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# RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

A SURVEY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
RECREATION OF THE RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION

LEE F. HANMER  
CLARENCE ARTHUR PERRY



THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY  
RECREATION SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEYS AND EXHIBITS  
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# The Springfield Survey

A Study Made in the City of Springfield, Illinois, for the Purpose of  
Improving Social and Living Conditions

Instituted by

The Springfield Survey Committee  
and Conducted Under the Direction of the  
Department of Surveys and Exhibits  
Russell Sage Foundation

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WALTER L. TREADWAY, M.D. Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Public Health Service, for National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

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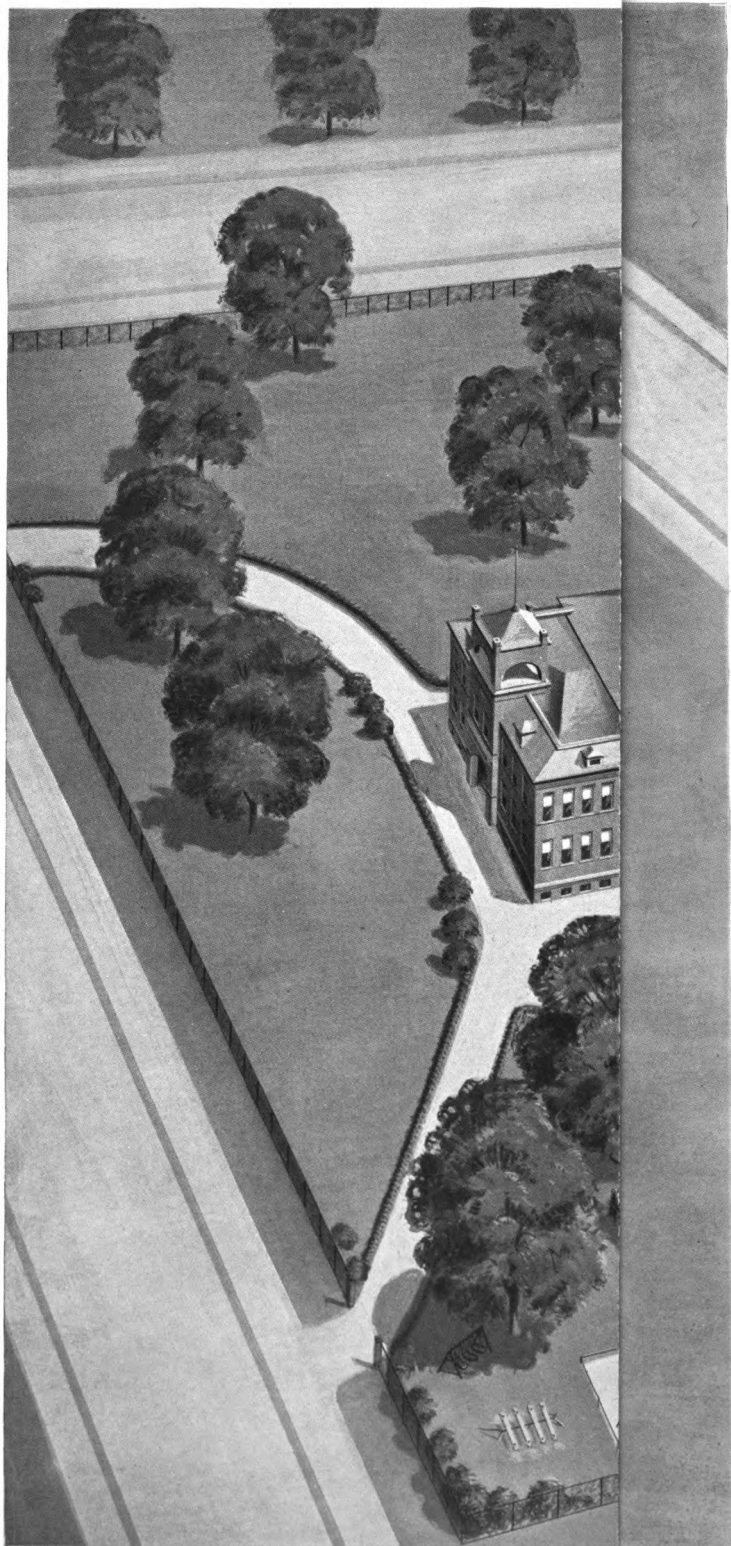
### HOUSING IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

JOHN IHLDER, Field Secretary, National Housing Association.









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RECREATION IN  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

A SURVEY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION  
RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION

LEE F. HANMER  
CLARENCE ARTHUR PERRY



THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY  
RECREATION SECTION

SPRINGFIELD SURVEY COMMITTEE  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

November, 1914

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## FOREWORD

This study of recreation conditions in Springfield, Illinois, was made by the Department of Recreation of the Russell Sage Foundation in co-operation with the Springfield Survey Committee. It is one section of a general social survey conducted by the Department of Surveys and Exhibits of the Foundation. The object has been to take into account the conditions under which the people live, the facilities for recreation available, both used and unused, the agencies at hand for providing recreation, and the recreational needs of the people; then to discover practical means of meeting these needs. It is hoped that the effect of the survey may be to arouse public consciousness with respect to the necessities, possibilities, and responsibilities that Springfield faces in helping its people, young and old, to make the best possible use of their play time. A plan of procedure is suggested.



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# I

## SPRINGFIELD—ITS GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

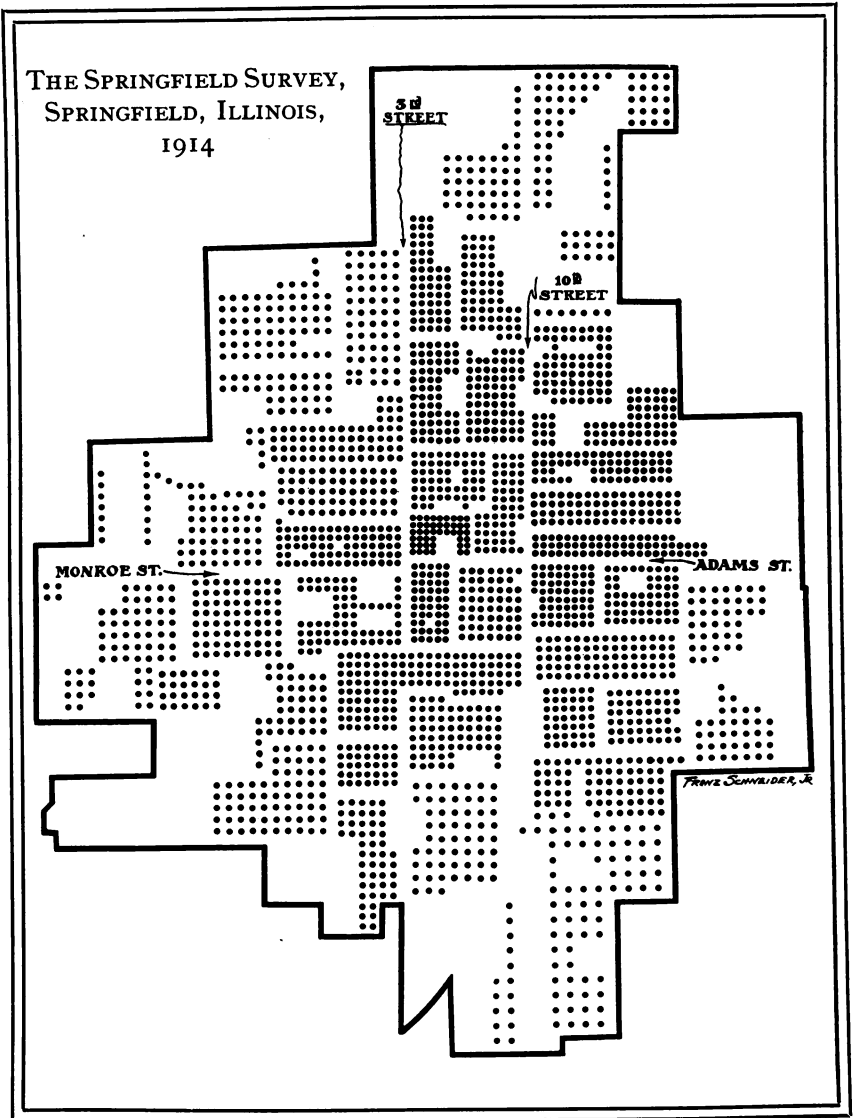
There are no hills in Springfield; the city's surface is for the most part as level as a floor. A couple of small streams appear in the outskirts but neither traverses the city, and with the exception of the more plentiful distribution of large trees in its western half there is nothing in the city's geography of a nature to produce districts of widely varying characteristics.

The north-south diameter of Springfield is a little more than four miles and its east-west dimension about three miles. Within its somewhat jagged boundaries there is an area of over eight square miles. The streets run either north-south or east-west, the few exceptions being some of those which follow railway or trolley lines. In width the streets range from 40 to 80 feet and practically all blocks are bisected by alleys.

Aside from the central part where the stores, offices, and public buildings are crowded together there are no large sections, except on the outskirts, wholly devoid of dwelling houses. The six important railway lines which enter the city have their stations and freight houses in separate districts, and the various factories are surrounded by residential districts. The apartment house has just begun to appear but tenements are not yet numerous. Outside of the downtown district most families enjoy a yard. True, nearly two-thirds of the population live east of the central north-south line (Third Street), but more than half of the city's area is also east of this line. Few house sites even in this more crowded half are smaller than 40 x 150 feet and most of them are larger. Congestion of population is not a factor in the recreational life of Springfield. It is a city of homes.

Over 80 per cent of its people are white and of native birth. The growing predominance of persons of native birth and parentage is attested by the fact that the proportion of white persons

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DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, BY ENUMERATION  
DISTRICTS, UNITED STATES CENSUS, 1910  
EACH SPOT REPRESENTS 20 PERSONS

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

of native parentage is increasing while conversely the ratio of those of foreign or mixed parentage is decreasing. In the decade 1900-10 the proportion of Negroes in the total population decreased from about 6.5 per cent to 5.7 per cent. Of the 7,000 foreigners in the city in 1910 over 2,000 came from the British Isles, a few more than that number from Germany, and somewhat more than 1,000 from Russia. Nearly two-thirds of Springfield's immigrants are of the races of northern and western Europe. These people are sturdy and assimilable.

Within four miles of the center of the city there are 17 bituminous coal mines which give occupation to between two and three thousand of Springfield's male wage-earners. Within the city itself 170 or so manufacturing establishments, representing a wide variety of industries, give employment to about 3,000 additional men workers. As is indicated by the recent report of the United States Census, the miners and the factory workers constitute nearly one-third of the male working population. Men whose bodies are fatigued by the day's toil crave passive enjoyments during their free time. If the work is also attended with danger, as is the case with all underground occupations, they tend to seek excitants for jaded nerves. Accordingly Springfield is well provided with motion-picture shows, saloons, vaudeville performances, baseball games, and the other contests which allow large assemblages of spectators.

In a city whose houses are unusually favorable to family life, housekeeping is of course the predominant occupation of the women. There is, however, the usual number of offices, stores, schools, telephone exchanges, and laundries, where women work; also a shoe factory and a large watch factory that give employment to women. Here, as elsewhere, the presence of a considerable female element in industry brings about certain public recreation problems which are peculiar to this social condition.

Sangamon County, in the center of which Springfield is situated, is a plain so level that its highest point is only 230 feet above its lowest point, and between these points lies the width of the county. Its fertile soil produces annual crops of corn, oats, wheat, hay, and so forth, worth some \$7,500,000. Springfield, its only city, is the county's natural shipping and shopping center,

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and similar trade relations also exist between the city and sections to the north, west, and south of the county's limits.

Being the capital of Illinois, Springfield is the host every now and then of large bodies of people brought in by the state fair, conventions, the assembling of the militia, and the meetings of the legislature. To entertain these groups hostelrys have grown up which are in excess of the needs of the city during the intervals between these various occasions and which therefore are not likely to be at any time overscrupulous regarding the character of their patronage. The regular recurrence too of multitudes of visitors with money to spend and free from home restraint, has stimulated an abnormal development of the passive amusement agencies and those which pander to the senses and grosser appetites.



## II

### THE BASIS OF PUBLIC CONCERN IN RECREATION

The cities which up to now have gone furthest in municipal care for recreation have been mainly those in which the excessive delinquency of children in certain well defined districts has called public attention to the external causes of viciousness. In these sections it was found that the congestion of population had squeezed out the spaces and opportunities for a normal play life and steps were consequently taken to supply the deficiencies. The movement for playgrounds thus originated became finally a movement for all sorts of recreation facilities under public auspices. But in Springfield the conditions that hamper play are not conspicuously present and, as a consequence, its public conscience has not been greatly burdened with recreation matters.

Nevertheless, in this city just as in other communities, whether or not they show the plague spots peculiar to bigness, there occurs each year an appalling wreckage of human careers—appalling both because of its size and its preventability. Here are a few instances clipped from the columns of the local press:

“Crazed by drink” is the explanation given by J—— T—— at the city prison for his shooting of his wife at their home . . . yesterday evening. . . Mrs. T——, leading two of her children, ran to a neighbor’s house and collapsed on the back porch. . . .

Charging that her husband never worked and followed her from place to place living on her earnings, E—— T—— today filed suit for divorce. . . . She left him to support her three small sons. . . .

An unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide by gas was made by a woman giving her name as Mrs. R—— at a rooming house —— yesterday morning. . . . The woman came to the hotel Friday night in company with a man, registering as Mr. and Mrs. R——. Saturday the man did not return. . . .

B—— T——, stabbed in the neck in the rear of the saloon, . . . was improving today at —— hospital. . . .

Coroner C—— R—— today investigated the birth and death of a daughter to F—— R—— yesterday. The girl is but fourteen years

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old and unmarried. . . . W——L—— is held . . . on a charge of bastardy but it is probable an indictment charging rape will be returned . . . by the grand jury. . . .

Mrs. B—— . . . charged that Y—— sold her husband liquor with the result that he became a drunkard, lost his position, became a physical wreck, and finally, injured in mind and body, committed suicide. . . .

Mrs. M—— M—— . . . who . . . jumped from a second story window in a nude condition was given 180 days in the county jail. . . . Two daughters of the woman will be cared for by the Humane Officer until her husband arrives. . . . The woman will also probably be released if she promises to return to her husband.

## A TERRIBLE TOTAL

Such items as these appearing from day to day fail after a time to make any impression. They are accepted as things which have to be. The incidents reported in the newspapers, however, are usually only those that get into the courts and they therefore constitute but a small fraction of all the casualties to character which are going on about us. The discharge of a mechanic for drunkenness may result in no violence to another's person or property and yet it may mark the end of a useful career, the beginning of a life of loafing. An immoral episode, growing out of an acquaintanceship begun at a dance hall, may not immediately plunge a young woman into public shame and yet be just as truly the principal cause of an irreparable breakdown in her subsequent family life. The boyish pilfering from a freight car may not result in quick arrest and yet be in reality the commencement of a career of thievery.

The tiny drip, drip, drip of a faucet attracts little attention as you give it a casual glance, but collect the wastage for a week and the quantity of the loss will send you in haste for a plumber. And so it is with the number of the moral accidents which happen practically unnoticed in a year's time in a city like Springfield. If all the sons, daughters, husbands, and wives who in a single twelve months' period had suffered a serious disaster to character, either as victim or aggressor, could be gathered into one room and counted, then the citizens of Springfield would have no difficulty in realizing the enormousness of this portentous total.

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

### THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENT

Who is to blame for these accidents? Men and women are free moral agents, are they not? These are pertinent questions and they can best be answered by reference to some concrete cases. In most of the incidents cited above drunkenness played a part. Let us study one very common set of circumstances under which intemperate habits may be contracted.

Billiards is an extraordinarily attractive game. Scientific, unusually free from the factor of chance, it offers the player unlimited opportunities for the improvement of his ability to judge spaces, coördinate the muscles, and exercise persistence of endeavor. The green felt, the shining balls, and the straight hand-like cue all please the senses. Being played indoors, by day or artificial light, the recreation afforded by billiards and pool is at all times independent of the weather, and it is an especial boon to the worker during the long winter evenings when outside sports are not so regularly available. Furthermore, these are eminently sociable games drawing together persons of similar ages and tastes and allowing all the delights of jest and witticism to animate the spirits while the play is going on.

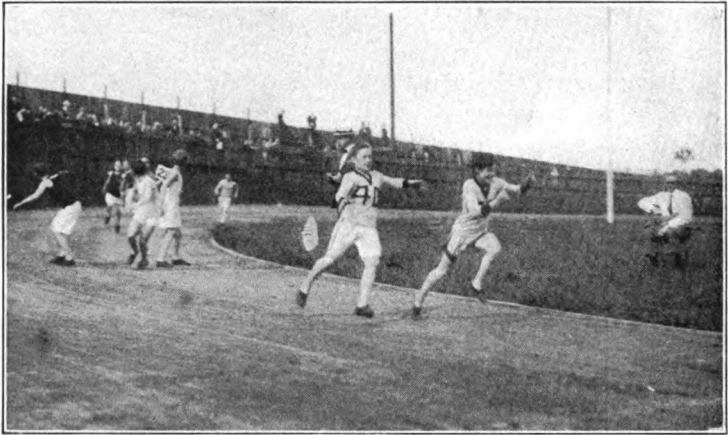
But in Springfield, just as is the case in most other cities, the opportunity to play billiards is almost everywhere linked with powerful temptations to use alcoholic beverages. Of the 60 holders of billiard and pool licenses 36 also hold licenses enabling them to have saloons on the same premises. The young men who frequent these pool rooms cannot escape the odors from the bar room, the contagion of custom, or the compulsion of a hospitality that is none the less powerful because it takes the form of alcoholic refreshment.

What are the causal factors in the cases of the young men who, first entering these pool and billiard rooms solely for the purpose of play, gradually form habits which lead them finally into hopeless inebriety? Obviously there is in every case, (1) a sad failure of will-power, supposing them all to be educated in the deleterious effects of alcohol, and (2) the influence of the environment. To inform and strengthen the wills of young people, Springfield like most other communities nowadays is working ener-

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

getically through home, school, and church. These traditional instrumentalities which influence individual character—the parents' counsel, the class-room instruction, the preaching from the pulpit—will always be necessary to human development, and Society must not only cherish them and keep them keen and effective but increase their power in every possible way. And one such way is presented in a well-balanced scheme of public recreation.

The agencies just mentioned work almost wholly by precept and example. Teachers and preachers urge boys and girls to imitate certain patterns of conduct but they give them few op-



Public Schools Athletic League, New York City

### GRIT AND ACTION

portunities for developing the will-power required to hold impetuous desires in check and keep their restless feet upon the line laid down. It takes grit to subordinate strong impulses and grit can be acquired only through action.

Developing the ability to meet high standards, both moral and physical, in the face of all sorts of opposition, is one of the functions of modern athletics. Few fields of action in times of peace afford such relentless trials of a youth's soul as does the field of sport. For example, a race is being run. The supremacy of your school and the approbation of your mates depend upon

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

your winning. You are rounding a corner when your most dangerous competitor gradually comes up from behind. You grit your teeth and open the throttle wider. Lungs can do no more and hold out for the final dash. But the other fellow still comes on. The crowd and the judge's stand are far away. A seemingly unintentional backward shove of the elbow into his stomach or a careless swing to the side with your leg and you win! Shall you do it? If through the influence of sound coaching a boy can be trained to the point where he will habitually resist such opportunities he has achieved a something which no learning



Public Schools Athletic League, New York City

AT THE TURN IN THE RACE  
"The other fellow still comes on"

can outweigh and upon which the highest degree can confer no further distinction.

Likewise the lad who can force himself out upon the athletic field day after day while his mates are luxuriously idling, who can stick to the training regimen despite the temptations of dainty food and sociable drink, and who can drive his muscles to their utmost—such a youth has gained a self control, a character bulwark, that will support him in all the stresses of life. What the properly administered gymnasium, playground, recreation center,

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

or athletic field constantly furnishes are similar opportunities for exercising the will under conditions that develop power and control while at the same time guarding against overstrain and breakdown.

But, returning to the case of the billiard-room habitue, the pulling power of the saloon is also a factor in his downfall. So that after society has done everything possible to strengthen moral stamina only half its task is done. It still has obligations concerning the surroundings in which human beings work and play. Let us illustrate.

### "SAFETY FIRST," A MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION

No machine is more visibly perilous, perhaps, than the revolving saw. Yet year after year workmen who well know its terrible possibilities have suffered from its merciless lacerations. And until recently their employers have been able, in most of these cases, to escape any financial penalty for their injuries by merely alleging "contributory negligence" on the part of the workman. The very obviousness of the danger made it easier to place all the blame upon the careless operator. But now a different practice is being increasingly followed in industrial establishments. All saws, cog wheels, and other machines whose working parts are dangerous are being covered and barriers are being placed around every hazardous locality. "Safety first," even though safety devices involve further outlay, is now the motto in every up-to-date factory. If corporations find it profitable to protect their employes from such dangers as the naked saw, how much clearer is the obligation resting upon Society to safeguard its members from the more masked and less immediate perils lurking in the surroundings of otherwise wholesome amusements.

### INTEMPERANCE NOT THE ONLY EVIL

The temptation to intemperance is not the only evil in the surroundings of the average commercially-managed billiard room. Often gambling operations hover in the proximity and sometimes the brothel is not far away. Moral hazards such as these menace each year in Springfield thousands of young men who are pursuing

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

the pleasures of a game which in itself is as beneficial as it is enjoyable.

Many parents already realize these dangers but as individuals they feel helpless. One Springfield father said, "I am much concerned about the influences that my sons are subjected to at ——'s" (a popular pool and billiard parlor). "I do not want to seem to them to be narrow and unduly strict, and they do enjoy the game and the friends they meet there. But there is the bar right at hand and the temptation of the social drink, besides the usual bar-room jest and the vicious stories with their covert challenges to questionable adventures. I wish there was some other place for them that was attractive and at the same time safe, but there does not seem to be any."

There are also public dance halls in Springfield where pass-out checks are given to the patrons which enable them to visit neighboring saloons during the progress of the evening's program as often as they desire. The young women in attendance may not only dance with partners who have been imbibing but, since introductions are not customarily required, they may at any time receive invitations from persons regarding whose irresponsible character and vicious habits they may be absolutely ignorant. To thousands of Springfield's young people dancing is a perfectly normal mode of social life, and the only feasible opportunity they have for enjoying it is now surrounded by moral pitfalls of the most dangerous and insidious character. The dissoluteness of the Mrs. R——, or of the Mrs. M——, mentioned in the quoted newspaper paragraphs, may not have originated, even remotely, in any of the dance halls, but that in some of the young people now flocking to them the fuses of licentiousness are being lighted by their incendiary influences cannot be doubted, and when later on the inevitable explosions take place the citizens of Springfield will not be able to avoid a share of the responsibility.

## MUNICIPAL AMUSEMENTS

The only way whereby a municipality can escape blame for such catastrophes is to offer adequate opportunities for the pursuit of proper pleasures in surroundings which are free from contaminating influences. Many cities have already prescribed for

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

themselves such a task. Milwaukee, for example, has placed 25 of the finest type of pool and billiard tables in its public school buildings. Social dancing for young and old is taking place in over 200 school houses scattered throughout the country. It might at first seem that there were insurmountable material obstacles but experience teaches that there are, as a matter of fact, few school edifices in which it is impossible to equip several rooms, either in the basement or above, suitably for social and recreational uses. With modern movable furniture, ample lighting, attractive furnishings, gates to shut off unused floors or corridors, additional janitor service, and intelligent directors, any school board that has the mind to can successfully utilize the expensive but little-used property under its charge for the safeguarding of a portion at least of the free-time activities of its people, young and old.

Someone may say, "If billiard playing and social dancing contribute to the downfall of young people, why afford opportunities for them in public school houses? Why permit them to exist at all?"

Those who have given careful thought to these matters are not at all convinced that they should be banished, even if it were possible to do so. The feeling is rather that it is wrong and unfair to the young people to allow so many of the intrinsically fine enjoyments of life to be associated with evil. Why not provide them so abundantly in irreproachable settings that they will automatically lose all their usefulness to the selfish and malign agencies now employing them as mere enticements?

### A DANGEROUS DEFECT IN CITY LIFE

The corrupt amusement resort, however, is only one of many environmental sources of evil found in the uncongested city. Back yards may be ever so ample, the parks easily accessible and equipped for play, and the woods not far off, and yet the city's scheme of life be utterly devoid of one of the main necessities of a healthy boy's existence. What happens when this need is not satisfied is shown in the following excerpts, also taken from Springfield newspapers in the past few months:

Three boys at the county jail face a sentence. . . . O—— J——  
. . . is 13 years old, L—— A——, 11 years old and P—— A——,



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

10 years. . . Friday evening the lads broke into the home of ——— and stole a revolver, neckties, and other articles. Saturday morning they broke into the ——— home and made way with several razors and a child's savings bank.

They next went to the ——— school house and after breaking up part of the furniture stole what small articles they wanted and set fire to the building. . . . Outside . . . the three met ———, aged 10 years, and while the two A—— boys held her, the J—— boy attempted an assault, it is alleged. The child screamed that her mother was coming and the lads ran away. They were arrested . . . and at the jail . . . made a confession.

What is the explanation? Are these just common thieves, bent on getting loot for their own selfish enjoyment? If so, why did they stop to break up furniture and then leave behind them such a lurid advertisement as a burning building? Why did they linger within the range of an imminent conflagration to attempt a personal assault? Larceny, burglary, arson, rape, all in one wild, resounding raid,—were such blustering bravos ever before encountered outside the pages of Scott, Dumas, or “The Red Terror of Roaring Gulch”?

The report of the court proceedings in the next day's paper throws a still more penetrating light upon the home care, education, and psychology of these knickerbockered bandits.

The lads plead guilty to the charges. . . . Parents and friends seemingly deserted them as none were present. . . . L—— A—— has previously served a sixteen months' sentence at ——— for attempting to *wreck a train*. He is eleven years old.

Wreck a train! What under the heavens could an eleven-year-old child do with a stalled train! Did he plan to go through it and invite the passengers—at the risk of having the daylight let through them—to pour their valuables into his pockets? Was the heart under his little shirt so thirsty for human blood that only a railroad catastrophe could satisfy it? Or was he blindly imitating the fascinating exploits of a ten-cent, paper-covered brand of hero who, in the recesses of some livery stable or lumber yard, had captured his hungry imagination?

## BUNGLING IN THE MATTER OF THE BOY

What did Society do to the lad who responded so wholeheartedly to the inspiration of the dime novel? Confined him for one



*Courtesy of "The Playground"*

PLAY GONE WRONG

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

and one-third years with other boys of similar experience! When we wish to diffuse knowledge we bring people together in conferences, congresses, and institutes so that the new facts can pass readily from one to another. Likewise in the intimate associations of a reformatory the tricks brought in by each inmate gradually become the property of all the others. It is not strange then that after such a rich opportunity for learning, L——— A———, in company with his brother and their chum, who for aught we know may have enjoyed similar educational privileges, should have been able to show so much versatility and proficiency in deeds of crime, and should have so promptly given evidence of the competency of his training.

When these boys were brought before the juvenile court by a strong-armed officer of the law, no effort having been made previously by the judge or probation officer to discover the real causes of their wrong-doing or the motives behind it, there was not one single kinsman, teacher, or friend at hand to raise a voice in their behalf or to show them a sign of human sympathy! With this circumstance before you, reflect upon the kind of home life in which these lads must have grown up! And guess how much sympathy and understanding usually met their toddling efforts to adjust themselves to life's complexities—a task that is sufficiently baffling even under the most favorable circumstances.

### A VITAL NEED SPRINGFIELD HAS NOT MET

What need do such boys have that the dime novel meets and the city does not? Perhaps the qualities that find expression in the exploits described in these ten-cent thrillers will furnish the cue. Or take the deeds they suggest to their readers, the criminal deeds of the three boys cited above—what personal attributes do they display? Obviously the first quality is physical courage; next an ingenious matching of wits; an eager following of a course of action in which surprises were probable if not certain; and finally the imitation of adult activities and the assumption of a freedom of initiative that is supposed to come with adulthood. These are the qualities of the huntsman, the trapper, the explorer, and the pioneer, all reinforced and covered by the irrepressible

urge to hasten the process of growing up by anticipating the acts of the grownups. A boy without these qualities would be as backward as a race whose early members had shown no disposition to rove, extend their hunting territory, or settle new lands. The satisfaction of these impulses and instincts, implanted in his nature by the exigencies of primeval race-life, is as requisite to the wellrounded development of his personality as exercise is to the growth of his muscles.

But what is there in the ordinary home and school life that calls for daring? What proper occasion is there for the display of cunning and stratagem? What opportunity for matching human artifice against the forces of nature? What adventure can possibly happen in the daily round of fetching coal and water and carrying books to school? Is it at all remarkable that some of the bolder and more enterprising of these youthful spirits should now and then revolt at the tameness of city civilization and war upon the Society which denies them the opportunities their natures crave? Is it not still easier of comprehension when one considers that in the outbreaks themselves the boys find a most satisfying outlet for these repressed instincts?

The evidence of a widespread fondness among boys for the incidents of primitive life is not confined to their addiction to dime novels or enthusiasm for Wild West shows, whether furnished by Buffalo Bill or the "movie" man. Their free everyday acts disclose persistent, though to be sure fumbling, efforts to find these things in their own modern habitats. During the course of this survey some 1,100 boys, ranging mainly from nine to fifteen years of age, wrote school essays upon "All the things I did last week," the week in question being one of vacation, beginning March 30. These little diaries afford most significant glimpses into the facts of their daily lives. Here are some of the things they did,—those who were not obliged to go to work, to spade, to cut wood, to clean up the yard, or to do the hundred other tasks belonging to the house-cleaning period: made tents, shacks, log huts, or tree houses; camped out all night; cooked over outdoor fire; made and sailed rafts; played cowboys and Indians, civil war and "Robinson Crusoe"; imitated the field telephone men; and played "Boy Scouts." Boys to the number of 134 reported

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

activities such as these. How many more wanted to do similar things but were prevented can only be conjectured.

The sad facts are that the parents who have the sympathetic understanding of this sort of boyish needs, and the necessary will, intelligence, and means to meet them, are still in a decided minority. How many mothers are there who can complacently regard their ten-year-old's aspiration to be a Rob Roy or some other kind of a bandit instead of a gentleman? But because parents do not understand, cannot buy woodsman's outfits, and will not permit excursions into the neighboring wilds for any length of time—these facts do not relieve the boy from the drive of his instincts. Sometimes they get the better of his slowly forming, still plastic, notions of property rights, and then we read such items as this one, also from a Springfield newspaper:

S—— F—— and C—— E——, two youths, were arrested this morning charged with the theft of a tent and several robes from the M—— T—— company.

### HOW TO MEET IT

Fortunately for the future of American boyhood an organization has been formed whose activities afford to an unhopd-for degree a full, as well as wholesome, outlet for these early instincts. In the hike, the woodcraft, wig-wagging and wireless telegraphy, first care of wounded, and the many other ways of matching wits against nature involved in frontier life, the Boy Scout finds the kind of expression his primitive soul craves. The code of courtesy changes him from a brigand into a knight-errant without loss of zest. While the sanitary campaigns, street duty on parade, and other civic exercises all combine to prepare him for responsible, co-operative citizenship, at the same time they satisfy his impetuous desire to do the kinds of things adults do. Because scout patrols must recruit their members from more than one family only a body outside the family can organize them. Since scout activities range far from school house or yard the school board cannot well be responsible for them. But while the scout organization must needs be an independent administrative entity its work can be greatly furthered by the co-operation of the home, the school, and all citizens who are interested in



*Courtesy of Boy Scouts of America*

**BOY SCOUTS OVERCOMING A FOREST DIFFICULTY**  
**Making fire without matches**





**A CAMP FIRE GIRLS' COUNCIL**  
These ceremonies include formal recognition of domestic tasks well done, thus investing household duties with romance and dignity

*Courtesy of the Camp Fire Girls*

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

human welfare. No city now without a Boy Scout Council can claim that it is giving its boys a square deal.

The importance of the similar rôle played in the girl's life by the Camp Fire Girls' organization should also here be presented. The home sex remained for so long submissive, quiet, and unobtrusive that its own peculiar needs were not discovered and brought into the light. People forgot that during the long ages while the man roamed the hills in search of game the woman kept the fire burning in the hut and that her muscles and nervous system still respond emotionally to those primeval activities just as his do. They did not appreciate the necessity of having, in the midst of our changing home life, rites and ceremonies which would somehow preserve the romance and satisfaction of woman's age-long activities, and transplant them, not too precipitously, to the work of her new and larger place in the community scheme. There were, however, those who felt these needs and who had the skill to invent an institution to meet them, and the product of their ingenuity and patience is taking its place alongside of the kindergarten, the school, and the home.

### MORALITY PURCHASABLE

On the bulletins of the New York City health department there appears this slogan, "Public health is purchasable. Within natural limitations a community can determine its own death rate." For the recreation propaganda this motto may well be paraphrased: "Private morality is improvable by public measures. Righteousness can be raised by taxation." This a community can do by taking out of the environment of its people conditions that corrupt them and by putting into it the facilities required for the normal satisfaction of wholesome appetites and desires.

### RECREATION AND SELF-REALIZATION

There is a still more constructive aspect to this subject. Recreation is so often accomplished through play that the two are commonly used as interchangeable terms. Broadly defined, play is doing the thing you very much want to do. True, working at one's hobby may not always result in the upbuilding of



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

bodily strength but under normal conditions it does have a vitalizing effect. Just as the repression of some strong impulse toward self-realization is debilitating, so its satisfaction is tonic.

In every community there are individuals who possess latent abilities of a special order which through lack of opportunity they are prevented from exercising. There are young men with talents for drawing, for invention, for mimicry, for organization, who need only the privileges of a studio, a laboratory, a stage society, or a civic club to achieve distinction for themselves and their locality. There are girls with undiscovered voices, hidden social abilities, leanings toward letters, or a special taste for interior decoration which will be revealed to themselves and to their friends by the stimulus of a chorus, the management of a reception, a dramatic competition, or the dressing of a stage for amateur theatricals. Indeed there are few individuals without some special qualification whose employment means personal success, whose denial spells lifelong failure. Since exercising special abilities is ordinarily play for their possessor it frequently happens that enabling an adult to play is enabling him to keep on growing.

The extension of such cultural opportunities to the public in general constitutes one of the most important phases of the recreation movement. Modern school buildings—and to a lesser degree, park field houses—contain meeting rooms, auditoriums, stages, pianos, shops, laboratories, drawing rooms, and gymnasiums wherein a wide range of cultural activities can be carried on. School houses can be made available for all the purposes mentioned above by employing special staffs to come on after the academic force has retired for the day. To establish social centers means to inaugurate a line of municipal action that tends not only to remove the waste of crime but to give that enrichment to community life which comes only through the complete self-realization of its individual members. Such an environment smiles upon genius.

## COMMUNITY ART AND RECREATION

Recreation as a factor in the art life of a community is but another phase of the constructive side of this subject. Passive

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

amusements largely depend upon the performances of artists of one kind or another. Those who give pleasure by the skilful manipulation of the voice, musical instruments, the crayon, or the brush are themselves stimulated and their number increased by any measures which augment the number of occasions when their services are required. Start a large chorus and you increase the number who seek vocal instruction. Establish a series of concerts and new performers are attracted to town. Facilitate the rehearsals of a struggling amateur orchestra and you increase the musical assets of the community. Similar efforts with the other arts will have like results.

Proof of the close relationship between public recreation and community art is already remarkably abundant. Through playground work, folk and esthetic dancing have been given a permanent place in American life, while the annual play festival has developed an increasing demand for fantastic, picturesque, and historical representations in parades and outdoor scenes. In several cities beautiful, immense, epoch-marking pageants have been presented, which grew obviously out of the advanced forms of play life that had been promoted by the municipality. In a less conspicuous but more widely extended way a vast amount of stimulation to musicians, dramatic clubs, artists and art groups of all sorts has been given by the opening of public school buildings after class hours for diverting, cultural, and social occasions. Any city which wishes to lay the foundations for a broad community art development will achieve the greatest progress by first establishing a generous, far-reaching system of public recreation.

### III

## THE HOMES

The first factor to consider in a study of the recreation needs of a community is the homes of the people. What the city should do in a public way depends primarily upon how the people live. If the population is congested and the streets are crowded with traffic the city is called upon to do much more than would be the case if each family lived in a separate house and had a lawn and garden of its own. The type of dwelling is also an important factor. Is there opportunity within the homes for social gather-



SPRINGFIELD HAS A WEALTH OF HOME PLAYGROUND POSSIBILITIES

ings of congenial groups or must the young people meet their friends on the street or in public amusement places?

Whatever the home conditions are, unless positively vicious, the effort should be to direct the recreational activities toward the home, as much as possible, rather than away from it. It is true that the social life of young people, and of adults also, must include association with those outside of their own family group. But the family life stands first and work and play within the home is the foundation upon which to build. Fortunate indeed is the city in which the homes of the people are such as to make this to any great extent possible.

# THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

Springfield is a city of homes. Its population is not only well distributed, but the number of people per acre is comparatively low. The people live for the most part in detached houses with yards, and in some cases, gardens. This means opportunity for home recreations ranging all the way from children's games, both indoor and outdoor, to social functions in the home, lawn parties, tennis, croquet, and so forth. This is true for a majority of the people at least.

The great need is resources—a knowledge of things to do. Here appears a serious gap in Springfield's recreation equipment. The essays written by 2,275 grammar school children of the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades on "All the Things I Did Last Week" (Easter vacation) give striking evidence of the dearth of proper resources for play. The long and varied list of these reported forms of play given below, when analyzed, presents an interesting picture of the play life of Springfield's boys and girls.

In the 1,108 essays written by boys, the following 40 forms of recreation were the ones most reported. The percentage of the total number taking part in each activity is indicated.

TABLE I.—FORMS OF RECREATION REPORTED BY 1,108 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOYS FOR EASTER VACATION, 1914

Form of recreation	Per cent of boys who reported	Form of recreation	Per cent of boys who reported
Baseball.....	71.0	Break thou the window light.....	.4
♥ Motion-picture shows....	27.6	Ditch 'em.....	.3
♥ Reading.....	23.1	Hare and hound.....	.3
Kite flying.....	21.8	Playing show.....	.3
Fishing.....	12.3	Playing on cars.....	.3
Boy Scout activities.....	10.9	Corn-cob fight.....	.2
Roller skating.....	9.2	Mumble peg.....	.2
Bicycling.....	6.9	Fire department.....	.1
Hide and seek.....	6.4	Rock battle.....	.1
Tag.....	4.9	Bull in the ring.....	.1
Cops and robbers.....	3.7	Poison stick.....	.1
Marbles.....	2.2	Revival meeting.....	.1
Card playing.....	2.0	Bean bag.....	.1
Sheep and wolf.....	1.8	Blind man's buff.....	.1
Running races.....	1.7	Leap frog.....	.1
Football.....	1.6	Baby in the hole.....	.1
Throw the stick.....	1.2	Tap on the graveyard.....	.1
Run sheep run.....	.9	Prisoners' base.....	.1
Hoop rolling.....	.6	What is it like and why?.....	.1
Duck on rock.....	.5		
Soldiers.....	.5		

# RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

The 1,167 girls who wrote essays reported most frequently the 66 different forms of recreation listed below. In some cases the same game was mentioned under different names.

TABLE 2.—FORMS OF RECREATION REPORTED BY 1,167 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRLS FOR EASTER VACATION, 1914

Form of recreation	Per cent of girls who reported	Form of recreation	Per cent of girls who reported
Motion-picture shows..	48.6	Old witch.....	.5
Jumping rope.....	27.6	Water, water, wild flower	.5
Roller skating.....	26.0	I spy.....	.5
Hide and seek.....	22.0	Dodge ball.....	.4
Playing ball.....	14.7	Basket ball.....	.4
Tag.....	12.2	Post office.....	.4
Camp Fire activities...	12.0	Black man.....	.4
Playing with dolls.....	11.7	Playing church.....	.3
Jacks.....	11.0	Kick the stick.....	.3
Playing house.....	10.2	Tin-tin.....	.3
Playing school.....	6.2	Ring around a rosy.....	.3
Ten step.....	4.2	Milk man.....	.3
Dancing.....	2.6	Spin the platter.....	.3
Swinging.....	2.5	Making mud pies.....	.3
Sheep and wolf.....	1.7	Croquet.....	.3
Checkers.....	1.7	Run sheep run.....	.3
Hide the thimble.....	1.7	Fox and geese.....	.3
Farmer in the dell.....	1.6	Leap frog.....	.3
Drop the handkerchief.	1.6	Pussy wants a corner...	.3
Bicycling.....	1.5	Cops and robbers.....	.3
Playing show.....	1.5	Horse.....	.2
Kite flying.....	1.3	Parlor baseball.....	.2
Indians and cowboys...	1.2	Telling stories.....	.2
Playing with toys.....	1.1	Mulberry bush.....	.2
In and out the window.	1.1	Chalk the corner.....	.2
Football.....	1.1	Captain ball.....	.1
Dressing up as ladies...	1.1	Sheep in the pen.....	.1
Playing store.....	1.0	My lady's chamber.....	.1
Johnny run a mile.....	1.0	London Bridge.....	.1
Blind man's buff.....	.9	Potsy.....	.1
Dare base.....	.7	Clap in and clap out....	.1
Bean bag.....	.7	Hare and hound.....	.1
Cat and dog.....	.7	Button, button.....	.1

At first glance this array of play activities would seem to indicate that Springfield children have a fairly extensive play repertoire, but the percentages tell a far different story. The only activity that engages the attention of any considerable

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

number of boys is baseball (71 per cent), while motion-picture shows top the list for the girls (48.6 per cent). The only activities reported by over 20 per cent of the boys were baseball, motion-picture shows, reading, and kite flying, while the old standard games that American boys have been brought up on, such as prisoners' base, leap frog, blind man's buff, bull in the ring, hare and hound, and duck on the rock are reported as played by less than half of 1 per cent of the grammar school boys. Most of these standard games were mentioned by only one-tenth of 1 per



WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT A PLAY PROGRAM  
Scene in a Springfield school yard

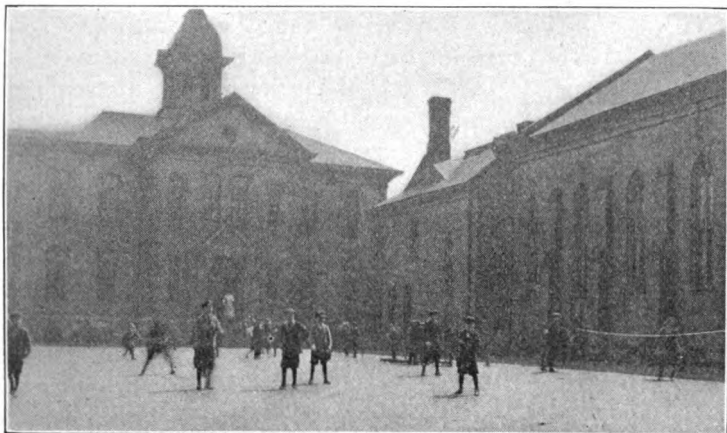
cent, or about one boy in 1,000. It isn't fair to the boys of Springfield to starve their play life in this way.

In the case of the girls, motion-picture shows, jumping the rope, roller skating, and hide and seek are the four most popular means of recreation. The standard games that should bring girls together in safe, happy, co-operative play, such as I spy, London Bridge, fox and geese, button button, and blind man's buff, are at the bottom of the list, indicating that they are played by comparatively few girls.

While the survey was in progress, the children were observed during the play periods on the school grounds. With the excep-

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

tion of baseball and tag they seemed in most cases to be sadly lacking in knowledge of what to do. The boys ran about mis-



PAROCHIAL SCHOOL BOYS AT PLAY  
St. Mary's School, Springfield



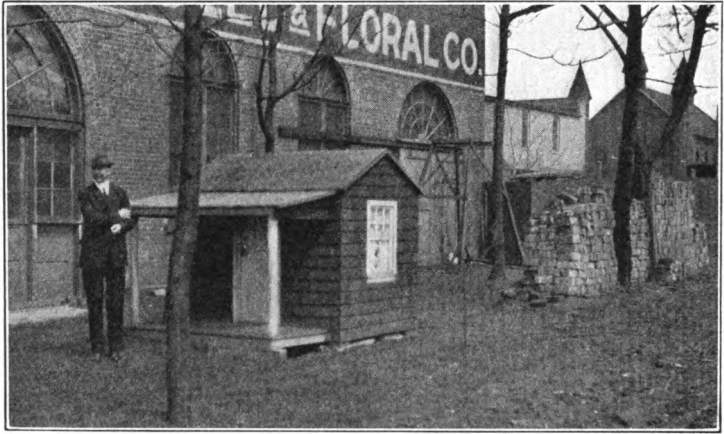
ORGANIZED RECESS PLAY FOR THE GIRLS  
St. Mary's School, Springfield

cellaneously tripping, pulling, and pummelling each other, and the girls amused themselves by standing about in small groups

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

or playing an improvised tag game which consisted chiefly of chasing each other and screaming.

A remedy for this would of course be the teaching of games to the children during the play period and of selecting these games in such a way that they might be used both on the school grounds and in the home yards. A few of the schools are already doing this in a limited way, but it should be extended to all the schools, and no child should be long in the public schools without knowing a good number of the standard playground games that have been



A HOME YARD PLAY HOUSE IN SPRINGFIELD. A GOOD SUGGESTION

tried out and which endure because they meet the play needs of boys and girls.

In the Teachers' Training School a number of these games are taught to the pupil teachers, but this work needs to be followed up by someone whose business it shall be to see that this knowledge, and more of the same sort, shall be used in its proper place in the school program. There are supervisors of drawing, music, and so forth; why should there not be a supervisor of physical training and play who would, as a part of his regular work, provide for the teaching of all the games that children should know, and organize the recess and after-school play activities? \*

\* Since the above was written a supervisor has been appointed. See page 59.



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

The responsibility does not, however, rest solely with the schools. Parents must give careful thought to plans for making their homes attractive to the children by providing opportunities and facilities for play and social life. It may not be conducive to comfort and quiet to have the neighbors' children playing in your back yard and to have your house used for neighborhood parties of various sorts; but young people are bound to come together somewhere and if the home or the school or the church does not afford this opportunity the public amusement resort will certainly have their patronage. Is there any better picture of wholesome social life than that of the home in which parents unite with their children in extending hospitality to their boy and girl friends either by means of afternoon play in the back yard or the more formal evening social occasions within the home? Infinitely more is accomplished than simply avoiding the pitfalls of the city streets; a positive cultural training is secured and social standards are set which are quite as vital to a child's development as anything that the schools can give.

## IV

### THE SCHOOLS

#### BUILDINGS

During the months of February, March, and April of 1914, 26 evening entertainments, lectures, or social gatherings were reported to have occurred in the public school houses of Springfield. Only 11 out of its 20 school edifices, however, were used during this period for these purposes. Spread out among all the buildings this would make an average rate of about four occasions per building for the whole school year. Once every nine or ten weeks, then, the school house here plays a part in the recreational life of its neighborhood.

How does Springfield, in this respect, compare with other cities? What amount of use for leisure time purposes constitutes the prevailing standard? The truth is no one can answer these questions because school officials generally have not yet begun to record systematically the evening entertainments or meetings held in the edifices under their charge. Nearly one-tenth of New York City's public schools are used as recreation centers six evenings a week from October to April, while many others are used one or two nights a week for public lectures, night classes, and various other purposes. Chicago utilizes 24 schools two nights a week as social centers, while in others there are evening classes, political meetings, and miscellaneous activities. In over 200 American cities outcroppings of the social center idea are manifesting themselves in various sorts of evening activities, but in none of them is there any definite knowledge of the average amount of utilization per school which these activities are occasioning. In most of these cities a certain few schools of the system are being used more intensively than the others. These are locally known as social or recreation centers and their evening

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

activities are maintained either by the board of education alone or in co-operation with a voluntary private group.

Allentown, Pennsylvania, a city of the same size as Springfield, has two school centers, open three nights a week through the winter, which are managed by the local playground association with some support also from the school board. Duluth, Minnesota; Superior, Wisconsin; Youngstown, Ohio; and the New Jersey cities of Bayonne, Elizabeth, Hoboken, and Passaic, places ranging from 40,000 to 80,000 in population, are other municipalities which have social centers in certain of their schools.



New York City

### THE RECREATION CENTER VS. STREET LOAFING

While in these cities the school centers are open from one to four evenings a week, their remaining buildings, excepting those with night classes, are used only for miscellaneous occasions and so it is not possible to say what the average utilization per building is. Springfield cannot claim a position among the leaders until it has at least some schools which are actually known as live social centers.

An ideal plan would demand that a public school building contribute something at least once a week to each member of all the families which support it. To meet the several needs of such a variety of people with the least friction and the maximum of

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

satisfaction it would probably be necessary to open some part of the building six nights a week. The administration of such an extensive program would require the services of a separate social center staff coming on duty, in part at least, immediately at the close of day classes and continuing (with an intermission for supper) until 10 or 11 o'clock in the evening. Alterations to the buildings and additional furnishings would also be demanded.

While a plan of such scope has nowhere yet been realized and



New York City

### COMPANIONSHIP UNDER WHOLESOME AUSPICES

is not immediately attainable anywhere, yet it is capable of gradual realization everywhere and every city ought to make a beginning at once in bringing it about. If there is any doubt about the authority of the Springfield board of education to maintain social center activities the Illinois school law should be revised so as to remove that obstacle.

A first step that is now feasible in Springfield is that of opening every school house two nights a week. It can be achieved simply

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

by following the policy the board of education has already wisely initiated; the policy, that is, of encouraging the formation of voluntary associations to work in co-operation with the schools. If skilfully directed these bodies could assume practically all of the burden of maintaining and conducting the social centers.

### PARENTS' AND NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

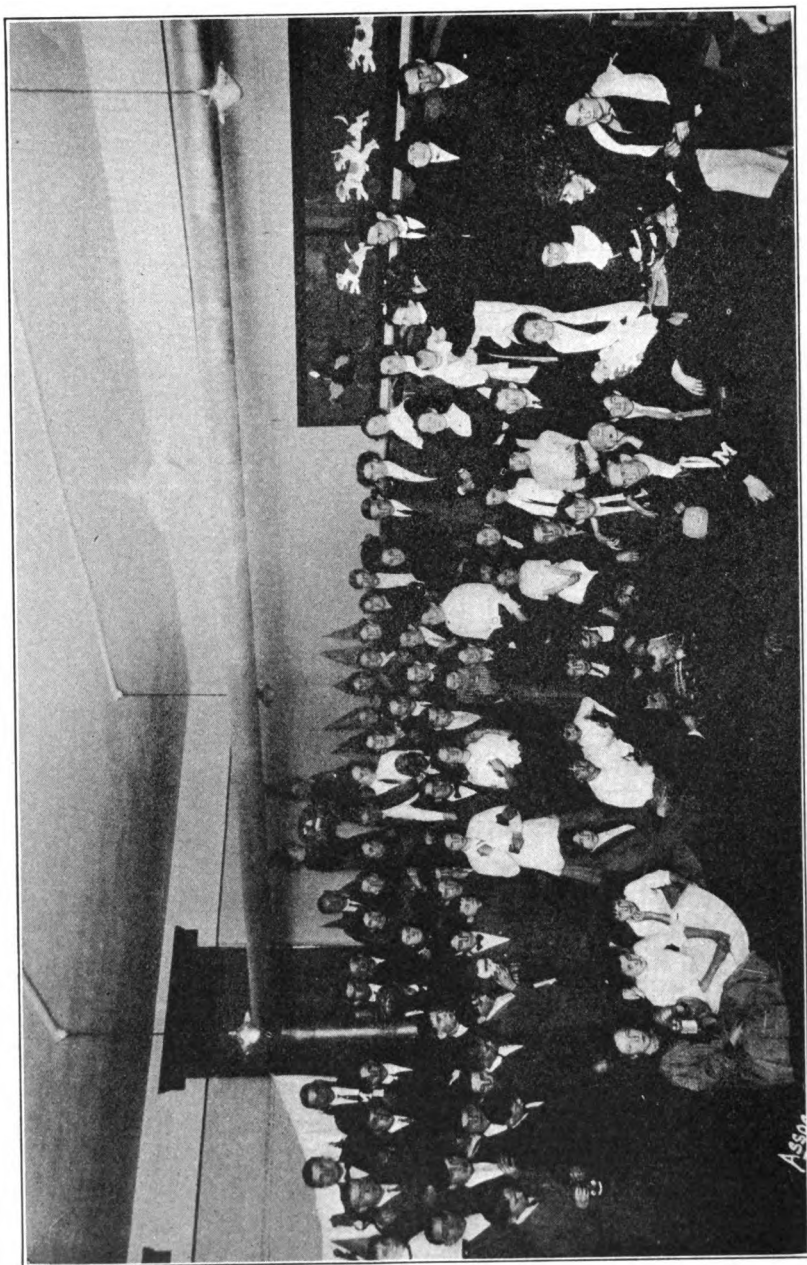
There could and should be a mothers' club or some other form of parent-teacher organization as well as a neighborhood improvement association connected with each of the elementary schools of the city. At present only 11 or 12 schools have the help of such bodies and in many of these the work is done mainly by the principals and teachers. The methods by which these organizations can be stimulated and still further developed are the following:

(a) Continue the policy of encouraging principals to become acquainted with their neighborhoods and to enlist the help of the leaders of the various groups within them.

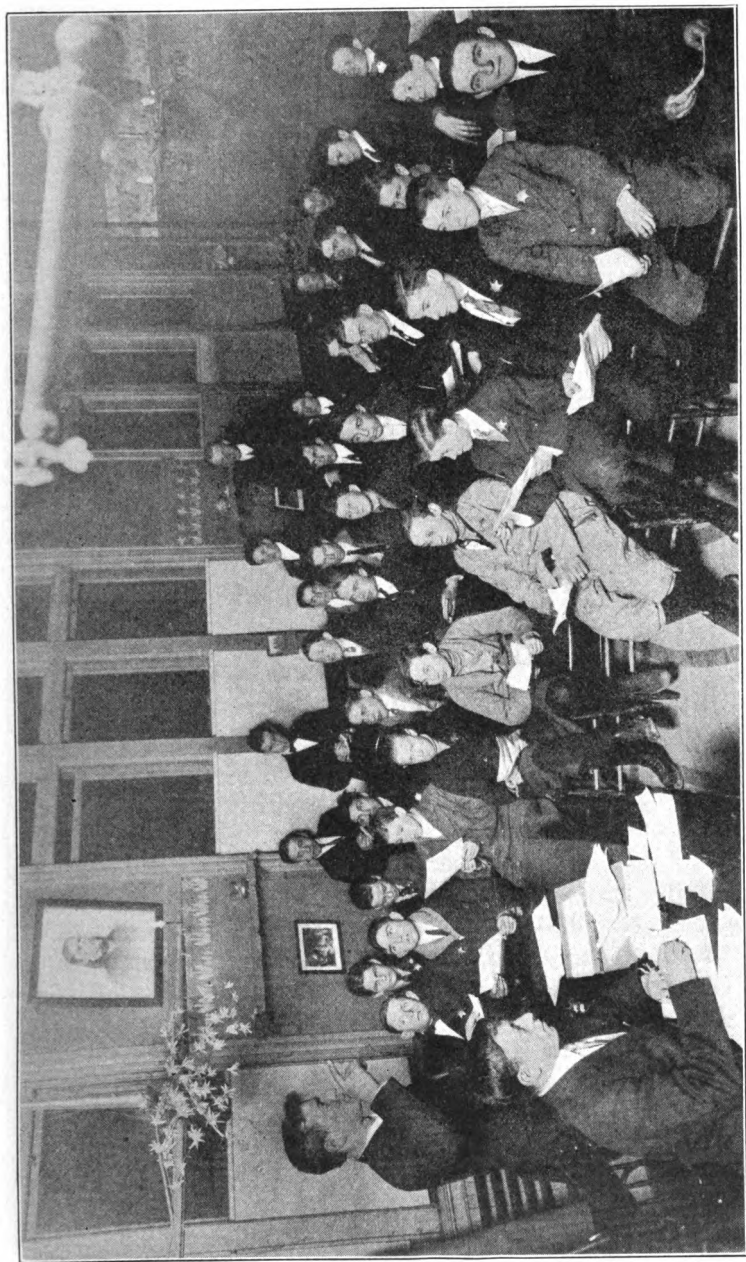
(b) Give systematic publicity to the doings of these organizations and thus stir up a healthy rivalry among them. This might be accomplished in part by having reports read at each club meeting of the work being done by the groups connected with the other schools.

(c) Bring about a federation of the various local organizations by having representatives from each group come together in a league having its headquarters at the high school.

(d) Give the neighborhood organizations more work to do. It might well be put up to the local groups to keep their school buildings open at least two nights a week. This could be accomplished by efficient organization, working with volunteers, and developing self-supporting social center activities. In Louisville, Kentucky, five neighborhood groups are supporting school centers with no assistance from the school board but heat, light, and janitor service. In New York City, a similar body runs a center whose budget averages \$100 a month. All members of the 19 clubs at this center pay dues ranging from 5 to 15 cents a week according to the opportunities offered. This money goes to the support of the work. Whenever a club gives an entertain-



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, NEIGHBORHOOD CELEBRATING HALLOWE'EN IN THE SCHOOL HOUSE



A BOYS' CLUB AT A MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, SOCIAL CENTER

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

ment it turns 35 per cent of the net proceeds into the treasury. The balance of the budget is made up by private contributions.

Some of the activities which can be easily fostered by these neighborhood organizations are the following:

1. Popular choruses, string orchestras, brass bands, banjo clubs, and other amateur musical organizations. Ordinarily these can be developed simply by offering a room in which to practice, helping to find suitable leaders, and bringing together the local musicians.

2. Basketball tournaments, folk dancing, and other indoor athletic activities. These should have the help and direction of the physical training department.

3. Maintain reading and quiet games rooms. The necessary periodicals and games could be largely secured through donations.

4. Promote young people's clubs of all sorts, dramatic, debating, literary, social, civic, and handicrafts. These will ordinarily be glad to pay fees if self-government is encouraged.

5. Hold motion-picture shows. Organize and chaperone groups for social dances. Both of these should be a source of income.

Reading rooms in many of the schools can be extended by a further development of the policy of library co-operation which has already been initiated. There are at present branch libraries in eight of the public schools, while three other schools have libraries of their own of considerable size and importance. These collections might be supplemented by donated periodicals and made more accessible to the public by opening the rooms in which they are kept one or more nights a week, under volunteer or paid supervision. The Lawrence School has an especially fine collection and a well-appointed library room which were donated to the school. At the present time its use is so limited that the janitor has to dust the room only once a week. A plan should certainly be worked out whereby this neighborhood asset could be more generally utilized.

In the school motion-picture shows the program should be interspersed with contributions from the choruses, orchestras, banjo clubs, dramatic societies, and clubs connected with the



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

center. Oftentimes the upper grades will be able to contribute a number. In this way variety and interest will be added to the program and the occasion will be not only a stimulus to the amateurs but serve to develop neighborhood solidarity as well.

The administration\* of the social center activities which have just been enumerated should be directed and stimulated and supervised from the superintendent's office, working directly through the principals and, in certain matters, through the physical training department.

As in the past, principals should be made to feel that the development of neighborhood organizations is a regular part of their function and they should then be helped by continual suggestions regarding methods and be sufficiently relieved from teaching duties to be able to carry them out. They should be given to understand that their aim should be to get the neighborhood increasingly to assume the load in the social center work, their function being to steer the activities rather than to do the actual work of carrying them on.

Experience shows that it is a wise social center policy to offer cultural opportunities to the different races separately. Only in this way can an appeal to race pride be made. The Negro people should have a certain night for their glee clubs, and the Germans, the Lithuanians, and the Italians should have their special nights for their respective folk dances, national songs, and several exercises in their own tongues. If these privileges are offered in the spirit of affording the various groups the special privileges to which their particular abilities entitle them instead of from a motive of segregation, the successful carrying out of the plan will be assured.

### SOCIAL CENTER EQUIPMENT

The board of education can do a great deal to facilitate the social center work by making a few inexpensive alterations in various rooms and adding suitable equipment. Practically all the schools have basement rooms that are capable of use for games, reading, club meetings, or some other recreative purpose. By

\* For suggestions of sources of program material see Appendix, Topic A, p. 105.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

repainting some of the walls and doors, installing screened lights, putting screens on the windows, and equipping with plain wooden chairs and tables and closets for storing materials, these rooms could be very readily and cheaply prepared for a much greater service than they are now rendering. Many of them are accessible by basement entrances and could be used without entering other portions of the building. Where this is not the case, or where it was desired to use spaces upstairs, such parts of the building as were not needed could be shut off by wooden gates or barriers hung across a corridor or stairway.

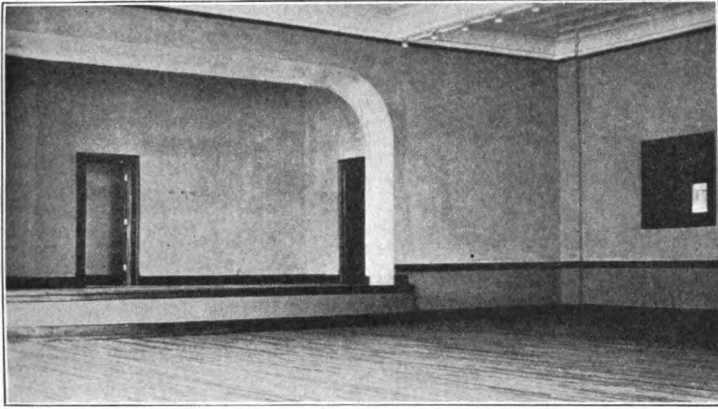
Several class rooms in each building could be made available for evening social purposes by taking out the fixed desks and seats and installing movable furniture. Such action is in several hundred cities now justified by purely pedagogical reasons, although the greater utility of rooms thus equipped is ample warrant for the substitution. If, however, the expense cannot be met the rooms can still be made utilizable by putting their present furniture upon strips 1 inch thick by 4 inches wide running parallel with the aisles, thus making it possible to move the seats in sections out into the hall with little trouble. Sections of four or five seats are easily handled.

The generous corridors possessed by most of the Springfield schools are admirably adapted for small dances, group games, folk dancing, and many other indoor diversions. Their usefulness would be still further enhanced in certain instances by protecting the lights and windows with screens and furnishing small movable platforms.

Every school should be provided with an assembly room as soon as possible. In some cities this need has been temporarily met by removing the wall between two class rooms and substituting a sliding or folding partition. Such a space equipped with movable furniture would serve many uses. In Milwaukee the auditoriums in the school centers have level wood floors, high platforms, and screened windows and lights, and are equipped with plain wooden chairs bound together in fours by a plank nailed beneath their bottoms, basketball standards and baskets, flame tungsten lights, motion-picture machines and booths, sliding curtains, and accessible dressing rooms. Besides the regular

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

school purposes such rooms serve for indoor baseball and basketball, dancing, motion-picture and dramatic performances, and all sorts of evening occasions. Any city that wants to do so can provide these accommodations for the use of its citizens.



GOOD SOCIAL CENTER SPACE  
New auditorium at the Palmer School, Springfield

## SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS

Literary and social gatherings and exhibitions arranged by the teachers might very well be integrated with the social center activities outlined above. The provision of these entertainments might be considered the teachers' share in this community work, but as neighborhood groups developed and became equipped for work the teachers might gradually turn over to them this responsibility also.

## THE HIGH SCHOOL

On April 6, 1914, the students of the Springfield high school furnished detailed information regarding their outside amusements. The total number of cards filled out by the boys was 398, by the girls 459.

# THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

TABLE 3.—AMUSEMENTS REPORTED BY 857 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM CHRISTMAS, 1913, TO APRIL 6, 1914, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

	Boys	Girls
Motion-picture shows		
Students who attended . . . . .	355	409
Total number of attendances . . . . .	9,637	8,454
Average number of times per week per individual attending . . . . .	1.9	1.5
Theaters		
Students who attended . . . . .	341	386
Attendances by students with member of family	1,196	1,729
Attendances alone or with one not a member of family . . . . .	3,876	2,584
Average number of performances per individual . . . . .	14.9	11.1
Students over half of whose attendances were with member of family . . . . .	74	179
Students over half of whose attendances were alone or with person not a member of family . . . . .	250	188
Dances		
Students who attended dances . . . . .	161	222
Attendances at private houses . . . . .	412	441
Attendances at hotel . . . . .	159	144
Attendances at academy or hall . . . . .	515	552
Home parties <sup>a</sup>		
Students in whose homes parties for young people were held . . . . .	154	240
Attendances at such parties . . . . .	366	717

<sup>a</sup> The figures relating to home parties are for the entire winter, 1913-14.

A comparison of the amusement habits of Springfield high school students with those of the young people in several Iowa high schools is made possible by a study made by Professor Irving King, of the University of Iowa, and published in the March, 1914, number of *The School Review*. The Iowa questionnaires numbered over 1,400 and were filled out in the high schools of Iowa City, Dubuque, Burlington, and Ottumwa. The figures on motion-picture attendance for the two sets of students are shown in Table 4.

From these figures it will be seen that 41 per cent of the Springfield boys attend the "movies" seven or more times a month, as opposed to 30 per cent in Iowa. Likewise 31 per cent of the Springfield girls show an equal frequency of attendance as compared with 21 per cent of those in Iowa. The table apparently

# RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

demonstrates that the "movie" habit is stronger in Springfield than it is in Iowa.

TABLE 4.—ATTENDANCE OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT MOTION-PICTURE SHOWS FOR 813 STUDENTS IN SPRINGFIELD AND FOR 1,400 STUDENTS IN FOUR CITIES OF IOWA <sup>a</sup>

Attendances per month	Boys				Girls			
	Springfield		Four Iowa cities		Springfield		Four Iowa cities	
	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent	Num-ber	Per-cent
16 or more.....	39	10	53	9	27	6	43	5
10 and less than 16.....	61	16	71	12	47	11	64	8
7 and less than 10.....	56	15	57	9	59	13	63	8
4 and less than 7.....	67	18	185	30	98	23	197	24
1 and less than 4.....	92	25	153	25	132	30	265	33
None or less than 1.....	59	16	91	15	76	17	176	22
Total.....	374	100	610	100	439	100	808	100

<sup>a</sup> Of 398 Springfield boys and 459 Springfield girls who filled out cards, 24 boys and 20 girls did not report as to attendance at motion-picture shows. In the Iowa study the pupils did not report the actual number of attendances in a specified period, but estimated their current practice.

The results in the above tables may be summarized as follows:

(a) Practically all of the high school students attend the movies.

(b) Of the boys, 86 per cent, and of the girls, 84 per cent, attend the theater. The boys who attend average about once a week and the girls go almost as frequently.

(c) The majority of the visits to the theater are not made, in the case of either sex, with any other member of the family.

(d) Social dancing is indulged in by 40 per cent of the boys and 48 per cent of the girls. A large number of the dances they attend are held in hotels.

(e) In 61 per cent of the boys' homes and in 48 per cent of the girls' homes parties for young people are not often held.

Because the high school authorities have discouraged dancing in the high school the young people are holding many of the

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

parties in places beyond the control of either teachers or parents. The newspapers tell of sorority dances held in the Leland Hotel, and the figures in Table 3 give further evidence of the fact that a large number of the students are resorting to hotels for their dancing opportunities. The parents of Springfield may well ask themselves whether it is a desirable thing for any large number of their young people to be forming the habit of dancing in places where open bars are not far distant and where the environment permits unusual freedom. In view of the general tendency to



THE SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
A social center possibility

hold social affairs outside of the home is it not incumbent upon the high school authorities to formulate and carry out a positive and constructive policy regarding the social and recreational life of the high school students?

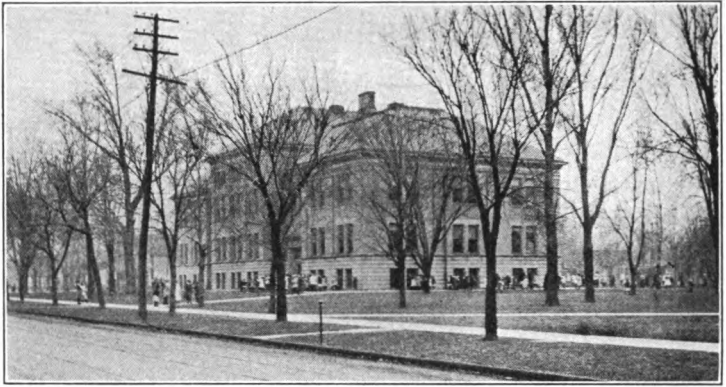
Finally, then, both for the sake of creating a more effective community support for this institution and to meet the now neglected athletic and social needs of the students a strong "wider use" policy should be carried out at the high school. If a new building is erected it should be equipped with movable furniture

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

and suitable gymnasium facilities, and have a large, well-arranged auditorium on the main floor with a motion-picture booth. In the administration of this building a plan should be carried out which would soon make the high school the headquarters of the federated parent-teacher organizations. The auditorium should be available for meetings of large civic bodies and discussions concerning municipal affairs. Here might also well be developed large choruses with a city-wide membership, high-class lecture courses, and amateur theatricals, and in time, a municipal or loan art gallery such as that at the Richmond, Indiana, High School or the Washington Irving High School in New York City. The finals of the indoor athletic tournaments between the elementary or intermediate schools could take place in the high school gymnasium, and here also provision should be made for the social affairs, dances, and reunions of the high school societies.

## YARDS

Few cities have school yards that can compare in area with those of Springfield. The average size per school, exclusive of Pryor, is 101,519 square feet, or 2.33 acres. The gross area for the 19 schools is 1,928,868 square feet, or 44.3 acres. The total free space for these schools is 1,727,146 square feet, or 231 square feet per pupil for the entire city. The school with the largest amount of open space is Enos with 259,470 square feet, or 541 square feet per pupil. The smallest is the Teachers' Training School with 23,199 square feet, or 100 square feet per pupil. This is ample to give space for a great variety of school-yard games and still allow certain areas to be set aside for flowers, shrubs, grass, and trees. Several cities have placed 30 square feet per child as the minimum requirement for school playgrounds. Submitted with this report is a plan of development suggested for each school yard. The plans for the Enos and Palmer schools which are illustrated in detail in the printed report, are typical of the others; each plan, however, has been worked out to conform to local needs and conditions. The drawings for the Enos and Palmer plans were made for use in this report by A. B. Horne, of A. G. Spalding and Brothers.



**Edwards**



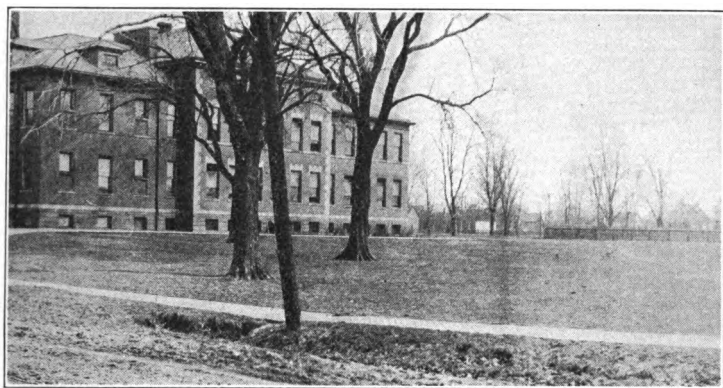
**Bunn**



**Iles**

**SOME OF SPRINGFIELD'S SPACIOUS SCHOOL YARDS**





Enos

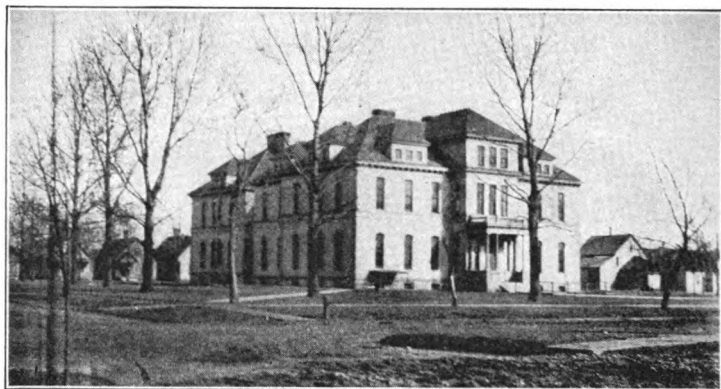


Stuart



Harvard Park

SOME OF SPRINGFIELD'S SPACIOUS SCHOOL YARDS



**Feitshans**

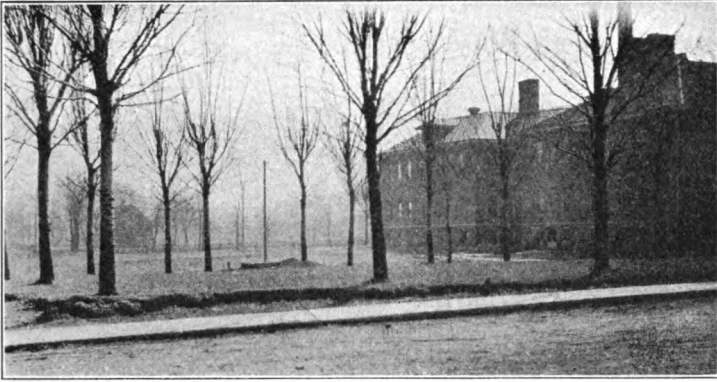


**Hay**

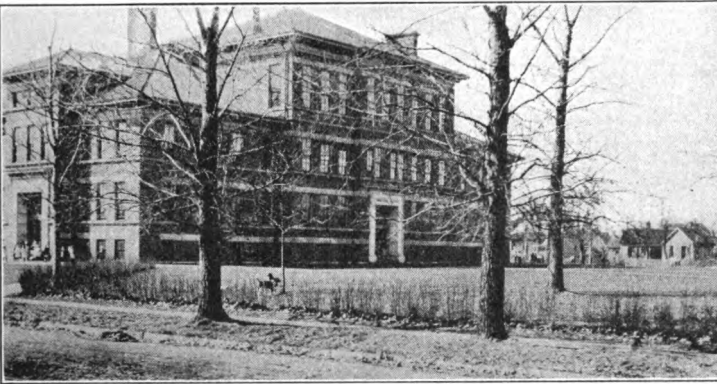


**Du Bois**

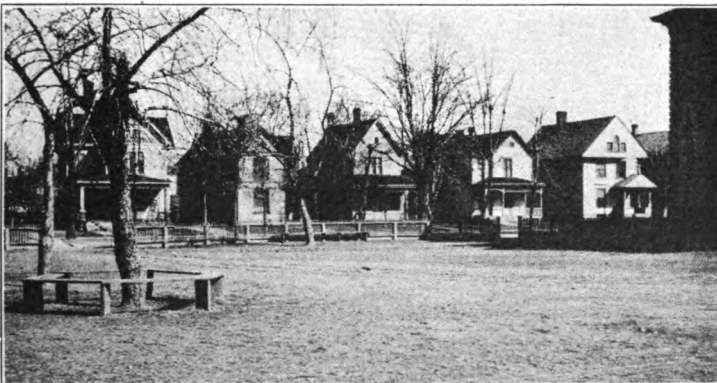
**SOME OF SPRINGFIELD'S SPACIOUS SCHOOL YARDS**



Ridgeley



Lawrence



McClernand

SOME OF SPRINGFIELD'S SPACIOUS SCHOOL YARDS

# THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

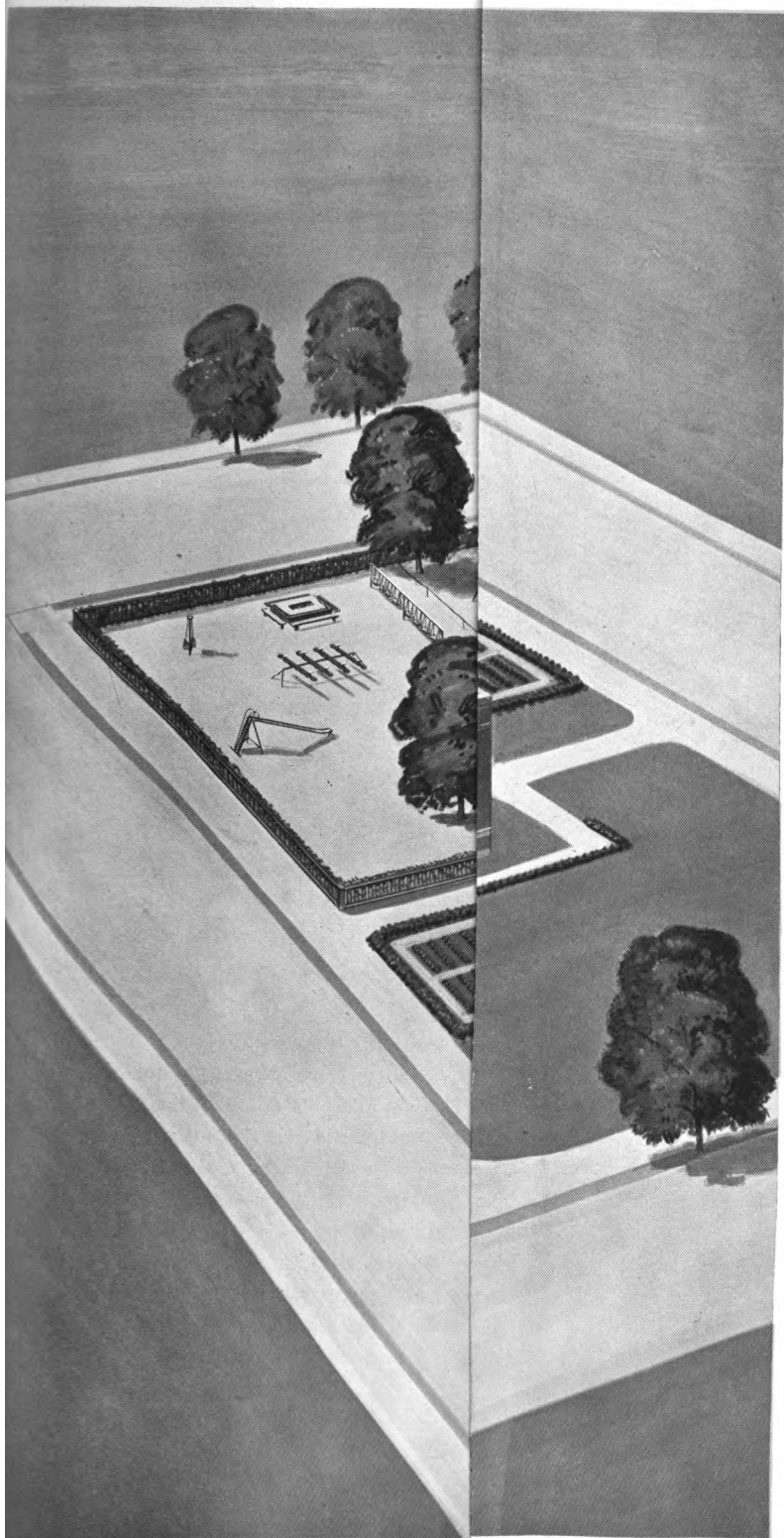
The areas of the different school sites are as follows:

TABLE 5.—PLAY SPACE AVAILABLE ON SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL GROUNDS, 1914

School	Pupils in average enrollment	Area in square feet of		
		Entire site	Free space	Free space per pupil
Bunn.....	386	142,390	133,754	347
Converse.....	340	105,350	97,250	286
Dubois.....	406	119,111	110,755	273
Douglas.....	392	54,950	48,057	123
Edwards.....	350	50,400	36,800	105
Enos.....	480	270,000	259,470	541
Feitshans.....	380	96,000	86,346	227
Harvard Park.....	134	76,788	72,630	542
Hay.....	378	83,412	75,177	199
High School.....	981	150,250	127,250	130
Iles.....	445	91,520	83,445	188
Lawrence.....	525	115,200	103,680	197
Lincoln.....	390	73,840	61,200	157
Matheny.....	254	65,772	55,317	218
McClelland.....	290	48,000	41,850	144
Palmer.....	353	102,400	83,946	238
Pryor (site temporary)				
Ridgely.....	386	143,500	126,900	329
Stuart.....	516	108,800	100,120	194
Teachers' Training.....	233	31,185	23,199	100
Total.....	7,619	1,928,868	1,727,146	227

The surfacing in most of the school yards is very poor. Very few have a good sod covering and the play areas in practically all of them are in wretched condition during a large part of the year. The soil is such that in early spring and late fall the grounds can be little used on account of the mud, and in dry times the dust is extremely bad. These conditions make it difficult to keep the buildings clean, and render the grounds practically useless for play. The mud scraper is at present an indispensable piece of school-yard equipment in Springfield.

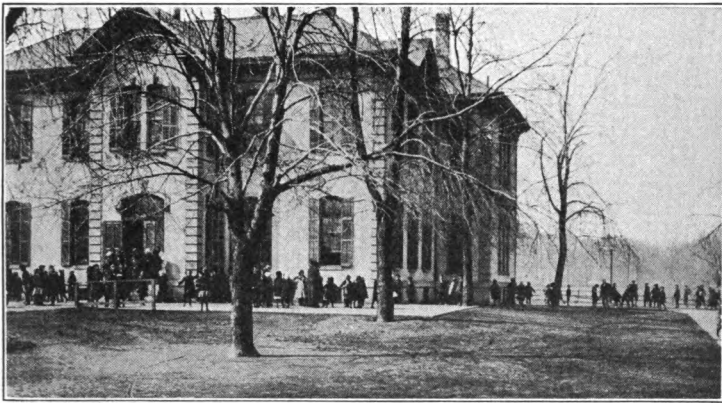
The accompanying picture of the Converse School shows how the children are compelled, during the muddy seasons, to confine their recess play to the concrete or brick walks around the school building.





## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

In order to utilize adequately the splendid school-yard space that Springfield possesses, steps should be taken at once to develop a good sod on the areas so designated in the plans submitted, and to resurface certain spaces that are used intensively for play. The park board has made substantial progress in this matter on some of its play spaces and is now making further experiments, the results of which the board will be glad to make available to the school authorities. The co-operation of the general superintendent and the chief engineer of the park board should be sought in this matter. The soil in Springfield presents peculiar



MUDDY YARDS HOLD THE CHILDREN TO THE WALKS AT PLAY TIME  
Converse School, Springfield

problems in surfacing and must be worked out by local experimenting.

It was discovered with great surprise that these spacious school yards were used only during the recess periods, and that after school hours, on Saturdays, and during the long summer vacation the grounds for the most part lie idle while the children play in the streets or trespass upon private property frequently to the great annoyance of the owners. Some of the principals permit their boys to play on the school grounds for a time after school, while they themselves are still in the building, but this is only incidental. In two cases the janitors have taken pity on the boys and by arrangement with the principals made it possible for

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

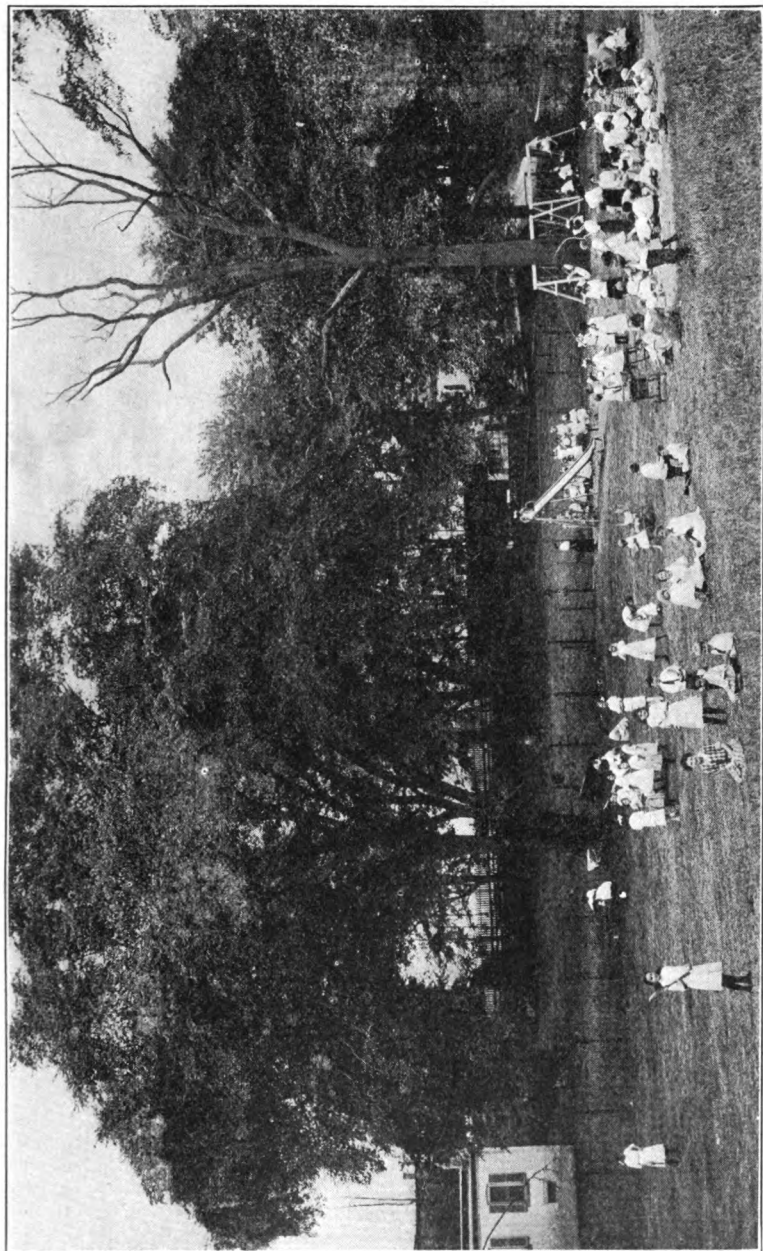
them to play on the grounds while they are there in the late afternoon.

Provision should be made at each school for the free use of these grounds by placing a teacher or some competent person in charge after school hours and on Saturday afternoons throughout the entire school year. When storms prevent outdoor activities, the play rooms in the basement could be used. Here are facilities that largely meet the recreation needs of the children of grammar school age, if only a small amount of supervision and leadership is provided. The expense for such service would be \$1.50 or \$2.00 per school for each afternoon and \$3.00 for Saturdays. It would go a long way toward solving the problem of playgrounds for grammar school children in Springfield. Most of the parochial schools also have good sized grounds which should be used in the same way.

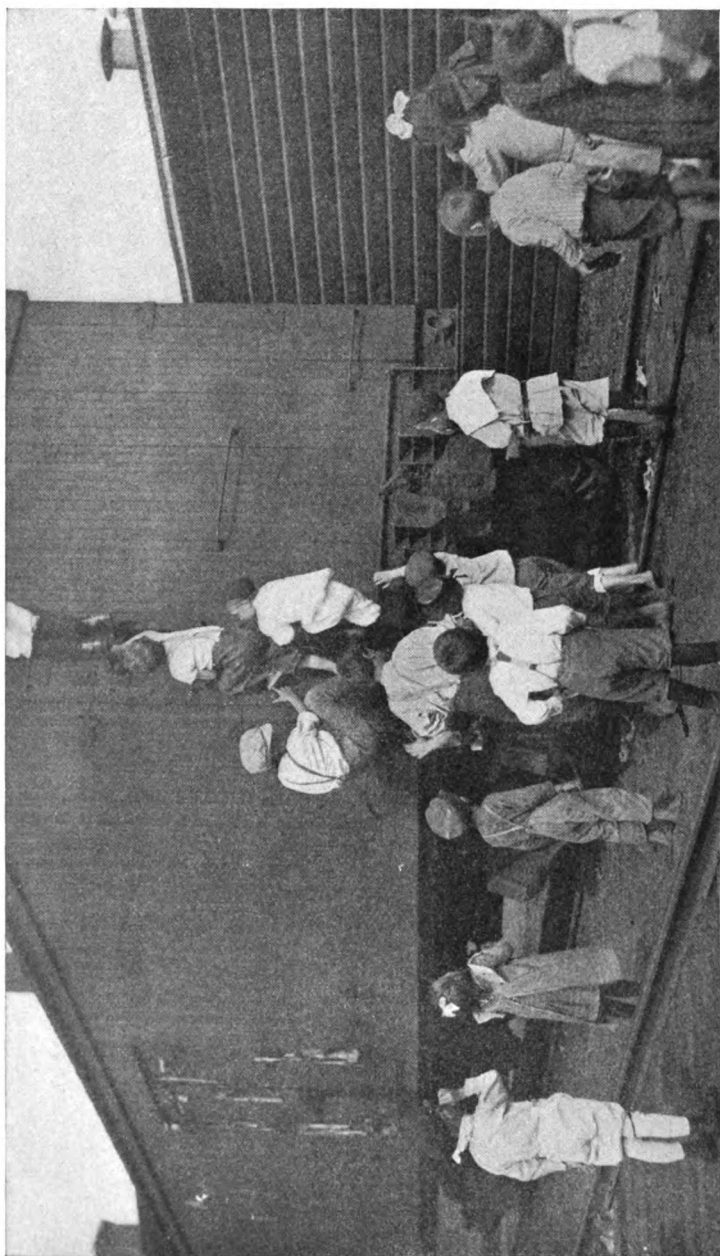
The school budget of New York City this year contains an item of \$76,000 to provide for the after-school use of yards and basement play rooms. Teachers who have knowledge of play leadership are assigned to this work. They are paid \$2.50 for taking charge of the after-school playgrounds from 3 to 5.30 p. m. It is folly to go to the expense of purchasing and equipping special playgrounds when ample school yards with the shelter, drinking water, and toilet facilities of the school plant are already available. Also, schools are supposed to be placed where they are most accessible to the children; which is also one of the first requisites in locating public playgrounds.

Only nine of the 20 public schools in the city have any playground equipment, and this is in every case limited. Although with good play leadership it is possible to carry on play activities without extensive equipment, nevertheless it is highly desirable that a few good pieces, such as seesaws, swings, slides, giant strides, volley ball outfits, and goals for basketball and soccer football be provided. This equipment should be so constructed that it may be taken down and stored or locked as it stands when the play leader is not on the grounds. It is neither practical nor even desirable to fence school grounds in such a way as to prevent trespassing. Control of the equipment, as suggested above, is all that is necessary.



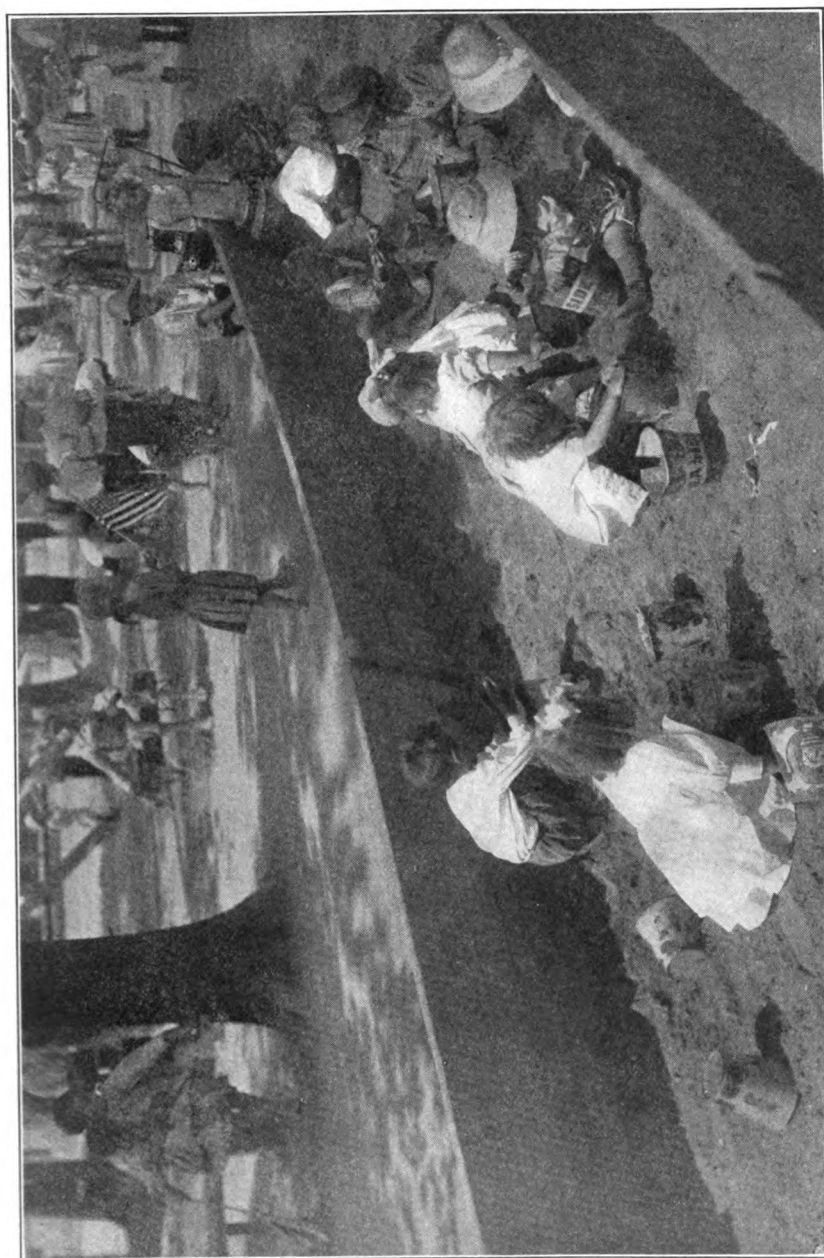


A SUMMER PLAYGROUND—NOT IN SPRINGFIELD



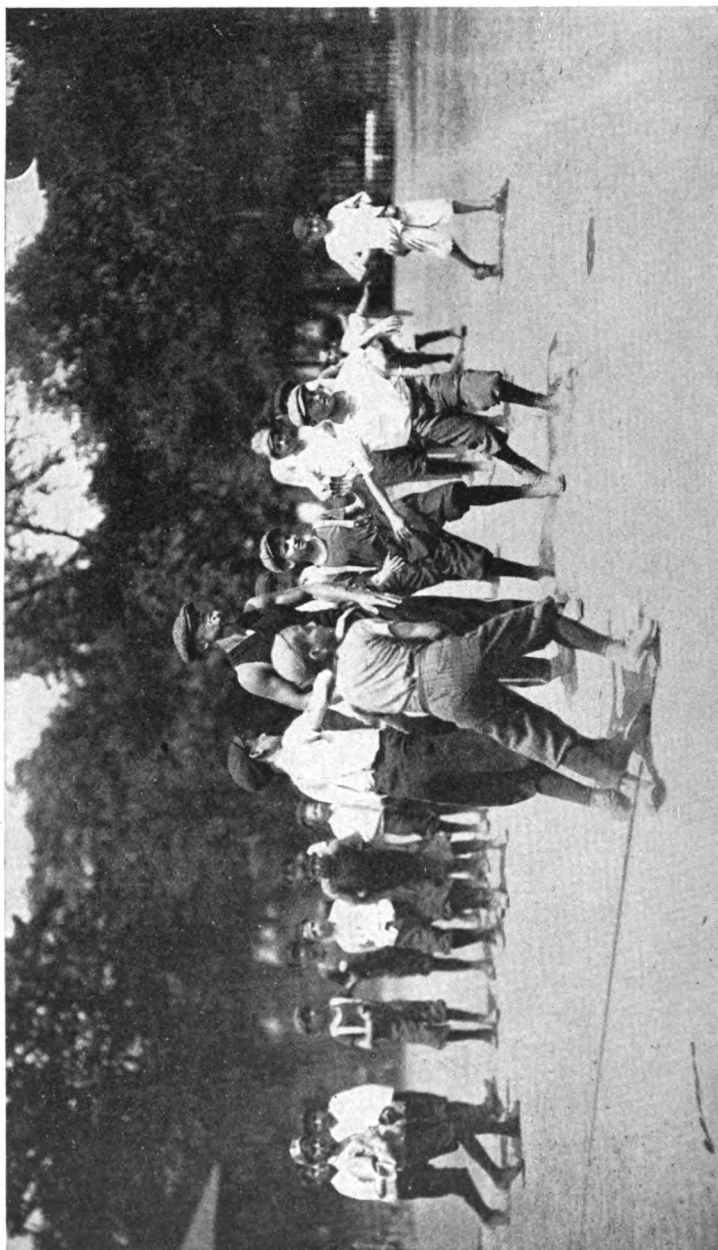
*Courtesy of "The Playground"*

ONE OF THE AMUSEMENTS CONFESSED TO BY SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL BOYS  
Why not attract them to the school yards?



Loraine, Ohio

**INEXPENSIVE, BUT POPULAR**



New York City

RIGHT LEADERSHIP MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH ORGANIZED PLAY

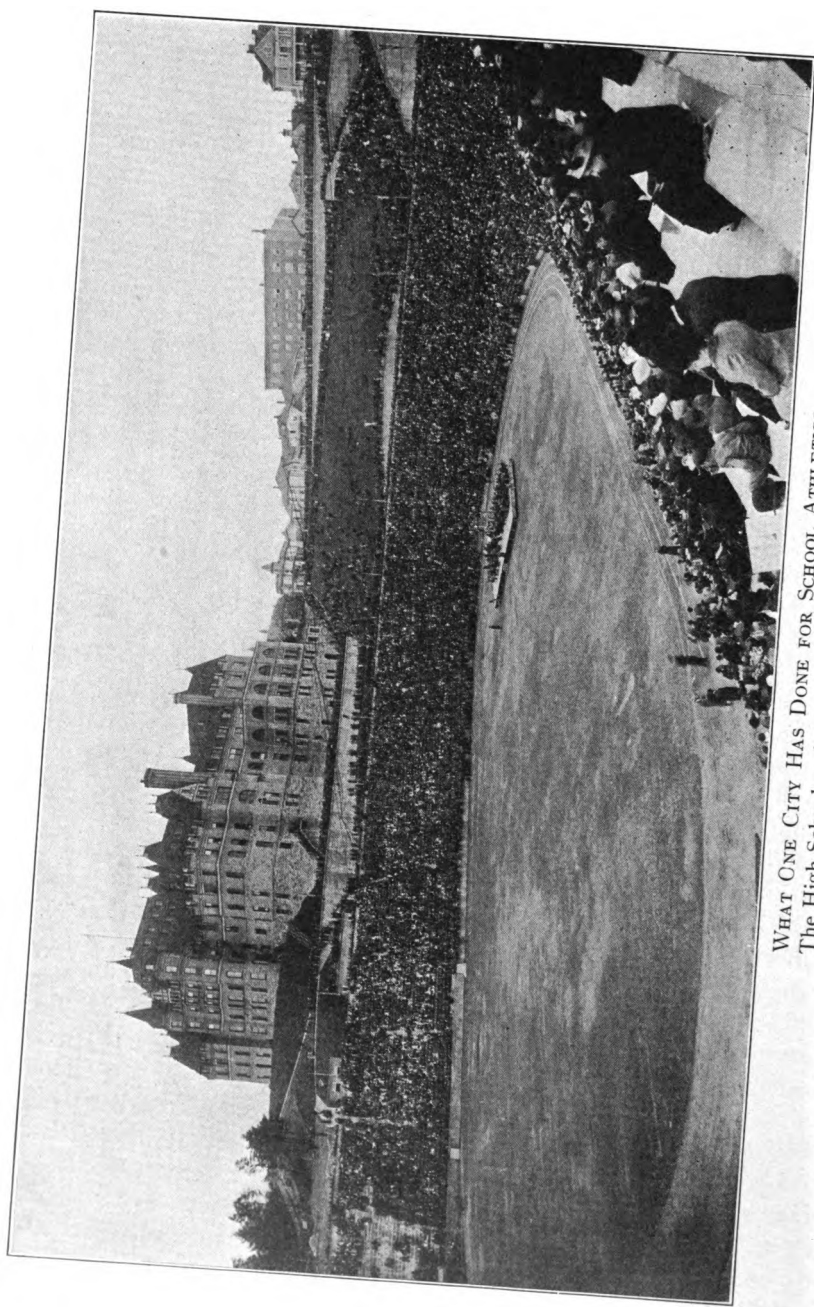
## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

The school yards of Springfield, properly laid out, equipped, and supervised, would provide at comparatively small cost, neighborhood play centers such as few cities have been able to secure even at great expense, and which would be of incalculable value to the children of the city. An excellent opportunity presents itself for Springfield, as the capital city, to set a high standard in this direction for the other cities of the state.

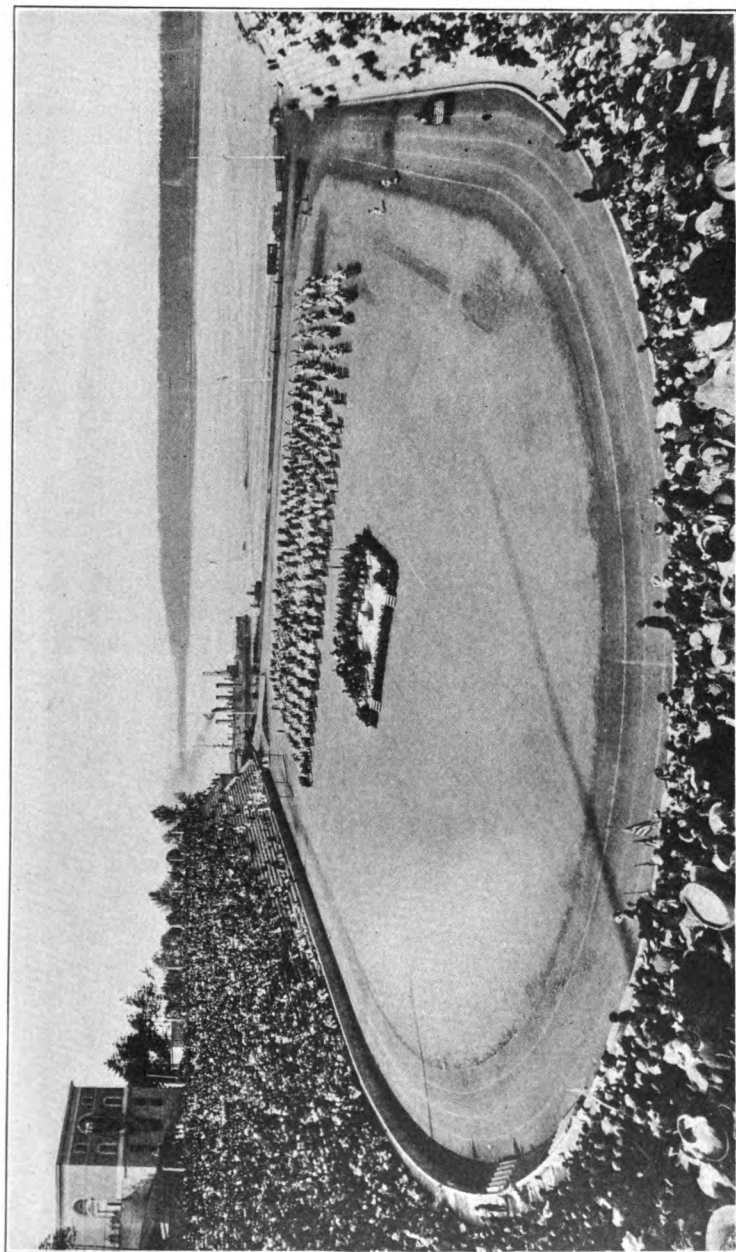
Athletics for the grammar school boys of the city are practically unorganized. Most of the schools have baseball teams and some have basketball and football teams, but they are mostly in the hands of the boys themselves. There is no formal athletic organization and adults have not taken an active interest in these matters with the boys, except that some of the school principals keep in touch with their baseball teams and the physical director of the Young Men's Christian Association has taken charge of most of the interschool basketball, the games being played at the Young Men's Christian Association gymnasium.

The high school has an athletic association which is managed by a governing board consisting of faculty members and students. Through the volunteer service of a few men on the faculty the athletic activities of the high school have been exceptionally well guided and high standards of sportsmanship and athletic courtesy prevail. The school labors under a great handicap in having no athletic field or gymnasium. The state fair ground in the extreme north of the city is used for outdoor games, and the state armory is secured, usually with difficulty, for indoor meets. The annual indoor games were held during the time of the recreation survey and opportunity was thus afforded for observing the administration of such affairs as well as the practice periods preliminary to the meet. The handling of the events and the spirit of the whole occasion were of a high order.

Similar advantages ought to be provided for the grammar school boys. The need has been for a director of physical training and play in the Springfield schools who shall take the lead in organizing a grammar school athletic league and be primarily responsible for it. He should also give such help as is needed in the high school athletics. At least 35 American cities now have school organizations of this kind in which class athletics and athletic

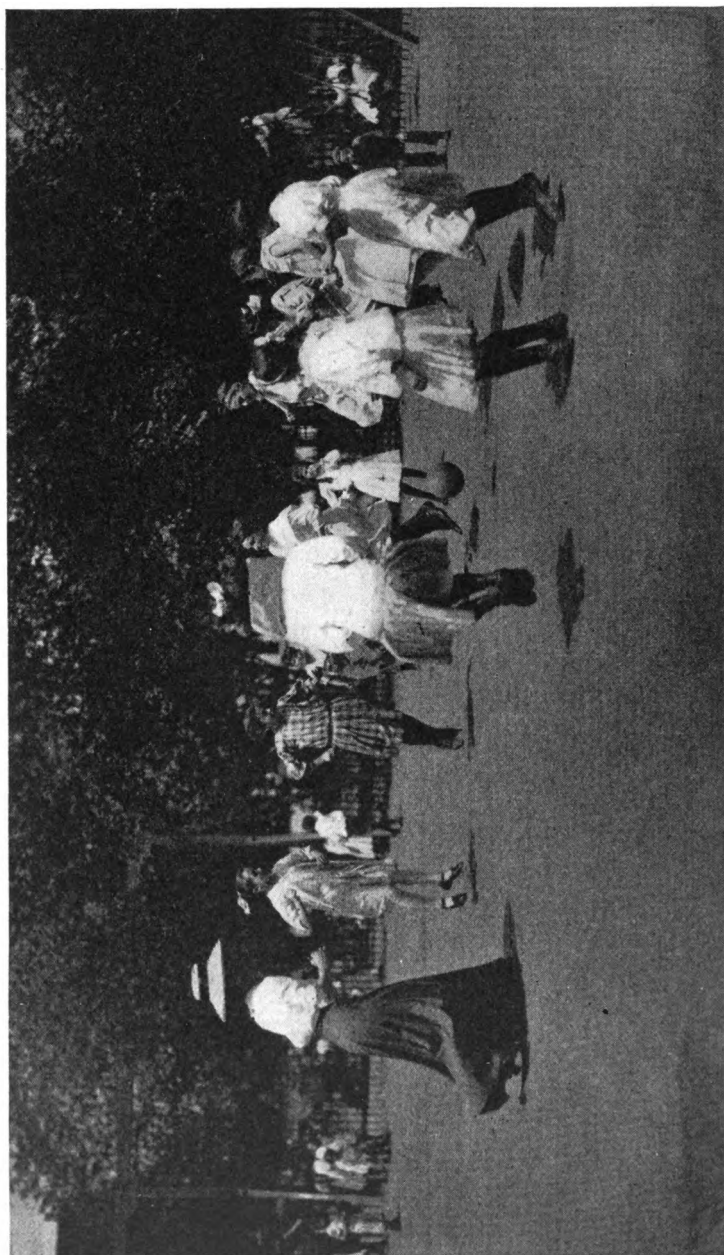


WHAT ONE CITY HAS DONE FOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS  
The High School and Stadium at Tacoma, Washington



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE TACOMA STADIUM





New York City

TRAINING IN ALERTNESS THROUGH DODGE BALL



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

badge tests have been incorporated with a view to encouraging participation by all the pupils rather than by the select few. In this way the evils of specialization and excessive training are overcome.\*

Most of the grammar school grounds if properly developed would serve for athletic practice as well as other forms of play, but there should be at least one large school athletic field centrally located where the high school students could practice and where inter-school tournaments and meets of all kinds could be held. If this field could be located adjacent to the site for a new central high school, and the school building be so constructed as to provide ample bathing, toilet, and dressing room facilities, great economy and convenience would result. One outfit of such equipment could well serve both the school and the athletic field, thus reducing by one-half this item of expense.

There are practically no athletics for the girls either in the high or elementary schools, except that the school board has an arrangement with the Young Women's Christian Association for taking groups of high school girls at stated times for gymnastics and games. Athletic activities properly selected to meet their needs should be made possible for the girls as well as for the boys. This should be a part of the task assigned to the director of physical training and play.†

At the time of the recreation survey these needs were brought to the attention of the superintendent of schools. The report of the school survey concurred on this point. It is gratifying to learn that within the last few weeks Dr. Earl H. Hand, a physical training, athletic, and playground expert, has been engaged for this work.

\* For details of this plan see Appendix, Topic B, p. 105.

† See Appendix, Topic C, p. 112, for details concerning athletics for girls.

# V

## THE PARKS

Springfield has nine parks with a total area of 446.5 acres. The parks and their respective areas are:

TABLE 6.—AREAS OF SPRINGFIELD PARKS

Park	Area in acres
Washington.....	150.5
Bunn.....	120.0
Lincoln.....	92.0
Bergen.....	60.0
Iles.....	10.5
Forest.....	6.0
East Side.....	4.0
Enos.....	2.5
Factory.....	1.0
Total.....	446.5

This provides one acre of public park for every 131 inhabitants. The rating of some of the other cities of the United States in this respect is as follows:

TABLE 7.—RATIO OF PARK SPACE TO POPULATION IN 11 AMERICAN CITIES

City	Inhabitants per acre of park space
Washington.....	60
Los Angeles.....	81
Minneapolis.....	104
Baltimore.....	244
St. Louis.....	251
San Francisco.....	298
Philadelphia.....	300
Boston.....	310
Detroit.....	366
Buffalo.....	404
Chicago.....	493



SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN WASHINGTON PARK, SPRINGFIELD



THE CHILDREN'S CORNER IN WASHINGTON PARK, SPRINGFIELD

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

The parks of Springfield are under a district board of trustees of seven members, which is a body separate from and independent of the municipality. It secures its funds by direct taxation and is not responsible to the city for its expenditures. The budget for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1913, was:

Park maintenance.....	\$36,680.75
Park improvements.....	21,587.68
New sites .....	11,350.70
• Boulevards.....	19,481.67
General.....	6,368.29
Total.....	<u>\$95,469.09</u>

The board's district includes considerable territory outside the city limits. Washington and Bunn Parks are only partly within the city proper. In fact, all the parks except four small ones, Forest, Iles, Enos, and Factory, are on the extreme borders of the city, and are therefore not as accessible as might be desired. The transportation facilities are, however, good and the parks are much used.

Few cities have more beautiful parks than Springfield, and the park board has still higher standards toward which it is working. At the time of this survey the board was employing one of the ablest landscape architects in the country to aid in extensive plans of reconstruction and extension.

A new park site has been secured in the eastern part of the city near the Matheny School and is to be developed in part as a model playground for children. In the territory midway between the new park site mentioned above and Bunn Park on the south there is great need for another new park. A considerable Negro population in that section would be greatly helped by the establishment of a public park in their part of the city.

One park under the district board is entirely outside the city limits. It is the new Bergen Park, located about one-half mile east of the city, and as yet has no street car service.

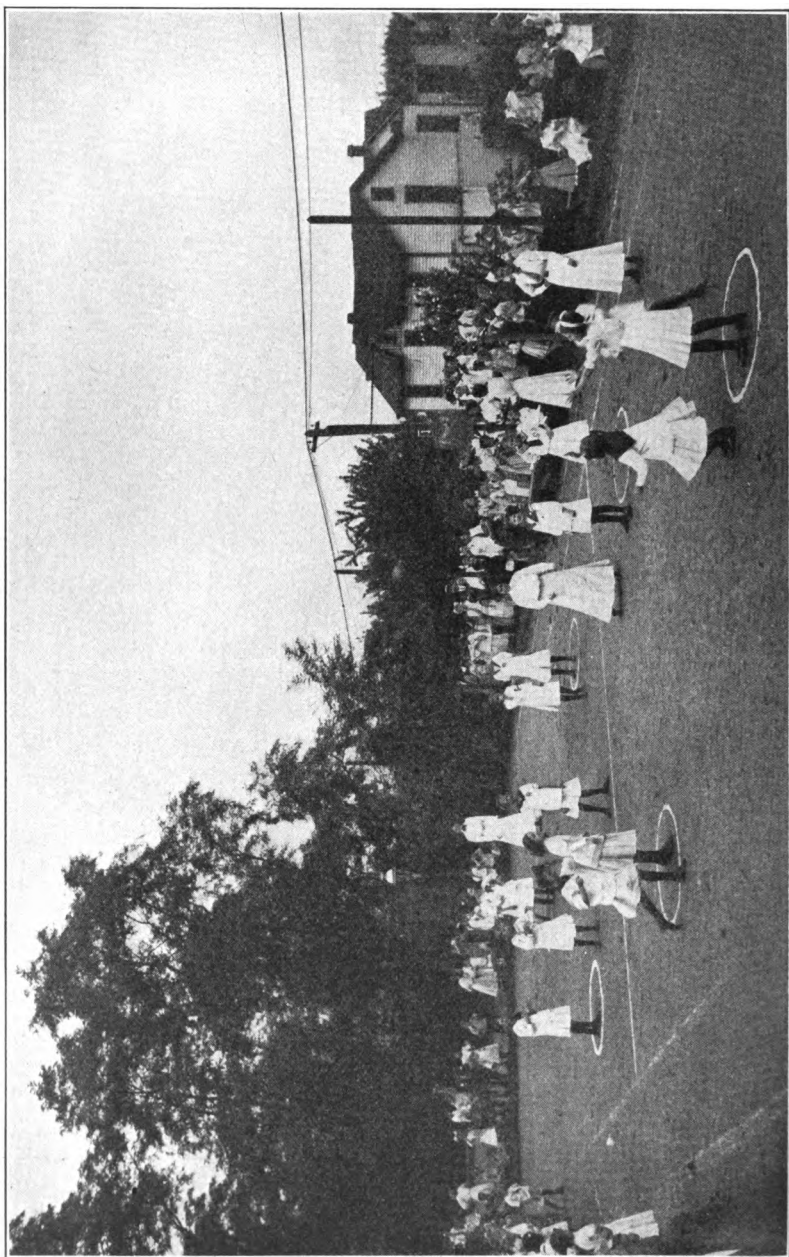
Unusually fine field houses have been provided in Lincoln and Washington Parks which serve well not only for the accommodation of picnic parties but for evening social occasions of various kinds. A caretaker with his family lives in each of these field houses and exercises careful supervision over the premises at all



EARLY SPRING IN LINCOLN PARK, SPRINGFIELD  
The field house on the hill



IN LINCOLN PARK, SPRINGFIELD  
Some play apparatus among the trees



PLAY UNDER EXPERT LEADERSHIP IN A HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, PARK

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

times. These field houses are open during the entire year. If operated on a practical basis they might well be made to yield a substantial income, thus cutting maintenance expenses.

The extensive use of the parks by the people is the only way in which dividends may be realized on the capital invested in them. The park board is improving and extending its facilities. It is not in a position, however, to organize and promote their use by the public and to provide play leadership on its equipped



FROM THE PORCH OF THE WASHINGTON PARK FIELD HOUSE

play spaces and athletic fields. The board looks to the school authorities for co-operation in this work which is regarded by its members as primarily of an educational character. This situation offers a splendid opportunity for team work between the park board and the school board; one providing the space and equipment and the other the promotion, play leadership, and supervision of activities. A joint committee might well be formed to deal with all matters touching upon this co-operative relation.

## VI

### THE STREETS

Streets always have been and probably always will be centers for play and social life. In some cities where the cost of land for playgrounds is exceedingly high (there are instances where land has been purchased at over \$1,000,000 per acre for playgrounds) the municipal authorities have closed certain cross streets after 3 p. m. for use as playgrounds. These closed streets become real neighborhood centers, even to the extent of "block parties" being held in them by the adults of the neighborhood. When these closed sections are asphalt paved they are used extensively for roller skating.

Springfield does not, with its ample school grounds, park spaces, and home grounds, face the necessity of such intensive use of streets. But the fact remains that the streets are much used for play, and, with school grounds closed after school hours and school buildings practically unused for recreational and social purposes, the youth of the city are forced to resort to the streets and the commercial amusement places for their afternoon and evening recreations. A visitor to the city cannot but be impressed by the unusually large numbers of young people from twelve to twenty-two years of age drifting up and down the "downtown" streets in the evening.

Standing at the corner of Fifth and Monroe Streets for a space of thirty minutes (7.45 to 8.15) on the evening of April first, two investigators counted 462 girls and 813 boys, a total of 1,275 young people, passing that point in the few minutes indicated. This was a perfectly normal evening; in fact it seemed that the number on the streets was below the average if anything.

No city can afford to have its young people spending their evenings in this way. The responsibility rests squarely with the homes, the schools, and the churches, and not to meet it means



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

disaster. By encouraging and making possible the coming together of these young people in their own neighborhoods in recreation and social centers, in parties, socials, and entertainments,



Springfield A MUDDY BALL GROUND, BUT BETTER THAN NONE



Springfield MAKING THE BEST OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

and in clubs—musical, social, dramatic, and civic—the dangers of the downtown streets can be lessened and a positive aid to culture, refinement, and right living can be provided.

## VII

### THE LIBRARY

Anyone who has ever enjoyed a good book does not need to be told that a public library is a recreational institution. The Lincoln Library building is centrally located and, from the standpoint of the traditional hours open to the public, is apparently rendering a satisfactory service. It has a children's room and special attention is given to their needs. So far, however, there is no trained story-teller on the library staff. Such a person would make a desirable addition and could accomplish a great deal by way of reaching a larger circle of little people and instilling in them a love of narrative and good books. At present no record of visitors to the children's department is kept. For the administrative purpose of being able to analyze more intimately the results of the staff work it would seem that such a record should be kept.

In the basement of the building there are two well equipped meeting rooms. It was said that many local organizations held their meetings in these rooms, but no record of their names or the amount of service rendered them is kept. It was reported that some of the organizations, such as the story tellers' club of the Teachers' Association, and the Women's Club, which formerly met in the library, are now meeting in the Young Women's Christian Association building. The removal of these organizations raises the question as to their reasons for leaving. It may be that these would not, if known, cast any reflection upon the library management. Possibly the fact that the library club rooms are closed at 9 o'clock in the evening is the particular reason. If this early closing hour is seriously mitigating against the larger use of these available accommodations it would perhaps be well for the board of directors to consider the advisability of arranging to keep them open until a later hour, especially on club meeting nights.

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

The library is wisely making additions of German, French, and Italian works. The policy of offering immigrants books in their own tongues is now followed in many other enterprising libraries and could well be extended in Springfield by the addition of new books in the above mentioned languages as well as others in Lithuanian and any other foreign tongue for which there is a real demand.

In its extension work the library is now furnishing deposits of books to the telephone exchange, the Illinois Watch Factory, a shoe factory, and two laundries. This is a very commendable service and should be extended as rapidly as means permit, and the facts regarding this service should be given publicity to the end that adequate public support for the library may be secured.

The most important part of this extension work is that connected with the schools. Collections averaging over 300 books each have been placed in eight public schools and one parochial school. Plans are now on foot to start two additional branch libraries this coming fall. Such collections should eventually be found in all the public schools of the city. Through co-operation with some of the parent-teacher or other neighborhood organizations arrangements might be worked out in the course of time by which these collections would serve as nuclei of local branch libraries which would be open not only during school hours but for a while in the evening under the supervision of responsible persons.

Grand Rapids has branch libraries in six public school buildings which are kept open from noon until 9.30 p. m. each day under the charge of trained librarians. By this arrangement the public library is brought nearer to the home and the distribution of books is facilitated by the school children carrying books home to their families. The superintendent of schools in Grand Rapids is ex-officio a member of the library board. No doubt the co-operation between the public school system and the library in Springfield would also be facilitated if the board of library directors would voluntarily make an arrangement whereby the superintendent of schools became a member of their board. With wider popular use the library would probably receive more ample financial support from the tax payers.

## VIII

### THE MUSEUM

Springfield has an unusual resource for recreation-education in the State Museum of Natural History. Although inadequately housed and further handicapped by insufficient funds, the museum under its able curator, Dr. A. R. Crook, offers to the people of Springfield facilities for most enjoyable and profitable use of free time.

The museum was established in 1851 and has since been combined with the State Historical Library. It occupies the second floor front of the State Arsenal, but is so limited for space that only a part of the extensive collection of specimens can be mounted and made available to the public. Many valuable specimens are of necessity packed away and placed in storage. There is urgent need for a suitable building, which thus far the legislature has failed to provide. Some money has been spent for plans, but here the matter seems to rest. Illustrated lectures under the auspices of the museum were given in 1910 upon such topics as Big Game in Alaska, An Ascent of Mt. Blanc, and How the Earth is Known to be Millions of Years Old, but recently the small appropriation needed for this has also been denied.

The curator has exceptional ability in mounting and displaying the specimens. The displays, even in the present cramped quarters, rival in attractiveness those of the leading museums of the world. The accompanying illustration of the Red Deer exhibit suggests how well this work has been done.

The present collection is valued at \$110,000, and it could be greatly increased at practically no expense if only there were a suitable building for it. Several large and valuable collections may be had as gifts as soon as adequate quarters are provided. Dr. Crook is desirous of making the museum of use to the schools in teaching natural history, both by providing accommodations



AN EXHIBIT IN THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM  
One of Springfield's unappreciated recreation resources

#### THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

at the building for class demonstrations, and by establishing branch collections in the schools throughout the state. Local collections for addition to these branches could then be encouraged. An active interest on the part of citizens to aid in securing the necessary appropriations will make this extension work possible.

A booklet on The Geology of Sangamon County has been prepared by the curator, which, if effectively brought to the attention of the children and young people, would serve as an incentive for excursions, exploring trips, and the making of specimen collections. There are few resources for more profitable and enjoyable use of free time than this.

## IX

### SEMI-PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

#### SOCIETIES, CLUBS, AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Under the head of Society in the newspaper columns of the *Illinois State Register*, 326 occasions were reported during thirty days. These may be classified as follows:

Meetings of church organizations.....	126
Meetings of social organizations.....	103
Entertainments.....	37
Card parties.....	30
Balls or dances.....	23
Amateur theatricals.....	7
Total.....	326

A glance at this table will show that 97, or about 30 per cent, of these gatherings were of a distinctly recreational character. Those which were reported are of course only a part of the total number which occurred in the city during that period of time. It will thus be seen that the activities of these private organizations fill in a considerable part of the leisure of the community.

Of all the elements of a city's recreation, that afforded by private organizations offers the least occasion for community concern. It would indeed be a cause for anxiety if societies, fraternities, clubs, and so forth did not flourish in a community. The coming together of individuals in social groups is one of the finest features of modern civilization and the facilitating of such gatherings should be a part of every recreational program. A large part of the value of these groupings arises from the freedom of initiative which they enjoy. Of course, wherever large freedom is granted it frequently happens that it is abused by a certain few. An instance in point is afforded by an "entertainment" included in the above list.

The event in question was held by a prominent club on March

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30 in their club rooms. It was announced in the newspapers as an "Athletic Show" and it began with a "battle royal" boxing bout among five Negroes. Five burly men, stripped to the waist, entered a roped arena on a platform. At the stroke of the bell two couples immediately began sparring. The fifth man then pitched into one of the boxers who seemed to be having the best of it, thus breaking up the pair. The released man turned to the other group and picking out one of the men began without warning to punch him. And so the fight proceeded. No matter how cleverly a man might be holding his own he was always in danger of having someone come at him from behind with a none too well padded fist. Scientific boxing was not in evidence. The contest was one of brutal physical endurance. When a man could keep it up no longer he left the ring and the winner was the man who stayed in longest. As announced, the winner was to receive \$4.00, the second place man \$2.00, and the third \$1.00.

The second event consisted of exhibitions of strength by Max Miller and his associates. The third number was a six one-minute round boxing contest between the "K—— brothers," aged seven and nine years. Two white-skinned little boys, not yet out of the primary grades, in a prize-fighters' ring, fighting for the amusement of several hundred business men and sportsmen! At the end of the contest a shower of nickles, dimes, and quarters rained upon the mat in token of the crowd's appreciation. Two more boxing contests filled out the evening's entertainment, one a friendly contest in which the winner was picked by the referee's decision, the other running only five rounds which ended in a knockout. The M—— Quartet sang between events. The only mention of this *edifying* entertainment which appeared in one of the next morning's papers is as follows:

The second athletic entertainment and athletic show of the.....  
..... Club was held last evening at.....  
and the attendance was the largest of the season. M—— M——  
appeared in a strong act, while the..... Quartette tendered  
a number of pleasing selections.

There is a state law in Illinois which forbids prize fights. In this case it was evaded by calling it an athletic exhibition given.



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by a private club for its own members. The tickets of admission did indeed bear the legend "Member's Ticket," but a couple of strangers who had been in Springfield only a few weeks encountered no difficulty in purchasing them. Indeed, if all those in the audience were members of the club, it is a large and thriving organization!

The larger freedom enjoyed by private organizations has led to abuse in many cities. Two or three individuals get together, give themselves a name, hire a hall, arrange a prize fight or a dance, print posters and tickets, run off an affair which escapes the expense of license and other restrictions imposed upon commercial amusement enterprises, and nets the "private association" a tidy sum of money.

Only two recommendations are called for by this situation. The first is the responsibility which rests upon all individuals of the city to avoid participating in or being members of groups which offer any brutalizing, illegal, or unwholesome kind of entertainment; the second is the obligation resting upon the community to provide meeting places in wholesome environments, and activities designed to offer a full outlet for all the healthy impulses of men and women. Of course it is also expected that the police will be alert to prevent such violations of the law as the one described above.

Boxing, in itself, when carried on under the amateur rules is a form of exercise which might well be encouraged in school social centers and the Young Men's Christian Association gymnasium. Instruction in the manly art can be given in such a way that along with the skill in handling the body there will at the same time be inculcated the ideal of sport for sport's sake instead of sport for a livelihood.

### THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Men's Christian Association was started in Springfield over twenty years ago. It is housed in a building that cost above \$100,000 and is admirably located for the kind of work that such an institution is supposed to do. The management is in the hands of a board of trustees of 15 members.

At the time of the recreation survey, the organization was far

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from being in a satisfactory condition. Owing to a series of unfortunate circumstances the support for the work had seriously fallen off and public interest and backing was at low ebb. No general secretary was in charge, the building was in a rundown and unattractive condition, and the physical director, struggling along as best he could under the circumstances, was very much disheartened.

Although the streets, pool rooms, public bowling alleys, skating rink, and other amusement resorts were teeming with young men, the Young Men's Christian Association building was practically deserted. After a visit to the building one would not expect it to be otherwise. Some allowance might be made because of the fact that repairs and alterations were then going on, but this would not account for the untidy and extremely uninviting appearance of those parts of the building not being overhauled nor for the atmosphere of stagnation and lack of "things doing" that pervaded the whole place. Inquiry throughout the city from those who would normally be expected to support or participate in a Young Men's Christian Association demonstrated that leadership and up-to-date administration were the great needs. One young man said that when he arrived in the city some months before he went to the Young Men's Christian Association expecting to join and if possible secure a room there, but after looking around a bit he departed without making known his purpose in calling.

Most of the members of the governing board were conscious of the condition of affairs, but were struggling with the money-raising problem and hoping to put the organization on its feet financially before employing a general secretary. The construction of dormitories in the upper floors of the building was looked upon as a means to that end. One trustee remarked that they had closed the year just passed without a deficit in the treasury, apparently not appreciating the appalling deficit that had piled up against them in lack of service rendered and young men and boys led into unfortunate free-time pursuits because the Young Men's Christian Association was not functioning as it should.

It is a source of great satisfaction to be able to report that recently the entire work has been reorganized, co-operation

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established with the state and national authorities of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a staff of employed workers secured, including a general secretary, physical director, boys' work secretary, membership secretary, and office secretary.

This undertaking merits the support of every person in Springfield who is interested in the welfare of young men and boys. The work is carried on along such broad lines that no group or creed need to hesitate about allying itself with it. Its function is to serve as a great club for young men that shall provide wholesome, vigorous, attractive recreation under leadership of the highest type.

### THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Women's Christian Association of Springfield is only five years old, but already it has housed itself in an attractive and commodious building well located, and has developed an effective program of work. Camp Fire Girls have been organized under its auspices, and by special arrangement with the board of education, classes of high school girls are given gymnasium periods for physical training and games at the association building. The organization maintains an excellent cafeteria in the basement of the building which is open to the public, and young men are welcome to the well appointed reception rooms. Mixed social entertainments are frequently held in the building. Young women are invited to have their escorts meet them at the parlors of the Association.

The organization is doing an excellent piece of community work and, together with the reorganized Young Men's Christian Association, deserves substantial public support. Without charging membership fees prohibitively large, this work cannot be maintained from that source alone. Its public service character gives it ample justification for expecting generous support.

### THE CHURCHES

The justification for considering the churches among the agencies that should have to do with public recreation comes from the fact that recreations right or wrong are such a compelling force in the moral life of young people,—and of adults also,—and

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because numerous churches realizing this fact have been among the chief agents in bringing about the establishment of children's playgrounds and recreation centers for boys and girls. Frequently it happens that this work is later taken over by the municipality or the school authorities and maintained directly by funds secured by taxation, but the initiation of the work and the pioneer experiments have in numerous cases been made by the church directly or one of its departments or affiliated groups.

Springfield's churches, as compared with those of many other cities, have not been specially active in this branch of social service. It is true that most of the churches have the traditional church socials and society meetings, and in one case a gymnasium for children is maintained in connection with the church, but it was found that the churches of the city had not in any large way taken the lead in making provision for the recreational and social life of the boys and girls. In fact, one minister expressed some doubt regarding the propriety of giving support—moral and personal, not financial—to the local Young Men's Christian Association. This is by no means true of the majority, however. The Ministers' Association has taken an active interest in the Springfield Survey as a whole and has aided financially in the undertaking.

When some of the recreation survey findings with reference to the conditions surrounding the young people of the city in their search for evening amusement were brought to the attention of certain of the leading pastors, steps were at once taken to deal in a preventive way, at least, with the situation. One result was the stimulating of a public inquiry into the conduct of one of the local amusement places with the result that measures for its regulation and control were put into operation. Another outcome was action that led to the removal of the red lights and the names on the doors in the "red light" district,—the section that had been a conspicuously glaring insult to the decency of Springfield's citizenship for some time. That part of the city has since been properly lighted, and whether or not this treatment is adequate to meet the situation the fact remains that this industry no longer flaunts its brazen advertisements in the faces of the city's youth.

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

For these and other efforts to suppress evil the churches of the city should be given credit, but some of us think that they ought to go further and take the leadership in bringing public opinion up to the point where it will demand that adequate provision be made for properly equipped and supervised playgrounds, athletic fields, and recreation centers for the youth of the city. Strict regulation, and sometimes absolute prohibition, of certain public resorts that are maintained for profit, is unquestionably necessary, but this must be accompanied by positive action in providing right facilities for recreation, the lack of which frequently stimulates the establishment of agencies of the undesirable sort.

In Brooklyn, New York, the Sunday schools of the city have organized a Sunday School Athletic League which is governed by a central body made up of representatives of the different churches. It holds athletic meets at frequent intervals, open to the members of the Sunday schools concerned, and provides a great variety of tournaments and games through the year. The league has been instrumental in bringing about a marked improvement in public facilities for recreation within its territory. Several other cities have similar organizations that are doing much to build up a higher type of citizenship.

## X

### COMMERCIAL AMUSEMENTS

#### MOTION PICTURES

In March, 1914, when the recreation survey was made, 10 motion-picture theaters were in operation. Upon investigation it was found that, as respects ventilation and cleanliness, only two or three of the houses were not in fairly satisfactory condition. As a rule, also, the illumination of the audience was sufficient to minimize objectionable conduct and as far as could be observed order was fairly well maintained. The programs were of average character, neither exceptionally good nor shockingly bad. No unclean pictures were observed although not all of them bore the approval of the National Board of Censorship.

The city ordinances contain regulations regarding the licensing of motion-picture shows and also specify how the cinematograph machines shall be installed and housed. The latter, if properly enforced, are adequate for the avoidance of fire hazards peculiar to this sort of enterprise. The regulations, however, are defective in their requirements regarding the moral conditions surrounding the motion-picture business. They now provide that the mayor may refuse to approve applications for licenses if the place for which a license is desired is not a "fit and proper place and not constructed, maintained, operated, or conducted in accordance with the provisions of the ordinances of the city governing and controlling said places, or if the entertainment desired to be produced or offered be of an immoral or dangerous character, or the person making application for a license be not of a good moral character." They, however, provide no machinery for regular inspection of existing theaters with a view to determining whether or not the moral and sanitary conditions required before licensing are maintained afterwards, a defect that should

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

be promptly remedied.\* While the character of the motion-picture entertainments now offered in Springfield is of average wholesomeness, what assurance is there that objectionable features will not surreptitiously creep into them? Should it not be somebody's job to see that they are kept out? Some cities have met this situation by the regulation that only such pictures may be exhibited as have been passed by the National Board of Censorship.

The total number of seats in the 10 motion-picture houses referred to above is 3,232. The commissioner of buildings, who is in and out of the "movies" continually making fire inspections, estimated that the daily patronage amounts to three times the seating capacity of the theaters. While it is believed that this estimate is too high, the reports of the high school students as to the frequency of their attendance and other indications furnish basis for the belief that on an average these houses are filled up and emptied at least 12 times a week. Since many of them are open on Sunday this is not quite two times a day. At that rate the total amount paid in motion-picture admissions in Springfield is more than \$2,000 a week during the regular season. At the time this study was made three additional theaters were soon to be opened, a bit of additional evidence of the good patronage enjoyed by the existing theaters.

The large amount of attendance at motion-picture theaters raises several questions which should be pondered by all those who have the moral and intellectual welfare of the city at heart. Granting that on the whole the entertainment offered by these theaters is fairly wholesome, it still must be admitted that it is of a passive character, calling for little activity on the part of the spectators, and that while some of the films furnish information of a valuable character a large proportion of them present pictures of life which cannot be considered very faithful mirrorings of the actual facts. Would not a better balance be maintained in the lives of many of the young people if a certain part of the time they are now giving to witnessing films could be given to participation in games, musical and dramatic exercises, and other activities which afford expression of individual tastes and im-

\* See Appendix, pp. 124-126.

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pulses? Is not the provision of this more positive, constructive, recreational opportunity a matter of community concern? Also, should not a systematic inspection of motion-picture theaters and other entertainments be exercised by some public body?

### THEATERS

There are four theaters in Springfield, known as the Majestic, Gaiety, Empire, and Chatterton. Two of these offer vaudeville performances three times daily; the third, burlesque nightly;



THE CHATTERTON AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

while the fourth offers a varied program. Their combined seating capacity is about 2,900. A conservative estimate would place their combined weekly receipts at about \$4,000 during the regular season. The citizens of Springfield thus spend about \$6,000 a week upon motion pictures and theater performances.

The only theater which makes a pretense of offering anything more serious than vaudeville is the Chatterton. It is located only a block from the red-light district and is flanked by one saloon on one side and three on the other side. An examination of its offerings on 18 dates beginning at the end of March and running through May showed the following results: Drama, 2;



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

comedy, 4; musical comedy, 4; burlesque, 2; wrestling matches, 4; vaudeville, 1; motion picture, 1. A selection of the offerings during midwinter might show a somewhat higher percentage of serious drama.

In Springfield's least pretentious theater the visitor can pay either 10 or 25 cents for admission. If he pays the larger sum he is admitted to the gallery, which is devoted entirely to some score of boxes each containing a total of four or more chairs, placed around a small table. No sooner has he taken his seat than his box will be invaded by a young woman in short skirts who bounces in, takes a seat, and invites herself to have a drink at the visitor's expense. If he accedes she pushes a bell and a waiter appears. The visitor then discovers that while he may order beer if he wishes to, his companion is limited to some more expensive beverage. There is a list of prices on the door of the box, but if the visitor is not wary he will find himself paying considerably more than the list calls for. Before departing the waiter hands the young woman a check which she blithely discloses determines her personal commission. The young woman's manner is not distant and although she may be interrupted occasionally by the necessity of going on the stage, to participate in a bit of vocal or physical exercise, she will stay with her victim as long as her seductive companionship induces him to patronize the waiter.

Downstairs on the main floor, the chairs are grouped around little tables and although no women are present the waiters pass continually back and forth soliciting orders for drinks and cigars. On the stage a number of performers are giving a series of sketches, songs, and dances which but for the headliner that is to come at the end would not hold any intelligent person ten minutes if he had any other place where he could get in out of the cold. The last number on the program is usually an Oriental dance which often exceeds the utmost limits of propriety and decency. The city code forbids the holding of lotteries as inducements to patronize theatrical performances, but on the following page are shown announcements clipped from this theater's program and a couple of tickets which it sold in March, 1914.

Night after night in this theater men are surrounded with the most unblushing temptations to excessive drinking and immor-

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

ality. Into such an environment thousands of youths from the country are led by the innocent desire to see the "shows" of the city.

While the bulk of the theatrical performances attended by Springfield citizens are on the whole fairly clean and any attempt at smuttiness or rawness on the stage is generally hissed by the audience, yet on the whole the theatrical life of the city is not a thing to be proud of. Those people who are interested in the welfare of the city and yet have maintained only a negative and disapproving attitude toward the theater may well consider



TWO SPRINGFIELD THEATER TICKETS AND A BIT OF THE PROGRAM  
Lotteries are forbidden by ordinance

whether in so doing they have discharged their full community responsibilities. Is there not an obligation resting upon them to take a constructive part in the work of giving the local drama the wholesome and cultural influence to which it is rightfully entitled? In bringing the Irish Players to Springfield the drama study class of the Women's Club took a step in the right direction and the effort might well be extended to the systematic organization of patronage for high grade dramatic offerings in accordance with the plan of the National Drama League.

At the same time endeavors should be made to develop amateur

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

theatricals at school social centers and other educational institutions with a view to stimulating among young people generally such an appreciation of good drama that they will never be satisfied with performances of a low and unrefined quality.

### DANCE HALLS

When this survey was made there were only two licensed dance halls in Springfield according to the records in the city clerk's office. At that time one of these, the Arion Dance Hall, was holding dances only Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and the other, at 1123 East Washington Street, was apparently not open very often. In addition to these two resorts there are two dancing academies open two or three nights a week, and four or five halls which are rented for occasional balls. Dances are also held once or twice a week at the new Leland Hotel. In practically all of these places payment of the admission fee is the only restriction upon attendance. In the dancing academies the admission on regular assembly nights is nominally by card, but invitations are secured without difficulty.

The resort which enjoys the largest patronage is the Arion Dance Hall. Here an orchestra of four pieces plays from 9 to 12 and dancing takes place upon a spacious floor. Ladies are admitted free and any man who has a quarter can secure admission. The dance is conducted under the auspices of the orchestra which furnishes the music. An officer in plain clothes, with his hat on, stands on the side and prevents any flagrant disorder. The latter end of March the attendance ran between 300 and 500 persons, but the doorkeeper said that on "big nights" they sometimes had 500 couples. Among the patrons there are usually a number of elderly people, husbands and wives, mothers and their daughters, and even young children, but the majority are between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five. While "breaking" is not practiced, introductions are not indispensable. The positions held by the dancers did not ordinarily show conspicuous impropriety. The old-time waltz and two-step were danced in the main, but an occasional "tango" was interpolated in the program. When the so-called modern dances were called the number on the floor diminished and the girls showed a tendency to dance the

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

one-step only with their own "fellows." During these dances some of the partners were held pretty close.

Only soft drinks are sold in the hall, but pass-out checks are freely given and many young men went out between dances to the saloon on the corner. No intoxication, however, was evident.

A dance on the North Side was advertised by the \_\_\_\_\_ Club. The investigators found that admission was freely obtained at the rate of 25 cents per couple. The hall was one flight up and adjoined a pool room. Some youths were playing cards in the check room. No elderly people were present and the "tone" of the place was rather rough. Only 15 couples were present that evening, but the conditions were favorable for much license. There was a saloon across the street and the patrons had perfect liberty in the matter of leaving the hall during the dancing. While nothing decidedly objectionable was witnessed on this occasion the situation was one that could be very easily abused to the moral detriment of the unsuspecting young people who might be brought in by announcements of such a dance.

There are no ordinances or written police regulations on the subject of dance halls. The practice of the police department is to oblige the dance hall licensees to have in attendance at every dance, a uniformed policeman whose function it is to see that very young girls and prostitutes are kept out and that order is maintained. The requirement of a policeman in attendance does not hold in respect to the occasional balls and parties held in the several halls of the city where such functions frequently occur.

Briefly, then, in Springfield there is a large amount of uncontrolled and unsupervised dancing and much of it is carried on under conditions which may easily be abused. The situation requires the serious attention of all Springfield citizens who have the welfare of young people at heart. A definite policy concerning public dancing should be formulated and put into effect. All public-spirited citizens who do not believe in dancing at all should squarely face the question: If dancing cannot be prevented is it not advisable to make sure that the surroundings in which it is taking place are wholesome and under control of people having the welfare of their patrons at heart?

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

Dancing was once a vehicle of social life. It is now tending to become an end in itself. By opening the school houses for neighborhood dancing parties the citizens of Springfield can do much toward giving dancing its proper place in social life. In addition to a positive and constructive policy a city ordinance\* should also be passed prohibiting the giving of pass-out checks or the holding of dances in halls connected with a bar, specifying the ages of those who may be admitted, and otherwise providing for the maintenance of order and decency at the public dances.

### BILLIARD AND POOL ROOMS

According to the records in the city clerk's office billiard and pool licenses were issued for 1914 to 60 persons. The total amount they paid into the city treasury is \$1,293.65, and the number of tables covered by these licenses is 140. According to the record of the saloon licenses in force during the first half of 1914, 42 of these pool-room licensees also run saloons on the same premises. (Since July 1, 1914, the saloon licenses of six of these have been discontinued.) More than half of the pool rooms are inside of the saloon district, a district in the center of the city six blocks wide by nine blocks long. Accordingly the young men in the outskirts of the city who wish to play pool have usually to go downtown for their evening games where all of the attractions of Springfield's night life are in full swing. The temptations which surround the young man who wishes to play billiards or pool have been described on pages 10 and 11. The recommendation which is here made is that the public-spirited people of Springfield might well begin to think of ways and means of placing this attractive and excellent game in surroundings where it can be enjoyed without exposure to moral hazards.

### SALOONS

At the time of the recreational investigation there were 220 licensed saloons in Springfield. Of these, 111 were situated outside of the saloon district mentioned above, which is bounded by Second, Mason, and Eleventh Streets, and Capitol Avenue, an area equal to 54 blocks. An ordinance defining the saloon

\* For suggestions for a new ordinance see Appendix, Topic G, p. 122.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

district was passed August 10, 1908, and provided that after its passage no licenses should be issued for a saloon outside the prescribed district "in any room or building not occupied or used for saloon purposes at the time of the passage of this ordinance." Since the issuance of the licenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1914, it is reported that there are now 198 saloons in the city, 22 less than the previous year. Seven of the former dram-shop keepers were in the bad graces of the police and wisely did not apply for licenses, while the remaining 15 dropped out because of business laxity.

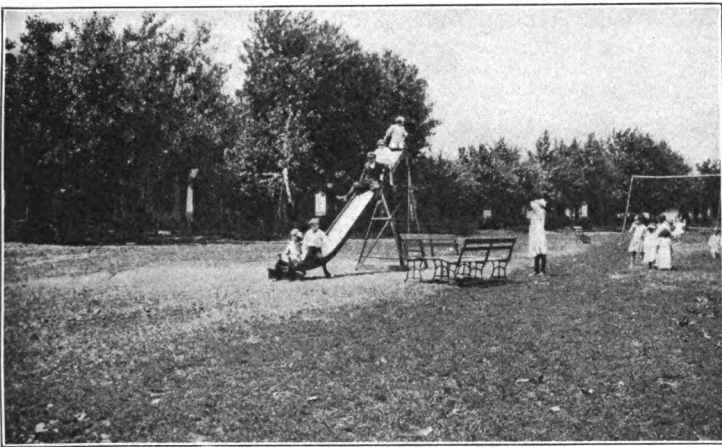
The referendum on the saloon question in the spring election showed two things: first, the tenacity of the institution, and second, the fact that the wisdom of allowing the saloon to exist is seriously questioned by a large element of the population. Now that Springfield has begun to think about the saloon question there is no doubt but that it will finally arrive at the right answer, but the solution of the problem is not merely a negative and sudden abrogation of the right to sell alcoholic beverages. If in its thinking on this subject Springfield will consider not only the harm saloons do, but also the deep-rooted social needs which they meet; if the discussions will take up constructive plans as well as the prohibitive ones; it will be able to legislate the saloon out of existence with a great deal more certainty, and in so doing it will permanently enhance the welfare of the citizens. No institution is able to exist solely by reason of the evil that it does. It exists in spite of the evil because it meets some human need. If you want to undermine it build another institution which will perform its wholesome function and at the same time be free from its objectionable features.

## XI

### ATHLETICS, FESTIVALS, PAGEANTS, AND PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS

#### ATHLETICS

With its extensive park spaces and the state fair grounds available for all forms of outdoor athletics, Springfield has the opportunity to do great things for its young men. The necessary steps in this matter are organization, standardization, and pro-

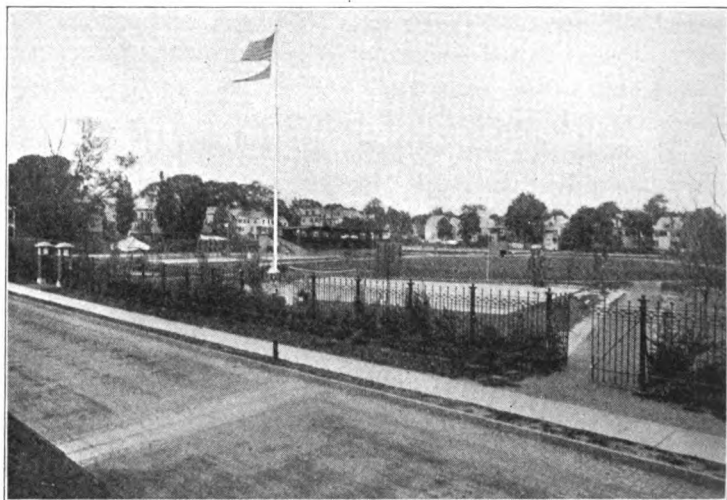


FACTORY PARK IN SPRINGFIELD

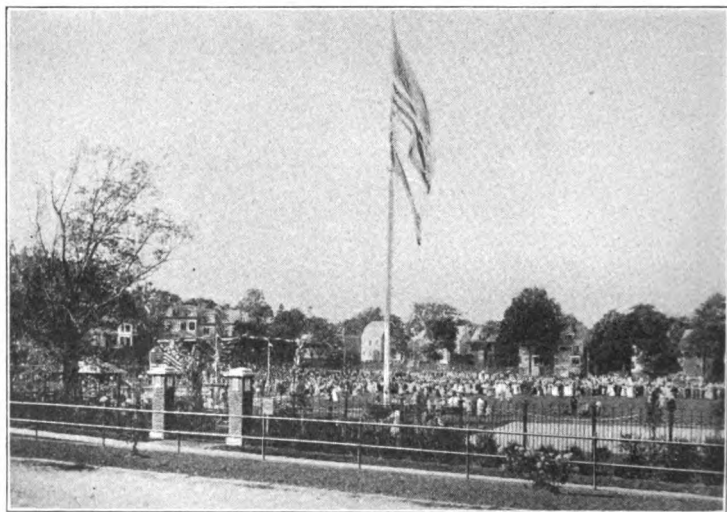
Could be improved by keeping the center free of apparatus and clear for games

motion. There should be a great municipal athletic league in which the public-spirited men of the city would assist in guiding this important work.\* Athletics may be most helpful or posi-

\* For information in regard to similar leagues in other cities see Appendix, Topic D, p. 120.



PUBLIC PROVISION FOR ATHLETICS AND PLAY IN EAST ORANGE, N. J.



AN OCCASION AT THE EAST ORANGE, N. J., FIELD



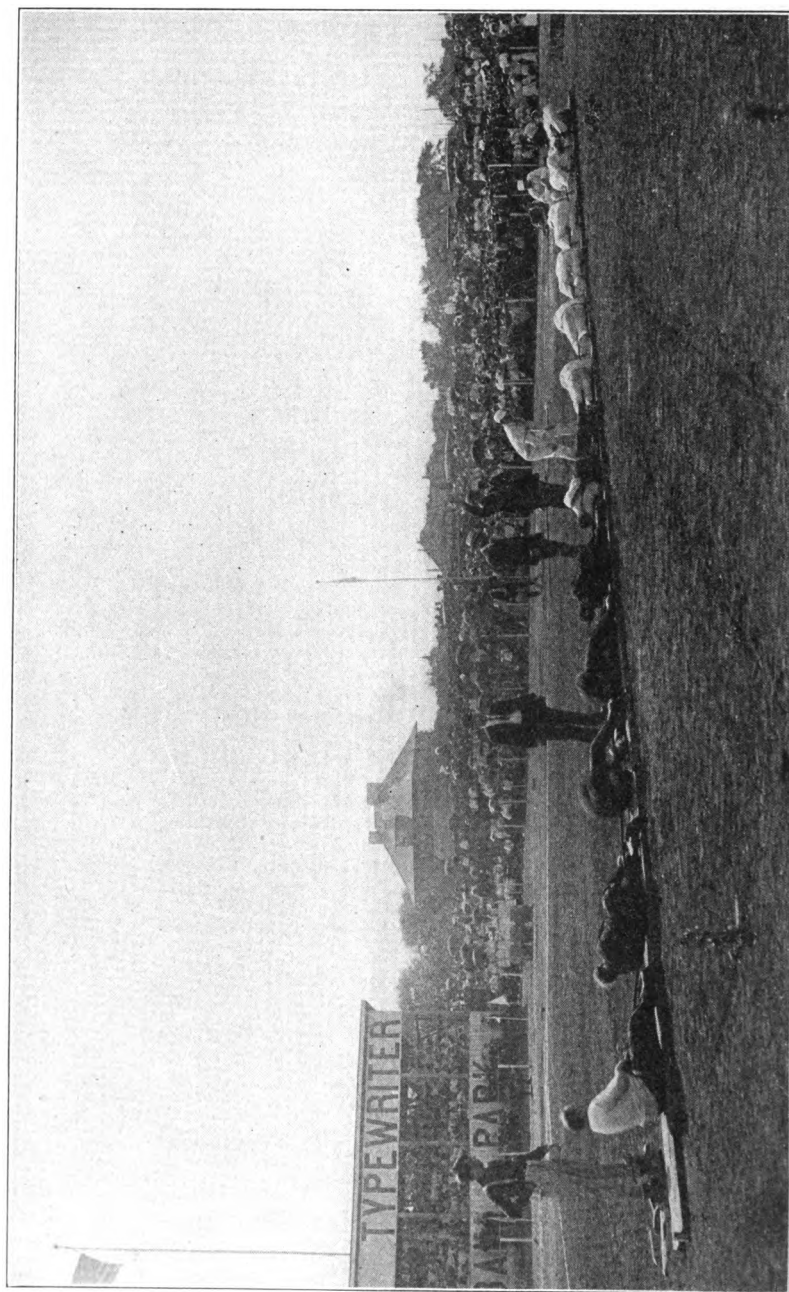
## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

tively harmful in their influence. It is for the men of the city to determine their character. High standards in sport and adherence to rules of eligibility and competition are possible only if those who themselves have such ideals take an active interest in the matter.

An unusual number of Springfield's industrial establishments already have baseball teams that operate through an informal sort of federation. This would serve as the nucleus around which to build. The teams in this group whose names were discovered during the survey are:

Name of baseball team	Institution represented
Appels.....	Appel Clothing Store
B. & O.....	Baltimore and Ohio Railway
Bankers.....	Independent
Braves.....	Independent
Bunnies.....	John W. Bunn and Co.
Business Men.....	Independent
Carpenters.....	Carpenters' Union
Central Union.....	Central Union Telephone Co.
City Hall.....	Independent
Combicks.....	Independent
Court of Honor.....	Court of Honor Insurance Co.
Dundees.....	Dundee Clothing Co.
Enterprise Cleaners.....	Enterprise Cleaning Co.
E. and W.....	E. and W. Clothing Co.
Iles Park.....	Independent
Lafayette-Smith.....	Lafayette-Smith Grocery Co.
Meter Works.....	Sangamon Meter Works
Meyers Brothers.....	Meyers Brothers Clothing Co.
Meyers Brothers Juniors.....	Meyers Brothers Clothing Co.
Moose.....	Loyal Order of 'Moose
Newarks.....	Newark Clothing Co.
Painters.....	Painters' Union
Paris Cleaning Co.....	Paris Cleaning Co.
Press.....	Independent (newspapers)
Ratz Cubs.....	Ratz Grocery Co.
Roberts Laundry.....	Roberts Laundry
Shoe Factory.....	Shoe Factory
Watch Factory.....	Springfield Watch Factory

Private athletic grounds adjacent to or near the plants of some of these establishments would greatly stimulate participation. It is not unusual for business concerns to make provision of this kind as a resource for recreation at the noon hour as well as after hours. One of the furniture manufacturing companies of Grand Rapids, Michigan, has a fine field of this kind. A great municipal athletic field with dressing rooms, showers, and a



Ithaca, New York

THE REMINGTON TYPEWRITER COMPANY PROVIDES AN ATHLETIC FIELD FOR ITS EMPLOYEES

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

large indoor swimming pool is an object toward which Springfield might well work.

Track and field athletics deserve even more attention than do the team games. They afford greater opportunities for extensive participation. Competition among local groups should be emphasized, inter-city meets being incidental to it. The aim should be to get every young man in Springfield actively interested in some branch of athletics. No investment could be made that would yield larger civic and social returns.

## FESTIVALS AND PAGEANTS

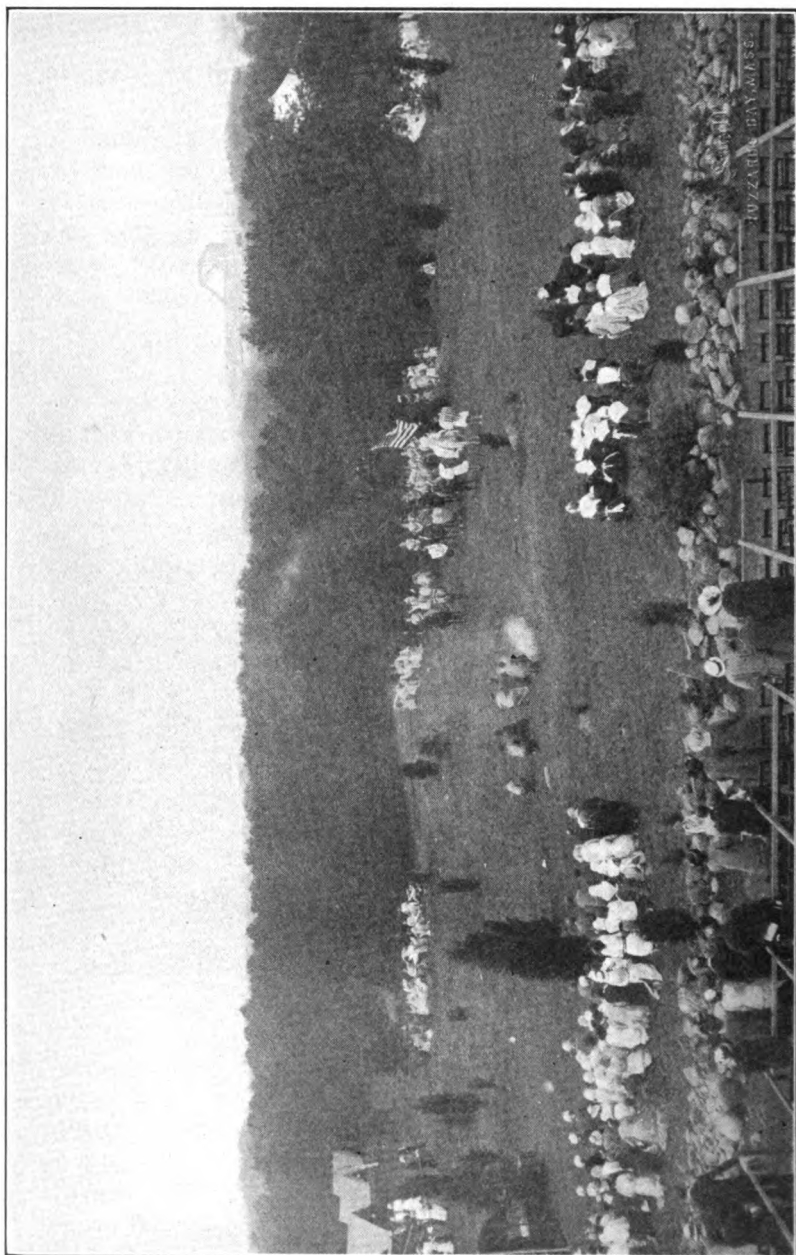
Festivals and pageants belong to the spring. Then the call of the great out-of-doors is strongest and the coming of new life



HOW BUFFALO CELEBRATES MAY DAY

invites rejoicing and celebration. The freedom of spring contrasted with the shut-in life of winter brings a challenge from the fields and woods that no one can or should attempt to resist.

The May Day and Arbor Day celebrations for the children, the spring games and exhibitions of the schools, and the historical pageants for the whole community depicting the past and prophesying the future, offer a program of out-of-door play that has



THE PAGEANT OF CAPE COD. WILLIAM CHAUNCEY LANGDON, MASTER OF THE PAGEANT  
The finale: The generations of the cape singing "America"





*Photo by Underwood & Underwood*

**THE PAGEANT OF DARIEN, CONNECTICUT. WILLIAM CHAUNCEY LANGDON, MASTER OF THE PAGEANT**

The first settlers negotiating with the Indians for possession of the land

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

splendid possibilities. The parks afford the natural setting for these events. Springfield is well equipped in this respect. The play festival held by the Teachers' Training School last May is a good illustration of what might be done by numerous other agencies to enrich the play life of the city.

Springfield ought to begin plans soon for a pageant. It would be a logical subsequence of the survey. The modern pageant has been described by William Chauncy Langdon, one of the foremost pageant directors in America, as "a drama in which the place is the hero and the development of the community is the plot." Hundreds of people take part; in fact, that is one of its valuable features. When a boy or girl, man or woman, has impersonated for a season some character that has wielded an influence in the development and progress of his or her city, it is impossible to drift back again into the old attitude of irresponsible disinterestedness that is characteristic of so many citizens with respect to public affairs. The pageant presents, by means of dramatic episodes, the past, present, and prophetic future of the community, and aims to inspire and quicken public spirit for substantial forward movements.

## PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS

Public holidays are not generally made use of as they should be in America. The reforms that have come about in the celebration of Independence Day suggest what might be done with other holidays. These advances will not come of their own accord. Careful thought and diligent planning are essential. A number of cities have standing committees or commissions appointed by the municipal authorities who hold office throughout the year and are charged with the responsibility of seeing to it that the public holidays are appropriately observed. Boston has a city official known as the director of public celebrations, and budget provisions are regularly made for financing these occasions. A citizens' committee operates with him, and contributions are solicited to augment the funds for the various celebrations. Springfield might well consider some such plans.

## XII

### A RECREATION PROGRAM FOR THE FUTURE

"Work, play, love, and worship" are set down as the chief essentials in a human being's existence by Dr. Richard C. Cabot in his recent book, *What Men Live By*. That the country at large is awakening to a realization of this vital importance of play is evidenced by the fact that since 1907 the American cities that provide equipped and supervised play and recreation centers have increased from 40 to 342. Play leaders and supervisors employed in these cities total 6,318,—2,462 men and 3,856 women. Springfield is not in that list.

A city-wide recreation program ought to take into consideration:

1. Home recreation and its supplementary aids.
2. School playgrounds for recess, after school, and summer use.
3. Athletic fields for school children, both as part of the school yards and as separate grounds.
4. Playgrounds for small children located in sections that are from one-third to one-half mile distant from school playgrounds.
5. School buildings, field houses, and public halls that may be used as evening recreation and social centers.
6. Parks, with large informally developed areas, as well as spaces for golf, tennis, baseball, track and field athletics, children's play, bathing, wading, and skating.
7. Semi-public institutions, such as a Young Men's Christian Association, church houses, clubs, and so forth that may serve special groups, and on occasion be for public use.
8. Commercial amusements such as amusement parks, dance halls, skating rinks, bowling alleys, motion-picture shows and theaters, that may well serve some of the community's recreation needs if properly regulated and controlled.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

The preceding chapters of this report have discussed the recreation needs and opportunities of Springfield. With these local conditions in mind, the following plan of procedure is recommended:

I. School yards, some park spaces, and certain new sites should be developed and equipped for play.

(a) Every school yard can become a neighborhood play center if the detailed plans submitted with this report are followed.

(b) Many park spaces are now equipped as athletic fields or children's playgrounds. A golf course should be added and dressing rooms provided. These should not monopolize the parks, but may be so located as to leave large areas in their natural state or only informally developed for walking, driving, and the various forms of quiet, restful recreation.

(c) A centrally located athletic field for school children is needed, and playgrounds—other than school yards—for children should be secured in the vicinity of the following sections: (These might well be provided by the park board.)

Seventh Street and Lawrence Avenue.

Seventeenth and Cook Streets.

Fifteenth and Jefferson Streets.

Seventh and Mason Streets.

Second Street and North Grand Avenue.

Pasfield and Vine Streets.

II. In addition to the regular physical training instruction in the schools, the administration of the activities on all public playgrounds and athletic fields in the city should be in charge of the director of physical training and play. A joint committee, consisting of two representatives each from the school board and park board, should be appointed to deal with all matters pertaining to this work on park property; this to include the financing, which should be done jointly. (The special conditions existing in Springfield make this desirable. It might not be at all adaptable to some other city.)

(a) The teaching of games for playground and home yard use should be as definite a part of school instruction as music,



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

drawing, and so forth. The director of physical training and play should supervise this work.

(b) The recess periods should be definitely organized and class teachers should be assigned to yard duty. Coaching classes for teachers should be conducted by the director of physical training and play.

(c) All school grounds should be open for play from the closing of school to 5.30 or 6 p. m. and on Saturdays, and teachers or others equipped for such work should be in charge. They must, of course, be compensated for this work.

(d) All playgrounds should be kept open and supervised during the summer; this to include playgrounds and athletic fields in the parks.

(e) Competent persons should be assigned to all athletic fields after school hours and on Saturdays, also at stated hours in summer. Much volunteer service will be possible in this connection by teachers and principals who accompany their boys to the various games.

III. School buildings may well serve as centers of civic, social, and recreational activities, and should be so constructed, remodeled, and equipped as to serve this purpose.

(a) Basement play rooms could be provided in all of the schools. These would serve in inclement weather, in the evening, especially during winter, and also during the excessive heat of midsummer.

(b) Movable furniture in certain of the class rooms would make them serviceable for social center use.

(c) An auditorium and a gymnasium, either combined or separate, would lend themselves to numerous civic, social, and recreational uses.

IV. The organization and maintenance of social centers should be provided for through additions to the staff of the superintendent of schools, and appropriations should be made for needed equipment and supplies. The plan of administration should include coordinate work with the department of physical training and the co-operation of parent-teachers' associations in the support and direction of the school centers.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

V. A public schools athletic league should be organized for the grammar schools with branches for both boys and girls. (Form of Constitution may be had by applying to organizations listed on page 105.)

(a) Each branch should have its own governing board, made up of representatives of the schools, the park authorities, and the churches, together with other interested citizens.

(b) The director of physical training and play might well be the executive secretary of each of these branches.

(c) Emphasis should be placed on group competitions and athletic badge tests within each school, but inter-school tournaments and meets should also be arranged. (Details are suggested in the Appendix.)

(d) The giving of trophies and medals should be avoided as much as possible. Public occasions at which recognition for marked achievement is given serve the purpose much better.

VI. A city committee on holiday celebrations should be appointed by the mayor to be responsible for organizing suitable exercises for the various public holidays; this committee to serve throughout the year. It should be a thoroughly representative committee, including in its membership the business interests of the city as well as schools, churches, clubs, and so forth.

VII. There should be a municipal athletic league for the young men of the city. This league would logically be governed by representatives of the various clubs and institutions that have to do with young men either as members or employes. (There are at least 28 such groups in the city that have athletic teams.) Such an organization could greatly extend and improve the athletic activities of the young men.

VIII. A Boy Scout Local Council is needed to carry forward this work which was started about two years ago but relapsed for lack of leadership. (Although scouting is not now being promoted at all in Springfield, "scout activities" stand well up in the list of recreations most pursued by Springfield boys.)

Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls should be organized ex-

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

tensively in schools, churches, and other organizations working with the boys and girls. (The Young Women's Christian Association has made progress with the Camp Fire Girls. Instead of a local council, this organization has a chief guardian who looks after the local work and is responsible to national headquarters.)

IX. In order that systematic and steady progress may be made in developing the city's recreation as a whole, it is necessary that there should be a permanent city committee on recreation composed of the superintendent of schools, and one representative each of the principals, the school board, park board, Commercial Association, Women's Club, Municipal Athletic League, Public Schools Athletic League for Boys, Public Schools Athletic League for Girls, High School Athletic Association, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, Ministers' Association, Diocese of the Catholic Church, Jewish Synagogue, parent-teacher associations, and such other organizations, institutions, and groups as have to do with the youths of the city. Other interested citizens should be elected to membership.

(a) Sub-committees on different phases of the city's recreations should be appointed to keep in close touch with developments and report to the committee at regular intervals.

(b) The committee should keep the recreation interests of the city before the public, see that the right sort of administration prevails, and aid in securing the necessary funds.

X. The amusements of the city that are conducted for gain form a very real part of the local recreation resources. They should be used, not suppressed. This can be accomplished by proper inspection and control. (Model ordinances for this purpose are given in the Appendix, pp. 122 and 124.)

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Equip and use school yards and some park spaces for play.
2. Provide for a centrally located athletic field for the schools.
3. Place the administration of all playground and school athletic activities in charge of the director of physical training and play.
4. Teach games for playground and home yard use at play periods on school yards and other public playgrounds.
5. Remodel and equip school buildings for social center uses.
6. Provide for administration of social centers through additions to the staff of the superintendent of schools.
7. Encourage the co-operation of neighborhood organizations in the direction and support of the school house centers.
8. Organize school athletic leagues for both boys and girls, thus insuring proper supervision of such activities and adaptation of exercises to the needs of the different age and sex groups.
9. Have a standing city committee on holiday celebrations.
10. Organize a municipal athletic league for the young men of the city.
11. Provide for the extension of Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls.
12. See that there is proper inspection and control of the commercial amusements of the city.
13. Have a representative city committee on recreation to be responsible for a progressive and balanced development of all parts of the city-wide recreation program.
14. Do not attempt to do it all the first year. Make a beginning and work steadily toward the ultimate plan.

The first and most important step toward carrying out the recommendations of this report has already been taken—the employment of a first-class director of physical training and play in the public schools. As the succeeding steps are considered, his extended experience in and study of recreation administration will be of great value to the school and park authorities and to the citizens' committees. He will be able to advise

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

about equipment and determine the expense involved. Suggestions on these points have, as far as is practicable, been given in this report. Further details must depend upon local developments.

It would, of course, be impracticable to attempt to put into effect at once all the recommendations here made. The thought is rather that the suggested recreation program be considered as an ideal toward which to work. Few cities have a better prospect of attaining such an ideal than has Springfield.



## APPENDIX

### TOPIC A. SOCIAL CENTERS

Ideas for social center programs may be obtained from the printed reports published by various boards of education concerning the recreational and social activities in their schools. Sometimes these accounts are embodied in the annual school report and sometimes they are printed separately. In making application it is desirable to state the kind of information desired. Such reports are published by the boards of education of New York, Chicago, Boston, Milwaukee, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Louisville. Pamphlets containing suggestions for social center activities are also published from time to time by the Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin and by the Department of Recreation of the Russell Sage Foundation. Detailed descriptions of social and recreation centers are given in the book, *Wider Use of the School Plant*.\*

### TOPIC B. PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETIC LEAGUE FOR BOYS

Forms of organization and activities may be had from the printed reports issued by the following cities:

Baltimore, Md. Public Athletic League, Social Service Corporation.	San Diego, Cal. Elementary Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.
Buffalo, N. Y. Public School Athletic League, Board of Education.	San Francisco, Cal. Public Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.
Jersey City, N. J. Public Schools Athletic Assn., Board of Education.	Seattle, Wash. Grammar School Athletic League, Board of Education.
Newark, N. J. Public School Athletic Assn., Board of Education.	Springfield, Mass. Public School Athletic Assn., Board of Education.
New Orleans, La. Public Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.	Tacoma, Wash. Public Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.
New York, N. Y. Public Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.	Troy, N. Y. Public Schools Athletic League, Board of Education.
Salem, Mass. Elementary Schools Athletic Assn., Board of Education.	Washington, D. C. Public Schools Athletic League, Director of Playgrounds.

\* Perry, Clarence A.: *Wider Use of the School Plant*. New York, Survey Associates, Inc., 1910.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

To aid in fostering clean sport the following rules of conduct have been quite generally adopted under the name of "athletic courtesy."

1. The rules of games are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no gentleman would break. The stealing of advantage in sport is theft.
2. Visiting teams are to be honored guests of the home team, and should be treated as such.
3. No action is to be taken nor course of conduct pursued which would seem ungentlemanly or dishonorable if known to one's opponent or the public.
4. No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the game is understood to show superiority.
5. Officers and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in intention. When opponents are evidently not gentlemen, and officers manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationships with them may be avoided.
6. Decisions of officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair.
7. Ungentlemanly or unfair means are not to be used even when they are used by opponents.
8. Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.

The events that have been demonstrated to be most suitable for grammar school boys are:

85-pound Class  
50 Yards Dash  
Running High Jump  
Running Broad Jump  
360 Yards Relay Race

100-pound Class  
60 Yards Dash  
Running High Jump  
Running Broad Jump  
440 Yards Relay Race

115-pound Class  
70 Yards Dash  
8-pound Shot Put  
Running Broad Jump  
440 Yards Relay Race

Unlimited Weight Class  
100 Yards Dash  
12-pound Shot Put  
Running High Jump  
880 Yards Relay Race

(To guard against overstrain and to make it possible for a greater number to participate boys may enter one event only.)

The Athletic Badge Test, details of which are given below, has been adopted by the Playground and Recreation Association



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

of America,\* 1 Madison Avenue, New York City, as furnishing standards to which every boy ought to attain. The national badges, in bronze, for these standards are furnished by the association at 15 cents each.

### First Test

Pull Up (Chinning).....	4 times
Standing Broad Jump.....	5 ft. 9 in.
60 Yards Dash.....	8½ seconds

### Second Test

Pull Up (Chinning).....	6 times
Standing Broad Jump.....	6 ft. 6 in.
60 Yards Dash.....	8 seconds
(or) 100 Yards Dash.....	14 seconds

### Third Test

Pull Up (Chinning).....	9 times
Running High Jump.....	4 ft. 4 in.
220 Yards Run.....	28 seconds

The following general rules shall govern the final competition:

No boy is permitted to receive more than one badge for any grade in any one year.

It is necessary to qualify in all three events in any one class in order to win a badge.

There shall be but one trial in chinning, one in the dashes, and three in the jumps.

#### 1. Pull Up (Chinning)

A portable chinning bar in a doorway, a horizontal bar in the gymnasium, or the rungs of a ladder set at an angle against a building may serve the purpose.

Each contestant begins with his hands on the bar. Then with his arms straightened at full length he pulls himself up without a kick, snap, jerk, or swing, until his chin is above the bar. Lowering himself again until his arms are straight, he repeats the "Pull Up."

#### 2. Standing Broad Jump

Whenever possible it is best to prepare a jumping pit by digging up a piece of ground about 4 feet by 25 feet and have a wooden strip 2 inches by 4 inches embedded in the ground at one end of the pit, flush with the surface, to serve as a "take off." It is also well to mark off 5 feet 9 inches and 6 feet 6 inches from the "take off." Each competitor is allowed three jumps, his best jump being taken as his record.

\* Publishers of *The Playground*, a recreation magazine.

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

### 3. 60 Yards Dash, 100 Yards Dash and 220 Yards Run

A stop-watch is necessary for timing the boys in this event. Under the direction of a starter each individual competitor takes his position on the starting mark. The starter gives the signal by saying: "On the mark," "Get set," "Go." At the word "Go" the timekeeper starts his watch. As the runner crosses the finish line (60 yards, 100 yards, or 220 yards from the starting line), the timekeeper stops his watch. The time indicated on the stop-watch is the runner's time.

### 4. Running High Jump

The bar shall be a thin stick and shall rest on pins which shall project not more than three inches from the uprights. When this bar is removed, it shall constitute a trial jump without result.

The height shall be measured from the middle of the bar to the ground on a direct line.

Each boy shall be allowed three trial jumps at each height.

Running under the bar in making an attempt to jump shall be counted as a balk and three successive balks shall constitute a trial jump.

A plan to avoid specialization and selection, and to secure the participation of *all* boys in athletic activity, is known as "Group Athletics." It is described below.

The entire membership of the group should be required to take part, physical incapacitation being the only valid excuse for non-participation. No record should be allowed for less than 80 per cent of the group membership. The full benefits of group athletics come, not alone from the final competition, but also from the great amount of preliminary practice within the group. In this way the physical fitness of the individual is developed and the spirit of team work and social responsibility is fostered. It should be arranged that the competition be between groups of about the same physical ability. It should also be remembered that the number of boys in the group makes no difference as

$$\frac{\text{The sum of individual records}}{\text{The number of competitors}} = \text{The group record.}$$

A trophy in the form of a pennant, plaque, or cup awarded to the winning group adds interest to this form of athletics and stimulates group spirit. This trophy should be held only until the next competition.

The competition may be in one or more events. An all-around test should be the aim. Almost all forms of track and field athletics lend them-

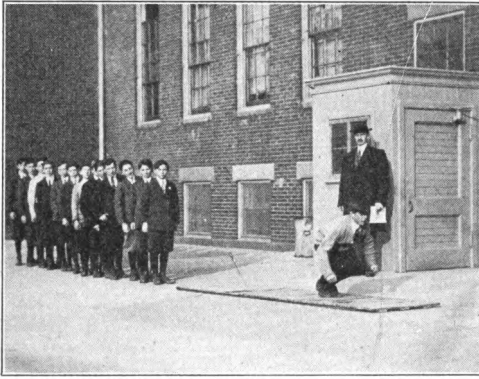
## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

selves easily to this plan. The following events have been quite generally used:

- I. Jumping (Standing or running, broad or high)
- II. Chinning (Pull up on horizontal bar)
- III. Running (Short dashes, 40 to 100 yards)

I. Jumping. It is best to prepare a jumping pit by digging up a piece of ground about 4 feet x 25 feet having a wooden strip about 2 inches x 4 inches x 3 feet embedded in the ground at one end of the pit flush with the surface to serve as a take-off. Where this is impossible use a mat and jump from a line.

The group is lined up behind the take-off and each boy in turn takes his



GROUP JUMPING

jump. The distance from the edge of the take-off to the first mark made in the dirt by any part of the body is measured as the boy's jump.

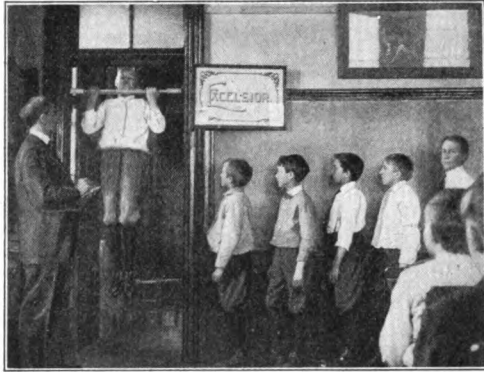
Each boy has three jumps, his best jump being taken as his record. After each boy has had three jumps, the sum of all the records is divided by the number of competitors. The quotient obtained is the group record.

II. Chinning. A portable chinning bar may be placed in the doorway, as shown on next page, a horizontal bar in the gymnasium, or the rungs of a ladder set at an angle against a wall may be used for this purpose. The inclined ladder is advantageous in accommodating boys of different heights.

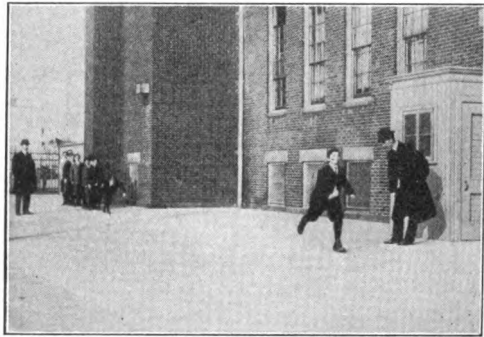
The boys are lined up and take their turn at chinning the same as in jumping except that only one trial is given each boy. Beginning with the arms straightened at full length the boy pulls himself up until his chin is above the level of the bar. Then lowering himself again until his arms are

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

straight he repeats the pull-up. The number of times he is able to bring his chin above the level of the bar is his record. The total of the individual records divided by the number in the group gives the group record.



GROUP CHINNING



GROUP RUNNING

III. Running. It is not always possible to have a stop-watch for timing the boys in the group running. A plan has therefore been devised whereby the timing may be done with an ordinary watch. The boys are lined up back of the starting mark and the timer takes his position at the finish line. This finish line should be a mark on the ground. The first boy to run takes his place on the starting mark, the timer waits until the second hand of his watch points to sixty, then instantly by a quick down-

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

ward motion of the hand, signals the boy to start. As the runner nears the finish line the timer again raises his hand, and at the instant the runner crosses the finish mark he gives the signal for the next boy to start. This is repeated until the whole group has run. The time elapsed during the running of the entire group is divided by the number of boys taking part, thus giving the group record.

Other events that have been used successfully are:

A. The football kick. Either the round soccer or the oval football may be used. Care should be taken, however, to see that all competing groups use the same kind of ball. The ball may be punted or kicked from place. The distance from where the ball was kicked to the point where it first touched the ground is the boy's record. The group record is determined as indicated in the events described above.

B. The baseball throw. This event is similar to the above except that a baseball is thrown.

C. The shot-put. The same rules govern this event as in the ordinary field event. Too heavy shots should be avoided. The eight-pound shot for grammar school boys and the twelve-pound shot for high school boys are recommended.

D. The relay potato race. On a line at right angles to the starting line draw four circles each 12 inches in diameter, the first with its center five yards from the start and the others at five-yard intervals beyond, the fourth being at 20 yards.

A box, can, or basket with not over 144 square inches bottom area is set on the five-yard circle. Three potatoes, blocks, or erasers are placed in this receptacle.

The first runner, starting from the line, takes a potato from the box and places it in the nearest, or 10-yard circle, returns to the box, passing between it and the starting line, places a second potato on the 15-yard circle and in the same manner places the third on the 20-yard circle. He then runs back to the starting line, so that one foot passes or touches the line, runs to the nearest potato and replaces it in the box, and so for the second and third potatoes, each time passing between the basket and starting line after replacing a potato except that after the third he runs back to the start and touches off the next member of the group, who must stand with both feet back of the line until touched.

Each successive runner places and replaces the potatoes and touches off his successor as indicated. The total time elapsing from the "Go" until the last runner finishes, divided by the number of runners, gives the group

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record. If a potato is dropped anywhere but in the basket or circles where it is due, it must be picked up and properly placed before another potato is touched. Leaders should use a whistle to call the attention of a runner to any such error made. If a runner starts before the "Go," or before he is properly touched off by his predecessor, the timer will add one second or more, at his discretion, to the total group time for every such false start.

If for any reason it is found that 140 yards is too great a distance to be run at one time, the first boy, after placing out the potatoes as provided above, shall run back to the starting line and touch off the second runner who shall collect the potatoes as previously described and touch off the third runner who repeats the part of the first runner. In the meantime the first runner takes his place at the end of the line of boys and when his turn comes again, runs the second time. In this way each boy runs two laps of 70 yards each with a short rest between.

Any other athletic activity that is adaptable to the plan outlined above may be used.

### TOPIC C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETIC LEAGUE FOR GIRLS

The Girls' Branch of the Public Schools Athletic League of New York City issues a handbook of its work in which the plan of organization and procedure is described. The following quotations indicate the careful manner in which the matter is handled and the progress that is being made in solving the problem of suitable athletic activities for girls.

The problems involved in girls' athletics were much more difficult than those in boys' athletics, the athletics of boys and men being established through a long history of evolution, while girls' athletics was a new subject, which if necessary had to be largely experimental.

The fundamental policies adopted by the Girls' Branch were and are:

Athletics for all the girls.

Athletics within the school and no inter-school competition.

Athletic events in which teams (not individual girls) compete.

Athletics chosen and practiced with regard to their suitability for girls and not merely an imitation of boys' athletics.

The Girls' Branch of the Public Schools Athletic League encourages after-school athletics for girls by:

1. Offering pins and trophies for certain events.
2. Conducting free instruction classes in those events for grade teachers who volunteer their services for the after-school athletics.

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3. Assisting to organize athletic clubs.
4. Supplying instructors, coaches and assistants where the board of education is unable to do so.
5. Trying to secure enlarged facilities for outdoor exercise for girls.

The Girls' Branch is doing everything in its power to further the use of folk dancing as a form of play for the benefit and pleasure of the children themselves, and is opposed to its use for exhibition purposes. The park fetes are arranged as great play days, with the children in great numbers from many schools, dotted in groups over the great meadows of 15 acres or more, which are roped off and kept clear for the children only. In this way the individual children are lost to view in the great throng, and the exhibition element is eliminated, while at the same time the sight of acres of happy girls, all dancing at the same time, is a more stirring and beautiful one than can be easily described.

If we are ever to really have athletics for girls generally we must settle at least the following points:

1. What exercises are likely to be injurious internally to matured girls?
2. What exercises are mechanically suited to the build of the average girl?
3. What are suited to her muscular strength and endurance?
4. What will contribute to her health and vitality and help to fit her for a normal woman's life?
5. What form of physical activity comes nearest to containing for her the primitive appeal that athletics in the accepted sense hold for boys?

Wide inquiry among those who have had extensive experience with physical training for girls shows that athletic activities for girls fall into the following groups:

- | For mature girls  | For immature girls  |
|---|---|
| 1. Condemned<br>Broad jump<br>High jump (in competition)<br>Pole vaulting                   | 1. Condemned<br>Pole vaulting<br>Running more than 100 yards<br>Weight throwing             |
| 2. Doubtful<br>High jump<br>Running more than 100 yards (in competition)<br>Weight throwing | 2. Doubtful<br>Basketball<br>Field hockey   |
| 3. Safe<br>Archery<br>Ball throwing<br>Basketball (women's rules)<br>Climbing               | 3. Safe<br>Archery<br>Ball throwing<br>Broad and high jump (not in competition)<br>Climbing |

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- | For mature girls                         | For immature girls  |
|--|---|
| 3. Safe—( <i>Continued</i> )             | 3. Safe—( <i>Continued</i> )  |
| Coasting                                 | Dancing   |
| Dancing                                  | Horseback riding (cross saddle)   |
| Field hockey                             | Low hurdles   |
| Golf                                     | Paddling  |
| Horseback riding (cross and side saddle) | Rowing  |
| Indoor baseball                          | Running (not in intense competition)                                      |
| Low hurdles (not in competition)         | Skating   |
| Paddling                                 | Swimming  |
| Rowing                                   | Tennis  |
| Running (not in competition)             | Walking   |
| Skating                                  | 4. Especially beneficial and suitable                                     |
| Skiing                                   | Climbing  |
| Snow-shoeing                             | Dancing   |
| Swimming                                 | Jumping (in moderation)   |
| Tennis                                   | Running (in moderation)   |
| Walking                                  | Skating   |
| 4. Especially beneficial and suitable    | Swimming  |
| Dancing                                  | Walking   |
| Paddling                                 | 5. Best loved, most commonly practiced and with greatest primitive appeal |
| Rowing                                   | Dancing (greatest unanimity of opinion in this answer)                    |
| Running                                  |   |
| Swimming                                 |   |
| Walking                                  |   |

The Athletic Badge Test for girls has also been worked out and, after successful experiment, has been adopted by the Playground and Recreation Association of America. Badges, in the form of brooches, have been prepared.

### First Test

All-up Indian [Club Race	30 seconds
Basketball Throwing	2 goals, 6 trials
Balancing	24 feet, 2 trials

### Second Test

All-up Indian [Club Race	28 seconds
Basketball Throwing	3 goals, 6 trials
Balancing (bean-bag on head)	24 feet, 2 trials

When Indian clubs are not available, the potato race may be substituted:

For first test, 140 yards, 42 seconds.

For second test, 140 yards, 39 seconds.

The following general rules shall govern the final tests:

There shall be but one trial in each event except the balancing, in which two trials are allowed.



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It is necessary to qualify in all three events in either class in order to win a badge.

No girl is permitted to receive more than one badge in any one year.

### *Directions for Events*

#### 1. All-up Indian Club Race

Draw two tangent circles, each 3 feet in diameter. In one of the circles place three one-pound Model BS Indian clubs. At a point 30 feet distant from a line passed through the center of the circles, and parallel to it, draw a line to be used as a starting line.

On the signal the girl runs from the starting line, transfers the three clubs, one after the other, to the vacant circle, and runs back to the starting line. Three such trips are made, finishing at the starting point. The girl is permitted to use but one hand in transferring the clubs.

To win a Class "A" badge a girl must make the three trips to the circles in 30 seconds.

To win a Class "B" badge a girl must make the three trips to the circles in 28 seconds.

#### 2. Basketball Throwing

The regular basketball goal may be used. It should be placed 10 feet above the ground and extend 6 inches from the surface to which it is attached.

From a point directly under the center of the goal draw a semi-circle with a radius of 15 feet, for a throwing line.

The girl may stand at any point outside of but touching the throwing line.

To win a Class "A" badge a girl must make two goals in six trials.

To win a Class "B" badge a girl must make three goals in six trials.

#### 3. Balancing

Any standard balance beam may be used, or a 2 x 4 inch plank, set on two-inch side, but the length should be 12 feet.

There is no time limit in this event but there should be an endeavor to meet the requirements promptly, without haste, and with perfect poise.

For Class "A": The girl starts from the center of the beam, walks forward to the end, without turning, walks backward to center; turns and walks forward to other end, turns and walks forward to starting point.

For Class "B": With a bean bag balanced on her head, the girl starts from center of beam and walks forward to end; turns and walks forward the entire length of the balance beam; without turning, walks backward to starting point.

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### 4. Potato Race

On a direct line draw four circles, each 12 inches in diameter and 5 yards apart from center to center. Five yards back of the center of the first circle and at right angles to the direct line, draw a line to be used as a starting line. This is also the finish line.

On the first circle place a basket or other receptacle not over 2 feet in height and with an opening not exceeding 3 feet in circumference.

On the signal the girl runs from the starting line, takes one potato from the basket and places it in the first vacant circle (the one nearest the basket); runs back to the basket, passes between it and the starting line, takes the second potato from the basket and places it in the second circle; returns to the basket, passes between it and the starting line, takes the third potato from the basket, places it in the third circle and runs back to the starting line. From the starting point she runs to the first circle, picks up the potato and replaces it in the basket, passes between the basket and the starting line, runs to the second circle, picks up the potato, replaces it in the basket, runs to the third circle, picks up the potato, replaces it in the basket, and runs across the finish line.

If a potato is dropped anywhere but in the circle where it should be placed or in the basket, it must be picked up and properly placed before another is touched.

To win a Class "A" badge a girl must cross the finish line within 42 seconds from the time the signal to start is given.

To win a Class "B" badge a girl must cross the finish line within 39 seconds from the time the signal to start is given.

"Group Athletics" for girls have been developed on the following plan:

Competition may be between classes, clubs, or any other convenient groups. Care should be taken that the groups are of about the same physical ability. It is important that *all* members of the group actually take part in the games. No record should be allowed for less than 80 per cent of the group membership. Physical disability should be the only valid excuse for non-participation.

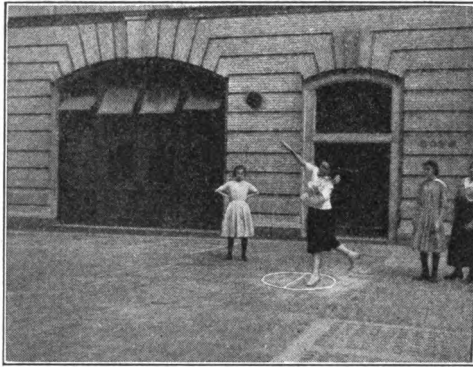
The record or score is always a group record, and in competition the winners are determined by comparing the final group records and not the individual performances.

$$\frac{\text{The sum of the individual records}}{\text{The number of competitors}} = \text{The group record.}$$

The size of the group therefore makes no difference because the record is

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always an average. In events where the individual records are easily determined the group record can readily be found by the above formula. But in running games it is difficult to find the individual records without the use of a stop-watch. A plan has therefore been devised whereby the timing may be done with an ordinary watch. The girls are lined up back of the starting line. The timer takes her position near the finish line which should be a mark on the ground. The signal "go" is given by the timer when the second hand of her watch is on sixty. As the runner crosses the finish line, the starter, by a quick downward motion of the hand, signals the succeeding runner to start. (In the Shuttle Relay each succeeding member of the group is touched off by the preceding runner.) When the last girl has crossed the finish line the time elapsed is noted. The timer needs



BASKETBALL THROW

to keep only the time required by the entire group to finish the event. This is divided by the number participating to give the group record.

Any game or athletic event adaptable to this plan as outlined above may be used. The following are suggested as typical but they in no way limit the possibilities of group athletics.

I. Basketball Throw. An ordinary basket ball is used in this event. The girls shall throw in rapid succession, each girl having three trials, and her best throw is taken as her record. If the ball strikes some obstacle before touching the ground, another trial shall be allowed. A six-foot circle, with a heavy line across its center, shall be drawn at one end of the throwing space. The thrower toes this line and in completing her throw shall not fall or step forward out of the circle: if she does, her throw shall not count except that it shall be considered as one of the three trials allowed. The

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throw shall be measured from the first point where the ball touched the ground to the nearest point of the circle. The group record is found by dividing the total of the individual records by the number participating.

II. All-Up Relay. The group shall line up in single file back of the starting line. At a distance of 20 yards from the starting line there shall be two circles, 3 feet in diameter, side by side, and tangent to each other. In one of these shall stand three Indian clubs. (Bottles of the right shape or light weight bowling pins may also be used.) The start shall be made by one of the group, who shall run forward and using one hand only shall transfer the clubs one at a time to the other circle. When this is done she shall call "All-Up" and running back touch off the girl standing first in the line.



ALL-UP RELAY

Should a club fall after a player has transferred it, she shall return and set it up again before touching off the next runner. The player who has just run, having completed her part of the race, shall leave the running space and not line up again with the runners. This play shall be repeated by each girl in the group until all have run. The last girl shall finish in a dash over the line. The time elapsed divided by the number taking part is the group record.

III. Shuttle Relay. In the Shuttle Relay the group shall be divided as nearly as possible into two equal sections. Each section shall line up back of the starting lines which shall be at opposite ends of the running space. The running space should be 40 yards. At the signal "go" the girl standing at the head of one line shall run forward and touch off the girl at the head of the opposite line, who shall run forward to the first line and touch

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

off the next runner, the game proceeding in this manner until all the girls have run. The last runner shall dash forward over the finish line. Each girl after touching off the next one shall have finished her part of the race, and shall quickly leave the running space and stay out of the way of the remaining runners. She shall not line up again with the runners. The time elapsed divided by the total number in the group is the record.



SHUTTLE RELAY



FOLK DANCING

IV. Folk Dancing. Although folk dancing is unlike the games mentioned above it is such good exercise and such a pleasant recreation that it is used in group competition. Any teacher or group leader can, with care and

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

patience, teach the simpler folk dances to the girls by the use of a good folk dance book in which the steps are described. Music can be furnished by a victrola or phonograph. Special records have been made of the folk dance music. A board of judges decides the winners. The dancing is judged, for the group as a unit, on the following basis:

Memory.....	25 points
Grace.....	25 points
Spirit.....	25 points
General effect.....	25 points

Total..... 100 points

The play element in folk dancing should be emphasized as much as possible.

V. Hoop Race. The group is lined up 5 yards back of the starting line. At a distance of 20 yards from the starting line an Indian club shall be placed. At the signal "go" the first girl shall start rolling the hoop toward the Indian club. She must roll the hoop around the Indian club and back to the starting line which thus becomes also the finishing line. If the runner knocks over the Indian club, she must replace it before proceeding further. Upon crossing the finish line she shall pass the hoop to the next girl, who repeats the process. The succeeding runner shall not start until the preceding runner has crossed the line. The hoop must at all times be rolled, not carried in the hand. The last runner completes the race when she has crossed the finish line with the hoop. The time elapsed from the signal "go" until the last girl crosses the finish line, divided by the number of participants, gives the group record.

### TOPIC D. MUNICIPAL ATHLETIC LEAGUE

Boston has a Municipal Athletic Association. An organization similar in its purpose is the Public Athletic League of Baltimore. The secretaries of these organizations will send, on request, information about the plan and scope of the organizations. The activities of the Boston association are stated as follows:

- Baseball league
- City athletic meets
- Park walks
- Cross-country hikes
- All-round efficiency tests
- Summer games
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Hand ball
- Gymnastic demonstrations
- Winter games
- Skating and ice sports

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### TOPIC E. BOY SCOUTS AND CAMP FIRE GIRLS

The national headquarters of each of these organizations will furnish, on request, the necessary information on organization and administration. Address Boy Scouts of America, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York City; Camp Fire Girls, 461 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

### TOPIC F. CITY COMMITTEE ON RECREATION

San Francisco has a recreation league that is of the general type suggested for Springfield. The following, quoted from its annual report for 1913, describes briefly the plan and purpose of the league:

Composed of over seventy-five commercial, civic and philanthropic men and women's organizations, the Recreation League has represented the public conscience in all constructive matters of recreation and play. It has been instrumental in starting many movements for bettering the civic and social conditions in the community. It has multiplied recreational opportunities for young and old in all parts of the city.

Eight hours a day for wholesome recreation is now to be a slogan as loudly voiced by the whole people as was the cry for the eight-hour working day.

The League is ready and eager to do all it can to help the people toward healthy sport and clean diversion during their leisure hours. The League charges the city, state and nation to awaken to the realization that, to eliminate evils in the body social and politic, the government must direct, control and offer constructive recreation for all the people's leisure time.

We promote

1. Social centers—the wider use of the school plant.
2. Parks, many of them, and where they are most needed.
3. Playgrounds, well equipped and sufficient.
4. Well-ordered and safe dance halls.
5. Mass athletics for all the boys and girls.
6. Artistic recreation places.
7. Popular-priced concerts for all the people.
8. Municipal bathing beaches.
9. Summer camps for working boys.
10. Athletics for young men.

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### TOPIC G. MODEL ORDINANCES

#### *Dance Halls*

SECTION 1. The term "public dance" or "public ball," as used in this ordinance, shall be taken to mean any dance or ball to which admission can be had by payment of a fee or by the purchase, possession or presentation of a ticket or token or in which a charge is made for caring for clothing or other property or any other dance to which the public generally may gain admission with or without the payment of a fee. The term "public dance hall" as used herein shall be taken to mean any room, place or space in which a public dance or public ball shall be held, or hall or academy in which classes in dancing are held and instructions in dancing are given for hire.

SECTION 2. It shall be unlawful on and after \_\_\_\_\_ to hold any public dance or public ball or to hold classes in dancing or to give instruction in dancing for hire in any hall or academy within the limits of the city of \_\_\_\_\_ until the dance hall in which the same may be held shall first have been duly licensed for such purpose. The license shall be issued by the clerk of the city council and the fee therefor shall be paid at the time of the issuing of the license and shall be graded as follows:

If the dance hall has a floor space not exceeding 2,500 square feet, the annual license fee shall be fifteen dollars.

If the dance hall has a floor space exceeding 2,500 square feet, but not exceeding 5,000 square feet, the annual license fee shall be twenty-five dollars.

If the dance hall has a floor space exceeding 5,000 square feet, but not exceeding 6,500 square feet, the annual license fee shall be thirty dollars.

If the dance hall has a space exceeding 6,500 square feet, the annual license fee shall be fifty dollars.

In computing floor space only that part of the floor actually used for dancing shall be considered. Each license granted hereunder shall expire on \_\_\_\_\_ of each year. All moneys received by way of license fees shall be paid into the general fund of the city and every dance hall shall post its license in a conspicuous place within the hall where the dance is held.

SECTION 3. No license for public dance hall shall be issued until it shall be found that such hall complies with and conforms to all ordinances, health and fire regulations of the city, that it is properly ventilated and supplied with sufficient toilet conveniences and is a safe and proper place for the purpose for which it is to be used.

SECTION 4. The license of any public dance hall may be forfeited or revoked by the mayor for disorderly or immoral conduct on the premises, or for the violation of any of the rules, regulations, ordinances and laws govern-



## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

ing or applying to public dance halls or public dances. If at any time the license of a public dance hall shall be forfeited or revoked at least six (6) months shall elapse before another license or permit shall be given for dancing on the same premises.

SECTION 5. It shall be unlawful for any person, persons, society, club or corporation to hold a public dance or public ball within the limits of the city of \_\_\_\_\_ without having first obtained a permit therefor from the mayor.

SECTION 6. All public dance halls shall be kept at all times in a clean, healthful and sanitary condition, and all stairways and other passages and all rooms connected with a dance hall shall be kept open and well lighted. The chief of police, a captain, a lieutenant, a sergeant of police, a patrolman or inspector of dance halls, shall have the power, and it shall be their duty to cause the place, hall or room where any dance or ball is held or given to be vacated whenever any provision of any ordinance with regard to public dances and public balls is being violated, or whenever any indecent act shall be committed, or when any disorder of a gross, violent or vulgar character shall take place therein.

SECTION 7. All public dances shall be discontinued and all public dance halls shall be closed on or before the hour of 12:30 o'clock a. m., provided, however, that upon the application of a bona fide and responsible organization or society and upon an investigation by the dance hall inspector the mayor may grant such organization or society a permit to continue a dance until 2 o'clock a. m., no ticket shall be sold or accepted for admission after the hour of 12 o'clock midnight.

SECTION 8. It shall be unlawful after 9 o'clock p. m., to permit any person to attend or take part in any public dances who has not reached the age of eighteen (18) years, unless such person be in company with a parent or natural guardian. It shall be unlawful for any person to represent himself or herself to have reached the age of eighteen (18) years in order to obtain admission to a public dance hall or to be permitted to remain therein when such person in fact is under eighteen (18) years of age, and it shall also be unlawful for any person to represent himself or herself to be a parent or natural guardian of any person in order that such person may obtain admission to a public dance hall or shall be permitted to remain therein when the party making representation is not in fact either a parent or natural guardian of the other person.

SECTION 9. The mayor shall appoint an inspector of dance halls, whose duty it shall be to examine all applications for dance hall licenses, and who shall investigate each application to determine whether or not the dance hall sought to be licensed complies with the regulations, ordinances and

## THE SPRINGFIELD SURVEY

laws applicable thereto, and in making of such investigation shall, when desired, have the assistance of the building inspector, the board of health and the chief of the fire department. Such inspector shall furnish to the clerk of the city council in writing the information derived from such investigation, accompanied by a recommendation as to whether a license should be granted or refused. Such inspector shall be permitted to have access to all public dance halls at all times. He shall investigate complaints and shall inspect at intervals the dance halls within the city and shall report all violations in writing. No license shall be renewed except after reinspection of the premises as provided herein.

SECTION 10. Any person, persons, society, club or corporation who shall violate the provisions of this ordinance or of any ordinance with reference to public dances or public balls shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), and the cost of prosecution, and not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00), and the cost of prosecution for each and every offense, and on default of payment thereof such person shall be imprisoned for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days.

SECTION 11. The person, persons, society, club or corporation desiring a permit to hold a public dance or a public ball shall use the following form of application, a copy of which shall be secured from the mayor:

The Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_, .....19....  
Sir: The undersigned, on behalf of .....  
hereby makes application for a permit to give a public dance at  
No.....Street, on.....19..... It is  
hereby expressly agreed that said dance shall be conducted in strict  
order with the provisions of law regulating public dances and public  
balls, and the undersigned agrees that the permit is given and ac-  
cepted subject to the provisions of this application, and that he shall be  
held responsible for any violation of any provision of law or ordinance  
regulating such public dance. The owner or lessee of the premises in  
which such dance is to be held is.....address No.....  
Street (Avenue). Name.....Occupation.....  
Address.....

SECTION 12. The provisions of this ordinance shall in no way interfere with private parties given at homes of people or with dances given by societies or corporations where the attendance is restricted to the members of the society, club or corporation.

### *Motion-Picture Theaters*

SECTION 1. A motion picture shall be deemed a display of a series of pictures so arranged as to depict characters or objects in motion.

SECTION 2. A motion-picture theater shall be deemed any public hall,

## RECREATION IN SPRINGFIELD

room, or open space in the city of \_\_\_\_\_, in which pictures are exhibited and to which an admission fee is charged.

SECTION 3. No vaudeville or theatrical exhibition shall be allowed in conjunction, or on the same program, with a motion-picture performance.

SECTION 4. A license for a motion-picture theater may be granted by the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \* on payment of a license fee of \_\_\_\_\_ provided that the applicant has complied with Sections 5 and 6 of this act. If in the judgment of the licensing authority, any of the provisions of this act are violated, or pictures are shown that are an offense against morality, decency, or the public welfare, the license may be revoked.

SECTION 5. A motion-picture theater license may be granted only after the proper authorities have inspected the proposed theater and reported that it meets all the requirements of Section 6.

SECTION 6. Motion-picture theaters shall fulfill the following requirements:

a. The apparatus for projecting motion pictures shall be enclosed in a booth or enclosure so constructed as to be fireproof.

b. The aisles, exits, seating, and construction of the building shall conform with the fire and building regulations of the city of \_\_\_\_\_.

c. Every portion of a motion-picture theater shall be so lighted by electric light during all exhibitions and until the entire audience has left the premises that a person with normal eyesight should be able to read the Snellen standard test type 40 at a distance of 20 feet, and type 30 at a distance of 10 feet; normal eyesight meaning the ability to read type 20 at a distance of 20 feet in daylight. Cards showing types 20, 30, and 40 shall be displayed on the side walls together with a copy of this paragraph.

d. Special segregated seats shall be provided for and used by all unaccompanied children in attendance under sixteen years of age.

e. The minimum floor area of motion-picture theaters, exclusive of aisles and passageways, shall be  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square feet per person, and a minimum of 80 cubic feet of air space per person shall be provided. During the performance at least 500 cubic feet of fresh air per person per hour shall be supplied.

f. The temperature at the breathing line of the audience shall not exceed 70 degrees Fahrenheit nor be less than 62 degrees F., except when the outside temperature is sufficiently high not to require the heating of the air supply.

\* Either the Mayor or the Bureau of Licenses.

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SECTION 7. The licensing authority shall appoint such inspectors as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act. Such inspectors shall also examine the character of the exhibitions and report any offense against morality, decency, or the public welfare contained in said exhibitions.

SECTION 8. This ordinance shall not apply to motion-picture exhibitions with or without charge for admission, conducted under the direct management of educational or religious institutions, or to those given or held not more than once a week in private residences or bona fide social, scientific, political or athletic clubs. Before motion pictures shall be exhibited in any of the places above mentioned, there shall be obtained from the \_\_\_\_\_ a permit for such exhibition. Before granting such permit the \_\_\_\_\_ shall cause to be inspected the premises where such proposed exhibition will be held, and shall grant the permit if in its judgment the safety of the public be properly guarded, and provided that for an audience of more than 75 people all chairs or seats shall be securely fastened to the floor or fastened together in rows.

SECTION 9. The \_\_\_\_\_ shall appoint a citizens' committee of \_\_\_\_\_ members, who shall serve without compensation, and whose duty it shall be to inspect each motion-picture theater of the city at least once each month and report to the licensing authority any violations of the provisions of this act.

SECTION 10. This ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its approval by the Mayor. All other rules, regulations, and ordinances inconsistent herewith and affecting buildings and places to be occupied as herein defined are hereby revoked.

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