soil and plants from our window gardens. A small garden out of doors will give us even more valuable lessons if we keep our eyes open."

Then follows a list of premiums for the most artistic planting, arrangement, and training of vines on house, veranda, and outbuildings, for the best flower garden, and the best vegetable garden.

"Carthage already has the reputation of being one of the most beautiful towns in the country. Shall we not by united effort strive to make it even more worthy of this reputation?

"Information in regard to any of these prizes may be obtained of your teacher."

Is it any wonder that this Missouri town has beautiful trees, clean streets, and pleasant homes, when its children are encouraged in their natural love for nature? If every superintendent of schools followed the example of Superintendent Stevens, our cities and villages would be more attractive and their citizens more cultured and refined.

Several teachers in Minneapolis have formed improvement associations in their respective schools, which have proved very successful and of great interest to the pupils. The following facts are gleaned from a report by one of the principals who is an active member of the Minneapolis Im-

provement League. In her school building thirteen leagues are well established, each with its own separate organization and list of officers, one and all striving to accomplish the most valuable results in accordance with the objects for which they were organized. Beside keeping their own premises and the immediate neighborhood, including the streets, neat and orderly, they cleaned twenty-eight vacant lots and supervised the protection of street trees in the vicinity.

The labor of merely one month during the season yielded the following figures, given by Mrs. Tinsley, the principal: 4844 pieces of paper burned, 1208 bushels of leaves burned or buried, 2347 tin cans buried, 151 pieces of wire buried, 933 bottles buried, 128 old boots burned, 33 old dishes buried, 31 carcasses buried, 180 rags and 30 barrel hoops picked up, 75 yards cleaned. 150 pounds of old rubbers were sold for \$7.65, which was invested in a picture for the school.

The chairman of the Flower Committee connected with the Minneapolis Improvement League reports over eleven thousand children, from twenty-nine schools, already provided with seeds this spring, through the efforts of a few indefatigable workers. Following Mrs. Barnard's narrative, we learn that this year both flower and vegetable seeds were chosen with special reference to the nature study being pursued in the schools, that the children may have the additional interest of raising in their gardens at home the same varieties of plants that they study in their classes. Little pamphlets on the culture of flowers were furnished with that species of seed; but as the committee was totally ignorant of the proper care necessary to success with vegetables, it appealed to Professor Shaw, of the State Agricultural College, who readily promised to instruct the youthful aspirants to agricultural honors at his home, where he had already in operation a famous garden—famous, because of the amount of vegetables it demonstrated could be raised on a small plot, no larger than the back yard.

of an ordinary town lot. The street car company next came to their assistance with the offer of free transportation, and nearly three hundred boys were thus enabled, on several successive occasions, to receive practical instruction concerning preparation of the soil, proper planting, succession of crops, and the best way to conquer weeds. Good advice was also given on the culture of small fruits, and, incidentally, they were led through the greenhouses and museum, which completed this memorable excursion. Next year they hope to begin early enough to try the vacant lot plan, thus including many boys who were necessarily excluded this season.

This special line of work possesses additional value, as it embodies one idea, not only indorsed by the committee but also by the Chief of Police, viz.: that children cannot possibly have a better lesson in the meaning and observance of the law than to be made to realize that the law is an advantage to them, personally—"is on their side."

To my mind there is no doubt that the police protection afforded these outside gardens will provide a most effective object-lesson, rendering the next generation more law-abiding, and inspiring, let us hope, a greater respect for personal rights of property and labor.

Who can say, too, that the longing for rural sights and sounds may not thus be cultivated, and the tendency to dangerous urban centralization receive a wholesome check? We all deplore in the present the lack of enthusiasm for country pursuits—the aversion of the farmer's son for the occupation of the father—ready to his hand—an occupation too frequently discarded for penury, or at least a precarious existence in a thickly populated city. Our Agricultural Colleges are combating this mistaken idea in a most practical manner. First, they teach the student that brains and education bear inestimable fruit in farming, as elsewhere. Next, that more than a bare living can be made by a farmer who understands his business; comfort, even luxury, can

gradually be obtained. Lastly, and most important, that philosophy and poetry, the ethics of existence, need not be banished by petty ambition or material considerations. The farmer can be the peer of his city brother in love of nature, and appreciation of the highest contemporaneous thought.

Such institutions as the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard College both ennable, and are ennobled by, the study of landscape architecture, which, combining art and science, is, at last, finding its true place in the daily economy of the world.

A writer for the Humane Society urges that "the criminals of the future are in our public schools to-day: we can mold them now if we wish. The future is now in our hands." It might be added they are also in our streets and parks. Will anyone contradict the theory that the higher nature of children is constantly appealed to when living in a city where attractive thoroughfares and beautiful parks teach their gently persuasive lessons? Such a metropolis clearly illustrates in unmistakable, if silent, language, that utility and beauty can be co-existent, that the city, as a whole, cares for the welfare and pleasure of its inhabitants, as individuals, as a wise mother cares for her children; that as they are considered and cared for, so must they consider and care for those less favored and weaker than themselves, including the dumb half of creation. Will not the boy whose attention has been attracted by the well-kept collection of animals in a park menagerie, where he feeds the graceful deer and clown-like bears with his own hands, and notes the solicitude displayed by the park attendants for the wild denizens of the spot,—the squirrels and birds,—be less apt to display cruelty to all animals thereafter? Will not the girl, as her eye is gratified by the brilliant plumage, and her ear is filled with the joyous and varied voices of the feathered songsters, ponder upon their usefulness, innocence, and beauty—in other words, their right to live—and be less ready to have these beautiful inhabitants

of the trees slaughtered by the millions for the adornment of herself and sex? It is both sad and shameful, at the present time, that public sentiment has not accomplished what law is beginning to demand—the protection of birds.

Ex-Mayor Hewitt, chairman of the Committee for securing small parks and playgrounds, said: "In planning the city of New York the children seem to have been forgotten." Is not that true of all of our cities? Have we provided for the physical development of the children as we should? Thanks to the few who have realized the necessity for other playgrounds than the public streets, some of our larger cities have provided, at enormous cost, small areas in densely populated sections with most gratifying results. This movement should be inaugurated in every city, and in every park there should be a section provided for the exclusive use of children. Playgrounds should be established in every ward. When our city rulers realize the truth of this, there will be a decrease in crime, and in the death rate, and an improvement in the moral and physical condition of the youth.

I have presented this subject of the education of children because the experience of the past few years has convinced me that the object of this Association will be more quickly realized through this source, and I recommend that the delegates to this convention, upon returning to their homes, promote the organization of the school children into improvement associations, and encourage the teachers of public schools to give their pupils lessons in nature study, thereby laying the foundation for greater usefulness and in many instances a means for obtaining a livelihood in one of the most pleasing occupations ever engaged in by individuals of either sex.

The thanks of this Association are due to its secretary, Mr. Warren H. Manning, for the indefatigable manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of his office. Much of the success which it has already achieved must be credited to his energy and enthusiasm.

In retiring from the honorable position to which you have twice elected me, I wish to thank you for the many courtesies I have received, and to assure you that my interest in the work of the Association will continue, and that it is my desire to meet with you as long as my health will permit.

(47) THE IMPROVEMENT OF FACTORY, HOME,
AND SCHOOL GROUNDS.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRIZES FOR DESIGNS.

The aim of the Association is partly that of a home missionary society, especially in its endeavors to lead dwellers in humble homes to improve their surroundings. Much of such work has been stimulated heretofore by the offer of prizes, the importance of which we recognize as the means of making a beginning and establishing good examples for others to follow. The importance of this method of accomplishing one of the prominent objects of this Association must not be overestimated, however, for there are many ways of reaching the class of people referred to, and all of these ways are worth trying.

Wealthy persons, factory owners, agricultural and horticultural societies, granges, and nurserymen, should not only offer prizes for the best designs, but they should aim to secure illustrated lectures showing the surroundings of certain homes before and after the improvements were made; describe by words, pamphlets, and reports from journals, work that has been done elsewhere in making wonderful change for the better; encourage the formation of local societies for such work; induce societies organized for other purposes to take up this kind of work, especially women's clubs and literary societies; interest school children in the formation of societies for the purpose of keeping the streets tidy, or for the study of nature; contrive that delegates go to see good places and models, and,

on returning, report the results; perfect by every means the improvement of a place here and there in as many towns and neighborhoods as possible for every passer-by to admire; persuade every member of this and of all local associations to proclaim on every suitable occasion with enthusiasm the amount of good that is being accomplished.

We think it is the experience of every one who has seriously studied or taught the subject of landscape art, that but little in the way of useful designs can reasonably be expected of beginners. There will not be one in a thousand that ever becomes at all proficient. The residences of our towns, the public parks, school grounds, and cemeteries abound in numerous misfit plans which attest the clumsy work of some enthusiast who greatly overestimated his knowledge and skill in this work. Every member of this Association knows how it is. The man of wealth or the poor man recognizes the wisdom of employing skilled artisans in the construction of his home, not attempting to direct such work himself. Yet he considers himself fully capable of superintending the grading, lawn-making, planting, and care of his grounds. It is a fact that, as compared to the many good artisans, there are very few persons who have the ability to plan suitably the surroundings of a home. To offer prizes for original designs by surveyors, mechanics, merchants, or any one in business other than the one under consideration, will often lead to failure, disappointment, and disgust with all such attempts.

Good plans can be secured by seeking the aid of those who have been successful. After the plans have been made and mainly carried out the owner can study and enjoy the surroundings and add some minor details.

We do not wish to be understood by the foregoing as aiming to discourage the effort of anyone to become better informed by the study of suitable books and pamphlets, reports, and bulletins, or by frequent correspondence and personal interviews with men of experience in such work.

The simple principles, the A B C of gardening, essential to good effect in yards and lawns, may to some extent be understood by children as well as older people, and when put into operation are sure to add, in some degree, taste and beauty to small homes. These may be readily taught by one skilled in gardening, trained in the schools, or familiar with the best books. (See list of books at end of article.)

In some communities may be found a capable person who would gladly give practical talks on planting with the assistance of lantern slides. We especially recommend this method of presenting the subject, and the collection or loan of such pictures from persons who are already supplied. This method has been strikingly illustrated in connection with the prizes of the South Park Improvement Association at Dayton, Ohio. It might not be out of place for our Association to commend this idea to some of the dealers in stereopticon supplies.

If the mere study of guide books will enable a novice to produce a valuable design for improving his home surroundings, such as those named at the end of this report should be sufficient. The experiment is worth trying and is now being tried in two new and thrifty towns of Michigan and Wisconsin. All kinds of devices should be resorted to for keeping the improvement of public resorts and their future care out of politics, as such officers often change and every once in a while some new member desires to distinguish himself by having some new plans of his executed.

From an address of the Hon. Charles W. Garfield, a member of our Association living in Grand Rapids, Mich., we glean some good suggestions:—

“If the landscape gardener had preceded the civil engineer and the architect in arranging for the future Grand Rapids, he would have saved a great deal of natural beauty and an immense amount of useless expenditure of money. We should also have a far more beautiful city to-day.”

“Call attention in some inoffensive way to the many beautiful view points of the city. Develop at least one beauti-

ful driving street, free from street cars and other obstructions, laid out as a unit by a landscape gardener and developed by the residents with reference to the public. The smaller parks of our city should be planted in such a way as to make them attractive all the year round. At present the summer effect is emphasized by the use of perishable plants. By the use of shrubbery in an inexpensive way these places could be made even more beautiful in the winter than they are now in summer."

"To whom shall we turn for aid? I have one suggestion and it is this: Our city is renowned for its women's clubs. If these clubs will unitedly take hold of this work of systematically adding to the beauty of our city upon some definite plan, the work will be accomplished."

The following extracts are taken from a letter from Mr. E. J. Parker, of Quincy, Ill., the mover of the resolution to appoint your committee:—

"I never for one moment thought that the American Park and Outdoor Art Association could offer these prizes. The resolution contemplated the formation of a committee to formulate rules governing the distribution of prizes, and to offer suggestions for planting upon correct principles of landscape work, this information to be furnished by some of the trained practical and artistic men who are members of this Association."

"Inasmuch as owners of small lots, say from twenty to forty feet, would labor under the greatest disadvantages in achieving good results from planting, the largest prizes might be offered to them."

As regards prizes, we suggest several series of prizes for the best plans and the best maintained places as seen from the street in front and from the rear—one series to apply to places valued at \$300 to \$800, another for places valued at over \$800 to \$1500, etc., etc., the value of the prizes, the number of series, and the classification as to cost to be governed by the conditions in each community; and the judges to be selected by the persons or societies offering the prizes. Special prizes could be offered for particularly attractive re-

sults from the use of annual flowering plants and rapid-growing, tender vines; the treatment of shady places with ferns and other shade-loving plants; for the use of hardy perennial herbaceous plants; for roadside shrub and tree planting, etc.

We especially recommend the prizes to boys for making good vegetable gardens on private ground or on ground furnished by improvement associations or by corporations. No form of prize offering will be so productive of good results in the community as this. Such prizes should apply to the home surroundings of farmers also, for they need encouragement quite as much as people living in the city or village.

An owner planting for the second or third year has an advantage over the beginner which must be regarded in the award of prizes, either by giving the first prize to the same competitor only once, by reducing the award after the first year, or by awarding to places showing the greatest improvement during the year. Therefore a committee on awards should be continued for several years.

Those in authority over schools and parks should not fail to establish a botanic garden, even though small, in which many leading native and exotic plants shall each be represented by a good specimen, accurately labeled, in order that all citizens may, if so inclined, make comparisons and take notes of their favorites at all seasons of the year. We refer with satisfaction to gardens of this kind established by Harvard University; to the St. Louis Botanic Garden; to those in the parks of Buffalo and New York; and to others of less pretension which are springing up in many portions of our country.

Any society or club can do much for outdoor art by purchasing for the use of its members and others interested a small library bearing on this and kindred topics; or by inducing established libraries to purchase and loan books of this character.

We append herewith a list of inexpensive pamphlets and

larger books which will be likely to prove helpful to those seeking information on landscape art:—

- “Garden Making,”
by L. H. Bailey. The Macmillan Co.
 - “The Farmstead,”
by I. P. Roberts. The Macmillan Co.
 - “How to Plan the Home Grounds,”
by S. B. Parsons. . . . Doubleday & McClure.
 - “Art Out of Doors,”
by Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer. Chas. Scribner’s Sons.
 - “Hints on Rural School Grounds,”
by L. H. Bailey. Bulletin 160. Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
 - “Directions for Surveying and Arranging Home and School Grounds,”
by Warren H. Manning.
 - “A Handbook for Planting Small Home Grounds,”
by Warren H. Manning. Published by the Stout Manual Training School, Menomonie, Wis.
- (Signed) W. J. BEAL, *Chairman.*
 WM. W. FOLWELL, }
 May 1, 1900. E. L. SHUEY, } *Committee.*

Discussion.

Mr. EDW. J. PARKER, Quincy, Ill.—The suggestions in this report are practical. We can offer prizes for improved home and school grounds ourselves, or induce our local improvement associations to do this. Let us insist that public school grounds be made as attractive as parks and playgrounds, and that they be open throughout the year to all children, whether they go to the public or the parochial schools. Thus we may eventually make the public school so popular as to compel the attendance of every child, whatever his religion.

The growing importance of this outdoor art is made evident by the establishment at Harvard and the Massachu-

setts Institute of Technology of courses in landscape architecture. Of these, however, but few can take advantage; our rank and file—the working people—find it difficult to assimilate abstruse information; they learn best from examples. The correct principles of landscape design can only be made generally known by gradual and incessant effort.

Mr. S. A. FOSTER, Des Moines, Ia.—As a result of the impulse given by our Minneapolis meeting, greatly improved conditions have been brought about in my city through co-operation between an improvement association and the Board of Associated Charities in the education and improvement of the people in the congested districts. The influence of this national association, with its wise and good motives and men, will surely have a potential influence in all the country. We of the West are growing to realize the importance of the interior development of our cities, and the increasing co-operation of our women's clubs means that much more will eventually be accomplished. If we all as representatives of this body go back and urge the establishment of prizes for designs, we may work miracles of change in our respective towns and cities.

Dr. WM. W. FOLWELL, Minneapolis, Minn.—Unless the adoption of this report sets individuals at work it will be a failure. Personal effort must precede organization. In the public school improvement of Minneapolis it was the individual effort of women like Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Gray, and Mrs. Barnard which made possible the strong organization which followed.

Prof. THOS. H. MACBRIDE, Iowa City, Ia.—Last year, in my town of ten thousand inhabitants, situated in Central Iowa, three prizes of five, three and two dollars were offered for the three best plats of flowers. To our astonishment there were one hundred applicants for these prizes, and a most gratifying display of flowers—all at a cost to the committee in charge of only ten dollars.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF GROUNDS ABOUT FACTORIES AND EMPLOYEES' HOMES.

An Address by J. H. PATTERSON and E. L. SHUEY, of Dayton, O., at the evening session of June 5, 1900. Illustrated by stereoscopic views.

Mr. Shuey occupied the first part of the evening, displaying views of improvements made by such business firms as the Detroit White Lead Works, the Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester; Colgate & Co.; Walker & Pratt, Watertown, Mass.; Lever Bros., Port Sunlight, Eng.; and the Cadbury Cocoa Works, Bourneville, Eng. The views of the attractive homes provided by the last two concerns and rented to employees at extremely low rates, and of their recreation grounds, outdoor gymsnasiums, natatoriums, etc., were particularly interesting and instructive.

One specially attractive slide of a May-day celebration in Belle Isle Park, Detroit, was described by Mr. M. P. Hurlbut of the Detroit Park Commission. He stated that his commission resolved last spring to give the children a special outing in the park on May-day, where they would, for once, be sovereigns instead of their parents. They asked the Board of Education to have the teachers extend the invitation to all school children, saying that it was to be their day and that they were to invite their parents and friends. As a result there were one hundred thousand pleasure seekers in the park, sixty thousand of whom were children. An interesting entertainment was provided in which many children took part. A remarkable circumstance of this day was that of the one hundred and eighty-three children brought to the lost children's tent, all were restored to their parents or guardians by seven o'clock in the evening.

President Loring, in introducing the next speaker, Mr. Patterson, said: "I know from personal observation that many people, among them large capitalists and manufacturers, have reformed and are improving the surroundings of

their factories and employees' homes. This is the forerunner of a great change in factory administration."

Mr. Patterson said: Believing that environment has much to do with the mental, moral, and physical development of the human race, we went to work a few years ago to make our factory a place more fit for men and women to spend the majority of their time in. We put in new floors, painted the walls in restful tints, and placed palms and other potted plants in available spaces. At that time, however, we did not turn our attention to exterior surroundings, and up to ten years ago our building was unpainted, with no real lawn about it and only a few mutilated trees, the whole inclosed by an ugly fence. Mr. Patterson then told of his trying experience with a so-called "landscape gardener" on his private estate, whose only achievement was the destruction of the best tree on the place. However, we consulted a landscape architect of national reputation, who drew up a plan for our factory grounds, which plan, through mistaken judgment, we did not entirely follow but changed by adding beds of flowers in the centers of the lawns. I am glad to say that we have since learned better and have come to see that Nature's way should be her children's. (Views of all the steps taken in beautifying the surroundings of the factory were here shown.) Not satisfied with improving the factory alone, when all about us we saw barren and often rubbish-filled yards about our employees' homes, we conceived the idea of some inexpensive treatment with quick results, and secured from the Agricultural Department at Cornell University that wonderful little pamphlet of Professor Bailey's, "Garden Making," a little work I wish to recommend to all who want to learn as we did the fundamental principles of landscape improvement. I decided that I would mark all the passages in this book which I thought especially adapted to our needs, and when I had finished it I found that there were only twelve sentences unmarked. This book lays down three principles

which we call the A B C of landscape gardening in our work at Dayton:—

A—Open spaces.

B—Plant in masses.

C—Avoid straight lines.

These suggestions we use to contrast with the wrong, nursery style of planting trees and shrubs in rows or as isolated specimens, as if the beholder must be allowed the chance to walk all around a plant to see if it is good. The correct method of planting is also useful as well as ornamental, for a mass of trees and shrubs may be so placed as to entirely screen objectionable buildings or views, while the “spotty” planting is inartistic in itself and can serve no useful purpose, either.

A large number of views from nature were here shown, illustrating how nature suggests the A B C maxims advocated by the speaker; and there was also shown a series of photographs from a well-known journal’s prize garden series, exhibiting meaningless jumbles of freaky rustic work, and discarded household receptacles utilized for flowers, with no evidence of design or special fitness. These absurd fancies created much amusement. Mr. Patterson stated that while he recognized the high standing of the journal and the good work it was doing in many directions, he was obliged to say that it had done more than any other medium in the country to pervert the good taste of the people and encourage bad gardening. Many slides followed, illustrating the work at Dayton, including the employees’ yards, porches, window boxes, the boys’ garden plots and products, the streets and parks of Dayton, and other subjects. The closing slide of the evening presented a statement of considerable importance to all business men—the single sentence “It Pays,”—and Mr. Patterson offered to tell any inquirer just how this work brings in returns to the firm which undertakes it.

The reports of previous addresses on the subject of the

improvement of grounds about factories and employees' homes will be found on page 112 of the 1898 report of the A. P. & O. A. A. proceedings, and on page 35 of Part 3 of the 1899 report.

Discussion.

President LORING.—I saw a very sarcastic article in one of the Chicago papers not long ago ridiculing the idea of teaching school children anything about landscape gardening. It was thought that they were too young and incapable of receiving such ideas. How have you found it in your work at Dayton, Mr. Patterson? Do you not think that children even in the poorer districts can be shown how to plant and care for window boxes to brighten their cheerless homes?

Mr. PATTERSON.—I most emphatically reply that children can be taught these simple principles of gardening. The greater part of our success at Dayton is due to the children, any one of whom can tell you the A B C principles of planting and show by examples the difference between the correct method and the nursery style. The children are quicker to grasp these ideas than their parents, and in many cases do the entire planting of the yards, watering and caring for the plants.

The speaker was then asked in regard to the boys' gardens, if the rivalry for prizes among the boys did not tend to foster bad feeling; but the answer was that only generous and kindly competition existed, since all gardens yielded full recompense even without the prizes.

At the banquet on the evening of June 6th, Mr. Patterson made further remarks bearing upon this subject which should have a place here:—

We first inaugurated the work at Dayton by an appeal to fifty women, many being employees. The work of improvement was presented to them with the aid of the stereopticon

and was then placed in their hands, they being given specific work to do, such as the improvement of streets, the development of a vacant lot into a vegetable garden, etc. This was done because the women were not afraid—men are cowards, for they are afraid of being called cranks, or of antagonizing politicians, or of injuring their business. The next year after starting the work we invited one hundred to dinner, and after this they began to organize and to talk of the work over their back fences. The next year there were one hundred and fifty at our dinner, and each pledged himself to bring another to the next annual dinner, which is yet to come. Thus recruits for outdoor improvement were enlisted, for all who attended the dinner agreed to lend their services to the beautifying of their home grounds and that section of the town in which they lived.

(49) THE ABUSES OF ADVERTISING AND THEIR CORRECTION.



THE DEFACEMENT OF CHICAGO.

Dr. GEO. KRIEHN, Chicago, Ill.

We who are the advocates of municipal art and would make Chicago artistic and beautiful are apt to overlook the beautiful things which we now have among us. We have the lake with its ever varying colors; one of the finest park and boulevard systems in the world; and many buildings of real artistic merit. Yet we do not see and enjoy them as we should because of certain distracting elements of ugliness. The ancients' guardian of hell was a huge dog with three heads, called Cerberus. Chicago's Cerberus is negligence, and the three heads are dirt, smoke, and billboards. The dirt and smoke have already received attention, but the signboards and billboards have been relatively unnoticed by the

reformers. They are increasing at such a rate that they now almost hide our most beautiful streets and boulevards from view, and there is no denying that our principal business streets are a sight to behold. One man paints his building a gorgeous red in order to advertise an auction sale; another tints his in glittering Scotch plaids to inform us of the wares for sale within. Hideous signboards of all shapes, hues, sizes, and descriptions deface buildings and distract the eye from whatever architectural merit the street may possess. Surrounding every vacant lot or building in process of erection are billboards in the most awful combination of colors. Some of the worst of these are the advertisements around the new post office. It seems lamentable that our national government should set so bad an example.

We surely have a right to expect that our beautiful park and boulevard system should be left unspoiled, yet this is just where we find the most pernicious phase of the bill-sticker's activity. Chicagoans are proud of Lincoln Park and think the \$7,000,000 which it cost very well invested. But what have billboards done for it? At the chief entrance, near St. Gaudens' magnificent statue of Lincoln, there is a monstrosity in yellow, green, and other glaring tints a block long, and there are others in close proximity. Along the Lake Shore Drive property holders have been too wise to permit the encroachments of signboards, yet at its beginning there is a double-decker. Jackson Boulevard is greatly marred by advertisements, and the two fine entrances to Garfield Park from Washington Boulevard and Madison Street are defaced. Luckily the west side parks have suffered in but few other instances.

All the achievements of the north and west sink into insignificance in comparison with the south side. Michigan Avenue, once the pride of Chicago, might now be appropriately christened Billboard Avenue. An empty church near Fourteenth Street is adorned with boards three stories high,

eloquently setting forth the merits of certain brands of whisky, beer, cigars, and the like. Opposite two of the principal churches on the avenue they have erected signboards, so placed that every one issuing from the portals must immediately see them. Surely such a shock is enough to destroy the good effects of the sermon and divine worship! Fifty-fifth Street, Grand and Oakwood Boulevards are awfully bedizened, and at the entrance of Washington Park there is a board almost a block in length. In fact, all the upper entrances to that park are thus marred. At Drexel Boulevard the fine statue and the classic vases might as well not be there for all the effect they have with such a sign for a background.

In our entire park system \$30,000,000 has been spent that the people may have places which by their beauty and attractiveness will remove them from the cares and worries of business life; but advertisements remind one most painfully of commercialism and business cares, and by defacing the beauty of the scenery they destroy the prime object for which the parks were laid out. The question as to the legal remedy for this abuse is a difficult one. There seems no doubt, however, but that it will be possible to regulate the size and position of billboards. A law giving this power to the Park Commission of New York city has excluded billboards around Central Park. The Chicago City Council has already recorded its vote in favor of regulating public advertising.

The writer would suggest restricting billboards by an enactment that they be built of non-combustible material. Why should such fire-traps be allowed in the fire district where all other frame structures are forbidden? The general public sentiment on this subject was well voiced in the recent annual meeting of the Art Association of Chicago, a federation of thirty-six clubs. President Henry Wade Rogers, of the Northwestern University; John W. Ela, A. D. Philpot, and others there expressed disapproval of the growing evil,

and a committee was appointed to take steps leading to legislation against billboards.

(The above address was plentifully illustrated with stereoscopic views of local conditions.)

The address on "The Defacement of Chicago" was followed by the report of the Committee on Methods of Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising, which was confined chiefly to a discussion of the methods of relief from the abuses of a legitimate practice incident to modern business methods, and may be obtained in full, free of charge, on application to the Secretary of the A. P. & O. A. A., Warren H. Manning, 1146 Tremont Building, Boston, Mass. It is published as Part I of Vol. IV.

A SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
METHODS OF CHECKING THE ABUSES OF
PUBLIC ADVERTISING.

F. L. OLTMSTED, JR., Chairman, Brookline, Mass.

In seeking to remedy this advertising evil we must not lose sight of the fact that it is merely the unreasonable extension and abuse of a perfectly proper practice incident to modern business methods.

One easily corrected abuse is the placarding of trees, fences, buildings, etc., by irresponsible advertisers without the sanction of the owners. This is punishable as trespass, and the owner may remove the signs, hold the trespasser liable for the cost of removal, and for damages that may have resulted from the trespass. There should be a law declaring the advertisement *prima facie* evidence that the trespass was committed by or on behalf of the proprietor of the object advertised, and rendering said proprietor liable for damage to the land owner.

Whether the control of that portion of the public highway not required by the public for travel is vested in the public authorities or the abutting property owner, is more or less of

an open question, although there is a wise tendency to decrease the rights of the land owner and increase the rights of the public thereon. In Massachusetts, however, there is a statute which renders anyone posting an advertisement upon the property of another, whether within or without the limits of the highway, without first obtaining the written consent of the owner or tenant of such property, punishable by fine of ten dollars; and declares an advertisement so posted to be a public nuisance which may be forthwith removed or obliterated and abated by any person.

In states where vagueness of control exists we should advocate the passage of an act fixing the full control over all signs within the limits of public ways (and also over trees) in the hands of the proper local authorities.

By far the greater part, however, of the most obtrusive advertising is done on private property with the full consent of the owner. The large advertisers place their signs where they will attract the attention of considerable numbers, and pay a rental for their temporary use of otherwise unproductive land. The land owners do not consider the signs desirable, but they are willing to put up with them for a consideration, however small. If it came to be generally recognized that the community regarded these signs as an irritating nuisance, and that their display cast a marked stigma of sordid vulgarity upon the owner of the land—well, the consideration would have to be larger, at all events, which would tend to limit the extension of the practice.

The regulation of the display of advertising signs might be attempted on any one of several grounds; for instance, through a clause in the building regulations of a city, prohibiting the erection and location of wooden signs or billboards on the ground of the danger of spreading fire, or they might be reduced in number by a high license fee; but the fact of the matter is simply that they are offensive to the eye. Along a parkway where people go to avoid offensive objects

and distracting appeals to the attention, offensive sights are as clearly public nuisances as offensive noises, and it is contended that their abatement may justly be ordered without compensation, although we have been told by lawyers that there is doubt as to whether objects merely offensive to sight would be held by the courts to be nuisances, however obnoxious they might be. It seems to us that the time has already been reached in the development of civilization when a sufficient proportion of the people are sensitive to offensive sights to render such a sight under certain conditions a real public nuisance, one which the courts must soon recognize as such, even if they will not do so to-day.

To refer again to the case of the parkway: A city, let us say, has spent a million dollars in forming a great park to be a region of quiet, rural, sylvan scenery to which people can escape from the worrying distractions and the ceaseless turmoil of city life and secure at least a temporary relief in the contemplation of restful scenery which does not clamor even to be admired. To conserve the full value of its investment in the park the city undertakes the additional expense of a parkway which shall provide a main line of approach attractive in itself, and free as far as possible from features irritating to the nerves. Incidentally the adjacent land is given a frontage upon the parkway and made visible to those people. The land owners then erect signs constructed and painted with the most devilish ingenuity to catch the eye at every turn, to cry out as loud as color and form and size can be made to cry: "Here we are! You can't get away from us! Look here! Look here! Look here!" Ugly and crude, in the main, though sometimes not ill-designed in themselves, these signs obtrude all sorts of sordid ideas upon the mind and will not let it rest. Distraction is their aim and motive, the very reverse of the motive which was held to justify the cost of the parkway. There can be no equity in such a state of things, and we cannot but believe that the courts would

sustain a properly drawn regulation prohibiting this outrageous imposition upon the public. The Park Department of the city of New York has been empowered by an act of the legislature to regulate advertising displays upon land fronting on the parks, but so far as we can learn the courts have never passed upon the constitutionality of this act. It has been effective in some measure because the interests involved have been rarely worth fighting for in the courts, but we understand that the legal advisers of the department have not felt at all confident that the court would sustain the act if the case came to trial.

We recommend that the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, in conjunction with some municipal organization, such as the Art Association of Chicago, endeavor to secure the adoption by a park commission, acting under proper legislative authority, of carefully drawn regulations governing in a clearly reasonable and moderate manner the display of advertising signs upon property fronting upon the parks and spaces under its control. The regulations and the form of the authority for passing them should be carefully examined by counsel before they are submitted for passage so that a clear and favorable test may be presented under them to the courts, on the simple question whether the use of private property can under any circumstances be lawfully limited solely on account of the appearance presented to the public. That point once clearly established by the courts, the question of the precise limits of reasonable control can then be worked out not only as regards advertisements, but as regards many other matters vitally affecting the beauty of our daily surroundings.

Whatever the courts may now decide and whatever municipal or state regulation may now prove feasible, success in this movement must depend upon the desire of the public to be relieved. We ought to find out how much the public desires such relief, to give clear and forcible expression to

that desire, and to direct it toward the best means of accomplishing its object. Incidentally, the public desire for improvement will be developed and strengthened by the very fact of joining together and expressing the sentiment which now exists very generally in an unorganized and unvoiced manner.

A review of the work accomplished by "Scapa," an English society for checking the abuses of public advertising, a statement of its methods and annual expenses, together with the New York and Massachusetts statutes referred to herein, also a reference to work done by other clubs and associations in this country, form a part of this report or its appendix.

In conclusion the report recommends that this A. P. & O. A. A. through its secretary communicate with other societies and with individuals interested in checking the abuses of public advertising; acquire and distribute to its members, to cognate societies and to the press facts and arguments bearing upon the subject; and facilitate the co-operation of those interested in the amenities of outdoor life in this as in other directions; and that this society provide the secretary with competent paid assistance to take as much of the burden from his hands as may be. If it is worth while to take any organized action it must be done with system, continuity, and thoroughness, qualities which are not to be obtained without the expenditure of valuable time and money. We are inclined to think that an active and systematic campaign against the abuses of public advertising would bring to the Association sufficient financial support to meet the additional expense involved.

Discussion.

Mr. EDW. C. VAN LEYEN, Detroit, Mich.—In my city the park commissioners have had the entrance roads to the parks designed with a planting space next to the private prop-

erty of sufficient width to make plantations of Lombardy poplars and other rapid-growing trees that completely hide the billboards behind them.

Mrs. HERMAN J. HALL, Chicago.—As I have been listening here I have been wondering why there are not more people here to profit by all this wealth of your knowledge and experience. What can be done to bring these things to the attention of the many? Is not one way to co-operate with the women who have willing hands and time to give to these important matters? I can but contrast this small assembly with last evening's vast audience of four thousand at the Milwaukee Biennial, which listened breathless to the words on art and beauty which fell from the lips of a gifted woman. The women need your thought and experience and it may be that they can help to widen your influence and usefulness.

Pres. LORING.—We are glad indeed to hear from one member who has returned from the sessions of the Biennial Conference of the General Federation of Women's Clubs at Milwaukee to attend our meeting. Our hope, as I have said before, lies in the co-operation of the women, and we cannot hasten that time too fast when we shall work together for the realization of the objects for which we founded this Outdoor Art Association. (This suggestion has led to the formation of a Women's Auxiliary to the A. P. & O. A. A. with Mrs. Hall as president, which has at this time—March, 1901—secured under her leadership a membership of over seventy.)

Mr. EDW. J. PARKER, Quincy, Ill.—This report should be sown broadcast throughout our land, for only by perpetually calling people's attention to these evils can we rouse them to action. As we look out upon a beautiful prospect, ruined by some garish sign, we feel that "every prospect pleases and only man is vile." In my own town a dealer put up a big advertising board on a lot on one half of which he owned

and rented a house. I appealed to him to remove the sign, using several arguments apparently without effect. After a while he came to me and said: "I have been thinking over what you told me about that signboard shutting out the view of the sky and the sunset from my house and I have decided to remove it." His rival in business painted a sign on our park fence and was given the alternative of being prosecuted or painting out the sign. He painted it out.

I tore down the placard of another dealer.

I went before the county commissioners and asked for a rule prohibiting the posting of signs on county buildings. (I merely cite these cases to show what I have been trying to do in my small way to fight the progress of this advertising evil.)

We should go to every railroad in the United States which has allowed advertisers to place billboards on its property. Show property owners that they are depreciating the value of their property by allowing any portion of it to be offensive to passers-by. It is the inalienable right of every American citizen to enjoy a pleasant landscape without defacement, and this right should be respected.

We are interested in this national convention of women at Milwaukee and are glad to have the energy of the wide-awake ladies interested in behalf of these questions of the day.

Since this meeting Mr. Parker has secured the passage of the following ordinance through the Common Council of his city:—

An Ordinance concerning electric light, telephone, telegraph, and electric street car poles, trees and tree boxes.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Quincy:

SECTION 1.—That no person shall paste, stick up, paint, brand or stamp, or in any manner whatsoever put upon any tree or tree box, or telegraph, telephone, electric light or electric street car pole, or post, situated in any public place

in this city any written, printed, or painted, or other advertisement, bill, notice, sign, card, or poster.

SECTION 2.—Any person violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not less than three dollars nor more than twenty dollars for each offense.

SECTION 3.—This Ordinance shall go into effect from and after its passage and due publication.

Adopted January 21, 1901.

HORACE J. FARRAR, *City Clerk.*
JOHN A. STEINBACH, *Mayor.*

Mr. Parker has also entered into correspondence with the General Manager of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, in an endeavor to induce him to issue an order prohibiting the posting of signs on bridges, fences, buildings, and other railroad property, but it is too early to determine his success.

Mr. VAN LEVEN, Detroit.—I find that the United States Government actually instructs its superintendents to get bids for advertisements on its buildings, and the privilege of putting up signs thereon goes to the highest bidder. Individuals should put in their plea against this practice by going to their Congressman and instructing him to protest against it. (For resolution to the Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, regarding advertisements on public buildings, see p. 16.)

Dr. WM. W. FOLWELL, Minneapolis, Minn.—To check all this desecration we must first convert the sinners. The people who demand these things now, when converted will cease to tolerate them. There are ways to make things disagreeable for the billboard man—the cities should issue a license tax which shall rest heavily upon the billboard advertiser.

Mr. E. L. SHUEY, Dayton, O.—I feel that there is still another argument against the billboard not yet submitted.

Look at the other side of that huge sign which annoys your vision—often the squalor and filth which it conceals is more than enough to condemn the lot as a nuisance, a menace to health. Take pictures of the other side of some of these billboards and get your newspaper to publish them. Why, the scene which greets my eyes as I look out from the back windows of the Auditorium Annex Hotel is something which should not be tolerated by any city for one moment.

Pres. LORING.—One method, and a very effective one, of combating this evil is through neighborhood improvement associations. I have known several such which have entirely eradicated the billboards in their communities.

Mr. J. H. PATTERSON, Dayton, O.—One of our most powerful allies is the press and it is easy to understand this when we reflect that these billboards are in competition with the newspaper, which is thus deprived of the patronage it would have were it not for the billboard. We should put our arguments in the hands of the press. Let us give precedence to this at once, for by so doing we shall gain friends and members and become reinforced by affiliated societies. Ten thousand Americans are going abroad this year, and will see countries free from all such defacement. Coming home to such crude and unwelcome sights as we permit to mar even our most pretentious streets, they will be only too glad to follow the lead of any organization starting a crusade against the billboard.

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TREES IN COMPOSITION.

WM. M. R. FRENCH, Director of the Art Institute, Chicago, Ill.

In the production of all artistic effects the art of composition is the rare and crowning skill. In the field of pictorial art nothing is more striking than the number of artists who can paint fine individual subjects, compared with those

who can put this and that together and make a real picture. The studios are full of fine studies and it always seems as though the artist was on the very point of producing a great work.

In the present instance there is little need of singing the praises of trees, which, with grass, may be said to constitute the chief materials of the landscape architect's art. Yet we do not always reflect how absolutely dependent ordinary scenery is upon trees. There is a grand and singular beauty in the bare and many colored rocks of Colorado, and the treeless prairies of the Dakotas have a beauty of their own, like the expanse of the sea. But it is what we call rural or rustic beauty that affects most of us with the greatest pleasure, and it is this beauty that we can do most to promote with our own hands.

It may be roundly asserted that the beauty of a small town is wholly dependent upon its trees. Watch yourself as you declare this or that village to be a beautiful place, and you will find that you mean simply that it has many and fine trees. Its beauty may be promoted by wide and orderly streets and by neat and tasteful buildings and especially by care of trees and grass, but if the trees are really fine it can scarcely be kept from being beautiful. New Haven, Brookline, Minneapolis, Madison, have good and interesting buildings, but if the trees were removed they would have little claim to being mentioned here. The trees are at least an essential element of their beauty. Great cities try to join rustic to civic beauty by the formation of parks.

In small towns it is not necessary nor desirable that there should be elaborate parks and boulevards. A village itself may be made practically a park by the exercise of taste and public spirit among its citizens. Let it be distinctly recognized that the beauty of a village is little dependent on its buildings. Give me the control of the trees, the grass, and the grounds of a village and I will defy you to spoil it with

bad buildings. I would not say that its beauty cannot be impaired, but certainly with abundant and fine trees, green grass, and well-kept grounds, the buildings of a village can scarcely be so bad as materially to damage its beauty. On a single street you may be able to crowd ugly buildings close upon the sidewalks, with ill-assorted colors and untidy architecture and so make an unsightly spot, but allow me a row of fine trees upon each side and I will take the edge off even of this barbarism, and in the outlying and more open parts of the village I will more than make up for what evil remains.

On the other hand, reflection will show that no beauty in the buildings themselves will compensate for the absence of these beautiful adjuncts of nature, grass and trees.

Picture to yourself a scattered village, destitute of trees, of the most beautiful architecture you can conceive, of Gothic cottages and Italian villas, fenced and paved as tastefully and elaborately as possible, with gold and precious stones, like the Holy City, if you please, but let trees and grass be absent, and can you conceive of its being attractive and beautiful for the abode of man? Does not your mind turn with restful relief to some village like old Hadley, with plain, unpainted houses, sleeping in the green sward under the great elms, in the arms of the Connecticut?

I remember a pleasing illustration of the possibility of effecting satisfactory and artistic arrangements of trees, even upon a large scale, which I received more than twenty years ago, when I was the business associate of the well known landscape architect, Mr. Horace W. S. Cleveland, a man who would honor any profession, and who now, in extreme age and weakness, rests at Hinsdale, twenty miles from Chicago. I went to the South Park of Chicago, then in its infancy, to amuse myself sketching in water colors. Across the great lawn, I saw an interesting mass of trees or forest, irregular in outline, retreating in bays, advancing in capes upon the lawn, broken by one or two Lombardy poplars, and I made

a rude sketch of it, never suspecting that it was not an accidental effect. When I showed my sketch to Mr. Cleveland, "Oh, yes," he said, "I arranged those trees," the basis being the fine range of old oaks that ran along a slight ridge in the park.

The most extraordinary ideas often prevail among inexperienced persons with regard to the treatment of trees and woods. A common impulse is to clean up all the underbrush and cut off all the lower limbs of trees. I once heard it distinctly laid down by a country gentleman, as a rule, that the first thing to do in a country place was to take an axe and cut off all the limbs of the trees that could be reached from the ground. Anything more ruinous to the beauty of a place it would be hard to devise, unless you should cut the trees all down.

No principle of the artistic treatment of grounds is better established than that open ground and groups of trees should each be marked and decisive in their peculiar character, the open ground perfectly clear, smooth, and well-grassed, excepting where fine specimens of trees or shrubs are deliberately preserved, and the woods dense and closely covered with foliage down to the ground if possible—at least along the edges. In this way a pleasing alternation of sunny lawn and shady grove is secured instead of a confused medley of grass and shrubs and trees, such as we often encounter. Planting too thickly is one of the commonest mistakes.

We may roughly illustrate the difference between the skillful and unskillful management of trees in this way. Suppose we have a belt of trees with thick underbrush along the bank of a river or lake—a common thing. The chances are that the unskillful forester will clear up all the underbrush, leaving the trees with long slim stems visible and a partial and unsatisfactory view of the water under them. A more experienced improver will cut decisive openings here and there, removing both trees and undergrowth, and leave the

natural growth undisturbed in other places, thus producing a series of pleasing pictures framed in by the wood. The most uncultivated eye could scarcely fail to make the right selection when once the choice was offered it, but this is one of the commonest of errors.

With regard to the relation of trees and buildings or other artificial structures, the principles are precisely those of pictorial composition. The importance of background is apt to be overlooked. In extensive private places the commonest mistake is to try to set the house upon the highest ground. There are utilitarian objections to this, with reference to water supply and difficulty of approach. Artistically it is usually unfortunate, because of the difficulty of providing an agreeable background. An artist rarely paints a building so that any great proportion of the architectural lines show hard and sharp against the sky. He always provides a background of trees or hillsides to soften the effect, and especially is this true when the attempt is to convey an impression of rural repose and homelikeness. For this reason it is almost always better artistically to set a house halfway down a hillside, upon some subordinate mound or plateau, than upon the top.

The effect of large fine trees in the neighborhood of a building is so great as to need no enforcement. Visiting New Orleans I was struck with the dignified, scholastic air of Newcomb College, the women's department of Tulane University, built upon an old estate where the walks are arched with great live oaks, as compared with the main buildings of the university, upon new ground, where the trees are yet to grow. But large trees are the product of time; we must go to them, not they to us. My father, an ardent planter of trees, to whom the old town of Exeter, N. H., owes much of its beauty, told me in his later years that he had discovered how to produce large trees at once, and the way was "to set them out a long time ago." He had tried it successfully.

I wonder that house builders do not more often make sure of good trees. I have myself bought a tree with some land about it, and built my home under it.

In the case of public monuments, the setting is of the same importance, though here the background may be either of trees or of architectural works, according to the character of the monument.

(51)

PARK ROADS.

J. FRANK FOSTER, Supt. South Park System, Chicago.

Park roads are regrettable necessities. The necessity in many cases is too greatly over-estimated. The landscape designer is too apt to permit usage to control him in determining the location, width, and number of his drives. The road is the despair of the park designer. He takes his territory with all its possibilities for adornment, creates in his mind the beautiful picture of nature's coloring which his art inspires, and when he comes to formulating it on paper his tradition keeps saying, drives, drives. He tries them here, there, and everywhere, only to find that wherever he places them they would be better elsewhere. He sees a beautiful slope rising in graceful undulations from his little lake to the margin of the park; but a road must go through it somewhere. He tries it at the foot of the slope along the water. The introduction of the rushing, feverish life of a park driveway there completely destroys the restful effect he loves; halfway up the slope it is absolutely impossible; at the top it might do if he could hide it with plantation, but to do this would so contract his area that what would otherwise be a strong, complete picture becomes a trivial affair, feeble and unsatisfactory, with the road the principal object. Nevertheless, the road has to be somewhere, he thinks, and there it goes as the least objectionable place. Sometimes it is the excusable

vanity of the designer that causes him to provide too many roads. He wishes every one who comes to the park to see all its beauties, whether they come awheel, afoot, ahorse, or in a road vehicle; so he must have roads, wheelways, equestrian drives and walks to lead to each place of vantage, with the result that the design seems a maze of ways with the park feature as an incident. The reverse should be the case. Often the authorities controlling at the time make the greatest of all mistakes in deciding that the park shall be made a public circus with all sorts of side shows. Roads must be built to the bear pits, to the merry-go-rounds, to the race tracks, to the aviaries, to the monuments and to many other places which are desirable things perhaps almost anywhere outside a park. Result, roads and roads.

There is another influence which often works perniciously upon the designer. He is often called upon for plans for a cemetery. There numerous roads are demanded and the apparent necessity for them not only excuses their presence but justifies them. When called upon for a plan for a park the influence of his last cemetery plan is perhaps still with him and he proceeds to lay out a beautiful system of roads and green ovals, but he has failed utterly to make a park. The uses made of the two places are so entirely different that what is fit for the one is not at all suited to the other, though both in their way may be artistically beautiful.

The crown of artistic success is placed upon a design for a park just as surely as it is upon a design for a building when simple fitness for the uses to which it is to be put is beautifully apparent. The more grass, shrubbery, and trees in a park, the more beautiful it is. Roads should only be used to make this beauty accessible. The more roads, the less of nature's loveliness; therefore, every unnecessary yard or driveway is a great scar on that beautiful admixture of the blue of the sky and the yellow of the sunlight resulting in the luxurious green carpet with which nature has surfaced the

earth, and which, unlike any artificial carpet, is just as good as new after each spring house cleaning. In providing for roads in a park we are apt to neglect the example given us by the great Master. His work is satisfying as that of none other. A beautiful little story of its great charm, which I heard lately, I must repeat to you: An old Scotch Highlander was accustomed every morning early to step around to one corner of his lowly thatched cottage, from where the near-by loch and its guardian hills were all in view, and stand there bareheaded for a few moments before entering upon his day's work. A gentleman found him there one morning with bowed head in the attitude of devotion and asked him why he stood thus; if he was saying his prayers? The old Scotchman said that every morning for thirty years he had stood on that spot for a few moments with his bonnet off worshiping the beautiful world. The design for the Great Park, the short record of the creation of which is found in the first chapter of Genesis, shows no roads. There the kindergarten child may make his great pyramids in the sand pits; the biological student may lie on his back in the shrubbery plantations studying the habits of the birds, and the young dominie can go into the sequestered solitudes and learn of the God of Nature, without fear of a runaway horse, the bursting of a pneumatic tire, or the blowing of a tally-ho horn. Let us keep as close to our best example as possible.

The most beautiful parts of any park are away from the roads, and anyone who truly loves the beauties of nature goes afoot when he really wishes to enjoy them. Make fewer roads, teach the people where the beautiful is and let them learn that the little effort of walking through a well designed and well managed park is more fully repaid in true and pure enjoyment than any equal effort in any other direction.

Yet park roads are deplorably necessary. The engineer's

evil eye has a sinister influence upon them. He demands regular curves or tangents, otherwise they are unscientifically designed. The landscape architect, fearful of the engineer's criticism, calls upon his mathematical knowledge, and the result is satisfactory on paper regardless of the stiffness and painful regularity when applied to the ground.

Montgomery Schuyler, in an article in a recent number of the Century Magazine, on "Art in Bridges," broadly insinuates that the blood corpuscles which flow through the engineer's brain are lacking in certain projections, or jagged edges, requisite to the production of the divine afflatus of Art. Now, though I am something of an engineer myself, I am forced by my own experience to agree with Mr. Schuyler: for nowhere is the want of artistic inspiration in an engineer's soul more apparent than in the purely utilitarian expression given to most park roads. The boulevard is a road first and has incidentally some of the beauties of a park to soften the hard lines, but right lines and regularity are part of the evidences of fitness for its uses, and, therefore, the formal lines and planting may be artistic. The roads in a park are the incidents. Regular curves and widths and surfaces are in such startling contrast with nature's abhorrence of regular lines that the effect can never be satisfactory. There are, of course, many and good reasons for the creation of a park road such as we generally see in our parks, but every lover of nature and of parks longs for the narrow road of unequal widths and irregular margin, the grass running out into it in its modest effort to cover an unseemly nakedness of Mother Earth; but I fear we can never have it, largely because the majority of people place formal regularity above the beautiful. Let me tell you of an experience in an effort in this direction: A bridle path runs about through the plantation surrounding a large meadow in a certain park not a thousand miles from the site of the World's Fair, breaking through shrubbery here, winding under the trees there, and

occasionally swinging out into the sward of the meadow. The sharply defined regular edges were painful to the person in charge. It seemed to him that it would be much more beautiful if it were like a path worn at random through the woods in the country; so the grass was allowed to grow and it soon became just what he wanted, an irregular path, and, to him at least, appropriate and beautiful. The second spring, however, that small but mightily influential class, the equestrians, commenced to inquire why their road was so neglected; while the edges of the walks and other drives were nicely trimmed and straightened, theirs was like a cow path. The bridle path was just as good as it ever had been except that the grass edges were irregular. The equestrians were simply jealous of other classes and afraid that they were not getting all that belonged to them, and made so much talk about it that the neglectful superintendent was compelled to edge up the path to the lines of regular curves and a uniform width. It is now pronounced all right, and he has been complimented for what is to him tiresome and formal artificiality, in the midst of nature's lovely abandon.

Thank fortune, there are some places where regularity in roads is so evidently out of place that all understand, and it can be avoided. Who would want to see the perfect driveway with its concrete, curbs, and stiff formal lines destroying the natural carelessness of the Wissahickon at Philadelphia? The loveliest park roads anywhere are the old country roads that existed before the territory became a park and have been maintained in their original haphazard condition since. I recall one such in the Boston Park System, I think near Jamaica Pond, which will always be a delightful remembrance to me.

A bridge is sometimes a necessary part of a road. It is, however, often introduced when not at all necessary. To lead from point to point in the shortest possible distance is a good qualification in a city thoroughfare, but by no means an

essential in a park road. To avoid the construction of a bridge a very considerable detour is justifiable. There are few places, where bridges are thrown across ravines, that would not be much more beautiful without them. They are undesirable squatters. Keep them off the premises whenever it is possible to do so. Only erect them when the necessity is strongly apparent. I know of bridges built where a ford through the little brook, with stepping stones for the pedestrians, would be much more desirable. Where there is no escape let the bridge be simple but durable and strong, of stone if practicable. Above all do not let it be an opportunity improved by some engineer or architect to erect a monument to himself, perhaps an ugly mixture of medieval towers and modern steel cantilevers. The small, so-called rustic bridge is an abomination hardly worth notice.

It is with considerable hesitation that I enter upon the description of the technicalities of the construction and maintenance of park roads before an association only a small portion of whose members are particularly interested in such details. It seems to be expected of me, however, but I will make it as brief as possible.

The construction of park roads is, like the construction of all other things, largely a matter of local conditions. There are, however, some principles common to all conditions which must be made factors in the work or the results will not be at all satisfactory. The character of the earth upon which road materials are to be placed largely controls the method of construction and the materials to be used. Sand, of course, is the best, but if it is not properly underdrained the accumulation of water in wet seasons will so loosen the bond of the road surfacing, that it will become wavy in places and allow wheels to break through. This is only likely to happen when sand is supported and surrounded with earth impervious to water. Clay is the worst material, but is by

no means to be feared if properly drained and the road surfacing is not too thin. The underdraining of clay is not necessary. If provision be made for at once carrying off the water which reaches the surface of the clay under the road material the disturbance of the road by frost will be as little as on foundations of other material. The thickness of the road material depends entirely upon the traffic to which the road is to be subjected. The lightest of all roads in parks,—some little turnouts to hitching places or the like,—might be five inches in thickness if resting on confined sand and constructed of sound stone or good gravel. This thickness should never be less than seven inches on clay. The road material in the ordinary park road should not be less than nine inches in thickness after rolling. Not because that amount of material is required to hold up the traffic, but because the surface will probably be worn down at least two or three inches before it is resurfaced. At its thinnest it should be capable of holding up heavy sprinkling wagons, and coaches or any vehicles which may come upon it. A well built nine inch road of good material is amply heavy for ordinary park uses. For boulevard roads the material should be somewhat thicker. If properly cared for, on any boulevard twelve inches is ample. In some of the outer boulevards nine inches will be sufficient. The question might be asked why, if a nine inch road will hold up the traffic in the parks, when frequently very heavy vehicles pass over it, is it necessary to have a heavier road in a boulevard? It is the matter of wear again. Take Michigan Avenue, for instance, in the busiest part, where thirteen thousand vehicles have frequently passed over the road in twenty-four hours, and the traffic is always very heavy even in wet weather. The wear is, of course, great. Suppose the road to have gone two years without surfacing; nearly three inches is worn off the surface. Suppose the following winter to be a severe one on roads, that is, a wet one; then, if the road was nine inches thick to start with,

there would be, perhaps, only five or six inches of material remaining, with its bond broken, utterly incapable of holding up the traffic. With a twelve inch road there would still be eight or nine inches of material, which would be sufficient. The kind of material to use? There are several things to consider in determining this. Principally, it must be durable and of two grades. The upper three inches should be material that will best resist abrasion, which means a hard, tough, uniform granite, or trap rock. The under six or nine inches as required, may be any hard stone that will preserve its integrity when subjected to frost. The upper three inches should be stone broken into pieces closely approximating one and one quarter inches in their largest dimensions, as nearly cubical as possible, the under layer broken into two and one half inch pieces. The granite or trap rock, as was said, should be used for the upper three inches. For the much used boulevard drives this is almost imperative, but for the outer boulevards and the park roads a softer and less expensive material may be economically and satisfactorily substituted,—limestone or good bank gravel.

For the roads in a park, color of surface is a consideration. The glaring white surface of a limestone road is very painful during the bright days, and at all times its great contrast with the surrounding dark greens is anything but pleasant or desirable. The sienna of the bank gravel is much better, but the gravel road is more difficult to keep clean and is much more liable to be muddy after the summer shower, or if, as frequently happens in any park but yours, the sprinkling is too heavy. The determination of this matter must be largely affected by the local conditions in each case as to the cost and materials found at hand. To darken the surface of limestone roads a dressing of crushed granite or trap rock, say one half an inch thick, has been applied, but it is expensive because of the frequent renewal necessary to keep the color at all even. If it is thought necessary to darken the

surface it would be economy in the end to make the upper three inches of the road of the more expensive material to begin with. The result will certainly be more satisfactory as to maintenance for, of course, the harder material does not wear as rapidly, therefore does not have to be cleaned as often and is not as dusty in dry weather nor as muddy in wet weather.

The materials to be used having been determined, the only other question is form. The crown of a road should approximate as nearly as may be two per cent of its entire width. The center, for appearances, should run longitudinally on a regular grade, not rise and fall with the gutter as it frequently does on level roads. The grade at the gutters should fall not less than one inch in twenty-five feet. Gutters of harder material than macadam are not required where the grade is less than two per cent. The most satisfactory gutter as to maintenance is made of paving brick, though a flat cobble-stone gutter, where there is no curb, is much more pleasing in appearance for a park road. Catch-basins should be not to exceed two hundred feet apart. In narrow drives, and broad drives of sharp grades, they should be placed at shorter intervals. The foregoing details are largely engineering questions which will be rightly determined if the building of a road is placed in the hands of an engineer who will profit by the experience of others where his own has been meager.

What is the proper width of a park road? The point of view taken by the person deciding the question, of course, will govern. Should he consider the road only as a carriage way and give every accommodation possible to the driving public regardless of appearance he will make a broad road fifty or perhaps sixty feet in width. Even with that width there will be times when it will seem too narrow. On the other hand should he seek to subordinate the road feature as much as possible he will seldom find it necessary to make a road in the midst of the park over thirty-five feet in width.

The boulevard drives and some of the large carriage promenades in a park may be made much wider than this without harm, for in such cases the roadway is the principal feature. But the winding drives of a park are undesirable intruders into the picture. Keep them as insignificant as possible.

The maintenance of roads is only a very simple matter, but like all other tasks the way to do it is to do it. But just there is where most corporations or commissioners fail. It is difficult for many to understand that the work of maintenance should commence on a road the very day it is completed, the result being that more frequently than not, the road is left until its condition demands repair; then will it be continuously unsatisfactory, no matter how much care is given it until it is resurfaced. The first necessity in the maintenance of a road is proper sprinkling. It should be always damp enough to prevent dust, but never wet enough for mud. It is as essential for the preservation of a road as it is for the comfort of those who use it. I know of no more difficult thing to do in the maintenance of parks than to obtain satisfactory work in sprinkling the drives. It is so much a matter of judgment on the part of the drivers of sprinkling wagons that they should be not only much more intelligent than the ordinary laborer, but should also have considerable experience, and above all be men who are willing to do whatever work is necessary to bring about the desired result. Without these qualifications in the men it is absolutely impossible to do the work at all well; and in addition to this the sprinkling wagons must be properly made and the pans or whatever device is used for throwing the water adjusted so that the driver can regulate the discharge just as he wishes for any condition. To these requisites must be added eternal vigilance on the part of the person responsible for the manner in which the work is done.

Next in importance is keeping the roads clean. There are many ways of accomplishing this. The regular use of

the sweeper is probably best, though it really matters little so it is accomplished in such a way as not to disturb the integrity of the material. The patching of a road as it wears into small depressions can be quite effectively done with limestone or gravel, and with some trap rocks and soft granite, but with hard stone it is very difficult to accomplish much that is satisfactory in that way. But patching when most successfully done cannot preserve a road; it only keeps the surface smooth as it wears out. Sooner or later resurfacing has to be done; usually it is demanded when the center of the road has worn down about three inches. It should then be done at any rate. It is probably needless to say that the resurfacing is simply loosening up the surface, adding the necessary new material to bring to grade, and rolling until thoroughly compact. Many drives that are little used are likely to be found with the bond broken in the spring when the frost comes out of the ground. These should be gone over with a steam roller with perhaps a little packing material added. It is surprising how cheaply this can be done and how greatly the drives will be improved by it. Most outlying park and boulevard roads will be so greatly improved by this rolling in the spring that its cost is more than repaid in the resulting excellence of the roads during the remainder of the summer. Again I say the maintenance of park roads is a simple matter. Its success or failure depends simply on doing or not doing it. But it costs something.

What I have said refers entirely to the gravel or macadam roads. Hard roads, such as brick, stone blocks, asphalt and perhaps wood cannot be considered as park roads; for a park road if anything is a pleasure road. Driving over a hard road is very little pleasure if one has a fine horse and cares anything for it. The introduction of the automobile may, however, change this. When the horse is the exception on the drives then the hard nobolitic surface will be the

pleasure drive par excellence. That time has not arrived. Pleasure seekers still abandon the hard road for the dirt road. Therefore, for the present at least hard roads are not park roads. Rejoice that it is so else you would be bored with another most tedious quarter of an hour listening to the merits and otherwise of concretes, asphalts, bricks, and wooden blocks creosoted and otherwise treated.

The park road to be at all satisfactory must have three qualifications. It must be in good repair; it must be clean; it must be properly sprinkled. These conditions are to be attained only by constant attention and efficient management with the expenditure of money. In many things in the world the expression, "That is good enough," may indicate a satisfactory condition, but in park roads and park work generally, if that is to limit the efforts the result will be mediocrity. A road is clean or dirty. It is well sprinkled or it is muddy or dusty. The lawns are green or they are dried out. The trees are pruned and thrifty or they are full of dead wood and dying. Things either are or they are not. A park is the municipal luxury of a community. A luxury to continue as such in the estimation of those who enjoy it must continue to be to them perfection of its kind. A luxury is expensive, usually an extravagance. Perhaps parks are extravagances, but as long as the people consider them luxuries they will as freely expend their money for the maintenance of the parks as they do for other luxuries, if they feel that a dollar expended buys a dollar's worth of material or labor. But just the moment that there is a falling off in efficient care and exquisite beauty just then will the people commence to question the wisdom of the park tax and shortly the revenue will be reduced to a point where satisfactory maintenance cannot be had. Excellent maintenance should be the first consideration of all park commissioners. Unless the majority of the people of a community think their parks are just a little better than any parks in the

world, that park system is on slippery ground. To create that impression it only needs proper maintenance, and there is no place where the want of it is more quickly noticeable than on the roads. Do not let the luxuriant vegetation with which nature adorns either side of it be marred with the ugly, unkept road.

As was first said, the park roads are regrettable necessities. Do not multiply the necessities for them by introducing extraneous attractions into the park. Simplicity is always beautiful, and above all things the simplicity of nature. Let your park be a piece of country, your roads only ways to reach its beauties, mostly roads through thick woods, closely planted upon both sides, hidden. There are open roads enough in the approaching boulevards. There let the peacocks of fashion who drive only to be seen disport themselves. Make the roads in the parks the quiet peaceful ways of the lovers of nature, and those who travel them will find themselves approaching near and nearer to the truest pleasure of life,—the full appreciation and enjoyment of the wonderful beauty which nature has so lavishly strewn all about us.

(53)

THE STATUE IN THE PARK.

WM. ORDWAY PARTRIDGE, New York, N. Y.

We assume that the landscape gardener has laid out his park and has availed himself of all the possibilities afforded by the natural conformation of the ground. The architect has followed him, and has placed his pavilions, recreation houses, etc., where they are most needed, adhering to the truth that the beautiful finds its origin in the useful. Now comes the turn of the sculptor, whose art in a sense is the handmaid of architecture. He calls into consultation both landscape gardener and architect, and the fitness of the site

and of the architectural setting to the statue is discussed. This is the natural and orderly sequence, the sequence whereby a harmonious and impressive result is obtained, and the only reasonable method to pursue.

The setting of a statue should be considered as carefully as we consider the setting of a precious stone. The finest gem may be ruined by a clumsy or inartistic setting, and the noblest statue loses its dignity, repose, and strength by inharmonious surroundings, whether they be of stone or shrubbery. We must give the closest thought to the placing of our outdoor statuary and monumental work. That some sad mistakes have been made in this regard should only urge us to seek for appropriate settings for the future. Washington might be called the graveyard of sculptural mistakes. It is not my province, nor have I room in this paper, to dwell much on landscape gardening, and the ordering of public parks and squares. I am merely to consider the relation of a statue to its site, and how it may gain or lose by an appropriate or inappropriate setting.

In the last few years sculptors have come to realize the necessity of trying their works in plaster in the open air, upon the final sites they are intended to occupy, getting the effects before the statue has been finally cast in the unchangeable and often *fatal* bronze. In Paris, it is not an uncommon thing to see a statue of an important work placed upon a temporary pedestal, directly over the site it is intended to adorn, and left there for months at a time, until public and artists have had an opportunity to judge of its fitness for the site and surroundings. This would seem to be the only safe method. In the flattering light of the studio, from which most statues so far in this country have passed too readily through the back door to the foundry, never seeing the light of common day, the sculptor has overlooked those grand effects which stand for nobility, and for the lack of which no amount of clever modeling or detail will

atone. Every well-equipped studio ought to have its great door, its track, and its modeling-stand on wheels, so that the work may be run out into the open, at different stages, and judged of fairly under heaven's light, under which it must finally stand. Let me say this much, however, about the public square and parks, before I go into the more detailed part of pedestal and surroundings. I do not believe in surrounding with cobblestones the statue of bronze or granite upon a pedestal of stone. The whole mass and material conveys to the common mind a sense of hardness, and a lack of human tenderness, and thereby loses the very import of the idea this age wishes to convey—the close inter-relationship of man. Especially in the small parks in the slums of our great cities should we take care that a bit of green sod or some graceful shrub and trees antedate the man in stone. "Make haste slowly" is still an appropriate motto for the American. Fill your small parks or breathing spaces with as much green as you can put in them, and let there be a bench for the tired people to rest on and refresh heart and soul and body. Then you put them in tune for the loftier ideas conveyed by sculpture. The Salvation Army is quite right in giving the hungry people bread and coffee, before they try to instill the lessons of God. Let us be sane in all of our art movements, remembering that the Greeks were the sanest of all art people, and that their art was the direct product of that sanity. The park is the poor man's estate, and should be beautified on the one hand for his physical and moral comfort and on the other to fit it for the reception of works of art which shall serve to refine and elevate his senses. In other words the street and park are the poor man's university.

There are of course exceptions to the mode of procedure I have laid down. For instance, there are certain angles and corners which happen in great cities where stone work only is feasible. Yet here, too, the hardness of material and environment may be relieved by running water, as in the case

of the fountain in the Piazz di Spagna in Rome, and in Paris of the Fontaine St. Michel. Then again there is the famous Molière statue in the Rue Richelieu, where no water is used, and still an awkward corner is gracefully relieved and embellished.

But we cannot insist too strongly upon the use of natural adjuncts, because we find that the average municipal official seems to have an antipathy to a tree or a stretch of turf. Possibly his interest in asphalting and paving contracts may account for this enmity. In any case if we follow Bacon's advice in creating art, and add man to nature, let us at least see that they walk hand in hand.

Let us illustrate now from American examples which are familiar to all—for instance, Daniel French's beautiful relief of "Death and the Sculptor" placed over the grave of Millmore in Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston. This originally had a beautiful setting, the bronze and the stone standing out against a background of dark evergreens, which has since been removed to make room for some architectural memorial, with lines entirely out of harmony with French's relief. In the same way one may criticise that striking relief of Robert Shaw by Augustus St. Gaudens lately placed on Boston Common facing the State House. The well known firm of architects who designed the setting of this memorial followed a plan that they had carried out for the Farragut statue by the same sculptor in Madison Square, New York. But we cannot believe they were wise in doing so. They have made a very dangerous experiment in isolating a relief, a form which art history has always treated in relation to some other more important memorial or building. In other words a relief is the pictured record of the life of some hero or event. In this case a man who served the state should have been placed, if treated in relief, upon some part of the State House, or the relief should have been related to it structurally and not placed over against it. One does not like to think that Shaw and his brave soldiers were merely façades of men, an

impression that one naturally gets in walking around the relief. Much happier is the setting of the Farragut statue. There, at least, is a background of green and the statue faces the passer-by. But the wings of the pedestal are too high. They shut off from the beholder, as he approaches, too much of the background and could have been made lower with better artistic effect.

Professor Ware, of Columbia, has put the matter tersely when he says that in each case we must study and solve for ourselves the problem involved, and not copy servilely any foreign model that has some special *raison d'être* for existence on its native site.

As a rule the sculptor must strive to throw his stone work against a dark green setting, gaining at once an effectiveness and subduing the hardness of his material. But before this, the first rule is that of common sense. One admires J. Q. A. Ward's Indian Hunter in Central Park because of the appropriate situation and historical suggestiveness. But one cannot help thinking that Alexander Hamilton, the founder of the financial system of the country, should have found a site on the Sub-Treasury steps rather than Washington, whose proper setting should be in some municipal building.

Art problems require as much thought as financial or legal puzzles. Emerson expressed it in two weighty lines:—

“Not from a vain or shallow thought

His awful Jove young Phidias brought.”

And Seneca, before him, had laid down the axiom: “No man or nation is ever wise by chance.”

(54) THE MORAL INFLUENCE OF PARKS.

Rev. J. A. RONDHALER, Chicago, Ill.

“The Ancient Greeks,” said Emerson, “called the world Cosmos—beauty.” Literally, of course, this word means order, harmony, but the New England philosopher caught the

sunniness and gladness of the Old Greeks and combined order and harmony into the one word, beauty.

In the forest there is grandeur; we can never transfer the “venerable columns” or weave the “verdant roof” or sketch the “winding aisles” with the same prodigality with which Nature builds her magnificent forests. But we can carry over something of the beauty and sweetness and helpfulness and moral power of the groves—“God’s first temples”—and put them within the reach of the crowded city, in our shadowy, flower-strewn parks.

The artist, whether he works with brush or chisel or pen or spade, who can make us forget the paint or the toy grove and believe that we are looking at the real things, is a great genius, a broad teacher, a helpful friend,—the more helpful and effective as he is truest to nature.

In a certain sense the landscape gardener has the advantage of all his brother artists. He works with realities; they, with imitations. Their work is more difficult, and perhaps a higher art—his is more readily comprehended by the common mind. You must have something of an artistic soul to get into the soul of a masterpiece on canvas or in stone. You need only that kinship with nature to which, thank God, all are heirs, to be touched and blessed by the gardener’s work.

Painters and sculptors belong to the aristocracy of artists—gardeners to the great democracy. Only a few can own the works of the great masters, but everybody can find some property right in the gardener’s works. I enjoy the man who is claimed as common property. He it is who can do the greatest good to the greatest number. Michael Angelo, Rubens, and Millais reveal the divine in nature, but they put it into the cathedral and the gallery, and few there be that can go in thereat; but the gardener appeals to the throng on its hustle to business, he rests the crowd daily and calls to “whosoever will” to be blessed and cheered and regenerated. You must have money and time to buy the product of the

“Masters in Art.” You only need feet and a hungry soul to get the benedictions of the gardener: so we will not compare and say one class of artists is greater than the other.

When we get near to Cosmos—to order, to harmony, to beauty,—we are brought into tune with all good things: for goodness is the order of right, the harmony of truth, the beauty of life. To be brought into tune with good things is the first step toward *being good*. As soon as goodness becomes incarnate, tangible, seen, it is inspiring.

The order and harmony and beauty of nature are brought close to us and made visible in the park. Therefore the park brings us into tune with goodness, and so the blessed ministry of the park is to set our feet in right paths, and order our thoughts to things that are true and high and noble and of good report. We “think on these things,” in sweet and cheering and healthful environment. And *thinking* is the first step toward *doing*.

For the crowds in the great hives of humanity, the drive of duties, the pressure of cares, the thronging of business, are great arenas to test our virtues,—patience, integrity, honor, courage. But to show well in the arena you must have exercised well in the gymnasium.

The gymnasium of patience is when you can breathe in something that quiets and soothes and calms—the broad lake, the placid lagoon, the flecking light on the lawn, the soft whisper of the leaves.

The gymnasium for integrity is when you can see the inevitableness of cause and effect,—the seed producing after its kind, the inevitableness of leaf to tree, of color to flower.

The gymnasium of courage is when you can see the bravery of things—the crocus, for instance, sturdily and brightly resisting the frost.

The gymnasium of honor is when you can see nobility in the dome of the sky above, the far reach of the horizon, the reliability of the deep rooted, broad belted, high topped trees.

Any community that can go into a gymnasium of Nature has the broadest opportunities for fine and noble virtues, and yet I know that Cynicism says to all this: "People are thoughtless,—the masses are a herd,—dumb driven cattle. The crowd does not translate, it is not poetic. It does not read down into Nature and get her inspirations from her facts and truths. Morality waits for a receptive soil. The Park sows its seeds of morality on hard and stony ground when it appeals to the masses from its moral pulpit."

Let us believe better things than that of human nature. Let us refuse to have our park culture blighted by such a disparagement of our kind. Granted that every wanderer through the park does not become an angel. Granted that if he brings mischief in his soul with him into its pure retreats, he will carry mischief out with him. Would you repudiate the whole college of the twelve who followed the Divine Life for three years, because Judas was among them, bringing mischief with him and carrying it out with him, when he went and hanged himself? Let us stop this disparagement of the masses. Always there is the hidden leaven of goodness that more and more leavens the whole lump. In the steady evolution of civilization the leaven has worked hitherto and will continue to work.

Give the masses an opportunity to be good and they will reach toward goodness as the roots reach for the water.

Even if the park habitués do bring mischief and plot and selfishness into it, and carry it out as they brought it in, that does not destroy the mission of the park as an evangel of goodness and purity and unselfishness.

Every cry against wrong makes it harder to do wrong, every impulse toward truth makes error harder, every inspiration to right living makes sin more difficult.

A park in the midst of the evil of a city is a protest against meanness and sordidness, a cry against filth and squalor.

"A sower went forth to sow." A park is a beneficent

sower of good—what more can the best and strongest of us be? The greatest life of all summed up His mission in this, that “a sower went forth to sow.”

Let us believe this, too (for we know it from our own experiences), that it is not always what we set ourselves to learn that we learn most thoroughly. Often, cudgeling our brains makes them obstinate. There is a mysterious affinity between the brain and the mule. Some mules plant themselves deeper and deeper the more you beat them. But when mind can free itself a little from pressure, when change of scene bathes us in its refreshment of trees and grass, the thought becomes pliable and we breathe things unconsciously, not knowing how much we have received until necessity compels us to draw on our reserve fund. Then we find, sometimes to our surprise, that we were storing away honey and did not know it.

Again, grant it that the crowds do not throng into the park with anything of the high resolve with which students flock into the university, nevertheless there is that environment of purity and restfulness, that inspiration of beauty, that strong law of order, that high classic of harmony, that always have their quality of resistlessness.

I have an unconquerable faith in the resistlessness of nature. As the unconscious soil receives the rain and the unconscious bud receives the pencilings of color and the unconscious water reflects the sunbeams, so the unconscious heart of every park visitor receives something of the refreshment that nature is always holding out in full cup with equal liberality to the thirsty and the satiated.

Let us be compassionate, too, upon the masses we call the community. The wear and tear of life is severe upon it. The denser the population, the hotter the friction. Now, if every little while we can change the surroundings that wear and kill for the surroundings that rest and refresh and make alive, we have poured the oil of life upon this eternal and

heartless grind and just in so far have made the grind more bearable. There is a moral power in recreation, in just such a re-creation as the park offers. Whatever re-creates is a savior from wear and tear; whatever re-creates sends us back into the struggle stronger to resist. Whatever resists wear and tear is moral, for it prolongs life. To prolong life is moral. Eternal life is the highest morality.

In the city's throng there are thousands who cannot get near to nature. At the gateway of the country the angel of necessity stands with the drawn sword of want, forbidding the hard-working, bread-seeking crowd to enter. It is the park that lays itself at the very feet of the tired and offers its comfort to the bodies and souls that are weary with toil. It gives the pure, healthy smell of the fields to lungs stifled by the foul air of the tenements and the unsanitary condition of the crowded street. No angel stands with forbidding sword, waving away the tired and weary multitudes; no wall of wealth girdles this domain of nature where the Kingdom of God opens itself in the park. No mother need stand outside the fence, thinking bitter thoughts as she looks through the chinks and sees some other mother's baby luxuriating in a private garden. Her baby, too, can roll on the grass and gather strength from kindly Mother Earth. The wealth of millions serves her baby. Shame on the man who complains of park taxation! What is money against childhood and the comfort of motherhood? No barefoot, tattered boy need stand on the hot pavement and see other boys, no better in God's sight than he is, playing where he dare not because he is poor. The park is his playground, and his bat and ball are as dignified as the costliest plaything in the rich child's nursery.

Again let me say, there is a broad morality and a broad spirituality in a place that offers healthful recreation and rest and a playground to all, regardless of station, estate or condition.

And then when Sunday comes—what a safe resting-place the well-kept and well-managed park offers the tired multitudes. If its administrators devise liberal things for their patrons, how much they can add to the laborers' day of rest.

It is one of the delights of my home that it is so near to the park that on Sunday afternoons I can walk in its shade and see people enjoying themselves in healthful, happy, innocent ways. There is just enough freedom to make people easy and natural in their social intercourse, there is just enough guardianship to keep out contention and quell disorder. It is the place for the gladness of the people. Gladness is a broad factor in the morality of the people; for when people are glad, anarchy does not hatch its evil brood and the destroyer of life has no place. A sullen people is a dangerous people but a glad people is a moral community. Not everything of morality is in gladness; but the color of morality is gladness. So when a city multiplies its parks and enlarges their borders and enhances their beauty, she is building a strong, healthful, happy morality into her community.

(55) PAPERS READ AT THE JOINT MEETING OF
THE ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE OF AMERICA
AND THE AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR
ART ASSOCIATION, THURSDAY EVENING,
JUNE 7, 1900.

REMARKS of Mr. W. M. R. FRENCH, Director of the Art Institute, and presiding officer of the joint meeting.

This is a joint meeting of the Architectural League of America and the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, and it appears to me it is eminently befitting, because the provinces of the societies overlap each other, and the cause is indeed a common one. Our Architectural Club has already paid much attention to municipal improvement,

especially to the improvements on the Lake Front, and in its annual exhibition one of the most interesting departments was that connected with tenement house improvements.

In regard to my own connection with these things, I have had a little experience in most of them. Beginning as a civil engineer I became the partner of a landscape gardener; and I was a year in an architect's office, and then became connected with this Art Institute in which we are housed.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT.

Mrs. EDWIN D. MEAD, Boston, Mass.

The three prerequisites to health, civic beauty and normal civic life are space, pure air, and sunlight. With these insured, architectural beauty, street adornments of fountains, statues, trees, and flowers may easily follow. Without these prerequisites, provided by wise legislation and maintained by constant vigilance, all minor beauties of decoration are overshadowed or imperiled or destroyed. The four worst causes of modern city disfigurement are slum areas, crowded suburbs of cheap wooden construction, abnormally high buildings and discordant settings for buildings, fountains, and statues.

The most congested tenement districts in the world are in New York city. Jacob Riis, an expert, declares however that the less congested wooden rookeries of Chicago are worse than the tenements of New York. Boston, San Francisco, and all our large cities show a disgraceful section which should never be tolerated. The excessively high rents received for unhealthful tenement-house property make them tolerated where money, rather than men's lives, is the chief interest of the community. The examples of an aroused public sentiment in Glasgow, Birmingham, London, and in continental cities in beginning to wipe out foul areas and build model houses needs speedy imitation in American cities.

This subject deserves a lecture by itself and I shall not enter upon it. But the abnormally high building of steel construction, costing from one to three or four millions of dollars, is the greatest material obstacle to modern civic progress. It cannot be wiped out like the rotten tenement block. It has come to cast its blighting shadow for a century upon its neighbors. So long as it stands alone, the dwellers in its upper stories have immense advantages of light and view, but as soon as every neighbor who is overshadowed builds to equal height, the street becomes a noisy cañon, the lower stories become cellars, the sidewalks are congested with jostling crowds and all business life becomes destructive of eyesight and nerves. Intercourse with one's fellows becomes a frantic scramble and game of push and grab.

The picture on the screen represents a view in Chicago taken from the Auditorium. To the average business man it perhaps seems a monument of enterprise and business success. To the man who cares for length of days more than for dividends, who values health and beauty and leisure for rational enjoyment, who remembers that he has only one life to live on this planet and cannot afford to spend it all in merely getting ready to live here, such a spectacle seems a hideous commentary on the ideals of modern life. A friend once remonstrated with me on my protests against Chicago's high buildings. "If the people in Chicago want them," she said, "why should you trouble yourself?"

But the people in Chicago have never been asked whether they want them or not, any more than the people in Boston have been asked whether they wanted this monstrous mass of masonry to tower above their narrow streets, or these other buildings, which of course are forerunners of future buildings which will darken them. These buildings were put up by the few, by taking advantage of lax building laws, in utter disregard of the needs of the many, and so far as real estate values are concerned, by the vertical instead of

lateral development of the city, they have simply robbed Peter to pay Paul, the suburban real estate man losing in proportion as those in the congested districts gain.

The high building *per se* is not an evil when it is well treated on all four sides and shaped like a tower, and when it is surrounded on all sides by ample space; however, such a building so far as I know does not exist in the world, and need not be discussed. The high building, as it exists, is an unmitigated evil to the many, while it is a convenience to the few, and to those few only so long as they can prevent their neighbors from taking advantage of the laxity of the law and following their example.

Boston now limits its buildings to a height of one hundred and twenty-five feet or to two and a half times the width of the street; this is much less than the limit in Chicago and New York, and yet is far higher than is permitted in any city of Europe. In Paris, and in general through Germany, Italy, and Sweden, buildings are limited in height to the width of the street. In Berlin and Vienna houses must not have more than five habitable stories; in Brussels they must not exceed sixty-nine feet in height; and in London, the limit, with perhaps some exceptions on large open spaces, is eighty feet.

No country in the world is so reckless in its building laws as America. No country permits the idiosyncrasy or greed of the individual or corporation so to infringe upon the rights of the people to sane conditions of life.

It is claimed that modern business conditions demand the high office building, even if such a disfiguring apartment building as you see on this Boston street be unpardonable. Concentration and speed are certainly desirable, but pneumatic tubes, telephones, subways and elevators in six-story buildings, together with a concentration of certain professions or businesses in different blocks or wards, is the only concentration needed where life is rational and well adjusted.

Berlin and Paris do large business without sky-scrappers. As compared with us their business men make less money, but more of them get more out of life, and their wealth is not counterbalanced by the fearful squalor in certain sections which disgraces the rich young cities of our prosperous land. The modern office building is an example of uneconomic concentration. A hundred different businesses, manicuring, insurance, law, landscape gardening, editing, engineering and what not, are massed together. Why should not lawyers have an office block of moderate height to themselves, and insurance men and real estate men and hide and leather men each their own quarters? Would not business be equally well expedited and our cities freed from this pestilence which threatens at any moment to cut off the earnings of years from honest, helpless citizens? A hundred foot building in Boston ruined a certain school by casting it in dense shadow. Another property belonging to a widow lost \$1000 rental by the perpetual twilight which its high neighbor threw over it. These are but two instances among thousands. Not until the common people are aroused to defend their vested interests at the polls and elect men who shall protect their rights by proper legislation can our cities hope to supply decent conditions, to say nothing of beauty, to modern life.

Delay is fatal. Every high building compels others to be built in self-defense, and makes future reform intolerably expensive.

The preservation and improvement of natural beauties, as at Morningside and Central Parks, New York, and especially the utilization of waterways, is a matter of prime importance. In Europe, waterways are almost always made accessible to the people, and form a chief feature in the beautification of the city. With us, the river banks have usually been given over to purely commercial interests and are covered with dirty mills and warehouses instead of being shaded by trees.

Contrast the Merrimac at Haverhill with the Rhine at

Mayence or Cologne, or with this view in the business center of old Nuremberg. Or contrast the Alster basin at Hamburg with the present surroundings of the Charles river basin in Boston, or the borders of the little river that flows through Berlin with the borders of any river that flows through any important city in our country, and our failure to utilize great natural opportunities is apparent.

The question of environment, of a suitable setting to whatever has a monumental character, is the next most vital question. In spite of the fact that in many fields we are now producing much better architecture than is the continent of Europe to-day, our people and our city fathers are singularly deficient in demanding that it shall have a proper setting. Admirable buildings are placed in narrow streets, or are sandwiched in between others of discordant form and color.

Ample space and symmetrical arrangement prodigiously enhance the effect of every building. In the dressing of shop windows, in the arrangement of flowers, and in many minor matters we have learned to avoid the hodgepodge and heterogeneous, and to strive for unity and harmony. That we have not done this in our street architecture and in the setting of public buildings is due not so much to our bad taste as to our bad politics and our inveterate prejudice in favor of unregulated individual taste. This individualism permits, as regards private buildings, any dozen men who happen to own each a twenty-five foot front lot in a given block to mass together a dozen buildings each of different style and color and height and of different materials. The Paris law which requires a certain uniformity of sky line, cornice and balconies and harmony of color in any given block would be a boon to every American city. With reasonable laws, our finer building materials, more brilliant colors and greater beauty in city domestic architecture, would make our cities far excel in beauty any in the old world. No freak or monstrosity would be permitted, and the subordination of

every unit to the whole would increase rather than diminish the beauty of each, as was evident at the World's Fair. We should simply exchange unbridled license for true freedom, and have ample scope for any genuine individuality that was worth while.

The setting of all works of art is of about equal importance to the merit of the work of art itself.

Who cares for the statue of Lincoln freeing the slaves in Park Square, Boston, amid its sordid surroundings? Would not even St. Gaudens' noble statue in Lincoln Park, Chicago, lose half its value were it transferred from its perfect environment and placed here?

Would the Gothic fountain in Nuremberg have its full charm were it not for the ample space about it and the Gothic features of its background which accentuate its own loveliness?

In the detached suburban house of flimsy wood exists one of the greatest obstacles to beautiful city life. Here, jigsaw trimming, grotesque gables and excrescences, and patches and stripes of various colors often make as unpleasant a conglomeration of lines and proportions as the world can show. The dangerous crowding of such buildings, as the city extends its limits, makes the detached house (only three or four feet from its neighbors) worse than a brick block in respect to danger from fire. The law should prohibit any wooden building being erected within fifty feet of another building of wood. Continuous blocks of broad, shallow brick houses built around large, open squares give all the advantages of air and light and more privacy than the wooden house squeezed in between others. It can be made architecturally beautiful and harmonious, and, as is shown by many delightful modern English residences of brick for persons of moderate means, is far better than the fantastic possibilities of the average American wooden suburb. This important matter also deserves a separate lecture.

Among less important matters for consideration, the

growing nuisance of the huge advertising billboard deserves attention. Were it not so temporary in character and so certain to be abolished as soon as an aroused public shall demand it, it might be considered a matter of great moment, as indeed it is for the time being. The desecration of rock and cliff and forest by the advertising fiend would seem to have reached almost the limit of endurance, were it not that those who suffer consider themselves so helpless in the matter. In Massachusetts a law has been passed, the enforcement of which will materially modify the disfigurement of roads. In nine cases out of ten in Massachusetts no authority exists or is given for advertisements upon public highways and properties, and the good citizen is in duty bound to see that the offender removes the offense or is prosecuted.

It is an American vice to condone lawlessness. Under the plea that one does not want to preach and meddle and find fault, the community suffers from the individual's unwillingness to take a little trouble. The good citizen will not be pugnacious, but on the other hand neither will he be pusillanimous.

Though the law protects the rights of the ear and nose, and whistles, bells, and odors are more or less under control, the rights of the eye have received scant justice! All the finer feelings may be outraged, and one's property be diminished in value by such a blot on nature as the one before you on the screen, but up to date the law in Massachusetts, and probably in other states, gives no redress.

This billboard cuts off a pretty view, which view was the inducement to one of the residents behind it to purchase his home and spend money in repairs. He would not have done it had he foreseen this daily torment to his eyes. The chief advertising agent in Boston pays only from ten to twenty-five dollars annually for the opportunity to ruin a whole landscape. The average person is as blind to these disfigurements as a newsboy is oblivious to bad grammar. Eyes he has, but the

cataract of commercialism has grown over his sight, so that, to a great extent, he sees neither beauty nor ugliness, nor knows a good thing or a bad thing when he sees it.

To whom shall we look for the remedy from the evils which have here been thus briefly outlined ?

Certainly not to artists especially, for, strangely enough, a man may be an expert and enthusiast on bronzes and water-colors and book-covers, and be as indifferent as a street-sweeper to the ugliness of sky lines and bridges and posters. Moreover, if he does see, and suffers in the seeing, he may have no power or initiative for reform. I fear we cannot look to the daily press, for it, for the most part, must print only what stockholders and advertisers find it for their advantage to have printed; certainly not to the children, though they are learning to draw and are studying Perry Pictures; they can do nothing before much of the evil will become irreparable. We cannot wait for the next generation to do our work. And most certainly we cannot look to wealthy patrons of art to help much in beautifying our cities. In spite of many generous public gifts, the millionaires can do nothing of great importance in producing beauty *until they cease promoting that very legislation which now protects their class in producing ugliness.* The sky-scraper, the chimney belching forth black soft coal smoke, the huge advertisement in the landscape, which swears in stentorian tones at every passer-by,—taking God's world in vain—these are things which the rich as a class will not help remove, for they belong to them.

To whom then shall we look for a remedy ? *To the good citizen.* It is not necessary that the good citizen should know anything about art. It is necessary that he should care for the needs of God's creatures, that he should respect the love of beauty, and that he should have common sense. He may not know Gothic from Greek, but he must know that he does not know, and that questions of beauty must be

left to experts of beauty, just as questions of public health must be left to experts in the science of health. He must know enough to vote for an honest alderman, and be willing to take an immense amount of trouble to get others to do likewise. He must be willing to set his individual whim aside, and be glad to submit to the regulations and counsels of a Board of Beauty.

A Board of Beauty made the White City the glory and the marvel that it was. When the good citizen forces partisan politics to know its place and not intrude where it has no business to be, then such a board he must again call into requisition and let knowledge and taste give counsel and even prohibitory laws, to ignorance and whim. The man, for instance, who fancies yellow brick, and wants to put a yellow brick house into the midst of a brown stone block, like a slice of sponge cake set on edge, must be taught that no man buildeth to himself, because no man liveth or dieth to himself—that we are all members one of another, and thus no man in a civilized community may mar his neighbor's little plot by doing what he pleases with his own. The good citizen will find this no tyranny but a welcome protection from his neighbor's follies. In proportion as he attains the beauty of holiness in his citizenship will he recognize the holiness of beauty in his city.

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT.

ALBERT KELSEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

Extracts from a paper read before the joint meeting of the Architectural League of America and the American Park and Outdoor Art Association,
June 7, 1900.

I have listened to the paper by the accomplished wife of the editor of the *New England Magazine* with much pleasure and profit. And I am especially pleased in feeling that this joint meeting of the American Park and Outdoor Art Asso-

ciation and the Architectural League of America marks the first step toward concerted action in the evolution of our cities.

I may beg leave, however, to differ somewhat from Mrs. Mead in regard to these so-called menacing conditions of our urban development, the lofty building and the ever-present billboard. Both are symbols of our times and both are eminently practical, as they have sprung up naturally and in response to the complex demands of a commercial civilization; but that both, as they now exist, disfigure our cities, none can deny.

Having to confront a real condition, however, it is our duty to meet it fairly and squarely. To advocate the condemnation of high buildings, and to try to abolish advertising along city thoroughfares, is to admit incapacity. Let us rather study the lofty building quarter of a city as a whole, with a view to systematizing the units, and plan our streets radiating from monumental focal points designed to display the poster.

When an engineer encounters a new problem, he searches about and solves it in a new way. If the artist happens to be less practical, surely he is not less imaginative.

You can all picture a well-designed bulletin board as an integral part of an architectural composition. Stretch your imagination further and consider what might be added to this suggestion in the way of illuminated advertising with Mucha and Cheret's posters, forming an ever-changing exhibition by night as well as by day. I agree with Mrs. Mead that municipal control of advertising is essential to the city beautiful, but I should never recommend eliminating so valuable and so genuine a factor from the possibilities of municipal art.

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The great artist is the one who responds to the crying needs of his age; who sees ahead, and expresses the greatest

sympathy for the things about him. It is this neglected factor we must cultivate before municipal art can become real and indigenous.

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In conclusion, I wish once more to point out the only rational basis for the American city beautiful. The White City at the World's Fair was a mirage. The collection of often beautiful buildings, constituting our great universities, upon which so much loving study has been bestowed, are frequently but alien collections; but the vast accretions in the business centers of our cities, or the unbroken rows of modest individual houses, each with its miniature front or back yard, on our streets of homes, represent honest, unconscious development. From them we can extract a great lesson, as they contain inherent in themselves two great characteristics of our people—private initiative and individual homes.

These are the healthy traits that have built up our republic, and if we add to them our public school system we have a substantial foundation to build upon. These are the units that bring us together.

These thoughts will impress upon you the necessity for united and concerted action, and you will join in demanding the immediate appointment of a metropolitan commission for every large center. It then will be evident to you that to re-organize the crude growths of American municipalities with a view to either beauty, better social economy, or wiser community life, all departments must work hand in hand, for single-handed we cannot even utilize natural resources to the best advantage.

Wheels move within wheels, and one community depends upon another.

SOCIETIES AUXILIARY TO THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

THE MINNEAPOLIS IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE.

The object of the Minneapolis (Minn.) Improvement League is to promote the health, cleanliness, and beauty of the city of Minneapolis.

The officers of the League are as follows:—

President, MRS. HENRY F. BROWN.

Vice-Presidents:—MRS. W. H. DUNWOODY,

MRS. J. F. FORCE,

MRS. DAVID SIMPSON,

MRS. W. B. LEACH,

MRS. WILLARD THOMPSON.

Secretary, MRS. ROBERT PRATT.

Treasurer, MRS. LAURA F. TINSLEY.

Honorary President, PROF. MARIA L. SANFORD.

The Committees are: Reception, Finance, Programme, Flower-work, Tree-protection, Smoke Nuisance, Expectoration Nuisance, Playgrounds, Mothers' Educational. The League numbers one hundred and seventy members. Among the honorary members are a number of gentlemen who are especially interested in the playground movement. Dues for honorary members are \$1.00, for members, 25 cents, payable annually.

During the past season the League has successfully conducted two public playgrounds. It has distributed flower and vegetable seeds to seventeen thousand public school children, and very successful gardens have been the result. Several hundred children have been taken at different times

to visit the State Experimental Farm outside Minneapolis. The city ordinance regarding the smoke nuisance is being vigorously enforced, owing in great measure to the perseverance of members of the League. The expectoration nuisance and offensive billboard advertising receive due attention, and the influence of the League is felt for good in the municipal conduct of Minneapolis.

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF PARK SUPERINTENDENTS.

The officers of the New England Association of Park Superintendents are as follows:—

President, JOHN A. PETTIGREW, Supt. Boston Parks,
Boston, Mass.

Vice-Presidents:—JOSEPH D. FITTS, Supt. Parks, Providence, R. I.

JOHN A. HOLMES, Eng. Parks, Cambridge, Mass.

CHAS. E. KEITH, Supt. Parks, Bridgeport, Conn.

W. H. RICHARDSON, Supt. Parks, Concord, N. H.

Secretary, G. A. PARKER, Supt. Keney Park, Hartford, Conn.

Treasurer, J. H. HEMINGWAY, Supt. Parks, Worcester, Mass.

The membership of the Association is twenty-eight, comprising many of the best park superintendents and engineers of New England. The third annual meeting was held at Worcester, Mass., July 11 and 12, 1900, and the fourth annual meeting will be held in Hartford, Conn., July 9 and 10, 1901.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE A. P. & O. A. A.

As is stated elsewhere in this report, the women members of this Association asked permission at the Chicago meeting to form a Women's Auxiliary to the Association, having the same Constitution and By-Laws as the main association, and therefore the same life dues of \$50 and annual dues of \$2, but having an independent president and secretary, the treasurer of the main association to act as treasurer of the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary has joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs in the belief that this step will bring the active club women of the country into closer touch with the outdoor art movement and thus gain their valuable assistance and co-operation in accomplishing the objects for which the American Park and Outdoor Art Association was formed; more particularly, to strengthen public opposition to the spread of the billboard evil, to stimulate local improvement in cities and towns, to urge and aid in the reservation of land for public parks and breathing spaces and in the improvement of the same, to co-operate with all movements and societies aiming toward a truer municipal art, and to arouse individual interest, especially among women, in the improvement and embellishment of private grounds.

A list of the officers and members of the Women's Auxiliary is here appended.

OFFICERS.

President, MRS. HERMAN J. HALL, 5545 Washington avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary, MISS EDITH A. CANNING, Warren, Mass.

Treasurer, O. C. SIMONDS, Buena avenue, Chicago, Ill.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

ADDAMS, MISS JANE, Hull-House, 335 S. Halsted st., Chicago, Ill.

LIFE MEMBERS.

COWAN, MRS. ANDREW, 912 Fourth ave., Louisville, Ky.

MANNING, MRS. WARREN H., Richmond Court, Beacon st., Brookline, Mass.

OLMSTED, MRS. JOHN C., Brookline, Mass.

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

ANDERSON, MISS MARY D., 324 East Jefferson st., Louisville, Ky.
Chairman Civic Committee of Woman's Club; Head Resident Social Settlement of Neighborhood House.

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- SCOTT, FRANK H., Orange, N. J.; Pres. Century Co., of N. Y.
- SCOTT, WM., 29 Balcom st., Buffalo, N. Y.; Florist and Nsyman.
- SHAW, ALBERT, 13 Astor place, New York, N. Y.; Ph.D.; Ed. *American Monthly Review of Reviews*.
- SHUEY, EDWIN L., 508 W. 4th st., Dayton, O.
- SHURTLEFF, ARTHUR A., Brookline, Mass.; Student of L. A.
- SIMONDS, OSSIAN C., Buena ave., Chicago, Ill.; L. G.; Supt. Graceland Cem.
- SINCLAIR, W. A., Dayton, O.; Supt. L. G. Dept. Nat'l Cash Register Co.
- SMILEY, DANIEL, Mohonk Lake, Ulster Co., N. Y.; Mgr. Lake Mohonk Mt. House.
- SMITH, THEO. CLARKE, 20 Hawthorne Road, Brookline, Mass.; Ph.D.
- STANDISH, DR. J. V. N., Galesburg, Ill.; Pres. Pk. C.
- STARKE, W. A., Milwaukee, Wis.; Pk. Cr.
- STEVENS, W. J., Carthage, Mo.; Supt. Schools.
- STEWART, WM. J., 67 Bromfield st., Boston, Mass.; Sec. Soc. Am. Florists.
- STILES, CHAS. A., 589 Main st., Malden, Mass.; Supt. Forest Dale Cem.
- STOUT, J. H., Menomonie, Wis.; Founder Stout Manual Training School.
- SWEENEY, JAMES, Buffalo, N. Y.; Pk. Cr.

TAFT, L. R., Agricultural College P. O., Lansing, Mich.; Prof.
Hort. and Landscape Gardening, Mich. Agr. Coll.

TAUSSIG, JAMES, Rialto Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.

TODD, FRED'K G., Trades Bldg., Montreal, P. Q., Canada.; L. A.
TOPPAN, ROLAND W., 31 Milk st., Boston, Mass.; Pres. Arkwright
Mutual Fire Ins. Co. and Paper Mills Mutual Ins. Co.

TRACY, W. W., 238 Ferry ave., Detroit, Mich.; Seedsman.

TRELEASE, WM., St. Louis, Mo.; Dir. Mo. Bot. Garden and Engle-
mann Prof. of Botany, Washington Univ.

UIHLEIN, EDW. G., 34 Ewing place, Chicago, Ill.; Manufacturer.

UNDERWOOD, J. M., Lake City, Minn.; Nsyman.

VANDERPOOL, EUGENE, Newark, N. J.; Pk. Cr. Essex Co. Pk. C.

VAN LEYEN, EDW. C., 47 Peninsular Bank Bldg., Detroit, Mich.;
Pk. Cr.; Architect.

VAN VLissingen, J. H., 95 Dearborn st., Chicago, Ill.

VAUGHAN, J. C., 84 Randolph st., Chicago, Ill.; Seedsman.

VOGDES, JESSE T., City Hall, Phila., Pa.; Supt. and Chief Eng.,
Fairmount Pk.

WAHL, C., 100 Prospect ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

WEBER, HENRY J., Milwaukee, Wis.; Pk. Cr.

WESTON, JOHN W., 334 Dearborn st., Chicago, Ill.; Civ. Eng.; Ed.
Park and Cemetery and Landscape Gardening.

WHEELOCK, J. A., St. Paul, Minn.; Pres. Pk. C.

WHITNALL, C. B., 1184 Humboldt ave., Milwaukee, Wis.; Florist.

WHITTET, CHAS. A., 35 Wentworth ave., Lowell, Mass.; Supt. of
Commons.

WILDER, EDW., 1021 Hamion st., Topeka, Kan.; Sec. & Treas. A.,
T. & S. F. Ry. Co.

WILSON, JAMES, Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada; Supt. Queen Vic-
toria Niagara Falls Pk.

WITHERELL, N., 35 E. 38th st., New York, N. Y.

WOODBURY, JOHN, 145 Monroe st., Lynn, Mass.; Sec. Metropolitan
Pk. C.

WOODRUFF, CLINTON ROGERS, Girard Trust Bldg., Phila., Pa.;
Counsel for Phila. Munic. League and Sec. Pub. Educ.
Ass'n.

WOOLNER, WM. C., Care Olmsted Bros., Brookline, Mass.; L. A. WOOLVERTON, LINUS, Grimsby, Ont., Canada; Sec. Fruit Growers' Ass'n of Ontario.

ZIMMERMAN, CHAS. D., 131 Norwood ave., Buffalo, N. Y.; Nsyman and Florist.

ZUEBLIN, CHAS., 6052 Kimbark ave., Chicago, Ill.; Asso. Prof. Sociology, Univ. of Chicago.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

ARMOUR, S. B., Kansas City, Mo.; Pk. Cr. Died Mar. 29, 1899.

COLE, HUGH L., New York, N. Y.; Lawyer. Died Nov. 5, 1898.

EARL, ADAMS, Lafayette, Ind.; Pres. Pk. C. Died Jan. 15, 1898.

GILLHAM, ROBERT, Kansas City, Mo.; Pk. Cr. Died May 19, 1899.

SHERLEY, THOS. H., Louisville, Ky.; Pk. Cr. Died Nov. 29, 1898.

STILES, WM. A., New York, N. Y.; Editor *Garden & Forest*. Died Oct. 6, 1897.

THOMAS, PACK, Louisville, Ky.; Sec. Pk. C. Died Nov. 12, 1897.

WOODS, CHAS. H., Minneapolis, Minn.; Pk. Cr. Died Apr. 16, 1899.

YATES, DAVID G., Philadelphia, Pa.; Nurseryman. Died Aug. 12, 1900.

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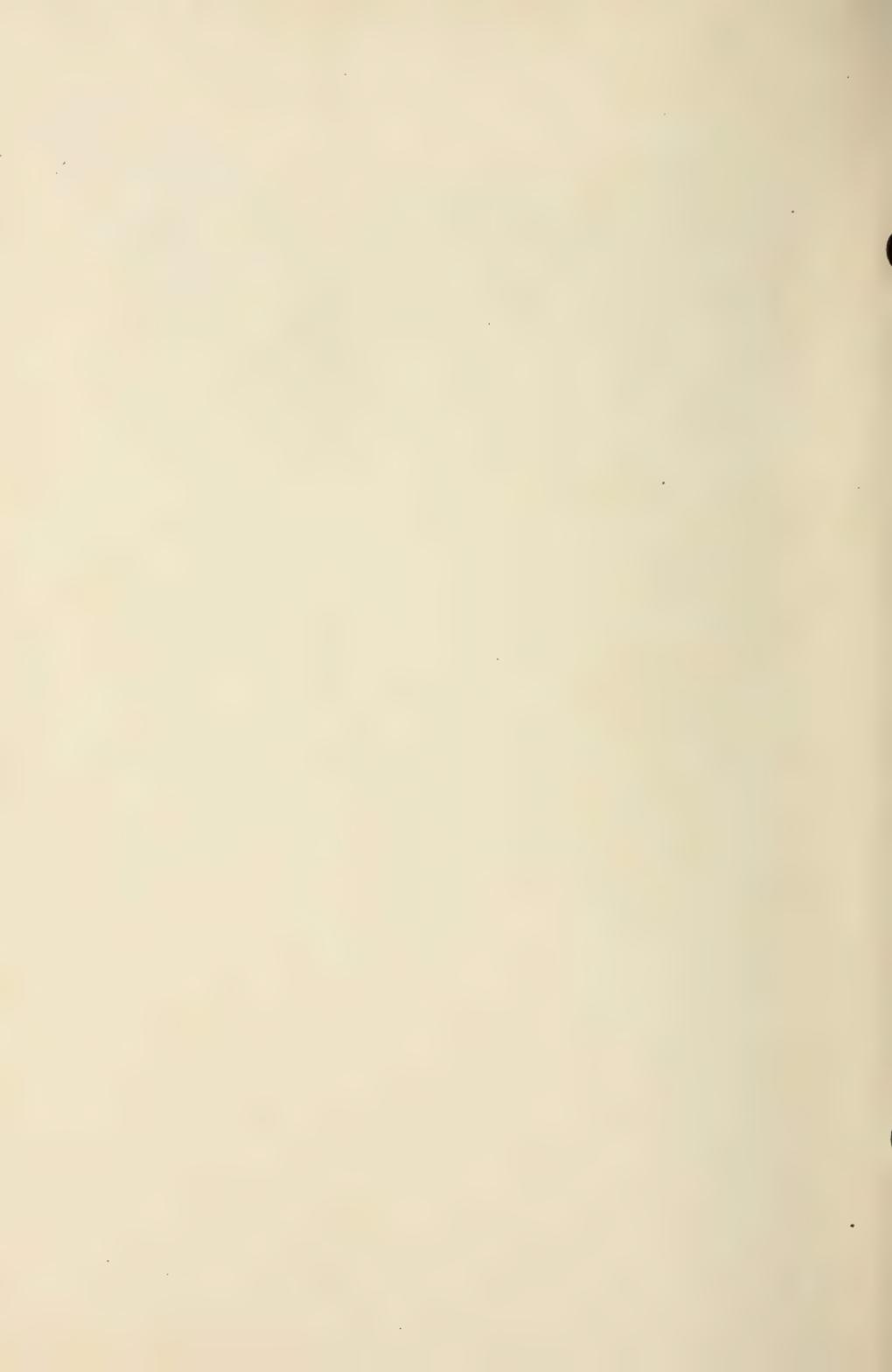
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Being the Report of the Committee on Methods of Checking the Abuses of Public Advertising, and published separately.

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AMERICAN PARK
and OUTDOOR ART
ASSOCIATION



PROCEEDINGS
of the Sixth Annual Meeting
BOSTON Nineteen Hundred Two

Vol. VI., Part 1.

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VOLUME VI.

PART I.

AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR
ART ASSOCIATION.

THE BUSINESS OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL
MEETING.

BOSTON, AUG. 5, 6, 7, 1902.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.
NOVEMBER, 1902.

DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE PRESS,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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FOREWORD.

The following pages comprise both something more and something less than "the business of the sixth annual meeting" of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association. They contain something more, because in the list of members which is here included there are many score names that were not on the rolls of the Association when the sixth annual meeting was held. These new names, in the main Association, in the Women's Auxiliary, and in the list of Affiliated Societies, constitute an evidence of growth that could not be brought forward at the meeting. To some extent this is a result of the success of the meeting. At the close of the third month after the Convention, the main Association is about half as large again as at the close of the five years that ended with the Convention. Both the Association and Auxiliary have doubled in six months. This, it should be said, means something far better than the growth of a society. It is evidence of the increase, in numbers and courage, of those who feel an interest in making fairer our towns and cities, in surrounding with more of beauty the lives that are spent in them. That is the inspiring significance of the banding together of so many widely scattered workers, thinkers, and hopers of better things.

The pages that follow contain, also, something less than "the business of the sixth annual meeting" because they translate the word "business" in its narrowest sense. The real business of such a convention as that held in Boston by the American Park and Outdoor Art Association consists far more in the reading and hearing, in the suggestion and spur, of such papers as those read by President Eliot, by Mr. Warner, and by the Rev. Dr. Hallock, than in the mere passing of motions, approval of statistics, and election of officers. These papers are not given in the present pamphlet. They are to appear in full in two or more pamphlets (shortly to be published) by themselves, that they may be the more readily kept and widely distributed. But the addresses and reports of the officers of the Association and Auxiliary, the strictly business proceedings of the Convention, and the full program (that the titles of the papers may be seen) are added herewith to the revised Constitution and By-Laws, to the lists of committees, and to the membership rolls, forming a pamphlet that is of interest and value to all who have faith in the Association and its work.

OFFICERS
OF
THE AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

President,

CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF, - - - 121 So. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary,

CHARLES MULFORD ROBINSON, - 65 So. Washington St., Rochester, N. Y.

Treasurer,

OSSIAN C. SIMONDS, - - - - - Buena Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN C. OLNSTED,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Brookline, Mass.
MRS. HERMAN J. HALL,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Chicago, Ill.
CHARLES W. GARFIELD,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Grand Rapids, Mich.
WARREN H. MANNING,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Brookline, Mass.
DICK J. CROSBY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Washington, D. C.
W. ORMISTON ROY,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Montreal, Canada.

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

President,

MRS. HERMAN J. HALL, - - - 5545 Washington Ave., Chicago, Ill.

First Vice-President,

MRS. PIERPONT EDWARDS DUTCHER, - - Ivanhoe Place, Milwaukee, Wis.

Second Vice-President,

MISS MARGRETHE K. CHRISTENSEN, - - Galt House, Louisville, Ky.

Secretary,

MISS JESSIE S. GARDNER, - - - 1038 Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

Treasurer,

MRS. MARY MORTON KEHEW, - - - 264 Boylston St., Boston, Mass.

COMMITTEES
OF
THE AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

Auditing Committee.

FREDERICK W. KELSEY,	Chairman,	- - - - -	New York, N. Y.
JOHN C. OLMFSTED,	- - - - -	-	Brookline, Mass.
LEWIS JOHNSON,	- - - - -	-	New Orleans, La.

Committee on Publication.

CHARLES MULFORD ROBINSON,	Chairman,	- - - - -	Rochester, N. Y.
MRS. MARTIN W. SHERMAN,	- - - - -	-	Milwaukee, Wis.
G. A. PARKER,	- - - - -	-	Hartford, Conn.

Committee on Park Census.

G. A. PARKER,	Chairman,	- - - - -	Hartford, Conn.
JOHN C. OLMFSTED,	- - - - -	-	Brookline, Mass.
LEWIS JOHNSON,	- - - - -	-	New Orleans, La.

Committee on School Grounds.

DICK J. CROSBY,	Chairman,	- - - - -	Washington, D. C.
MRS. MARY MORTON KEHEW,	- - - - -	-	Boston, Mass.
H. D. HEMENWAY,	- - - - -	-	Hartford, Conn.
JOHN W. SPENCER,	- - - - -	-	Ithaca, N. Y.

Committee on Checking Abuses of Public Advertising.

FRED'K LAW OLMFSTED, JR.,	Chairman,	- - - - -	Brookline, Mass.
MRS. W. F. GROWER,	- - - - -	-	Chicago, Ill.
MRS. LOVELL WHITE,	- - - - -	-	San Francisco, Cal.
JOSEPH LEE,	- - - - -	-	Boston, Mass.

Committee on Local Improvement.

W. J. STEVENS,	Chairman,	- - - - -	St. Louis, Mo.
DR. DWIGHT R. BURRILL,	- - - - -	-	Canandaigua, N. Y.
MISS MIRA L. DOCK,	- - - - -	-	Harrisburg, Pa.
FREDERICK W. CLARK,	- - - - -	-	North Billerica, Mass.

Committee on Government Reservations.

C. M. LORING,	Chairman,	- - - - -	Minneapolis, Minn.
L. E. HOLDEN,	- - - - -	-	Cleveland, Ohio.
OFFICERS, MASSACHUSETTS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION,	- - - - -	-	Boston, Mass.
OFFICERS, APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB,	- - - - -	-	Boston, Mass.

Special Representative on Committee for the Federation of Societies.

CHARLES MULFORD ROBINSON,	- - - - -	-	Rochester, N. Y.
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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The name of this Association shall be the AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II.

PURPOSE.

The purposes of this Association shall be to promote the conservation of natural scenery, the acquirement and improvement of land for public parks and reservations, and the advancement of all outdoor art having to do with the designing and fitting of grounds for public and private use and enjoyment.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership shall consist of *Members*, who shall pay two dollars annual fee; *Life Members*, who shall have paid fifty dollars at one time; *Honorary Members*; and *Patrons*, who shall have made a gift to the Association of the value of one thousand dollars. All classes of Members except Honorary Members shall have the right to vote for officers and upon amendments to this Constitution. Life Members, Honorary Members, and Patrons shall be exempt from annual dues.

ARTICLE IV.

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

Societies working to promote the purposes of this Association may become auxiliary to it.

ARTICLE V.

OFFICERS.

The Officers shall be a President, six Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, who together shall compose the Council.

ARTICLE VI.**COUNCIL.**

The Council shall have the sole power to adopt and amend By-Laws for the regulation of membership, voting, duties and terms of officers, and no subject shall be considered at the annual meeting that has not first been submitted to the Council.

ARTICLE VII.**ELECTIONS.**

Election of officers shall be held on the second day of the annual meeting, and such election shall be by ballot.

ARTICLE VIII.**MEETINGS.**

A meeting of the Association shall be held annually at a time and place to be determined by the Council.

ARTICLE IX.**AMENDMENTS.**

Amendments to this Constitution may be made by a two-thirds majority of the Council, with the concurrence of three-fourths of the members of the Association voting upon the question at the annual meeting.

BY-LAWS.**MEMBERS.**

SECTION 1. Membership.—The members shall be : Members or delegates of park boards and other official bodies having the management of public grounds.

Landscape architects, landscape gardeners, engineers, superintendents, or others professionally employed in the designing and fitting of grounds for public and private use and enjoyment.

Representatives of village and city improvement societies or of other societies having objects similar to those of the Association.

Other men and women interested in the purposes of the Association.

The Council shall determine the eligibility of the applicant.

SECTION 2. Election of Members.—Applications for membership shall be made to the Secretary on a printed form to be furnished by him. He is to submit the applicant's name and such information as he may secure concerning said applicant, and a blank ballot to each member of the Council, who shall return the ballot to the Secretary within one month. The Secretary, upon receipt of five or more affirmative votes, shall thereupon notify the applicant of election, and upon receipt of dues for the current year shall add the name to

the list of members. The election of Life and Honorary Members and of Patrons shall be similarly effected. The Secretary shall preserve all ballots for at least one year after their receipt.

SECTION 3. *Privileges of Members.*—All classes of members, except Honorary Members, present at the annual meeting, shall be entitled to vote by ballot upon the election of officers, upon amendments to the Constitution, and upon any other questions presented by the Council at the said meeting. Members are entitled to one copy of each annual report of the proceedings during their membership.

SECTION 4. *Delegate Membership.*—Park Commissioners and other municipal officers having the management of public parks and pleasure grounds, also trustees of libraries, parks, cemeteries, and important institutions, who may wish to receive regularly the annual report of the proceedings of the Association, may do so by causing their secretary or other officer to join the Association. Such members shall appear in the lists of members by their official title only.

SECTION 5. *Auxiliary Societies.*—Societies other than the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, working to promote the same purposes as this Association, may, with the approval of the Council, become auxiliary societies. An auxiliary society, during the payment of its annual dues, is entitled to one copy of each annual report of this Association, and to have published in the report its name, officers, number of members, and a brief statement of its purposes and field of work. If ten or more of the members of an auxiliary society are also members of this Association, the Council may authorize the publication in the annual report of a summary of the proceedings of such societies, and papers, either in abstract or in full.

SECTION 6. *Dues.*—The dues of members shall be two dollars and of auxiliary societies five dollars for each calendar year, and shall be payable upon notification of election, and thereafter in the month of January for the current year. One-half the dues received by the Women's Auxiliary shall be paid into the treasury of the Association. One-half shall be retained by the Auxiliary, and shall be at the disposal of that body.

SECTION 7. *Arrears.*—A member or an auxiliary society that is in arrears over one year shall cease to be a member or an auxiliary society. They may be restored to membership or may again become an auxiliary society after payment of all arrears.

SECTION 8. *Honorary Members.*—Any person who shall have done notable service in advancing the purposes of this Association may be elected an Honorary Member by the Council, but no more than two Honorary Members shall be elected in any one year, and there shall be no more than ten living Honorary Members.

SECTION 9. *Patrons.*—The names of Patrons shall be retained in the lists of Patrons as long as the Association exists.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 10. *Officers.*—The officers shall perform all the duties ordinarily required by their position, and shall serve until the election and qualification of their successors.

SECTION 11. *President's Duties.*—The President shall preside over the annual meeting for which he is elected, and shall deliver an address to the Association at the following annual meeting.

SECTION 12. *President's Term of Office.*—The President shall serve for one year.

SECTION 13. *Vice-Presidents.*—There shall be six Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall be a resident of the New England, one of the Middle, one of the Southern, one of the Central, one of the Western States and Territories, and one of Canada.

SECTION 14. *President Pro Tem.*—The Vice-Presidents shall, in the order in which they were elected, perform the duties of the President during his absence.

SECTION 15. *Vice-Presidents' Term of Office.*—The term of office of the first two Vice-Presidents elected shall be one year, of the second two two years, and of the remaining two three years. The terms of their successors shall be three years.

SECTION 16. *Treasurer's Duties.*—The Treasurer shall receive and hold all money coming to the Association, and shall disburse or invest as Trustee all money as directed by a majority vote of the Council. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate and detailed account of all receipts and disbursements and make a summary report of the same to the Council at or before each annual meeting. The accounts of the Treasurer shall be open to the inspection of members of the Council.

SECTION 17. *Treasurer's Term of Office.*—The Treasurer shall serve for two years.

SECTION 18. *Secretary's Duties.*—The Secretary shall be the executive officer of the Association acting under the direction of the Council. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all proceedings, members, dues, and miscellaneous receipts collected, and pay receipts and balances promptly to the Treasurer. He is to arrange with local committees for the annual meetings, send notices, receive, record, and hold in trust, property of the Association other than investments and funds in the hands of the Treasurer, print and distribute reports of the annual meetings, procure all material and assistance required in the prosecution of these duties, and transact all business delegated to him by the Council. The Secretary's travelling and clerical expenses are to be paid by the Association. He is to prepare and submit to the Council an estimate of expenses for the ensuing year at least one month before the annual meeting, and the approval of this estimate by a two-thirds vote of the Council shall empower the Secretary to draw upon the Treasurer from time to time for amounts the total of which shall not exceed the amount authorized. All applications for membership and all questions requiring the action of the Council

shall be submitted by the Secretary to each member, who shall be notified of the result of the vote. The Secretary shall make a yearly report with a detailed statement of receipts and expenditures to the Council. Records and accounts shall be open to the inspection of members of the Council.

SECTION 19. *Secretary's Term of Office.*--The Secretary's term of office shall be three years.

COUNCIL.

SECTION 20. *Duties of Council.*--The Council shall appoint committees of its members or of the Association, shall control the presentation, discussion, and publication of papers, shall pass upon invitations to the Association, determine upon the place and time of the annual and special meetings, arrange through the Secretary for local committees to receive and entertain the Association, examine the reports and audit the accounts of all officers and committees, and pass upon all other business.

SECTION 21. *Election of Chairman.*--The Council shall elect its Chairman at each annual meeting before adjournment.

SECTION 22. *Nomination of Officers.*--Officers shall be nominated by the Council after the determination of the place of the annual meeting of the Association and at least two months before the time of the meeting.

SECTION 23. *Meetings of the Council.*--Meetings of the Council shall be called by its Chairman, through the Secretary.

SECTION 24. *Quorum.*--Five members shall constitute a quorum, whether voting by mail or at meetings. A majority vote shall determine all questions excepting amendments to the Constitution and election of members.

SECTION 25. *Order of Business of Council.*--The order of business at meetings of the Council shall be :

1. Report of Treasurer.
2. Report of Secretary.
3. Reports of committees.
4. Other business.

SECTION 26. *Mail Ballot of Councillors*--The members of the Council shall vote upon all questions by a ballot submitted to them by the Secretary, voting either for or against, or to refer the question to the Council at its next meeting.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 27. *Annual Meetings.*--The annual meetings of the Association are to be called by the President with the approval of the Council.

SECTION 28. *Order of Business.*--The order of business at the annual meeting of the Association shall be :

1. Address by retiring President.
2. Business presented by the Council.
3. Papers and discussion.

SECTION 29. *Transaction of Business.*—No subject shall be considered by the Association that has not first been submitted to the Council, and no question shall be discussed or voted upon at the annual meeting which has not been submitted to the Council in writing in good season for its action; and when any discussion or voting has been thus brought before the annual meeting, the first order of business shall be a report upon the question by an authorized member of the Council, followed immediately, if demanded by any member of the Association present, by a vote on the question whether debate shall be permitted, and if the vote is affirmative, a vote shall next be taken on the limitation of the total time to be occupied in debate, and upon the number and length of times that each member may speak upon the subject.

SECTION 30. *Publications.*—The annual reports of the Association are to be printed in such a manner that reports and papers of auxiliary societies and papers presented before this Association and published in full may be printed separately. Auxiliary societies may purchase copies of their reports and papers, and authors may purchase copies of their papers thus published at cost price. A list of such separates, with prices affixed, is to be issued under the direction of the Council by the Secretary.

BY-LAWS GOVERNING THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

SECTION 31. *Object.*—The Women's Auxiliary aims to promote the objects for which the Association was formed, and to demonstrate practically, through its Local Branches, the principles of art.

SECTION 32. *Officers.*—The officers shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually at the Congress of the Association. The officers shall constitute the Executive Committee.

SECTION 33. *Duties of Officers.*—The duties of the officers shall be those usually pertaining to such offices. The Secretary and Treasurer shall present annual reports at the Congress of the Association.

SECTION 34. Membership in the Women's Auxiliary includes membership in, and according to the rules of, the Association, without further procedure or charge.

SECTION 35. *Local Branches.*—The Auxiliary shall have the privilege of organizing its members into local working branches, such branches to be governed by standing rules adopted by the Auxiliary.

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS.

SECTION 36. No amendments of these By-Laws shall be made until one month after a written notice in full of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to each member of the Council.

ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES
OF THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

EL PASO COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The object of the El Paso County Horticultural Society, (of Colorado Springs, Colo.,) is "to encourage the love and growth of flowers, and the beautifying of the home." It has gone beyond this, however, by undertaking the improvement of roads, parks, etc.

The officers of the Society are as follows :

President,

HARRY C. HARRIS.

Vice-Presidents,

WILLIAM CLARK, LOUIS R. EHRICH.

Secretary,

FRED F. HORN. . . . TREASURER,

EDGAR KING.

The standing committees are : Executive, Finance, Exhibition Schedules and Awards, Arrangements, Flowers and Plants, Fruits and Vegetables, Gardens and Landscape, Children's Department, and Women's Advisory.

The membership of the Society is four hundred. It held its first meeting in 1899 with a membership of nine. In its first exhibition there were thirty-six classes; in its exhibition of 1902 there were two hundred and fifty classes. Meanwhile the premiums rose from \$29.75 to \$750, and the entries from 31 to 1,500. The wider scope of the society's usefulness and influence is evidenced by the President's having secured to the city the Manitou Boulevard (and its maintenance) and by a gift to the society of a site for its own gardens, meeting rooms, library, etc. The dues are \$1 a year; children, 5 cents.

THE NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF PARK SUPERINTENDENTS

The membership of the Association is sixty, comprising many well-known superintendents, engineers and foresters of New England parks.

The officers of the society are as follows:

President,

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Vice-Presidents,

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W. H. RICHARDSON, Superintendent Parks, Concord, N. H.

CHAS. S. ANTHONY, President Park Commission, Taunton, Mass.

THEODORE WIRTH, Superintendent Parks, Hartford, Conn.

J. S. VILES, Superintendent Parks, Montpelier, Vt.

W. S. EGERTON, Superintendent Parks, Albany, N. Y.

Secretary,

JOHN W. DUNCAN, Assistant Superintendent Parks, Boston, Mass.

Treasurer,

JOHN H. HEMINGWAY, Superintendent Parks, Worcester, Mass.

The Fifth Annual Meeting was successfully held at Boston, June 20-21, 1902, the programme including lectures and drives through the Boston park system.

AFFILIATED WITH THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY, AMERICAN
PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

**OUTDOOR ART COMMITTEE, ALUMNAE LOUISVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL.**

The object of the Outdoor Art Committee is to induce the citizens of Louisville to beautify their own premises.

Six lectures by prominent women and men interested in civic improvements will be given during the winter of 1902-3, for the dual purpose of arousing interest in those who have given little thought to the subject, and for raising a sufficient fund for free flower-seed distribution among the children of the Louisville public schools.

SUBJECTS OF LECTURES.

- I. The Duties of Property Owners and Tenants.
- II. Children as Gardeners.
- III. The Trees of Kentucky.
- IV. The Gardens of New England.
- V. The Renaissance of Nature.
- VI. The Destruction Necessary to Civic Improvement.

*President Alumnae Club, Louisville Girls' High School,
MRS. CHAS. P. WEAVER.*

*Outdoor Art Committee,
Chairman, MARGARETHE KEOFOED CHRISTENSEN.*

*Lecture Committee,
Chairman, MRS. EDWARD GUEST.*

*Entertainment Committee,
Chairman, MISS PEARL ESTERLE.*

*Amusement Committee,
Chairman, MISS MARY CULLEN.*

LIST OF MEMBERS
OF THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

NOV. 10, 1902.

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OLMSTED, FREDERICK LAW, SR., Brookline, Mass.

**Deceased.*

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KELSEY, FREDERICK W.	-	-	150 Broadway, New York City.
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OLMSTED, JOHN C.	-	-	Brookline, Mass.
PARKER, EDWARD J.	-	-	Quincy, Ill.
PARKER, MRS. EDWARD J.	-	-	Quincy, Ill.
WARDER, R. H.	-	-	City Hall, Cincinnati, O.

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VIELE, MRS. C. D.	2648 Orchard Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.
VOULK, MRS. J. H.	Montcalm, Chicago, Ill.
WADE, MRS. FRANK A.	321 Hudson St., Buffalo, N. Y.
WADLEIGH, MISS A. E.	1415 Hope St. South, Los Angeles, Cal.
WADLEIGH, MRS. GEO. H.	1415 Hope St. South, Los Angeles, Cal.
WAGONER, MRS. LUTHER	849 Chestnut St., San Francisco, Cal.
WALKER, MRS. A. E.	Duluth, Minn.
WALSH, MISS ELIZABETH B.	1036 Fifth St., Louisville, Ky.
WALTON, MRS. LYMAN A.	5737 Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, Ill.
WASHBURN, MRS. J. L.	Hunters Park, Duluth, Minn.
WASHBURN, MRS. W. J.	4000 Pasadena Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.
WATSON, MRS. J. A.	401 Seventh St. East, Ashland, Wis.
WATSON, MRS. JAMES S.	1575 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.
WEAVER, MRS. CHARLES P.	2406 Third Ave., Louisville, Ky.
WHITAKER, MISS KATE E.	The Stewart, Ellis St., San Francisco, Cal.
WHITE, MRS. LOVELL	1616 Clay St., San Francisco, Cal.
WHITMAN, MRS. SARAH W.	77 Mount Vernon St., Boston, Mass.
WHITNALL, MRS. C. B.	1184 Humboldt Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
WILES, MRS. ROBERT HALL	5711 Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, Ill.
WILEY, MISS SARAH E.	5443 Jackson Ave., Chicago, Ill.
WILKINSON, MISS FANNIE R.	6 Gower St., London, W. C., England.
WILLIAMS, MRS. B.	Western Springs, Ill.
WILSON, MRS. C. E.	Mattoon, Ill.
WILSON, MRS. E. T.	722 Powell, St., San Francisco, Cal.

*Has secured four or more new members.

WITKOWSKY, MRS. JAMES	-	-	3170 Groveland Ave., Chicago, Ill.
WOLFF, MISS SOPHIE	-	-	1923 Barry Ave., Chicago, Ill.
WOODWURTH, MRS. C. B.	-	-	1002 Wayne St. West, Fort Wayne, Ind.
WYMAN, MRS. F. O.	-	-	926 Bonnie Brae St., Los Angeles, Cal.
YOUACHE, MRS. E. A.	-	-	Crown Point, Ind.
YOUNG, MISS GRACE A.	-	-	337 Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

LOCAL BRANCHES.

The Auxiliary members have established local branches as follows:

Chicago.—President, MRS. EBEN BYRON SMITH. Secretary, MRS. WM. FREDERICK GROWER, 964 Jackson Boulevard.

Milwaukee.—President, MRS. MARTIN W. SHERMAN. Secretary, MISS GRACE YOUNG, 337 Juneau Ave.

Louisville.—President, MRS. CHARLES W. GHEENS. Secretary, MISS OLLA STUBER, 222 East Walnut St.

New Orleans.—President, MISS JEAN GORDON. Secretary, MISS J. RICHARDSON, 1758 Prytania St.

Pasadena.—President, MRS. L. F. CHAPIN. Secretary, MISS LAURETTA BARNABY, 82 South Marengo St.

Los Angeles.—President, MRS. WILLOUGHBY RODMAN. Secretary, MISS MARY JONES, Public Library.

San Francisco.—President, MRS. LOVELL WHITE. Secretary, MRS. EDWARD GLASER, 832 Sutter St.

Boston.—President, *pro tem.*, MRS. MARY MORTON KEHEW. Secretary, MRS. E. H. CLEMENT, 3 Regent Circle.

Ashland.—President, *pro tem.*, MRS. J. T. HOOPER. Secretary, MISS HELEN M. SHORES, 619 Seventh Ave. West.

THE STORY OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The sixth annual convention of The American Park and Outdoor Art Association was held in Boston, August fifth, sixth, seventh, 1902, and the day following the adjournment of the formal sessions, August eighth, was devoted to excursions.

Through the kindness of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the beautiful new Horticultural Building, on the corner of Massachusetts and Huntington Aves., was placed at the disposal of the Association, and here its sessions were held. Down town, the Appalachian Mountain Club extended to the delegates the courtesy of its rooms, and these, with the exhibit of a specially prepared collection of mountain views and of photographs of public reservations, and with the lovely real view from the high windows of the Club, made an attractive place for social gatherings. Yet, so great were the attractions at the Hall, so full was every minute with a program that provided three sessions a day, and that filled in all the chinks with entertainment, that the hospitality so generously extended could not be fully availed of.

The first formal session began at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, August 5th, in the Assembly Hall of the Horticultural Building, and the Mayor of Boston was early present to welcome the delegates. It was a business meeting of the Association and Auxiliary, at which the reports of the Secretaries and Treasurers were read, and the annual address of the retiring President was delivered. All of this will be found in full, further on. The report also of the Chairman of the Park

Census Committee was read here, and is a document of rare interest and beauty, that will well repay perusal. (See Pg. 54.) After the meeting adjourned, a little time was afforded to those who were willing to hurry through their luncheons, to visit the Museum of Fine Arts or the Public Library or Public Gardens. At the Museum and Library, guides, furnished by the institutions, were in readiness to show the visitors around, and for the benefit of the delegates the usual charge for admission at the Museum of Fine Arts was suspended, by the courtesy of the Board of Trustees.

The afternoon session met at three o'clock, again in the Assembly Hall. This called out the largest attendance of the whole Convention, the room being entirely filled with those eager to hear the address of President Eliot, of Harvard University, and of the Rev. J. N. Hallock, D. D., of New York. Dr. Eliot spoke on "Popular Utilization of Public Reservations," and Dr. Hallock of "The Influence of Beautiful Surroundings on Children." Both the addresses were superb productions. President Eliot's received editorial comment in newspapers in all parts of the country, and was described in *The Independent* as "The keynote of the Convention." At the close of these addresses, which the Association will publish in full in a later pamphlet, and the brief discussion that followed them, the visitors were invited to step into the large reception hall adjoining, where the local Women's Committee had provided refreshments for an informal reception. This was very largely attended and gave the delegates a pleasant opportunity to meet one another, to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, to be introduced to the speakers of the Convention, and to see the fine exhibition, which, filling more than half of the hall, was one of the most interesting features of the Convention. This exhibition was composed largely of maps and photographs of parks and landscape designs, loaned by various landscape architects. There was also a most interesting exhibition of photographs and drawings of school gardens, the collection having been especially brought together by the Department of Agriculture for this Convention. Through the generosity of Mr. Arthur F. Whitin, of Whitinsville, Mass., the Association had been enabled to invite leading architects to display designs for artistic billboards. Although the display was small, it was very suggestive.

Here, also, there was shown, by the courtesy of The Municipal Art Society of New York, the collection of designs for artistic electroliers and isles of safety, which had been brought together by the latter Society's offer of prizes for the best designs. This collection had been on exhibition in New York, and was thence forwarded to the Convention in Boston. On tables at the entrance of the exhibition room there were large displays of the current literature of outdoor art and civic improvement. Some of these included interesting maps of the Boston Park System and were for free distribution.

The evening session was called at eight o'clock and was devoted to three papers. The first, by Miss Mira Loyd Dock, of Harrisburg, Pa., a member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Commission, was on "State Forest Reservations." Of this, a writer in the Boston *Transcript* said:

Those who listened to the breezy, eager, enthusiastic talk last evening of Miss Dock, the accomplished and learned representative of the Pennsylvania Forestry Commission, heard more in half an hour than they had learned in their whole lives before of the real meaning and purpose of forestry as distinguished from park-making. The beauty of it was to see a woman, full of the true woman's social and aesthetic predilections and with sensibilities alive to all the charm and poetry of nature, yet perfectly distinguishing and dividing all that from the economic purpose of the scientific forestry she studied in Germany, and while appreciating with moist eyes the Massachusetts idea of conserving the old historic spots and slight hills for their spiritual value, still loyally expounding the Pennsylvania principle of getting the value of timber, and proving that, incidentally, social influences arose out of it in the amelioration of the lot of the country-folk.

The second paper was on the "School Garden Movement," and was by Dick J. Crosby, of the Department of Agriculture in Washington. This formed a sort of introduction to the special School Garden Meeting which was to follow on the third day of the Convention. The last paper of the evening was by Albert Kelsey, Chairman of the Committee of Experts of the Art Federation of Philadelphia. His subject was "Water, an Effective Factor of Municipal Art," and he illustrated his address with many beautiful slides. These papers will be published later.

The morning session of the second day was, perhaps, the most important—the session of greatest significance and highest promise—of all those of the Convention. The day had opened stormy, with rain, but this did not interfere with the zeal of those delegates who had planned to avail themselves of the drives, which had been arranged, through the Parks. The ladies started at 9 o'clock from the Copley Square Hotel as the guests of the local Women's Committee. The Park Commissioners, who were in attendance at the Convention, started from the Brunswick Hotel, which was the Convention headquarters, at 9:30 o'clock on a drive given to them through the courtesy of the Boston Park Commission. The hour of the regular meeting was put at 10:30, but the drives delayed somewhat its opening, and caused a smaller attendance than the interest and importance of the session merited.

The meeting was called an "Experience Meeting," and was to consist of brief addresses, outlining the work of the various national associations engaged in civic improvement work. About a dozen such societies were represented, each by an officer; and the brief addresses, inevitably calling attention to the similarity in purpose and work of these different societies, were of more interest than might have been expected. The quite unavoidable result of the meeting was the suggestion of federation. This had been urged on the previous day in the President's address, and now each speaker found himself coming around to that point. Considerable enthusiasm was awakened. Finally a resolution was offered, and unanimously passed, creating a committee composed of the representatives present from the various societies, with power to increase its number, which should take charge of this matter. But all that will be found in detail further on.

The afternoon sessions of the second day were called at 2:30 o'clock, sharp. There were to be parallel sessions of the Women's Auxiliary and of the Park Commissioners, who were present in large numbers. The women met in the Assembly Hall where the regular convention sessions had been in progress, and the feature of the meeting, which was the reading of brief reports from each local branch, furnished a session full of inspiration, suggestion and encouragement. Meanwhile, in the Assembly Hall at the other end

of the building, the park commissioners had met, with the President of the Metropolitan Park Commission of Boston, Mr. W. B. de las Casas, presiding. They listened to informal reports on the Boston Parks, given by Charles E. Stratton, the President of the Boston Park Commission; on the Cambridge Parks, by George H. Cox, the President of the Cambridge Park Commission; and on the Metropolitan System, by Mr. de las Casas. These had a special interest after the morning's drive, and because of the exhibition of fine, large maps of the Metropolitan Park System, which were carefully studied by every park commissioner present.

The afternoon meetings adjourned very promptly at 4:15 o'clock on this second day, in order that the delegates might take the special cars, which were waiting in front of the building, for a trip to Cambridge. Accompanied by members of the Cambridge Park Commission, to point out the sights, the cars proceeded out Massachusetts Ave. and crossed the Charles River by the Harvard bridge, passing a portion of the new embankment improvement. Proceeding into Cambridge, they turned again to the river improvement opposite Soldiers' Field (the Harvard Athletic Grounds); they passed Longfellow Park with its vista of the Longfellow House, passed the Lowell House, and, returning to Harvard University, paused beneath the Washington Elm. At the main entrance to the University the party was met by President Eliot, Mr. Greene, his Secretary, and a number of student guides, who had volunteered their services for the occasion. The delegates were conducted across the Yard, were taken into Robinson Hall, where methods of instruction in architecture and landscape-architecture were observed, and were then led back to the Phillips Brooks House, where refreshments were served in an informal reception.

In the evening, at 8 o'clock, another session was opened in the Assembly Hall of the Horticultural Building. The first paper was one on "Civic Improvement Work," by the Hon. John DeWitt Warner, President of the Art Commission of the city of New York, and of the New York Municipal Art Society. This was a very beautiful paper. The second was on "The Forward Movement in Harrisburg," the thrilling story of Harrisburg's recent awakening to a determination to make herself one of the most modern and beautiful

cities of the United States. This was by J. Horace McFarland, who, as Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Harrisburg League for Civic Improvement, had been a leader in the fight and victory. Unfortunately, neither Mr. McFarland nor Mr. Warner were present. Telegrams announced their inability at the last moment to attend, but both sent on their papers. The first was read by Frederick W. Kelsey, of New York, and the second by Clinton Rogers Woodruff. Following these papers, which are to be published in another pamphlet, brief reports were submitted by the officers of various Boston societies of the work which was being locally done along improvement lines. These were informal, but of great interest to the delegates.

The third day of the Convention opened, as did the others, with a morning session at 10:30 o'clock. This was a business meeting of the Association, at which there was the election of officers, the choice of the next meeting place and the transaction of such other business as remained to be settled. Before the business meeting of the Association adjourned, the women withdrew, the hour growing late, to hold a business meeting of the Auxiliary in the second assembly room. Here they also elected officers for the ensuing year and transacted the business properly coming before them. Reports of these meetings are given further on.

At 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon the delegates met again, parallel sessions being held. In the first Assembly room there was the School Garden session, which had been arranged by the Department of Agriculture at Washington. H. D. Hemenway, director of the School of Horticulture, Hartford, Conn., was in the chair, on invitation of Dick J. Crosby, who had been the Department's representative in this matter. There were a large number of ten minute addresses, and these the Association proposes to publish, probably in a pamphlet by themselves, for the meeting constitutes a really remarkable symposium on the School Garden movement. The first speaker was W. A. Baldwin, principal of the State Normal School at Hyannis, Mass. He spoke on "The School Garden as a Phase of Industrial Work." He was followed by Miss Ellen M. Tower, of Lexington, Mass., who has taken a foremost part in the organization of play-

grounds and sand gardens in Boston. Her subject was "Boston Sand Gardens." Mr. Hemenway himself gave a brief address on "School Gardens at the Hartford School of Horticulture." Geo. A. Townsend, Jr., of Dayton, O., gave a most interesting account of "The National Cash Register Boys' Gardens." Mr. Knight, of New York City, spoke on "Some Neglected Millions." Prof. John W. Spencer, of the Bureau of Nature Study at Cornell University, told "How we Reach Eighteen Thousand School Children in New York," and Geo. T. Powell, Director of the School of Horticulture at Briar Cliff Manor, New York, spoke on "Nature Study for Children."

Meanwhile, in the second Assembly room, the Park Commissioners were having a session that proved of large importance, under the chairmanship of the President of the Metropolitan Park Commission, W. B. de las Casas. The formal papers were as follows: "Parks and Landscape Gardening" by Bryan Lathrop, of Chicago; "Politics and Parks" by James Jensen, of Chicago; "Park Administration" by Calvin C. Laney, of Rochester, and "Park Building in the West" by S. A. Foster, of Des Moines, Iowa. In addition to these formal papers, which the Association proposes to publish in a later pamphlet, there was some valuable discussion of practical phases of park work. Harold L. Frost, of Arlington, Mass., spoke on "The Care of the Trees." James Sturgis Pray, of Cambridge, Mass., spoke on "The Treatment of Water, the Prevention of Wash, etc." W. T. Pierce, engineer of the Metropolitan Park System of Boston, spoke on "Park Engineering." The Hon. W. E. McClintock, Chairman of the Massachusetts Highway Commission, spoke on "Road Building."

Again the afternoon sessions had to be adjourned promptly at 4:15 o'clock, in order that special cars, which were waiting at the Hall, might be taken for a visit to Revere Beach. This is the great public bathing beach, under the charge of the Metropolitan Park Commission. The cars were furnished through the courtesy of the Boston Elevated Railway Co. Arrived at the beach, guides furnished by the Metropolitan Park Commission were in readiness and conducted the party through the Bath house.

In the evening, at 8 o'clock, the last session of the Convention was called. The first address of the evening was by Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia, the newly-elected President of the Asso-

ciation. His subject was "Public Beauty and Good Government." The address will be published in full in a later pamphlet. He was followed by Sylvester Baxter, of Boston, with an address on "The Relation of Parks to the City Plan." The last paper of the Convention was by the newly-elected Secretary of the Association and was entitled "What is Municipal Art?" In Mr. Robinson's absence the paper was read by Albert Kelsey, of Philadelphia.

Although with the evening meeting of the third day the formal sessions of the Convention closed, nearly all the delegates remained in town over the next day, Friday, August 8th, and it was given up to excursions, which had been arranged in advance as a part of the Convention entertainment. On invitation of the local Women's Committee many of the women were driven in the morning to the Country Club, and were guests there at luncheon. Another large party of delegates took the Paul Revere trip to Concord and Lexington. At the statue of the Minute Man, in Lexington, the party was met by the Rev. Carlton A. Staples and Miss Ellen M. Tower, and conducted to points of interest. Another large party visited the Fells Reservation, going first to West Medford, where they were met by barges and driven, without charge, over the Mystic Valley Parkway to Middlesex Fells at Winchester entrance, across the Fells to Spot Pond, Virginia Wood Ravine, Hemlock Pool Road to Jerryjingle Notch, and return via Fellsway East to Somerville. Members of the Metropolitan Park Commission accompanied the party, and at the Commission office a stop was made for a light luncheon.

It hardly need be said that the Convention was a great success from every point of view. Certainly none had been pleasanter, none more interesting and stimulating, and at none had there been so large an attendance. Much of this success was inevitably due to the efficiency of the local committees. The chairmen of these were as follows: of the Women's Committee, Mrs. Mary Morton Kehew; of the Exhibition Committee, Mr. Percival Gallagher; of the Introduction Committee, Mr. Harlan P. Kelsey; of the Entertainment Committee, General Francis H. Appleton.

BUSINESS OF THE CONVENTION AT BOSTON.

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE FIRST DAY.

ADDRESS OF THE RETIRING PRESIDENT, EDWARD J. PARKER, OF QUINCY, ILL.

It is impossible for us to conceive of the beauty of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, with their variety of climate and wonderful native growth, at the time of the landing of the Norsemen, Asiatic races, Spaniards, Cavaliers and Puritans. Very much of the primitive beauty of the land disappeared when the forests were destroyed by the fires of the Indians in pursuit of game, by those of careless trapper, hunter and pioneer, and, finally, by the building up of towns and cities, and by our exports of lumber. From Maine to the Pacific slopes the forests have been stripped of their heavy timber; the South is now being denuded by lumbermen, so that it will not be long before our main forest reserves will be as far away as Alaska and our new possessions.

The United States has been tardy in making Government and State forest reservations, but it has, at last, realized the disastrous effect of forest destruction upon the climate and productiveness of our country, and the necessity for renewing and replanting our forest tracts. Several of our colleges and universities have quite recently added to their curriculum the study of practical and scientific forestry.

While our population has made marvelous strides, and cities have multiplied in great numbers, we have been slow in following the example of older countries in the matter of park reservations.

We are all interested in the reservations of New York State in the Adirondack region, and in the efforts of both New York and New Jersey to preserve, at least, a part of the Palisades on the Hudson. The bills pending in Congress

for the purchase of national forest reserves in Minnesota, and in the southern Appalachian Mountains should receive our individual, if not our official, endorsement.

A very able Park Commission has recently been appointed by Congress—at the instance of the American Institute of Architects—for the improvement of the entire park system of the District of Columbia; involving the expenditure of several millions of dollars. This movement, and the patriotic pride felt by all Americans in the improvement of the National Capital (which can be made one of the most beautiful cities in the world) makes it interesting to look back to the days of Washington, his influence in determining its location, and his wise plans for its improvement. Lover of nature, as Washington was, and especially of the forests, it is not strange that, after the successes of the army and navy, the adoption and acceptance of the Constitution, and the founding of the state, he should desire to have a suitable and permanent seat for the Government, and that, too, near his own estate, Mt. Vernon, and on the banks of the picturesque Potomac.

Several States were anxious to secure the Capital. New York offered Kingston; Rhode Island, Newport; Maryland, Annapolis; Virginia, Williamsburg. The competition was sharp, the debates acrimonious, but a slight put upon Congress in 1783 in the city of Philadelphia led to the determination to have the "Federal City" free from State control and commercial influence. This was finally expressed in Section 8, Article I, of the Constitution of the United States, to-wit :

"The Congress shall have power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, "by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the "seat of the government of the United States." * * * * *

The residents of the District of Columbia have, accordingly, been deprived of the elective franchise in federal elections, and, until quite recently, in local matters.

In a letter dated Mount Vernon, 31st March, 1791, addressed to Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, President Washington wrote as follows :

"DEAR SIR—Having been so fortunate as to reconcile the contending "interests of Georgetown and Carrollsburg, and to unite them in such an agree- "ment as permits the public purposes to be carried into effect on an extensive "and proper scale, I have the pleasure to transmit to you the enclosed proclama- "tion, which, after annexing the seal of the United States, and your counter- "signature, you will cause to be published." * * * * *

The Proclamation of President Washington is dated Philadelphia, the 24th day of January, A. D. 1791. I make a few quotations from it.

"Whereas the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, by an Act passed on the 23rd day of December, A. D. 1788, intituled 'An Act to cede to Congress a district of ten miles square in this State for the seat of the Govern- ment of the United States,' did enact that the Representatives of said State in the House of Representatives, &c., &c.

"And the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, by an Act passed on the 3rd day of December, 1789, and intituled 'An Act for the cession of ten miles square, or any lesser quantity, of territory within this State to the United States in Congress assembled, for the permanent seat of the General Government' did enact that a tract of country not exceeding ten miles square, or any lesser quantity, to be located within the limits of said State, and in any part thereof, as Congress might by law direct, &c., &c."

"And the Congress of the United States, by their Act passed the 16th day of July, 1790, and intituled 'An Act for establishing the temporary and permanent seat of the Government of the United States,' authorized the President of the United States to appoint three Commissioners to survey under his direction and by proper metes and bounds to limit a district of territory, not exceeding ten miles square on the river Potomac, at some place between the mouths of the Eastern Branch and Connogochague, which district, so to be located and limited was accepted by the said act of Congress as the district of the permanent seat of the Government of the United States."

A letter of President Washington's, dated Philadelphia, 2nd day of November, 1791, addressed to David Stuart, is interesting and suggestive to all of us. It is as follows :

DEAR SIR—I have heard before the receipt of your letter of the 29th of October, and with a degree of surprise and concern not easy to be expressed, that Major L'Enfant had refused the map of the Federal City, when it was requested by the Commissioners for the satisfaction of the purchasers at the sale. It is much to be regretted, however common the case may be, that men who possess talents which fit them for peculiar purposes, should almost invariably be under the influence of an untoward disposition, or are sottish, idle or possessed of some other disqualification, by which they plague all those with whom they are concerned. But I did not expect to have met with such perverseness in Major L'Enfant as his late conduct exhibited.

"Since my first knowledge of this gentleman's abilities in the line of his profession, I have received him not only as a scientific man, but one who added considerable taste to professional knowledge; and have thought that, for such employment as he is now engaged in, for prosecuting public works, and carrying them into effect, he was better qualified than any one who had come within my knowledge in this country, or indeed in any other, the probability of obtaining whom could be counted upon.

"I had no doubt, at the same time, that this was the light in which he considered himself, and, of course, that he would be so tenacious of his plans as to conceive that they would be marred if they underwent any change or alteration; but I did not suppose that he would have interfered further in the mode of selling the lots, than by giving an opinion, with his reasons in support of it; and this, perhaps, it might be well always to hear, as the latter would stamp the propriety, or show the futility of it. To advise this I am the more inclined, as I am persuaded that all those who have any agency in the business, have the same objects in view, although they may differ in sentiment with respect to the mode of execution; because, from a source even less productive than L'Enfant's may flow ideas that are capable of improvement; and because I have heard that Ellicott, who is also a man of uncommon talents in his way, and of a more placid temperament, has intimated that no information had been required either from him or L'Enfant on some point or points (I do not now particularly recollect what) which they thought themselves competent to give.

"I have no other motive for mentioning the latter circumstance than merely to show that the feelings of such men are always alive, and, where their assistance is essential, that it is policy to honor them, or to put on the appearance of doing it.

"I have, however, since I have come to the knowledge of Major L'Enfant's refusal of the map at the sale, given him to understand through a direct channel, though not an official one as yet, further than what casually passed between us previously to the sale at Mount Vernon, that he must in future look to the commissioners for directions; that, they having laid the foundation of this grand design, the superstructure depended upon them; that I was perfectly satisfied his plans and opinions would have due weight if properly offered and explained; that if the choice of commissioners was again to be made, I could not please myself better, or hit upon those who had the measure more at heart, or were better disposed to accommodate the various interests and persons concerned; and that it would give me great concern to see a goodly prospect clouded by impediments, which might be thrown in the way, or injured by disagreements, which would only serve to keep alive the hopes of those who are enemies to the plan." * * * * *

Jefferson was very much interested in the plans and architecture for the Capital; though he preferred that the city should be laid out in squares like Philadelphia. A part of the city was so laid out, but in the plans of Major L'Enfant these regular squares were transversed with sixteen avenues, which were to be named after the States.

In reference to Ellicott (who succeeded L'Enfant) Jefferson said in a letter to the Commissioners, dismissing L'Enfant: "Ellicott is to go on to finish laying off the plan on the ground and surveying and plotting the district. I have remonstrated with him on the excess of five dollars a day and his expenses, and he has proposed striking off the latter."

The far-reaching plans of General Washington and Major L'Enfant were not appreciated at the time. L'Enfant was removed from the employ of the Government shortly after the publication of his plans. Later generations departed from the original conceptions of Washington and L'Enfant, but their artistic value is now being recognized, and they form the basis and inspiration of the magnificent plans for the development of the Capital prepared by the newly appointed Commission, consisting of Messrs. Burnham, McKim and Olmsted, with their distinguished associate, Augustus St. Gaudens. If the plans are carried out, Washington will take rank with Vienna, Budapest and other European capitals.

This Association may well give its endorsement to a project of such great national importance, which will not only give us a capital city worthy of our great country, but will disseminate throughout the land high ideals of civic beauty and dignified examples of landscape art.

American citizens should interest themselves in urging the improvement, under plans of competent landscape architects, of not only the city of Washington, but all of our Government properties, national parks, army posts, naval stations, navy yards, cemeteries, soldiers' homes and other Government and State reservations.

The Committee on Park Census has furnished the members of this Asso-

ciation with statistics as to the growth of the park systems of our country within the past fifty years. I will quote from the commencement of its report as follows :

" Fifty years ago no municipality in the United States had purchased an acre of land for park purposes. But by last year's reports from all but eleven of the cities of over 50,000 population there were 2,360 parks and squares enumerated, and while the areas are not as complete as the names, the total areas as given amount to 59,717 acres at a valuation of \$531,571,947.00. The yearly expenses for construction purposes were \$4,555,213.00 and for maintenance \$4,849,150.00. We have not completed the reports for cities under 50,000 population, but it is probably within the facts when it is stated that the cities of the United States have 75,000 acres of land in parks, and expend \$11,000,000.00 annually in their improvement and maintenance."

I think we will all agree that the valuation of park properties which appears in the Committee's report represents but a small portion of the assets of American cities; and, moreover, that they are the most valuable assets of all cities, attracting new residents, as they do; stimulating other improvements—both public and private—and in all adding very largely to the assessable values of property and the income of cities and citizens.

I have known city officials to report even fictitious values of city parks when it has suited their purpose to inflate the value of city properties as a basis for credit in floating bonds at low rates of interest. The same officials have afterwards opposed even very low rates of taxation for the care of parks.

In the report of the Park Census Committee the following statement is made: "We believe it to be a fact that there is a direct relationship between parks and open spaces, and disorder and crime."

The forest must be brought back to our large American cities. Ample provision should be made with neighborhood parks, for the health, pleasure and amusement of their heterogeneous populations ; especially for little children. Provision should also be made, for all classes of the community, for sea, lake and river bathing.

Notwithstanding the steady growth and development in the West and on the Pacific Coast, a tide of emigration is setting back towards the East and especially New England; and with the increasing taste for outdoor art and amusement, the development of interurban trolley systems, the increasing use of the telegraph and telephone lines, lands which have been abandoned are not only being beautified by the landscape gardener, but, with the improved system of horticulture, and the expansion of markets, both at home and abroad, are now made profitable investments.

The Women's Auxiliary has been a very efficient branch of this Association, making itself known and felt in public schools and homes of the working classes, and extending its branches across the continent. Its President and other officers will make full reports of their work.

Upon the Secretary and his assistants have been laid, the past year, many onerous duties. The Secretary will make a full report of the exhibit of photo-

graphs by the American Park and Outdoor Art Association at the International Exposition of Modern Decorative Art in Turin, Italy.

The time has come when the American Park and Outdoor Art Association should have an executive officer who, with adequate compensation, could give his whole time to the interests of the Association. Only then can we hope to realize our full possibilities of growth and influence.

It would be well, and I should be proud and glad to see this Association a party to such a plan, if there could be arranged a federation of all the allied interests that are now working along many lines for the improvement of towns and cities. At this Convention there are assembled officers of a considerable number of such national organizations—more, perhaps, than have ever been brought together before. It would be a pity if these representatives should separate, after so unique a congress, without taking steps toward co-operation of effort. It is not for me to suggest how it may be brought about; but the example of the American Association for the Advancement of Science—where there are successfully allied many interests, as different in detail and hardly as one in general spirit as are the associations which are devoted to civic improvement—gives ground for hope that we, too, may all join forces with a like success. When one thinks, also, of the magnificent generosity of modern wealth, of the public spirit of our countless philanthropists, and then of the immense blessing that such centralization of energy and resources would bring to the cities and towns of the United States, it does not seem too much to hope that a directing bureau for all this effort may be endowed. As a division of specialists, as a chapter taking up a particular phase of the work, no existing organization would lose its identity. Rather, it would find its opportunity enormously increased, and by the systematizing of all the effort, every endeavor would be made to count. I leave to your consideration the formulation of the plan. If it cannot be brought about, the secretaryship of this Association should be made a paid office; if it can be brought about, I believe that such a portion of our Secretary's routine work might be transacted in the general office that our own need of a paid official would be considerably postponed.

The Association should make it plainly known to our friends in cities where annual meetings are to be held that they will not be expected to pay the expenses of our entertainment. As our numbers increase, we shall be unwelcome guests unless it is clearly understood that we pay our own bills.

Within the past year the President of this Association has caused to be printed and mailed to Railroad and City Officials and members of our Association respectively, the following circulars, namely :

The first addressed to Railroad Officials, regarding the improvement of their terminal properties.

The second addressed to Members of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, relating to legislation designed to correct the abuse of public advertising.

The third addressed to City Officials with reference to the improvement of all public buildings, and grounds surrounding them; also urging the limitation of public advertising.

The fourth addressed to our members and the Women's Auxiliary, requesting them to use their influence among the manufacturers of their respective cities in the matter of the improvement of manufacturing properties, etc., etc.; also urging the Women's Auxiliary to take up the work of beautifying Public School Grounds, and the improvement of unattractive surroundings of homes in the tenement districts, as has been done in Chicago and Milwaukee.

The time has come when those children who can remain in our public and parochial schools but a few years should be taught something of botany, the life of birds, and the elementary principles of natural sciences, chemistry and landscape gardening.

The work of this Association will never be completed. In promoting and improving Parks and Park-ways, another thing should be constantly borne in mind, namely: the improvement of grounds about Government, State, County, City and Town properties; religious, charitable and educational institutions; in fact all public grounds should be made beautiful and receive the same thoughtful and skillful care as public parks and the grounds of private citizens.

The wisdom in the choice of park sites, the far-seeing plans of landscape architects, and the effects of wise and judicious planting cannot be fully realized or appreciated during the life of one person; but, co-operating with Him who created beauty in Heaven and on earth, the sun and rain, dew and frost, will develop the work we are all doing, and, under the spreading branches of many thousand trees, future generations will "take the benediction of the air."

At the close of the President's address it was moved, by Mr. Loring of Minneapolis, that such portions of the address as touched upon government forestry reservations be referred to a special committee of three, to be appointed by the chair. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried, and the committee, as subsequently announced at the business meeting on the third morning, will be found in the list of committees published at the beginning of this pamphlet.

The President then called upon Mrs. Herman J. Hall, the President of the Women's Auxiliary. Mrs. Hall spoke briefly and without notes. She appealed to the park commissioners and landscape architects to help the Women's Auxiliary, whose members were banded together—"not for the sake of getting our names in the papers; not to send out educational matter as you men are doing, but to plant things. And if we do this, we must do it correctly. That is, in brief," she added, "the real reason for the existence of the Women's Auxiliary, that we may plant according to the plans laid down and the advice that is given to us by the landscape architects and park commissioners of this Association. I appeal to you this morning to

give us your aid in every way you can. We often receive, and are glad to receive, letters which say: 'Two or three women in this town are anxious to do some improvement work and would like to set out flowers, and shrubs, and trees, if they only knew how to begin.' Now, we are anxious to help such women. Perhaps all they want are some cuttings and seeds, or perhaps they need a planting plan, which you can give so much better than we can. This is why I ask that you help us, that you take a real and near interest in our work, and that you give counsel and advice."

THE PRESIDENT: At our meeting in Chicago two years ago, when Mrs. Hall offered the suggestion that women's influence and women's energy and interest should be formally enlisted in our national organization, I think every member present was convinced, before she had spoken two minutes, that we did need their help, and that it would be an important auxiliary to our work. That has been proven most conclusively, as will appear later on by the reports; and you should know that in the last few months the President of the Auxiliary, at her personal expense and considerable inconvenience, has traveled across the continent and over hundreds of miles of Chicago streets to inspect the improvements of which the Auxiliary had been the inspiration, and to rouse women to further efforts.

Under the rules the next business in order is the report of the Secretary of the Association.

REPORT OF THE RETIRING SECRETARY.

WARREN H. MANNING.

This Association was organized in 1896, at Louisville, Kentucky, on the broad lines suggested in a letter from the late Charles Eliot, by men and women representing Park and Outdoor Art interests.

The Park interests are represented by members of the Boards of Park Commissioners of leading American cities, and by individuals and organizations through whose efforts public reservations are being established in towns and country districts.

The broader term, "Outdoor Art," represents all endeavor that is directed toward the preservation and improvement of landscapes, whether they be a broad sweep of hill and vale, in which a city is only an incident, or its many details, such as woods, waters, trees, streets, buildings, or gardens.

To give such endeavor the most successful issue, they should have the benefit of many organizations working directly for the main objects, they should be able to enlist the co-operation of other associations having similar purposes, the assistance of professional men, and the work of all individuals so far as it materially affects the appearance of landscape. They should have the assistance of the landscape designer, by whatever name he be known, whose work

is the making of landscapes ; the engineer, who may greatly modify a landscape for good or bad ; the architect, whose structures form the most important incidents in urban and many suburban landscapes ; the farmer, who has modified our American landscapes more profoundly than any other agency ; the forester, whose work has to do with one of the most important elements of a great landscape—its forests ; the irrigator, who will make green farms from arid wastes ; and, above all, the home-maker, who, aided and stimulated by the work of organization, can do more to make the daily outdoor life and surroundings of all the people agreeable and attractive than any other agency.

Heretofore all agencies working for civic betterment, for the creation and preservation of attractive landscapes, and the improvement of the exterior of the home and its surroundings, have each been acting with so little knowledge of what the others were doing that there has been much wasted effort and unnecessary expenditure of money and time in the duplication of work, and in attendance upon conventions in widely separated places during the same year.

The following national associations, all of which have purposes, in many respects identical, have been requested to send representatives to this meeting to join in a conference regarding the advisability of establishing a central committee and a general secretary, who can give all his time to the work, to serve as a clearing-house for ideas, and through which any important movement could be brought to the attention of each society ; also to consider the holding of meetings in the same place at the same time, or in other ways to avoid unnecessary labor and expense :

National Municipal League.
American Society of Municipal Improvements.
American League for Civic Improvement.
American Park and Outdoor Art Association.
League for Social Service.
Architectural League of America.
American Institute of Architects.
Society for the Protection of Native Plants.
American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.
League of American Municipalities.
American Society of Landscape Architects.
National Sculpture Society.

In addition to the regular correspondence, the Secretary has arranged, with the assistance of other members of the committee, an exhibit of sixty-four framed pictures, representing the objects for which the Association is working, for exhibition at the International Exposition of Decorative Art of 1902, held at Turin, Italy, together with a catalogue in English, French and Italian. This, and the pamphlet, provided by the Women's Auxiliary, have received most favorable comment, and on its return will be a valuable means of calling attention to the work of the Association through exhibitions in cities of this country.

The following circular letters have been prepared by our President and sent out by the Secretary:

To railway officials, urging the improvement of station grounds.

To the Association members to show the result of efforts to properly restrict public advertising.

To about four hundred cities, urging the officials to give more attention to the improvement of the surroundings of public buildings.

The responses to these circulars, especially from railroad officials, indicate the growth of a healthy sentiment in favor of more attractive conditions, not alone because of their beauty, but by reason of their commercial value.

The report of the last meeting, with abstracts of papers presented, and other material of practical value in promoting the objects of the Association, was issued in a Bulletin of Practical Suggestions.

The report of the Park Census Committee, compiled by its Chairman, Mr. G. A. Parker, of Hartford, Connecticut, has also been issued, and is justly regarded as one of the most important papers ever issued by the Association. Mr. Parker is still engaged upon this work, and, furthermore, he has, at no expense to the Association, assumed special charge of the issuing of invitations to Park Commissioners for this meeting.

The work of the Women's Auxiliary will be covered in the report of its Secretary. How much the Association is indebted to the loyal and untiring efforts of the officers of the Auxiliary, and especially to its President, no words of my own can express.

The total membership of the Association, including the Auxiliary, and counting only members in good standing, (that is with all dues paid) is four hundred and eleven. I give the figures for the Main Association on August 2d, and for the Auxiliary on July 18th, the date of Miss Christensen's report. Both branches of the Association have been growing since. Of this total membership of four hundred and eleven, twelve were life members, two were honorary, and four were complimentary.

Seventy-five per cent. of the whole year's addition to the Main Association, and I believe as much of the year's addition to the Auxiliary, has been made in the last quarter of the year—since the first of May. This fact, together with the circumstance that many back dues have been collected within the same period, is an indication of a very healthy condition in the organization, and one that is full of encouragement. It marks a success which should spur each one of us to new endeavor.

THE PRESIDENT: The next business in order is the report of the Treasurer of the Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

OSSIAN C. SIMONDS.

The Treasurer submitted the following report, dated August 2, 1902:

On hand June 26, 1901.....	\$273 01
Receipts Jan. 11, 1902, A. O. Granger.....	2 00
Feb. 11, 1902, E. J. Parker.....	100 00
Mar. 8, 1902, A. G. Mason.....	2 00
Mar. 24, 1902, Miss Christensen.....	45 00
Apr. 8, 1902, Mr. Pyne.....	5 00
Apr. 8, 1902, O. C. Simonds.....	2 00
Apr. 8, 1902, Warren H. Manning.....	308 01
Apr. 18, 1902, Herman Von Schrenck.....	2 00
Apr. 23, 1902, Miss Christensen.....	57 00
Apr. 19, 1902, Mrs. McCrea.....	2 00
June 6, 1902, Miss Christensen.....	69 50
July 12, 1902, Miss Christensen.....	38 00
July 29, 1902, " "	28 00
" " " "	5 00
" " " "	16 50
Paid out, Apr. 16, 1902, Warren H. Manning.....	— \$955 02
	600 00
	— \$355 02

This should be supplemented by the accounts of the Secretary, showing additional receipts of \$217.66, and additional expenditures, authorized by the Council, of \$447.81, leaving a net balance on hand of \$124.87 at the close of the Association's fiscal year.

That every item of receipt and expenditure may be seen, the new Secretary herewith submits the following detailed statement, which was not prepared for the Convention. It combines the receipts of Treasurer and Secretary, and gives the full expenditures:

CREDIT.

On hand, June 26, 1901.....	\$ 273 01
Oct. 26, 1901, C. F. Allen, (dues, 10 years).....	19 61
Feb. 11, 1902, Life memberships (Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Parker).....	100 00
Mar. 26, 1902, New England Assn. Park Supts. (Associate Society).....	5 00
Apr. 8, 1902, Mr. Pyne.....	5 00
Apr. 10, 1902, F. H. MacBride, (on account deficit).....	5 00
From membership dues in main Association.....	439 00
From back dues in main Association.....	60 00
From membership dues in Auxiliary.....	259 00
Excess sent by members to cover exchange.....	35
From sale of reports.....	9 85
Less charges for exchange, etc.....	\$1175 82
	3 14
	— \$ 1172 68

DEBIT.

Bill of June 20, 1901.....	\$273 01
Less, Rec'd on account Sept. 12, 1901.....	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$253 01

EXPENSES OF MILWAUKEE MEETING.

Eleven lantern slides for Mrs. Seavey's lecture.....	5 20
Rent on " " " " "	80
Expenses of Asst. Sec'y, Warren, Mass., to Milwaukee and return.....	78 45
Allen Chamberlain, for press work previous to Milwaukee meeting.....	20 00
Wm. Schultz, Jr., stenographer's report of meeting.....	51 85
<i>Park and Cemetery</i> , ten July, 1901, papers containing report of meeting.....	1 00
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	\$157 30

EXPENSE OF EXHIBIT OF PHOTOS AT NATIONAL ARTS CLUB, N. Y.

John Cramb, framing and packing nine photographs.....	5 00
Express on box.....	55
	<hr/>
	\$5 55

TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB CONFERENCE, NOV. 20, '01.

F. L. Fales, stereopticon and operator.....	10 70
A. T. Tompson, gas for stereopticon.....	2 20
Boston <i>Transcripts</i> with reports of conference, sent out to members of Council, periodicals, papers, etc.....	3 06
	<hr/>
	\$15 96

EXHIBIT OF PHOTOGRAPHS FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION OF MODERN DECORATIVE ART, TURIN, ITALY.

Material for passe partoutting 64 photos and 5 titles—	
Glass.....	8 35
Binding and rings.....	1 40
Mounts and backing.....	3 00
Lettering five titles.....	2 80
Printing catalogues, including translation of text into French and Italian, case and packing	58 50
Case and packing for pictures.....	1 95
Express on materials to Brooklyn (special trip).....	3 00
" " two cases Boston to New York.....	3 00
Car fares in connection with work on exhibit.....	30
	<hr/>
	\$82 30

GENERAL RUNNING EXPENSES.

Postage from Milwaukee meeting to date, including special request envelopes.....	\$ 44 71
Letterheads (1000, Aug. 31, 1901).....	3 50
Stamp repaired.....	45
Printing Park Census report, (2000 copies) Irving T. Guild.	24 71
Telephones.....	4 85
Telegrams.....	9 13
Express.....	4 20
Car fares, .40; clippings, .56; bank charges, .10.....	1 06
	— \$92 ⁷ 61
E. A. Canning, clerical services.....	7 85
Dennison Mfg. Co., gum labels.....	2 50
Schoepflin & Co., four lights glass.....	35
Irving T. Guild, printing "Bulletin".....	189 86
E. B. Stillings, binding extra copies.....	4 00
Miss Callohill, addressing 500 envelopes.....	1 50
Stationery and postage.....	52 82
New England Passenger Asso.....	11 00
Express.....	6 50
Phones.....	3 30
Telegrams.....	5 43
Newspaper clippings.....	77
Car fares.....	80
	— \$ 286 68
To E. A. Canning, Asst. Sec'y.....	131 25
To "Herald" Press, Warren, Mass.....	5 50
To "Herald" Press, Warren, Mass.....	17 65
	— \$1047 81

SUMMARY.

Total receipts.....	\$1172 68
Total expenditures.....	1047 81
Balance on hand at closing of accounts for fiscal year...	\$ 124 87

The reports were ordered received and filed, and on motion of Mr. Foster, were then referred to the Auditing Committee. The President called next for the report of the Secretary of the Women's Auxiliary.

CONDENSED REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

MARGRETHE K. CHRISTENSEN.

The Women's Auxiliary was organized at the suggestion of Mrs. Herman J. Hall, at the Chicago convention, 1900, with eight women members of the Association present.

The next convention of the Association was held in Milwaukee, June 25-26-27, 1901, and the Secretary of the Auxiliary reported a total membership of 108.

At the Boston convention, 1902, the Secretary now reports :

Paid membership prior to June 25, 1901.....	71
Paid membership since June 25, 1901.....	146
Honorary membership.....	1
Life membership.....	3
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Total membership to July 20, 1902.....	221
Number of members resigned.....	6
" dropped.....	32
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Total number lost.....	38

Five branches have been organized since last report, namely : Louisville, New Orleans, Pasadena, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Twenty states were represented in the old membership, to which have been added this year, seven new states and territories.

Three general meetings of the Auxiliary have been held in Chicago, on August 22, 1901, February 15, 1902, and April 17, 1902, respectively.

In conjunction with the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, the Auxiliary sent to the Exhibition of Decorative Art, held in Turin, Italy, during the summer of 1902, a suggestive collection of photographs of work done by the Branches ; also 500 booklets printed in Italian and English, entitled, "How to Make an American Garden," and dedicated to "The Women of Italy." A communication has been received from our United States Commissioner in Turin expressing the high estimation in which the booklet and the work of the American women in this field are held by the King and Queen of Italy, by the Duchess of Genoa, and by other Italian women.

An exhibition of photographs and working plans of foreign and domestic home and school grounds, was held under the auspices of the Women's Auxiliary, in Los Angeles, May 1-9, during the sixth biennial of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The exhibit was loaned by Messrs. Olmsted, Manning, Simonds, Kelsey, Kanst, Jensen, Loring, Johnson, Hanson, Peterson, Mesdames Seavey, Wilkinson, Hall, and the Chicago branch of the Auxiliary. The Milwaukee branch sent an exhibit which was lost en route. The pictures were displayed in a parlor of the Westminster Hotel, and the delegates, (the President of the Auxiliary, and Mrs. Arthur C. Neville,) were ably assisted in

exhibiting them by the alternate, Mrs. W. A. Peterson. The Los Angeles women evinced their interest through active co-operation, in many ways, and in generously helping to hang the pictures, and in decorating the room with fresh flowers. The daily attendance, including business and professional men, was large and enthusiastic, the Auxiliary being complimented many times upon bringing such a live topic, so fitly illustrated, before the convention visitors. Two editorials, and a round dozen of flattering notices, demonstrated the attitude of the press toward the work.

The entire expense of the trip and the exhibition, including telegrams, rent of room, printing of placards, return transportation of photographs (with the exception of one box), was defrayed by the delegates. The salary of attendant, and the freight on one box, were paid by the Auxiliary. To the local art committee, of Los Angeles, especial thanks are due for hanging the exhibit.

The President of the Auxiliary has given nine complimentary lectures in the interests of the Auxiliary and the Association, at the following places: Western Springs, Freeport, Oak Park, Ills.; Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, La.; Pasadena, Los Angeles, Benicia and San Francisco, Cal., resulting in the formation of four branches.

The Women's Auxiliary was given unusual honor in New Orleans, La., when the President became the guest of the city park commissioners, was decorated by the mayor with an especial badge, and was entertained under the hospitable roof of one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, Lewis Johnson, Esq.

The First Vice-President of the Auxiliary has lectured upon Outdoor Art at Valparaiso, Ind., Muskegon, Mich., Racine and Milwaukee, Wis. To the First Vice-President is due the comprehensive and able circular prepared for the Women's Auxiliary, fifteen hundred of which have been distributed throughout the United States and Europe. Five hundred were printed at the expense of the Vice-President.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Auxiliary, in addition to her regular duties which have been multitudinous, has organized the Louisville branch and secured 19 members.

The members of the Auxiliary, besides the aforesaid, who have secured four or more members, are Mrs. Arthur C. Neville, Green Bay, Wis., Mrs. Izra T. Shedd, Chicago, and Mrs. Eben Byron Smith, Chicago.

Nine delegates were sent by the Women's Auxiliary to the Boston convention.

THE PRESIDENT: The report of the Treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary will also be read by Miss Christensen :

TREASURER'S REPORT—WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

MARGRETHE K. CHRISTENSEN.

RECEIPTS.

Cash for dues received at the Milwaukee Convention, June 28th, 1901....	\$ 12 00
Dues for two past members for 1901.....	4 00
Dues for 74 past members for 1902.....	148 00
Dues of 152 new members for 1902.....	304 00
Dues of one life member.....	50 00
Total.....	\$518 00
Paid to Treasurer of Main Association one-half gross receipts.....	259 00
Balance of receipts in Women's Auxiliary Treasury.....	\$259 00
Turin booklet contribution (sent by mistake to Treasurer).....	1 00
Total net receipts in Auxiliary Treasury.....	\$260 00

EXPENDITURES.

To Burdick and Allen, printers.....	\$29 83
To Treasurer for postage and Expressage.....	23 50
To Miss M. E. Van Vechten, dues in G. F. W. Clubs.....	8 80
To German Bank, for discount on checks.....	70
To President Auxiliary, contribution Turin booklet fund.....	1 00
To President Auxiliary, telegram from Los Angeles to Treasurer.....	75
To President Auxiliary, for attendant at exhibition rooms Los Angeles, during Biennial, ordered by Auxiliary.....	13 50
To President Auxiliary, for registration fees, dues sent from California..	32
To President Auxiliary, for money order sent to Treasurer from California	44
To President Auxiliary, telegram to Secretary Main Association.....	1 00
To J. P. Morton & Co., printers, five receipt books.....	3 50
To Redtke Bros., printers.....	4 25
To Chicago Branch, photos, Ewing St. work for Turin Ex.....	10 00
To Mr. Manning, L. A. return freight on box pictures for Exhibition...	2 35
To Secretary Chicago Branch, postal cards used in general work.....	1 42
To Secretary Milwaukee Branch, postal cards used in general work	1 00
To Second Vice-President, for advertising Auxiliary work.....	2 00
To Chairman Nominating Committee, printing ballots.....	1 50
Total.....	\$105 86
Total Receipts.....	\$260 00
Total Expenditures	105 86
Total Balance.....	\$154 14

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary were ordered received and placed on file. The President then called for the report of the Park Census Committee, remarking that its investigations merited a formal incorporation in the Census Bureau of the United States.

PARK CENSUS REPORT, 1902.

GEO. A. PARKER, CHAIRMAN PARK CENSUS COMMITTEE.

During the last year it has not been practicable for this Committee to come together, although the two Eastern members have several times consulted with each other, and from correspondence we have agreed as to the lines of work to be pursued; yet the full report was not completed in time to be submitted to the other members. The information which has come to me during the last month, and especially during the last week, has been so great as to make it impossible to get it together in such form as to be able to present it now, but all this promises better things, for arrangements have been made with the "Municipal Journal and Engineer" to print these tables as the souvenir booklet referred to in one of my letters, and they will be sent to all present who may leave their name and address with me.

Last year this Committee reported thirty-eight tables, showing the relationship of parks to the people and the other functions of cities, but this year it will present only two; the first gives a list of those cities and towns of over 3,000 population in which more or less park work is being done, with their population and valuation, and the names of park commissioners, park committees and park officials. This table gives a list of 793 cities and towns, with 2,300 names and positions, ten times the number of cities and seven times the number of names included in last year's tables, and while this list may be reasonably complete in regard to the 1,523 cities and towns with a population of over 3,000, yet it fails to a considerable extent to show the park interests in America, and so supplementary lists are added, giving the names and areas of national, state and district parks.

The second table gives the list of public grounds, such as parks, squares and playgrounds, with their names and areas as far as known, and contains a list of nearly 5,000 such areas, double what was reported last year. As full as these lists are they are undoubtedly far from being complete, and, even if complete to-day, would not be so to-morrow, for somewhere there is added, every day, some areas to the public grounds of some city. No person can realize, unless in touch with the whole territory, the number of parks and park commissioners which have been created during the last year.

The other tables of last year's report have not been brought up to date. They were worked on until it became evident that averages obtained under such varying conditions were more misleading than helpful, and I am led to believe

that the tables of last year did more harm than good when they were used in attempting to solve local problems.

However interesting and useful they may be to the general reader, and in showing the tendency of park interests in the country as a whole, it requires the most acute discrimination to apply them to local conditions. Besides, the question, whose solution is now most needed, is not what is or has been in the past, but what ought to be in the future, using the past only as a guide to the future; the question now is not so much as to what was last year's average cost for construction or maintenance of an acre of park, or the amount of park acreage to the area, or population of the city, but what ought it to be, and until a reasonably correct solution of this problem is obtained, averages are apt to be misleading. We might as well take the average answer of a class of beginners in division as the correct quotient as the average of park work throughout the country as the correct solution of park problems—not, however, but what some of the best work the world has ever known is being now carried on.

Except in the few parks where advanced work is being done, all the problems relating to park construction and maintenance have been solved, and yet many a park commissioner is laboring at the solution of some simple problem as if he alone were the first to meet it, and is floundering around like a man lost in the wilderness without guide or compass. Each one seems to have entered the woods of experience from his own particular corner, finding no paths and but few blaze marks to guide him. This is an immense loss of energy, time and money, and while it may be pleasant to those making the discoveries, it is keeping the waiting public unnecessarily long from its rights, for, as far as these woods have been penetrated, every spot and part of them are well known to some one, and it is full time that paths were cut and graded so that all who will may enjoy them with the least expense and in the shortest time. This leads me to put forward one thought which seems to me must prevail with those who have studied the progress of park work during the last fifty years. This is the consciousness not only of its tremendous strides as to the number of acres so used, the men employed and money expended, but in the many park problems that have been solved. For in all, except those systems where the best experts are being employed and systematic work is being done, all park problems which confront the park commissioner and the park superintendent of to-day have been somewhere solved. But the fact that they have been is of little use for want of the solution being known. So each commission, in its own costly and tedious way, works out over and over again the same question in the same way, as if each person was obliged to invent the science of numbers for himself.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

This is the semi-centennial of the first legislative act relating to park work. Last week (July 28th), was the fiftieth anniversary of the tragic death of A. J. Downing, the father of municipal parks in this country.

The chairman of your Committee was ambitious a few months ago to

give a synopsis of the half-century's work in this report. While the task was too great to be accomplished, in the time he had and the means at his command, yet he did gather enough to be able to state, with a considerable degree of truthfulness, that fifty years ago not a municipal park, as such, existed in the United States; that twenty-five years ago not over twenty cities had city parks; that ten years ago the number had increased to over one hundred, and that now this Committee has a list of 796 cities and towns which are doing more or less of park work. Some of this increase is accounted for by the creation of park commissioners to care for old commons or training fields, which may have existed more than a century; yet the purchase or setting aside of land for park purposes has been enormous during the last ten years—with a yearly ratio of increase that is geometrical.

I have found no record to indicate there was a Park Commission in this country fifty years ago, and their number probably did not exceed 200 twenty-five years afterward; but to-day, I have a list of nearly 2300 Park Commissioners and officers, and Committees on Parks, many of which have not been such three years.

As a rule, these men serve without pay, and are from the educated and cultured classes. They constitute a mighty force for the advancement of the beautiful, a mighty influence (even as they now work, acting as independent units) throughout the land, an influence which could be increased many fold by making available the experience of other commissions in other cities.

Probably the most far-reaching event in landscape work, this last year, has been the publication of the book, "Charles Eliot, Landscape Architect," by President Eliot, of Harvard College, apparently written that the life-work of his son should not fade from the earth, and filled with the personalities which a father's love only could give. This is the second great American book distinctly on landscape work, the first having been written by A. J. Downing, fifty years ago. Now, if a son will do for his father what President Eliot has done for his son, and the reports and writings of Frederick Law Olmsted be collected and edited, America, will, indeed, have a literature on this science and art unequalled in the world. Another event which promises to be far-reaching in its influence, and especially on park record, is a new mechanical arrangement for a camera, completed during the last few weeks. This takes a picture 42 inches wide and 19 inches high, with an arc of 120 degrees. It is not the size or breadth of view that makes it remarkable, but a practical solution of the question of a lens revolving around the film, as the eye turns in its socket, thus rendering the extreme edge of the picture in as perfect a focus as the center. This means that correct photographic record can be made of park work. Four of these photographs are in our exhibition here to-day, the first ever put on exhibition.

PARK REPORTS.

I have here a list of 49 cities which issue park reports, and, in addition to them, 47 Park Commissions and associations which publish reports. These include—National, State, Interstate, County and Special Commissions, but like

all the lists, they are far from being complete. The reports vary all the way from the briefest financial statement to full detail and elaborate exposition. For a full and artistic report, New Bedford undoubtedly stands first this year.

The report of the Audubon Park Commission, of New Orleans, differs from others in so far that it places little emphasis on the financial statement, and the recording of its own work, but adds to its pages extracts from reports, addresses, or papers of other cities and men, making it an educational uplift for its people. I do not know in how large editions these reports are published, but it seems to me desirable that every Park Commissioner should obtain a copy.

After reading the 97 park reports, with all their variations of statement, and thinking of what has been included and omitted, and of the different conceptions of what a park report should be, it seems evident that the reports are largely influenced by what is required in the reports from other departments of the city government. In some cases, nothing further has been attempted than the briefest financial statement, but usually there has been included an explanation and justification of the work of the year, a magnifying of the importance of the needs for the following year, and, of late years, profuse illustration.

I would not belittle all this, but there is a principle involved in park reports which no other reports have. It is commonly felt, and is usually seen, more or less distinctly, in all writings relating to parks. The principle is this: Parks are for the purpose of appealing to our sense of the beautiful, and to give rest, peace, comfort and strength to those weary in body, in mind, and in heart. The park seems to reach its arms to all, saying: "Come unto me and I will do you good." It cannot go to the people. The people must go to it. Now, to desire others to come to us, that we may do them good and not evil, that we may be able to give to them and not take from them, is the distinct and peculiar attribute of love. The seekings and leadings for that purpose are the wooing of life. The spirit of the park is a wooing of the people to come unto it, and the park report, above all else, and before all else, should be the annual love letter of the park to the people.

In the development of the better life, the beautiful is an ever increasing factor, for when we look into the beautiful we are looking into the eyes of the Creator, of One who wills to love us and who wants us to love Him, and that makes the lover. The park report, above all else, should be the love letter of this lover.

Beauty is for the eye and can exist only in the light. As day fades into darkness, beauty disappears, for there pass from sight line, form, color and the relation of things. That which goes to make up the beautiful cannot be seen, so beauty dies every evening. But it is born every morning—always dying, yet ever living, never a day old, but existing before time was. Does any one want a love letter, bright and new every day, filled with the most wonderful and exquisite token of the grandest love this world knows? If so, let him go into the park daily and there it will be found, written fresh with the sunrise, in wonderful strength at mid-day, fading away most gloriously at sunset. But in

the reading of this letter, remember that everything seen while in the park is a part of the letter—the distant mountains, the ocean view, as well as the lawn and trees nearby, the sky above, as well as the ground under our feet. Thus the Creator, with the help of the park commissioners, provides a daily love letter to whomsoever will come and read, and the Annual Report should be the park commissioners' interpretation of this letter. It should lead people to the park and help them in the reading. Measured by this standard, the ideal park report has not yet been written.

In this country there are examples of almost every kind of park experiments. If we only knew of these experiments, if we had some means of interchanging our dearly bought knowledge, we would save ourselves a deal of time and futile effort. I am in hopes there will come some clearance house, as it were, for a knowledge of park work. Call it what you please, but let it be a central body to which information can be sent and which will make it its business to gather information on its own account, to revise, condense and compare reports and publish the results of its work. So park people may inform themselves as to what is taking place and keep in touch with each other throughout the country. There should be no desire to try experiments which have been tried and found wanting, and because wrong in principle must always fail whenever undertaken; and yet these are often so seductive in appearance as to lead to their being tried over and over again.

I know there is the feeling, shared quite as much by those who feel the need of knowing what is taking place elsewhere as by those who feel they are quite sufficient to manage their own work and that the only knowledge necessary for park work is to love the beautiful, to love nature, and our fellowmen, that the time is not ripe for such a movement. If they could see the letters of inquiry and the statements regarding park work which have come to me during the last three years, I believe every one would admit the need of some way being found of diffusing such knowledge as already exists to those who are beginning the work and to those who are not able, or think they are not able, to employ expert advice.

If the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in whose building we meet today, and which, in the last half century, has led in so many advances of horticultural work, would undertake to establish such a bureau, I am sure it would find a field ready for the harvest; or, if the Agricultural Department at Washington, which has already a full equipment for just such work, would undertake it, it would be sure to entrench itself still more securely in the gratitude of the people; or if Cornell University, which is so successful in its nature work, which has the leading horticulturist of this country in Professor Bailey, who has both the capacity and the aptitude to bring such an effort to a successful issue, will do this, it will add still greater lustre to its already brilliant name. That this Convention may have a positive result, I will, therefore, if approved by its officers, offer the following resolution:

Whereas, The Park Commissioners, brought together at this meeting, should not be allowed to separate without providing some permanent agency

for the gathering, compiling, condensing and furnishing of information relating to park work, for the comparison of views, for the exchange of experience, for the discussion of methods, for creating that mutual confidence and sympathy which adds so much to the strength and spirit of fellow-workers in the same cause ; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the President of the Park Commissioners' meeting be requested to appoint a committee of seven, of which he himself shall be a member, to consult with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, or the Secretary of Agriculture, or Cornell University, or such other institution, whose work is along this line, to make such arrangements as may be possible and seems best for the conducting of this work ; or if such arrangement cannot be made with any institution, and it seems desirable to this committee to arrange some other method or to create some other organization for the carrying on of the work, that they shall have full power to do so; said committee to have power to fill all vacancies, to increase its number, or to do whatever may be necessary for the best interests of what is entrusted to them.

It would be impossible, at the present time, to formulate the principles and practices of park work ; for students in this line are not in a position to agree upon a statement, because they have not given the broad, general, catholic phase of the problem the necessary attention and study ; their particular experiences are purely local and they are not themselves familiar enough with the conditions existing elsewhere.

The educational work of such a committee will lead the American people to the realization of the functions of a park; what it can and will do for the people, so that they will not expect the impossible and, because disappointed, become discouraged and disheartened. It will save thousands on thousands of dollars and years of time and will give to the children of to-day the educational value, and the development of character which belongs to them by right, and which, without some such work, will not be received. The child of to-day is the child this generation must tend, and rear, and grow into man or woman. While parks are not everything, yet, if properly developed, they may be, and will be, a large and important factor in the growth and heart and mind of the child of the city. There may be no precedent for the work of such a committee, yet I believe that, representing the different sections of the country, no matter how strong the personal convictions of its members, nor how widely their experiences may differ, (and they must, of necessity, approach the subject from different points of view,) yet I think they will agree, after consideration, that such work is feasible and practical, and, by comparison of opinion, will be able to embody the result of their agreement into a definite proposition, into a working plan or system consistent with American industrial and political conditions, crystallizing the result of the experience of American and European cities, and, at the same time, making the results of their labors practically applicable to our present conditions, bringing them into organic relationship with the tradition and accepted policies of the American people.

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted, "with the thanks of the Association," and the motion was carried. Messrs.

F. W. Kelsey, Loring, E. J. Parker and others, spoke in praise of the report. Mr. Parker said that he would add one suggestion. The Chairman had spoken of the book by President Eliot; he would like to say that the little volume on "The Improvement of Towns and Cities," published by the Putnams, and written by Mr. Robinson, a member of the Association, should be owned by every person present. Mr. Olmsted added a recommendation that Gifford's "Practical Forestry" be also widely read. It was moved, by Mr. Loring, that the preamble and resolution offered at the end of the Park Census Committee's report be referred to the special meeting of Park Commissioners. The motion was carried. The President read a list of government reservations, forest preserves and national parks. The list, he said, was not quite complete, long as it was, but would be published in full in the "Souvenir Booklet." Every one of these reservations, he added, should ultimately be put in charge of a competent landscape architect. The meeting adjourned until afternoon.

SECOND DAY.

"THE EXPERIENCE MEETING."

The meeting was called to order by the President, with the comment that "an 'Experience Meeting' is always a good thing." He introduced as the first speaker the Rev. Josiah Strong, D. D., President of the League for Social Service, New York :

THE LEAGUE FOR SOCIAL SERVICE.

REV. JOSIAH STRONG, D. D.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I was once asked to make a three-minutes' address on the "Evidences of Christianity." I did it—a fact which encourages me to attempt a ten-minutes talk on the League for Social Service, which I have the honor to represent.

Nothing is more characteristic than the changes in the nineteenth century, and this change in all departments of society was the result of the unconscious effort on the part of society to readjust itself to new conditions. You remember Hamlet said :

"The time is out of joint—Oh, cursed fate
"That ever I was born to set it right."

There are many social reformers who, like Hamlet, think they were born to set the world right, but who do not seem to share Hamlet's sense of truth.

The old-time theory of creation has given place to the scientific theory of evolution, and the theory of the reconstruction of society must give place to a scientific theory of social evolution. For society is a living thing. It is not constructed or re-constructed according to any man's model; it grows under certain vital laws. And the growth of a society, like the growth of any other living thing, may be helped or hindered; it may be directed in certain measure; it may be normal or abnormal.

The League was organized for the express purpose of aiding in this growth of society—this attempt to readjust itself to absolutely new environment.

This process of readjustment is a process of experiment, and these experiments have been taking place usually rather unconsciously—very often unsuccessfully—in every department of social life. It is the peculiar function of the League to gather all the results of these experiments—whether successful or otherwise—and to give each the benefit of the experience of all.

Two or three illustrations will serve best to show the method of work. I can only touch upon a few from our several departments. For instance, we have heard during the last fifteen or twenty years a great deal from all the religious assemblies touching the value of the church to the masses. The churches are working in an absolutely new environment, and when life fails to readjust itself to a changed environment it must fail. A multitude of churches have died during the past generation because they failed to make that readjustment. Like experiments are taking place everywhere. The League has made a wise study of these experiments. It has noted successes; it has noted failures. It has drawn its conclusions as to the value of certain methods and the failure of certain others. The results of these experiments are valuable to all churches seeking to adapt themselves to the new conditions of life.

Take, for instance, another department, that of industrial life. Our grandmothers worked in the home, did dyeing, carding, spinning and weaving, and the young women then had a variety of work—all the advantages of manual training which we are trying to reintroduce to-day and under the most favorable conditions of home life—under the eye of the parent. As these industries have left the home and have gone to the city and the factory, the young men and women have followed them, with the result attending the division of labor—that not one dozen or fifty things are done by one person, but one thing is done by one person, and often under unwholesome conditions. There is required a new adjustment on the part of our industries, that men may not be sacrificed to the things which they make. Some are waking up to this fact and are making experiments.

The League is gathering together these facts. For example, a great gun maker has 44,000 names on his pay-roll. A large city is dependent on that one industry. This manufacturer has done wonderful things to improve the intelligence, the health, the morals of his operatives. He has given to us a large number of pamphlets illustrating his work, and describes in detail all that work, that we may give the benefit of it to you or to any one who wishes it. We are gathering information along the same lines from the various European countries

and from scores of manufacturers in the United States, together with the results of those experiments, that men, when they desire to do something, need not fail for lack of knowledge. Why should a man put money, and time, and strength into an experiment which is foredoomed to failure? He thereby loses his faith. We can tell him in advance that it will fail because of our knowledge of the experience of other men,—or that he could succeed, because of our knowledge of the success of other men.

Another department is the municipality. Formerly less than one-thirtieth of our population lived in cities; now not far from 33 per cent. live there. Now men are willing to live in cities. The city was not a problem when our fathers worked out the principles of our state and national governments. No American now can tell you what are the fundamental principles of municipal government, because we have not any. No two cities in Ohio have the same charter. We have not yet discovered what is the best charter for a city. We are feeling our way. These principles were not settled by our fathers, because at that time there were no cities proper. The need has grown so gradually that we have left it to the city government, and men have allowed themselves to become absorbed in their personal problems. The city became a problem in Europe long before it became a problem here. Cities in England and Scotland have demonstrated that the city death-rate can be cut in two by scientific sanitation. I think it fair to assume that scientific sanitation would reduce the death-rate of our cities to the average death-rate of the whole country, for this has actually been done in several large cities. Assuming, then, that the death-rate of our cities might be reduced to that of the country at large, there are a hundred and fifty thousand lives sacrificed every year in the United States on the altar of our ignorance—absolutely unnecessary deaths—and from twenty-five to twenty-six times as many cases of unnecessary sickness. Why should not these cities profit by the experience of other cities?

One of our representatives went before the Municipal Council of Glasgow and said, "We want photographs that will illustrate the life of your city—your public baths, your open-air gymnasium, your tenement-house system, etc." Upwards of three hundred photographs were made for us and the city council generously voted an appropriation of twenty cents in cash for every picture, that it might be made into a lantern slide. And now, if Boston wants to study the municipal life of Glasgow, she need not send a committee over to Glasgow. We will send Glasgow over to Boston and throw it upon a screen. We gather such facts and such material from the cities of the world. We have between five and six hundred photographs illustrating the municipal life of San Francisco, and this material is made available for all who wish to profit by the experience of others.

I will touch upon some of the methods by which we are giving this information to the public. By means of electros and by means of the press, we have supplied between five and six hundred papers with material. We hope to crowd out some of the trash of the yellow journals by giving them for nothing some good material. Another method is by means of leaflets discussing these

subjects. Another method is by means of our Bureau of Information. Our competent librarian has our information classified and we are able to put our finger in a moment on all the material we have, and a reference to much that we have not. All this is at the service of the general public. Thus the League is trying to induce people to learn by other peoples' experience. In a word, the League is seeking to serve as a lens which shall gather up scattered rays of light throughout the world, and reflect them in Boston, or St. Louis, or Minneapolis or anywhere else for the benefit of those who will use them.

The next speaker called upon was Miss Frances R. Morse, representing the Society for the Protection of Native Plants. Others followed, in their order here :

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE PLANTS.

MISS FRANCES R. MORSE.

Ladies and Gentlemen: The Society for the Protection of Native Plants was organized in April, 1901. The object of this society is to try to check the destruction to which many of our native plants are exposed, largely through thoughtlessness, by tramping on the plants, digging them up by the roots, etc. It was considered, in organizing the society, that this was largely a matter of simply arresting the thoughtful attention of people who already enjoyed and admired plants. The means taken to reach this end has been to distribute leaflets. Five of these have now been issued. The association owes a great deal to the few botanists who have interested themselves in it and to the New England Botanical Club and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, which have given cordial endorsement to its objects and its methods. The membership is free. Anyone can become a member by applying to the Secretary.

Of course we recognize that the extermination of flowers is a very local matter, but it is very acutely felt in the neighborhood of large cities, and it is hoped that a little more thought on the part of people who are already enjoying the beauty of the neighborhood will induce them to leave at least enough of the flowers for future propagation. This can be secured by the education of the school children. With the aid of the Secretary of our State Board of Education, our leaflets, of which there have been 44,000 printed and distributed, have gone through the schools in New England, chiefly in Massachusetts. In this we have been helped by such associations as the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Massachusetts Civic League, and by various clubs and libraries, where we had the cordial co-operation of Mr. Fillingham.

THE NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF.

Mr. President, Fellow Members of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association: The National Municipal League was the first of the national organizations to devote itself exclusively to a consideration of the municipal problem. In 1894—really in the last part of 1893—the City Club of New York and the Municipal League of Philadelphia took steps looking toward the calling of a national conference to consider the ways and means of promoting a wider interest of citizens in municipal problems. The two organizations came together and the first national conference for good city government was held in 1894. The National Municipal League was organized in the City of New York in the following May. The next fall there was organized the American Society of Municipal Improvements which represented the official interest in the problem—represented the organization of those men who were engaged in their respective cities in carrying out municipal work of various kinds. It is composed mainly of those who are connected with the constructive side rather than with the side which has to do with the health, the police, etc. Following that came the League of American Municipalities, which represented the interests of a still different class. In this mayors and aldermen were represented. Then, just at the same time, came the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, which represented the interests of citizens and officials in another form of the municipal problem—the development of the aesthetic side. After this came the American League for Civic Improvement, which represents, you might say, the interest of the citizens of the smaller communities. So we have now five great national organizations, and they each have for their object the improvement of municipal life in some of its phases. They touch each other at a great many points. With the multiplicity of phases that confronts us in our municipal life, and with the large and increasing number of problems arising, we should see whether we cannot come together for still larger co-operation than that which has heretofore been possible.

The National Municipal League has come to consider the sociological questions of citizens. The first committee which did a substantial piece of work was the Committee on the Municipal Program, a committee consisting of certain men who had had practical experience in governmental problems. They adopted a municipal program which presents a municipal charter adapted to American needs, and that charter has been made the basis of construction in every charter commission which has been called together since, and it has been used by Alabama, Virginia, and Connecticut, and in both the Alabama and Virginia constitutions you will find that a very considerable portion of the suggestions and recommendations of this program have been adopted, in some instances in their entirety. That committee has already progressed so far that a considerable number of the cities have redrafted their accounts on the basis it

recommends, so that it is now possible to draw intelligent comparisons. We want all American cities to have a straightforward and simple form so that the average citizen may take up the reports of different cities and from them draw reliable conclusions concerning municipal government in general.

I mentioned five societies. Your Secretary has suggested that the time has come for closer federation and he has wisely suggested the necessity for trained men in these various societies, for men who will devote their whole time and attention to the work which the societies have in view. It has been a great misfortune in this country that there has been no public career opening up in the way of broad public work. There has been no opportunity offered to men to make these questions their life work and secure to them the support to which they are entitled. As to this suggestion, then, of men who will devote their entire time and attention to these problems, I am quite sure it will bring the highest and best return. When we consider that the municipal problem is a single problem in one sense, although a problem in many phases, it behooves us all to come to some understanding as to the best way of promoting it, and I hope there will be evolved a suggestion which will bring all these societies into closer association. I think the American Park and Outdoor Art Association is to be congratulated upon a meeting of this kind, where the various organizations come together to talk over this question. If out of this meeting we can agree upon some form of co-operation—notwithstanding all the other good things that have been done, the meeting will deserve to live in history as one of the most important in municipal government that has ever been held.

AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR CIVIC IMPROVEMENT.

FRANK CHAPIN BRAY.

Gentlemen: I have the privilege and honor to represent one of the five organizations to which the previous speaker has referred. This organization was one of the institutions which just naturally grew. There was no attempt to make it grow. It came of itself. I mean by that that a series of magazine articles and the constant discussion in the press of the village improvement topics resulted in the creation of a correspondence, coming to the author of this series of articles in a floral publication, that was simply overwhelming. The correspondence piled up in Springfield, Ohio, and in response to this demand by correspondence, a one-day convention was called in Springfield. As a result of that convention the National League of Improvement Associations was formed.

During the first year this work was followed out as well as it could be with the money at command. By the succeeding year, a second convention had been called to meet at Buffalo. At the second convention there were representatives of a great many different interests present, these including many local improvement organizations. A constitution was adopted which provided that this new, national, association should be organized—not to duplicate any other organization; but that it should be organized to bring into communication the

local societies interested in outdoor art, in town, village and neighborhood improvement. Two days of the convention were spent in Buffalo and the third day in Chautauqua. The addresses stirred up an immense amount of interest, especially in Chautauqua; and as a result this year's plan was adopted of devoting a whole week of the Chautauqua season to the topic of public beauty.

The League has been conducting a continuous correspondence, to the limit of the funds which it could command. I think two particular things should be spoken of in this connection. The League has located, by officers and by individuals, over 800 local improvement associations in the United States. We have three hundred of these organizations on our lists, who receive all the literature which the League can furnish to them. This certainly is no inconsiderable body of constituents for an organization which is to hold only its third annual convention in St. Paul in September. We have had an organizer at work for a short time. The demands for this organizer were so numerous that we could not begin to fill the engagements. The result of this experience was the organization of a Lecture Bureau. We have a list of some twenty lecturers, whose services can be secured on any particular problem which a local society may desire to bring before the public. We have collected slides of lantern lectures on village improvement and on the general topic of civic improvement. We have issued a number of pamphlets. We have an account of what certain village improvement societies have done. We have a report of the Buffalo Convention and as complete a bibliography as we could make. These pamphlets are all of the cheaper grade, in order that they may be the more widely distributed. Our effort is to make the connection between the people who are eager to make an improvement in their local community and the organizations of experts who have the information which will help these people. We have evidences piled up of the value of such services. Somehow or other we seem to have either got hold of the popular end of this movement or that movement has got hold of us.

We discovered, after a year of service, that an organization of this kind always has the problem of funds. It is all very well for us to recognize that no movement can get along without money; but the other side of this problem came to us in this fashion: That the movement as a whole was an educational movement and not a commercial movement. It was known that a great many of the Chautauqua Circles, which are organized all over the country, had taken up various phases of this civic improvement work, and there followed the natural suggestion that the League propaganda for improvement work should be backed by the Chautauqua organization, not only in its summer meetings, but in the home study work of the institution nine months in the year. That connection, I am glad to say, has met with the endorsement of the educational authorities of Chautauqua, and we think that this has in it a bit of educational machinery which will enable the work of the League to progress as it has not progressed before.

THE ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE OF AMERICA.

H. K. BUSH-BROWN.

Gentlemen: I represent not only the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, of which I am one of the trustees, but I also have the honor to represent the Municipal Art Society of New York, and, more especially, the Architectural League of America, which is an organization that took up this work of municipal improvement at the beginning of its existence in 1898.

The Architectural League of America was organized in Chicago four years ago. One of the subjects which it took up was that of municipal improvement, and after numerous refusals on my part I finally took the chairmanship of the committee on that subject. We had a convention in Chicago, another in Philadelphia, and this year one in Toronto. The League has established, among other things, a circuit exhibition. We gather together examples of the architectural and artistic work of the various cities and send them from one town to another in the circuit. It has been our intention to make, as a part of that exhibit, a demonstration of what civic improvement may be—a lecture, which may be read by any member of the organization or any member of the local organization. The lecture is to be accompanied by lantern slides, and there is to go with it a little model library containing everything that has been published on civic improvement, photographs of things that have been done in this country and in Europe, and perhaps some original drawings of things that might be done. This, we hope, will give an impetus to the localities where it goes, so that the artists there will bring forward suggestions for local improvements. It is, then, a method of public education that we have undertaken. We did not do it before because we felt that sufficient material had not yet been brought together to demonstrate the thing as thoroughly as it should be. Since our organization began, and as a fruit of our work, but work in which we were ably assisted by the citizens of Cleveland, Cleveland has adopted a general principle of civic improvement that is going to make it one of the most beautiful cities in the world—or in the United States at least. Within the next two or three years we can point to Cleveland as having accomplished what every city may and should do—the grouping of her public buildings.

MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.

H. K. BUSH-BROWN.

The Municipal Art Society of New York was organized a number of years ago, and started out to do the grandiose. It had a fairly large membership of patriotic citizens, mainly among artists, who contributed five dollars a year each. It began the decoration of a court-room, and spent about \$5,000 on a beautiful mural decoration by Simmons. There is no criticism to be made in regard to the work or the subject; but it was not a popular thing to do. The average citizen did not see it. The men who went to court because of petty

civil disturbance were not sufficiently elevated to go out on the streets and spread the knowledge. They were probably glad to get out of the building. The society, in consequence of doing the grandiose, began to dwindle, the membership fell off, and finally a circular was sent out to the members suggesting that they would better disband. There were a few citizens of New York who felt that the work had not been begun in the right way, and these men went to the meeting and elected a new Board of Trustees and a new President, and put the society on its feet in a new way. They then started out to do the small and popular thing. They took up the question of signs for street names. The newspapers were ready to help them. Everybody was ready to help them. As conditions were, it was almost impossible for a stranger to know where he was. He was very fortunate indeed if he could find anyone who could tell him where he was. A man was fortunate if he could find his way to his own home. There were no signs for the names of streets. The society arranged a competition for designs not only for street signs, but for electroliers. It has made its award, and is going to put up one of the premiated designs. Now it has taken up the question of numbering the houses. This, too, is a vital question. The naming of the streets is another problem which it is taking up. The work has just begun and the society looks forward to doing a very good municipal work.

AMERICAN SCENIC AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

H. K. BUSH-BROWN.

The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, which also I have the honor to represent in an unofficial capacity, has taken up work similar to some of the work represented here. It was instrumental in preserving the Palisades, and it preserved Forts Washington, Ticonderoga, and Stony Point—the latter a most important work, which it has brought to completion within the past year. It is a beautiful spot that is destined to become a Mecca for the students of military affairs, and of the early history of the country.

It seems to me that in this matter of federation we have arrived at a point where we will gain by some kind of federation. I am sure that it would be a help to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society to send a delegate to your annual conference. It would be a help to the Architectural League of America to be associated with you and to hold its annual convention with this Society. These are personal suggestions. Whether the societies can undertake to federate I am not prepared to say.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

FRANK MILES DAY.

Mr. President, Members of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association: The American Institute of Architects, by reason of the very nature of the work in which its members engage, is deeply interested in the subject of municipal improvements. It stands ready, through the agency of an important Committee, to advise or assist all who may be seeking to make their cities bet-

ter, whether it be from the point of view of general planning, of arrangement of public buildings, of the character of these buildings or in any other matter within the scope of the Institution. Since, however, your Association would prefer to hear of things which the Institute has accomplished rather than of the things which it stands ready to do, allow me to direct attention to the appointment of the Commission for the Improvement of the City of Washington, with which appointment the Institute had much to do. A brief history of the matter from this point of view may offer suggestions useful elsewhere under circumstances which must vary greatly as the needs of cities vary.

At the Thirty-fourth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, held in Washington during the month of December, 1900, one of the principal subjects of discussion was the grouping of government buildings, landscape and statuary in the City of Washington. A general introduction to the subject was given by Mr. Jos. C. Hornblower; Mr. C. Howard Walker read a paper upon the grouping of buildings in a great city, illustrated by such grouping in many European centres of population. Mr. Edgar V. Seeler, approaching more nearly the question at hand, read a paper upon "The Monumental Grouping of Buildings in Washington," discussing the most advisable situations for future government buildings and urging a redemption of the Mall from its present neglected condition. Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., read a paper on "Landscape in Washington," in the course of which he outlined a scheme for the enlargement and betterment of the Park system. The symposium was concluded by Mr. Bush-Brown's paper on "Sculpture in Washington."

The very great possibilities of monumental treatment made evident by the several papers brought forth a preamble and resolutions to the following effect:

"WHEREAS, It is evident that the location and grouping of public buildings, the ordering of landscape and statuary, and the extension of the Park system in the District of Columbia are matters of national concern and should be made in accordance with a comprehensive artistic scheme: and

"WHEREAS, The execution of each single structure or public improvement outside of such a scheme would be an impediment to the artistic development of the District:

Resolved, That the American Institute of Architects advocates and urges upon Congress the importance of procuring, through a Commission created for this end, the best obtainable general design for the purpose aforesaid."

To carry these thoughts into effect a committee was appointed which at once addressed itself earnestly to its work, at first considering the advisability of attempting to secure the passage of an Act of Congress, appointing such a commission. It was found that not only would considerable difficulties be encountered, but that the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia had already given serious consideration to the improvement of the park system in Washington and to other cognate matters and that that Committee would be prepared to listen sympathetically to suggestions made by representatives of the Institute. Accordingly, therefore, the District Committee having secured from Congress certain authority to proceed with an investigation, met the Committee of the Institute. This conference was apparently of great value to both sides.

The members of the District Committee explained to the members of the Institute Committee the difficulties lying in the way of bringing about such results as were desired, not only by the Institute, but by the District Committee.

The members of the Institute Committee outlined briefly the scope which, in their opinion, the work of the proposed Commission should cover. In the end, the members of the District Committee invited the Institute to suggest the names of experts suited to conduct the work and the Institute Committee suggested that D. H. Burnham, of Chicago, and Fred'k. Law Olmsted, Jr., of Boston, be appointed and that they select one or more colleagues. In a short time the Institute learned with much pleasure that the District Committee had adopted all their suggestions, had appointed the gentlemen named, who, in their turn, selected Messrs. Chas. F. McKim and Augustus St. Gaudens to act with them.

It would be unnecessary here to speak of the work which this commission has accomplished. No single undertaking within the present generation has so greatly advanced the hopes of those who have at heart the betterment of cities as has the intelligent action of the Senate Committee of the District of Columbia and the admirable scheme for the improvement of Washington offered by the so-called Park Commission.

The American Institute of Architects naturally feels that it has had no small part in bringing about a movement, to the fruition of which all look forward with the highest hopes and the utmost confidence.

The Institute holds municipal improvement as one of the most important of the subjects under its consideration. At the convention to be held in Washington in the autumn of the present year the program has been so arranged that all the important papers will bear upon the subject. While the program has not yet been issued, it will contain an announcement of addresses of great interest and importance in many branches of the subject by well-known experts. Thus it will be seen that the American Institute of Architects has very closely at heart a subject which lies near to the work of your own Association.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS.

EDWIN A. FISHER.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: The American Society of Municipal Improvements was organized in Buffalo, N. Y., September 19, 1894. The credit of this organization belongs to Mr. M. J. Murphy, then Street Commissioner of St. Louis. The first regular convention was held in Cincinnati, September, 1895, and was attended by representatives of forty-eight cities extending from Toronto, on the north, to St. Louis, on the south, and from Portland, Maine, on the east to Los Angeles, Cal., on the west.

The work of the Society has been subdivided under nine separate standing committees, viz.:

1. Street Paving.
2. Electric Lighting.

3. Sewerage and Sanitation.
4. Water Works and Water Supply.
5. Taxation and Assessments.
6. City Government and Legislation.
7. Disposition of Garbage and Street Cleaning.
8. Municipal Franchises.
9. Review.

Special committees have been appointed from time to time to report upon The Coating of Cast Iron and Steel Pipe, Electrolysis, Abolishing of Railroad Crossings in Cities, Municipal Data and Statistics and Park Development and Maintenance. The latter committee is, perhaps, the one offering the most direct connection between the Society of Municipal Improvements and your own organization. This committee is made up of Mr. G. A. Parker, of Hartford, as Chairman, Theodore A. Leisen, of Wilmington, Del., and C. C. Laney, of Rochester, N. Y., all of whom, I believe, are representative members of your Society.

The object of the Society, as stated in its constitution, "shall be to disseminate information and experience upon, and to promote the best methods to be employed in, the management of municipal departments and in the construction of municipal works, by means of annual conventions, the reading and discussion of papers upon municipal improvements, and by social and friendly intercourse at such conventions, and to circulate among its members, by means of an annual publication, the information thus obtained. Any municipality within America shall be eligible to membership in this Society; likewise, any engineer, officer, or director who shall have charge of or supervision over or be employed as a consulting engineer on any public or municipal department work. When a municipality has become a member of the Society, then any person of such municipality representing any municipal board or department or any proper person interested in municipal improvements who is not a contractor or contracting agent, may also become a member. Any member who shall have ceased to have charge or supervision of any public or municipal department or work may retain his membership, unless he shall have come under the restrictive requirements of associate membership, when he shall retain membership as an associate only."

The work accomplished by the Society was very clearly described by Mr. Nelson P. Lewis, an ex-President of the Society, and one of its most faithful and successful supporters, in an address at Rochester, N. Y., before the National Municipal League in May, 1901, on the "Work and Aims of the Society." He said: "Its organizers were impressed principally with the fact that there was a lamentable lack of uniformity in the method of carrying out municipal improvement, and an amount of ignorance as to the practice in the different cities which was astonishing. There was no cut-and-dried program as to the kind of work to be done, the method of doing it, or the various subjects to be considered. These suggested themselves naturally in the discussion and interchange of ideas at the conventions. Now, you will expect me to tell you what

the American Society of Municipal Improvements has accomplished during the seven years of its existence. Not a great deal, perhaps, where there is so much to be done. It has not been much talked about. It has put forth no startling theories. It has undertaken no great reforms. It has gone along on the same practical course upon which it started. It has brought together the men who are planning and executing great municipal works—who are building up or making over our American cities. If their methods have been out of date it has shown them the most modern practice. If their work was costing them too much, it has shown them where public money could be saved. It has, after careful study and discussion, recommended standard tests of the materials of construction and standard requirements for specifications, and that its recommendations have carried weight is shown by the greater uniformity in the specifications now in use by cities belonging to the Society. It has given special consideration to the standardizing of municipal reports and prepared forms for reports on various municipal industries, such as electric lighting, street cleaning, garbage disposal, operation of water works, construction and maintenance of pavements and sewers. It has taken special interest in the collection and compilation of municipal statistics, co-operating with committees of other organizations to induce the Federal Census Bureau to include such statistics in the report now in course of preparation. It has, above all, afforded an opportunity to administrative officers, heads of bureaus and engineers to get together and talk over their own troubles, and to help each other to solve some vexed problems. Facts, not fancies, have been the subjects of its consideration at its meetings. Many of the papers which have been presented having been somewhat technical in their character, it may have seemed at times as if the organization were becoming one of municipal engineers. This, however, has been carefully avoided."

It will be seen that the objects and aims of the American Society of Municipal Improvements and the work accomplished are such as to call for the active and hearty co-operation of the members of your Association.

At the close of these addresses, the President announced that the meeting was open for discussion. Mr. Holden, after describing at some length conditions in Cleveland, both as to the group plan and the public park system, closed with these words :

I believe the time has come when it ought to be considered whether it would be a wise thing to resolve,

That the speakers representing societies kindred to this Association be appointed a committee, with power to increase its members, for the purpose of considering the question of uniting all kindred societies into one society, and to report their recommendation at a union meeting to be held at the St. Louis Exposition.

I offer this because I think it in the line of good work. It is in line with the best thought of the day. We are spending time and money in associations when it could be more wisely spent than it now is. The present system

doubles our work. This society and all others represented here could come into one and be one university of work with one purpose.

THE PRESIDENT: I am glad that Mr. Holden has offered this resolution.

DR. STRONG: Inasmuch as the American Park and Outdoor Art Association had no representative speaking this morning, it would not be represented until a member is added. As an amendment, I recommend that the President of the Association be a member of the committee.

MR. HOLDEN: I accept that amendment.

MR. LORING: If the amendment is accepted, I would like to suggest one other thing before voting. Are we prepared to consider the question of the forming of a single society at the present time? We have the same idea in mind, but as the resolution now reads it would indicate that there was to be one society that would take in all the other societies. I doubt if we are prepared to consider that question. If, however, the words "for co-operation" be substituted for those of "a single society," I think it would more generally meet our views.

MR. HOLDEN: I still believe that it would be the wiser course to leave it to the committee to say whether we would have one society or whether we would have joint meetings at the same time. I believe that one grand society could be represented by different departments. It would be better than to have these little societies that we now have.

THE PRESIDENT: The step is in the right direction, but it is not the capstone. In time something will work out of it.

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT:—The Secretary will read the resolve again.

THE SECRETARY: Resolved, That the speakers representing societies kindred to this Association be appointed a committee, with power to increase its members, for the purpose of considering the question of co-operation and affiliation among all the kindred societies, and to arrange for a joint meeting to be held at the St. Louis Exposition.

MR. PRESIDENT: It seems to me that there is nothing in that resolution that would prevent the consummation of Mr. Holden's idea, if all the organizations which are represented here should come to the conclusion that the single society could be formed. The committee would be empowered to bring in a report suggesting that. If we suggested that thing, and it failed, it would seem as if the whole movement had failed.

MR. HOLDEN: The first resolution left everything to the committee, and I would suggest now that we include after the words "co-operation and affiliation," "or union into one society."

The change was made, and the resolution, as thus amended, was read again.

THE PRESIDENT: The resolution has been read. What is your pleasure?

MR. BUSH-BROWN: I would like to second the resolution. I think it may safely be left to the committee to determine in what direction this co-operation and affiliation should go.

THE PRESIDENT: It is exceedingly satisfactory to have the resolution

seconded by the representative of so many of our leading societies, which have made, and are making, an impression upon the municipal art of our country. Is there any further discussion on the resolution? If not, the Chair will put the question.

The motion was unanimously adopted, and the meeting then adjourned.

SECOND AFTERNOON.

BUSINESS SESSION OF THE AUXILIARY.

The second annual meeting of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association was opened with the special Auxiliary session, called in the main assembly room of the Horticultural Society's building at 2:30 o'clock, on the afternoon of the second convention day, August 6. Mrs. Herman J. Hall, the President, was in the chair. The minutes of the last annual meeting (at Milwaukee) were read by the Secretary, Miss Margrethe Koefoed Christensen, and were approved. Announcement was made, on behalf of the Council, that clubs, or other organizations, may join the Auxiliary upon the payment of \$2.00 annually per delegate. A resolution was offered and carried that the Auxiliary should pay the postage of its Executive Committee. The reports of the several branches were called for, and were read as follows: Milwaukee, by Mrs. Pierpont Edwards Dutcher, of Milwaukee. The discussion which followed this report was led by General Lapham, of Boston; Louisville, by Mrs. A. F. Spalding, of Lowell, Mass.; New Orleans, by Mrs. Frank Johnson, of New Orleans. Miss Mira L. Dock, of Harrisburg, Pa., led the discussion of this report; Pasadena, by Mrs. C. H. McNider, of Mason City, Ia.; Los Angeles, by Mrs. E. J. Parker, of Quincy, Ill.; and San Francisco, by Miss Elizabeth Bullard. Prof. John W. Spencer, of Cornell University, led the last discussion. Following is a synopsis of the reports:

SYNOPSIS OF BRANCH REPORTS.

MILWAUKEE—(SECOND YEAR).

(Known as Milwaukee Outdoor Art and Improvement Association).

*Hon. President, Mrs. CHARLES CATLIN,
President, Mrs. MARTIN W. SHERMAN,
Secretary, MISS GRACE A. YOUNG,
Cor. Secretary, MRS. AUGUSTUS J. ROGERS.
Membership, 19 regular; 139 associate.*

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Co-operation with board of public works, park and school commissioners, for the improvement of school grounds, establishment of playgrounds, care of the trees by the appointment of a tree warden, removal of objectionable sign boards.
- 2—Co-operation with the press in securing appreciation of the value of beauty.
- 3—Improvement of school grounds by co-operation with teachers and children, by providing plans and supervising work.
- 4—The establishment of children's gardens, with expert instructors.
- 5—The offering of prizes for detailed records to be made of these gardens by the children.
- 6—Free distribution of flower seeds, and prizes for home gardens in given districts.
- 7—Sale of seeds in penny packages, with an annual exhibition and award of prizes.

Consulting Landscape Architects, Manning Bros., of Boston.

LOUISVILLE.

*President, Mrs. CHARLES W. GHEENS,
Corresponding Secretary, MISS OLLA STUBER.*

Organized March 22, 1902, by Miss M. K. Christensen.

Membership, 24.

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Embellishment of school, hospital, and settlement grounds by planting vines, shrubs, etc.
- 2—Co-operation with city officials and the press.

Consulting Landscape Architect, J. C. Olmsted, of Boston.

NEW ORLEANS.

*President, MISS JEANNIE GORDON,
Corresponding Secretary, MISS J. RICHARDSON.*

Organized April 25, 1902, by Mrs. Herman J. Hall.

Membership, 17.

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Offering of prizes for amateur gardens.
- 2—Proposed improvement of tenement districts.
- 3—Co-operation with the press and park commissioners.

SAN FRANCISCO.

(Known as California Outdoor Art League).

*President, Mrs. LOVELL WHITE,
Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. EDWARD F. GLASER.*

Organized May 28, 1902, by Mrs. Herman J. Hall.
Membership, 12 (regular).

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Planting in three public school grounds.
- 2—Co-operation with the mayor, park commissioners and board of education.
- 3—Co-operation with chief of police in promoting interest in gardening in the slum district. Distribution of plants and seeds.
- 4—Forming a Children's Protection Association to care for planting in children's playgrounds.
- 5—Co-operation with factory owners to improve grounds of an entire block.
- 6—Creation of a State Art Commission.

Consulting Landscape Architects, Ossian C. Simonds, Chicago; and John McLaren, San Francisco.

PASADENA.

*President, Mrs. L. F. CHAPIN,
Corresponding Secretary, Miss LORETTA BARNABY.*
Organized by Mrs. Herman J. Hall, May 10, 1902.
Membership, 10 (regular); 12 associate.

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Educational. Meetings to be held once a month, to be addressed by a landscape architect; study of harmony of color in outdoor effects.
- 2—Co-operation with city officials and the press.
- 3—Tree planting in streets; and providing suitable benches along residence streets.
- 4—Preservation of historic places and natural beauty spots.
- 5—Supplying seeds and cuttings to those unable to procure them.
- 6—Abolishing unsightly places.
- 7—Protection of birds, and introduction of the "lady bird" which destroys the black scale on ornamental trees.
- 8—Instruction of children in landscape gardening.
- 9—Correction of abuses in public advertising.
- 10—Improving city walks, depots, railroad and street car routes.

LOS ANGELES.

*President, MRS. WILLOUGHBY RODMAN,
Corresponding Secretary, MISS MARY JONES.*

Organized May 13, 1902, by Mrs. Herman J. Hall.
Membership, 15 (regular).

LINE OF WORK.

- 1—Co-operation with clubs and school boards in plans for planting several school grounds.
- 2—Effort to improve garbage system of the city.
- 3—Co-operation with the press and city officials.

CHICAGO—(Second year).

*President, MRS. EBEN BYRON SMITH,
Corresponding Secretary, MRS. W. F. GROWER.
Membership, 56.*

LINE OF WORK.

In the fall of 1901 the branch embellished four school yards under the direction of Mrs. A. E. McCrea, landscape architect.

Window boxes were furnished for the Washburn school.

Seeds were distributed throughout an entire block in the settlement district near Hull House.

In the spring of 1902 the branch placed trees, shrubs, and perennial flowering plants and additional permanent vines in the above mentioned schools and in one other, the Brown, under the supervision of Mrs. Frances C. Seavey, landscape architect. Vine guards, made of perforated galvanized tin, were placed to a height of five feet in school grounds by the President.

A leaflet, giving data of the Women's Auxiliary and the Chicago branch, and bearing the motto, "Leave the world more beautiful than you found it," was published by the Branch. It is believed to have secured more members to the Auxiliary than any other piece of literature issued by the Association.

The members who presented these reports were requested to prepare for their respective branches a report of the convention. The reports of the delegates of the Auxiliary to the biennial convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs were called for, read and accepted. The delegates were Mrs. Herman J. Hall and Mrs. A. C. Neville, with Mrs. W. A. Peterson alternate. The report of Mrs. Neville, read by Mrs. Peterson, follows :

REPORT OF DELEGATE TO BIENNIAL CONVENTION GENERAL
FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

ELLA H. NEVILLE.

Madam President, Women of the Convention: The enrolling of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association with the General Federation of Women's Clubs has proved a wise thought. In no other way could the subject in which we are so deeply interested have been brought before so many women at one time. Twelve hundred delegates and thousands of other visitors were in attendance at the sixth biennal convention, which gathered in Los Angeles May 1st to 9th, 1902. Simpson Auditorium, where the greater number of the meetings were held, was from first to last a standing tribute to the decorative art. Thousands of callas, their wax-like beauty brought into relief by the dark green of magnolia leaves and the trailing simlax, spoke a greeting to those who crowded the large audience hall to its limit on the opening of the convention. On Monday morning this environment of green and white had been changed, and myriads of carnations gave their brightness and fragrance to the scene. But it was during the last day of the session that the highest achievement was reached, when the auditorum was changed as by magic art into a Browning poem, for it was "roses, roses all the way." They were massed along the front of three tiers of galleries, were fastened in wreathes from pillar to pillar, crowded and overflowed great baskets of quaint Indian manufacture on the edge of the platform, and hung at the back in a curtain below the organ loft. To each delegate were presented bunches of the flowers.

Into such a scene as this the subject of outdoor art came as by natural affiliation. The Federation has recently recognized the importance of this work, having appointed a Standing Forestry Committee and the subject gave the key to addresses and discussion during our meeting. Mrs. J. P. Mumford, of Philadelphia, was chairman and proved an able leader—deeply interested, with the love of nature close at heart. Her opening address consisted principally of a report of the work done along this line in the different states, and it was interesting to note that from Maine to California—from Canada to the southern seas women have awakened to the value and necessity of taking care of the trees. A few extracts will, I am sure, be of interest to this convention, now considering kindred subjects. Beginning with Pennsylvania, Mrs. Mumford said it was the pioneer state in forestry work. It had enacted wise and advanced laws against forest fires and for the protection of the source of water supply. It had also negotiated the purchase of 7,000 acres of mountain land for a park, which was to be used as a health resort. These things had been accomplished largely through the efforts of women. Maine had appointed a committee to bring before the legislature a bill for the preservation of the forests of that state. Vermont had done much for village improvement. In Rhode Island the women had succeeded in preserving a bit of beautiful scenery which was about to be sacrificed to the commercial spirit. In Connecticut efforts had been made to stop forest fires and to protect trees from the mice, trolley cars and

elm beetle. In New York club women had been active in efforts to preserve the scenery of the Palisades of the Hudson. New Jersey had done likewise, and had taken steps to prevent fire in the pine forests of South New Jersey. Delaware was awakening to the necessity of preventing the state from being denuded of evergreen by the demand for Christmas trees. In Georgia droughts and floods are becoming annually more formidable, and the women of the state have become aroused to the necessity of doing something for the preservation of forests. In each of the Southern states women were reported as active along this line. In Texas a bird law has been passed which it is believed will be a benefit to forestry. Michigan leads in forestry work, and Wisconsin is also taking great interest in reforesting. Minnesota has been the storm center for the last four years. The women have secured a stay of proceedings in the opening of a large Indian reservation, which the lumbermen were preparing to invade, but which the women insist shall be set apart for a national park. Iowa, Nebraska and North Dakota are each interested in tree planting. Too much praise cannot be given to Colorado women for what they have done for the preservation of forests and archaeological relics, an example followed by club women of Oregon. Massachusetts, which leads in so many good things, has done nothing in the line of this work, on the ground that the necessity does not exist as in other states.

Mrs. Greenleaf, of Redlands, who for several years has pursued a special course of study on forestry, and whose notebook, covering this period, I later found great pleasure in looking over, was called upon, and in a little impromptu speech, aroused interest by claiming that it was, indirectly, to the forests that club women were indebted for their brains. She described forestry as a new "House that Jack Built," by paraphrasing the old nursery rhyme, this wise: "There are the forests that store the flood, that moisten the field, that grow the grain, that feed the ox, that builds the brains of the club women of this convention." Mrs. Strickland Clark, of Los Angeles, addressed the convention as an enthusiastic convert to forestry, her stirring talk could not fail to interest. In her plea she said: It remains for the women's clubs of the land to create a public sentiment that will change the arid regions of the West into an estate of forests, flowers, food and homes of industry and progress. This was received with great applause. Mrs. Lemon closed the discussion by saying there were "only two objects in life greater than forestry—religion and morals. People who plant trees do it for humanity and coming generations. What work could there be more noble?" In bringing the meeting to a close she announced that later on others would be called to devise means whereby the clubs could aid forestry work. This meeting was held early Tuesday morning, before the usual hour of opening the convention, and was well attended, considering the inconvenient time—a fact showing the interest in the subject. C. B. Boothe, of the National Irrigation Association, spoke first, followed by Mrs. Lon V. Chapin, who set forth ably and eloquently the arguments for reclaiming the arid West by the national government. She spoke of the natural endowment of Western America in the value of timber, mines, native features and the depth and richness

ness of the soil. Over this empire water is king, and the king has not yet come to his own. "The foundation of the nation," she continued, "rests upon the individual home. In the West, 100,000,000 acres of fertile soil await in the public domain the magic touch of water to make it blossom into a civilization as noble as that of the East. There is room west of a line drawn from north to south on the ninety-eighth meridian for a population as large as that of the whole United States at the present time, and the water now running to waste, if properly conserved, would reclaim an area as large as the continent of Europe, and would create a market for manufactured products ten times as great as our entire foreign commerce." At the close of Mrs. Chapin's address, the following resolution was adopted: "Indorsing the resolution of President Roosevelt in his recent message to Congress that 'successful home-making is but another name for the upbuilding of the nation;' And believing also with the Secretary of the Interior 'that there is no question now before the people of the United States of greater importance than the conservation of the water supply and the reclamation of the arid lands of the West, and their settlement by men who will actually build homes and create communities;' Be it resolved, by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, in session at Los Angeles, Cal., that we urge upon Congress the construction of reservoirs and irrigation works, wherever necessary, for the reclamation and settlement of the great public domain, to the end that this vast area of now dessert land may be taken up by actual settlers only, and become the homes of millions of prosperous and contented American citizens."

On Wednesday evening Nathan F. Barrett, of New Rochelle, N. Y., delivered an illustrated lecture on Landscape Architecture to a large and brilliant audience. The opportunity was great, and the speaker made some use of it in practical suggestions. The greater part of the lecture was given to descriptive views of the artistic work which Mr. Barrett has accomplished.

Mrs. Herman J. Hall, our President, gave an address on Outdoor Improvement for Home and School. Her suggestions were full of practical value, which will have a far-reaching power, judging from the number of delegates who were seen taking notes for the accounts which they would later give to their clubs.

In making this report there has been a temptation to speak of the business transacted, of the various other interesting subjects discussed, the social features of the convention, and the beautiful hospitality of the Los Angeles women; but I have refrained, believing that to most of you, these things will, or have, come through your clubs. I have, therefore, confined myself to brief extracts of subjects discussed akin to the interests of this organization, believing that it must prove a stimulus to know that the work has been taken up by many hundreds of other women, whom, in time, and with a little effort, we shall see enrolled among our members.

A report was then read of the exhibition at the Biennial of photographs representing landscape art—but this has been described here in the report of the Auxiliary Secretary. After this report the meeting adjourned to convene again on the third morning.

THIRD DAY.

MORNING BUSINESS MEETING.

In calling the meeting to order President Parker announced the first business to be the reports of committees, and he called for that of the Auditing Committee.

MR. KELSEY (Chairman Auditing Committee): The Auditing Committee would report progress.

It appears that under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association, the Secretary is the executive officer and is practically the assistant treasurer. Mr. Simonds, the Treasurer of the Association, being some distance away, he and the Secretary have compiled their reports principally by correspondence, as is customary in cases where such distance intervenes. The Treasurer, whose duty it is, according to the Constitution and By-Laws, to hold the moneys and receive and pay out moneys to the Association, has prepared a statement for the Auditing Committee under date of August 2, 1902, showing the receipts as \$955.02, and giving the details of those receipts. The items are as he read them in his report, showing a total receipt of \$955.02, and an expenditure to August 2 of \$600. This leaves a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, for which he presents a certified check, of \$355.02.

The committee has been unable properly to audit this report at this time, because it has been difficult for the Secretary to obtain, as he desired, to date, the report of all the receipts and expenditures passing through his hands. The committee expects to receive such report from the Secretary, or through the Treasurer, and upon the receipt of such report, Mr. President, the committee will formally audit the accounts and transmit them to the President, so that in the report of the Proceedings the accounts will appear in detail. (See pages 48-50.) This will enable every member of the Association receiving these reports to know of the resources as well as the liabilities of the Association for the past year.

THE PRESIDENT : The Chair would like to supplement the remarks of the Chairman of the Auditing Committee, by saying that upon the Secretary of this Association there has been placed much hard work. I am familiar with part of it—not with all by any means. The vast machinery which has been put in motion to make this a smooth running convention has been only a part of his work, and it is little wonder that it was impossible for Mr. Manning to bring his accounts up to date in full. The full report will be printed later. We are in a good condition, but we have had no paid officers—all the work being voluntary, public-spirited work. We cannot at this time present a full report. What action will you take upon the report?

It was moved by Mr. Foster that the report of the Auditing Committee be received, approved and printed in full in the Proceedings of the Convention.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted the following :

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be extended to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, to Harvard University, to the Metropolitan and Boston Park Commissions, to the Appalachian Mountain Club, to the Massachusetts Civic League, to the press, to the Boston Elevated Railway, and to the individual ladies and gentlemen, who, acting as chairmen of committees and in other capacities, have made this meeting the most successful in the history of the Association.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

THE PRESIDENT: That portion of the President's address referring to forest reservations was referred to a committee by vote of the Convention. The committee was to be appointed by the Chair. On this committee I will appoint Mr. C. M. Loring, Mr. L. E. Holden, the officers of the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the officers of the Massachusetts Forestry Association.

We are now prepared to submit to the Convention the action of the Council in the matter of nominations and appointments on committees. I will ask the Secretary to make the report.

THE SECRETARY: I will first report upon an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws requested by the Women's Auxiliary in order that it may have rules upon which to work, and in order that the Constitution may not conflict with its rules.

This report recommended the amendment of Section Five by adding after "Societies" the words "other than the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association;" the amendment of Section Six by inserting after the word "year" in the fourth line the following: "One-half the dues received by the Women's Auxiliary shall be paid into the Treasury of the Association. One-half shall be retained by the Auxiliary and shall be at the disposal of that body;" also the insertion after Section Thirty of Sections Thirty-one, Thirty-two, Thirty-three, Thirty-four and Thirty-five, as they appear in the Constitution and By-Laws printed in this pamphlet.

THE PRESIDENT: These suggestions have emanated from the Women's Auxiliary; the Council has carefully considered them; they are not in conflict with the present Constitution in any particular, but they will aid the Women's Auxiliary by causing its machinery to run a little more smoothly and by enabling it to assert a little more clearly its position in connection with the main Association. There is no objection to the amendments that the Council can see, and to save time I would suggest that we do not adopt them section by section, but as a whole.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the Council regarding changes in the Constitution and By-Laws be accepted. The motion was carried.

It was moved and seconded that the amendments be adopted.

The motion was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will now make the report of the Council on the nomination of officers for the year ensuing.

THE SECRETARY: The Council recommends the election of the following officers: For President, Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia; for Vice-Presidents, W. Ormiston Roy, of Montreal; Dick J. Crosby, of Washington, D. C.; Warren H. Manning, of Brookline, Mass.; for Secretary, Charles Mulford Robinson, of Rochester, N. Y.; for Treasurer, Ossian C. Simonds, of Chicago.

MR. HOLDEN: I move that a suspension of the rules be made, and that the President, in as much as Mr. Manning is one of the officers to be elected, be authorized to cast the vote of the Association for the election of these officers as recommended.

When remarks were called for, and before a vote could be taken, the following resolution was offered from the floor:

Resolved, That the American Park and Outdoor Art Association express to Mr. Warren H. Manning its appreciation of his able and unselfish service as its Secretary for the past six years; that the success of the Association has been largely due to his intelligent management and preparation for its meetings; that the Association recognizes in him a man of rare taste and judgment, coupled with ability to do what he undertakes. For his work the Association tenders him not only thanks but its sincere friendship, and hopes that a long life may be his in his profession, for his own happiness and for the benefit and beauty of our country.

MRS. HALL: In behalf of the Auxiliary I would like to second that motion, and say that in every possible way he has helped the Auxiliary—not only by letters, etc., but also by preparing plans for various branches.

MR. LORING: As an ex-President of this Association, I wish to second that motion. I have hardly ever, in my long business life, known of a gentleman who has given so much of his time and so intelligently given work as has Mr. Manning in the interest of this Association. I very heartily second the motion. Permit me the privilege.

THE PRESIDENT: I think there will be no objection on the floor to the Chair ruling that this motion should take precedence of the motion for the election of officers. I will add that I am only partially familiar with the work of Mr. Manning, for none of us can be fully cognizant of the details of his work for the Association. You are aware of part of it on your visit, and I am very glad to have these expressions come heartily from an ex-President of the Association, and from the President of the Auxiliary. I add my own testimony to Mr. Manning's efficiency.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

THE PRESIDENT: The original motion, for the election of the officers, is now before the house.

It was passed.

A motion was then made, seconded, and carried, that a committee bring Mr. Woodruff before the Convention.

MR. WOODRUFF: I doubt, very much more than you seem to have doubted, my capacity for grappling with the important problems which I am sure must develop during the coming year. I have been impressed, as have you all, with the tremendous importance of the purposes and aims of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association. I feel, however, notwithstanding the great progress that has been reported here, and the encouraging reports that have been made, that we are yet at the threshold of our business. I will not at this time make any extensive remarks, but I will ask you to take what I may say this evening in the nature of an introduction to some of the thoughts and suggestions which I have to make.

I came here with no idea that I would be honored as you have so signally honored me in this election.

As to the matter of federation, I cannot but feel that it is extremely important. It is too large a question to be determined at a single meeting, or a single session of this Association, but I believe the committee, which was organized yesterday, hopes to make satisfactory progress. I believe that there is a cordial feeling existing between these organizations, but heretofore it has stopped in a cordial feeling and has not yet developed into a spirit of co-operation; but I think the Experience Meeting of yesterday indicates that the time will come when that cordiality will ripen into activity, and that there will be a great advancement in efficiency.

I thank you all for the courtesy and honor you have conferred upon me, and will ask that every member co-operate with the President and the executive officers in carrying forward the work of this Association as far as he possibly can, so that when we next come together we may have a year of progress to look back upon, and may look forward to still greater accomplishments in the year to come.

MR. PARKER: I should be only too glad to vacate the chair at this point, had it not been the custom of the Association for the President to continue on with the details until the close of the Convention. I will ask the Secretary to read the nominations on committees.

The Secretary read the list of committees as published at the beginning of this pamphlet, and, on a motion by Mr. Holden, they were duly elected.

The next business to come before the Convention was the selection of a place for holding the meeting of 1903. The Council recommended Buffalo, but threw the matter open for discussion. The claims of Buffalo, Chautauqua and Washington were argued at great length. During this discussion, the Women's Auxiliary withdrew for its own business meeting, and the election of its officers. While the

discussion continued, the following notice was sent in by the Women's Auxiliary, and was read by the Secretary:

"The Women's Auxiliary wish to unanimously suggest that the next Convention of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association be held in Washington. M. K. Christensen, Secretary."

The discussion continued at length. Finally a motion that Buffalo be chosen was put to vote and passed, a proffered amendment that Chautauqua be substituted for Buffalo in the original motion having been previously defeated.

MR. MANNING : We have received a letter from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company, of St. Louis, requesting the Association to postpone its meeting in St. Louis from 1903 to 1904. This explains the Council's action with reference to last year's vote to hold the Convention of 1903 in that city.

MR. OLMSTED : I offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the committee appointed at a previous session, for the purpose of securing co-operation between all societies having purposes in sympathy with those of this Association, be empowered to represent this Association before the joint committee on the District of Columbia, of Congress, at its next session, in favor of the report of the commission on the improvement of Washington.

The motion was adopted.

MR. WOODRUFF : Perhaps it would be well, in the light of the letter from St. Louis, to clean up the record by rescinding the action taken a year ago that St. Louis be the place of meeting in 1903.

MR. FOSTER : I move that the action taken last year in accepting St. Louis as the place of meeting for the year 1903, be rescinded.

The motion was adopted.

The meeting then adjourned.

When, during this session, the women withdrew to hold their own business meeting, they opened the second session of the Auxiliary's second annual convention. The President, Mrs. Hall, was in the chair. The principal business was the report of the nominating committee, composed of Mrs. W. A. Peterson, of Chicago; Mrs. Charles Catlin, of Milwaukee; and Mrs. J. B. Castleman, of Louisville. The committee presented, through its chairman, Mrs. Peterson, a printed ballot. This was explained by the President as

merely a suggestive ticket. The vote was then taken and resulted in the election of the ticket presented, which was as follows :

President,
MRS. HERMAN J. HALL, Chicago.

First Vice-President,
MRS. PIERPONT EDWARDS DUTCHER, Milwaukee.

Second Vice-President,
MISS MARGRETHE KOEFORD CHRISTENSEN.

Secretary,
MISS JESSIE GARDNER, Chicago.

Treasurer,
MRS. MARY MORTON KEHEW, Boston.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Boston Committee on Entertainment, and the Secretary was instructed to write to Mrs. Kehew, chairman of the Women's Committee, expressing the appreciation by the visiting delegates of the convenient and attractive rest rooms placed at the disposal of the Auxiliary, as well as for the many instructive and delightful excursions.

The Auxiliary business meeting then adjourned.

LIST OF PAPERS

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THE AMERICAN PARK AND OUT-DOOR ART ASSOCIATION,

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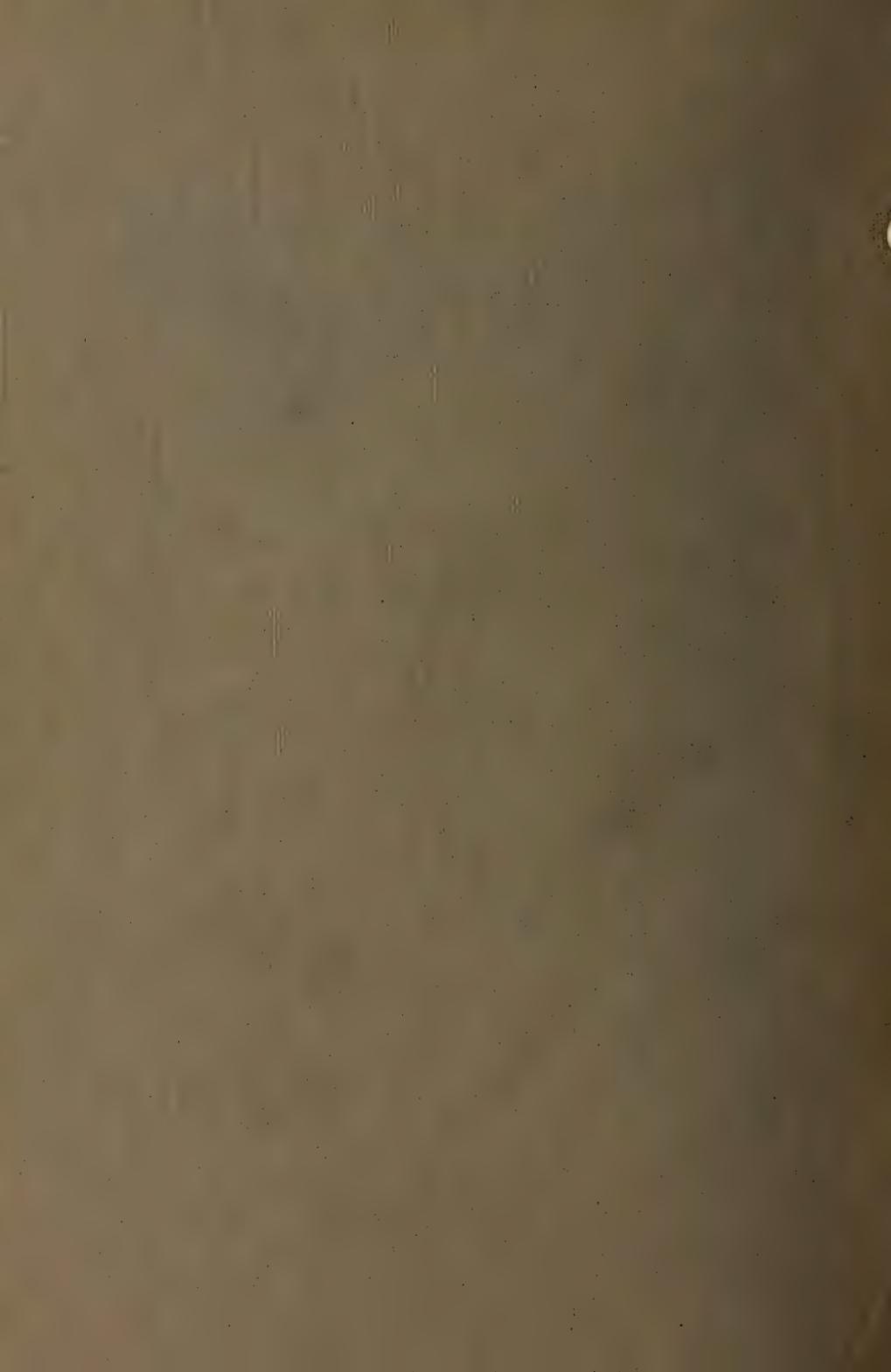
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AMERICAN PARK
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❖ ADDRESSES ❖

of the Sixth Annual Meeting

BOSTON Nineteen Hundred Two

Vol. VI., Part 2.



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VOLUME VI.

PART II.

AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

GENERAL ADDRESSES OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL
MEETING.

BOSTON, AUG. 5, 6, 7, 1902.

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ROCHESTER, N. Y.
JANUARY, 1903.

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INTRODUCTION.

The papers which are published in the following pages are the more general of the addresses that were delivered before the Association at its Boston meeting, August 5, 6, 7, 1902. They all appear in full, with the exception of Mr. Kelsey's, from which only extracts are given. Mr. Kelsey illustrated his address with lantern slides and it would be impossible to reproduce it with its original charm and value without the pictures.

The order in which the papers are here printed is that in which they were delivered. President Eliot's and Dr. Hallock's came on the first afternoon and comprised the complete program. Miss Dock's and Mr. Kelsey's were delivered on the evening of that day, and to these papers there was added, to complete the program, a most interesting address by Dick J. Crosby, of the Department of Agriculture, in Washington. Mr. Crosby's paper was on the "School Garden Movement," in introduction to the symposium subsequently held on that subject. It, therefore, has been reserved for publication in the separate pamphlet which is to be devoted to the school garden discussion. The addresses of Mr. Warner and Mr. McFarland were the only formal papers of the second evening's session. Mr. Woodruff's was delivered on the third evening, the closing session of the Convention, and attracted special attention because it proved to be, practically, the inaugural of the president-elect. On that evening, also, there was an address, without notes, on the "Relation of Parks to the City Plan." This was by Sylvester Baxter, secretary of the Metropolitan Park Commission of Boston in those earlier days when that subject especially concerned the Commission. There was, too, a paper by the secretary-elect, on "What is Municipal Art?" It is not printed here, since it will shortly be published in full as part of the introduction to a forthcoming book.

All of the papers received an unusual degree of editorial comment. Dr. Eliot's, especially, aroused wide attention. *The Independent* called it "the keynote of the Convention"; the Boston *Transcript* wished for it "wide reading as a most useful and stimulating and interesting paper"; and the Chicago *Tribune* believed that no one else could have been so successful in calling the attention of the American people to the subject that he discussed. Each of the other addresses was widely quoted and commented upon; and this little pamphlet, in which they are collected and given in their entirety, may, therefore, be considered—as the Association does consider it—a valuable addition to the literature of outdoor art.

Part I of Volume VI., the pamphlet which preceded this, contained the Business of the Convention—the addresses of officers, reports, etc.

POPULAR UTILIZATION OF PUBLIC RESERVATIONS.

BY CHARLES W. ELIOT.*

During the last ten years great additions have been made to the number of parks, open squares, and public gardens in the Northern and Western cities of the United States, and many millions of dollars have been spent in procuring these public reservations. It is noticeable, however, that in most American communities the public manifests only a moderate capacity to enjoy these beautiful provisions. The parks and squares are breathing-places ; they protect water-supplies ; they enhance the value of the adjacent private properties ; and some of them are useful playgrounds ; but they are not lived in, and delighted in by any large proportion of the population. For example, within ten years more than nine thousand acres of public reservations, in addition to the Boston and Cambridge parks, commons, and squares, have been acquired for the community which occupies the semi-circle within eleven miles of Boston State House. Yet the enjoyment of these reservations, with the exception of the public sea-beaches, is surprisingly limited ; and even to these beautiful beaches the people resort in great numbers during only three months of the year. On Sunday afternoons and holidays there is a good deal of driving through the Boston and Metropolitan Parks and Parkways ; but it is noticeable that most of these pleasure-seekers seldom get out of their vehicles. Now, it is impossible to enjoy thoroughly a garden, a beach, or a wood from the seats of a vehicle, or the saddle of a bicycle. Walking, lingering, rambling, and standing or sitting still are indispensable to full enjoyment. From December to April the Metropolitan forest reservations are practically abandoned by the public to the rabbits, squirrels, foxes and winter birds, although they offer to informed eyes innumerable scenes of exquisite beauty. In the population of Boston the German and French elements are not numerous, so that the good example of these fresh-air loving people has been lacking, while the climate and certain Puritan inheritances have been somewhat adverse to open-air joys.

Those of us who have visited the cities and large towns of Europe, or who have in any way become familiar with the outdoor habits of European populations, recognize the fact that in comparison with the people of Europe, the native people of the United States have little capacity to enjoy out-of-door beauty, little taste for the freedom and quiet of the country, and no disposition to live in the streets of the cities. In the southern parts of Europe and the northern parts of Africa, the common people in the large towns and cities pass their lives out-of-doors to an extent very surprising to an American. I once spent a winter in the town of Pau, in the southern part of France. The mornings and evenings were often cold, but the middle of the day was much like the fine New England weather in October and November. The moment the sun shone, all the active women and children took to the streets ; and even the invalids and the decrepit old men and women sat on the sunny side of the

*Dr. Charles W. Eliot, President of Harvard University.

streets with their backs against the warmed walls of the houses. Even in winter the people found the sunny street more agreeable than the interiors of their houses. In Cairo and the Egyptian villages many native people slept out-of-doors in January and February ; and the portion of the day which any family of parents and children, rich or poor, spent within walls was small. In the Egyptian villages up the Nile the rude bedsteads come out of the hovels by the middle of February, and the entire population sleeps in the open air three-quarters of the year. Of course, it never rains.

In most Spanish towns, whether in Europe or in the former colonies of Spain, a broad walk, shaded with trees, and bordered by strips of watered grass, shrubs, and flowers, and rows of benches or chairs, is a common municipal provision. These Alamedas are familiar meeting-places for a large proportion of the population on certain days or evenings of the week, and especially on Sundays and festivals. No sport or game is carried on there ; but the people walk slowly to and fro, or sit on the seats, and talk to each other. The Alameda is a common open-air parlor for all the people who have leisure enough to use it. In some cities a smooth, watered driveway makes part of the Alameda ; and at certain hours this driveway is thronged with open carriages moving slowly on parallel lines in opposite directions. This concourse is a sort of dress-parade for men and women, and for horses and carriages.

The public provision made for babies and little children in the Paris public squares affords the very pleasantest sight to be seen in that gay capital. For Americans one of the most curious sights of Paris is the broad sidewalks of the boulevards half-covered in front of the cafés with small tables, at which hundreds of men sit in the open air to eat, drink, smoke, and read the newspapers. It takes persistent rain or unusually cold weather to clear the boulevard sidewalks of this furniture, even in the raw Paris winter. In Germany, during the milder half of the year, the people insist on eating and drinking out-of-doors to an extent which is nowhere equalled in this country, except in the German quarters of some of our Western cities. No restaurant can succeed in Hungary, or South Germany, or Austria unless it has a place to seat its patrons out-of-doors. A garden adjoins the restaurant ; or an interior court without a roof—the Spanish patio—is filled with small tables ; or, if nothing else can be had, a portion of the sidewalk is enclosed with vines grown in pots, and supported on trellises. A beer-garden all over Europe is literally a garden with trees, shrubs, and flowers.

The out-of-door habit of the population enables the omnibus and tramway companies in the European cities to carry thousands of persons all winter on the tops of omnibuses or cars at the usual lower fare. The winter is there less severe than that of most Northern cities on this continent ; but it is primarily the out-of-door habit which makes this economical method possible and even enjoyable. Among our people the most encouraging sign of increased hardiness in this respect is the larger and longer use made of the open cars on the electric roads. From this point of view it is interesting to see 35,000 men and

women sitting on open benches of a raw afternoon in late November, watching a game of football for two hours or more. Another good sign is the family driving in open vehicles on Sunday afternoons: One does not often see a more hopeful and wholesome sight than the shifting-top carry-all with one horse, carrying father and mother and four or five children through the Metropolitan Parks of Boston of a Sunday afternoon.

The problem I now ask you to consider is how to secure a better popular utilization of public squares, gardens, parkways, and parks in the United States. I invite you to consider how the wholesome, joyous use of public reservations can be promoted.

One indispensable condition for the adequate use of public reservations is security against violence, and fear of violence, and even against annoyances, or the sight of rude or disorderly conduct. All public reservations, whether large or small, need to be well-policed; so that women and children can feel perfectly safe in them. This is of course an expensive matter; but neither city playgrounds nor country parks will be adequately used by the persons who need them, unless they are intelligently and adequately policed. A public beach, grove, or forest will soon get a bad reputation, if it is not vigilantly watched. Every city square or garden should be brightly lighted; first, because light is the best policeman, as Emerson said, just as publicity is the best safeguard against financial and industrial wrongs; and, secondly, because every such open space should be treated as a public parlor or popular reception-room.

Again, it is useless to provide a public forest, or a large country park, five or ten miles from the center of the city, unless this distance can be traversed in an agreeable manner at a low fare. Hence the value of parkways, which are merely well-built, decorated highways, reserved for pleasure travel. In all such parkways through which large reservations are approached, there should invariably be a separate space for electric cars, and this space should be neither paved nor asphalted, but turtled, as a protection against dust and reverberated noise, and as a means of health for the adjacent rows of trees and shrubs. This practice has been already partially adopted but should become universal. The problem of comfortable transportation for a great multitude to and from favorite parks or beaches within the few hours most agreeable for resort to such places is still to be solved. If men, women and children are to resort by the thousand to such reservations, they must be able to count on getting away comfortably, as well as on going comfortably to the park or beach. The coming away from such a resort is generally more simultaneous than the going to it. Any one who has seen the rush for cars at Revere Beach or City Point, when the homeward movement begins—to take illustrations from this vicinity—knows that our transportation companies have much to learn concerning the means of moving from forty to seventy thousand people, who all wish to go in one direction within four or five hours, and then in the opposite direction within a shorter period. It seems to me that a promising experiment would be cars without seats, strong enough to carry as many people as can stand on the car

floor—a lower fare being charged, and a supplement paid for a seat when it is possible to obtain transfer to a car with seats. For example, in this manner the crowds from such an isolated reservation as Revere Beach could be brought rapidly to points not far removed, where transfers could be effected to many diverging lines. It is worth considering, too, whether the foreign system of waiting rooms with seats for waiting passengers might not be introduced, the passengers to receive numbers on entrance, and to be called to the cars by their assigned numbers in their turn. Many women and children would be willing to wait for assured seats, rather than encounter the risks of the rush for seats, in which the strongest and most alert have every advantage.

One of the great privileges in European public gardens, or other reservations, is broad open spaces in which—under suitable shelter—to eat and drink in the open air. Outside of Prague, for example, but within easy reach of the city, are some beautiful meadows, the edges of which are adorned with fine woods. Thousands of persons resort to these meadows every fine Sunday to eat and drink in the open air. A whole family will go together—father, mother and children, with family friends; they get a table near one of the restaurants, and spend five or six hours in this beautiful spot, enjoying the open air, the sight of the meadows and the sky, and light music from a good band. The whole process is democratic and simple—never rowdy; but people who know each other can meet there in a pleasant way; and agreeable hospitalities can be exchanged. Beer-drinking and smoking undoubtedly promote the open-air habit—as on the Prague meadows—but are by no means essential to it. The tea-house which is getting domesticated with us answers the same good purpose. Prices should be low in reservation restaurants—like those of Randall Hall at Harvard University, for example, where one can get a substantial breakfast or luncheon for fourteen cents.

In every large public park ample provision should be made for this eating and drinking in the open air—from baskets, if there be no restaurants in the place. Steady efforts should be made to develop this habit among us Americans. It is by no means necessary that the refreshments should be elaborate or alcoholic; indeed it is much better that they should not be. Tea, coffee, cocoa, or milk, with rolls or toast, and jam, cheese, or herring, will go a long way towards making people feel comfortable and pleased. But it is impracticable for a family to spend many hours on a playground, or a beach, or in a forest, unless provision is made for eating and drinking. There should be an ample and convenient supply of water; there should be shelters from sun or sudden rain; and there should be everywhere a perfect tidiness. Regulations against scattering paper, and leaving behind remnants of food, or boxes, or bottles should be rigidly enforced; but the habit of eating in the open air in families, or companies of friends, should be vigorously encouraged and promoted in all public reservations. Thus it is legitimate and desirable to provide rustic tables and benches in places suitable for lunch or supper parties, for some men and women object to sitting on the ground even when it is dry.

One would suppose, from the deserted aspect of the Boston Metropolitan Parks in winter, that our New England people had never observed that winter is nearly as interesting a season in the open air as summer, the beauty of ice and snow replacing the beauty of foliage. The enjoyment of winter, however, requires more forethought, more attention to clothing, and more care to avoid wind and storm. On the whole, winter is a far better season for walking in public parks and forests than summer is. One sees much more of the broad scenery when the leaves have fallen. Moreover, it is a mistake to put away one's bicycle in winter. Wherever there are well macadamized roads, it is possible to ride a bicycle very comfortably on many winter days—particularly in the early morning before the wind has risen or the sun has softened the surface of the roads. I need not say that the winter aspect of a forest, after a fresh fall of snow, or after cold rain has frozen upon every twig and lingering leaf, is one of extraordinary beauty. Less understood is the beauty of bare trees, of the half-frozen brook, and of the blue shadows on the fields of snow. The only thing a healthy person need ask in winter, in order to get great enjoyment out-of-doors in the country, is absence of wind. In our New England climate there are as many still days in winter as there are in summer; or perhaps one could better say that there are as many parts of days that are still in winter as in summer. In all parts of the year the morning and the evening are more likely to be calm than the middle of the day. The winter winds cannot be faced with pleasure; but the calm days of winter are delightful in the open air, if one is properly clothed and is taking exercise.

For children and young people the enjoyment of open-air scenery is greatly increased by the habit of sketching with the pencil, or taking notes of scenery with the camera. In these days it is immeasurably better to go hunting for birds and other wild creatures with the camera than with the gun. There is much more skill in the use of a camera, and much more satisfaction in the results.

The enjoyment of the populace in large country parks and forests can be greatly promoted by allowing the picking of flowers and berries; and this permission may be safely given, provided plants are not dug up by the roots, either by design or through carelessness. So valuable is this privilege, that it is better to run some risk of the extermination of desirable growths, than to prohibit picking. It is, of course, possible to keep sowing the plants which are most apt to be picked, like the columbine, the wild geranium, the anemone, the violet, and the strawberry-blossom. Some fragrant things ought to be carefully raised in the parks expressly for the enjoyment they give to the people who discover them appearing in their season. Such are the mayflower, the linnaea, and the laurel.

A seaside city, like Boston, is able to offer to its population a great variety of reservations, the different sorts being attractive to various kinds of people, or at different seasons of the year. Thus, the beaches are open to observation, and are fitted for the enjoyment of the gregarious people who like a great crowd, and enjoy things in common with a multitude. The woods, on the other

hand, are well fitted for the individual who loves solitude, or for the family which prefers a private, quiet, withdrawn place for their little fête on a child's birthday or the wedding anniversary. The Metropolitan forest reservations around Boston are already used in this way. One who often goes through them comes upon the solitary pedestrian or bicyclist, who has brought his luncheon with him, and is eating it quite alone in some natural shelter, whence he can see no human being or human habitation. One comes also upon the family group which has gone down a side path, and established itself under some familiar tree which has sheltered them at former visits. Evidently individuals and families are learning to resort in the forest reservations to particular spots, which have in these few years already become dear to them. Thousands of persons resort to the large parks in vehicles drawn by horses. At present this is the chief method of enjoying the Middlesex Fells, the Stony Brook Reservation, and the Blue Hills Reservation ; but the people who are thus brought to the reservations need to wander about them on foot, and there should therefore be provided in such reservations places to hitch horses under supervision. It is doubtless wise to prohibit the hitching of horses to trees, because trees so used are apt to be injured ; but where this regulation exists, and no hitching places are expressly provided, the driving visitors to the park are almost compelled to remain in their wagons. This is a serious impediment to the real enjoyment of forests or country parks.

In scenery parks, the enjoyment of the people can be greatly promoted by providing numerous foot-paths, leading to the best points of view, and to seats there provided. These paths should, of course, be nothing more than trails, from which the underbrush and other obstacles to passage have been removed. Seats at good points of view are very important parts of this provision. The people need to be tempted to linger in the parks for hours, and to do this without covering great distances, or enduring anything which can properly be called fatigue. It is the open air and the quiet aspect of nature which are wholesome and refreshing ; and to get the benefit of these influences takes time and a sense of leisure and restfulness. In like manner, in small city squares the provision of seats is indispensable to popular enjoyment of these open spaces. Small squares in the midst of a dense population should be open-air parlors, resorts for the feeble and infirm—rather than for the strong and tireless. In all tree-planted avenues or boulevards chairs should be provided either by the municipality, or by persons who have paid the municipality for the privilege of letting chairs. Such alleys of trees as those of Commonwealth Avenue, in Boston, ought to be lined with chairs.

When once convenient access by electric cars to a reservation, or to many reservations, has been provided, it becomes the interest of the transportation company or companies to announce good skating on the pond, or fine surf on the beaches, or a light snow in the woods, or the blooming of the spring flowers, or the ripening of the berries. Through all possible agencies, public-spirited or self-interested, the open-air habit should be cultivated among us

Americans. Unless public reservations are to be enjoyed by the people, generation after generation, it is hard to imagine where Americans are to get the opportunity of enjoying country scenery at all ; for it seems to be almost impossible in our country to create a beautiful family estate and transmit it unimpaired from generation to generation. There is very little permanence in our fine country estates. The creator of such an estate does not leave to any one of his children money enough to maintain the estate he himself created ; or he has no children ; or no child who inherits his taste for country life ; or the value of the surrounding land rises greatly, so that the original owner, or his heirs, can no longer afford to hold a large area subject to taxation at its value as house lots, though yielding no income whatever ; or the neighborhood of the estate degenerates, or becomes too populous. American laws and American customs alike tend to prevent the transmission of large country estates from father to son, and the maintenance of such an estate through two generations is therefore very rare. The vicinity of Boston within a dozen miles of the State House contains, I believe, the best-housed and most comfortable population on the face of the earth, yet to the best of my knowledge and belief there is only one fine country-place within that area which has been transmitted unimpaired from the merchant who created it to his son and his grandson, and now bids fair to descend to the fourth generation. It is the same with old houses. In Europe they are assiduously preserved ; in America they are pulled down or given over to trade, and new ones are built. In the inmost heart of every American, whether rich or poor, the very first desire, on any increase of fortune, is to build a new and larger house. If a young Maine fisherman has a good season, and his share of the summer's profit on the mackerel or the lobsters amounts to five or six hundred dollars, he is quite certain—if he is a frugal and far-seeing person—to build a house with it. The manager of a great steel trust, or the prosperous banker or broker, does precisely the same thing, on his scale. Neither will buy an old house, appropriate or handsome though it be. It is, then, only the public estates which are likely to be permanent and to be enjoyed by many successive generations.

A very important use of parks and public gardens should be the use by school children, under the direction of their teachers. The transfer of the great majority of the population in many of our states from the country to the city has imposed a new duty on city schools. Children brought up in the country get a deal of invaluable training from their rural surroundings, and from the farm work in which they can take a share. They drive the cows to pasture and bring them home ; they roam through the woods and fields, and know the ponds and water-courses, and the creatures that live in them ; they notice the weather and the state of the sky, and the round of the seasons, and the habits of domestic animals ; they can ride and drive the horses, and milk the cows, and help the mother in the dairy, and the father in the barn ; they learn the use of many tools, and, in general, can do something with their hands. They get training in observation, attention, and quick decision, and in

the judgment which prevents waste of strength, and distinguishes between the essential and immediately necessary in productive labor, and the unessential and postponable. To the city child the lack of this natural training in country life is an almost irreparable loss. Of late years city schools have been trying to make up to the child for this loss by giving instruction in such kinds of manual work as can be adapted to the urban conditions. Carpentry, forging, filing and turning for boys, and cooking and sewing for girls have been put into school programs; and manual training schools have been established in which a considerable proportion of the school time is devoted to manual labor. These devices are good, but they need to be supplemented by what is called nature study. But nature study is difficult in cities, for the study of specimens indoors is but a very imperfect substitute for the out-of-door study of living things under natural conditions. Now parks, public gardens, and the decorative borders of parkways afford an opportunity to teach children much about trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants; and these public provisions should be diligently utilized for this purpose. In many German schools it is a part of the work expected of the teachers to take the pupils on walks and short excursions, and to show them on the way about the visible flora and fauna, and the working of the climatic and geologic forces which have moulded the surface of the earth. The short excursions which take place during the school year are, moreover, supplemented by voluntary excursions of pupils and teachers together during vacations. Public reservations can be put to no better use than this, for it is the children who are the most capable of acquiring a love of natural beauty, and a knowledge of the elements of that beauty. It is they who can quickest learn to understand the working of the forces which have made the hill and the valley, the pond and the brook, the bushy pasture and the arable field. It is they who can best learn to recognize the constituents of the commonest ground-covers in a given locality, and to appreciate the changes which civilized man makes in scenery or landscape. It is the children, trained in this way, who will grow up with a love of the parks, and a keen desire to spend time in them. It is they who can best acquire the out-of-door habit, and the love of walking, botanizing, collecting specimens of rocks, minerals, insects, birds, shells, or eggs, and observing temperatures, winds, clouds, rain-fall, and the changing aspects of the heavens at night. To see these things it is necessary to get into the open. The narrow city street, paved and bounded by high walls, gives the children no chance for observation of nature. Even this sort of nature study has a serious defect, in that it can hardly be associated—like farm life—with productive labor; but, in spite of this defect, it is the best available means of giving city children some conception of the natural world, and some permanent resources for life-long, innocent and healthful enjoyment. Even a city square, in which a large portion of the area is necessarily gravel, may be made to illustrate for the children of the neighboring schools some of the most charming of natural phenomena, such as the series of blooms and of twig and foliage colors which adorn the successive months of spring, summer and autumn. I

have in mind not only the brilliant, cultivated flowers, native or exotic, which may be made to illuminate a public square with a series of striking forms and colors, but also the quieter series of blooms which the New England woodlands, pastures, and brooksides may show, from the anemone, violet, iris, and flowering dogwood, by the shad-bush and magnolia, through clethra and golden rod, to asters and the fringed gentian. It is one of the great advantages of the scientific Arboretum, such as that at Jamaica Plain (Boston), that it provides a marvellous series of beautiful phenomena in flowers, foliage, and fruit, from early March to late November. This contribution to public enjoyment even a small city square can supply in some measure. What has been provided for the delight of older persons can also be used for the profit and pleasure of the children. I am aware that this out-of-door teaching would be a new function for most American teachers, and that very few of those now in the public school service are competent for such work. This fact, however, should only stimulate the community to set about training in large numbers the new kind of teacher that is so urgently needed.

I have spoken of the utilization of public reservations as if they were to be expected to yield only health, and enjoyment, and improved powers of perception; but I should deal with the subject very imperfectly if I did not point out that the right utilization of public reservations is a strong agency for promoting public morality, and a high standard of family life. It is a safeguard for society to provide means of pleasure for men, women, and children together. The pleasures men share with their wives and children are apt to be safer pleasures than those they take by themselves. In pleasures thus shared there is much less likelihood of coarseness, or excess, or careless selfishness. They cultivate considerateness, gentleness, and tenderness toward the young or the feeble. The appropriate pleasures of forest reservations or country parks are all cheering, refining, and cleansing; they are soothing and uplifting; they separate city men and women from the squalor, tumult and transitoriness of the human ant-hill, and bring them face to face with things calm, lovely, grand, and enduring. At the park and the beach men and women can lift up their eyes to the hills and the sky, or look off to the infinite verge of ocean, or come face to face with some of the endless varieties of beauty in color, form, and texture with which the surface of the earth is decked. It is, then, for the elevation of human nature on its every side that the better utilization of public reservations is to be urged. It has been the lot of the present generation to select for the urban populations of the present and the future many of these great treasures. It will be for future generations to maintain, enlarge, and adorn them, and to develop among the people a greater power of enjoying them.

THE INFLUENCE OF BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS ON CHILDREN.

BY JOSEPH NEWTON HALLOCK.*

The subject upon which I am asked to speak this afternoon is not only one in which I am deeply interested as every sensible man should be, but one upon which I can safely profess to speak from experience. I was once a child myself, and as impressions are said to be stronger in childhood than at any other time, so the impressions made upon me at that age have left their imprint. How well I remember the old farm and the old rustic scenes of delight with which my boyhood was connected. And all along in after youth, even to manhood and middle age, the sense of the beautiful, thus acquired in childhood, has remained with me to cheer and to bless. Its influence has been constant and inspiring.

Many years ago I found myself on the very edge of the Rocky Mountains—the sliding off place, so to speak—where the rugged peaks meet and overlook the plains. I went there for rest, to get away from men, and books, and newspapers, and when once there I rejoiced in the thought that I was almost beyond the reach of civilization. You can imagine my surprise when there, beneath the very shadow of Pike's Peak, I found one of the largest and best assorted private libraries that I had ever seen. There were many thousands of volumes, and although I had deliberately run away from all the great collections of books here in the East, by one of those strange revulsions of feeling that sometimes come over us on meeting with the novel and unexpected, I found it a very great treat to spend a couple of hours in that curious library.

Among other things, I found some very antiquated looking books printed upon parchment. One of these especially engaged my attention. It was an old book, many hundred years old, and it was interspersed throughout with letters in various kinds of ink; but the letters which showed most prominently were the red letters. They stood right out so one couldn't help seeing them, and they at once and invariably arrested the reader's attention.

I have often since thought of that old book in connection with an individual's life. There was a great deal in that book; there were a great many pages of fine print; there was a great deal perhaps that one wouldn't much care to read; there were many common incidents that might easily escape one's notice, but these red letters by their very form and color and size arrested attention every time.

It is thus that beautiful environments will always affect us, and especially is this the case when the mind of a child has been prepared by right impressions made in childhood. These are lasting. Many an old man who is almost oblivious to what is taking place about him at the present time, will remember all about his surroundings in youth and childhood. In childhood the mind is pliant and receptive. "Train up a child in the way he should go," says the good

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old Book, "and when he is old he will not depart from it." This is not only Scripture ; it is common sense.

What a difference it makes to a man or to a woman whether the love of the beautiful is cultivated in early life ! Take, for instance, the taste for music. I am not speaking of difference in performance, for we all know well that to be an expert performer on any instrument, as the piano for instance, it is a *sine qua non* that practice must commence with childhood. But I am speaking of the difference it makes in the enjoyment received by the individual, whether or not a correct musical taste is cultivated early in life. And as it is in music, so is it in almost everything else. We are creatures of habit, and habits of refinement and politeness are powerful factors in making life happy and useful. As William C. Gannett so well expresses it in his "*House Beautiful*," "What a difference it makes to the children, and in the happiness of the home, if things graceful to the eye and ear are added to the things convenient for the body! Our eyes and ears are part of us ; if less important than the heart and mind, still they are parts of us, and a home should be home for all our parts. Eyes and ears are eager to be fed with harmonies in color and form and sound ; these are their natural food as much as bread and meat are foods for other parts. And in proportion as the eyes and ears are fed, we are apt to see a fineness spreading over life. Where eyes and ears are starved, we are not sure, but apt, to find a roughness spreading. A song at even-time before the little ones say good-night ; the habit of together saying a good-morning grace to God, perhaps a silent grace, among the other greetings of a happy breakfast table ; a picture in the bare niche of the wall ; a vase of flowers on the mantle-piece ; well matched colors under foot ; a nestling collar, not that stiff band, around the neck ; brushed boots, if boots it must be, when the family are all together ; the tea-table tastefully, however simply, set, instead of dishes in a huddle,—these all are little things. You would hardly notice them as single things ; you would not call them 'religion' ; they are not 'morals' ; they scarcely even class under the head of 'manners.' Men and women can be good parents and valuable citizens without them. And yet, one cannot forget that, as the years run on, these trifles of the home will make no little of the difference between coarse grain and fine grain in us and in our children when they grow up."

If this is true, and we all know it is, parents should be especially careful to pay more attention to the surroundings of their children and see that their environments are such as they should be in this respect. The world would then find its millennium, and both our children and ourselves would be happier.

As an offset to all this, we are often reminded that boys brought up in poverty, where they can have no advantage of beautiful surroundings, and even little time for mental improvement, often make the smartest and best of men. In proof of this assertion we have the homes and birthplaces of such men as Abraham Lincoln and General Grant, for instance, pictured as mere huts or hovels, and the historian is careful to remind us that one of them was a leather dealer, and the other a rail-splitter, the implication being that the rougher and

more primitive the surroundings, the finer the result in the making of the man. Much of this kind of reasoning comes from a desire to make contrasts. When a man has risen so high that he can occupy the White House, it makes a startling contrast to picture his commencement in life at the lowest level possible. The idea of the writer is simply to show the wonderful inherent greatness of the mind of his hero, who could rise from so low a plane to such a height, and of course the lower the commencement of the ladder, the longer it appears ; and the greater the distance to be traveled between the bottom and the top, which is really what the writer is trying to show. It is on the same principle that everyone likes to tell a good story and to make as much out of his subject as possible. It is true, however, that poverty often furnishes an incentive to work, and once the habit is acquired, it is easy to continue working—and work always begets results.

Just here I want to speak a word for the pampered but much abused child of the rich, who has been brought up in affluence, and who is often cited as an example going to prove the fallacy of the very principles we are advocating, namely the beautifying and salutary influence of harmonious and beautiful surroundings. We are reminded that laziness is apt to be inherited from the soothing and peaceful character of beautiful environments. Well, laziness of that kind is not the worst thing in the world. It is not an inherent trait. Activity simply awaits a sufficient motive. Such laziness, as I take it, is merely relative. I know that is not your idea here in New England, or at least it was not such years ago when I was a school boy in New Haven. Laziness came about as near to being an original sin as thrift approached the opposite extreme. My parents were from New England, and inheriting the prejudice from them, as I suppose, I passed my boyhood and entered college life with the idea that laziness was an inherent quality and next to total depravity, but experience has taught me differently and I have since changed my mind. For instance, I used to think that without exception the two laziest members of our class at Yale were in my own division. I was accustomed to see more or less of them every day—generally more. Many a time one or the other would come sauntering along to my room in "Old South Middle" and while I was racking my brains over some mysterious Greek root, or trying to solve an impossible problem in political economy, he would gently stretch out at full length on the lounge and commence telling some comical story. These two "lazy" boys were well up in their lessons and so seemed to get along just about as well as the rest of us at recitations,—and a good deal better at the prize debates. Finally, they became lawyers and settled in New York City. One is General Wagner Swayne, who stands to-day at the head of his profession, and the name of the other is the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew. I now see the mistake of my early training, and I often wonder what I might have been if, instead of foolishly spending all of my energy on that never to be understood political economy, I had simply bought another lounge and stretched out alongside of those two wise, lazy boys, and so with them breathed in strength for future greatness !

Let no one fear that in surrounding his child with beautiful environments he will destroy his inherent virtue, and in using this word I employ it in the old Roman sense. Our President at Washington was accustomed to an easy life and pleasant surroundings when a child, but amid all the terrible indictments brought against him by those who happen to differ with him on political or other matters, not even his friends, the Democrats, have ever thought to accuse him of effeminacy or of lacking in genuine strenuousness. His love of healthful pursuits in active life does not seem to be at all diminished by the fact that he had a beautiful and pleasant home and harmonious environments. Nor will it be so in any case. When a sufficient motive is presented for work and activity, then work and activity will follow as a natural result, and not till then will either boy or adult trouble himself to do to-day what can just as well and perhaps better be done to-morrow.

We live in a work-a-day world, and as "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," so all utility and not art, all plainness and no beauty, depresses the mind and makes life unsatisfactory and unenjoyable. "Uses in the forms of beauty," as some writer has well expressed it, is the true elixir of life, and will refresh the drooping spirits, chase away the "blues" and help to make life what it ought to be.

Time will not permit me to traverse this subject as thoroughly as I could wish. There is an old Persian legend which I have seen somewhere, and of which I cannot give the exact translation, as I quote entirely from memory, but which, entirely disregarding the so-called higher criticism of our later theologians, and assuming as literal truth the Scriptural narrative about our first parents, runs something like this :

Once upon a time, Adam and Eve were driven from the garden of Eden, and they wandered far away into the deserts of Lybia, until entirely overcome with hunger and thirst they fell down upon the parched sands and expected to die. But even then God's care watched over them, and He sent a band of good angels, who hovered over them in the air, and scattered about the unconscious sleepers seeds of plants and trees and every beautiful thing that grows upon the face of the earth. Just then Satan came along—he who had been the cause of all their trouble—and he looked over the fields where the good angels had scattered the seeds, and he was perplexed. He said to himself, "Adam I know, and Eve I know, and these sands I know, but these little seeds!—What are they? At all events there may be something of comfort and goodness in them, and so I will just cover them up." So he took his old cloven foot and planted them deep in the soil to get them out of the way, and immediately they took root and sprang up and brought forth fruit. And when Adam and Eve awoke, lo! and behold! there was a beautiful oasis in the desert. In place of the dry and parched sands trees waved over their heads, their branches dripping with dew, and flowers and fruits in rich profusion were strewn over the plain, and when Adam and Eve saw this, they took heart again, and received back their spirits, and went forward with new courage, thanking the Lord for

the great deliverance He had wrought out for them by the richness and beauty of their environments. Yea, by the same hand which had caused their trouble, and in the midst of all their despondency and gloom He had wrought out for them this great salvation by the very inspiration of which we have been speaking, and the glorious beauty of their surroundings.

Be it ours to act the part of good angels, and having faithfully done our work, we may confidently leave the result with God and our children, who will thus fulfill the old prophecy and cause the wilderness and the solitary places to be made glad, and the waste places of the earth to rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

STATE FOREST RESERVATIONS, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THOSE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BY MIRA L. DOCK.*

I. PRACTICAL AND AESTHETIC VALUE OF STATE AND MUNICIPAL FORESTS IN AMERICA AND EUROPE.

Forest reservations in this country fall under two heads, the national and the state, and these again must be divided into two groups, those proposed and those actually in existence. The latter so largely outnumber the former that it would seem unnecessary to mention proposed reservations, save for the facts that the propositions to establish them indicate the present widespread interest in forestry, and that the objects for which they are considered desirable illustrate the extremely liberal interpretation given in America to the term "Forestry."

Popularly, in this country forest means "woods." Technically, forest land is "any land which falls under the operation of forest law," whether hill, valley or shoreland, and whether it is leased as a stone quarry or open to the public as a pleasure resort. Strictly speaking, forest lands are "areas which are maintained for various direct and indirect objects, as the production of timber, conservation of water, prevention of soil erosion, or of climatic changes, and (last but in American eyes not least) the preservation of landscape beauty."

In America popular interest in the preservation of places possessing features of unusual interest or of great natural beauty long preceded popular interest in true forestry measures, as is shown in the establishment of the Yosemite and Yellowstone Parks in 1872, twenty years before the National Forest Reserves were first proclaimed, in 1891; by the foundation in New York of the State Reservation at Niagara, of the Adirondacks Park, and by various legislative enactments permitting property to be held in trust for aesthetic or patriotic reasons, while as yet the Constitution forbids timber utilization on State lands; in the creation by Minnesota and Wisconsin of the beautiful Dalles

*Miss Mira Lloyd Dock, of Harrisburg, Pa., member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Commission. Her address was illustrated by several maps.

of the St. Croix as an interstate park in 1895; in the widespread agitation in New Jersey for the preservation of the Palisades; and in Massachusetts by the far-sighted act which created the Board of Trustees of Public Reservations, with its nobly simple object of "the preservation of beautiful and historic places." Finally, it is shown in the advocacy by such practical men as Professor MacBride (Iowa) of county parks, and by Professor Shaler (Harvard) of roadside reservations. This deep interest in the preservation of beautiful places is one of the features which cannot be ignored in American forest work, although the main object of true forestry work is not the preservation of beautiful places, but the conservation of useful industries, and the protection of important physical features.

At present the best machinery for the conservation of æsthetic interests is found in Massachusetts. The best machinery for the promotion of economic and æsthetic and hygienic interests exists in Pennsylvania.

There are so many instances of villages, even of whole counties, losing the greater part, if not all, of their beauty through deforestation, that it seems almost unnecessary to mention the fact that a permanent forest is of actual value, as a beautiful object. But woodlands are also of actual value to their owners, and if communities desire to retain elements of such great beauty there are only two practical methods of doing so, if there is no law permitting condemnation, or no prospect of the land being deeded to the public: First, to acquire the land at a high valuation before the trees are cut; second, to acquire at a low valuation after the large growth is cut, and re-plant or protect the young growth.

The former method has been practiced in Massachusetts, where the nobly beautiful heights in the vicinity of Boston, on Cape Ann, and also in other parts of the state, are enduring monuments to Charles Eliot, who was happily able to make others see the future value of saving the heights and river shores to any community fortunate enough to lie near them. The other method of acquiring at tax sales, or at low prices, tracts of cut-over land is practiced in Pennsylvania, where the entire state is the debtor of our far-sighted forest commissioner, Dr. Rothrock.

In Europe (with the exception of England) the economic basis of forestry is so marked that it is sometimes almost painful, as for instance in a communal forest of the central Black Forest region, where the venerable firs and beeches thrill an American with their "primeval" effect. To the forest officer of that district they were "over-ripe trees showing too great conservatism in cutting." Yet in spite of the economic necessity prompting such a statement, the deep love of the Germans for their trees and landscape is shown continually and it is one of the most eminent German foresters who says, "we may not always need the products of the forest for our bodies, but we shall always need the living forest for our souls." In this country we try through "nature work" to have children grow up "interested in forestry." In Germany such a proceeding is as unnecessary as training children to be interested in railroads. There

the superb highways of forest districts, carefully constructed, and as carefully maintained, are laid out with a view to facilitate the transportation of timber. Even the curves are built with regard to the length of the long sticks on their way to the saw mill. If their beautiful woods are easily accessible by a network of well-made paths penetrating their recesses, with noble firs and spruces lifting their spires aloft, to no one are they more beautiful than the forest officer, to whose care much of their perfection is due, but for whom they have as primary interest the assurance of producing valuable timber. There are visitors who complain of the monotony of some German forests, but this so-called monotony is due to the small number of species that are very valuable (spruce, fir, beech, oak) and is compensated for by the agreeable monotony of a regular income, which maintains the village kindergarten, bath-house, and other features of value to any community. The charming meadows which surround the picturesque villages, like scenes from an opera, are part of the prosaic scheme of producing an even, or, if possible, an increased annual revenue, and are maintained as meadows so long as they produce an income equal to that of the adjacent forest. When hay or other crops can be imported from Hungary or elsewhere cheaper than they can be raised on the little hill or mountain farm, the owner nowadays sells to the state, or to the commune and, unless employed permanently on the range, moves to the nearest village to work in the new power-house, or on the railway, because times have changed, and the little mountain farm and pasture no longer maintain him.

The Sihlward, belonging to the city of Zurich, and distant from it about one-half hour by rail, is probably the most exploited municipal forest abroad. Its 2,500 acres lie along and above the Sihl river which must be traversed by rail quite a distance. Factories are dotted along the walled-in stream, and on arriving at the forest station the first object one beholds and hears is a steam saw mill. The paths among the beeches are charming, but the woods themselves are maintained for revenue and are beautiful because they are well managed. The Blue Hills Reservation (south of Boston) has almost twice the acreage of the Sihlward, but it is very doubtful if at present any true forestry work could be carried on there, so intense is the feeling against tree-felling near cities in America. Yet it stands to reason that in the future some such work will be done, and that such vast areas will in a measure be made self-sustaining.

To summarize : In this country, heretofore, we have chiefly tried to preserve tracts of woodland for purposes of enjoyment ; in Europe, forests are chiefly maintained for revenue or their owners would have little to enjoy.

II. NATIONAL RESERVATIONS.

At present the general government holds, in the states west of the Mississippi, forest reservations whose total area is about equal in extent to that of New York and Pennsylvania combined. These tracts comprise so many distinct, beautiful, and varied features, and have such an important bearing on great industries, that it is possible in a brief paper of this nature to refer only to the happy fact of their existence.

The proposed Appalachian Reservation of the southern Atlantic states is a region of such unique forest conditions, and of such value to all Americans, because of the extraordinary size and number of American species found there that we should all use every effort for its establishment by the coming congress.

The Minnesota National Reservation, just authorized by Congress, has been the result of such a really heroic struggle that it requires special mention, because the effort to secure to the people of Minnesota the use of the lands held at present by the government for the Chippewa Indians has been carried on for years by apparently all the public-spirited people of the state. They have asked to have the land put under the management of the Bureau of Forestry, to have the Indians trained as rangers, to keep from destruction, or, as the Germans express it, from "devastation" cuttings, those wonderful forests of white and Norway pine about Cass and other lakes. One acquainted with our Eastern forests only cannot imagine the contrast presented on a bright summer day between the dark white pine woods near Cass lake—their floor a starry mat of bunch-berry and linnea blossoms, and the open sunny Norway pine woods near by—their sandy floor resplendent with thousands of strange wood lilies. The charming lakes, with white sand beaches, the general elevation of the country—everything, marks it as a precious heritage and one valued by the people, as they have shown in their endeavor.

III. SOME PROPOSED STATE RESERVATIONS.

1901, Maine. State Board of Trade: "The preservation of our forests means permanent employment for thousands of wage earners. It means comfortable homes for the wives and children of these laborers. It means the preservation of our magnificent water powers. What other state could set apart as reservations three such sections as the six townships containing the five great Rangeley lakes; or the ten townships that could contain the great Moosehead Lake, with Kineo and the Spencer mountains, or the twelve townships that would include our highest elevations, Mt. Katahdin, and the beautiful West Branch lakes? Could these three sections be set apart for use as state parks, posterity would have cause to hold in grateful remembrance the wisdom and foresight of the public-spirited men who were instrumental in bringing about such a desirable result."

1901, Tennessee. "A hope of the State Forest Association is to encourage tree planting, not only for shade and ornamental purpose in streets and parks, but more especially for country homes and farm lands." The Forest Association is accordingly bringing together and disseminating information concerning desirable species of trees, and methods of planting and protecting.

1901, New Hampshire. "The object of this (the Forestry) Association is to preserve the forests, protect the scenery, and promote the establishment of good roads in New Hampshire, and to co-operate in other measures of public improvement in the state."

1899, Nebraska Park and Forestry Association: Objects, "Home adornment, village and city improvement, the planting of parks and forests."

IV. STATE RESERVATIONS NOW ESTABLISHED.

Connecticut. In 1901 a State Forester was appointed and an appropriation for the purchase of lands on which to experiment became available. The land is to be called a State Park. The amount appropriated by the state for this object is \$2,000 for two years, and no land can be bought, under the provision of the act, for more than \$4.00 per acre.

Michigan. At the last session of the Michigan Legislature (1901) a tract of state land in Crawford and Roscommon counties, in the central part of the state, was set apart for the use of the State Forestry Commission, as an experiment station. The tract comprises 100,000 acres surrounding Houghton and Higgins Lakes.

New York possesses the oldest, and at present the largest, state reservations. Its first Commission of State Parks was created in 1872, and later changed with other commissions into the Forest, Fish and Game Commissions, whose work is given in detail in their superb annual reports. At present the state holds as forest preserves upwards of 100,000 acres in the Catskills, more than 1,300,000 in the Adirondacks, and has rights extending along the shores, and over the islands, of the St. Lawrence river, from Lake Ontario to Canada.

V. PENNSYLVANIA.

It is a curious coincidence that Massachusetts and Pennsylvania were co-heirs of the legacy left by the younger Michaux to "advance the interests of forestry and agriculture," and that the first forestry lectures delivered in Pennsylvania (in 1877) were made possible by this fund. In 1886 the Pennsylvania Forestry Association was established. In 1893 the legislature authorized a commission to examine into and report on the forest conditions of the state, two years being allowed for the work. Dr. J. T. Rothrock, who had resigned his position at the University of Pennsylvania to start a forestry propaganda, was appointed chief of the commission, and we in Pennsylvania are profoundly grateful for the fact that successive administrations have, without regard to politics or factions, re-appointed Dr. Rothrock.

Dr. Rothrock made the forest examinations; Mr. William F. Shunk, the distinguished engineer, the topographical survey. Together they made a famous report, which was to our whole state what Charles Eliot's "Report on the Open Spaces About Boston" has been to Boston, a report containing statements in regard to waste areas that could not be controverted, and suggestions towards the establishment of state reservations that have been followed in full.

From 1893, each successive legislature, fully supported by the press and people generally, has added to or simplified the forestry work, so that to-day Pennsylvania holds about 500,000 acres of land, under the control of a Department of Forestry, which ranks with the other state departments. The Commissioner of Forestry and four other citizens form a Reservation Commission, with power to purchase land in any county that in the judgment of the Commission the state should possess for forest reservations.

The lands already acquired comprise large tracts at the headwaters of the streams rising in all the principal highlands of the state. The blocks vary in extent from small areas of a few thousand acres up to tracts of 100,000. They are situated in (August, 1902) twenty counties, and extend from the Maryland line on the south to New York and New Jersey north and east, over the broad rolling crests of the South Mountain, on the long parallel ridges that cross the state diagonally from north-east to south-west, and upon the high broken plateau of the Alleghanies. The species range from the magnolias of the Chesapeake to the hemlocks and spruces of the north. There are hundreds of streams, numerous lakes and water-falls, on these areas; and bits of primeval forest in many out of the way corners.

Under the present law, where timber is cut or other rights leased from the state, each township, where any revenue is derived from state land, is entitled to receive twice the amount it formerly received in taxes. Roads can be built and repaired, but not disfigured by advertisements. Several large towns receive their water supply from streams rising on state land, and in time there is little doubt that our large cities will secure their supply from the undefiled water of the mountain lakes and streams. The Pike County Reservation alone, according to estimates made by Dr. Rothrock, could supply Philadelphia with pure water. In some of the ranges convalescent camps have been established for the cure of incipient tuberculosis. Others include recreation parks formerly owned by corporations or individuals, and open now as formerly to the public.

VI. EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF RESERVATIONS.

The question is often asked, "What is the educational value of reservations." It cannot be too much insisted upon that forest reservations represent great fundamental principles of the conservation of natural forces, and not picturesque details which should be merely incidental.

First, last, and all the time will be the necessity of preventing fires, not merely fighting them, but of not permitting them to occur. There can be only poor forests with poorer inhabitants where fires prevail. White, of Selborne, wrote in the 18th century of the fires that raged annually in Hampshire, now the most heavily wooded county in England; and says: "For hundreds of acres nothing is to be seen but ashes and desolation, the whole circuit looking like the cinders of a volcano, and the soil being quite exhausted; no traces of vegetation are to be found." Protection from fire must become an ingrained sentiment.

Second, will come the sylvicultural work, the tending and planting of forests, the care of the woods in every way. From forests, nurseries and plantations, neighborhoods will learn the practical work of raising trees from seed. In our own reservations this nursery work is worth miles of literature, it is seen to be so simple, so easily practiced by any one with a little land. In New York the State Nursery has also attracted this same interested attention. Most

encouraging is the fact that the Department is constantly receiving inquiries from boys and young men who wish to become foresters, and for whose training Dr. Rothrock hopes soon to establish a Forest School.

One very happy feature of the reservations is the close connection they make between the people and the state. Persons who live near them are deeply interested in the measures proposed, and take pride in co-operating in any way. The old men are very important in locating forgotten lines and corners, and the younger people learn a great deal of ancient history from this work, and all appreciate what "the state" is doing.

A feature of interest is the acquisition of places that have special botanical value, such as portions of the South and Pocono Mountains, and of the celebrated Bear Meadows in Centre county. One large tract of land possessing features of great beauty was sold with the understanding that it would be maintained as a place for students for all time, be kept "beautiful evermore."

VII. FORESTS IN RELATION TO LANDSCAPE.

The chief beauty of our Eastern American woods is in their diversified character, the various striking foliage, forms and textures, the very lustrous, the very light and feathery, leaves which make our broad leaved trees so eminently cheerful, as the tulip, locust and others of our American trees which have added to the gaiety of woodlands in Europe; the many trees with striking flowers; the wealth of shrubbery, especially the kalmia and rhododendrons, which accompany our Appalachian forest. The preservation of those trees best adapted to a locality is the basis of a beautiful landscape, and especially in the vicinity of our industrial towns is a crying necessity.

One of the greatest losses the "degraded foreigner" sustains when he arrives in our industrial communities is the loss of everything beautiful, the one element that he has heretofore possessed, though without realizing it. Herded by necessity in unsanitary buildings, usually in industrial communities where the whole face of nature has been seared, he feels, but is often powerless to express, the dispiriting nature of his surroundings. One Bohemian woman in a Pennsylvania steel town, pointing to the defaced and hideous hills, said: "We had village forests at home, where we all spent our feast days. We had not so much money as here, but we had much happiness that *we did not know*. Here all is so ugly, and we can only drink, drink. What will become of my children who live in the gutter, and know nothing beautiful?" But the reservations are the beginning of a better day, for no state possesses lands so easily accessible. All of them are bordered by, or crossed, or lie near, one or more of our main lines of railway. Several of them extend to the near vicinity of large towns, and in these instances they will indeed become, as Governor Stone proclaimed on Arbor Day, 1900, not only places of revenue, but true "People's Parks, free to all who obey the laws."

WATER AN EFFECTIVE FACTOR IN MUNICIPAL ART.

EXTRACTS FROM AN ADDRESS BY ALBERT KELSEY.*

"The old town pump and street fountain," said Mr. Kelsey, "were necessarily social centers of their day. In the primitive past, when the distribution of water into individual homes was unknown, and when many other conveniences involving the use of water—such as a sewage system, fire mains, street sprinkling and stationary bathtubs—were unheard-of luxuries, it was necessary for the members of every household to go daily to these places in order to obtain water for domestic use. Thus, the pump or street fountain became a general meeting place, and, as rivalries sprang up in different quarters of the town, it was but natural that local pride should express itself in the adornment of pumps, fountains and well curbs. When the modern distribution was introduced the necessity for such places ceased, and for a time the newer communities were without refreshing water displays, so that until a new impulse came to adorn our cities their vistas looked dry and parched indeed."

"To those interested in public beauty it soon became evident that the purely utilitarian modern system could be put to a double use. So it often happened that water was first used for ornamental purposes and then distributed for flushing and sprinkling. And so, nowadays, our greatest opportunities come from the knowledge of the ways of obtaining a two, three, and often four-fold use of the water supply."

"What is there under the arching sky more beautiful than running water? What more refreshing? We do not have to go to Tivoli to hear the water organ in the garden of the Villa D'Este, if we want natural music. We hear it in the roar of the surf at our seaside parks, in the laughing cascade, in the quiet lapping pool, in the sparkling fountain and in the babbling brook, and again we hear its restrained melody as it splashes rhythmically in the well-designed Chateau d'Eau, where large masses of water thunder down great heights, to contrast in form and sound with hundreds of smaller streams gushing forth at irregular intervals.

"Time permits me to describe only a few of the celebrated water effects that have been produced in different parts of the world, and in doing so I will lay special stress upon their great diversity. We have the artificial grotto, erected in the foreground of some massive building to give a rural contrast to the architecture and add zest to the design. We have the formal pool set in velvety lawns to reflect the sky and add interest to an otherwise barren surface. We have a great cascade animating the end of a long vista. We have great reservoirs treated as here in Boston, where they have become beautiful wooded artificial lakes to adorn the great metropolitan park system. We have the great commercial water front, as at Algiers, where traffic and recreation are skillfully separated, that both may have a free view of the sea. We have it in illuminated fountains, where warmth and color contrast mysteriously against

*Albert Kelsey, of Philadelphia, Chairman of the Committee of Experts of the Philadelphia Art Federation.

the blackness of the night, in myriad forms and hues. We have it in sub-lacterine effects, where the bottoms of shallow pools and lakes are treated in beautiful color schemes magnified and made brilliant by the water above ; and in a hundred other ways water has been put to use in making city life more endurable.

"I have here a design in which a small triangular pavement has been architecturally adorned so as to provide for many public utilities, concentration being the order of the day. Water used ornamentally is again used for flushing purposes in an underground toilet room. An aquatic garden and shrubbery complete the picture, while the ordinary lighting within makes it an illuminated fountain at night. The trick is done on a smaller scale in the Julia Gardens at Palermo and in a much simpler way. There a gardener, proud of his flowers, has spread out the water flowing from an inch pipe, so as to produce a very thin and brilliant little water-fall, behind which a new blooming plant is placed every day, whose size is magnified and whose color is intensified by the sparkling veil before it. Indeed, advertising under water has been successfully carried out."

* * * * *

"Concentration is the order of the day. A perfect economy often demands more than a two-fold use of the elements, and there are none that can be employed so exhaustively and to such advantage as water when made to conform with a successful design.

"And it is just here that the expert is needed. Many a landscape looks like an accidental effect, which in reality is a studied perspective, no matter how wild and rugged it may be, for it often takes a landscape architect to redeem somewhat the hidden beauties of nature. And, likewise, it takes a well-trained architect to produce formal water displays in appropriate settings. Happily, the cast iron fountain no longer satisfies the most plebian taste."

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT WORK.

BY JOHN DEWITT WARNER.*

This, I take it, is an "experience meeting". We of New York have had our share of experience, whatever may have been its "crop of grace", as camp meeting clergy are wont to call it.

We have found Effort and Thought taking two widely differing roads toward the City Beautiful. On the more spacious and flowery of these, laid out from the aesthetic standpoint, many of us have noted and attempted to exploit opportunities, natural or otherwise, for making the city beautiful—for beauty for beauty's sake, as it were.

On the decidedly straight and narrow path of the other, some of us have studied what the city *must do*; and have tried, and are trying, to have it do this

*Hon. John DeWitt Warner, President of the Municipal Art Commission of New York and President of the Municipal Art Society of the City of New York.

in the most aesthetic —i. e. most effective and economic—way possible, that is we are trying to conscript beauty into city service.

It may be said that these are but two ways of looking at identical work. Granted : But this is only true to a limited extent. Moreover, with these as other problems the standpoint is of the greatest importance in determining the resources one can command, and the co-operation one can secure. In other words, it makes all the difference in the world which end of the lever you have taken hold of.

First of all, a modern city is a great business concern. To urge public art as something for the city to do is to grapple the short arm of the lever.

But to urge public art as the best way in which the city can do its business is to catch hold of the long arm of the lever—with which the world can be moved—indeed, is to-day being moved. Such, indeed, is the motive of every late really great achievement of municipal art.

Vienna's mountain of glory is the result of the facts that her old walls became obsolete as fortifications ; her need for buildings in which to do the business of the city and state so urgent that it must be met ; and her rulers sufficiently intelligent to ring out the old and ring in the new in the most practical way possible.

At Paris, for police purposes, her slums must be opened ; and for imperial and business ends the capital must be made attractive. So the work was undertaken as a business venture, and the government purchased vast tracts of land which its individual owners were unable to improve, opened it up by green avenues, and streets well planned, so as to make them available for better buildings, and then sold the opportunity thus won to private owners under mutual restrictions which compelled them to use it for their common profit and the glory of Paris.

In London, for a century one project after another of beauty for beauty's sake at some spot has been a failure or worse ; but the late opening of the broad street (demanded by traffic) from the Strand to High Holborn is already conceded to have made practical what is now being worked out—a civic center for London, worthy the city, the empire, and the memories that for two thousand years have dwelt there.

A hundred years ago Washington was laid out by L'Enfant as his best solution of convenience and appropriateness for a capital city where the business of a nation was to be transacted. It has proved not merely such, but to-day, in planning for the future, our experts recommend first of all that there is need only to extend L'Enfant's plan and to correct departures therefrom, to leave Washington the most beautiful and most convenient capital on earth.

Only the other day Russia had the problem of making a new city at Dalny—the eastern terminal of the Trans-Siberian Railroad. Its plans have been published and on their face they plainly show a plan ideal at once for convenience, for local beauty, and a most aesthetic and effective whole.

Here in Boston, the park problem was shortly since attacked in the most

businesslike way possible. To-day, you have a park system at once the most beautiful in the world, more convenient to its citizens than is that of any other city, and far cheaper in proportion to its worth than any which had preceded it.

In Cleveland, the need of commodious and convenient offices for the transaction of public business has forced provision for them. It has been found that this can be most economically had by the condemnation of a broad area largely sunk in decay, squalor and vice, and the erection of such a group of city buildings as is not yet rivalled in America, and surpassed in but few cases elsewhere.

Last, but not least of all, my modesty shall not prevent my noting that at New York our bridges, which we have had to have; our parks, which we have long appreciated as necessary for the health, not to say the recreation, of our people; our recreation piers and beach commons, which we have found the cheapest way of offering health and amusement, are developing at a rate which will soon enable us—while showing ample excuse for the greater time it has taken—to present in these respects the best, most costly, but by far the most economic system extant.

We cannot depend upon old, or even ancient, cities as precedents for beauty. Until the present time the few real cities of the world were ugly, even squalid, except for very limited quarters. Such were Babylon and Rome before the Christian era, and Paris until very lately. London, New York, Chicago—not to mention Pekin and Yeddo were such up to date. Indeed, Constantinople was about the only approach to a beautiful whole; and this mainly on account of natural features.

Athens, Florence, Venice, Toledo of old Spain, Agra, were petty towns. They had neither city problems—as we understand them—to deal with, nor city resources such as our cities have to deal with. Do not misunderstand me. All honor to the example these little towns set of the bold treatment of problems that were large for them. All consideration for the really great things old Rome and old Babylon did, and even nineteenth century London attempted. But, after all, they are mainly useful to show us how great is the problem we have, and some ways in which it cannot be solved.

Only to-day, and in the business administration of modern cities, is the city beautiful, or clean, or bright, or convenient, or comfortable, becoming realized. And, however much our sense of beauty may have aided, the good results have been mainly had through the appreciation of our people that, from practical reasons, a beautiful city is the most businesslike one—that is to say, the best fitted for the real purpose of a city.

The name of your association—American Park and Outdoor Art—strongly appeals to me—including as it does only outdoor art—public art—that of which the public is the true owner.

If I buy soft colored rugs, or rare books, or quaint bric-a-brac, I may own them and the public be little concerned. But a beautiful park or an effective façade, or a cathedral, or an attractive business sign, or even the lights that turn

our streets into aisles of fire by night—these belong to the public, no matter who pays for them. As has been well said, bishops and kings must be the most unselfish of men, since they so plan cathedrals and palaces as most to be enjoyed only by those who are far enough outside of them.

Moreover, public art is the most fertile art. Once inspire the people of a state or a city with ideals of dignity and beauty, and each in his way and time will develop them. Outdoor art is a fire built in the market place at which each can light his torch.

Again, public art is the only art that seems capable of becoming really great. The Golden House at Rome and the hanging gardens at Babylon were semi-private and doubtless noteworthy; and so were the Alhambra and the Taj Mahal of later times. But the former were insignificant compared with the Acropolis, where Athenians glorified their state, and the others all but forgotten beside the beauty with which her burghers made Florence outblossom her lilies.

Again, outdoor art appeals to the masses who best appreciate art, upon whom the future of art depends. In our courts, on our exchanges, in our legislatures, at work in our laboratories, we find distinguished and worthy gentlemen, most of whom have so cultivated their minds away from their senses that they are blind to color, deaf to music and almost dumb to sentiment. But your average fellow-citizens are not so. Nine out of ten in your schools, your workshops, your holiday crowds, can still see and hear, and their heart-strings chord true to every touch of feeling. The masses of no city have ever failed to appreciate a great temple, a dignified statue, an effective historic painting, a stirring drama, a strain of lofty music, or a popular rhyme that deserved to be such.

Most important of all : We cannot tell precisely who are now rearing children who will control this world fifty years hence, but we do know—beyond peradventure—that they are not those who have crucified their senses to serve their ambition, but, rather, those—lettered or unlettered—who are yet in touch with nature.

It is upon public art, therefore—the art that inspires the masses, from whom will come future leaders—that we must rely for appreciation broad enough or virile enough to count for culture.

And, finally, it seems to me your association deals with fundamentals. For you are at work upon the essentials—the corner stones on which the city beautiful must rise whenever and wherever it does rise. Indeed, had it been my thankless task to find a title for my remarks, I should have suggested “The Elements.” For, not merely should an “outdoor” association be at home with these ; but the beauty (the public art in a broad sense) of any city must be founded on proper treatment of the great outdoor elements :—

Earth—That is to say, its streets and parks ;

Water—Its harbors, its rivers, and its water supply ;

Air—Pure air and a clear sky ; and

Fire—Cheap and abundant heat and light.

It would be as superfluous as it would be easy to demonstrate this as to each. For all present know what Mr. Robinson is teaching to those who don't—that to the Biblical anathemas of a jewel in a swine's snout and a fair face in a maid that lacks discretion might well be added a dirty, a gloomy, a noisome, or an inconvenient city that is content to remain so, while worrying about art.

It would be well if some of our friends read or re-read the story of the New Jerusalem the very mention of which calls up all that which is most beautiful, the example for living saints and the consolation of dying ones. Did it ever occur to you that, in all he saw from Patmos, St. John found it worth while to tell only of what would have been within the scope of a Celestial City Outdoor Association?

As for myself, I have often queried whether St. John was so lacking in humor that he didn't see what a "bull" it was to make the City of Eternal Peace a fortified town; or whether he simply meant to teach that of an ideal city the walls and gates should attract rather than repel.

Whatever may be the case as to this, as to the rest the lesson is plain, and will ever remain a group of ideals toward which earthly citizens may strive:

Streets—So clean and so attractive that they might well be golden;

Water—So pure and so abundant that the River of Life alone could supply it;

Light—That fell no whit short of divine glory and for the

Atmosphere—The airs of Paradise softly blowing about the tree of life.

With the Apocalypse the Bible closes with the conception of an inefably beautiful park as the center and chief feature of the city in which all the redeemed were finally to dwell—just as such a park had been the home in which, before man had either sin or cities, Providence had placed him as his best chance for bliss—and this with that lack of suggestion as to any indoor life whatever that is even more suggestive.

I query, indeed, as to whether you should not have named St. John the Evangelist as the patron saint of your association, and have fixed St. John's day in June as the day to be celebrated by the American Park and Outdoor Art Association.

Of one thing at least I am certain. That is, that about in proportion as, by development of parks and outdoor art, our people shall at once be kept in the open air and their ideals of beauty are formed and developed, will be the rate at which the earthly millennium will come.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT IN HARRISBURG.

BY J. HORACE McFARLAND.*

Fortunately there is nothing strange in municipal advancement, in these days, and the movement for better things in a Middle States city of between fifty and sixty thousand inhabitants would not deserve special attention, or a place on the programme of this important Association, were it not for certain features of the case which give to it peculiar interest and significance.

Harrisburg holds an important geographical position in Pennsylvania, and it is, by convenience of access, and by relation to the railroad systems of the state, truly the center of that commonwealth which is so pre-eminent in mining, manufactures, and finance. Yet Harrisburg, growing slowly during its 117 years of existence, because of its favorable location, has not been touched, until recently, by the spirit of true civic progress. With the magnificently scenic Susquehanna River, to which few streams in America are comparable for beauty, as its western boundary, and set in among the wooded hills that make of Pennsylvania a great park, the old trading post of John Harris has simply remained a place for commerce, with but little consideration for anything else.

The apathy and indifference of the best people in this capital city of Pennsylvania has been attacked frequently by several of the newspapers and by some few progressive citizens, but it remained for Miss Mira Lloyd Dock, who addresses you during this session of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association and who ought really to tell this story, to give impetus to the final awakening. After a visit to some European cities, in which she gave especial attention to the civic conditions, and after following up her patient and tactful work for many years, Miss Dock gave the final shock to indifference in her talk before the Harrisburg Board of Trade, December 20, 1900, upon "The City Beautiful." Illustrating her statements by many lantern slides, she enforced attention by comparing the conditions abroad and in enlightened American cities with our own disgusting and unbeautiful surroundings.

As the seed sown in this important presentation germinated in the minds of our citizens, other agencies were started. The imperative need for a revision of the sewerage system, the folly of continuing to drink, without protest, polluted and unfiltered water, the utter inadequacy of the one little 24-acre park to accommodate fifty thousand people, appeared at last to dominate both business and politics. One newspaper, in particular, the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, took up several of the city's needs as a feature, and hammered daily upon the populace, in the way only possible to a determined press.

All this has been told repeatedly, and I hesitate to recount before you the successive stages of this forward movement, lest it seem to be over-emphasizing what has been done, especially in the light of the comparative magnitude of what remains yet to be done.

*J. Horace McFarland, of Harrisburg, Pa., Secretary of the Municipal League of Harrisburg; President of the American League for Civic Improvement.

There is, however, one point in Harrisburg's advance that may be strongly commended to your attention, because of its important relation to equivalent work elsewhere. This one special feature is that which caused the *Philadelphia Press*, in an exhaustive and careful review of our projected improvements, to denominate the movement broadly as "the Harrisburg plan," and to commend it for attention and imitation to even Philadelphia itself. For some reason that I confess I cannot fathom, but which seems almost providential in its importance, our effort at the outset was directed, not to fragmentary and separately considered improvements, but to a concrete and comprehensive plan for making all the improvements our financial resources would permit. There were scattered suggestions as to what should be done here or there, but none were pressed after Mr. J. V. W. Reynders, a noted bridge engineer resident in this city, came forward with a suggestion that a fund of \$5,000 be raised with which to obtain expert advice and well considered plans for all the work that needed so sorely to be done. Upon the publication of this suggestion, there seemed a wonderful unanimity of agreement that it was the proper thing, and few citizens declined to subscribe when asked, many voluntarily sending subscriptions to the newspapers. In but ten days the completion of the subscription was announced. It was not the amount raised, even though that was comparatively large for a city of fifty thousand population, unused to such giving for the general good, but the unanimity of sentiment it represented, that was most encouraging to those having the whole movement close to their hearts.

A meeting of the subscribers to the fund was promptly held, and an organization effected. The work of spending the money and securing plans was placed broadly in the hands of a carefully selected Executive Committee, to which was added, most wisely, the mayor, the city engineer, and a representative from each branch of the councils.

Just here appeared, to me, the most remarkable feature of this forward movement—the fact that it was being pushed forward by those ultra-conservative citizens of our staid old city who had been asleep to all thought of improvement for many years. A few of us enthusiasts had been hoping, scolding and talking—not always tactfully, I confess—for years; but here were the solid burghers of the town, now with their shoulders to the wheel, determined, it seemed, to our surprise and delight, to push the city out of its ruts of dirt and indifference.

Of the work of this Executive Committee I can only say that it was most carefully and patiently done. Three men of national reputation were selected to investigate our needs and to report upon sewerage revision and water filtration, upon a park system, and upon improved paving. The character of these experts can be gauged when I tell you that it was to your own able retiring secretary, Mr. Warren H. Manning, we turned for advice in regard to parks.

Of course all this movement was unofficial, even if public, and therefore meant nothing if not enforced through the usual channels of expenditure. The constitution of Pennsylvania limits the debt-making power of third-class cities, such as Harrisburg, to seven per cent. of the assessed valuation, and increases

up to this amount must be specifically authorized by voters at an election. It was necessary, therefore, after the carefully prepared plans of the experts had been passed upon by the Executive Committee and by the newly formed League for Municipal Improvements, including mainly the contributors to what came to be known as the "expert fund," to secure enabling legislation from the city councils, and to present in legal form to the people the question of increasing the city's debt to effect the proposed improvements. Those familiar with such work will understand its difficulties and its pitfalls. So careful was the preparation, so able the legal advice gratuitously given by deeply interested attorneys included within the League, that all these dangers were safely passed, and the whole matter was, without check, presented to the voters at the regular spring election, February 18, 1902.

Although the best citizens of Harrisburg, both conservative and progressive, were included in the forward movement, it must not therefore be assumed that all was plain sailing after the question was prepared for submission to the voters. All the manufacturers, all the doctors, bankers, lawyers, clergymen, ninety per cent. of the business men, a large proportion of the intelligent workmen, were heartily in favor of the movement for pure water, proper sewerage, paved streets, and adequate parks; but a very considerable number of those whose material possessions had been acquired by sitting still and allowing others to increase the town's prosperity, were opposed to any progress which carried with it even a suggestion of greater taxation. The ignorant and the prejudiced added to the ranks of these unprogressive citizens, and it was apparent that the forward movement would be checked at the polls unless a majority of the voters could be convinced that it was best to sustain it.

Here came in again that same wonderful, if not providential, change in the hitherto controlling conservative element of the city. The same citizens who had hastened to contribute \$5,000 for the securing of the best plans for bringing Harrisburg up with the twentieth century's progress, now as cheerfully gave another \$5,000 to prosecute a campaign of education. They gave what was even more important, their time, energy and influence, toward convincing the minority taxpayers that they should vote to impose upon themselves, the majority taxpayers, an increased taxation; for it appeared, upon investigation, that the first sixty contributors, barely one eight-hundredth of the population, were actually paying one-eighth of the city's taxes!

How the campaign was planned, with its accessories of meetings in all parts of the town, with its use of voice, pen, press, cartoon, and lantern slide; how the clergymen of the city were interested and joined in the movement; how the co-operation of all secret societies and other organizations in the city was secured; how the newspapers of the city joined heartily and enthusiastically, giving practically unlimited space daily to what a press committee supplied them; how interested opposition was met by argument and effort; how the campaign progressed through education to enthusiasm, until at the last it was conducted upon lines best expressed by the slogan, "Don't give your own

town a black eye!"—all this has been told elsewhere and need not be recounted here. With an undoubted preponderance of sentiment in favor of the movement among those who had the best interests of the city at heart, and with just as certain a preponderance of the actual votes against it at the outset, the result at the election was most gratifying, as a very handsome and emphatic majority was registered by the voters in favor of the increase of the city's debt to the constitutional limit, all this increase—\$1,090,000—to be spent along the lines already suggested by the Harrisburg League for Municipal Improvements, and under the direction, for the most part, of a Board of Public Works already authorized and named.

Here, again, may be noted that wonderful factor which made for the best progress. We were able to convince our city councils—no better and no worse than the average equivalent body—that there should be appointed three citizens of unquestioned probity and ability, all of them distinctly non-partisan and out of active politics, as the Board of Public Works, to expend three-fourths of the loan. It was no small aid in the campaign that we were able to point out exactly the men who would spend the most of the money, as well as the general plan upon which they were to spend it.

At the present time this Board of Public Works has progressed very satisfactorily upon its part of the public improvements. Equivalent with it is proceeding the preparation for the park movement, to which the voters had assigned \$250,000, and it is confidently hoped that that sum will be expended wisely in securing the greatest benefits for the most people within the city's limits in the way of parks, playgrounds, and beauty spots in surroundings that are now sordid, unwholesome and distressing.

The same steady spirit of intelligent progress has, within a few weeks, manifested itself most strongly in a movement for the wholesale paving of the main streets of the city, and we expect to be able to show to visitors, in a few years, a clean, perfectly sewer'd city, served with an abundance of filtered water obtained from the magnificent Susquehanna which flows past our borders, graced with adequate playgrounds and small parks, distinguished by one superb natural park, the like of which is hard to find elsewhere, and traversed by clean and modern streets.

Still another manifestation of this almost inexplicable change in public sentiment was evidenced in the election of an ideal city executive at the same time that the improvement debt was authorized. Vance C. McCormick, the present mayor of the city, is a young man who has been from the first enthusiastically devoted to all proper improvements, and who, possessed of great wealth and engaged in very extensive enterprises, has shown his public spirit by his willingness to give his valuable time to the city's interests. In the few months of his incumbency, the face of affairs has changed in Harrisburg very materially, and I believe present conditions in regard to all matters within the control of the city executive can hardly be improved upon.

In all this forward movement in Harrisburg a significant and important

thing to be considered by this Association is the presence, first, of a concrete plan for procedure, and, second, the formation of a body of intelligent and interested citizens to sustain the progress of the movement and to back up those officials entrusted with the actual execution of the work. Many cities have been improved spasmodically, somewhat as if one were to call in the carpenter, the bricklayer, the plumber, and the painter, and tell them all to unite upon the building of a house without any specific plan, but with a very heterogeneous and unsatisfactory result. Harrisburg, on the contrary, is proceeding in the well ordered way, following upon the acceptance by the prospective home-builder of the plan of a competent architect, with his continued supervision during the work. No one can deny the benefit and superiority of the latter procedure, and I can in closing only commend to other municipalities the vast advantage of proceeding upon what, without any motion on the part of those specifically interested, has been termed the country over "the Harrisburg plan."

PUBLIC BEAUTY AND GOOD CITY GOVERNMENT.

BY CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF.*

Whether the movement for good city government is responsible for the movement for public beauty, or vice versa, or each for the other, I will not undertake to say. Human problems ever seem to be full of paradoxes, until you construe paradox to mean reciprocal. Then we can make more satisfactory progress. That public beauty does not mean good city government nor good city government mean public beauty, is obvious upon reflection. We have had notable instances of great contributions to the former coincident with corruption and iniquity in local affairs, and even promoted by those who were responsible for such a condition. Recall the palaces of Florence and Venice; the magnificent constructions of the Middle Ages; the Gothic cathedrals adorning towns at once the sinks of political and physical filth. In latter days, recall the contributions of street railway magnates to the adornment of our cities; the gifts to urban improvements. On the other hand, we often have honest men in control of our affairs, earnestly striving, according to the light that is within them, to discharge their duties; but with what result? A humdrum monotony that does not rise above the dollars and cents involved in each transaction. Verily, we need more than honesty. As a well known citizen of Chicago said only the other day, "We have had enough of honest councilmen in our city; we want efficient councilmen who will unite liberality of view and foresight with their honesty."

If the state has for its end, as Aristotle with his keen insight and forceful logic contended, "living well, living happily and nobly," if it is to be "an

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association not for mere life, but for noble actions," then we must have public beauty and good city government. Indeed, then they will be synonymous. And examples are not wanting here and abroad to indicate the truth of the proposition that they are essential each to the other, and each promotive of the other. Take Washington and Boston, modern Paris and modern Berlin. In each we find constantly advancing standards of efficiency in their municipal management and an increasing beauty in their development. Which is the cause of the other, we need not pause to consider. Suffice it to note that we find manifold indications of advance along both lines. The same condition prevails in regard to the national movements for better city government and public beauty. Each is steadily progressing; each aiding and supplementing the other; each coming to a fuller realization of their mutual dependence.

There are many factors co-operating in this development. President Eliot of Harvard, in an address before the National Municipal League touched upon one in his illuminating manner: "The movement which this League leads has been greatly strengthened by the development in the last ten or fifteen years of the social sense, as it stands opposite or over against the individual right—what we used to call the individual right. Those rights are undoubtedly diminishing in number and are always subject to new restrictions. Necessarily so, because we have learned that the exercise of what we used to regard as unquestionable individual rights becomes a serious injury to society at large, so serious that it must be checked by legal, efficient methods."

"When a man comes into a street of good houses and puts up a twenty-story building, he is within the exercise of his right as we used to understand it, but he is exercising a right that nobody ought to exercise without restraint in a civilized community. Every city owes it to itself to regulate the height of buildings by the width of the street, as is universally done in the good cities of Europe. I mention these facts because they seem to me to give what might be called a physical or material support to the efforts of this League. They are sure to make city populations more and more anxious for the sound, business-like, safe administrations of the great agencies on which the comfort of these urban communities depends."

Our municipalities are coming to recognize that the rights of the community are higher and more important than those of the individual and that the highest interests of the latter are best subserved through a cultivation, protection and enforcement of the rights and interests of the former. So we find laws and ordinances in increasing number regulating the height and construction of buildings; still others requiring the widening of streets; prescribing the methods for the removal of refuse of all kinds, and for the cleaning of the streets; and forbidding the use of soft coal. All of which fifty or one hundred years ago, yes, twenty-five years ago, would have been considered an unwarranted interference with personal liberty.

Greater New York has gone a step further. It has a law governing artistic gifts to the city. Chapter 12, title 2, of the Laws of New York of 1901 provides:

"Hereafter no work of art shall become the property of the City of New York, by purchase, gift or otherwise, unless such work or design of the same, together with a statement of the proposed location of such work of art, shall first have been submitted to and approved by the Commission, (composed, according to the same act, of the mayor, the president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the president of the New York Public Library, the president of the Brooklyn Institute of Art and Science, one painter, one sculptor, one architect, to be chosen by their professional brethren, and three citizens) "nor shall such work of art until so approved be erected or placed in or upon, or allowed to extend over or upon, any street, avenue, square, common, park, municipal building, or other public place, belonging to the city. The Commission may, when they deem proper, also require a complete model of the proposed work of art to be submitted. The term 'work of art' as used in this title shall apply to and include all paintings, mural decorations, stained glass, statues, bas reliefs and other sculptures, monuments, fountains, arches or other structures of a permanent character intended for ornament or commemoration."

That this is a step in the right direction no one will deny. The rights of the city, of the present and the future generations, should be protected against the base and the meretricious. While the time will no doubt come when the community will, upon the same principle—the protection and development of the social sense as contradistinguished from the individual right—prescribe the form of architecture of private dwellings as well as certain features of their construction as it does now; but the time for that step is not yet.

The New York Act to which I have just referred forms a notable contribution to the advance we are considering. It provides that "no existing work of art in the possession of the city shall be removed, re-located or altered in any way without the similar approval of the Commission, except as provided in section 639 of this Act. When so requested by the mayor or the board of aldermen the Commission shall act in a similar capacity, with similar powers, in respect to the designs of municipal buildings, bridges, approaches, gates, fences, lamps or other structures erected or to be erected upon land belonging to the city, and in respect to the lines, grades and plotting of public highways and grounds, and in respect to arches, bridges, structures and approaches which are the property of any corporation or private individual, and which shall extend over or upon any street, avenue, highway, park or public place belonging to the city, and said Commission shall so act and its approval shall be required for every such structure which shall hereafter be erected or contracted for at an expense exceeding \$1,000,000."

Thus is recognized the artistic value and importance of municipal structures which have heretofore been considered only from the point of view of their utility. When I was but a lad, I remember being told as an evidence of eccentricity how a certain well known divine had been surprised in his study carefully considering a drawing of a molding of one corner of the interior of his church. Upon inquiry his visitor learned that the clergyman was seeking to

ascertain what effect that molding had upon the minds of his hearers before and during his sermon and the rest of the service. Eccentric man? No, one, rather, who saw a little more clearly than his fellows the close connection between the two. The Episcopal Church, whether consciously or not, has perceived this relationship and has materially aided it. In latter days its advocates have not hesitated to avow its aesthetic tendencies as a ground of support. One of its clergy (Rev. Dr. George W. Shinn) in an address describing why he was an Episcopalian said : "I am one because 'my aesthetic tastes are gratified in this church. Descended from ancestors most of whom at one time ignored the aesthetic instincts in man, and who looked at beautiful things as allurements from spirituality—I feel more deeply than some others may or can what it is to be in a church that gratifies a love of beauty and makes art and music, color, form and harmony all tributary to the worship of God, and to the development of the religious life of men. This church deserves well of all persons in the land for the part it has taken in the past in preserving the aesthetic element in religion, in keeping it from being ignored, and in rescuing it when it was condemned or despised."

May the time soon come, when municipal administrators will urge, as a reason for political support, their efforts in behalf of the aesthetic development of their particular community. We have already, in many places, reached the negative stage—that is, the stage represented by the "thou shalt not." Our city officials are recognizing more and more every year that they must subserve the artistic as well as the utilitarian needs of the people; that they have no right to erect a building of any kind unless it is a pleasure to the eye as well as adapted to the end for which it was erected. In short, they are coming to recognize and realize that it does not meet all requirements unless it is artistic as well as useful. This tendency is seen to a growing extent in the matter of school buildings, and it is most fortunate that it is so, for in many respects the school house has been the dominating feature in our national development. The "little red school house" has gone down into history as a potent factor in our national life, so that our educational standards for the masses are higher than those of any other country. There are those who may maintain that some of the foreign universities and higher schools may have attained to higher rank than our own; but they would scarcely deny to our common school the precedence which it justly deserves. This general dissemination of the rudiments of education has been our glory and our strength. The day of the "little red school house" is passing, however, and the modern school adequately equipped and artistically furnished is taking its place.

Within and without, designed to inspire and buildup, the school house in many communities has become a most important structure, the center of light and influence and progress. This is, indeed, fortunate for the coming generations, but we must not overlook the present, for it too has its influence ; and its development is essential to future progress. Emerson asked, "Who can estimate the value of a good thought?" When that thought is expressed in

architecture and decoration and ornamentation, in buildings designed for the instruction of youth, who can estimate its power to mold their thoughts in turn?

The usefulness of the school house heretofore has all too frequently and unfortunately been confined to the children and to a few hours in the day. If a properly equipped school building is to be regarded as an important and a determining factor in the lives of those who use it for a few hours, five days a week for ten months, why should that influence and that inspiration be shut off from the rest of the population during the rest of the time?

Mayor Low in a recent letter to President Burlingham, of the New York Board of Education, took occasion to say: "All through the most crowded section of the city there are costly public buildings, many of them provided with playgrounds or gymnasiums, which are closed for a part of every week and for a portion of every year, while about them are children who have to play in the streets, for the lack of playgrounds. Such buildings might also, perhaps, properly be used, under suitable regulations, as gathering places for the neighborhood clubs, guilds, debating societies and the like."

If Mayor Low can succeed in having the Board of Education open the school buildings for the purposes mentioned, he will have accomplished that which, of itself, will make his administration notable and praiseworthy. The National Educational Association has urged that the schools be opened for just this purpose.

The Committee of Fifteen (of which Mr. William H. Baldwin was chairman) urged with much forcefulness the great need for civic centers in our cities where the people could come together frequently to discuss their various civic needs and to become better acquainted with each other. There is no reason why the school houses should not be made to serve for modified town meetings for the discussion of matters pertaining to their local welfare. Moreover, they should be utilized for educational purposes outside of the regular school courses, just as Dr. Lipziger is now using some for courses of evening lectures.

There is no limit to the usefulness of the school house if it can be brought into "really intimate relations with the actual life which surrounds it." The beginnings have already been made. Dr. Lipziger's lecture courses are no longer an experiment. In some of the Philadelphia schools, the buildings are thrown open to the parent clubs for lectures and entertainments, the teachers in some instances acting as hosts. The utilization of the school yards for playgrounds in summer time and after school hours is in the same direction. In time we shall see a great extension of the idea, for as Junius truly says, "One precedent creates another. They soon accumulate and constitute law. What yesterday was fact to-day is doctrine."

With proper care and attention the school can be made the great source of influence in the promotion of public beauty and good city government. The primary requisite to be sure is that the building itself shall be appropriate and beautiful, within and without. Then the school organization itself must be such as to suggest beauty and orderliness. I doubt very much the need for didactic

instruction ; the inspiration must come from contact, example, and precept, and in this direction the good citizenship clubs organized by the Civic Club of Philadelphia and other similar bodies and the Gill School cities have proved of great usefulness. They proceed on the principle that the school children are embryo citizens and that they must be taught their duties as citizens by practice ; that if they are ever to become useful members of a self-governing community, they must be taught to govern themselves while in school. It is, indeed, a curious survival that in a democratic country, the school system should be so completely organized on a monarchical basis. The entire question of government and discipline is vested at present in the hands of the teachers and of a discipline committee of the School Board. The children themselves have no thought that they are in any wise responsible for their own conduct and good behavior. They are always subject to orders ; whereas, as future members of a democracy, they should be taught from the very first their responsibility for their conduct and that the penalty of any deviation from acknowledged standards will fall most heavily upon themselves. If they can once be taught that they are the people and that a breach of discipline is a breach of their own rights, they will be much more worthy and helpful citizens when they reach maturity.

Bagehot tells us that "the early tribe or nation is a religious partnership, on which a rash member by a sudden impropriety may bring utter ruin. If a state is conceived thus, toleration becomes wicked. * * * It is a sacrifice of the happiness of the greatest number. It is allowing one individual, for a moment's pleasure or a stupid whim, to bring terrible and irretrievable calamity upon all. * * * When the street statues of Hermes were mutilated, all the Athenians were frightened and furious ; they thought that they all should be ruined because some one had mutilated a god's image, and so offended him. Almost every detail of life in the classical times was invested with a religious sanction ; a sacred ritual requested human action ; whether it was *called* law or not, much of it was older than the word law ; it was part of an ancient usage conceived as emanating from a superhuman authority, and not to be transgressed without risk of punishment by more than mutual power. There was such a *solidarite* then between citizens that each might be led to persecute the other for fear of harm to himself."

It is doubtful whether this solidarity has altogether passed away, but that has nothing to do with our present discussion. What has to do with it is the need for the creation of such a solidarity on matters pertaining to public welfare and out of respect for and regard to the "social sense" to which reference has already been made. It is unfortunately but too true that the public welfare is not regarded with that sacred reverence which is essential to its maintenance and highest development. In every direction we see a disregard of it on the plea that most anything is good enough for the public. The municipal problem is primarily due to the failure to apply to the transaction of public business the same standards as are applied in private life. Public offices are spoils to be

distributed among the victors. Public contracts are to be distributed as rewards to the favored. The public franchises are to be given to those who make the best private offers to the personal agents of the public for the time being. Public laws are to be made to help those in power to continue in power and to benefit their friends.

Suppose the same spirit pervaded our modern municipalities as pervaded ancient Athens when that statue of Hermes was destroyed—think you that Tammany or the Republican ring of Philadelphia could exist for a day? Would we tolerate for an instant the appointment of a single public official to pay a private or political debt? Would it be possible to award a contract to any other than the lowest and best bidder? Would franchises worth millions be awarded to private corporations with scant if any public consideration? Would public laws be enacted for other than the highest public welfare? Under such a condition of affairs to ask these questions is to answer them.

Some time since the chief of one of our Philadelphia bureaus related to me an experience he had had recently with the Pennsylvania Railroad. It appears that arrangements had been made between the city and the railroad company for the abolition of certain grade crossings. Three subsidiary companies of the Pennsylvania were affected. The terms were finally agreed upon, but through some oversight the official representing the railroad company went away for several weeks without transmitting the records to the officers of the three subsidiary companies. The city proceeded to carry out the work. Its workmen began on the improvement, but they soon found themselves hampered in every possible way by the workmen of the company whose land had been, as they thought, trespassed upon. The latter had had no instructions from headquarters and they protected as best they could their company's land from what they considered an invasion. After a day the city's chief straightened the matter out by having the company instructed from headquarters. The work proceeded smoothly for some days until they came to the property of the second company involved, and here again, because the orders had not been properly communicated, the city's workmen met with determined opposition from the company's men, which continued until the chief personally communicated with the company's headquarters. Then the work proceeded again until the land of the third company was reached and here, for a similar reason, opposition was encountered which was continued until orders from headquarters reached the company's men at the front.

In other words, the men in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad regarded their company's land as sacred ground, and interposed every possible obstacle in the way of those who encroached upon it, even though those persons were the representatives of the municipal government. When the people and their representatives come to regard the public welfare in the same light, as sacred, we shall have taken a long step forward, if we will not have solved the problem. Then we will have only the best for our municipalities, and that will therefore be the most beautiful—for only that is most beautiful which is best.

Then we will realize that "handsome is as handsome does," then we will resent and punish any perversion of public functions.

Public beauty and good city government are matters of adjustment, and the sooner we realize this the greater will our progress be. As a recent writer (Dr. L. S. Rowe) put it : "At the present time the attractiveness of the saloon is greatly enhanced by reason of the uninviting appearance of the streets in certain of our large cities. We are but beginning to appreciate the fact that permanent improvements in city life are dependent upon institutional changes, upon better opportunities for recreation and enjoyment, rather than upon argumentation and agitation. The distinction between good and bad citizenship runs parallel with the line of division between the wholesome and injurious use of leisure. Unless the opportunities for the use of such leisure are abundant, healthful, elevating and readily accessible, the population will hold to its inherited tastes and instincts."

I have not the slightest doubt that the street cleaning crusade of the late Colonel Waring has had a very widespread effect, which will be felt for years to come, in that it has changed the standards of cleanliness and beauty in many hundreds of homes. A cleaner street forces itself on the attention of the dwellers therein. The children can be kept cleaner and then the rooms or flats are "tidied up," and then follow attempts at decoration, and then further attempts at better decoration and, before you know it, a new and better standard of living has been established and a step forward taken.

In the same way the school house can be made to work in the same direction. In my own school district at home the teachers at the vacation school had the boys make boxes for the window sills, while the girls filled them with flowers and tended them. Then we began to notice rough imitations in the poor hovels around the school, and then the boys and girls made and filled boxes for their own homes. The principal of the school wrote me last November that she had none of the daintily decorated calendars and blotters to give me because the children were loath to give them up—they were so much in demand at home. Think of what the influence of this school and others like it might be made if only the building were a modern one, "a thing of beauty and a joy forever," but such as it is it is on a higher plane than the surrounding buildings, and therefore it is having its influence because it represents something higher and something better, and therefore something to which they can look up.

Can any one successfully dispute that the re-organization of Paris and Washington has not worked out a new adjustment on higher lines and forced new standards upon the cities which are responsible both for their general beauty and their good repute as well governed cities?

Take the improvements around Copley Square in Boston, and although the re-adjustment is by no means complete (as instance the telegraph and trolley poles) nevertheless the whole neighborhood has been affected and the improvements of the last twenty years will unquestionably work improvements of manifold greater proportions during the coming decade, as well as materially develop a generation that will demand still higher standards.

In the beginning I called attention to the fact that there were places and times when there had been a large measure of beauty coincident with municipal corruption and iniquity. I think a little reflection will show that this condition of affairs is due to the fact that the efforts have been made to provide beauty for the few to the disregard and neglect of the many. Beauty, of course, can be materially aided and helped by the few—by the aristocrats; but to be enduring and effective in the best sense of those terms, it must be democratic, not aristocratic, and the success of the latter day movement for public beauty is without doubt due to its democratic tendency—to the effort to make it of the largest value and pleasure to the greatest number. In this way it will prove a great factor in producing a readjustment along higher lines and therefore a great and essential factor in the movement for better city government, just as the latter, through its insistence upon higher standards and its inculcation of the doctrine of the highest public welfare, is making for the former.

To quote from Bagehot again:—"The ill-judging and the untasteful are both over eager; both move too quick and blur the image. The union between a subtle sense of beauty and a subtle discretion in conduct is a natural one, because it rests on the common possession of a fine power, though, in matter of fact, that union may be often disturbed. A complex sea of forces and passions troubles men in life and action, which in the calmer region of art are hardly to be felt at all. And, therefore, the cultivation of a fine taste tends to promote the function of a fine judgment which is a main help in the complex world of civilized existence." Our progress toward our ideals will be accelerated in proportion as we appreciate the truth of this profound observation; and we must not grow faint nor weak hearted because our advance is not as great as we would desire in our over-sanguine moments. Human institutions grow but slowly; if they grow too fast they last but a short time. The old proverb still holds good—"the more haste the less speed".

We must not be provoked if we cannot make all our fellow citizens see at once as we do. We must remember that the old influences are not yet dead. Those who have been brought up under the regime when beauty was a thing intended for the few—the elect—do not appreciate the value of public beauty—the beauty of democracy, of the many, and its potency as a regenerating influence. Let us with patience seek to make our own conception of truth and beauty so clear and distinct that he who runs may read and readily will accept.

"In every block of marble
I see a statue, see it so distinctly
As if it stood before me shaped and perfect
In attitude and action. I have only
To hew away the stone walls that imprison
The lovely apparition, and reveal it
To other eyes as mine already see it."

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School Garden Papers
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BOSTON Nineteen Hundred Two

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VOLUME VI.

PART III.

AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR
ART ASSOCIATION.

THE SCHOOL GARDEN PAPERS OF THE
SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

BOSTON, AUG. 5, 6, 7, 1902.

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"PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OUTDOOR ART."

Editorial from Boston "Transcript," August 7, 1902.

In the way of direct education, no greater work has been forwarded by the American Park and Outdoor Art Association than that connected with the public schools, in furthering the establishment of school gardens, in awarding prizes for gardening by school children, in giving instruction in elementary gardening and in providing outdoor playgrounds. It should be wisely apprehended that the association has made it its business to go into the school districts of the country, where there is so much neglect, and help school boards to lay out grounds, plant trees, and make handsome playgrounds for the children; and when new schoolhouses are built to make them things of beauty, and not simply plain dry goods boxes or brick vaults, without form or color or outward environment of beauty. It is recognized that there is no stronger factor for producing the artistic sense than the beautiful embellishment of school grounds. When the children are instructed and their sense of responsibility appealed to, there is never any vandalism nor need for "Keep off the Grass" signs. The association workers have found that though, in this respect, the first year may be regarded as experimental, during the second year there will be no depredations to record. The arousal and gratification of a child's latent sense of beauty is declared to be a certain way of solving certain municipal problems.

The truth of this statement is substantiated by the work in Chicago and vicinity recently, where 10,000 new gardens were started; a number of towns and cities inaugurated the "outdoor art work"; many local improvement associations were formed; half a dozen factories transformed their grounds into gardens; a railroad improved its suburban station grounds; beds were laid out on grounds of engine houses, schools, police stations, the city hall; city squares and triangles and vacant lots were cleared up and improved, and the streets were kept in cleaner condition; and in all this sweeping movement it is stated the boys and girls were among the most interested and untiring of workers.

Turning its attention to elementary gardening in the public schools, the association, it should be noted, has wisely suggested that existing causes can be directed toward more practical ends by giving elementary instruction in the actual measurement and planting of grounds, in making sketch plans for the arrangement and care of land, school and farm grounds, in the character and requirements of soils, plants, seeds, etc., and in the development of common garden products, such as the descent of the squashes, cabbages and cauliflower from the wild cabbage of Siberia. Some knowledge of weeds, it is held, of injurious insects, fungous diseases and methods of propagation could be made to take the place of the less practical work in the nature study courses. Every school, it is urged, should have its collection and gardens, while accessible trees and shrubs throughout the community should be listed for reference study.

The result of this unique educational work must be to produce a great change in the spirit and manners of the people who come under its influence. By crowning utility with beauty, love for the healthful will at least become as great as regard for the industrial and useful. A higher culture, kindlier customs and nobler aspirations should be the finest fruits of the improved environment for which the American Park and Outdoor Art Association is so intelligently laboring.

INTRODUCTION.

A feature of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Association was the discussion of the school garden subject. A special session was devoted to the matter, and through the energy and enthusiasm of Messrs. Dick J. Crosby, of the Department of Agriculture in Washington, and H. D. Hemenway, Director of the School of Horticulture in Hartford, Conn., the discussion attained a scope and thoroughness which made imperative the demand for a separate report of this part of the meeting.

Mr. Crosby, in his official position as a representative of the government, gave a national character both to the discussion and to the exhibit of photographs, plans and reports of school garden work throughout the country, which he had collected for the convention. Mr. Hemenway, with the zeal and energy of an enthusiast, secured a large attendance of those, however widely scattered, interested in school gardens. In recognition of his interest, Mr. Hemenway was asked to accept the chairmanship of the special school garden session, a post which he filled with tact and courtesy. The importance of the session was appreciated, and the following motion was offered and passed:

Moved: That the chairman appoint, at his leisure, a committee of representatives from different States, or sections of the country, to arrange for symposia in teachers' annual or other meetings, held in their respective sections; and to report at the next annual meeting of this section.

In accordance with the motion, Mr. Hemenway, on behalf of the association, has since made the following appointments:

STATE.	ADDRESS.	NAME.
Alabama,	Wetumpka,	Pres. H. J. Willingham, Agr. Expt. Sta.
Alaska,	Sitka,	Miss Cassia Patton.
Arkansas,	Alexander,	Prof. W. S. Thomas.
California,	Riverside Co.,	Supt. Edward Hyatt.
Colorado,	Greeley,	Dr. Z. X. Snyder, President State Normal School.
Connecticut,	Hartford,	H. D. Hemenway.
Delaware,	Dover,	Prof. Wesley Webb.
D. of Columbia,	Washington,	Miss Susan B. Sike, Wash. Normal Sch.
Florida,	Tallahassee,	H. E. Bennett.

STATE.	ADDRESS.	NAME.
Georgia,	Atlanta,	Supt. M. L. Brittain.
Hawaii,	Honolulu,	D. L. Van Dine, Entomologist, U. S. Expt. Station.
Illinois,	Rockford,	Supt. O. J. Kern.
Indiana,	Indianapolis,	William Freeman, State House.
Indian Territory,	Dwight,	Supt. Wallace B. Butz, Jones Academy.
Iowa,	Ames,	Prof. L. H. Pannel.
Kansas,	Manhattan,	Pres. E. R. Nichols.
Kentucky,	Lexington,	Prof. C. W. Mathews, State College.
	Natchitoches,	George Williamson.
Maine,	Rumford Falls,	Supt. Payson Smith.
Maryland,	Baltimore,	Miss Eleanor W. Freeland, 916 Paul St.
Massachusetts,	Roxbury,	Henry L. Clapp, Prin. Geo. Putnam Sch.
Michigan,	Agric'tural Col.	Prof. L. R. Taft.
Minnesota,	St. Anthony Pk.	Prof. Samuel B. Green.
Mississippi,	Agric'tural Col.	Prof. J. C. Herbert.
Missouri,	Moberly,	Supt. J. A. Whiteford.
Montana,	Helena,	Hon. E. W. Brandgee.
Nebraska,	Lincoln,	J. W. Crabtree
Nevada,	Franktown,	Ross Lewis.
N. Hampshire,	Plymouth,	Prof. James E. Klock.
New Jersey,	New Brunswick,	Supt. H. Brewster Willis.
New Mexico,	Silver City,	Prof. Hugh Owen, Pres. State Nor. Sch.
New York,	Ithaca,	Prof. John W. Spencer, Cornell Univ.
North Carolina,	Chapel Hill,	Prof. J. A. Holmes.
North Dakota,	Fargo,	Prof. C. B. Waldron.
Ohio,	Springfield,	Supt. A. B. Graham, 9 Rice St.
Oklahoma,	Stillwater,	A. C. Scott.
Oregon,	Portland,	Mrs. L. W. Sitton.
Pennsylvania,	Lansdowne,	Miss Elizabeth Wooloyd.
Porto Rico,	Rio Piedras,	F. M. Pennock, Teacher of Agr. in the Insular Normal School.
Rhode Island,	Providence,	Dr. H. C. Putnam, 127 Angel St.
South Carolina,	Greenville,	E. H. Hughes.
South Dakota,	Oldham,	Prof. William Meyer.
Tennessee,	Jackson,	Supt. F. A. Mynders.
Texas,	Waco,	J. C. Lattimore, Supt. of Schools.
Utah,	Salt Lake City,	Martin Christopherson.
Vermont,	Johnson,	Mrs. Edith Goodyear Alger.
Virginia,	Norfolk,	J. Lyman Babcock.
Washington,	Seattle,	W. G. Hartranft, Supt. of Schools.
West Virginia,	Charleston,	Thomas C. Miller.
Wisconsin,	Menomonie,	Hon. J. H. Stout.

These persons, who are most actively engaged in the advancement of the Children's Garden Movement, will, it is hoped, report at the next meeting of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association.

It remains to be said that of the papers which follow, Mr. Crosby's was read by him at one of the regular sessions of the convention on the evening of the first day. It was designed to be an introduction to the subject. The other papers, which were called "ten-minute addresses" were delivered in the order in which they are here printed, at the special session, on the afternoon of the third day. Mr. Townsend's was illustrated by stereopticon slides.

The school garden bibliography at the end of the pamphlet has been prepared by Mr. Hemenway.

No one should be expected to know good art in the treatment of ground without training for it any more than the best paintings shall be appreciated by the untrained mind and eye. The leading improvement organizations of this country came into existence for the direct purpose of giving such training through their annual meetings, and through the preparation and distribution of literature containing suggestions, helpful hints and definite directions for the assistance of smaller societies, and of individuals. The best way to secure all of this aid in producing something really worth while in outdoor adornment is to join one of the national organizations of this class—such as the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, and its Women's Auxiliary. Outdoor artists of more than national reputation are the leading minds in these organizations, and they are conducted in the interest of all who wish to learn. Where so much thought, time, energy and money are to be expended it is certainly unfortunate that anything but the best standards should be the goal aimed for. Especially when it costs so little to learn what is worth striving to attain. It costs but two dollars a year to belong to the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, and membership insures enough printed matter to set every improvement worker in the United States on the right track, besides securing the privilege of attending the annual meeting, which in itself should prove a priceless boon to every intelligent officer or member of improvement societies.—*Editorial from "Park, Cemetery and Landscape Gardening", July, 1902.*

THE SCHOOL GARDEN MOVEMENT.

DICK J. CROSBY, OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

A school garden may be defined as a garden that performs some educational function in the school with which it is connected. It is a garden laboratory; a nature-study laboratory. It does for the children out-of-doors what the chemical laboratory, the carpenter shop and the kitchen laboratory do indoors. It trains the eye and the hand along with the intellect and at the same time gives pleasurable employment and physical exercise in the open air and sunshine. Not only does it arouse interest in the many phenomena of nature thus brought under the directed observation of the child, but it also gives zest to many otherwise dry exercises that the skillful teacher correlates with it. Gardens of this kind are found in all of the more progressive countries of Europe, and are growing in favor among educators in this country.

For convenience in discussion we may divide school gardens into two classes: (1), teachers' gardens; and, (2), pupils' gardens.

(1). The teachers' garden is a small plat of ground adjacent to the school building or the teacher's home, belonging to the teacher or furnished for his use by the school authorities. Ordinarily it contains a few orchard trees and bush fruits, a few kitchen vegetables and it may be a few flowers and ornamental shrubs. Such a garden gives to the teacher a little needed exercise and recreation, ekes out his small salary, and may furnish illustrative material for use in the school-room. To his pupils it becomes a means of instruction in the growth of plants, the habits of insects and birds, a place where they can learn to spade, plant, hoe, prune and set grafts.

This is the European garden. It is found in Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Russia, and Prussia where it is connected with nearly every rural school. It is not found in America, and conditions are not yet favorable to its introduction here.

(2). The pupils' garden is similar to the teacher's garden in most respects, but it is maintained primarily for the benefit of the pupils. It is found in many places in Europe and is practically the only type found in this country. It is maintained by the government, the city, the school board, or even by voluntary contributions; but the pupils do part of the work and feel that they have a sort of proprietary interest in the garden. It may vary in size from a single bed of flowers, vegetables or shrubbery to a garden containing several acres and comprising plats of kitchen vegetables, forage plants, small fruits and a number of orchard trees. It may be devoted exclusively to beds of native ferns and wild flowers brought in by the pupils from nearby woods, or it may partake more of the nature of school-ground decorative landscape gardening, if you please. Whatever else it may be, whatever its size, form, or function, it will come under our

second classification if the pupils speak of it as theirs, if they help design, plant, and work it and feel that nobody has a better right to it than they.

Of this type of pupils' garden, two classes may be mentioned. In one, all the pupils of a school, or grade, or a class, work together; in the other, each garden pupil is assigned a small plat for which he is made responsible. In cities it is frequently true that only a small space in an angle of a school building or a narrow strip along the fence is available for work of this kind, and the pupils, if they get any garden work at all, must work in common. In rural districts, factory towns, and suburban communities the individual plat system is possible. This system does not lend itself to the realization of landscape effects; but it is the system that best fixes personal responsibility and awakens the greatest personal interest. There is no chance to shirk responsibility. If any plat shows neglect, the teacher knows where to fix the blame; if another shows excellence in design or painstaking effort, the teacher knows where praise should be bestowed. And there is no denying that what is mine—mine to pick a few flowers from to adorn the teacher's desk, mine to raise from the seed a few heads of lettuce or a few radishes that I may carry home and proudly refer to at dinner time as "my" lettuce, "my" radishes—there is no denying that a system embodying personal possession of a small garden plat by each pupil has many attractions not possessed by a co-operative system.

A word about the extent of the school garden movement. I need not go into the history of the movement, except to say that the school garden is a modern institution. In some of the German states a few school gardens were established over eighty years ago, and it is doubtless true that other similar isolated examples might be mentioned; but it is only thirty-three years since official encouragement to school gardens was given in Austria and Sweden, and these countries are considered the pioneers in the movement. Now we find school gardens all over Europe—one hundred thousand of them at least—and the movement is spreading to the West Indies, Canada, and the United States. In the early stages of the movement more attention was given to the industrial side of gardening than to the correlation of this work with other educational work, but more recently greater stress has been laid upon the educational features, and we now find that in most European countries school gardens have been established in connection with the normal training schools, and teachers have to go through a regular course of training in gardening.

In the United States, school gardens were unknown twelve years ago; now they are found in fourteen or fifteen different states, and in perhaps fifty or seventy-five different cities and towns. What was probably the first school garden in the United States was started in 1891 at the George Putnam Grammar School, in Boston, by Henry L. Clapp, master of the school. For nine years this garden was devoted exclusively to wild flowers, ferns, and a few hardy cultivated flowers; but in the spring of 1900 a kitchen

garden was started on a vacant lot in the rear of the school-yard. In this lot eighty-four boys had individual plats in which they worked once a week, planting, weeding, and watering vegetables and a few flowers and novelties. Only one thing marred the success of the experiment; some of the boys who left the city during the long summer vacation found their plats overgrown with weeds when they returned at the opening of the school year. This difficulty Mr. Clapp has nearly overcome this year by reducing the number of plats, and requiring the boys to provide for the care of the gardens during the summer.

To the Massachusetts Horticultural Society is due, in a large measure, the success of the George Putnam school garden and the establishment of other similar gardens in New England. In 1891, and every year since, this society has offered annual premiums of fifteen, twelve, and ten dollars, respectively, for the three best school gardens entered for competition. The first prize has been taken every year by the George Putnam School, and I am told that the fifteen dollars thus secured has covered all expenses of the garden. Those three annual prizes have been directly instrumental, also, in the establishment of school gardens at Medford, Wenham, and other towns in Massachusetts, and the reports of these gardens, published by the society in its Transactions, have influenced the inauguration of similar work in other states, until now we find gardens not only in connection with the common schools, but also in connection with normal schools, technical schools, social settlements, and factories in different parts of the country.

Thus, for example, we find in Boston, at the corner of Dartmouth street and Warren avenue, a school garden conducted under the auspices of the Boston Normal School and a social settlement, South End House. I wish you could read some of the delightful letters I received from the boys and girls, who have vegetable plats there. The plats are small—just large enough for a short row each of radishes, onions and lettuce, two hills of potatoes, two cabbage plants, and one tomato plant; but I'll wager that these little patches of ground have furnished the seventy or eighty children who work there just as much valuable intellectual training as any one weekly indoor recitation, and ten times as much genuine enjoyment. Normal school gardens are also found at Hyannis and Framingham, Massachusetts; Willimantic, Connecticut; Los Angeles, California; Salt Lake City, Utah; Hampton, Virginia, and perhaps at other places.

In the Washington, D. C., Normal School a different scheme is being tried. Early last spring, Prof. L. C. Corbett, Horticulturist of the United States Department of Agriculture, gave the young women of the school a series of lectures on soils, seeds, cuttings, budding, and grafting, and the decoration of home grounds. Later he supplied the school with seeds, and each of the young women in the first year class was required to plant a garden at her home. The planting was done under the direction of the

Normal School instructor in botany, who inspects all of the gardens from time to time and gives suggestions. The young women have been enthusiastic in their work; parents have become interested and the results attained have been very encouraging. Lettuce sandwiches were the chief feature of the school lunches during the spring, and several reports in the latter part of the term said "beans enough for dinner", "cucumbers for breakfast"—this, too, in many cases, from families that never before tried gardening. Next year both first and second year students will be required to do garden work. The graduates of the Normal School, when they begin teaching, will encourage their pupils to plant home gardens or at the very least to undertake the planting and care of one or two plants, and thus it is hoped that a wide-spread interest in plants and the many phenomena attending their developments will be promoted.

A good example of garden work promoted by a social settlement is found in Cleveland. Three years ago some of the people at Goodrich House organized the Home Gardening Association for the purpose of promoting homeground improvement in the poorer sections of the city. The co-operation of teachers and other authorities was enlisted, penny packages of seeds were put up by the association and sold to the pupils, who were also provided with printed directions for planting the seeds and caring for the plants, and prizes were offered for the best gardens and for flowers to be exhibited in the fall. The experiment was a success. In 1900 over 48,000 packages of seeds were sold; in 1901 the number was over 121,000, and this year about 135,000 packages were sold. The association has also undertaken school ground improvement and furnishes kitchen garden work for a limited number of boys at the Goodrich House farm. A few weeks ago I walked through a portion of the city where the Home Gardening Association has made a special effort to get every family on one side of a block to raise a few flowers, either in the front yard or in window boxes. None of the efforts were very pretentious, but there was a striking contrast between these homes and those across the street and in adjacent streets. I had never before realized how great a change could be produced in a gloomy downtown street by a little tidying up of the front yards and the planting of a few flowers and vines.

In Rochester we have a good example of school and home ground improvement encouraged by a local club—The Women's Educational and Industrial Union. A year ago last spring, this union succeeded in getting four or five schools to undertake the improvement of their grounds. The problem was to convert brick yards, stone quarries, and clay banks into lawns, groups of shrubbery, and flower beds, and the results attained before I visited the schools last May were truly wonderful. In two of the schools the pupils and teachers did all of the work; in a third, the pupils raised funds by selling old rubbers, papers, etc., and hired part of the work done; in another, where a beautiful yard of several acres now surrounds the school

building, money was raised by subscription among the patrons of the school and all of the work was done by hired help, it being the opinion of the principal that "Children are all right to work in a little 2 x 4 lawn, but in the way when it comes to doing work on a larger scale". I agree with him that children are often in the way, but I submit to you that that man is drawing a salary to teach children to keep out of the way by being useful, and not by standing back and watching others work. At the other schools visited, the grass was green, the shrubbery well kept, and there was not a sign of fence or other barrier to keep the children within bounds. Such things were not needed. The children had done the work and were their own police force. But this man, with the largest school ground in the city, had to put up a wire fence along both sides of the walk to keep the children from tramping down the grass. These children had done none of the work, and had only a passing interest in the improvements that their parents were paying for.

I have not time to go into details regarding other features of the movement. Missouri, Wisconsin, and New York are trying to introduce agriculture, or at least gardening for children, into the rural schools and homes. In the promotion of this work in New York the Cornell Bureau of Nature Study has organized Junior Naturalists' clubs which now have a membership of some eighteen thousand school children. The Minnesota Experiment Station is maintaining a number of small model gardens suitable for school grounds, for the purpose of determining what it can best recommend schools to undertake along this line. Then, too, there are certain corporate and private movements to be considered. The National Cash Register Co., of Dayton, Ohio, is doing a very important work, furnishing ground, team work, seeds and tools for over seventy boys' gardens, each 10 x 140 feet and hiring a competent gardener to oversee the work. The Hartford School of Horticulture is working on a plan entirely different from any of the others. It is located outside of the city limits, is supported by private funds, and the school garden work in connection with it is conducted for the benefit of the pupils in the different ward schools of the city. Last year there were about thirty-five of these gardens; this year there are over 160 and the director has a large "waiting list" containing the names of pupils who are anxious for opportunities to enter the gardening classes.

I must not leave this phase of the subject without mentioning the influence of State departments of public instruction, departments of agriculture, agricultural colleges and experiment stations. These institutions have published much valuable literature and sent out members of their staffs to lecture on the subject of nature study and school gardening. The Bureau of Education and the State Department have issued a number of valuable publications. The United States Department of Agriculture is deeply concerned in this movement, and has issued several bulletins and circulars,

bearing upon different phases of it. The Office of Experiment Stations, which I represent, is the agency through which the department keeps in touch with educational matters, and Dr. True, director of the office, is deeply interested in whatever tends to increase the efficiency of our public school systems.

Our public schools are considered by many to be among the most efficient in the world, but considered in the light of actual attendance they fall far short of furnishing even the rudiments of education to all our population. According to the census of 1900, eleven out of every one hundred men of voting age in this country can neither read nor write, and over thirty per cent. of these illiterate voters are native whites. During the year 1900, according to statistics published by the Bureau of Education, out of a total school population (between the ages of five years and eighteen years) of 22,000,000, only 15,000,000 (less than seventy per cent.) were enrolled in the common schools. The other thirty per cent., with the exception of a very few who were in private schools, were not in school at all. Of those who did attend school over ninety-six per cent. were in the elementary schools; less than four per cent. of those under eighteen years of age were in high schools and secondary schools. This shows that a very large percentage of the boys and girls who should have been in school, were running the streets, working in factories or doing other work that ought to be done by adult persons.

But those who were enrolled in schools did not attend regularly. The average daily attendance for the whole country was less than sixty-nine per cent. of the total enrollment—only forty-seven per cent. of the total school population. In other words, our common schools have attained an efficiency of about forty-seven per cent.; taking one school day with another, more than half the children who ought to be in school are somewhere else.

This is a very strong indictment and one which demands the careful consideration of every teacher in the country, of every parent, and of every other person interested in the welfare of our growing youth. The facts here presented indicate very clearly, it seems to me, that we need to solve at least two problems in connection with our common schools: First, how to get more pupils into the schools, and second, how to keep the enrolled pupils there more regularly and during a longer number of years.

The first problem is partly one of buildings and room. In many places, especially in large cities, there is not sufficient seating capacity for all the children of school age. On the other hand, it is largely a problem of arousing interest among parents and pupils, and from this point of view it may be considered in connection with the second problem, that of keeping the pupils in school more regularly.

To accomplish this, two things, at least, must be done. The pupils must be convinced that school is the most pleasant as well as the most profitable place for them to go during the day, and the parents must be

shown that the school is preparing their children not only for greater usefulness, but also for greater commercial productiveness. This last consideration is a very sordid one, I grant, but it is nevertheless one that has great weight with parents who toil with the hands from sun to sun and save to the last penny for the bare necessities of life, and who have never seen anything but the same kind of toil ahead for their children. Convince these parents that school is preparing their children for lives of less drudgery, and they will somehow provide means for keeping them in school longer and more regularly.

The question is one, then, which concerns the course of study.

"Already overcrowded," you say?

Yes, I will admit that. But it is not so crowded as when I first began to swing my feet from a school-room bench. There are more subjects, it is true, but they are better chosen and better taught. While formerly nearly all of these subjects were purely intellectual, and we were expected to keep up from nine to four a ceaseless grind, now we find in the course many interesting and valuable exercises, such as shop work, cooking, athletics, drawing and nature study, which tend to relieve the monotony of too much study. These exercises take time from other school work, but they also provide the recompense—better bodies, steadier nerves, more alert minds. Under such conditions the pupil will make just as rapid progress, more rapid progress, in the "Three R's" while, at the same time, he carries on this other work. Indeed it is the opinion of some educators that the hours of study for each day could be cut down one-half if only the right kind of employment were provided for the remaining hours of the day.

Manual training and nature study, it seems to me, afford just the kind of employment needed. They give the desired change from strictly intellectual work, and to nine out of every ten pupils they give enjoyable occupation. The question in which we here are most concerned is how best to give expression to nature-study work.

In the country where material of all kinds is abundant and where the children are familiar with the ordinary phenomena of plant and animal life, it seems to me that the problem is to secure better teachers. It will be a matter of better training and better wages. We must have teachers contented to stay in the country and trained to see and help others to see the unusual and fascinating things around them. In the city we must supply not only the trained teachers, but also the material with which they may work. Given the teacher, I believe that the solution of the problem will come with the introduction of school gardens, the planting of trees, shrubs, and flowers in school grounds, and similar work in home grounds, all of which work the pupils will help to design and execute. Such work can be correlated with mensuration, composition, botany, chemistry, zoology, drawing, commercial arithmetic, sketching, painting—almost any subject in the school curriculum, and it has the additional advantage of being done

out-of-doors, in the glad, bright sunshine, among the birds and flowers—where “work is fun”, to use the expression of a Boston lad.

And right here is where the members of this association—the park commissioners and landscape artists—can help. You can encourage the teachers and pupils to improve their school grounds, you can assist them in making designs for this work, you can tell them what trees, shrubs, and flowers would be best to plant, and in a hundred other ways that will occur to you, if you give the matter thought, you can enlist the aid of an army of young enthusiasts in the fight for the beautification of our cities. And that fight you, who are engaged in civic improvement effort, will agree with me, is a fight for better citizenship, a higher plane of morality, and a stronger municipal integrity.

THE SCHOOL GARDEN AS A PHASE OF INDUSTRIAL WORK.

W. A. BALDWIN, PRINCIPAL STATE NORMAL SCHOOL AT HYANNIS, MASS.

I am on the programme to speak of garden work as a phase of industrial work for the public schools. This I am very glad to do because I desire to interest those of you who are already interested in school gardens in the broader question of the need of industrial education as a basis for all of our school work.

I have always loved flowers and trees. As a boy I loved to bring home to my mother the first spring flowers from fields and woods, and I had my own flower beds to care for. As a teacher I have always been interested in the care of school grounds and as early as 1885 I aroused an interest in a small village where I was teaching in Northern New York such that we planted several hundred trees in the school grounds and now they have a fine grove. As a teacher and as superintendent of schools I have been much interested in the introduction of nature work of the right kind into the schools, and have seen the wonderful joy and inspiration which such work has brought into many schools where teachers and pupils have gone out together into the fields and have brought the spirit of the fields into the school-room.

Very early, too, I began to appreciate the value of having children make their own apparatus in school. I saw in the kindergarten and manual training schools how the children loved to be doing things. Gradually but surely I have come to my present belief that much of the education of our schools is not practical because it is unnatural and artificial. We take the young child away from the fields and woods where he longs to be and put him into a box which some of us have been trying to adorn and make into a gilded cage. Even here we are unwilling that he shall move about and

exercise his young and growing muscles, but he must be trained to sit quietly in one place and in one position for the best hours of the day.

To be sure, in our best schools we no longer insist upon the military discipline which was the pride of many a school master. It is no longer a crime to turn the head and the child may even smile occasionally. The best schools are gradually becoming places where the children love to be. The busy work, the drawing, the nature work, are all having a liberating influence.

And yet when you think of the child as you see him at home, in the field or on the street, full of life, of activity which is a part of his very life, and of joy which is the natural accompaniment of the activities of the live American boy, and then think of him as you see him in the average school, you cannot but be impressed with the contrast. Out of school he was a veritable interrogation mark. In school the tables are turned and he must answer instead of ask questions. Out of school, from morning until night he was the personification of perpetual motion. In school, if he obeys the rules of the school, he must sit quietly in his place. Now, modern psychology teaches—what every common-sensed father knows—that activity is a necessity for the life and growth of the young child physically, mentally, and morally; that the three lines of growth are tied up together and, in the normal child, go hand in hand, acting and reacting upon each other; that the young child is continually reaching out through his special senses to lay hold upon everything about him, to test it, to know about it, to see what its relation to himself may be, to see if he can use it and make something for himself with it; that he is an imitative being, delighting to say the sounds he hears, to represent the action which he sees and hears described and, in fact, to live over and so make his own the different experiences of the people whom he sees and of whom he reads.

Many thoughtful people are coming to see that our schools have not sufficiently recognized the real conditions of child development; that the best part of the education of our best people has been in the old New England home and not in the regulation school. They see that the conditions of present social life demand that the school shall do much of the work which was formerly done in the home; that the school can do much better work, even along traditional school lines, if it will consider the child as he is, society as it is, the ways in which the children of the past have been most helped to develop into good, helpful citizenship. And introducing into the school some of these ways they would base the other work of the school upon this.

The fact is being recognized that the child must be prepared for life by learning to live. Life in school must be natural, many-sided and harmonious. Life at school must be related to life at home, on the street, in the field, and in the various human activities of the village. Typical occupations are being gradually introduced into the school so that through

these the children may come into live personal contact with the kinds of things which they need to know and to be able to do.

The kinds of work which are being done at Hyannis may be grouped as follows:

1. Ordinary school work.
2. Industrial work.
3. Business transactions.
4. Expeditions.

The regular school work is fairly well understood and it need only be said that this is not crowded out by the newer kinds of work, but on the other hand is so connected with the newer forms of work that new life is put into it. It means something to the child and is, therefore, much better done than before.

The forms of industrial work now in the school are: sewing, weaving, carpentering, hammock-making, basketry, hat-making, gardening, bed-making, printing, and book-binding.

Pupils have bought seeds, materials for hammocks, baskets and similar things, and have sold produce. They have banked money and paid bills with checks, learning how to make and use all necessary business forms.

On pleasant days the children go out in groups with their teachers to study the various things in nature which will help them to understand what they read in their geographies and books of travel about similar things in other parts of the world.

Now it is important to notice how the newer forms of school work come to supplement the older, or the relation of the *newer* and *older* forms of school work. This may perhaps be best shown by the garden work. Last spring it was decided that manual training for the seventh grade should take the form of gardening. A section of the campus, about one hundred and eighty by fifty feet, was fertilized, ploughed and harrowed and the seed was purchased by the State. Then this land was turned over to the teachers and pupils. Meanwhile the class had gained some valuable letter-writing experience in sending carefully written letters to seedmen. They had reviewed their knowledge of mensuration by measuring and measuring again the garden, and plotting off the same into different sections for the planting of the various kinds of seeds. Many discussions arose regarding the best time and place for the planting of the different kinds of seeds. These furnished opportunities for connecting the home and the school, for the use of reference books, and for good, live language work, both oral and written.

As soon as the weather was suitable the children began to prepare the ground for planting, and on pleasant days they worked in the garden about an hour every afternoon. They became very observant of weather conditions. The different kinds of seeds were planted in their seasons, some, like lettuce and sweet corn, being planted at different times. Records were

kept in books provided for the purpose, of the time of planting, the time of coming up, and the various changes in the growing plants. Plants were compared as to their relative rate and manner of growth, and the ideas gained from these plants were used as a basis for reading of the growth of similar plants in other parts of the world. The first radishes were sold to the dormitory and for these the class received its first check. This, with other checks received from the sale of garden produce during the summer and fall, amounting to over thirty dollars, was deposited in the Hyannis National Bank. The whole class went to the bank and learned exactly how to make a deposit and to draw out money. Each pupil is provided with a blank book into which he copies bills of produce sold, deposits made, and checks drawn.

After the fall term began, the same class, now the eighth grade, again assumed the care of the garden. They picked and sold tomatoes, sweet corn, squash and cucumbers, pulled beets and turnips and saved corn, beans and other seeds for next year's planting. They also studied forms of fruit and seeds and the relation of plants to some animal life, like the larvæ on the turnips and tomatoes, and the parasites on the tomato larvæ.

After finishing the garden work the class elected a president and secretary and discussed what they should do with their money. They appointed a committee to consider the matter and to make recommendations. After several days of consideration the committee reported, advising the expenditure of not more than five dollars for a little class party to which each member might invite a friend, the purchase of some cord for hammocks, the acceptance of the offer of Mr. Baldwin to teach them how to make hammocks which might be sold, and the proceeds of which might be added to the bank deposits. The report was accepted with enthusiasm. The pupils gained some good points in parliamentary practice in connection with class meetings. They learned how to write notes of invitation for their party and gained some valuable hints on entertaining. Before they could make their hammocks each was obliged to whittle out his own block and needle. This required considerable care and perseverance, but the hammock-making lured them on and they persisted. Their interest has steadily increased as they have grown in the sense of their own power to do something that has a commercial value. Other grammar grades are doing other forms of industrial work.

If you could visit our school some afternoon you would, I am sure, be interested to see the transformation which comes over it when we change from regular school work to the industrial lines of work. In a few minutes the school becomes a manufactory. Every child is making or mending something. One group of children goes to make hammocks, one to sew on the machine, one to the wood-working room, one to make baskets, one to darn stockings, one to weave or braid, one to make hats, and several classes go to their gardens. This year the eighth grade children again

have gardening but with individual beds. The second and fourth grades also have gardens. The fourth grade children have a vegetable garden, working in groups of three or four and having their own produce to carry home. The second grade children have each a flower garden. The whole second grade garden is arranged according to a definite color scheme, worked out by Miss Brown, our teacher of biology, the flowers of the same color being put together.

It may be well to state that no experiments are being tried. For although some of this work is new to the schools of this vicinity, nothing is being introduced which has not been tried and been proved valuable in other places. The principles upon which this work is based have been recognized as true by leading educators for nearly a century. We are trying to do our part toward adapting these principles to the needs of the children of Hyannis and the Cape. The manual and industrial training which our fathers got on the farm, along the shore, and on the sailing vessel, was invaluable. Fortunate are the children who still have the same kind of opportunities for growth in their own homes. Few of our children, however, now receive any training at home which takes the place of that old-fashioned New England "bringing up". The school must, therefore, furnish the best possible substitute, along with such training in literature, history, science, art and kindred subjects as the best schools have been affording. The former furnishes the best kind of a foundation in personal experiences, and the latter furnishes a superstructure which reaches out to the whole world, present, past and future.

Probably no one would claim that the home education of the country boy insured success, for many country boys have not succeeded. But when the country boy, not satisfied with the narrow range of his country life, has gone into a broader life through travel or reading and study, has used the ideas here gained, the habits here formed, and the character here built up, as a basis, what glorious specimens of manhood have resulted!

The industrial work which is here described takes time and the school hours of the Hyannis Training School have been extended forty-five minutes per day so that plenty of time may be afforded for this without taking time formerly devoted to other subjects. The attitude of the teachers and pupils toward this work may be inferred from the fact that they are happy to stay longer in school, and beg to be allowed to take work home. I expect that a little later we may commence school at eight o'clock and run until five o'clock. I am quite sure that the children would like that.

It seems to me that the home should do all it can for the child; then the school should take him, and, recognizing what the home has done and is doing, should build upon this, supplementing and rounding out each individual child, helping him to discover his own powers and to make the most of himself.

THE SAND GARDENS OF BOSTON.

MISS ELLEN M. TOWER, LEXINGTON, MASS.

In reading this paper I have a desperate feeling of being in the wrong place, as evidently my subject is the only one to be presented which treats of children and brick paved yards, and heaps of sand, instead of flowers and the fertile earth. However, I seize eagerly upon the opportunity to tell the story of the first playground movement in the United States, difficult as it is to compress the work of sixteen years into ten minutes.

This desire for an audience was aroused by the casual remark in an article recently published in a prominent magazine, that "the first directed playground *seems* to have been started in Boston in 1886", and by the mis-statement, heard elsewhere, that the little sand gardens now in our Public Garden were the first ever provided in our city. It is not "*seems*", but *true*, that in 1886, the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association, which I represent here to-day, made the first feeble attempt to satisfy a great need by placing in the yards of certain institutions sand and its accompanying pails and shovels, for the free use of any children who chose to dig and play there, under the kindly care of matrons appointed to watch over them. This faint effort was inspired by the outcry, heard on all sides, for open spaces and fresh air for the people, and by the description of happy German children playing in sand heaps supplied for them in the public parks of Berlin.

In 1887 there were ten sand heaps scattered about; but in 1888 a dissatisfied chairman, in charge of this new effort, was seeking for safe and suitable corners for the children when the sight of a vacant school-yard gave rise to the thought that no place could be so desirable as a school house yard for just her purpose. In those days the many schemes for the extended use of school houses were unborn, but the suggestion was made at once to the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association, and very cordially received by them, that a petition should be presented to the School Committee asking for the use of such school house yards as were suitable for playgrounds for little children during the long summer vacation; that these yards, if granted, should be fitted up with swings, and a variety of games, and that trained and educated guardians should be appointed to care for the children who might come to them.

The petition was granted and then followed an appeal to the public for money. The arguments, now so trite, in favor of play were eloquently set forth. The right of a child to play was urged, the educational value of play and its psychological effect were dwelt upon, and the playground was vaunted as the best possible training school for the future citizen. All the well-worn phrases were fresh and forceful then.

Seven school-yards furnished with sand and toys—the swings and tilts were not allowed—and guardians, as skilled as could be obtained, were opened in various parts of the city. Four hundred children flocked to them every day and many were the amusing expressions of pleasure and gratitude from mothers and children for privileges now taken as a matter of course.

The policemen whose aid and protection were indispensable, and who afterwards became the most devoted friends of committee and guardians, scoffed and said, "It can't be done, the boys will steal the toys and torment the children. It's all sentiment." The last sentence was considered unanswerable; but that one man on the "force" appreciated the situation, I think I can prove to you, though I hesitate to tell the story since, true to the letter, it is so like the scoffing tales told of Boston in the newspapers of our sister cities who jeer at our provincial self-sufficiency.

One hot summer day the chairman of the commmittee was visiting sand gardens; and climbing into an electric car, sat down beside a blue-coated policeman. He had rather a grand air, but her courage was good, and thinking his beat might be near one of the yards, she spoke to him, explained her mission and asked his assistance and co-operation, saying that the matrons were troubled by "the older boys and the sidewalk loafers", but added, that "the little children were all right." "No, madame," he replied, "No, the little children are not all right; they have not the conditions, madame, they have not the conditions." Then lifting his head, he continued, "They suffer from their surroundings. Athens, Greece, had a great people because they looked on noble buildings and beautiful statues. What can you expect of the children of South Boston?"

The work grew slowly, increasing steadily from year to year. As more money was subscribed more occupations were introduced and the attendance multiplied. The cost has always been less than one dollar per child for a term of ten weeks, and every new dollar expended has invariably brought in a new boy or girl. Practically the attendance has been limited only by the amount of money at the disposal of the committee.

Soon visitors came and letters were received from all parts of the country, from England, from the large cities and small towns, from Montreal, from Louisville, Kentucky; from Portland, Maine, and from Nevada, asking for information as to ways and means of directing the play of children. So people far and near profited by the experiments, the failures and successes of our modest association.

"Play schools" the children named the yards; sand gardens the committee called them in the beginning, then playgrounds, as more toys, sewing, clay-modeling, books and other devices for entertainment and instruction were added. Now, however, the term "playground" suggests so large a space and such a wealth of appliances that the old name "sand garden" has been resumed.

In 1899 the first municipal aid was rendered to the playgrounds when, at the suggestion of Mayor Quincy, the School Committee appropriated \$3,000 for expenses connected with the opening of certain school-house yards during the summer vacation, to be spent under the direction of the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association. This addition to the financial resources, with the amount subscribed by the public, \$1,313.77, permitted the opening of twenty-one yards and the employment of sixty people, besides the committee, to watch over and care for the four thousand and more boys and girls who came daily to work and play. The experiment was sufficiently successful to warrant continuing in 1900, when the School Committee again appropriated \$3,000 to be spent by our Association. In that year \$3,187 was paid in salaries to sixty-four employees, and \$4,200 was the cost of the pleasure and happiness bestowed on four thousand three hundred children.

In 1901 the School Committee, considering that playgrounds and vacation schools should be alike under the care of their own board, declined to bestow money upon the Emergency Association, but established four sand gardens under their own supervision, two in connection with vacation schools, and two by themselves—merely sand gardens.

This seeming reverse was a great triumph and a fulfillment of the ardent hope of the members of the Association who had been doing as amateurs, and, as a temporary expedient for helping the children, what the educational branches of our government should do professionally and systematically. Next season we hope to be driven still further afield, and may conclude that our mission is accomplished. Deprived of so large a sum of money the number of sand gardens was reduced to twelve and these were supported by voluntary contributions. Two thousand four hundred sixty-two dollars and thirty-three cents was spent for the entertainment of three thousand four hundred and seventy-nine boys and girls for nine weeks.

There are many details that I could give of the different yards but I will spare you the account of the hundreds of articles made in the open air by busy little fingers—and well made, too—of the babies who dig in the sand, of the smaller children who run up and down with carts and wheelbarrows, of the boys who read and play checkers, of the kindergarten songs which are sung and of the lessons in clay modeling and sewing which are given. But I would like to state, by the way, that out of two hundred and fifty library books furnished by the public library last season at the mercy of over three thousand children, for nine weeks, only one volume was lost.

The distinguishing feature of 1901 was the attempt to study “the gang” in its haunts, and to devise, if possible, some means of gaining a hold upon the boys of fourteen years and upwards. To this end a young man, a graduate of the School of Physical Culture in Springfield, was engaged to superintend the games of the boys in one of the yards. He was required to take up his residence in the immediate neighborhood. After the three

hour session of the playground in the morning he was "to run with the gang", to associate with the boys as a friend, to bring them to his room in the evening, to go with them to their resorts, saving to himself only so much time each day as was necessary to preserve his physical health and mental balance. A committee of gentlemen visited him occasionally to remind him that he belonged to their world and to learn how the work progressed. So successful was this outgrowth of the sand gardens that two resident leaders are now established close by two of the school-yards acting as elder brothers to the boys about them; and the Association is planning for more men next year.

In the summer of 1900 there were twenty-one yards open under the supervision of the Emergency Association; this vacation sees only eleven, nine used as sand gardens for little children, two for the boys' sports and games. The attendance has fallen from over 4,000 children per day to 2,500, but the committee watches with pleasure the dwindling of its own work as around it arise the splendid playgrounds of the city, and the noble facilities for exercise, play and instruction offered by the School Committee, the Civic League, and numberless other societies and institutions.

SCHOOL GARDENS AT THE HARTFORD (CONN.) SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

H. D. HEMENWAY, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

The Horticultural Department of the Handicraft Schools of Hartford last year undertook to provide rudimentary training for the younger pupils from the public schools. In the season of 1901, thirty-four boys were admitted and to each was assigned a garden plat four feet wide and twenty-five feet long. The instruction was given Saturday afternoons, the boys coming in two classes, at two and at four o'clock.

The boys came from the eighth and ninth grades in Hartford public schools. The work was largely experimental; but was, nevertheless, sufficiently successful to make it evident that it might be made exceedingly useful. Early in March of the present year, the matter was brought to the attention of the principals of the Hartford public schools, who gave it their approval and hearty support. Application cards were printed, on which the applicant wrote his name, age, nationality, residence, his parent's name and occupation, the school from which he came, and its principal. These cards were sent to the various schools and boys of the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades, who wished to take up garden work, were given an opportunity to make application. These applications were sent to the School of Horticulture and, unless previously selected by the teacher, fifteen were chosen by lot to constitute a class from that particular school.

The remaining applications were kept on file; and any boy who got tired of his garden, or who went to work after school closed, or who was unable to keep his garden up, was dropped and his place filled from this file.

Books were prepared of a very convenient size to put into the pocket. On the outside of the cover was placed a number, which corresponded to the number of the garden. The name of the pupil and the school from which he comes is also on the outside. On the inside of the cover are the rules. The boys first enter the class room, the books are given out, and, on the first page each pupil keeps his own attendance by writing the date and marking himself present. On the second page is the diagram of the garden. On the third page the lessons begin, the boys writing them from dictation, always putting down the date so that each lesson is kept distinct. The directions are given in the simplest possible terms. Before the boys go out, the seed is distributed among them in small packages. From the class room they go directly to the tool room, where they receive their tools. Each boy has a hoe, a rake, a hand-weeder, a line, and an eight-inch stick for measuring. The hoe handles are marked in feet for measuring distances. The line is long enough to go around the garden. It has a twelve-inch pot-label, which is numbered and has a hole for hanging it up at one end, and a plant stake at the other. Each tool is numbered, there being a set to each number. The boys pass from the tool room to their gardens, passing by the observation plats of grass, wheat, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat and flax.

In the gardens, the boys follow the directions which they have received in the class room; but, of course, they must be shown how to do a great many things. Probably, one hundred and twenty-five of the one hundred and seventy-eight pupils in garden classes never have had anything to do with a hoe or a rake before. The first few lessons are very trying, as the boys have to be shown many times; but they are intensely interested in their work and learn rapidly. The weeds, too, must needs get some start. The first four weeks are spent in planting and in preparing the ground, although it is plowed, manured, and staked out before they come. Very few know the difference, at first, between the plants and the weeds, and it is necessary to be constantly on hand; but the boys are, as a rule, extremely careful.

When the pupils have finished their work in the gardens, they take their tools in, clean them with cloths which are in the tool room for that purpose, and hang them in their proper places. They then go to the class room, write in their books what they have done, and, after the crops begin to mature, what they take home with them. In this way a list of everything is kept. The books are then left on the table in the class room and the boys go home. These books are looked over and the pupils marked on the appearance of the note books, their deportment and on their work, as well as their attendance for each lesson. Each class comes once a week,

coming after school on school days, with the exception of two classes on Wednesday and Friday afternoons, consisting of the seventh grade boys from two of the schools in the city, which come while the girls are having sewing. On Saturday, there are classes at eight, at ten, at two, and at four, the latter a class of girls.

Of the boys who attended the school last year, eighteen replied in person to a postal card which was sent to them the latter part of the winter. Beginning on March 1st, lessons were given them every two weeks until the end of April, in the potting room and greenhouse. Each boy was required to bring from its bin, mix, and sift his soil, plant the seed, pot, re-pot and pick out lettuce and tomato plants. So well did these boys do the work, that there was scarcely a plant that they had anything to do with that did not live and thrive. The advanced boys have larger gardens, ten by thirty, and, for convenience in the lay-out, their gardens run east and west. The others, each ten by twenty-five, run north and south. There are five-foot walks between each row and three-foot walks between each garden. In addition to the crops that the new boys raise, the advanced ones have cabbage, celery, and Swiss-chard. The girls have no corn, but have more flowers.

The plantings are so arranged that, after the first four weeks, the children have something to take home each time. Radishes are planted continually during the summer and lettuce and beets more than once. Many of the flowers are started in the greenhouse and the plants set out; so the pupils have practice not only in sowing the seed, but in setting out and in caring for plants of various kinds. Beginning on the south side, the boys have verbenas, pansies, pinks, asters, lettuce, beets, radishes, tomatoes, lettuce, water-melon, string beans, shell beans, and two rows of corn. One would be surprised at the amount of produce they can get from so small a garden. Some of our boys have taken a peck of string beans at a time, large bunches of beets, and from thirty to forty radishes; and one garden has already yielded two hundred and twenty-two pansies, two hundred and fifty-one verbenas, sixty-three heads of lettuce, eighty-two radishes, six and one-half quarts of string beans, and thirty beets, besides beet greens.

Some of the second-year boys have had much more. But it is not what the boys raise that is of the greatest value to them. The practice in measuring, in watching for the things to come up, in learning to observe what they look at and to understand something of what they see, the growing love for nature and things beautiful; learning habits of industry, keeping the boys occupied when, otherwise, many would be on the street, and the physical development in the pure open air—these are some things which are of far greater importance than the garden produce, both to the boys and to the State.

The experience of two years has demonstrated that there is a large

field of usefulness open for elementary training in horticulture. The unflagging interest manifested by the pupils, and the progress which they have made, is an unmistakable indication that there will be a constantly increasing demand for this kind of instruction.

BOYS' GARDENS AT THE NATIONAL CASH REGISTER CO.

GEORGE A. TOWNSEND, JR., DAYTON, OHIO.

One day while traveling in the far West, Mr. J. H. Patterson, President of the National Cash Register Co., met an elderly man who had lived in Dayton for a number of years when a boy. During a conversation that followed, he inquired of Mr. Patterson about thirteen men of his own age, sons of prominent families of Dayton, Ohio, whose names he had forgotten. From his description of their houses, and general characteristics, Mr. Patterson knew to whom he referred. Out of these thirteen men twelve had died from drink and the thirteenth man was sojourning in Canada with \$800 of Mr. Patterson's money.

Mr. Patterson asked himself what was the cause of the failure of these men. After looking into the matter for some time he came to the conclusion that, as a rule, boys were not being trained in useful habits when at the age habits are most easily formed. As he looked back on his own life, he recalled that his early years had been spent working on a farm, and he appreciated the value of the practical nature study gained in this work. To these industrious habits, contracted on the farm, he attributed his success. Finally the idea of establishing a boy's garden occurred to Mr. Patterson as a great means of bringing to the boys of his neighborhood the advantages he had enjoyed on the farm. He realized that it is possible for a boy to go to school too long; to have too much poured in, and not enough drawn out; to become bookish and lose touch with the active world. If boys are to achieve success, they must be given the opportunity not only to receive impressions, but to put these impressions into practical use. An idea is valuable only so far as it is worked out in practical life. The expression of ideas in the proper kinds of action is as necessary as the acquiring of the ideas themselves. So he determined to provide a way of combining the two important elements of thought and action, to see if this would not result in bringing up a generation of men who would not follow in the footsteps of the thirteen who had gone to failure.

In the spring of 1897 a plot of ground adjoining the works of the National Cash Register Co., which had been donated by Vice-President F. J. Patterson for a kindergarten playground, was laid out in plats 10 x 130 feet each. Fences were taken down, and work was begun on one of the first boys' gardens ever instituted in the United States, and owned by a corporation. There were forty gardens. Boys between the ages of eight and sixteen

were enrolled in a class under the direction of an expert gardener, and put to work in this garden. That year, the boys were taught to raise twenty-four different kinds of vegetables. Each boy raised enough on his plat to support his family during the season. Whatever was left over was disposed of as the boy saw fit. Fifty dollars in prizes was provided the first year for the best six gardens.

This beginning proved a great success. The following year, 1898, the number of gardens was increased to seventy-one. These gardens have grown until now we have a rectangular plat of ground seven hundred and forty feet long and one hundred and seventy feet wide, or about three acres, divided into seventy-one gardens, each ten feet wide and one hundred and seventy feet in length. These plats are all numbered from one to seventy-one inclusive. The plat of ground is thus known by number and not by the name of the boy having it in charge. Water pipes are run in at convenient points about the garden, to be used during the dry weather. A tool house has been built, and placed in the center of the garden most convenient to every point. Here each boy has his separate hoe, rake and spade, which are all numbered, and carefully looked after by the head gardener. Each boy must see that his tools are kept clean and in their proper places. Surrounding this garden, are fine groups of shrubbery planted by Olmsted Brothers. The gardens are divided in the middle by a broad street, along which has been planted shade trees. Running the entire length of the garden is a small path about five feet wide, on each side of which are the flower beds.

On this piece of ground we teach the boys to plant and cultivate their gardens. All the boys are given the same kind and variety of seeds. They are told that what they raise belongs to them. To stimulate the interest of the boys still further, cash prizes are offered, aggregating \$50 in gold, the first prize being \$15, the second prize \$12, the third prize \$10, the fourth \$8, the fifth \$5. In addition to these cash prizes, we serve the boys a regular course dinner at the Officers' Club, in the fall, after the crops are gathered; generally about the middle of November, and there distribute engraved bronze medals to the winners, and diplomas to those completing the course. The prizes are awarded by three judges chosen from among those officers of the company who have no son or relative in the contest. This committee inspects the gardens once a week; each member taking a garden, and determining independently the number of points to be given. No garden is inspected by the same person twice in succession. There are fourteen divisions in each garden, some of them having more than one planting during the season. As judging is based on the general cultivation, fourteen points have been decided on for perfect work. For each division showing weeds and lack of care, one point is deducted. At the end of the season, the parents are enabled to look at these records and see just how industrious their sons have been. The judging is done entirely by numbers

and at the lunch hour, when the boys are not at work. Members of the committee do not know by any chance what boy has any garden, and therefore there is no personal prejudice. The head gardener also takes into consideration at the end of the season the general conduct of each boy, his care of tools, and the quantity of vegetables he has raised. The rating of the boys is determined by taking the totals of the weekly markings together with the marking returned by the head gardener.

This head gardener, who is thoroughly competent, and in full sympathy with the movement, is in attendance all day. He gives special attention to the boys during the hours of work, which are from 7:00 to 9:00 in the morning and 3:00 to 5:30 in the afternoon. He instructs them in the care of tools, and the planting of vegetables, and, for the purpose of finding out how much they have learned, selects each day one of the boys to accompany him. This boy is appointed, for that day, his assistant. These little assistants prove hard task-masters, but gain from their experience the greatest benefit. The head gardener has one plat of his own which he cultivates in competition with the boys; the real object being to demonstrate to the children the proper way of planting without talking enough to tire them. They are close observers and profit rapidly by looking on.

The instructing gardener teaches the boys the proper methods of planting in dry or wet climates; whether they should hill the beans during a drouth, or allow them to remain on the level. Thus every art known to scientific gardening is taught in a simple, practical way, so that the minds of the children can grasp it and apply it instantly. The boys sow beats with onions. They raise two crops of lettuce and three or four crops of radishes, thus learning to raise two crops on the same ground. Peppers are planted with the onions; beans and peas in another part of the garden; egg plants and cabbage; cantoloupe are planted in with the cabbages. Every inch of space is utilized to get the best possible results with the widest variety of vegetables. According to the ability of the boys, two and sometimes three crops of beans and three crops of peas are raised in one year. Tomatoes and potatoes are raised. In with the potatoes are raised turnips. In the watermelon patch beans are planted, as they ripen and are picked before the melons are grown.

As an example of what can be raised in these gardens, one boy provided recently his entire family of five with vegetables during the entire season, and in addition to this, cleared \$5 in money. He also won the first prize and a position in the factory. In the factory he made himself so useful that at the end of his first week he was advanced fifty cents in his salary. When asked by the foreman where he had learned his industry, he promptly replied, "In my years in the garden." Some of the boys raise as many as three or four bushels of beans on the small space of 10 x 13 feet. Peas average two or three bushels to the plat and tomatoes run as high as four

or five bushels from fourteen stocks of tomato plants. The crops all depend upon the ability of the boy.

Along the path running the length of the garden are the flower beds. We have found by experience that salvias, petunias, and nasturtiums are the best flowers for this purpose.

The boys' gardens are divided into the first and second year classes. When the two years are ended, diplomas are given to those who have faithfully pursued the course of instruction. Their places are again occupied by new children. Occasionally the boys are taken through the factory and shown how the men work and the working of the machinery is explained to them.

How much they appreciate the advantages given to them by Mr. Patterson was beautifully illustrated on the eve of his departure for Europe, when the boys tendered a supper to him at the Officers' Club. Here the boys gathered about 5:30 and met Mr. Patterson with a speech of welcome. Afterwards they had supper and the boys supplied all the material.

The cost of the garden plats, the teacher, the seeds, tools, preparing the ground, etc., to the Company, to educate these seventy-one boys during the year, is \$3,500. The gardens are open not only to children of employes, but to children of the neighborhood, for the reason that Mr. Patterson believes that the children of his employes will not be apt to rise to a higher level than the children with whom they associate. He has the greatest faith in the future of the boys and girls of South Park, who formerly were known as the "Slidertown Toughs." They made South Park, where the factory is, so unpopular that building lots sold for \$200 and \$300 apiece. When I tell you that the present price is from \$900 to \$1,500 apiece, the figures alone will indicate what these gardens have done in the way of bringing out what is best in the children.

The ultimate object of this work in the boys' gardens is to teach them to work with their heads as well as with their hands. There is no kind of teaching that squares itself with educational thought better than agriculture. It educates, because it deals with things and not with words. It cultivates the boy's observation, and keeps his senses keen. It shows him that effect follows cause; it gives full play to all the motor activities; broadens his mind and deepens his thinking. When we take into consideration that sixty-five per cent. of our exports are products of the farm, you can see at a glance what a benefit these boys receive by being practically taught the fundamental importance of agriculture in our social life. We have found by actual observation that the moral training is of great value to these boys. It has cured them of stealing and selfishness by impressing them practically with the necessity of observing the rights of their neighbors.

In establishing the boys' gardens, Mr. Patterson recognized the great value of practical nature study and thus placed himself among the most advanced educational thinkers. Hundreds of schools are still struggling

with this problem for which the boys' gardens furnish a practical solution. Of American country school children, the proportion who reach the agricultural colleges and the experiment stations is less than one per cent., and this almost infinitesimal fraction is but slightly exceeded, even among children whose homes are in easy walking distance of these institutions. Fully ninety-eight per cent. close their school life at an elementary stage. For this overwhelming number some provision should be made for systematic practical training in agricultural methods.

The cost of establishing and maintaining a school garden is obviously dependent on size, location, and equipment. The pecuniary, industrial, climatic, and other characteristics of the district must also be considered. Under the American polity the adoption of a system of school gardens in any given State, would be by act of its legislature in obedience to popular demand.

The following is an estimate of the cost of establishing a school garden for 200 children:

1. Purchase and general preparation of ground, ten acres at \$100.	\$1,000 00
2. Laying off six acres of above in 200 individual garden beds, and maintenance of same to the end of the first year....	200 00
3. Domestic science, cooking and general housewifery, hygiene, etc..	200 00
4. Nursery, dwarf fruit trees, berries, cereals, pot and medicinal herbs.....	50 00
5. Conservatory, forcing pits, worksheds, trellises, etc.....	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,500 00

This estimate is based on the assumption that the regular teachers are qualified to direct the work of the garden.

This practical nature study is of fundamental importance to the boys and girls of to-day. I am prepared to bear testimony from actual observation of the results of our boys' gardens at Dayton, that these children develop thirty per cent. more rapidly in moral, mental, and physical power than if they were confined strictly to their school work. They take delight in their surroundings and where before they destroyed trees and shrubbery, they are now anxious to protect them. Delightful association with nature and enthusiastic devotion to work are among the most powerful influences that go to develop strong and intelligent citizens.

SOME NEGLECTED MILLIONS.

GEORGE HENRY KNIGHT, NEW YORK CITY.

In recognition of the desirability of making American country life both more attractive and more profitable, our government recently collected* and published particulars of the industrial gardens with which thousands of the primary rural schools of Europe were already equipped. Yet, in spite of these examples and of those nearer home in the industrial schools of American cities, the education of nearly all American country children remains to the last degree antiquated and unprogressive.†

The importance of these conditions becomes apparent in view of the fact that ninety-nine per cent. of these millions never enter a college or even high school, but pass direct from the primary grade to work-a-day life.‡ For this unregarded multitude§—more than half the Nation's entire school population—its destined bone and sinew—the advocates of sanity in education demand that part of the time now spent in the school-room shall be devoted to industrial exercises and study of the thousand-leaved book of nature.

One of many happy results of the proposed methods would be to bring the country primary school and the agricultural college into the mutually beneficial relation of members of a living organism; for the comparatively routine work of the primary school will, manifestly, require intelligent direction which—opening a wide field of profitable usefulness to graduates of the college—will confer an added *raison d'être* upon the latter. Furthermore, the reported experience of the countries spoken of makes certain the necessity of a corps of itinerant experts to instruct teachers in their new role of duties and to secure completeness in the industrial equipments. Conversely, such methods may, from time to time, "open the door of opportunity" to some creative mind that shall shed lustre on the college itself.

HOW WE REACH EIGHTEEN THOUSAND SCHOOL CHILDREN IN NEW YORK.

JOHN W. SPENCER, SUPERVISOR, BUREAU OF NATURE STUDY, CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

We have in New York 26,000 school children who have registered as having bought seeds and as having gardens at home. We have about 18,000 children in the public schools organized as junior naturalists who receive

*On the writer's request.

†For attitude of the American farmer, see remarks by Prof. Bailey in "The World's Work," July, 1901.

‡U. S. Cen. Rep., Vol. XLI., p. 2181.

§Now (1901) estimated to number upward of 10,000,000.

from us suggestions for observation and who write us once each school month what they have seen.

Last spring we took up the improvement of school grounds by children and teachers. Twenty-four hundred children have written us what they have done in the betterment of four hundred and seventy-five school premises.

The State of New York makes an annual appropriation for the University Extension of Agriculture. This is given to the College of Agriculture of Cornell University to administer. The work of administration has two divisions. One is to take the Experiment Station to the farmer and the other is the courses in the Agricultural College. Professor L. H. Bailey is chief of the latter division. The work is mainly made up of a reading course for farmers and farmers' wives on the correspondence plan and in placing agriculture in the public schools.

We do not call it by that name for when we began the work some captious people would have said we were having a class privilege. We therefore gave the rose another name—that of nature study. All the same, our topics and the end in view have been things relating to country life. We have no power to make the acceptance of this work compulsory. That it might be accepted by teachers, we have given it attractions such as have made it to the teacher's interest to take it up.

In organizing and conducting Junior Naturalist Clubs, the teacher has many opportunities to correlate it with required school work. In the election of officers of the club, a practical lesson in civics can be given. In club meetings, experience in parliamentary practice is given and in the payment of "club dues" once each month, a lesson in drawing or composition writing is in order. Be it understood, dues in this organization are not paid in money, but in writing letters or making drawings of the things the club have studied.

Management of children in large bodies is comparatively easy if we will study the situation from the youngster's point of view. We too often force on him things we think he ought to like. Another important point in the successful management of masses of youngsters is to keep them fully occupied. A busy child is the happiest child and the most easily controlled.

It is true, tact is necessary to give out work in such a way that the occupation will not be irksome. Unless one has tact in such work, ambitions for success in controlling children would better be abandoned. A child will assimilate a great deal if the work is given in small amounts and with frequent changes. Do not rush at him with great loads of subject matter. I have known some people well equipped with knowledge in certain lines, who made the mistake of thinking that all that is necessary for improvement in others is to give information.

To a child, such a course is too much like preaching and he resents it. I fancy he holds it in much the same light we do the over-zealous persons

who "talk religion" to us. Much, very much, hinges on interest. I am aware that I have been sharply criticized for amusing children too much and instructing too little. I am free to admit that perhaps seventy-five per cent. of my energies are devoted to giving interest, or as my critics would have it, "amusement", and the remaining twenty-five per cent. to giving instruction. When I have interest, I have a mind hungry for information and then teaching is easy with a reasonable certainty that what is given-will be assimilated. A big harvest does not depend upon the immense amount of seed cast on a hard, infertile soil, but rather on the ground being in a fine state of cultivation, so that what seed has been sown will make vigorous growth.

Another point for success lies in getting into direct personal touch with both teacher and children. Personal relations count. Moody would have never attained distinction as a revivalist had he tried to reach the people by enthusing the bishop, expecting he would transmit enthusiasm to the presiding elder, and the presiding elder to the preacher and the preacher to the laity. I have little patience with some well meaning people who work out fine plans for others to execute. Another thing, do not wait until all conditions are ideal. One is not fit for such work as this who has not the ability of the cat always to strike on his feet. The power for adaptation to circumstances is absolutely necessary. It is better to start, even though you are not quite ready, than to be forever getting ready and never make a start.

If your lot is cast with boys and girls of the Tom Sawyer type, do not think your first hard work is to make them over into a lot of Lord Fauntleroys. If you should succeed you would have only a lot of prigs for your pains. Let them remain Tom Sawyers, every one of them, but make them the best ever known of that class.

NATURE STUDY FOR CHILDREN.

GEORGE T. POWELL, DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE AT BRIARCLIFF MANOR, N. Y.

Two objects need to be kept in view in nature teaching, one is the refining influence and mental stimulant which may be given to the student, the other to enable him to apply his knowledge to the every-day duties of life.

In the crowded curriculum of our public schools, children are handled too much like machines, trained to think rapidly, precisely, and automatically. This is destruction to the cultivation of imagination, of sentiment, and has a narrowing influence upon the life of the child. Here may be found one of the prime causes for the tendency of population to

concentrate so largely in our cities. Children born in cities have no knowledge or conception of the beauty, and the many wonderful things of interest, in the world of nature, while those born in the country, in the midst of these great privileges, too often have little true appreciation or realization of them.

Our rural schools are sadly deficient in both methods and subjects taught, with the direct results of depletion of the soil through ignorance of its requirements, the consequent desertion of farms, the decline of the schools, with the movement of population steadily to our already large and over-crowded cities.

If country children were given some instruction in plants and the laws that enter into their development, they would find pleasure and inspiration in their school days, which would extend largely to the home life, and manifest itself in the building up and beautifying of the farm, making it a center of interest and a source of income, surrounded by conditions of prosperity, rather than a struggle with poverty and all which that implies.

How can nature study be rationally and efficiently taught in our public schools? Not alone by analyzing flowers, or giving children lessons in drawing leaves, stems, and roots of plants. This is the letter that killeth. We must have the spirit that maketh alive, and this will take us, both in subjects and methods, to the "great throbbing heart of nature" itself. In our country schools this is entirely feasible and practical. Invaluable lessons can be given in soil physics and soil improvement through the agency of plants. The grasses alone, that surround a country schoolhouse, and which are found upon every farm, furnish subjects for weeks of the most interesting and valuable instruction. Many other plants and trees, insects, birds, and the farm animals give, at close range, and in the most intimate relationship, every opportunity for the most effective teaching of nature subjects.

The time for the presentation of this subject is so limited that I can give only one or two illustrations of methods in the presentation of nature subjects to children.

In 1896 and 1897, the first practical application of the theory of teaching nature study in our public schools, was made in Westchester County, N. Y., under the auspices of the Committee for the Promotion of Agriculture in New York, a committee organized for the purpose of investigating the conditions of the rural population of New York State, and the causes leading to the congestion of population in cities.

Two propositions were submitted by us to the Committee, one the introduction of nature study in schools, with application made to rural life. The other, the establishment of schools of agriculture where natural sciences could be taught with practical application to farm life. This more practical method of nature teaching was introduced in most of the public schools of Westchester County. We were assisted mainly by Prof. Anna

Botsford Comstock, of Cornell University, and Prof. C. C. Curtis, of Columbia. Before completing the course of instruction, we had received applications from thirty-five counties of the State to have this method of nature teaching brought to them. The demand for the work became so general that we advised the New York Committee to delegate it to the Agricultural College of the State, which was done. After conducting the work for the college for a time in several counties of the state, assisted by other teachers from the college, Cornell assumed the work, which has since been conducted under the direction of Dr. L. H. Bailey.

One lesson was given in the study of grasses (illustrated upon blackboard). The timothy commonly grown on most farms depletes the soil, for it is a shallow-rooted plant, and obtains its food from the same stratum of soil as corn, wheat, oats, and other farm crops. The clover has wonderful powers to improve the soil, because it is a deep-rooted plant, and has also the power of collecting nitrogen from the atmosphere, and depositing it in the soil by the action of its roots and also, and by means of, bacterial agencies.

The proof of this is furnished from an experiment made at my fruit farm at Ghent, N. Y., when the soil was analyzed after clover had been grown upon it for three successive years.*

Were such and similar lessons taught in our schools, there would be a new interest in the study of plants, while the application of the knowledge obtained to practical affairs of the farm would add millions to the wealth and prosperity of those who engage in agriculture scientifically conducted, and to the nation at large, which is destined to be the food producer of the world.

Among the many plants there are none more interesting than the strawberry, in its botanical interest as also from the standpoint of its economic value. In the experimental teaching in the schools of Westchester County, this was used as one of the subjects, and after the lesson was given, of its character and growth, of the beauty of its blossom and leaf, of its law of reproduction, of its possible development and value in fruit and plant production, an offer was made to the children of every school who would be interested to learn more about the strawberry, to send a half dozen plants to each one who applied for them, to plant, care

*CRIMSON CLOVER AS A GREEN MANURE.

Analysis of Soils.

	Three crops of Clover.	No Clover.
Water,	15.00%	8.75%
Nitrogen,	.21%	.12%
Humus,	2.94%	1.91%
Phosphoric Acid, (available.)	.015%	.008%

Water, - - - 6.25% = 46,875 tons.

Nitrogen, - - .09% = 1,350 lbs.

Phosphoric Acid, .007% = 105 lbs.

for, and learn as much as possible about. At the end of the year they should bring to the school a composition giving an account of what they had done and had learned about strawberries. It was thought that the last obligation imposed would defeat the object sought, as most pupils dislike, above all other school duties, to write a composition.

Interest in the subject was not lost, however, for in the following spring my mail was enormous for thirty days, being filled daily with applications from the school children for the strawberry plants, and when we had filled the last order, we had sent out over 20,000 plants. Many compositions were written by the children, and among them were as correct treatises on the culture of the strawberry as can be found in much of our horticultural literature.

Lessons in insect life are given with equal value. Not only is the exquisite beauty of the butterfly's wing studied in its coloring, form, and structure, but the history and habits of special kinds among them, that cause great losses to agriculture in the destruction of grain, grasses, fruits, forest trees, and domestic animals. The losses from these aggregate hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Our beautiful flowers, parks, and lawns are disfigured and seriously injured by insects, of which the general public has but little or limited knowledge.

While we are taxing ourselves none too heavily for educational purposes, and should most carefully avoid in our teaching tendencies too much commercialism, yet our public schools, especially those in rural communities, should give instruction that will enable those who become active citizens to maintain themselves and the life of the community in a good degree of prosperity, through adequate knowledge. For the want of this knowledge, not only has the soil deteriorated, but many of the people who live upon it have lost heart and courage and have gone backward. Unless the agriculture of our great nation is fostered and the general tendency of population to concentrate in cities is changed, the peace and prosperity of our country will be menaced, and we shall repeat the history of other nations whose soil has been neglected and deserted. The most powerful influence that can be brought to bear to avert this danger, is the introduction of national nature study in our public schools.

LIST OF ARTICLES ON SCHOOL GARDENS.

The following bibliography has been prepared by Mr. H. D. Hemenway, Director of the School of Horticulture in Hartford, Conn. He does not claim completeness for it, but expresses a hope that it will be an aid to those starting in school garden work. He will be grateful for any additions to it that may be sent to him:

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SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

BUFFALO, JULY 7, 8, 9, 1903.

INTRODUCTION.

The papers contained in this pamphlet were presented at a special Park Commissioners' Session in the Sixth Annual Convention of the Association, which was held in Boston, August 5th, 6th and 7th, 1902. The chairman of this special session, which was on the afternoon of August 7th, was Mr. William B. de las Casas, the President of the Metropolitan Park Commission of Boston and its surrounding towns and cities. Following the formal papers of the session which are here presented, there was an informal, practical discussion of various phases of park work, the attendance of commissioners and park superintendents being very large from all sections of this country and from Canada.

At a special session which had been held on the preceding day to listen to addresses by commissioners of the Metropolitan, Boston, and Cambridge systems, the following resolution was presented and adopted :

Whereas, the park commissioners brought together at this meeting should not be allowed to separate without providing some permanent agency for the gathering, compiling, condensing and furnishing information relating to park work, for the comparison of views, for the exchange of experiences, for the discussion of methods, for creating mutual confidence and sympathy which adds so much to the strength and spirit of fellow workers in the same cause, therefore,

Resolved, that the president of the park commissioners' meeting be requested to appoint a committee of 12, of which he himself shall be president, to consult with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, or the Secretary of Agriculture, or Cornell University, or such other institution whose work is along this line, to make such arrangement as may be possible and seems best for the conducting of this work ; or if such an arrangement cannot be made with any institution, and it seems desirable to this committee to arrange some other method, or create some organization for the carrying on of the work, that they shall have full power to do so.

The committee appointed was : William B. de las Casas, of Boston, president ; G. A. Parker, Hartford, Ct., secretary ; William R. Willcox, president Park Commission of New York City ; Bryan Lathrop, vice-president Park Commission of Chicago ; F. L. Ridgley, Park Commissioner of St. Louis ; Thomas R. Clandinen, president Park Board of Baltimore ; L. B. Holden, former park commissioner and editor *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Cleveland ; Lewis Johnson, vice-president Audubon Park Association, New Orleans ; Dr. Charles W.

Eliot, president of Harvard University ; John C. Olmsted, landscape architect, Brookline ; Charles M. Loring, ex-president Park Commission of Minneapolis ; Charles Henry, Philadelphia.

It remains to be added that there was a delay in the publication of the papers which are now presented, in the hope that it might be possible to include with them the important statistics which the Association's Park Census Committee has been collecting. In the desire, however, to make these as complete as possible, there have arisen many delays, and since their publication must be postponed until after the next convention, these papers have been brought out by themselves. The interesting general report of the Committee which was presented to the Convention by its chairman, Mr. G. A. Parker, was published in Part 1 of the present volume, with the other business of the Convention. Part 2 contains the Convention's general addresses, and Part 3 the papers of the special School Garden Session.

PARKS AND LANDSCAPE GARDENING.

BY BRYAN LATHROP, CHICAGO.

My first experience as a park commissioner was a surprise and a shock.

For about eight years Lincoln Park had been given over to the politicians, with the usual result—extravagance, mismanagement, neglect and decay. The new Board of Commissioners was pledged to the reformation of abuses and the restoration of the park. Our success depended upon securing a man eminently qualified to be superintendent. He was to take the place once filled so ably by Mr. Pettigrew who now has charge of the model park system of this country. We were deluged with letters recommending for Superintendent a very estimable gentleman, a retired quarter-master of the United States army, who had every qualification for the office except one: he knew nothing of the making and care of parks, nothing of soils and fertilizers, of artistic grading, of planting and pruning, of the maintenance of lawns, of the nature and habits of trees and shrubs, or of the effect of time on their form and color in masses. In short, he had no knowledge of even the rudimentary principles of landscape gardening. The letters of recommendation came from presidents of railways and of banks, and leading men of affairs and of the learned professions; and in all these letters there was not one word about landscape gardening, or a suggestion that any knowledge of it is a requisite in the management of parks.

It was this that surprised and shocked me.

The writers of the letters were fairly representative of the country at large, since it is well known that few men of middle age in Chicago were born or brought up there. Let us consider for a moment what a park should be.

The true function of a park is, to afford a refuge to the dwellers in cities where they may escape from the sights and sounds and associations of the city; where the eye may feast on the beauties of nature, and where body and mind may relax and find repose. Therefore, beware of the engineer, the architect, and the sculptor, lest their work usurp undue prominence and interfere with the true function of the park.

To erect in a park buildings, bridges or other structures which are not absolutely essential, or to make them more conspicuous than is unavoidable; to multiply statues, or to introduce unnecessary formal or architectural features, is to defeat the first object of the park, to bring ruthlessly before the mind the image of the city from which one has sought to escape; it is a blunder, an impertinence, a crime.

A park, then, should consist of natural objects, turf, water, trees and shrubs, arranged by the art and skill of man so as to afford the greatest possible pleasure and enjoyment to the people, with no artificial objects which are not essential to their comfort or convenience.

To which of the arts does this work belong? Is it landscape gardening? This brings me to a vital question.

Is landscape gardening one of the fine arts, or is it only a by-product of the arts, unworthy of the lifelong devotion of a serious mind?

One is almost forced to believe that its professors are ashamed of it. Few of them even call themselves landscape gardeners any more, but "landscape architects," and latterly I have found some classified simply as "architects." The Oxford Dictionary defines an architect as "a master builder. A skilled professor of the art of building whose business it is to prepare the plans of edifices, and exercise a general superintendence over the course of their erection." I would not quarrel about the name unless there is an idea behind it. I fear that the name is only one of many indications of a tendency to introduce into landscape gardening a formalism based on architectural lines and principles which, if not checked, will very soon debase and degrade it.

Is landscape gardening one of the fine arts?

It may seem presumption in a layman to express an opinion on this subject, but there is a grain of truth in the proverbial advantage of the looker-on at a game. Ever since I wandered as a lad through the parks and gardens of Europe I have had a love for landscape gardening and have been as closely in touch with it as a layman can be.

I believe that landscape gardening is not only one of the fine arts, but that it is one of the greatest of them, and that it has possibilities of development of which the others are absolutely incapable.

Landscape art—which includes landscape painting and landscape gardening—holds a unique and distinguished position. It is the only one of the arts of design which in the nineteenth century made any progress beyond the achievements of the great artistic periods of history. All of the others have distinctly retrograded. Sculpture is now only the pale shadow of the age of Pericles. The heroic style of painting which deals with religious, historical and ideal subjects, has produced nothing within a hundred years which ranks with the work of the Italian Renaissance. Architecture as a creative art has ceased to exist. In the place of the mighty builders of the past we now have schools of architecture which formulate rules based on their work, and the best architects of our age are the most successful copyists. When an attempt is made to depart from the formulas of the schools we have such "architectural aberrations" as "L'Art Nouveau," of Paris, or the "Secession Style," of Vienna.

Landscape painting, however, has made great strides in advance of Salvator Rosa, the best of the Italians, and of the Poussins, and Claude Lorrain, the best of the old French schools. Landscape gardening has made equal progress in the past century, and is even more in advance of earlier ages than the Barbizon school of landscape painting is in advance of the Renaissance.

I believe that the explanation of this is not far to seek. A love of nature for her own sake is distinctly modern. Even the greatest of the Renaissance poets show less feeling than those of the Victorian age for the charms and loveliness of natural scenery. It is hardly more than a hundred years since painters first began to see nature as she is and to paint landscapes truthfully and without artificial features.

Until modern times landscape gardening was modelled exclusively on the

old formal gardens of Italy. The terraces which were required on the steep sides of the Italian hills were transplanted to the plains of Versailles and to the gentle slopes of England.

You all know the famous old gardens of Italy and the Continent. You remember the balustrades, the paved terraces, the straight walks between clipped hedges, the straight avenues ending in the inevitable bad statue or silly fountain, the childish surprises of objects which suddenly cover you with spray. If, by chance, you come upon a charming bit of turf, with masses of flowering shrubs and trees not in lines and left to grow untrimmed, you are told—it may be in Italian, or German, or Spanish, or French—that this is the “English Garden,” and you say to yourself, “God bless it.” There is a touch of nature in it.

Now, I ask you, are we to ignore the glorious progress of the nineteenth century and go back to this?

Instead of striving to carry landscape gardening to perfection along the natural lines on which it has made its greatest growth, are we deliberately to give up all that the world has gained and go back for our models to the dark ages of landscape gardening when it was wholly artificial and unnatural, ages before it had grown to be a fine art? I cannot believe it.

Hence, I deprecate the tendency of to-day toward a stiff and unlovely formalism in landscape design. I protest against it because I believe that it will lead to the decadence of a most glorious art which it would reduce to the condition of modern Italian sculpture, mere technique without spirit—a body without a soul.

If you think that I exaggerate, I beg you to look over one of the most popular of recent books on landscape gardening, “Gardens Old and New.” Turn to the illustrations of “formal gardens” and of formal designs; look at them with a thought in your minds of some lovely effects of planting done by nature or by some man who loved her, and tell yourself honestly what you think of the new-old art. These designs were made with a foot-rule, a straight-edge and a pair of compasses, and might have been made by an architect, for in his legitimate profession he needs no other tools.

We Americans are a fickle people and are much inclined to change our fashions, not only in dress, but in more serious things. It is this desire for a change for the sake of change which has prevented the normal development of architecture and stunted the growth of every style in its early youth, but we are also quick to learn and to adopt any new thing which is good.

The love of the beautiful has only recently begun to develop in this country, and the taste of the people is in a formative state, and they are just beginning to realize that such an art as landscape gardening exists.

The architects have done much to improve the taste of the dwellers in cities, but only landscape gardening can reach the great mass of the nation and elevate their taste by teaching them to appreciate the charming things growing wild about them, and ultimately to appreciate everything that is beautiful in nature and art.

A heavy responsibility rests on the leaders in landscape gardening. They can check the vagaries and inanities which are creeping into it and which, unchecked, will prove its ruin and will have a far-reaching effect in giving the nation a false and perverted taste. They, and they alone, can correct its decadent tendencies and maintain the standard which entitles it to rank among the fine arts and which will lead to its highest development.

Michael Angelo gave up painting in oils and adopted frescoes and architecture because they gave a wider scope for his tremendous energies. I sometimes dream that another Michael Angelo will arise among us, and that he will find in landscape gardening the widest scope for the exercise of a mighty creative genius.

In this young country, with its exuberant energy, its increasing wealth and the development of good taste and a love of the beautiful, the opportunities which the future of landscape gardening has in store for a great artistic genius seem almost boundless. With vast wealth at his command, and, for materials, the earth, the sky, the mountains, lakes, rivers, waterfalls, forests and the flora of the whole earth, and with vistas bounded only by the limits of human sight, he can create pictures which will be to natural scenery what the Hermes at Olympia is to the natural man—not copies but the assemblage of the perfections of nature, beside which the greatest works of other arts will seem as small as the oil paintings, despised by Michael Angelo, beside the dome of St. Peter's.

If landscape gardening remains true to its mission, to delight the eye and heart of man by reproducing nature at her best, this I believe to be her destiny, and then architecture will be her willing handmaiden.

PARKS AND POLITICS.

BY JAMES JENSEN, CHICAGO.

The rapidly growing sentiment for creating parks for the congested population of this country needs support, and it may be truly said that its greatest achievements are still to come and therefore belong to the future. The era of park making appears upon the historical pages of a city when culture and refinement have penetrated the narrow spheres of commercialism, when the rude make-up of a city has been mastered, and accumulated wealth demands pleasure and comfort. Therefore, we find that the introduction of parks occurs at an epoch often injurious to the artistic layout of a great city with a result which has to be overcome at an immense cost.

It is, perhaps, not always true that the motives creating public pleasure grounds are of that true and benevolent character uppermost in the hearts of those desirous for the welfare of their less fortunate fellowmen. On the contrary they often come from a selfish desire to build parks and parkways as an incentive to increasing the value of land holdings. Whatever may be the original causes, however, the creation of parks by any city must be commended as the first step of municipal art out-of-doors and a prime necessity for improving the health and morality of those who have to pass their lives in these congested spots.

Parks come into existence either through a general public demand inspired by men of higher intelligence, broad-minded, and with a love for nature, or through the benevolence of some generous, loyal and public-spirited citizen.

Nature and art are to go hand in hand crowned with the highest attainments possible by human conception, thereby adding to the prestige and good name of any city, and making life in these piles of brick and mortar worth living. Park making is a measure by which, together with other great municipal undertakings, the intelligence of its citizens is judged.

In cities where the creation of parks has been largely due to public legislation, forethought and a careful perusal of the laws framed to convey, maintain and develop acquired lands into beautiful parks have often been neglected and thus have permitted the first loophole for political misrule.

On the character and intelligence of the committee in charge depends the proper selection of lands best suitable, either on account of existing natural beauty or convenience and in reference to population justly located, and the merit of the plans adopted for their improvement.

Thus it is readily seen that the very first and most important matter in park affairs is the selection of broad-minded, public-spirited men for the office of park trustees; men whose standing in the community is high, who take pleasure in putting in their spare hours inspecting the parks, who consider the office one of honor exclusively and who are interested in art out-of-doors. With such men at the head of any park system, success is inevitable and is an honor to the city that has been so fortunate. Such men do not seek public office, but must be

called upon to serve. But how is it possible to procure good men for park boards, when through inefficient laws, the acute eccentricities or questionable ambition of politicians, a governor or mayor may chop off their official heads without the least warning before the expiration of their term, whether their duties have been honestly and conscientiously discharged or not? How un-American such proceedings are! I may ask what value can a park trustee render when not permitted to remain long enough in office to become familiar with his duties. The same question may be asked concerning park employees. It is quite different with the political park trustee. He is apparent everywhere, pushing his claims for recognition to the very doors of the executive home, pointing to his victories on the political battlefield for which he demands office, only to use it for the benefit of his agents. They, in return for services rendered, further the political ambition and selfish interest of their employer and political boss, to the continual detriment of the parks and its supporters. Wherever managements of this character are dominant their influence is plainly visible.

Statuary of questionable art is accepted, or through an over-zealous attempt to procure images of every one's idol, the quiet sylvan scenery of the park has been turned into an ancestral show-place, suggestive of certain of our cemeteries. Buildings of ugly and ill-fitting architecture obtrude upon pastoral meadows or are placed in spots inappropriate for any building. There are innovations of all kinds, including midways where the "real thing" kneels down and loads or unloads its merry crew of sightseers. Visionary tiger hunts are indulged in from the safe back of a serviceable elephant, whose sudden appearance to the timid and unaware park visitor may cause hysterical convulsions. There are ice carnivals and dances—all for the good of the party. The advertisements of some merchant who is termed a "good fellow" are thrown upon the canvas at public concerts, running riot with the sacred melodies of Wagner. Floral designs of the most ridiculous and fantastic kinds find themselves perfectly at home in this great aggregation of show fixtures. The products of the conservatories are placed at the disposal of political friends, and free boating and fishing permits are scattered broadcast as bait for the unscrupulous voter. These are undeniable facts, misleading the uneducated as to what a park should be—a place of natural scenery and sylvan beauty brought to his very doorsteps and in which his weary body and overworked nerves can find the needed rest and comfort.

Shrewdness is one of the great traits of the professional politician; so we may often see that to avoid sharp criticism the appointive power selects one man of "standing" to serve as a target on the park board; but he no sooner finds out his real mission than his resignation is placed at the disposal of the powers that be. Or, perhaps a superintendent of some qualification is selected to carry the misdeeds of the trustees on his shoulders. If he has any manhood at all, his services will be of short duration. Whether the park superintendent is a gardener of the political variety or a professional politician, whose sole duty is drawing his salary, is immaterial—the outcome is ultimately the same and per-

haps in favor of the latter, whose attempt at disfiguring the park with inappropriate improvements is usually assured.

That the paying for a plan for proposed park lands, or the plan's execution by a consulting landscape architect, ends the professional service is folly. Who dare say that after the child is born it is able to take care of itself? Upon its early education and association depends largely its usefulness in life. So it is with the caretaking of our parks. The development of such vegetation as forms the leading part in the construction of parks is one of years and its nursing needs the best of care obtainable. Continual destruction to the park scenery either from natural causes or through such agencies as polluted atmosphere, sewerage, insects, etc., characteristic of city environments, needs the watchfulness of the practical and artistic eye, if health and beauty shall dominate and the scenery be kept intact. Otherwise these agencies when permitted to proceed unrestrained will soon have changed the once pretty landscape into ruin and desolation and the original plan of the designer will be perverted to the discredit of the city that once adopted it. And how is this to be prevented when supervised by indifferent commissioners and impractical superintendents?

The caretaker must be in thorough sympathy with the plans of the designer and to be so he must be an artist himself. Parks are a necessity for the cultivation and preserving of a love for nature. They are seats of learning for the average city-bred being, and their influence is plainly visible in shaded streets and pretty home surroundings. Parks are practical schools of horticulture and the bone and sinew of municipal art out-of-doors. They are necessary for the self-preservation of those who by free will or through forced circumstances have made their homes in a large city.

And with all these facts—plain undeniable facts—parks are permitted to fall into decay through political mismanagement, a shameful spot upon the fair name of any city. Political supervision tends to destroy the beauty of our parks, promotes the carrying out of inartistic and useless improvements, depreciates real estate value, encourages immoral life and squanders public money, and fails to create for the city what originally was intended—a beautiful park, a lasting monument of nature and art, a practical demonstration of culture and refinement, to which the municipality may point with pride and honor.

That there do exist men with political ambition well qualified for the trusteeship of our parks is not denied. But these are above party politics and are able to resist the detrimental influence of the dominant ward boss. It has been said that there are visible and invisible park boards—perhaps the invisible are the most dangerous.

Germany can perhaps be taken as a model in park management as it justly is in forestry. There every city or town has its gardener or garden director, classed in rank with other heads of departments of municipal affairs.

How would it look if an advertisement appeared in one of our horticultural papers calling for a park superintendent for a certain city? This is of usual occurrence in Germany. An examination is held of the applicants and the

highest marked succeeds. The diploma of a college of horticulture, together with years of practical work in the different branches of gardening, are necessary qualifications for such positions. Unquestionably our schools of horticulture and landscape architecture should provide eligible men for the management of our parks, and a "Committee of Municipal Art," recommended by representative art associations and societies of architects and civil engineers, named by the mayor, should appoint a commissioner of public parks.

The United States Department of Forestry has in its few years of existence shown the value of trained men in its service—let us hope that the municipalities will follow its steps.

PARK ADMINISTRATION.

THE CREATION AND ORGANIZATION OF A PARK SYSTEM.

BY CALVIN C. LANEY, ROCHESTER.

The organization of a park system for a small conservative city is not now so difficult an undertaking as it was fourteen years ago when Rochester, a city of 130,000 inhabitants, inaugurated her park system, for since that time many other cities of equal or smaller size have organized park systems that have found favor with the inhabitants of the cities, and it is much easier to point to precedents than to convince taxpayers of the wisdom of a somewhat new undertaking.

Twenty years before the organization of the present park system the late Dr. E. M. Moore, the father of the parks of Rochester, and the President of the board of park commissioners, had tried to interest the citizens and the members of the common council in a park project. Through his labors a resolution passed the common council recommending the legislature to pass a law creating a park commission for Rochester, but when the subject was broached to certain members of the legislature, who had great influence in that body, it was found that the law could not be passed, and so the park project dropped from the sight of the public for nearly twenty years. But Dr. Moore never abandoned the idea of having public parks, and in 1887, when Ellwanger and Barry, the well known nurserymen, offered twenty acres of land for a park near a thickly settled part of the city, he immediately brought his powerful influence to aid the project, and with the assistance of several aldermen and other citizens, the park promoters succeeded, in 1888, in getting an act passed in the legislature creating the park commission of Rochester.

Rochester is so favorably situated near the lake, which is seven miles to the north, and within four miles of a most beautiful bay, that many citizens thought that parks were unnecessary. As three car lines had recently been extended to resorts on the lake and bay, and two more were projected, a strong opposition was brought by the promoters of these enterprises to the creation of the park system, and it was only by the greatest tact that the scheme was not defeated.

One of the most ardent supporters of Dr. Moore in his park scheme was a practical politician who advised wisely in the selection of the park commissioners. In order to get as powerful influence in favor of the parks as possible, twenty-one of the leading citizens of Rochester were chosen for the park commission. They were nearly all strong partisans who had always taken an active interest in public affairs, but there was not a professional politician among them. They were selected from various parts of the city, so that each part was represented. In vocation they were bankers, editors, lawyers, manufacturers, builders and a bishop, and all were men of good business ability, and nearly all of them had made their fortunes from humble beginnings. All the men appointed qualified for office, except one, and his place was well filled by a man who afterwards became mayor of the city.

When the park commission held their first meeting, they realized that they had had no experience in park work, so they decided to consult the park commissioners of Buffalo who had had eighteen years experience in park promotion, building and maintenance, and asked their advice as regards the proper procedure. The advice was freely given and was : "Select your landscape architect and abide by his judgment in the selection of your site for parks, and also purchase all the land needed at once. Do not appreciate values that you may be obliged to pay for in the future, and above all things keep your parks out of politics."

Following these suggestions, several landscape architects were called in consultation with the park board, and they all agreed that the beautiful banks of the Genesee river, both above and below the falls, and sufficient land on both sides to protect the banks and to afford room for the parks, should be purchased. Frederick Law Olmsted was engaged as landscape architect and the land for the parks was selected generally as he advised. Plans for the parks were made in his office. The same advice in regard to buying what land was needed at once and keeping the parks out of politics was given by Mr. Olmsted, and thus far it has been followed.

The large park commission of twenty-one members has been considered too large and unwieldy by many of the citizens who favor a board of about five, or even three commissioners. Many other citizens claim that the larger board, which has so far done excellent work, is preferable to a smaller board, which might be more easily influenced to do something wrong.

Most of the members of this larger board are men who, either for business or pleasure, travel extensively in this country and Europe and study the parks in the cities which they visit. Many of the citizens of Rochester have long since given up the idea once cherished by every boy, that they might one day become President of the United States, but there are still thousands who hope to become park commissioners, and so the ranks of the students of parks is kept full. The large board of park commissioners is seldom without a quorum, although doing business largely for others and receiving no compensation for their labors, nor the fee for attendance at meetings which must be given by many business corporations to insure a quorum.

The act creating the board of park commissioners and naming the members, made the term of office five years, and gave to the mayor, with the advice and consent of not less than two-thirds of all the members of the common council, power to fill vacancies. When the first term of office expired in 1893, the mayor, who was formerly a member of the park commission, re-appointed all the members who wished to retain their office. So the majority of the old board held over.

In 1898 a new mayor, in appointing the board of park commissioners, re-appointed the old board except three very active members against whom he had some political grievance. The appointments were not confirmed by the common council, and the old board held over, and is holding now except

three new appointees to take the place of two commissioners who died and of one who resigned.

The present park commissioners will hold office until Jan 1, 1904, when, under the White Charter, which affects the four large cities of the second class, Albany, Utica, Syracuse and Rochester, the park commission will be abandoned and the parks will be placed under the commissioner of public works, who will have charge of the parks. This charter will place the parks in the control of the politicians, unless a special act should be passed by the legislature renewing the life of the park commission, as has already been done twice since the passage of the White Charter.

The citizens who have the interests of the parks most at heart favor keeping the control of the parks in the hands of a park commission, but many favor a smaller board, some of them three commissioners, as at the city cemetery, which is very successfully managed. Others prefer five commissioners, while the present board of park commissioners generally prefer the present large board of twenty-one members.

The park commissioners should have absolute power to hire and discharge all the men necessary to conduct the affairs of the park department. The attorney, landscape architect, engineer, superintendent, architects and policemen, should be engaged by the Park Department to do special work for the parks, and should not be connected with any other department. The employees should generally be kept in the service for as long a time as possible and should be encouraged to make their work a life work and not a makeshift until something else turns up. It is particularly essential that the legal adviser be especially employed to conduct the business of the board, and that he shall not have so much other business that he cannot make a special study of the legal problems that come before a new and inexperienced park board. It is inexpedient to have the legal work done by an already overworked corporation counsel, or his assistants, who may hold their offices for only two years. The attorney for this board should attend all the meetings of the board of park commissioners and become familiar with all the discussions so he can be prepared to give legal advice in time. Many errors might be avoided if an attorney were present at all the meetings of the board and of the committees.

The policing of the parks can be better done by the park board than by relying upon the regular police force of another department. It has been the experience of the park department that the policemen appointed by the regular force do not take as great interest in enforcing the park ordinances, as a policeman who is specially educated for park work. A man who has been employed as a laborer or gardener or foreman in the parks will generally be more efficient (all other things being equal) than one who has not had any experience in park work. The policeman should be employed and dismissed as a business man employs and dismisses any help. If a business man finds that a man is unsuitable for his place he is dismissed as unsuitable, but if a policeman is dismissed, written charges must be preferred and a trial must be

held with all its disagreeable features. A man may not be suitable for a policeman and yet there may be no charges against him.

The foreman who is responsible for the work of those under him should generally have the power to select his own help, and if he be wise he will not employ any relatives or personal friends or any one for political purposes. To obtain the best results a constant effort must be made to keep the most efficient men and weed out the careless and indifferent. One great drawback towards the employment of the best men on parks is the efforts of good men and women to get places for persons simply because they need money to support themselves. Most employees who rely upon influence to get work are not nearly as efficient as those who seek work themselves and rely upon their own abilities to keep their places. There is also a tendency among business men who have received the faithful services of a man during the best years of his life to unload him on public works when he is old and useless. The generous man who has aided a poor man during a long winter is also inclined to unload his burden on the parks when the spring work begins. The money paid to these men is thrown away as far as accomplishing labor is concerned, because those useless men frequently draw the same pay as the better men, who become discouraged in their efforts to excel when they get no more pay than a charity man.

If it be the policy to make places for a proportion of the almost useless men, whose friends endeavor to saddle them on the park superintendent, some provision should be made to grade their pay according to their ability to earn the money they get.

Veterans of the war should not be humiliated by making laws giving them preference over other men in competition with them, but should be so well provided for by pensions that they need not incur the enmity of any one in the struggle for existence.

When the appropriation for park maintenance is inadequate, it is often a question what work to give the preference. In nearly all cases some work must suffer, and what work shall be allowed to suffer? It is easy to see when the public is put to some inconvenience how to provide a remedy. But to see what work is the most important to do so as not to cause an irreparable loss is sometimes difficult, and if seen by the park commissioners or the superintendent of parks, how can the work be done with sufficient tact not to offend the public beyond their endurance.

In the Rochester parks, in which are many young trees growing singly and in groups, and many acres of young forests and a few acres of large trees, care has always been had not to neglect them. Not much work has been done on the roads, and sometimes the sprinkling of roads has to be neglected for a short time during a day's hurry in haying. The athletic grounds, ball grounds and golf grounds must not be neglected or a mighty wail will be heard. The band concerts are so popular that they must be kept up at all hazards. The zoölogical collection incites more interest and draws a greater number of people to the

parks than almost anything else, and probably is the subject of greater attack from critics than anything else. The showy flowers must be maintained, for people demand them, but the shrub collection, the pinetum and the trees might be neglected and few would know the difference. And so the temptation comes to neglect that which, in my opinion, is most essential to maintain, for the injury caused by the neglect of the trees is irreparable, while the neglect of the roads and the care of the grounds for games can be remedied as soon as money is forthcoming.

What feature of the parks is most essential to preserve in case some things are to be sacrificed? Should the beautiful landscape, with the great rolling meadows, and the river, and the grand old isolated trees or groups of trees, the forests, the groves, and the sky views, which go to make up the quiet, restful place of recreation be maintained, or shall the parks be fitted for those who lead the strenuous life, the canoeist, the boatman, the golfers, athletes, and the ball players?

It seems to me that the great restful recreation grounds for the recuperation of the overworked and weary should be maintained in preference to grounds for exciting games, if all cannot be maintained.

PARK BUILDING IN THE WEST.

BY SYDNEY A. FOSTER, DES MOINES.

If the West is an outgrowth of the East, then inherited conditions have directed and to-day control much of the artificial encountered in Western development. The generations that by circumstances or ambition made the West their home, enlarged their individuality by the hardships and privations incident to building from the beginning, while contemporaneous generations in the East predicated their futures upon homestead grounds of generations that preceded. They were not required to wade into the ever-inviting unexplored, to mould the powers and resources of nature, build homes and fortunes and cities upon the integrity of pioneer faith, with a zeal and enthusiasm and determination peculiar to the West, and which was inherited largely from Eastern forefathers who laid the foundations of greatness, comfort and luxury in this magnificent and powerful New England and the East.

Their posterity is building the West. If the West is the outgrowth of the East, then the influence for refinement or otherwise of the municipal powers of the West must be in part at least to the favor or discredit of New England ; yet there dwell in the West to-day in every part the sons and daughters of some foreign mother country, and they make their impress of individuality, according to the love and traditions of the Fatherland.

Park building in the West has been experimental in many ways. When the Western settlements were made, men poor in purse, but rich in energy and zealous in industry, were required to prosecute their investments by laying them upon the corner lots of towns that should become cities. By co-operation and organized energy they induced the settlement. They made the manufacturing and bread-winning investments the first consideration for their communities, because this meant a nucleus around which should gather the great forces of capital and industry, that must build school houses, churches and public buildings for immediate use, and eventually lead to the development of cities.

In this stress of business-building the park was scarcely thought of, for all about was the open common—all the world was a park. The only exception made was the locating and dedication of a public square for a Court House, and old settlers of the West to-day recall when the Court House Square was surrounded by hitching-posts, where farm wagons drawn by oxen and horses were hitched, to allow the country people a safe place to leave their teams while they were engaged in the barter incident to the country town.

From such small beginnings, almost without exception, the cities of the great West have been built. It is a well known fact that real property nearest the center of the business district was most in demand. Even the cemeteries were not located until the mortality of the population made them a necessity ; and then for the first cemeteries beauty of location was not sought, for the bereaved friends were of the minority and the location must be made to interfere least with the progress of the town.

Public sentiment in the West has not had time to ripen into a mature and rational understanding and appreciation of art in public building. The older cities of the West have had scarcely fifty years from their inception; therefore the study of conditions bearing upon the subject of park building has been of limited duration, as compared with older parts of our national commonwealth. In the Western cities municipal improvements have demanded attention first; the necessities of streets, paving, sewers, water and lights have combined to crowd park development to one side; not because the citizens wanted it so, but because of stern necessity as there has been felt the need of holding taxation to the minimum.

There are many parks in the West to which this paper might appropriately refer, in bringing out the early efforts, discussing the quality of the present and prophesying the future, but the time limit should be respected, and I mention but two, Minneapolis and Denver. Both are beautiful. Our good friend, ex-President Loring, has, with his associates, given to the rich jewels of nature about Minneapolis a setting in art that places that Western city pre-eminently as a model in park development. Here nature was most lavish in soil, in water and in foliage. The water-falls that New England's great poet has given world-wide fame—all these needed but the kindly hand to protect and connect, until art abides with beauty resplendent in this city of our Western pride.

In strange contrast take the city of Denver, naturally an arid waste in spring, in midsummer, and to early winter, but by the energy of the builders its parks are gorgeous through simply replenishing by water. The plans had to be made, the trees planted, the shrubbery cultivated, the grass even had to be grown; and now when it is all observed in the beauty of to-day, and the possibilities of the future are thoughtfully reflected upon, we say, truly, Carlyle was right, "Man is a tool-using animal. * * * With tools he is all."

The West is proud of its cities, proud of its parks, hopeful as to its possibilities, a student at the feet of these Gamaliels, confident in the rich and glorious results to the men and women who devote so much time and energy to carry out God's plan to make the earth more beautiful.

The West is populated with workers. Their interests at the beginning lay in the acquirement of the necessities of life. With these satisfied, they have marched on to secure gradually the comforts, then the luxuries, and lastly the refinements of the beautiful in the public parks, the picture galleries for the entertainment and edification of the poor, and the admiration and edification of the rich.

With rare exceptions the West is without many valued historic and interesting places, trees, rivers and lakes, associated with family history, national history, or aboriginal legends. Where such places do exist in the West, it will require another generation to appreciate them and rescue many of them from the encroachments of a commercial appetite that exists everywhere, in the East as well as in the West. The visitor to the block house on old Fort Pitt at Pittsburgh feels that the beautiful gift of Shenley Park, rich as is this legacy to that

great city, does not compensate it, but increases the demand that the old block house shall be redeemed from surroundings of squalor, and that it shall be made an object of rare interest, at the point of birth of the Ohio river.

I indulge in another illustration to comply with the instructions of Secretary Manning, that these topics should be "suggestive rather than exhaustive." Nearly every city of the West has some local point of interest. In my home city, Des Moines, at the junction of two rivers there stood scarce fifty years ago a fort built by the United States government—Fort Des Moines. There was then no town. This property has passed now to the control of the park commissioners. They have also acquired as a part of the park property the homestead upon which was born the first white child in that section. These spots are beginning to be appreciated for their historic interest, and the imagination can supply their increased value in the hundreds of years to come.

The West does not complain when taxed for park purposes, after the sentiment demanding parks has been once developed. The Western citizens approve it, but they like to see their money well used; they like to have something to show for it.

The most important plan of park building now contemplated in the West is at Cleveland, Ohio, and if carried out the expenditure of not less than fourteen million dollars will be required. In return that city will attain a prominence in a single improvement that will equal, if not surpass, any like undertaking on either continent.

The purpose of The American Park and Outdoor Art Association is not to increase taxation, but to protect it from the impositions of malpractice by the introduction through every possible channel of the largest and best information that shall protect communities and nature from twin ravages much to be feared. The criticism I am about to offer does not apply alone to the West, but in the East time has been given to correct almost entirely the early mistakes made.

Many places in the West have wisely acquired land for park purposes, and then done far worse than permit nature to hold sway undisturbed. Some enthusiastic, well-intentioned park commissioner, assisted by some local florist or gardener, has begun without any general plan, to develop a spot here and a feature there in the park, being fully satisfied that the effort is wise, and that the result should be beneficial. I am not a landscape architect, therefore I may be permitted to say that the average park commissioner who is not a tailor might as well purchase cloth and attempt to cut and fit his own trousers and call it a suit of clothes, as to do patch planning for the development of a public park. Either might suit the individual, but how about you?

Nature compounds rapidly the investment in her kind, but the destruction of trees and shrubs without good cause is malpractice of the worst sort. It takes scores of years to plant and develop trees, and civilized humanity feels like standing uncovered in the presence of the majestic old trees that bear the marks of centuries.

The East has cured itself of the ills of malpractice within the present

generation, by the counsel and advice, the criticism and the agitation of such masters as A. J. Downing, Frederick Law Olmsted, Warren H. Manning, Calvert Vaux and others. In this the West still has to learn its greatest lessons. But the West is not without men competent, scholarly, tasteful and deserving in the profession of landscape and park planning. Our Western people are being favored with greater wealth, more leisure from toil, and are being inspired by the best in the art of park building. The years are few until we shall overtake and perhaps outstrip our Eastern brethren, in the laudable competition for the best in park building.

What we need in the West is an agitation in the smaller cities and towns in behalf of park purchases and park development, and to this end I ask that you write and talk and endeavor to create a sentiment that shall urge legislation in the various states to help the small cities and towns. Many of these will be cities of importance bye-and-bye, and park improvements early and properly begun will be blessings bought at a minimum cost, a proud legacy to the generations of boys and girls who later must be the men and women of the land.

SOME ABUSES OF PUBLIC PARKS.

BY EDWARD BAKER, NEW ORLEANS.

If public parks are not to be diverted from their proper and legitimate purposes, it would seem that the present is an opportune time for defining to what uses they should be put and what should be excluded from them ; and this association is eminently fitted to undertake this task. It is a representative body of various sections of the country and of all true park interests, and could not engage in any matter pertaining to public parks of greater moment to their future usefulness.

It is time that a clearly defined line be drawn between a public park and a place of amusement ; it is time the public were informed and that those charged with the management of public parks were in a position to inform it upon the subject. When this is made clear no portion of the public will clamor for or expect vaudeville performances, or other such amusements in a public park. It will expect to find these, and doubtless will find them, only in the thousands of private parks, gardens and resorts conducted for that especial purpose.

There are many things coming under the general head of amusements that are foreign to the true mission of a public park, and that should not be permitted even as a source of revenue. The public park should be built and maintained from the public revenues only ; for if funds are derived from a portion of the community that portion will claim, and with reason, that the park be conducted as they desire, whereas, it is for all. Even bequests and donations by individuals should be refused if accompanied by conditions that would interfere with the park's usefulness to the whole community.

Doubtless the parks in some localities are now conducted on the lines briefly outlined above, but in many places, and especially in the case of new parks or those in course of construction, it will be recognized that conditions exist that could in no way be considered as legitimate, and the necessity for definite policies and for co-operation in this matter seems imperative. In the longer established parks there seems to be considerable accord as to what may be maintained upon the grounds, such as refreshments, zoölogical gardens, museums, art galleries, boating, skating, pony rides, swings for children, and in some instances, gymnasiums and swimming baths, as well as concerts for short seasons.

This seems to be a long list when added to the benefits derived by the use of large open spaces of healthy country with groves of trees, lawns and beautiful vistas. It ought to be sufficient for purposes of recreation and amusement, and, incidentally, for much educational work.

Would it not be well for a committee of this association to define what additions to a beautifully made and beautifully kept tract of land, known as a public park, are legitimate; and would it not be well for public parks to conform and not add thereto without consultation and a decision that the proposed addition is wise ?

There is yet another matter from which it is believed all parks suffer in more or less degree, and of which this association would do well to take cognizance.

The subject is the improper and immoral uses made of public parks by portions of the public. It is perhaps best to recognize that the introduction of this subject will meet with immediate and numerous objections, and that they should be promptly answered in order to secure for the subject itself that consideration to which it is entitled. It will be claimed that the matter is of local control, to be regulated by the authorities of each park, by the municipal government, or both, and is beyond the province of this association ; that it would be an interference in matters of park management, etc.

Now, while it is true that the purpose of this association is to advocate the building of parks and places of outdoor recreation, together with their beautification, in order to advance physically and morally the health of communities—especially that of the younger generation—it is equally true that its sphere of usefulness should be enlarged to giving consideration to such matters as will preserve the parks from evil influences, that will maintain and elevate their moral tone in every way. And while it is undoubtedly true that the actual work of correcting abuses must be carried out by the park and municipal authorities, it is believed they could be materially assisted by a study of the subject within this association, and by the adoption of lines of policy upon the formulation of which ordinances or regulations could be based. Such a course, pursued during the past three years upon the subject of unsightly advertising, has already borne fruit and assures a reform much desired, and it cannot be doubted that the subject here under consideration is of far greater moment. It may be that some parks are so complete in means and equipment that they are enabled to guard effectually against immoral practices, but it is believed that very few are so fortunately situated, and that in a majority of cases the park authorities would gladly accept advice and suggestion looking to a mitigation of the evil.

Among superintendents and other executive officers this subject is not an uncommon topic, and views are frequently exchanged relative to measures of prevention. Many devices and methods have been tried in various places, such as fencing, and closing gates at certain hours, distinctly a step backwards when we have been for years advocating no fences for public and private grounds. In the case of a prominent city it is understood that of late the shrubbery has been cut away from the borders of squares and parks as the only known method of getting rid of objectionable practices. What a condition! If this method should be found effective and be put into practice generally, what becomes of the park, one of whose principal features is the border planting intended to exclude from view and thought the busy city just beyond? Are we to spend large sums and devote years to a work that we must hereafter destroy because it is found to harbor a nuisance? If so, let the plans of many parks be altered at once, for it is better not to build at all than to destroy. To guard effectually every portion of a large park with watchmen or police, night as well as day, would in most cases be impracticable, as it would double or more than

double the cost of maintenance and make the park financially a burden beyond reasonable cost or calculation.

It is not considered necessary to more than call attention to this subject. It is impossible to enter here into any details, but it is certain that those interested in park management will recognize the magnitude of the evil, and agree with the writer that a section or committee could well take cognizance of and give serious thought to this matter.

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REPORTS
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Seventh Annual
Meeting.

Buffalo, July 7, 8, 9,
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VOLUME VII.

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REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES AT
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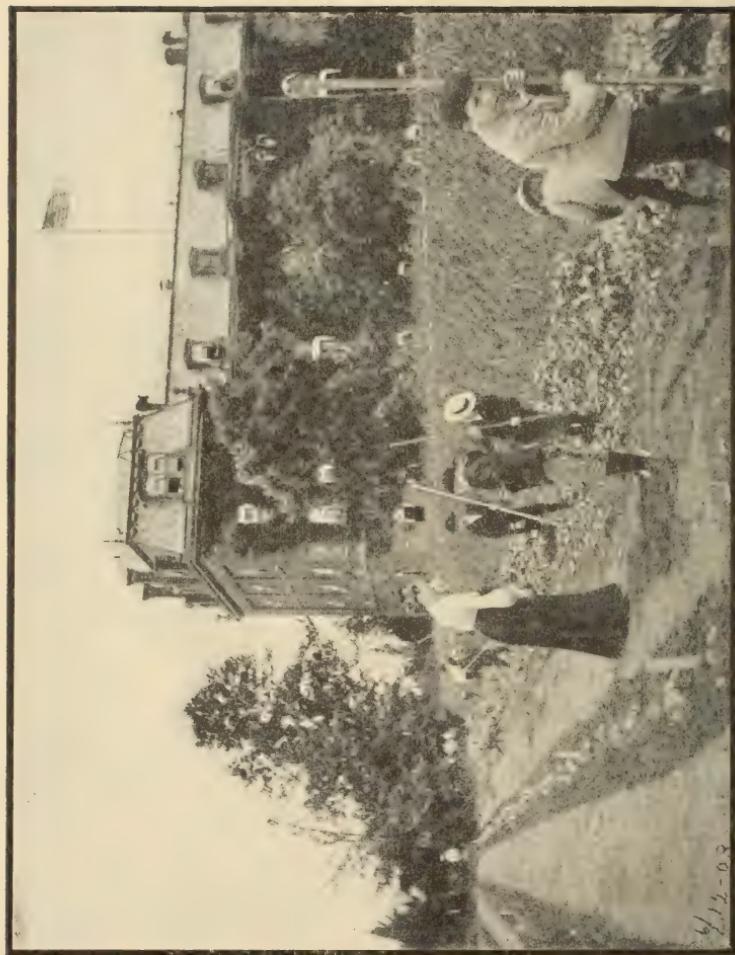
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SCHOOL GARDENS ON THE GROUNDS OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
AT WASHINGTON.

612-02

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Your committee on school grounds undertook first of all to find out what has been done and is now being done throughout the country, for improving the outdoor environment of the school children. This was in order that the committee might have material for studying conditions as they now exist, and might thus be in a position to make a report giving some definite suggestions for the improvement of those conditions. Briefly stated, the committee sought to learn what is being done to improve the outdoor environment of school children, (a) by planting trees and ornamentals to improve the appearance and esthetic influence of school grounds, (b) by establishing flower and vegetable gardens as sources for Nature Study material and outdoor manual training, and (c) by supplying public playgrounds with apparatus for the amusement and physical training of children.

For the purpose of securing data along these lines, your committee resorted to published reports, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and personal investigation. These have been fruitful sources of information and yet the committee is fully aware that the detailed statements submitted below are, at best, fragmentary and incomplete, that they do not represent all or nearly all that is being done to make school life more attractive and wholesome. But sufficient data have been secured to enable the committee to learn the trend of effort in this direction and to make a few suggestions for further promoting the movement.

With reference to the planting of trees and shrubbery it has been found that in many, probably in the majority of, instances this work has gone hand in hand with the establishment of school gardens—flower and vegetable gardens. It has been found a fruitful source of instruction in Nature Study, a means for arousing and developing an appreciation of the beautiful in outdoor art, and its influence has, in nearly all cases, extended to the homes of the children, with the result that many efforts have been made to improve the external appearance of those homes. Efforts along this line are not by any means general but interest in the work is active, especially in the North Atlantic and North Central States. It should be fostered and encouraged wherever a member of this Association or of any of its auxiliaries can be found.

School gardens—meaning by the term flower and vegetable gardens utilized for educational purposes—are more numerous, or at least more of them have been reported to your committee. They are found in the East, the Middle West, the South, the Far West, and our Insular possessions. They are maintained in connection with the Kindergarten and with every other grade up to

the High school. However, the really significant and permanently valuable feature of recent progress in this connection lies not so much in the extent of the movement or in the grade of instruction as in the fact that school gardens are being started in connection with fifteen or twenty normal schools, that the officers of ten or twelve agricultural colleges are preparing school garden plans and courses and otherwise co-operating in the work, and that departments of public instruction all over the United States are displaying much interest and activity in the school garden movement. In this way preparation is being made for putting school garden instruction on a pedagogical basis. Nearly every new educational movement has its fad or sprout stage during which it makes a luxuriant growth in the sunshine of popular favor and is only saved from breaking down of its own weight by the level-headed few, who possess not only enthusiasm but the necessary native ability and persistence to make the thing succeed. This is followed by a period of reaction, of cutting back, during which, if unworthy, it dies or, if worthy, takes root deep in the rich earth of our existing educational institutions and prepares for a less showy but strong and vigorous growth. It is encouraging, therefore, to note that so many of our leading educational institutions are already preparing to give adequate and intelligent support to the school garden movement, to prepare teachers who shall be able to make the school garden truly an educational feature.

Inquiry into the condition of the movement for the establishment of public playgrounds equipped with apparatus for amusement and physical training shows that much progress has been made but that in most of the larger cities the facilities for this feature of outdoor development are still far from adequate. In Boston, New York, Chicago, Portland, Me.; Newark, Buffalo, Louisville, Columbus, St. Louis, Pittsburg, Grand Rapids, Cleveland, Minneapolis, San Francisco, and Washington there are good beginnings, and in Philadelphia, Baltimore, St. Paul, Terre Haute and Jersey City something has been done. A few of the larger cities are maintaining four or more playgrounds, provided with elaborate gymnastic apparatus, ball grounds, swimming tanks, etc. Many of the smaller cities in the East are also agitating the question of providing playgrounds.

There seems to be a growing sentiment in favor of thus providing places where children can play without encountering the dangers and degrading influences of the street and alley. The vacation school has become in several cities an especially valuable agency for providing wholesome amusement during that most trying period for city children, the summer. Play is the normal occupation of childhood. It is almost as necessary to perfect development as are sunshine, water, air and food. And the child will play. How important, then, that means be given to lure him from the filth of the gutter and the pestilence that breeds therein.

In all this work—school ground improvement, school gardens, playgrounds—there is a fine display of spontaneous unselfish effort. Colleges, normal schools, public school authorities, park commissioners, societies and

individuals are co-operating or working independently as the case may be. It matters not so much how they are working so long as they are doing something. Every member of this Association has an opportunity, and it is his duty to do something to promote this movement. He may not be able to establish a playground or to provide means for conducting school gardens. He can, however, use his influence with school officers and other officials, arouse interest among his neighbors and friends, help secure suitable locations for school gardens, point out ways and means and in a hundred ways help to create a sentiment in favor of providing a more wholesome environment for school children and instruction which will bring them into more intimate and pleasant relations with the beautiful things in nature.

Your committee would therefore recommend:

1. That the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, acting through its committees, individual members, and affiliated organizations, lend its active support and encouragement to the beautification of school grounds and to the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and playgrounds for children,
2. That, in pursuance of this end, the Association co-operate with city and school officials, local associations or other organizations, and
3. That the Association encourage the establishment and maintenance of courses of study in normal schools, agricultural colleges and other like institutions of learning, such as will prepare teachers for work of this kind.

(a) PLANTING TREES AND ORNAMENTALS FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOL GROUNDS.

One of the most active agencies for the improvement of school grounds, both urban and rural, is the Bureau of Nature Study of Cornell University, New York State. For a number of years this Bureau has been working among the children of the state through Junior Naturalist Clubs, the total membership of which includes over 18,000 pupils in the public schools. Each member is reached through the "Junior Naturalist Monthly" and by correspondence through the school teachers. A little over a year ago the Bureau decided to put this vast machinery into operation for the improvement of school grounds.

"The Youths' Companion" which is doing much good work along this line in many different states, and the Hon. Wm. A. Wadsworth of Geneseo, a member of this Association, co-operated with the Bureau, the former, by offering flags and pictures, and the latter by offering cash prizes for the best results in improving rural school grounds. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has also lent his support to the movement. The result has been the awakening of a general interest in the improvement of school grounds and the actual realization of much better conditions in many rural and city schools.

During the past year twenty-four hundred children wrote to the supervisor of the Bureau telling what they had done for the betterment of four hundred and seventy-five school premises.

In Rochester the efforts of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union for the improvement of school grounds antedated the efforts of the Bureau in this direction by a year. Many of the school children undertook to improve their surroundings. The Rochester "Post Express" sums up the results in the following paragraph :

"Green turf has taken the place of bare clayey banks, and shrubs and flowers grow where the burdock and tomato can flourished in days gone by. The windows of the schools are filled with ferns and flowering plants, and the interest taken in the school yard has extended to the home surroundings—to the betterment of whole neighborhoods."

Similar work has been done in a number of schools in Cleveland, under the auspices of the Home Gardening Association; in Washington, D. C.; in Detroit, and in numerous other cities. In most cases the work has been accomplished with so little ostentation that outside attention has not been attracted, but its influence has been none the less elevating and helpful, not only to the pupils but also to the homes of the pupils.

(b) FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDENS AS SOURCES FOR NATURE STUDY MATERIAL AND FOR OUTDOOR MANUAL TRAINING.

NORTH ATLANTIC STATES.

In the North Atlantic States, Massachusetts and Connecticut have made greatest progress in the establishment of school gardens. In Massachusetts, Boston continues to be the center of the school garden movement. Here the work was started twelve years ago in connection with the George Putnam Grammar school and has been continued with marked success to the present time. For ten years the work was confined to native wild flowers and ferns, but since 1900 vegetable gardens have been made a prominent feature.

About three years ago the Boston Normal school began similar work with vegetables on a vacant lot at the corner of Dartmouth St. and Warren Ave. At this place boys from the Rice Training school and girls from the Franklin school had individual gardens under the supervision of a science teacher in the Normal school who was assisted by her normal students. This work has succeeded admirably not only in furnishing garden work for the pupils of these two schools, but also in providing training for prospective teachers. This year three graduates of the Normal school have been put in charge of school garden work in seven of the other city schools, and a fourth graduate has charge of gardens in connection with several of the schools at Brookline.

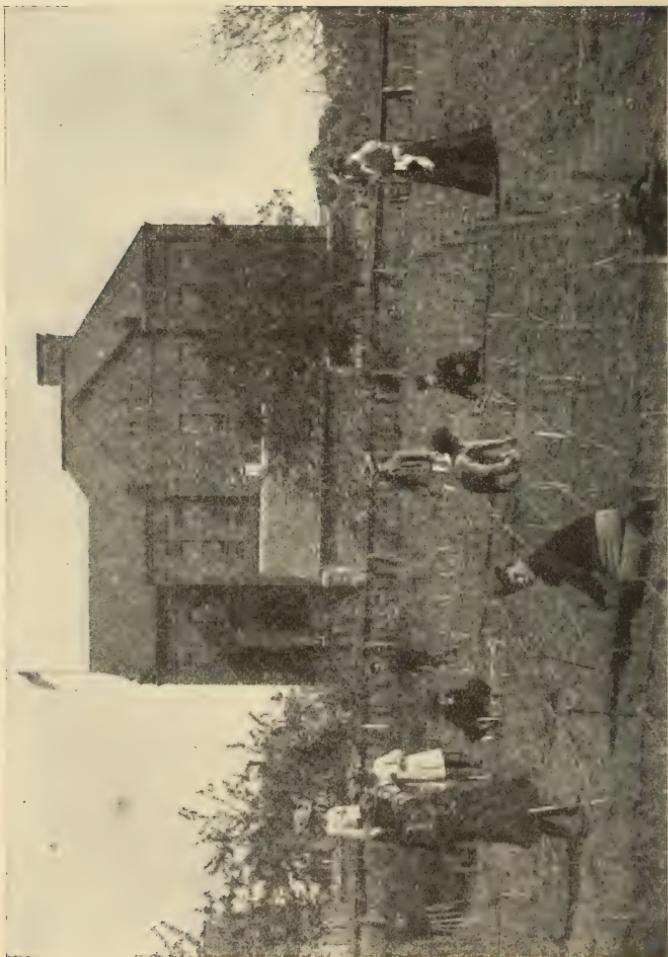
Another notable enterprise of this kind in Boston is the Hale House Farm. Hale House is a social settlement in Boston, the officers of which procured last summer several acres of ground at Watertown, one hour out by street car, where twelve of the boys erected a small cottage in which they could stay nights and Sundays. Most of the boys were at work during the day, so that their time at the farm was limited. However, they planted potatoes, peas, beans, corn, watermelons, muskmelons, squash, cucumbers, lettuce, and beets, and succeeded very well. The enterprise is being continued this year with prospects of even greater success than attended last year's efforts.

In the vicinity of Boston several towns have inaugurated work on the plan originally followed at the George Putnam Grammar school. Medford has three such gardens and Wenham five. East Dedham, on the other hand, is branching out on original lines. A new school house is just being built and a progressive school board has employed a landscape architect to take charge of the planting, with the result that the grounds are to be provided not only with shade trees, shrubbery, and play grounds, but also with a botanic and flower garden, a rockery, a vegetable garden with individual plats for a large number of pupils, and a nursery for growing trees and shrubs.

In the public schools of Worcester the raising of plants has been substituted for the old-time work in botanical analysis. Gardening work, however, is only one of the many valuable features of nature study work conducted in these schools. At Groton, school garden work has been conducted in connection with the School of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening for Women.

At least two of the normal schools of Massachusetts, viz : those at Hyannis and Framingham, have incorporated school garden work in their practice schools to give their normal students training. At Hyannis the garden work is made the basis for numerous exercises in connection with the mathematics, book-keeping, business training, drawing, and language work of the school. The children write letters to the seedsmen from whom they purchase seeds, sell their produce, deposit money in the bank, make purchases and pay for them with checks drawn on their account.

Connecticut has its School of Horticulture at Hartford, and school gardens in connection with the Normal school at Willimantic, several of the schools of Hartford, and the school at West Hartford. The School of Horticulture maintains the largest number of gardens of considerable size of any institution in the country. There are 166 gardens apportioned as follows : For teachers, 24 gardens each 10 by 30 feet ; for boys and girls, 125 gardens each 10 by 25 feet for first-year pupils, 16 gardens each 10 by 30 feet for second-year pupils, and 1 garden 10 by 40 feet for a third-year pupil. The pupils are drawn largely from the city schools and have one hour a week in the gardens. The second-year pupils also have root grafting and greenhouse work, including the preparation of soil, potting, repotting, and pricking out plants, and will later be instructed in budding, spading, etc. Each city school is given six free scholarships. First-year pupils not receiving scholarships are charged \$5 tuition. In close proximity



MARKING OFF THE GARDEN, AT HYANNIS (MASS.) NORMAL SCHOOL.

From "How to make School Gardens," by H. D. Hemenway.

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to the children's gardens, the School of Horticulture maintains demonstration plats, 40 feet square, of many staple crops, such as cereals, flax, hemp, cotton, sugar cane, rice, tobacco, millet, and sweet and medicinal herbs; also smaller plots of the various bedding plants. All of these plats are distinctly labeled, a feature which adds greatly to their educational value.

In Maine, Bath and perhaps a few other cities have begun school garden work and this last spring the Maine State Pomological Society held a two-day horticultural school for children at Winthrop, in which considerable effort was made to arouse an interest in nature study work and school gardening. A member of your committee gave an illustrated lecture on school gardens the first evening of the school.

In Providence, R. I., school garden work began eleven years ago at the Vineyard Street Grammar school with the planting of ferns and violets in one of the angles of the building. Gardens have also been conducted in connection with the Kindergarten, the Benefit Street Primary school, and the Vacation schools of the last three years. This spring ten new school gardens have been started in the city. At several other points in Rhode Island great interest has been aroused in the work and at East Greenwich arrangements have been made for beginning it. For two years the Rhode Island Horticultural Society has offered prizes for the best kept school gardens.

In Vermont the State Normal School at Johnson maintains a half-acre experimental school garden in connection with the training school. A portion of the garden is devoted to co-operative flower and vegetable growing by the pupils in the lower grades, the remainder to a potato crop in charge of grammar grade pupils, each of whom has "one long row to hoe." The work includes instruction in the use and effect of fertilizers. The Experiment Station at Burlington co-operates with the Normal school, furnishing "some of the materials and much good advice." In Burlington a garden was started this spring in connection with the Adams school.

In the state of New York more attention is given to the improvement of school grounds than to the cultivation of vegetables. In New York City, however, two experiments in vegetable growing by children are worthy of mention. The first of these is at DeWitt Clinton Park where Mrs. Henry Parsons, a member of the school board, secured permission last year to fence an area 114 by 84 feet for the purpose of giving some of the children in the vicinity useful and wholesome employment. The planting was not done until July and the soil was very poor, the plow having turned up rags, wire, lime, and stones—relics of a former dumping ground. But in spite of these drawbacks marked success attended the experiment. A tent was put up which contained seats and blackboards for instruction, and later a flag-pole was raised. The children came in squads of 25, each wearing a tag numbered to correspond with the number of his 3 by 6 garden, and were given work not only in gardening but also in clearing the ground of stones and preparing it for planting. At first the children were given the choice of being farmers or policemen and quite a good many thought

they would like to be policemen, but after the third day the police force had all deserted to the farm. The work will be continued this year and there are plans for laying out a country home including a portable house, lawn, paths, flowers, etc. In a recent letter to the writer Mrs. Parsons says that the children "work like Trojans and the gangs turn in to help. My little teacher is as safe in that tough neighborhood now as in her own parlor." To overcome in a measure the influences of the street and factory on graduates of the public schools Mrs. Parsons has recently organized an Alumni Association in what is considered the toughest school in that section. The president and vice-president of the Association are principals of large schools and are native residents of this district.*

The other enterprise is in its infancy. Teachers' College has purchased land lying between Broadway, Amsterdam Avenue, 120th and 121st Streets, about an acre of which will be utilized for educational purposes. A part of this land has already been developed as a school garden or outdoor laboratory for the re-organized and enlarged department of Nature Study. The garden is both horticultural and agricultural. Cereals have been planted and experimented with, also vegetables and other plants, the whole serving not only as a practice ground for the prospective teacher of a rural school but also as an object lesson to the children of the allied preparatory schools, the Horace Mann and the James Speyers Experimental schools.

In a few other cities of the North Atlantic States vegetable gardening is being attempted in connection with the schools. Such work has been reported at Elmira, N. Y., and at Trenton, Newark, and Princeton, N. J.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES.

In the whole stretch of Coast States from Delaware Bay to the Gulf only two school garden centers are reported. These are at Hampton, Va., and Washington, D. C. At Hampton, school gardens are conducted at the Whittier School in connection with the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute for negroes and Indians. Two hundred plats, varying in size from 4 by 6 feet to 11 by 16 feet, are devoted to this work. Each plat is worked by two pupils, and all of the work is done under the supervision of a man who is employed to take general charge of the gardens, plant the border beds, and keep the paths in order. Every child in the school, from the kindergarten to the seventh grade, is required to work in the gardens two recitation periods a week. When this work began, nearly three years ago, not a few of the pupils thought it a disgrace to work out of doors, but at present there is not a pupil who does not look forward with eagerness to the gardening periods. The work is conducted on pedagogical principles and is so correlated with the other school exercises as to make it truly educational. It is also arranged in such a way that pupils finishing at the Whittier School are fully prepared to take up the agricultural

*See the illustration on page 29.

work in the Institute. Many of the negro schools in the vicinity of Hampton and Norfolk have begun school garden work under the direction of Hampton graduates.

Instruction to the school children of Washington in growing flowers and vegetables began in the Normal school about a year and a half ago through the co-operation of the instructor in botany in the Normal school and of the Department of Agriculture. The first year nothing was attempted except home gardening on the part of the Normal school students, but this experiment was so successful that plans were made for broadening the work. Last winter the Department turned over to the use of the instructor in botany and her Normal school students a small greenhouse and a work room where the students met once a week and received instruction as well as practical experience in examining and handling soils, germinating seeds, planting, potting, transplanting, making cuttings and grafting. When spring came each of the ninety-seven Normal school students was required to start a home garden in which she might be able to carry out the instructions and experience of the class room and work room. Connected with the Normal school are twelve practice schools containing about four hundred and fifty children who have been given seeds for home planting and are under the instruction of the Normal students. In this way the children are receiving valuable instruction in plant growth, and the future teachers of Washington are being trained to carry on the work in an intelligent and practical way.

In addition to this work the Department of Agriculture has placed at the disposal of the Normal school a strip of land 10 by 250 feet, which is being cultivated by a class of thirty boys and girls from a sixth grade school in the vicinity of the department grounds. Each plat is 7 by 10 feet and contains the common garden vegetables and a few flowers. The success of the experiment has been remarkable, not only in the general good condition of the gardens, but in the marked enthusiasm shown by the children for their work. It is all volunteer work, and yet many of the pupils spend time during recess periods and after school in their gardens.

The influence of this work in connection with the Normal school is extending to other quarters of the city. Through the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture, the National Plant, Flower and Fruit Guild, and the social settlements in the city, gardens containing from ten to twenty-five plats each, have been started in different localities. The places were selected by an officer of the Guild. The children to carry on the work were secured through the social settlements, and seed was furnished by the Department, which also sent out a gardener to superintend the planting, and now furnishes volunteers to oversee the work after office hours. Through these influences also a great many home gardens have been or are being planted in the vicinity of the various garden centers.

SOUTH CENTRAL STATES.

In the South Central States school garden work has been reported at Louisville, Ky., and Tuskegee, Ala., but no information has reached your committee regarding the status of the work in Louisville this year. At Tuskegee the work is conducted in a practice school connected with the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute much in the same way that gardening is carried on at Hampton. It furnishes practice work for the Normal students and prepares pupils in the practice school for entering the Institute.

In this connection an enterprise now under way in Tennessee is worthy of mention. Plans have been made and land purchased for the establishment of a central rural school twelve miles from Knoxville. The property acquired contains 14 acres, a part of which will be used for campus, 5 acres for a model farm and 6 acres for garden, orchard and play grounds. The pupils in this school, in addition to receiving a sound elementary education, will learn how to farm, how to plant and cultivate fruits and flowers, and how to raise poultry and operate dairies.

NORTH CENTRAL STATES.

In the North Central States the school garden movement is in a condition of ferment. With the exception of a few centers not much has been done but a great deal is being planned.

In Ohio the work of the Home Gardening Association at Cleveland in maintaining school gardens at the Rockwell School and in promoting the home gardening movement throughout the city is being continued. So, too, is the work of the National Cash Register Company at Dayton in furnishing gardens and instruction in gardening for about seventy boys. There is also a movement throughout the state to interest children of the rural districts in growing vegetables and flowers at home. This work is conducted through the teachers and school officers encouraged largely by the Ohio Students' Union, the College of Agriculture of the Ohio State University and the Ohio State Experiment Station. This year seventy-seven boys and four girls in Springfield Township are making simple experiments in growing corn, and eighteen girls are raising vegetables from seed furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Illinois has several strong agencies working for the introduction of school gardening and instruction in the elements of agriculture among the schools of both city and country. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the officers of the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois, the officers of several of the State Normal schools, and a number of the county superintendents of schools are active in this movement. There are definite reports of school garden work being started at the Normal schools at Charleston, Carbondale and Dekalb, but in the Chicago Normal School, nothing of the kind has yet been attempted. The Superintendent of Schools in Winnebago County, O. J. Kern, of Rockford, is an enthusiastic worker for everything that will

improve the rural schools—school gardens, experiments in growing crops by farm boys, the planting of school grounds, and discussions in meetings of teachers. Through his influence school gardens have been started in about fifteen districts of the county and in many other places flower beds or plants or trees have been set out. This spring every township in Winnebago County had a graduation exercise with a program full of subjects relating to the beautifying of school premises. The sole topic of the country school section of the Northern Illinois Teachers' Association held at Dekalb, April 23-25, 1903, was school gardens. It was also an important topic at the Winnebago County Teachers' Institute held the last two days in April and the first three days in May.

Through the efforts of the Commercial Club of Indianapolis, Indiana, five of the schools of that city were supplied with seeds this year and garden work was begun.

In Michigan, school gardens were started this spring at the Second Avenue school in Grand Rapids, a garden for each room.

In Minnesota, Minneapolis had gardens at the Horace Mann School and one or two others last year and started work at ten schools this spring. Duluth has school gardens at the Webster school. The department of agriculture of the University of Minnesota is doing all that it can for the rational development of school garden work and other features of elementary agriculture in the schools of the state.

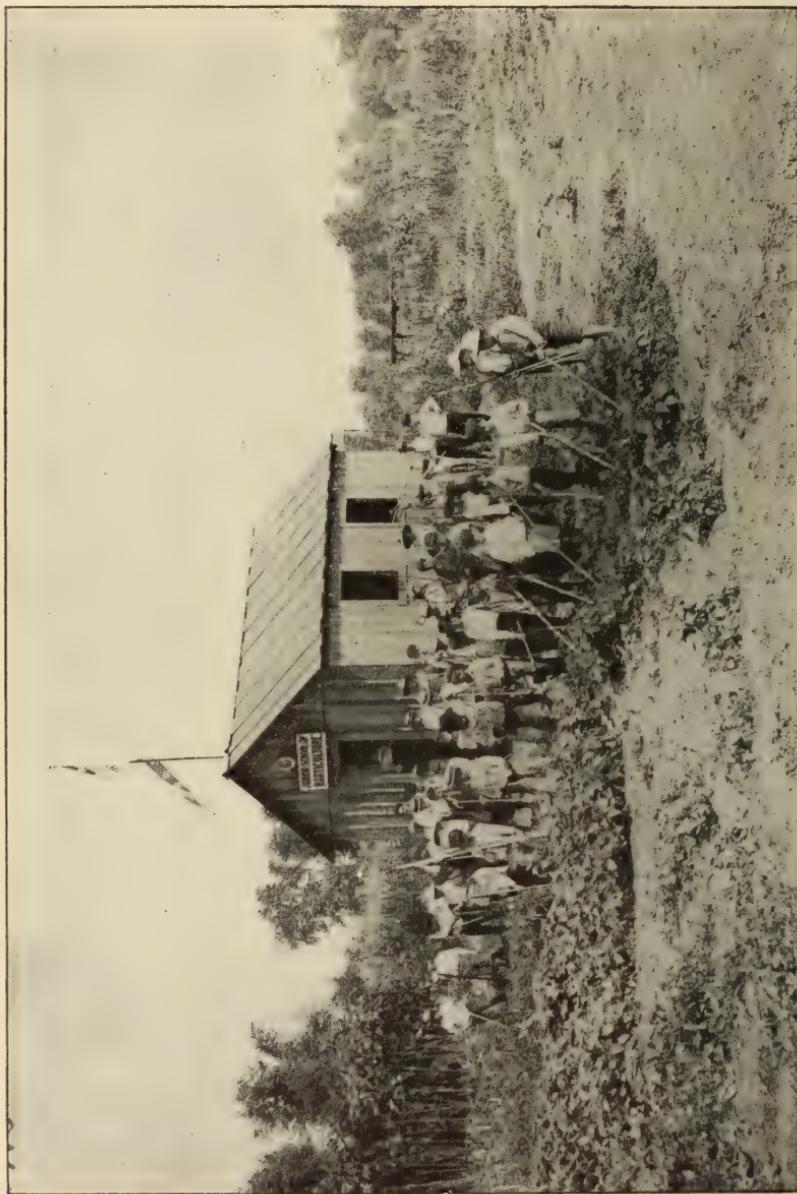
Omaha is the only city in Nebraska reporting school garden work. For two years all of the pupils in the lower grades have received instruction in growing plants either in boxes or out-of-doors, and a number of the schools in the city have engaged quite largely in garden work. Reports indicate that the work has been popular and successful.

In Missouri school gardens are reported at Carthage, Old Orchard, and St. Louis. The work at Old Orchard was started this year, and that at Carthage several years ago by W. J. Stevens, who has since been called to one of the large schools in St. Louis and has inaugurated similar work there. At first Mr. Stevens' work, both at Carthage and St. Louis, consisted in getting the boys started in growing vegetables and flowers at home, but this year he has secured the co-operation of the officers of the Hodgen school, of which he is principal, in organizing garden work in connection with the school.

About the middle of June a Junior School of Horticulture was begun in St. Louis under the direction of the Civic Improvement League. The League was given the privilege of using as much land as was needed of a one hundred and sixty acre tract belonging to the Missouri Botanical Garden. At present (July 7) sixty gardens, 11x165 feet, are laid out and occupied. Any boy in the city may have a similar plat on application free of charge. The common vegetables, such as corn, tomatoes, beans, turnips, etc., and several varieties of flowers are planted, and the planting is uniform throughout the garden. The boys come in classes of fifteen one morning each week to receive instruction, and all are present on Saturday morning. There is a wonderful opportunity for work of

BOYS IN JUNIOR SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE OF ST. LOUIS.

Courtesy, the Civic Improvement League of St. Louis.



this kind to succeed in St. Louis, for many citizens have taken a keen interest in the movement. Funds have been provided for expenses and prizes, and enough land has been offered for the use of the gardens next year to enable the League to supply one thousand boys with gardens if there should be a demand for so much. The boys themselves are most enthusiastic and there is no doubt that they will be on hand early next spring to put in their claim for gardens.

In this connection it is worthy of note that the U. S. Department of Agriculture has made plans for laying out and conducting model school gardens at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Prof. C. F. Wheeler, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has been put in charge of this work and if his present plans are carried out an experienced man will be in charge of the gardens throughout the season and will conduct daily exercises with volunteer pupils from the St. Louis schools.

WESTERN STATES.

The far West has furnished your committee but few reports of vegetable gardening in schools. It is known that the Normal schools of Los Angeles, Cal., and Salt Lake City, Utah, have made garden work a feature of their practice schools for a number of years. Pueblo, Col., schools have also had successful experiments in gardening. In Riverside County, Cal., school gardening was started this spring in eleven schools. Regarding the work in the Riverside (city) schools the Riverside Morning Enterprise says: "School garden work was begun by the first and second grades but the infection soon spread to the third and fourth grades and on to all the other classes of the school. The children spaded up the hard ground themselves, worked it up by rakes and shovels, got all the seeds they could from every source and took vast pleasure and satisfaction in planting their flowers and vegetables, and in caring for them when they came up. They would fight for the gardens—no one dared lay a finger on them save in the way of kindness."

INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

Attention has been given to garden work in the schools of Hawaii for more than fifty years. General Armstrong, founder of Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, reports that in 1856 he had organized agricultural and industrial societies among the natives and that kale, sweet potatoes, squash and the like were grown with great success by some of the schools. Work of this kind has been continued to the present time and now occupies a prominent place in the school curriculum. The work along agricultural lines was found to be so popular and so helpful to the general school work that in 1898, shortly after the establishment of the Normal School in Honolulu, a department of Nature Study and agriculture was organized in this school and put in charge of a graduate of Cornell University. This course in the Normal School includes garden and field work, budding, grafting, potting, transplanting, study of domestic and wild

animals, beneficial and injurious insects, etc. Plots of ground are assigned to groups of students who supervise the work of the pupils of the training school in caring for these plots. These training school pupils work together by grades, raising vegetables which are disposed of in the city markets. The proceeds are used to purchase school equipment. The other grade schools of the city are also given instruction similar to that in the training school by a traveling instructor, and a portion of each school's grounds is set apart for the growing of vegetables.

In the schools of the Island outside of Honolulu considerable attention is given to the study of agriculture. In some cases the teachers have had special training in this work and the results have been proportionate. Each year the number of trained teachers is being increased by the graduates of the Normal School, and the superintendent of public instruction expresses the hope that "in time all the teachers on the force will be fitted to give instruction in the courses of nature study and agriculture."

In Porto Rico twenty agricultural schools, accommodating fifty pupils each, were organized by the commissioner of education in the fall of 1901. Each school was provided with an acre of ground where each child was given a small plot on which he was required to work daily. The children were from eight to fifteen years of age and their teachers trained American agriculturists.

(c) PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS SUPPLIED WITH APPARATUS FOR AMUSEMENT
AND PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Your committee sent inquiries to the principal cities of the Union, asking for information about playgrounds, public and private, especially in regard to the use and amount of apparatus. Letters were sent to Portland, Jersey City, Newark, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Baltimore, New York, Chicago, Grand Rapids, Cleveland, Columbus, Terre Haute, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Los Angeles, Lincoln and Louisville. In general the reports indicate that the playgrounds are almost exclusively given over to smaller children for sand gardens, elementary individual work, and games, and that the use of gymnastic apparatus is extremely limited. At the time of compiling this report, no adequate replies had been received from New York City and Chicago, but the following information was obtained through the Boston Public Library :

In New York after five years of labor the Outdoor Recreation League accomplished the laying out of playgrounds and gymnasiums in five city parks. At Seward Park there were opened early in June a gymnasium, running track, athletic field, playground, loggia-pavillion, and a bath house. Two other parks were to be similarly improved before the summer was over, and a measure is on foot to add four more playgrounds to the park system. There are also two private outdoor gymnasiums. The following printed list of equipment, etc., is from the Report on Vacation Schools and Playgrounds in 1900, the latest that could be obtained.

Vacation Schools, Playgrounds, Etc.—70.

Vacation Schools	10	Recreation Piers.....	6
School Playgrounds	29	Roof Playgrounds	2
Outdoor Gymnasia	3	Swimming Baths.....	11
Outdoor Playgrounds..	9		

In each school playground provision is made for

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Gymnasium. | 4. Library reading room. |
| 2. General games. | 5. Quiet games. |
| 3. Kindergarten. | |

Equipment of Public School Playgrounds.

1. Gymnasia :	2. Basket Ball,	8. Quiet games :
Combination ladder,	3. Swings,	Chess,
Parallel bar,	4. See-saws,	Checkers,
Horizontal bars,	5. Ring toss,	Crokinole,
Buck, Mats,	6. Piano,	Dominoes,
Spring-board,	7. Sand court,	Authors,
Jumping standard.	9. Books, papers, and magazines.	

Equipment of Outdoor Gymnasia.

1. Traveling rings,	8. Inclined poles,	15. Striking bag disc,
2. Vertical rope ladder,	9. Spring-boards,	16. Basket ball,
3. Climbing ropes,	10. Horse,	17. Swings,
4. Climbing poles,	11. Buck,	18. See-saws,
5. Vaulting rings,	12. Jumping standards,	19. Sand court,
6. Horizontal ladders,	13. Parallel bars,	20. Kindergarten tent.
7. Horizontal bars,	14. Hitch and kick,	

In Chicago there is a playground on Gross Avenue, 300 by 125 feet, with some apparatus, swings, shelter, etc. In Jackson Park, Gage Park, and McKinley Park there are grounds reserved where children play, with fields for ball and tennis, wading pools and some outdoor gymnasias. These are under the charge of the South Park Commissioners.

Detailed information regarding other cities where public playgrounds are maintained follows :

In Boston there are fourteen playgrounds in charge of the Department of Parks. The ground most fully equipped with apparatus is the Charlesbank. The open-air gymnasias for men, women and children there are extremely popular and too well known to need description.

The Columbus Avenue Playground, which the Park Department allows the Massachusetts Civic League to conduct, is a bare lot some $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent, the larger part of which is used for field sports. At one end a strip of land 175 feet by 150 feet is fenced with chicken netting for the smaller children. Here a shelter 50 by 20 feet has been built over three large sand boxes, and eight

swings and four teeter ladders have been put up. These, especially the swings, are always in use. Another line of apparatus, consisting of sliding poles, has recently been added to these. The sides of the enclosed space are lined with gardens belonging to the individual children in the neighboring schools. Two young women supervise the children's play, and two are in charge of the gardens. A second strip, 75 by 150 feet, has been similarly enclosed about the boys' apparatus. Here there are two horizontal bars, three teeter ladders, two sets of flying rings, two trapezes, two sets of sliding poles, two sets of parallel bars, and a vaulting horse. The sliding poles are always in demand, and there is generally a line waiting for a turn at the trapezes. The use of the other apparatus has been much increased by lessons from one of the instructors, and by putting up the enclosing fence which seems to lessen the temptation to stray away to the field. The average age of the boys using the apparatus is eleven years. An instructor is in charge of the enclosure and two others supervise the games on the field.

Within a year three small playgrounds have been equipped by the Park Department on the plan of the children's corner of the Columbus Avenue Playground. These are the Ashmont, the Fellows Street (Roxbury) and the Mystic (Charlestown) Playgrounds. Plans for apparatus for the Prince Street Playground and the First Street in South Boston are receiving serious consideration. Franklin Field is largest in area, having 77 acres. It is largely given up to field sports, but there are two shelters there, back stops for baseball, and grounds for football, tennis, and cricket. All of these have been used freely during the past season. At the Christopher Gibson, the Neponset, the Charlestown, the North Brighton, the Billings Field, the Roslindale, and the First Street Playgrounds, skating parks have been made in the winter and enjoyed by thousands. At the Savin Hill Beach Playground, baths have been erected, and the attendance has been large. At the Billings Field Playground there is a wooded shelter for viewing games, tennis courts, and in the winter, a toboggan slide.

The playground system is well developed in Boston and is steadily enlarged. Many other smaller cities in Massachusetts are planning playgrounds. Lawrence has acquired land for the purpose and Fall River, Gloucester, Haverhill, Reading, Winthrop, and Taunton have plans more or less fully matured. The same is true of Providence, R. I.

In Portland, Maine, there are two playgrounds, one carried on by the School and Playground Committee of the Civic Club of Portland, the other under the management of the Park Commissioners and supported by the city. The Civic Club Playground last year was open six weeks and attended by over 4,000 children. A supervisor, Mr. Ostram of New York, with an assistant kindergartner, were in charge. The apparatus consisted of horizontal bars, climbing ladders, swinging rings, lawn swings, five large swings, four teeter boards, two slide boards, a large shaded sand box, with the usual pails, shovels, spoons, marbles, checkers, ring toss, croquet, basket ball, bean bags, and raffia for basket weaving. The playground under the charge of the Park Com-



BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL AT THE "TRIANGLE,"
A LOUISVILLE PLAYGROUND.

Courtesy of the Recreation League of Louisville, Ky.

missioners had the same kind of apparatus, only less of it, and was used by younger children.

In Jersey City the only playground is the back yard of the Whittier house, which accommodates about fifty children. They have swings, hammocks, teeter boards, sand piles, tether poles, and flower beds.

Newark is very far advanced in the matter of playgrounds. They are under the control of the Board of Education and under the direct supervision of Mr. Sickel, the leader of the Newark Turn-Verein. Teachers are appointed after a trying examination. Gymnastic apparatus, in charge of two college men, has been placed in three of the playgrounds, and the results of the work have been very satisfactory. Basket ball, carpentry, sewing, and cooking are taught. Newark has been unusually progressive and stands in the front rank in the matter of playgrounds.

Philadelphia has not been very progressive in respect to playgrounds, though the Civic League Club in co-operation with the Board of Education has made efforts in that direction. Some of the school yards are kept open in the summer as playgrounds, but there are no proper playgrounds open the year round with adequate supervision. Much the same conditions exist in Baltimore.

In Buffalo four playgrounds are already established; the average daily attendance in 1902 was about 4,950. The equipment in them all was about the same, and consisted of swings, box swings, see-saws, sand boxes, running track, flying rings, parallel bars, ladders, hand ball, basket ball, May poles, quoits, medicine ball, indoor baseball, and football. A strong effort is being made to establish more playgrounds with complete equipment.

In Pittsburg, where the system has been organized for nine years, all the playgrounds but two are in the school yards. These two are the South Side Recreation Park and the Bedford Basin Park, opened this year. The recreation parks are well supplied with apparatus for open-air gymnasia, but the basketball and football games are so popular as to crowd out other exercise to a considerable extent. In the public school playgrounds there is little apparatus; the usual equipment consists of two or three large swings, sand boxes with buckets and shovels, toy brooms and carts, horse reins, small balls, bean bags and bean bag boards, ring toss, a foot ball, and Indian clubs. The emphasis is put on domestic and manual training rather than on apparatus, and the equipment consists mainly of sewing, cooking, basketry, Sloyd, Venetian, nature study, color, and bench work materials, rather than of gymnastic apparatus. The aim of the work of the summer playgrounds and vacation schools of Pittsburg, Allegheny and vicinity is distinctly educational, and is well systematized and developed.

In Cleveland playgrounds in school yards were carried on in connection with the Vacation Schools, but for lack of proper space were not very satisfactory. The equipment consisted of swings, hammocks, croquet, ring toss and sand piles, and interest was taken in kite making, crocheting, and hammock making. There is a playground in connection with the Council Educational

Alliance, supplied with cable swings, baby swings, see-saws, sand bin, basket ball courts, summer house, parallel bars, horizontal bars, flying rings, flowers, shrubs, and fountain. The grounds are open all day until 10 p. m., and are under the supervision of a man for the boys and a woman for the girls. During the winter the ground is flooded for a skating rink, and in the summer occasional band concerts are given. At the playground at the Hiram House Settlement the equipment consists of basket work materials, sand boxes, horizontal and parallel bars, hand ball and basket ball. The grounds are in charge of a kindergartner, and two men, gymnasts expert in outdoor athletics. There are band concerts and trolley parties to the neighboring beaches and country. Some playgrounds have been established in the city parks.

There are three playgrounds in Columbus carried on by the Civic Committee of the Federation of Women's Clubs. These playgrounds are in the charge of supervisors, are open daily, except Sunday, from eight to five, and are equipped with garden swings, sand piles, teeters, blocks, croquet, and all small games.

In Minneapolis there are two public playgrounds maintained by private enterprise; these are carried on in the public school grounds, and vacation classes have been added. The work, partially supported by the Board of Education, is still in beginning stages. There is no mention of equipment. Playgrounds have also been in operation in St. Paul.

In Grand Rapids there is a private playground near the Bissell House, opened in 1902, in which year also public school playgrounds were opened on Congress Street and Pine Street. The latter is equipped with a running track, several ladders, a horizontal bar and climbing poles for the older boys and girls, besides two basket ball grounds, one for the boys and one for the girls. There are also teeters, swings and swing boards for the smaller children. Playgrounds on Second Avenue and at the Union School are being equipped this year, making four public playgrounds in the city.

In Terra Haute part of the yard of the Social Settlement has been used as a playground by the neighborhood children.

There is no movement in this direction in Lincoln, Nebraska, because there has seemed to be no need for it.

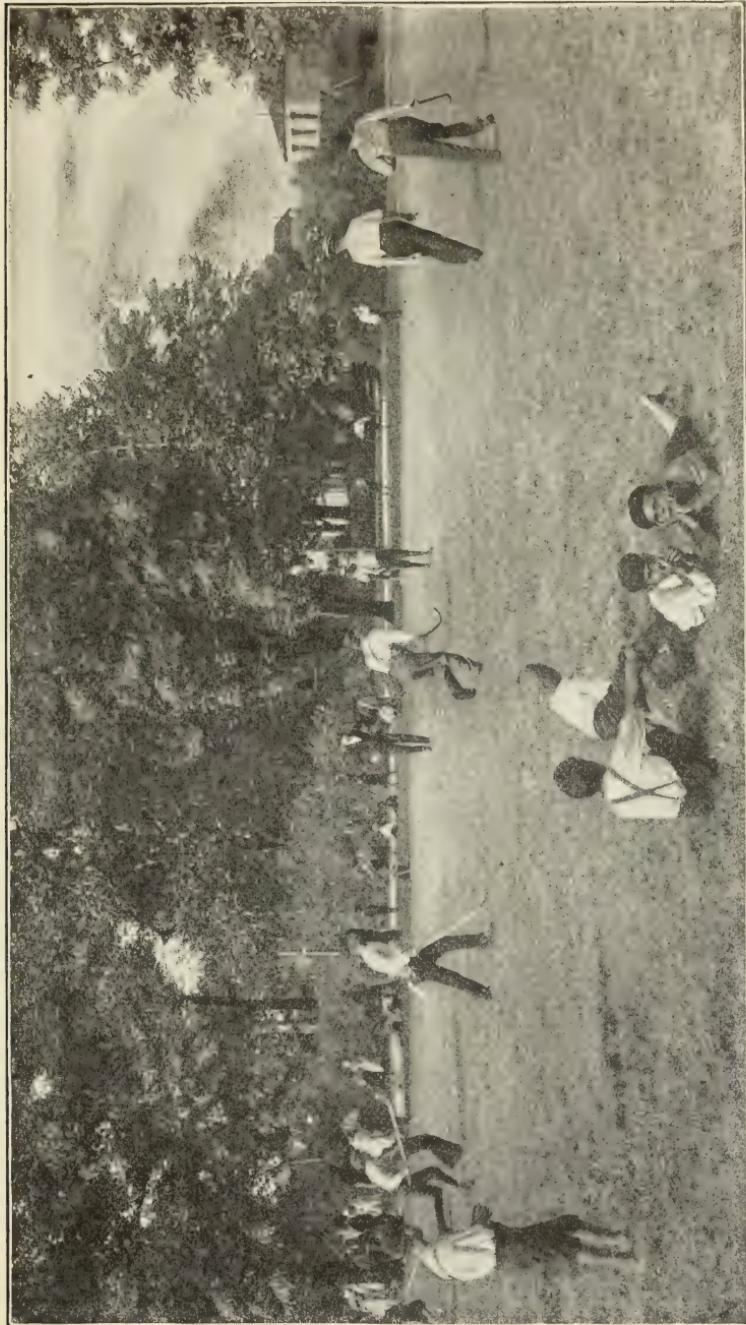
In St. Louis the work is under the auspices of the Vacation Playground Committee which has been engaged in the work for three years and publishes annual reports. There are seven playgrounds in operation. The equipment consists of shower baths (in three of the grounds), swings, see-saws, sand boxes, building blocks, baseball, basket work, sewing, small games, hammocks, toys, ring toss, pingpong, ten pins, etc.

The following table gives the conditions in Louisville with admirable clearness:

PLAYGROUNDS MAINTAINED BY BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS.

LOCATION.	Size acres,	EQUIPMENT.	SUPERVISION.			AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.		
			1901.		1902.	1901.		1902.
			Boys	Girls	All.	Boys	Girls	All.
Triangle Playground, established 1900	7 38	<p>PLAYGROUNDS FOR LARGE BOYS. Baseball diamond, athletic field, football field, jumping standards, two tennis courts, vaulting pole.</p> <p>PLAYGROUND FOR SMALL CHILDREN. Wading pool, basket ball court, croquet grounds, open-space swings, revolving seesaws, sand courts.</p> <p>OPEN AIR GYMNASIUM. Tinbark, horizontal and parallel bars, giant stride, ladders, swinging rings.</p> <p>PLAY HOUSE. Rough stone, cement floor, tiled roof, toilet rooms, play room and arena.</p>	Warran McFarlane	Benj. Salterwhite.	43	9	52	77
DuPont Square, established 1898.	18	<p>Baseball diamond, basket ball court, tennis courts, croquet grounds, swings, sand pile, jumping standards, vaulting pole.</p>	Allan McDonald. Jessie Davidson.	Allan McDonald. Lucile Freeman.	87	66	53	154
Baxter Square, established 1901.	2	<p>PLAYGROUNDS FOR SMALL CHILDREN ONLY. Baseball diamond, basket ball court, jumping standards, sand pile, blocks, croquet grounds, tennis courts, wading pool.</p>	Mary Scribner. Neal Hughes.	Caroline McKinney.	58	17	75	90
Boone Square, established 1892.	4	<p>Two baseball diamonds, basket ball court, croquet, tennis court.</p> <p>OPEN AIR GYMNASIUM. Horizontal and parallel bars, giant stride, swings, jumping standards, sand court, toilet rooms.</p>	Jessie Davidson. Neal Hughes.	Jessie Davidson. Rob. T. Cabel.	91	65	156	206

In addition to those the Park Commissioners maintain three large exterior parks; Jacobs (Iroquois) Park (670 acres), having no playground features; Sutwnee Park (168 acres) with baseball diamond, tennis courts, football field and swings; Cherokee Park (295 acres) with golf links, baseball diamond, tennis court, football field and swings.



FIELD HOCKEY AT BOONE SQUARE, LOUISVILLE.

Courtesy of The Recreation League of Louisville.

PLAYGROUNDS MAINTAINED BY SUBSCRIPTION.

LOCATION.	Size Feet.	EQUIPMENT.	SUPERVISION,			AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.		
			1901.	1902.	Boys Girls All.	1901.	1902.	Boys Girls All.
Newshoys' Playgroun. (Evening Post)	200x90	VACANT LOT, Taubark, baseball diamond, jumping standards.		(Not Conducted.)	Allan McDonald. Pete Pareto.			Morning only.
Neighborhood House; A Social Settlement Playgroun.	189x81	YARD. Swings, blocks, sand piles, jumping standards, basket ball, horizontal bar, punching bag, boxing gloves.		(Not Conducted.)	Caroline McKinney. Pete Pareto			50 41 91
Market and Wenzel School Yard.	21x50 91x41	Baseball, swings, basket ball, jumping standards, sand piles, blocks, checkers, croquet, quoits.		(Not Conducted.)	Caroline McKinney. R. T. Cabel.			53 19 72
Floyd and Chestnut School Yard.	198x65 150x146	Baseball, swings, basket ball, jumping standards, handball court, croquet, sand piles, blocks, quoits, checkers.		Adele McGill.	Open part of Season.	74	30	104
Normal School Yارد.	90x45	Baseball, swings, basket ball, jumping standards, horizontal bars, sand pile, blocks, croquet, checkers, ring toss.		Mary Scribner. Allan McDonald.		26	26	52

Total daily attendance, 1902, 1,042.

From the Pacific Coast cities no direct report was received. Your committee is under the impression, however, that the only playground on the coast is at San Francisco, where a fully equipped ground is maintained by the city.

In Washington, D. C., the first public playground for children was established several years ago between Ninth and Eleventh Streets and Virginia and Georgia Avenues, S. E., by Col. Theodore Bingham, at that time in charge of public buildings and grounds in the District. This ground is not supplied with apparatus. Last year a playground was maintained by the Neighborhood House Social Settlement in the rear of its building. It was used mainly by girls and small children and was supplied with teeters, swings, and other simple apparatus. This year a playground has been opened between Sixth and Seventh Streets on M Street, S. W., in a large fenced area belonging to the District, which was formerly used for the storage of building materials. The apparatus erected includes four swings, one teeter-ladder, one horizontal bar, two see-saws, six traveling rings, one incline ladder, one set of climbing poles, one giant stride, and one sand box. In addition to this apparatus the committee in charge laid out a baseball diamond and put up a punching bag. In this same inclosure are located ten of the model gardens mentioned in another part of this report. A playground for colored children is maintained this summer on M Street, S. W., between First Street and Delaware Avenue, and small playgrounds have been opened at the corner of Tenth and V Streets, N. W., New York Avenue and First Street, N. W., and L and North Capital Streets.

DICK J. CROSBY, MARY MORTON KEHEW,

H. D. HEMENWAY, JOHN W. SPENCER,

Committee.



VEGETABLE GROWING BY CHILDREN OF THE TENEMENTS IN NEW YORK.

The experiment of Mrs. Henry Parsons.

Courtesy of Mrs. Parsons.

REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

OF

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL GARDEN COMMITTEE OF THE
AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

SUBMITTED JULY 8TH, 1903.

CALIFORNIA.

California is a thousand miles long, and living in the southern end, as far from some of our important centers of population as New York from Florida, I do not pretend to describe the School Garden movement throughout the state. I can only say in a general way that a number of teachers are working on these lines.

In Riverside County, where I live, some forty teachers have had School Gardens during the last year; always with pleasant results, and sometimes with brilliant success. The pupils of many a little lonesome school, away out on the parched and burning plains, have gleefully taken me to see a garden plot where vegetables and flowers have been made to grow under hardest conditions, where all the water for the crop was carried in lard pails from a distant well, and when not a drop of rain came to help them.

My observation leads me to believe that the time is ripe for the School Garden idea. The whole education and life of the teacher tends toward things scholastic, and away from such things as planting seeds and tending plants. It is often difficult, therefore, to obtain the inspection required. I would suggest Normal Schools and Teachers' Institutes as the places needing the greatest attention from your Association.

(Signed) EDWARD HYATT,
(*Superintendent,*)
Riverside County.

CONNECTICUT.

I am glad to report that in Connecticut considerable progress has been made in the School Garden movement during the last year.

The State Normal School at Willimantic, under the principalship of Mr. Phoenix, has conducted a School Garden for several years, and School Gardens have been conducted in a smaller way in some of the towns and villages. In my own effort to spread the movement I have given illustrated lectures before the teachers in Middletown, the State Normal School in New Britain, and at Newington, and have carried on considerable correspondence. I have also spoken

before six or seven schools in Hartford, as well as before the Educational and Workingmen's Clubs of the City, and at the Grange at West Hartford. A year ago only one school in Hartford had School Gardens; there are now four schools having them. West Hartford also has School Gardens, and a prize contest is in progress there.

Perhaps the best move for the future advancement of School Gardens has been made by the School of Horticulture in Hartford, where a course in School Gardening has been offered to teachers. Twenty-two teachers are in the class which began work the 14th of February, and have received systematic instruction in practical work ever since. The work began with various methods of root grafting, followed with planting the seed in the greenhouse, potting, repotting, pricking out, and finally transplanting into gardens; also marking and staking out the gardens, and caring for them. The School Gardens at the School of Horticulture are the largest in the state—the size of our smallest garden being 10 by 25 feet.

I fully believe that it is only a question of time when a large percentage of schools will at least have plots upon which material can be grown for Nature Study. Considerable enthusiasm has been roused, and in spite of the difficulty of obtaining land, seeds, and the frequent lack of funds, the greatest drawback in the rapid progress of the movement is the lack of knowledge upon this subject by the teachers.

(Signed) H. D. HEMENWAY,
(*Director, School of Horticulture*),
Hartford, Conn.

DELAWARE.

Strictly speaking, there are no School Gardens in Delaware. The matter has been discussed at Grange meetings, the Farmers' Institute, and other public gatherings, and in conversation with school superintendents and principals. It has also been presented by letters to committees of the state Federation of Women's Clubs. Thus a good deal of interest has been aroused, and although no gardens have yet been started, many teachers and pupils in the public schools of the rural districts have become interested in the improvement of the school-house grounds, and have planted trees and shrubbery, and in some cases flowers about the school-houses.

(Signed) WESLEY WEBB,
Dover.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

In the spring of 1902, the Department of Botany of the Normal School applied to Dr. Galloway, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, for aid in introducing elementary gardening into the school. He assigned Professor L. C. Corbett to give a course of lectures to the students, and seeds were distributed for home gardens. The success of these gardens, as shown by photographs and a flower

exhibit in October, proved to Dr. Galloway that teachers and pupils were thoroughly in earnest, and he placed at the disposal of the school a small greenhouse and a strip of land ten by two hundred and sixty feet.

Late in October, the first lesson was given on herbaceous cuttings. These were rooted in sand in the greenhouse. There was no workroom, and as the greenhouse could accomodate only four, the class of twenty-five seated themselves on a pile of lumber nearby and made cuttings under the guidance of their teacher, a novel sight to visitors on the Department grounds. It was thought best that the school should assume entire charge of the greenhouse, so, though the school is more than a mile distant, the watering of the plants has been done entirely by the girls after school hours.

Later a workroom was fitted up with potting benches, and here the students have been given lessons on potting, germination, life processes of plants, soils, and grafting. The instruction was guided with a view to adapting it to graded schools, and most of the lessons have been given by the students to children in the practice schools connected with the Normal.

The material propagated during the fall and winter has been distributed to schools for school ground decoration. Special attention has been given to the grounds around the Franklin Building, where the school is located, which had never before been in keeping with their surroundings. Plans for a School Garden were submitted by the Normal Class and the best one, keeping a central lawn and border planting, was followed. Early in April, every boy who would bring a hoe, rake, spade or small wagon was given the privilege of working in the garden for one afternoon. The plot was thoroughly spaded, seeded and rolled and the plan of planting laid off in three hours. Each of the lower grades of the building took a certain portion under its special charge. One morning during closing week a teacher on her way to school was attracted by an unusual crowd at one corner of the building. She hastened to find the cause and to her astonishment discovered that a nasturtium in the second grade garden had bloomed and was responsible for the gathering. The growth in two months has been marvelous. So much have the children been congratulated by school officials and neighbors that the little ones have volunteered to come once a week through vacation to keep the garden and lawn in order. Under the direction of the Normal instructor fifteen to twenty children work Wednesday mornings for an hour. And this is but one portion of the work of the Normal School. Each of the ninety-two girls has her home garden. These have been visited by the instructor and show much improvement over last year's.

We feel we have begun at the right place—educating the teachers, but particularly those just entering the profession.

It has been interesting to note the varying methods of the teachers of the grades in caring for their small plots. Some were all enthusiasm during planting time, but have only given spasmodic attention since; others have allowed as much work as could be accomplished before school, the rest remaining undone. One has seemed to solve the problem. She has made the care of the

garden a regular part of the daily program, a very short period, but it has taught the children the necessity of constant attention. She has made the problems in arithmetic and the composition work bear on the subject. Alert to the Nature Study connection, the day the higher grade pupils were given a lesson on making a lawn, she gave lessons on seed-eating birds, pigeons and sparrows being plentiful.

(Signed) SUSAN B. SIPE,
(*Normal School.*)
Washington.

FLORIDA.

Florida has as yet hardly awakened to the value and necessity of School Gardens, though in my opinion there is no state in the Union situated so as to receive greater immediate and lasting benefit from this form of public school instruction. The Southern School and Home will continue its campaign in behalf of School Gardens, and I think that normal instruction may soon be expected.

A few primary teachers have had their little plots which have served as a basis for Nature Study. The graded school at Eustis has just secured a block adjoining the school and Miss Ella Mendenhall is planning to use a considerable portion of it for school gardening for some of the lower grades. We are hoping to hear within the season of a definite plan for a course of this kind reaching all the grades.

(Signed) H. E. BENNETT,
Tallahassee.

ILLINOIS.

We began School Gardens in the schools of our district last spring, and I have not yet had time to get a complete report. I expect to publish an illustrated report about November, 1903.

As to the state at large; gardens have been established at the State Normal School at DeKalb, at the Charleston Normal School, and at Carbondale and Macomb. I cannot report as to the rest of the state as I have not had time to investigate conditions in the various counties.

(Signed) O. J. KERN,
(*County Supt. of Schools*)
Rockford.

INDIANA.

I am seeking to establish a garden of birds and botany for the benefit of our schools. While this will be a School Garden, it will not be exactly along the lines usually meant by that phrase. I have forty-four acres which will

eventually be deeded to the city for the use of its public schools. Twenty-nine acres of this land is a primitive forest which has never been pastured, and with very abundant flora. It is to be kept in its primitive state. The remaining fifteen acres can be devoted to gardening, and here I would like to have growing every hardy plant known in this country. In the woody part of the land there will be constructed a building for the use of classes in ornithology and botany.

(Signed) WILLIAM W. WOOLLEN,
Indianapolis.

MAINE.

The School Garden movement in Maine is only at its beginning. Efforts this year have been directed towards awakening an interest among teachers and school officials, and papers on the subject have been given in several of the County Teachers' Conventions. The Women's Clubs of some of the towns have been urged to co-operate, and in several instances they have given effectual aid in calling public attention to the importance of School Garden work. The principal handicap is the common failure to comprehend its practical educational value. People are inclined to look upon this as a kind of fancy work, although it happens that in this state the cultivation of the soil forms an essential part of the people's support.

I am unable to report that any measures have been taken in the larger cities of the state, with the actual result of establishing School Gardens. The smaller towns of several of the counties, notably in Oxford, Penobscot, Androscoggin, Kennebec and Aroostook, have made a practical application of the idea. The School Improvement League, a state organization which aims to improve general school conditions, has also rendered active assistance. Figures, which do not include the spring and summer months of 1903, show that about the school houses of Maine have been planted over three thousand shade trees and many thousand shrubs. About eight hundred schools have planted gardens. These are almost entirely rural schools, and most of the gardens have been flower gardens. Probably very few have been made the basis of systematic instruction.

The State Educational Department, through Dr. Stitson, the State Superintendent, has given hearty sympathy and support to the School Garden movement. I believe conditions are extremely favorable for a rapid extension of this work in Maine next year.

(Signed) PAYSON SMITH,
(*Superintendent*)
Rumford Falls.

MARYLAND.

School Garden work is as yet in its infancy in Maryland. Only two gardens have been established in the counties, as, for instance, one on Solomon's Island.

In the city of Baltimore the largest and most successful School Gardens are

situated in Patterson Park. These were planned by Mr. Charles L. Seybold, the progressive and public spirited superintendent. They cover 675 feet and include over 200 separate gardens, containing all kinds of vegetables, flowers, and ornamental trees and shrubs, both native and foreign. The park has been partly supplied from these nurseries, which are cultivated by children from the neighboring school under the charge of Mr. Edwin Hebden, Principal of Group A, Public Schools. There is also a small space devoted to children's gardens in Riverside Park under the care of Mr. William Wessels, Superintendent of the southern district, in which much interest has been shown by Mrs. VanSickle, wife of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Baltimore City. Mr. Henry Zoller, Jr., Principal of Group Q, has a garden, and Mr. Jos. S. Whittington, Principal of Group K, has another one in Waverly, a suburb of the city. At school No. 49 Miss Alice Grimes has a window garden where she raised strawberries this spring. The berries were very fine, and served as models for the children's painting lessons. The Children's Playground Association of the United Women of Maryland, of which I have the honor to be recording secretary, has for four years had gardens in Carroll Park where vegetables of many kinds were raised and sold by the young gardeners of both sexes for the benefit of their playground.

In conclusion it occurs to me to suggest that the unification of the school and playground work would lead to the best results possible, as the instruction in the schools and the planting of seeds and cultivating of plants would be rewarded by the reaping in due season.

(Sgd.) ELEANOR W. FREELAND,
Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Many new School Gardens have been started at the different schools in Boston, among them the Hancock, Martin, Ira Allen, Lawrence, Lyman, Winthrop and Wyman. These are all in congested districts and will be a boon to poor children. Another garden has been entered for a prize which is offered by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. This garden is in the yard of the Cobbet School, in Lynn, and is due to the enthusiasm of Mr. Philip Emerson, the principal of the school.

The Massachusetts Civic League has two hundred small gardens for children on Columbus Avenue, and these are in good condition. The garden of the Boston Normal School and the vegetable and wild flower garden of the George Putnam School will be opened to the inspection of the delegates and visitors at the convention of the National Educational Association, July 9th.*

(Signed) HENRY LINCOLN CLAPP,
(Principal George Putnam School)
Roxbury.

*The Committee on Education of the Twentieth Century Club in Boston has prepared a leaflet describing in more detail the School Gardens of Boston

and vicinity in 1903. The leaflet, in noting the following gardens, gives special credit to the Boston Branch of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association: Columbus Avenue, boys and girls have individual gardens of flowers and vegetables; Normal School Garden, (Dartmouth Street, corner Warren Avenue), gardening done by boys from Rice School and girls from Franklin School. One hundred and twenty children in all. Indoor and outdoor lessons in Nature Study and Gardening given by Normal students. Individual beds. The district is thickly settled and numbers of small home gardens are carried on in back yards. Columbus Avenue Garden, boys and girls. Two hundred and forty-five individual beds of flowers and vegetables. Lyman School, (Gove Street, East Boston) boys and girls have individual gardens. Very crowded district. Hancock School, (Parmeter and Prince Streets) individual beds of flowers and vegetables for girls of seventh grade. District most crowded in Boston. Population exclusively foreign. Wells School, (Charles Bank) girls of sixth grade have individual gardens of flowers and vegetables. Winthrop School, (Tremont Street near Eliot) girls cultivate gardens by grades. Martin School, (Huntington Avenue, corner Worthington Street) boys and girls of sixth grade have individual gardens, four by four feet, of flowers and vegetables. Ira Allen School, (Parker Street) children of third grade (primary) have individual gardens, four by four feet. Other primary grades have class beds. Florence Street, Primary, (Roslindale) boys and girls have individual gardens of flowers and vegetables. Lawrence School, (South Boston) boys of eighth grade have individual gardens of flowers and vegetables. Very crowded district. Gardens have also been started in half a dozen other Boston schools. In the suburbs there are the following: Lincoln School, (Brookline) boys and girls have individual beds. Sewall School, (Brookline) boys and girls have individual beds. Parson School, (Brookline). Curtis School, (Medford) individual gardens of vegetables, wild flowers, shrubs and ferns. Swan School, (Medford) Community plan. Hardy perennials, annuals and some attempted vegetable raising. Washington School, (Medford) small vegetable garden. Centre School, (Medford) vegetables and some flowers. Brooks School, (West Medford) wild flowers and ferns. Cradock School, (West Medford) primary gardens.

A school garden exhibit was held by the Committee from July 6th to 10th.

MINNESOTA.

In Minnesota there is much interest in the School Garden movement and in the general ornamentation of the grounds about homes and public buildings. Our Superintendent of Public Instruction, as well as other prominent educators in the state, are deeply interested. But at present there is great need by the teachers of information as to the best method of getting helpful results from this movement, and it seems to me that some instruction along this line should be offered in our Normal Schools. I think nothing would help the School Garden movement so much as to require of all teachers of Nature Study a knowledge of the general principles of agriculture, and that they illustrate their Nature Study subjects from the actual conditions surrounding our agriculture.

Our School of Agriculture is, of course, a step in this direction, and the grounds of our experiment station we regard as School Garden grounds. We have here some five acres planted in forest trees, containing forty-three species

and varieties. This is what is termed in Europe a forest garden, and it shows the trees under forest conditions.

My co-laborer, Prof. Hays, has done considerable good work in advancing the School Garden movement, and I think the lessons presented in the little book, "Rural Agriculture," which has been recently gotten out under his direction, will be found very helpful. My feeling is that it would be better to draw the illustrations for Nature Study from an economic subject than to illustrate them simply by a great amount of what may be called abstract material as is commonly done. I use the word "abstract" in the sense of its application to some economic condition.

(Signed) SAMUEL B. GREEN,
St. Anthony Park.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

I have very little to say for New Hampshire in the way of School Gardens. Little has been done outside of the Normal School. Kindergartens, however, are being established in most of our larger cities, and I trust that much interest will be developed in the School Garden movement during the coming year. We have an enthusiastic organization of city superintendents, composed of young men chiefly, and I predict that something will be speedily done in the direction desired.

(Signed) J. E. KLOCK,
Plymouth.

NEW MEXICO.

A School Garden was maintained by the New Mexico Normal School last year. Each pupil in the Model School had two square yards of ground allotted to him. It proved to be a most excellent plan by which to teach Nature Study, since many of the pupils had never seen growing plants except in the Chinese Gardens. There are no other School Gardens in the Territory.

(Signed) HUGH A. OWEN,
(*President, State Normal School*)
Silver City.

NEW YORK.

The College of Agriculture of Cornell University has, as provided for by the State of New York, a University Extension Department of Agriculture, and it falls to the lot of the Bureau of Nature Study to further as far as it can the School Garden movement.

I have to report that this Bureau is now in touch with thousands of school children in New York state who have gardens. We send literature to them, but the probabilities are that their teachers or local leaders are doing quite as

much as is the Bureau of Nature Study to increase and direct their enthusiasm. For example, I was at School No. 26 in Rochester the other day by invitation to participate in the children's celebration after they had planted 2200 feet of a shadeless street to shade trees. These children have in this and other ways done a great deal and their names, with that of their principal, Col. Moulthrop, should be on some tablet of bronze. Our share of the work is to help Col. Moulthrop to help the children. We cannot claim to have them exclusively our own.

In Syracuse the Herald has done a great deal in distributing seeds and having the children's flowers sent in summer to various charitable institutions. The children find ample reward for their good work in the public mention which they receive. I have been to Syracuse a number of times to talk to teachers, have sent articles to the papers, was present at the State Fair, and have done all I could to encourage the work, but its success was due in the main to the Herald and to it the credit should go. In Rochester the Democrat and Chronicle has done something of the same sort of work. So have the Utica Press and Observer, and I may mention also the Gloversville Herald.

We have no set curriculum for the children that requires them to do this, that, or the other. We are opportunists. When we see an opportunity for children to do a thing, we throw our efforts in that direction. This fall I wished the children to plant some fall bulbs. From our previous publications, I collected material which I thought would be helpful. I sent for names and now have over seventeen thousand to whom I have sent instructions about planting bulbs. Before spring, I expect to send them several publications on different phases of this topic.

What we have accomplished in inducing children to improve school grounds is also worthy of mention. We have issued one bulletin, and two leaflets giving teacher and pupils instructions and encouragement in that work. In the spring of 1903, we received about four thousand enthusiastic letters from the children telling what they had done in the improvement of about five hundred school grounds.

(Signed) JOHN W. SPENCER,
Ithaca, N. Y.

OHIO.

School Gardens have received very little attention in Ohio. Much good work, however, has been done by Mr. Patterson of the Cash Register Co., at Dayton, to encourage boys and girls in gardening and flower planting. There are other places in the state where work of this kind has been done on a small scale by private patronage.

City and village schools have been quite active in beautifying their grounds, and in many places prizes of money are offered for the school-yard having the best kept lawn, the best laid out walks, and most tastefully arranged and care-

fully selected flowers. The country schools have done little more than plant trees. Here, however, shade, not beauty, was the supreme desire, and some of the most beautiful school houses of one or two rooms are hidden from view by the trees.

The only approach to anything like agricultural work in connection with the public schools is the work now being done in Springfield Township, Clark County. Here we have begun some experimental work in raising corn. The work was planned for farmers by the Ohio Students' Union, an organization formed from graduate students of the Agricultural Department of the State University, co-operating with the Ohio Experiment Station and the Agricultural College. The Union furnished our Club of seventy-seven boys and four girls with four varieties of seed corn, of the planting, cultivation and gathering of which they were to keep records. These boys and girls have been interested for two or three years past by their teachers in nature work, and have read several books on the subject. The last was entitled "Soils and the Work of Water and Bacteria in the Soil." I am sure that for children from 10 to 16 years old they began their work with unusual knowledge.

Besides the Club which is experimenting with corn, 18 girls are raising vegetables from seed furnished by the United States Department of Agriculture, and are keeping records. The plots necessary for the raising of corn and vegetables have been laid out at home on the farm, not on the school-grounds. We believe that with the three months vacation during the growing season it would not be practicable to have a School Garden on the school-grounds. The day may come, as it has in Otee County, Nebraska, when the residence of the teacher for the country school will be on a lot owned by the public and so near to the school house that the spring planting and the late summer and fall harvesting may be observed, as well as the pruning of trees, shrubs and bushes.

Some of our Township High Schools are contemplating arranging for a course in elementary agriculture, but the greatest need is the teacher who has some real practical knowledge of this subject.

Permit me to say in closing that a number of our boys are now doing some very simple testing with litmus paper to determine whether the soil in some places contains acid to that degree that it is difficult to secure a "stand" of clover. It is hoped that the simple experiments with record-keeping, proper book-keeping and the good fertilizer, common sense, will prove to the average young man and parent that the farm has for them both pleasure and return yet far from realized.

(Signed) A. B. GRAHAM,
(*Superintendent,*) Springfield.

OKLAHOMA.

The School Garden movement in this territory has not yet attained sufficient headway to warrant any statement concerning it. I think, however, that interest in the matter will be developed as we grow older.

(Signed) A. C. SCOTT,
Stillwater.

RHODE ISLAND.

Rhode Island is gradually awakening to the subject of School Gardens. Last year the State Commissioner of Public Schools included in his volume of annual reports a study of the movement in Europe and America, expressing confidence in the future of such gardens. The Superintendent of Schools in Providence advised in a recent report that all material for Nature Study be grown in School Gardens and window boxes, and three prominent schools won the prizes of the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, first offered for School Gardens in 1902, and now renewed. The new President of the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts has announced himself heartily interested in the movement.

In February, Henry Lincoln Clapp of the George Putnam School in Boston, gave an illustrated lecture on School Gardens, to which the public was invited, and the Easter Sunday edition of our leading newspaper published an account of the gardens of the previous summer, and of the children's enjoyment and benefit from them, with a suggestion that the city set aside a portion of a newly purchased park for a central School Garden, to which classes of children from schools nearby might come. It was pointed out that the city green-houses might be situated here, and that specimen plants could be sent from them to the schools as is done in Berlin and some other cities. Dorchester, Massachusetts, sent out 2,000 young cotton plants this spring for study in the schools.

One of our representatives in Congress offered this spring to send seeds to all the schools desiring them. This gave a stimulus to the movement, and in Providence about ten new gardens have been started in addition to the four of last year. Except a wild flower garden, these are all in primary schools, the kindergarten often being the moving spirit.

The usual method is for the teacher who loves the work to collect from friends \$15 to \$20 with which to buy a few loads of loam. The children dig out and remove about a foot of gravel, etc., in some space that can be spared from the playground. This is proportioned among the grades that desire to take part. After the clearing out, which usually means strenuous work, the children put in the loam, measure off and make their beds and plant their seeds. On Saturdays and holidays small parties go to the woods for ferns and other material to transplant.

For the long vacation, gardeners' clubs of responsible children who expect to be at home during the summer have sometimes been arranged. These take

care of the gardens. In the poorer sections of the city parents are often much interested. In one place the members of a Mothers' Club have lately contributed a few cents each, and so raised \$5 with which to buy loam. A carefully kept bank account on a black board in the class room is one of the most attractive features to the children.

The success of the work suggests that in cities of pavement and back yards, it would be an ideal condition to have each school building in the center of a little park of gardens and playgrounds, to which the families of the neighborhood could have access out of school hours.

(Signed) H. C. PUTNAM,
Providence.

VERMONT.

The establishment of School Gardens in Vermont is a direct result of the introduction of general Nature Studies. Every county in the state is required by law to hold at least once in two years, at state expense, a summer school of methods for teachers, or a series of teachers' institutes, at which courses in Nature Study, given by specialists, form an important feature. The state also provides for free distribution to the teachers of useful "Circulars of Educational Information," prepared under the direction of the State Superintendent. These treat such practical topics as "Nature Study and School Homes," "Trees of Vermont," and "The Study of Trees," etc. A pamphlet on School Gardens will probably be issued in the future. There is further a committee of Reference and Advice, consisting of well qualified Nature students from different parts of the state, and to this Committee the teachers may go with their inquiries. Furthermore, the State Agricultural College at Burlington publishes for free distribution a number of useful pamphlets.

A love for nature and a general interest in plant life has been aroused in the children. In a public school in Middlebury I saw a beautiful window garden containing many varieties of Vermont ferns. Other places report successful wild flower gardens. The Adams Primary School in Burlington, during last year, on a strip of land a few feet wide and adjoining the school fence, offered over one hundred children a chance to cultivate the flowering plants and shrubs.

While at present most of the School Gardens are of the little ornamental "posy bed" type and the common property of all the children, there is a growing sense of the educational possibilities and claims of the individual School Gardens. One such garden has been established at the State Normal School at Johnson. This is not only for the benefit of the children in the training school, but also to serve as a model to the teachers who are there receiving instruction. Half an acre, adjoining the school grounds, is divided into two sections, in the smaller of which the children of the primary grades have co-operative flower and vegetable gardens. The larger plot is devoted to experimental individual

gardens for grammar school pupils. Separating the two is a growth of natural grasses and wild flowers.

The experimental garden deals this year with potato problems, and each pupil has the care of one row. During the protracted drought of April and May the Fire Department came to the rescue of the School Garden, which has now flourished. The proceeds of the crops are to be used for the purchase of manual training materials.

(Signed) EDITH GOODYEAR ALGER,
Johnson.

WASHINGTON.

So far as I know there is not a School Garden in the State of Washington.

(Signed) W. G. HARTRANFT,
(*Superintendent of Schools,*)
Seattle.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Very little has been done in this state in the way of School Gardens, but our teachers are waking up to the question of adorning school grounds, and I am glad to say that we have a number of Village Improvement Societies. So far, however, I think we have no genuine School Gardens.

I have been emphasizing the subject in the "School Journal" and have been giving some notes on Hodges Nature Study and Life, in which the aim has been to emphasize all features of outdoor art work.

(Signed) THOMAS C. MILLER,
Charleston.

WISCONSIN.

The Milwaukee Outdoor Art and Improvement Association has done a great deal for School Gardens, and for school ground embellishment, in Milwaukee, making that city one of the most interesting centers of the work.

The Association is, however, the local branch of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, and its report is given elsewhere in the current year's Proceedings.—(See Page 47, Vol. VII., Part 1.)

The work at Menomonie also has gained a distinction that needs scarcely more than its' mention to show where Wisconsin stands in the School Garden movement.

THE EDITOR.

PORTO RICO.

The School Garden is still in the experimental stage in Porto Rico. It suffers from the fact that one teacher, often inadequately prepared, has to teach Spanish, English, and all the branches usually given in a rural school, and in addition conduct School Garden work, and that with young pupils in an ungraded school.

Nineteen Rural Agricultural Schools were conducted last year. These have gardens of about an acre in extent. Excellent work has been done in many cases in spite of the unfavorable conditions. A little over half of these schools were taught by Porto Rican teachers, the remainder by Americans.

Last year a School Garden was, for the first time, established in connection with a graded school—the Practice School of the Rio Piedras Insular Normal. This work and the Nature Study and agricultural classes there were in charge of the writer. Only four grades were established last year. The pupils in these took great interest in their School Gardens, and arrangements have been made for the pupils to continue it during the summer vacation. The Principal of the school, Miss S. D. Huntington, established a successful School Savings Bank for the children, and when they began to gather the products from their School Gardens some of the pennies earned from the proceeds of these vegetables went into the bank. Drawings of the School Garden were made by different classes.

Nature Study was correlated with the garden work, and plants and animals found in it were studied by the pupils. Besides their individual gardens some class work was given in the upper grades to teach division of labor, and the use of such tools as can be used on long rows, such as the wheel hoe and cultivator, which are not adapted to use in small beds.

The Commissioner of Education, Dr. Samuel M. Lindsay, is committed to the development of industrial, including agricultural, education as rapidly as the slender means at command will permit. It is his intention to establish three or more graded Agricultural Schools during the coming school year.

Ninety rural teachers are to be brought to the Normal School during the coming year in classes of thirty each, to remain for three months. These teachers are to have Nature Study and School Garden work. The Commissioner's plan is to infiltrate this class of work gradually into the school system of the island, its resources being purely agricultural.

(Signed) F. M. PENNOCK,
(Insular Normal School)
Rio Piedras.

HAWAII.

I beg to submit, as the Hawaiian representative of the Association, the following report on the work along the line of Gardening in the schools of this territory. Work of this kind has been carried on for some time in the schools here and the Department of Public Instruction is so impressed with the need and value of it that since 1898 the Normal School of the Territory has had on its teaching force a graduate of an Agricultural College with a special training in Nature Study and Gardening work, so that the teachers going out from this institution should be especially fitted to emphasize this side of their school work.

During the last year the United States Experiment Station has done much to encourage garden work in the schools. This has been done by personal visits to the school in many instances, by correspondence and by the distribution of garden seeds, requesting that a report of the same be sent to the Station. The importance of a garden in connection with a school, aside from its economical value, is well understood here. We have here in Honolulu a well attended Nature Study Society, and last year quite a little stress was placed on the necessity of beautifying the school grounds and arousing in the pupils a permanent interest in the growing of plants.

I do not think I can give you a better idea of what has been and is being done in Garden work than by quoting from the reports of the Department of Public Instruction and sending some of the reports received from the various schools.

The following is taken from the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1899 :

Environment in school-yards appears to exert as important an influence upon the ethical development of the pupil as environment in the school room. While in the past more attention has been given to the latter to brighten the surroundings of the pupils and to inspire in them pure and vigorous impressions, the former during this period has come more and more into prominence, especially in connection with industrial work in agriculture and in Nature Study.

The efforts of the Department of Public Instruction in this direction have been seconded by the "Armstrong Institute", an Association of teachers for the introduction of industrial work in our schools. At the same time due care has been exercised not to sacrifice the playground for agricultural, park, or garden purposes.

The value of agricultural work, not only from an educational but from a practical standpoint, has been recognized. The natural inclination to turn from the school room to the sunshine, flowers and soil, with healthier and freer impulses, is far too important a factor toward the development equally of physical and moral with intellectual strength, to be ignored.

Though the purpose of this work, in its present state, is not altogether technical, the training and knowledge acquired therein will, it is felt, not come amiss hereafter to any of our scholars. More of it should be introduced into our educational system.

A series of lectures were delivered during the session of the Summer School of 1899, on this subject, in which great interest was manifested by the teachers.

The following plan has been suggested : That an instructor be appointed whose time should be divided between several schools for the instruction of both teacher and scholars. At each school a small plot of ground should be set aside as a garden for practical demonstration ; class room work to be resorted to only when necessary to illustrate some point involved in the outdoor operations.

Mr. C. W. Baldwin, Normal Instructor for the Island of Hawaii, has the following to say in regard to school grounds in his report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the year 1900 :

Nearly all of the teachers have done something towards beautifying their school rooms and school grounds. Some of them have done a great deal, and very attractive indeed were some of these rooms and premises. Unkept school-yards surrounding shed-like buildings are well nigh a thing of the past in Hawaii.

It is believed that the time is near at hand when the school premises will be models for the neighborhood for taste, order and neatness. Decorate your school room, plant trees about your school yard, have a school garden, letting the children have a part in all the work, and you have built more for character than you may know. Very few of us realize the silent power exerted through beautiful school rooms and grounds.

If I may be excused for selecting two actual examples in preference to several, I should like to mention Honomu and Alae Schools as having yards tastefully laid out and neatly kept, the work of Messrs. Carvalho and Hane, respectively.

Mr. J. E. Higgins, Special Instructor in Agriculture in the School of Honolulu during 1900-1901, gives the following report of his work for 1900:

At the Kalihia-waena School the work has been confined chiefly to the boys of the higher grades, who have organized themselves into an agricultural club. Membership in this club was made voluntary, but all the boys have joined it. The garden was divided at the beginning into thirteen small gardens or beds, and each of these thirteen was given to a group of two, three or more pupils for cultivation and care, they to have the products of their labor to dispose of as they wished. There seemed to be a disposition on the part of the young cultivators to plant a variety of crops, and as a result each little estate wears quite a varied aspect. The common vegetables have so far taken most of the time and space, but a few not frequently seen in the markets have been tried in a very small way—such as the salsify or vegetable oyster plant, and endive. A few flowers have also been started, but not so much has been done with floriculture as we hope to do later. Here, as in all the schools, the work has been greatly delayed by the unusually wet weather, but at the time of the present writing about all the ground is occupied, and the crops seem to be doing well.

At the Kaiulani School there are twelve small gardens or beds—one for each of the twelve rooms. The space has been devoted perhaps about equally to the cultivation of vegetables and flowers. The work has been participated in by the pupils of all grades, and considerable aptness has been exhibited by some. All seem interested in the work and willing to do their part. They have been taken to the garden in both large and small classes. Sometimes all the pupils of a room, accompanied by their teacher, have constituted the class, and sometimes it has consisted of only four, five or six boys or girls. This experience, here as elsewhere, confirms my conviction of the advisability of small classes for out-of-door work. Thus the pupil can see the operation as the teacher performs it, as he cannot do if he is one of twenty or thirty. Thus, also, the teacher can give to each pupil the individual attention which he needs and must have when first he attempts a new operation.

At the Maemae School the work has been retarded perhaps more than anywhere else by the continuous rains. The rainfall is, of course, greater in this locality, and added to this, is the fact of an exceedingly retentive soil. The first plowing was done early in September, and the first few weeks were spent by the pupils in breaking up the soil, removing grass roots, etc., in preparing for the second plowing; but by the time everything was in readiness the wet season began. As soon as possible, however, the second plowing was performed, and since that time the work has been pushed rapidly. About three-quarters of the garden is now covered with a young growing crop, and the prospect is very encouraging. During the wet weather soil was placed under the school building in very small quantities, and when dried was used in boxes to start plants for use in the garden later. The work, so far, has been quite heavy, and has, therefore, been done chiefly by the larger boys and girls. Later it is expected that the whole school will participate in the gardening.

In the case of the Beretania Street School, an effort has been made to improve the grounds, and some progress has been made, which later will be apparent when the plants have had time to grow. The large classes which have gathered at this school render it impossible, frequently, to have all at work on any one part of the grounds, making it necessary to break them up into groups. This, of course, means separation from the teachers, which is quite undesirable. Some of the things which have been accomplished at this school are the making of the hibiscus hedge, the making and planting of a continuous border around the school building, the lay-out of a front drive and circular bed, and the planting of the latter in part.

The Waikiki School has planted the frontyard in lawn except in the borders, where a lot of trees, shrubbery and smaller plants have been placed. This yard promises to be very attractive.

The teacher and pupils of the Manoa School have made praiseworthy efforts to improve their grounds, but have found it necessary to contend not only against bad weather, but also against stray animals, which have destroyed some of their plants.

At the Pohukaina and Kawaiahae Schools, something has been done in the way of growing flowers to brighten the surroundings. In the case of the former, grass has also been planted to extend the lawn in places.

The Pauoa School, at the time of my last visit, had not accomplished much, because of the continued wet weather and a very retentive soil.

At the Kauluwela School, instruction has been given in some methods of grafting. The ground available for gardening here is quite limited, but some efforts have been made.

At Kalihiuwa quite a large area on the hill back of the schoolhouse has been and is being brought under cultivation. The pupils and teacher, I think, deserve much credit for the amount of work which seems to have been accomplished. They are growing sorghum, sweet potatoes, strawberries, carrots, corn, and a variety of such products.

Mr. Edgar Wood, Principal of the Honolulu Normal School, in his report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1902, says :

Agricultural work in the Normal School has been arranged as systematically as possible under the circumstances. No attempts have been made to train the students to become practical agriculturists but merely to give them an insight into the work and to awaken an interest in outdoor life. During the term the subject has been presented to the four grades in very much the same way, with good results. A study has been made of soil formation, soil preparation before planting and the cultivation of field crops. Some time has also been given to the different breeds of live stock and their adaptability to Hawaiian conditions.

Most attention has been given to gardening as it can be best carried on in school work. The classes were divided into squads, each division being assigned to a plot of ground where the growing of vegetables and flowers could be practiced. The germination of seeds and various other methods of propagating plants are studied in the class room and put into practice in the plots. More attention is given to those things that seem more interesting. Though the number of students is far too great for the small garden, all have had a chance to learn something and have shown interest and a desire to work.

Nature Study has been pursued, in order to bring nature into close relation with the every day life of the pupils and stimulate close observation and interest along this line among both normal pupils and children of the grades. The life history of various forms of insect life, plant life, and, in fact, any natural phenomenon is studied much as it presents itself. Collections of both plants and insects have been made and preserved for study in the class-room.

The School Garden, which has been such an important factor in the agricultural work, has also been of great value in the Nature Study.

From the reports of the Normal Inspectors for 1902 I quote the following, from that of Mr. J. K. Burkett :

The school-yards are in good shape, both pupils and teachers taking a strong interest in everything connected with planting and beautifying the grounds. Through the gardening work, a great deal of Nature Study can be and is carried on.

Mr. C. F. King writes as follows :

The teachers are taking a great deal of interest in the appearance of the school grounds, and in some cases the yards are very fine. Some schools have flower beds, some have vegetable gardens, while others have both. On account of the scarcity of water, a great many have been unable to do any planting whatever. The children have shown lively interest in the agricultural work and this is a very encouraging sign. A great deal is being done in agriculture in the Nahiku, Haou, Huelo, Kaupakulua and Ulupalakua schools.

(Signed) J. E. HIGGINS,

(*Entomologist, U. S. Experiment Station,*)

Honolulu.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SCHOOL GARDEN MOVEMENT.

W. J. SPILLMAN, AGROSTOLOGIST, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

We are wont to boast of the progress that has been made in this country during the last hundred years, and it is generally conceded that history presents few, if any, parallel examples. But our critics tell us that this progress has been mostly industrial, that we have done too little toward the development of those things which tend to elevate and ennoble the race.

It may be admitted that the progress has been mainly industrial. But this does not necessarily mean that we are deficient in the elements of higher progress. Now that the forests and prairies have been subdued, and the principal avenues of commerce have been established, we may expect to see progress in matters less material. Nature has created as much grandeur here, particularly in the mountains on our Western coast, as she has anywhere, and the American people are fully alive to this beauty. It was once my privilege to live for several years in sight of Mt. Hood, a volcanic peak situated on the summit of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon, and by many regarded as the most beautiful mountain in America. It towers 12,000 feet above sea level and is visible over half the state of Oregon and part of Washington. From every part of the beautiful Willamette Valley its snow-capped summit and its graceful outlines may be seen, and no monarch of the Alps receives more loving homage than does this grand old mountain. Nor does American love of the beautiful limit itself to simple enjoyment, it also creates. I think it is generally conceded that our national capital is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and it is certainly a pure creation, where before was only a dismal swamp.

That the American people are interested in such things, the marked success of the organization I have the honor to address this evening is ample evidence. While we recognize that food, clothing and shelter are the prime necessities, we also recognize that these are only the foundation on which must be built a superstructure that is to give us character amongst the nations. This Association aims to bring about a closer adjustment between man and his environment than can be had by attention to material wants alone. Your object is utilitarian, not in the sense in which the word is usually employed, but in the broader sense that it aims to add to the enjoyment of life. If I have devoted space to matter that seems to have little direct relation to the significance of the School Garden movement, I have done so in order to show that all classes of people in this country are capable of assimilating, along with the training that is to fit them for usefulness in life, a large share of that education which fits them for enjoying the highest forms of beauty.

You are engaged in creating beauty, and in cultivating a love for the beautiful. In this phase of your work you appeal directly to our aesthetic instincts. But in the School Garden movement, which you have wisely fostered, you are doing much to bring into harmony the two great phases of our national life, the

æsthetic and the industrial. This movement is destined to have a profound influence on our system of elementary instruction. It seems to be the entering wedge which is to separate us from the traditions of the past and to give us a newer and sounder philosophy of education. In order that I may not be charged with over-enthusiasm, and that I may justify the assertion just made, I beg you to permit a brief discussion of our system of education so that I may show why the School Garden movement is of such unusual significance. A great movement cannot come much before its time; but when the time has come a very small affair may precipitate a revolution.

For many years there has been a growing sentiment amongst leading educational thinkers in this country that our system of education is not wholly adapted to our needs. Our present system is an inheritance from the time when education was monopolized by the leisure classes. It was devised for the purpose of fitting the English gentleman for his station in life. It served this purpose well. But in America the utilitarian spirit which has always pervaded our national life leaves little room for leisure classes, and educational advantages are certainly not monopolized by them. We need a system of education which shall fit all classes for their vocations. Until a very few years ago the whole tendency of our scheme of education was towards the so-called learned professions, and we gave little attention to the preparation of those who must gain their livelihood in other callings. Even yet, our system is far from properly adjusted to our needs. In a recent number of "Science" the statement is made that the medical schools of this country annually turn out 5,000 graduates and that there is room for only three-fifths of this number. Conditions are even worse in the law schools, for these have not kept pace with the medical schools in raising the standard of graduation. Our great universities, always the leaders in educational advancement, now, however, provide for the training of men for many avenues that are open in the industrial world, while in our scheme of elementary education there is as yet no adequate response to the demand for proper education and training for the great majority of those who must pass directly from these schools into industrial life. The whole tendency in our elementary schools, until very recently, has been away from the farm, the work shop and the kitchen, leaving these places to be filled by the ignorant and the untrained.

I believe that the American people really believe in the dignity of labor, but they do not teach this belief in their public schools. No one will question the wisdom of leaving the doors of the highest educational institutions open to every one who has the ability to enter them. But I insist that we should build such a system of elementary instruction as shall prepare the great masses of children for the work that lies before them—a system that will develop an intelligent interest in the work of the field, the shop and the kitchen, while preparing the way for the more ambitious in every walk of life to enter higher institutions of learning. The demand for such a system is no sporadic affair. It is heard everywhere. It is based on the spirit which actuates our national

life. It has introduced domestic science and manual training into the public schools in the face of strenuous opposition.

The School Garden movement makes a long step in the right direction. So does the Nature Study movement—a near relative of the School Garden—which Prof. Bailey has helped. We have heard a great deal about the drift of population from the country to the city. Perhaps the School Garden, properly fostered, may start a current in the opposite direction, to the benefit of both city and country. But it is not this phase of the movement that is of most importance. It is the fact that instruction such as is given in the School Garden is of the right kind. It arouses interest in real things ; it develops judgment ; it brings the child in contact with his environment, and, above all, it gives that opportunity for placing responsibility on the child, without which character is not developed. The activities of School Garden work are natural to the child and give much needed respite from the tyranny of school room restraint. We do not need to teach the seedling plant to grow upright ; it is natural for it to do so. So we do not need so much to guide the growing mind of the child as we need to give it healthy activity under circumstances that will permit it to grow naturally. The work in the School Garden does this. The child mind gets growth out of it because it is something it can understand. Not only does the School Garden serve well as a means of educating and training the child, but it supplies a class of knowledge that is highly useful and cultivates a taste for an honorable and remunerative vocation.

I think now that I have made plain my reasons for asserting that this movement is one of national importance—one that is destined to have a profound influence on educational thought and educational method in this country ; it supplies one of the glaring defects in our system of elementary instruction.

The Department of Agriculture is deeply interested in the movement. You are already familiar with Mr. Crosby's part in it, but our honored Secretary also believes in it. Dr. Galloway, the Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is taking active steps to encourage it. It will form a leading feature of the outdoor exhibit of this bureau at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. Professor Wheeler is sparing neither time nor effort to make the feature representative of the best thought and the best practice of the country. One portion of the garden will probably be assigned to Mr. Hemenway, to be conducted as a working garden for the children in a nearby school. The Department is also encouraging this work in a practical way in the public schools of Washington City, as has been stated to you in your reports. In addition to this work the Department has, during the present fiscal year, distributed a large number of seeds, both flower and vegetable, to various schools requesting them. Up to the present time the seeds have been sent to twenty-four states in the Union and to Porto Rico. In some of these states a great many teachers have requested seeds, while in others only a few. The aggregate number of packages, of five packets each, sent out was 2,000. During the coming year there

will be sent a special school collection of both flowers and vegetables, and in connection with it some simple cultural directions for their planting and management, together with a plan for a school garden, showing the arrangement of vegetables and flowers that will secure the best results from rotation.

There is no longer any question that the movement will succeed in this country. Our aim should now be to see that the most possible good shall come from it. This Association is doing a patriotic work in fostering it.



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of the
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—
Buffalo, July 8,
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PREFACE.

The following pages contain those reports of the Association's Standing Committees, submitted at the Convention of 1903, that are of general public interest and suggestiveness—with the single exception of the report of the Committee on School Gardens. This is reserved, with much other important matter upon the subject, for later publication in a special School Garden pamphlet.

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ON GOAT ISLAND IN THE STATE PARK AT NIAGARA FALLS.
Courtesy of the Commissioners of the State Reservation.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PARK CENSUS, 1903.

G. A. PARKER, (HARTFORD) CHAIRMAN.

For three years I have worked gathering statistics relating to parks. I believe such figures are of value in studying the municipal problem, but there are other factors in determining the relationship of parks to the other functions of the city, which figures do not reveal. In fact, these are apt to be concealed in our appeal to figures alone, and so, in this third report of your Park Census Committee, I ask your indulgence for discussing the subject along a somewhat different line than heretofore.

It is very easy to state the increase in park area during the last year as nearly 2,000 acres, so that now there are about 66,000 acres held as municipal parks and pleasure grounds. Also that the amount of money appropriated for park purposes has not increased in proportion to the increase of area. In fact, as nearly as I can determine, there was less money expended for park purposes during the last year, even with the increased territory, than for the two preceding years, though it is true that New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and several of the smaller cities are either making, or planning to make, a decided increase of, or an improvement to, their parks and boulevard system.

Fifty years of park work has brought a generation who made their first acquaintance with parks in the baby carriage, and the work is losing its charm of novelty, a strong factor during the last generation, and now is being valued more for its real worth to the city. And, because its worth has been somewhat imaginary, and the methods suggested somewhat visionary, the park question has come to a point where real work is necessary, and where the real condition must be known.

The construction of park features,—that is, its roads, meadows, plantations, and structures, is now fairly well understood. The relation of one to the other,—that is, the composition of the park picture, is being better and better known. The value of parks to a certain class of the people of a city is appreciated, but the value of parks and squares to all classes is not realized in a way to make them practical. Furthermore, it is not always appreciated that different cities of the same population may require entirely different consideration in the treatment of their parks.

It is a fact, which I believe cannot have an exception, that if a park, or a park system, is perfectly adapted to one city, it will be found unsuitable for every other city in the world; and that different sections of the same city have different park requirements.

Park work at its best never admits of repetition. It is a shortcoming of many landscape architects, which is not entirely confined to the lesser ones, that they do not solve their park problems from the study of the community which the park is to serve, or from conditions surrounding it, but rather from their knowledge of parks elsewhere and by what has been done in other cities.

It is impossible for any two cities to be alike, so the park problem everywhere must differ.

We have yet to learn how to estimate or measure cities. It has been too often the habit to measure cities by their size, as if the number of persons living under one municipal government was the thing of all things that determined a city's value.

There is a country in Africa which selects its king by weight. He who weighs the most becomes king. Perhaps this is a reasonable method of estimating the value of hogs, but hardly one we should care to apply in selecting our rulers; yet is it not in a similar way that the world has measured its cities? This was all very well while cities held practically the same relationship to the world's work and progress, but the modern city is not limited to one part of the world's economies. It performs several functions, and thus there have come to be several different types of cities, each of which has different requirements.

There is an individuality of cities as distinct as the difference between races of mankind, or between individuals. To illustrate: A citizen of the largest city in America was walking across Boston Common; behind him came two girls, evidently employed in a large department store; one girl said to the other, referring to the gentleman in front of her, "a stranger," the other replied, "yes, from New York," and thus that man who felt he was a Cosmopolitan, because he lived in New York and had been a world-wide traveler, felt chagrined to know that his city was stamped as plainly on his being as if it had been branded on his forehead, and the locality with which he was identified was as surely known as if he were a countryman from way back.

There is a provincialism of cities as well as a provincialism of the country, and the inhabitants of the different cities are as clearly distinguishable as the Cap Coder from a York State man, or the Westerner from the Southerner.

There is a composite spirit in every community, be it city or country, made up of the feelings, the thoughts and the acts of the people who live in it, made up of their different personalities and of everything which influences a person while within its borders. Every human being living there contributes to that composite spirit, and in return draws from it that which influences him, which marks him as being one of the community.

Cities of the same type may differ widely, and cities of different kinds may have very little in common.

What are the different kinds of cities, and how do they differ, and what is it we should look for in order to know what manner of city we are considering?

In the first place, size has little to do with determining what kind of city it is, unless we are making comparisons for size. Neither should cities be classified by what they consume within themselves, or how they do their own work. All this should not be used for comparison unless we want to consider the city's housekeeping.

Cities like men are classified by what they do for others, not by what they do for themselves; and are commercial, financial, industrial or capital cities

wherever they have more trade, money, manufacture or government than is needed for their own maintenance. If a city manufactures more than it consumes and uses a surplus product for the supplies of others, then it is an industrial city; If a city becomes a receiving and distributing centre, receiving more than it needs for consumption and distributing it without materially changing its condition, then so far as it does this it should be classed as a commercial city; if money comes to a city in larger amounts than it needs, to be loaned again, then it is a financial city; if governmental functions are concentrated in a city, the legislative, the judicial and executive powers being located there, then it is a capital city.

A study of cities of a governmental, financial, commercial and educational character indicates that their needs as far as parks are concerned, are well understood and partially provided for; but for industrial cities, what is needed in parks is but little known.

Take the list of our park cities and you will find every one of them have other large interests besides industrial. Take a list of our industrial cities and you will find every one of them either has no parks or inadequate parks, and those which do exist are more for the brain worker than the hand worker. Even as the better residences and grounds have been built for those who are well-to-do, while the wage earner has been left to the tenement district.

In theory the working man has all the privileges of the park that the capitalist has, but those who study park problems first-hand know that the working man and his family, who are nine-tenths of the population, is not one-tenth of the frequenters of municipal parks—not that there is any restriction—but simply that the parks do not satisfy his needs.

The industrial city is a brand new thing in this world's life. It is probably the only type of city which will materially increase in number in the future, for every country and state has now its capital city. There is now little probability of there being additional capitals, and financial cities are growing greater in influence but fewer in numbers. As the influence of Paris, London and New York becomes stronger as financial centres, the influence of the lesser cities decreases. The gathering together and the distribution of merchandise is also being centralized, and slowly one city after another loses its importance as a distributing centre. The tendency also is to increase the importance of cities of special functions, such as the college cities, rather than to increase their numbers.

Commercial, governmental and financial cities existed thousands of years before the first page of history was written. They seem to have reached their greatest proportionate powers at the time of the Hanseatic League, five centuries ago. If it is a fact that such cities decrease rather than increase in numbers in proportion to population, then comes the question how to account for the tremendous increase in the population of cities during the last sixty years.

A century ago the population of the United States was about 3 per cent. urban and 97 per cent. rural, while now with a twenty fold increase in population, there

is about 40 per cent. urban and 60 per cent. rural. The number of cities and towns of over 8,000 has increased from 6 to 545. The total number of people living in such towns in 1790 was only 131,472, while in 1900 it was 24,992,199. How can we account for this unprecedented growth of urban population if we cannot account for it by the forces which have made cities heretofore? I once called a gentleman's attention to this, and he replied, "No trouble in explaining that; the country was young then, in its swaddling clothes; now it is full grown and wears a business suit." The reply is misleading and puts us on the wrong scent in solving the problem, for the changes were not confined to the United States, but were world wide, and especially strong in Europe. It was not the youth of this country or the youth of the world that was the cause, but a new social condition had come. For during ninety-nine and eighty one-hundredths per cent. of the time that cities are known to have existed, the world has required less than three per cent. of its population to live under urban conditions, while during that very small proportionate time of twenty one-hundredths of one per cent. of the life of cities, conditions are so changed that twenty-five per cent. of the world's population must live in cities, and what is known as civilized country. The per cent. of urban population is much increased. In some cases it reaches as high as seventy-five per cent. of all the people. Truly, a new social condition has come, a new force is asserting itself,—as new as, and coincident with, steam, electricity, railroading, and our improved methods of manufacturing and transportation. A social force greater than these is here, for it makes use of them all in fulfilling its mission. We speak of modern improvements. Indeed they are modern, so new they occupy an exceedingly small portion of time since man existed. Let us see what this force is doing.

Recording history goes back 3,000 years and cities are known to have existed 3,000 years before written history began. Until one-quarter of one per cent. of that time, the old distaff, without even the big spinning wheel of our grandmothers, was the method used for making a thread to be woven, and the hand-hammer constructed all our metal and woodwork. There was no occasion for an industrial city, and none existed. About the time of the Revolutionary War the spinning-jenny was invented and had in it, in embryo, every tectural manufacture of the world. The trip hammer and the circular saw, steam, the blast furnace, Bessimer steel are of later date; chemistry and necromancy were much the same a century ago. During the last sixty years improved machinery, rapid and mighty agencies of transportation and increased knowledge has made industrial cities not only possible but compulsory. This accounts for the per cent. of increase in urban population; but the decrease in the per cent. of rural, which has taken place in the same time, has had another cause, although a similar one; that is, the continual decrease of the element of human labor in the production of food and manufacturing supplies. Let me illustrate with wheat. Sixty years ago it took fifty-four cents worth of human labor to produce one bushel of wheat while now it may be grown for less than six cents. This is an extreme case, for usually the decrease of the human element in production is from one-quarter to two-thirds of its former cost.

For fifty years on the average there has been added to the urban population of the United States every month enough to make a city of 33,000 people. Think of it, enough to make a city every year of 400,000 people. During the last twenty years the difference has been sufficient to make a city of 650,000, which would be a city greater than Boston or St. Louis. A city as large as Buffalo could have been made every seven months during the last twenty years. It is hard to realize these figures.

The world has never required over one-fifth of its population to perform the functions of the old cities; then four fifths of this addition are engaged in industry, either as workmen or connected with manufacturing, outside of selling and distributing agents. The industrial factor is an important one to most cities, and a primary one to many, and it will become increasingly so in the future. The industrial city is very, very new to the world, and the world has not yet learned what to do with it, but like all infants, in spite of the ignorance of its mother or the neglect of its nurse, it continues to grow and reach out toward maturity. Its growth produces problems which must be met and are not easily solved. It takes centuries, not generations, to solve such mighty questions, but we all can contribute our might according to our light and it is the park problem of industrial cities for which I would offer suggestions—the result of compiling and studying park statistics.

There are seventy-eight cities of over 50,000 population in the United States. At least thirty of them might be classed as industrial cities, of which Allegheny, Scranton, Lowell, Fall River and Elizabeth are types. It will be found that the stronger a city is industrially the weaker it is in parks. Take the list of 135 cities of over 30,000 population and mark those whose industrial interest outrank any other one interest and you will find that every city so marked is either deficient or entirely destitute of what could in reason be called parks. But if you take the list of cities which have a park or a system of parks which they are proud of and which is recognized as being good, you will find every one of these cities having some one or more of the old functions of a city outranking the new industrial factor.

From these facts I believe it is reasonable to assume that either the workman does not need parks at all or else the park that he does need has not been discovered. Now I believe that if there is any city which needs parks and public grounds, it is the industrial city, but I also believe that the park which is needed there has not yet been built.

Does the workingman's nature and circumstances require a different park than that needed by the professional man and the capitalist? And if so, what is that difference? I believe that the American park methods are the best in the world for those who are head tired and have reached that standard whereby they interpret forms, and line, and colors, and the composition of them—as one who knows living things not from their outward form but from their inward energies. I also believe they are good for the workingman, even if passed by without any conscious knowledge that they are there. I hear much of the

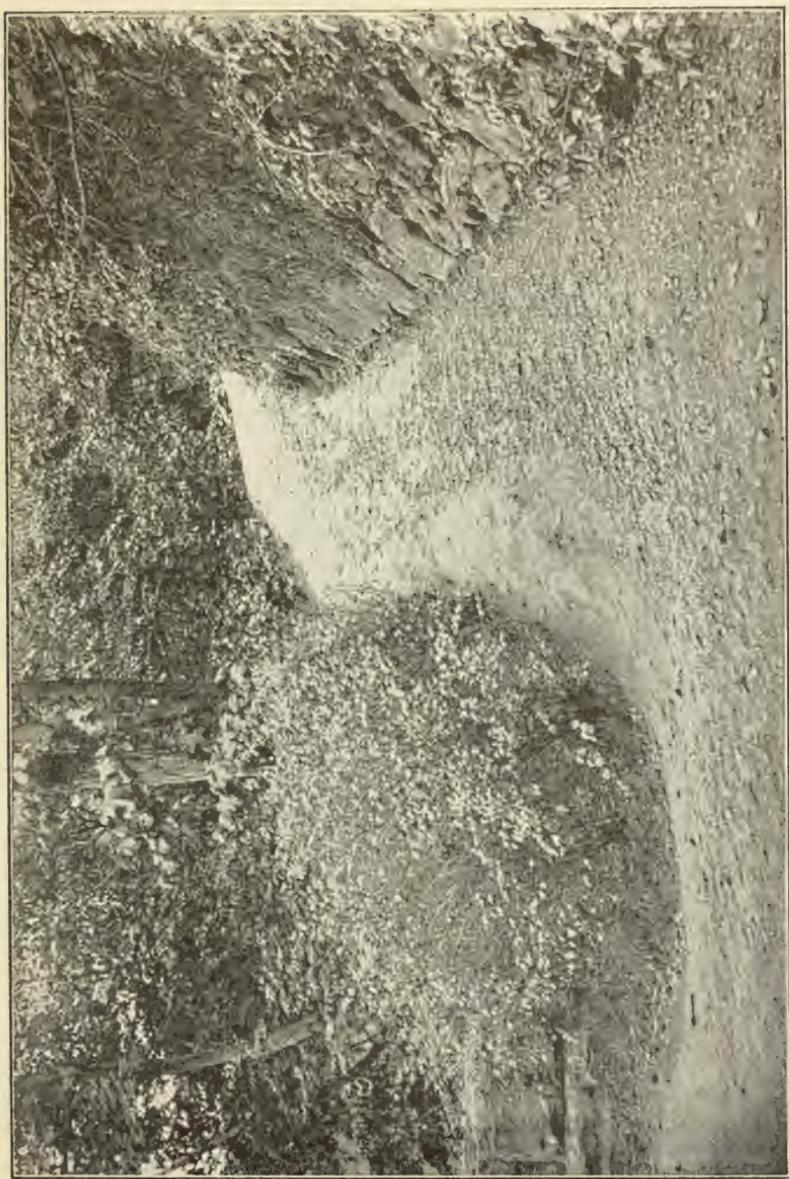
workingman at the present time, of his dignity and worth. There are many of them who deserve all that can be said for them, but there are others who are lower down in the scale, the progress of the world having gone on, and having left them behind, as representatives of a past standard of living.

I do not suppose that many who are interested in park matters have come to that interest through the workshop. Most park people come from the better class, are well educated and are brain workers, but I came into the park by the way of the workshop, for during my latter teens and early twenty's I spent several years in one of the great chair shops of Gardner where thousands of men are employed at chair making. I began by lugging in stock for others to fit. I ended by being a chaimaker. These several years, passed during the formative period of my life in a large manufactory, taught me some lessons which give me, perhaps, a clearer understanding of the limitations of a workingman's life than I otherwise would have had and maybe a glimpse of what kind of a park was needed to meet some of those limitations.

From my own experience in the shop and my observations since, I conceive that the limitations of those who work with their hands, which the municipal park can and ought to help, are these:

First. Monotony. Shop life is as monotonous as a tread-mill, for apparently the workman handles the same material, uses the same tool, works at the same bench, sees the same faces, goes back and forth over the same streets, is whistled to and from his work, is whistled to and from his dinner, every day alike, and he is too much exhausted when he reaches home to make an effort to vary his life after working hours.

Second. He is atrophied. However skilled his muscles may be in doing certain things, and however much of an automaton his mind has become by repetition, yet he does not use some muscles at all, some faculties of his mind are not exercised, he has no occasion to take a large and extensive view of things, he is localized in his shop and seldom goes outside of its influence. Now it is a law of our existence that if we do not use a muscle or a faculty, it shall be weakened, absorbed, rendered useless, atrophied, and it is a law of our minds that unless we learn something new every day the time will come when we cannot learn anything new, or the brain becomes sluggish and leathery and refuses to receive or to preserve new impressions. It is a law that if we give the best in us to-day we shall have something better to give to-morrow. It is a law of mental growth that if we work to our limit to-day, we can do better to-morrow. Right here comes the trouble with the shop hand. He has learned to do one thing well, but by doing it every day he does it without mental effort and he does not receive enough mental exercise or friction from his day's work to stimulate him to make the necessary effort to study new questions when his work is over. He usually takes his pipe and his newspaper, and spends an hour or so in talking and reading and in chores about the home before he goes to bed, repeats the same operation every day, year in and year out, every day becoming less and less capable of understanding large problems or of solving



WALK TO THE BRIDGE TO LUNA ISLAND AT NIAGARA FALLS.

Courtesy of the Commissioners of the State Reservation.

new questions, and more and more liable to be led by others. He is not generally a reader of books and his newspapers are frequently of the yellow type, for anything less striking, pictorial, strong, and sensational does not stir some of them out of their lethargy. It is the thinking workmen who give dignity and strength to our industrial life. We have many of them. To increase their number and to strengthen them is the purpose of a park in the industrial cities as much as is recreation.

I have read of an old man of eighty commencing to learn Greek and mastering it within a year, and I will warrant you that man was not a laborer in a factory. I will go farther and say that I believe if any man at twenty enters a shop and works there steadily for ten years without any outside interest, that after he is thirty he cannot take up and learn any subject which requires thought, such as geometry, a language or philosophy.

An atrophied, monotonous life is that of the ordinary workman and also that of his wife. If I escaped in any degree the stupidity of the shop, it was because I was intent on going to college, and had to prepare myself while earning the money to go with, and had to study morning, noon and evening.

I believe with all my heart and soul in the naturalistic park, and in its beauty, restfulness and in the inspiration which it gives to everyone who passes within its borders. I do not believe it is much help to the workman and his family. They seldom go there, and many of them never go. What then would I suggest for a park for an industrial city? I have in mind a system of parks, one of which should be a large country park, but I would not build it first. To begin with, I would have parks from three to ten acres, located near the homes of the working men, open every day in the year and every hour of the day and evening! I would have playgrounds for the children, lots of shade, and, if possible, grass, where his wife and friends could sit during the summer afternoons. I would have lots and lots of seats and tables and a superabundance of light, so that the workingman after his day's work, would find a pleasant place during the evening hours, one in which if he desired he could take his evening meal. I would have as many bright flowers as circumstances would permit, but none or few shrubs, I would have a stadium where contests could take place, and an outdoor and indoor gymnasium. I would have a shelter with an abundance of room, light and heat for rainy evenings, and for the winter. I would have band concerts and would have him arrange for himself lecture courses, debating clubs, theatricals, concerts and parties. There are lots of things he would do for himself if he had the opportunity, but remember he is an independent person, does not like to receive a service from another without giving service in return. The one thing he does not need, and ought not to endure, is paternalism, but he does need and is willing to pay for communityism if the city will provide the way in which it can be brought about. Take care of your industrial cities and the industrial sections of all cities, and the other functions of a city cannot go far wrong, but neglect your industrial cities and there will be troubulous times, the mutterings of which can even now

be heard. I do not believe that parks in industrial cities will solve all their problems but I do believe that parks suitable to them will pave the way for the solution of many problems.

Park Census Committee, 1902-3.

G. A. PARKER, Hartford, Conn., *Chairman.*

JOHN C. OLMS TED, Brookline, Mass.

LEWIS JOHNSON, New Orleans, La.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREST RESERVATION, 1903.

CHARLES M. LORING, (MINNEAPOLIS) CHAIRMAN.

Your Committee on Forestry beg leave to submit the following report:

For many years close students of political economy have viewed with alarm the destruction of our native forests. It is nearly sixty years since the Legislature of Massachusetts passed a resolution calling attention to the necessity for using economy in cutting and conserving the timber in New England and warning the public of the inevitable result of a continued profligate and wanton destruction.

For the last half century the valuable timber lands owned by the Government in the Western States have been sold to speculators at a nominal price, and many thousands of acres were disposed of through the various issues of Indian and other scrip for which the Government did not receive any compensation.

Fires have run through nearly all of the cut-over timber lands leaving them, as described by John Muir, "desolate and repulsive, like a face ravaged by disease."

It is only within the last decade that the officers of the General Land Office at Washington have been induced to listen to the pleadings of forest associations and individuals for the preservation of the timber lands remaining in possession of the Government and for the reforestizing of the cut-over lands. Congress created a Division of Forestry, placing at its head a gentleman who has already gained the confidence of the friends of forest reserves. Largely through his influence Congress has enacted laws empowering the President to withdraw large tracts of land from sale. We have the strongest evidence that President Roosevelt is in hearty sympathy with the movement. This is shown by his address delivered March 26, 1903, before the Society of American Foresters, and by the following abstract from his first message to Congress:

"The forest reserves should be set apart forever for the use and benefit of our people as a whole, and not sacrificed to the good of a few. Wise forest protection does not mean the withdrawal of forest resources, whether of wood, water or grass, from contributing their full share to the welfare of the people, but on the contrary, gives the assurance of larger and more certain supplies. The fundamental idea of forestry is the perpetuation of forests by use. Forest protection is not an end of itself; it is a means to increase and sustain the resources of our country and the industries which depend upon them. The preservation of our forests is an imperative necessity. We have come to see clearly that whatever destroys our forests, except to make way for agriculture, threatens our well-being."

There are now, according to the latest report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, fifty-four forest reserves, created by Presidential proclamations, embracing over sixty million acres, situated in the following named

states and territories: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Several states, notably New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Minnesota, have secured lands for forest reserves which are under the control of a State Forest Commission and several colleges have departments or schools of forestry.

Minnesota is conducting an interesting experiment in reforesting cut-over pine lands which, according to the interesting report of the efficient Chief Fire Warden, Gen. C. C. Andrews, already gives abundant proof of satisfactory results.

There is still hope that, through the intelligent administration of the Department of Forestry of the United States, through the experiments that are now being made by several states, and through the knowledge that is being acquired in the new schools of forestry, we may yet secure to posterity such supply of timber as is necessary to human comfort and happiness.

Forest Reservation Committee, 1902-3.

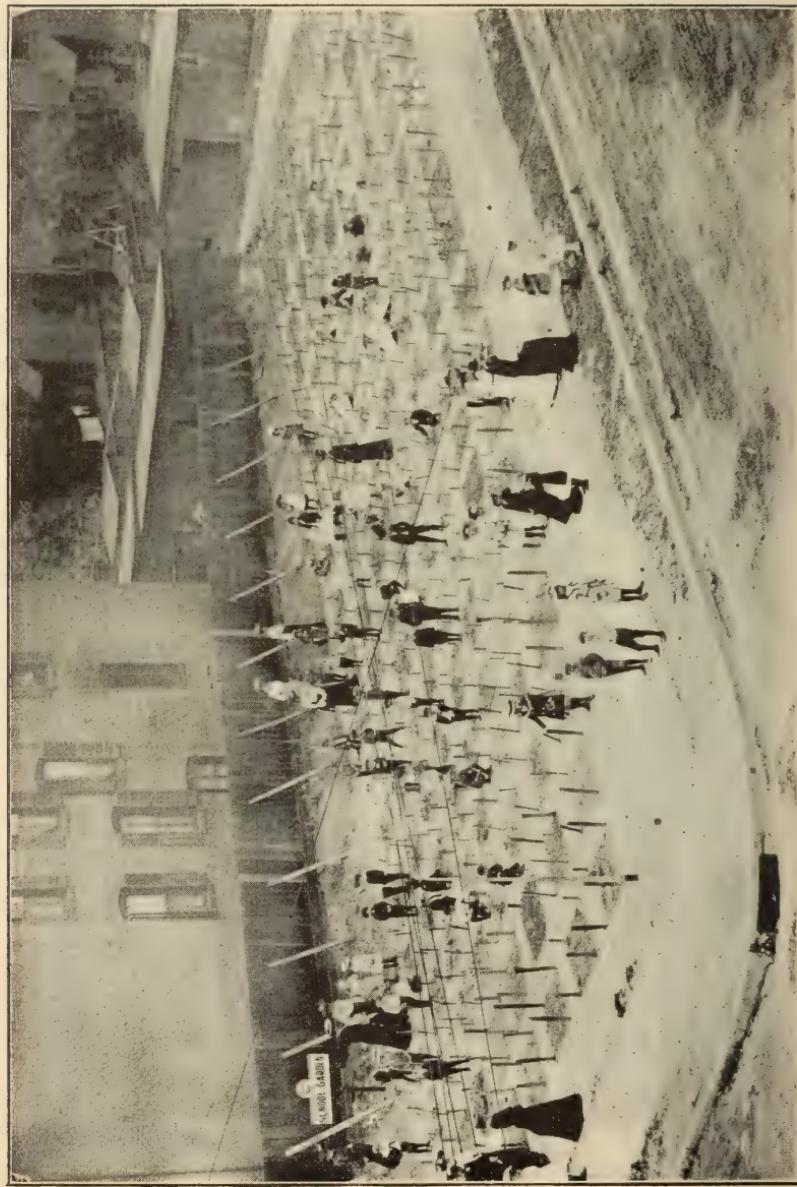
HON. CHARLES M. LORING, Minneapolis, *Chairman.*

L. E. HOLDEN, Cleveland.

OFFICERS, MASSACHUSETTS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

OFFICERS, APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB (Boston).

A SCHOOL GARDEN OF THE CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE OF ST LOUIS.
Courtesy of the League.



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL IMPROVEMENT, 1903.

W. J. STEVENS (ST. LOUIS) CHAIRMAN.

Your Committee are pleased to say that one of the chief difficulties they experience in making this report is the abundance of material at hand from which to make a selection. The forward strides that are being made in attempts to improve the sanitation of rural, village and urban communities and to beautify them, are so great and so numerous that it is impossible to keep pace with the movement.

A few years ago, a few dozen at most were all the cities and towns that were making systematic, thoughtful, far reaching efforts to realize one of the great objects for which the American Park and Outdoor Art Association is striving—to bring as much as possible of the best of rural life and beauty into the city. At the present time that community is a back number which does not jealously guard any infringements upon its park areas—that does not try to increase the number and improve the excellence of its parks. Many are the communities where systematic work is being done to persuade the people that their greatest good and enjoyment will be secured only when every householder, tenant or owner, does his best to make and keep his own premises clean and beautiful.

Your committee were fortunate in including a representative of a small city, a representative of a city of medium size and a representative of a metropolis. They have deemed best to give the methods for local improvement adopted in these three communities, pointing out what they regard as worthy of adoption in other communities similarly situated.

North Billerica, Massachusetts, is a town of large area with a population of about 3,000. There are really two villages, North Billerica, which is a manufacturing town, and Billerica Center, which is a residence town. Mr. Warren H. Manning, whose influence for beautiful surroundings may be seen in many cities and homes east and west, interested the citizens in the matter of improving local conditions. Public meetings were held in each of the villages and addresses were made by men well informed as to the needs of town and city.

An organization was formed. The Home and School Ground Committee was one of the most active and did a work that has been appreciated by pupils of the schools and by the public. At a town meeting, appropriations were made for relocating the highways, for reservations, and an increased amount was allowed for the tree warden. The end in view is the improvement of the roadsides and the securing of additional reservations.

The Association will be incorporated so as to acquire title to reservations. At present the membership fee is voluntary, but many think this will be changed so that there shall be two membership fees—a small one for children and a larger one for adults.

One large manufacturing company issued a circular offering prizes for improvements around the premises of its tenants, and it is doing a large amount

of planting of shrubs and trees in the village. A catalogue has been issued for the use of the people in connection with these plantings.

The chief features of the work at North Billerica that are worthy of imitation are :

First. Securing the services of an expert. Specialists who have devoted years of study and observation to the matter of the exterior adornment of home, highway and park, and to comprehensive plans for city building, must be employed if the community hopes to have a beautiful entity. The results of such specialists' work happily will appear at our National Capital as it is rebuilt according to the splendid plans of the Senate Commission.

Second. The efforts to improve the highways and to increase the park areas may well be made in every community.

Third. The active interest taken by local corporations and an enlistment of the aid of the children are means of bringing about desirable ends in every community.

As a sample of local improvement methods in cities of medium size, we cannot do better than to refer to the capital of the Keystone State. The "Harrisburg Plan" is too well known to the members of this Association through the proceedings of last year to make it necessary for your committee to do more than allude to it. Liberal sums of money were spent, you will remember, in securing the services of experts who made comprehensive plans for a rejuvenated and greatly beautified city. The carrying out of these plans will be a matter of civic pride, increasing as the years go by and as the community realize more fully the good that is being done to every citizen. This systematic planning for years to come—planning upon a comprehensive scale—is the feature of the "Harrisburg Plan" that should be adopted in village, city or metropolis.

A feature of the work of the Harrisburg Civic Club of interest to the members of this Association is the work of the Department of Forestry and Town Improvement. We quote from a recent Bulletin issued by this Department.

"When the Civic Club was first organized in 1898, this Department was formed of four committees, viz :

Parks,	Forestry,
Tree Planting,	Playgrounds.

"Since the Civic Club began its efforts to have a cleaner and more beautiful city, great changes have occurred. We now have a model park commission, our councilmen are interested in beautifying the streets, the board of control has granted us permission to have school grounds planted, and other progressive measures render some of our former aims superfluous. It has seemed therefore a sensible thing to re-organize on the two lines of greatest present usefulness, viz : Playgrounds and Home Improvement, and at the general meetings, held in December, 1902, January and February, 1903, it was voted—

First. To continue the playgrounds and to enlarge their equipment.

Second. To repeat the prize planting of 1902.

Third. To re-organize in two main committees, Playgrounds and Planting."

For five years the Department maintained summer playgrounds and supported all measures tending toward the improvement of home and school grounds. The work has been accelerated by the systematic offering of prizes for improving yards that heretofore had no attempts at adornment; for raising flowers at the homes; and by some special prizes to the boys for vegetable gardens at their homes. The pamphlet issued giving the explanations regarding the prizes also contains excellent specific directions for doing the work.

The Civic Improvement League of St. Louis during the fifteen months' of its existence exemplifies what may be accomplished for civic betterment by the organization of the efforts of all citizens who are willing to contribute money, time, special talent or organizing ability in an attempt to improve local conditions.

The membership at present is about 2,000. Each member pays \$2 annually. Several hundred are honorary members paying \$25 annually. There are also donations from public spirited citizens so that the league spends between \$500 and \$600 per month in the furthering of good movements, besides expending about \$3,000 this year for playgrounds. The Committees of the League are: Executive, Ways and Means, Press, Legislation, Open Air Playground, Public Bath, Waste Paper Boxes, Sanitary, R. R. Track Depression, Membership, Vacant Lot, Statuary, Sign and Sign Board, Civic Cleaning Days, Junior League, Committee for Marking Historical Spots.

Among the things accomplished in whole or in part through this League may be mentioned:

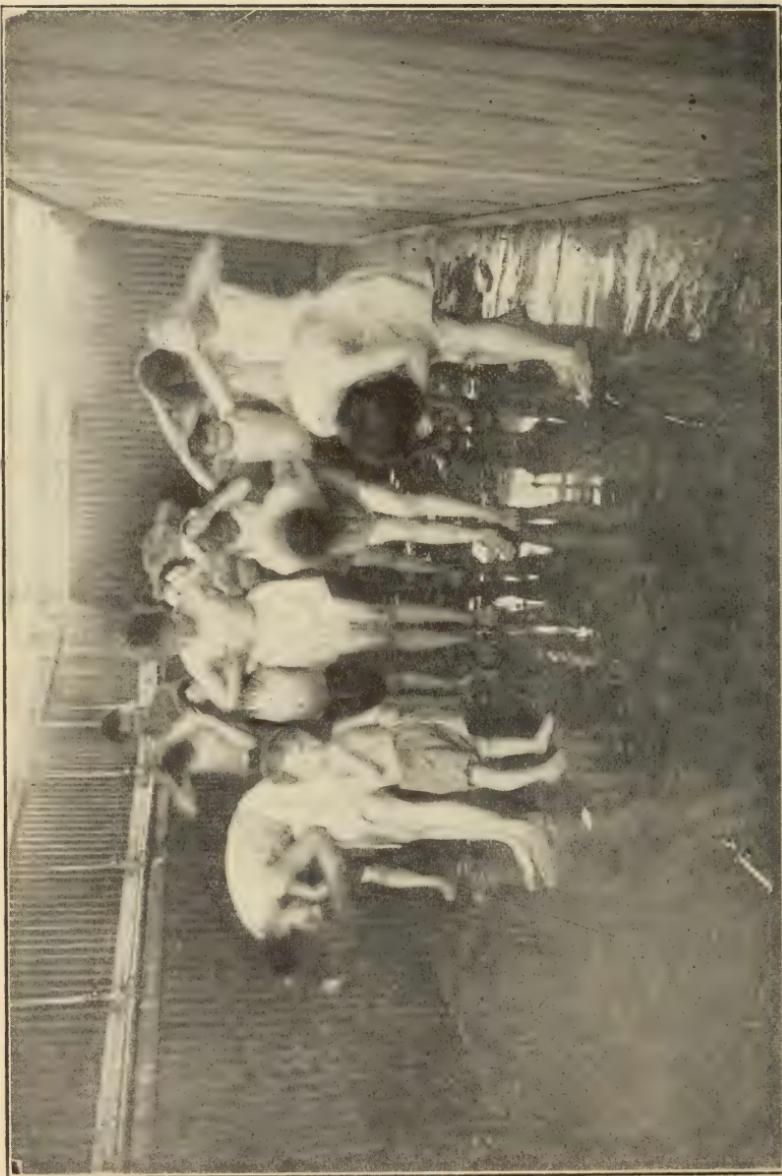
First. The distribution, in connection with the Engelmann Botanical Club, of several thousand copies of a pamphlet upon the subject of tree planting in the city, giving full instructions as to kinds and methods with which success would most likely be assured.

Second. The establishment of six open air playgrounds for children in the congested districts remote from parks. Each of these is provided with shower baths and a library. The girls come in the morning and are in charge of a Director and an Assistant at each playground. The boys come in the afternoon. These six playgrounds, together with those in charge of the Vacation Playground Association, a sister organization, make a total of thirteen playgrounds maintained during the summer for the children of the city who have nowhere to play but in the streets and alleys. The grounds are patronized by thousands. As many as three thousand baths may be given daily. The police department asserts that in the districts where these playgrounds were maintained, juvenile commitments for crimes and misdemeanors decreased one-half.

Third. Some of the shrewd brewers made an attempt to get the monopoly of supplying waste paper boxes for the street corners, using them for advertising. Their efforts were thwarted and there is a prospect that the city may supply the boxes free from advertisements under special regulations.

Fourth. The more general enforcement of the wide-tire laws.

Fifth. The enactment of an anti-spitting ordinance and its quite general



SHOWER BATHS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLAYGROUNDS IN ST. LOUIS.

Courtesy, The Civic Improvement League of St. Louis.

enforcement. This has materially improved the appearance and sanitary condition of the street cars and the sidewalks. In this respect St. Louis may justly claim to be far in advance of Washington, which, though in the lead in beauty of city plan, is noted for the expectoration filth to be seen upon its sidewalks.

Sixth. Through the efforts of the Sanitary Committee there has been a marked improvement in the 3d and 4th wards where the special work has been done. Clubs have been organized among the women for the purpose of teaching sanitation. Three "breathing spots" have been prepared. Fifty of the women have entered a prize contest for home improvement.

Seventh. The depression of the railroad tracks in the vicinity of Forest Park and the World's Fair Grounds.

Eighth. Enforcement of the ordinances relating to sign-boards and prospective legislation for better laws regarding the same. The League's counsel is now preparing a billboard ordinance which is to be a part of the revised building laws.

Ninth. The completion of plans for an extensive boulevard system connecting the parks of the city and adding to the park system several strips of high bluff with commanding views of the Mississippi river.

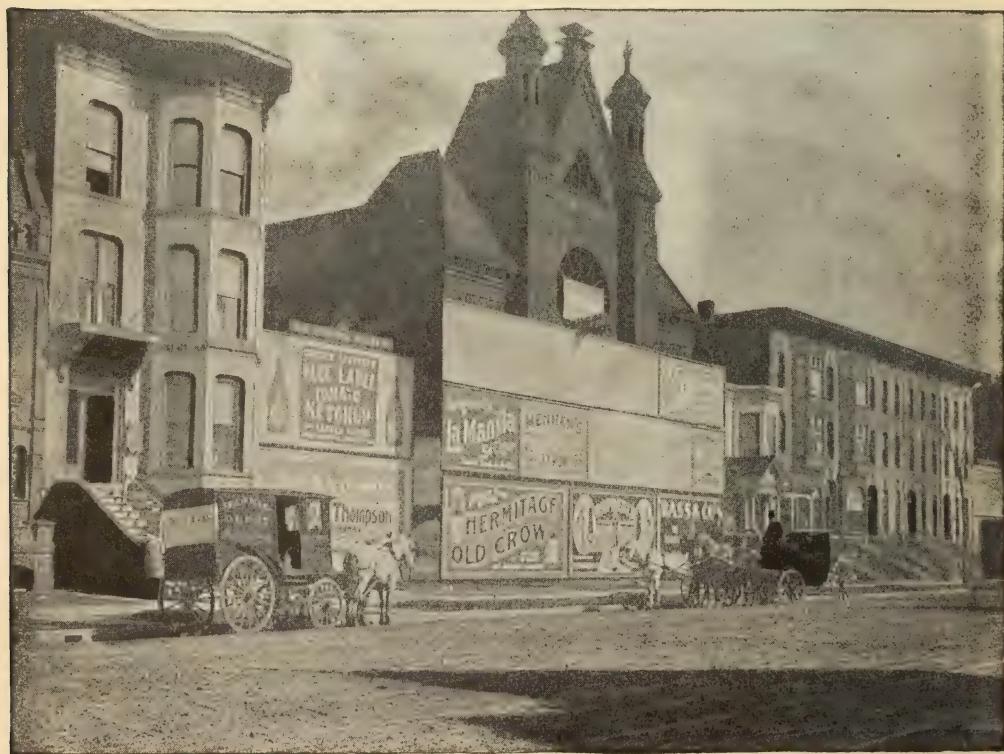
Tenth. The formulation of plans for organizing the children of the city into Junior Civic Leagues. A novel feature of the organization is that the members do not pay annual dues in money. Their dues are paid by doing some active work to make St. Louis clean, healthy and beautiful and by making a written report of the work. During May and June more than one thousand children joined these leagues.

Eleventh. The inauguration of two plans of school gardening. One plan is to have a garden in each school yard or on a nearby vacant lot where each room of the school shall have several small plots of ground upon which to grow and study plants. The other system, The Junior School of Horticulture, is modeled in part after that of the Hartford School of Horticulture and that of the National Cash Register Co. It provides a garden of good size for any boy in the city who wants one. Competent instruction is given and boys come miles from different sections to take their lessons. This has already assumed such proportions that if there is a demand for them as many as 1,000 boys can be given gardens and horticultural instruction next year.

The officers and members of the Civic Improvement League of St. Louis are optimists. They believe that their city should become as clean, healthy and beautiful as it is busy. They believe it can be made so. They are trying to get every citizen to take the same view of the matter as themselves. There is no doubt as to what the final outcome will be if they persevere in their present course.

Local Improvement Committee, 1902-3.

PROF. W. J. STEVENS, St. Louis, *Chairman.*
DR DWIGHT R. BURRELL, Canandaigua, N. Y.
MISS MIRA L. DOCK, Harrisburg, Pa.
FREDERICK W. CLARK, No. Billerica, Mass.



A thoroughly disreputable billboard, and a billboard which by frames is made fairly neat. The latter, however, is much too high—a "three decker"—and is out of place on its site.

Courtesy, "The Chautauquan," Springfield, Ohio.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHECKING ABUSES
OF PUBLIC ADVERTISING.

F. L. OLTMSTED, JR. (BROOKLINE, MASS.), CHAIRMAN.

The kind of advertising with the abuses of which your Committee has been particularly concerned is that intended to call people's attention to something for which they are not seeking but which it may be for their advantage to know. Advertising of this class is painfully subject to abuses; great numbers of people are called upon to waste innumerable small fractions of time and energy, and to suffer many petty annoyances, in acquiring information of no interest or value to them, in order that a lesser number may learn something to their profit which they have not the intelligence or opportunity to find out unless it is thrust upon them. Yet no enthusiast impressed by examples of such abuses, however glaring and painful, should let himself ignore the fact that advertising of this sort is essentially desirable for the public good and that his efforts will be fruitful only if directed, not to its suppression, but to overcoming the abuses to which it is so subject. What a business some of us would have to make of watching the papers in order not to miss good plays and concerts if there were no theatre posters to catch the eye; how long some of us would live without such conveniences as the C. M. C. garter or De Long hook and eye, or the questionable blessing of condensed soup, if it were not for the street car advertisements; and, from another point of view, how many millions of tedious car rides have been relieved by the humor of "Spotless Town!" I should feel a sense of personal loss if some headstrong reformer were to do away with the street car advertisements and condemn me to stare blankly at my *vis-a-vis* and the glimpses of fitting shop fronts behind him.

Yet the abuses of display advertising, as we may call it, are serious both as to the character and the location of the displays, and merit the earnest attention of the public which suffers from them.

Many people are inclined to feel discouraged by the startling growth of the last few years, during which display advertising has invaded thousands of regions previously immune, has developed into a well organized and energetic business, has increased the size and number of its spawn, and has learned to display a sometimes devilish ingenuity in seizing upon the peacefully wandering attention and stuffing it forcibly with ideas for which it has no appetite and which it will probably not retain.

Yet there is a compensation to be found even in this painfully increased energy and organization on the part of the billboard men. With some striking exceptions, the character of the signs has on the whole improved, at the same time that their number and size has lamentably grown, and the organization of the business which has accompanied and made possible its extension has steadily increased the responsibility of the advertising agents and has nearly done away with some of the most shocking *kinds* of abuse. The "Associated

Billposters of the United States and Canada" officially condemn the practice of painting signs upon rocks and other natural objects in picturesque landscapes, although they seem to offer no objection to putting a hoarding in front of such a rock and painting on that. The distinction is a fine one but let us be duly thankful that the principle of aesthetic fitness has found a foothold however small.

Then, too, the application of business ability to the problems of advertising has pointed the way inevitably to the application of good design to the displays themselves. Of course what is good design for a poster is not good design for an easel painting, and some of us are not to be blamed for preferring an easel painting; but anything which has a purpose, and which is designed with knowledge, ingenuity and skill to fulfill that purpose, is at least full of interest, and I, for one, think there is more satisfaction in a good poster than in a bad easel painting.

I would not assert that there is more than the beginning of improvement, but this much I do believe there is, and it has the hopefulness of a spontaneous growth not injected by outsiders. The improvement is to be seen mainly in respect to posters, which live a short life, change often, and develop rapidly. To the poster, too, is due the standardizing of sizes, which, by introducing a certain mutual correspondence, has perceptibly reduced the discordance of the still painfully inharmonious batteries of advertisements which assail the eye from the larger hoardings. A very recent development has been the enclosure of the better hoardings by substantial frames which tend still further to unify each group of displays. The frame is somewhat like the tasteless gelatine capsule which permits us to swallow at one gulp the various disagreeable flavors of our doctor's prescriptions, only it is still too thin and the flavors too penetrating. It is to be hoped that the billposters will soon go a step further and so proportion their boards as to leave a broad uniform margin of some quiet neutral background all around each poster, like a mat, to separate it from its conflicting neighbors within the same frame, giving to each a greater distinction and to the whole less disharmony and stronger unity.

But, if in these respects we owe some measure of thanks to the modern billposter, there is no such consolation in regard to his choice of localities for display. Except for the important admission that cliffs ought not to be painted, there is almost no recognition of the fitness or unfitness of locality, beyond the preference for frequented places, regardless of what they are frequented for. And here we come to the very marrow of the subject.

There is a time and place for almost everything and there are times and places to be free from almost everything. If the public would have any place where it congregates safe from the intrusion of display advertising, it is for the public to express itself clearly to the advertisers, from whose minds nothing is more remote than a desire to exasperate their patrons. I feel very sure that while a large part of the people think display advertising is a legitimate and permanent part of our civilization, they strongly resent having it thrust upon

them everywhere, in season and out ; and the difficulty is only to bring about an intelligible expression from the public as to the limits past which the billposters are to consider themselves "not wanted." No set of conclusive resolutions can ever be adopted to settle this question, but through the co-operation which can be effected by a central organization, like this Association, various localities can probably be brought to a reasonable unanimity of opinion expressed through the unmistakable language of local ordinances. As soon as the advertisers are convinced that there is a genuine public sentiment back of the movement, and that it is not the mere shouting of a parcel of "cranks," they will readily acquiesce, for it is none of their game to irritate the public.

The billposters may be slow to recognize the necessity for the setting of limits, although even without limits they probably do not look forward to a world *wholly* covered with billboards ; they merely want to select the sites themselves, without hampering public regulations.

I have said that they seek places which are largely frequented without much regard to what they are frequented for, but this is not wholly true, as is shown by the following extract from "The Billposter" for January, 1903.

At a seaside resort you will find all classes gathered together, all looking for health, rest and happiness. At these places everyone is at ease, there are no business cares to worry or annoy, and when people are in that peculiarly happy frame of mind, they are more easily impressed and the impressions last longer than at any time.

As all advertising is simply the indenting of certain facts into the minds of the public, then at no other place can these results be reached as quickly or as surely as at a seaside resort. In large cities busy men and women may not always have the time to see a billboard or bulletin, but at a seaside resort they take the time to look at it, to read it, and to store up the statements made thereon in their minds.

This billposter has a keen insight. The people go to the beach to cast off business thought and the occupations of workaday life, and to rest their minds from the constant, innumerable draughts upon the attention made by our nervous city life ; they put off the protective shell of more or less hostile indifference which is their only safeguard in the town against utter nervous exhaustion, and prepare to enjoy the change of conditions. They are in a receptive mood, for the sake of appreciating all the restful influences of the shore, and the wily advertiser follows them out from town and takes advantage of this defenceless mood to attack them.

A parallel instance would be that of advertising in the public parks, which cities purchase and lay out at vast expense precisely that the citizens may have restful places into which they may escape from the ordinary sights, sounds and fretful demands on the attention that are incident to city life. Solely from the point of view of the advertiser, the parks would be capital places for the billboards because of the receptive state of the people there, and doubtless a city could earn a considerable revenue by letting advertising space in its parks ; but it is so obvious that the damage to the public would overpass all benefit that the proposition would not be seriously considered.

Of course the people are just as much affected by the glaring advertisements on adjacent private land when conspicuously visible from the parks, and it is the duty of those who are keen in their appreciation of such matters to help public opinion to express itself clearly as to where, besides in public parks, it does not want to have display advertising. The only way to bring this about is by continued public discussion, and the best way to bring about earnest and serious discussion is to undertake the passage of laws and ordinances bearing on the points at issue.

To secure limiting laws is desirable, but to convince the billposters of what the people find offensive is of nearly equal value and importance. The vacant-lot billboards of our city streets are more often objectionable from the irregularity of their placing and construction, from the character of the displays, and from the general air of shabbiness and carelessness, than from anything inherently objectionable about their occurrence, and as I have said there is evident a distinct tendency to improvement in quality. I am familiar with some new billboards, large, neat, well-framed and painted, and occupied by single, long displays of harmonious tone, like those of "Uneeda Biscuit." These are decidedly pleasanter and more restful to the eye than the rubbish-covered dumps which they fence in and obscure.

But as we get into the suburbs and the country, as houses and other constructions become less continuous, and as the chances improve for vacant land to look attractive and to be put to some productive use by gardening or farming, the billboard seems more and more out of place and unharmonious, and when it actually cuts us off from a beautiful distant view or breaks crudely into an otherwise lovely rural landscape, it is a positive offense. The point where this state of mind is reached and the keenness of the annoyance are, of course, dependent on the degree of enjoyment which we severally take in our surroundings, but it is a question only of degree.

I am informed that along the line of one of our busiest interurban railroads, the advertising rights are leased by a few companies from a very large proportion of the abutting owners, although these rights are by no means all put to use as yet. *The signs displayed are rendered more valuable by the holding of rights on the remaining land vacant.* Is there not here a suggestion? Is it too much to hope that the interests of advertisers and public alike may some day be cared for by a system of limited and licensed advertising fields, approved by a public officer on petition of the land owner or advertising agency, and after due consideration of the wishes and interests of the traveling public?

However remote so bold a limitation may be at present, there are already a few instances where the situation makes display advertising so generally offensive as to constitute it a public nuisance, and in every community these should be picked out and branded. One, for example, is in the midst of particularly well-kept suburban homes, where a great billboard may reduce the attractiveness and interfere with the ready leasing of adjacent property, a sufficient evidence of its real offensiveness to that particular public. But

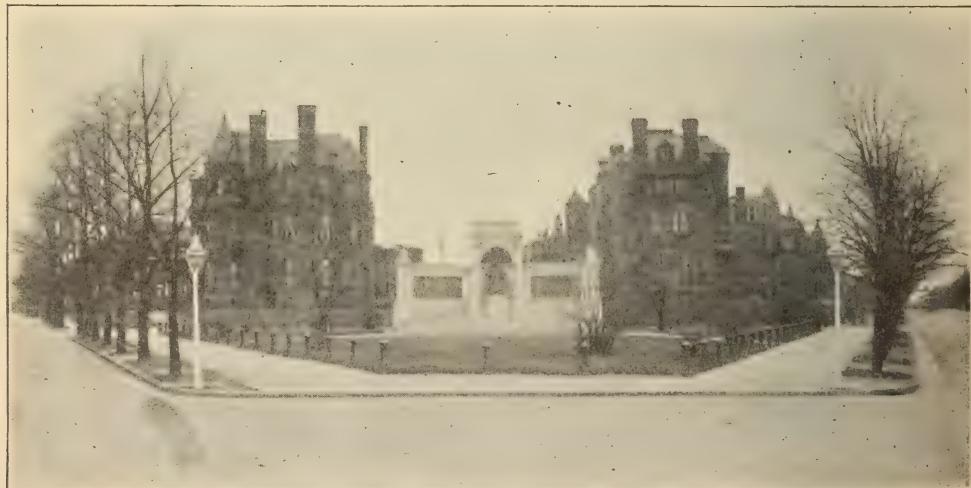
perhaps the clearest case after that of the parks themselves is that of land abutting upon parks. The argument has already been presented by this committee, and will not be re-stated here; but it may be found in a letter appended to this report.

Here seems to be the best point of attack ; and the most important step in advance, of which the Committee has learned this year, has been taken along this line. Under the auspices of the Massachusetts Civic League, a committee, upon which two members of your own committee served, successfully urged upon the Massachusetts Legislature a bill giving power to Park Commissions in that State to regulate the display of advertising signs near and visible from the lands under their control. The full text of the act is appended to this report.* We believe that the same principles will hold good in other states and will ultimately be applied to other localities, not adjacent to parks but where for other reasons display advertising may be generally thought offensive. It is too early to report how the law works in practice, but it is expected that most of the Commissions will adopt a regulation permitting the erection and maintenance, without special permission, of any single permanent sign of moderate dimension advertising the business carried on upon the premises or relating to the premises themselves ; and requiring special written permission for the erection of additional signs of this sort, or of display signs not concerned with the premises or with business carried on upon them. No rigid regulations can cover the numerous special cases of this sort without working injustice, and the local authorities must accept the burden of meeting local conditions with intelligent care as they arise.

In the end it all comes back to this, that the only real progress is to be made by developing local activity supported by local public opinion. But public opinion can often be brought to a focus by such laws as the above and they will vastly strengthen the hands of those who are willing to do the work which an indolent public opinion is ready to have someone do for it.

It is very desirable that a general canvass of the country should be made to ascertain what is being accomplished in the way of checking the abuses with which we are concerned, and that systematic guidance and stimulation should be offered to help local effort, as was recommended by this Committee three years ago ; but funds have not been provided and the members of the Committee have not the time to undertake such a campaign without adequate clerical assistance. During the past year, except for the important act in Massachusetts with which its own members were concerned, only one important act has come to the attention of the Committee. At the instance of our President, the Pennsylvania Legislature passed an act, like the older one in Massachusetts, declar-

*An extract from the extremely valuable official opinion submitted by the Attorney General to the Legislature, upholding the constitutionality of the act, will be found in the pamphlet (issued with this) containing a reprint of ordinances, laws and previous Association circulars and correspondence, referring to the advertising question. This reprint, however, does not include the notable report submitted at the Chicago meeting of the Association. (Vd. Vol. IV, Part 1.)



THE CITY'S NEGLECT IS THE ADVERTISER'S CHANCE—TYPES OF IMPROVEMENT
OF AN ADVANTAGEOUS SITE.

Courtesy, City Park Association, Philadelphia.



DIFFERENT VIEWS OF A LIKE OPPORTUNITY.

Courtesy, City Park Association, Philadelphia.

ing it a public nuisance to post signs without the written consent of the land-owner or tenant, and punishing the commission of such nuisance by fine.

An important bill supported by the Chicago Municipal Art League passed the Illinois Senate but was defeated in the House. It provided that municipal authorities should have the power to license street and billboard advertising companies and to regulate and *prohibit* signs and billboards advertising other business than that of the occupant of the premises. Perhaps a bill providing less sweeping powers might have been enacted.

It is greatly to be desired that the work of co-ordinating local efforts and of systematically collecting and supplying information upon the subject should be undertaken, and since it is impossible for this Committee to undertake it, we urge again that it be referred to the Secretary's office with funds for proper assistance. If a closer union is brought about with other national associations interested in kindred subjects, this matter can very well be managed by the central office.

Committee on Checking Abuses of Public Advertising, 1902-3.

FREDERICK LAW OLMFSTED, JR., Brookline, Mass., *Chairman.*
MRS. WILLIAM FREDERICK GROWER, Chicago.
MRS. LOVELL WHITE, San Francisco.
JOSEPH LEE, Boston.

ADDENDA.

House No. 86. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1903.

AN ACT to protect Parks, Parkways, and Public Pleasure Grounds from Disfigurement by Advertisements.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

SECTION 1. The Board of Metropolitan Park Commissioners and the officer or officers having charge of parks, parkways or public pleasure grounds in any city or town may make such reasonable rules and regulations respecting the display of signs, posters or advertisements in or near, and visible from, public parks, parkways or public pleasure grounds entrusted to their care as they may deem necessary for preserving the objects for which such parks, parkways or public pleasure grounds are established and maintained.

SECTION 2. The board or officers aforesaid shall give notice of all rules and regulations made by them under authority of this act by posting the same in three or more public places, in the city or town in which the public park, parkway or public pleasure ground is situated, and by publishing the same in some newspaper, if there be one, published in such city or town. Such notice shall be deemed legal notice to all persons.

SECTION 3. Whoever violates any rule or regulation made and published as aforesaid shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars for each offense; and any sign, poster or advertisement erected or maintained in violation of any such rule or regulation shall be deemed a public nuisance.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Extract from a letter concerning House Bill No. 86, Massachusetts, 1903.

* * * * *

One important purpose of parks is to provide, for those who have not the time or the money to go away from the city, a place where they can get a mental rest from the constant urgent demands which are inevitable in modern city life. It is for that reason that certain things, most desirable and commendable in themselves, are excluded altogether from the parks or limited to certain spots. Public preaching is included among these things because it involves an insistant demand on the attention. Display advertising, through the sense of sight, makes similar demand on the attention, and surely for no more worthy or beneficial end. Display advertising, therefore, like public preaching, is rightly excluded from the parks; but conditions are frequently such that display advertising carried on upon land adjacent to public parks and parkways may be nearly, if not quite, as effective in distracting the attention of their frequenters as if introduced within the public areas themselves. If, then, the purpose of the parks is not to be seriously interfered with in such cases, the remedy is to prevent, by some means, the exhibition of such distracting signs.

To accomplish this two courses are open. It has been contended by opponents of previous measures like that now before the Legislature that if the public, for its own purposes, wishes to deprive the owner of any piece of land of a valuable right, such as that of displaying advertisements to passers by, it should take this right by eminent domain and pay the owner for it. On the other hand, the present bill contemplates regulating the exercise of that right under the police powers without compensation.

The Attorney-General has spoken for the constitutionality of the bill; as a layman who has examined the subject carefully I should like to speak for its essential equity.

If the owner of a retired piece of land makes his living by some useful but dangerous occupation, like the blasting and quarrying of stone, and the public lays out a new street adjacent to the quarry, thus bringing people into dangerous proximity to the blasting, so that it becomes necessary to prohibit the continuance of that owner's occupation, it would seem that in all fairness the

owner is entitled to damages, unless the opening of the street has correspondingly increased the value of his land for other purposes. But in the case of land near which a park or parkway has been laid out, although the right of displaying signs has always existed, it has no commercial value until the laying out of the park or parkway brings the public where its attention can be caught by signs upon the land.

Now since the commercial value of this right of displaying signs is dependent almost solely upon the expenditure of public funds in laying out the parks and parkways upon which these lands face, it is certainly no more than just that its exercise should be so regulated as not to interfere with the purposes for which these public funds were expended.

The present bill involves the curtailment of a valuable right, it is true, but the value of the right has been created by the public as an incident to the accomplishment of a public purpose, and it is proposed to curtail it only in so far as its exercise interferes with the public purpose which gave rise to its value.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) FREDERICK LAW OLMFSTED, JR.

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1903-1904.

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FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES.

CHARLES MULFORD ROBINSON, Rochester, N. Y.

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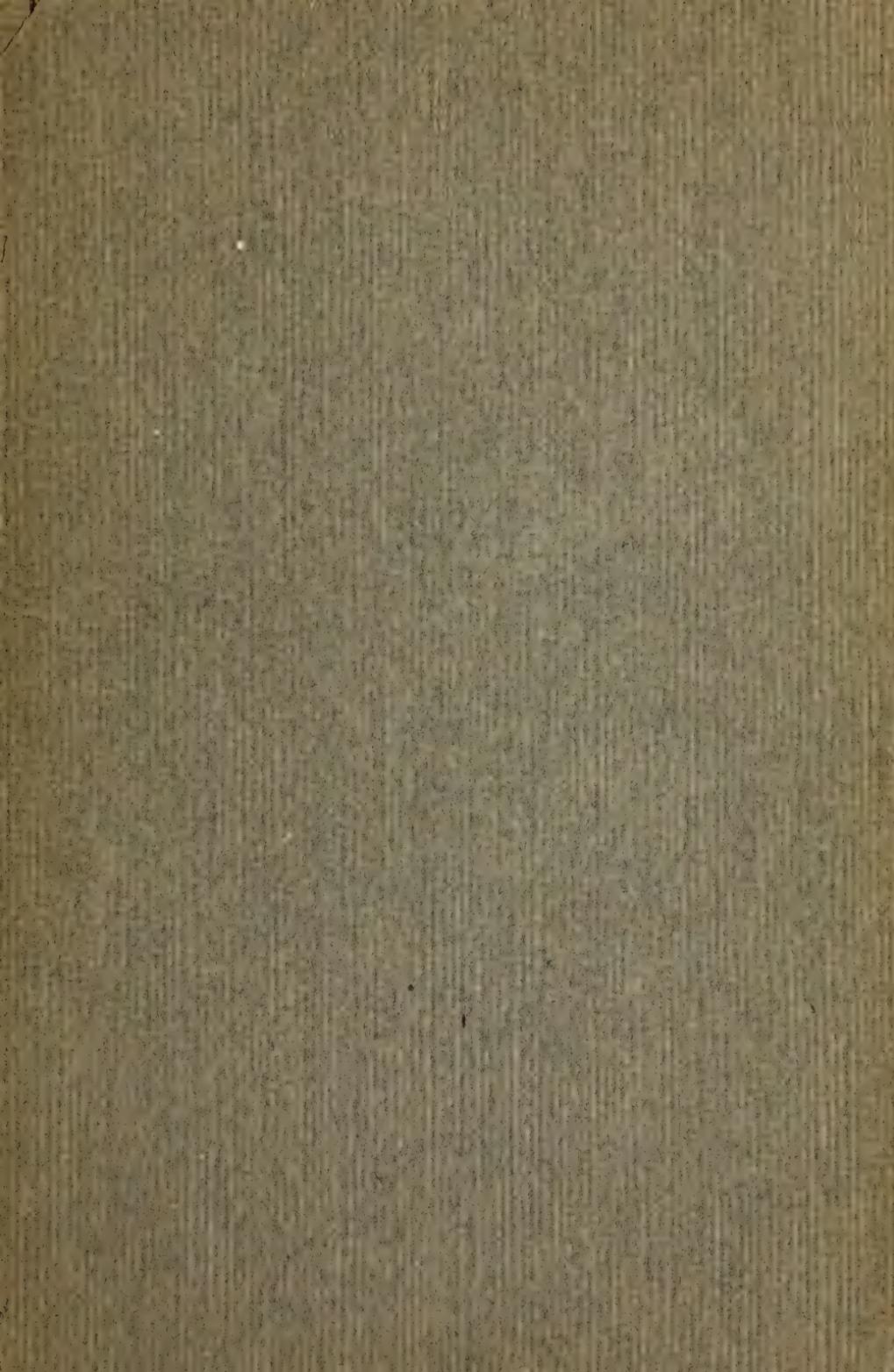
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AMERICAN
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Vol. VII. Part IV.

GENERAL
ADDRESSES

of the

Seventh Annual
Meeting.

Buffalo, July 7, 8, 9,
1903.

ORGANIZATION.

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 21, 1897.

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NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

St. Louis, June 9, 10, 11, 1904.

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PREFACE.

With the present pamphlet, Part 4, there closes the Seventh Volume of the Publications of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, devoted to the Proceedings of the Seventh Annual Meeting. These papers, although of special interest, were not printed before because not fitting into the Business (Part 1), the Reports of the Standing Committees (Part 2), or the School Garden Proceedings (Part 3); and also because, if reserved for publication by themselves in the order here given, they would constitute a connected, logical and valuable presentation of the cause for which the Association stands and of the educational work that it would do.

Two addresses will be missed. One is the very interesting report of the Hon. John W. Langmuir, Chairman of the Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park Commission, delivered at the luncheon given to the Convention delegates in the Canadian Reservation at Niagara. This has been printed separately by the Commission, and distributed as far as practicable to those of our members actively engaged in park work. About a dozen copies remain in the hands of your Secretary and as far as they last will be given on application. The address describes the work and problems of the Canadian Commission. The other is the informal and charming talk that was delivered at Niagara by the Hon. Thomas V. Welch, Superintendent of the New York State Reservation at Niagara, just before the delegates were taken to the Reservation. Mr. Welch spoke without notes, illustrating his remarks with maps. It was his intention to write the address for publication in this pamphlet; but shortly after the Convention his useful life was cut short by death.

To the address of the Hon. Andrew H. Green, printed in the following pages, there attaches also a pathetic interest, since he, too, has died since it was given.

A word should be said about the order in which the addresses were delivered, since it is not that in which they are here given. Mrs. Hall, Professor Bailey, and Mrs. Seavey spoke at the first public meeting of the Convention, on the evening of the first day, in the order named. Mrs. Hall was the retiring President of the Women's Auxiliary, and as such her address followed that of President Woodruff (Printed in Part 1). Mr. Green's address was delivered at Niagara Falls, welcoming the delegates to the Reservation; and Mr. Rogers spoke at a regular business meeting on the third morning.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT IN OUTDOOR ART

BY PROFESSOR L. H. BAILEY, DIRECTOR OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

There is a distinctly forward tendency in the apprehension and appreciation of beauty in outdoor scenes and objects. This tendency is but one expression of the general awakening of the human mind to an intimate interest in all the objects and phenomena of the world. Our sympathies are expanding, our interests are constantly more numerous, the resources of our lives are richer and deeper.

Outdoor art is the expression of the human mind in terms of the beauty of landscape. A landscape is a particular bit of scenery. The elements of a landscape are the surfaces, the sky and air, the plants, the animals. Our artistic interest in the landscape proceeds from two general sources,—the mere beauty and the special acquaintance with particular objects. That is to say, the growing apperception of rural art arises from an appreciation of art itself and also from all agencies that tend to give us more accurate and personal knowledge of the actual things afield. All educational practices now try to put the individual man or woman into close relationship with the out-of-doors. This great growing interest in the open world is world-wide and it is fundamental to the advancement of the race.

It will profit us, I think, to consider some of the ways in which this great new interest expresses itself. Thereby we may see how far we have come, and we may get some hint whither we must go.

I. I think we may safely say that the first great evidence of this new growth is to be found in the rise of the art-sense itself. Rural art is not a thing apart, but is only a special application or expression of the art-sense. It needs only the statement of the fact to convince my auditors that the art-sense is rising with great steadiness and rapidity. Year by year there is wider demand for good pictures, good music, good literature, good furniture, good architecture. We are constantly impressed by the multitude of persons who are satisfied with mediocre or even poor accessories; but we must remember that more persons are being touched with the new spirit and that many or even most of them are yet only in a transition stage. Consider the wonderful interest in beautifully illustrated magazines and books, and then answer whether tastes have changed within a generation. And have you noticed no changes in the quality of the seed and plant catalogues?

At first, the application of beauty to the home is an accessory and an incident. Gradually it becomes a part of us, central to our lives. We demand it as a part of the satisfaction of living. When we live it, we feel it. The more vital and personal it becomes to us, the more do we care for the soul of it and the less for mere conventional efforts at it. We pass through the epoch of chromos, bric-a-brac, curios, carpet-bedding, barbered bushes, gew-gaw archi-

ecture, into the solid and steady and soulful means of expression. Do you remember the epoch of the "what-not,"—that nondescript piece of furniture that stood in the corner of the self-conscious parlor for the accommodation of all the bits of unrelated trinkets that the good housewife could accumulate? Have you seen the front-yard with pretty posie-beds dropped on it?

Along with all the other growth of the art-sense is the rise of the desire of cleanliness. To be clean is as much an art-expression as a sanitary measure. I fancy that if we could analyze the sources of the desire to be clean we should find it to proceed more from the satisfaction of being clean than of being healthful; and the satisfaction of being clean is born very largely of the "looks" of it, else why does clean dress seem to precede clean person and clean front-yards to precede clean back-yards? No art-expression is possible without cleanliness. A dirty yard is never a beautiful yard. Tin cans and roses do not comport.

Another evidence of the growth of the art-sense is the increasing effort at comfort in our houses and grounds. We are never really at home until the home is comfortable. An uncomfortable home cannot be artistic, because it is not adapted to its ends. A house is made for use, not as a means of displaying odd entrances and impossible windows and ten-pin tummings. A garden is for use and satisfaction, not for the accommodation of crooked walks nor piles of curious stones nor even for gaudy bushes.

II. In the second place, the art-sense has been aroused by the altruistic spirit, as religion and education have. We would extend the influence of good music and pictures and art-objects to other homes. We would have the perception of beauty become universal. We have come into an epoch of gardening-for-others. Not only have we improved our own front-yard and back-yard, but we want similar improvement made for the street-side, the vacant lot, the cemetery, the church premises, the school ground, the park, the railway property, the countryside. Manufacturers are improving and beautifying their premises and are leading their employees into similar desires. We have come to feel that the public has rights regarding beauty, as it has regarding safety and sanitation. The traveler and the resident demands that he be safe from bodily harm, and that his health be protected; a time is coming when he will demand also that his aesthetic sense be not offended. We are coming to feel that scenery belongs to the people, and that it has value. Scenery makes up half of every settlement; what do persons drive around the city for if not to see? Every street is a scene. Scenery is as much an asset of a village or a city as water supply and sewerage systems are.

All this marks the rise of civic pride. A city is no longer a collection of houses. It is an organism. Consider how the government of cities has centralized and focalized within the last generation. It is not enough that a city merely grow. It must grow symmetrically. Fifty years ago a city library or park was not a necessity: now it is. We are coming into a science of city-building. We shall formulate principles governing the relationship of residence-part to business-part, distribution of public buildings, styles of architecture, inter-rela-

tionships of sanitary, transportational, lighting, heating and other systems with the welfare and beauty of the city as a whole. The development of this science will mark the downfall of the ward politician. Government is not merely a series of offices. We are coming to a new basis of civic betterment.

It is an interesting indication of the stage of development at which we now live, to say that one may not offend his neighbor's purse but that he may often offend his eyes and ears with impunity. If I put up a fence that shades my neighbor's cabbages, he can collect damages; but he may paint an offensive sign advertising his medicine or his dry-goods and I may only complain. Yet, as a matter of fact, my eyes are as good as his money. No person or concern has a moral right to erect a sign that offends the aesthetic sense of the public. And yet where can we go without seeing such signs and being offended by the hideousness and cheapness of their glaring impertinence? One needs fairly to shut his eyes as he travels into New York over the railroads. Our wide and free landscapes, our gorges and cliffs, our buildings, are despoiled by these obtrusive excrencences. The public is surely rising against them, and restrictive regulations are gradually accumulating; and I believe that the time is coming when the people will be so sensitive on these points that the person who puts up an offensive sign cannot sell his goods.

Another expression of this altruistic spirit is the desire to preserve natural objects and scenery. The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society is a concrete expression of this desire. To rescue and save for the public, to whom they rightfully belong, the best works of nature, is surely just as commendable as to preserve the works of human masters. States have a right to seize and save such great natural features as the Adirondacks, the Palisades, the redwoods, the Yellowstone. The Niagara reservation in New York established a precedent, the validity of which is now universally recognized. In its sphere, the city or the town has a right to take and preserve the smaller features within its range. Such preservation of local features has a powerful influence on the boys and girls, wholly aside from its intrinsic influence in increasing the attractiveness of the place; for it is of little use to teach the children about the wonders that are far off if we neglect the features that are near.

III. A third expression of the forward movement in rural art is the great increase in co-operative effort in these lines. There are many societies, all occupying useful fields. I do not know them all. It is gratifying to know that the National Societies are to be co-ordinated, for thereby their efficiency will be increased. I might mention this Association, the Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, the American League for Civic Improvement, National Municipal League, League of American Municipalities. To these should be added the educational work of such societies as the American Association of Nurserymen, Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists, Association of American Cemetery Superintendents, many horticultural, tree-planting and art societies, and the department of public works of many cities.

The rise of the art and improvement societies is practically the product of a

decade. Already these organizations are doing established work of permanent value in many lines. This work will soon tell. Every town, village and city will be aroused to the importance of making itself clean and attractive ; and the influence will gradually spread to the open country.

IV. There has emerged a new profession, one that deals with outdoor art. This profession has no name. Once it was called landscape gardening, but it has to do with much more than mere gardening or even artificial landscapes. Later, as now, it was called landscape architecture, but it has to do with much more than architecture, unless we use the word in a very large and unfamiliar sense. The truth is, this new profession includes both landscape gardening and landscape architecture, and much more. It covers in its sweep the whole out-of-doors, telling us wherein lies the beauty in the landscape, what is the artistic interest in the given hill or plain, in what part of the landscape the buildings would best be placed for artistic effect as well as for utilitarian purposes, what styles of architecture will comport best with the surroundings, what general style of handling and subdividing will best suit the genius of the place. This new artist sees the whole landscape with the architecture as a part of it, not merely a landscape made to fit the buildings. This artist gives advice to the architect and engineer as well as to the landscape gardener. He sees things in the large, as a painter-artist does ; but he is able to work out his ideals in the small on occasion. He may be both consulting advisor and practitioner.

This great new profession is to have much influence on the development of our life and thought. It is to relate our surroundings to the increasing artistic temper of our lives. It is to weld into one harmony all the many enterprises that are now isolated and separate. For example, the park, as understood in this country, has been usually an isolated feature. Now it is to be related with the whole city or with its whole neighborhood. It will be a part of the landscape in which it sits, not the whole landscape ; or, better, the whole landscape may be a park. The thoroughfares will be connected with it, as nerves are connected with a ganglion. The landscape of a whole county (as of Essex County, New Jersey) will be brought under the general control of this artist. All the environs of a city (as of Boston), with its hills and streams and banks and roads and lakes and shores and marshes and forests, will be put in his hands. In such bold handling as this, mere formal parks are but incidents ; yet to the landscape gardener of a generation ago the park was the culmination of professional effort.

This really means that the park of the old time and of literature is inadequate to the present-day conditions. The park must now be conceived of as a part of a municipal governmental system. Along with all other public institutions, it must stand for the betterment of its particular city, meeting the special local conditions. The time is coming when every city will have its park as it has its schools or its water supplies, or its sanitary regulations ; but before this comes about, new types of parks must come into existence, some that shall be adapted to one kind of people and one kind of social and economic conditions,

and others that shall be adapted to other circumstances. So long as we have only one genius of park, we will have only few cities developing good park systems. We should no more expect one type of park to suit all conditions than we should expect one type of school or church or government to suit all. The old lines are already beginning to break away. The present park is essentially an aristocratic institution, having been born before the time of established democratic ideas. We must now develop the park that shall be democratic as well as public and that shall appeal to whatever type of people constitutes the community. This may call for a new kind of landscape gardening.

Eventually, this landscape artist is to exert his influence for the betterment of the wide open country as well as for the village and the city. Farms must be created as organisms, and the general lay-out and the buildings must be made to befit the country in which they are, not to offend it. The individual farmer may not be able to employ this artist, and the farm is outside the sphere of the city. How, then, is this quickened artistic taste to be spread to the country. The schools, experiment stations, rural books, extension of bicycle and automobile travel, the outward spread of summer homes, all will tend to bring this about; but, aside from all this, we now need a special society, or a large branch of some existing society, to have for its work the artistic improvement of the agricultural country.

I have no thought of fancifying the farm nor of introducing the type of farm lay-out expressed in the old French plans of the "ferme ornée." I have no thought even of "design." But a little careful suggestion here and there could relieve many a farm of barrenness or even of repulsiveness, or it could save it from wantonness. One-third of all our people live on the farms: the character of the farm influences the children.

At present, the architecture of country buildings is greatly in need of attention. Much of it is hideous; most of it is unadapted to the country. The early architecture was suited to the country, because there was then no distinctly urban influence. With the development of the city has come a florid and jig-saw type of building, and this has now become reflected in the country. Compare the farm houses of a century past with those of to-day. It is the contrast of solidity, repose, straightforwardness, with display, temporariness and imitativeness. The country should have a style of building of its own. This building should be characterized by breadth on the ground rather than height in the air. It must have directness. Country persons must be educated to see that beauty in a building inheres in the entire building as a mass, not in the crooks and corners and shifty forms, not even in the ear-drops and Indian clubs and crochet-worked boards with which it is adorned. Most of all, they must be led to see that a style of building that is adapted to the city may be wholly unadapted to the country.

All these are some of the things that the outdoor artist must take in hand. As the earth fills with its teeming millions, the solace of the landscape will become more and more a necessity. The new profession of which I am speak-

ing must choose and preserve and improve the best landscapes, and make them accessible without rendering them artificial and hateful. New men are needed for this new work. No young man ever made for himself a nobler place than did Charles Eliot, who helped to set Boston in a girdle of regulated scenery; and no father has ever erected a more loving and inspiring monument to a son than has President Eliot, who has given us the biography of this son. This great profession, as yet formless and nameless, is larger than mere gardening or mere architecture or mere engineering. It is above and beyond "styles" and "schools" and academic and literary discussions of art. It is broader and more constructive in its sweep than any of these old lines and limitations. It is to have a part in the mighty uplift of the future.

V. Finally, this new art expresses itself in our increasing intimacy with the objects in nature. We are coming to know the animals and the plants and the brooks better. As education becomes really popular, we must appeal to persons on their own ground, else we cannot reach them. The things with which a man lives, these are the means by which he can best be reached and led to aspiration and joy. To put the child first of all into books is to lead it away from its own world into a realm of unrealities. All the tendency of our education has been to lead away from the things with which a man has to do. Government is some far-off chimera, originating on the periphery of the world, with which the child concerns itself only as it does with vague dreams. The child goes to school in one world: it comes home to another world. All this now is changing. The hamlet or the city is the place in which to study governmental and social questions. The plant that grows at one's feet, the bee in the nearest flower, the landscape that is commonist—these are the avenues to nature and to the larger life that lies ahead. The whole point of view of our education has shifted from the subject-matter to the child. This is the "new education."

Every person who in youth comes really intimately to know a plant or an animal or a landscape, will ever after want something of the kind in his life. Every modern school is a recruiting ground for the new outdoor art—for the art that stands for sympathetic closeness to nature.

SAVING NIAGARA

BY HON. ANDREW H. GREEN, PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE NEW YORK STATE RESERVATION AT NIAGARA.

As President of the Commissioners of the State Reservation at Niagara, I take especial pleasure in offering this greeting to the members of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association on the occasion of their visit to-day to Niagara Falls. A more felicitous choice of a meeting place for an organization engaged in your beneficent work could not be made; for here, in the voice of the great cataract whose resonant tumult has strained the eloquence and exhausted the vocabulary of poets and orators, and defied the efforts of art, nature speaks her lesson in no uncertain tone. If we add to this the inspiration of an assemblage whose days are given to the study of nature in her attractive moods, and to the adjustment of her treasures of beauty to the convenience and higher enjoyments of man, one can scarcely repress the thought that silent meditation is more fitting than the most eloquent utterance. Here also, in the State Reservation you find, however, a conspicuous example of precept learned and duty performed. Responding to your invitation, I will speak first of Niagara's precept, and then of the Reservation's example.

The lesson of which Niagara Falls may be said to have been a pioneer teacher, is the state's right of eminent domain over objects of great scientific interest and natural beauty—the inherent right of the people to the free enjoyment of the majestic works of the Creator. This principle, which during the past twenty years we have come to recognize as almost axiomatic, was, at the passage of the law of 1883, a new one.

If time permitted, it would be instructive, and doubtless helpful to you in your future undertakings, to glance at the rational basis for this claim of the popular right of access to the exceptional works of creation: and I think it would not be difficult to demonstrate, from their well-known and almost universal influence upon the beholder—the revelation which they give of the wonderful operations of the laws of the universe; the expansion of thought and elevation of spirit which they produce; and the irresistible power with which they draw the mind away from selfish and artificial to nobler and better things—that they exert a highly educational and moral influence; that free access to them contributes to the welfare of the state; and that the state is as fully justified in taking such property by the power of eminent domain for public use as it is in taking property for schools and reformatories.

In the creation of a public park or reservation, one or more of five sets of considerations are involved, depending upon its nature, location, and purpose. They may be stated briefly as follows:

First, the health and physical welfare of the people. This applies particularly to city parks and is perhaps the most important and most familiar consideration in large and growing communities. It was the leading reason for the creation of the many small parks of the metropolis and other large cities; and

of the Central Park of New York. This element, however, did not enter into the creation of the Niagara Reservation.

Second, public utility. This applies more particularly to large reservations outside of cities, of which the Croton Watershed, of about 361 square miles, belonging to the city of New York, may be cited as a pure example. Utilitarian motives also entered to a large extent into the creation of the State Forest preserve in the Adirondack and Catskill mountains, now aggregating over 2,200 square miles ; but no incentive of this sort led to the establishment of the Niagara Reservation.

Third, the preservation of natural landscape beauty and the adornment of cities and villages. Under this heading may be grouped all of those considerations of beauty which we term æsthetic. Æsthetic considerations led primarily to the creation of the Niagara Reservation, although I shall mention two other aspects of equal importance. Æsthetic considerations also enter into the construction of all city parks, and, besides adding to the pleasure and culture of the people, have a very practical and utilitarian value in attracting inhabitants to the city and enhancing real estate values.

Fourth, education and the advancement of science. This is an important element in the value of certain larger city parks and state and national reservations, as for instance, the Bronx Park of 661 acres in New York City, where the Zoölogical Gardens, Botanic Gardens, and the natural wildwood afford means of object study in nature ; the Stony Point Battlefield Reservation (in New York state) of 33 acres, where, in addition to beautiful scenery, history can be studied by means of landmarks carefully preserved ; the Adirondack Park of 1,818 square miles, where fauna and flora can be studied in their natural habitats ; and preëminently the Niagara Reservation, where, in the falls themselves, we see nature actively at work in her own workhouse, so to speak, and where, in the storied walls of the great gorge, we find her opened book presenting in extraordinary fashion the record of past ages.

The fifth consideration is one which applies more particularly to great and awe-inspiring wonders like Niagara. This is the uplifting moral effect of the contemplation of those objects which strikingly turn one's thoughts to the Creator. I do not remember to have seen this argument elaborated to any extent in its bearing upon the subject of a public reservation of natural wonders, but I think it deserving of serious thought, particularly in the United States. It is one of the fundamental principles of our republican form of government that church and state shall be separated, and that while it is a proper duty of the state to foster secular education, it shall carefully refrain from religious teaching. The reason for the latter is not that the teaching of religion is undesirable, but that in the multiplicity of sectarian divisions, entertaining widely divergent views, the state cannot undertake religious teaching without discriminations which would arouse violent animosities. If, now, the state has at hand some powerful, impersonal and non-sectarian agent, which, without arousing denominational antagonisms, will raise the thoughts of her people toward those lofty

and sublime conceptions of the Deity which it is almost universally agreed conduces to the moral betterment of mankind, it would seem to be the duty of the state to employ it. Such an agent we find in a conspicuous natural phenomenon like Niagara Falls. This great cataract has had the power, from time out of mind and upon all grades of intellect, to "bind back" the thoughts of the spectator to the God who made it, the literal meaning of the word religion.

When the early French explorers first beheld Niagara, they found the Indian worshipping his Manitou in the falls, rendering to him peace offerings of tobacco every time he passed, and the sacrifice of two human lives every year. The white man with religious instincts sees here a manifestation of that personal God of whom the Psalmist exclaimed: "O Lord, how manifold are all thy works; in wisdom hast thou made them all." The poet, Emerson, under the spell of nature, declares that "Nature is loved by what is best in us. It is loved as the city of God." And lastly, Lord Kelvin, the great scientist who studies the action of natural forces such as we see in operation here, notes the tendency of his fellows to refer the operations of nature back to a first and directing Cause, and admits that they are "compelled to accept the idea of a Creative Power." "If you think strongly enough you will be forced by science to the belief in God which is the foundation of all religion. You will find science not antagonistic, but helpful to religion."

In the light of these facts, we find a truth of profound significance to the state hinted at by Pope in his "Essay on Man" when he speaks of the

"Slave to no sect, who takes no private road,
But looks through nature up to nature's God."

Nature is truly a great, undenominational teacher of religion, with whom nobody can find fault, and whom the state can employ without violating the American principle of a non-sectarian government.

It may be said that the educated and thoughtful person finds his wonder excited by even the smallest and most commonplace objects; the ocean is epitomized in a drop of water and the earth in a grain of soil; Emerson could see a mountain in a little Massachusetts hill and Thoreau a forest in a Concord orchard; Shakespeare found "books in the running brooks;" and "sermons in stones;" and Bryant heard nature speaking a "various language." But everybody is not a scientist, or an Emerson, or a Thoreau, or a Shakespeare, or a Bryant, susceptible to the finer and more delicate influences of the small things of nature and capable of interpreting them; whereas a great marvel like Niagara, by its very ponderousness and unusualness, forces itself upon the appreciation of all. Hence the peculiar duty of the state to reserve for the people at large the great and impressive features of natural scenery.

Before passing to the second branch of my subject, and in order that the full significance of the Niagara lesson may be understood, let me emphasize the fact that this Reservation was created distinctly and purely from the higher æsthetic considerations of which I have spoken. It was not established under any subterfuge of utilitarian purpose. The title of the law which Gov.

Cleveland signed April 30, 1883, declared that the act was "to authorize the selection, location, and appropriation of certain lands in the Village of Niagara Falls for a State Reservation and to preserve the scenery of the Falls of Niagara." I call your attention particularly to this fact, that there was no equivocation in declaring the purely aesthetic purpose of this Reservation, for therein lies its great and distinguishing value as a precedent.

This brings us to the story of how the Reservation was made.

We can trace the beginning of the Niagara movement back to 1869, when Frederick S. Church, the artist, Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect, the Hon. Wm. Dorsheimer of Buffalo, H. H. Richardson, and others, discussed measures for the rescue of Niagara Falls. At that time, there did not exist, to my knowledge, a single state or national reservation created for the sole purpose of scenic preservation. There was no precedent to which to appeal, and the salvation of Niagara had to be worked out as a new proposition and upon entirely new principles so far as legislation was concerned. The first national reservation of scenic beauty, the Yellowstone National Park, was established by act of congress in 1872, three years after the Niagara campaign began; but even that afforded no standard by which to guide or help the savers of Niagara. The great Yellowstone Park of 2,142,720 acres was distant thousands of miles; wild, unimproved, and remote from civilization; it already belonged to the government and it cost the people nothing to reserve it as a public park. Therefore, as I said before, there was no parallel, in either state or national legislation, to the Niagara proposition, which contemplated the purchase by the state of valuable improved land, costing the people nearly a million and a half of dollars, solely for aesthetic purposes.

The campaign was consequently an uphill one from the outset. It was doubtless aided, however, by the rebellion of public sentiment against the conditions at Niagara. The landscape had become disfigured by a multitude of factories, hotels, bazaars, icehouses, high fences, clumsy railings and stairways; hideous signboards flaunted their garish advertisements in the faces of visitors on every side; the approaches had been so skillfully barricaded that there was actually not a foot of American soil from which an American citizen could view this one of the nation's natural wonders without paying for the privilege; and to cap the climax, hack-drivers, peddlers, guides and confidence men outraged public decency by their importunate demands, exorbitant exactions and swindling deceits, making life miserable for those who came here for the serene enjoyment of this great spectacle. It is an ill-wind that blows nobody good; and looking backward, we can thank some of those innocent offenders for the zeal which their conduct imparted to the champions of Niagara.

For years, the gentlemen whom I have named kept up the agitation, drawing around them many congenial and helpful spirits. At length, at Mr. Church's suggestion, the Earl of Dufferin, then Governor-General of Canada, was communicated with in relation to the establishment of an International park. In the summer of 1878, the Earl of Dufferin met Governor Robinson of New York,

and suggested that their respective governments should combine to acquire whatever rights might have been established against the public and to form around the Falls an International Park. Gov. Robinson heartily approved of the idea and advocated it in his message to the Legislature in 1879. This was the first official utterance on the subject.

In response to the Governor's message, the Legislature that year passed a joint resolution, instructing the Commissioners of the State Survey to report what measures were expedient for carrying out the suggestion. In 1880, the Commissioners presented a powerful report in favor of the Niagara Reservation. This was re-inforced by a remarkable public memorial, addressed to Governor Cornell and Governor-General Dufferin. Probably no document of a similar character ever bore such a distinguished list of names. It was signed by the Vice-President of the United States, the Secretary of War, the Chief Justice and seven Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, members of the Canadian Bench and Parliament, the leading lights of the English and American Universities, the most prominent United States Senators and Congressmen, officers of the American Navy, and eminent divines, litterateurs, poets, statesmen, and philanthropists of the two English-speaking peoples. Among those who joined in the plea for Niagara were Sir John Lubbock, Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry W. Longfellow, James Russell Lowell, John G. Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes, W. D. Howells, Asa Gray, Alexander Agassiz, and Phillips Brooks.

It would seem as if the petition of about 700 citizens of such character of the United States and Canada would have been sufficiently influential to accomplish the purpose in view, but it had no effect on those who considered Niagara Falls a "luxury" for the enjoyment of which people should pay; and the advocates of the Reservation did not immediately press legislation. They settled down, however, to a thorough and systematic campaign of education. An organization called the Niagara Falls Association was formed in New York City which co-ordinated individual efforts, and public sentiment was worked up throughout the state by means of correspondence, personal interviews, public meetings, newspaper articles, pamphlets and popular petitions. There is not time within the limits of this brief address to pay deserved tributes by name to the many valiant workers in the good cause; but I may say that it had no better friend or more able helper than the Hon. Thomas V. Welch, who was then a member of the Legislature from Niagara Falls, and who, in the most public spirited and disinterested manner, bent every energy to accomplish the end in view.

January 1st, 1883, the omens at Albany became more auspicious, and a bill was introduced "to authorize the selection and location of certain lands in Niagara Falls for a State Reservation and to preserve the scenery of the Falls of Niagara." The bill was passed and signed by Gov. Cleveland, April 30, 1883; and two days later the Governor appointed the first five Commissioners of the State Reservation at Niagara: Martin B. Anderson, J. Hampden Robb, William Dorsheimer, Sherman Rogers and myself.

Then followed the difficult work of examining and selecting the lands that ought to be acquired for the Reservation, which was done by our Commission ; and the appraisement and condemnation proceedings by the Commissioners of Appraisement. In 1885, the Commissioners of the Reservation submitted to the Legislature the award of the Commissioners of Appraisement, amounting to \$1,433,429.50 and asked that that amount be appropriated.

Then came the tug of war. Few persons realize the powerful concentration of effort made at that time by the devoted friends of Niagara ; the terrific strain which they sustained for weeks and up to the last minute of grace allowed by law for the signature of the bill ; or the narrow escape of the great and glorious project from defeat. The bill passed the legislature, April 16th, 1885, and went to Gov. Hill. He had until April 30th to sign it, otherwise, according to the two-year limit in the Niagara law of 1883, all proceedings would be void and of none effect. It is said that he had a veto prepared, but that a word from my distinguished friend and associate, and Hill's political mentor, Samuel J. Tilden, revealed the matter to Gov. Hill in the right light. As the clock was ticking away the precious minutes of the last hour allowed for the signature of the bill, and while some of the friends of the measure, including Mr Welch, were almost holding their breath with anxiety in the office of the Secretary of State, the Governor's messenger entered with the signed bill, and the great victory was won. Niagara was saved, and a precedent of vast and far-reaching importance established which other state governments and the federal government have freely followed.

You have asked me to say something about the administration of the Reservation, but time will not permit me to enter upon the extensive details of this interesting branch of the subject. The Reservation speaks for itself. The improvements were begun at once and continued upon a single plan, to which we have consistently adhered, namely, to restore the environment of Niagara Falls as nearly as possible to its natural aspect ; to remove every objectionable condition that in any way impaired the fullest aesthetic, educational and moral enjoyment and benefit of the spectacle ; to facilitate public access and convenience ; and to exclude everything of a commercial nature from the limits of the Reservation. I cannot in justice omit grateful recognition of the services of my former associates in the work of improvement along these lines—William Hamilton, Robert L. Freyer, Daniel Batchelor and John M. Bowers. It has been vigorously and intelligently prosecuted during the past five years under the commissioners who have just been re-appointed by Governor Odell—Charles M. Dow, Thomas P. Kingsford, George Raines, and Alexander J. Porter, with whom I have the honor to be associated.

As the original creation of the Reservation was in the nature of an example to the country, so have the Commissioners endeavored to make it a model of administration. From the very inception of the Niagara movement, down through the campaign culminating in the law of 1885 and through the administration of four boards of Commissioners, no touch of self-interest or corruption

has tarnished its fair record. The Commissioners themselves receive no compensation. They find, however, abundant recompense in the approval of a good conscience and in the knowledge that the proper administration of their trust is making the work of park creation and scenic preservation easier throughout the United States.

PARK INCONSISTENCIES*

BY MRS. HERMAN J. HALL, RETIRING PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
OF THE AMERICAN PARK AND OUTDOOR ART ASSOCIATION.

My only excuse, being a woman, in speaking to park makers is that I have visited nearly all the important parks of Europe and America and know something about them, and that it may be a new experience to hear a woman's ideas about parks. To my mind the basic principles of park making are the eternal fitness of things and inspiration.

We have many incidents that show the inspiration of trees. Perhaps most notable are those of Buddha, who received greatest inspiration under a tree; of Plato, who gave forth his finest teachings under the shade of an old olive tree; and of our Savior who, when he needed sympathy, went into the garden. If we give people trees and harmony, music and birds, we elevate their souls. Let us be careful, therefore, that we do not bring a discordant note into our selection. Let us be careful that such architecture as we have to place in the park is in harmony with the surrounding landscape, for what is a park meant to show but the beauty of God's country? * * *

We should not have effigies in the parks. There should be no place in them for stone perpetuations of those who have passed away, for granite pantalooned remembrances of dead musicians and soldiers and statesmen. If we cannot teach people to realize that they should keep their effigies of statesmen where they belong, then let us hide them in thickets where those who seek them may find them, but where none shall find them without seeking. Where is the statesman who can stand in front of his own mirror and say he would make a good statue? If we wish to perpetuate the memory of a person, let us symbolize his virtues. * * * Statues of great men belong in art galleries and halls of fame, not in parks. * * *

I have heard people cry out when seeing the marble production in a park in Paris that shows a bear clutching the back of a man and tearing him. People should rise up and rebel against such things as that. We should put nothing in our parks which suggests unrest or anything disagreeable, or that will frighten children, but we should put in objects that will suggest woods, trees, water and nature. * * * To me the greatest mistake is to include a Zoological Garden in a park. I think this a barbarism. Men of experience have told me that we must have these gardens in order to teach the children something of natural history, but what sort of natural history can they learn by studying the poor creatures in a Zoological Garden? A lion born and raised in captivity is not at

*Mrs. Hall spoke without notes and her remarks, coming straight from her heart, were very stirring. At her own request, the address is not printed in full because of its colloquial nature, but the following notes indicate its trend and give the points upon which she laid special emphasis.

all like the magnificent wild lion of the jungle. The sight of a polar bear walking a thousand times a day the length of his den and beating his poor head on the bars is cruel. I have not the words to express my indignation at the caging of wild birds. If you will stand in front of these cages and look into their eyes you will understand their sufferings. We are not good park makers unless we stop this. It should not be, and cannot be, the intention of park makers to make miserable the life of any living thing.

I am hopeful. We have learned to love beauty, and we are doing better than our forefathers did. Our children will do better than we.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF SMALL HOME GROUNDS

BY MRS. FRANCES COPELY SEAVERY, OF CHICAGO.

Much has been said and more has been written of the various phases of landscape planting, but the nucleus of the whole matter, the really important part of outdoor art, is that our home grounds shall be pictures. If each householder in this broad land would convert the home plot into something that a painter would willingly transfer to canvas outdoor art organizations might go out of commission, and the problem of leaving the world more beautiful than we found it would be solved.

Every American citizen loves his home. Therein lies our national salvation. The homes are the units, and the whole cannot be greater than its parts. If high standards are maintained in the homes the United States will retain her present prosperity, power and prestige. Nothing tends more directly to foster love of the home than making it attractive. Boys and girls are so largely influenced by the environment of childhood that the appearance of the interior and of the exterior of every home is a matter of importance.

To crystalize generalities into concrete form we will assume that the average American home grounds approximate a frontage of from fifty to sixty feet. What are the possibilities for beauty on this comparatively restricted space?

Composition is the fundamental necessity in a landscape painting; it is no less essential in making an actual landscape. In the latter case, however, this preliminary work is called design, and on the excellence of the design or plan, depends the perfection of the finished picture. The basic elements of such design as applied to small home grounds have been formulated by Prof. Bailey, as the "open center and massed sides." That is, the dwelling is the central idea and the planting should be designed to form its foreground, its background, its frame and its setting. The "open center" is represented by the foreground of greensward, the lawn, which should be cut up as little as possible by walks—a driveway within such narrow confines is a misfortune. The background and frame consist of masses of foliage and must be consistently and continuously considered and treated as masses of foliage. The individual plants that enter into their composition are, from the smallest to the largest, to be chosen for their fitness as factors in producing the desired effect of the whole.

When you go home strong in the determination to dig up everything on the place and set it somewhere else, as a part of the frame of your particular picture of home and comfort, don't touch a thing until you have thought out or secured a planting scheme exactly fitted to your requirements. Having your plan clearly in mind, and possibly sketched on paper for reference, place no tree, shrub, vine or plant except as it aids in the scheme's development. On a lot fifty or sixty feet in width there should be a distinct reason for every feature of the planting. At some points the mass of boundary vegetation must be dense, wide and high to shut off unpleasant scenes or objects, to serve as a

windbreak, or to insure seclusion ; at others it must be low to open pleasing views. This irregularity of sky line and of the width of the border plantations also adds greatly to their beauty.

You may find it expedient to create features of interest to be seen from certain windows or porches ; it is probable that you will build a growing screen to shield the drying ground, the poultry yard and various outbuildings, and perhaps another to shelter the approach to the rear door from the view of those who frequent the open air lounging place where the hammock swings invitingly and the steamer chair extends comforting arms. You will want shade trees, especially in the rear where they will also serve as the background for the house ; by the steps and in other angles next to the building, attractive shrubs must be grouped, and, springing from them, vines on the walls. These plantations form what I have distinguished as the "setting" for the house itself. Their effect is to wed the dwelling to its site and to prevent the inconsequent, casual air of its having been accidentally dropped and forgotten—like a stray box in the park.

Open lawns next to the house lend an effect of spaciousness, and by massing the planting on the outer boundaries and against the building, the lawn is continuous and appears even larger than it really is. This effect may be further strengthened by bringing the mass of the side planting forward into the grass in at least one place far enough partly to conceal the rear garden and prevent a full view of the enclosure. Hidden back of this bold promontory of verdure one is likely to discover the hammock nook already suggested.

It is frequently good policy and good art to make part of the outer mass of foliage on small grounds nothing more than a mat of vines against an adjacent wall or fence, with perhaps a few shrubs or perennials to break up a surface that threatens to look too long and too flat.

An "open center" does not necessarily mean that nothing whatever shall be planted in the front part of the grounds. Shrubs, vines and perennials are nearly always admissible and desirable in any or all of the angles of the building as well as to round out its corners, and may occasionally be used to good purpose as an agreeable break against a long wall. Clumps of suitable material may also often be acceptably used to emphasize gateways and entrances and junctions of walks. These subsidiary plantations may be made to seem included in the large, structural masses and none of them should be of a size or character to detract from the general effect of an "open center."

From the point of view of suitability, of economy of time and of labor, of picturesqueness of effect, from *every* point of view, hardy material is and must be the basis of home ground development. Happily, the wealth of such material is so great that even the limitations of soil, climate, exposure and other practical requirements leaves ample room for the exercise of individual taste, and, while curiosities in the way of home ground development are undesirable, individuality may be a good and pleasant thing. Indeed, I think it is one of the greatest of the possibilities in question. One way of imparting character to such

grounds is to make some one thing a feature of the planting. This prominent variety or, possibly, species, should be chosen with care to harmonize with the style of the house, with its surroundings, and with the personality of its inmates. Planting is just as truly a medium of expression as is any other of the fine arts. The prevailing feature may be thorn trees, spiræas, honeysuckles, clematises, pæonies, roses or any one of many other things, but, whatever is selected, there should be enough of it to call attention to itself, to make a clear, agreeable and permanent impression. Other things being equal, plant what you like best, but make your chosen material take its place as a part of the structural planting, and mass varieties together to avoid a "spotty" effect.

Having planted your grounds, give the vegetable members of your kingdom a chance for their physical and their artistic lives. Permit them to express the character with which their Maker endowed them. Don't dwarf and distort them by means of the shears and the pruning hook into caricatures. They have as much right to be themselves as have the human members. Encourage both to be as interesting as they can. Let them dare to be beautiful.

It is quite possible to get along without carpet beds, to be shaven and shorn; to avoid unnecessary, artificial, so-called terraces; to omit cast iron mastiffs on the lookout for trouble; to steer clear of statuesquely startled deer and imitation white rabbits, timid of aspect; of conch shell borders in unrelated regions; and of gypsy kettles in locations where the advent of a fortune teller would paralyze the mothers of the neighborhood. From these and from others of their ilk, implore deliverence.

All of the planting outlined is confined strictly to the limits of the home plot, but to make the most of the possibilities offered, individual interest and effort must extend beyond its confines. Each house plot should take its place in the larger picture presented by a block and each block become an integral part of the panorama of a street. In this way, and in no other, can the town or city beautiful become a reality. Appropriate planting in the little parkway between the sidewalk and the curb line, in conjunction with judicious street tree planting, is of the utmost value in creating a harmonious setting for the series of pictures fronting on the street. Without co-operative interest among residents, each improved plot becomes a detached fragment and loses much of its effectiveness.

Finally, make your home a picture but let it harmonize with and enhance the pictures on either side of it; let your planting blend with that on adjoining properties; make yours one of a long gallery of pleasant homes.

OUTDOOR LIFE IN CITIES

BY VOLNEY ROGERS, OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

The total number of deaths reported in the United States for the last census year, which ended May 31st, 1900, was 1,039,044. Over one-fifth of this mortality was reported to be caused by consumption, pneumonia and bronchitis, a very large percentage of which, as further statistics indicate, was the result of indoor instead of outdoor life in our cities. How, to avoid these conditions, can we best bring the beneficial effects of rural life to the residents of cities? Were I to dogmatize, I would say it might be done by making cities out-of-doors, healthful, comfortable and beautiful. Were opportunities for much outdoor living and enjoyment convenient and attractive in all our cities, could there be any doubt that the people would gladly avail themselves of such blessings? Health, comfort and happiness are the most desirable attributes of human existence, and we shall accomplish much in our efforts to attain them in cities if we properly provide, utilize and beautify ample dooryards, streets, open spaces and parks.

We have already received advice about door-yards, so I proceed at once to the street, and declare that the first thing to do is to make it. By this I mean to say that all underground work should be completed before laying the pavement. The street when properly paved, should be kept clean, in good repair and never otherwise disturbed.

How can a street be beautified? Principally by trees and turf at the sides, and by keeping away the tree butcher. We want trees as they naturally grow, not monstrosities. Upon streets the under branches must be removed so as to allow one to pass with an umbrella. Dead or dying branches must be cut out, and when living branches cross or interfere one should be removed. Sometimes additional pruning is necessary to give the tree a symmetrical head, and, while young, to prevent the formation of a low crotch; but more than this should not be permitted. Trees should be uniform in size, and all of the same kind in each block or square. If the street is broad, affording good opportunities for protection, they should stand between the curbing and sidewalk.

In park work, I hardly need to say, the first and most important thing is to secure desirable land and an abundance of it. Unless this is done, the municipality suffers for want of parks, or extravagant sums have to be paid for land to provide them. The result of such neglect is that the park system seldom becomes what it should be.

Every city should have numerous open spaces distributed throughout its area, and particularly in thickly populated districts; so that there may be a convenient oasis, for pure air and bright sunshine, and grateful shade for rest and recreation. In addition to this there should be public playgrounds for children in charge of a keeper who would enforce good morals and proper behavior. These are needs that the large parks cannot supply.

Parks proper should be at various convenient points in the outer portions of the city, and be sufficiently large in area to permit any inhabitant any day to find an inviting secluded place within their borders. All else being equal, the preferable park location would be in the direction from which the prevailing winds come to the city, thus insuring the best atmosphere attainable.

A beautiful lake, a grand sweeping river, a gorge or valley, with chattering brooklets, forest crowned bluffs, and shaded ravines; a green expansive lawn or meadow stretching from stream or lake to wooded hills, and in the hazy distance a forest-covered mountain touching the sky, are some of the ideals that should be sought in the locations and improvements of public parks. Broad, yet simple, and sublime in their simplicity, are nature's best models.

Roads and paths are only convenient ways for reaching such creations. They should be practically hidden, following the shaded shore of a lake, the bank of a stream, the foot or brow of a hill, or terrace, the border of a lawn, meadow or forest, taking advantage of natural opportunities, if they exist, or, when necessary, creating opportunities which may appear natural.

A park must be healthful. Good drainage, an abundance of pure drinking water and shade are absolutely necessary. During the hot months the people will flee from the city to the parks, sometimes almost *en masse*; at least, that is our experience in Youngstown, showing the great need of such accommodations.

But I cannot go into detail. The method of beautifying public parks cannot be prescribed by rule, for the simple reason that what would be very appropriate and harmonious in one would be very inappropriate and inharmonious in another. Principles, good judgment, and taste, and their correct application in each case must be sought.

The advantages of public parks are many; but the greatest is their healthful, healing influence, whether applied to the wearied minds and bodies of those whose places of daily life and toil are surrounded or affected by monotonous, heated, brick walls and stone pavements, or to their soothing, helpful effects upon weak, nervous and unhappy invalids and delicate children. To maintain the health of the former, and restore to health the latter, are the paramount purposes of parks. Cool, inviting shades and clear, still, or whispering waters; pure air, bright sunshine, and pastoral scenery are not only nature's healing balms for bodily and mental afflictions, but they lead the appreciative mind and heart gently on, step by step, to the one great lovable truth.

Wishing to visit a large park, do not try to see it all in one day—reserve something for future enjoyment, and save weary feet. Select some secluded portion of it for that day, and spend the time there with friends, books or innocent amusements. Music and boating are appropriate pastimes. Play with the children. Teach them the names and uses of nature's gifts about them; point them to the trees, birds, herbage and flowers; tell them the name and habits of each, and you will have sown the seeds for something ennobling in their hearts that will never be forgotten.

There is an editorial in "Garden and Forest," written a number of years ago, which is so apt that I quote a portion:

"It would be better for our health as a people, if the love of exercise were more general, and it would be better for our intellectual and spiritual development, if the love of nature were more general. The love of walking, and the love of nature are more intimately connected than most persons realize. Only he who goes abroad on foot can really learn to know the beauties of nature, because only he lives for the time being with those beauties, passing among them, not beside them, and seeing the smaller, as well as the greater, the more intimate and secret as well as those which are freely displayed. To contemplate a beautiful prospect from a veranda or to traverse a charming country in a carriage, means much to him who has eyes to see; but to spend an hour in the woods, or to follow on foot the course of a winding river, means vastly more; and while a beautiful outlook from one's home, or a chance to drive, and ride at will, are luxuries of the rich, the foot-path is free to the poorest."

Adopting the above quotation as part of my argument, I conclude that the foot-path in the park should be made as charming as it can be. If so made and kept, it will help to induce those who ride and drive to take needful exercise and recreation on foot; and will be a luxury open to everyone. I will add this caution, however, to those not accustomed to extended rambles: Never walk until you become weary; let your walks be short and slow at first; increase their length gradually each day or week, and you will be surprised to find how invigorating and enjoyable they are.

Health writers tell us that Americans, and especially women, walk too little. They also tell us that naturally women can endure more fatigue on foot than men. On a long, wearisome journey, under equal circumstances, woman is the victor; she has more tenacity of life, and more powers of endurance as a pedestrian. Thus nature teaches that she should exercise those powers, not to excess, but in moderation; and the park by-ways, foot-paths, and their surroundings, and her natural love for the beautiful, should induce her to take the needful walking exercise, especially when the reward is health, long life, and the retention of youth. A little acquaintance with geology, botany, and the birds, will add greatly to the enjoyment of outdoor exercises, whether walking, riding or driving.

As to cultivating a taste for beautifying door-yards, much can be accomplished by offering prizes, and allowing all who wish to do so to enter their yards for competition. Education and agitation are necessary properly to utilize and beautify our public streets. If we can create a taste for beautiful door-yards, beautiful streets will follow.

The planting and care of trees, and of the turf on public grounds, should be confided to a competent city forester and gardener, and no one should be permitted to plant trees or touch them on public streets, or make or interfere with a public lawn or turf, except by the forester and gardener's direction and authority.

Parks are necessarily under the charge of public officials, and I have indicated some ideas that should govern them. If public parks are properly

designed, improved, and maintained, the best of landscape and garden work will be exhibited, and in addition to their special functions, they will help to educate the tastes and desires of the people as to home grounds. For beauty in parks, the park officials must be looked to; but how to utilize a park is mainly a lesson to be learned by the people.

The park officials can help by preventing clamorous noise and excitement within the park limits. These are conditions that public parks in crowded cities are intended to alleviate. Necessary buildings must be provided for shelter and refreshment, tables in groves, or other suitable places, for meals in the open air, as well as grounds for innocent amusements. They can prohibit all money-making schemes within the park borders. They can, and should, provide music at times for the entertainment of visitors.

If thus we make our cities out of doors healthful, comfortable and beautiful, city residents will live more in the open air, to their great benefit; they will learn to go to public parks and open spaces, not for excitement and unrest, but for peace, quiet and rest—in a word, for re-creation; that is, to be recreated, so that they may return to their homes new men, and new women, stronger, healthier and happier, and better equipped for the performance of life's duties.

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