

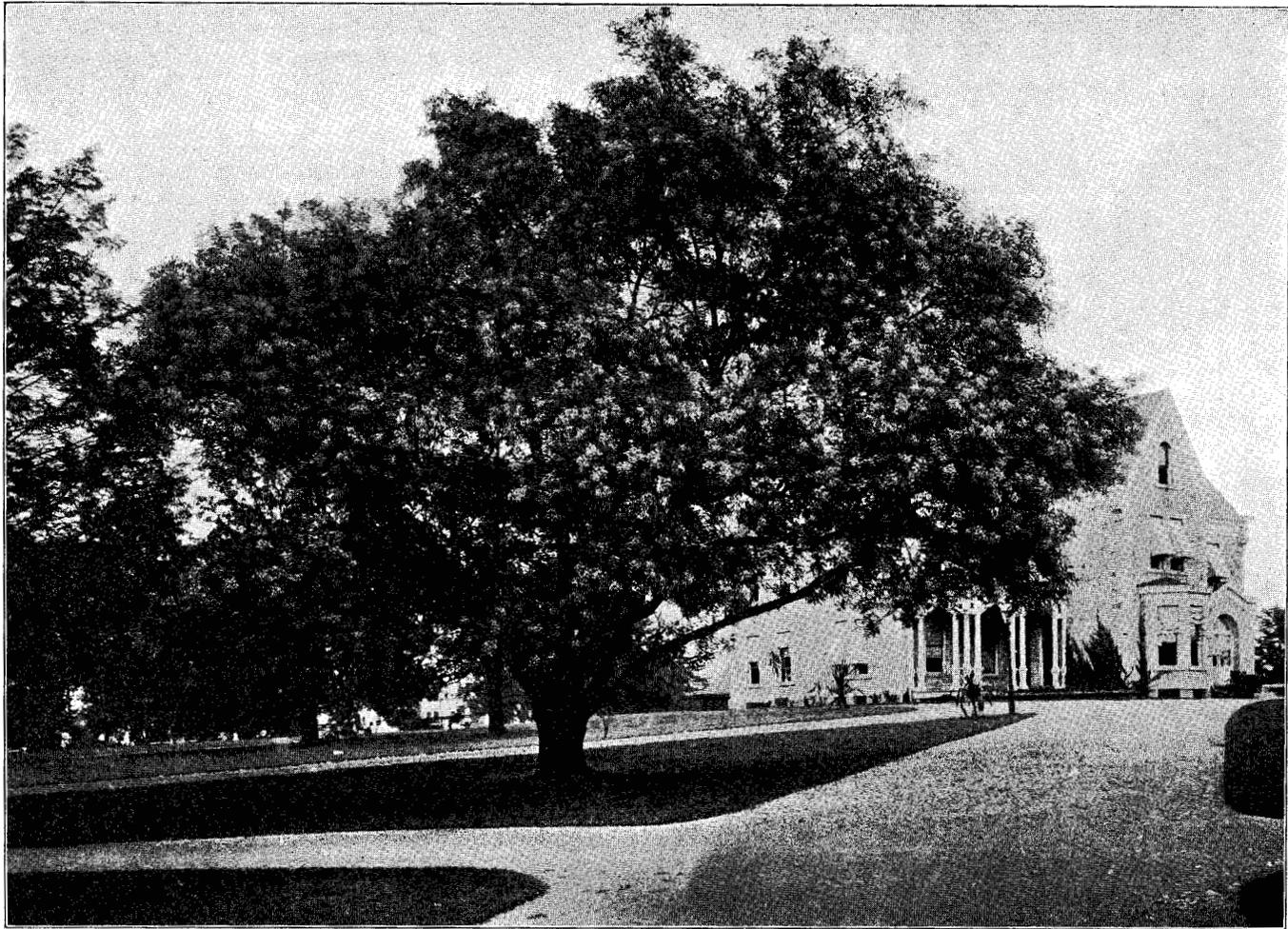
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

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ANNUAL REPORT

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1911



CLAREMONT PARK.—LARGEST TREE OF ITS SPECIES IN THE WORLD.

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS**

**A N N U A L**  
**R E P O R T**

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# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

City of New York

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## PARK BOARD, 1911

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**CHARLES B. STOVER, President**

Commissioner for the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond

**THOMAS J. HIGGINS**

Commissioner for the Borough of the Bronx

**MICHAEL J. KENNEDY**

Commissioner for the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens

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**CLINTON H. SMITH, Secretary**

**SAMUEL PARSONS**

**CHARLES DOWNING LAY**

} Landscape Architects

## PARK BOARD

During the year the membership of the Board was increased by the addition of a Commissioner for the Borough of Queens. The parks of that borough had previously been administered by the Commissioner for the Borough of Brooklyn, who had jurisdiction over the parks of both boroughs. The rapid growth and development of the Borough of Queens, however, led to the demand for a separate department by the citizens of the borough, and accordingly an appeal was made to the Legislature for an amendment to the Charter, making such provision. In response to that appeal Chapter 644, Laws of 1911, was passed, July 11, 1911, amending the Charter so as to provide a Commissioner for the Borough of Queens. On July 24, His Honor, the Mayor, appointed Mr. Walter G. Eliot to the new office, and, at the meeting of the Park Board, held July 27, the newly appointed Commissioner appeared and presented his certificate of appointment.

Contracts awarded by the Board for supplies or work of the various boroughs amounted to \$1,221,565.06. For all contracts competitive bids were received after advertisement in the official papers, according to law.

The following ordinance was added to the rules and regulations of the Department, at the meeting April 27, at the request of the Commissioner for the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens,.....

.....  
pursuant to the provisions of Section 612B of the Greater New York Charter, added thereto by Laws of 1910, Chapter 681:

X "The use and occupation of the main drive of Ocean boulevard, in the Borough of Brooklyn, from Twenty-second avenue to Kings Highway, is hereby restricted to horses and light carriages. Vehicles of all other kinds, including bicycles and motor vehicles, are hereby excluded therefrom."

The expenditures for the account of the Board during the year were \$25,310.74, all for salaries of the Commissioners, Secretary, and other employees.

# **Report of the Department of Parks**

**Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond**

**FOR THE YEAR 1911**

**CHARLES B. STOVER, Commissioner,**

**EDWARD A. MILLER, Chief Engineer,**

**THEODORE E. VIDETO, Architect,**

**JOHN H. BEATTY, Superintendent,**

**WILLIAM J. LEE, Supervisor of Recreation,**

**JOHN W. SMITH, Director of Menagerie,**

**MRS. HENRY PARSONS, Director of School Farms.**

## BOROUGHES OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND

During the year 1911 the policy inaugurated the previous year, of securing to the public a more liberal use of the parks, was continued. Additional playgrounds were established throughout the City, and the improvement of the older grounds was pushed to completion. The improvements planned and undertaken during the year, in connection with the extension of the playground system of the department, involve the expenditure of a quarter of a million dollars. Some of these playgrounds were purchased years ago in tenement regions outside the parks; others consisted of lawns and spaces within the parks, which, through excessive use, and, by reason of their location in crowded districts, could not be maintained as lawns, as in the case of the Mulberry Bend playground, the playground at Battery Park, and that at 96th street in Riverside Park; still others consisted of City property originally purchased for other purposes but now available for playground uses, such as the plot at Amsterdam avenue, between 151st and 152nd streets, over the old Croton aqueduct, and the large open spaces under the approaches of the Williamsburgh, Manhattan and Queensboro bridges.

The playgrounds at West 59th street and East 101st street were drained and graded and work started on the field houses, which will provide facilities for indoor recreation in stormy weather, and in winter; also shower baths, lockers, etc.

At Mulberry Bend Park the large central lawn, which had become absolutely bare of grass, was taken for a playground. It was drained and graded, a fine running track was constructed on the outer edge of the grounds, and the whole enclosed by an iron picket fence.

At St. Gabriel's Park a large, unused plot, at the east end of the park, surrounded by an iron picket fence, was put to use as a ball field. The fence was removed and the ground drained and graded.

At Cherry street the plot of ground adjacent to Manhattan bridge set aside for playground purposes was improved and opened for the use of the children.

Work on the improvement of the Queensboro bridge playground was begun, and such progress made that the opening of the grounds early in 1912 was assured.

The small triangular plot at Worth and Baxter streets, formerly used as a municipal storage yard, was converted into a playground. The grounds were graded, drained and fenced, and work begun upon the field house.

In every case effort was made to make use of grounds, whether in or out of the parks, which could not well be used for other purposes—waste spaces, in fact—and the splendid use made of the grounds during the year shows the wisdom of the Commissioner's choice. The report of the Supervisor of Recreation shows the activities of that department during the year in detail.

Old dwelling houses in the parks, such as those at Fort Washington Park, and Gracie mansion, at Carl Schurz Park, were made to serve a useful purpose by allowing various working girls' associations to make use of them as headquarters for meetings, dances and festivals. The New York Working Girls' Association was given the use of one of the old dwelling houses at Fort Washington. During the summer hundreds of working girls enjoyed the comforts of its broad verandas overlooking the Hudson River. The old Gracie mansion was in such a dilapidated condition that extensive alterations were necessary to put it in condition for use. The first floor was entirely renovated, the largest room being fitted up as a ball room, the smaller rooms as a refreshment room and a meeting room. The Home Thrift Association and the Working Girls' Association were given the privilege of these rooms; and

X weekly dances were held during the summer. Both associations had a large membership, and the meetings and dances were well attended. At no time was there any disorder.

The use of the parks as meeting-places for the public discussion of matters affecting the public welfare was encouraged by the quantity of numerous permits to civic organizations to hold meetings for that purpose in the parks. The meetings were conducted without any disturbance, not a single case of disorder being reported at any one of them.

X Many permits were issued also for nature study classes, from both public and private schools, to go upon the lawns and restricted portions of the park for the purpose of studying the trees, shrubs and birds. Classes in surveying also made use of the parks for practical field work.

At first the disposition of the Commissioner to permit a more liberal use of the parks was misinterpreted to mean that all the lawns were to be thrown open to the public for their unrestricted use, and the damage resulting from such misuse was very considerable. Persistent efforts by the police and the department workmen, however, gradually righted the situation. It was necessary to distribute "keep off" signs liberally throughout the parks, but the old-style "Keep off the Grass" signs were abandoned. The number of lawns set apart for public use, however, was increased, and children were given permits to hold their May Parties, June Walks, X and July Rambles on many lawns and in many parks where they had never previously been allowed, as in some of the downtown parks, such as Tompkins Square, Corlears Hook, Jeanette Park, and Battery Park, also St. Nicholas and Colonial Parks and Fort Washington Park, in the extreme northern part of the City. All of these parks had excellent spaces for the purpose, and the children of the respective neighborhoods greatly enjoyed the privilege of holding their festivals near home, X instead of being compelled, as in previous years, to travel the long route to Central Park.

In Central Park the number of children's parties was even greater than usual. One of the most notably interesting of these was the "Folk Dancing Fête," of the Girls' Branch of the Public Schools Athletic League, held on the sheep meadow on X May 16, in which some ten thousand school girls took part. The large field was studded with gayly decorated maypoles, about which the children of each school danced to the music furnished by a band of some sixty pieces, located on an elevated platform, or band-stand, in the center of the field. The outer edge of the field was roped off, to keep the thousands of spectators from crowding in on the dancers, and a special enclosure was roped off, in which seats were provided for about three hundred distinguished guests, including His Honor, the Mayor.

X The mounted section of the Traffic Squad of the Police Department was also permitted to hold an exhibition review and drill on the sheep meadow, and this exhibition proved a most interesting spectacle to thousands of people.

Practically no damage resulted to the greensward from these festivals, which were the first of their kind to be held on any park lawn.

By arrangement with the Health Department stereopticon exhibitions and lectures were given in all the principal parks during the summer to aid in the fight against consumption and other contagious diseases. X

At Chelsea Park permission was given to the Hudson Guild to give a series of motion picture entertainments during the summer for the residents of that section. The entertainments were given on Monday and Thursday nights, and proved very popular.

By these means the parks were rendered of greater use, pleasure and benefit to all classes of the people than ever before.

Privileges for the operation of the carrousel, or merry-go-round, goat carriages, X donkey service, and the renting of boats on the lakes, all in Central Park, were con-

ducted as in previous years, the department deriving a substantial revenue from these sources, as well as from the sale of refreshments at the various hotels, restaurants, and stands throughout the parks. The total revenue derived from all sources amounted to approximately twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

#### SPECIAL EVENTS.

On April 23 two oak trees, brought specially from Germany and donated by the City of Frankfort-on-the-Main, were planted in City Hall Park by the United German Societies, to commemorate the fame of John Leisler, a native German, who, because of his fight against the British government's attempts to suppress the freedom of the newspapers, was chosen by the people Governor of the Colony of New York in the revolt of 1689. He was afterward unjustly imprisoned, tried, and hanged for treason. He was the first in America to die in defense of the rights of free speech and freedom of the press, and was the forerunner of that noble band of patriots who later gave their lives in the great struggle of the Colonies for liberty. The trees were planted on the lawn, between the westerly wing of the City Hall and Broadway, with appropriate ceremonies, attended by the members of the various German societies, prominent City officials, and a large gathering of other interested spectators.

The department prepared and sent to the annual Budget Exhibit an interesting display of photographs, maps, etc., showing the work of the department.

At Bryant Park, on October 24, there was unveiled a monument to William Cullen Bryant. The monument stands in the center of the court, at the rear of the New York Public Library. In form it is a bronze bust of the poet, of heroic size, surmounting a pedestal of pink granite, and surrounded on three sides by a colonnade of the same material. The monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies by a granddaughter of the poet, His Honor, Mayor Gaynor, and other City officials, as well as many prominent citizens, being present.

Work was begun during the summer on the National Maine monument, to be erected at the Columbus Circle entrance to Central Park, and on the Firemen's Memorial, to be erected at 100th street and Riverside Drive.

During the week of October 31 the entire Atlantic division of the United States fleet visited New York to be reviewed by the President. The fleet was the greatest in point of numbers that had ever visited this port. The ships were anchored in the Hudson, the line stretching from about 50th street to Dyckman street, a distance of about seven miles. This brought hundreds of thousands of visitors to Riverside Park and Fort Washington Park, to review the ships, and extra precautions had to be taken for their safety and convenience, by erecting temporary fences along the steep slopes of the parks and providing extra police and park employees to keep the visitors within bounds. Extra labor was also provided to clean the parks during the week. The work was well done, and not a single accident occurred along the line during the entire time the fleet remained, and, although some damage was necessarily done to lawns and plantations, it was not very extensive, considering the great numbers who visited the parks.

At Jefferson Park the usual permits were given for the Mount Carmel celebration on July 15, 16, and 17, by the Italian residents, who are numerous in that section of the city. Free band concerts and fireworks in the park in the evening formed the principal features of the celebration. A similar celebration was given with department permission at Columbus Park, formerly Mulberry Bend Park, on August 15, 16, and 17, when the "Feast of the Virgin" was celebrated by the Italians, who constitute the greater portion of the residents of that district.

On Evacuation Day, November 25, patriotic exercises were held at Fort Clinton, in Central Park, under the auspices of the City History Club, and the military organization known as the "Old Guard" signaled the day by a parade at Battery

Park, at the conclusion of which the national colors were ceremoniously raised on the large flagpole at the Battery.

On Memorial Day the usual military parade was held, the line of the parade taking in Riverside Drive to a point a short distance north of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, where the reviewing stand was located. At Grant's tomb there were special exercises under the auspices of U. S. Grant Post, G. A. R., which included the firing of a salute of twenty-one guns by the First Battery of Field Artillery, National Guard of New York.

All these celebrations necessarily involve extra wear and tear upon the parks, on account of the crowds which they attract, and considerable extra work is required of the department employees, in preparing stands, seats, etc., for them.

In connection with the "safe and sane" celebration of Fourth of July the parks of the City were taxed to their utmost capacity. The celebration began at dawn, with the raising of the flag on the old Revolutionary Block-house in Central Park, and the reading of the Declaration of Independence to a small gathering of enthusiasts by a lineal descendant of one of the heroes of the Revolution, and did not end until the last rocket of the beautiful fireworks displays provided by the City at various parks throughout the City had been fired. In the interim there were patriotic exercises held in all the principal parks in the morning, a military and civic parade reviewed at the City Hall by the Mayor and the principal City officials; the regular department band concerts were given in the parks in the afternoon, and in the Mall, in Central Park, and some of the larger outside parks in the evening, followed by firework displays at City Hall and other points throughout the City. Besides all these there were athletic contests in every park in which sufficient space could be found to lay out a running track.

The success of the day's celebrations involved much arduous labor in preparing the various athletic fields, getting the running tracks in good condition, arranging band-stands and seats for the concerts, etc., all of which had to be done by the regular working force of the department, in addition to its regular duties of cleaning and caring for the parks. That the work was well done was evidenced by the general satisfaction expressed by the officials in charge of the celebrations, not a single complaint being made.

In this connection it may be mentioned that the police force detailed to the parks is entirely inadequate in point of numbers to take proper care of them. Under the old Park Police Force, prior to its consolidation with the regular Police Department of the City, every park squad was much larger than at present. The force in Central Park in 1911 consisted of 112 members of all grades, of which the actual patrol force was eighty (80) foot patrolmen, twelve (12) horsemen, and five (5) bicycle men. In 1910 the force numbered 140; in 1909, 133; 1908, 132; and 135 in 1907. The smaller parks were not specially policed, the parks being made an incidental part of one or more regular police posts, often taking in points at great distances from the park, with the result that the patrolman was unable to give anything but the most cursory attention to the park. Proper provision for police supervision requires that the parks be made special posts, and an increase in the police detail is urgently necessary.

#### Music.

Next to the playgrounds the feature of the park administration which gives greatest pleasure to the largest number of people is the schedule of band concerts which are given weekly in nearly all the parks.

The appropriation for music in the parks during 1911 was only \$30,000, as against \$55,000 for the previous year. This decrease, together with an increase of \$2 per man in the pay fixed for musicians by the Musicians' Trade Union, made it necessary to cut down the number of concerts given. Application was made to the Board of

Estimate for an additional appropriation of \$20,000, to enable the department to keep its music schedule up to the high standard set in 1910, but the request was denied, although \$5,300 additional was granted to provide for the increase in the pay of the musicians.

Following is the complete schedule of concerts in the various parks during the year:

## SCHEDULE.

SEASON 1911.

## PARK CONCERTS

## Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond

	June.	July.	August.	September.
<i>Borough of Manhattan.</i>				
Abingdon Square... Wed. 8.00 P.M.		4, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	
Battery Park..... Fri. 8.00 P.M.		4, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	1
Bryant Park..... Wed. 8.00 P.M.		4, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	
Carl Schurz Park... Thur. 8.00 P.M.		4, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	
Central Park..... Wed. 8.00 P.M.	21, 28	4, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13
	Sat. 4.00 P.M.	24	5, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16
	Sun. 4.00 P.M.	18, 25	6, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17
Chelsea Park..... Tues. 8.00 P.M.		4, 11, 18, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	
Colonial Park..... Sun. 4.00 P.M.			6, 13, 20, 27	
Corlears Hook Park. Mon. 8.00 P.M.		4, 10, 17, 24, 31	7, 14, 21, 28	
DeWitt Clinton Park. Sun. 4.30 P.M.		9, 16, 23, 30	6, 13, 20, 27	3
Ft. Washington Park. Sun. 4.00 P.M.		4, 9, 16, 23, 30	20, 27	3
Hamilton Fish Park. Thur. 8.00 P.M.		13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17, 24	
Hudson Park..... Fri. 8.00 P.M.		4, 14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	1
Jasper Oval..... Tues. 3.30 P.M.		4		
Madison Square Pk. Thur. 8.00 P.M.		4, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	
Morningside Park... Sat. 4.00 P.M.		1, 4, 8, 15, 22, 29	5, 12, 19, 26	
Mount Morris Park. Tues. 8.00 P.M.		4, 11, 18, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	
Mulberry Bend Park. Wed. 8.00 P.M.	21	4, 12, 19, 26	2, 9, 16, 23	
Queensboro Bridge.. Tues. 8.00 P.M.		4		
Seward Park..... Fri. 8.00 P.M.		14, 21, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	1, 8
Tompkins Sq. Park. Mon. 8.00 P.M.		4, 10, 17, 24, 31	7, 14, 21, 28	
Union Square..... Tues. 8.00 P.M.		4		
Washington Sq. Pk. Mon. 8.00 P.M.		10, 17, 24, 31	7, 14, 21, 28	4
<i>Borough of Richmond.</i>				
Curtis Field, New Brighton,				
	Sat. 8.00 P.M.	22	5, 19	9
Port Richmond..... Fri. 8.00 P.M.		14, 28	11, 25	8
Tottenville..... Wed. 8.00 P.M.		12, 26	9	
Pleasant Plains..... Wed. 8.00 P.M.		19	2	
Washington Park, Stapleton				
	Fri. 8.00 P.M.	7, 21	4, 18	1
Westerleigh..... Thur. 8.00 P.M.		6, 20	3, 17, 31	

Two hundred and twenty-three concerts were given during the season, commencing July 4, in all the parks except Central Park. The opening concerts were set for that date in order to co-operate with the Fourth of July Committee appointed by the Mayor to promote a "safe and sane" celebration of the day. The opening concert in the Mall in Central Park was given on Sunday, June 18.

In Central Park orchestral concerts exclusively were given on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and on Wednesday evenings. The concerts were equally divided between the Kaltenborn Orchestra and the Volpe Symphony Orchestra, a total of forty concerts being given during the season.

On Sunday, September 10, the regular orchestra concert was supplemented by vocal selections rendered by a chorus of 250 members of the United German Singing Society of New York.

The Wednesday night concert was an innovation which met with popular approval. These concerts were given throughout the season, and drew immense crowds of music-lovers, the average attendance being about 12,000. The band-stand was well lighted by calcium lights, which, with the hundreds of electric lights which dot the walks in the vicinity, lit up the surrounding trees, casting fugitive shadows in the summer breeze, and turning the Mall into a veritable Fairyland, a scene of picturesque beauty not often found in the heart of a great city, and not to be easily forgotten. Notwithstanding the great crowds attending the concerts, not one case of disorder or disturbance of any kind was reported by the police.

The increased attendance at the orchestra concerts on the Mall, and the appreciation of the audiences, as expressed by their applause for the selections rendered, showed that the desire for high-class music is widespread among New Yorkers. That this desire is not confined to Manhattan is shown by the urgent requests for similar concerts from the residents of the Borough of Richmond. Accordingly a series of orchestral concerts were arranged to be given by the Kaltenborn Orchestra, at Curtis Field, adjoining Curtis High School, St. George, Staten Island, which were attended by thousands of people from all parts of the borough, the various numbers being enthusiastically applauded.

The arrangement of the programs for all concerts was under the supervision of Mr. Arthur Farwell, whose very successful efforts in that regard during the season of 1910 led to his re-engagement for 1911. The selections were wisely made to suit the audiences, the standard changing according to circumstances of location, and the class of people attending the concerts. Programs typical of these diversified arrangements for different sections are given below:

## THE MALL, CENTRAL PARK

Sunday, August 6th, 1911

At 4 P. M.

FRANZ KALTENBORN AND HIS ORCHESTRA.

### Program.

#### PART I.

##### "The Star-Spangled Banner"

1. March—"Tannhäuser"..... *Wagner*
2. Overture—"Triumphale"..... *Rubinstein*
3. Three Dances from the music to Shakespeare's "Henry VIII"..... *German*
  1. Morris Dance.
  2. Shepherd's Dance.
  3. Torch Dance.
4. Selection—"La Tosca"..... *Puccini*
5. Violin Solo—"Cavatina"..... *Raff*

FRANZ KALTENBORN.

#### PART II.

6. Overture—"Martha"..... *Flotow*
7. Waltz—"Vienna Blood"..... *Strauss*
8. (a) "The Cuckoo and the Wanderer" (new)..... *Volkmann*  
(b) "Original Hungarian"..... *Hauser*  
(Arranged by R. Klugescheid.)
9. Selection—"The Huguenots"..... *Meyerbeer*
10. Second Polonaise..... *Liszt*

Doxology.

## HAMILTON FISH PARK

Thursday, August 24th, 1911.

WM. SCHWARTZ'S MILITARY BAND.

#### PART I.

##### "Star-Spangled Banner"

1. March—"Strenuous Life"..... *Boehme*
2. Overture—"Hungarian Lustspiel"..... *Keler Bela*
3. Waltz—"Lazzare"..... *Blanke*
4. Selection—"Carmen"..... *Bizet*
5. Patrol—"American"..... *Meacham*

#### PART II.

6. Quartette from "Rigoletto"..... *Verdi*
7. Hebrew Melodies..... *Perlmutter*
8. Intermezzo—"Garden"..... *Eugine*
9. Selection of Popular Airs.
10. Finale—"Sons of the Brave"..... *Biggood*  
"America"

## TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK

Monday, July 10th, 1911.

At 8 P. M.

AUGUST J. HABERNICHT'S MILITARY BAND

## Program.

Prelude—"Star-Spangled Banner."

- |                                                 |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Grand March—"Under Freedom's Banner".....    | F. Nowowieski     |
| 2. Overture—"Morning, Noon and Night".....      | Suppe             |
| 3. Waltz—"Wedding of the Winds".....            | Hall              |
| 4. Fantasia—"Gems of Stephen Foster".....       | Tobani            |
| 5. Selection—"Bohemian Girl".....               | Balfe             |
| 6. Concert March—"Pettibone's Compliments"..... | H. Bellstead, Jr. |
| 7. Medley Overture—"All Alone".....             | Harry Von Tilzer  |
| 8. Selection—"Lohengrin".....                   | Wagner            |
| 9. Characteristic—"Hebrew Rights".....          | Habernicht        |
| 10. Deux Temps—"My Dream of U. S. A.".....      | Hallet            |
|                                                 | "Home Sweet Home" |

On the whole the concert season of 1911 was one of the most successful ever given, notwithstanding the large decrease in the appropriation from the previous year. It is to be regretted that the public could not be given a larger share of enjoyment, but a largely increased sum is requested for 1912, when it is hoped the department will be able to duplicate, if not surpass, the splendid record of the season of 1910.

The following statement shows in detail how the music appropriations were distributed:

Budget Appropriations.....	\$30,000.00
Revenue Bonds.....	5,300.00
	<hr/>
	\$35,300.00

## Detail of Expenditures, 1911.

Park.	Concerts, cost per concert.	Total.
Abingdon Square.....	9 at \$95.....	\$855.00
Battery Park.....	9 at 115.....	1,035.00
Bryant Park.....	{ 5 at 125 \$625 } 4 at 95 380 }.....	1,005.00
Carl Schurz Park.....	{ 1 at 115 115 } 8 at 95 760 }.....	875.00
Central Park.....	40 at 378.....	15,120.00
Chelsea Park.....	{ 1 at 115 \$115 } 8 at 95 760 }.....	875.00
Colonial Park.....	{ 3 at 95 285 } 1 at 133 133 }.....	418.00
Corlears Hook Park.....	9 at 95.....	855.00
DeWitt Clinton Park.....	9 at 95.....	855.00
Ft. Washington Park.....	{ 4 at 95 \$380 } 1 at 115 115 } 3 at 95 285 }.....	780.00
Hamilton Fish Park.....	8 at 95.....	760.00
Hudson Park.....	9 at 95.....	855.00
Jasper Oval.....	1 at 120.....	120.00

Madison Square Park	{ 5 at 115 \$575 } 4 at 95 380	955.00	
Morningside Park	10 at 95	950.00	
Mount Morris Park	{ 8 at 95 \$760 } 1 at 115 115	875.00	
Mulberry Bend Park	{ 1 at 133 133 } 8 at 95 95	988.00	
Queensboro Bridge	1 at 115	115.00	
Seward Park	9 at 95	855.00	
Tompkins Square Park	9 at 95	855.00	
Union Square Park	1 at 95	95.00	
Washington Square Park	9 at 95	855.00	
Curtis Field	4 at 378	1,512.00	
Port Richmond	5 at 95	475.00	
Tottenville	3 at 95	285.00	
Pleasant Plains	2 at 95	190.00	
Washington Park, Stapleton	5 at 95	475.00	
Westerleigh Park	5 at 95	475.00	\$34,268.00
Supervisor			300.00
Transportation of instruments for 44 concerts at \$9 each			396.00
Calcium lights			293.50
Mulberry Bend (Columbus Park) celebration			42.50
			<u>\$35,300.00</u>

#### PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS AND BETTERMENTS.

In addition to the extension of the playground system many improvements and betterments of a permanent character were initiated during the year. Funds were authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for the following improvements, for which application had been made in the Corporate Stock Budget submitted by the department:

Improvement of Central Park, alteration of comfort station near ball ground.	\$15,000.00
Improvement of Central Park, construction of sewer from Terrace Bridge to sewer near boathouse.	3,500.00
Improvement of street in westerly side of John Jay Park, between 76th and 78th sts.	8,500.00
Erection and equipment of playhouses and toilet facilities in playgrounds throughout the city.	50,000.00
Metropolitan Museum of Art, fitting up, equipping and furnishing alterations and additions thereto.	75,000.00
Metropolitan Museum of Art, purchase of museum cases.	15,000.00
Riverside Park and Drive, erection of Firemen's memorial.	40,000.00
Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, general improvement of Silver Lake Park, Borough of Richmond.	50,000.00
New Aquarium Building in Battery Park, construction of foundation and walls of wings.	200,000.00
Erection of the Carl Schurz Memorial at 116th street and Morningside Park.	25,000.00
Department of Parks, Borough of Manhattan and Richmond, completion of John Jay Park.	30,000.00
Metropolitan Museum of Art, boiler plant.	315,000.00
American Museum of Natural History, equipment and construction of permanent improvements.	75,000.00

Improvement of parks, parkways and drives, improvement of Transverse Road at 65th street, Central Park.....	25,000.00
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, plans and specifications for permanent improvements.....	5,000.00
Improvement of Central Park, paving of drives with bituminous pavement...	100,000.00
American Museum of Natural History, construction of foundation for south-east wing and court building.....	200,000.00
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, erection and equipment of a comfort station in Cooper Square.....	25,000.00
Improvement of parks, parkways and drives, improvement of Transverse Road at 96th st., Central Park.....	25,000.00
Metropolitan Museum of Art, completion and equipment of Extension H. ...	224,000.00
Parks, Department of Manhattan and Richmond, reconstruction of bulkhead easterly wall of the Speedway between 155th street and Dyckman street..	110,000.00
Seventh Avenue Parkway, general improvement from Central Park to the Harlem River.....	75,000.00
Improvement of Central Park, installation of water supply system in comfort stations.....	3,000.00
Riverside Park, completion of addition between 122d street and Claremont Place.....	10,000.00

Many of these were placed under contract and actual work upon them started, while those improvements contracted for in previous years were pushed as rapidly as possible.

The list of contracts for such work awarded during the year is as follows:

Mar. 9.	Construction of fences, Colonial Park.....	\$1,026.00
Mar. 23.	Paving the ends of the Broadway Park plots, 110th st. to 122d st..	2,269.90
Mar. 23.	Installing water supply system, Colonial Park, between 150th st. and 152d st.....	1,299.00
Mar. 30.	Construction of a comfort station, Central Park at 80th st. on the west drive.....	22,517.00
April 23.	Lumber for construction purposes, American Museum of Natural History.....	5,353.59
April 27.	Construction of playground, Mulberry Bend Park.....	6,888.73
April 27.	Construction of playground, West 59th st., between 10th and 11th avenues.....	5,702.83
May 15.	Apparatus for playgrounds.....	4,675.00
May 15.	Lumber for construction purposes, Metropolitan Museum of Art..	4,462.92
June 1.	Construction of Cherry street playground.....	6,226.67
June 8.	Construction of playground, east end of St. Gabriels Park.....	4,602.20
June 8.	Construction of field house, 101st st. playground.....	10,450.00
June 22.	Construction of playground, 101st st. between 2d and 3d aves.....	17,515.10
Aug. 17.	Construction of playground, Worth and Baxter streets.....	10,821.00
Aug. 24.	Construction of playground, Queensboro Bridge approach.....	22,591.37
Sept. 15.	Completion of storage sheds, manure pit, etc., at Department storage yard, 97th st., Central Park.....	24,650.00
Oct. 5.	Construction of field house at Queensboro Bridge playground.....	8,661.33
Nov. 9.	Construction of field house, West 59th st. playground.....	25,555.59
Dec. 7.	Construction of pipe sewer from the Terrace, Central Park.....	2,890.28
Dec. 14.	Installing water supply to new comfort station at 80th st., West Drive, Central Park.....	2,139.27
Dec. 21.	Installation of water mains in Central Park, north end.....	27,453.09
Dec. 28.	Excavating site for foundation of new addition to American Museum of Natural History.....	49,796.00

The work under these contracts was carried on under the supervision of the Chief Engineer and the Architect of the department, and the progress of the work is noted in the reports of these officials, given herewith.

#### RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE.

The question of the regeneration of the lawns and plantations of Central Park was early taken under consideration, to determine the best methods to pursue in the most important work. Upon the request of the Commissioner the U. S. Department of Agriculture detailed an expert from the Bureau of Soils of that department to make an investigation of the soil and plant conditions of Central Park, and to report his findings with recommendations as to the needs of the park. This report, submitted May 15, after a thorough examination, is appended in its entirety.

Following out the recommendations of the report application was made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for the necessary funds for the first year's work, and an issue of Revenue Bonds to the amount of \$40,000 was authorized for the purpose.

In the fall the work was begun along the lines recommended in the report. The two large fields, known as the North Meadow, in the upper end of the park, and the Ball Ground, at the extreme southern end, were heavily manured and plowed, the sod being turned well under. Lime was then applied, at the rate of 1,000 pounds to the acre, and the ground harrowed to distribute the lime evenly. After this had stood for several days ground limestone was applied, 2,000 pounds to the acre, and the ground again thoroughly harrowed. Both fields were then sown to winter rye, which is to occupy the ground until spring, when it will be plowed under, and the final seeding with lawn grass seed given. Wire fences, six feet in height, were erected around both fields, to protect them from drainage. These fences are to remain until the lawns are again in condition to be opened again to the public.

Some of the smaller lawns along the West Drive were also spaded up and fertilized and sown to lawn grass.

With the advent in August of the new Landscape Architect to direct the work preparations were begun to pursue the general restoration of the park on a comprehensive plan. The section from 59th street to 66th street was taken as the starting point, and, under the Landscape Architect's direction, all the old overgrown shrubbery groups, misshapen trees, and shrubs, etc., were cut down and taken away. The lawns were given a heavy top-dressing of manure, which was spaded in, and the slopes regraded.

The promontory on the north side of 59th street lake was cleared of the underbrush and wild growth, and the polyganum which covered the east shore and the adjoining slopes was cut down and the ground manured and regraded. Over this entire territory plantations of flowering shrubs were set out, and hundreds of trees planted. The work had not been completed at the close of the year, but preparations were made for its resumption in the spring.

Considerable planting was done in the other parks, also, not only in the replacement of trees and shrubs, which had been removed for various causes, but also in the setting out of new trees, and the formation of new shrubbery plantations to beautify the parks, or screen objectionable views. The principal item of this work was the planting of the parkway plots in the center of 7th avenue, from 110th street to 153rd street, with plane trees such as were planted on Riverside Drive, from 135th street to 158th street, the previous year.

Special efforts were made to restore the lawns in some of the downtown parks, which had become badly worn through constant use the previous year, on account of the lack of protecting fences and the laxity of the police in enforcing the department ordinances. The lawns at Washington Square Park, Stuyvesant Park, Union Square,

and Madison Square were gone over, and all bare spots resodded. In many cases the entire lawn space had to be spaded up and new sod laid. New pipe-rail fences were erected under contract around the lawns on the west side of Washington Square, and around all the other lawns where sodding was done temporary fences of a single strand of wire run through 18-inch stakes were placed.

Special attention was also given to the Delancey street parkway plots, at the approach to the Williamsburgh bridge, and new iron fences were erected on the outside of the plots.

In co-operation with the public schools, to foster the planting and care of trees, the department furnished and planted trees on the streets in front of schools in various parts of the Borough of Manhattan, on Arbor Day, as well as later in the season. Soil and plants for school window boxes were freely given upon request of the teachers.

A great deal of work outside the regular maintenance work of cleaning the walks, mowing the lawns, etc., was done by the department working force during the year, the details of which are given in the report of the Superintendent, which is given herewith.

#### ROADWAYS.

The difficult problem of maintaining the park drives in good condition, under the increased strain of automobile traffic, received careful consideration and attention during 1911.

In the fall of 1910 an experimental section of three blocks on Riverside Drive, from 72nd to 75th street, was regraded and surfaced with a heavy asphalt oil (Standard Oil Company's asphalt binder "A"). The binder was put on hot, from a special tank wagon, which heated it and spread it uniformly over the drive surface. Sand was then spread thickly over this, and the drive was reopened an hour or two after, when the binder had hardened. The sand was gradually taken up by the binder through the pressure of traffic. This gave a good, even surface, resembling the regular asphalt paving, and seemed to give a solution of the road problem. Under the wear and tear of actual use, however, it developed serious defects. The binder became soft under rain, the oil washing away completely on steep grades, leaving the gravel exposed. It became slippery in wet weather, also, and, in warm weather, the heavy traffic caused it to creep, forming ridges, along which holes soon formed in the drive.

It became evident that, while the new treatment gave a drive better suited to the needs of the parks than the old water-bound gravel roadway, it was still far from being satisfactory. However, it being an improvement over the old roadway, the entire Riverside Drive was resurfaced by the new method, as were also portions of the Central Park drives.

Four experimental sections of other pavements were laid on the West Drive in Central Park, between 90th street and 95th street, by various paving companies. The Barber Asphalt Paving Company laid two sections, and the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company another, all of them of the bituminous concrete type. The fourth section was of Dolorway pavement, laid by the Dolorway Paving Company. The work was done in the fall, and the various pavements were laid in adjoining sections, so as to give a fair comparison of their respective wearing qualities under the strain of winter traffic. At the main entrance to Central Park, 59th street and 5th avenue, another section of new drive was laid by the Westrumite Paving Company. This section, covering 1,560 square yards, was laid in October.

By observation of these experimental sections, under conditions of actual use, the type of roadway construction best suited to traffic conditions in the parks can be determined.

The Harlem River Driveway, popularly known as "The Speedway," was maintained in good condition during the year for light harness speeding, for which purpose it was set aside, and its use restricted by act of the Legislature, at the time of its construction. With the decrease in the number of horses, due to the inroads of the automobile, this use of the Speedway has constantly diminished, until it has become a question of the wisdom of holding such restriction any longer. The matter has been taken under consideration of an appeal to the Legislature for a repeal of the restricting statute, so as to open the roadway for general pleasure traffic.

During the year work was begun on the construction of the new Catskill Aqueduct, shafts Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, located in the parks of Manhattan, and advantage was taken of this work to further the work of reclaiming the land under water along the shore front of Riverside Park, by arranging with the contractors to dump the excavated rock at convenient points along the shore. Three locations were designated for this work, one at 129th street, one at 96th street, and the other at 79th street. The co-operation of the Dock Department was secured, and bulkheads were built to hold the filling. Thousands of yards of rock excavation from the shafts were dumped at these points during the year, as well as other thousands of loads of earth filling dumped by building contractors under department permits, and considerable land had been made up to the end of the year as a result. The newly made ground at 79th street and 96th street was graded and put to use as baseball fields.

Filling was also secured in the same way for the large, irregularly graded plot at 174th street, in High Bridge Park, and four similar plots adjoining Jasper Field on the heights just west of St. Nicholas Park. These fields were graded and laid out as baseball grounds. The plot on Amsterdam avenue, between 151st and 152nd streets, was filled in the same way, and opened for use as a playground for children.

By arrangement with the New York Central R. R. Co. a foot-bridge was built at 72nd street, Riverside Park, across the railroad tracks to the water front. The bridge was primarily intended for the use of the railroad employees, in going to and from their work in the railroad yards. There being no other means of approach to the yards between 60th street and 79th street, the employees were accustomed to take a short cut down the park slope and over the retaining wall of the park at 72nd street. The slope at this point was consequently always in bad condition, and the loose soil was badly washed away at every storm. This condition had existed for some years, and had been the subject of much controversy between the department and the railroad. The construction of the new bridge is, therefore, a distinct advantage to the City, as it is open to the general public, as well as the railroad employees, and furnishes a convenient means of access to the new baseball fields on the Riverside water front.

A similar bridge was erected at 82nd street, in Riverside Park, by the railroad company, under agreement with the department.

Because of the scarcity of water in the City reservoirs the drinking fountains had to be shut down at night during the summer, and the display fountains shut down entirely. This, together with the new law prohibiting the use of public drinking cups, made it difficult to provide drinking water for the public visiting the parks. The problem was partly solved by installing patent sanitary drinking attachments on the hydrants, but these proved not quite satisfactory, as they were easily put out of order, or stolen. Permission was given to the New York Free Cold Water Fountain Society to erect fountains in City Hall Park, the Brooklyn Bridge stairway, and at Franklin Square, opposite the park, and at the playgrounds at Baxter and Worth streets, and St. Gabriel's Park. These fountains were installed and maintained by the society.

Through the co-operation of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity the old gas lamps at Stuyvesant Park were replaced by electric arc lights. This completes the lighting of all the principal parks by electricity. The lighting system of the traffic roads through Central Park, at 66th street, 79th street, 86th street, and 97th

street is in process of being changed from gas to electricity, the work on 66th street being already completed.

Extensive alterations were made to the old bell tower in Mount Morris Park, where an electric automatic striking attachment was put in to ring the bell, which formerly was rung by one of the city firemen regularly, morning and evening, at the same hours every day, but which practice had been abandoned when the striking apparatus got out of order some years previous. For so many years had it been rung that it had become a public institution, almost indispensable to the people of the vicinity, to whom it stood, not only as a reminder of earlier times when the old bell rang out over the village of Haarlem, but as a regulator for their clocks and a guide for their household activities. Its silence was a keen disappointment to the residents of the vicinity, and its resumption was enthusiastically welcomed.

#### CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FARMS.

This feature of the department's work was enlarged during the year by the addition of a new garden at Thomas Jefferson Park, which, together with the garden at De Witt Clinton Park, was conducted by the Bureau of School Farms of the department. At Hudson Park a school garden was established in the plots bordering the lagoon for the children of the adjacent public schools. The garden was prepared by the department, and the planting and care of the plots was undertaken by the children, under the direction of the school teachers.

The appropriation for maintenance of the gardens was as follows:

De Witt Clinton Park:		
Salaries and wages.....	\$4,800	
Supplies and contingencies.....	200	\$5,000
		<hr/>
Thomas Jefferson Park:		
Salaries and wages.....	\$4,800	
Supplies and contingencies.....	400	5,200
		<hr/>

This sum does not represent the entire expense of conducting the gardens, as considerable labor was given by the department working force, and many supplies were furnished from the general park maintenance funds, which could not be provided out of the limited appropriations for the school farms.

These gardens were conducted under the direction of Mrs. Henry G. Parsons, Director of Children's School Farms, of the department. Her report shows the following summary of the work of the De Witt Clinton garden:

#### *Children's School Farm, De Witt Clinton Park.*

The total registration for the year was 1,210 children, divided as follows:

	First half of season.	Second half of season.	
Boys.....	200	209	
Girls.....	212	213	
Transfers.....	226	150	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	638	572	1,210

Each of these was given the care of an individual plot, which was transferred to another child for any of the following causes: Absence without leave, neglect of plot, bad behavior in the gardens, change of residence, loss of tag, and going to work.

Six plots were assigned to kindergarten classes. These plots were termed "Community Plots." The total number of children using the plots was 292.

The daily attendance of the children average 36 per cent. of those registered.

Three hundred and eighty pupils from schools and colleges visited the garden in classes during the year, and 138 visitors, from all parts of the United States, as well as from France, Scotland, Mexico, England, and China, registered their names in the "Visitors' Book."

Nature material from the plots was supplied to the following public schools:

- No. 84, 430 West 50th street.
- No. 188, East Houston street.
- No. 37, 113 East 87th street.
- No. 69, 125 West 54th street.
- No. 141, 462 West 58th street.
- DeWitt Clinton High School.

The crops were about the same as in previous years, consisting of radishes, beans, beets, carrots, corn, lettuce and onions. Observation plots, containing special flowers, vegetables, grains, etc., were maintained, as in previous years. Nature study lessons were given the children in distinguishing the different kinds of seeds, depth planting, roots, brace roots, soil experiment, potato, peanut plant, stems and leaves, the use of the hoe, and why we cultivate.

The winter fresh air work was conducted with the co-operation of the Board of Education and \$1,800 of private money. The Park Department furnished the building, steam heat, cooking apparatus, dishes, attendants, etc., the Board of Education provided the teacher, desks and school supplies; private money provided fur-lined coats, sleeping bags, a nurse, nourishment three times a day, a two-horse stage—the latter calling for and delivering the children in their homes—also a Christmas tree, and presents for the children. The number of children attending the fresh air school ranged from eight to twenty a day. Bone tuberculosis, infantile paralysis, heart disease, and low vitality were the principal diseases. None of these children were eligible to the schools, on account of their physical condition; they were under the care of physicians.

In the fall of 1911, owing to the condition of the building, the shortage of money, and the illness of the Director, the Fresh Air School was not opened.

Attendants or teachers were appointed, as in former years, under Clause 6, Rule XII, of the Municipal Civil Service Rules.

The garden at Thomas Jefferson Park, being a new one of much larger size than the one at De Witt Clinton, and, being situated in a neighborhood inhabited mainly by Italians, necessitated special efforts and a departure from the ordinary methods to secure its fullest use the first season. The report of the Director, showing how the work was accomplished, and the results that were obtained, is given in full herewith.

#### ZOOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The menagerie in Central Park was conducted throughout the year, and was open to the public daily, from 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. The popularity of this feature of Central Park is apparent by the number of visitors, especially on Sundays. No attempt was made to record the number visiting the menagerie, because for years the crowds have been so enormous that the attempt would be useless.

The animals, for the most part, were in good health throughout the year, especially the older animals, such as "Smiles," the two-horned rhinoceros; "Mrs. Murphy," the hippopotamus, and the elephants, "Hattie" and "Jewel," all of them well known to hundreds of thousands of people all over the country. The exhibitions given by "Hattie," under the direction of Head Keeper "Bill" Snyder, in which she went through a long program of tricks he had taught her, delighted thousands of visitors, especially children, for whom the performance was usually given. There were quite a number of deaths, however, principally among the smaller animals and birds. Among the losses were the valuable three-year-old male hippopotamus, which succumbed to an attack of pneumonia, a pair of camels, a leopard, an American buffalo, and an African or Cape buffalo. The losses were replaced by purchases, donation and exchange.

The annual auction sale of surplus stock of the flock of Dorset horned sheep, which the department maintains, brought five hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$536), which went to the fund for the purchase of specimens for the menagerie.

The report of the Director of the Menagerie shows the following changes during the year:

<i>Gains.</i>		<i>Losses.</i>	
Births.....	7	Deaths.....	93
Donations.....	65	Exchanges.....	5
Purchases.....	312		
Exchanges.....	30		
	414		98

Net increase 316 specimens.

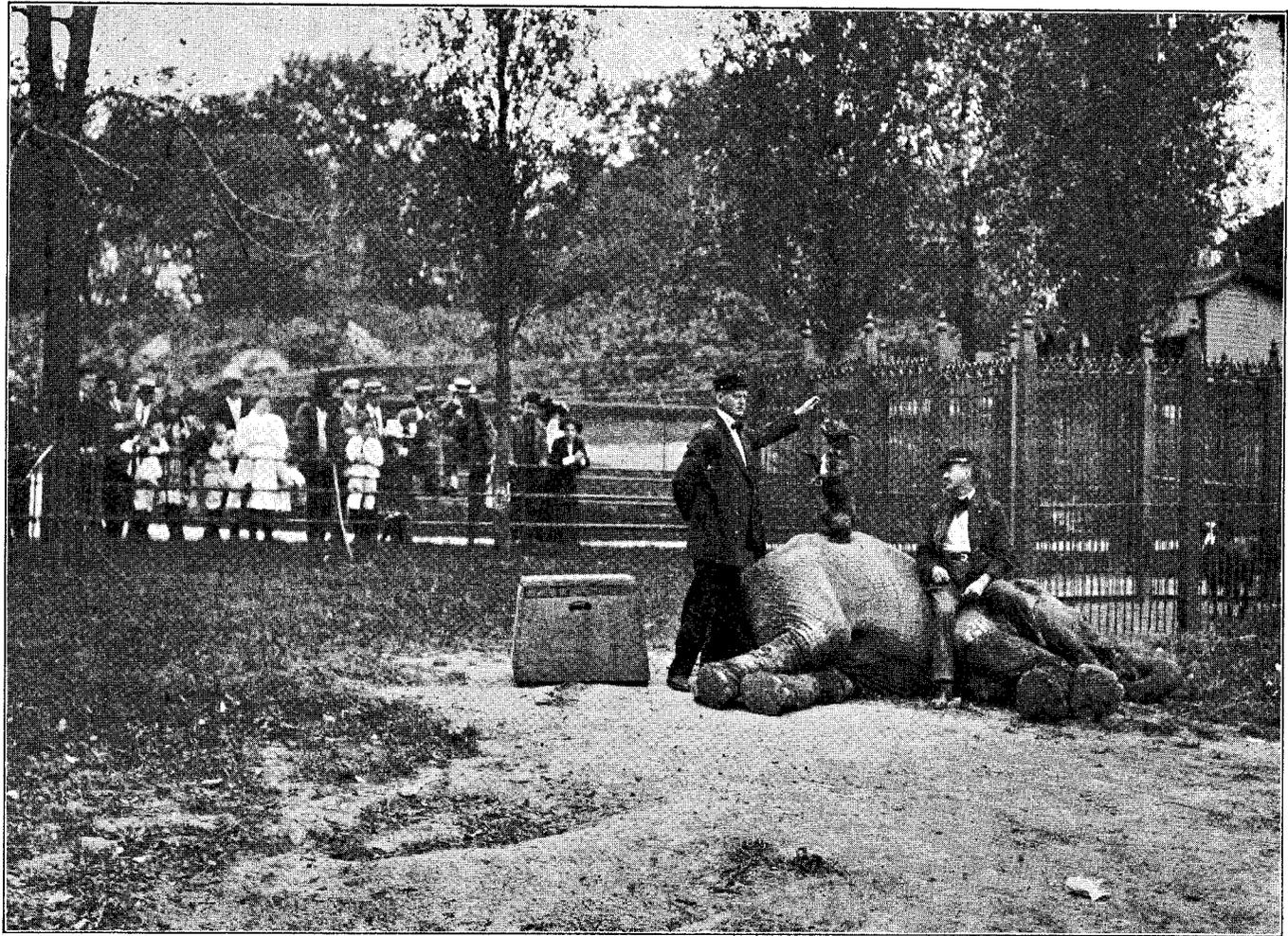
The purchases amounted to fifteen hundred and eighteen dollars, sixty-five cents (\$1,518.65), nearly half of which—seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750)—was paid for a tigress. A large stock of birds was purchased to fill out the rather poor stock owned by the department. The collection included many birds of odd and brilliant plumage, besides canaries, thrushes, finches, and other songbirds.

The complete list of changes during the year is as follows:

<i>Births.</i>	
1 Zebu	1 Parrakeet
1 Angora goat	1 Golden eagle
2 Red deer	1 Parrot
1 Leopard	1 Alligator
1 Buffalo	1 Mockingbird
1 Bison	1 Sand piper
	1 Rose cockatoo
	1 Hawk
	1 Canary bird
	1 Rose cockatoo
	1 Hawk
	1 Peccary
	1 Rhesus monkey
	2 Hawks
	6 Guinea pigs
	1 Macaque monkey
	1 Parrot
	1 Seagull
	1 Turtle
	1 Alligator

<i>Donations.</i>	
1 Parrot	
1 Alligator	
20 Canaries	
1 Parrakeet	
2 Java sparrows	
5 Pecan ducks	
1 Rhesus monkey	
2 Opossums	
1 Finch	
1 Parrakeet	
1 Raccoon	
3 Finches	



THE CHILDREN'S PETS AT THEIR LESSONS.

*Deaths.*

15 Monkeys  
 1 Ocelat  
 2 Hyenas  
 7 Snakes  
 1 Oryx  
 5 Pheasants  
 2 Zebus  
 9 Swans  
 2 Rheas  
 2 Black bears  
 3 Fallow deer  
 12 Parrots  
 4 Opossums  
 1 Buffalo  
 2 Birds  
 1 Stork  
 1 Cape buffalo  
 1 Brazilian sheep  
 3 Eagles  
 1 Owl  
 1 Badger  
 3 Cockatoos  
 1 Raccoon  
 1 Leopard  
 2 Camels  
 2 Parrakeets  
 1 Tropic  
 1 Sparrow  
 1 Hippopotamus (cub)  
 1 Nylghau  
 1 Rattlesnake  
 1 Hawk  
 1 Prairie wolf  
 1 Mandarin duck.

*Purchases.*

1 Golden eagle  
 2 Crested minors  
 2 German jays  
 6 Minors  
 6 Japanese robins  
 14 Shell parrakeets  
 6 Pair cockatoos  
 4 Mexican tangers  
 24 German canaries (male)  
 6 Goldfinches

6 Bullfinches  
 1 Female puma  
 6 Python snakes  
 12 Japanese seals  
 2 Black shoulder peafowl  
 1 pair Reeves pheasants  
 13 Rabbits  
 1 Bald eagle  
 1 Black bear  
 12 Rhesus monkeys  
 2 pr. Crested doves  
 3 pr. Russian goldfinches  
 3 pr. Bullfinches  
 3 pr. Java sparrows  
 3 pr. Japanese robins  
 1 pr. Red macaws  
 3 pr. Rose cockatoos  
 1 pr. Alexander parrots  
 24 German canaries (male)  
 2 pr. Thrushes  
 6 pr. White love birds  
 1 pr. Silver pheasants  
 1 pr. Amherst pheasants  
 1 Tigress.

*Exchanges.*

With William Bartels Co.

1 Male anodad and  
 1 Male llama  
 for  
 8 Monkeys  
 9 Madagascar weavers  
 1 Napolian weaver  
 6 Yellow shell parrakeets  
 4 Tropials.

With Lloyd Taylor.

1 pair of Yearling Buffaloes and  
 1 female Adult Buffalo  
 for  
 1 pr. Gnues.

*Sold at Public Auction.*

10 Ewes  
 17 Ewe lambs  
 23 Ram lambs  
 812 pounds wool.

Department of Parks,  
City of New York.  
The Arsenal, Central Park.

Office of Chief Engineer, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

HON. CHAS. B. STOVER,  
*Commissioner of Parks.*

Dear Sir:

In conformity with general instructions, I have the honor to transmit herewith a Report as to the work done on construction, etc., under the supervision of the office of the Chief Engineer, Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, for the year ending December 31, 1911.

In connection with the report in general, a statement, showing the amount of work done on each contract or park is attached.

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD A. MILLER,  
*Chief Engineer.*

CENTRAL PARK.

TEMPORARY WATER SUPPLY FOR NEW COMFORT STATION.

Owing to a break in the water pipe, leading from the Croton main, in the 79th street transverse road, near the West Drive, to the Central Park low pressure water system, the new Comfort Station in the vicinity of the Swedish school house was left without water.

A temporary line was laid on the surface, and was protected against the frost by depositing filling on the same, and the Swedish school house and the New Comfort Station were supplied.

The work done follows:

300 linear feet of 1-inch galvanized wrought iron water pipe laid.

LAYING OF DRAIN PIPE IN THE 97TH STREET STORAGE YARD.

The contract for the work of completing the Storage Yards at 97th street, Central Park, having been practically executed, it was necessary for the Park Department to construct the drainage to carry off the overflow from the pits.

A new 8-inch line of vitrified drain pipe was laid from the westerly pit to the drainage sewer. The entire drainage is now provided for.

The work done follows:

154 cubic yards of earth and rock excavated and trench refilled,

390 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,

1 manhole constructed.

PLAYGROUND IN 101ST STREET, BETWEEN 2ND AND 3RD AVENUES.

This playground was turned over to the Park Department some years ago, but, owing to lack of appropriation, the work could not be undertaken until July 18, 1911.

The plot in itself is about 365 feet long by 100 feet wide, and faces 101st street. It was converted into a modern playground.

The playground proper, which was enclosed by a concrete parapet wall, surmounted by a seven foot picket fence, was constructed with a broken stone foundation, and

a bridle road, gravel and cinder-wearing surface thoroughly rolled. A network of tile drains was laid to take care of the ground soakage. The necessary water supply was installed, and the partition fence, dividing the girls' from the boys' playground, was erected.

The cost of the playground construction was \$17,366.93.

The work done follows:

- 2,496 cubic yards of excavation,
- 427 linear feet of new bluestone curbstones set,
- 5,337 square feet of cement sidewalk laid,
- 28 square yards of asphalt block pavement laid,
- 750 cubic yards of concrete retaining walls built,
- 784 linear feet of wrought-iron picket fence erected,
- 69 linear feet of wire mesh fence erected,
- 810 cubic yards of 2-inch broken stone laid in playground foundation,
- 405 cubic yards of cinders and gravel as playground finish,
- 36 linear feet of 10-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,
- 108 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,
- 152 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,
- 1 surface basin built,
- 475 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized iron pipe laid,
- 7 2½-inch stopcocks set,
- 2 drinking hydrants set,
- 2 flush hydrants set,
- 1 patent tap, 6 in. by 2 in., made.

**PLAYGROUND IN BLOCK BOUNDED BY AMSTERDAM AVENUE, WEST END AVENUE, 59TH AND 60TH STREETS.**

The unimproved plot of ground above described, which was turned over to the Park Department for playground purposes some years ago, was improved at a cost of \$5,702.83.

Work was begun on the 31st of May, and completed on September 16, 1911.

The erection of a field house in connection with the playground was begun.

The dimensions of the playground are 100 feet by 200 feet.

The construction of the playground was on modern lines, and included the installation of subsoil drainage, water supply, cement seats, and retaining wall, and high picket enclosing fence.

The work done on contract follows:

- 873 cubic yards of filling,
- 83 cubic yards of excavation,
- 244 linear feet of new curbstones set,
- 3,413 square feet of cement walk pavement laid,
- 13 square yards of asphalt block roadway pavement laid,
- 117 cubic yards of concrete retaining walls built,
- 199 linear feet of wrought-iron picket fence erected,
- 33 cubic yards of concrete seats constructed,
- 450 cubic yards of 2-inch broken stone spread in playground foundation,
- 225 cubic yards of gravel and cinders as playground finish,
- 75 square yards of asphalt and cement gutters laid,
- 2,250 linear feet of 3-inch and 4-inch tile drain pipe laid,
- 1 surface basin built,
- 45 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,
- 130 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized iron water pipe laid,
- 3 2½-inch stopcocks set,
- 1 patent connection, 6-inch by 2-inch, made,
- 1 flush hydrant set.

## PLAYGROUND IN COLUMBUS PARK.

The large plot in the center of Columbus (Mulberry Bend Park) was converted into a playground.

The work was begun in June, 1911, and completed in October.

The playground proper, which is constructed of a broken stone foundation, and gravel and cinder-wearing surface, is enclosed with a seven-foot high picket fence.

The necessary subsoil drainage was installed, as was the water supply and surface drainage.

The total amount of work done follows:

- 728 cubic yards of earth excavated and removed,
- 374 cubic yards of broken stone furnished and spread,
- 258 cubic yards of gravel and cinders, furnished and spread,
- 365 linear feet of 4-inch tile drain pipe, furnished and laid,
- 1,784 linear feet of 3-inch tile drain pipe, furnished and laid,
- 20 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe, furnished and laid,
- 400 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized wrought iron water pipe, furnished and laid,
- 2 road hydrants, furnished and set,
- 4 2½-inch stop-cocks, furnished and set,
- 1 Smith 6 by 2½-inch connection made,
- 625 linear feet of 7-foot wrought iron picket fence erected,
- 596 linear feet of 3-rail pipe fence erected,
- 629 linear feet of bluestone edging taken up, reset and redressed,
- 629 linear feet of cement walk on concrete base laid.

## PLAYGROUND AT WORTH AND BAXTER STREETS.

The small triangular piece of land at the junction of Worth and Baxter streets was turned over to the Park Department some years ago but it was not until August 8, 1911, that the work of improving the same and converting it into a playground was undertaken.

The playground is of a modern construction with a gravel and cinder finish on a broken stone foundation.

The proper underground drainage was installed and a water supply laid.

The work done follows:

- 90 cubic yards of excavation of all kinds,
- 102 cubic yards of broken stone furnished and spread,
- 75 cubic yards of gravel and cinders furnished and spread,
- 90 linear feet of 4-inch drain tile, furnished and laid,
- 465 linear feet of 3-inch drain tile, furnished and laid,
- 35 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe, furnished and laid,
- 100 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe, furnished and laid,
- 1 surface basin built complete,
- 150 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized wrought iron pipe, furnished and laid,
- 1 road hydrant, furnished and set,
- 1 drinking hydrant, furnished and set,
- 3 2½-inch stop-cocks, furnished and set,
- 1 6 by 2½-inch Smith connection,
- 300 linear feet of 5-inch bluestone curb, furnished and set,
- 218 linear feet of 2½-inch bluestone edging, furnished and set,
- 218 linear feet of 7-inch wrought iron picket fence, furnished and erected,
- 3,500 square feet of cement sidewalks laid on concrete foundation,
- 152 cubic yards of excavation for tree trenches,
- 161 cubic yards of mold excavated and deposited in tree trenches.

## PLAYGROUNDS IN ST. GABRIEL'S PARK.

The large easterly plot of St. Gabriel's Park was set aside for playground purposes. The top soil was removed and the plot regulated to proper subgrade. A broken stone foundation was then laid and on the top of this a wearing surface of fine gravel and cinders. The subsoil drainage, surface drainage and water supply were installed, new edging set and the entire plot enclosed with a seven (7) foot picket fence.

The work done follows:

- 700 cubic yards of excavation of all kinds,
- 292 linear feet of edging taken up, dressed and reset on a concrete foundation,
- 145 linear feet of old wrought iron fence taken down,
- 284 linear feet of old three rail pipe fence taken down,
- 145 linear feet of new wrought iron fence erected on old shoes,
- 284 linear feet of new wrought iron fence erected on new shoes,
- 439 linear feet of fences painted,
- 13,300 square feet of playground constructed, 6 inches broken stone, 4 inches cinder and gravel,
- 1 drinking hydrant with brick chamber and cement walk built,
- 1 flush hydrant set with stop-cock,
- 26 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,
- 1,080 linear feet of 3-inch porous tile pipe laid,
- 408 linear feet of 4-inch porous tile pipe laid,
- 104 linear feet of 2-inch galvanized iron pipe laid,
- 2 surface basins adjusted to grade,
- 145 linear feet of concrete gutter laid.

## PLAYGROUND AT CHERRY STREET.

Adjacent to the Manhattan Bridge, and facing on Cherry street, between Market and Pike streets, a small plot of ground was set aside for playground purposes.

The construction of this playground was begun during the year and prosecuted to completion. The construction of the same was similar to the larger playgrounds, to wit, an eight (8) inch foundation of broken stone was laid, and a wearing surface, consisting of fine gravel and steam cinders, was laid and rolled to its ultimate compaction. The entire ground was subdrained, the proper surface drainage was also installed, as well as the water supply.

The wrought iron picket fences enclosing the playground were erected, as well as the 15-foot wire mesh fences on the back line of the playground.

The total amount of work done in constructing the playground follows:

- 600 cubic yards of excavation of all kinds,
- 35 linear feet of 5-inch bluestone curbstone set,
- 984 square feet of cement walk pavement laid,
- 13 square yards of asphalt block pavement laid,
- 127 linear feet of 3-inch bluestone edging set,
- 135 linear feet of wrought iron picket fence erected,
- 71 cubic yards of concrete in walls and fence-post bases,
- 21 cubic yards of rubble masonry built,
- 489 square feet of wall facing with cement mortar,
- 152 linear feet of wire mesh fence erected,
- 16,500 square feet of playground constructed, 6 inches broken stone, 4 inches cinder and gravel,
- 1,440 linear feet of 3-inch porous drain pipe laid,
- 440 linear feet of 4-inch porous drain pipe laid,

206 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain laid,  
 258 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized water pipe laid,  
 34 linear feet of 10-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,  
 1 surface basin built,  
 280 linear feet of cement gutter laid,  
 1 flush hydrant set with stopcock.

#### PLAYGROUND UNDER QUEENSBORO BRIDGE.

The space under the Queensboro Bridge, bounded on the east by Sutton place, on the south by 59th street, on the north by 60th street, and on the west by practically the bridge abutment sidewalk, was turned over to the Park Department in an official manner, with the request that the same be converted into a playground.

A contract was entered into on the 19th of September, 1911, and the work was prosecuted with a large force of men, and will be completed during the early summer of 1912.

Owing to the considerable difference in grade, between 59th and 60th streets, at Sutton place, and, in order to keep the playground practically level, a high retaining wall was built along 59th street and Sutton place, tapering to a foundation for a parapet wall on the westerly side and on 60th street. After the retaining walls had been built and the foundations for the parapet wall had been constructed, a concrete parapet wall, composed of Portland cement concrete and various colored marble chips, was constructed. A seven foot high picket fence surmounts this parapet wall.

The construction of the playground proper consists of a broken stone foundation and a gravel and cinder-wearing surface. The entire ground is thoroughly tile drained, a modern water supply is installed, and the surface drainage is provided for.

The feature of this playground is the construction of tiers of cement seats.

The work done on contract during the year 1911 follows:

5,050 cubic yards of excavation,  
 800 cubic yards of rubble masonry retaining wall built,  
 353 cubic yards of concrete in walls and seats,  
 660 linear feet of 2½-inch galvanized iron pipe laid,  
 7 2½-inch stopcocks set,  
 2 flush hydrants set,  
 2 drinking hydrant chambers and connections constructed,  
 1 patent connection made,  
 18 linear feet of 12-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,  
 54 linear feet of 8-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,  
 318 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified drain pipe laid,  
 2,250 linear feet of 3-inch drain tile laid,  
 500 linear feet of 4-inch drain tile laid,  
 364 cubic yards of broken stone in place in foundation for playground.

#### BROADWAY PARKS.

##### 110TH TO 122ND STREETS.

An appropriation covering the general improvement of the park strip in the center of Broadway, from 110th to 122nd streets, was made available in 1910. This appropriation was to cover the cost of improving the said small parks, and in some cases the work was begun late in 1910.

A contract was executed, covering the setting of curb, and was prosecuted to completion during the year.

The work done during 1911 follows:

1,839 linear feet of straight curb set,  
309 linear feet of curved curb set.

A contract for "Paving with Asphalt Tiles the Ends of the Plots, between 110th and 122nd Streets," was executed, and work was begun in June of 1911, and prosecuted to completion.

The amount of work done follows:

7,206 square feet of asphalt tile laid on concrete foundation.

With the completion of this work the entire park strip, with the exception of planting, was completed; that is, as to setting curb, paving the walks, installing water supply, excavating crude material, and furnishing and depositing top soil or garden mold, and the erection of fence.

The work of planting is to be begun as soon as weather conditions will permit.

### JOHN JAY PARK.

The work on the contract for "Regulating and Grading and Removing Earth and Rock from John Jay Park," to bring the same to the established subgrade, was begun on October 3, 1910, and completed in September of 1911.

This park is located between 76th and 78th streets, and fronts on the East River.

It is the intention, after the work of regulating and grading has been completed, to construct a model playground park, enclosing the same with retaining walls, in order to keep the elevation as high as possible above the street.

An appropriation was made available during the latter part of 1911, covering the cost of constructing a new street on the westerly side of the park and the construction of the park and playground proper.

The total amount of work done during the year on the excavating and removal contract follows:

26,074 cubic yards of excavation of all kinds, and removal of same.

### COLONIAL PARK.

#### BETWEEN 145TH AND 150TH STREETS.

A contract, covering the construction of the southerly portion of Colonial Park, between 145th and 155th streets, Bradhurst and Edgecombe avenues, was executed in 1910. At the close of that year the work stood suspended, owing to winter weather, and was resumed in the early part of 1911 and finished.

With the completion of this lower section of the park the entire area, between 145th and 155th streets, has been improved, and the same has been opened to the public.

Trees have been planted in the tree spaces set aside exterior to the park, but the general planting of the park proper has not as yet been undertaken.

The park, in its construction, is similar to Morningside Park, to wit, the upper and lower walk systems and the approaches to the same by a series of steps.

The work done during the year follows:

640 cubic yards of excavation,  
28 cubic yards of rock excavation,  
42 rustic rocks planted,  
500 cubic yards of manure spread,  
2,850 cubic yards of mold spread,  
127,000 square feet of sod laid,  
7 walk basins built,  
192 linear feet of porous tile pipe laid,

400 linear feet of 6-inch vitrified pipe laid,  
 1 brick drinking hydrant chamber built,  
 3 drinking hydrants erected with 2-inch stopcocks,  
 30 linear feet of 2½-inch edging set,  
 50,000 square feet of asphalt mastic walk laid,  
 3,400 square feet of walk foundation, 3 inches concrete, 8 inches rubble,  
 11 cubic yards of masonry built,  
 40 linear feet of bluestone steps set,  
 12 linear feet of bluestone cheeks set,  
 1,250 linear feet of 3-rail pipe fence erected,  
 225 linear feet of 2-rail pipe fence erected,  
 6,480 linear feet of fence, painted two coats.

#### SMALL PARK AT 129TH STREET AND THIRD AVENUE.

The small triangular plot of ground adjacent to the Third Avenue Bridge was turned over to the Park Department some years ago.

During 1911 new paths were laid out, the lawns were reconstructed, and some planting done.

One hundred and ninety-three feet of picket fence were erected on the three sides of the park to enclose the same.

#### SILVER LAKE PARK, BOROUGH OF RICHMOND.

##### CONSTRUCTING CEMENT CURB AND SIDEWALKS ALONG THE RICHMOND TURNPIKE FRONT OF SILVER LAKE PARK.

A contract, covering the construction of the cement curb and sidewalk along the Richmond turnpike, was executed late in 1910, and the excavation and filling of embankment and the laying of conduits or drain pipes was prosecuted during the fall and early winter of that year.

The work of constructing the curb and sidewalk was begun early in 1911 and was carried on in a manner similar to that of the curbs and walks of the streets adjacent.

The work done follows:

160 cubic yards of excavation,  
 200 cubic yards of filling in embankment,  
 2,222 linear feet of cement curb constructed,  
 10,629 square feet of cement sidewalk laid.

##### REPAIRS TO ROADWAY PAVEMENTS OF STREETS AND AVENUES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

The pavements of the roadways, plazas, streets, and different public places under the jurisdiction of this department were kept in proper repair during the year.

The total amount of work done on maintaining same follows:

8,992 square yards of roadway pavement of sheet asphalt laid,

831 square yards of asphalt block roadway pavement laid,

32.6 cubic yards of concrete laid as a foundation for pavement.

The engineering force was employed during the year on the laying out and supervision of the various contracts described in my report, and, in addition thereto, on the preparation of surveys, specifications, estimates of cost for new and contemplated work, and the measurement of all supplies purchased on contract or order for the Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, as well as the tabulating of all bids received for the various boroughs on contracts and supplies.

I transmit a list, showing this work, in addition to the work necessary on contracts, etc.

## SPECIFICATIONS.

Specifications were prepared during the year as follows:

For constructing a playground in Mulberry Bend Park.

For constructing a playground in the block bounded by 59th street, 60th street, Amsterdam avenue and West End avenue.

For constructing a playground on the south side of 101st street, between Second and Third avenues.

For constructing a playground at the easterly end of St. Gabriel's Park.

For constructing a playground on the north side of Cherry street, between Market and Pike streets.

For constructing a playground in Colonial Park, in the vicinity of 150th street.

For constructing a playground at Worth and Baxter streets.

For constructing a playground under the Queensboro Bridge.

For paving with asphaltic mixture the roadway of Transverse Road No. 2.

For surfacing with asphaltic mixture portions of the carriage drives of Central Park.

For resetting curbstones, repairing the sidewalks, and drainage, and paving with asphaltic mixture the roadway of Transverse Road No. 4, in Central Park.

For constructing a sewer and appurtenances from the New Comfort Station in Central Park, near the West Drive, opposite 80th street.

For furnishing and laying a water supply for the New Comfort Station in Central Park, near the West Drive, opposite 80th street.

For laying a Filbertine pavement on certain of the Central Park drives.

For repairing asphalt roadway pavements where directed during the year 1911.

For furnishing and erecting wrought iron picket fences with wire mesh screening around the two playground plots underneath the Williamsburg Bridge, between Cannon and Goerck streets.

Work was begun and completed on the plans and specifications for "rebuilding defective portions of the bulkhead wall along the public driveway" and several examinations were made to determine its condition.

## CONTRACT DRAWINGS, PLANS, ETC.

## DRAWINGS.

For constructing a playground in Mulberry Bend Park.

For constructing a playground in the block bounded by 59th street, 60th street, Amsterdam avenue, and West End avenue.

For constructing a playground on the south side of 101st street, between Second and Third avenues.

For constructing a playground at the easterly end of St. Gabriel's Park.

For constructing a playground on the north side of Cherry street, between Market and Pike streets.

For constructing a playground at Worth and Baxter streets.

For constructing a playground under the Queensboro Bridge.

For furnishing and erecting wrought iron picket fences with wire mesh screening around the two playground plots underneath the Williamsburg Bridge, between Cannon and Goerck streets.

For resurfacing with asphaltic mixture portions of the carriage drives of Central Park.

For constructing a pipe sewer and appurtenances from the new comfort station in Central Park near the West Drive, opposite 80th street.

For furnishing and laying water pipe and appurtenances in various places in Central Park.

For furnishing and laying a water supply for the new comfort station in Central Park near the West Drive, opposite 80th street.

For rebuilding in concrete certain defective sections of the bulkhead wall of the Speedway.

#### MAPS.

Record map of Lincoln Square.

Construction map of Seward Park.

Map of new park, east of Riverside Drive and north of 181st street. A smaller map of the same (for Commissioner Stover), and a large scale working drawing showing the metes and bounds of this park.

Topographical map of the plot at Broadway and 166th street.

Several designs were worked up covering the construction of the playground under Queensboro Bridge.

A number of plans were made covering the construction of the Cherry street playground and different designs for enclosing it.

Plotting map and section of addition to Riverside Park at 122d street.

Plotting construction map, Colonial Park.

Map of the new street, 76th to 77th streets, was made; legal grade established and filed.

#### SURVEYS.

A survey was made to ascertain the location with respect to park property of a float and gangway maintained at 129th street and North River by one Garry May, and a plan was prepared to show the facts determined by said survey.

A survey was made to define the westerly line of the N. Y. C. R. R. right of way between 97th and 99th streets.

A survey of four blocks on Riverside Drive (85th to 89th streets) was made in connection with proposed experimental noiseless roadway pavements for same.

Surveys were made for a water supply in various places in Central park, viz.:

From 72d to 79th street, between East Drive and Fifth avenue.

From 110th street and Lenox avenue westerly to Central Park West, thence southerly to a point on West Drive, opposite 102d street.

From 110th street and Lenox avenue easterly to Fifth avenue, thence southerly to a point north of greenhouses, opposite 106th street.

From 10-inch main on West Drive, opposite 79th street, westerly to Duck Pond.

From 6-inch main on West Drive, opposite 100th street, westerly to the Loch.

Elevations were taken and sections plotted of East Drive, from Fifth avenue to south end of Mall.

Elevations were taken and sections plotted of a portion of Riverside Drive, 84th to 91st streets.

Survey and level for paving Transverse Road No. 1.

Survey and level for paving Transverse Road No. 4.

Elevations taken for constructing a playground at 101st street, between Second and Third avenues.

Elevations taken on easterly sidewalk of Tompkins Square for repaving same.

Elevations taken from 110th street to 153d street on Seventh avenue plots.

Survey, locating street car tracks around streets adjacent to Corlears Hook Park.

Topographical survey and map of the proposed playground at West 59th street.

Survey and map of the playground at 151st, 152d streets and Amsterdam avenue.

Survey and map of the plot at 168th street and Broadway.

Cross-sections and plots, storage yard, Central Park.  
 Survey, typical sections, Riverside Drive, 129th to 72d streets.  
 Sections, etc., playground, Park avenue, 118th-119th streets and 128th-129th streets.  
 Survey and map over area of proposed wing of Natural History Museum.  
 Survey for new boathouse, Lake, Central Park.  
 Survey and profile, proposed sewer, 100th street and Eighth avenue to 110th street and Lenox avenue.  
 Survey at McGown's Pass Tavern.  
 A transit survey of the Broadway plots, 60th street to 110th street, was made and plotted.  
 Topographical survey was made and transmitted of a portion of High Bridge Park, 174th to 175th streets, for a playground.  
 Transit survey of High Bridge Park, 174th to 179th streets, locations of roads, paths, existing dry walls, etc., was made and plotted.  
 A survey and location plan and profile of the grounds north side of Washington Bridge was made and transmitted.  
 A transit survey, defining the property lines of 59th street playground, was made and line established.  
 A map showing encroachments on park property at the Plaza, 110th street and Central Park West, was prepared, together with the necessary transit survey and locations, and the park property line was established.  
 A tape location of the trees in Bryant Park was made and plotted and elevations taken on walks and lawns.

#### ESTIMATES.

Preliminary plans were made and an estimate of cost arrived at in the matter of "constructing a sewer from the present outlet of the old brook sewer leading into the 'pool' in Central Park to the City sewer in Cathedral Parkway near Lenox avenue."

Many estimates were made based on as many proposed plans for a playground under Queensboro Bridge.

Survey, map and estimate of cost of the playground at the eastern end of St. Gabriel's Park.

Preliminary estimate for playground under Queensboro Bridge, East 59th street.

Preliminary estimate for playground near Amsterdam avenue, West 59th street.

Preliminary estimate for playground in Colonial Park.

Preliminary estimate for playground in Cherry street, between Pike and Market streets.

Preliminary estimate for playground in Mulberry Bend Park.

Preliminary estimate for playground at corner of Worth and Baxter streets.

Preliminary estimate for playground in St. Gabriel's Park.

Preliminary estimate for the completion of water supply system in Central Park at the following locations:

North Meadow.

South ball ground.

97th to 102nd streets, between East Drive and Fifth avenue.

97th to 100th streets, west of West Drive.

59th to 82nd streets, west of West Drive.

An approximate estimate and four alternates were prepared and transmitted in the matter of "repaving Transverse Road No. 2, Central Park."

An additional estimate was made for excavating and repaving Transverse Road No. 2, Central Park.

Preliminary estimates of areas, excavations, etc., for resurfacing the West Drive, Central Park, were made.

A preliminary estimate was made and transmitted for constructing a playground in Corlears Hook Park.

An approximate estimate of path areas and quantity of cinders required for Farm Garden walks made, and quantity of cinders taken from boilers in building, measured and calculated, Thomas Jefferson Park.

Measurements were taken and an approximate estimate of walk areas made of a portion of Morningside Park.

An approximate estimate for improving the Seventh avenue parks was made and transmitted.

An approximate estimate of pipe fence for Washington Square was made.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A great deal of time was spent during the year in the determination of the areas of the walks, roads, lawns, playgrounds, lakes, etc., in each of the twenty-nine sections into which the parks of Manhattan and Richmond are divided for the purpose of care and maintenance.

Numerous inspections and measurements were made in City Hall Park to determine the source and responsibility as to a leak into the rapid transit subway.

Grades for the sidewalk, curb and roadway were worked out for the proposed work in Transverse Road No. 4.

Frequent inspections were made of the work being done in various parks in connection with the Catskill Aqueduct.

A report on the bath house foundations, John Jay Park, was made and transmitted.

A report on the dumping of rock in John Jay Park was transmitted.

Line and grade given, area measured and returned for experimental pavements laid on the West Drive north of 90th street.

Line and grade for walk to new comfort station near Swedish School House.

Inspection and report of High Bridge Park playground construction was made.

An examination and report made on encroachments 149th street and Riverside Drive.

A plan, location, and sections were made for proposed new steps on Riverside Drive Extension at 137th street.

The usual routine office work of tabulation of bids, inspection of materials and work, cement testing, as well as the measuring of all supplies, such as gravel, sand, mold, etc., etc., and the general field work on construction and on contracts in force, and of surveys for new work, was carried on during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

EDW'D A. MILLER,

*Chief Engineer.*

## REPORT OF THE ARCHITECT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

Work aggregating \$165,317.53, the plans and specifications for which were prepared by the Architect of this Department, was completed or placed under contract.

Plans and specifications have been prepared for work ready for contract aggregating \$73,000.

Preliminary plans have been prepared for work aggregating \$248,000.

In addition to the work above outlined, the Architect had general supervision during 1911 of contracts for the Metropolitan Museum of Art aggregating \$419,000, as well as the various contracts for the New York Public Library building.

A large part of the Architect's time is taken up in routine duties, supervision of contract work for the various institutions under the jurisdiction of this Department, and general repairs and maintenance work done by the Department force and by open market order.

A. Work completed or contracted for, for which plans, specifications and form of contract were prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks:

1. Wrought iron fences around grass plots in Broadway between 110th street and 122d street, cost.....	\$164,470.00*
2. Comfort station for women and children in Chelsea Park, cost.....	29,430.00*
3. Comfort station in Central Park.....	21,996.00†
4. Field house, 101st street playground.....	14,250.00†
5. Field house, West 59th street playground.....	24,900.00†
6. Comfort station and shelter in playground at Worth and Baxter streets	10,821.00†
7. Westerly half of storage sheds and west manure pit, North Meadow storage yard, Central Park.....	24,650.00†
8. Comfort station in Queensboro Bridge playground.....	8,543.00†
9. Playground apparatus in various playgrounds.....	4,675.00*
10. New boilers in pavilion in De Witt Clinton Park.....	1,484.00†
11. New plant beds in conservatories, Central Park.....	2,954.53*
12. New boilers in Arsenal building, Central Park.....	1,597.00†
13. Repairs to pavilion in Jefferson Park.....	3,970.00*
Total .....	\$165,317.53

B. Work for which plans and specifications have been prepared ready for contract:

1. New pavements around the terrace in Central Park.....	\$23,000.00
2. Alteration of Children's building in Chelsea Park to equip same as a comfort station for boys.....	3,500.00
3. Cork floors in picture galleries in Metropolitan Museum of Art....	22,000.00
4. New Bow bridge in Central Park.....	25,000.00
Total.....	\$73,500.00

\* Indicates work completed.

† Indicates work under contract.

## C. Work for which preliminary plans have been prepared:

1. Comfort station in Cooper Square.....	\$25,000.00
2. Alteration of ball ground cottage, Central Park.....	15,000.00
3. Wrought iron fences center plots in Seventh avenue, between 110th and 153d streets .....	60,000.00
4. Field house in West 151st street playground.....	15,000.00
5. Completion of propagating houses in Central Park.....	25,000.00
6. Alteration and improvement of pavilion in Hamilton Fish Park.....	50,000.00
7. Alteration of pavilion in Mulberry Bend Park.....	15,000.00
8. Alteration of pavilion in Corlears Hook Park.....	18,000.00
9. Alteration of pavilion in Wm. H. Seward Park.....	25,000.00
Total.....	<u>\$248,000.00</u>

Work under contract or ready for contract, for which plans and specifications were prepared by Architect, Department of Parks:

1. Wrought iron fences around Broadway plots, between 110th and 122d streets (completed) .....	\$16,447.00†
2. Comfort station in Central Park.....	25,000.00*
3. Field house East 101st street playground.....	13,550.00*
4. Storage sheds and manure pit in Central Park.....	30,000.00*
5. Comfort station and shelter, Worth and Baxter streets.....	10,821.00*
6. New Bow bridge in Central Park.....	25,000.00
7. New pavement for terrace around Bethesda fountain in Central Park	23,000.00
8. Comfort station Queensboro Bridge playground.....	8,000.00
9. Field house West 59th street playground.....	25,000.00
10. Playground apparatus .....	4,675.00†
Total of new work.....	<u>\$181,493.00</u>

Balance of work ready for contract.

The above is in addition to general maintenance work done under the supervision of the Architect.

*Work for Which Plans and Specifications Are in Course of Preparation or Proposed.*

1. Field house for West 151st street playground.....	\$15,000.00*
2. Playhouses in various parks.....	50,000.00
3. Comfort station, Cooper Square .....	25,000.00*
4. Alteration and improvement of comfort station near ball grounds in Central Park .....	15,000.00*
5. Pavilion in Silver Lake Park.....	25,000.00
6. Completion of propagating houses for conservatories in Central Park	25,000.00*
7. Music and refreshment pavilion in Central Park.....	50,000.00
8. Two new comfort stations, Central Park.....	50,000.00
9. Alteration and improvement of gymnasium building in Hamilton Fish Park .....	50,000.00
10. Alteration and improvement of pavilion in Seward Park.....	20,000.00*

\* Indicates work under contract.

† Indicates work completed.

11. Alteration and improvement of pavilion in Mulberry Bend Park.....	15,000.00*
12. Alteration and improvement of pavilion in Corlears Hook Park....	18,000.00*
14. Comfort station and pavilion in John Jay Park.....	30,000.00*
15. Field house in Cherry street pavilion.....	20,000.00

Total..... \$408,000.00

*Contract Work for Museum Under General Supervision of Architect, Department of Parks.*

1. New electric fixtures, Museum of Art.....	\$32,216.00†
2. New electric feeders, Museum of Art.....	2,984.00*
3. Electric fixtures for new wing "F," Museum of Art.....	5,994.00*
4. Ventilating system for attic of wing "D," Museum of Art.....	3,474.00*
5. Decoration of lecture hall, Museum of Art.....	7,464.00*
6. New wing "H" (Contract No. 1), Museum of Art.....	370,000.00
7. New wing "H" (Contract No. 2), Museum of Art.....	400,000.00
8. New boiler house, Museum of Art.....	298,000.00
9. New carpenter shop, Museum of Art.....	61,000.00
10. Alteration of restaurant, Museum of Art.....	5,000.00
11. Approach to wing "E," Museum of Art.....	10,000.00
12. New sprinkler system, Museum of Art.....	18,000.00

Total ..... \$1,214,132.00

All other work ready for and expected to be under contract before December 31, 1911.

The above is in addition to the various contracts for Public Library in course of execution during 1911, aggregating over \$40,400,000.

The following work is expected to be put under contract early in 1912:

Museum of Natural History, foundations for new additions.....	\$200,000
Aquarium, foundation for new additions.....	200,000

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE E. VIDETO,

*Architect.*

\* Indicates work for which preliminary plans have been prepared or are in course of preparation.

\* Indicates work completed in 1911.

† Indicates work now under contract.

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

The appropriations for 1911 for the working force necessary for the maintenance of the parks, parkways, playgrounds, bath houses and comfort stations, and trees on the city streets, amounted to \$641,166.90, a decrease of \$37,589.35 under the appropriations for the same purposes in 1910. The greater part of this reduction was taken out of the appropriations for the wages of laborers employed on the care of parks and playgrounds. The following statement shows a comparison of the appropriations for the two years:

	1910.	1911.	Decrease, 1911.
Mechanical force.....	\$117,772.50	\$166,570.65	\$1,201.85
Labor force:			
Parks, parkways and playgrounds.....	450,473.75	431,711.25	18,762.50
Baths and comfort stations.....	70,510.00	70,322.50	187.50
Trees on City streets.....	25,000.00	16,562.50	8,437.50
Hired teams and carts.....	15,000.00	6,000.00	9,000.00
Totals.....	\$678,756.25	\$641,166.90	\$37,589.35

Notwithstanding this reduction the territory to be maintained was increased by the opening of the lower half of Colonial Park and the upper half of the Riverside Park Extension, the turning over of the parkway plots on Seventh avenue from 110th street to 153d street, the opening of new playgrounds at West 59th street, East 101st street, Cherry street, High Bridge Park, Jackson square, Battery Park, Jeannette Park, Bennett Field, Colonial Park, Mulberry Bend Park, Baxter and Worth streets, and at other points throughout the parks.

Besides the additional territory to be maintained the pay of the laborers was increased by mandatory act of the legislature to \$2.50 a day, and by another law the entire laboring force had to be given two weeks vacation during the summer months, June, July, and August. The increase in pay alone amounted to approximately \$32,000.

Then, too, schedules accompanying the annual Budget subdivided the general appropriation into separate appropriations for each class of employee on each separate branch of the work of the department, and these separate funds could be expended only at their daily pro rata. Any accumulation of these funds due to inability to expend the pro rata on any one day through absence of the employees on account of sickness, rain, etc., could not be used at a later day, but had to be turned back to the City treasury. Under these restrictions there were a total of approximately \$26,000 of such accumulations at the close of the year which the department was not allowed to make use of. The difficulty of properly maintaining the parks under such handicaps up to the standard set in the previous three years, when the annual appropriations were larger and less restrictions governed their use, needs no comment.

The organization of the working force was improved so as to secure as perfect control as possible over the employees and their work, thereby gaining greater efficiency to secure the best results that could be obtained under the restrictions which hampered the Superintendent in the handling of his force.

## REGENERATION WORK.

*Central Park.*—The most important work done by the working force during the year was the re-soiling of the North Meadow, the ball ground and several smaller lawns, all in Central Park, and the removal of all dead and unsightly trees and shrubs in the

section of the park below 66th street, and the replanting of this section with new trees and shrubs in accordance with the plans of the Landscape Architect. For this work a special fund of \$50,000 was authorized by the Board of Estimate from the sale of revenue bonds and a special labor force was employed to do the work. New shrub groups were set out on all the points of land projecting into the 59th street lake, and on the promontory to the north; also on the slopes adjoining the lake; at the entrances at 59th street and 60th street on Fifth avenue; the entrances on Eighth avenue at 60th street and 62d street; and along the walks leading from those entrances to the interior of the park; and the banks on both sides of the 66th street transverse road. Three thousand creeping roses (*R. Multiflora*, *R. Wichuriana*, and *R. Setigera*) were set out among the rocks and the promontory over the lake and on the steep banks at the upper end of the lake. Over 30,000 flowering shrubs of all the principal varieties were planted in this section of the park alone. The planting was begun about the first of November and, the weather being favorable, was continued to the last day of the year. Two thousand five hundred tons of manure were used in the resoiling of this section and the North Meadow, a great deal of which had to be spread by hand and spaded in, and about 500 tons of phosphate rock, marl lime and other fertilizers were spread. Approximately 10,000 feet of six-foot wire mesh fencing with posts six feet apart were erected around the ball ground and the North Meadow. One hundred and fifty bushels of winter rye were sown on both fields.

#### GENERAL PLANTING.

*Central Park.*—Besides the special planting in the lower end of the park there were planted in Central Park a total of 250 trees and 1,175 shrubs as follows:

59th street to 66th street: 35 American elms, 1 sugar maple, 5 pin oaks, 3 red oaks, 3 horse-chestnuts, 3 European beech, 3 purple beech.

66th street to 72d street: 17 American elms, 30 Norway maples, 6 Schwedler's maples, 8 European lindens, 36 oriental planes.

72d street to 79th street: 7 American lindens, 35 oriental planes, 2 chestnut oaks, 13 mountain ash, 10 *ligustrum regelianum*, 40 *forsythia intermedia*, 40 *lonicera morrowii*, 8 *spiræa*, 10 *philadelphus*.

79th street to 86th street: 25 larch, 6 oriental planes, 10 flowering ash, 60 *forsythia*.

86th street to 97th street: 120 azaleas in variety (*A. Mollis*, *A. Indica*, *A. Calendulacea*), 18 Umbrella pines (*Sciadopitys verticilata*), 25 *pinus cembra*, and 60 *pinus mugho*.

97th street to 110th street: 500 *cratægus* in variety, transplanted from the Sage plantation of rhododendrons.

The planes, maples, lindens and elms were largely planted along the borders of the drives to fill up gaps in the plantations where trees had been removed in previous years and never replaced. On the Mall 16 elms were planted to fill vacant spaces in the rows which form the principal feature of this part of the park. The trees forming the original plantation are dying fast and each year more and more trimming and cutting out of dead wood has to be done, until the trees become unsightly. Sixteen of them which had reached this stage were removed, the roots dug up and taken away, all the old soil was taken out and fresh top soil was put in for the new trees. From twenty-five to thirty yards of soil were put in each tree hole. The shrubs were used principally to fill out existing plantations which had become thinned out and the balance of the trees were set out at advantageous points on the lawns. The plantation of dwarf pines on the West Drive, north of 90th street, was filled out and enlarged, the umbrella pines being set out on the slopes in the vicinity of this plantation and around the azalea plantation just north of it.

In the parks outside Central Park considerable planting was done during 1911, the total plantings aggregating 918 trees and 4,376 shrubs. The largest single item of this planting was that of the trees on the Seventh avenue parkway plots, from 110th street to 153d street.

*Seventh Avenue Parkway.*—Two hundred and forty-six planes of large size were planted in the center plots of this street. Tree holes six feet long, four feet wide, and four feet deep were dug, eighteen inches of the excavation being earth, the rest the old Telford stone roadway foundation of Seventh avenue. The excavated material was carted away and used to fill in land below grade at the unimproved portion of St. Nicholas Park and the ball fields around Jasper Field. The holes were then filled with a mixture of three parts of humus and one of clay loam, similar to that used for the plane trees on Riverside Drive from 135th street to 145th street the year previous, where not a single tree was lost. After planting the trees were staked and wire tree guards put around them for protection.

*Riverside Park.*—Ninety trees and nearly 800 shrubs in variety were planted in Riverside Park between 72d street and 129th street. The trees planted were 12 American elms, 14 American ash, 39 oriental planes, 6 Norway maples, 6 European lindens and 3 Lombardy poplars, most of them being used to fill gaps in the plantations bordering the drive, the rest being planted at various points on the lawns and slopes west of the retaining wall of the drive. Nearly all the shrubbery was planted in the lower section of the park south of 86th street, old plantations being filled out and new groups set out at various points to shut off beaten footpaths across the lawns. At 106th street the berberis plantation on the slopes at the Siegel monument were enlarged.

The planting of trees along Riverside Drive Extension was completed from 145th street to 155th street. Thirty-four oriental planes were planted, the holes for them having been prepared the previous fall.

At Colonial Park 187 large pin oaks were planted on the outer sidewalks, in specially prepared tree holes filled with the same mixture of humus and loam as used for the Seventh avenue trees. These trees were specially selected specimens, four-inch caliper and of an average height of fifteen feet. Stakes and wire guards were set on all these trees and on those planted on Riverside Drive above 145th street.

At St. Nicholas Park about 450 shrubs were planted to complete the planting plan of that park. A few dead elms were replaced with good trees transplanted from the small park at 149th street and St. Nicholas avenue, where six Norway maples were planted in place of the elms, which did not appear to thrive on the street sidewalks of that park where they had been planted.

At Roger Morris Park, where the Jumel Mansion is located, seventy California privet were planted to fill gaps in the hedge surrounding the park.

At the small park at 129th street and Third avenue, 6 Lombardy poplars and 9 American elms were planted to screen the walk of the Third avenue bridge approach at the rear of the park and to give shade along the walks.

At Thomas Jefferson Park 7 ash trees and 3 American elms were planted to replace dead trees removed.

At Kilpatrick Park, 117th street and Seventh avenue, two American elms were planted to complete the plantation.

In the Park Avenue parks 177 large California privet, removed from the lower section of Central Park at the time of the resoiling and replanting of that section, were planted out where needed in the various plots between 59th street and 96th street to screen the openings over the railroad tunnel.

The planting of the Broadway parks from 60th street to 122d street was completed as far as 110th street during the spring planting season. One thousand five hundred and forty-eight flowering shrubs in variety were planted in those parks.

The planting of the parks above 110th street was begun in the fall and 625 shrubs of various kinds were set out in accordance with the plan of the Landscape Architect.

Along the westerly sidewalk of Morningside Drive, which forms the westerly boundary of Morningside Park and is a continuation of Cathedral Parkway connecting Central and Riverside Parks, 23 oriental plane trees were planted from 110th to 113th street in front of the grounds of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. As trees had never been planted there before it was necessary to remove the sidewalk flagging, excavate the tree pits and dispose of the old soil and fill them with good mold.

In Morningside Park proper seventeen planes were planted, principally in the vacant spaces of the row on the easterly sidewalk of the park and in the plantation around the small triangular plot in which stands the Bartholdi statue of Washington and Lafayette.

The foregoing completes the planting list for the year in the parks of the upper section of the city from 59th street north. The downtown parks, however, received their share of attention also. Three hundred and ninety-eight trees and 564 flowering shrubs in variety were planted in these parks during the year in the parks proper; while on the grounds surrounding the newly opened New York Public Library building 65 trees and 893 shrubs were planted.

The Public Library plantation consisted of 19 large specimen blue spruce trees along the sides of the building, 6 specimen shrubs of boxwood along the plaza at the front, and an evergreen plantation in the plot between the building line and the retaining wall of the approach along the entire Fifth avenue front of the library. This bed was composed of 412 retinosporas in variety with a hedge of berberis—Thunbergii along the front and euonymous in the background. At the rear of the building a group of 46 large red cedars were planted to form a background for the Bryant Monument. These trees were of extra large size, ranging from seven to twenty-two feet and were transplanted with a ball of earth around the roots, the nurseryman being obliged to guarantee their living for a year from the day of planting.

In Bryant Park proper on the lawns to the west of the Public Library there were planted two Norway maples, two sycamore maples and two bronze ash, to take the places of some of the old trees which had become unsightly through the constant necessary cutting out of dead wood.

At Madison Square there were similarly planted six Norway maples, three silver maples, one sugar maple and three bronze ash.

At Union Square six lindens and five bronze ash were planted.

At Cooper Park ten of the elms planted a few years previous were removed as they did not seem to thrive in the soil in which they were planted. The old soil was taken out, the tree holes enlarged and filled with good mold, and oriental planes planted, staked and iron box guards put around them. The old trees were transplanted around the comfort station in Tompkins Square Park where there were vacant tree spaces. At the latter park there were also planted three new American elms and a silver linden.

At Stuyvesant Park nine elms were planted on the lawns.

At Herald Square two horsechestnuts were planted on the sidewalk to fill vacant spaces in the plantation. As the soil in these spaces was in poor condition, it was removed and fresh mold of good quality put in its place. At the Worth Monument one vacant place in the row of horsechestnuts around the monument was planted with a good tree of the same kind. Iron tree guards were put on the trees planted in both these parks.

At the small park at Grand street and East Broadway, sometimes called Oriental Park, several poor-looking trees were taken out and the sidewalk plantation put in good condition by the planting of four European lindens and three Norway maples with iron guards.

At Paradise Park opposite the Five Points Mission House a row of fourteen oriental planes was planted along the sidewalk, where trees had never been previously planted.

The sidewalk pavement had consequently to be taken up, holes excavated for the trees, the old soil carted away and good mold put in its place. Iron tree guards were put on these trees also.

At Greeley Square the completion of the work on the Hudson Tunnel Station under the park permitted the restoration of the park to its normal state. The statue of Horace Greeley which had been removed during the progress of the work, was restored to its original site by the contractors and the park itself regraded with good mold and sodded. Shrubbery beds were laid out on the corners of the park in which there were planted thirty *Lonicera morrowii*, seventy *Lingustrum regelianum* and nine *Amelanchier japonica*. A bed of *Rhododendron punctata* was planted in the center and along the sides, inside the fence surrounding the park, three silver maples, two sycamore maples and one oriental plane were planted. No trees were planted along the sidewalks on account of the great traffic at this point, one of the busiest spots in all New York.

In Washington Square Park fifty trees were planted; twenty-two oriental planes, six oaks, three lindens, three Norway maples, four bronze ash, four American ash, four liquidambars and four American elms. The planes were set out along the outer sidewalks of the park, to fill vacant spaces in the plantation. The other trees were planted at various points on the lawns of the park. The original plantation of this park consisted mostly of planes and there are many of the old trees still standing and in a fair state of preservation. Several of them were given special treatment during the year, all cavities in them being thoroughly cleaned and filled with cement. The old privet shrubs at the northeast corner of the park were removed and what were good of them used to fill out the plantation in front of the women's toilet building.

At Bowling Green Park one after another of the old trees planted before the days of the subways had died and were cut down until only one of the original lot remained. Since the construction of the subway directly beneath this park, frequent attempts have been made to restore the park to its original condition by the planting of trees in place of those removed. None of these attempts were successful as the trees died after a season or two. The cause was presumably the lack of sufficient soil and proper drainage on account of the proximity of the roof of the subway, and the continual vibration caused by passing trains in the subway which loosened the roots. Another try was made however this year. The drooping elms last planted were removed and eighteen trees of other varieties were planted. The lot consisted of seven oriental planes, three Norway maples, two red oaks, three American ash, three American lindens and two umbrella pines. A group of six *Rhododendron punctata* was planted on the lawn, and the lawns were spaded up, graded and resodded.

In connection with the Arbor Day exercises trees were planted at the following public schools, the entire work of excavating and preparing the tree holes, furnishing the mold, trees and iron guards having been done by the Park Department:

Public school, 168th street and Audubon avenue, three Norway maples,

Public school, Monroe street, two Norway maples,

Public school, East Broadway, one maple (Norway).

At the Delancey street parkway plots many of the Lombardy poplars planted the previous year died or had to be pruned so severely as to make them useless in those parks. They were accordingly removed and a new lot of selected trees of good size and appearance were planted in their places. In all, ninety-four trees were planted there, the best of the trees that were removed were taken to Battery Park for re-planting.

At Battery Park a row of fifty oriental plane trees were planted along the sea-wall walk, the trees being set back on the lawn so as to provide shade for the seats along the inner edge of the walk in time to come. Along the walk approach from Battery place to the Aquarium a double row of Lombardy poplars, 123 in all, were planted. On the lawn in front of the Aquarium two unsightly wooden structures

covering the filtration tanks were screened from view by plantations of flowering shrubs, and around the base of the Aquarium where previously tulips had been planted, annually with great loss on account of the northern exposure, a selection of the smaller flowering shrubs was planted instead of the usual bulbs. Four hundred and sixty-five shrubs in variety were used in this work.

At Chelsea Park twenty-six silver lindens were planted around the borders of the park section of the east end—the other end being given up entirely for baseball and other games—and a row of forty Lombardy poplars was planted to screen from view the unsightly bare wall of the public school building which stands in the center of the park. A privet hedge was planted along the fence on the easterly end of the park.

#### CARE OF PLANTATIONS.

The trees and shrubs in all the improved parks were given regular attention in season, in the matter of trimming out of deadwood, pruning, removal of insects and their cocoons, spraying, etc. In Central Park a great many dead trees were removed, especially among the old plantations of elms along the Mall and on the street sidewalks surrounding the park. These elms are among the oldest in the park and are rapidly dying off. More deadwood shows in them each year, necessitating such constant and severe pruning that the trees have lost their graceful outlines and present unsightly pictures. They should be replaced by a complete plantation of young trees set between the present trees and the old ones should be removed as fast as they reach the stage where too severe trimming is required.

The plantations of maples along the east drive in Central Park are in much the same condition, through the constant trimming. I believe it a better plan to remove a tree which requires such severe trimming that it presents a picture of sharp angles and abrupt endings of the main limbs, and plant a good tree in its place at once, than to keep on trimming out the deadwood each year and in the end have to remove the tree anyhow. The period of delay would allow a young tree, if planted at the first indication of general decay, sufficient growth to be a useful substitute for the old tree.

Particular attention was given to the newly planted trees and shrubs. Those planted in the spring were watered and cultivated frequently through the summer, while those planted in the fall were given a protecting mulch of manure for the winter.

The gardening force was not large enough to take proper care of the old plantations as well as the new. The total force of forty-five gardeners allowed by the Budget is not sufficient for the gardening needs of all the Manhattan parks. The same condition has held for years, repeated requests for an increased gardening force being denied. The plantations therefore have gone uncared for and have become overgrown and misshapen so that their removal becomes necessary. An adequate force of gardeners would go far to solve the problem of park regeneration, by preventing decay of the plantations through neglect.

#### STREET TREES.

In Manhattan the number of street trees is constantly diminishing as the old trees are dying and a large number are removed each year. Except in front of public schools, hospitals and other public institutions, the desire to maintain trees on the street in the business or residential sections is scarcely ever found; on the contrary, there is a constant demand from business houses and owners of hotels and apartments for the removal of existing trees, from the former on account of the trees obscuring the advertisement of the business from the passing public; from the latter because of the shutting off of light and air, or of the view. The only plantations of trees of any account to be found on the streets of the main borough are consequently to be found on the various parkway streets, as 72nd street, 86th street, 96th street, 110th

street, West End avenue, and the trees on the street sidewalks surrounding the parks. With these exceptions the only plantations worthy of note are the elms on Broadway from 59th street north of 157th street, Seventh and Lenox avenues from 110th street to the Harlem River and Fort Washington avenue for its entire length, about two and a quarter miles. The department has never planted trees along streets other than parkway streets. However, in the cases of Broadway, Seventh avenue, Lenox avenue and Fort Washington avenue, the planting was done by the city under contract in connection with the construction of these streets. There are several smaller plantations usually about one block in extent where the trees have been set out in the past by property owners. The principal of these are West 79th street, West 91st street, West 130th street, West 137th street, West 138th street and Edgecombe avenue from 141st street to 145th street. All of these trees, with the exception of those on West 79th street, are now taken care of by this department under Chapter 453, laws of 1902, which placed all trees on the public streets under the care of the Park Department. The trees on West 79th street are taken care of by an association of property owners along that street. All these trees were given regular attention during the year, being pruned, trimmed of deadwood, cleaned of insects and sprayed in due season. One hundred and twenty-six trees were planted during the year by property owners under the supervision of the department inspectors who saw to it that the department regulations as to size of the tree hole, quantity and quality of mold and size, kind and condition of trees, were complied with.

#### DRIVES AND BRIDLEPATHS.

The drives and bridlepaths in Central and Riverside Parks required the attention of a special force from early spring to the approach of freezing weather. The force at work averaged from thirty to forty men, three gasoline road rollers owned by the department, one hired steam roller and four to six teams of horses. These drives being of water-bound gravel construction cannot withstand the heavy strain of the present day high-speed automobile traffic and repairs last but a short time.

The surface of Riverside Drive was regraded in the spring and put in good condition for the Memorial Day parade. After Memorial Day the heavy automobile stages which operate along the drive soon cut the drive to pieces, again necessitating going over the work. At this time the asphalt binder, with which the three blocks of the drive from 72nd street to 75th street had been surfaced the previous August, having proven an improvement over the old oil sprinkled surface, the same material was spread over the entire drive. In the fall, the East Drive in Central Park was similarly treated from 59th street to McGown's Pass Tavern at 106th street. About 50,000 gallons of the asphalt binder, 2,500 cubic yards of sand and 7,500 cubic yards of gravel were used in this work. The other drives in Central Park and the Riverside Drive Extension from 135th street to 158th street were repaired frequently throughout the season and sprinkled with emulsified road oil to lay the dust. Five hundred barrels of road oil were used for this purpose during the year.

At the main entrance to Central Park at 59th street, Fifth avenue, a section of about 2,200 square feet of a patent process bituminous concrete pavement was laid under contract as an experiment to determine its desirability as a substitute for the present gravel roads in the parks. The work of excavating and removing the old roadway material to the sub-grades was done by the department labor force. About 2,500 cubic yards of gravel were removed and carted to the small lake at West 100th street in the park, where it was spread along the sides and bottom of the lake, the water having been previously drained off.

Four other experimental sections of roadway construction were laid in the fall, along the West Drive from 90th street to 96th street under similar contracts, the department force breaking up and removing the old gravel. The contractors to whom

the other two sections had been assigned declined the contracts after the roadway had been partly prepared for them and the department was obliged to resurface these sections with gravel, the work being done by the regular road repair force.

The speedway on the Harlem River was kept in condition for the speeding of light harness horses throughout the year although the number of such horses driven there has greatly decreased. The public also seems to have lost interest in this branch of sport and comparatively few visitors come to the speedway to watch the horses. The section below High Bridge was resurfaced with fresh clay loam of a special quality taken from the vicinity of the brickyards on the Hudson River near Newburgh.

The usual parade of the New York Road Drivers' Association was held May 6th. A fair sized crowd of visitors viewed the parade and the subsequent races. The wooden bulkhead supporting the driveway on the river side showed increased signs of decay and the section between High Bridge and Washington Bridge became so dangerous that barricades were erected to keep the public from using the adjoining walk, until the contemplated construction of the new concrete bulkhead can be started, plans for which have been prepared.

The bridlepaths in Central Park were kept in first-class condition for riding throughout the year, as the number of riders using them was large at all times of the year. During the summer when the bridlepaths were least used, they were resurfaced with fresh gravel, 2,000 yards of which were used for the purpose.

The number of riders using these roads showed a large increase in the past year and caused a renewal of the demand for a special bridlepath connection between Central and Riverside Parks.

#### CARE OF LAWNS.

Besides the special work of resoiling certain lawns in Central Park, the other lawns throughout the parks were given regular attention during the year. The use of two automobile lawn mowers greatly facilitated the work of keeping the Central Park lawns in good condition. Bare spots of lawns and borders throughout Central Park were resodded and a border of sod was laid around the new plantations in the lower end of the park. A total of 160,000 odd square feet of sod was laid in this park alone. The lawns in all of the downtown parks had become badly trampled and worn through excessive use the previous year and efforts were made to restore the more important of these by resodding.

At Washington Square nearly 100,000 square feet of sod were laid; at Stuyvesant Park about 40,000, the westerly or Rutherford half of the park being entirely resodded; Madison Square approximately 50,000, and Union Square 25,000. Low wire fences were put around all these lawns to prevent trespassing.

The principal lawns in Central Park were manured in the late fall with manure from the department pit. So also were the lawns along Riverside Drive, the two large lawns of Morningside Park, the Broadway parks as far as 110th street, and Washington Square. One thousand three hundred and two loads in all were delivered and spread. On account of the great quantity used in the Central Park resoiling, no manure was left for the smaller parks. Pulverized sheep manure was purchased for the lawns of these parks, and twenty-five tons of it were spread in the various parks by the department working force.

The work of constructing the second manure pit at the 97th street storage yard was begun in the fall, the department working force excavating the site of the pit. This work was suspended for the winter after approximately 2,000 cubic yards of material had been excavated and carted away and drainage trenches dug.

Arrangements were made in the spring to take the manure from the Durland Riding Academy, Squadron "A," N. G. N. Y., and certain stables of the Street Cleaning and Fire Departments, the department loading and carting the manure to its storage pit, where it is rotted. The total quantity received from each place was as follows:

Durland's, 793 truck loads;  
 Park Department Stables, 397 cart loads;  
 Park Police Stables, 85 cart loads;  
 Street Cleaning Department, 213 truck loads;  
 Fire Department, 85 truck loads;  
 Squadron "A," 133 cart loads;  
 Central Park Menagerie, 138 cart loads.

#### HORTICULTURE.

The Conservatory in Central Park at 106th street was maintained throughout the year, the houses being open to the public daily from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. The usual special floral displays were given at Easter, when azaleas, hyacinths, tulips, etc., were shown and the Chrysanthemum Show in the fall. One hundred and twenty odd thousand bedding plants for the summer flower beds in the various parks were propagated and distributed. The flower beds were cared for as usual, being planted with geraniums, coleus, etc., in summer, and tulips and other bulbs in fall. In Central Park there are many hardy herbaceous beds, especially along the borders of the drives. These were carefully attended during the year. At the West 106th street entrance to the park, 2,000 sedum or rock plants were planted on the rocky slopes on each side of the entrance stairway.

A supply of exotic water lilies of various colors were purchased and distributed in the large fountain basins at the Mall in Central Park, Union Square, Madison Square, Stuyvesant Park and Bowling Green, to give variety of color to the display in those fountains, where only one variety was shown. These lilies were taken up in the fall and sent to the conservatory to be stored for the winter, instead of being allowed to remain in the fountain protected by a covering of leaves as in previous years. The new method saves the time, trouble and expense necessary to haul the leaves from Central Park to the fountains at the approach of winter and their removal again in the spring.

Additional flower beds were laid out and planted at the Dock Department Park at West 23rd street; the Park Avenue Park between 58th street and 59th street; the park at Broadway between 70th and 71st streets; the Children's garden conducted by the National Highways Protective Association at 66th street, between First and Second avenues; and the grounds at the hospital tuberculosis boat *Westerfield*, opposite Corlears Hook Park; and Pleasant Plains, Staten Island.

Flowers and plants were furnished for decorations at the annual exhibition of drawings, etc., at Cooper Union, the dancing fête held on the Recreation Pier at 24th street, East River, and the Washington's Birthday celebration at Jumel Mansion. Flowers for classroom window boxes at public schools Nos. 12 and 188, the hospital boat *Westerfield*, St. Gabriel's School and for distribution by the National Flower and Fruit Guild at its annual distributions in the spring and fall.

Eight large bay trees were purchased and set out on the balcony over the front entrance of the City Hall Building for summer decorations. They were removed to the Central Park greenhouses in the fall for storage for the winter.

#### DEPARTMENT STABLES.

One hundred and three horses, owned by the department, were cared for during the year at the department stables at 86th street, Central Park and the Speedway stables at 175th street, High Bridge Park. The department shod its own horses, a special shoeing shop having been fixed up in the stables at 86th street to facilitate the work. Previously the horses had to be taken to outside blacksmith shops, quite a distance from the stable, with consequent loss of time of both horses and drivers.

Another improvement was the installation of an electric grooming machine which does the work of cleaning the horses better and much quicker than the stablemen could do it by hand.

Nine old horses which had become unfit for further service in the department on account of their poor physical condition were sent to the Health Department experimental station at Otisville, N. Y., for experimental purposes.

In winter, when required for snow removal in the parks in the lower end of the city for more than one day, the horses were stabled in private stables near the work, to avoid loss of time and the consequent hardship upon the horses in traveling to and from the department stables. The usual number of hired horses and carts were employed during the year for the work in parks remote from the department stables.

The department was represented in the Annual Work Horse Parade, held on Memorial Day. Three double teams and three single horses were entered in the class for horses owned by the city.

On account of the widening of the roadway of 42nd street by the city, fifteen feet of the park fronting that street was taken for the new sidewalk, and the trees planted there had to be removed. A few of them were of large size and could not be transplanted. Three or four of about six to eight inches in diameter were transplanted with the roots intact at points inside the new boundary line of the park where they were held secure by means of guy wires fastened to stout stakes set in the ground. The balance were mostly young trees set out within a year or two and were easily removed and transplanted at various points in Seward Park, Tompkins Square and Battery Park.

At the small park at West 23rd street, opposite the Pennsylvania Ferry, the department furnished and planted a number of trees and shrubs at the request of the Department of Docks and Ferries which controls that park. A flower bed was also laid out and planted, the Park Department furnishing the plants and a few loads of good mold for it. Mold was also furnished for the tree holes, as the soil of the plot was of a poor character.

A new flower bed was laid out and planted on the walk just south of McGown's Pass Tavern in Central Park.

The Park Avenue parks between 56th and 96th streets were improved by the planting of the large privet shrubs taken from Central Park in the general restoration, re-soiling and replanting of the lower section. The plot between 58th and 59th streets was spaded up, fertilized and regraded and seeded. All of the old overgrown and unsightly shrubbery was removed and star and crescent flower beds were laid out and planted.

The park plot on Broadway between 70th and 71st streets was similarly treated, a large circular flower bed being planted there. The plot between 66th and 67th streets where the grass was poor was also spaded up and reseeded. The sidewalk of the park at 137th street and Broadway was widened by the laying of an extra row of bluestone flagging, and a new sidewalk of bluestone flags was laid along the sidewalk at the lower end of St. Nicholas Park, between 128th and 130th streets, recently required for park use and hitherto unpared.

For the prevention of mosquitoes in Central Park the shores and coves of the Harlem Mere, the pool and the connecting drains were sprayed with petroleum, under the direction of an inspector from the City Health Department. The smaller streams in the Ramble and the drains through the park were also similarly treated.

The refreshment stand under the Brooklyn Bridge stairway at City Hall Park was torn down and carted away by the department workmen, the lessee, whose license had been revoked, having failed to remove it within a specified time. Another stand conducted by the same licensee at the North Meadow in Central Park was also razed.

The triangular plot of ground at Broadway, 166th to 167th streets, was turned over to the department during the year for park purposes. The plot, which consists largely

of rock above grade, was cleared of loose stones and rubbish and settees were placed along the sidewalks for the convenience of the public.

A smaller plot, at Kenmare street, which was also taken over for park purposes during the year was similarly treated.

The shore front of Fort Washington Park was cleaned up, and a lot of old crib-work in the cove to the south of Fort Washington Point was removed.

The Schiff fountain in the plaza opposite Seward Park was taken over from the Borough President for maintenance by this department. The fountain was cleared out and the ironwork and plumbing overhauled by the department, and a contract given for further alterations and repairs by outside labor.

Mould and sod were removed from the site of the National Maine Monument in Central Park, also some shrubbery and portions of the stone wall inclosing the park. The shrubs were transplanted to nearby plantations and the sod was used to resod the spaces around the trees on the 59th street sidewalk of the park. A large sign to inform the public of the construction of the monument was made and put upon the high board fence erected to inclose the site, also smaller signs directing people to the temporary entrances to be used during the progress of the work.

The sod and top soil were also removed from the site of the Firemen's Memorial in Riverside Park, and similar signs put up.

The mold and sod were used to fill tree holes and resod bare spots in the lawns in Riverside Park and the tree plots on West End avenue.

#### BATHS AND COMFORT STATIONS.

Toilet facilities are provided by the department for visitors to the parks by comfort stations located in all the principal parks and many of the smaller parks. Thirty-two such stations for men and thirty-three for women were conducted for the public convenience during the year. Those in the parks located in the crowded residential and business districts were kept open daily from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m.; the Union Square station was not closed until midnight, and the stations in Central Park and the outlying parks were open for use from 8 a. m. until dark.

The old building formerly situated on the west shore of the large lake in Central Park was removed to the playground at Jasper Oval and set up there as a Field House.

The new station at Chelsea Park was completed and opened for public use in May, and the stations in the playground buildings at the East 101st street ground and at Five Points playground were also opened for the use of women and children.

Two new toilet buildings, one for men and the other for women, were completed at Bryant Park in connection with the new Public Library Building, and opened for public use during the summer. The old frame toilet building which provided accommodations for women only was abandoned and removed to Columbus Park.

The baths at De Witt Clinton, Thomas Jefferson and Seward Parks were maintained throughout the year, being open for public use daily from 6 a. m. to 11 p. m., the later closing hour being set to permit the athletes who use the running tracks at these grounds, which were kept open until 10 o'clock, to take a bath after their exercise.

#### PLAYGROUNDS.

During 1911 the playgrounds of the department were maintained in coöperation with the Bureau of Recreation of the department. The working force under the Superintendent's direction cleaned the grounds, put up the swings and other portable apparatus daily at the opening hour and removed them at closing time. The apparatus was kept in repair and the playground buildings and structures in many of the grounds were overhauled and painted. Quantities of small supplies such as rope rings, swings,

jump ropes, baseball bases, ring toss boards, pursuit pins, blocks, etc., were made at the department workshops and distributed to the various playgrounds. Tents were erected on the playgrounds at Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, Jackson Square and Ryan Park for the summer season and removed and stored in the fall. Special laborers were detailed to guard these tents during the night as they were torn down by the boys and young men of the neighborhoods when left unwatched.

Sand pits were dug and maintained in the following parks during the year: Schuyler Park, Morningside Park, 2, Riverside Drive at 135th street, Colonial Park, small park at 155th street and St. Nicholas avenue, Stuyvesant Park, Mt. Morris Park, Battery Park.

Basketball courts were laid out and goal standards were made and put up at Broadway and 184th street. These plots had only recently been filled in and considerable grading and clearing away of stones, etc., was necessary to put them in condition for use. The three vacant plots adjoining Jasper Field were also graded with earth fill under permits issued by the department, and baseball backstops were erected on them. Backstops were also erected at Bennett Field and at the following grounds: Jefferson Park playground, Chelsea Park, Tompkins Square, 79th street, Riverside Park, two, Riverside at 96th street, the last two being located on the reclaimed land along the Riverside water front for baseball fields for boys, and at 174th street High Bridge Park, where the baseball field was secured by filling up a deep depression in the park, with earth dumped by building contractors under department permits.

Basketball courts were laid out and goal standards were made and put up at the following grounds: Jefferson Park, two sets; De Witt Clinton Park, Columbus Park, West 59th street playground, two sets, Chelsea Park, two sets, Hamilton Fish Park.

Soccer football goal posts were erected at Chelsea Park and Jasper Field.

New flagpoles were put up on the playgrounds at Hamilton Fish Park, the small park at 17th street, East River, Colonial Park and De Witt Clinton.

Portable slides were delivered to and erected as follows: Battery Park, Corlears Hook Park, two, Seward Park, Hamilton Fish Park, Tompkins Square, St. Gabriel's Park, Carl Schurz Park, two, Chelsea Park, two.

The playgrounds were oiled with emulsified road oil to lay the dust, the applications being repeated as often as necessary through the summer.

In addition to the routine ordinary repair of apparatus, structures, etc., field houses were erected by the department workmen at Jasper Field, Columbus Park, and Ryan Park. These buildings were old comfort station buildings formerly located in other parks and no longer required for such use. The one erected at Jasper Field was taken from its old location at 77th street in Central Park on the west shore of the lake; that at Columbus Park was formerly used as a comfort station in Bryant Park and was abandoned upon the completion of the new granite toilet buildings erected at the west end of the grounds of the New York Public Library in that park. Both buildings were cut into sections and moved on special trucks to the new sites, where they were put together again and set up on brick piers. The house at Ryan Park was formerly used as a police shelter and gate box at the entrance to Central Park at 60th street and Eighth avenue.

A hockey field was laid out on the large lawn west of the Circle Drive on the hill-top at West 106th street in Central Park for the use of the girls of the city high schools. Goals were put up and a toolbox furnished them for the storage of their hockey sticks, etc.

The tennis house at the North Meadow, Central Park, was cleaned out, all the old unclaimed nets and other paraphernalia stored there for the tennis players was removed to the department storage yard and the interior of the building was fitted up with storage racks and other facilities for the proper handling of property of the public

using the courts. A checking system was also installed, similar to that installed previously at the lower tennis grounds in Central Park.

The lower courts were opened to the public on May 30th and were kept open daily from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m. up to Thanksgiving Day whenever the grounds were in fit condition for use. The upper or North Meadow courts were opened on the same date but were closed about September 1st, when the work of resoiling the Meadow was begun.

A handball court was constructed at Chelsea Park on the playground to the west of the school building. The floor of the court is of concrete, the court lines being marked out in cement of a different color from the floor itself. The wall of the court is yellow pine flooring, and is fifteen feet high. The court itself is twenty-five feet wide and forty feet long. It was completed late in October and proved a very popular attraction.

At Jackson Square the high mound of earth forming the center plot was cut down to grade and covered with gravel for use as a playground. A sand pit was also dug and filled with sand for the children to play in.

At De Witt Clinton Park the seesaws in the girls' playground and the playground for small boys were taken apart and rebuilt in a new location to provide additional space for the children's play.

The plot at Lewis and Cannon streets, under the approach to the Williamsburgh Bridge, was cleared of rubbish, stones, etc., for use as a playground.

In High Bridge Park, at about 170th street, a playground was established. The ground was cleared of stones and rubbish and some dead trees removed. Swing frames for sixteen baby swings and six large swings were erected and swings provided for them. Later a set of eight Kindergarten swings on a portable frame was added. An old two-story frame dwelling nearby was cleaned out, necessary repairs were made and some plain tables and chairs furnished for the use of boys' clubs in the vicinity of the park.

The plot at Amsterdam avenue, between 151st and 152nd streets, was improved for use as a playground. As soon as the old buildings which occupied the property had been razed, the foundations were filled in with earth fill dumped under permits issued to contractors. The surface was then leveled, a fence erected around the ground, swings were put up and the plot opened as a temporary playground during the summer. One old dwelling, a two-story frame building, was left standing in a corner of the ground. This was cleaned out, repaired and fitted up as a field house and a playground in bad weather.

At Fort Washington Park an old stone dwelling, latterly in use as a headquarters and office of the engineering force at work on the Riverside Drive extension, was overhauled, put in good repair and given over to the use of the Working Girls' Association for the summer.

The old Gracie Mansion at Carl Schurz Park was also overhauled and fitted up for similar use. The rooms on the ground floor were cleaned and painted, the large room being decorated for use as an assembly room by various working girls' clubs organized among the girls of the neighborhood. Dances were given in the assembly room by the girls throughout the winter, the department furnishing light and heat and attendants.

One of the other large rooms on this floor was fitted up as a workshop for boys under the direction of a public spirited lady who organized the boys and directed them in the manufacture of various articles of furniture, etc., from old packing boxes.

The Crippled Children's Driving Fund, a philanthropic organization devoted to the use its name implies, was given permission to use a room in the Swedish schoolhouse in Central Park as a rest room for the children. One of the rooms on the ground floor was cleaned up and fitted out with tables and chairs for their use.

The Children's School Garden at Hudson Park was laid out, the ground spaded up and manured and the plots divided off, raked and graded.

## SKATING.

During 1911 there were only four days of skating on the Central Park lakes; January 1st, 18th, 19th and 20th. There was no skating in the latter part of the year, commencing the winter season of 1911-12.

At Silver Lake Park there was one additional day of skating—January 21st.

## SPECIAL MAINTENANCE WORK.

The slopes and lawns around the new Belvidere Comfort Station on the west side of Central Park about 80th street were regraded and a three-rail pipe fence erected along the westerly side of the walk in front of the building.

The steep bank to the south of the new comfort station opposite Grant's Tomb was regraded to a gentle slope and sodded, and pipe rail fences erected to protect the plots surrounding the building.

The bottom of the west end of the Harlem Mere was cleared of some of the mud containing the roots of the lilies which cover that position of the lake in summer so thickly that boating is practically impossible. The work was done in the winter season when the mud could be easily handled. In all, about 420 loads were removed. The lily pond at 110th street and Seventh avenue was also cleaned in the same way.

Settees were placed around the paved triangular space at 115th street, Seventh avenue, for the convenience of the residents of the neighborhood.

Ten settees and a toolbox were delivered to the playground of the National Highways Protective Association at 69th street and Second avenue and also to the school garden at 66th street and Second avenue for use during the summer, and were removed when the grounds were closed in the fall.

Loam for window flower boxes and school gardens was delivered to the following public schools: Nos. 64, 166, 12, 1, 15, 14, 77G, 77B, 177.

## SCHOOL FARMS.

The usual flower beds were planted in the school farms at De Witt Clinton and a large circular flower bed in the center of the new garden at Thomas Jefferson Park. The plots were manured and spaded up preparatory to the planting by the children.

The field house removed from John Jay Park to the Jefferson Park garden was placed on brick piers and fitted up for the use of the teachers and children. A water supply system for watering the plots and also a drainage system for the garden were installed. A small observation stand was put up in the center of the garden, and a bandstand erected for the opening celebration. Wire mesh was put on the pipe fences surrounding the garden and a privet hedge planted along the outer edge.

At De Witt Clinton Park garden the spaces around the water hydrants were paved with asphalt blocks. The paths were resurfaced with fine gravel.

## WORK OF THE MECHANICAL FORCE.

A force of mechanics consisting of 22 carpenters, 20 painters, 5 plumbers, 5 masons, 5 blacksmiths, 3 housesmiths, 1 machinist, 1 pipe fitter, 1 rigger, 1 electrician, 3 wheelwrights, 2 tinsmiths, 2 harnessmakers, 3 engineers, 5 blacksmiths' helpers, 2 machinists' helpers, 2 plumbers' helpers, was engaged throughout the year in the repair and renewal of the various buildings, structures, tools and apparatus belonging to the department.

With the large increase in the number of playgrounds and the increased attendance in all the grounds, the apparatus and structures require constant repairs and renewals, and a large part of the time of the mechanical force was devoted to playground work

principally, leaving an insufficient force for the necessary upkeep of the other branches of the department.

Besides the playground work already referred to a vast amount of work was done by the mechanical force, some of the principal items of which are given herewith.

The skate houses at the large lake, and the 110th street lake in Central Park were removed at the close of the winter season of 1910-11 and put up again at the approach of the following winter season.

The comfort station buildings at West 77th street in Central Park and at Bryant Park were taken apart and removed to other parks, the former to Jasper Field Playground, the latter to Columbus Park, where they were put together and necessary alterations made to fit them up for use as field houses.

The playground pavilion at John Jay Park was similarly removed to the children's school farm at Thomas Jefferson Park, where it was fitted up as a headquarters for the children and attendants.

The open iron pavilion at Columbus Circle was removed from the site of the Maine Monument and put up among the trees on the promontory on the west side of the large lake in Central Park.

At Mt. Morris Park the old bell tower was extensively overhauled and repaired and a concrete floor laid in connection with the installation of the new automatic striking apparatus.

The men's toilet room in the basement of the Gracie Mansion at Carl Schurz Park was entirely remodeled. The obsolete plumbing equipment was taken out, modern plumbing installed and a concrete floor laid. In the boiler room, a concrete pit was constructed for the new boiler, put in to furnish heat for the club rooms which were fitted up on the main floor. Drainage trenches of concrete were also put in to drain the pit and the areaway outside the building.

A system of drainage trenches was constructed in the cellar of the Conservatory, Central Park, and a cellar drainer put in to take the water which lodged in the cellar after a storm.

Two rubbish pits of concrete construction with iron trap doors were put in at Jefferson Park.

At the small park, 129th street and Third avenue, three-rail pipe fences were erected around the plots inside the park and the sidewalk curb and flagging was reset.

At Hamilton Fish Park the baths in the cellar of the main pavilion were enclosed with concrete partitions to keep the water from flooding the floor, and new floor drains were put in.

In the original construction of the building no provision was made for taking all the water from the baths and the floor was flooded every time the baths were used. They were consequently closed until the new arrangement was completed this year, when they were again put in service.

The indoor gymnasiums on the main floor of the building were cleaned up and painted for the opening of the winter season.

At De Witt Clinton Park extensive alterations were made in the basement of the pavilion, by which additional space was obtained for the storage of coal for the baths, and for its more convenient handling by the stokers; also providing a room for the storage of tools, etc., for the gardening force in the downtown parks.

The drain at the entrance to the Pergola building was rebuilt and new connections made from it to the sewer.

The old open iron urinal at Jeannette Park was removed, the trench filled and graded and a hydrant connection put in.

The dilapidated wire fences around the plots in Rutgers Park were removed and the plots, which were totally devoid of grass, made available for a playground for children.

At Tompkins Square Park the crossing along the park sidewalk on Avenue A was raised to meet the new pavement of the roadway which was laid at a higher grade than the old pavement. In consequence, the water lodged in the sidewalk space along that side of the park.

The men's toilet room at Columbus Park was altered extensively to provide increased toilet facilities for the public.

The foundations of the old comfort station at Bryant Park were roofed over and fitted up for use as a toolroom for the department working force in that section.

Quite extensive repairs were made to the Milk Booth at Tompkins Square Park.

Stands were erected for the various celebrations in the parks during the year: the Folk Dancing festival of the Girls' Branch P. S. A. L. in Central Park; the concert of the German Singing Societies on the Mall, Central Park; the planting of the Leisler trees, in City Hall Park; the unveiling of the Bryant statue, at the New York Public Library; also portable bandstands for the concert season at Bryant Park, Chelsea Park, Staten Island parks, and extra stands at various parks in connection with the city celebration of Independence Day.

The steel flagpole on the hill back of Grant's Tomb was blown down by the heavy wind accompanying a severe storm. A temporary wood mast was erected for Memorial Day. The steel pole was repaired and strengthened and reset in a heavy reinforced concrete foundation, the work being completed in time for the display of the large flag on the occasion of the United States fleet's visit in the fall.

The large flagpole at Jumel Mansion was shattered by lightning during one of the summer storms. About ten feet of the main pole had to be cut off and a section of the topmast. The original height of the pole was so great, however, that the section removed made very little difference in its appearance.

For the Budget Exhibit a moving picture machine run by electricity was constructed at the department workshops. The machine was approximately ten feet square, built of quartered oak, highly ornamented with hand carving, and was arranged to show photographs of the department work, on a moving belt containing 200 odd pictures.

The arches over the four transverse traffic roads which run underneath the grade of the park from east to west were cleaned and whitewashed, the lime being applied by spraying with the department tree spraying machines. This method proved quick and effective and a great saving of time and money to the department.

The rustic arbors at 72nd street and the West Drive in Central Park were entirely reconstructed, the old posts having rotted badly at the base. The new arbor was constructed back of the line of the walk on each side, leaving a greater space for the passage of visitors through the arbor. The posts were set in concrete.

Four baby carriage runways, aggregating 142 feet in length, were built in High Bridge Park to provide easy access for mothers and children from Amsterdam avenue to the slopes of the park and to the walk around the city reservoir adjoining the park.

The oak bridge at 77th street, Central Park, at the head of the large lake was re-floored, and a new floor was also laid on Bridge 29 in the upper end of the park.

The iron pipe railings around the tree plots along the easterly sidewalk of St. Nicholas park were removed, also the railings around the tree plots on 110th street along the Central Park sidewalk.

A permanent band stand was erected at Colonial Park, and a stairway approach was built to Edgecombe avenue at the top of the hill at 150th street.

A flight of steps was built at 130th street in St. Nicholas Park to the top of the hill for the convenience of the people living west of the park who had to cross the park to get to the L roads.

A new floor was laid on the bridge over the railroad cut through Fort Washington Park.

The squirrel houses throughout Central Park were taken down, cleaned out and repaired and put back again in the trees. Fifty-five additional houses were made and put up in the trees in the Ramble section and around the woods in the north end of the park.

Extensive alterations were made at the department office building to provide a better arrangement of the offices and additional office room, especially on the second floor where a considerable floor space was taken up with storage rooms. A shelter was built on the roof of the building for the new instruments installed by the United States Weather Bureau and electric connections were installed for the instruments.

At the 97th street storage yard in Central Park a section of the sheds was inclosed for use as a shop for the storage and repair of the road rollers, lawn mowers, etc.

At the department workshops, 86th street, Central Park, a storeroom was built with all necessary bins, shelving, etc., for the convenient handling of the stock. Other alterations were also made to secure more floor space for working.

The lawn mowers were maintained in good order throughout the season by the manufacturers under contract.

In addition to the foregoing special work, the general routine repair and equipment was carried on throughout the year. Buildings and structures repaired and painted:

#### EXTERIOR.

Dairy, Central Park.  
 Toolhouse, St. Nicholas Park.  
 Toolhouse, Washington Park.  
 Boathouse, Conservatory Lake.  
 Grandstand, The Speedway.  
 Skate house, large lake, Central Park. Roller sheds, 97th street yard, Central Park.  
 Casino Sheds, Central Park.  
 Toolhouse, Morningside Park.  
 Music stand, Washington Square.  
 Comfort station, Union Square.  
 Comfort station, Madison Square.  
 Weather Observatory, Central Park.  
 Milk booth, Tompkins Square.  
 Music stand, Tompkins Square.

#### INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR.

Comfort station, North Meadow, Central Park.  
 Field House, Jasper Field Playground.  
 Farm School building, Jefferson Park.  
 Pelician House, Menagerie.  
 Police Shelter, Fifth avenue, 90th street, Central Park.  
 Toolhouse, 143d street, Riverside Park.  
 Shelter house, Ryan Park.  
 Pavilion and Shelter, Girls' Playground, St. Gabriel Park.

#### INTERIOR.

Pergola building, Children's School Farm, De Witt Clinton Park.  
 Storeroom and toilet room, Department workshops.  
 Toolroom, Mt. Morris Park.  
 Department offices, 1st and 2d floors of Arsenal building.  
 Automobile room and coach house, 86th street stables.  
 Men's toilet building, Hudson Park.  
 Toilet rooms, Carl Schurz Park.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Roof of Monkey House.  
 Roof of Deer House.  
 Skylights, Lion House.  
 Pergola roof, Hamilton Fish Park.  
 Roof of Tennis House, lower tennis grounds, Central Park.  
 204 pieces of rolling stock.  
 347 rubbish cans.  
 1,303 settees.  
 169 drinking hydrants.  
 708 iron tree guards.  
 850 feet single-rail pipe fence.  
 12,718 feet two-rail pipe fence.  
 16,113 feet three-rail pipe fence.  
 355 feet galv. iron leaders.  
 234 pieces playground apparatus.  
 17 toolboxes.  
 261 signs (painted two sides).  
 341 signs (painted one side).  
 Glazed 543 lights of glass.

At the department greenhouses the following work was done by the mechanics:

## GREENHOUSES.

Painted (shaded and removed shade on all houses, also gutters).  
 Painted exterior of propagating houses.  
 Painted, removed and replaced 8,000 square feet of screens.  
 Painted ventilators and tables, south growing house.  
 Painted roof and inside uprights, south show house.  
 Painted tables, north propagating house.  
 Painted tables, south propagating house.  
 Painted tables, new palm house, outside, 2 coats.  
 Painted roof, tropical house.  
 Painted roof, north show and south show houses.  
 Painted roof, fern house.  
 Painted roof, orchid house, walls and ceiling, in office, sheds and benches.  
 Painted roof, stove house.  
 Painted cactus house office, potting sheds, and benches, walls, ceiling, boilers, steam mains, hot water tank, and stairway.  
 Painted 1,080 tables.  
 Painted 36 tubs.  
 Painted 18 stands.  
 Painted 3 ladders.  
 Painted 30 hand and wheel barrows.  
 Painted 600 square feet picket fence.  
 Painted 262 bed sash.  
 Glazed 1,071 lights in houses and bed sash.  
 Reglazed 359 lights in houses and bed sash.

A flagpole was erected at Washington Park, Stapleton, Borough of Richmond, by the Junior Order of American Mechanics and presented to the department.

The old frame hotel building at Silver Lake Park, which was in a dangerous condition when the city acquired the property, was torn down and the site of the building cleaned up.

In the Borough of Richmond the parks were cleared of dead trees. Forty-three fine chestnut trees, killed by the blight, which attacked the trees of that species all over the state, were cut down and burned. Four dead elms and two maples were removed from Washington Park at Stapleton; six dead trees were removed from Westerleigh Park and the park cleared of underbrush.

One hundred and six dead or dangerous trees were cut down and removed from the streets during the year, 352 were pruned and trimmed, 82 trees were removed by property owners under permits issued by the department, 91 were trimmed and 73 planted. Seven hundred and sixty-five trees were trimmed by the New York Telephone Company, 378 by the Telegraph Bureau of the N. Y. Fire Department, and 205 by the Richmond Light and Power Company under department permits, to clear the lines of the respective corporations. All work under permits was supervised by a representative of this department.

The foregoing work covered practically the entire area of Staten Island, and the work of the department was largely confined to taking care of complaints of police and property owners in regard to the condition of trees on the street.

Late in the fall of 1910 sod was removed and preparation of the ground begun on a two-acre space in Thomas Jefferson Park, 114th street and East River, for a children's school farm. In the spring of 1911 further preparation of the ground was made, wire placed on fences and everything prepared as far as possible for the planting in May.

The garden is approximately 457 feet north and south, 234 feet east and west, containing two acres of ground surrounded by a three foot high fence, situated at the extreme easterly end of Thomas Jefferson Park, an asphalt park walk between it and the river.

This garden was laid out to accommodate 1,017 children with individual plots, 4 by 8 feet in size. There were fifty-eight observation plots, containing varieties of flowers, vegetables and industrial crops, to afford the children an opportunity to become familiar with the products described in their school work. The plan accommodated an equal number of boys and girls, ninety per cent. Italians.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PLOTS.

The garden was made ready too late to enable the Director to become individually acquainted with the children of the neighborhood and to have the children register their names for plots, as has been the custom in De Witt Clinton Park, so it was deemed wise to divide the plots between the schools of the neighborhood, public, parochial and industrial, giving the largest number to the nearest schools.

#### PLANTING.

To plant a garden of such a size in a short time, in order that the crops might grow in a uniform manner, was quite a problem. It was finally decided to make the planting day of this new garden the opening day and do it all at once, with 1,008 children. Saturday, the twentieth of May, was selected because of the necessity of having a large number of volunteer helpers. Eighty-five volunteer helpers were secured, consisting of teachers from the public schools and students from the Teachers' Training School on 120th street. Ten experienced teachers, who had been in the work, were selected to give the model planting lesson. These ten were to give the planting lesson simultaneously in ten different sections of the garden to one hundred children at a time, each having ten volunteer assistants to guide the children in their planting, making one thousand in all.

The children arrived on schedule time, 12:30, marching to the space opposite the garden, girls to the right, boys to the left, as they entered the gate; the volunteer

assistants keeping them in order until the signal was given for them to march into the garden for the planting lesson. This signal sounded on the minute of one o'clock. These children were total strangers, as were the volunteer helpers. They had never seen a planting given on these methods before. The Director's son, Mr. Henry Griscom Parsons, took charge of this part of the work, standing on a raised platform in the center of the garden, using a megaphone when necessary for directing.

To the amazement of those who had been doing the work for ten years and had conducted many speedy plantings with large groups of children, this gigantic undertaking, 1,008 children planting 1,008 plots, with seven different vegetables in each plot, was completed in one hour and a quarter. The work being finished, all marched out in the most orderly fashion and dispersed to their homes, leaving this section of the park quiet and peaceful in its spring sunshine, as if nothing unusual had taken place. When the vegetables began to show above ground, it was interesting to note how few mistakes had been made, proving conclusively that, if an object lesson is given in an effective manner, with very few words, allowing no time to elapse between the lesson and the child's carrying it out, the child responds with accuracy.

On the planting day, May 20th, four regular attendants were on the pay roll of the Thomas Jefferson Park Children's School Farm. Three of the attendants from the DeWitt Clinton Park Garden assisted in this planting, making seven of the regular employees and eighty-five volunteer assistants.

During the summer, from May 20th to September 11th, five thousand children were accommodated in the garden with individual plots. This would be too large a number for a well-established garden, as it represents many transfers. The newness of the garden attracted the children sometimes for a few days without their parents being aware of what they were doing, when they were soon hustled back to the feather or candy factory to bend over their weary tasks for long hours at a time. Toward the end of the season some of the children, whose duty it was to crochet lace, were induced to bring their work into the garden. During the garden's second season, in 1912, it is hoped that the parents will realize the benefit to their children of being in the fresh air and allow them to bring their work to the garden.

#### FLOWER BED.

In the center of the garden a space 42 by 25 feet had been set aside for a flower bed. Each teacher selected a few careful children to assist, and in the most orderly fashion this bed was planted one afternoon. Such a delicate piece of landscape architecture and planting could not be done with large groups of children. The plants were delivered in quantity in the space opposite the garden, several hundred feet distant. The children never wearied of bringing wheelbarrows full of the variety of plants desired in the manner directed. They were eager to do the work properly, and, although very tired, were joyously happy over the result, as were the teachers. As the flowers in this bed grew through the summer to glorious perfection, it made a vivid impression upon the children's minds to see the results of their work.

#### TOOL HOUSE.

A house, 14 by 25 feet, no longer needed in John Jay Park, was cut in three sections and transported on three trucks to Thomas Jefferson Park and there put in place for a tool house to accommodate the rakes, hoes, wheelbarrows, watering cans, etc. A small piazza was added on which were placed seats and a runway instead of steps, to facilitate taking in and out the tools.

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

A portable house, 14 by 20 feet, was placed twenty-six feet to the west of the tool house on the land to the north of the garden, as an executive office. Connecting this office with the tool house was a platform sixty feet long, twenty-three feet wide,

with a fence to the north nine feet high, acting as a wind-brake; an adjustable awning for a roof. This platform was intended to be used for invalids needing quiet, sunshine and fresh air during the winter months, but, as there was no adequate accommodation for teachers and the demonstration work, it was necessary to use this platform for that purpose. The original plan was to have had a farm house 80 feet long, 20 feet wide, with a piazza 20 feet wide, with an adjustable roof, to be used for household industries for the children in the summer and for invalids and a fresh air school in the winter. It is hoped that this house will be built in 1912.

#### VISITING CLASSES.

After schools opened in the fall, with the coöperation of the Board of Education, twenty public schools in districts 16, 17, and 20 used the garden as a nature study laboratory, 400 children an hour for three hours a day, five days a week, visited the garden with their teachers, the School Farm Attendants giving the lessons and explaining the observation plots. As an example of the method used, four flags were placed in four different sections of the garden. As the children entered the gate a school farm attendant, each with one hundred children following, marched to a flag, forming a hollow square with these one hundred children. A stalk of corn was held aloft, the teacher describing its various parts, the family it belongs to and where Columbus first found it on his reaching America. After this concise description, the children were told to scatter and find for themselves the things described in the plots nearby. At the sound of a whistle they flew back to their places, and, as the teacher held aloft the stalk of corn and pointed to each part, her children in unison named them, thus a concise, clear, practical lesson was given in a very few minutes. The children were then marched, two by two, down the main path and around the observation plots, upon which had previously been placed large signs describing the product of each plot, and on a chair near the plot was placed the sprouted seed, raw material and the finished product. The location of this garden making it possible to add a lesson in physical geography, the children were then marched outside the gate to the river front, where they received a lesson on the tides of the East River and Little Hell Gate. Maps had been secured from the Interboro Railway Co. for the use of the teachers, and this section outlined and pasted on a cardboard. Although these children had lived right in this section for many years, and this was part of their geography work, this method had not been used before to forcibly bring home the real thing to their minds. In order to make all these lessons effective, nature study material was furnished to the schools to aid the teacher in carrying on the lessons day by day in the class room. The courtesy of the garden was also extended to three parochial schools in the neighborhood and one industrial school, and the same method carried out in teaching them.

The privilege of this garden is extended to the schools in the same manner as the American Museum of Natural History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Botanical Gardens extend the courtesy of their grounds and buildings. While adults are not allowed to touch the children's plots, they are welcome as visitors at all times that the garden is open.

#### PATH MAKING.

In the middle of August, after the second planting, many little farmers having made the garden a beautiful weedless picture, some vigorous work was needed to keep them busy and employ their overflowing animal spirits. The large paths intersecting the garden north and south and east and west had not been filled. With the coöperation of the gas company, ashes were furnished. The scenes that ensued would have converted the most pessimistic disbeliever into an optimist, as to children's love of work and their willingness to obey under right conditions. The ashes were dumped

just outside of the garden railing in order that all children who desired, regardless of age and plot ownership, might have an opportunity to sift ashes and load wheelbarrows. Only those with proper credentials were allowed to wheel the ashes into the garden. The eagerness with which these children took hold of this part of the work amazed everyone. An overheated boy or girl, made to sit still for a few minutes, felt it to be an absolute punishment.

The care of the paths, if properly taught, is the foundation of good road making on a larger scale. Each individual plot owner is expected to care for the narrow path surrounding his plot, but all of the individual plot owners give their services toward keeping the wide paths intersecting and surrounding the garden in order. This teaches the duty of the individual property owner and the duty of citizenship in the community, just as the farmer in the country might give his service or money toward keeping the community roads in order.

#### GANGS.

There were six of the most notorious gangs in the neighborhood among the farmers. These gangs were given to understand that their animosity toward each other and their love of mischief could not be exercised in the garden. To insure peace a gang treaty was drawn up which all the leaders and their sub-officers were requested to sign. Only five out of the sixteen broke their pledge and these were boys who were lawless in the extreme and who refused to go to school or follow any right line of action.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL.

In this Italian neighborhood for three days in the month of July is held the Celebration of the Lady of Mount Carmel. Italians come not only from all portions of this country, but from Italy, to attend this celebration and meet with relatives whom they may not have seen for years. Between 25,000 and 30,000 people congregate for this celebration within a radius of a few blocks. The space on which this garden was established had previously been a green lawn and used by these Italians as sleeping quarters during the three days of celebration. Everyone in the neighborhood predicted that this garden would be utterly destroyed during this time. The director remained one night until twelve o'clock in order to note the attitude of this large concourse of people. A large balloon, part of the fireworks scheme, landed in the garden. Several boys with the utmost care extricated this balloon from the garden without endangering anything and returned it to those in charge of the fireworks. During those three days not one act of vandalism occurred in the garden. No better proof could have been furnished that it is possible to educate the masses in caring for public property and respecting the rights of others. The falsity of the prophecy was proved that nothing could be made to grow in that soil and, if it did, it would not remain there over night.

#### CROPS.

The crops were about the same as those in the DeWitt Clinton Park garden.

Samples of some of the products were exhibited at the American Hospital Association Conference and Exhibits, Pure Food and Domestic Science Exposition, Budget Exhibit, and the American Land and Irrigating Exposition.

<i>Number of Children Having Individual Plots.</i>	
<b>Boys—</b>	
Children having 1 individual plot.....	1,286
Children having a second plot.....	43
Transfers, for various reasons.....	897
<b>Girls—</b>	
Children having 1 individual plot.....	1,070
Children having a second plot.....	58
Transfers, for various reasons.....	730

*Community Plots.*

Four plots assigned to classes:			
Kindergarten, Public School 159.....	58 children		
Kindergarten, Public School 78.....	37 children		
Kindergarten, Public School 163.....	33 children		
Kindergarten, Public School 57.....	40 children	168	4,252

Planting Day, May 20, 1911.

Daily attendance averaged 25 per cent.

*Visiting Classes.*

From September 20 to October 17:

400 children an hour, 3 hours a day.

	Number of children
<b>Public School children:</b>	
From schools in 16th, 17th and 20th Districts.....	16,311
<b>Kindergarten children:</b>	
From schools in 16th, 17th and 20th Districts.....	638
<b>Training School students:</b>	
From New York Training School for Teachers.....	205
<b>Parochial School children:</b>	
Mount Carmel School.....	192
<b>Industrial School children:</b>	
Industrial School No. 11.....	242
Rhineland Crippled School.....	16
	17,604

*Schools and Colleges Visiting Garden.*

21,856

<b>Training School for Teachers, On Planting Day.....</b>	60 pupils
In October.....	205 pupils
New York University Summer School.....	10 pupils
Columbia University Summer School.....	40 pupils

NATURE MATERIAL SUPPLIED TO THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

- Public School No. 83, 109th and 110th streets, east of Third avenue.
- Public School No. 85, First avenue and 117th street.
- Public School No. 121, 227 East 102d street.
- Public School No. 37, 113 East 87th street.
- Public School No. 171, 103d and 104th streets, east of Fifth avenue.
- Public School No. 30, 230 East 88th street.
- Public School No. 168, 105th street, between First and Second avenues.
- Public School No. 103, 119th street and Madison avenue.
- Public School No. 151, 91st street and First avenue.
- Public School No. 101, Lexington avenue and 111th street.
- Parochial School (Mount Carmel), 115th street.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

*Corporate Stock Funds (for Permanent Improvements and Betterments).*

Title of Appropriation.	Unexpended Balance, Jan. 1, 1911, and Authoriza- tions and Premiums during 1911.	Expended in 1911.	Outstanding Liabilities, Dec. 30, 1911.	Unen- cumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
American Museum of Natural History, equipping, finishing and construction of additions thereto.	\$974.62	\$856.23	.....	\$118.39
Furnishing and equipping.....	62,243.57	59,640.17	\$2,064.77	538.63
Construction of foundation for southeast wing and court building and architect's fees for entire work.....	*200,000.00	494.81	.....	199,505.19
Equipment and construction of permanent improvements.....	*75,000.00	1,534.65	1,931.66	71,533.69
Aquarium building in Battery Park, improvement of, Borough of Manhattan.....	344.50	.....	.....	344.50
Cathedral Parkway, between 5th and 7th avenues, Borough of Manhattan, widening and improvement of.....	10,788.27	.....	.....	10,788.27
Construction and equipment of playgrounds in Central Park....	1,009.11	950.00	.....	59.11
Completion of storage yard and manure pit in Central Park....	30,015.48	2,834.43	24,650.00	2,531.05
Construction of a comfort station in Madison Square Park, Borough of Manhattan.....	420.60	.....	324.91	95.69
Construction of improved toilet facilities in City parks and rebuilding Bank Rock Bridge in Central Park, Borough of Manhattan...	3,113.77	54.17	.....	3,059.60
Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, plans and specifications for permanent improvements.....	*5,059.40	614.50	.....	4,444.90
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, Chelsea Park, surveys, plans, etc.....	18,370.89	11,856.16	500.00	6,013.73
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, Chelsea Park, construction of a new comfort station.....	25,131.96	17,504.88	7,443.00	184.08

\* Authorized in 1911.

Title of Appropriation.	Unexpended Balance, Jan. 1, 1911.	Expended in 1911.	Outstanding Liabilities, Dec. 30, 1911.	Unen- cumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, erection and equipment of comfort station in Cooper Square.....	\$*25,000.00	\$16.13	.80	\$24,983.07
Department of Parks, Manhattan and Richmond, completion of John Jay Park.....	*30,000.00	.....	.....	30,000.00
Erection and completion of a new comfort station in Riverside Drive.....	2,479.54	2,200.00	.....	279.54
Erection of music pavilion and comfort station in Central Park.....	50,000.00	.....	.....	50,000.00
Erection of the Carl Schurz Memorial at 116th st. and Morningside Park.....	*25,000.00	.....	.....	25,000.00
Improvement and construction of parks, parkways, playgrounds, boulevards and driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.....	4,092.17	.....	3,875.00	217.17
Improvement and construction of parks, parkways, playgrounds, boulevards and driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, constructing bottom and sides, Central Park lakes and filling in where depth is too great...	11,893.76	4,705.13	.....	7,188.63
Construction and improvement of St. Nicholas Park, between 130th and 135th streets.....	28.35	.....	.....	28.35
Construction of additional greenhouses in Central Park for use in propagation of plants, shrubs, etc.	556.07	.....	.....	556.07
Construction of Colonial Park.....	4,754.16	1,611.53	1,026.00	2,116.63
Construction of new concrete and asphalt gutters on the driveways and bridle roads of Central Park and Riverside Drive.....	4,874.99	.....	.....	4,874.99
Construction of repair yards, storage sheds, manure pits and refuse incinerating plant in the North Meadow, Central Park.....	505.38	122.89	.....	382.49
Construction of the northerly portion of John Jay Park lying north of East 77th st., and the further improvement of the southerly section of said park, lying below East 77th street.....	60,916.57	50,682.80	.....	10,233.77

\* Authorized in 1911.

Title of Appropriation,	Unexpended Balance, Jan. 1, 1911.	Expended in 1911.	Outstanding Liabilities, Dec. 30, 1911.	Unen- cumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
Extension of high pressure water supply and irrigation system in Central Park.....	\$40,420.38	\$37.18	\$75.00	\$40,308.20
Improving the drainage system of Central Park on the west side between 90th and 95th sts. and on the drives and lands adjacent thereto and Central Park generally.....	2,693.04	2,509.52	.....	183.52
<i>Improvement and construction of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, Boulevards and Driveways, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond (continued).</i>				
Installation of an improved water supply for the Harlem River Driveway.....	492.72	.....	.....	492.72
Sub-title No. 1.—Construction of bays, entrances and comfort stations in St. Nicholas Park.....	252.37	.....	.....	252.37
Sub-title No. 2.—Completion of the work of installing a water supply for the Harlem River Driveway..	11.78	.....	10.00	1.78
Sub-title No. 3.—Regrading and installing new drainage and water supply on Riverside Park Loop Drive.....	3,067.46	.....	.....	3,067.46
Sub-title No. 4.—Construction of drainage system for City Hall Park.....	5,105.15	.....	.....	5,105.15
Sub-title No. 5.—Construction and equipment of a comfort station in the Ramble near 77th street transverse road, Central Park.....	508.01	215.00	.....	293.01
Sub-title No. 6.—Completion of the improvement and construction of Colonial Park.....	38,648.24	34,293.49	1,686.27	2,668.48
<i>Improvement of Central Park.</i>				
Alteration of comfort station near ball ground.....	*15,000.00	.....	.....	15,000.00
Construction of sewer from Terrace Bridge to sewer near boathouse..	*3,500.00	.....	.....	3,500.00
Paving of drives with bituminous pavement.....	*100,000.00	148.95	998.40	98,852.65
Installation of water supply system in comfort station.....	*3,060.00	.....	2,286.75	773.25

\* Authorized in 1911.

Title of Appropriation,	Unexpended Balance, Jan. 1, 1911.	Expended in 1911.	Outstanding Liabilities, Dec. 30, 1911.	Unen- cumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
Improvement of plots on Broadway from 110th st. to 122d st. ....	\$39,460.32	\$32,553.82	\$165.85	\$6,740.65
Improvement of street on westerly side of John Jay Park, between 76th and 78th streets.....	*8,500.00	4.03	.....	8,495.97
<i>Improvement of Parks, Parkways and Drives.</i>				
Improvement of transverse road at 65th street, Central Park.....	*25,000.00	216.49	.....	24,783.51
Improvement of transverse road at 96th street, Central Park.....	*25,000.00	.....	.....	25,000.00
Improvement of playgrounds throughout the city.....	247,289.58	63,310.45	81,510.92	102,460.21
Erection and equipment of play- houses and toilet facilities in play- grounds throughout the city....	*50,000.00	38.43	795.00	49,166.57
<i>Metropolitan Museum of Art.</i>				
Completion and equipment of Ex- tension H.....	*224,000.00	.....	115,000.00	109,000.00
In Central Park, construction of an extension.....	98,128.62	13,543.40	632.67	83,952.55
In Central Park, constructing and completing extensions.....	609,298.39	383,077.18	22,195.25	201,464.66
Boiler plant.....	*315,000.00	.....	.....	315,000.00
Fitting up, equipping, furnishing, and alterations and additions thereto.....	*75,000.00	5,628.36	2,680.69	66,690.95
Purchase of museum cases.....	*15,000.00	.....	.....	15,000.00
Mount Morris Park, construction of pipe rail fences around grass plots.	1,587.14	.....	.....	1,587.14
<i>Parks, Department of.</i>				
Construction and repaving of drives, etc., under contract, Manhattan and Richmond.....	52,353.97	16,613.79	.....	35,740.18
Manhattan and Richmond, Broad- way parkways, 59th to Manhat- tan st., constructing iron fences..	280.15	.....	.....	280.15
Manhattan and Richmond, DeWitt Clinton Park, alterations and im- provements to pergola building..	17,539.96	.....	16,694.00	845.96
Manhattan and Richmond, recon- struction of bulkheads, easterly wall of the Speedway between 155th street and Dyckman street.	113,520.01	1,020.58	.....	112,499.43

\* Authorized in 1911.

Title of Appropriation.	Unexpended Balance, Jan. 1, 1911.	Expended in 1911.	Outstanding Liabilities, Dec. 30, 1911.	Un- encumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
Riverside Park and Drive, erection of Firemen's Memorial.....	*\$40,000.00	.....	.....	\$40,000.00
Riverside Drive, preparation of places for improvement of land lying west of railroad tracks.....	390.42	.....	.....	390.42
Riverside Park, completion of addition between 122d street and Claremont place.....	*10,000.00	\$5.00	.....	9,995.00
Rebuilding the Bow Bridge in Central Park.....	24,966.60	339.64	.....	24,626.96
Repaving 79th street transverse road across Central Park.....	25,004.55	98.37	.....	24,906.18
Seventh Avenue Parkway, general improvement from Central Park to the Harlem River.....	*75,000.00	2,549.72	\$1,515.50	70,934.78
New Aquarium Building in Battery Park, construction of foundation and walls of wings.....	*200,000.00	.....	.....	200,000.00
Department of Parks, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond, general improvement of Silver Lake Park, Borough of Richmond....	*50,000.00	.....	.....	50,000.00
New York Public Library Fund...	957,987.49	669,048.58	177,211.49	111,727.42
New York Public Library Fund, installation of electric generating plant.....	39,015.48	2,500.00	13,170.59	23,344.89
Improvement of parks, parkways and drives, Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.....	246.83	103.05	.....	143.78
Repaving with asphalt, etc., 86th street from Central Park West to Riverside Drive.....	952.26	385.23	385.23	181.80
Widening roadway of 59th street between 5th and 8th avenues, etc..	2,296.89	314.23	314.26	1,668.40

\* Authorized in 1911.

## BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.

(For annual maintenance purposes.)

Title of Appropriation.	Amount of Appropriation.	Expenditures and Liabilities.	Unexpended Balance.
Park Board, General Administration—Salaries..	\$26,300.00	\$25,310.74	\$989.26
<i>Manhattan and Richmond, Administration.</i>			
Commissioner's Office, salaries.....	30,090.00	27,312.92	2,777.08
Office of Superintendent of Parks, salaries.....	11,450.00	10,731.06	718.44
Engineer's Office, salaries.....	9,080.00	.....	.....
Engineer's Office, wages, temporary employees..	3,000.00	2,994.97	5.03
Office of Superintendent of Supplies and Repairs, salaries.....	7,200.00	5,174.67	2,025.33
General supplies.....	1,200.00	1,174.01	25.99
Contingencies.....	1,000.00	1,000.00	.....
Telephone service.....	2,000.00	1,907.12	92.88
Music.....	30,000.00	30,000.00	.....
Care of Grant's Tomb.....	7,000.00	7,000.00	.....
<i>General Maintenance, Mechanical Force.</i>			
Wages, regular employees.....	116,570.65	109,606.87	6,963.78
<i>Maintenance Parks and Boulevards.</i>			
Wages, regular employees.....	169,911.25	156,197.72	13,713.53
Wages, temporary employees.....	246,800.00	246,784.03	15.97
Hired teams, horses and carts.....	6,000.00	5,941.79	58.21
General supplies.....	25,000.00	24,986.29	13.71
Forage, shoeing and boarding horses.....	25,000.00	24,800.91	199.09
Materials for repairs and replacements by Departmental labor.....	75,000.00	74,249.22	750.78
Repairs and replacements by contract or open order.....	35,000.00	34,561.28	438.72
Apparatus, machinery, vehicles, harness, etc., including care and storage.....	10,000.00	9,935.16	64.84
Purchase of furniture and fittings.....	772.00	769.82	2.18
Purchase of horses.....	1,000.00	500.00	500.00
Fuel.....	17,000.00	16,883.24	116.76
Contingencies.....	5,000.00	4,970.06	29.94
Maintenance of automobiles, including equipment, care and storage.....	500.00	481.33	18.67
<i>Maintenance Playgrounds, Baths and Comfort Stations.</i>			
<i>Playgrounds.</i>			
Salaries.....	3,000.00	2,829.29	170.71
Wages, temporary employees.....	32,000.00	31,964.84	35.16
<i>Bath Houses and Comfort Stations.</i>			
Wages, regular employees.....	37,472.50	35,809.59	1,662.91
Wages, temporary employees.....	32,850.00	32,120.45	729.55

Title of Appropriation.	Amount of Appropriation	Expenditures and Liabilities.	Unexpended Balance.
<i>Maintenance of Trees in City Streets.</i>			
Wages, regular employees.....	\$14,162.50	\$10,013.46	\$4,149.04
Wages, temporary employees.....	2,400.00	2,386.63	13.37
<i>Maintenance of Zoological Department.</i>			
Wages, regular employees.....	15,372.50	14,818.63	553.87
<i>Maintenance of Aquarium.</i>			
Salaries and wages.....	32,572.66	32,168.16	404.50
Telephone service.....	175.00	127.92	47.08
General supplies.....	5,877.26	4,460.47	1,416.79
Materials for repairs and replacements by departmental labor.....	600.00	588.98	11.02
Repairs and replacements by contract or open order.....	1,402.00	1,264.98	137.02
Hired teams, horses and carts.....	350.00	275.37	74.63
Fuel and light.....	5,000.00	3,406.80	1,593.20
Contingencies.....	648.08	612.79	35.29
Special contract obligations.....	1,375.00	1,373.28	1.72
<i>Maintenance of Metropolitan Museum of Art.</i>			
Salaries and wages.....	161,097.75	161,097.75	.....
Telephone service.....	600.00	600.00	.....
General supplies.....	7,456.80	7,456.80	.....
Materials for repairs and replacements by departmental labor.....	6,685.45	6,685.45	.....
Purchase of furniture and fittings.....	1,850.00	1,850.00	.....
Fuel.....	10,400.00	10,400.00	.....
Contingencies.....	11,910.00	11,910.00	.....
<i>Maintenance of American Museum of Natural History.</i>			
Salaries and wages.....	164,000.00	147,803.67	16,196.33
Telephone service.....	780.00	515.71	264.29
General supplies.....	9,419.00	9,419.00	.....
Materials for repairs and replacements by departmental labor.....	3,500.00	3,500.00	.....
Repairs and replacements by contract or open order.....	500.00	479.14	20.86
Purchase of furniture and fittings.....	1,150.00	1,150.00	.....
Fuel.....	8,500.00	7,069.88	1,430.12
Contingencies.....	1,458.00	1,276.95	181.05
Maintenance of automobiles, including equipment, care and storage.....	450.00	450.00	.....
<i>Maintenance of Children's School Farms.</i>			
DeWitt Clinton Park:			
Salaries and wages.....	4,600.00	4,595.02	4.98
General supplies.....	400.00	323.45	76.55
Thomas Jefferson Park:			
Salaries and wages.....	4,800.00	4,798.60	1.40
General supplies.....	400.00	362.01	37.99

Title of Appropriation.	Amount of Appropriation.	Expenditures and Liabilities.	Unexpended Balance.
<i>Maintenance of Jumel Mansion.</i>			
Salaries and wages.....	\$3,750.00	\$3,629.24	\$120.76
General supplies.....	50.00	11.30	38.70
Materials for repairs and replacements by departmental labor.....	250.00	207.70	42.30
Repairs and replacements by contract or open order.....	1,050.00	395.00	655.00
Purchase of furniture and fittings.....	800.00	732.00	68.00
Fuel.....	300.00	99.43	200.57
Contingencies.....	250.00	212.81	37.19
REVENUES FOR 1911.			
License fees for sale of refreshments, etc., in the parks.....			\$20,350.81
Rent of buildings.....			4,091.61
Permits for erecting projections over the building line, upon buildings located within the jurisdiction of the Department.....			761.01
Permits to build vaults under sidewalks.....			168.33
Sale of animals.....			482.40
Sale of condemned material.....			31.50
Interest on bank deposits.....			257.04
Collections for damage to park property and removal of encumbrances.....			108.99
			<u>\$26,251.69</u>
<i>Cr.</i>			
To City Treasury.....			\$26,251.69
<i>Statement of Account of Deposits.</i>			
<i>Dr.</i>			
January 1, 1911, cash on hand.....		\$3,284.32	
Deposits received, 1911*.....		7,522.00	
Interest on bank deposits.....		257.04	\$11,063.36
<i>Cr.</i>			
Refunded during 1911.....		\$5,579.50	
To City Treasury.....		257.04	5,836.54
			<u>\$5,226.82</u>
December 30, 1911, balance cash on hand.....			\$5,226.82

\* To guarantee the restoration of walks, lawns, roadways, etc., on work under permits issued by the department for openings or building operations in parks or parkways.

## REVENUE BOND FUNDS.

*(For special maintenance purposes.)*

Title of Appropriation.	Amount of Issue and Adjustments During 1911.	Expended in 1911.L	Outstanding iabilities, Dec. 30, 1911	Un- encumbered Balance, Dec. 30, 1911.
<i>Department of Parks.</i>				
Music in parks and public places..	\$5,941.00	\$5,427.50	.....	\$513.50
Increased wages of wheelwrights...	454.50	439.68	.....	14.82
Purchase of automobile.....	3,000.00	3,000.00	.....	.....
Increased wages of pipefitters.....	127.00	119.75	.....	7.25
Increase of wages for plumbers, 1911.....	547.50	509.30	.....	38.20
Payment of Per Diem Veterans for Decoration Day, 1911.....	42.55	42.55	.....	.....
Revenue Bond Fund for purchase of coal for New York Public Library.	8,600.00	8,393.79	.....	206.21
Regenerating lawns in Central Park.	50,000.00	35,469.40	.....	14,530.60
Maintenance New York Public Library.....	10,000.00	7,292.53	.....	2,707.47
Deficiency in salaries, Children's School Farms.....	1,283.44	941.20	.....	342.24
Deficiency in appropriation for work on playgrounds, etc., 1911..	8,000.00	7,590.92	.....	409.08
Salary of examiner.....	666.66	666.66	.....	.....
Wages of laborers, 1911.....	15,000.00	14,956.71	.....	43.27

# REPORT

OF THE

BUREAU OF RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS  
BOROUGHS OF MANHATTAN AND RICHMOND  
CITY OF NEW YORK

ON

PUBLIC PARK PLAYGROUNDS  
AND RECREATION CENTRES

For the year ending  
December 31, 1911

WILLIAM J. LEE, Supervisor, Bureau of Recreation

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HON. CHARLES B. STOVER,

Commissioner of Parks,

Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond.

Dear Sir.—I have the honor to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Bureau of Recreation for the year 1911. The wisdom and correctness of your views in establishing the Bureau of Recreation in the summer of 1910 is justified by the results. It has been sustained by the entire press of this city, reflecting popular sentiment. The tremendous gain in the attendance of both children and adults in the park playgrounds making a new record (there were no detailed figures for comparison previous to the year 1910) shows an increase of 100 per cent. I would respectfully call your attention to the tabular statements of attendance, games, festivals, etc., compiled from the daily reports of the playground leaders. These reports have been given very careful study and investigation this year by me and by the field staff.

In the thirty park playgrounds that were conducted under the direct supervision of this Bureau, and opened at various times of the year, the startling figures of attendance, 3,142,116, adults and children, have been recorded, the figures being taken on a basis of two counts daily, morning and afternoon. When I assumed the duties of Supervisor of Recreation, in the month of April, 1911, there was nothing of a general nature in the work under way. As the spring season opened there was organized, on the boys' side of the playgrounds, the First Inter-park Playground Athletic Championship, in which 5,000 boys, between the ages of 7 and 17 years, entered in the 16 athletic events for the gold, silver, and bronze prizes. One thousand medals were furnished, through the courtesy of the New York *Sunday World*. Each playground held a set of elimination games, and the first 5 in each of the 16 events scheduled were eligible to compete on Memorial Day (May 30) for the Park Playground Athletic Championship. It was unanimously adopted, at a meeting of the officials and instructors of the playgrounds, that Hon. Charles B. Stover present the gold, silver and bronze medals to the victors. The day was a very fine one, and fully 10,000 people, including many prominent citizens, according to the press of the City, witnessed these games amid great enthusiasm and appreciation. A band of music was furnished for the occasion, through your kindness, patriotic airs were played, and the boys who participated in the games from the various playgrounds throughout the City were accompanied to their respective homes by the playground leaders. No accidents were recorded, and no arrests were necessary. The "Colorguard Boys" from Tompkins Square Park Playground protected the decorations. There were but five policemen detailed to the scene, and order and discipline prevailed throughout the day.

The girls' side of the playground had not been neglected. A conference of the playground leaders was called, and a festival planned, entitled, "The Parade of the States," embodying the songs and dances and costumes in vogue in the various sections of our land. Each playground was given a particular section of the States to represent, and rehearsed the songs and dances. The children made their own costumes in conjunction with the playground leaders on each playground, which redounds to the credit of the playground leaders, who are seen to have so many accomplishments in their work. This festival was given at Hamilton Fish Park, on the Plaza, July 1, 1911. The entire press of the City commended this work as morally, socially, and geographically instructive. It was given wide publicity with photographs, and fully seven to eight thousand children and parents witnessed this very excellent performance. After the festival was over refreshments were served at the indoor gymnasium to the children

who participated in the affair. The children were returned to their respective homes by the playground leaders.

The Bureau of Recreation received a communication from Hon. James E. Sullivan, Chairman of the Athletic Committee of Mayor Gaynor's "Safe and Sane" Fourth of July celebrations, of which Hon. Charles B. Stover and William J. Lee were members, for permission to use the athletic fields, which was granted. All the athletic grounds were put in first-class condition for the Fourth of July games, and attracted the largest athletic program in the history of athletics in the world. There were 7,000 entries, including the amateur champions of America, of which 3,000 were "playground boys" of this city. The Fourth of July Patriotic Athletic Committee donated handsome gold, silver and bronze medals to the entrants, and the winners in each event.

I made a personal tour of the grounds, accompanied by the Hon. James E. Sullivan, Chairman of the Mayor's Committee, and it was estimated by the gentlemen of the press, who accompanied us on the automobile tour, that 200,000 people witnessed these games at the various park playgrounds and athletic fields. At Jasper Oval, which is our greatest baseball center, the Fourth of July baseball championship was played by the various teams who use the diamonds in that section of the City. The winners were presented by the Mayor's Committee with five handsome silver cups. Music was furnished at all the parks, and the day was greatly enjoyed and appreciated by the citizens of New York.

During the school vacation season of July and August this Bureau organized the largest baseball league in the history of the national game. Through the kindness and courtesy of the *New York Herald*, 1,000 gold, silver and bronze medals, at a cost of over \$1,000, were donated to help keep the boys off the streets, and encourage them in healthy sport and recreation. Five hundred teams were organized in the various park playgrounds, twelve boys to a team, of four different grades, ages varying from seven to seventeen years, and establishing four different championships, in order that the smaller boys could compete with boys of like weight and age.

This made an entry of 6,000 boys to play a series of elimination games in each playground, in order to develop the representative teams, and then an inter-park home and home series was played, and the teams scoring the highest number of points from the uptown section, and the teams scoring the highest number of points from the downtown section of the City, played a final championship series for "The City Park Playground Championships," at Jasper Oval, before 10,000 spectators. It is estimated that, during the entire baseball season, over 1,000,000 people witnessed this struggle. The *New York Herald* published box-scores of the games, with the photographs of the little players, every Sunday, with the weekly happenings, scores, names of the boys, and notes of special interest, which caused the paper to be posted up as the playground bulletin. Tompkins Square won the Junior Championships, and Hamilton Fish and Seward Park Playgrounds won the Senior Championships. The marvel of the situation is that the boys from the most congested downtown centers of the City, where there is practically no baseball area, defeated the boys from the upper section of the City, who have baseball grounds. It would seem that "There is safety in numbers."

The *New York Herald* editorially commended, at the close of the season, the management, organization, and playing of the boys, and the final games at Jasper Oval, and declared that the big leagues would do well to pattern after the discipline, and good sportsmanlike manner in which the league was managed.

The prizes were awarded at the Arsenal, Central Park, after school opened, in September, the week following the final games. Addresses were made by Hon. Charles B. Stover, Hon. Ernest Harvier, and William J. Lee. The signature of each boy was recorded and forwarded to the *New York Herald*, as an evidence of the proper distribution of the prizes donated, with thanks for its kindness, on behalf of this Department, and of the boys of the City of New York.

A resolution was adopted by the Herald Baseball League, of the Park Playgrounds, thanking Commissioner Stover for his interest in developing baseball centers throughout the City. The New York *Herald*, through Mr. James Gordon Bennett, granted the use of Bennett Field, on which three baseball diamonds were laid out, and backstops erected, at 184th street and Broadway, a most picturesque section of the City.

July and August found the Bureau of Recreation sorely pressed for playground space, as the attendance had reached over a half million monthly. The opening of Colonial Park playground in the month of August was arranged for, and it was decided, owing to the success of the festival given at Hamilton Fish Park, in July, to reproduce "The Parade of the States" at Colonial Park. The difference in the type of the Hamilton Fish Park playground and Colonial Park playground lent additional interest to the affair, Hamilton Fish Park being situated in the most densely populated section of the lower East Side, having no scenic beauty, as compared with the twelve acres of the picturesque Colonial Park, with its beautiful, sloping hills running down from Edgecombe to Bradhurst avenue. This festival again proved a great success, attracting 5,000 people to the scene. A grandstand was erected, and a band of music furnished, and addresses delivered by the Hon. Charles B. Stover, Hon. Josiah T. Newcomb, and Hon. John A. Bolles. The Vitograph Company of America arranged to take the moving picture films of the festival and activities for the Budget Exhibit of the City, held at the old Tefft-Weller building, on Broadway, during the month of October.

The next event that attracted popular attention was the opening of the West 59th Street Athletic Field, adjoining De Witt Clinton High School. Fully one thousand boys participated in the series of athletic games for the playground championship, to do honor to the occasion and dedicate the new grounds. A grandstand was erected and profusely decorated, and addresses were made by the Hon. Charles B. Stover, Hon. John J. McCann, Hon. Ernest Harvier, and William J. Lee. The Vitograph Company of America on this occasion took moving pictures of the Boys' Athletic Meet, which were exhibited later throughout the City at the various moving picture houses. Fully five thousand people attended the opening.

The Bureau of Recreation prepared its exhibit of statistics and ingenuity work, coupled with the moving picture films of the boys' and girls' playground athletic meets and festivals. One million people reviewed the work of the park playgrounds, during the Budget Exhibit from October 2 to 28, 1911. On all sides the work was highly commended by the press, settlement workers, charity organizations, and citizens in general interested in playgrounds as a part of civic betterment.

Arrangement was made for the opening of Columbus Park playground, formerly known as Mulberry Bend, on Columbus Day, October 12, 1911, and a very large number of people gathered (fully 6,000) to witness the Inter-park Athletic Meet on the grounds. Moving pictures were again taken, and have been exhibited throughout the country. The opening of this park playground marked a new era in the "Italian quarter" of this City. This spot, so long idle and neglected, has been transformed into one of the finest boys' playgrounds and athletic fields in the City, facing the old Five Points Mission House. The outdoor athletic season coming to a close on that day, there followed the organization of soccer football and basketball inter-park playground leagues, and the opening of the indoor gymnasium at Hamilton Fish Park, where a thousand boys meet weekly in clubs of twenty and participate in the general gymnastic instruction and exercises. "The Allied Boys' Clubs of Hamilton Fish Park" was formed, which is composed of all the afternoon clubs for school boys, and evening clubs for the working boys.

At all the park playgrounds, on the girls' side, there was organized during Thanksgiving week, festivals and amateur theatricals. The endeavor of the park playgrounds on Thanksgiving Day to keep the children off the crowded streets was a success. They were permitted to dress in whatever costumes they desired, and take part in the

dances and songs of the day. This affair was highly commended as a very wholesome idea, and the little ragamuffins had the time of their lives.

During the Christmas holidays festivals were organized, and Christmas trees provided and decorated. The playground organ furnished the music for the songs and dances.

On December 30, 1911, the closing feature of the year was the Indoor Gymnastic Exhibition and Reception at Hamilton Fish Park Gymnasium, of the Allied Boys' Clubs, under the auspices of the Bureau of Recreation. The exhibition was eminently successful, comprised of boxing, wrestling, and general gymnastic work. Commissioner Stover addressed the audience, and thanked the boys for their kindly interest in the work, pledging his unswerving support for the further improvement and extension of playgrounds and recreation centers. After the exhibition a dance was held, in which all of the employees of this Bureau and the guests participated.

The report of the National Highways Protective Society, according to its secretary, Colonel Edward Cornell, shows that forty-three deaths occurred during the month of September on the streets of New York, of which thirty were children sixteen years of age and under. And yet, while over three million children and adults participated in the festivals and games of the park playgrounds, no deaths have been recorded, and the very few accidents have been of a minor nature. Thus, it is readily seen that the real guardians of the City's children are the playground leaders, and the park playgrounds are the "Isles of Safety" for the children of New York.

The tone of park playground work has been raised to a higher standard. The smaller children have not been neglected; they have been instructed in jig-saw raffia work and drawing, which give pleasure to those not fitted for strenuous exercise and games. The inter-park games and festivals in "God's out-of-doors" afforded an opportunity to the children to take excursions, accompanied by the playground leaders, from one playground to another, establishing social intercourse, and bringing into the lives of the children a feeling of civic pride and friendly competition which has not been surpassed. According to the statistics of the Children's Court, there are over 10,000 children arrested annually for trivial offenses. His Honor, Mayor William J. Gaynor, had labored unceasingly to prevent unnecessary arrests of both children and adults. Most of these offenses, if committed in the playgrounds, would not be a violation of law, such as baseball, "cat," football and roller skating, which is generally an outburst of suppressed energy. The playgrounds furnish play-material for all games under intelligent supervision. It is, therefore, our duty to plan wisely and well for future needs and to protect the best interests of our present and future citizens.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM J. LEE,

*Supervisor, Bureau of Recreation.*

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

January 1, 1911, to December 31, 1911.

The original Budget request of the Bureau of Recreation for 1911 was \$78,000. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment finally awarded \$35,000 for the supervision of playgrounds, of which \$3,000 was for the salary of the Supervisor. The shortage of money caused most of the grounds to be operated on a half-time basis during the months of January, February and March, which greatly crippled the work of this Bureau as to outdoor winter sports and games. The amount granted was only sufficient to carry on the work of eighteen of the playgrounds. Owing to the very pressing demand for play-space this Bureau was compelled to open thirty play centers varying in type from (a) Athletic Fields, (b) Baseball Grounds, (c) Combination Boys' and Girls' Playground, (d) Girls' Playground, (e) Boys' Playground, (f) Midget Playground, as compared with the twenty-three grounds operated during the summer of 1910. Some of the ground used for play-space was private property turned over by citizens. Several City Departments cooperated, the Bridge Department, which turned over the plot of ground under the Williamsburg Bridge, between Cannon and Lewis streets, and the plot at 152d street and Amsterdam avenue, which was turned over by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity.

On September 25, 1911, I regretted very much to be compelled to close sixteen playgrounds, temporarily, pending my request to you for ten thousand dollars in special revenue bonds, to continue the playground work for the year 1911. The press and public unanimously opposed the closing of the grounds, which tends to show that playgrounds are no longer a "fad," but a fact, and that all the years you have labored, both in your private and official life, has now begun to bear real fruit. The month of October found the funds almost exhausted, and upon request to the Board of Aldermen, and Board of Estimate and Apportionment, \$8,000 was appropriated in special revenue bonds to carry on the work of this Bureau, for the balance of the year. This made a total of \$43,000 for the supervision of playgrounds for 1911.

*Recapitulation.*

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
January.....	78,607	\$1,428.00	.018
February.....	71,954	1,435.50	.020
March.....	127,833	1,636.59	.013
April.....	183,334	1,780.18	.010
May.....	209,352	2,211.50	.011
June.....	281,725	3,379.57	.012
July.....	591,051	5,572.40	.009
August.....	475,614	5,764.60	.012
September.....	414,293	5,131.50	.012
October.....	257,932	3,682.00	.014
November.....	256,241	3,973.42	.016
December.....	194,180	3,560.50	.019
	<u>3,142,116</u>	<u>\$39,555.76</u>	<u>12).166</u>
Average for one year.....			.0138

The original Budget of \$35,000 for supervision was modified to extend the number of days of employment as tabulated below:—

BUDGET (ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION).

Allowance.		Expended.		Balance
		Days.	Amount.	
\$4.00 Gymnasium Attendants.....	\$2,552.00	631 $\frac{1}{3}$	\$2,524.29	\$27.71
3.00 Gymnasium Attendants.....	14,826.00	4,942	14,826.00	.00
3.00 Playground Attendants.....	5,754.00	1,916 $\frac{1}{3}$	5,749.00	5.00
2.00 Playground Attendants.....	8,868.00	4,432 $\frac{1}{4}$	8,865.55	2.45
	<u>\$32,000.00</u>		<u>\$31,964.84</u>	<u>\$35.16</u>

REVENUE BONDS (EXTRA APPROPRIATION).

Allowance.		Expended.		Balance.
		Days.	Amount.	
\$4.00 Gymnasium Attendants.....	\$696.00	132 $\frac{2}{3}$	\$530.66	\$165.34
3.00 Gymnasium Attendants.....	3,411.00	1,109 $\frac{1}{6}$	3,327.50	83.60
3.00 Playground Attendants.....	2,331.00	749 $\frac{2}{3}$	2,249.00	82.00
2.00 Playground Attendants.....	1,562.00	741 $\frac{7}{8}$	1,483.76	78.24
	<u>\$8,000.00</u>		<u>\$7,590.92</u>	<u>\$409.08</u>

COMBINED ALLOWANCE—BUDGET AND REVENUE BONDS.

Allowance.	Days.	Amount.	Expended.		Balance.
			Days.	Amount.	
\$4.00 Gym. Attendants.....	812	\$3,248.00	764 $\frac{7}{8}$	\$3,054.95	\$193.05
3.00 Gym. Attendants.....	6,079	18,237.00	6,051 $\frac{1}{6}$	18,153.50	83.50
3.00 Playg'd Attendants.....	2,695	8,085.00	2,666	7,998.00	87.00
2.00 Playg'd Attendants.....	5,215	10,430.00	5,174 $\frac{7}{8}$	10,349.31	80.69
		<u>\$40,000.00</u>		<u>\$39,555.76</u>	<u>\$444.24</u>
Supervisor's salary.....		3,000.00		2,829.29	170.71

## SUMMARY OF MONTHLY ATTENDANCE, COST, AND RATE PER CAPITA, FOR THE YEAR 1911.

## JANUARY.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Bennett Field.....	.....	.....	.....
Carl Schurz.....	2,558	\$45.00	1.9
Central Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Park (Tennis).....	.....	.....	.....
Chelsea Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Colonial Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	.....	.....	.....
De Witt Clinton.....	5,468	139.00	2.3
East 17th street.....	1,653	32.00	1.9
Hamilton Fish.....	15,053	286.50	1.9
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	2,104	127.50	6.0
Highbridge.....	.....	.....	.....
Hudson.....	2,136	29.00	1.3
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	.....	.....	.....
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	.....	.....	.....
Ryan Park.....	1,397	30.00	2.2
St. Gabriel's.....	4,283	131.50	3.3
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	21,477	218.00	1.3
Thomas Jefferson.....	4,981	90.50	1.5
Tompkins Square.....	17,497	178.00	1.2
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	.....	.....	.....
Field Staff.....	.....	171.00	.....
	78,607	\$1,428.00	

## FEBRUARY.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Bennett Field.....	.....	.....	.....
Carl Schurz.....	1,895	\$59.00	3.2
Central Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Park (Tennis).....	.....	.....	.....
Chelsea Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Colonial Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	.....	.....	.....
De Witt Clinton.....	6,092	149.00	2.3
East 17th street.....	1,877	27.00	1.8
Hamilton Fish.....	12,153	241.50	1.2
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	1,555	138.00	7.3
Highbridge.....	.....	.....	.....
Hudson.....	2,845	40.00	1.1
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	.....	.....	.....
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	.....	.....	.....
Ryan Park.....	1,336	30.00	2.3
St. Gabriel's.....	3,860	133.50	3.2
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	19,933	202.50	1.1
Thomas Jefferson.....	4,955	72.00	1.2
Tompkins Square.....	15,453	190.00	1.3
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	.....	.....	.....
Field Staff.....	.....	153.00	.....
	71,954	\$1,435.50	

## MARCH.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery .....	.....	.....	.....
Bennett Field.....	.....	.....	.....
Carl Schurz.....	4,159	\$60.00	4.2
Central Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Park (Tennis).....	.....	.....	.....
Chelsea Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Colonial Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	.....	.....	.....
De Witt Clinton.....	10,531	187.00	1.8
East 17th street.....	3,380	31.00	.7
Hamilton Fish.....	20,288	246.25	1.4
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	1,621	151.50	12.7
Highbridge.....	.....	.....	.....
Hudson.....	4,925	69.00	1.2
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	.....	.....	.....
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	.....	.....	.....
Ryan.....	81	1.00	.1
St. Gabriel's.....	6,656	134.00	2.0
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	32,997	245.67	0.7
Thomas Jefferson.....	12,016	95.50	0.8
Tompkins Square.....	31,179	238.67	0.8
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	.....	.....	.....
Field Staff.....	.....	175.00	.....
	127,833	\$1,636.59	

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....			
Bennett Field.....			
Carl Schurz.....	7,140	\$88.66	1.1
Central Park.....			
Central Park (Tennis).....			
Chelsea Park.....			
Colonial Park.....			
Columbus.....			
Corlears Hook.....			
De Witt Clinton.....	14,895	188.00	1.4
East 17th street.....	5,950	42.00	0.8
Hamilton Fish.....	30,312	256.50	0.8
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	352	3.00	0.9
Highbridge.....			
Hudson.....	8,028	113.33	1.3
Jackson Square.....			
Jasper Oval.....	1,275	6.00	0.5
Reservoir.....			
Riverside.....			
Ryan.....			
St. Gabriel's.....	8,462	153.83	1.7
St. Nicholas.....			
Seward.....	41,789	309.83	0.7
Thomas Jefferson.....	23,760	178.50	0.7
Tompkins Square.....	41,371	284.53	0.6
West 59th street.....			
Westerleigh, S. I.....			
Williamsburgh.....			
101st street.....			
152d street.....			
Field Staff.....		156.00	
	183,334	\$1,780.18	

## MAY.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....			
Bennett Field.....			
Carl Schurz.....	8,048	\$106.00	1.2
Central Park.....			
Central Park (Tennis).....			
Chelsea.....			
Colonial.....			
Columbus.....			
Corlears Hook.....	3,751	40.00	1.1
De Witt Clinton.....	16,678	254.00	1.8
East 17th street.....	7,415	52.00	0.7
Hamilton Fish.....	38,691	309.50	0.8
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....			
Highbridge.....			
Hudson.....	7,890	122.50	1.4
Jackson Square.....	280	12.00	3.3
Jasper Oval.....	9,330	15.00	0.1
Reservoir.....			
Riverside.....			
Ryan.....	5,347	46.00	0.8
St. Gabriel's.....	9,732	185.64	1.8
St. Nicholas.....			
Seward.....	33,874	350.00	1.1
Thomas Jefferson.....	28,618	280.50	0.9
Tompkins Square.....	39,698	333.00	0.8
West 59th street.....			
Westerleigh, S. I.....			
Williamsburgh.....			
101st street.....			
152d street.....			
Field Staff.....		105.36	
	209,352	\$2,211.50	

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	4,133	\$54.00	1.1
Bennett Field.....	2,820	9.00	0.3
Carl Schurz.....	8,590	96.99	1.1
Central Park.....	1,627	18.00	1.1
Central Park (Tennis).....	.....	.....	.....
Chelsea.....	5,131	83.00	1.3
Colonial.....	.....	.....	.....
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	13,301	154.66	1.2
De Witt Clinton.....	15,925	272.66	1.1
East 17th street.....	6,245	83.66	1.2
Hamilton Fish.....	38,105	339.82	0.8
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	.....	.....	.....
Highbridge.....	6,863	91.65	1.2
Hudson.....	8,827	153.66	1.6
Jackson Square.....	3,145	32.00	0.9
Jasper Oval.....	20,080	60.00	0.3
Reservoir.....	1,370	52.50	3.1
Riverside.....	1,796	53.33	2.9
Ryan.....	3,904	44.00	1.5
St. Gabriel's.....	8,734	218.00	2.4
St. Nicholas.....	3,037	48.99	1.1
Seward.....	45,151	409.99	0.9
Thomas Jefferson.....	30,737	321.16	1.1
Tompkins Square.....	36,987	378.00	1.0
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	10,488	88.50	0.8
101st street.....	304	35.00	9.8
152d street.....	4,425	35.00	0.8
Field Staff.....	.....	246.00	.....
	281,725	\$3,379.57	

## JULY.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	10,393	\$150.75	1.4
Bennett Field.....	5,575	45.75	0.8
Carl Schurz.....	14,723	164.67	1.1
Central Park.....	19,004	47.83	0.3
Central Park (Tennis).....	13,175	17.00	1.3
Chelsea.....	26,039	262.25	.....
Colonial.....	.....	.....	.....
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	19,184	264.66	1.7
De Witt Clinton.....	13,397	330.91	2.7
East 17th street.....	7,920	119.00	1.4
Hamilton Fish.....	44,374	490.00	1.4
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	.....	.....	.....
Highbridge.....	12,279	144.50	1.4
Hudson.....	7,833	186.75	2.3
Jackson Square.....	5,016	45.00	0.9
Jasper Oval.....	28,855	142.50	0.4
Reservoir.....	4,740	57.75	1.1
Riverside.....	5,004	131.50	2.3
Ryan Park.....	2,964	69.50	2.1
St. Gabriel's.....	9,601	288.33	3.0
St. Nicholas.....	5,117	114.75	1.1
Seward.....	47,941	556.00	1.7
Thomas Jefferson.....	31,183	380.75	1.7
Tompkins Square.....	53,442	519.50	0.9
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	1,405	39.00	2.1
Williamsburgh.....	35,230	309.75	0.8
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	5,122	72.00	1.2
Field Staff.....	.....	619.00	.....
Riverside Oval.....	400	3.00	0.7
Fourth July Games.....	161,135	.....	.....
Total.....	591,051	\$5,572.40	

## August.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	9,508	\$169.99	1.7
Bennett Field.....	4,858	86.50	1.4
Carl Schurz.....	20,135	193.16	0.9
Central Park.....	22,551	89.50	0.4
Central Park (Tennis).....	18,235	99.00	0.5
Chelsea.....	33,732	354.00	1.1
Colonial.....	20,742	91.00	0.4
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	20,089	263.58	1.6
De Witt Clinton.....	18,209	323.58	1.1
East 17th street.....	10,775	122.50	1.1
Hamilton Fish.....	43,281	508.91	1.1
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	.....	.....	.....
Highbridge.....	16,748	188.83	1.2
Hudson.....	18,724	184.75	2.1
Jackson Square.....	4,449	54.00	1.0
Jasper Oval.....	32,900	163.50	0.4
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	7,692	120.00	1.4
Ryan Park.....	3,380	70.50	2.2
St. Gabriel's.....	11,527	271.58	1.1
St. Nicholas.....	5,623	90.50	1.3
Seward.....	58,071	528.58	0.9
Thomas Jefferson.....	29,514	364.41	1.7
Tompkins Square.....	58,129	542.07	0.9
West 59th street.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerleigh, S. I.....	3,968	92.66	2.1
Williamsburgh.....	11,824	160.00	1.4
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	.....	.....	.....
Field Staff.....	.....	625.50	.....
Riverside Oval.....	950	6.00	.05
Total.....	475,614	\$5,764.60	

## SEPTEMBER.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	8,005	\$117.50	1.3
Bennett Field.....	2,575	30.00	1.4
Carl Schurz.....	13,705	182.00	1.4
Central Park.....	13,343	54.00	0.4
Central Park (Tennis).....	6,305	108.00	1.4
Chelsea.....	39,960	278.00	0.7
Colonial.....	21,228	125.50	0.5
Columbus.....	.....	.....	.....
Corlears Hook.....	15,341	247.50	1.9
De Witt Clinton.....	15,029	271.00	1.1
East 17th street.....	7,100	114.00	1.4
Hamilton Fish.....	47,485	472.50	0.9
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	.....	.....	.....
Highbridge.....	15,295	122.50	0.6
Hudson.....	8,218	186.50	2.2
Jackson Square.....	3,318	39.00	1.0
Jasper Oval.....	31,925	105.00	0.6
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	8,453	98.00	1.1
Ryan.....	4,283	100.00	2.1
St. Gabriel's.....	11,167	240.00	2.1
St. Nicholas.....	4,945	58.50	1.1
Seward.....	45,639	492.00	1.1
Thomas Jefferson.....	28,711	348.50	1.1
Tompkins Square.....	41,219	462.00	1.1
West 59th street.....	4,868	49.50	1.0
Westerleigh, S. I.....	553	38.00	2.1
Williamsburgh.....	8,032	116.00	1.3
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	6,583	65.50	1.0
Field Staff.....	.....	610.50	.....
	414,293	\$5,131.50	

## OCTOBER.

Park Playgrounds,	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	10,244	\$112.00	1.1
Bennett Field.....	650	6.00	1.0
Carl Schurz.....	7,455	122.00	1.5
Central Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Park (Tennis).....	1,080	36.00	3.4
Chelsea.....	16,734	231.50	1.6
Colonial.....	7,581	107.00	1.3
Columbus.....	5,945	37.00	0.6
Corlears Hook.....	12,215	132.00	1.1
De Witt Clinton.....	11,596	182.00	1.6
East 17th street.....	3,185	44.00	1.1
Hamilton Fish.....	27,269	315.50	1.4
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	1,347	90.00	6.1
Highbridge.....	8,878	111.00	1.2
Hudson.....	6,067	142.00	2.2
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	28,990	90.00	0.3
Reservoir.....	1,300	3.00	0.2
Riverside.....	72,203	110.00	13.0
Ryan.....	3,124	66.00	2.4
St. Gabriel's.....	9,282	147.00	1.5
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	30,800	300.00	0.9
Thomas Jefferson.....	22,543	290.00	1.6
Tompkins Square.....	23,444	296.00	1.6
West 59th street.....	2,903	63.00	2.9
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	8,097	112.00	1.3
Field Staff.....	.....	537.00	.....
	257,932	\$3,682.00	

## NOVEMBER.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	7,410	\$119.00	1.4
Bennett Field.....	.....	.....	.....
Carl Schurz.....	7,278	125.66	1.5
Central Park.....	.....	.....	.....
Central Park (Tennis).....	3,961	90.00	2.1
Chelsea.....	17,058	204.00	1.3
Colonial.....	4,661	113.50	2.2
Columbus.....	8,955	94.00	1.5
Corlears Hook.....	12,066	143.00	1.2
De Witt Clinton.....	12,710	209.66	1.7
East 17th street.....	2,531	48.00	1.2
Hamilton Fish.....	31,814	300.00	0.9
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	2,954	183.00	6.0
Highbridge.....	5,859	118.66	2.2
Hudson.....	5,809	146.66	2.3
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	29,565	99.00	0.3
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	3,160	100.32	3.7
Ryan.....	2,468	51.66	2.3
St. Gabriel's.....	8,138	188.50	2.2
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	37,586	358.33	0.9
Thomas Jefferson.....	15,666	257.16	1.1
Tompkins Square.....	25,892	332.33	1.7
West 59th street.....	4,650	85.00	1.3
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	6,050	102.32	1.4
Field Staff.....	.....	503.00	.....
	256,241	\$3,973.42	

## DECEMBER.

Park Playgrounds.	Attendance.	Cost.	Per Capita.
Battery.....	1,780	\$80.00	4.1
Bennett Field.....	.....	.....	.....
Carl Schurz.....	5,744	124.00	2.1
Central Park.....	680	54.00	0.7
Central Park (Tennis).....	.....	.....	.....
Chelsea.....	12,854	184.50	1.5
Colonial.....	6,115	104.00	1.4
Columbus.....	3,647	106.00	2.3
Corlears Hook.....	11,259	133.50	1.2
De Witt Clinton.....	9,577	203.00	2.1
East 17th street.....	2,271	49.50	2.5
Hamilton Fish.....	27,222	225.00	0.8
Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium.....	4,330	169.50	3.5
Highbridge.....	4,037	110.00	2.3
Hudson.....	5,451	112.00	2.4
Jackson Square.....	.....	.....	.....
Jasper Oval.....	13,245	93.00	1.4
Reservoir.....	.....	.....	.....
Riverside.....	2,129	68.00	3.5
Ryan.....	2,004	54.00	2.1
St. Gabriel's.....	10,046	174.00	1.7
St. Nicholas.....	.....	.....	.....
Seward.....	24,746	315.00	1.7
Thomas Jefferson.....	13,183	219.00	1.8
Tompkins Square.....	25,799	293.00	1.3
West 59th street.....	3,525	81.00	2.1
Westerleigh, S. I.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsburgh.....	.....	.....	.....
101st street.....	.....	.....	.....
152d street.....	4,536	111.50	2.2
Field Staff.....	.....	497.00	.....
	194,180	\$3,560.50	

## AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE FOR 1911 (BOYS, GIRLS, ADULTS)..

Park Playgrounds.	July.	August.	September.
Battery Park.....	346	317	267
Bennett Field.....	179	162	257
Carl Schurz.....	491	671	457
Central Park.....	633	752	444
Central Park (Tennis).....	439	608	210
Chelsea.....	867	1,124	1,332
Colonial.....	.....	1,152	707
Corlears Hook.....	639	669	510
De Witt Clinton.....	446	607	501
East 17th street.....	264	359	236
Hamilton Fish.....	1,479	1,443	1,583
Highbridge.....	409	558	510
Hudson.....	260	291	274
Jackson Square.....	167	148	110
Jasper Oval.....	962	1,096	1,064
Reservoir.....	158	.....	.....
Riverside.....	167	256	282
Riverside Oval.....	400	475	.....
Ryan.....	99	113	143
St. Gabriel's.....	320	351	372
St. Nicholas.....	170	187	165
Seward.....	1,598	1,936	1,521
Thomas Jefferson.....	1,039	984	957
Tompkins Square.....	1,781	1,937	1,341
Westerleigh, S. I.....	47	132	52
Williamsburgh Bridge.....	1,174	394	268
152d street.....	170	.....	219

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF PLAYGROUND STAFF AND MONTHLY ATTENDANCE FOR 1911 (BOYS, GIRLS AND ADULTS).

	Women.		Men.		Boys, Girls, and Adults, Attendance.
	Full Time.	Half Time.	Full Time.	Half Time.	
January.....	4	10	6	7	78,607
February.....	6	9	8	4	71,954
March.....	5	11	7	4	127,833
April.....	17	...	11	...	183,334
May.....	19	...	15	...	209,352
June.....	39	...	28	...	281,725
July.....	40	...	42	...	591,051
August.....	44	...	39	...	475,614
September.....	34	...	30	...	414,293
October.....	26	...	26	...	257,932
November.....	29	...	24	...	256,241
December.....	30	...	23	...	194,180
Total.....					3,142,116

## PARK PLAYGROUNDS AND LOCATIONS.

Battery, State street and Battery place.  
 Bennett Field, 184th street and Bennett avenue.  
 Carl Schurz, 86th street and East River.  
 Central Park, 59th street to 110th street, between 5th and 8th avenues.  
 Central Park Tennis and Baseball Grounds, North and South Meadows and Sheep Field.  
 Chelsea, 27th street and 10th avenue.  
 Colonial, 150th street and Bradhurst avenue.  
 Columbus, Baxter and Worth streets.  
 Corlears Hook, Corlears Hook.  
 De Witt Clinton, 11th avenue and 53d street.  
 East 17th Street, 17th street and East River.  
 Hamilton Fish, Houston and Pitt Streets.  
 Highbridge, 170th street and Amsterdam avenue.  
 Hudson, Clarkson and Hudson streets.  
 Jackson Square, Horatio street and 8th avenue.  
 Jasper Oval, 137th street and Convent avenue.  
 Reservoir, 174th street and Amsterdam avenue.  
 Riverside, 96th street and Riverside Drive.  
 Riverside Oval, 79th street and Riverside Drive.  
 Ryan, 42d street, between 1st and 2d avenues.  
 St. Gabriel's, 36th street and 2d avenue.  
 St. Nicholas, 137th street and St. Nicholas avenue.  
 Wm. H. Seward, Canal and Jefferson streets.  
 Thomas Jefferson, 114th street and Pleasant avenue.  
 Tompkins Square, 7th street and Avenue A.  
 West 59th Street Field, 59th street between 10th and 11th avenues.  
 Williamsburgh Bridge, Delancey street between Cannon and Lewis streets.  
 101st Street, 101st street and 2d to 3d avenues.  
 152d Street, 152d street and Amsterdam avenue.  
 Westerleigh, Westerleigh, Staten Island.

## INDOOR GYMNASIUM.

Hamilton Fish Indoor Gymnasium, Houston and Pitt streets, New York City.

## CLASSIFICATION.

The following classification indicates the type of play centres maintained and supervised by this Bureau during the year 1911, and conducted in accordance with the distinction herein made:

*(a) Athletic Fields.*

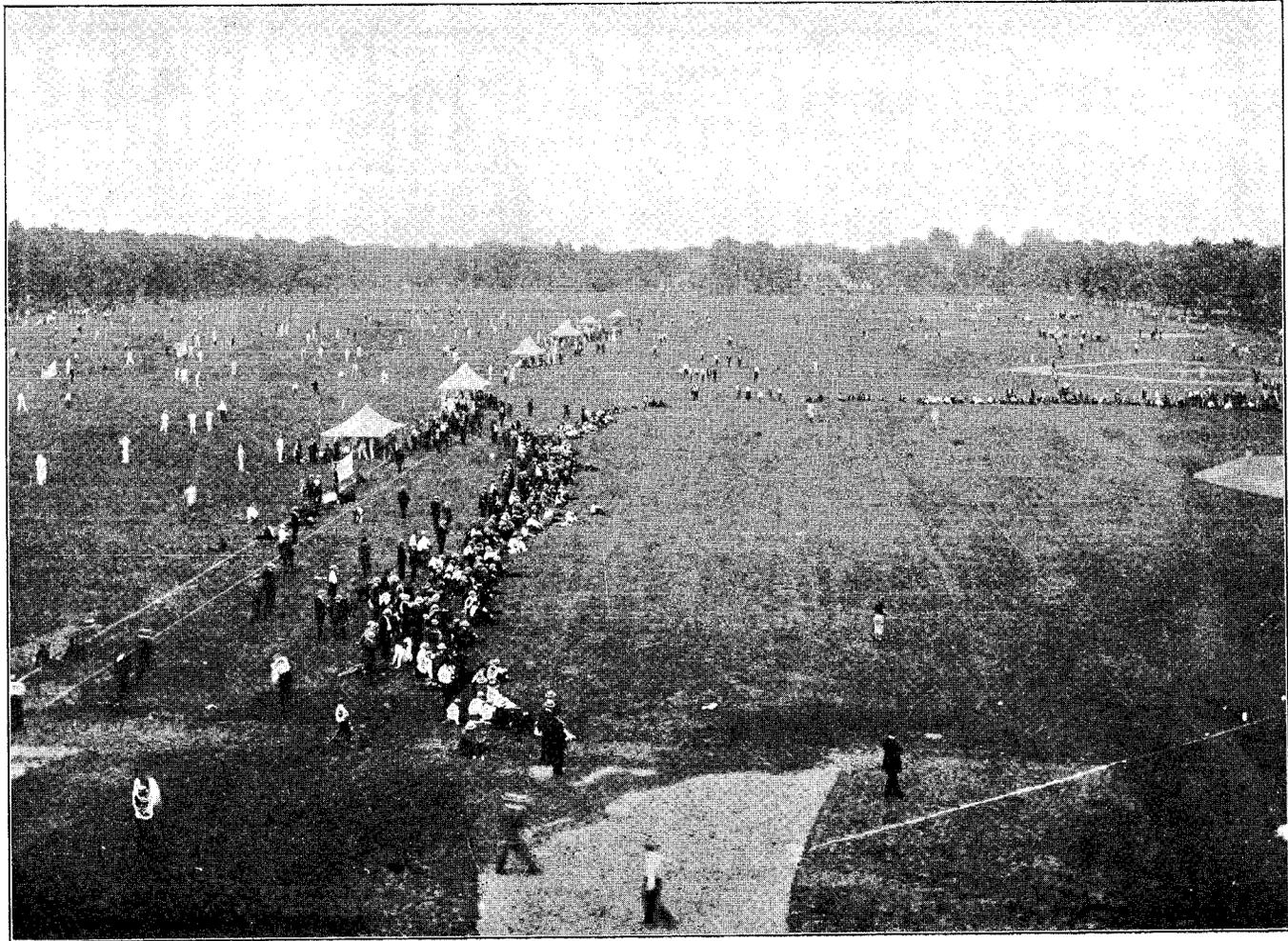
Chelsea	Hamilton Fish	Tompkins Square
Columbus	St. Gabriel's	West 59th Street
Corlears Hook	Wm. H. Seward	101st Street
De Witt Clinton	Thomas Jefferson	

*(b) Baseball Fields.*

Regulation diamonds. League ball used.

Bennett Field, 3 diamonds	Riverside Oval, 2 diamonds
Chelsea, 2 diamonds	Thomas Jefferson, 2 diamonds
Jasper Oval, 5 diamonds	West 59th Street, 1 diamond
Reservoir, 1 diamond	

Special Playground ball used.



BASEBALL AND TENNIS ON PARADE GROUNDS.

Bennett Field	Hamilton Fish	Thomas Jefferson
Central	Jasper Oval	Tompkins Square
Chelsea	Reservoir	West 59th Street
Columbus	Riverside Oval	152d Street
Corlears	St. Gabriel's	101st Street
De Witt Clinton	Wm. H. Seward	

*(c) Combination Boys' and Girls' Playground.*

Battery	Highbridge	St. Nicholas
Carl Schurz	Hudson	Williamsburgh Bridge
Central	Jackson Square	152d Street
Colonial	Riverside	Westerleigh, S. I.
Corlears Hook	Ryan	

*(d) Girls' Playground.*

Battery	East 17th Street	St. Gabriel's
Carl Schurz	Hamilton Fish	St. Nicholas
Central	Highbridge	Thomas Jefferson
Chelsea	Hudson	Tompkins Square
Colonial	Jackson	Williamsburgh Bridge
Corlears Hook	Riverside	152d Street
De Witt Clinton	Ryan	Westerleigh, S. I.

*(e) Boys' Playground.*

Battery	Hamilton Fish	St. Gabriel's
Bennett	Highbridge	St. Nicholas
Carl Schurz	Hudson	Seward
Central	Jasper Oval	Thomas Jefferson
Chelsea	Jackson	Tompkins Square
Colonial	Reservoir	Williamsburgh Bridge
Columbus	Riverside Oval	152d Street
De Witt Clinton	Riverside	101st Street
East 17th Street	Ryan	Westerleigh, S. I.

*(f) Midget Playgrounds (Small Children's Playgrounds).*

Battery	Highbridge	Thomas Jefferson
Carl Schurz	Hudson	Tompkins Square
Central	Jackson Square	Williamsburgh Bridge
Chelsea	Riverside	152d Street
Colonial	Ryan	101st Street
Corlears Hook	St. Gabriel's	Westerleigh, S. I.
De Witt Clinton	St. Nicholas	
East 17th Street	Seward	

**PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY GROUNDS.***Permanent Grounds.*

Battery	East 17th Street	St. Gabriel's
Carl Schurz	Hamilton Fish	Seward
Central "Tennis"	Highbridge	Thomas Jefferson
Central Park	Hudson	Tompkins Square
Chelsea	Jackson Square	West 59th Street
Colonial	Jasper Oval	101st Street
Columbus	Reservoir	152d Street
Corlears Hook	Riverside	
De Witt Clinton	Ryan	

*Temporary Grounds.*

Bennett  
Riverside Oval

St. Nicholas  
Williamsburgh Bridge

## MATERIALS AND SUNDRIES SUPPLIED TO ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

*Athletic Fields and Ball Grounds.*

## First Aid to the Injured Outfits

Approach boards	Mats	Traveling rings
Horse and buck	Medicine balls	Weights, 56 lbs.
Canvass tents	Parallel bars	Wooden bases
Climbing poles	Pole-vaulting poles	Baseballs
Climbing ropes	Rubber footballs	Baseball bats
Flying rings	Shots, 8-12-16 lbs.	Basketballs
Golf sticks	Shot putting circles	Electric tape
Hand ball courts	Soccer footballs	Iron stakes
Horizontal bars	Tennisballs	
Jumping standards	Tennis nets	

## PLAYGROUNDS (BOYS' AND GIRLS').

## First Aid to the Injured Outfits

American flags	Kindergarten folding paper	Slides
Benches	Kindergarten tables	Splints
Blocks	Manilla paper	Swings (kindergarten)
Canvas (for bean bags)	Needles	Swings (baby)
Card board	Paste	Swings (large)
Chalk	Raffia	Tether ball poles
Croquet sets	Reed	Tether ball cord
Doll houses	Ring toss boards	Tissue paper
Dowell sticks	Rolling ball games	Toy brooms
Dumb bells	Rope rings	Volley balls
Faba gaba boards	Scales	Wands
Giant strides	Scissors	Whistles
Glue	See-saws	Worsted
Jig saws	Seine cord	
Jumping ropes	Sewing cards	

## PERMITS ISSUED AND GAMES PLAYED DURING 1911.

Athletic meets.....	100 permits issued.
Baseball.....	1,000 permits for scheduled games.
Football.....	500 games played.
Basketball.....	1,000 games played.
Gymnastics.....	50 permits issued to use the Indoor Gymnasium at Hamilton Fish Park.
Tennis.....	2,200 season permits for Central Park.
Picnic Parties (comprising 200,000 people).....	1,000 permits.
Skating.....	165 season permits for fancy skating on Conservatory Lake, Central Park.

The above-mentioned permits are issued by the Bureau of Recreation, Arsenal, Central Park, New York City.

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

CITY OF NEW YORK

BRONX

Report for the year ending  
31st December, 1911



THOMAS J. HIGGINS

COMMISSIONER

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

Commissioner for the Borough of The Bronx.

## REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1911.

February 14, 1912.

HON. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR,

*Mayor of The City of New York:*

Sir—As required by the Charter, I have the honor to submit herewith a report, showing the movements of the various activities of the Park Department of The Bronx, during the year 1911. Respectfully,

T. J. HIGGINS, Commissioner of Parks, Borough of The Bronx.

## WORK PERFORMED DURING THE YEAR.

The usual maintenance work beginning during the winter with the removal of snow and ice from park roads, and with advance of the season, cutting out of dead timbers, preparing recreation grounds for use, mowing lawns, and resodding worn-out grounds, laying out flower beds, and generally keeping the parks and roads in good condition, was performed by the maintenance force of this Department, which force also was employed on the following work:

The southeasterly portion of St. Mary's Park was improved by the removal of dangerous overhanging rock, for which purpose the stone crusher of the Department was repaired and put in use, resulting in much saving, some 3,000 cubic yards of stone and screening being made available for use on paths and roadways, besides a surplus of 500 cubic yards, which can be used in 1912. A complete drainage system was also installed in this park.

At Franz Sigel Park the Department accepted topsoil fill, delivered at the park without cost to the City, which was used in filling and grading, and has very much improved this little park. In addition thereto, a new ball ground was laid out, and will be in use the coming season.

An appropriation of \$6,000 for a drainage system in Macombs Dam Park enabled the Department to complete a very necessary improvement in this section. A number of trees which were in a dying or dangerous condition were removed.

The westerly section of Echo Park, which was in a very bad condition, was greatly improved, for which purpose an appropriation of \$8,000 was drawn upon. This improvement will be completed by May 1, 1912, and includes all the filling, planting and grading which was necessary.

In Van Cortlandt Park, the resurfacing of Mosholu avenue, from Broadway to Jerome avenue, with Hudson River gravel makes it one of the finest drives in the system. Grand avenue, also in that park, was resurfaced in the same manner, from 242d street to Jerome avenue, and presents a fine road through the park between these two points.

The golf links, for which over 15,000 playing cards were issued last year, were kept in excellent condition, and with the rest which they enjoyed during this winter, will, no doubt, be in even better condition during the coming season. The bridle paths also have been enlarged and improved, and a new water supply system for the nurseries has been provided.

The work of connecting the Grand Boulevard and Concourse with Mosholu parkway is progressing, and as soon as the weather permits will be brought to completion.

The connection is so far advanced that it can now be used. The Department has beautified Mosholu parkway by planting some 5,000 shrubs and trees, and also by a connection with Bainbridge avenue.

In Bronx Park the shops are being completely fitted with modern tools and machinery, and this work will be completed in the spring of the coming year.

At Pelham Bay Park the golf links, which have been maintained as a nine-hole course, were during the year 1911 arranged as a full eighteen-hole course. The draining of the swamp lands in and about the links, using an appropriation of \$5,000 granted for that purpose, is well under way, and will be completed about the time the golf links open.

A new 2-inch water main was laid for the use of the campers at Orchard Beach, which added materially to their accommodation and comfort.

Crotona parkway, which up to 1911 was taken care of both by the Highway Department and the Park Department, was placed entirely under the care of the Park Department during 1911, and the Department has planted a number of trees (about 150) and about 1,200 shrubs and evergreens, so that the parkway has been much improved. At the easterly section of Crotona Park, from Wendover avenue to St. Paul's place, improvements were started in 1910, and are rapidly nearing completion. The section is of a swampy character, and with low ground, and required a complete drainage system, which was installed. About 22,000 cubic yards of fill were dumped in the low portion of the park, without any cost to the City, and was used very advantageously and with a great deal of success in increasing the lawn space of this park, and also in permitting new pathways to be made.

The crushed stone referred to in the early part of this report as produced by the stone crusher of the Department will be used in surfacing these roads.

The same might be said of the westerly section of Crotona Park, in which place there was planted some 302 shade trees, and 5,500 shrubs and evergreens.

The report submitted by the Head Gardener of the Department to the Commissioner shows that 12,891 trees and shrubs were transplanted from nurseries in Van Cortlandt Park to the various parks and parkways of this Borough, during the spring and fall of 1911.

The force of climbers and pruners trimmed 11,120 trees, sprayed 17,480, removed 126, and investigated and attended to 430 complaints.

The very dry summer experienced during the year 1911 largely increased the number of destructive pests to which our trees and shrubs are subjected. The Elm Leaf Beetle, the White Marked Tussock Moth, the Snow White Linden Moth, and the Forest Tent Caterpillar were particularly troublesome, and these, together with the Oyster Shell Cottany Scale, etc., necessitated an unusual amount of spraying, both in the spring and fall, so that of the trees said to be sprayed (17,480), nearly all of them had to be sprayed more than once.

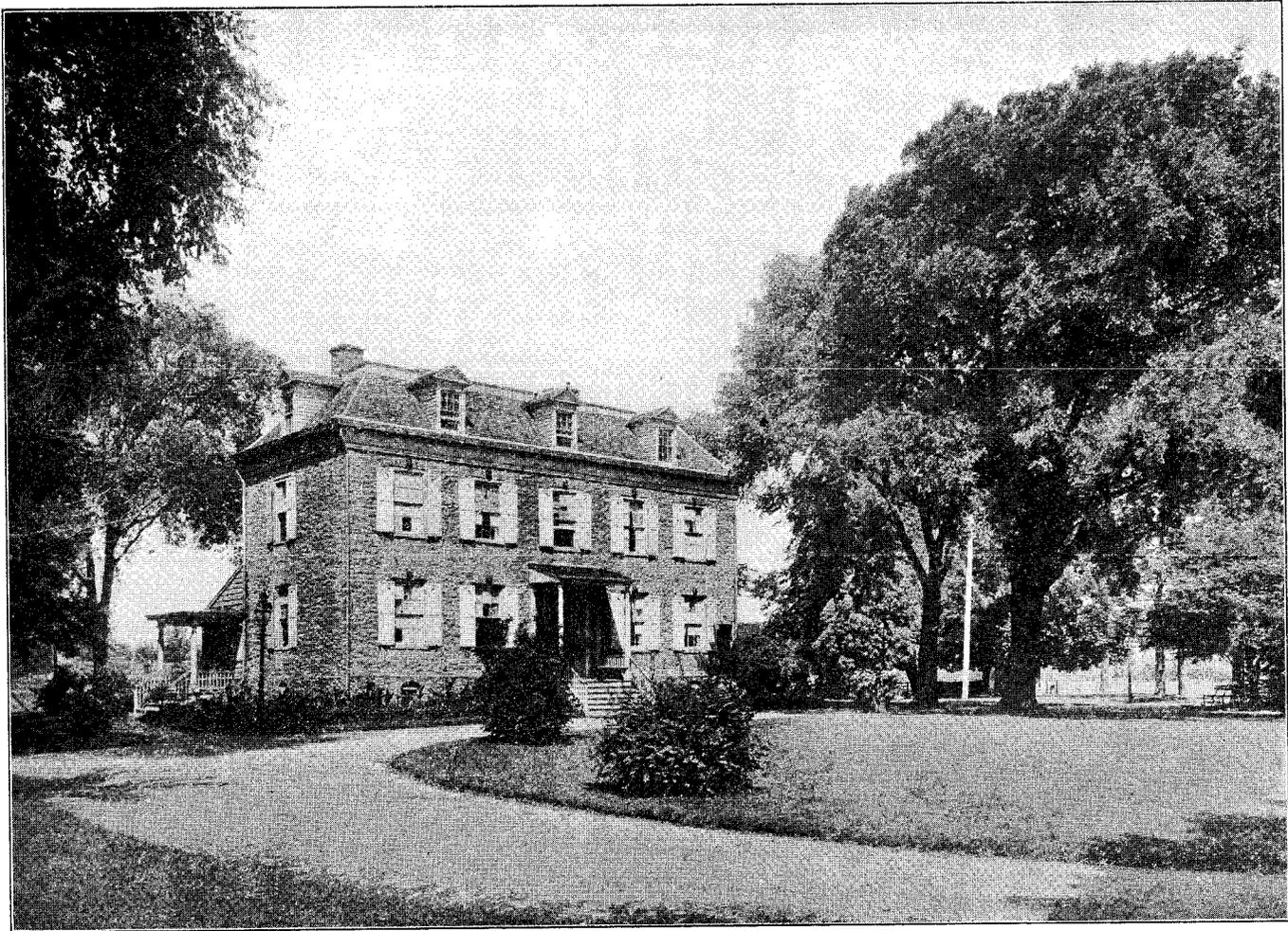


ONE OF THE TENNIS COURTS.

## CONTRACTS AWARDED PRIOR TO 1911, COMPLETED DURING 1911.

Name of Contractor and Title.	Amount.	Date of Award.	Date of Certificate.
<b>John R. Sheehan &amp; Co.—</b> Erection and completion of greenhouses in Bronx Park.....	\$14,024.00	Sept. 15, 1910	Mar. 25, 1911
<b>J. W. Fiske Iron Works—</b> Erection and completion of bear dens Nos. 9 and 10 and additional bear dens, Zoölogical Park, Bronx Park.....	7,700.00	Oct. 27, 1910	Nov. 16, 1911
<b>John R. Sheehan &amp; Co.—</b> Erecting and constructing additional greenhouses, Botanical Garden, Bronx Park..	23,700.00	Oct. 27, 1910	June 6, 1911
<b>Vulcan Rail and Con. Co.—</b> Six thousand (6,000) linear feet 2-pipe iron railing (No. 1, 1910), Botanical Garden.	1,272.00	Sept. 22, 1910	Jan. 16, 1911
<b>Bronx Hay and Grain Co.—</b> Forage (No. 2, 1910).....	1,199.50	Sept. 15, 1910	Jan. 30, 1911
<b>G. B. Raymond &amp; Co.—</b> One hundred (100) barrels Portland cement (No. 2, 1910).....	185.00	Sept. 15, 1910	Jan. 27, 1911
<b>New Jersey Co.—</b> Four hundred thirty (430) cubic yards clay loam.....	756.65	Dec. 15, 1910	Feb. 16, 1911
<b>Frank M. Palladino—</b> Grading grounds and constructing retaining wall, Clay ave. side, Claremont Park.	8,963.42	Mar. 9, 1911	Oct. 27, 1911
<b>Alamo Cons. Co.—</b> Renewing old concrete coping and furnishing and setting in Van Cortlandt Park..	284.00	Dec. 15, 1910	Apr. 11, 1911
<b>United Clay Co.—</b> Six hundred (600) linear feet 15-inch vitrified sewer pipe for parks, The Bronx....	181.50	Dec. 1, 1910	Mar. 16, 1911
<b>John P. Kane—</b> Five hundred (500) barrels Portland cement (No. 3, 1910).....	820.00	Dec. 15, 1910	Apr. 6, 1911
<b>Chas. Haas &amp; Co.—</b> Two horse street sweepers.....	493.00	Dec. 15, 1910	Mar. 16, 1911
<b>Barber Asphalt Paving Co.—</b> Paving the unpaved existing walks in St. Mary's Park with asphalt.....	3,251.20	May 10, 1911	May 10, 1911
<b>General Fire Proofing Co.—</b> Steel combination cases, plan racks, etc., sectional document cabinets, document files, plan tubes, etc.....	2,433.00	June 30, 1910	Feb. 24, 1911
<b>Clark &amp; Appleman—</b> Erection and completion of a shelter in Botanical Garden, Bronx Park.....	1,745.00	Mar. 17, 1910	Apr. 21, 1911
<b>McHarg &amp; Barton Co.—</b> Constructing a brick drain in Van Cortlandt Park.....	84,193.00	Dec. 30, 1909	Sept. 28, 1911

Name of Contractor and Title.	Amount.	Date of Award.	Date of Certificate.
Abraham & Straus— Furniture, draperies, rugs, etc., Administration Building, New York Zoölogical Park.....	7,544.26	July 21, 1910	Jan. 9, 1911
T. R. Thorn & Co.— Fifteen hundred (1,500) tons pea coal, seventy-five (75) tons broken coal, anthracite (No. 3, 1910), Botanical Garden, The Bronx.....	6,378.00	May 19, 1910	Feb. 10, 1911
T. R. Thorn & Co.— Three hundred (300) tons egg coal, anthracite (No. 4, 1910).....	1,755.00	May 19, 1910	Jan. 16, 1911
Manhattan Supply Co. Thirty (30) barrels gasoline.....	197.96	June 16, 1910	Feb. 17, 1911
Sicilian Asphalt Paving Co.— Reconstructing roadway, Bronx and Pelham Parkway, including surfacing with asphaltic earth mixture from junction with the Eastern Boulevard to crossing over the tracks of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R.....	19,046.04	Aug. 18, 1910	Jan. 10, 1911
John R. Brinley— Plans and supervision of erection and construction of additional greenhouses, Botanical Garden, Bronx Park.....	1,185.00	.....	Apr. 17, 1911
John R. Brinley— Plans and supervision of erection and construction of Lakeside Shelter, The Bronx.....	87.25	.....	Apr. 24, 1911
Robert W. Gardner— Preparing preliminary drawings and specifications for proposed footbridge, Falls, Bronx Park.....	.222.50	.....	Sept. 12, 1911
<i>Contracts Awarded and Completed in 1911.</i>			
Thos. B. Bowne, Son Co.— Three hundred fifty (350) gross tons egg coal.....	\$2,263.90	Jan. 12, 1911	Aug. 25, 1911
Coldwell Lawn Mower Co.— One motor lawn motor, repairing and keeping in repair motor, horse and hand lawn mowers.....	2,992.00	Jan. 12, 1911	Nov. 3, 1911
Manhattan Supply Co.— Hardware (No. 1, 1911).....	1,511.37	Feb. 16, 1911	July 5, 1911
Fred. Starr Cont. Co.— Eleven hundred (1,100) gross tons of pea coal, anthracite (No. 1, 1911), Botanical Garden.....	4,582.59	Jan. 12, 1911	May 12, 1911
Bronx Hay and Grain Co.— Forage (No. 1, 1911).....	1,213.82	Jan. 12, 1911	Aug. 9, 1911
East River Mill and Lumber Co.— Timber (No. 1, 1911).....	3,728.73	Feb. 2, 1911	July 28, 1911



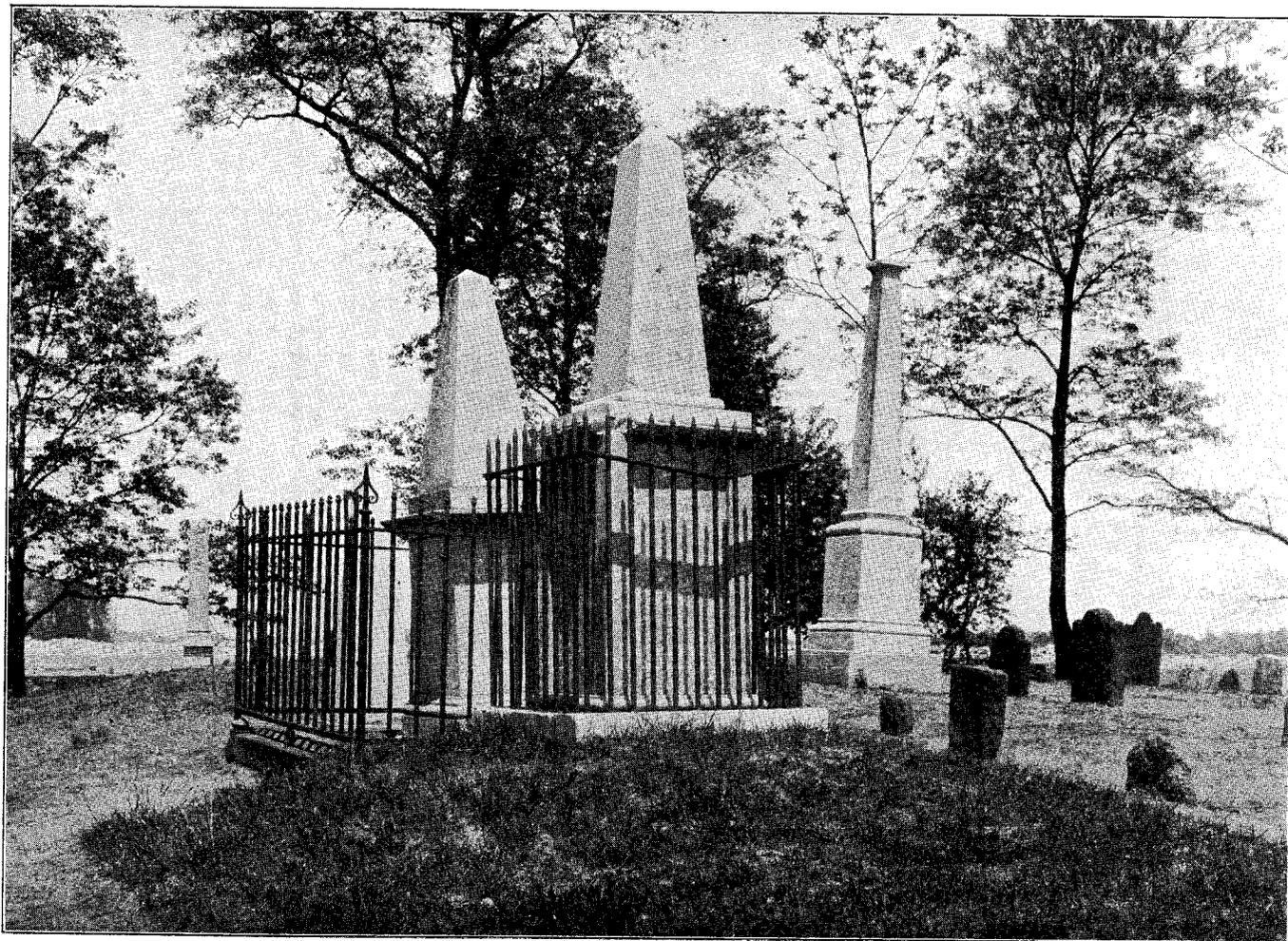
OLD MANOR HOUSE, VAN CORTLANDT PARK.

Name of Contractor and Title.	Amount.	Date of Award.	Date of Certificate.
Manhattan Supply Co.— Plumbers' supplies (No. 1, 1911).....	1,346.17	Feb. 16, 1911	July 10, 1911
Harry Harper— Paints and oils (No. 1, 1911).....	1,371.06	Feb. 16, 1911	July 19, 1911
J. Newton Van Ness Co.— Harness makers' supplies (No. 1, 1911)...	112.94	Mar. 2, 1911	May 26, 1911
Henry Steers Co. (Inc.)— Five thousand (5,000) cubic yards road gravel.....	10,329.19	Mar. 30, 1911	Aug. 1, 1911
Standard Oil Co.— Fifty (50) barrels of gasolene, ten (10) barrels of kerosene.....	335.52	Apr. 6, 1911	Dec. 8, 1911
Barber Asphalt Paving Co.— Comp. grading and laying asphalt block pavement on unimproved portions of roadway, southerly side of Bronx and Pelham Parkway, White Plains Road, to bridge over N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. tracks.....	5,429.35	July 27, 1911	Nov. 14, 1911
Ferd. V. Morrison, Jr.— Sixteen thousand (16,000) gallons road oil.	688.00	May 18, 1911	Aug. 9, 1911
Bronx Hay and Grain Co.— Forage (No. 2, 1911).....	852.47	Aug. 24, 1911	Nov. 3, 1911
Olin J. Stephens— Two hundred and thirty (230) gross tons egg coal (No. 2, 1911).....	1,529.50	July 27, 1911	Dec. 27, 1911
Dayton Hedges— Reconstructing and surfacing with asphalt mixture, roadway, Bronx and Pelham Parkway, from the Williamsbridge road to the White Plains road.....	21,490.21	July 13, 1911	Dec. 4, 1911

*Uncompleted Contracts, 1911.*

Name of Contractor.	Title.	Amount.	Date of Award.	Condition at Present Time.
Jos. Balaban.....	Erection and completion of zebra house, Zoölogical Garden.....	\$25,181.00	June 15, 1911	Nearly four-fifths completed.
Jos. Balaban.....	Erecting and constructing additional ornamental terra cotta work, zebra house, Zoölogical Park.....	1,565.00	Dec. 5, 1911	About one-half completed.
Geo. Hildebrand.....	Erection and completion of an aviary and winter house for eagles and vultures, Zoölogical Park.....	18,867.00	Nov. 17, 1910	Seven-eighths completed.
McHarg-Barton Co.....	Brick drain and inlet basin, Van Cortlandt Park.....	11,060.00	Sept. 28, 1911	About one-half completed.
Frank M. Palladino.....	Improvement, rock cut, Broadway side, Van Cortlandt Park.....	4,540.00	Oct. 19, 1911	About two-thirds completed.
Louis Koenig.....	Erection and completion of shelter and comfort station, McCombs Dam Park.....	9,893.00	Aug. 3, 1911	About one-half completed.
Anderson-Martin Electric Co..	Alterations and installing electrical power and equipment in workshops, Bronx Park.....	1,260.00	June 29, 1911	Completed except for the location of a couple of motors.
T. R. Thorne & Co.....	Eleven hundred (1,100) gross tons pea coal and fifty (50) gross tons broken coal (No. 2, 1911), Botanical Garden, The Bronx.....	*5,334.50	July 27, 1911	Deliveries completed.
A. H. Hillers.....	Altering and reconstructing shelter building, Franz Sigel Park.....	1,960.00	Aug. 3, 1911	Completed except for some painting and finishing.
The White Co.....	One automobile.....	2,000.00	Sept. 14, 1911	
American Diamond Blast Co..	Sandblasting side and intrados of foot-bridge over Bronx River, at Falls, near Lorillard Mansion, Bronx Park.	486.00	Sept. 7, 1911	

\* Estimated.



RODMAN DRAKE PARK—GRAVE OF THE POET, JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE.

*Uncompleted Contracts, 1911—Continued.*

Name of Contractor.	Title.	Amount.	Date of Award.	Condition at Present Time.
Henry Steers.....	Gravel for reconstructing the roadway of the Bronx and Pelham Parkway, Southern Boulevard to Bear Swamp Road.....	\$189.00	Sept. 7, 1911	
Dayton Hedges.....	Rebuilding and widening City Island Road, Bartow Station to City Island Bridge.....	21,266.00	Nov. 16, 1911	About four-fifths completed.
Vulcan Rail and Const. Co....	Materials for railings in and around small parks.....	3,420.00	Sept. 21, 1911	
J. M. Knopp.....	Erecting wrought iron fence along the boundaries, Crotona Park.....	9,893.00	Nov. 16, 1911	Work started, but stopped by the bad weather; will be taken up in spring.
Henry Steers.....	Road gravel for constructing connecting driveway between Grand Boulevard and Mosholu Parkway.....	1,712.00	Sept. 28, 1911	
Church E. Gates.....	Lumber, window frames, sash, etc., addition to greenhouses in Bronx Park.	450.27	Sept. 14, 1911	
Vinton Cont. Co.....	Broken stone and screenings of trap rock, Botanical Garden.....	1,400.00	Nov. 16, 1911	
Vulcan Rail and Const. Co....	One pipe, 2-pipe and 3-pipe iron guard rail, Botanical Garden.....	2,673.75	Nov. 16, 1911	Deliveries two-thirds completed
Geo. N. Reinhardt.....	Forage (No. 3, 1911).....	340.00	Nov. 23, 1911	Three-fourths completed.
Lafferty & Weir.....	Erecting footbridge, Falls, Lorillard Mansion, Bronx Park.....	5,848.00	Mar. 17, 1911	
John F. O'Heir.....	Erecting and constructing a reinforced concrete bridge, Hunter to Twin Island, Pelham Bay Park.....	4,833.00	Apr. 20, 1911	About one-third completed.
LaFarge & Morris.....	Architects' services, zebra house, New York Zoölogical Park.....	1,259.05	.....	

*Expenditures of Corporate Stock Funds for Improvement by Park Labor, 1911.*

302A	Additional greenhouses for propagating purposes.....	\$2,534.66
303D	Draining meadow land in Pelham Bay Park.....	1,458.58
304C	Construction of manure pits adjacent to park stations.....	2,050.73
304D	Construction of drinking fountains in various parks.....	208.75
304F	Completion of walk and drainage system in St. Marys Park.....	3,054.65
305	Filling in and draining swamp lands other than that south of Garden, Van Cortlandt Park.....	2,537.84
305E	Filling in, grading and improving Devoe Park.....	22.50
305F	Drainage system for lowlands in McCombs Dam Park.....	1,279.06
308B	Improving southerly portion of St. Marys Park.....	6,986.55
311C	Improvement of easterly and westerly portion of Crotona Park.....	10,872.07
312B	Road to connect Bronx Park system with roads in Botanical Garden..	7,087.81
312D	Raising and improving lowlands east of music pavilion in Bronx Park.	2,392.19
312F	Water supply system for nursery, Van Cortlandt Park.....	2,034.83
339	General improvement of Echo Park.....	3,689.07
340A	Purchase of trees, shrubs, etc.....	167.50
341	Construction of driveway between Grand Boulevard and Mosholu Parkway.....	3,246.35

*Expenditures During Year 1911 of Appropriations, 1911, and Corporate Stock Funds, New York Botanical Garden and New York Zoölogical Garden.*

New York Botanical Garden—Appropriations, 1911.....	\$76,761.32
Corporate stock funds.....	37,950.92
	<hr/>
	\$114,712.24
New York Zoölogical Garden—Appropriations, 1911.....	158,890.53
Corporate stock funds.....	53,898.54

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**\$212,789.07***Statement Showing Amount Spent Each Month, and Number of Laborers Employed on Maintenance and Corporate Stock Account.*

1911.	Maintenance.			Corporate Stock.			Total.	
	Number of Men on Roll, Weekly Average.	Wages per Month.	Total Labor per Month.	Number of Men on Roll, Weekly Average.	Wages per Month.	Total Labor per Month.	Men.	Wages.
January..	272	\$7,226.23	2,889	49	\$1,324.60	532	321	\$8,550.83
February..	268	7,338.68	2,943	43	1,127.30	451	311	8,465.98
March....	272	9,715.58	3,886	29	958.12	440	301	10,673.70
April.....	315	16,929.96	6,772	31	1,426.76	571	346	18,356.72
May.....	336	19,152.07	7,661	32	1,636.40	594	368	20,788.47
June.....	353	24,211.39	9,618	36	1,983.69	793	389	26,195.08
July.....	363	19,816.42	7,925	16	678.07	271	379	20,494.49
August...	367	20,246.37	8,098	.....	.....	.....	367	20,246.37
September	351	22,782.66	9,112	17	426.36	170	368	23,209.22
October..	342	12,364.60	4,945	128	6,494.26	2,597	372	18,858.86
November	161	5,029.33	2,011	207	11,165.07	4,466	368	16,195.54
December.	97	4,435.28	1,773	271	12,517.26	5,007	368	16,952.54
		<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>
		\$169,248.57	67,633		\$39,739.09	15,892		\$208,987.66

*Auction Sales in 1911.*

January 30, cord wood at \$2 per load, and timber at 4 cents per linear foot—	
Deposits.....	\$200.00
Two horses.....	197.50
June 26, grass at Pelham Park, net.....	207.00
	<hr/>
	\$604.50

*Receipts, 1911.*

Rents.....	\$2,715.50
Privileges.....	8,046.98
Lockers.....	977.79
Building projections.....	4.96
Miscellaneous, including auction sales, as above.....	857.65
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$12,602.88

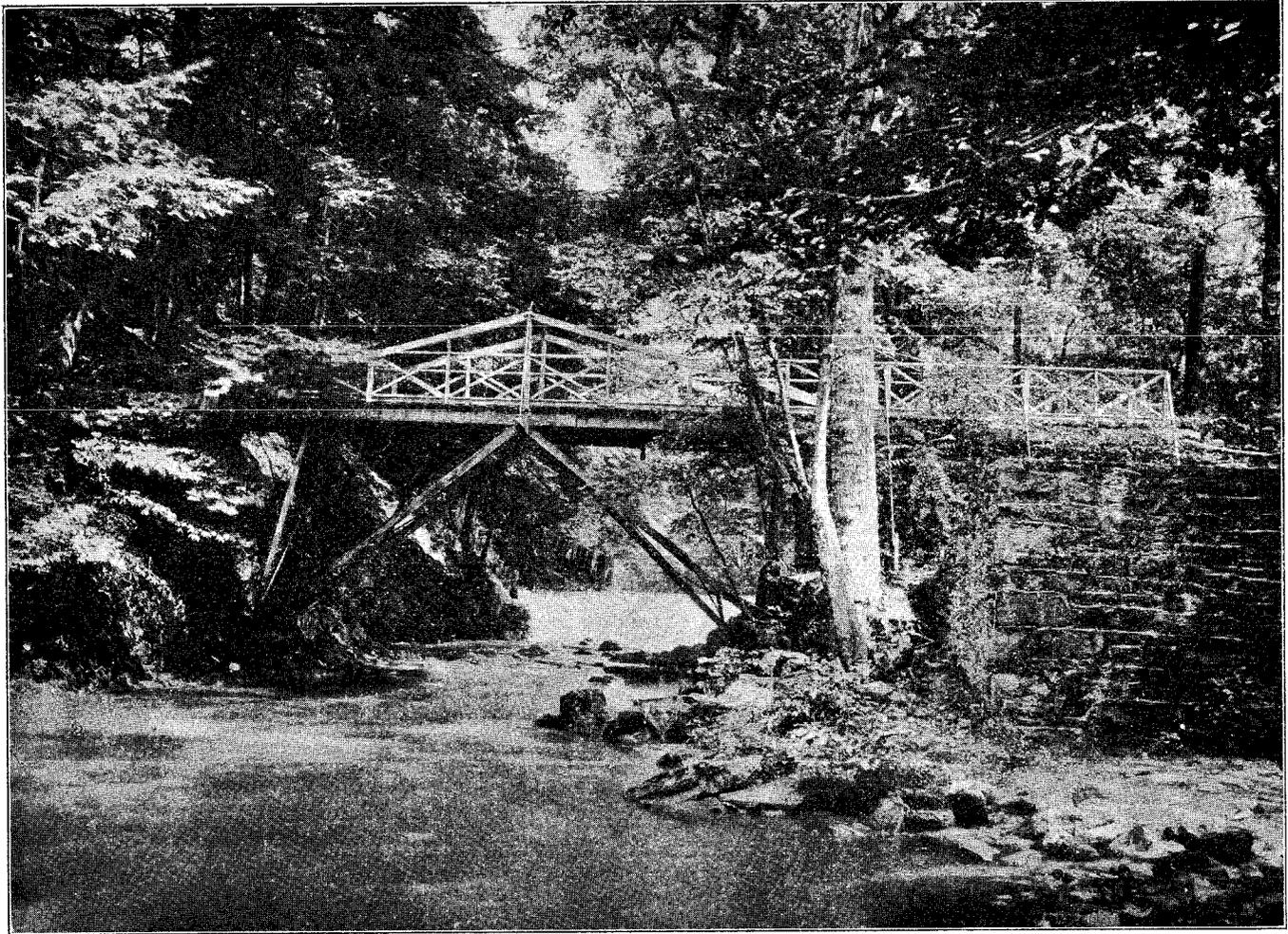
The receipts during 1910 for golf locker fees were \$3,517.25, of which \$3,006.25 was paid in November and December of that year for use of lockers for year 1911; this amount added to receipts from same source during 1911, \$969.79, shows true receipts, for account of 1911, as \$3,976.04, against \$2,725 for 1910, and \$2,610 for 1908.

*Permits Issued, January 31 to December 31, 1911.*

Tennis.....	2,910
Baseball.....	649
Picnics, May walks, etc.....	661
Football.....	67
Golf.....	4,369
Photos.....	196
Croquet, cricket, etc.....	48
Miscellaneous.....	150
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	9,050

*Concerts Given in 1911.*

Name of Park and Bandmaster.	No. of Con- certs.	Date.	Amount Paid.
Pelham Bay (Athletic Field), G. Pagano.	5	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30.....	\$425.00
Pelham Bay (Orchard Beach), John F. Dooley.....	5	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30.....	425.00
Claremont, Chas. Dammeyer.....	10	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3.....	850.00
St. James, M. J. Ryan.....	10	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3.....	850.00
Van Cortlandt, Aug. Stover.....	10	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3.....	1,200.00
St. Mary's, Wm. A. Frank.....	5	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30.....	425.00
St. Mary's, A. H. Conklin.....	5	August 6, 13, 20, 27; Septem- ber 3.....	425.00
Crotona, Peter Berlinghoff.....	5	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30.....	425.00
Crotona, R. P. Caspar.....	5	August 6, 13, 20, 27; Septem- ber 3.....	425.00
Bronx, Wm. E. J. Keating.....	10	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3.....	1,200.00
Macombs Dam, Jim Pierce.....	5	July 4, 9, 16, 23, 30.....	425.00
Macombs Dam, Henry Baum.....	5	August 6, 13, 20, 27; Septem- ber 3.....	425.00
Franz Sigel, Sol Berger.....	1	July 4.....	85.00
<i>Special Concerts.</i>			
Borough Day.....		June 17.....	680.00
Field Day (Washington Irving High School).		June 23.....	75.00
			<b>\$8,340.00</b>



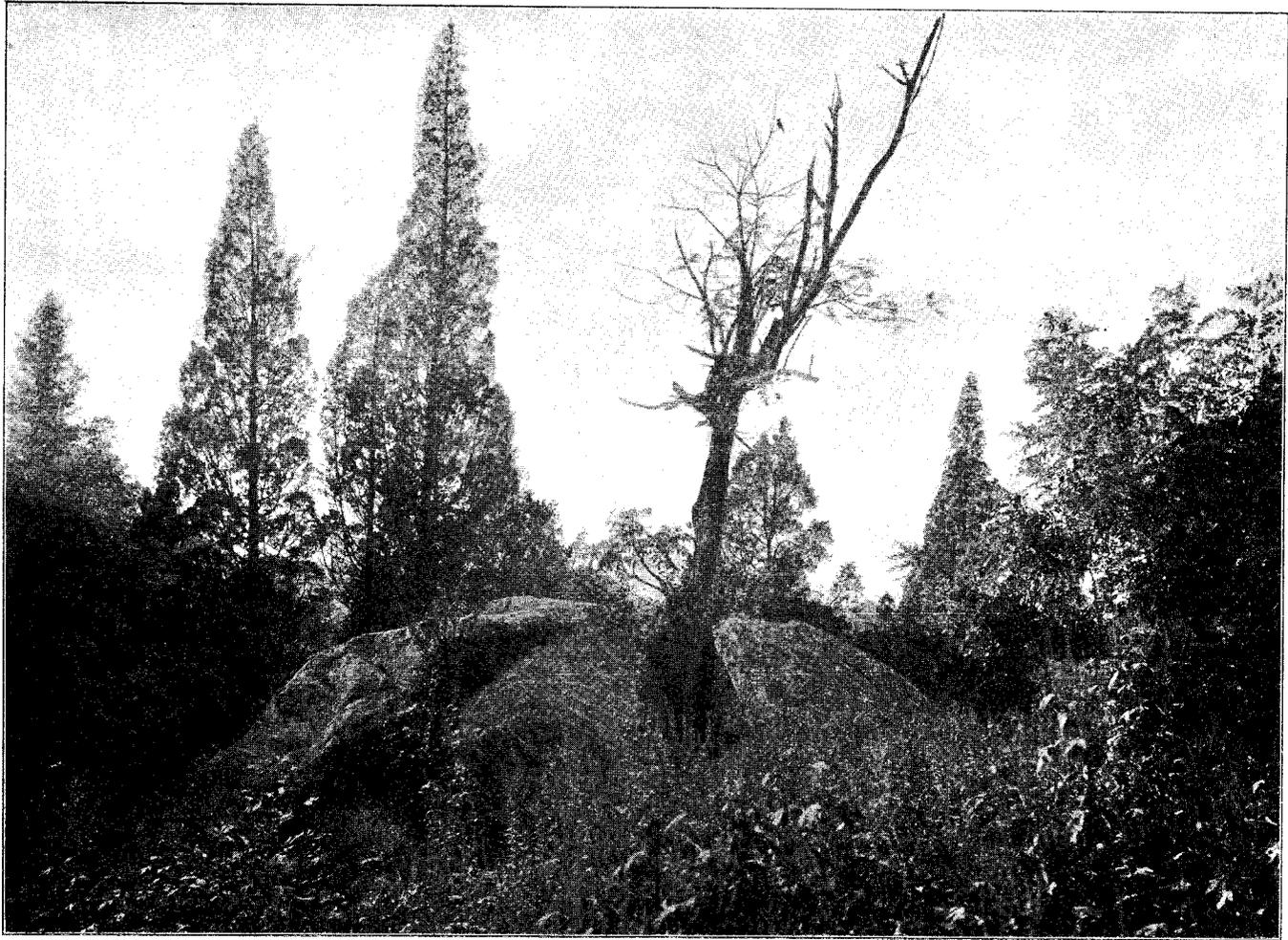
BRIDGE OVER BRONX RIVER.

*Statement of the Condition as at the Close of Business, December 31, 1911, of All Appropriation Accounts for the Current Year, and of Appropriation Accounts for Prior Years Having Unexpended Balances.*

Title of Account (Current Year).	Net Funds Available.	Ex-pen-ded To Date.	Unex-pended Balances.	Unen-cumbered Balances.
<b>Administration—</b>				
Commissioner's Office, salaries, 1911.....	\$15,150.00	\$14,289.61	\$860.39	\$860.39
Superintendent's Office.....	8,700.00	8,700.00	.....	.....
Engineer's Office.....	12,100.00	11,348.79	751.21	751.21
<b>General Maintenance, Mechanical Force, Wages—</b>				
Regular employees.....	37,531.00	32,242.10	5,288.90	.....
Temporary employees.....	8,144.00	6,811.37	1,332.63	.....
<b>Maintenance, P. and B., Wages—</b>				
Regular employees.....	66,981.50	58,953.93	8,027.57	.....
Temporary employees.....	167,700.00	166,879.25	820.75	.....
<b>Maintenance Trees, Wages—</b>				
Regular employees.....	16,200.00	14,130.38	2,069.62	.....
Temporary employees.....	5,400.00	4,061.26	1,338.74	.....
Maintenance P. and B., hired teams, horses and carts.....	34,000.00	33,333.40	666.60	.....
<b>Administration—</b>				
General supplies.....	615.00	606.25	8.75	8.75
Contingencies.....	1,300.00	1,224.12	75.88	58.18
Telephone service.....	750.00	601.10	149.90	148.90
Music.....	2,350.00	8,340.00	1,010.00	1,010.00
<b>Maintenance P. and B.—</b>				
General supplies.....	1,850.00	1,772.58	77.42	27.42
Forage, shoeing and boarding horses.....	4,132.00	3,665.68	466.32	37.82
Material for repairs, etc., by Department labor.....	25,200.00	23,519.90	1,680.10	96.03
R. and R., by contract or open order.....	1,700.00	1,467.56	232.44	232.44
Apparatus, machinery, vehicles, etc.....	7,300.00	6,095.89	1,204.11	253.88
Fuel.....	4,000.00	3,898.90	101.10	20.10
Maintenance of automobiles.....	1,250.00	974.10	275.90	26.16
Purchase of horses.....	1,000.00	850.00	150.00	150.00
<b>Maintenance of Botanical Garden—</b>				
Salaries and wages.....	67,860.00	62,382.01	5,447.99	.....
General supplies.....	2,500.00	2,500.00	.....	.....
Materials for R. and R. by Department labor.....	1,500.00	1,359.79	140.21	65.21
R. and R. by contract or open order.....	800.00	799.41	.59	.59
Fuel.....	11,000.00	5,321.46	5,678.54	19.04
Contingencies.....	495.00	396.37	98.63	3.63
Telephone service.....	100.00	67.52	32.48	32.48
Forage, shoeing and boarding horses.....	814.64	644.39	170.25	5.25
Apparatus, machinery, vehicles, etc.....	925.00	921.89	3.11	3.11
<b>Maintenance of New York Zoological Garden—</b>				
Salaries and wages.....	116,000.00	109,385.60	6,614.40	.....
General supplies.....	42,400.00	37,931.05	4,468.95	688.95
Materials for R. R. by Department labor.....	5,800.00	3,766.56	2,033.44	1,233.44
Apparatus, machinery, vehicles, etc.....	420.00	187.07	232.93	200.93
Fuel.....	8,000.00	5,729.31	2,270.69	670.69
Contingencies.....	1,242.00	1,064.20	177.80	57.80
Telephone service.....	770.00	542.25	227.75	227.75
	\$690,980.14	\$636,765.05	\$54,215.09	\$6,870.15
<b>(Prior Years.)</b>				
Maintenance of Parks and Boulevards, purchase of horses.....	365.00	.....	365.00	.....
Grand total.....	\$691,345.14	\$636,765.05	\$54,580.09	\$6,870.15

Statement of the Condition of Corporate Stock, Assessment Bond, Special Revenue Bond and Special Accounts, as at December 31, 1911.

Title of Fund or Account.	Total Authorization, Including Premiums.	Expended to Date.	Balance Authorization, Including Unexpended Premiums.	Unencumbered Balances.
Botanical Garden in Bronx Park, improving.....	\$826,474.53	\$826,472.90	\$1.63	\$1.63
Improvement of parks, parkways and drives.....	821,726.70	819,270.74	2,455.96	.....
Improvement and construction of parks, etc., balance, January 1, 1909.....	346.40	346.21	.19	.19
Cleaning the lake, Van Cortlandt.....	11,042.52	11,040.33	2.19	2.19
Construction of fountain, Jerome ave.....	6,061.29	4,700.00	1,361.29	1,361.29
Construction of foot bridge, Bronx Park.....	8,081.16	6,142.64	1,938.52	375.63
Eliminating swamp lands, Pelham.....	10,087.89	9,982.74	105.15	105.15
Fountain, Bronx and Pelham Parkway.....	6,113.78	6,105.25	8.53	8.53
Improving 177th st. side of Crotona Park.....	24,881.23	24,831.93	49.30	49.30
Laying asphalt walks, St. Marys Park.....	17,590.44	15,429.11	2,161.33	13.66
Reconstruction comfort station, Franz Sigel.....	3,010.13	2,534.15	475.98	475.98
Additional fencing of St. Marys Park.....	4,023.71	4,014.99	8.72	8.72
Construction of bath houses, Orchard Beach, Pelham.....	5,108.27	5,082.75	25.52	25.52
Draining swamp land, Van Cortlandt Park.....	6,000.00	2,537.84	3,462.16	500.00
Improvement of Bronx and Pelham Parkway.....	102,297.72	101,970.50	327.22	23.22
Claremont Park, Clay avenue side.....	25,320.67	25,290.13	30.54	30.54
Mosholu Parkway.....	20,451.68	20,270.17	181.51	181.51
Pelham Bay Shore.....	10,420.62	10,047.24	373.38	373.38
Spuyten Duyvil Parkway.....	81,768.95	79,709.68	2,059.27	2,059.27
St. James Park.....	20,337.03	20,335.03	2.00	2.00
Raising Colonial Garden, Van Cortlandt Park.....	45,543.20	45,511.44	31.76	31.76
Improving northern portion St. Marys Park.....	12,077.97	12,044.62	33.35	33.35
Installing drainage system, Crotona Park.....	18,059.16	18,051.49	7.67	7.67
Additional greenhouses.....	18,168.32	17,080.86	1,087.46	137.60
Construction of granite steps, St. Marys Park.....	8,095.75	8,059.53	36.22	36.22
Construction of manure pits.....	20,035.51	3,701.05	16,334.46	14,379.10
Construction of fountains, various parks.....	5,004.55	2,722.22	2,282.33	2,282.39
Fireproofing vaults, Claremont Park.....	5,041.00	3,722.20	1,318.80	1,318.83
Granite steps, Jerome to Ogden ave.....	4,000.00	3,727.19	272.81	272.81
Granite steps at Webster Ave. Bridge.....	4,000.00	3,742.71	257.29	257.29
Railings around small parks, etc.....	15,051.83	10,037.25	5,014.58	1,594.58
Comfort station, Macombs Dam Park.....	10,000.00	3,462.30	6,537.70	107.00
Bronx Zoological Gardens, planting concourse, etc.....	65,495.31	60,008.92	5,486.39	5,397.23
Construction and repaving of drives, etc.....	272,390.82	264,886.14	7,504.68	3,460.05
Erecting wire fence, Bronxdale, south.....	25,114.57	23,521.50	1,592.98	1,592.98
Rebuilding crib work, Macombs Dam Park.....	12,114.91	8,974.02	3,140.89	3,140.89
New York Zoological Garden, fitting up administration building.....	10,084.42	9,065.17	1,019.25	1,892.87
Construction of drain from Van Cortlandt Park Lake, etc.....	105,092.17	93,551.88	11,540.29	480.29
Road to connect Bronx Park System with Botanical Garden.....	10,072.91	9,976.03	96.88	96.88
Filling and improving Devoe Park.....	10,008.10	9,575.12	432.98	432.98
Construction of bridge, Hunter to Twin Island.....	5,045.53	200.66	4,844.87	11.87
Improving east and west portion, Crotona Park.....	25,016.52	24,044.97	971.55	163.62
Reconstruction of shelter building, Franz Sigel Park.....	5,004.55	232.20	4,772.35	2,812.35
Completing walk and drainage system, St. Marys Park.....	8,019.75	7,989.76	29.99	29.99
Erection of bear dens, etc., Zoo.....	11,074.67	8,245.67	2,829.00	2,703.87
Erection of new zebra house, Zoo.....	36,093.61	15,240.67	20,853.09	8,641.56
Erection of eagles' and vultures' aviary, Zoo.....	20,109.27	16,213.77	3,895.50	.....
Construction of new walks, fences, etc., Zoo.....	32,589.98	17,687.53	14,902.45	14,834.95
Constructing and completing park system, Botanical Garden.....	7,047.39	7,037.82	9.57	9.57
Rock excavation for paths, Botanical Garden.....	3,020.94	3,010.07	10.87	10.87
Earth excavation for paths, Botanical Garden.....	2,517.29	2,509.26	8.03	8.03
Pipe for connecting drains, Botanical Garden.....	1,050.00	1,048.29	1.71	1.71
Improving banks along driveway and paths, Botanical Garden.....	1,513.65	1,506.50	7.15	7.15
Erection of greenhouses, etc., Botanical Garden.....	25,184.85	24,959.19	225.66	225.66
Purchase and erection of railings, Botanical Garden.....	2,018.21	2,011.00	7.21	7.21
Completion of road from Botanical Garden to Bronx and Pelham Parkway.....	10,000.00	45.83	9,954.17	1,179.17
Rebuilding road, Bartow Station to City Island Bridge.....	26,000.00	14,959.15	11,040.85	3,930.95
Raising low lands east of Music Pavilion, Bronx Park.....	10,000.00	2,392.19	7,607.81	1,775.00
Improving southerly portion, St. Marys Park.....	10,000.00	7,074.76	2,925.24	1,803.04
Draining system for low lands, Macombs.....	6,000.00	1,279.06	4,720.94	201.52
General improvement of Echo Park.....	8,000.00	3,689.07	4,310.93	860.00
Preparation plans, etc., for improvements.....	5,000.00	946.02	4,053.98	4,053.98
Completion of Devoe Park.....	8,000.00	.....	8,000.00	1,580.00
Purchase of trees, shrubs, etc.....	5,000.00	1,367.25	3,632.75	2,875.25



SPLIT ROCK ROAD.  
Here Anne Hutchinson met death at the hands of the Indians.

Title of Fund or Account.	Total Authorization, Including Premiums.	Expended to Date.	Balance Authorization, Including Unexpended Premiums.	Unencumbered Balances.
Fencing boundaries of parks.....	\$10,000.00	\$158.68	\$9,841.32	\$725.32
Construction of driveway, Grand Boulevard and Mosholu Parkway.....	8,000.00	3,524.85	4,475.15	225.50
Erection of comfort station and bathhouses, Pelham.....	10,000.00	44.36	9,955.64	9,955.64
Improving shore front and bathing beaches, Pelham.....	5,000.00	.....	5,000.00	1,260.00
Draining Meadow land, Pelham.....	5,000.00	1,458.58	3,541.42	125.00
Erection of comfort station near Van Cortlandt Mansion.....	12,000.00	80.58	11,919.42	11,919.42
Improving rock cut, Broadway side, Van Cortlandt Park.....	5,000.00	2,313.19	2,686.81	53.01
Construction of drinking fountains.....	3,000.00	.....	3,000.00	3,000.00
Water supply system for nursery, Van Cortlandt Park.....	5,000.00	2,323.15	2,676.85	479.18
Erection of addition, Colonial Mansion, Van Cortlandt Park.....	28,000.00	.....	28,000.00	28,000.00
Construction of a boundary fence, Botanical Garden.....	20,000.00	31.05	19,968.95	19,968.95
Construction of new walks and railings, Botanical Garden.....	6,000.00	36.66	5,963.34	1,889.59
Rock and earth excavation, Botanical Garden.....	4,500.00	388.25	4,111.75	4,111.75
Construction of masonry retaining wall, Botanical Garden.....	1,300.00	.....	1,300.00	1,300.00
Erection of a pergola, Botanical Garden.....	2,500.00	.....	2,500.00	2,500.00
New cases for Museum Building, Botanical Garden.....	3,000.00	.....	3,000.00	2,100.00
Erection of additional greenhouse, Botanical Garden.....	12,500.00	.....	12,500.00	12,500.00
Erecting Public Service Building, Zoo.....	30,000.00	.....	30,000.00	30,000.00
Erection of power plant and workshop, Zoo.....	35,000.00	.....	35,000.00	35,000.00
Construction of zebra house yards, Zoo.....	15,000.00	.....	15,000.00	15,000.00
Erection of extension to winter house for pelicans, Zoo.....	5,000.00	.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Erection of extension to Rocking Stone Restaurant, Zoo.....	5,000.00	.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
Construction of fences and other permanent improvements, Zoo.....	35,000.00	1,843.40	33,156.60	32,648.80
Development, east of Bronx River, Zoo.....	15,000.00	.....	15,000.00	15,000.00
Pelham avenue improvement, Southern Boulevard through Bronx Park.....	1.25	.....	1.25	1.25
Van Cortlandt Park, parade ground.....	55.46	.....	55.46	55.46
Washington Bridge, park fund.....	267.93	.....	267.93	267.93
	<b>\$3,241,026.07</b>	<b>\$2,783,429.35</b>	<b>\$457,596.72</b>	<b>\$327,364.60</b>
<b>Revenue Bond Fund—</b>				
One automobile.....	\$3,000.00	\$998.00	\$2,002.00	\$2.00
Placing F. E. on City buildings, P. B. Park.....	600.00	502.83	97.17	97.17
Turnbull Mansion at Bartow.....	200.00	150.00	50.00	50.00
	<b>\$3,800.00</b>	<b>\$1,650.83</b>	<b>\$2,149.17</b>	<b>\$149.17</b>

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

CITY OF NEW YORK

## QUEENS

Report for the year ending  
31st December, 1911



WALTER G. ELIOT

COMMISSIONER

December 31, 1911.

HON. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR, *Mayor*,

City Hall,

New York City.

Sir—I beg leave to submit the following statement of work performed by and in connection with this department, from July 24, the date of my appointment, to December 31, 1911:

Request made for the establishment, by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, of the positions and salaries required for my administrative staff during the balance of the year.

Similar request made to, and advocated before, the Board of Aldermen.

Request for the issue of special revenue bonds, to meet such salaries and also to meet the necessary contingent expenses, transportation, etc., in examining streets, parks, etc., under my jurisdiction.

Periodic appearances before the above boards and their sub-committees, advocating and explaining requests.

Personal examination in detail of the various parks and streets aforementioned.

Application for the transfer, by the Sinking Fund Commissioners, of the Police Farm to be added to the adjoining Kissena Lake Park.

Application to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for the transfer of the Paupers' Burying-ground, in the village of Queens, to be developed as a neighborhood park. (Approved by that board, December 21, 1911.)

Opening and rejection of bids for the improvement of Rainey Park.

Examination and report on an application and legislative bill to place under the jurisdiction of the Park Department the street known as Eldert's Lane. (See letter, Exhibit "A.")

Preparation of tentative maps and plans for the extension of Highland boulevard to connect Highland and Forest Parks as a continuation of Eastern Parkway of Brooklyn into and through the Queens Parks.

Preparation of maps (still in process) for a complete system of drives and walks in Forest Park, in connection with the above boulevard extensions.

Examination into the legal status of and the taking under this jurisdiction of the recently acquired beach front and street system included in Rockaway Park, repairs and improvements to board walk therein.

Design and execution of extensive repairs to Superintendent's house in Forest Park.

Laying out and partial completion of driveways to and from same.

Fencing of and improvements on all the triangular intersection plots in Long Island City, now under park jurisdiction, and clearing up of débris preliminary to the improvement of Rainey Park.

Making formal application for the transfer of public land under Queensboro Bridge, Borough of Queens, extending from the Plaza to Vernon avenue, as soon as graded, from the jurisdiction of the Bridge Department to this department, in order to improve it as an extensive playground.

Made application for, and advocated the use of, a part of the "Betsy Head" fund for that purpose.

Preparation of and advocacy of a budget for the Department of Parks, Borough of Queens, for the year 1912.

Preparation of plans, specifications, etc., and letting of contract for the erection of a headquarters office in Forest Park, near Union Turnpike. (Work now being done.)

Preparation of and securing bids for the removal of an extensive lot of dead chestnut trees from Forest Park.

Investigation of and successful recommendations regarding playgrounds in Flushing.

Planning and examining on the ground a system of parkways and parkway streets, to connect various portions of the borough and their parks, and outlining appropriate areas deemed necessary for a comprehensive system of borough parks (not neighborhood).

Preparing papers required for a necessary lighting system for Highland Park (now in hands of the proper authorities, who are executing the same).

Answering a very considerable volume of citizens' complaints for the removal of dead street trees, and pruning of others scattered over considerable areas of the borough, within the jurisdiction of the Queens Park Department, including trimming of those needed in connection with the work of the telephone and electric light companies and the Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity.

Attending meetings on park subjects, and delivering numerous addresses throughout the borough at the request of various civic and other organizations.

Improving the approaches and boundaries of Kissena Lake Park.

Various services required in connection with the work in Forest Park and abutting streets.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

Yours truly,

WALTER G. ELIOT,

*Commissioner of Parks, Borough of Queens.*

*Exhibit "A."*

Department of Parks,  
Borough of Queens.

W. G. Eliot,  
*Commissioner.*

Arsenal, Central Park.  
New York City,  
August 3rd, 1911.

HON. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR,  
*Mayor*

Dear Sir:—

I have looked carefully into the Enfield Street (now Eldert's Lane) matter, about which the Committee called upon you, and, by your direction upon me.

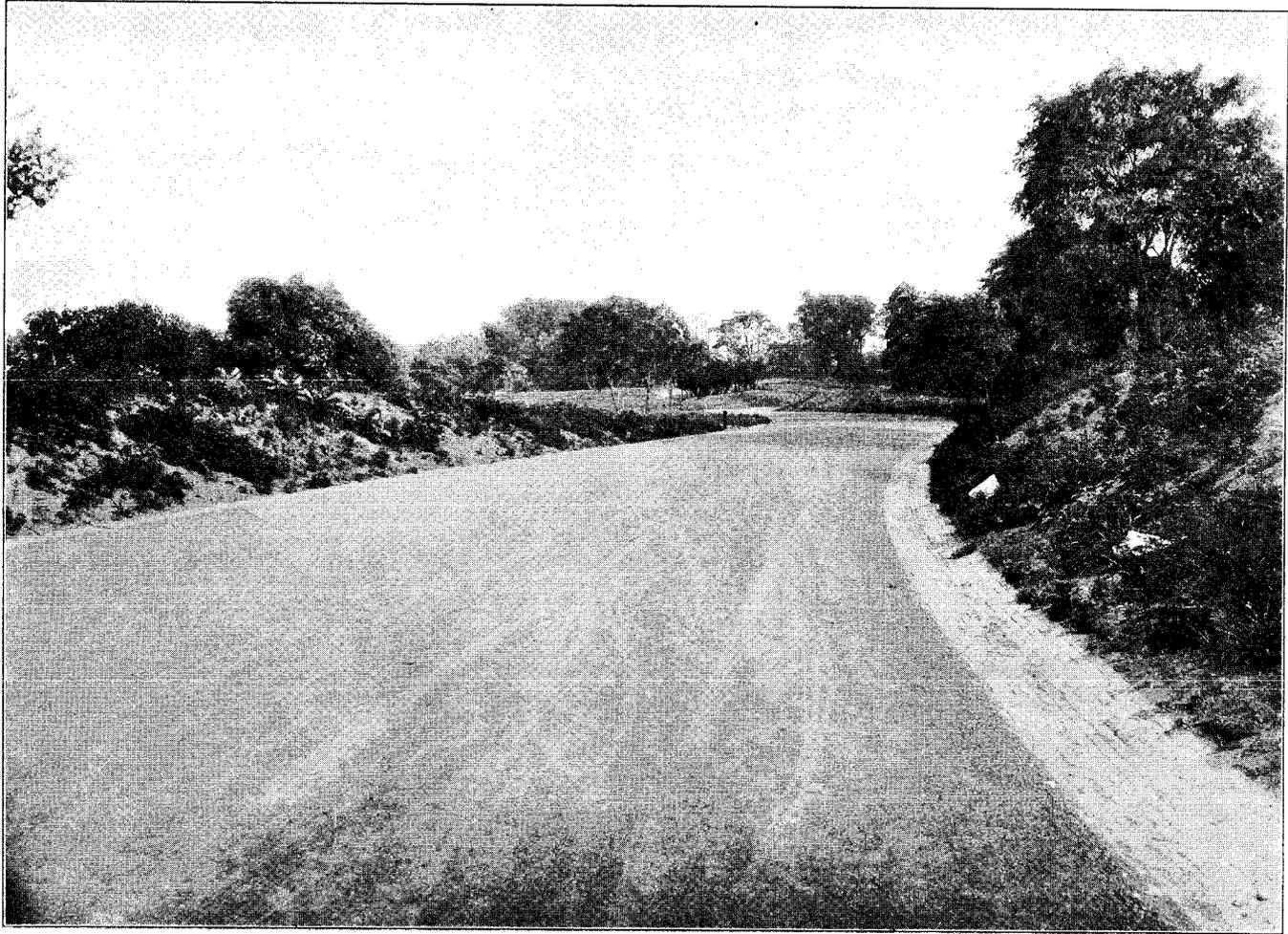
Proceedings are actively under way in the Topographical Bureau, Borough of *Brooklyn*, to open this street from *Atlantic to Jamaica Avenue*, on the lines of the adopted final maps of the Borough of *Queens*. The boundary line between the Boroughs runs through the centre, i. e., *Jamaica Avenue to Atlantic*, which is but  $\frac{2}{3}$  the distance mentioned in this Assembly bill. Considerable expense has already been incurred and the Brooklyn Topographical Bureau is making the draft damage maps.

If the bill is signed *at this time*, I am led to believe the cost of the proceedings will fall upon the *City* and the abutting owners escape. If the bill was so drawn that the title to the street, *when officially mapped by the Topographical Bureau, Borough of Brooklyn, on the proper lines*, was vested in the *City*, then I am of the opinion it would be an excellent idea to have that part of the street placed in charge of the *Park* department (particularly of *Brooklyn*, in which far the larger portion is located) extending from the *Conduit* (which will doubtless have *Park* treatment) *all the way to Jamaica Avenue*.

On the removal of the Truants' Home buildings (which I understand is contemplated) at that point, and the throwing of its grounds into the *Forest Park* contiguous, it will give a needed outlet to an important driveway in *Forest Park*, now terminating in a blind end on the map.

Very respectfully,

WALTER G. ELIOT,  
*Queens Park Commissioner.*



NEW BAY RIDGE PARKWAY.

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS



## BOROUGHS OF BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

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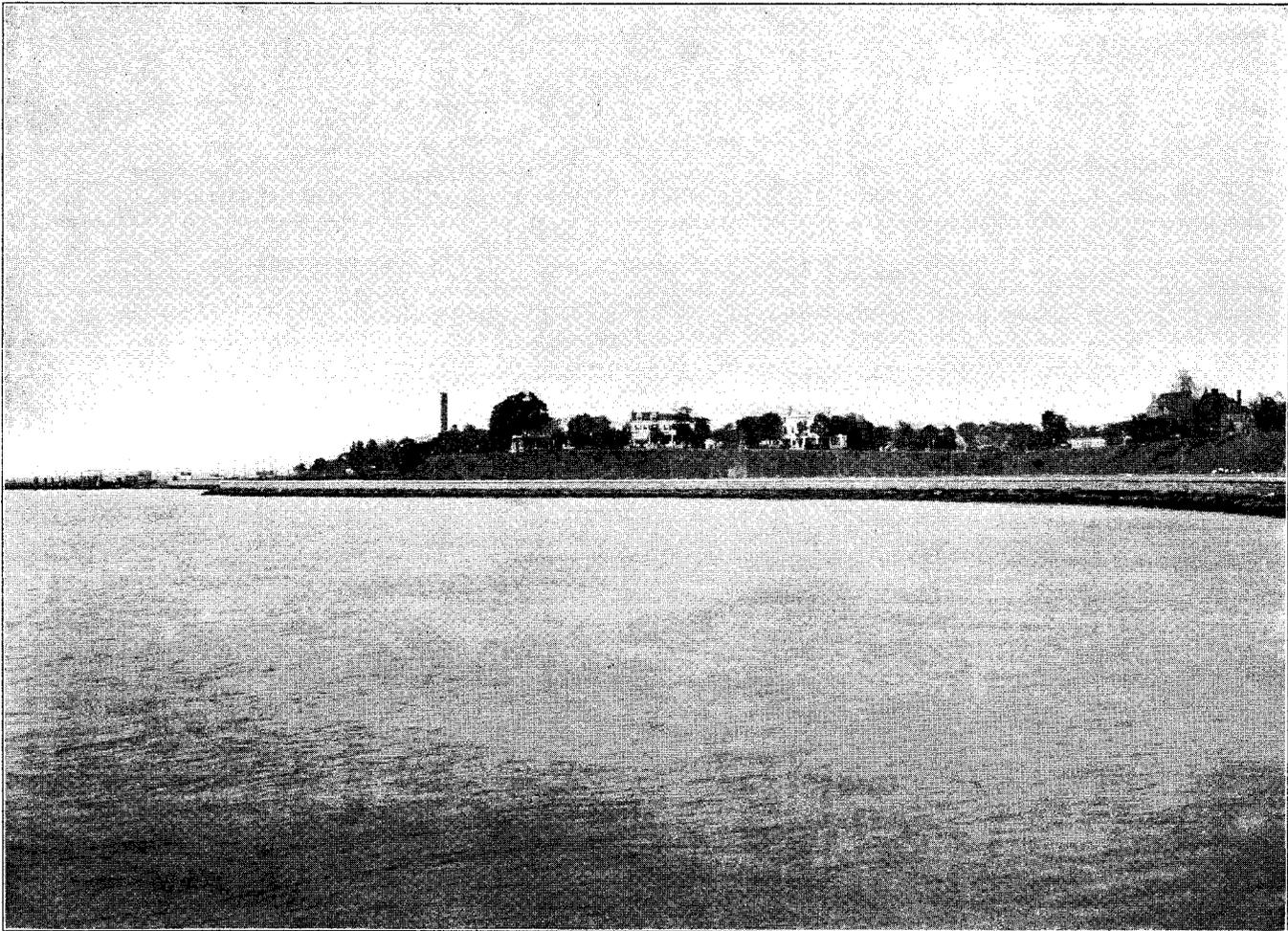


## ANNUAL REPORT

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1911



NEW SEA-WALL AT SHORE ROAD.

December 31, 1911.

Hon. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR, Mayor of The City of New York:

Dear Sir—In compliance with the provisions of the Charter I send you herewith the report of work undertaken and accomplished in this Department for the year just closed.

I have the honor to remain, very truly yours,

M. J. KENNEDY, Commissioner.

The work of improving and maintaining the parks in a satisfactory manner was adhered to during the year just closed. Many improvements of a permanent character were completed, and others are under way.

In accordance with chapter 644 of the Laws of 1911 a Commissioner of Parks was appointed on July 24, 1911, for the Borough of Queens, but as no provision was made in the law, there was no separation of the Budget allowance for 1911, and the work of maintaining the parks in the Borough of Queens was continued as heretofore.

With the beginning of the new year there will be a complete separation of the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. All the employees of the Department who have been working in the Borough of Queens will be transferred to the jurisdiction of that Borough.

Much attention was bestowed upon Prospect Park, the principal park in our system. The smaller parks, parkways and playgrounds were likewise carefully looked after, and where improvements were necessary, the same were made when it was possible to do so.

The park area of the two systems was added to by the acquisition of a park on the seashore at Rockaway Beach, and three new playgrounds will soon be completed and opened to the public in the Borough of Brooklyn.

#### Construction Work.

Shore Road—The most important work attempted by the Department since the completion of Prospect Park is the construction of the Shore road, fringing the New York Bay from Owl's Head at 66th street to the Government Reservation at Fort Hamilton, occupying the major portion of the Brooklyn waterfront of this bay. The total length of this improvement is approximately thirteen thousand seven hundred linear feet, or somewhat over two and one-half miles. The principal features of the work are the construction of a granite and concrete sea wall upon a solid riprap foundation, the filling in of the areas between the wall and the adjoining uplands, the construction of a number of drives, paths, etc., the establishment of drainage and irrigation systems, the covering of the filled-in lands and adjoining slopes with topsoil, and the final creation of extensive lawns and plantations. The lines of the wall, while forming a series of graceful curves, in general follow the bulkhead line of the harbor.

A great step toward the accomplishment of this vast improvement was taken in August of this year by the award of a contract for the building of the sea wall between Bay Ridge ave. and 92d st., with a total length of seventy-two hundred linear feet, or slightly in excess of one-half of the total. The contractors began work in September, and, judging from the progress already made, this contract will be completed before the expiration of the stipulated time of two hundred and fifty working days.

Bay Ridge Parkway—The Shore road practically terminates at or near 66th st., as far as the true interpretation of its name is concerned. Its main roadway, however, continues at practically a right angle to the shore line, and thence in an easterly

direction to Fort Hamilton ave. While this parkway is a part of the original Shore road improvement scheme, it is officially known as "The Bay Ridge parkway." From its junction with the Shore road, to 4th ave., it is confined between 66th st. on the north and Wakeman place on the south, while east of 4th ave. its southerly boundary is 67th st.

The treatment of this parkway comprises a winding driveway in the interior of the plots, flanked on either side by grassy slopes or mounds. Between 1st and 4th aves. it is fully developed, has paved walks and is adequately planted; beyond 4th ave. its main roadway is completed and the mounds graded, but otherwise no improvements have been effected. West of 1st ave. it is yet to be improved along the lines of the adopted plan—a temporary roadway of moderate width forming the connecting link between the Bay Ridge parkway and the Shore road proper. The parkway is carried below 1st, 2d and 3d aves., while it crosses 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th aves. at grade. Second and 3d aves. are carried over the park drive by stone arches constructed some years ago. First ave. is likewise continued over the parkway by means of a granite bridge completed during the present year, and being a continuation of a long steel trestle erected by the Long Island Railroad Company over its Bay Ridge terminal.

This bridge is a substantial as well as ornamental masonry structure composed of three groined arches, one of forty feet span over the driveway, flanked by smaller ones on either side over the walks. Granite steps on each side of the bridge lead from the level of 1st ave. to the walks of the parkway below. The materials employed are granite for all exposed stonework, and the backing is of reinforced concrete. The soffits of the arches are buff Guastavino tiles.

The construction of this arch required the regrading of the adjoining parking areas, the rebuilding of the park road for a distance of five to six hundred feet in either direction, and the transplanting of a number of trees and shrubs.

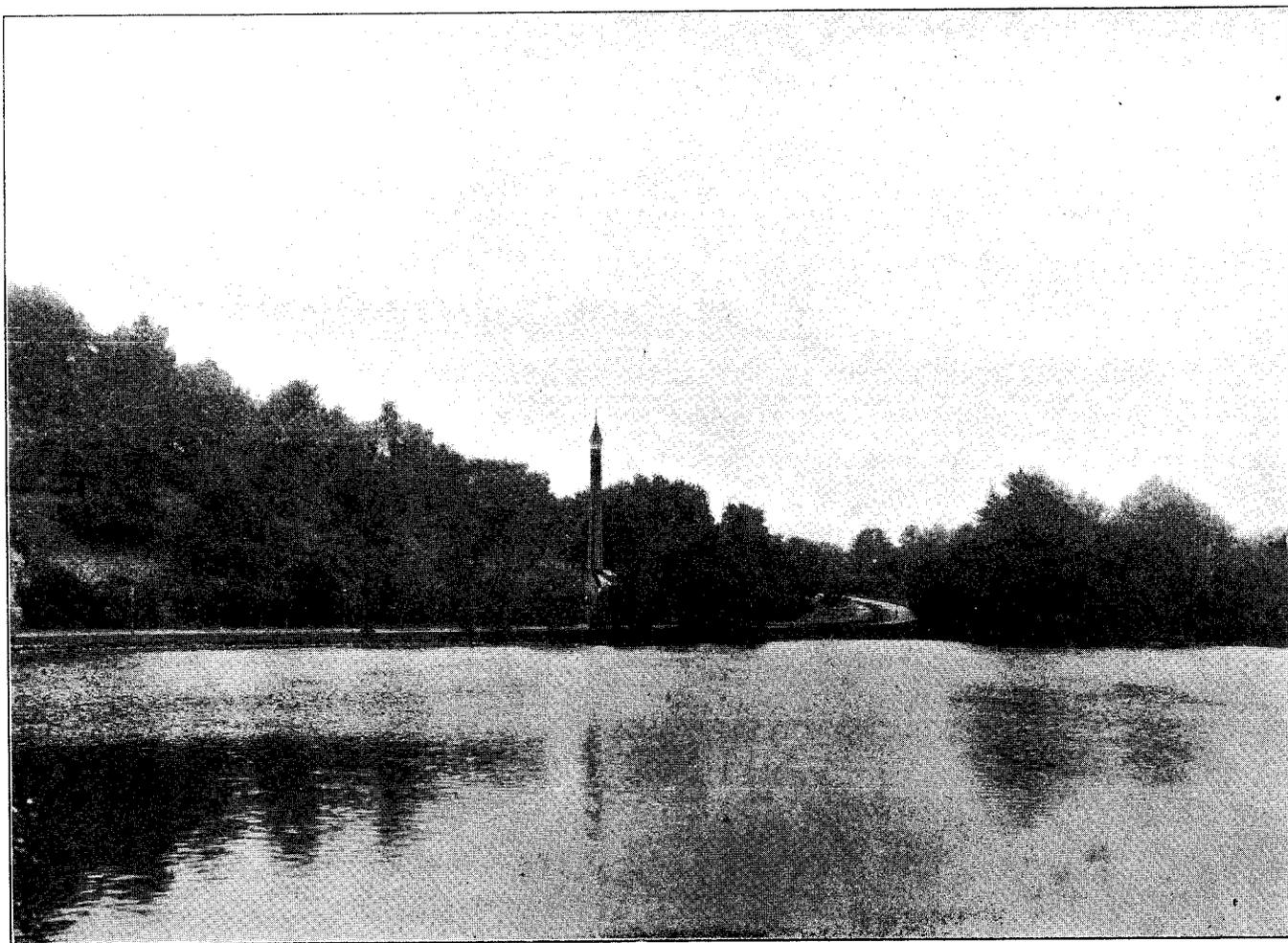
This work was completed in a satisfactory manner early in December.

Playground in McCarren Park—Last year the Board of Estimate and Apportionment allowed an amount of corporate stock sufficient to construct a playground and athletic field for men and boys in the plot forming part of McCarren Park, bounded by Bedford ave., Lorimer st., Driggs ave. and N. 12th st. As soon as this money became available a contract was awarded for the entire work of constructing this playground, except the proposed shelter and locker building, which will be taken care of in a separate contract.

The work under way, which is practically completed, comprises the erection of a wrought iron picket fence set on granite foundation posts, enclosing the plot; the grading, draining and irrigating of the enclosed area, the construction of a complete walk system, and the paving of same with hexagonal asphalt tiles, the construction and paving with cinders and gravel of a playground for boys and an open-air gymnasium for men, and finally, as the crowning feature, the construction of a vast athletic field surrounded by a cinder running track, one-quarter mile long and 20 feet in width.

This athletic field deserves special mention, since it furnishes a new departure from those in existence in and near Greater New York. The running track is laid out on the general level of the plot, while the field which is oval in shape, is depressed about 2 feet below the level of the track. The subsurface is carefully graded so that it drains to the outer border in all directions. It is then covered with a 6-inch layer of stiff clay, thoroughly puddled and smoothed down. Upon this surface is placed a layer of steam cinders, thoroughly compacted by rolling, and the field finished off by a layer of finely screened Peekskill gravel, 3 inches in thickness, thoroughly puddled and rolled until it is well hardened and free from all depressions or lumps.

The purpose of this mode of construction is not only that the surface is expected to retain a certain amount of elasticity, but that the entire field may be flooded in



SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, PROSPECT PARK.

winter with from 6 to 8 inches of water, and in freezing weather used for skating. To this end the field is surrounded with a number of hydrants of sufficient size to quickly flood the same, and the drainage system is so arranged that the water may be drawn off in a few hours.

The remainder of the grounds not occupied by walks, playgrounds, or athletic field have been covered with topsoil and seeded. Later on trees and shrubbery will be planted thereon. Arrangements have also been made for the planting of shade trees on the sidewalks surrounding the entire plot. This work, likewise, will be accomplished early in the spring.

The contract for the construction of the shelter and locker building is ready for advertising, and work will be started thereon as soon as weather conditions are favorable.

Red Hook Playground—This playground, bounded by Pioneer st., Dwight st., King st. and Richard st., and directly adjoining Red Hook Park, was improved during the year. The work consisted of the regulating and grading of the plot, the surrounding of same with an iron picket fence, the setting of interior subdivision fences of wrought iron pipe and wire mesh, the installation of a complete drainage and irrigation system, and the paving of the playgrounds with a coating of steam cinders and Hudson River gravel. The sidewalks surrounding the playground were paved, and arrangements for the planting of shade trees provided.

The construction of a combined shelter and comfort house was begun early in the summer, but, owing to strikes and other causes over which the Department had no control, its completion was seriously delayed. The indications are that the same will be fully completed early in the new year.

Bushwick Playground—This playground, located in the Bushwick section of the Borough, fronts on both Putnam ave. and Woodbine st., between Kniekerbocker and Irving aves. It adjoins two school buildings now in course of construction to the north.

The improvements now under way consist of the erection of a wrought iron picket fence surrounding the property, the grading and regulating of the entire plot and the covering of same with a coating of steam cinders and finely screened gravel, the construction of a complete irrigation and drainage system, and the subdividing of the plot into three separate playgrounds for boys, girls and small children by means of wrought iron pipe and wire screen fences. A sidewalk has also been laid on the Putnam ave. front of the playground, and a substantial concrete retaining wall is being built along the southerly boundary of the property. Adequate arrangements have been provided for the planting of shade trees, both within and around the street borders of the playground.

Addition to Office Building—The offices of the Department are located in what is known as the Litchfield Mansion, a building formerly used as a residence and subsequently, along with a large area of the surrounding lands, sold to the Department of Parks and incorporated into Prospect Park. The building was never adapted for office purposes, but, while the work of the Department was limited, it served its purpose fairly well. Of late years, however, the scope of the Department has been largely extended, the number of employees requiring office room in the building has increased, and the number of citizens having business with the Department has likewise kept on the increase. As a result it was found that the work of the Department was greatly retarded by lack of proper office room, and it was decided to erect an addition to the present building. The contractor began work thereon in November, and is progressing expeditiously. The new building will conform closely to the lines of the old mansion, and the materials employed in its construction will be practically identical with those used in the older building. It is expected that this structure will be ready for occupancy next May.

Rebuilding Walks in Prospect Park—The policy of reconstructing the dilapidated tar and asphalt walks in Prospect Park whenever the occasion offered and funds were available was adhered to during the year.

One of the most needed improvements was the reconstruction of the walk south of the lake drive, between the Ocean ave. and the Coney Island ave. entrances to the park. This walk was remodelled both as to line and grades, and relaid in hexagonal asphalt tiles. The contract also provided for the furnishing and spreading of a sufficient amount of topsoil to take care of the grading of the adjoining lawn spaces.

Shelter and Comfort House in McKinley Park—An attractive building comprising both shelter and toilet facilities for men and women was completed early in the summer in McKinley Park, located at the junction of 7th ave. and Fort Hamilton ave., and bounded on the north by 73d st.

Coping and Bronze Railing Around Borough Hall—Ever since the opening of the subway station at the Borough Hall, the grass plots and planting spaces surrounding the Borough Hall, which were enclosed by a low stone coping, were overrun by people entering the subway. There was no way of keeping them from crossing these lawns, except by the erection of fences or railings. A contract was therefore entered into late in 1910 for the remodeling of these plots and the surrounding of the same with a bluestone coping surmounted by a neat bronze railing. The contractors were very dilatory in completing this work, and finally, upon their being declared bankrupt, the contract was finished by the employees of this Department. The completion of this improvement has put an effectual stop to the practice of crossing and destroying the lawns.

Fences in Several Parks—Contracts for the erection of substantial iron picket fences around the following parks were completed during the year: Bushwick Park, Fulton Park and Amersfort Park, in the Borough of Brooklyn, and Kings Park, in Jamaica, Borough of Queens.

The fences have not only added to the attractiveness of these parks, but afford much needed protection to the lawns, plantations and other features of the interior of these breathing places.

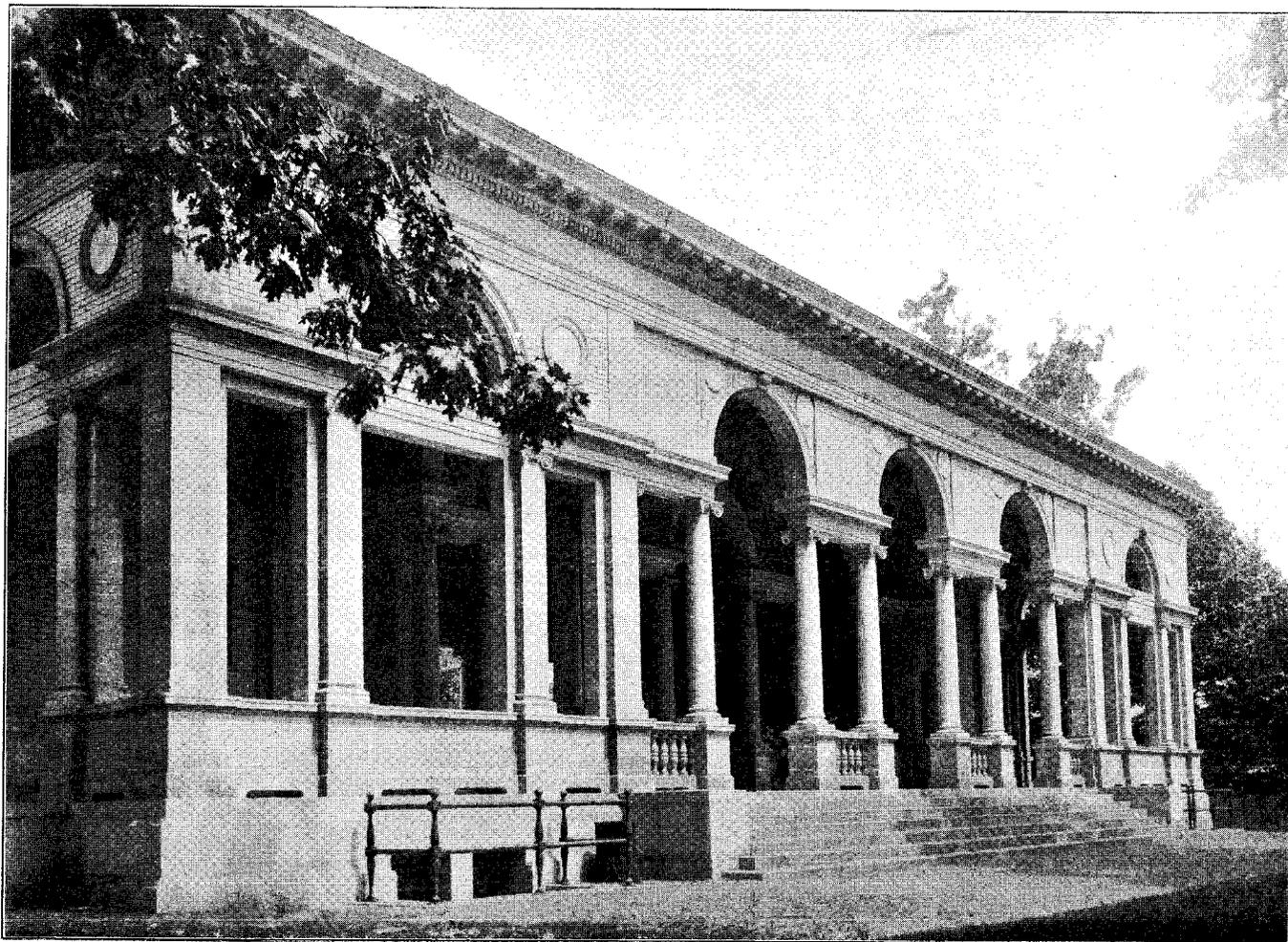
New Shelters—New shelters and comfort houses are in course of construction in Winthrop Park, McLaughlin Park and Seigel Street Playground.

The one in Winthrop Park was begun early in the summer and should have been completed before now, but the contractors found themselves in financial difficulties from the start, which finally culminated in their being declared bankrupt. The Receiver appointed by the Court is now engaged in completing the building.

The McLaughlin Park shelter was started early in the fall, and progress thereon is satisfactory.

The shelter in the Seigel Street Playground should have been finished last summer. The strike of the marble setters, however, precluded the completion of the building in contract time. Since the settlement of the strike the contractors are making satisfactory progress toward its early completion.

Roadwork—The work of constructing or reconstructing roads and drives in parks and on the parkways has been rather limited during the year. The chief reason therefor was the lack of appropriations to pay for this class of work. The Department has consulted with the officials of the State Highway Commission of Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, as well as the various park departments throughout the country, relative to the construction of a pavement which would not only withstand the effect of heavy automobile traffic, but would also afford safe footing for the horse under trying weather conditions; and, while a great deal of progress has been made in the direction of solving the good roads problem, no standard specification has as yet been evolved. Under these conditions the Department has not felt called upon to experiment, and the long established method of paving our parkways and



TENNIS HOUSE, PROSPECT PARK.

park roads with Hudson River road gravel has been continued. While the cost of repairs—which in this Department are conducted on a continuous plan—has been considerable, the Department has been enabled to keep practically all its roads in good condition. The one exception has been and is the pavement of Fort Hamilton ave.

Fort Hamilton ave., laid out as a public highway, was turned over to the Department of Parks by an act of the Legislature in 1894, and during that year and the three years following was improved and paved with macadam. At that time traffic on this avenue was very light, and the macadam pavement was sufficient for all purposes. Of late years, however, traffic conditions have greatly changed, and practically all the building material used in the upbuilding of Borough Park and the adjacent territory has been carted over this parkway. As a result, the pavement soon wore out, and, although repairs were continued throughout the season, they were of little avail.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment has again and again been appealed to for funds to replace this worn-out pavement with a suitable permanent one, but no allowance was made, and at the present time the parkway under unfavorable weather conditions is almost impassable.

The Brooklyn parkways, unlike those in other cities, owing not only to their location, but also to the fact that they were the first streets in the outlying districts to be improved and paved, not only take care of pleasure vehicles, but also form the main arteries of business traffic in the districts through which they pass.

Thus the Ocean parkway for thirty years formed the only means of communication for business vehicles between Brooklyn and Coney Island, and even to-day the major portion of this traffic passes over that parkway.

Eastern parkway was for many years the sole roadway for traffic between South Brooklyn and East New York, Brownsville, etc., and is very largely used for that purpose at present.

Fort Hamilton parkway, as heretofore stated, forms the connecting link between the Flatbush section and Borough Park, Fort Hamilton, etc., and since the closing of 4th ave. owing to the subway construction, it is used by the South Brooklyn traffic to reach the Fort Hamilton section.

Bay parkway (22d ave.) is almost exclusively used for business traffic between Flatbush, Bensonhurst and Bath Beach.

For these reasons Brooklyn's parkways are extremely difficult to keep in good repair, and the pavements need renewal much more frequently than if the parkways were used for pleasure traffic only.

The new roadwork accomplished during the year includes the paving of Parkside ave. (a continuation of Fort Hamilton ave.) between Flatbush ave. and the Park Circle with asphalt. This work was begun late in 1910 and completed in the spring of 1911.

Ocean parkway, between Parkside and Flatbush aves., forming the southeasterly boundary of Prospect Park, was macadamized by park labor.

#### Maintenance.

The maintenance work throughout the Department has been carried on successfully throughout the year.

While Prospect Park received especial attention, none of the other parks, parkways and playgrounds was neglected.

Prospect Park—A broad walk extending from the entrance at Ocean and Parkside aves. to the Coney Island ave. entrance and bordering the south lake drive has been for years in a dilapidated condition. Money has been asked for repeatedly to remodel the walk system of that part of the park, but has not been allowed. Last

fall it was decided to repave this important walk with asphalt tiles, taking the money from the maintenance fund. The work was completed in December, and it is a decided improvement.

A considerable area of the old tar and asphalt walks along the southeasterly portion of Prospect Park was resurfaced with a layer of sheet asphalt. While realizing this method of paving and repairing the walks is inadequate and expensive, yet our inability to obtain sufficient money to continue the remodeling of the walks in Prospect Park along modern lines forced us to resort to the old method.

Over three thousand feet of the old cobblestone gutter bordering the lake drive were taken up and replaced with a brick gutter laid on concrete foundation.

The scheme of replanting the woodlands and adding to the evergreen shrubbery was continued, and fourteen hundred and sixty-five trees and several thousand shrubs were set out during the proper season.

The floral displays were unusually fine, both in spring and summer, and were greatly admired. Practically all the plants used in the Department have heretofore been propagated and grown in the Department greenhouses in Forest Park. After the separation of the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens it will be impossible to obtain these plants from the old source, and arrangements are now being made to raise the flowering plants in Prospect Park, provided funds can be obtained to erect three new propagating houses. For the coming year the needs of the Department in that line will have to be supplied by purchase in the open market.

The temporary house for skaters was taken apart at the close of the skating season in the spring, and the grounds occupied by the same were regraded and seeded. The building was re-erected late this fall on the old site.

The roadways of the park were maintained in good condition throughout the year, and late in the fall they were coated with heavy oil and covered with fine gravel. The south lake drive was resurfaced with Hudson River road gravel along its entire length. The lake drive and several sections of the east drive were treated in a similar manner.

The lawns of the parks, owing to the very extensive use of the same, required frequent and extensive repairs. Upward of two hundred thousand square feet of sod were laid throughout the park.

Late in the year the delivery of three thousand cubic yards of old stable manure was begun, and this will be spread over the lawns in the park.

The mechanics were kept busy making repairs to buildings, fences, bridges and railings, etc.

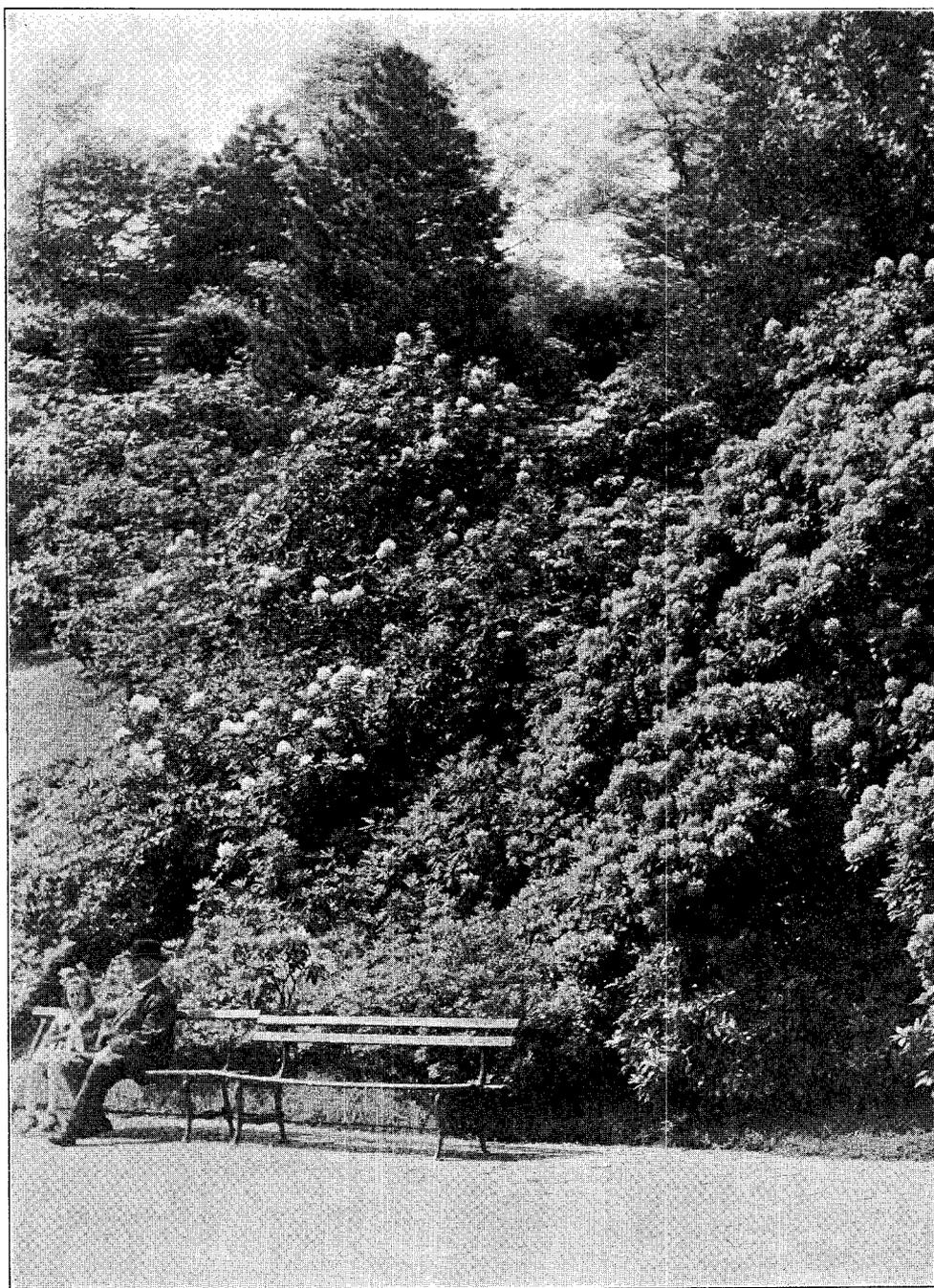
Forest Park—Pursuant to the advice of a professional golf expert, who was engaged for that purpose, extensive alterations and betterments were made upon the golf links, especially on the southerly portion fronting Jamaica ave., the improvements consisting of the establishment of new tees and putting greens and the cleaning and rolling of the fair greens. The links in general were given a thorough overhauling, bare spots were seeded and sodded, the grounds repeatedly rolled, and the grass cut.

The entire road system of the park was repaired and put in good condition.

Highland Park, partly located in Brooklyn and partly in Queens, was likewise considerably improved. The road leading from Highland boulevard along the banks of the reservoir to Jamaica ave. was resurfaced with limestone and gravel.

The brick pavement on Highland boulevard was repaired in numerous places, and where trees were missing new specimens were planted.

The flower garden in this park was greatly improved by the addition of new species of plants. The Schenck house, located in the Brooklyn portion of this park, was thoroughly overhauled and repaired, and the exterior painted.



GROUP OF RHODODENDRONS AT VALE OF CASHMERE.

Three temporary baseball grounds were laid out in the portion near Jamaica ave. and used throughout the season.

Fort Greene Park was kept in neat and attractive condition throughout the year as far as possible. An allowance was made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for the remodeling of this park, and plans for this work are nearing completion. It is expected that early in the new year the work of restoration will begin and the same should be completed before fall.

Sunset Park—The rough grading of the walk system not already paved was completed during the fall, and the planting areas adjoining were made ready for the depositing of topsoil and their final completion.

Dyker Beach Park—This park is only partly improved, the principal improvement consisting of a drive near the northerly and part of the easterly boundaries of the park, connecting Cropsey ave. with 7th ave. The road is carried over the swamp by means of a wooden trestle. This roadway was resurfaced with gravel during the year, and is now in good condition. The Landscape Architect of the Department is at present engaged in a study of this park, with a view to later improvements.

The smaller parks throughout the two Boroughs received careful attention; repairs were made wherever necessary, trees and shrubbery were pruned, cleaned and otherwise improved, fences and buildings were painted, and a number of minor improvements were made.

Playgrounds—The playgrounds were kept open throughout the year. Many additions to the equipment were made, and the attendance in all is steadily increasing. A number of baseball diamonds were laid out in McCarren Park, which were used during the season. Later in the year the grounds were patronized by the football players.

The parade ground adjoining Prospect Park is the centre of the scene of playground activity throughout the spring, summer and autumn.

#### Parkways.

Ocean Parkway—The main roadway of this parkway, between Avenue W and Coney Island Creek, was resurfaced with Hudson River gravel. Repairs to the remainder of the road were made throughout the year, with satisfactory results.

The speedway, between 22d ave. and Kings highway, received a complete top-dressing, and, in pursuance of an Act of the Legislature, passed last winter, rules and regulations were promulgated restricting this part of the parkway to the use of light horse-drawn vehicles. Considerable opposition upon the part of automobile clubs and the owners of automobiles resulted from this act, but this opposition does not seem to be well-founded. With reasonable care on the part of those operating automobiles, the present arrangement can be made satisfactory to all concerned. During the Mardi Gras week this restriction was temporarily suspended, and the entire roadway was opened to automobile traffic without detriment to the speedway.

The traffic road on the west side of the parkway is paved with asphalt from Prospect Park to Kings highway. Below this point to Coney Island the old macadam is still in place, and is unsatisfactory. Repairs are continuous owing to the very heavy traffic, and the condition of the roadway could hardly be called satisfactory at any time.

I have asked on a number of occasions to be allowed money wherewith to complete the paving of this road to Coney Island, so far without success.

The bicycle paths and the bridle road were improved and partly recoated with suitable material. A number of catch basins were constructed and connected with nearby sewers.

An allowance was made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to bring the sunken portion of this parkway just south of the Coney Island Creek to grade. The plans and specifications for this improvement are ready, and a contract will be let before spring.

Eastern Parkway—The main road was resurfaced with gravel from Rochester ave. to New York ave. The remainder of the road was repaired and otherwise put in satisfactory condition. The two traffic roads paved with asphalt, were repaired wherever necessary.

The main road as originally laid out and paved, comprised a strip of gravel macadam in the middle and strips of Belgian block pavement between it and the curbs on each side. This block pavement has settled materially in many places, and, as a result, during inclement weather the water does not readily find its way to the catch basins. This condition is unsatisfactory, and this main roadway should be remodeled from end to end.

A request will be made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1912 for an allowance to reconstruct the portion of this parkway between the Park plaza and New York ave. during the coming year. The remainder it is expected to reconstruct in a similar manner during the two succeeding years, provided the money can be made available.

Eastern Parkway Extension, extending from the terminus of the Eastern parkway proper, at Ralph ave., in an irregular line northeasterly to Bushwick ave., was paved in 1896 and 1897. It consists of a strip of macadam in the center and wings of sheet asphalt pavement on each side. These pavements are practically worn out, especially the asphalt, which has been worn down to the concrete, and the entire roadway should be remodeled and paved in a modern manner.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment will be requested in the Corporate Stock Budget for 1912 to provide funds to carry out this much needed improvement.

The remainder of the parkways, such as Bay parkway, the Shore road and the streets in the 26th Ward of the Borough of Brooklyn, were maintained in good condition and repaired wherever necessary.

Fort Hamilton Avenue—This avenue has been for a number of years a source of much concern to the Department. It is essentially a business thoroughfare, and has, since the closing of 4th ave., by reason of the building of the subway, had to bear the burden of nearly all the traffic in the direction of Fort Hamilton. It was originally, some fourteen years ago, paved with macadam pavement. As the traffic became heavier constant repairs were necessary, and several years ago the Department realized the uselessness of continuing this style of pavement. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment was appealed to to grant money for the remodeling and repaving of this parkway, but no funds were allowed. There was not sufficient money in the maintenance fund to attempt the repaving of even a part of the street. As a result, the repairing of the practically worn-out macadam had to be continued, and in inclement weather the roadway is in a deplorable condition.

Money was asked for this greatly needed improvement in the Maintenance Budget for 1912, but was not allowed.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment will be again requested for an allowance of corporate stock for the remodeling and repaving of this parkway in the corporate stock requests for the Department for the year 1912.

If no money be forthcoming this parkway will be in a condition next spring that repairs will be practically impossible.

#### Care of Trees in Parks and City Streets.

The removal of dead and diseased trees, the pruning of broken branches and other routine work concomitant with the general care of trees was kept up in a systematic manner, with the result that the parks always looked well and were at no time in danger from infestation by disease or insects.

The planting of one thousand five hundred and forty-three trees in the parks and on the parkways in the spring proved unusually successful. The absolute

thrif of these trees throughout the summer and their adaptation to local conditions was a notable feaure. These trees were cultivated and watered throughout the summer months, and were fertilized in the fall. The fifty-six thousand three hundred and thirty-one young trees set out three years ago in nursery rows at Forest Park have this year been transplanted. Several thousand new ones were added and a great majority of the trees in this nursery are now rapidly reaching a size where they will be suitable for transplanting to permanent locations in the parks and on the parkways.

Some of the more infectious troubles such as have been threatening the hickory trees in Prospect Park for years have now been practically stamped out.

By reason of the added force employed for the purpose, the City street trees under the jurisdiction of this Department have been more successfully attended to than ever before. All sections were sprayed where necessary, and requests for care were attended to promptly. In the early part of the year a thorough canvass of the dangerous trees found on the City streets was made, and these were immediately removed.

The accompanying table will show in figures the character and quantity of the work applied to the trees in the parks and on the streets during the year:

	Brooklyn.			Queens.		Total.
	Streets.	Parks.	Parkways.	Streets.	Parks.	
Remove.....	1,985	945	235	175	.....	3,340
Trim.....	25,746	8,963	6,480	10,687	1	51,877
Spray.....	30,231	4,798	2,263	2,257	270	39,819
Clean or scrape.....	17,859	8,580	5,574	5,496	.....	37,509
Cement.....	166	.....	24	3	.....	193
Dress.....	19	7,391	836	.....	1	8,247
Lower.....	305	.....	.....	7	.....	312
Transplant.....	1	881	.....	.....	.....	882
Repair, etc., guards..	222	140	333	.....	.....	695
Cultivate.....	100	658	4,372	.....	.....	5,130
Plant.....	.....	1,166	299	.....	56,331	57,796
Shrubs, remove.....	.....	212	.....	.....	.....	210
Shrubs, trim.....	.....	610	.....	.....	.....	612
New guards.....	.....	112	344	.....	.....	456
Cavities treated.....	.....	95	.....	.....	.....	95

#### Skating.

The lake was reopened on January 1, it having been closed three days before. A thaw, however, set in and it was necessary to close it the same evening. It was again opened on January 7, and remained open on the 8th, when it was decided to close it as a matter of safety. The same condition prevailed on the 10th, when the public was allowed to use the lake for a few hours.

On the 17th, the ice having again reached a sufficient thickness, the lake was once more thrown open and the skating public enjoyed this favorite pastime until the 20th, when the mercury having risen, it was deemed wise to discontinue the sport. Skating was again allowed on February 3, the last day of the season. While the lake was open thousands of people availed themselves of the opportunity to skate.

A temporary shelter house was erected for the use of visitors, thus saving the new and handsome boathouse from injury and destruction. It was well heated and lighted, and served its purpose admirably.

### Picnics, Baseball, Golf, etc.

During the year six hundred and fifty-two picnics were held, with an aggregate attendance of fifty-nine thousand four hundred in Prospect Park.

One thousand five hundred and seven permits were issued to play tennis in Prospect Park; one thousand six hundred and eighty-one permits were issued to play golf in Forest Park, and two hundred and nine permits to play croquet in Prospect Park. Ten permits were issued to play cricket, and two thousand and ninety-one to play baseball at the parade grounds.

There were two thousand eight hundred and ten games of baseball played; eight hundred and twenty-five games of football; five hundred and twenty-five games of cricket and two hundred and fifty games of bowling on the green.

A number of picnics were held in the small parks, and the baseball diamonds at Highland, McCarren and Forest Parks were almost constantly in use.

### Music.

The concert season in Prospect Park opened on June 4, 1911, with a concert by the United German Singers, assisted by Shannon's Twenty-third Regiment Band. The same two organizations closed the season on the last Sunday in September. Concerts were given every Saturday and Sunday in Prospect Park during the months of June, July, August and September.

In the smaller parks the season opened on Independence Day, July 4, 1911, when concerts were given in seventeen parks, the largest number ever given in one day.

Two singing concerts were likewise given in Highland Park by individual societies affiliated with the United German Singers, on July 16 and August 20, 1911, respectively.

Concerts were given every Sunday during the months of July and August in Highland Park, Fort Greene Park and Sunset Park.

One hundred and ten concerts were given altogether, of which thirty-four were given in Prospect Park and seventy-six in the smaller parks, as follows: Prospect Park, 34; Highland Park, 12; Fort Greene Park, 12; Sunset Park, 12; Saratoga Park, 3; Winthrop Park, 4; Cooper Park, 2; Red Hook Park, 2; Carroll Park, 2; Bushwick Park, 3; Irving Square Park, 3; Jamaica Park, 4; Flushing Park, 2; Corona Park, 2; College Point Park, 2; Lincoln Terrace Park, 3; Forest Park, 5; Rainey Park, 3.

### Revenues.

During the year the sum of twenty thousand four hundred and sixteen dollars and seventy-three cents was received from rent of houses, revenues for park privileges, sale of park property and bay window permits. This amount was turned over to the City Chamberlain.

### Donations of Plants, Animals, etc.

The following donations of animals, birds, plants, etc., were received during the year, for which thanks are hereby extended: Mr. Jos. Keochel, 12th st., C. I., 2 turkeys; Mr. Geo. Stelges, 271 71st st., Brooklyn, 1 Madagascar cat; Miss Ruth Eggert, 339 2d st., Brooklyn, 1 cockatoo; Miss Hildia Johnson, 673 Hicks st., Brooklyn, 1 cockatoo; Mrs. Zimmenlin, 337 Jamaica ave., Brooklyn, 1 large agave; Mr. A. Ashman, 1163 Dean st., Brooklyn, 1 small sapodilla tree; Mrs. E. L. Buner, 183 Kosciusko st., Brooklyn, 2 lalania palius; Mrs. Siegelman, 1627 10th ave., Brooklyn, 4 grape-fruit plants; Mr. J. H. Crabtree, 399 Sackett st., Brooklyn, 2 rubber trees; Mrs. McGreedy, 873 Albany ave., Brooklyn, 2 cacti plants; Mrs. C. J. Meyer, 224 Stuyvesant ave., Brooklyn, 1 large rubber tree; Mr. Joseph Fleig, 595 6th ave., Brooklyn, 1 baby orange tree.

Parks and Playgrounds Under Jurisdiction of Department of Parks, Borough of  
Brooklyn.

Park or Playground.	Boundaries.	Area in Acres.
Amersfort Park .....	Avenue J, E. 38th st., Avenue J and E. 39th st.	3.56
Bedford Park .....	Kingston and Brooklyn aves., Prospect and Park places .....	4.10
Bensonhurst Park .....	Bay Parkway, Gravesend Bay, 21st and Crossey aves. ....	13.00
Borough Hall Park.....	Joralemon, Court and Fulton sts.....	1.70
Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Arboretum .....	Eastern Parkway, Washington and Flat- bush aves. and Malbone st.....	68.90
Brooklyn Heights Park.....	Columbia Heights, fronting on Furman st..	.86
Bushwick Park .....	Knickerbocker and Irving aves., Starr and Suydam sts. ....	6.86
Bushwick Playground .....	Putnam ave., between Knickerbocker and Irving aves. ....	2.80
Canarsie Park .....	Skidmore, Sea View and Denton aves., E. 88th and E. 93d sts., Byrne place and Ja- maica Bay .....	30.50
Carroll Park .....	President, Court, Carroll and Smith sts.....	1.90
City Park .....	St. Edward and Navy sts., Park and Flush- ing aves. ....	7.50
Coney Island Concourse .....	Foot of Ocean Parkway, Atlantic Ocean...	59.70
Cooper Park .....	Maspeth and Morgan aves., Sharon and Olive sts. ....	6.10
Cooper Gore .....	Junction of Metropolitan and Orient aves..	15.00
Cuyler Square .....	Cumberland and Fulton sts. and Greene ave.	.08
Dyker Beach Park .....	7th ave., Bay 8th st., Crossey ave. and 14th ave. and Gravesend Bay .....	139.80
Fort Greene Park.....	DeKalb ave., Washington Park, Willoughby and St. Edward sts. and Myrtle ave.....	28.90
Fort Hamilton Park .....	4th Ave., 101st st., Fort Hamilton ave. and Shore road .....	4.60
Fulton Park .....	Chauncey and Fulton sts. and Stuyvesant ave. ....	2.00
Highland Park .....	At terminus of Eastern Parkway Extension, Crosby, Vermont, Cypress and Jamaica aves. ....	59.60
Irving Square .....	Hamburg and Knickerbocker aves., Weir- field and Halsey sts. ....	2.98
Lincoln Terrace Park .....	Eastern Parkway, Buffalo and Rochester aves. and President st.....	7.60
Linton Park .....	Bradford st., Blake, Dumont and Miller aves. ....	2.29
McCarren Park .....	Berry, Lorimer, Leonard, Bayard and North 12th sts., Nassau, Driggs, Manhattan and Union aves. ....	38.42
McKibbin Playground .....	Seigel, White and McKibbin sts.....	1.37
McKinley Park .....	Fort Hamilton and 7th aves. and 73d st.....	8.50
McLaughlin Park .....	Bridge, Tillary and Jay sts.....	3.30
New Lots Playground .....	Sackman st., Riverdale, Newport and Chris- topher aves. ....	2.29
Parade Ground .....	Coney Island, Parkside and Caton aves....	39.50
Prospect Park .....	Prospect Park West, Flatbush, Ocean, Park- side, Coney Island aves. and 15th st.....	526.00
Red Hook Park .....	Richards, Verona, Dwight and Pioneer sts..	5.28
Red Hook Playground .....	Richards, King, Dwight and Pioneer sts...	2.29
Saratoga Square .....	Saratoga and Howard aves., Halsey and Macon sts. ....	3.20
Seaside Park .....	Foot of Ocean Parkway, Atlantic Ocean...	10.30
Stuyvesant Park .....	Stuyvesant and Vernon aves. and Broadway	.08
Sunset Park .....	41st and 44th sts., 5th and 7th aves.....	24.50
Tompkins Park .....	Tompkins, Greene, Marcy and Lafayette aves. ....	7.80

Park or Playground.	Boundaries.	Area in Acres.
Underhill Park .....	Underhill and Washington aves. and Pacific st. ....	.10
Williamsburgh Bridge Park ..	Bedford and Kent aves., South 5th and South 6th sts. ....	4.30
Winthrop Park .....	Nassau and Driggs aves., Russell and Monitor sts. ....	9.10
Woodpoint Park .....	Bushwick, Metropolitan and Maspeth aves..	.05
Unnamed park .....	East New York and Pitkin aves. and Barrett st. ....	.21
Unnamed park .....	Eastern Parkway, Washington and Classon aves. ....	1.36
Total acreage.....		<u>1,087.25</u>
		Miles.
	Parkways and Streets.	
Bay parkway .....	Ocean parkway, between Avenues I and J to Bensonhurst Beach .....	2.56
Bay Ridge parkway .....	Fort Hamilton ave., between 66th and 67th sts., to Shore road, between 66th st. and Wakeman place .....	1.40
Buffalo ave. ....	Eastern Parkway, between Rochester and Ralph aves. to East New York ave., between East 96th and East 98th sts. ....	.12
Bushwick ave. ....	Eastern Parkway, between DeSales place and Stewart st., to Jamaica ave., between Sheffield and New Jersey aves. ....	.42
Eastern parkway .....	Prospect Park Plaza to Ralph ave., between Union st. and Lincoln place. ....	2.50
Eastern parkway extension....	Ralph ave., between Union st. and Lincoln place to Bushwick ave., between DeSales place and Stewart st. ....	1.39
Eldert lane .....	Glenmore ave. to Liberty ave. ....	.09
Fort Hamilton ave.....	Ocean Parkway and Prospect ave. to Fort Hamilton .....	4.27
Glenmore ave. ....	Rockaway ave., between Pitkin and Liberty aves. to Eldert lane, between Pitkin and Liberty aves. ....	2.31
Highland boulevard .....	Bushwick ave., between Dahlia and Gillen places, to Highland Park. ....	.67
Miller ave. ....	Jamaica ave., between Van Sicklen ave. and Bradford st. to Highland boulevard. ....	.10
Ocean ave. ....	Flatbush ave. at Malbone st. to Parkside ave., between St. Pauls place and Flatbush ave. ....	.60
Ocean parkway .....	Prospect Park Circle to Coney Island Concourse .....	5.50
Parkside ave. ....	Prospect Park Circle to Flatbush ave. at Robinson st. ....	.68
Plaza st. ....	Prospect Park Plaza .....	.38
Pennsylvania ave. ....	Jamaica ave., between Sheffield and New Jersey aves., to Jamaica Bay. ....	2.50
Pitkin ave. ....	Eastern parkway extension between Ralph and Howard aves., to Stone ave., between Glenmore and Belmont aves. ....	.70
Rockaway parkway .....	Buffalo ave. at East New York ave. to Canarsie Beach, between E. 96th and E. 98th sts. ....	3.12
Shore road .....	First ave., between 66th st. and Wakeman place to Fort Hamilton .....	2.65
Stone ave. ....	Eastern parkway extension, between Pacific and Dean sts., to Riverdale ave., between Christopher ave. and Watkins st. ....	1.00

## WORK OF THE POLICE.

## Report of the 173d Precinct, Prospect Park.

Hon. MICHAEL J. KENNEDY, Commissioner of Parks, Borough of Brooklyn:

Sir—The following is a report of the work done by the police of the 173d Precinct, Prospect Park, for the year ending December 31, 1911.

The police force of the 173d Precinct on January 1, 1911, consisted of one Captain, four Lieutenants, four Sergeants, sixty-nine Patrolmen, one Doorman. Of this number one Lieutenant, one Sergeant and nine Patrolmen were assigned to mounted duty, and six Patrolmen to bicycle duty.

## Lost During the Year.

By transfer, Lieutenant, mounted, 1; by transfer, Sergeant, mounted, 1; by transfer, Patrolmen, 4; retired, Patrolmen, 4. The total force on December 31, 1911, was sixty-nine.

## Number of Arrests.

During the year the following arrests were made: For homicide, 1; assault, 1; assault and robbery, 3; disorderly conduct, 14; juvenile delinquency, 29; malicious mischief, 1; petit larceny, 3; intoxication, 23; vagrancy, 2; violation of Health Law, 8; violation of Park Ordinances, 78; violation of Highway Law, 18; violation of Corporation Ordinance, 8; making a total of 189.

There were two sudden deaths, twenty-nine taken sick, seventy-two injured and twelve lost children were recovered.

Respectfully submitted.

MILES O'REILLY, Captain, 173d Precinct.

## MUSEUMS OF THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

## The Central Museum.

During the year 1911 marked progress was made in the installation of the collections in the Central Museum. The entire collection of enlarged photographs illustrating Refinements in Architecture in Central and Southern Europe, was for the first time placed on public exhibition on the walls of the large gallery on the first floor of the eastern wing and in the hallways of the central section of the building. The Egyptian collections have been nearly all installed in the Egyptian gallery in the eastern wing. The Samuel P. Avery collection of Chinese Cloisonne has been permanently installed in cases in the square gallery on the first floor of the eastern section, and the classification and arrangement of the paintings in the picture galleries on the third floor of the museum, commenced in 1905, has been carried to completion.

In the Department of Ethnology two galleries on the first floor of the western section of the museum have been fitted up and collections installed illustrating the ethnology of the primitive tribes of the Pacific Coast, including Alaska. The large gallery in the basement of the western wing has been refitted and redecorated as a Hall of Japanese Art and Ethnology, and the collections illustrating the ethnology and art of Japan have been installed therein. In the Natural History Departments, the collections illustrating the natural history of Long Island have been enlarged and partly rearranged so as to give a more complete idea of the natural history of the island. A new contour map of Long Island has been in process of construction and is nearly ready for installation. Several large groups of mammals and birds have been installed in cases in the middle section of the natural history floor. Several new cases have been built and filled with collections illustrating invertebrate zoology in the hall of invertebrates, and several recently acquired specimens, designed to fill gaps in the Department of Zoology, have been also installed.

The gifts to the institute for the benefit of the Central Museum have been large

and important. Twenty-six thousand three hundred and fifty-six dollars were subscribed by members of the institute to be used in the purchase of collections, and the interest of the special endowment funds held by the institute, which interest must, in accordance with the conditions under which the funds are held by the Board of Trustees, be used for the benefit of the museum, have been expended in the purchase of collections amounting to six thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars and eighty-two cents. A niche was constructed on the east side of the main vestibule of the museum as a proper background for the statue of the late General John B. Woodward, for many years a Trustee of the institute, and President when the museum was first established. The statue has been placed upon a permanent pedestal provided from the John B. Woodward Memorial Fund, and the balance of that fund, subscribed by citizens of Brooklyn and friends of General Woodward, three thousand and twenty-eight dollars and seventy-six cents, will be spent in the purchase of collections or works of art for the museum.

The important additions to the museum collections during the year have been seventy-six pieces of Chinese cloisonne, jades and enamels presented by Mr. Samuel P. Avery, and also nineteen bronze medallion heads in profile by David d'Angers, Maidron, etc.; five oil paintings presented by Mr. George A. Hearn; six miniatures on vellum, being illuminations of manuscripts of about 1500, and an oil painting by Mr. A. Augustus Healy; one oil painting entitled "Silver Light," by Leon Dabo, presented by the Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, D. D.; two oil paintings and two pieces of Egyptian antiquities presented by Mr. George D. Pratt; a portrait of Mrs. Robert Lowden, painted by Henry Inman, and presented by Mrs. W. W. Thayer; several pieces from the Royal Porcelain Factory, Berlin, presented by the Rev. Alfred Duane Pell; a painting entitled "The Gypsy Camp," by Wordsworth Thompson, purchased from the income of the Frank Sherman Benson Fund; three oil paintings from the La Farge sale, purchased with the income of the Augustus Graham Fund; two paintings from the La Farge sale, purchased with the income of the Frederick Loeser Art Fund; an oil painting entitled "Sunset Glow," by Robert Reed, purchased with the income of the Caroline H. Polhemus Fund; two oil paintings, one by H. W. Mesdag, the other by J. D. Col, purchased with the incomes of the Caroline H. Polhemus Fund and the Frank Sherman Benson Fund; a section of a fresco from Pompeii, purchased with the income of the Ella C. Woodward Memorial Fund, and a painting by August Koopman, entitled "Pushing off the Boat," purchased with the income of the John B. Woodward Memorial Fund. A notable gift to the Art Department is the collection of vestments, purchased in the spring by the Rembrandt Club, and presented to the institute. The cases to contain this large, unusual and beautiful collection have been constructed in the southeast gallery on the main floor of the museum, and the collection, already received, will be installed early in January. Eleven thousand five hundred dollars recently contributed by several members of the Board of Trustees, in addition to the twenty-six thousand three hundred and fifty-six dollars already mentioned, has been used in the purchase of collections in Italian art, which have been received at the museum, but are not yet catalogued and placed on exhibition. A pottery lamp found in Pompeii, a Chinese necklace of about 1750, a number of pieces of ancient Roman glass, two Chinese roof-tiles and several other art objects were presented by Col. Robert B. Woodward.

An endowment fund of five thousand dollars, later to be increased to ten thousand dollars, has been received from the estate of the late Miss Freda Brunn, the interest of which will be expended in increasing the large collections in conchology. Among the additions to the natural history collections have been sixteen hundred and seventy specimens of birds received from John Lewis Childs, of Floral Park, purchased for five thousand dollars; from the New York

Zoological Society and from the Zoological Park twenty valuable specimens in zoology were received, and from Mr. Robert W. Peavey thirty-four mounted Long Island birds. Through the expeditions of Mr. Stewart Culin to Japan and to the Pacific Coast, very large additions were made to the ethnological collections. The list of gifts of smaller collections, single specimens in natural history, or single works of art is a very long one and is published in the Institute Year Book and in the Annual Report of the Museum.

The attendance at the Central Museum for the year ending June 1, 1911, was one hundred and ninety-three thousand six hundred and fifty. As soon as the museum is brought within easy traveling distance of the residents of New York City, through the construction of the Eastern parkway subway, the annual attendance may be increased several fold.

The City appropriated for the maintenance of the Central Museum for 1911, ninety-three thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars. The amount appropriated for the maintenance of the Central Museum for the year 1912 is ninety-seven thousand six hundred and eighty dollars.

The contract for making excavations for the fourth section, divisions F and G, of the museum was let by the Board of Park Commissioners early in the year to the Benedetto & Egan Construction Company for fifty-four thousand two hundred dollars. Although borings have been made in several places over the area to be occupied by the fourth section, the excavations have revealed a remarkable glacial formation consisting of three long glacial kames running in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction, with several glacial pockets extending therefrom. This unusual and unexpected formation has made it necessary to increase the cost of putting in the foundations by the amount of five per cent. of the original amount of the contract as permitted by the terms of the contract, and by the amount of approximately eleven thousand dollars. Application has been made by the Park Commissioner for the Borough of Brooklyn to the Board of Aldermen to authorize the expenditure of not exceeding eleven thousand dollars in covering the extra cost of the foundations without public advertising and public letting, the work to be done by the Benedetto & Egan Construction Company. The entire appropriation made by the City to cover the cost of excavations, foundations, etc., was one hundred thousand dollars. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment in July and the Board of Aldermen in August authorized the issue of corporate stock of the City to the amount of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars of which to be available during the year ending July 1, 1912, and two hundred thousand dollars to be available during the year ending July 1, 1913, to cover the cost of the exterior walls, interior framework, roofing, etc., of the fourth section of the museum, it being estimated that the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars would be required to finish off the interior of the fourth section and to equip it for museum purposes. The Board of Estimate also appropriated eleven thousand dollars on account of architects' and engineers' fees on the same fourth section of the museum, six thousand dollars to be available during the year ending July 1, 1912, and five thousand dollars to be available during the year ending July 1, 1913.

Mr. Daniel C. French, sculptor, completed, with the aid of Mr. August Weinmann, sculptor, the design for the pedimental group of sculptures that are to be placed over the front portico of the Museum Building, and the design was accepted by the City Art Commission on December 12, 1911. Drawings and specifications have been prepared and estimates secured, or are being secured, by Messrs. McKim, Mead & White on the cost of candelabra, chandeliers and other bronze work for the front of the museum; for a night watchman's plant; for counters and metal cases and for wooden museum showcases, the cost of the same to be covered, together with commissions to Mr. French, on account of the pedimental group, by the unexpended

balance of museum construction funds antedating 1910, amounting to twenty-four thousand four hundred and twenty-nine dollars and thirty-two cents. Drawings and specifications have also been prepared and estimates are being secured by Messrs. McKim, Mead & White for museum cases to be paid for out of the appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars made by The City of New York for the account of museum cases in the year 1910.

The work of excavation for putting in the foundations for the fourth section of the museum was begun on June 21, 1911, and will be finished early in 1912. The architects, Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, are preparing the drawings and specifications for the exterior walls, framework and roof of the fourth museum section.

With the advice of his Honor Mayor Gaynor, and with the approval of the Commissioner of Parks for the Borough of Brooklyn, and also by the advice of the Corporation Counsel of the City, the State Legislature passed a measure which was signed by his Excellency John A. Dix on July 18, 1911, which then became chapter 696 of the Laws of 1911, and is entitled "An Act to authorize The City of New York to enter into a contract or contracts with the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, for the establishment, maintenance, continuance or development and extension of a museum of arts and sciences and libraries and branch museums on park lands in The City of New York, Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, and to provide for the equipment, care and maintenance of the same."

A form of contract is now being prepared in pursuance of this law.

#### The Children's Museum.

The Children's Museum, established in December, 1899, has been of increasing value to the children in the public and private schools of the City. The attendance during the year ending June 1, 1911, was one hundred and fifty-two thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and will be larger during the current educational year. The entire Children's Museum is used to its utmost capacity. While there have been some additions to the collections and to the library, and while some of the collections and books have been put in storage to make room for other collections and books for which there is, for the time being, a greater need, the museum has practically reached its limit so far as materials for instruction are concerned. The maximum of attendance of children that can be properly accommodated is nearly reached. The appropriation by the City for the maintenance of the Children's Museum for 1911 was twelve thousand one hundred and forty-five dollars. The appropriation for the year 1912 is twelve thousand five hundred and fifty-five dollars.

Teachers from public and private schools bring their classes to the museum and talks are given to the classes by the Curators, who use the collections in the museum to illustrate what they have seen. Not more than seventy children can be accommodated in the lecture room at one time. The same lecture is frequently repeated six or seven times in a single day to accommodate the classes which seek admission. School principals and teachers make arrangements with the officers of the museum several days or weeks in advance so that their classes may be received in the museum and have the opportunity to hear the explanatory talks on geography, natural history and the other nature study or scientific subjects that are presented in an elementary way in the public and private schools.

The Children's Museum Library occupies two small rooms in the Museum Building, and the number of readers during the year ending June 1, 1911, was forty-five thousand five hundred and thirty-five. The books in the Children's Museum Library relate for the most part to the collections in the museum and the courses of study in the public and private schools. The museum is visited by the students, principals and teachers from all parts of the world, as an object lesson in the teaching of children.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment in July, and the Board of Aldermen in August, appropriated the sum of ninety-two thousand five hundred dollars towards the construction and equipment of a new fireproof Children's Museum Building, in pursuance of chapter 120 of the Laws of 1907. Preliminary plans are now being prepared by the curators showing the requirements of the new building, the same to be submitted by the Board of Trustees of the institute to the Board of Park Commissioners early in 1912.

#### *The Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Arboretum.*

On December 28, 1909, The City of New York entered into a contract with the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences to establish and maintain a botanic garden for the benefit of the people of The City of New York, and especially for the benefit of students in the public and private schools of the City, on park lands lying southerly from the Prospect Hill Reservoir, and the site of the Museum of Arts and Sciences, such lands being included between Flatbush and Washington aves. During 1910 a survey of the botanic garden lands was made by a topographical engineer, and the general plans for the garden were prepared by Messrs. Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects, of Brookline, Mass. The plans as thus laid out were approved by the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, by the Landscape Architect of the Department of Parks of The City of New York, and by the Board of Park Commissioners of the City. The expense of the survey and plans was met through the issue of special revenue bonds by The City of New York.

The care and custody of the lands was turned over by the City to the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences on February 1, 1911. During the year, by the authority of the Board of Trustees of the institute and of the Committee on Botanic Garden and Arboretum of that Board, Professor C. Stuart Gager, Ph. D., the Director of the garden, with his associates, commenced early in April the work of establishing the garden. A portion of the permanent walks of the garden were constructed in the northwest section and a part of the grading in the same section was done. Series of plantings of trees, shrubs and annuals were commenced along the western side of the garden. Mr. Lowell M. Palmer presented to the garden a collection of some five hundred evergreen trees, mostly of the conifer family, of very great value. The process of the enrichment of the soil of the garden was also commenced.

The Architects, Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, who in 1910 had prepared general plans for the instruction building and plant houses to be erected in the garden, prepared plans and specifications for the southerly section of the instruction building, the northerly part of the plant houses, and the heating plant designed both for the instruction building and the plant houses. These plans and specifications were duly advertised, and Messrs. Cockerill, Little & Co. (Inc.), were the lowest bidders for the work, their bid being fifty-five thousand eight hundred dollars. The question of awarding the contract is before the Board of Park Commissioners at the end of the current year of 1911.

The City of New York appropriated in 1910 for the construction and equipment of the instruction building in the botanic garden thirty-three thousand dollars, and for the construction and equipment of the plant houses seventeen thousand dollars, or a total for the two structures of fifty thousand dollars. The City appropriated by its Board of Estimate and Apportionment in July, 1911, and by its Board of Aldermen in August, 1911, an additional fifty thousand dollars for the construction and equipment of the instruction building and plant houses, and this appropriation, together with the two appropriations made in 1910, were combined by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Board of Aldermen in July and August, 1911, in a single fund of one hundred thousand dollars, so that the work on the instruction building and the plant houses, together with the heating plant, which will be situated between the two, may be done under a single

contract. The City also appropriated for grading and soil improvement, water courses, etc., in 1911, the sum of forty thousand dollars, and for building roadways, walks, stone steps, paving, etc., the sum of thirty thousand dollars. Plans for grading, soil improvement, roadways, walks, etc., are now in preparation, and estimates of the cost are being obtained. The income of the Botanic Garden Endowment Fund of fifty thousand dollars, presented to the institute in 1909, is being used in the purchase of plants, trees and shrubs for the garden. The garden has been open daily to the public since the 13th of May, 1911.

With the approval of the Park Commissioner of the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and by the advice of his Honor, Mayor William J. Gaynor, and of the Corporation Counsel's office, the State Legislature amended the law governing the establishment and maintenance of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum in Brooklyn, enacted in 1897, by a new act which constitutes chapter 178 of the Laws of 1911, and is entitled An Act to amend chapter five hundred and nine of the laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of a Botanic Garden and Arboretum on park lands in the City of Brooklyn and for the care of the same," generally.

The passage of this act enables the Sinking Fund Commission of the City to transfer with the approval of the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity and with the approval of the Board of Park Commissioners of the City, portions of the Prospect Hill reservoir lands not required for reservoir purposes from the custody of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity to the custody of the Department of Parks; authorized the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to amend the existing agreement or contract between the City and the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences to include within the Botanic Garden any of the Prospect Hill reservoir lands which may be transferred to the Department of Parks as above stated. The act also enables the City and the institute to enter into an agreement to alter the boundary lines between the site of the institute museum and the garden; removes the restriction upon the City in the issue of corporate stock of the City that may be required for the permanent improvements within the garden, and enables the institute to use the income of its endowment fund of fifty thousand dollars not only for the purchase of trees, shrubs and plants as originally contemplated, but also for the benefit of the garden in other ways.

Statement of the Condition as at the Close of Business December 31, 1911, of all  
Prior Years Having

Title of Account.	Appropriation, Including Transfer (If Any) by Board of Estimate and Ap- portionment.	Journal Debits.	Net Funds Available.
<b>1911 ACCOUNTS.</b>			
Administration.			
Commissioner's Office, Salaries.....	\$15,900 00	.....	\$15,900 00
Superintendent's Office, Salaries.....	9,400 00	.....	9,400 00
Engineer's Office, Salaries.....	10,200 00	.....	10,200 00
Office of Superintendent of Supplies and Repairs, Salaries.....	4,050 00	.....	4,050 00
Telephone Service.....	1,700 00	.....	1,700 00
Music.....	16,500 00	.....	16,500 00
General Maintenance, Mechanical Force.			
Wages, Regular Employees.....	56,010 50	.....	56,010 50
Wages, Temporary Employees.....	37,890 00	.....	37,890 00
Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards.			
Wages, Regular Employees.....	133,299 75	.....	133,299 75
Wages, Temporary Employees.....	311,462 50	.....	311,462 50
Hired Teams and Carts, Road Machines.....	115,500 00	.....	115,500 00
General Supplies.....	50,000 00	.....	50,000 00
Materials for Repairs and Replacements by Departmental Labor.....	83,500 00	.....	83,500 00

In August, 1911, the Hon. Henry S. Thompson, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, designated as no longer required for reservoir purposes, a strip of land lying between the Prospect Hill reservoir and the institute museum site, two hundred and fifty feet in width east and west and extending from the Eastern parkway on the north to the southerly boundary of the Prospect Hill reservoir lands, and also a strip of land twenty feet in width on the south side of the reservoir extending from the first strip westerly to Flatbush ave. This designation of lands was subject to the conditions that no building should be erected on the lands so transferred, except possibly a small toolhouse near the southeast corner of the Prospect Hill reservoir; and the further conditions that right of way across the lands designated to the reservoir, be reserved as at present and that the lands may, if required by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, at some future time, be retransferred to that Department.

The Board of Park Commissioners on December 14 recommended to the Sinking Fund Commission the transfer of the lands in question and in accordance with the conditions proposed by the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. Action by the Sinking Fund Commission on the transfer of the lands may be expected at the first meeting of the Commission in January, 1912. The transfer as proposed will be satisfactory to the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, which originally recommended that the transfer be made.

The City appropriated for the maintenance of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum for the year 1911, fourteen thousand five hundred and fifty dollars, and the City has appropriated for the same purpose for the year 1912, twenty-five thousand eight hundred and thirty dollars and fifty-seven cents.

The entire amount expended by the institute for educational purposes for the benefit of the people of the City during the year ending May 1, 1911, was two hundred and eighty-four thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine dollars and fifty cents, and the total attendance in all of the departments of the institute for the same period was six hundred and fifty-three thousand one hundred and sixty-five.

Appropriation Accounts for the Current Year, and of Appropriation Accounts for Unexpended Balances.

Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments.	Unexpended Balances.	*Encumbrances.				Unencumbered Balances.
		Net Reserve for Contracts.	Net Reserve for Open Market Orders.	Net Reserve for Payrolls.	Total Encumbrances i. e., Net Reserves.	
\$13,995 96	\$1,904 04	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1,904 04
9,400 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5,908 34	4,291 66	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,291 66
4,050 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1,481 02	218 98	.....	.....	.....	.....	218 98
16,410 80	89 20	.....	.....	.....	.....	89 20
51 175 26	4,835 24	.....	.....	\$1,067 06	\$1,067 06	3,768 18
35,117 90	2,772 10	.....	.....	305 50	305 50	2,466 60
122,484 01	10,815 74	.....	.....	2,987 02	2,987 02	7,828 72
303,773 23	7,689 27	.....	.....	5,811 31	5,811 31	1,877 96
111,757 75	3,742 25	.....	.....	1,676 00	1,676 00	2,066 25
40,597 98	9,402 02	\$4,889 16	\$3,846 68	.....	8,735 84	666 18
60,487 05	23,012 95	18,676 91	229 37	.....	18,906 28	4,106 67

\*Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to Department of Finance.

Title of Account.	Appropriation, Including Transfer (If Any) by Board of Estimate and Ap- portionment.	Journal Debits.	Net Funds Available.
Repairs and Replacements by Contract or Open Order.....	\$40,000 00	.....	\$40,000 00
Apparatus—Machinery, Vehicles, Harness, etc., Including Care and Storage.....	7,500 00	.....	7,500 00
Fuel.....	15,025 00	.....	15,025 00
Contingencies.....	6,050 00	.....	6,050 00
Maintenance of Automobiles, Including Equipment, Care and Storage.....	1,500 00	.....	1,500 00
Purchase of Furniture and Fittings.....	1,200 00	.....	1,200 00
Forage, Shoeing and Boarding Horses.....	8,866 20	.....	8,866 20
Maintenance of Trees in City Streets.			
Wages, Regular Employees.....	3,285 00	.....	3,285 00
Wages, Temporary Employees.....	45,000 00	.....	45,000 00
Maintenance of Zoological Department.			
Wages, Regular Employees.....	9,490 00	.....	9,490 00
Maintenance of Institutions, Museum of Arts and Sciences (Including Taxidermical Laboratory).			
Salaries and Wages.....	68,410 00	.....	68,410 00
General Supplies.....	3,600 00	.....	3,600 00
Materials for Repairs and Replacements by Departmental Labor.....	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00
Repairs and Replacements by Contract or Open Order.....	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00
Apparatus—Machinery, Vehicles, Harness, etc., Including Care and Storage.....	300 00	.....	300 00
Fuel.....	6,500 00	.....	6,500 00
Contingencies.....	5,350 00	.....	5,350 00
Telephone Service.....	200 00	.....	200 00
Purchase of Furniture and Fittings.....	3,000 00	.....	3,000 00
Special Contract Obligations.....	400 00	.....	400 00
Children's Museum.			
Salaries and Wages.....	9,550 00	.....	9,550 00
General Supplies.....	700 00	.....	700 00
Repairs and Replacements by Departmental Labor.....	300 00	.....	300 00
Apparatus—Machinery, Vehicles, Harness, etc., Including Care and Storage.....	150 00	.....	150 00
Fuel.....	325 00	.....	325 00
Contingencies.....	550 00	.....	550 00
Telephone Service.....	70 00	.....	70 00
Purchase of Furniture and Fittings.....	200 00	.....	200 00
Special Contract Obligations.....	300 00	.....	300 00
Botanical Garden and Arboretum.			
Salaries and Wages.....	10,000 00	.....	10,000 00
General Supplies.....	4,000 00	.....	4,000 00
Fuel.....	300 00	.....	300 00
Telephone Service.....	50 00	.....	50 00
Contingencies.....	200 00	.....	200 00
	<u>\$1,103,783 95</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$1,103,783 95</u>
General Supplies.....	\$51,114 49	\$786 32	\$50,328 17
Repairs and Replacements by Departmental Labor.....	91,400 00	2,076 30	89,323 70
Repairs and Replacements by Contract or Open Order.....	50,000 00	.....	50,000 00
Labor, Maintenance and Supplies.....	15,209 41	.....	15,209 41
	<u>\$207,723 90</u>	<u>\$2,862 62</u>	<u>\$204,861.28</u>

Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments.	Unexpended Balances.	* Encumbrances.			Total Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserves.	Unencumbered Balances.
		Net Reserve for Contracts.	Net Reserve for Open Market Orders.	Net Reserve for Payrolls.		
\$21,323 16	\$18,676 84	\$16 554 63	\$1,519 00	.....	\$18,073 63	\$603 21
6,972 10	527 90	.....	331 00	.....	331 00	196 90
9,977 09	5,047 91	3,334 72	.....	.....	3,334 72	1,713 19
5,228 68	821 32	.....	48 00	.....	48 00	773 32
1,465 81	34 19	.....	34 05	.....	34 05	14
1,153 00	47 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	47 00
6,270 81	2,595 39	1,621 15	.....	.....	1,621 15	974 24
1,325 25	1,959 75	.....	.....	51 75	51 75	1,908 00
44,807 25	192 75	.....	.....	182 50	182 50	10 25
9,089 75	400 25	.....	.....	226 50	226 50	173 75
62,459 08	5,950 92	.....	.....	5,950 92	5,950 92	.....
3,596 13	3 87	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 87
2,030 30	969 70	.....	.....	.....	.....	969 70
1,780 77	1,219 23	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,219 23
166 71	133 29	.....	.....	.....	.....	133 29
2,839 34	3,660 66	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,660 66
3,663 84	1,686 16	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,686 16
178 07	21 93	.....	.....	.....	.....	21 93
1,172 18	1,827 82	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,827 82
359 94	40 06	.....	.....	.....	.....	40 06
8,698 92	851 08	.....	.....	851 08	851 08	.....
423 94	276 06	.....	.....	.....	.....	276 06
275 53	24 47	.....	.....	.....	.....	24 47
41 75	108 27	.....	.....	.....	.....	108 27
224 40	100 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	100 60
540 91	9 09	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 09
42 50	27 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	27 50
137 25	62 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	62 75
216 55	83 45	.....	.....	.....	.....	83 45
9,773 33	226 67	.....	.....	.....	.....	226 67
3,969 97	30 03	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 03
.....	300 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	300 00
34 22	15 78	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 78
182 42	17 58	.....	.....	.....	.....	17 58
<b>\$987,060 23</b>	<b>\$116,723 72</b>	<b>\$45,076 57</b>	<b>\$6,008 10</b>	<b>\$19,109 64</b>	<b>\$70,194 31</b>	<b>\$46,529 41</b>
\$50,315 77	\$12 40	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$12 40
85,495 65	3,828 05	\$3,828 05	.....	.....	\$3,828 05	.....
48,487 42	1,512 58	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,512 58
6,791 91	8,417 50	8,417 50	.....	.....	8,417 50	.....
<b>\$191,090 75</b>	<b>\$13,770 53</b>	<b>\$12,245 55</b>	.....	.....	<b>\$12,245 55</b>	<b>\$1,524 98</b>

\* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to the Department of Finance.

## STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF CORPORATE STOCK, ASSESSMENT BOND.

Title of Fund or Account.	Total Authorization as Adjusted,	Par Value of Bonds Allotted.	Cash Funds Available.
Special and Trust Funds.			
Maintenance and Improvement of Public Parks on Brooklyn Heights, Brooklyn.....	\$3,889 51	.....	\$3,889 51
Restoring and Repaving, Special Fund, Department Parks Brooklyn and Queens.....	9,374 68	.....	9,374 68
	<u>\$13,264 19</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>\$13,264 19</u>
Special Revenue Bond Funds.			
Brooklyn and Queens, Maintenance of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, etc., Deficiency in Appropriation, 1906.....	\$80,000 00	\$78,500 00	\$78,500 00
Maintenance of Parks, Parkways, Playgrounds, etc., Deficiency in Appropriation, 1907, Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens...	177,585 00	153,500 00	153,500 00
Labor, Maintenance and Supplies for the Commissioner of Parks for Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens .....	50,000 00	49,950 00	49,950 00
Maintenance of Parks, Parkways and Playgrounds Under the Jurisdiction of the Department of Parks, Brooklyn and Queens.	75,000 00	74,000 00	74,000 00
Revenue Bond Fund—For Department of Parks, Brooklyn and Queens, Botanical Garden and Arboretum, Preliminary Expenses.....	4,744 36	4,400 00	4,400 00
	<u>\$387,329 36</u>	<u>\$360,350 00</u>	<u>\$360,350 00</u>
Borough Accounts.			
Corporate Stock Funds.....	\$2,103 41	.....	.....

## STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF CORPORATE STOCK, ASSESSMENT BOND.

Title or Fund or Account.	Total Authorization as Adjusted.	Par Value of Bonds Allotted.	Premiums, Miscellaneous Credits and Journal Adjustments.	Cash Funds Available.
Corporate Stock.				
Erection, etc., New Storehouse, Prospect Park...	\$75,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Improvement and Construction of Parks, Parkways, etc.....	800,000 00	\$300,000 00	\$16 670 66	\$316,670 66
Parks, Department, Excavation Lagoon Dyker Beach.....	3,000 00	3,000 00	10 24	3,010 24
Construction McCarren Park and Playground..	100,675 60	55,600 00	359 67	55,959 67
Construction Playground, Richard and Dwight Streets.....	22,767 00	18,767 00	111 70	18,878 70
Construction Playground, Irving and Woodbine Streets.....	31,860 00	11,860 00	49 25	11,909 25
Grading, etc., Botanic Garden and Arboretum..	40,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Construction, Roads, etc., Botanic Garden and Arboretum.....	30,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Construction, etc., Laboratory Building, etc., Arboretum.....	100,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Additional Greenhouses, Forest Park.....	6,500 00	6,500 00	63 57	6,563 57
Construction Additional Timber Jetty, C. I.....	18,000 00	18,000 00	303 10	18,303 10
Approaches to Boathouse, Prospect Park.....	35,000 00	35,000 00	301 72	35,301 72
Comfort Station, Main Entrance, Prospect Park..	12,000 00	12,000 00	144 27	12,144 27
Comfort Station, New Lots Playground.....	6,000 00	6,000 00	61 58	6,061 58
Construction Lockers, etc., Boathouse, Golf House.....	15,000 00	15,000 00	118 61	15,118 61
Erection, etc., Shelter House, City Park.....	20,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Improvement Borough Hall Park.....	7,080 00	.....	.....	.....
Construction New Entrance, Prospect Park, 15th Street.....	21,000 00	21,000 00	451 72	21,451 72
Improvement Plaza at 15th Street, Prospect Park.	20,000 00	.....	.....	.....
Construction, etc., McLaughlin Park.....	35,000 00	35,000 00	412 38	35,412 38
Construction Comfort Shelter, Sunset Park.....	35,000 00	35,000 00	433 65	35,433 65
Completion of Sunset Park.....	25,560 00	.....	.....	.....
Construction Shelter House, Tennis Grounds, Prospect Park.....	49,865 34	49,200 00	386 70	49,586 70

## SPECIAL REVENUE BOND AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1911.

Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments.	Balance of Cash Funds Unexpended	Balance of Authorizations Unallotted.	* Encumbrances.			Unencumbered Balances.
			Net Reserve for Contracts.	Net Reserve for Open Market Orders.	Total Net Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserve.	
\$2,337 75	\$1,551 76	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1,551 76
		.....	Due Depositors	.....	.....	
4,852 96	4,516 72	.....	\$3,308 91	\$620 23	\$3,929 14	587 58
\$7,195 71	\$6,068 48	.....	\$3,308 91	\$620 23	\$3,929 14	\$2,139 34
\$78,500 00	.....	\$1,500 00	.....	.....	.....	\$1,500 00
153,500 00	.....	24,085 00	.....	.....	.....	24,085 00
49,950 00	.....	50 00	.....	.....	.....	50 00
74,000 00	.....	1,000 00	.....	.....	.....	1,000 00
4,364 86	35 14	344 36	.....	.....	.....	379 50
\$360,314 86	\$35 14	\$26,979 36	.....	.....	.....	\$27,014 50
.....	.....	\$2,103 41	.....	.....	.....	\$2,103 41

\* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to the Department of Finance.

## SPECIAL REVENUE BOND AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1911.

Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments.	Balance of Cash Funds Unexpended.	Balance of Authorizations Unallotted.	* Encumbrances.			Unencumbered Balances.
			Net Reserve for Contracts.	Net Reserve for Open Market Orders.	Total Net Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserve.	
.....	.....	\$75,000 00	.....	.....	.....	\$75,000 00
\$813,771 16	\$2,899 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,899 50
2,800 00	210 24	.....	.....	.....	.....	210 24
55,790 36	169 31	45,075 60	\$14,542 22	.....	\$14,542 22	30,702 69
18,253 34	625 36	4,000 00	3,870 96	.....	3,870 96	754 40
11,454 70	454 55	20,000 00	16,708 20	.....	16,708 20	3,746 35
.....	.....	40,000 00	.....	.....	.....	40,000 00
.....	.....	30,000 00	.....	.....	.....	30,000 00
.....	.....	100,000 00	.....	.....	.....	100,000 00
6,280 09	283 48	.....	.....	.....	.....	283 48
15,700 00	2,603 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,603 10
33,276 39	2,025 33	.....	229 85	.....	229 85	1,795 48
12,085 33	58 94	.....	.....	.....	.....	58 94
6,014 22	47 36	.....	.....	.....	.....	47 36
15,029 13	89 48	.....	.....	.....	.....	89 48
.....	.....	20,000 00	.....	.....	.....	20,000 00
.....	.....	7,080 00	.....	.....	.....	7,080 00
19,381 55	2,070 17	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,070 17
.....	.....	20,000 00	.....	.....	.....	20,000 00
34,866 48	545 90	.....	.....	.....	.....	545 90
34,519 86	913 79	.....	.....	.....	.....	913 79
.....	.....	25,560 00	6,480 00	.....	6,480 00	19,080 00
49,477 50	109 20	665 34	.....	.....	.....	774 54

\* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to the Department of Finance.

Title of Fund or Account.	Total Authorization as Adjusted.	Par Value of Bonds Allotted.	Premiums, Miscel- laneous Credits and Journal Ad- justments.	Cash Funds Available.
Erection Comfort Station, Prospect Park.....	\$20,000 00			
Installation Water Supply, etc., Prospect Park...	75,000 00			
Construction Shelter House, Fulton Park.....	10,000 00	\$9,050 00	\$105 16	\$9,155 16
Construction Shelter House, Winthrop Park.....	25,000 00	15,000 00	64 30	15,064 30
Construction Temporary Fence, etc., Williams- burg Park.....	16,500 00	16,500 00	436 24	16,936 24
Construction Water Tower, etc., Forest Park....	7,500 00	7,500 00	76 28	7,576 28
Regrading, etc., Traffic Roads, Eastern Parkway. Improvement Triangle at East New York and Pitkin Avenues.....	169,000 00	169,000 00	1,112 52	170,112 52
Asphalt Tile Walks, Kings Park.....	6,000 00			
Laying Concrete Walks, Prospect Park West to 15th Street.....	11,000 00	11,000 00	462 68	10,888 80
Laying Concrete Walks around Kings Park.....	7,800 00	7,800 00	102 07	7,902 07
Erection Comfort Station, Kings Park.....	3,400 00	3,400 00	70 33	3,470 33
Asphalt Tile Walks, Sunset Park.....	10,000 00			
Boatstone, Coney Island Bulkhead.....	24,000 00	20,500 00	862 26	21,362 26
Purchase of Topsoil, Amersfort Park.....	14,500 00	14,500 00	332 02	14,832 02
Regrading, etc., opposite Willink Entrance.....	1,500 00	1,500 00	5 06	1,505 06
Paving, etc., Glenmore Avenue.....	5,000 00	5,000 00	86 23	5,086 23
Completion Shelter House, Fulton Park.....	40,000 00	40,000 00	568 86	40,568 86
Improvement New Lots Playground.....	25,000 00	25,000 00	292 10	25,292 10
Improvement of Winthrop Park.....	3,020 00	1,970 00	50 89	2,020 89
Completion of Tennis House, Prospect Park.....	2,030 40	2,030 40	27 26	2,057 66
Construction of Water Pumping Plant.....	7,547 90	1,547 90		1,547 90
Shelter House, etc., McLaughlin Park.....	17,458 30	3,458 30	88 66	3,546 96
Shelter House, McKinley Park.....	3,500 00	3,500 00	105 15	3,605 15
Shelter House, etc., Highland Park.....	60,000 00	1,500 00	13 66	1,513 66
Construction Stone Wall, etc., Sunset Park.....	7,500 00	7,500 00	68 29	7,568 29
Resolving Trees, Prospect Park.....	1,000 00	1,000 00	42 06	1,042 06
Improving Rainey Park.....	50,000 00	48,600 00	813 12	49,413 12
Improvement Drives, etc.....	17,500 00	17,500 00	433 51	17,933 51
Improvement of Parks, Parkways and Drives.....	19,000 00	1,000 00	42 06	1,042 06
Fence around Bushwick Park.....	166,666 67	165,500 00	3,846 43	169,346 43
Improvements in Forest Park.....	1,111,000 00	1,099,500 00	7,989 48	1,107,489 48
Improvement, Kings Park.....	7,100 00	5,600 00	51 00	5,651 00
Improvement, Linden Park.....	100,000 00			
Improvement, Kings Park.....	9,000 00	6,000 00	54 63	6,054 63
Improvement, Linden Park.....	12,800 00			
Fence around Amersfort Park.....	4,500 00	3,500 00	31 87	3,531 87
Comfort House, Linton Park.....	5,500 00	2,000 00	18 21	2,018 21
General Improvement, Highland Park.....	7,500 00			
Museum Arts and Sciences, Erection of an Ad- dition.....	45,000 00			
Brooklyn Institute Arts and Sciences, Plans Mu- seum Building.....	1,432,000 00	1,378,800 00	47,058 65	1,425,858 65
Brooklyn Institute Arts and Sciences, Construc- tion Museum Building.....	50,000 00	50,000 00	511 78	50,511 78
Architects' Fees for above.....	100,000 00	47,000 00	254 95	47,254 95
Installation Cases and Library Stacks.....	20,000 00			
Museum Arts and Sciences, Construction Fourth Section.....	15,000 00			
Engineers' and Architects' Fees for above.....	450,000 00			
Parks, Department, Bridge 1st Avenue and Shore Road.....	11,000 00			
Grading Bay Ridge Parkway.....	94,624 00	76,624 00	770 84	77,394 84
Raising Ocean Parkway, South Coney Island Creek.....	75,500 00	73,000 00	665 70	73,665 70
Laying Sidewalks, Ocean Parkway, Prospect Park to Coney Island.....	20,000 00			
Parks, Department, Carving Pediment.....	17,540 00			
Parks, Department, Playground, Seigel and White Streets.....	20,000 00			
Parks, Department, Repaving Drives, etc.....	27,159 00	21,659 00	222 86	21,881 86
Park Improvement Fund, Borough of Brooklyn.....	281,666 67	257,400 00	3,029 66	260,429 66
Shore Road, Completion of.....	393 54	393 54		393 54
Plans and Specifications, Permanent Improve- ments.....	1,875,000 00	122,500 00	2,785 46	125,285 46
Construction Children's Museum, Bedford Park.....	5,000 00			
Improvement Interior Fort Greene Park.....	92,500 00			
Improvement Plot No. 2, McCarren Park.....	66,822 00			
	50,000 00			
	\$8,342,336 42	\$4,866,760 14	\$93,431 11	\$4,960,190 25

Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments.	Balance of Cash Funds Unexpended.	Balance of Authorizations Unallotted.	* Encumbrances.		Total Net Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserve.	Unencumbered Balances.
			Net Reserve for Contracts.	Net Reserve for Open Market Orders.		
		\$20,000 00				\$20,000 00
		75,000 00				75,000 00
\$9,113 99	\$41 17	950 00	\$949 68		\$949 68	41 49
14,961 84	102 46	10,000 00	9,147 30		9,147 30	955 16
16,383 66	552 58					552 58
7,514 22	62 06					62 06
169,088 85	1,023 67					1,023 67
		6,000 00				6,000 00
573 88						573 88
7,610 80	291 27					291 27
3,400 00	70 33					70 33
		10,000 00				10,000 00
19,809 54	1,552 72	3,500 00				5,052 72
14,578 74	253 28					253 28
58 33	1,446 73					1,446 73
4,595 65	490 58					490 58
38,175 30	2,393 56					2,393 56
22,595 40	2,696 70					2,696 70
1,968 02	52 87	1,050 00				1,102 87
1,619 28	438 38					438 38
1,148 88	399 02	6,000 00	1,810 27		1,810 27	4,588 75
3,463 00	83 96	14,000 00				14,083 96
3,435 04	170 11					170 11
1,428 57	85 09	58,500 00	18,942 38		18,942 38	39,642 71
5,748 95	1,819 34		1,710 55		1,710 55	108 79
470 00	572 06					572 06
49,349 71	63 41	1,400 00				1,463 41
17,185 22	748 29					748 29
932 72	109 34	18,000 00				18,109 34
168,974 91	371 52	1,166 87				1,538 19
1,107,319 01	170 47	11,500 00		498 00	498 00	11,172 47
5,527 71	123 29	1,500 00				1,623 29
		100,000 00	6,237 00		6,237 00	93,763 00
6,042 20	12 43	3,000 00				3,012 43
		12,800 00				12,800 00
3,028 61	503 26	1,000 00				1,503 26
1,552 31	465 90	3,500 00				3,965 90
		7,500 00				7,500 00
		45,000 00				45,000 00
1,426,032 18	† 173 53	53,200 00	28,597 15		28,597 15	24,429 32
50,000 00	511 78					511 78
46,749 23	505 72	53,000 00	6,490 77		6,490 77	47,014 95
		20,000 00				20,000 00
		15,000 00				15,000 00
		450,000 00				450,000 00
		11,000 00				11,000 00
76,909 64	485 20	18,000 00	17,380 36		17,380 36	1,104 84
73,480 59	183 11	2,500 00				2,685 11
		20,000 00				20,000 00
		17,540 00				17,540 00
		20,000 00	20,000 00		20,000 00	
21,415 26	466 60	5,500 00	3,524 28		3,524 28	2,442 32
259,015 26	1,414 40	24,266 67				25,681 07
	393 54					393 54
125,000 37	285 09	1,752,500 00	256,762 50	4 50	256,767 00	1,496,018 09
		5,000 00				5,000 00
		92,500 00				92,500 00
		66,822 00				66,822 00
		50,000 00				50,000 00
<b>\$4,925,271 90</b>	<b>\$34,919 35</b>	<b>\$3,475,576 28</b>	<b>\$413,383 47</b>	<b>\$502 50</b>	<b>\$413,885 97</b>	<b>\$3,096,609 66</b>

\* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to the Department of Finance.

† Deficit.