

PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Adolph Berengarten..... | \$2,940 |
| Wm. C. Duggan..... | 2,491 |
| Joseph F. Egan..... | 2,865 |
| Frank J. Fee..... | 2,811 |
| J. J. Foley Plumbing and Heating Co..... | 2,373 |
| H. L. Haffen Contracting Co..... | 2,897 |
| John J. Kenny Co..... | 2,825 |
| John H. Kessler..... | 2,437 |
| Christopher Nally..... | 2,975 |
| M. J. O'Brien..... | 2,344 |
| Rapid Construction Co..... | 4,480 |
| John Renehan..... | 2,933 |
| William Spence..... | 3,349 |
| United Plumbing and Contracting Co..... | 1,997 |
| Charles Williams..... | 2,889 |

Contract awarded to United Plumbing & Contracting Co., \$1,997; contract dated December 31, 1912.

HEATING AND VENTILATING.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Wm. C. Duggan..... | \$852 |
| J. J. Foley Plumbing and Heating Co..... | 865 |
| Philp and Paul..... | 863 |

Contract awarded to Wm. C. Duggan, \$852; contract dated December 26, 1912.

WESTERLY HALF OF THE STORAGE YARD AND WEST MANURE PIT,
IN CENTRAL PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect, Department of Parks; plans approved by Art Commission March 14, 1911; approved by Board of Estimate April 6, 1911; advertised May 11; bids opened June 8; contract awarded but contractor failed to execute; second bidding opened August 24, lowest bidder Adolph Wexler, \$18,185 for Item I, and \$1,150 for Item II; submitted two bids identically the same, and contract was not awarded to him; third bidding opened September 14, 1911. The following put in their bids:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| | | Electric Pump. |
| Richard Carvel Co..... | \$24,200 | \$800 |
| Chas. L. Doran Contracting Co..... | 23,850 | 800 |

Contract awarded to Charles L. Doran Contracting Co., September 14, 1911, for \$23,850, and \$800 electric pump; contract dated October 2, 1911; contractor notified to commence work October 24, 1911; time allowed 125 working days; time extended by resolution of Park Board, 75 working days; contract completed November 2, 1912.

PAVEMENT ON TERRACE AROUND BETHESDA FOUNTAIN IN
CENTRAL PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks; plans approved by Art Commission May 11, 1911; approved by Board of Estimate

February 21, 1912; advertised April 30; bids opened May 9, 1912. The following were the bidders:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Thomas J. Buckley Construction Co | \$22,859 |
| Di Menna & De Paola | 19,870 |
| Pepe & Di Blasio | 24,350 |

Contract awarded to Di Menna & De Paola, \$19,870; contract dated June 25, 1912; contractor notified to commence work July 10, 1912; time allowed on contract 60 working days; extended by resolution of Park Board, 60 working days; contract completed in December, 1912.

This elaborate pavement of Stony Creek granite borders and red paving brick, laid in herringbone pattern, was put in place of the old asphalt pavement, which had been an eyesore on this terrace for a good many years. An up-to-date system of subsoil drainage was installed and in every respect this pavement is one of the finest in the country.

SHELTER, 86TH STREET AND EIGHTH AVENUE.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect, Department of Parks; plans approved by Art Commission, June 18, 1912; bids received as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Charles L. Doran Contracting Co..... | \$775 |
| A. V. Johnson & Co..... | 850 |
| Cornelius J. Horgan..... | 940 |
| Skerritt Construction Co..... | 965 |

Contract awarded to Charles L. Doran Contracting Co., \$775; work completed November 1, 1912.

This shelter, at the corner of 86th street and Eighth avenue, has for a long time been demanded by the public using the crosstown car line at this point. The structure erected is of a very simple construction. The work was done by open market order and therefore it was necessary to keep the cost within \$1,000. This only covered the mason work and excavation, and the carpenter and roofing work was done by department mechanics from drawings and details provided by the Department Architect.

FENCES ON SEVENTH AVENUE, FROM 110TH TO 153D STREET.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect of the Department of Parks; plans approved by Art Commission, March 22, 1912; plans and specifications approved by Board of Estimate April 11, 1912; advertised July 1, 1912; bids opened July 11, 1912. The following were the bidders:

| | I | II |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Anchor Post Iron Works..... | \$54,950 | \$600.00 |
| Vulcan Rail and Construction Co..... | 63,092 | 550.00 |
| American Fence Construction Co..... | 73,950 | 775.50 |

The contract was awarded to Anchor Post Iron Works, \$54,950; contract dated May 24, 1912; contractor notified to commence work July 27, 1912; the time allowed on the contract is 200 working days.

Work on this contract has progressed very favorably. All the fence has been delivered ready for erection and the work of erecting has been started at the north end of Seventh Avenue, and is progressing very rapidly. It is expected that the entire work will be completed within the time allowed by the contract.



TERRACE PAVEMENT AROUND BETHESDA FOUNTAIN (BEFORE).



TERRACE PAVEMENT AROUND BETHESDA FOUNTAIN (AFTER).

LAYING NEW PAVEMENTS UNDER TERRACE BRIDGE, INCLUDING TWO WINGS AT NORTH END OF MALL, IN CENTRAL PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks; approved by Board of Estimate September 4, 1912; advertised September 16, 1912; bids opened September 26. The following were the bidders:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Thos. J. Buckley Construction Co..... | \$7,929 |
| Di Menna and De Paola..... | 4,847 |
| Charles L. Doran Contracting Co..... | 6,300 |
| William H. Egan..... | 5,197 |
| Louis Pepe..... | 5,950 |

Contract awarded to Di Menna & De Paola, \$4,847; contract dated October 28, 1912; time allowed 50 working days; contract completed December 30, 1912.

This new pavement consists of a series of granite borders and the panels are 9 by 9 inches, red quarry tile. The pavement removed had been in place for over forty-five years and was in a deplorable condition.

MILK BOOTH, CITY HALL PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks; bids opened May 22, 1912. The following put in their bids:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| A. V. Johnson & Co..... | \$1,900 |
| Springsted and Adamson..... | 1,982 |
| Anton Day..... | 3,300 |

The contract, which was an open market order, was given to A. V. Johnson & Co., by a special resolution of the Board of Aldermen. The contractor commenced work May 22, 1912; completed June 30, 1912.

For a good many years a very unsightly portable shack was used for a milk station in the City Hall Park. It was, therefore, decided to design and construct a building which could be used in a similar manner, but not to be an eyesore in the most prominent square in the City, and plans were prepared for a portable building so arranged that the entire building can be taken apart in convenient sections and stored in quite a small space over winter. It contains a large workroom, space for refrigerators, milk cans, and the entire front is provided with a long dispensing counter of glass. The roof is of Spanish metal tile divided into convenient sections and so arranged that the joints are covered by one continuous tile from ridge to gutter, making the roof absolutely watertight. The interior, as well as the exterior is sheathed with tongued and grooved boarding, made up in panels, and the floor is of a slat construction set on two by four joists, which set directly on the asphalt pavement. The drainage of the sinks in the washroom and trough under the dispensing counter and milk cans is drained under the slats to catch basins adjoining.

SPEEDWAY INN ALTERATION.

174TH STREET AND THE SPEEDWAY.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect, Department of Parks; open market order. The following sent in their bids:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Anton Day..... | \$370 |
| Springsted and Adamson..... | 398 |
| A. V. Johnson & Co..... | 600 |

Contract awarded to Anton Day, \$370, May 22, 1912; completed the end of June.

CAST IRON GRILLE FOR SCHIFF MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN, SEWARD PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect, Department of Parks; open market order. The following were the bidders:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Bassett Iron Works..... | \$394.50 |
| McDougal and Potter Co..... | 400.00 |
| Yorkville Iron Works..... | 611.00 |
| La Cour Iron Works..... | 440.00 |

Contract awarded to Bassett Iron Works, June 10, 1912, \$394.50; contract completed.

HOT WATER HEATING IN SWEDISH SCHOOL HOUSE.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect, Department of Parks; open market order. Bids were put in by the following:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Thos. J. Moffett..... | \$820 |
| Frank Habeck..... | 845 |
| Wm. H. Egan..... | 737 |

Order given to Wm. H. Egan, \$737, October 18, 1912; work completed.

PAINTING OF JUMEL MANSION.

Specifications prepared by Architect of the Department of Parks; advertised December 18, 1911; bids opened December 28, 1911. The following were the bidders:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Pascal Cohn..... | \$445 |
| A. W. Gray & Co..... | 575 |
| G. Haas Co., Inc..... | 675 |
| J. P. Hansen..... | 630 |
| Wm. Horne Co..... | 980 |
| Jacob Levy..... | 423 |
| Sam Oppenheim..... | 500 |
| Arthur E. Pardon..... | 395 |
| W. C. Redlich..... | 645 |
| Jacob Siegler..... | 527 |
| Alter Witchel..... | 537 |

Contract awarded to Arthur E. Pardon, \$395; contractor notified to commence work March 25, 1912; time allowed on contract 30 working days; contract completed May 23, 1912.

COLONIAL GATE, JUMEL MANSION.

Requisition sent to Purchasing Agent October 19, 1912; open market order; bids received from the following:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| A. V. Johnson & Co..... | \$545 |
| Merrick Fireproofing Co..... | 637 |
| Wm. E. Walsh..... | 715 |

Order awarded to A. V. Johnson & Co., \$545; commenced work at mill October 20; work started on setting November 25, completed December 10, 1912.

This gate is an exact reproduction of the original gate in front of the mansion. The drawings were prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks from a very old photograph loaned by one of the descendants of the Jumel family.

HOT WATER HEATING IN THE 86TH STREET REPAIR SHOPS.

Plans and specifications prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks; advertised July 8, 1912; bids opened July 18, 1912. The following were the bidders:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Wm. H. Egan..... | \$2,747 |
| Johnston Heating Co..... | 2,770 |
| Blake & Williams..... | 3,040 |
| Wm. J. Olvany..... | 3,171 |
| Evans-Almirall..... | 3,470 |
| Curran Manufacturing Co..... | 3,575 |

Contract awarded to Wm. H. Egan, \$2,747; contract dated August 17, contractor notified to commence work August 17, 1912; time allowed on contract, 60 working days; contract completed November 12, 1912.

This building had previously been heated by the setting up of from fifteen to twenty coal stoves each winter, which made it quite inconvenient and very expensive, and likewise very unsatisfactory results were obtained.

The system installed is quite a complicated one. Since the building is practically 200 feet long, and the boiler being at one end of the building, it was found essential to place ceiling radiators on the first floor and a combination of ceiling and wall radiators on the second floor, to provide enough gravity in the return pipes.

CONCRETE STEPS AT 105TH STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE.

Open market order, bids for which were received by the following:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| William H. Egan..... | \$549.00 |
| Charles L. Doran Contracting Co..... | 390.00 |
| Mack Bros..... | 430.00 |

RAILING.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| J. W. Fiske Iron Works..... | \$245.00 |
| Bassett Iron & Wire Works..... | 248.25 |
| Yorkville Iron Works..... | 507.00 |

Work commenced September 23; completed October 5.

The steps are constructed of reinforced concrete finished with 1-inch top dressing of Medusa white cement. They were erected there in place of the old plank stairway, which was very unsightly and in need of repairs each year.

The railings are of a very heavy galvanized iron pipe construction with extra heavy cast-iron ball fittings.

ALLIGATOR POND IN CENTRAL PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect, Department of Parks; open market order. The following bids were received:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Chas. L. Doran Contracting Co..... | \$395.00 |
| Wm. Egan..... | 405.00 |
| J. M. Mack Bros..... | 420.00 |

Order given to Charles L. Doran Contracting Co. for \$395; work commenced October 7, 1912; completed October 17, 1912.

This alligator pond is constructed of reinforced concrete; is irregular in shape and is arranged with an island effect in the center from which a fountain rises. The pond was built in place of the old wooden one which had been on the site for a good many years. It is enclosed with a wire mesh fence erected by the Park Department mechanics of tee bars taken from discarded park fences.

MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRIC WORK.

Plans and specifications for the following were prepared by the Architect of the Department of Parks:

Women's Cottage, Washington Square.
 Men's toilet near sheepfold.
 Women's cottage, Mount Morris Park.
 Women's comfort station, 17th street and East River.*
 Men's toilet, 65th street and Transverse Road.
 Men's and women's comfort stations, 138th street and Riverside Drive.
 Swedish School House, in Central Park.*
 Cottages at Tompkins Square;* Union Square.*
 Comfort station at the Battery.
 Comfort station near the Arsenal.*
 Men's and women's comfort station on Riverside Drive near 151st street.
 Tool house on Riverside Drive near 144th street.
 Shelter at 86th street and Eighth avenue.*
 First floor of repair shops at 86th street.*
 Women's cottage, 79th street and Riverside Drive.
 General Office, Superintendent's Office, Arsenal.*
 Seward Park Pavilion.*
 Repairing of the electrical installation, Hamilton Fish Park.*
 Where (*) appears against job, it indicates work completed.

NEW TUBES FOR ARSENAL BOILER.

Open market order; bidders:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Geo. Cox's Sons | \$232 |
| M. Fogarty | 210 |
| Robert Simpson | 225 |

Contract awarded to M. Fogarty, \$210, November 6, 1912; work commenced November 7, 1912; completed November 11, 1912.

PLAYGROUND BUILDING AND COMFORT STATION IN JOHN JAY PARK.

Plans and specifications prepared by Architect, Department of Parks; approved by Art Commission, December 30, 1912.

This building has been designed to provide toilet facilities for boys and girls, shower baths, locker rooms, and game rooms for boys and girls using the large playground between 76th and 78th streets and East River, and the pavilion on the main floor is arranged for use as a band stand during the summer months.

The pavilion will be closed in the winter time, and will be equipped with gymnasium apparatus suspended from the trusses. The building is to be of English Gothic design, built of brick, trimmed with limestone, and is to contain a boiler room, coal room and store room in the cellar, toilet facilities, locker room and shower rooms on the basement level, which is partly above and partly below the playground level. The main or pavilion floor is arranged for a large pavilion and four rooms, which are to be used by the attendants, musicians, and for whatever other purposes it may be deemed necessary in connection with the playground work.

The estimated cost of this building is \$35,000.

BOROUGH OF BRONX.

July 18, 1913.

*Honorable WILLIAM J. GAYNOR,
Mayor of The City of New York,
City Hall, New York City.*

Sir:—As required by the Greater New York Charter, I have the honor to submit herewith a report showing the movement of the various activities of the Park Department of the Bronx during 1912.

Respectfully,

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

BRONX PARK.

At the Botanical Gardens there was completed and put in use during the year additional greenhouses, for which contract was awarded January 4, 1912; new exhibition cases, of which there was much need at the Museum building contracted for July, 1912; new shelter building, wing walls to abutment at Bedford Park station, and granite steps to new boiler house; the erection of stone wall and iron fence, contracted for March 21, 1912, is progressing satisfactorily, but is not yet finished.

At the Zoological Park the completed work consists of: Aviary and winter house for eagles and vultures, upon which work has been in progress since November, 1910; new zebra house, under contract January 15, 1911; winter house for pelicans, under contract May 2, 1912, and excavation work in rock at the service yard.

The power plant and work shop, contracted for August 29, 1912, and the public service building, contracted for October 24, 1912, are still unfinished, but satisfactory progress is being made therein.

The completion of alterations to and installation of modern electric power equipment in the department work shops situated in the "Old Snuff Mill," Bronx Park, now places the department in possession of an up-to-date, efficient plant.

PELHAM BAY PARK.

The reinforced concrete bridge connecting Hunter Island with Twin Island has been completed, but final certificate has not been issued.

City Island Road from Bartow Station to City Island Bridge was completed early in November and the road is now in use.

At Orchard Beach a large and much-needed comfort station has been completed; the great crowds, constantly increasing with succeeding seasons, made this building an absolute necessity.

During the year bath houses at Orchard Beach have been practically rebuilt and the accommodation thereof increased fully 100 per cent. by certain changes that have been made at a very small cost to the city.

The various roads in and about this park have received much attention; special repairs being given to Bronx and Pelham Parkway, from Butler street to Bear Swamp road, and new asphalt paving to that portion, some four hundred feet west of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. bridge.

The golf links, a full 18-hole course, has been favorably recommended and is being used more and more with recurring seasons. On the athletic or parade ground it is intended to lay out some six new baseball diamonds for use next year.

VAN CORTLANDT PARK.

The westerly side of the park, facing on Broadway, has been much improved by work done on the rock which overhung the sidewalk, and it is now not only free from danger to passersby but is very presentable.

The contractors who are excavating for the new water aqueduct at Van Cortlandt Park have, by arrangement with this department, placed a large amount of their fill in the swamp land east of the railroad track in Van Cortlandt Park. Up to the present time about ten acres of this swamp land has been reclaimed.

The new comfort station at the southerly end of the parade ground, on which work was started last year, is now finished.

A work of much importance to the park drainage, particularly for taking care of the surplus water discharged from Van Cortlandt Lake, was completed when the final certificate was issued to the contractors for the brick drain and inlet, on which work had been progressing since September, 1911.

The baseball field, golf links and other sections set apart for games and athletics required much care during the year, but were maintained on the whole in very satisfactory condition. The roads, too, notwithstanding the increased traffic, stood the strain well, although it was necessary to practically keep a repair force constantly at work on them.

McCOMB'S DAM PARK.

The shelter house, one which in size and character measures up to the needs of the park, was completed September, 1912. This park, a large part of which is reclaimed ground, was below grade; the athletic field, particularly the running track, being frequently soft and damp because it could not be drained. The contractors doing the excavation work on Mott avenue and the southern part of Franz Sigel Park arranged with this department to deposit rock and clean fill to bring the park up to grade. Not only this but they deposited a substantial check as security and guarantee that they would rebuild the field and running track. They have so far carried out their agreement in a very satisfactory manner, and the athletic field and running track will be greatly improved; it is expected that both will be ready for use for the season of 1913.

CROTONA PARK.

This park is located in perhaps the most congested part of the borough. A wrought iron fence, between reinforced concrete piers, was contracted for November 16, 1911, and final certificate given December 11, 1912. This fence now restricts entrance and exit and will undoubtedly be of great help in preserving shrubs, etc., which were daily injured.

Complaint has been made at various times by residents of Crotona Park North, who allege that the athletic field located there and which is under care of Board of Education, collects noisy crowds, makes life miserable and depreciates property; this matter must some time be settled and it might be well to anticipate such action.

Indian Lake in this park is a natural pond, taking up the drainage of surrounding high ground, but without an outlet; if filled in, this location would be an excellent one to which to remove the present objectionable field. Otherwise some arrange-

ment must be made by which this lake can receive frequently fresh water and proper drainage.

GRAND CONCOURSE AND BOULEVARD.

The planting of trees on this great driveway was placed in the jurisdiction of this department. A contract was awarded September 26 and the two outside rows of Norway maples have already been planted; the inside rows of European linden trees will be planted in the spring.

GENERAL.

All the other parks of the system have received care and attention as required and the force has been regularly and steadily employed.

The force of climbers and pruners have accomplished much in the way of care and maintenance of trees in city streets, as following summary of work done will show:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Pruned..... | 10,361 |
| Sprayed..... | 12,848 |
| Removed..... | 235 |
| Treated..... | 2,368 |
| Attended to complaints..... | 528 |
| Total..... | <u>26,340</u> |

The gardeners planted 1,150 deciduous shrubs and trees in various parks, excavating and preparing ground therefor.

In the Colonial Gardens at Van Cortlandt Park, 50,000 tulips were planted and removed, and 30,000 foliage and flowering plants planted.

In the nurseries 2,000 evergreen cuttings were planted and 10,000 deciduous shrubs; 30,000 deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs were cultivated.

Three acres of ground were prepared, into which was transplanted 5,000 herbaceous plants and 1,000 trees and shrubs.

Five hundred trees were planted in Van Cortlandt Park.

CONCERTS GIVEN IN 1912.

| Name of Park and Bandmaster. | No. of Concerts. | Date. | Amount Paid. |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Van Cortlandt, M. J. Ryan..... | 5 | July 4, 7, 14, 21, 28..... | \$675.00 |
| McComb's Dam, C. V. Dixon..... | 5 | July 4, 7, 14, 21, 28..... | 545.00 |
| St. James, R. P. Caspar..... | 4 | August 4, 11, 18, 25..... | 550.00 |
| St. Mary's, A. H. Conklin..... | 5 | July 4, 7, 14, 21, 28..... | 550.00 |
| Pelham, G. Pagano..... | 4 | August 4, 11, 18, 25..... | 550.00 |
| Bronx, Aug. Stover..... | 4 | August 4, 11, 18, 25..... | 550.00 |
| Claremont, Chas. Dammeyer..... | 4 | August 4, 11, 18, 25..... | 550.00 |
| Crotona..... | 5 | July 4, 7, 14, 21, 28..... | 550.00 |

SPECIAL CONCERTS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Crotona, John F. Dooley | Borough Day | \$85.00 |
| Claremont, Jim Pierce..... | Borough Day | 85.00 |
| St. Mary's, Wm. A. Frank..... | Borough Day | 85.00 |
| Bronx, A. Flink | Borough Day | 85.00 |
| Pelham, Protectory Band..... | Borough Day | 75.00 |
| | | <u>\$4,935.00</u> |

PERMITS ISSUED JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1912.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Tennis | 4,612 |
| Baseball..... | 720 |
| Picnics, May Walks, Outings, etc..... | 832 |
| Football..... | 70 |
| Golf | 5,800 |
| Photography..... | 200 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 212 |
| Total | <u>12,446</u> |

EXPENDITURES CORPORATE STOCK FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENT BY PARK LABOR, YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1912.

| | | |
|------|---|--------------------|
| 305 | Filling in and draining swamp land other than that south of garden in Van Cortlandt Park..... | \$2,253.28 |
| 312A | Railings around small parks and along walks and drives in other parks.. | 662.50 |
| 311C | Improvement of easterly and westerly portion of Crotona Park..... | 851.83 |
| 312C | Completion of road from Botanical Garden to Bronx and Pelham Parkway..... | 6,259.85 |
| 312D | Raising and improving lowlands east of music pavilion in Bronx Park.. | 4,580.39 |
| 308B | Improving southerly portion of St. Mary's Park..... | 2,047.80 |
| 305F | Drainage system for lowlands in McComb's Dam Park..... | 3,569.09 |
| 339 | General improvement of Echo Park..... | 1,743.92 |
| 305G | Completion of Devoe Park..... | 3,312.98 |
| 340A | Purchase of trees, shrubs, etc..... | 195.81 |
| 341 | Construction of driveway between Grand Boulevard and Mosholu Parkway..... | 2,201.72 |
| 303D | Draining meadow lands in Pelham Bay Park..... | 3,244.97 |
| 312F | Water supply system for Nursery, Van Cortlandt Park..... | 29.50 |
| | | <u>\$30,953.64</u> |

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1912. EXPENDITURES OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CORPORATE STOCK FUNDS, NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN AND NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| New York Botanical Garden: | | |
| Appropriations, 1912..... | | \$82,415.94 |
| Corporate Stock Funds..... | | 28,988.78 |
| | | <u>\$111,404.72</u> |
| New York Zoological Garden: | | |
| Appropriations, 1912..... | | \$162,343.73 |
| Corporate Stock Funds..... | | 78,803.96 |
| | | <u>\$241,147.69</u> |

RECEIPTS, YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1912.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Rents..... | \$2,490.50 |
| Privileges..... | 8,307.66 |
| Golf lockers, rental..... | 3,983.25 |
| Camp sites, fees..... | 1,996.00 |
| Sale of lumber, dead trees, etc..... | 500.00 |
| New York State, for two horses destroyed..... | 120.00 |
| Sale of grass..... | 100.00 |
| Sale of old iron, etc..... | 381.38 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 5.70 |
| Rodgers & Haggerty, as surety for McComb's Dam Park restoration..... | 3,000.00 |
| Total..... | \$20,885.29 |

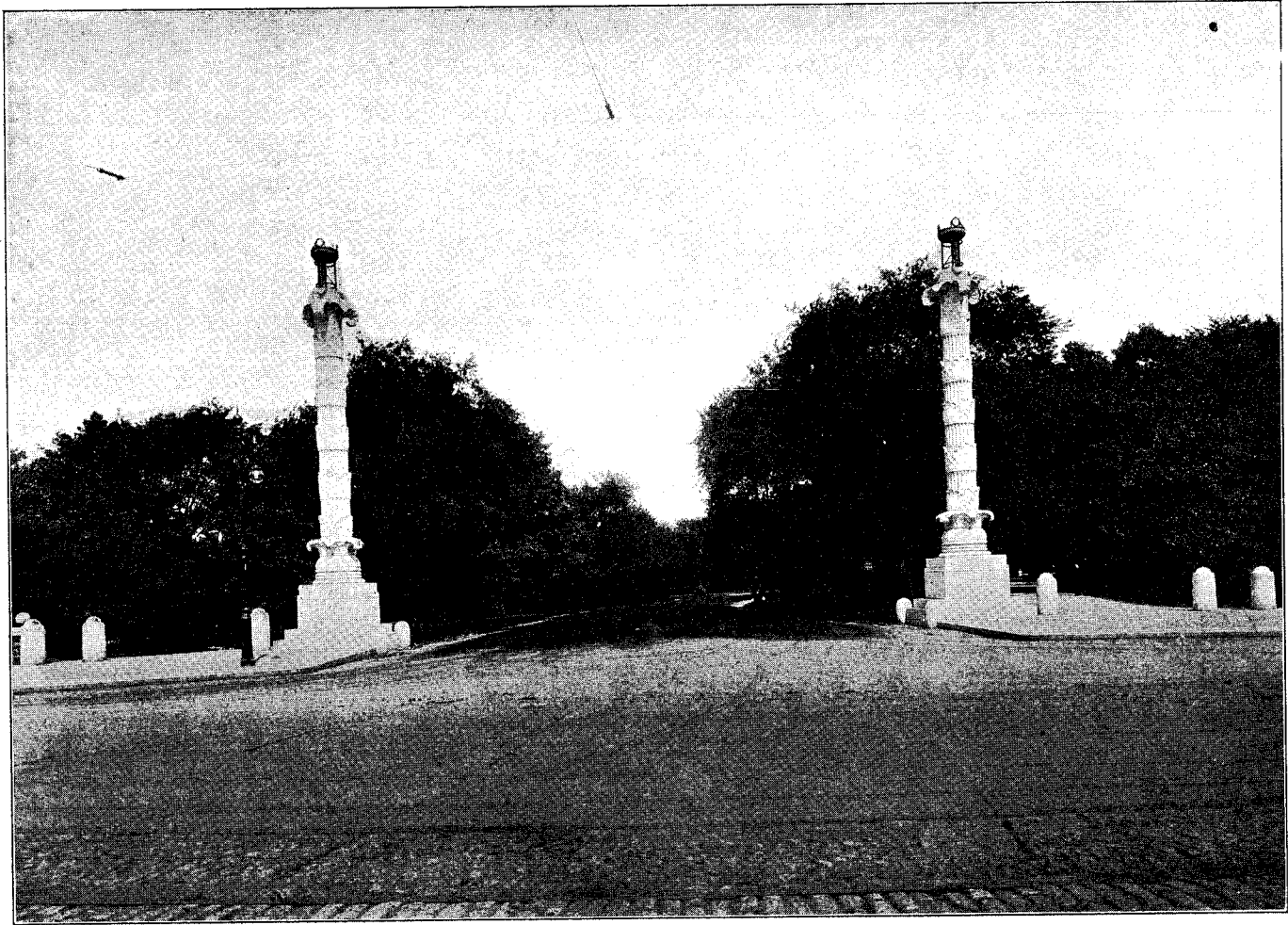
THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, BOROUGH OF THE BRONX, NEW YORK, JANUARY 17, 1913.

Statement of the Condition of Corporate Stock, Assessment Bond, Special Revenue Bond and Special Accounts as at December 31, 1912.

| Code No. C.D.P. | Title of Fund or Account. | Total Authorization, Including Premiums. | Expended. | Balances Unexpended. | Unencumbered Balances. |
|-----------------|--|--|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 301 | Botanical Garden in Bronx, Improvements | \$826,474.53 | \$826,472.90 | \$1.63 | \$1.63 |
| 330 | Improvement of Parks, Parkways and Drives..... | 821,726.70 | 820,452.45 | 1,274.25 | ..... |
| 315 | Improvements, Construction of Parks, etc., Balance, January 1, 1909..... | 346.40 | 346.21 | .19 | .19 |
| 316 | Cleaning the Lake, Van Cortlandt..... | 11,042.52 | 11,040.33 | 2.19 | 2.19 |
| 317 | Construction of Fountain, Jerome avenue..... | 6,061.29 | 4,700.00 | 1,361.29 | 1,361.29 |
| 319 | Construction of Footbridge, Bronx Park..... | 8,081.16 | 6,734.63 | 1,346.53 | 1,346.53 |
| 322 | Eliminating Swamp Lands, Pelham..... | 10,087.89 | 9,982.74 | 105.15 | 105.15 |
| 323 | Fountain Bronx and Pelham Parkway..... | 6,113.78 | 6,105.25 | 8.53 | 8.53 |
| 324 | Improvements, 177th street side of Crotona Park..... | 24,881.23 | 24,831.93 | 49.30 | 49.30 |
| 325 | Laying asphalt walks in St. Mary's Park..... | 17,590.44 | 17,199.82 | 390.62 | 13.66 |
| 327 | Reconstruction Comfort Building, Franz Sigel..... | 3,010.13 | 2,534.15 | 475.98 | 475.98 |
| 302 | Additional Fence, St. Mary's..... | 4,023.71 | 4,014.99 | 8.72 | 8.72 |
| 303 | Construction Bathhouses, Orchard Beach..... | 5,108.27 | 5,082.75 | 25.52 | 25.52 |
| 305 | Draining Swamp Land, Van Cortlandt..... | 6,000.00 | 4,791.12 | 1,208.88 | ..... |
| 306 | Improvement of Bronx and Pelham Parkway..... | 102,297.72 | 102,182.20 | 115.52 | 115.52 |
| 307 | Improvement of Claremont Park on Clay avenue side..... | 25,320.67 | 25,290.13 | 30.54 | 30.54 |
| 308 | Improvement of Mosholt Parkway..... | 20,451.68 | 20,270.17 | 181.51 | 181.51 |
| 309 | Improvement of Pelham Bay Shore..... | 10,420.62 | 10,047.24 | 373.38 | 373.38 |
| 310 | Improvement of Spuyten Duyvil Parkway..... | 81,768.95 | 79,883.50 | 1,885.45 | 1,885.45 |
| 311 | Improvement of St. James Park..... | 20,337.03 | 20,335.03 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| 312 | Raising Colonial Garden, Van Cortlandt..... | 45,543.20 | 45,511.44 | 31.76 | 31.76 |
| 308A | Improvement Northern portion, St. Mary's..... | 12,077.97 | 12,044.62 | 33.35 | 33.35 |
| 311A | Installing Drainage System, Crotona..... | 18,059.16 | 18,051.49 | 7.67 | 7.67 |
| 302A | Additional Greenhouses..... | 18,168.32 | 17,536.25 | 632.07 | 632.07 |
| 304A | Construction of Granite Steps, St. Mary's..... | 8,095.75 | 8,059.53 | 36.22 | 36.22 |
| 304C | Construction of Manure Pits..... | 20,035.51 | 3,701.05 | 16,334.46 | 16,334.46 |
| 304D | Construction of Fountains, Various Parks..... | 5,004.55 | 2,788.22 | 2,216.33 | 2,216.33 |
| 305B | Fireproofing Vaults, Claremont..... | 5,041.00 | 3,722.20 | 1,318.80 | 1,318.80 |
| 305C | Granite Steps, Jerome avenue to Ogden avenue..... | 4,000.00 | 3,727.19 | 272.81 | 272.81 |
| 311B | Granite Steps at Webster avenue Bridge..... | 4,000.00 | 3,742.71 | 257.29 | 257.29 |
| 312A | Railings around Small Parks, etc..... | 15,051.83 | 14,119.75 | 932.08 | 3.80 |
| 313 | Comfort Station, McComb's Dam Park..... | 10,000.00 | 9,925.69 | 74.31 | 74.31 |
| 333 | Bronx Zoo Garden, Planting Concourse, etc..... | 65,495.31 | 60,436.65 | 5,058.66 | 4,989.51 |
| 334 | Construction and Repairing of Drives, etc..... | 272,390.82 | 269,113.28 | 3,277.54 | 9.28 |
| 335 | Erecting Wire Fence, Bronxdale South..... | 25,114.57 | 23,521.59 | 1,592.98 | 1,592.98 |
| 335A | Rebuilding Cribwork, McComb's..... | 12,114.91 | 8,974.02 | 3,140.89 | 3,140.89 |
| 332A | New York Zoo, Fitting up Administration Building..... | 10,084.42 | 9,246.55 | 837.87 | 837.87 |
| 304E | Construction of Drain from Van Cortlandt Park Lake..... | 105,092.17 | 104,897.76 | 194.41 | 194.41 |
| 312B | Road to connect Bronx and Pelham system with Botanical Garden..... | 10,072.91 | 10,063.96 | 8.95 | 8.95 |
| 305E | Filling and Improving Devoe Park..... | 10,008.10 | 9,575.12 | 432.98 | 432.98 |
| 303A | Construction of Bridge from Hunter to Twin Islands..... | 5,045.53 | 4,003.16 | 1,042.37 | 11.87 |
| 311C | Improvement Easterly and Westerly portion of Crotona..... | 25,016.52 | 24,896.80 | 119.72 | 119.72 |

| Code No. | Title of Fund or Account. | Total Authorization, Including Premiums. | Expended. | Balances Unexpended. | Unencumbered Balances. |
|----------|---|--|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 327A | Reconstruction of Shelter Building, Franz Sigel..... | 5,004.55 | 2,223.25 | 2,781.30 | 2,781.30 |
| 304F | Construction of Walks and Drainage System, St. Mary's..... | 8,019.75 | 7,989.76 | 29.99 | 29.99 |
| 332B | Erecting of Bear Dens, etc., Zoo..... | 11,074.67 | 8,487.43 | 2,587.24 | 2,587.24 |
| 332E | Construction of New Walks, Fences, etc., Zoo..... | 32,589.98 | 27,475.54 | 5,114.44 | 4,305.96 |
| 301B | Construction and Completion Path System, Botanical..... | 7,047.39 | 7,037.82 | 9.57 | 9.57 |
| 301C | Rock Excavation for Paths, Botanical..... | 3,020.94 | 3,010.07 | 10.87 | 10.87 |
| 301D | Earth Excavation for Paths, Botanical..... | 2,517.29 | 2,509.26 | 8.03 | 8.03 |
| 301E | Pipe for Connecting Drains, Botanical..... | 1,050.00 | 1,048.29 | 1.71 | 1.71 |
| 301F | Improvement Banks along Driveways and Paths, Botanical..... | 1,513.65 | 1,506.50 | 7.15 | 7.15 |
| 301G | Erection of Greenhouses, etc., Botanical..... | 25,184.85 | 25,184.19 | .66 | .66 |
| 301H | Purchase and Erection of Railings, Botanical..... | 2,018.21 | 2,011.00 | 7.21 | 7.21 |
| 312C | Completion of Road from Botanical Garden to Bronx and Pelham Parkway..... | 10,000.00 | 6,921.33 | 3,078.67 | 375.91 |
| 338 | Rebuilding Road Bartow Station to City Island Bridge..... | 26,000.00 | 22,587.80 | 3,412.20 | 3,412.20 |
| 312D | Raising Lowlands East of Music Pavilion, Bronx and Pelham..... | 10,000.00 | 7,647.33 | 2,352.67 | 1,091.50 |
| 308B | Improvement, Southerly portion, St. Mary's Park..... | 10,000.00 | 9,177.35 | 822.65 | 7.00 |
| 305F | Drainage System for Lowlands, McComb's..... | 6,000.00 | 5,409.66 | 590.34 | 332.16 |
| 339 | General Improvement of Echo Park..... | 8,000.00 | 5,432.99 | 2,567.01 | 838.55 |
| 340 | Preparation of Plans, etc., for Improvements..... | 5,000.00 | 4,974.56 | 35.44 | ..... |
| 305G | Completion of Devoe Park..... | 8,000.00 | 3,110.23 | 4,889.77 | 1,580.00 |
| 340A | Purchase of Trees, Shrubs, etc..... | 5,000.00 | 3,606.06 | 1,393.94 | 557.25 |
| 340B | Fencing Boundaries of Parks..... | 10,000.00 | 9,453.62 | 546.38 | 368.32 |
| 341 | Construction of Driveways and Boulevards and Mosholu Parkway..... | 8,000.00 | 7,438.57 | 561.43 | 225.00 |
| 303B | Erection of Comfort Station near Bathhouses, Pelham..... | 10,000.00 | 9,423.59 | 576.41 | 201.01 |
| 303C | Improvement, Shore Front and Bathing Beaches, Pelham..... | 5,000.00 | ..... | 5,000.00 | 1,260.00 |
| 303D | Draining Meadow Lands, Pelham..... | 5,000.00 | 4,703.55 | 296.45 | .87 |
| 312E | Erection Comfort Station near Van Cortlandt Mansion..... | 12,000.00 | 10,929.75 | 1,070.25 | 870.59 |
| 312H | Improvement, Rock Cut, Broadway Side, Van Cortlandt..... | 5,000.00 | 4,998.33 | 1.67 | 1.67 |
| 340G | Construction of Drinking Fountains..... | 3,000.00 | ..... | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 312F | Water Supply System for Nursery, Van Cortlandt..... | 5,000.00 | 2,411.43 | 2,588.57 | 477.90 |
| 312G | Erection of Addition Colonial Mansion, Van Cortlandt..... | 28,000.00 | 83.71 | 27,916.29 | 27,916.29 |
| 301J | Construction of a Boundary Fence, Botanical..... | 20,000.00 | 5,081.40 | 14,918.60 | 852.60 |
| 301K | Construction of New Walks and Railings, Botanical..... | 6,000.00 | 5,999.53 | .47 | .47 |
| 301M | Construction of Masonry Retaining Walls, Botanical..... | 1,300.00 | 257.27 | 1,042.73 | 17.83 |
| 301O | Erection of a Pergola, Botanical..... | 2,500.00 | 487.05 | 2,012.95 | 309.85 |
| 301P | New Cases for Museum Building, Botanical..... | 3,000.00 | 1,540.45 | 1,459.55 | 268.23 |
| 301Q | Erection of Additional Greenhouses, Botanical..... | 12,500.00 | 11,354.04 | 1,145.96 | 620.11 |
| 332F | Erection of Public Service Building, Zoo..... | 30,000.00 | 405.86 | 29,594.14 | 364.14 |
| 332G | Erection of Power Plant and Workshop, Zoo..... | 35,000.00 | 11,154.93 | 23,845.07 | 10,570.07 |
| 332H | Construction of Zebra House Yards, Zoo..... | 15,000.00 | 6,602.83 | 8,397.17 | 8,029.17 |
| 332J | Erection of Extension to Winter House for Pelicans, Zoo..... | 5,000.00 | 4,689.04 | 310.96 | 271.96 |
| 332A | Erection of Extension to Rocking Stone Restaurant, Zoo..... | 5,000.00 | 2,860.01 | 2,139.99 | 662.69 |
| 332L | Construction of Fences and other Permanent Improvements, Zoo..... | 35,000.00 | 19,567.65 | 15,432.35 | 14,128.54 |
| 332M | Development East of Bronx River, Zoo..... | 15,000.00 | 5,036.59 | 9,963.41 | 9,755.16 |
| 332O | Erection of New York Shelter..... | 5,188.96 | ..... | 5,188.96 | 5,120.46 |
| 331 | Pelham A. Improvement, South Boulevard through Bronx Park..... | 1.25 | ..... | 1.25 | 1.25 |
| 336 | Van Cortlandt Park—Parade Grounds..... | 55.46 | ..... | 55.46 | 55.46 |
| 337 | Washington Bridge Park Fund..... | 267.93 | ..... | 267.93 | 267.93 |
| 342 | Grand Boulevard, etc., Purchase, etc., of Trees..... | 49,500.00 | 15,516.72 | 33,983.28 | 9,518.50 |
| | | | \$2,967,302.91 | | \$151,624.75 |
| R.D.P. | Revenue Bond Fund. | | | | |
| 105 | For Repairs to Roadway..... | \$39,000.00 | 24,140.97 | 14,859.03 | 2,064.86 |
| | | | \$24,140.97 | | \$2,064.86 |
| S.A.5 | Street Improvement Fund. | | | | |
| | Work contracted for after Jan. 1, 1898.... | ..... | ..... | \$1,157.73 | ..... |



FIFTEENTH STREET ENTRANCE, PROSPECT PARK.

FIFTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

FOR THE

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

INCLUDING

FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OLD CITY (New Borough) OF BROOKLYN

FOR THE YEAR 1912

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

OFFICE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN
LITCHFIELD MANSION, PROSPECT PARK, BROOKLYN

December 31, 1912.

Hon. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR,
Mayor of the City of New York.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the provisions of the Charter, I send you herewith the report of work undertaken and accomplished in this department for the year just closed. I have the honor to remain,

Very truly yours,

M. J. KENNEDY,
Commissioner.

An unusually large amount of maintenance and construction work was done during the year just closed. Many important improvements of a permanent character were completed, which have added greatly to the pleasure and comfort of the people who visit the parks.

MAINTENANCE.

PROSPECT PARK.

Prospect Park, the principal park in the system, was carefully looked after. A large number of trees, shrubs and flowering plants were set out and bid fair to add greatly to the beauty of the park. The lawns were in many places seeded and sodded, and, during the early winter, fertilized. The roads generally were repaired wherever necessary and are at the present time in excellent condition. The East Drive from the entrance at Ocean and Parkside avenues was resurfaced with coarse gravel for a distance of about two thousand feet toward the Coney Island avenue entrance, thoroughly rolled and put in good condition.

A sanitary bubble drinking fountain was constructed at the Ninth street entrance for the convenience of the people.

The floral displays both in the spring and summer were notably fine. The Easter exhibition in the greenhouse, consisting of tulips, hyacinths and cinerarias, drew large crowds, and the chrysanthemum show in the fall occasioned much favorable comment,

over two hundred varieties being displayed. At the flower garden and the rose garden extra efforts were put forth to make them attractive during the entire summer.

FORT GREENE PARK.

Fort Greene Park received particular attention. The entire plantation was resoiled with topsoil and seeded, the borders were carefully looked after and many trees and shrubs were planted. In fact, the meadow in the easterly section was completely renovated. The condition of this park for several years has been unsatisfactory, due in a large measure to the erection of the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument, the change of the plan of the plaza, and the occupation of a portion of the park by the Board of Water Supply. At the present time the park is in good condition.

SUNSET PARK.

The asphalt tile walks in Sunset Park were completed and a new walk was constructed from the Fifth avenue entrance up to the shelter building. This completed the system of walks started several years ago. The mounds were regraded and most of the park was resoiled, some eight thousand cubic yards of topsoil being used. A considerable portion was likewise seeded, and fifty thousand square feet of sod were used along the borders of the walks. The park is now in excellent condition, and is largely used by the rapidly increasing population of the Bay Ridge section.

All the smaller parks were carefully looked after. Trees were pruned and cleaned, the flower beds, shrubs and flowers were added to wherever necessary, and, in a number of cases, new walks were constructed and new fences erected and the old ones painted.

A contract was awarded for the repair of the building known as No. 125 Furman street, owned and used by this department as a storehouse. The work has been completed and the building is now in good condition.

New flagpoles were erected in Fort Greene Park and also in Carroll Park.

PARKWAYS.

Ocean Parkway.—The traffic road of Ocean Parkway from Kings Highway to the Neck road, about a mile in distance, was resurfaced with trap rock stone and screenings, thoroughly rolled and finished early in the spring, and it remained in good condition during the year. This parkway, from the Park Circle to Avenue J, a distance of about two miles, was resurfaced with asphalt binder.

Fort Hamilton Avenue was resurfaced with one and one-half inch ($1\frac{1}{2}$ ") trap rock and screenings from Ocean Parkway to New Utrecht avenue. This work, which was finished early in the season, did not interfere with traffic while in progress, one side of the parkway being finished while the other side remained open. When the first part was completed the second part was undertaken, and the road is now in good condition. It is to be regretted that the appropriation asked for the improvement of Fort Hamilton avenue for its entire distance has not been allowed. There is much traffic on this parkway, which is the principal artery for the Bay Ridge, Fort Hamilton, Bath Beach and Borough Park sections. An application is now pending before the corporate stock committee of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for funds with which to do the work.

Eastern Parkway was harrowed and leveled preparatory to the application of the asphalt binder, which was used so successfully on this and other parkways. The use of this binder has proven satisfactory and has stood the test of the heavy traffic of automobiles and lighter vehicles.

Eastern Parkway Extension was repaired whenever and wherever necessary, and was kept in good condition throughout the entire year.



LOOK OUT HILL, HIGHEST POINT IN PROSPECT PARK.

Bay Parkway (formerly known as Twenty-second avenue) was resurfaced with three-quarter-inch ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") trap rock and screenings from Ocean Parkway to Fifty-ninth street, and thoroughly rolled. This parkway is much used by automobiles, and the traffic is heavy.

The Bensonhurst Park drive facing Gravesend Bay, for about fifteen hundred (1,500) feet, was resurfaced and the drive through Dyker Beach Park was also covered with fine gravel and repairs made wherever necessary.

Pitkin Avenue was resurfaced with asphalt pavement from Stone avenue to Eastern Parkway Extension, and Glenmore avenue, which is in bad condition, was repaired for more than half its length.

The Highland Park drive was also covered with fine gravel, rolled and put in good condition.

CONSTRUCTION.

Four new playgrounds were completed and opened to the public in various sections of the borough. Among the number were two sections of McCarren Park, which is bounded by Driggs avenue, Lorimer street, Nassau avenue, Berry street, North 12th street, Union avenue and Bayard street. Plot number 1, bounded by Driggs avenue, Lorimer street, Bedford avenue and North 12th street, was completed and equipped with suitable outdoor gymnastic apparatus. The new comfort and shelter house started in June is nearly completed and will be ready for use early in the spring of 1913.

The original request for funds to improve plot number 2, bounded by Driggs avenue, Lorimer street, Bayard street, and Union avenue, called for an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars. Of this amount but fifty thousand dollars was granted, which was insufficient to complete the work and obtain the necessary equipment in accordance with the original plans. The work in plot number 2, which is now practically completed, consisted of the construction of two playgrounds, one for small children and one for girls, the laying of asphalt walks, the installation of a water and drainage system, the spreading of topsoil on the planting areas, and the erection of a wrought iron picket fence around the boundaries of the plot.

One of the novel features of plot number 1, McCarren Park, which is a combined park and playground, is the quarter-mile running track and the large athletic field, which is so constructed that it can be flooded in the winter and used as a skating pond.

The other playgrounds completed are in the Bushwick, Williamsburg and Red Hook sections, and are known respectively as Bushwick Playground, situated on Putnam avenue between Knickerbocker and Irving avenues and immediately adjoining the Bushwick High School; McKibbin Playground, bounded by Seigel, White and McKibbin streets; and Red Hook Playground, bounded by Richard, Dwight, Pioneer and King streets. Each was equipped with an up-to-date outdoor gymnastic apparatus and a combined shelter house and comfort station.

In addition to the shelter houses before mentioned, magnificent shelter houses in Winthrop Park, bounded by Nassau avenue, Driggs avenue, Russell street and Monitor street, and McLaughlin Park, which is a combined park and playground, bounded by Bridge street, Tillary street and Jay street, were completed, and the one in City Park, bounded by St. Edwards street, Navy street, Park avenue and Flushing avenue, is well under way and will be finished shortly.

Work on the addition to the Litchfield Mansion, which was abandoned early in the year, has not been resumed, but a contract has been awarded to complete it.

The triangle at East New York avenue, Pitkin avenue and Barrett street was laid out, graded, walks laid and a fence erected. It was completed in its entirety and is now in general use and is a great improvement to that section of the borough.

Shore Road.—The work of constructing the granite ashlar and concrete sea-wall on a rip-rap foundation between Bay Ridge avenue and 92d street was completed in October. The work was started in the month of September, 1911, and was completed well within the contract time. The total length of the wall completed is approximately seventy-five hundred linear feet. An arrangement has been reached between this department and the Degnon Contracting Company, the contractors for the construction of the Fourth avenue subway, whereby they are to furnish and place approximately five hundred thousand cubic yards of earth fill back of the wall which has been completed this year, without cost to this department. I am assured by the Degnon Contracting Company that no inconvenience will be suffered by the public or traffic interfered with as a result of this work.

Ocean Parkway.—The work of constructing a cement walk on the easterly side of the Ocean Parkway between the Park Circle and Coney Island was completed at a cost of about fourteen thousand dollars. It was started early in July and is a great improvement over the former inadequate walks. This parkway between Coney Island Creek and Neptune avenue was originally constructed on swampy ground, and the main roadway and side roads had settled over two feet. This condition seriously interfered with their proper drainage and maintenance. The main roadway, cycle paths and bridle path have been brought up to grade, new brick gutters constructed and an adequate drainage system established.

Plaza Street, between Flatbush avenue and Union street, formerly paved with macadam pavement, was paved with asphalt block pavement on concrete foundation. This was a much-needed improvement and is a great benefit to the vast number of drivers of carriages and automobiles entering and leaving the park.

Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.—The erection of the foundations for the new sections, F and G, comprising an area of approximately sixty thousand square feet, was started on June 21, 1911, and completed on May 2, 1912, at a cost of sixty-five thousand two hundred and fifteen dollars. A contract for the erection of the superstructure of additions F and G has been awarded at a cost of three hundred and eighty-four thousand four hundred and eighty-three dollars, and the construction work will be started early in the spring of 1913.

At the main entrance of the Institute bronze posts, chains, candelabras and bracket lamps are being installed. This work was started on September 23, 1912, and at the present time is about thirty per cent. completed. The Central Museum was improved by the installation of a complete night lighting system, including dynamos, switches, wiring, fixtures, etc. This work was started on April 8, 1912, and completed October 26, 1912. The erection of wood exhibition and storage cases was started June 29, 1912, and completed December 24, 1912, at a cost of ten thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars. The erection of steel exhibition cases was started December 16, 1912, and will be completed in the spring of 1913. The erection of counters and bulletin boards was started November 27, 1912, and at the present time the work is about ten per cent. completed. The estimated cost of this work is seven hundred and forty dollars. The contract for furnishing and erecting exhibition cases and glass shelves for the north side of the Egyptian room has been awarded, and the work will soon be under construction. Plans and specifications have also been prepared for the erection of exhibition cases and library stacks for the Central Museum, and the work is now ready to be advertised.

The work of erecting the first part of the laboratory building and greenhouses in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden was started in April, and the building is now more than half completed. Plans and specifications have been completed for the second part of the greenhouses, and the work will be advertised early in 1913.

The details of the various improvements in the Museum buildings and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden are more fully set forth in the report of the Institute, appended hereto.

NEW WORK PROJECTED.

Plans and specifications have been prepared for a new water supply system in Prospect Park, and the design of a new shelter house has been approved by the Art Commission. The plans of and specifications for a combined workshop and storehouse building have been prepared and work on the same will begin shortly.

A contract has been awarded for the general improvement of Highland Park, which is to be used principally as a playground. It adjoins that part of Highland Park in Queens Borough already developed, and fronts on and runs along Jamaica avenue. Owing to the weather conditions work has not been started, but it will be well under way and completed before the season really opens.

Plans have likewise been prepared for a shelter house in Linton Park, bounded by Bradford street, Blake avenue, Dumont avenue, and Miller avenue, and are awaiting the approval of the Art Commission.

In order to complete the development of plot number 2, McCarren Park, bounded by Driggs avenue, Lorimer street, Bayard street and Union avenue, and make it of the greatest benefit and use to the public, it will be necessary to erect a shelter building for women and children, construct a wading pool for children, construct and equip a gymnasium, erect a suitable pipe rail fence, and grade the adjoining sidewalks and construct cement pavement thereon. A request for an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars to complete this work as outlined is now awaiting the action of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and work will be started as soon as the appropriation is available.

CARE OF TREES.

During the year two thousand trees were planted in the parks and along the parkways. In Red Hook Playground, McKibbin Playground and McCarren Park the plantations were entirely new, the plots being barren of trees and shrubbery. One hundred trees were planted in McCarren Park, fifty-five in McKibbin Playground, and forty-four in Red Hook Playground.

In the fall nearly three thousand trees and four thousand shrubs were carefully selected and purchased for planting in the spring of 1913.

There was a notable absence of caterpillars in the parks during the summer, at a time when different sections of the city were heavily infested with them. This was attributable to the thorough removal of insect eggs during the previous season and the timely spraying in early June. The healthy appearance of the trees and the absence of diseased and dead trees in the parks elicited many favorable comments from citizens.

On the streets the trees were sprayed, diseased, dangerous and dead trees removed, and attention was given to the protection of trees, to telephone and telegraph wires which were injuring or killing trees, and to careless pruners. The general appearance of the street trees was very satisfactory.

Requests from private citizens for attention to their trees—spraying, scraping, trimming, etc.—constantly increased, and they were all promptly complied with.

All dead and dangerous trees in the city were marked and plotted in the fall for removal in the early winter.

The following will show in figures the character and kind of work done in the care and planting of trees on the streets and in the parks during the past year.

| | City streets. | Parks. | Parkways. |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| Trimmed | 21,713 | 10,488 | 11,357 |
| Removed | 2,128 | 1,132 | 628 |
| Sprayed | 16,765 | 13,200 | 4,737 |
| Scraped | 17,715 | 5,887 | 2,689 |
| Straightened | 13 | ..... | 5 |
| Cemented | 145 | ..... | 56 |
| Lowered | 141 | ..... | ..... |
| Guards repaired and removed | 23 | 282 | 143 |
| New guards | 1 | 712 | 322 |
| Cultivated | 39 | ..... | 9,510 |
| Transplanted | 57 | 993 | 68 |
| Dressed | 1,305 | 11,525 | 2,199 |
| Planted ..... | ..... | 1,957 | 347 |
| Cavities treated ..... | ..... | 980 | 14 |
| Fertilized ..... | ..... | 6,358 | 1,713 |
| Bolted ..... | ..... | 73 | ..... |
| Washed ..... | ..... | 412 | ..... |

SKATING.

There were thirty-four days of skating on the lake in Prospect Park during the year 1912. Beginning on January 1 the skating continued with a few days' interruption until January 24. The lake was reopened on February 1, and there was continuous skating until February 18, when the season finally closed. This was one of the longest seasons for skating enjoyed by the people of Brooklyn for many years. As has been the custom for several years, ever since the erection of the new boat house, a temporary shelter house was erected for the use of visitors.

PICNICS, BASEBALL, CRICKET, ETC.

During the year five hundred and three picnics were held, with an aggregate attendance of forty thousand, eight hundred and forty-three persons in Prospect Park.

Sixteen hundred and twenty-three permits were issued for playing lawn tennis in Prospect Park; one hundred and ninety-two permits to play croquet; ten permits to play cricket in Prospect Park, and nineteen hundred and eighty-five permits to play baseball at the Parade Grounds.

There were thirty-three hundred and fifty games of baseball played, and one thousand games of football; eight hundred and fifty games of cricket, and two hundred games of bowling on the green, and fifteen games of lacrosse.

Three hockey teams, composed of the girls from the Erasmus Hall, Bushwick, and Manual Training High Schools played one hundred and ten games of hockey in Prospect Park during the spring and fall seasons.

A number of picnics were held in the small parks, and the baseball diamonds at Highland and McCarren Parks were frequently used.

MUSIC.

Thirty-six band concerts were given in Prospect Park, from June 2 to September 29, inclusive. The opening concert was given by the United German Singers, accompanied by Shannon's Twenty-third Regiment Band, on June 2, and on September 15

another concert was arranged for and given by the United German Singers and Shannon's Twenty-third Regiment Band. These concerts were attended by thousands of enthusiastic people, who heartily enjoyed the selections rendered.

Arrangements were made by the department for patriotic concerts, to be held on July 4, in Prospect Park, Fort Greene Park, Sunset Park, Saratoga Square, Winthrop Park, Cooper Park, Red Hook Park, Carroll Park, Bushwick Park, Irving Square Park, Lincoln Terrace Park, City Park, Bensonhurst Park, and Amersfort Park. These were also largely attended and enjoyed.

In addition to the foregoing, concerts were given in the smaller parks of the system, from July 7 to August 25, inclusive. The following is a list of the concerts given:

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Prospect Park..... | 36 |
| Fort Greene Park..... | 9 |
| Sunset Park..... | 9 |
| Saratoga Square..... | 3 |
| Winthrop Park..... | 4 |
| Cooper Park..... | 3 |
| Carroll Park..... | 2 |
| Bushwick Park..... | 3 |
| Irving Square..... | 3 |
| Lincoln Terrace..... | 2 |
| City Park..... | 1 |
| Bensonhurst Park..... | 1 |
| Amersfort Park..... | 1 |
| German Singers..... | 2 |

REVENUES.

During the year the sum of eighteen thousand, seven hundred and sixteen dollars and eighty-four cents was received from rent of houses, revenues for park privileges, sale of park property, bay window permits, ornamental projection permits, and subpœna fees. This amount was turned over to the City Chamberlain.

DONATIONS OF PLANTS, ANIMALS, ETC.

The following donations of animals, birds, plants, etc., were received during the year, for which thanks are hereby extended:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Mr. Wm. Rikert..... | 453 12th st..... | 1 large lemon tree. |
| Mrs. J. Vimmeril..... | 337 Jamaica ave..... | 2 oleander trees. |
| Miss M. J. Burlis..... | 215 Carlton ave..... | 1 large azalea. |
| Mr. O. Huttlinger..... | 771 Carroll st..... | 2 cocoa palms. |
| Mrs. Miller..... | 255 Cumberland st..... | 2 rubber plants. |
| Mrs. W. G. Harriman..... | Morristown, N. J., through Mr. H. P. Seely..... | 7 large palms. |
| Mrs. E. H. Hobbs..... | 959 Park pl..... | 25 greenhouse plants. |
| Mrs. John Watson..... | 420 9th st..... | 1 rubber plant. |
| Mrs. J. Buchan..... | 1048 E. 95th st..... | 1 large agave. |
| Mr. P. Anas..... | 443 9th st..... | 1 small oleander plant. |
| Mrs. H. B. Glaeser..... | 917 Avenue A..... | 1 large agave. |
| Mrs. Remsen..... | 524 E. 22d st..... | 2 agave plants. |
| Miss M. A. Gelston..... | Shore Road and 3d ave.... | 1 large bougainville. 1 large poinsettia. 2 hardy roses. |
| Mrs. E. B. Finnin, Jr..... | 129 Shepard ave..... | 2 fig trees. |

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. M. Leibowitz..... | 514 Bedford ave..... | 1 orange tree. |
| Mrs. John Rooney..... | 59 St. John's pl..... | 1 large rubber tree. |
| Mrs. W. M. Bresher..... | 58 7th ave..... | 1 large dracæna |
| Miss Hesse..... | 41 Eldert st..... | 3 cacti. |
| Mrs. Fulix..... | 1280 Jefferson ave..... | 1 large orange tree. |
| Mrs. E. Houghtaling..... | 147 Greene ave..... | 1 large rubber tree. |
| Mr. Hollingsworth..... | 7th ave. and Union st..... | 1 rubber tree. |
| Central Park..... | New York City..... | 1 zebu. |
| Mr. Thomas McMillen..... | 80 Windsor pl..... | 2 bantam fowl. |
| Mr. James McCauley..... | 3686 Beaufort ave..... | 1 ringtail monkey. |
| Mr. Burtnett..... | 42 Livingston st..... | 2 coyotes. |

PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, PARKWAYS AND STREETS UNDER JURISDICTION OF DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

| Park. | Location. | Area in acres. |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Amersfort Park..... | Avenue J, E. 38th st., Avenue I and E. 39th st. . . . | 3.56 |
| Bedford Park..... | Kingston and Brooklyn aves., Prospect and Park places..... | 4.10 |
| Bensonhurst Park..... | Bay Parkway, Gravesend Bay, 21st and Cropsey avenues..... | 13.00 |
| Borough Hall Park..... | Joralemon, Court and Fulton sts..... | 1.70 |
| Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Arboretum..... | Eastern Parkway, Washington and Flatbush aves. and Malbone st..... | 68.90 |
| Brooklyn Heights Park..... | Columbia Heights, fronting on Furman st..... | .86 |
| Bushwick Park..... | Knickerbocker and Irving aves., Starr and Suydam streets..... | 6.86 |
| Canarsie Park..... | Skidmore, Sea View and Denton aves., E. 88th and E. 93d sts., Byrne pl. and Jamaica Bay..... | 30.50 |
| Carroll Park..... | President, Court, Carroll and Smith sts..... | 1.90 |
| City Park..... | St. Edwards and Navy sts., Park and Flushing avenues..... | 7.50 |
| Coney Island Concourse Lands (exclusive of Seaside Park)..... | West 5th st., Sea Breeze ave. and Atlantic ocean.. | 59.70 |
| Cooper Park..... | Maspeth and Morgan aves., Sharon and Olive sts. | 6.10 |
| Cooper Gore..... | Junction of Metropolitan and Orient aves..... | .15 |
| Cuyler Gore..... | Cumberland and Fulton st. and Greene ave..... | .08 |
| Dreamland Park..... | West 5th st., West 8th st., Surf ave. and Atlantic ocean..... | 14.70 |
| Dyker Beach Park..... | 7th ave., Bay 8th st., Cropsey ave., and 14th ave. and Gravesend Bay..... | 139.80 |
| Fort Greene Park..... | DeKalb ave., Washington Park, Willoughby and St. Edwards st. and Myrtle ave..... | 28.90 |
| Fort Hamilton Park..... | 4th ave., 101st st., Ft. Hamilton ave. and Shore rd. | 4.60 |
| Fulton Park..... | Chauncey and Fulton sts. and Stuyvesant ave.... | 2.00 |
| Highland Park..... | Jamaica ave., U. S. National Cemetery, Borough line and Warwick st. extension..... | 42.58 |
| Irving Square..... | Hamburg and Knickerbocker aves., Wierfield and Halsey streets..... | 2.98 |

| Park. | Location | Area in acres. |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Lincoln Terrace Park | Eastern Parkway, Buffalo and Rochester aves. and President street | 7.60 |
| Linton Park | Bradford st., Blake, Dumont and Miller aves. | 2.29 |
| McKinley Park | Ft. Hamilton and 7th aves. and 73d st. | 8.50 |
| Prospect Park | Prospect Park West, Flatbush, Ocean, Parkside, and Coney Island aves. and 15th st. | 526.00 |
| Red Hook Park | Richards, Verona, Dwight and Pioneer sts. | 5.28 |
| Saratoga Square | Saratoga and Howard aves., Halsey and Macon streets | 3.20 |
| Seaside Park | Ocean Parkway, Concourse, W. 5th st. and Sea Breeze ave. | 10.30 |
| Stuyvesant Gore | Stuyvesant and Verona aves, and Broadway | .08 |
| Sunset Park | 41st and 44th sts., 5th and 7th aves. | 24.50 |
| Tompkins Park | Tompkins, Greene, Marcy and Lafayette aves. | 7.80 |
| Underhill Gore | Underhill and Washington aves. and Pacific st. | .10 |
| Vanderveer Park | East New York and Pitkin aves., Barrett and Grafton sts. | .21 |
| Winthrop Park | Nassau and Driggs aves., Russell and Monitor sts. | 9.10 |
| Woodpoint Gore | Bushwick, Metropolitan and Maspeth aves. | .05 |
| Unnamed Park | Eastern Parkway, Washington and Classon aves. | 1.36 |
| Total acreage | | 1,046.84 |

| Combined Park and Playground. | Location. | Area in acres. |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| McCarren Park | Berry, Lorimer, Leonard, Bayard and N. 12th st., Nassau, Driggs, Manhattan and Union aves. | 38.42 |
| McLaughlin Park | Bridge, Tillary and Jay sts. | 3.30 |
| Williamsburg Bridge Park | Bedford and Kent aves., S. 5th and S. 6th sts. | 4.30 |
| Total acreage | | 46.02 |

| Playground. | Location. | Area in acres. |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Bushwick Playground | Putnam ave., between Knickerbocker and Irving aves. | 2.80 |
| McKibbin Playground | Seigel, White and McKibbin sts. | 1.37 |
| New Lots Playground | Sackman st., Riverdale, Newport and Christopher aves. | 2.29 |
| Parade Ground | Coney Island, Parkside and Caton aves. | 39.50 |
| Red Hook Playground | Richards, King, Dwight and Pioneer sts. | 2.29 |
| Total acreage | | 48.25 |

| Parkways and Streets. | Location. | Miles. |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|
| Bay Parkway | Ocean Parkway, between Aves. I and J, to Bensonhurst Beach | 2.56 |
| Bay Ridge Parkway | Ft. Hamilton ave., between 66th and 67th sts., to Shore Road, between 66th st. and Wakeman place | 1.40 |
| Buffalo Avenue | Eastern Parkway, between Rochester and Ralph aves., to East New York ave., between E. 96th and E. 98th sts. | .12 |
| Bushwick Avenue | Eastern Parkway, between DeSales pl. and Stewart st. to Jamaica ave., between Sheffield and New Jersey aves | .42 |
| Eastern Parkway | Prospect Park Plaza to Ralph ave., between Union st. and Lincoln pl. | 2.50 |
| Eastern Parkway Extension . | Ralph ave., between Union st. and Lincoln pl. to Bushwick ave., between DeSales pl. and Stewart st. | 1.39 |
| Eldert Lane | Glenmore ave. to Liberty ave. | .09 |
| Ft. Hamilton Avenue | Ocean Parkway and Prospect ave. to Ft. Hamilton. | 4.27 |
| Glenmore Avenue | Rockaway ave., between Pitkin and Liberty aves. to Eldert Lane, between Pitkin and Liberty aves. | 2.31 |
| Highland Boulevard | Bushwick ave., between Dahlia and Gillen places to Highland Park | .67 |
| Lincoln Road | Ocean ave. to Bedford ave., between Lefferts ave. and Maple st. | .30 |
| Miller Avenue | Jamaica ave., between Van Sicklen ave. and Bradford st. to Highland Boulevard | .10 |
| Ocean Avenue | Flatbush ave. at Malbone st. to Parkside ave., between St. Pauls pl. and Flatbush ave. | .60 |
| Parkside Avenue | Prospect Park Circle to Flatbush ave. at Robinson st. | .68 |
| Plaza Street | Prospect Park Plaza | .38 |
| Pennsylvania Avenue | Jamaica ave., between Sheffield and New Jersey aves. to Jamaica Bay | 2.50 |
| Pitkin Avenue | Eastern Parkway Extension, between Ralph and Howard aves. to Stone ave., between Glenmore and Belmont aves. | .70 |
| Rockaway Parkway | Buffalo ave. at East New York ave. to Canarsie Beach, between E. 96th and E. 98th sts. | 3.12 |
| Shore Road | First ave., between 66th st. and Wakeman pl. to Ft. Hamilton | 2.65 |
| Stone Avenue | Eastern Parkway Extension, between Pacific and Dean sts. to Riverdale ave., between Christopher ave. and Watkins st. | 1.00 |
| Total mileage | | 33.26 |

WORK OF THE POLICE.

REPORT OF THE 173RD PRECINCT, PROSPECT PARK.

HON. MICHAEL J. KENNEDY,
Commissioner of Parks,
 Borough of Brooklyn.

Sir—The following is a report of the work done by the Police of the 173rd Precinct, Prospect Park, for the year ending December 31, 1912.

The police force of the 173rd Precinct, on December 31, 1912, consisted of one captain, four lieutenants, three sergeants, fifty-eight patrolmen, and two doormen. Of this number, eight patrolmen were assigned to mounted duty, and six patrolmen were assigned to bicycle duty.

LOST DURING THE YEAR.

By retirement, lieutenant, one; patrolman, one; by promotion, patrolman, one. The total force on December 31, 1912, was sixty-five.

NUMBER OF ARRESTS.

During the year the following arrests were made: For assault, two; attempted sodomy, one; attempted suicide, three; carrying concealed weapons, one; disorderly conduct, sixteen; felonious assault, one; indecent assault, one; indecent exposure, two; intoxication, sixteen; juvenile delinquency, twenty-eight; petit larceny, two; reckless driving, five; violating the highway law, five; violating park ordinance, thirty-eight; vagrancy, four; making a total of one hundred and twenty-five.

There were aided during the year: Injured, ninety-nine; lost children, five; rescued from drowning, two; sick, seventeen; sudden death, one; making in all one hundred and twenty-four.

Respectfully submitted,

LAWRENCE J. MURPHY,
Captain, 173rd Precinct.

STATEMENT OF MUSEUMS OF THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE CENTRAL MUSEUM.

The growth of the collections in the Fine Arts, Ethnology and Natural History in the Central Museum has steadily increased from 1897 until the present time, and only in two years—1901 and 1910—has the growth been greater than in 1912. The amount subscribed by members of the Institute for the purchase of collections for the Central Museum during the year ending July 1, 1912, was twenty-seven thousand, one hundred and fifty-five dollars and sixty-four cents. The purchases from the income of endowment funds included the following: From the Ella C. Woodward Memorial Fund, a collection of some forty-one pieces of antique Egyptian glass, and a marble sculpture by Rodin representing a Danaide; the John B. Woodward Memorial Fund, a painting entitled "Deerfield River," by Gardner Symons; the John

B. Woodward Memorial Statue fund balance, a marble sculpture by A. Phimister Proctor, entitled "A Sleeping Lion"; the Frank Sherman Benson Fund, a painting by Robert Henri, entitled "A Laughing Girl"; the Loeser Art Fund, a seascape painting, by Winslow Homer; from the Museum Collection Fund of 1911 and special subscriptions, twelve water colors by Winslow Homer; the Charles Stewart Smith Fund, a painting by William A. Coffin, entitled "A Thunder Shower"; the Museum Collection Fund of 1912, special, a painting by Ettore Tito, entitled "Cattle Ploughing."

The gifts to the Museum were also numerous and valuable. In the Department of Fine Arts they included a painting by Sebastian Florigirio, entitled "The Adoration of the Magi," presented by Mr. A. Augustus Healy; a painting by Arthur B. Davies, entitled "Every Saturday," presented by Mr. William A. Putnam; an oil painting by Elihu Vedder, entitled "Rome," presented by Mr. William T. Evans; four oil paintings entitled "Indian Love Song," by E. I. Crouse, "Pond at Glendale, L. I.," by Frederick W. Kost, "Spring," by F. Ballard Williams, "The Gulf Stream," by Charles D. Tracy, presented by Mr. George A. Hearn; nineteen pastels and one painting, all illustrating the life of Christ, by Otto Walter Beck, presented by Mr. William T. Evans; six Chinese cloisonné enamel vases and seventy-nine medals and plaques in bronze and silver, presented by Mr. Samuel P. Avery; an oil painting of fish, by Vollon, presented by Messrs. Walter H. Crittenden and William A. Putnam; six bronzes by A. P. Proctor, and a Japanese bronze plaque, presented by Mr. George D. Pratt; forty-one pieces of Staffordshire pottery, presented by Mrs. George D. Pratt; twenty-three lithographs of the Panama Canal, by Joseph Pennell, presented by Mr. William A. Putnam; an oil painting, "Landscape," by Frank DeHaven, and a piece of ancient stained glass, presented by the Hon. Charles A. Schieren; an oil painting, entitled "A Russett Autumn," by W. A. Coffin, presented by Mr. Coffin; a carved ivory, silver-mounted urn, with cover, presented by Col. Robert B. Woodward; a portrait of George Taylor, by Rembrandt Peale, presented by Mr. F. W. Griffith; an oil painting by Anton Braith, entitled "Sheep," presented by Mr. Theodore E. Smith; an oil painting, "Landscape," by Kruseman Van Elten, presented by Mrs. Van Elten; eighty-three Egyptian pieces from temple and grave excavations, and two pieces of Egyptian glazed terra cotta figurines—Ushabti, presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund; a bronze statuette, entitled "Wigwam Dance," presented by a friend; an oil landscape painting, by Ernest Lawson, presented by Mr. Sidney Curtis; an oil painting, by Raschen, of the head of an Indian Medicine Man, presented by Mrs. Abraham Abraham; a painting by Alfred C. Herter, entitled "The Hour of Despondency," presented by Mr. Herter; thirteen Japanese laquer trays, presented by Mrs. Edward Haynes; a marble bust of Washington Irving, presented by the executors of the estate of Francis M. Bacon; ten pieces of ancient glass, presented by Azeez Khayat; eighteen etchings, by Robert Blum, presented by the Cincinnati Museum Association; a Staffordshire pitcher, presented by Mr. Edward B. Esterbrook; and a Wedgewood tea set—three pieces—presented by Miss Anne Salter.

The Ethnological Collections were increased by about four hundred objects from the Ainu of Japan, presented by Mr. Herman Stutzer; nine Chinese ceremonial robes, illustrative of the nineteenth century; a large collection of Japanese costumes, including two complete ceremonial costumes; a collection of Japanese musical instruments and arms, collected by the museum expedition to Japan in 1911; a gold embossed helmet of a Manchu prince; a Chinese temple bell; also Indian games; and prehistoric objects from the Tule River Reservation.

The collections in the California hall and the smaller collections illustrating the Indians of the Northwest were, for the most part, labeled during the year, and additional collections were made in Japan and Korea during the months of July to December by the Curator of Ethnology. These collections have been received in the Museum, but have not as yet been placed on exhibition.

The Natural History collections have been enriched chiefly through gifts, ex-



SPECIMENS OF CHESTNUT TREES, PROSPECT PARK.

changes, and field exhibitions conducted by curators of the departments. Most of this material is remarkable for its value in the study series of collections. In one expedition alone seven thousand specimens, not duplicates of previous collections in the Museum, were secured. Among the more prominent new exhibits in Natural History are a mounted coyote, an adult zebu, received from the Department of Parks, Borough of Brooklyn; an excellent skeleton of a dolphin; a mounted elephant seal, and several mammals received from the New York Zoological Society. Many birds were presented, the especially important ones being the nest and eggs of the worm-eating warbler, a harpy eagle, a group of four marsh hawks, constituting an important addition to the Long Island fauna, and skeletons and casts of special species of fishes and reptiles.

The additions in the Departments of Mineralogy and Geology include part of a basaltic column from the Giant's Causeway, Ireland; fragments of fossil trees from the great fossil forest of the Southwest; two unusually large specimens of amorphous graphite. Many minerals have been placed in a systematic series of mineral specimens.

An important piece of work has been the erection and completion of a model of a portion of the Wyandotte Cave, of Indiana, and the placing within the model of groups of typical cave animals. A full account of the accessions at the Central Museum in the year 1912 is printed in the Museum Annual Report for that year.

The attendance at the Central Museum for the year ending July 1, 1912, was one hundred and seventy-nine thousand, seven hundred and thirty-nine. The construction of the proposed subway under the Eastern Parkway, with a subway station directly in front of the Museum Building, with a connection between the subway station and the Museum, will make the Museum one of the most easily accessible public buildings in the city, and will have the effect of increasing the attendance to a great extent. The Museum is at present remote from any car-line.

The appropriation made by the City for the maintenance of the Museum in 1912 was ninety-seven thousand, six hundred and eighty dollars; the appropriation by the City for maintenance in 1913 is one hundred and two thousand, four hundred and five dollars.

The work on the excavations and foundations for the fourth division of the Museum, sections F and G, was completed in July, and the contract for the exterior walls, frame and roof for the superstructure was let by the Department of Parks, on December 5, to Messrs. Wills & Marvin, contractors, for three hundred and eighty-four thousand, four hundred and eighty-two dollars. It is expected that the work on the superstructure will be begun in the spring of 1913.

Contracts were let during the year by the Department of Parks for candelabra and other bronze work on the front of the Museum Building, at six thousand, five hundred and ninety-five dollars; for metal cases for storage and exhibition purposes at nineteen hundred dollars; for counter at the main entrance at seven hundred and forty dollars; for cases for the Egyptian hall, bookstacks, etc., amounting to four thousand five hundred and forty dollars. A new night-watchman's light plant was installed, and put in operation, at an expense of three thousand, eight hundred and twenty dollars.

Cases constructed late in 1911 to receive the large and beautiful collection of vestments presented to the Museums by the Rembrandt Club, were made ready to receive the collection in January, 1912, and the collection was installed and opened to the public.

Mr. Daniel C. French, sculptor, was at work throughout the year with Mr. August Weinman upon the pedimental group of sculptures to be placed on the front portico of the Museum Building, in pursuance of the design which was accepted by the City Art Commission, on December 12, 1911. It is expected that this group of sculptures will be completed by April, 1913.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM.

The Children's Museum, established in a temporary way in a building in Bedford Park, in 1899, has become increasingly useful to the children in the public and private schools of the City, and its use during the past year has been, during the hours when children were able to visit it, taxed to its full capacity. Teachers in the public and private schools took their classes to the Children's Museum on stated afternoons by appointment. Here the classes are given instruction in nature study, physical science and geography, as included in the curriculum of the schools. The instruction in the lecture room is enforced by the exhibition of objects in the collections in the Museum; by visits of children to the various exhibition rooms with their teachers, and with the curators of the Museum as guides, and also by the use of the library connected with the Museum. The attendance at the Children's Museum for the year ending July 1, 1912, was one hundred and sixty-three thousand, seven hundred and nineteen, and, at the library connected therewith, forty-six thousand, six hundred and fifty-four.

The appropriation for the maintenance of the Children's Museum in 1912 was twelve thousand, five hundred and fifty-five dollars; the appropriation for maintenance in 1913 is twelve thousand, nine hundred and twenty-seven dollars and eighteen cents.

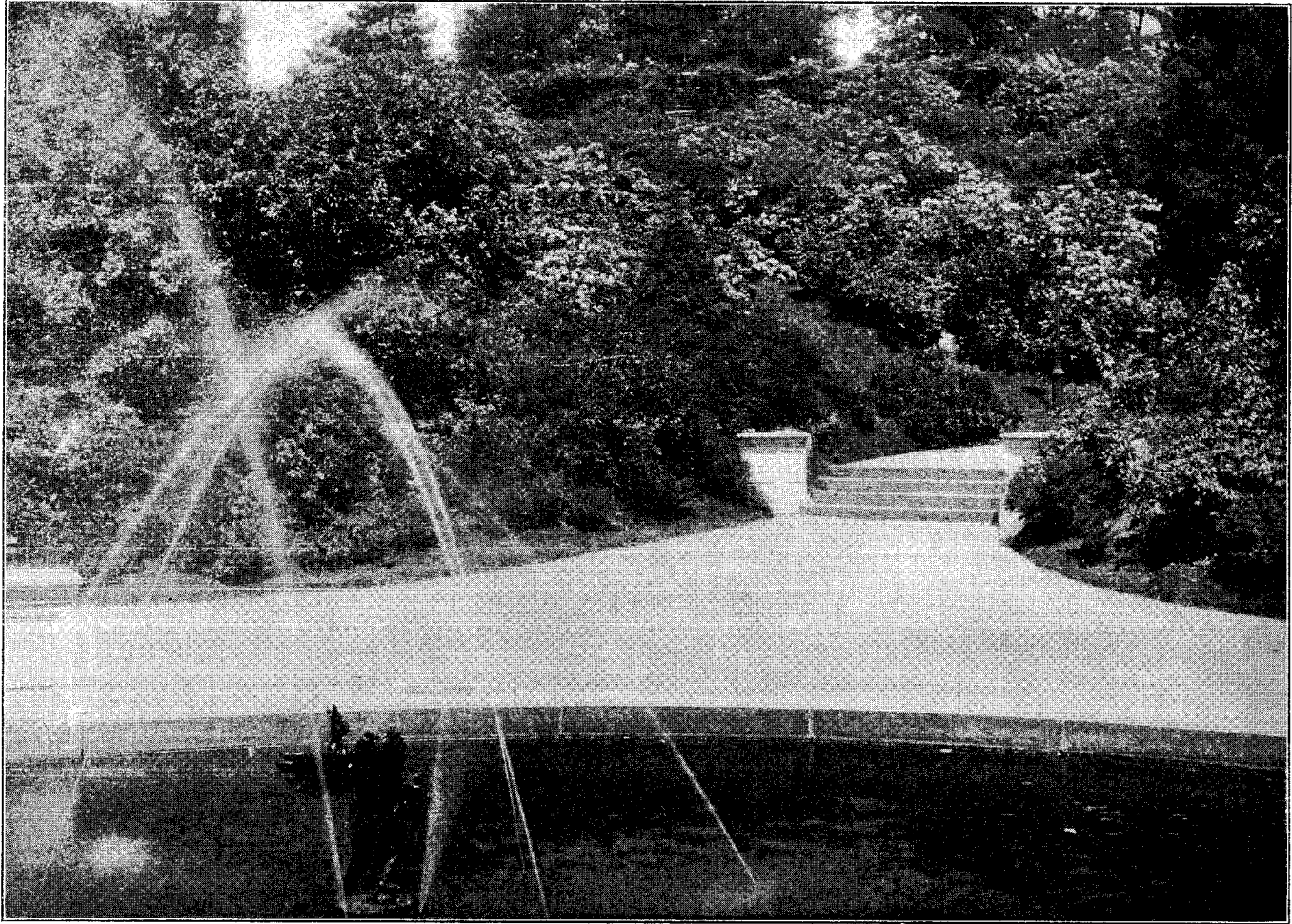
In pursuance of Chapter 120 of the Laws of 1907, the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1911 appropriated the sum of ninety-two thousand, five hundred dollars toward the construction and equipment (including architects' fees) of a fireproof Children's Museum Building. The entire cost of the building now required to take the place of the present overcrowded and combustible building is one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. Messrs. Ludlow & Peabody, architects, were appointed in 1912 by the Park Commissioner of the Borough of Brooklyn as architects for the building. Preliminary plans for the building have been prepared.

It is not possible to erect the Children's Museum Building economically until an additional appropriation of eighty-two thousand, five hundred dollars is made by the City. When this additional appropriation is made the architects will be able to proceed with plans and specifications, the contents of the present Children's Museum Building may be removed to temporary quarters for a year or a year and a half, the present Museum Building may then be demolished, and the new fireproof building may then be erected on the site of the present building, as authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and recommended by the Department of Parks.

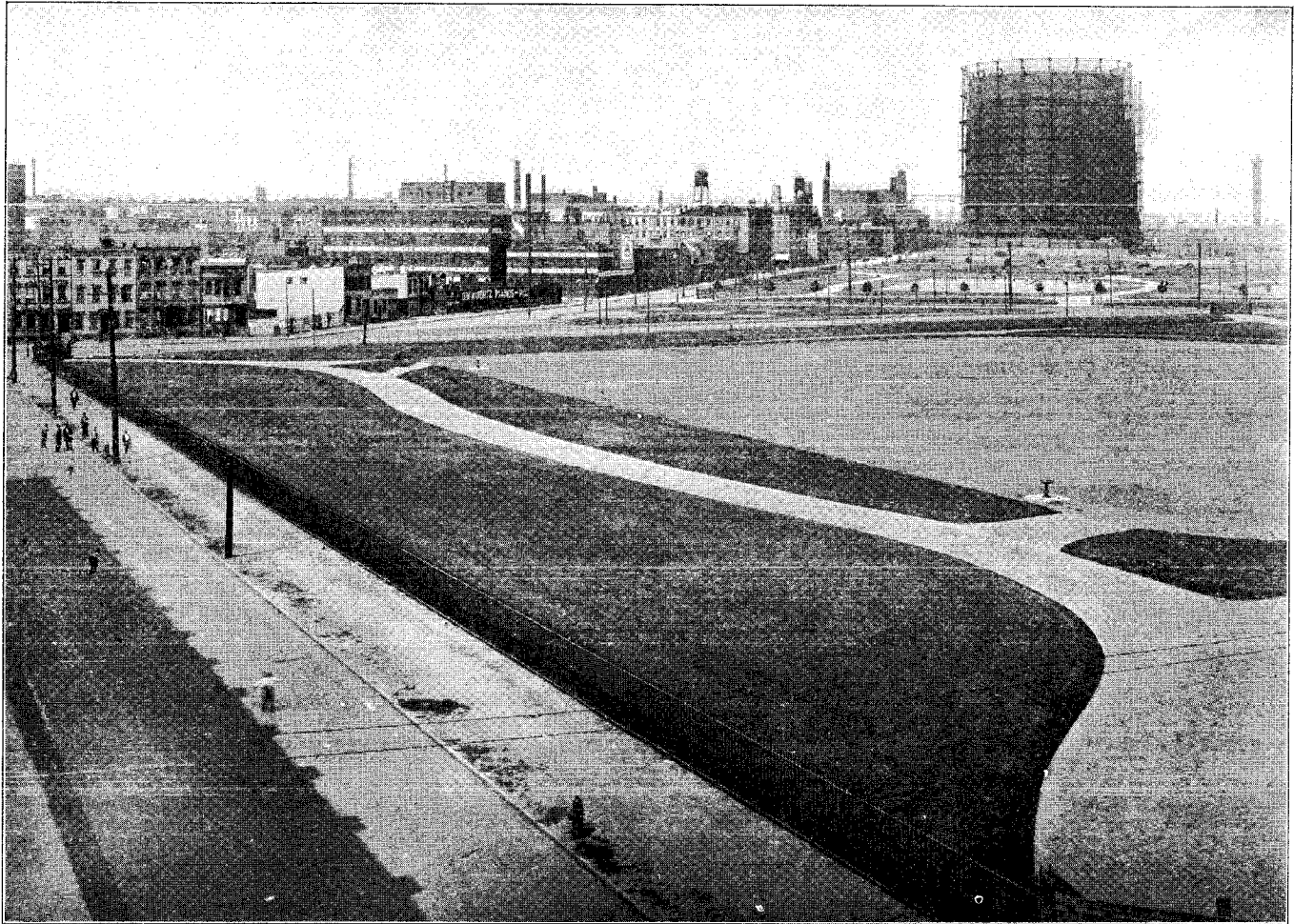
THE BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN AND ARBORETUM.

Pursuant to Chapter 618 of the Laws of 1906, the City of New York entered into an agreement with the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, on December 28, 1909, for the establishment and maintenance by the Institute of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum for the benefit of the people of the City of New York, and especially for the advantage of students in the public and private schools of the City, on park lands lying southerly of the Prospect Hill Reservoir and the site of the Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, such lands being included between Flatbush and Washington avenues. During the year 1910 plans for the Botanic Garden and Arboretum were made by Messrs. Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, approved by the Board of Trustees of the Institute, and accepted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the City. The care and custody of the lands was turned over by the City to the Institute on February 1, 1911.

During the year 1911 Messrs. McKim, Mead & White were appointed as architects for the Instruction Building and the Plant Houses required for the Garden. Plans for these structures were approved by the Art Commission of the City and accepted by the Department of Parks. Early in 1912 the Board of Park Commissioners



A WELL-PLANTED GROUP OF RHODODENDRONS, LAUREL AND TREES—PROSPECT PARK, BROOKLYN.



McCAREN PARK AND PLAYGROUND.

awarded the contract to Messrs. Cockerill & Little Company for erecting the southerly section of the Instruction Building, a northerly section of the plant houses, and the heating plant, for the sum of fifty-five thousand, eight hundred dollars. Work on these structures was in progress during the months of March to December. Owing to delays in the delivery of the ironwork, the structures will not be completed before the spring of 1913.

Drawings and specifications for the second or central section of the plant houses were prepared by Messrs. McKim, Mead & White. It is expected that specifications with modifications will be advertised early in 1913.

The appropriation by the city for the maintenance of the Botanic Garden for 1912 was twenty-five thousand three hundred and thirty-seven dollars and fifty-seven cents; the amount appropriated by the city for 1913 is twenty-nine thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.

The soil of the entire southern half of the central meadow of the garden was enriched and seeded to grass during the year, portions of the central meadows were regraded in conformity with the plan or design of Messrs. Olmsted Brothers, and a waterway or brook was constructed from the outlet of the garden lake through the entire length of the central meadow to the southern part of the garden, forming a very picturesque feature of the garden; one that will be useful in the cultivation of brook plants. A large number of trees and shrubs were purchased with the income of the Botanic Garden Endowment Fund (\$50,000). The library of the garden, now housed in the Central Museum of the Institute near by, was increased by the use of a portion of the income of the Endowment Fund and through a gift of one thousand dollars by Mr. Alfred T. White, Chairman of the Botanic Garden Committee. The Director and curators with their assistants will remove from the Museum Building into the Instruction Building as early as possible in 1913, taking with them the Botanic Garden library and the Botanic Garden herbarium.

No accurate account is kept of the number of visitors to the Garden. Those who came especially to make observations or to study in the Garden during 1912 were estimated to be twelve thousand. A much larger attendance is expected in 1913.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund transferred from the custody of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity to the custody of the Department of Parks of the City, two pieces of land for many years forming a part of the Prospect Hill Reservoir Lands, one strip lying between the Prospect Hill Reservoir on the west and the site of the Museum of Arts and Sciences on the east, two hundred and fifty feet in width, extending from the Eastern Parkway on the north to the northerly side of Old President street on the south; and a strip twenty (20) feet in width along the southerly side of the Prospect Hill Reservoir, extending from Flatbush avenue easterly to the strip heretofore described. These two strips of land were thus transferred to the custody of the Department of Parks in order that they might be added to the area of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum. On September 9, 1912, on the recommendation of the Commissioners of Parks and on the recommendation of the Park Commissioner of the Borough of Brooklyn, the City of New York acting by its Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences entered into an amendment to the original agreement as between the City and the Institute, dated December 28, 1909, the purpose of which amendment is to enable the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences to establish and maintain on the two strips above described, a portion of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum, as contemplated by Chapter 618 of the Laws of 1906, amended by Chapter 178 of the Laws of 1911. The Institute entered into the care and custody of these two strips of land, formerly a part of the Prospect Hill Reservoir lands, on the date of the execution of the amendment to the original agreement.

The iron fence along the southerly line of the old Reservoir lands and a part of

the fence along the easterly line of the Reservoir lands have been removed to the new boundaries as between the Prospect Hill Reservoir lands and the lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and under the administration of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences for the purpose of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum.

Messrs. Olmsted Brothers, landscape architects, under a preliminary contract as between the city and themselves, have prepared plans and specifications for grading portions of the Botanic Garden and Arboretum lands in pursuance of the original design of the Botanic Garden and are now engaged in preparing the specifications to be used in letting a contract for grading and topsoiling. The appropriation to cover the cost of this grading and topsoiling as made by the city in 1911, is forty thousand dollars.

Messrs. Olmsted Brothers also have in preparation drawings and specifications for paths, walks, stone steps and paving in portions of the Garden already graded or soon to be graded. The appropriation to cover the cost of this work as made by the city in 1911 is thirty thousand (\$30,000) dollars.

The care and custody of the Botanic Garden lands has been in the hands of the Institute for one year and eleven months (February 1, 1911, to December 31, 1912). While a great deal of work has been done in planting and in establishing the Garden, a great deal remains to be done during the next three years. About two-fifths of the area of the Garden now conforms to the original plans and design adopted by the city for the Garden, and the work of planting and cultivating on this portion of the Garden will be continued during the year 1913.

The total amount expended by the Institute in carrying on its educational work for the benefit of the City of New York during the educational year of 1911-12 (12 months) was three hundred and eight thousand, seven hundred and sixty-five dollars and eighty-six cents. The total attendance in all the Departments of the Institute for the same period was six hundred and seventy-four thousand, four hundred and thirty-five.

THE CITY OF
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,

*Statement of the Condition as at the Close of Business December 31st, 1912, of all
Prior Years having*

| Code No. and Title of Account. | Appropriation, Including Transfer (if any) By Board of Estimate and Apportionment. | Cash Refunds and Journal Credits. | Journal Debits. | Net Funds Available. (C+D-E) |
|---|--|---|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A, B, | C | D | E | F |
| 1035—Administration executive—salaries, regular employees | \$29,150.00 | | | \$29,150.00 |
| 1036—Engineering, regular employees, Tax Levy and Corporate Stock | 10,200.00 | | | 10,200.00 |
| Maintenance Parks and Boulevards— | | | | |
| 1037—Wages, regular employees | 188,683.25 | | | 188,683.25 |
| 1038—Wages, temporary employees | 329,242.50 | | | 329,242.50 |
| 1039—Maintenance Zoological Department— Wages, regular employees | 9,516.00 | | | 9,516.00 |
| Maintenance Trees in City Streets— | | | | |
| 1040—Wages, regular employees | 3,294.00 | | | 3,294.00 |
| 1041—Wages, temporary employees | 37,500.00 | | | 37,500.00 |
| Supplies and Materials— | | | | |
| 1042—Administration | 1,500.00 | | | 1,500.00 |
| 1043—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 119,622.20 | | \$300.00 | 119,322.20 |
| 1044—Maintenance, Zoological Dept. | 3,800.00 | | | 3,800.00 |
| 1045—Maintenance, Trees in City Streets. | 7,000.00 | | | 7,000.00 |
| 1046—Repairs and replacements by contract or open order, maintenance parks and boulevards | 40,000.00 | | | 40,000.00 |
| 1047—Repairs to furniture and fittings, ad- ministration | 100.00 | | | 100.00 |
| Housing, Storage, etc.— | | | | |
| 1048—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 6,000.00 | | | 6,000.00 |
| 1049—Maintenance, Trees in City Streets. | 2,400.00 | | | 2,400.00 |
| 1050—Maintenance, Repairs and Storage of Autos—Administration | 1,200.00 | | | 1,200.00 |
| Vehicular Transportation— | | | | |
| 1051—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 84,000.00 | \$5,000.00 | | 89,000.00 |
| 1052—Maintenance, Trees in City Streets. | 16,000.00 | | 5,000.00 | 11,000.00 |
| 1053—Shoeing, Boarding Horses, etc.—Main- tenance Parks and Boulevards | 850.00 | | | 850.00 |
| Fuel— | | | | |
| 1054—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 12,675.00 | | | 12,675.00 |
| 1055—Maintenance, Zoological Dept. | 400.00 | | | 400.00 |
| Forage— | | | | |
| 1056—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 7,206.20 | | 400.00 | 6,806.20 |
| 1057—Maintenance, Zoological Dept. | 1,500.00 | 700.00 | | 2,200.00 |
| Special Contract Obligations— | | | | |
| 1058—Administration | 100.00 | | | 100.00 |
| 1059—Maintenance Parks and Boulevards. | 13,000.00 | | | 13,000.00 |
| 1060—Telephone service—Administration .. | 1,500.00 | | | 1,500.00 |
| Contingencies— | | | | |
| 1061—Administration | 1,500.00 | | | 1,500.00 |
| 1062—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 2,500.00 | | | 2,500.00 |
| 1063—Maintenance, Trees in City Streets. | 1,000.00 | | | 1,000.00 |
| Purchase, Original Equipment, etc.— | | | | |
| 1064—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 4,000.00 | | | 4,000.00 |
| 1065—Maintenance, Trees in City Streets. | 1,000.00 | | | 1,000.00 |
| Purchase Furniture and Fittings— | | | | |
| 1066—Administration | 500.00 | | | 500.00 |
| 1067—Maintenance, Parks and Boulevards. | 700.00 | | | 700.00 |
| 1070—Purchase of Horses | 1,050.00 | | | 1,050.00 |
| 1071—Museum A. & S., salaries, regular em- ployees | 75,130.00 | | | 75,130.00 |
| 1072—Supplies and Materials—Maintenance. | 7,500.00 | | | 7,500.00 |
| 1073—Repairs and replacements by contract or open order—Maintenance | 2,500.00 | | | 2,500.00 |

* Miscellaneous outstanding liabilities. Museum accounts—impossible to give any liabilities.

NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK December 31, 1912

Appropriation Accounts for the Current Year, and of Appropriation Accounts for Unexpended Balances

| Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments. G | Unexpended Balances. (F—G) H | Encumbrances.*† | | | Total Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserves. M | Unencumbered Balances. (H—M) N |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | Net Reserve for Contracts. J | Net Reserve for Open Market Orders. K | Net Reserve for Pay Rolls. L | | |
| \$25,487.61 | \$3,662.39 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$3,662.39 |
| 5,488.11 | 4,711.89 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,711.89 |
| 158,779.05 | 29,904.20 | ..... | ..... | \$4,968.65 | \$4,968.65 | 24,935.55 |
| 310,033.56 | 19,208.94 | ..... | ..... | 7,209.51 | 7,209.51 | 11,999.43 |
| 8,990.25 | 525.75 | ..... | ..... | 281.00 | 281.00 | 244.75 |
| 2,820.00 | 474.00 | ..... | ..... | 99.00 | 99.00 | 375.00 |
| 33,500.25 | 3,999.75 | ..... | ..... | 1,267.59 | 1,267.59 | 2,732.16 |
| 643.83 | 856.17 | ..... | \$215.55 | 41.64* | 257.19 | 598.98 |
| 101,416.77 | 17,905.43 | \$6,927.32 | 5,724.17 | 36.60* | 12,688.09 | 5,217.34 |
| 3,391.13 | 408.87 | 260.40 | 60.95 | ..... | 321.35 | 87.52 |
| 4,130.74 | 2,869.26 | 6.67 | 1,959.75 | ..... | 1,966.42 | 902.84 |
| 37,036.24 | 2,963.76 | 2,314.33 | 295.00 | ..... | 2,609.33 | 254.43 |
| 12.00 | 88.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 88.00 |
| 5,810.83 | 189.17 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 189.17 |
| 406.20 | 1,993.80 | ..... | 124.50 | ..... | 124.50 | 1,869.30 |
| 1,146.30 | 53.70 | ..... | 13.70 | ..... | 13.70 | 40.00 |
| 87,214.50 | 1,785.50 | ..... | ..... | 1,283.25 | 1,283.25 | 502.25 |
| 9,857.25 | 1,142.75 | ..... | ..... | 282.50 | 282.50 | 860.25 |
| 246.75 | 603.25 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32.50* | 570.75 |
| 4,924.51 | 7,750.49 | 6,080.60 | ..... | ..... | 6,080.60 | 1,669.89 |
| 162.25 | 237.75 | 237.18 | ..... | ..... | 237.18 | .57 |
| 5,712.71 | 1,093.49 | 1,070.57 | ..... | ..... | 1,070.57 | 22.92 |
| 1,523.16 | 676.84 | 642.28 | ..... | ..... | 642.28 | 34.56 |
| ..... | 100.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 100.00 |
| 12,950.00 | 50.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50.00 |
| 1,295.94 | 204.06 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 148.72* | 55.34 |
| 1,499.97 | .03 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | .03 |
| 1,983.78 | 516.22 | ..... | 64.00 | 294.99* | 358.99 | 157.23 |
| 622.55 | 377.45 | ..... | ..... | 50.20* | 50.20 | 327.25 |
| 3,950.90 | 49.10 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 49.10 |
| ..... | 1,000.00 | 988.00 | ..... | ..... | 988.00 | 12.00 |
| 410.90 | 89.10 | ..... | 64.75 | ..... | 64.75 | 24.35 |
| 441.00 | 259.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 259.00 |
| ..... | 1,050.00 | 933.00 | ..... | ..... | 933.00 | 117.00 |
| 66,704.80 | 8,425.20 | ..... | ..... | 8,425.20 | 8,425.20 | ..... |
| 6,639.10 | 860.90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 860.90 |
| 1,813.89 | 686.11 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 686.11 |

† Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to Department of Finance.

| Code No. and Title of Account. A, B, | Appropriation, Including Transfer (if any) By Board of Estimate and Apportionment. C | Cash Refunds and Journal Credits. D | Journa Debits. E | Net Funds Available. (C+D-E) F |
|---|---|--|------------------------|--|
| 1074—Fuel—Maintenance..... | 6,500.00 | | | 6,500.00 |
| 1075—Special Contract Obligations—Admin- istration..... | 550.00 | | | 550.00 |
| 1076—Telephone Service—Administration... | 300.00 | | | 300.00 |
| 1077—Contingencies—Administration..... | 3,000.00 | | | 3,000.00 |
| 1078—Purchase Furniture and Fittings— Maintenance..... | 2,300.00 | | | 2,300.00 |
| 1079—Children's Museum—Salaries, regular employees..... | 10,210.00 | | | 10,210.00 |
| 1080—Supplies and materials—Maintenance. | 1,000.00 | 150.00 | | 1,150.00 |
| 1081—Repairs and replacements by contract or open order—Maintenance..... | 300.00 | | 200.00 | 100.00 |
| 1082—Fuel—Maintenance..... | 325.00 | | | 325.00 |
| 1083—Special Contract Obligations—Admin- istration..... | 400.00 | | | 400.00 |
| 1084—Telephone Service—Administration... | 70.00 | | | 70.00 |
| 1085—Contingencies—Administration..... | 250.00 | 50.00 | | 300.00 |
| Botanical Garden and Arboretum— | | | | |
| 1086—Salaries, regular employees..... | 12,173.32 | | | 12,173.32 |
| 1087—Wages, temporary employees..... | 4,922.00 | | | 4,922.00 |
| 1088—Supplies and Materials—Maintenance. | 5,350.25 | | | 5,350.25 |
| 1089—Repairs and replacements by contract or open order—Maintenance..... | 1,500.00 | | | 1,500.00 |
| 1090—Housing, Storage and Repairs, Appar- atus, etc.—Maintenance..... | 50.00 | | | 50.00 |
| Vehicular Transportation— | | | | |
| 1091—Horses and vehicles and drivers..... | 625.00 | | | 625.00 |
| 1092—Horses and vehicles without drivers. | 90.00 | | | 90.00 |
| 1093—Telephone Service—Administration... | 100.00 | | | 100.00 |
| Contingencies— | | | | |
| 1094—Administration..... | 550.00 | | | 550.00 |
| 1095—Maintenance..... | 300.00 | | | 300.00 |
| 1096—Special Contract Obligations—Main- tenance..... | 100.00 | | | 100.00 |
| <i>Prior Years.</i> | \$1,074,854.72 | \$5,700.00 | \$5,700.00 | \$1,074,854.72 |
| 1911—1173—General Supplies..... | \$50,000.00 | | | \$50,000.00 |
| 1911—1175—Repairs and replacements by contract or open order..... | 40,000.00 | | | 40,000.00 |
| | \$90,000.00 | | | \$90,000.00 |
| 1910—949—Materials for repairs and replace- ments by departmental labor..... | 89,323.70 | | | 89,323.70 |
| 1909—834—Materials for repairs and replace- ments by departmental labor..... | 934.43 | | | 934.43 |
| 1901—12—Labor, Maintenance and Supplies. | 15,209.41 | | | 15,209.41 |

* Miscellaneous outstanding liabilities. Museum accounts—impossible to give any liabilities.

| Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments. | Encumbrances.* | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|---|
| | Unexpended Balances. (F-G) | Net Reserve for Contracts. | Net Reserve for Open Market Orders. | Net Reserve for Pay Rolls. | Total Encumbrances, i. e., Net Reserves. | Unencum- bered Balances. (H-M) |
| | | | | | | |
| 2,928.07 | 3,571.93 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,571.93 |
| 254.55 | 295.45 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 295.45 |
| 212.13 | 87.87 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 87.87 |
| 2,790.77 | 209.23 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 209.23 |
| 1,932.32 | 367.68 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 467.68 |
| 8,873.99 | 1,336.01 | ..... | ..... | 1,336.01 | 1,336.01 | ..... |
| 997.05 | 152.95 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 152.95 |
| 83.75 | 16.25 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 16.25 |
| 280.30 | 44.20 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44.20 |
| 280.93 | 119.07 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 119.07 |
| 41.14 | 28.86 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 28.86 |
| 249.99 | 50.01 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50.01 |
| 10,833.88 | 1,289.44 | ..... | ..... | 1,289.44 | 1,289.44 | ..... |
| 4,991.16 | .84 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | .84 |
| 2,967.97 | 2,382.28 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,382.28 |
| ..... | 1,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500.00 |
| 10.55 | 39.45 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 39.45 |
| 597.10 | 27.90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 27.90 |
| 73.32 | 11.67 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11.67 |
| 69.98 | 30.02 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30.02 |
| 549.70 | .30 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | .30 |
| 235.10 | 64.90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 64.90 |
| ..... | 100.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 100.00 |
| \$946,356.09 | \$123,498.63 | \$19,460.35 | \$8,522.37 | \$26,865.58 | \$55,029.52 | \$73,469.11 |
| \$48,517.95 | \$1,482.05 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$1,482.05 |
| 28,768.89 | 11,231.11 | 11,231.11 | ..... | ..... | \$11,231.11 | ..... |
| \$77,286.84 | \$12,713.16 | \$11,231.11 | ..... | ..... | \$11,231.11 | \$1,482.05 |
| 85,495.65 | 3,828.05 | 3,828.05 | ..... | ..... | 3,828.05 | ..... |
| ..... | 934.43 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 629.91 | 8,417.50 | 8,417.50 | ..... | ..... | 8,417.50 | ..... |

* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore transmitted to Department of Finance.

THE CITY OF
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,

Statement of the Condition of Corporate Stock, Assessment Bond,

| Code Number and Title of Fund or Account. A, B, | Total Authorization as Adjusted. C | Par Value of Bonds Allotted. D | Premiums, Miscellaneous Credits and Journal Adjustments. E | Cash Funds Available. (D+E) F |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 200—Improvement and construction parks, parkways and playgrounds | \$800,000.00 | \$800,000.00 | \$16,670.66 | \$816,670.66 |
| 200a—Excavation lagoon, Dyker Beach Park. | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 10.24 | 3,010.24 |
| 200b—Construction McCarren Park and playground | 100,675.60 | 82,675.60 | 359.67 | 83,035.27 |
| 200c—Construction playground, Richard, Dwight and Pioneer streets | 22,767.00 | 22,767.00 | 111.70 | 22,878.70 |
| 200d—Construction playground, Irving, Woodbine and Putnam avenues | 31,860.00 | 29,860.00 | 49.25 | 29,909.25 |
| 200j—Grading and improvement Botanic Garden and Arboretum | 40,000.00 | | | |
| 200k—Construction roads, walks, Botanic Garden and Arboretum | 30,000.00 | | | |
| 200l—Construction and equipment, laboratory building and greenhouses | 100,000.00 | 28,000.00 | | 28,000.00 |
| 200—Additional timber jetty, Coney Island . . | 18,000.00 | 18,000.00 | 303.10 | 18,303.10 |
| 203—Approach to boathouse, Prospect Park. | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 301.72 | 35,301.72 |
| 204—Comfort station, main entrance, Prospect Park | 12,000.00 | 12,000.00 | 144.27 | 12,144.27 |
| 205—Comfort station, New Lots Playground. | 6,000.00 | 6,000.00 | 61.58 | 6,061.58 |
| 207—Construction lockers, etc., boathouse and golfhouse | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 118.61 | 15,118.61 |
| 208a—Erection and equipment shelter house, City Park | 20,000.00 | 12,000.00 | | 12,000.00 |
| 208b—Improvement Borough Hall Park . . . | 7,080.00 | | | |
| 209—Construction new entrance, Prospect Park at 15th street | 21,000.00 | 21,000.00 | 451.72 | 21,451.72 |
| 209a—Improvement of Plaza at 15th street entrance to Prospect Park | 20,000.00 | | | |
| 210—Construction, etc., McLaughlin Park . . | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 412.38 | 35,412.38 |
| 211—Construction comfort station, Sunset Park | 35,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 433.65 | 35,433.65 |
| 211a—Completion of Sunset Park | 25,560.00 | 17,500.00 | | 17,560.00 |
| 212—Construction shelter house, tennis grounds, Prospect Park | 49,865.34 | 49,200.00 | 386.70 | 49,586.70 |
| 212a—Erection of comfort station, Prospect Park | 20,000.00 | | | |
| 212b—Installation water supply and drainage system | 75,000.00 | 1,500.00 | | 1,500.00 |
| 212c—Erection and equipment new storehouse, etc., Prospect Park | 75,000.00 | 1,000.00 | | 1,000.00 |
| 213—Construction shelter house, Fulton Park | 10,000.00 | 9,050.00 | 105.16 | 9,155.16 |
| 214—Construction shelter house, Winthrop Park | 25,000.00 | 20,500.00 | 64.30 | 20,564.30 |
| 215—Construction temporary fence, regenerating and grading Williamsburg Bridge Park. | 16,500.00 | 16,500.00 | 436.24 | 16,936.24 |
| 216—Construction water tower, etc., Forest Park | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 | 76.28 | 7,576.28 |
| 217—Reg., grading, etc., Eastern Parkway traffic roads | 169,000.00 | 169,000.00 | 1,112.52 | 170,112.52 |
| 217a—Improvement triangle at East New York and Pitkin avenues | 6,000.00 | 5,500.00 | | 5,500.00 |
| 219—Laying concrete walks, Prospect Park West to 15th street | 7,800.00 | 7,800.00 | 102.07 | 7,902.07 |
| 220—Laying concrete walks around Kings Park | 3,400.00 | 3,400.00 | 70.33 | 3,470.33 |
| 221—Asphalt tile walks, Sunset Park | 24,000.00 | 23,500.00 | 862.26 | 24,362.26 |
| 222—Boat stone, Coney Island bulkhead . . . | 14,500.00 | 14,500.00 | 332.02 | 14,832.02 |
| 223—Purchase of topsoil, Amersfort Park . . | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 5.06 | 1,505.06 |
| 224—Regrading, etc., opposite Willink entrance | 5,000.00 | 5,000.00 | 86.23 | 5,086.23 |

* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore

NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK December 31, 1912

Special Revenue Bond and Special Accounts as at December 31st, 1912

| Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments. G | Balance of Cash Funds Unexpended. (F-G) H | Balance of Authorizations Unallotted. (C-D) J | * Encumbrances. | | | Unen- cumbered Balances. O |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | | Net Reserve for Contracts. K | Net Reserve for Open Market Orders and Miscl. Invoices. L | Total Net Encumbrances i. e., Net Reserve. N | |
| \$814,402.96 | \$2,267.70 | ..... | \$229.85 | ..... | \$229.85 | \$2,037.85 |
| 2,800.00 | 210.24 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 210.24 |
| 84,163.81 | 1,128.54 | \$18,000.00 | 9,542.50 | ..... | 9,542.50 | 7,328.96 |
| 22,214.30 | 664.40 | ..... | 500.00 | ..... | 500.00 | 164.40 |
| 29,789.46 | 119.79 | 2,000.00 | 500.00 | ..... | 500.00 | 1,619.79 |
| ..... | ..... | 40,000.00 | 800.00 | ..... | 800.00 | 39,200.00 |
| ..... | ..... | 30,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30,000.00 |
| 25,344.00 | 2,656.00 | 72,000.00 | 31,167.02 | ..... | 31,167.02 | 43,488.98 |
| 15,700.00 | 2,603.10 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,603.10 |
| 33,276.39 | 2,025.33 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,023.33 |
| 12,085.33 | 58.94 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 58.94 |
| 6,014.22 | 47.36 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 47.36 |
| 15,029.13 | 89.48 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 89.48 |
| 10,326.16 | 1,673.84 | 8,000.00 | 9,382.84 | ..... | 9,382.84 | 291.00 |
| ..... | ..... | 7,080.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7,080.00 |
| 19,381.55 | 2,070.17 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,070.17 |
| ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 |
| 34,866.48 | 545.90 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 545.90 |
| 34,519.86 | 913.79 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 913.79 |
| 16,049.55 | 1,510.45 | 8,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 9,510.45 |
| 49,477.50 | 109.20 | 665.34 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 774.54 |
| ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 |
| 1,495.56 | 4.44 | 73,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 73,504.44 |
| 750.00 | 250.00 | 74,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 74,250.00 |
| 9,113.99 | 41.17 | 950.00 | 949.68 | ..... | 949.68 | 41.49 |
| 20,073.84 | 490.46 | 4,500.00 | 4,035.30 | ..... | 4,035.30 | 955.16 |
| 16,383.66 | 552.58 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 552.58 |
| 7,514.22 | 62.06 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 62.06 |
| 169,088.85 | 1,023.67 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,023.67 |
| 5,168.20 | 331.80 | 500.00 | 232.25 | ..... | 232.26 | 599.54 |
| 7,610.80 | 291.27 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 291.27 |
| 3,400.00 | 70.33 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 70.33 |
| 24,155.65 | 206.61 | 500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 706.61 |
| 14,578.74 | 253.28 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 253.28 |
| 58.33 | 1,446.73 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,446.73 |
| 4,595.65 | 490.58 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 490.58 |

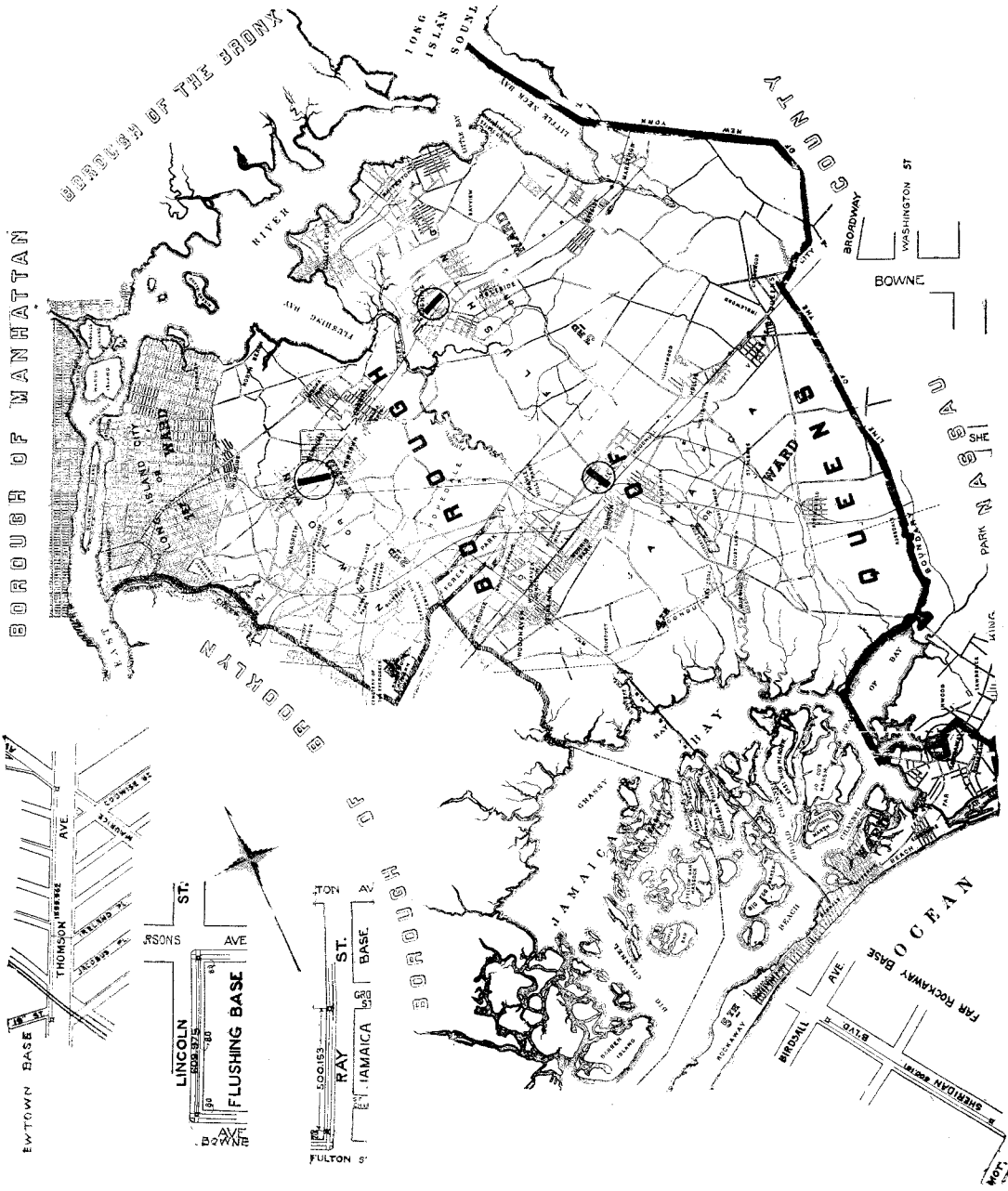
transmitted to the Department of Finance.

| Code Number and Title of Fund or Account. A, B, | Total Authorization as Adjusted. C | Par Value of Bonds Allotted. D | Premiums, Miscellaneous, Credits and Journal Adjustments. E | Cash Funds Available. (D+E) F |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 225—Regrading, etc., Glenmore avenue..... | 40,000.00 | 40,000.00 | 568.86 | 40,568.86 |
| 226—Paving, etc., Pennsylvania avenue..... | 25,000.00 | 25,000.00 | 292.10 | 25,292.10 |
| 227—Sub-title 1—Completion shelter, Fulton Park..... | 3,020.00 | 1,970.00 | 50.89 | 2,020.89 |
| 228—Sub-title 2—Improvement New Lots Playground..... | 2,030.40 | 2,030.40 | 27.26 | 2,057.66 |
| 229—Sub-title 3—Improvement Winthrop Park..... | 7,547.90 | 1,547.90 | ..... | 1,547.90 |
| 230—Sub-title 4—Completion tennis house.. | 17,458.30 | 3,458.30 | 88.66 | 3,546.96 |
| 232—Sub-title 6—Shelter house, McLaughlin Park..... | 60,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 13.66 | 20,013.66 |
| 233—Sub-title 7—Shelter house, McKinley Park..... | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 | 68.29 | 7,568.29 |
| 234—Sub-title 8—Shelter house, Highland Park..... | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 42.06 | 1,042.06 |
| 235—Sub-title 9—Construction stone wall, Sunset Park..... | 50,000.00 | 48,600.00 | 813.12 | 49,413.12 |
| 237—Sub-title 11—Resoiling trees, Prospect Park..... | 17,500.00 | 17,500.00 | 433.51 | 17,933.51 |
| 241—Sub-title 15—Improvement drives, etc. | 166,666.67 | 165,500.00 | 3,846.43 | 169,346.43 |
| 242—Improvement parks, parkways and drives, etc..... | 1,111,000.00 | 1,100,100.00 | 7,989.48 | 1,108,089.48 |
| 242a—Fence around Bushwick Park..... | 7,100.00 | 5,600.00 | 51.00 | 5,651.00 |
| 242c—Improvements in Kings Park..... | 6,000.00 | 6,000.00 | 54.63 | 6,054.63 |
| 242e—Fence around Amersfort Park..... | 4,500.00 | 3,500.00 | 31.87 | 3,531.87 |
| 242f—Fence around Fulton Park..... | 5,500.00 | 2,000.00 | 18.21 | 2,018.21 |
| 242j—Erection comfort station, Linton Park. | 7,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 242k—General improvement of Highland Park..... | 45,000.00 | 1,500.00 | ..... | 1,500.00 |
| 243—Museum A. & S., erection of an addition. | 1,432,000.00 | 1,383,000.00 | 47,058.65 | 1,430,058.65 |
| 243a—Museum A. & S., plans, museum building..... | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 | 511.78 | 50,511.78 |
| 243b—Museum A. & S., museum building, construction..... | 100,000.00 | 66,000.00 | 254.95 | 66,254.95 |
| 243c—Architects' fees for above..... | 20,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 243d—Installation of cases, library stacks..... | 15,000.00 | 7,000.00 | ..... | 7,000.00 |
| 243e—Museum A. & S., construction 4th section..... | 450,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 243f—Engineers' and architects' fees for above | 11,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 244—Parks, Dept. of, 1st avenue and Shore road..... | 94,624.00 | 91,124.00 | 770.84 | 91,894.84 |
| 244a—Parks, Dept. of, grading Bay Ridge Parkway..... | 75,500.00 | 73,000.00 | 665.70 | 73,665.70 |
| 244b—Raising Ocean Parkway, so. Coney Island Creek..... | 20,000.00 | 1,100.00 | ..... | 1,100.00 |
| 244c—Laying sidewalks on Ocean Parkway.. | 17,540.00 | 13,540.00 | ..... | 13,540.00 |
| 245—Parks, Dept. of, carving pediment..... | 20,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 246—Playground, Seigel and White streets... | 27,159.00 | 27,159.00 | 222.86 | 27,381.86 |
| 247—Repaving drives, etc..... | 281,666.67 | 269,666.67 | 3,029.66 | 272,696.33 |
| 248—Park improvement fund, Borough of Brooklyn..... | 393.54 | 393.54 | ..... | 393.54 |
| 249—Shore road, completion of..... | 1,875,000.00 | 395,000.00 | 2,785.46 | 397,785.46 |
| 250—Plans, specifications, for permanent improvements..... | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 | ..... | 4,000.00 |
| 250a—Construction and equipment, Children's Museum..... | 92,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 250b—Improvement Fort Greene Park..... | 66,822.00 | 20,822.00 | ..... | 20,822.00 |
| 250c—Improvement Plot 2, McCarren Park. | 50,000.00 | 43,000.00 | ..... | 43,000.00 |
| 251a—Removal debris, ocean front, Seaside Park..... | 25,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | \$8,200,536.42 | \$5,405,924.41 | \$92,757.65 | \$5,498,682.06 |
| <i>Special and Trust Funds.</i> | | | | |
| S. 75—Maintenance, public parks, Brooklyn Heights..... | \$4,231.19 | ..... | ..... | 4,231.19 |
| S. 102C—Restoring and repaving, special fund..... | 16,495.08 | ..... | ..... | 16,495.08 |
| | \$20,726.27 | ..... | ..... | \$20,726.27 |
| Borough accounts..... | 2,108.41 | ..... | ..... | ..... |

* Not to include amount of any voucher heretofore

| Net Vouchers Registered, Based on Cancellations and Adjustments. | Balance of Cash Funds Unexpended. (F-G) | Balance of Authorizations Unallotted. (C-D) | * Encumbrances. | | | Unencumbered Balances. |
|--|---|---|----------------------------|--|--|------------------------|
| | | | Net Reserve for Contracts. | Net Reserve for Open Market Orders and Misl. Invoices. | Total Net Encumbrances i. e., Net Reserve. | |
| | | | | | | |
| G | H | J | | | | O |
| 38,175.30 | 2,393.56 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,393.56 |
| 22,595.40 | 2,696.70 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,696.70 |
| 1,968.02 | 52.87 | 1,050.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,102.87 |
| 1,619.28 | 438.38 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 438.38 |
| 1,276.69 | 271.21 | 6,000.00 | 1,682.46 | ..... | 1,682.46 | 4,588.75 |
| 3,463.00 | 83.96 | 14,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,083.96 |
| 19,818.07 | 195.59 | 40,000.00 | 500.00 | ..... | 500.00 | 39,695.59 |
| 6,959.50 | 608.79 | ..... | 500.00 | ..... | 500.00 | 108.79 |
| 470.00 | 572.06 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 572.06 |
| 49,349.71 | 63.41 | 1,400.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,463.41 |
| 17,185.22 | 748.29 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 748.29 |
| 168,974.91 | 371.52 | 1,166.67 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,538.19 |
| 1,107,917.01 | 172.47 | 10,900.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11,072.47 |
| 5,527.71 | 123.29 | 1,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,623.29 |
| 6,042.20 | 12.43 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 12.43 |
| 3,028.61 | 503.26 | 1,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,503.26 |
| 1,552.31 | 465.90 | 3,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,965.90 |
| ..... | ..... | 7,500.00 | 75.00 | ..... | 75.00 | 7,425.00 |
| 1,389.11 | 110.89 | 43,500.00 | 25,994.60 | ..... | 25,994.60 | 17,616.29 |
| 1,429,777.74 | 280.91 | 49,000.00 | 43,087.47 | 185.00 | 43,272.47 | 6,008.44 |
| 50,000.00 | 511.78 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 511.78 |
| 66,054.97 | 199.98 | 34,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 34,199.98 |
| ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 |
| 6,750.00 | 250.00 | 8,000.00 | 4,240.00 | ..... | 4,240.00 | 4,010.00 |
| ..... | ..... | 450,000.00 | 384,483.00 | ..... | 384,483.00 | 65,517.00 |
| ..... | ..... | 11,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11,000.00 |
| 91,765.00 | 129.84 | 3,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,629.84 |
| 73,480.59 | 185.11 | 2,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,685.11 |
| 1,060.89 | 39.11 | 18,900.00 | 18,074.17 | ..... | 18,074.17 | 864.94 |
| 13,299.55 | 248.45 | 4,000.00 | 1,620.64 | ..... | 1,620.64 | 2,627.81 |
| ..... | ..... | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 | ..... | 20,000.00 | ..... |
| 26,394.54 | 987.32 | ..... | 500.00 | 72.00 | 572.00 | 415.32 |
| 270,820.79 | 1,875.54 | 12,000.00 | 1,013.52 | ..... | 1,013.52 | 12,862.02 |
| ..... | 393.54 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 393.54 |
| 396,438.21 | 1,347.25 | 1,480,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,481,347.25 |
| 4,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| ..... | ..... | 92,500.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 92,500.00 |
| 19,913.98 | 908.02 | 46,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 46,908.02 |
| 39,988.82 | 3,011.18 | 7,000.00 | 5,782.87 | ..... | 5,782.87 | 4,228.31 |
| ..... | ..... | 25,000.00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 25,000.00 |
| \$5,456,477.32 | \$42,204.74 | \$2,794,612.01 | \$564,893.18 | \$257.00 | \$565,150.18 | \$2,271,666.57 |
| 4,169.18 | 62.01 | ..... | ..... | ..... | Due depositors. | 62.01 |
| 10,623.06 | 5,872.02 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,060.54 | 811.48 |
| \$14,792.24 | \$5,934.03 | \$2,103.41 | ..... | ..... | \$5,060.54 | \$873.49 |
| ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$2,103.41 |

transmitted to the Department of Finance.



QUEENSBOROUGH.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

CITY OF NEW YORK

QUEENS

Report for the year ending
31st December, 1912



WALTER G. ELIOT

COMMISSIONER

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS.

BOROUGH OF QUEENS.

December 26, 1912.

Hon. WM. J. GAYNOR, Mayor:

Dear Sir—In accordance with your request I transmit herewith a condensed summary of the work accomplished by this Department during the year 1912.

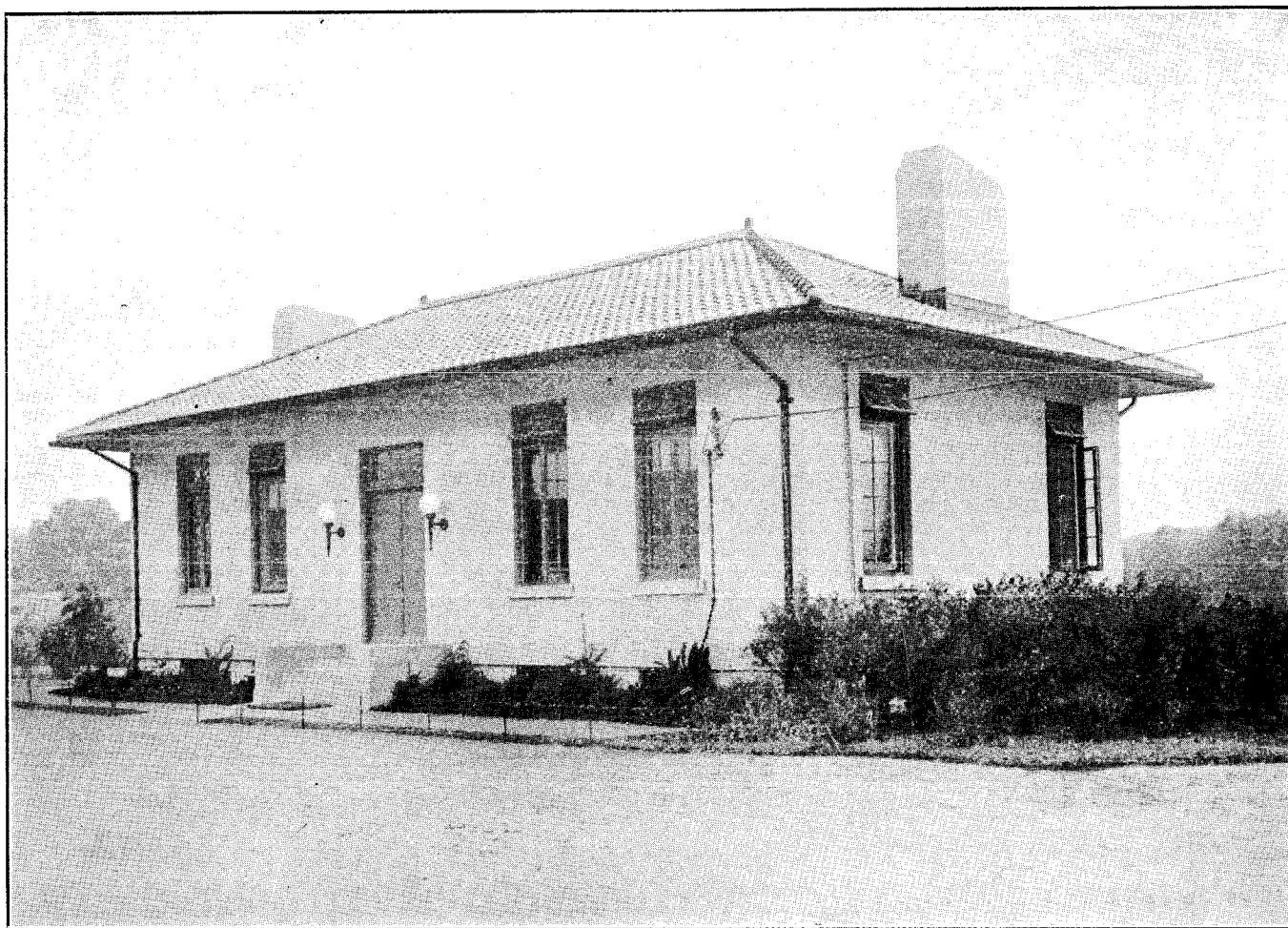
I have thought it wise, with your permission, to reserve a statement of the plans which I propose to carry out during the coming year, for the report of the Park Department, now in course of preparation.

Respectfully,

WALTER G. ELIOT,

Commissioner of Parks,

Borough of Queens.



"OVERLOOK," THE BEGINNING OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, QUEENS PARK DEPT.

SYNOPSIS.

THE PARK DEPARTMENT OF QUEENS.

Separated from former Brooklyn and Queens Department by chapter 644, Laws of 1911, which became a law July 11, 1911.

Walter G. Eliot, appointed Commissioner by Mayor, July 24, 1911.

Temporary headquarters, July 24, 1911, to December, 1912, the Arsenal, Central Park, Manhattan.

Department separated and organized for distinct administration with its own budget, 1st of January, 1912. Budget allowance, 1912, \$165,123.

Parks under his jurisdiction on 24th July, 1911, 11; also 4 street triangles.

Park area under his jurisdiction July 24, 1911, 688.92 acres.

Triangle areas under his jurisdiction July 24, 1911, .75 acres.

New park areas acquired in 1912, in acres, 312.50.

Number of Gardeners to maintain parks in 1912, 16.

Number of Laborers to maintain parks in 1912, 32.

Work Done in 1912 as Follows.

Designs ordered and completed by Landscape Architect for following parks: Forest, Kissena, Linden, Rainey, Wayanda, Kings, Leavitt, Telawana (partial).

Designs approved for administration building, to be located in Forest Park, August 30, 1911. Plans and specifications for first part (hallway) of it approved and contract let December 11, 1911. Latter completed and occupied by Department, December 17, 1912. Site graded and sodded, road approaches built.

Seven thousand dead chestnut trees felled and removed from Forest Park.

All existing roadways in Forest Park repaired and perfected.

"Forest Lodge" repaired and made serviceable.

Ponds cleaned and made available for skating.

Eighteen-hole golf course improved and all causes of complaint concerning it removed.

New steel golf lockers added in golf house.

New cross-park walks and steps constructed.

Two baseball fields at Myrtle and Woodhaven aves. laid out and contract let for their construction.

Surveys, plans and specifications completed for automobile roadways and return drives, covering west half of Forest Park, ready for contract letting about December 31.

Temporary band stand erected for concerts in Forest Park.

Three-quarters of a mile of Tungsten lamps installed in important cross roads through Forest Park.

Four entrances to park widened and improved. Telephone service installed connecting all principal parks.

Greenhouses restocked and entirely repainted and repaired; new hot frames constructed; new water connections installed; reserve tank and tower constructed; temporary forge, garage and carpenter shop erected. New roads and approaches to "Forest Lodge" built, graded and surfaced. Linden Park, Corona, partly regraded, sodded, and new walks now being built.

Linden Park Pond, heretofore unsanitary, pumped dry and now being cleaned and converted into one-acre lake.

Unused Bridge Department toll houses, 8 by 16 feet in size, secured and placed,

one in Linden, one in Rainey, one in Upland and one in College Point Park for use as tool houses, etc., for Park Foremen.

Rainey Park river-front protected by construction of solid concrete sea wall 560 feet long, on subaqueous foundations.

Kissena Lake Park improved and extensively cleared; approaches, banks, etc., planted. Roads surfaced extensively. Twenty-three acres of Police Farm added to it for development into athletic and recreation grounds in 1913.

Pauper burial ground of two acres, in village of Queens, transferred to this Department, cleared, ploughed, monumented and made ready for development and planting in the spring. Will hereafter be known as Wayanda Park.

Leavitt Street Park, in Flushing, acquired, and plans for its drainage by Sewer Department secured. Will be developed in 1913 into a neighborhood park and recreation center.

Upland Park, Jamaica, cleared and improved with new walks.

Rockaway Park beach cleaned and kept clean, boardwalk extensively renewed, and in places repaired as far as funds were available. Is yet in very dangerous condition.

Maps being prepared for submission to the Mayor and Board of Estimate and Apportionment, showing location of present parks, and suggesting such future parkways and parks as should be acquired in order to prevent acquisition of disconnected or less desirable sites by the City.

A very efficient Bureau has been created for the care of street trees and for the study and development of our park trees and the improvement of the present nursery of 50,000 young trees, for future park and street planting. The nursery is one of the finest in the east.

The excellent work of this Bureau has completely stopped the unnecessary mutilation of street trees by the telephone and electric light construction gangs, and such work is now supervised with perfect satisfaction, both to these companies and to the Department.

The original entrance door of the Kings Manor House, in Kings Park, Jamaica, has been restored, and the rotted roof is about to be repaired to stop destructive leaking.

The so-called comfort facilities are both grossly inadequate and a disgrace to a civilized community.

Plans and specifications were made and a contract advertised for the most economical comfort station that would provide adequate facilities, together with a bandstand and shelter above it. The bids, however, exceeded by four or five thousand dollars the \$10,000 appropriation available. This sum should be provided without delay that construction may begin as soon as frost is out of the ground in the coming spring.

Kissena Lake, Kings and Forest Parks are all without any comfort stations whatever, a condition that should not be tolerated for an instant. They can be built for about \$13,000 to \$15,000 each. They should not be built for less if they are expected to be permanent and to serve their purpose properly.

Extensive planting has been done to beautify the Queensboro Bridge Plaza and Kings Park. It has apparently given wide satisfaction to both the press and the public if their public expressions of approval mean anything.

It is hoped that the \$10,000 working fund requested for each Borough by the present Park Commissioners, in their financial estimate for 1913, will be granted, to enable them to begin the systematic street tree planting requested by the Tree Planting Association, the cost of which is returned by assessment on the abutting owners.

The matter is now being considered by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Respectfully,

WALTER G. ELIOT,
Commissioner of Parks.

Hon. WILLIAM J. GAYNOR, *Mayor*,
City Hall, New York.

Sir—On July 24th, 1911, under a law enacted July 11th, 1911, you appointed the undersigned Commissioner of Parks for the Borough of Queens, which by said law was separated as a department from the then combined departments of parks for the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. I beg herewith to give you an account of the work which has been done and other work which is under way in the department for the period ending December 31st, 1912.

Respectfully,

WALTER G. ELIOT,
Commissioner of Parks,
Borough of Queens.

Dec. 31st, 1912.

December 31st, 1912.

FOREWORD

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I would neglect an important duty and rob myself of a privilege, did I not at this time acknowledge with grateful thanks the valuable aid which has been rendered to me in the organization of this Department by the Secretary of the Park Board, Colonel Clinton H. Smith. The accident of circumstances which proved that there was no available building existent in the Queens parks suitable for a department headquarters rendered necessary a headquarters in the office of the Park Board and it was my rare good fortune to be situated at a desk adjoining that of the Secretary.

On all matters connected with park history and organization, the services of 34 years under not less than fifty-nine commissioners of parks, and a remarkably retentive memory rendered Colonel Smith one of the most valuable assets that could have been placed at the disposal of a new commissioner. Up to date I have never known of an instance where it was desirable to know what had been important matters of policy or occurrences in the past history of the Board that I did not find it readily, with absolute accuracy, at the tongue's end of the Park Board's Secretary. His faithfulness to the duties of his office and his interest in all park matters, it seems to me, entitle him to the consideration of every City official as one of the most valuable public servants now in the service of the City.

Nor would it have been possible, without embarrassment or friction, to have succeeded in smoothly accomplishing the organization and effective operation of such a department without the cordial and sincere coöperation and the Nestor-like experience of my Brother Commissioner, Honorable Michael J. Kennedy, from whose domain and control the Queens system was set off by the bill creating the office. I can only adequately thank him here for his unselfish and cordial coöperation.

In closing, I make further acknowledgment to Honorable Thomas J. Higgins, Commissioner for The Bronx, and William J. Zartmann, for years Chief Engineer and Superintendent of the Brooklyn Parks, for advice and assistance of which their past experience had made them masters.

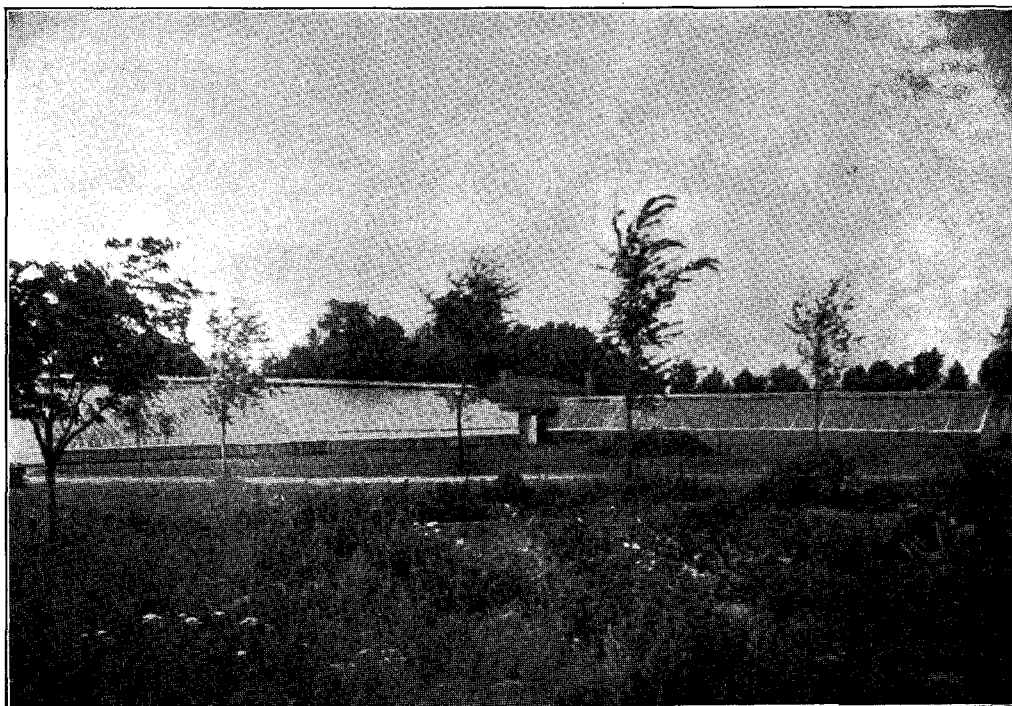
With regard to the coöperation of the various heads of the New York City departments, as well as the Borough President of Queens, I do not believe that there has been a time in the history of the City when it was possible to secure such complete and cordial coöperation and unstinted assistance between the departments.

Respectfully,

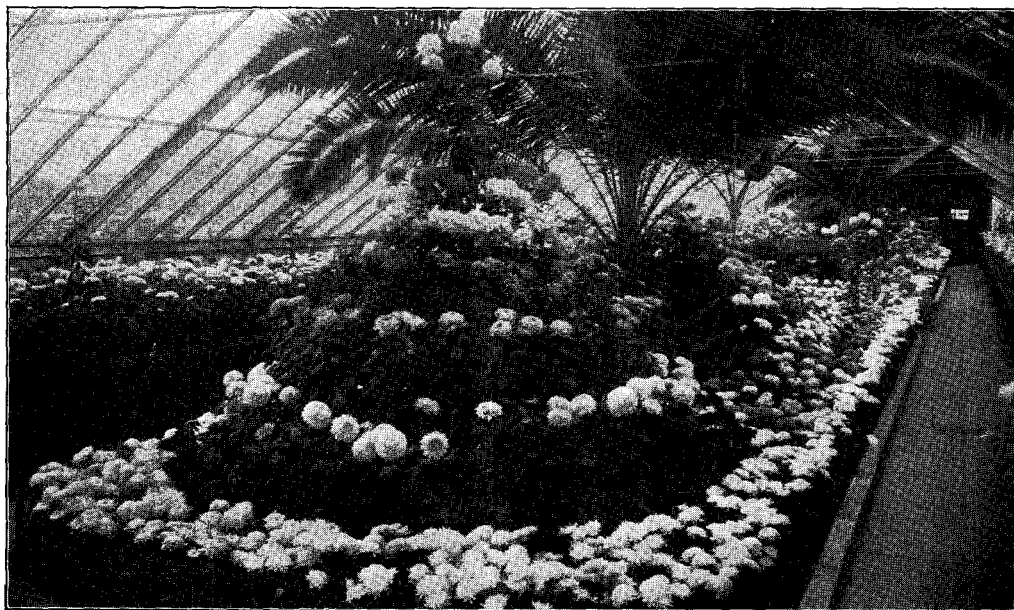
WALTER G. ELIOT,
Commissioner of Parks,
Borough of Queens.

The parks of Queens, at the time they were taken over by the new department, consisted of the following, by name and area, as of the date of July 24, 1911:

| Name. | Area in acres. |
|---|----------------|
| Ashmead Park | .27 |
| College Point Park | 1.14 |
| Forest Park | 536.00 |
| Flushing Park | 1.02 |
| Upland Park, Jamaica | 5.50 |
| Kings Park | 11.50 |
| Kissena Lake Park (estimated) | 65.00 |
| Linden Park | 3.00 |
| Poppenhausen Park | .05 |
| Rainey Park | 5.09 |
| Unnamed Park, Jackson Ave. and 6th St., L. I. C. | .05 |
| Unnamed Park, Jackson Ave. and 11th St., L. I. C. | .01 |
| Unnamed Park, Jackson Ave. and 12th St., L. I. C. | .01 |
| Unnamed Park, Vernon and Nott Aves., and Hancock St., L. I. C. | .08 |
| Highland Park | 59.60 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 688.32 |
| Forest Parkway, Jamaica Ave. to Forest Park | .25 |



PART OF THE GREENHOUSES, FOREST PARK.



FOREST PARK—VIEW IN THE GREENHOUSES, CHRYSANTHEMUM WEEK.

FOREST PARK.

Forest Park, the largest, was developed in no sense beyond having around a portion of its boundaries a rusty iron railing; fairly developed hot-houses for the propagation of plants intended largely for Brooklyn and to a smaller extent for Queens; a well-constructed and very much up-to-date club house, well equipped for golf purposes, which cost \$35,045.00.

By far the most conspicuous portion of this park was a comparatively creditable golf links of eighteen holes, the management of which was conducted under many difficulties. It was the subject of endless letters of complaint from an over-exacting group of golf players who endeavored to demand as complete an equipment as could be found on private links, which usually require four or five times the expenditure of money that had been appropriated to this golf course.

In addition to the above so-called facilities in the park there were two houses in more or less bad repair, occupied by park foremen. One of these buildings, having some small outbuildings, was in particularly bad repair.

Forest Park also was suffering from a blight which had killed all the chestnut trees, several thousand in number, and left them gaunt spectres against an otherwise beautiful landscape.

The one principal roadway extending through the park had been fairly well maintained in the face of an ever-increasing pleasure traffic.

One of its best and least conspicuous features was a nursery containing a considerable variety of hardy trees. It had been established by the Arboriculturist of the Brooklyn Department, but needed considerable attention.

Beyond the above, Forest Park was largely a wilderness of trees through which the public roamed at will, committing such depredations as they felt inclined and for which there never had been provided any police protection worthy of the name.



THE CONCERT GROVE, FOREST PARK.

None of its by-paths or main paths were lighted and in this respect it was a disgrace to the City.

KISSENA LAKE.

This park, purchased in 1909, had about five acres of its area mowed and under some sort of cultivation, with a few paths or crude roads through the entire area. It had no buildings upon it except a 5' x 6' shack. In other respects it was very much as nature made it.

It contains within its boundaries a considerable area approximating 16.4 acres of submerged or partially submerged woods and swamp land, through which the water flowed from springs. In that condition it was a breeding place of the most objectionable kind for mosquitoes.

COLLEGE POINT.

Under the charge of a single man during the hours of eight to five, throughout the year, this park has long been a pleasant space for the enjoyment of citizens of the village of College Point.

It consists of small turfed spaces with paths running through them and a fountain of some pretension in the center. It was inexpensive to maintain and little money has been spent upon it. It was in fair condition when it came into the present hands.



THE PUBLIC GOLF CLUB HOUSE, FOREST PARK.

UPLAND.

Formerly known as Highland Park, Jamaica, it consists of 5.50 acres which had been cared for daily by one man and comprised an attractive lawn facing on Highland Avenue, backed by a pond produced by the wash of surface water from the vicinity.

The remaining area of the park consists of woods in their natural condition. The whole park is now well surrounded with dwellings of a high class. No money whatever, so far as your Commissioner can discover, has ever been expended thereupon, and only through the personal interest of the man in charge had anything in the way of a park been made out of it. His work reflected the greatest credit upon him.

However, it was a park only in name.

Besides the above-mentioned park spaces the Department of Parks, Borough of Queens, came into possession of nothing beyond a few small triangles at street intersections in Long Island City, Jamaica, and elsewhere, six in all. They are parks in name only.

ROCKAWAY.

At the time this Department came into being Rockaway Park was a stretch of beach, nearly a mile long, fronting the Atlantic Ocean and backed by a system of streets with one or two east and west avenues resulting from a real estate development known as Rockaway Park. It was at the time uncertain whether the Park Department had any

jurisdiction over the beach front, although it was admitted that they were responsible for the upkeep of the streets mentioned. All of these streets were more or less completely built up with handsome detached residences, and there were a few stores on the avenues.

As far as I can discover it has cost the city not one dollar for its acquisition. It was deeded to it by the following * instruments, and is destined to be one of the most magnificent park prizes ever acquired. The reason for this can be understood by noting the character of the restriction clauses.

It is already patronized by the most orderly class of people that frequents any portion of the Atlantic beach front.

HIGHLAND.

This park, nearer to the Brooklyn Park Administration Building and a large and growing population, was found to be in a higher state of development than any other in the jurisdiction of the present Department of Queens. It was well maintained. Its greatest faults were lack of proper lighting and police protection.

Its natural advantages are remarkable and it is already one of the handsomest small parks in the Greater City, as will be seen from accompanying photographs.

KINGS.

This park, located in the heart of the village of Jamaica and consisting of a square of land acquired in 1897, contains an old colonial homestead, used now as a museum. In addition to this, the Brooklyn Park Commissioner had improved the park and recently fenced it, thereby effectively protecting it. It was in a higher state of cultivation than most of the others.

RAINEY.

As the photograph will show, this was merely a vacant lot of 5.09 acres on the river front of Ravenswood, Long Island City, and was in an utterly neglected and disreputable condition, through no fault of the former department.

Money for its improvement had been appropriated but recently, the expenditure of which has devolved upon this Department. The accompanying photograph will show its condition when received.

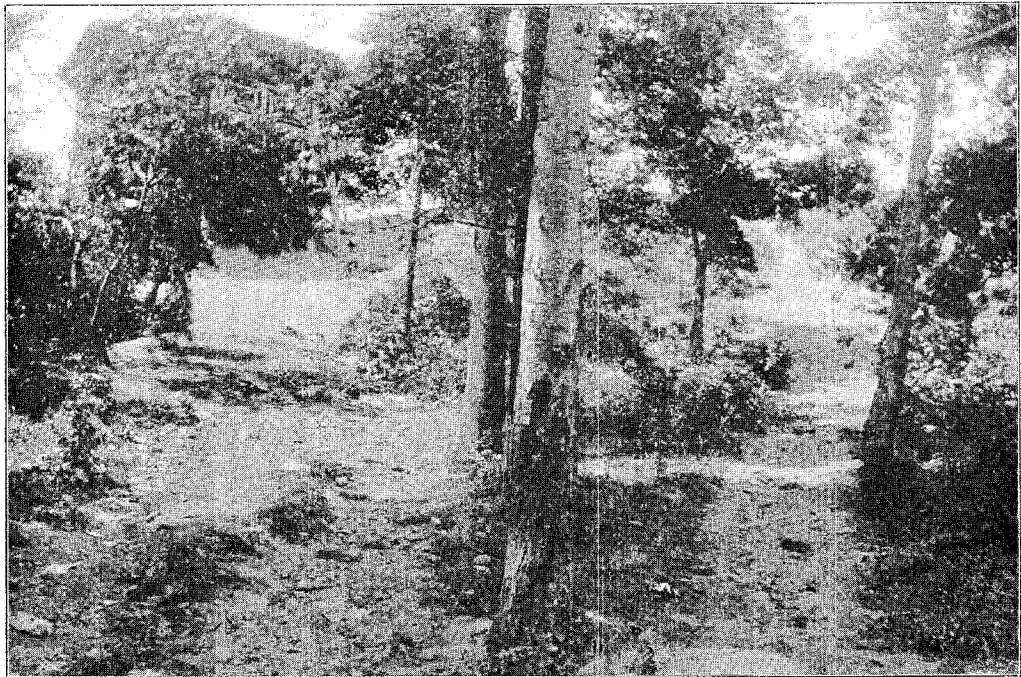
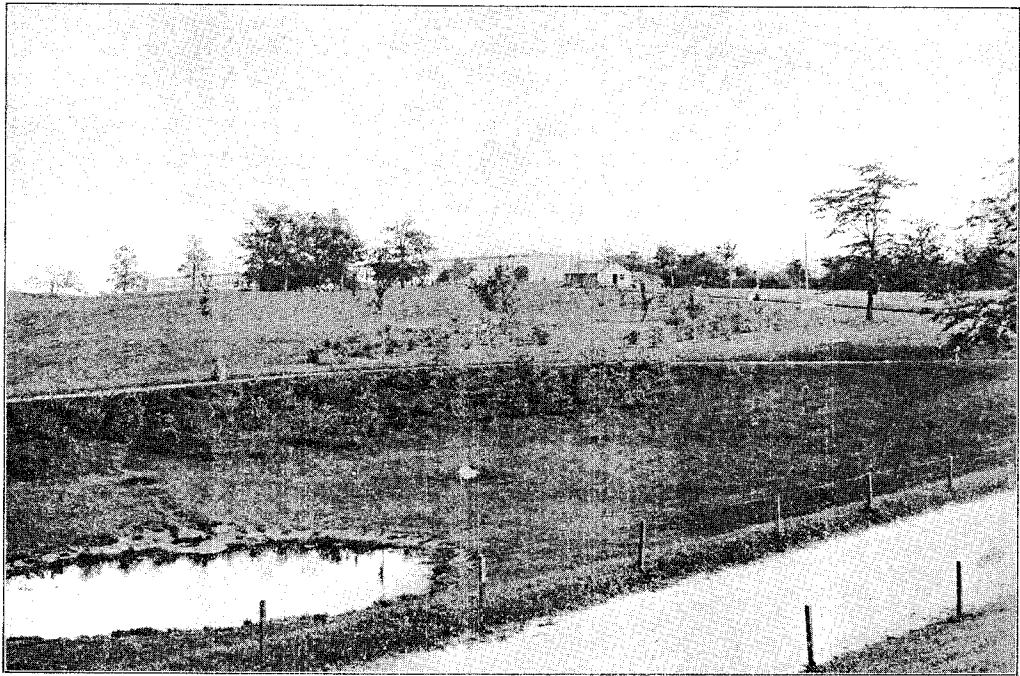
PARK ACQUISITIONS.

In addition to the before-mentioned park areas there have since been added to my jurisdiction new parks as follows:

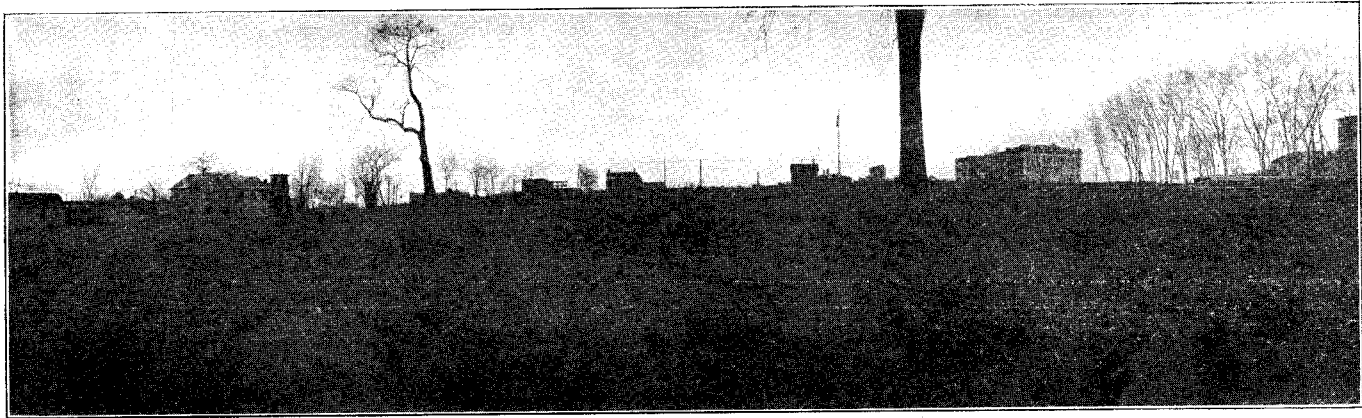
TELAWANA.

Consisting of an area about a mile long on the Rockaway Peninsula extending from the line of the Neponsit property westward and half a mile in width between Jamaica Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. It is a strip of sand dunes with bay and ocean beach fronts entirely devoid of any building whatsoever. It is designed for a combination pleasure ground and a site for various seaside hospitals and sanitarium. Before the City took possession there was constructed a narrow macadamized roadway known

* See history of the parks at the end of this report.



"VIEWS IN HIGHLAND PARK IN 1911."



RAINEY PARK, LONG ISLAND CITY, 1912, BEFORE DEVELOPMENT.

as Washington avenue, which extends through its' center from east to west and terminates in a street at right angles, also macadamized. Both of these are rights of way reserved for the public. Washington avenue is not within the complete control of the Department.

FLUSHING COMMON (at Leavitt Avenue).

This area is a low-lying, swampy space of about 7.61 acres, situated a block or two north of Broadway in the heart of Flushing, and through the middle of which extends an open drain.

The area has cost the city nothing material for its acquisition, but it will constitute a valuable asset very highly appreciated by the citizens of Flushing.

THE POLICE FARM.

Largely through the efforts of your Commissioner the ground formerly occupied as a training ground for the police horses and in the possession of the Police Department was turned over to the Sinking Fund and by them to this Department as a highly desirable and much-needed addition to the Kissena Lake Park, Broadway, Flushing. It consists of about 23.12 acres,* principally upland, which border the northerly side of the N. Hempstead turnpike. It is designed for a much needed recreation ground for the citizens of both Jamaica and Flushing, being equally accessible from each place.

WAYANDA.

Formerly the Pauper Burial Ground, is supposed to have had two or three interments in it, all evidences of which have been obliterated. It consists of a two-acre space adjoining a public school in the village of Queens and on one of the many highways of the Borough. This property was also turned over to the Department of Parks through the efforts of your Commissioner, as it was a neglected spot, of use to nobody, and an eye-sore to the neighborhood. It faced the Roman Catholic Church and the rectory, which, like the school property, is kept highly improved. With very trifling expense it will be properly turned into a parklike resting place for old and young.

RESERVOIR SITE IN FOREST PARK.

On taking charge of the Department your Commissioner found that a large area, consisting of sixty-six acres, in the most vital portion of Forest Park was under the control of the Department of Water Supply, Gas & Electricity, having been secured by it years ago for a projected reservoir. It covered practically the whole of the main portion of the golf links, upon which much money had been expended by the City. The Commissioner, finding that the idea of a reservoir had been abandoned, secured a transfer of this property to the Park Department for park uses.

* It embraces about 2.6 acres of swamp.

THE FOLLOWING LIST, THEREFORE, SHOWS THE NAMES AND DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS PARKS OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS ON DEC. 31, 1912.

| Park No. | Area in acres. |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Forest Park | 536.00 |
| 2. Telawana (or Rockaway Beach Park) | 262.58 |
| 3. Kissena Lake Park (at Broadway, Flushing) | 65.00 |
| Kissena Lake Park Addition (Police Farm) | 23.12 |
| 4. Highland Park (near Brooklyn line) | 59.60 |
| 5. Rockaway Park (beach frontage and streets deeded) | 17.87 |
| 6. Kings Park, Jamaica | 11.50 |
| 7. Flushing Common (Leavitt Ave.), Flushing | 7.61 |
| 8. Upland Park, Jamaica | 5.50 |
| 9. Rainey Park (Long Island City) | 5.09 |
| 10. Linden Park (Corona) | 3.00 |
| 11. Wayanda Park (pauper burial ground) | 2.00 |
| 12. College Point Park | 1.14 |
| 13. Flushing Park (the Public Square) | 1.02 |
| 14. Poppenhausen Park (College Point) | .05 |
| 15. Ashmead Park in Jamaica | .27 |
| 16. Sanford Angle, Jackson Ave. and 6th St., L. I. C. | .05 |
| 17. Bowley Angle, Jackson Ave. and 11th St., L. I. C. | .01 |
| 18. Gleason Angle, Jackson Ave. and 12th St., L. I. C. | .01 |
| 19. Cassidy Angle, Vernon Ave. and Nott Ave. and Hancock St., Ravens- wood | .08 |
| | 1,001.50 |

Which shows a total gain of 312.58 acres.

Conditions under which the present park areas were turned over to the Queens Department were probably largely due to the piecemeal way in which some of the present park areas were acquired from time to time under the old departments.

Portions of the larger, and, in some cases, the entire boundaries of the smaller, parks, were found to be unmarked by proper monuments, and the visible boundaries were, therefore, uncertain.

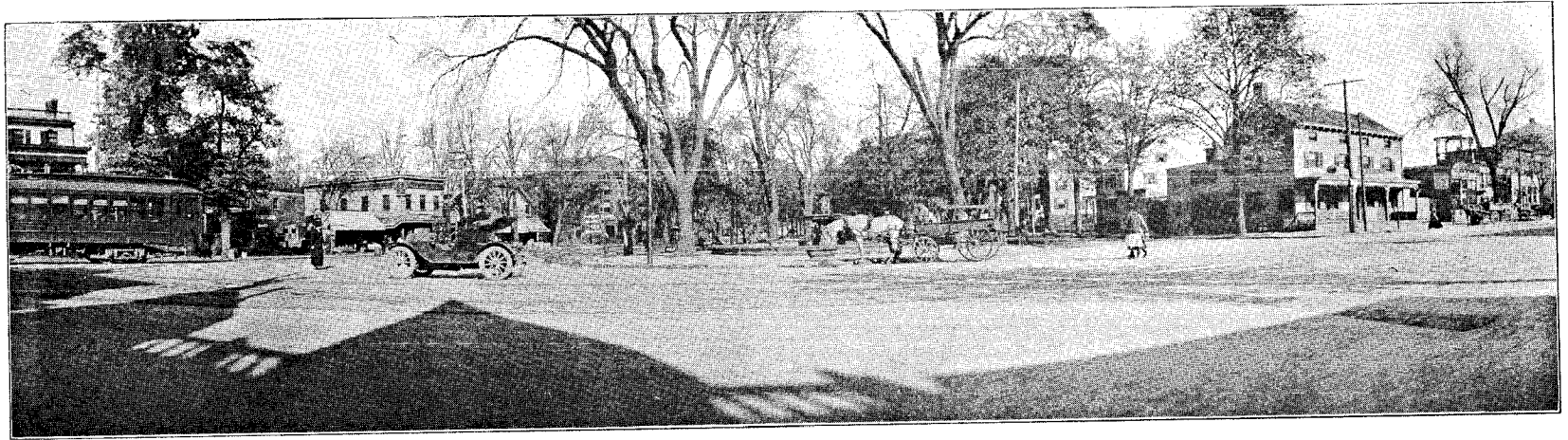
Some of these monuments have recently been set by the present Department, and as others are to be set before the end of the present year it is hoped all of them will soon be properly outlined.

It was much the same with the fencing.

That of Kings Park, in Jamaica, had just been completed prior to the separation of the Departments. It produced results of the most satisfactory kind, preventing what had been a serious mutilation of that park caused by the almost common practice of pedestrians cutting across the park, at any point from the bounding streets. The subsequent sodding and seeding has added greatly to its beauty.

No other park can be said to have been provided with anything like a proper fencing of this nature, except a portion of Forest Park which was fenced many years ago with an iron fence. The unfenced portions extend for a distance of nearly 35,440 feet and the lack of fencing and monumenting in said portions has led to a suit against the City for the recovery by former owners of the property bought by the City. The suit in one case is now in the hands of the Corporation Counsel for defense and involves something like fifteen or twenty acres of very valuable land.

In the opinion of your Commissioner, a temporary protective fence should be erected immediately after the acquisition of park areas and a permanent fence completed around each of those now in possession of the Department. Contracts were



FLUSHING PARK.

prepared for the erection of such fences in Forest Park, but were rejected by the Finance Department investigator. In the case of Forest Park lack of it has led to the stealing of a very considerable amount of timber in the form of trees chopped down and removed. Most of such marauding was done at night or at times when lack of park guards or insufficient police protection offered the best opportunities therefor.

All of this has now been stopped.

Proper drainage for the different parks has not even been attempted. In most of them stagnant, mosquito-breeding pools and submerged bits of woodland are a menace to the health and comfort of wide areas. This is especially the case with Forest, Linden and Kissena Lake parks, and Flushing Common.

For Forest a request was made by Commissioner Kennedy to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for corporate stock to the amount of about \$207,000 to improve it.

For Kissena Lake Park I asked for a similar, but smaller, sum in my corporate stock budget request for 1912. Up to date no action has been taken, although I strenuously urged it. The matter is still before the Board of Estimate's Corporate Stock Committee.

In Linden Park, Corona, the aid of the Board of Health was effectively solicited and resulted in steps being taken by the Borough President of Queens to have Linden street properly graded to prevent the inflow of cesspool drainage into the park. The work of regrading, sodding, planting, and rehabilitating the park is going on at the present time and will be completed about June 1st, 1913. The complete cleaning of the pond therein and the construction of a clay bottom with sloping concrete shoreline is well under way.

In the matter of drainage a very bad condition of affairs also exists at Upland Park, on Highland avenue, in Jamaica, due to an influx of surface drainage from adjoining property and from the half-finished streets of one or more development companies.

To control this a request has been presented by this Department to the Board of Estimate for the acquisition of three and one-fifth acres of additional park areas to the northeast of the present park in connection with an offer of the donation of another acre adjoining it by Mr. Robt. W. Higbie. The matter is now before the present Board of Estimate.

In Upland Park the lack of fencing and monumenting has led apparently to trespassing by an adjoining development company at the northerly end with consequent sequestration for a development street of a corner of the park which the city owns.

With regard to the water supply needed for each and all of the parks, no adequate provision has been made.

Small pipes have been laid in one or two places, in both Highland and Forest, to serve urgent needs over short areas, but in the case of each and every park the need of a proper water pipe system is manifest and provision should be made immediately for at least a beginning. In most of the parks it would be entirely possible to supply this from tube wells by pumps owned and operated by the park, instead of paying, as we do at present, local water companies charging rates considerably above those paid by Manhattan and Brooklyn. For this purpose corporate stock to a small amount should be provided.

ACQUISITION OF NEW PARK AREAS.

This subject is one of immediate urgency if Queens is ever to be supplied with even the most limited percentage of general parks. The danger and expense of longer delaying it admits of no dispute. The particular obstacle to the purchase of the largest areas most needed at the present time appears to be the general attitude of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which will be maintained for the next 20 years if the usual argument that "the City has insufficient funds" is to be admitted. The subject has been threshed out, one might say, a hundred times by the different Boroughs during the last fifty or a hundred years, and it may be that the only way it will ever be promptly accomplished for Queens will be by Legislative creation of a commission to acquire by private purchase as well as by condemnation the areas which such a commission shall deem necessary or urgent at the present time. The legislative act for the purpose should specifically state the amount of money to be expended therefor, to be provided by the City at large, or part by the City and part by the Borough, according to the circumstances of the individual park spaces. Such a commission should, in the opinion of your Commissioner, consist of the Mayor, the Park Commissioner, the Landscape Architect, the Chief of the Queens Topographical Bureau, Chief Engineer Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and a representative of such body of citizens as the Chamber of Commerce of The City of New York.

The futility of merely placing new parks upon the topographical tentative maps of the Borough of Queens has already been shown.

Local property owners, fearing that any portion of the expense therefor would be placed upon them, as some proportion certainly should, have caused pressure to be placed upon the Borough President and the Topographical Bureau for the removal of such parks before or after the adoption of the map.

Queens Borough is peculiarly conditioned in this respect. The conditions are far different from those in other Boroughs, in that it consists of what were formerly scattered and locally interested small villages or towns, having few interests in common and an unreasonable jealousy of each other. Anything of a park nature, or, in fact, any improvement which one community wanted was fought, and is still, to a considerable extent, fought by the others almost unitedly.

Under such circumstances, unless a commission of intelligent experts such as has been outlined is constituted to take the matter up in a broad way and on scientific lines, Queens has little hope of being properly or even meagrely supplied with the necessary parks for its future development, because development companies and local building operators are fast taking up all the areas available for such purposes. In this connection it should be interesting to note that the best landscape practice seems to indicate that areas containing extensive percentages of swampy lands are far better adapted to park purposes than uninterrupted sweeps of upland, and are obtainable at a much lower figure than upland would cost.

It is the opinion of your Commissioner that such areas as are deemed necessary to be purchased at the present time should not be immediately and extensively improved until such steps are taken as may be necessary to protect their boundaries and make them as available for public use as small appropriations over an extended period of time can produce, limiting the developments to the smallest possible tax upon the maintenance force.

THE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PARKS TO BE ACQUIRED.

It is not the purpose of your Commissioner to recommend at this time the purchase of what are known as neighborhood parks for the reason that they can be safely

acquired after it is no longer possible to acquire the larger areas; and for the further reason that they are not necessarily a part of a comprehensive system or plan for the whole of the Borough which should be marked out and carried into execution at the *earliest* possible moment before land becomes unavailable therefor.

I would most strongly urge that the most careful consideration be given to the plan of assessment for the purchase of such parks as may be necessary for a *system* for the reason that any park belonging to such a system should be paid for by the City at large. I offer as my opinion, and that of most of the experts on park matters in different parts of the country, that the City as a whole should pay as its share 50 per cent. at least, and I would urge that in no case should an assessment upon the abutting owners be more than 20 per cent. nor less than 10 per cent. Such local assessment is always more than compensated by the immediate rise in the value of abutting property if it is known that a park is to be acquired there, while the park which belongs to a *system* is enjoyed at one time or another by every citizen of the Greater City.

In the case of local or neighborhood parks, however, the benefit is merely local and should be assessed at least 50 per cent. upon the adjacent owners and at least 30 per cent. or more upon the Borough. The balance upon the City at large.

This proportion is established almost by common usage and consent in most of the principal cities of the country, if the reports therefrom speak truly.

By acquiring parks after the methods above suggested the honor or abuse will not be borne by any one local administration which will not then be made a target for political attack to an extent, as at present, which makes a Borough President unwilling to go into the park matters with any enthusiasm when his political head may be at stake.

Such a condition of affairs has been largely responsible for the lack of adequate parks in Queens.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF PARKS.

As expressing fully my views on another matter I quote the following:

"Conclusions and Recommendations in the Matter of the Improvement and Development of Our Parks." Adopted March 4, 1912, by your Parks Advisory Committee through its Chairman, Mr. A. H. Spencer:

"It is my view that many of the causes of our troubles with regard to our parks are deep-seated and fundamental, and, broadly speaking, uncontrollable by our Park Department; at best, it must of necessity be by slow processes that such conditions will be created as will correct the present shortcomings, which are:

"Undeveloped rapid and cheap transit facilities.

"Congestion of our population.

"Chronic disregard on the part of the public of public property rights which, despite repeated assertions to the contrary, *is not* confined to the foreign-born element.

"Untidiness of the population at large.

"Lack of general discipline of the population, most often traceable to the home.

"Insufficient playgrounds for children and young people, who, in order to develop body and mind, must play.

"During the past thirty years great progress has been made toward remedying these evils, and without doubt that progress will continue. Plain necessity will finally curb the national characteristic of carelessness and ill-treatment of nature's gifts. Referring to category mentioned above—

"1. (Cheap and rapid transit.) This is being pushed by all concerned with due regard for the questions before the City.

"2. (Congestion of population.) This is receiving like attention by the authorities, by public-spirited bodies, and by individuals.

"3 & 4. (Disregard of public property; untidiness of population.) This would find partial solution by a greater coöperation between various City Departments, *i. e.*, School, Police, Street Cleaning, Highways, etc., the heads of which should meet AS FREQUENTLY AS POSSIBLE (weekly or monthly), with the Mayor presiding, for the discussion of inter-departmental matters.

"5. (Lack of discipline.) This will, I am sure, receive attention through persistent publicity and through appeal to parents or guardians and through the schools and the pulpit.

"6. (Insufficient playgrounds.) This lack of recreation space, if corrected, or remedied as far as possible (using, perhaps, to that end some of the means below mentioned) will not only save our parks but give us, within ten or twenty years, the finest in the world:

"(a) Additional and sufficient police protection (younger men).

"(b) The coöperation of the pupils of our schools, who should be put upon their honor and a considerable number given badges of authority by school principals and teachers and enlisted as Park Scouts.

"(c) Coöperation of our City magistrates.

"Larger appropriations would, of course, be necessary, but it is safe to predict that these funds would be forthcoming (it is hoped in the form of a substantial bond issue) after a definite plan worthy of respectful consideration has been adopted.

"Remedy suggested with regard to playgrounds:

"Reduction in tax rate to owners of vacant lots which will be thrown open for use as playgrounds.

"The closing to transit traffic (as distinguished from local traffic) of one street in five for certain hours (after school each day during the school term and all day during vacation); one street at a time to be closed in that manner for one week—the street to its north or south, as the case may be, to be closed for the following week, and so on. The intention being to close each street not more than seven days during the months.

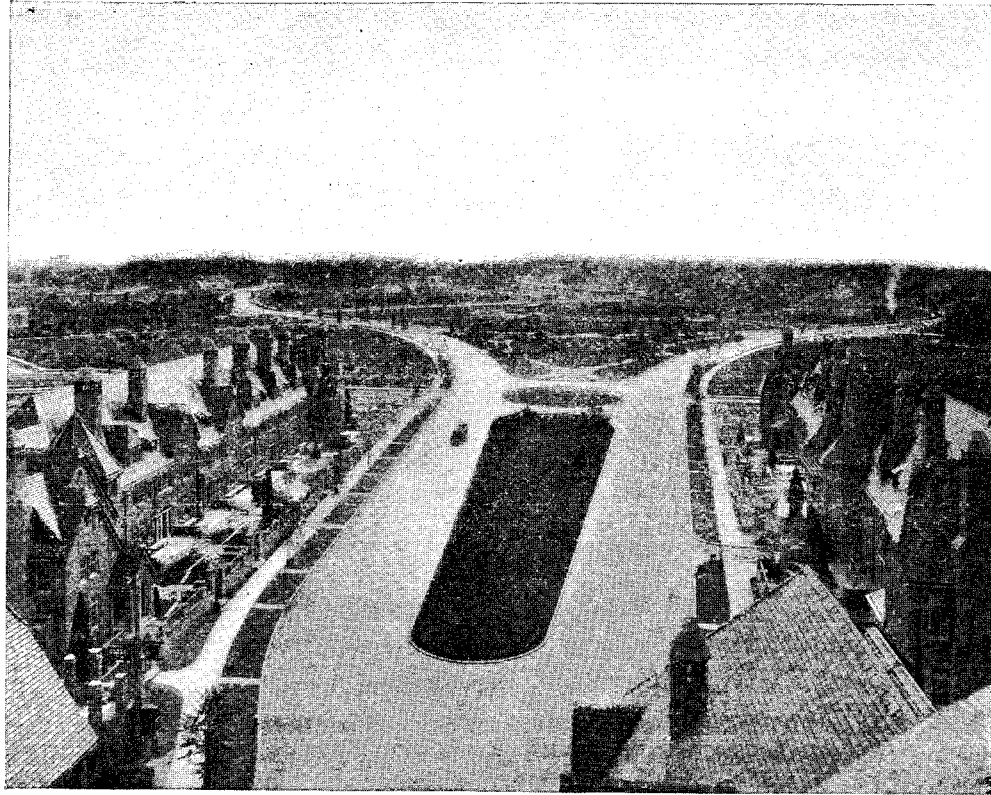
"*Summing up and Recommendation.*—Settle the playground question first and the park-care question will adjust itself. I recommend that, until the playground question is settled, no aggressive campaign be started for the rehabilitation of our park lawns, as money so spent would be much in the nature of a waste; but efforts be continued to preserve them in their present state.

"Chief efforts in the line of vegetation should be confined to trees (nursing the old ones and planting saplings), and to shrubs.

"Mature trees cannot be purchased; their development takes from 25 to 50 years; *trees are a matter of time, not of money.*

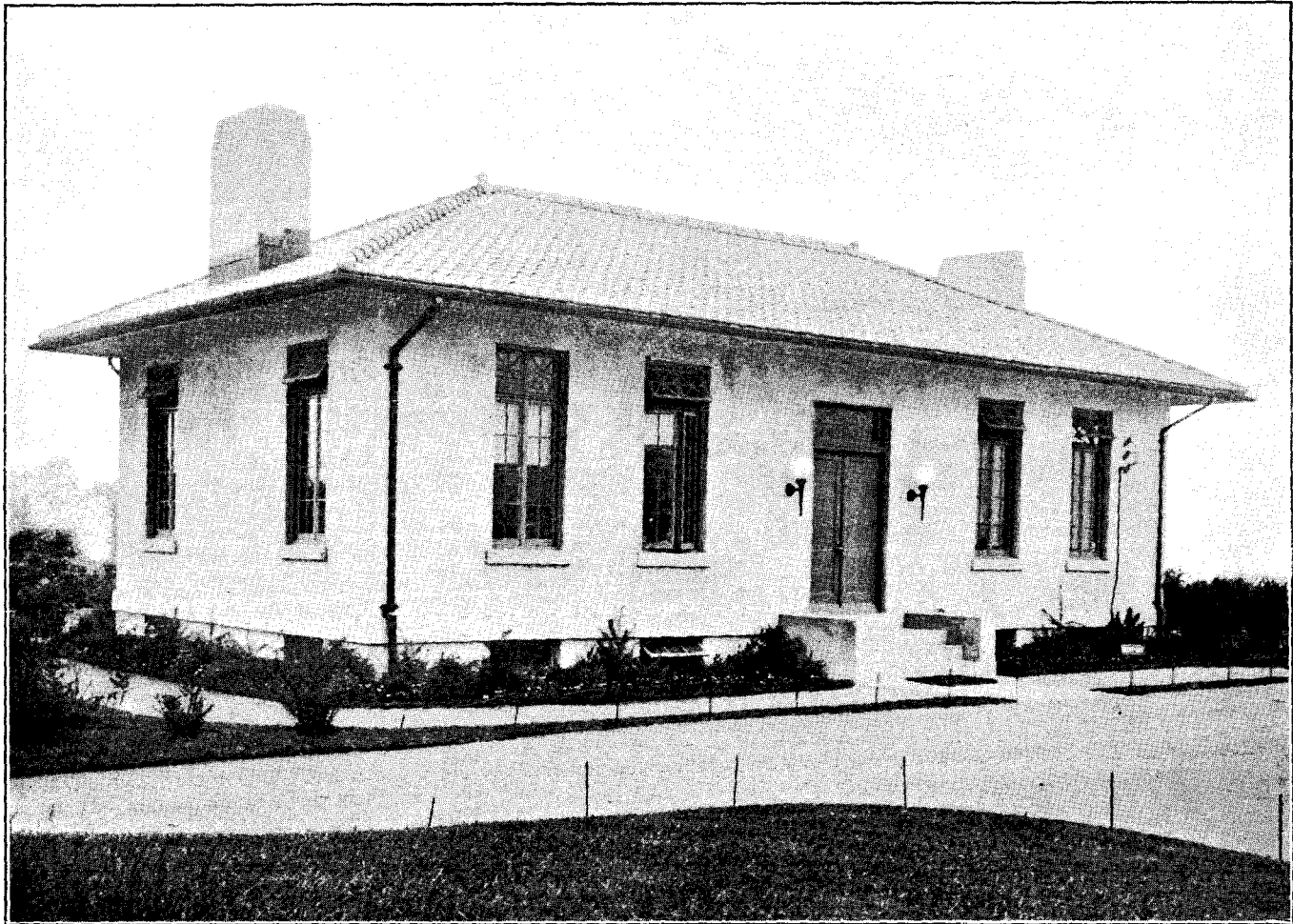
"Bushes, on the contrary, take comparatively little time to develop into a park ornament, and can readily be acquired at any time; they are practically a matter of money.

"Grass lawns can, with the necessary funds, be provided at any time and within a comparatively short period; these are also mainly a matter of money."



FOREST HILLS GARDENS FROM STATION SQUARE.

Forest Park shown in the background. X shows location of Queens Park Department.



"OVERLOOK," FIRST PART OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, QUEENS PARK DEPT.



THE OFFICE FORCE AND PART OF THE FIELD FORCE.

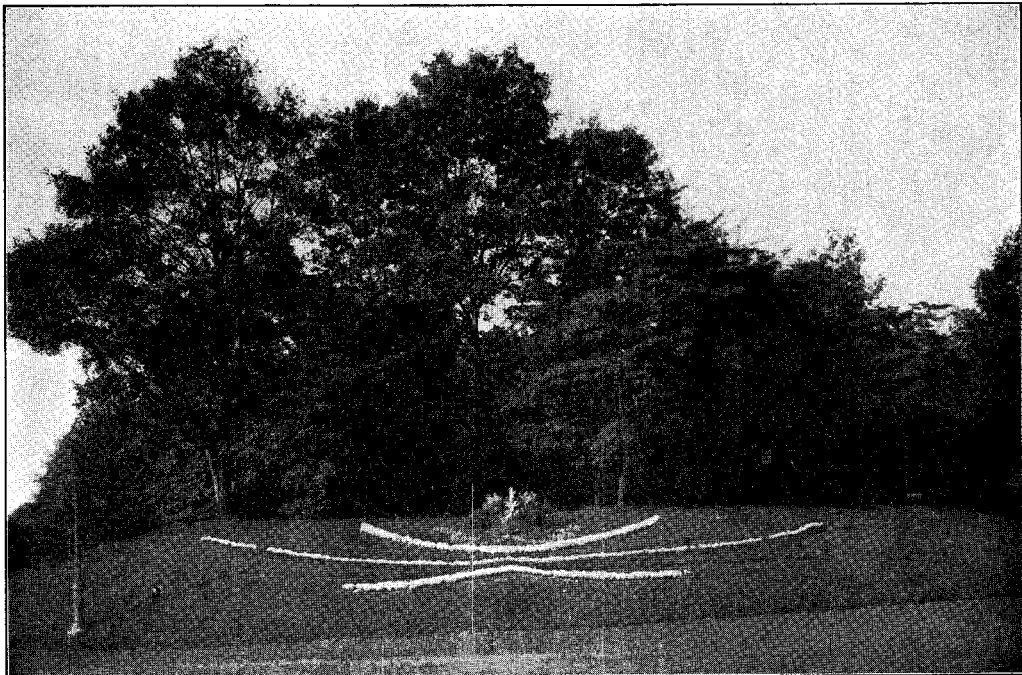
THE PARK SYSTEM OF QUEENS.

Queens has few parks. Those which she does possess are capable of remarkable development along the lines of æsthetic beauty and for recreational purposes.

Its largest park, known as Forest Park, is ten acres larger than the celebrated Prospect Park of Brooklyn. At present it is largely covered with forest, as its name implies, and is in a transition state, but it is by nature capable of becoming the handsomest park in our whole city system. Owing to its long and narrow shape, it is available for an immense number of people occupying a wide area, and the coming year will probably see remarkable changes in it. There are extensive lumbering operations going on at the present time for the removal of dead and unsightly trees and this work will be followed up by the cutting of roads and paths already planned. It has one of the best golf links of eighteen holes that can be found in any park and is provided with a handsome club house, amply equipped with lockers and conveniences, all of which are open to the public, free, under proper restrictions.

A part of the building for the headquarters of the Queens Park Department has been erected in the extreme northeasterly end of the park. It is designated as "The Overlook" and commands a view of the entire greater city in a circle of twenty miles.

A connecting parkway is being put upon the map which will enable the visitor from Brooklyn to drive through the Eastern parkway, through Highland Park and this connecting parkway into Forest Park, from whence a vehicle can pass through the entire length of Forest Park and beyond to Flushing or Jamaica, over well developed roads. Within the limits of this park is to be found a nursery with a wide variety of trees, established by the Department two or three years ago and comprising over 160,000 specimens for use in the future parks and streets of Queens. Extensive green-

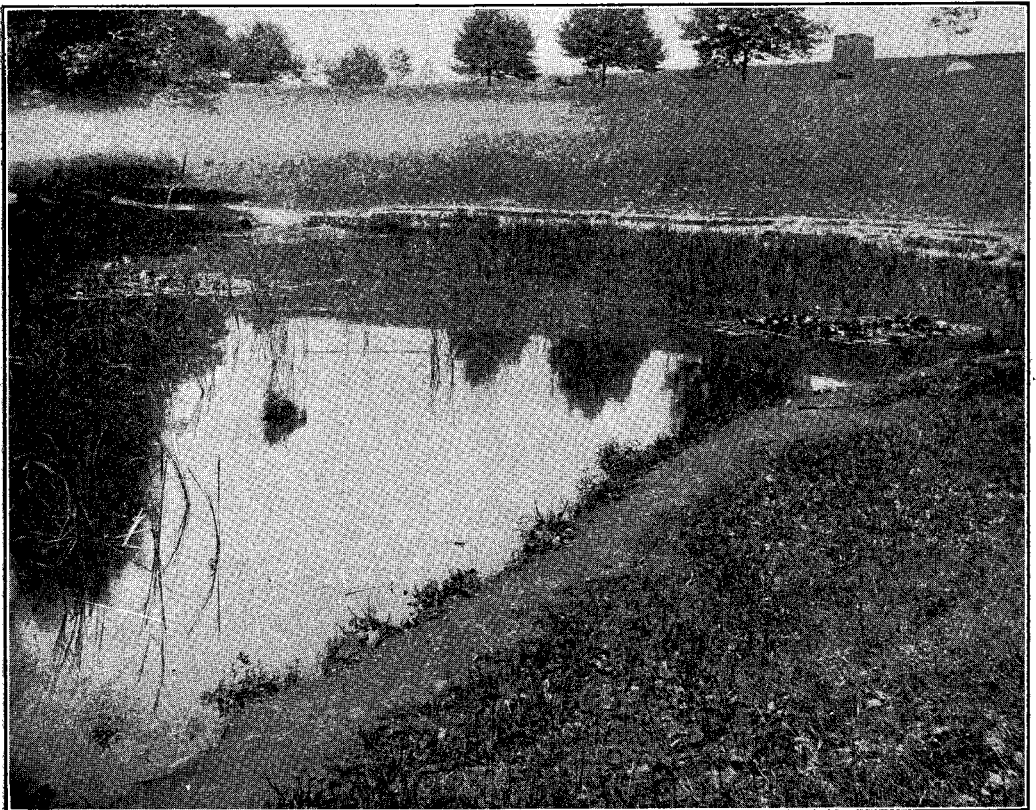


ARTISTIC GARDENING, FOREST PARK, A BASKET OF FLOWERS.

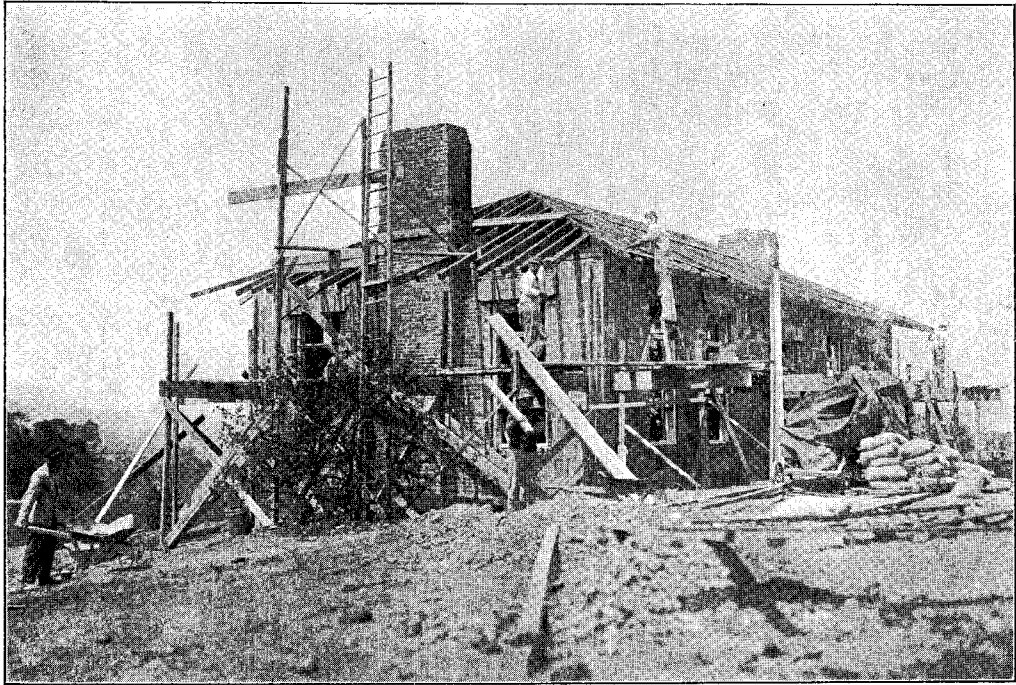
must certainly have been known that they contained spores of the dangerous disease which destroyed them. The place was thick with dead undergrowth.

Saplings were allowed to spring up when and where they chanced. As no one attempted to thin out the woods, great numbers of trees died for want of light and lack of food, due to improper spacing. This dead wood, or rather, the unhealthy, slowly dying trees, afforded many breeding places for insect and fungous life. Trees springing up and growing haphazard very often are found in any but the surroundings for which nature has fitted them. In view of circumstances, if these trees are extensively infected, can we say that it is due to plague? Would it not be abnormal and even unnatural if they were not infected?

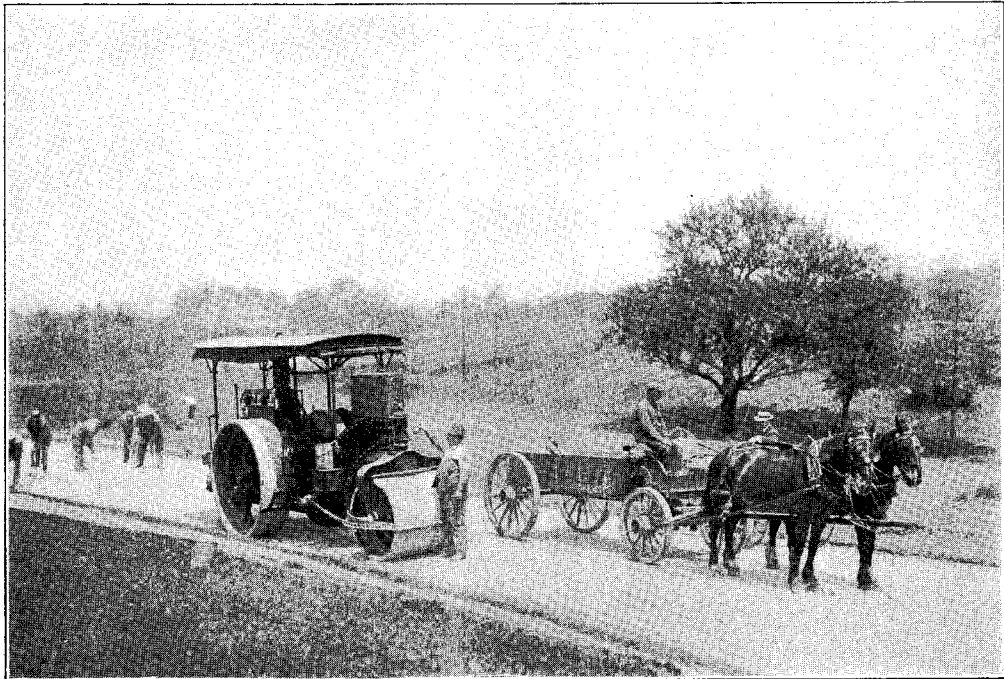
Experience has taught us that all kinds of life are adversely affected by improper surroundings. In them plant or animal life invariably meets with conditions with which it cannot cope. Take the hickory tree, for example. Trees of this species, given access to a plentiful supply of sunlight, properly spaced, kept clear of undergrowth, we have found in excellent condition. They are, in fact, practically immune from disease. Their bark is soft and tender. Almost invariably these will be found infected by beetle pests. This is due in great part to the fact that the weakened tree is prone, naturally, to infection, in no small measure, too, to the beetle's aversion to working in the sunlight, and in these particular cases to the impeding of the food



VIEW IN HIGHLAND PARK IN 1911.



"OVERLOOK," THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BEGINNING OF CONSTRUCTION. 1911-12.



FOREST PARK—WORKING ON THE ROADS—MAY, 1912.

houses in a high state of development are also in use and provide the flowers for use in this and all other Queens parks.

The changes and improvements in Forest Park are of such a character as to have rendered the service of the golf fields thoroughly satisfactory to the players, so that the Park Department is now in receipt of few, if any, complaints of any nature. The links have been greatly improved and the engineering force is laying out a system of piping, with the intention of keeping the greens in a shape more approaching that of some of the expensive private links. Much sodding and improvement of that nature has been completed and is still going on.

The lumber operations there have been progressing at a rapid rate and all of the dead trees have been felled. A great deal of it is already sawn into merchantable material. Many thousands of them have been felled—few of the remaining trees can be removed until hard frost sets in without destruction to the undergrowth.

Surveyors have the lines for the new roads and the contracts will soon be ready for advertising.

The greenhouses have been largely repainted. A vast number of repairs of all sorts have been made in the buildings and properties of the park and many new and needed machines, like road rollers, gasoline lawn mowers, watering carts, pruners and climbers and general work vehicles have been added, temporary stables rebuilt and added to, repair sheds, carpenter shop, manure pits, pumping tanks and new mains have all been added.

The emergency part of an administration building, now designated "The Overlook," is approaching completion. It is designed for and intended to be the main office of the department. The department moved into it on December 12th and it was at once seen to be far too small to serve its purpose.

An additional two-story building and an adjoining comfort station will be needed at once.

The following letter explains itself:

"The Overlook," Richmond Hill, L. I.

March 11, 1913.

CLIFFORD R. PETTIS, *Esq.*,

Supt. of State Forests, Albany, N. Y.

Dear Sir—As one interested in the culture and care of trees throughout this state, you may perhaps attach some value to information concerning the condition of trees in that section of Long Island embraced by Queens County. To this information we would like to add our opinions of the causes which brought about existing conditions, for we contend that, in view of circumstances, the extent of their infection by disease or insect pests is neither abnormal nor something at which we should wonder. The following will easily prove our contention.

During the past decade tree care in this section has been almost entirely neglected. Only since the establishment of an independent park department in Queens has sufficient systematic care been secured for them. But the time (a little more than a year) has been much too short to repair the damage done by long years of neglect.

When Commissioner Eliot took charge of the Park Department of Queens, the state of woodlands here can best be shown by describing the condition of Forest Park (a typical example of forest in this section) at that time.

Some six or seven thousand chestnut trees, left dead by the chestnut blight which ravaged the species throughout the state years ago, were still standing, although it

supply by heavy undergrowth. Naturally, these trees, placed in environments for which they were ill adapted by nature, at length succumbed. This result was only natural, for one cannot expect a tree, under such conditions, to survive and grow to maturity any more than he would expect a child, ill-fed, ill-clothed and neglected, to grow to strong, hardy manhood.

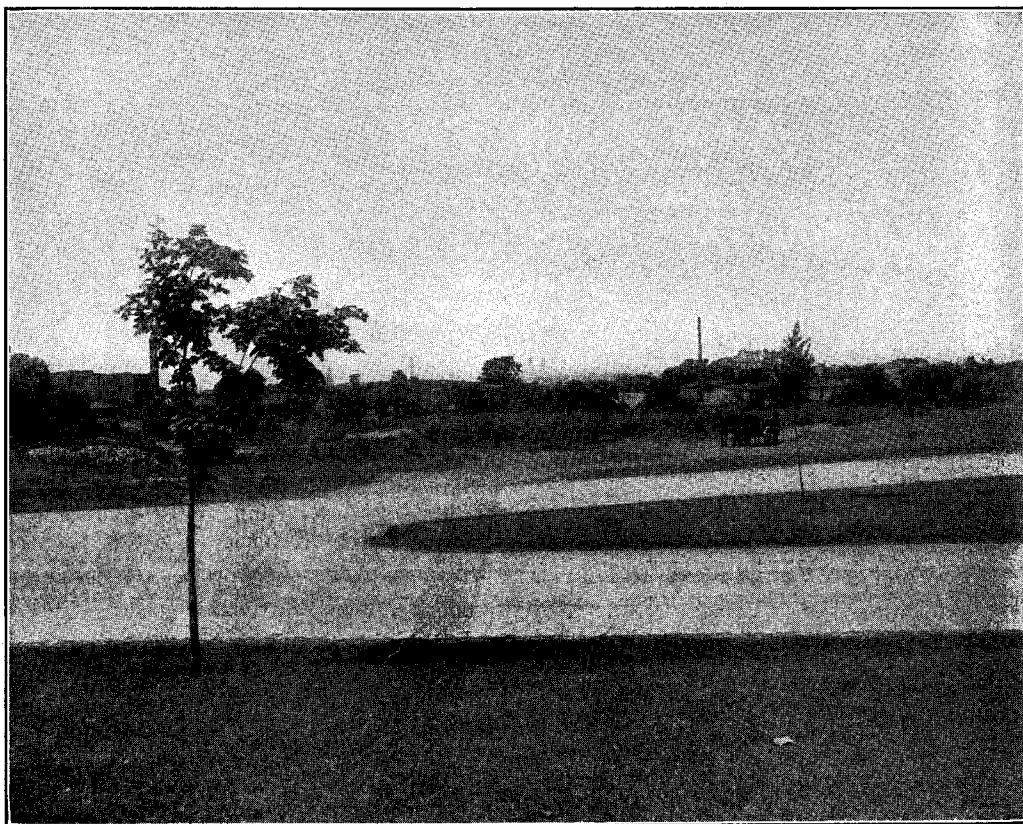
Since Commissioner Eliot has taken office he has had the dead chestnut trees removed, infected trees have been cut down and burned, and he is now bending his best efforts to secure funds for removing these tree stumps, clearing out the dead wood and undergrowth. Measures for thinning out the forest, that the remaining trees will be properly spaced, hence having access to sufficient sunlight, unimpeded food supply, etc., are now under advisement.

In this way we shall, by compelling the growth of trees in none but proper environment, force nature to fight with us. What additional measures we are taking to exterminate destructive diseases have been related in our report, submitted to the conference recently held at your office.

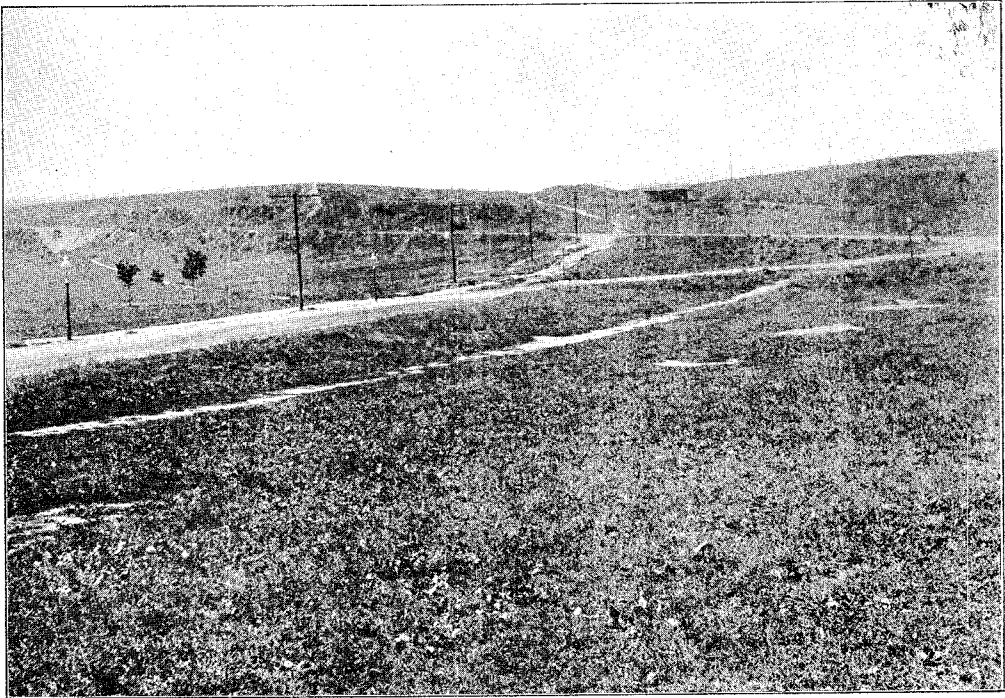
Very truly yours,

JAMES F. BURNS,

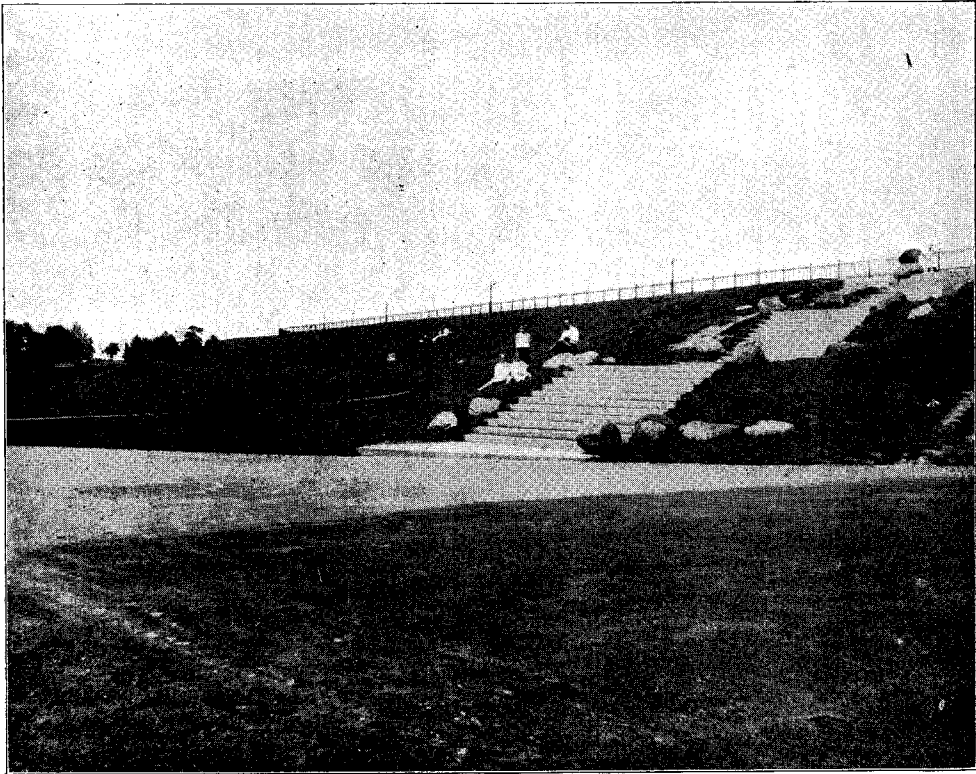
Arboriculturist, Dept. of Parks, Borough of Queens.



VIEW IN HIGHLAND PARK IN 1911.



HIGHLAND PARK IN 1911.



HIGHLAND PARK—1911.

November 9, 1912.

*Hon. W. G. ELIOT, Commissioner of Parks,
Borough of Queens.*

Sir—In compliance with your order for an accounting of the tree stumps and felled trees in Forest Park, the following is the result of the accounting of the men assigned to that work:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of tree stumps over 6 inches in diameter, branded red..... | 8,727 |
| Included in this number, cut within the present year, branded red and white.. | 6,551 |
| Number of felled trees in Forest Park..... | 1,782 |
| Number of trees felled, set aside as city property, at present lying in Forest Park | 1,107 |

The records from which this accounting has been taken are set forth in the books of this Department.

Respectfully,

JAMES F. BURNS, *Arboriculturist.*

HIGHLAND PARK.

Of approximately 59.6 acres, is situated on the Borough line between Brooklyn and Queens, the principal portion of which, especially the more highly developed part, is in Queens and the lower land, fronting on Jamaica avenue, in Kings, subject to the



THE ZARTMANN BRIDGE, HIGHLAND PARK.

jurisdiction of the Kings Commissioner. It is a remarkably picturesque park, having within its confines a very early Dutch colonial house known as the Schenck Mansion; a distributing reservoir of considerable acreage belonging to the Brooklyn Water Department, which adds greatly to its beauty; ball fields, music stands, where concerts are given, as in Forest Park, during the summer, also very attractive gardens, walks and places of rest. It is patronized by a large number of visitors, especially on Sundays and holidays and from one portion of the park a magnificent view extends out over Jamaica Bay toward the Rockaways to the Atlantic Ocean. The principal part of its area is on a plateau high above the surrounding region of East New York, Woodhaven, etc.

KISSENA LAKE PARK.

Until recently the principal park in Queens, beyond those already enumerated, was a comparatively recent purchase known as Kissena Lake Park, in the Broadway section of Flushing, containing about 65 acres, part of it in lake, fed by rapid springs, and part of it in swamp forest.

The entire park is surrounded by finished or finishing streets belonging to the Queens street system and by the embankment of an abandoned section of the Long Island Railroad. It is wooded and capable of development at no great expense into a beautiful and unusual city park, work upon which is progressing slowly but effectively. Its great drawback is the lack of funds for its development, but it lies in a most desirable position between the Flushing-Jamaica turnpike (one of the best roads in



SKATING ON KISSING LAKE, DECEMBER, 1912.



SKATING ON KISSENA LAKE, DECEMBER, 1912.

Queens) and the Flushing-Jamaica trolley, so that it is accessible for a five-cent fare from a large area of the Borough.

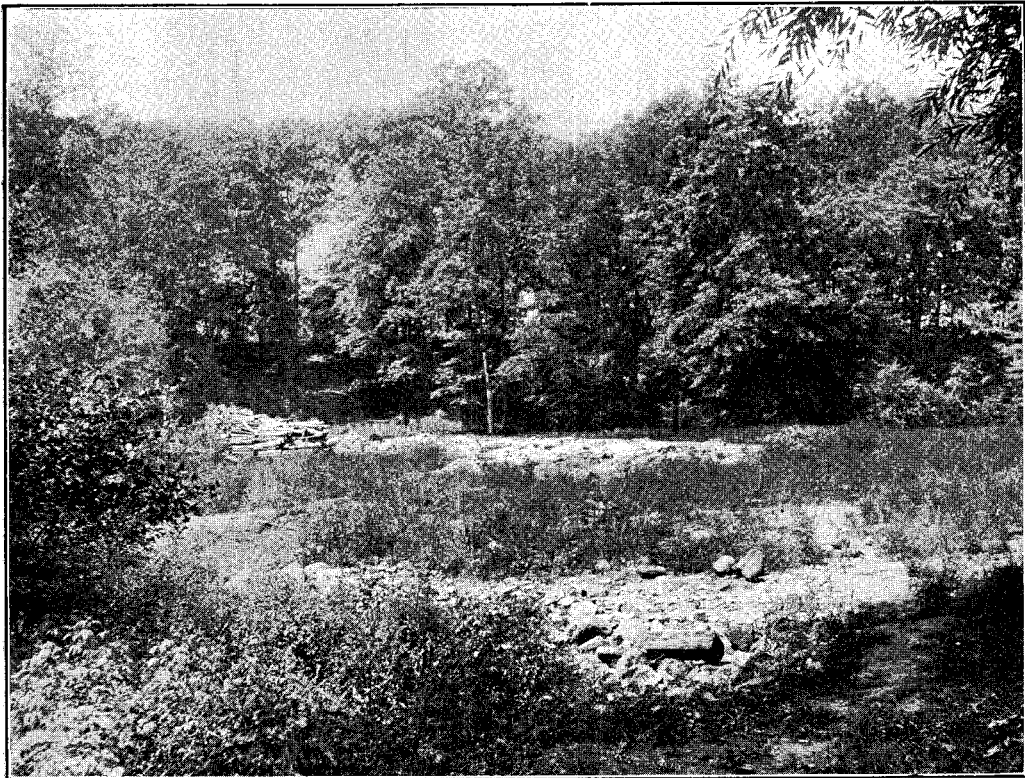
With regard to Kissena Lake Park, few people realize what great improvements in the appearance of that park have taken place within the year, without any appropriation whatever. The entire Rose avenue front of the park has been graded and seeded and the steep banks have been either sodded or planted with *Rosa Wichuriana*, a form of creeping rose which holds the surface, prevents wash and makes a most beautiful effect when it has fairly started to grow. The result of this has been to encourage the abutting property owners to grade and complete an avenue which otherwise would not have been finished for two or three years.

The Commissioner is investigating the possibilities of opening bathing facilities, properly regulated, in this lake, which is fed by springs, and hopes to be able to put it into operation early next summer, if the analysis of the water and other details prove to be favorable.

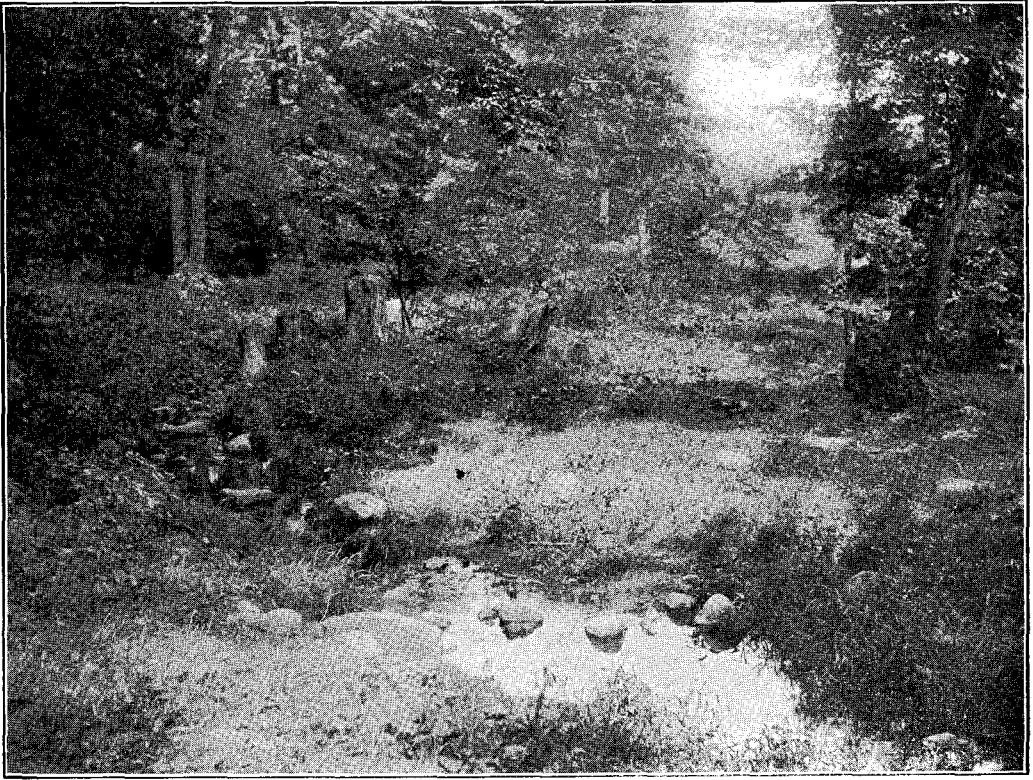
In connection with this park the Police Training Grounds are now a portion of it, and it is planned to open there an athletic track and recreation center. The engineers are now planning it.

ROCKAWAY PARK.

Queens is not without ocean front facilities for the enjoyment of its population. Rockaway Park, as before stated, was deeded to and accepted by the City within recent



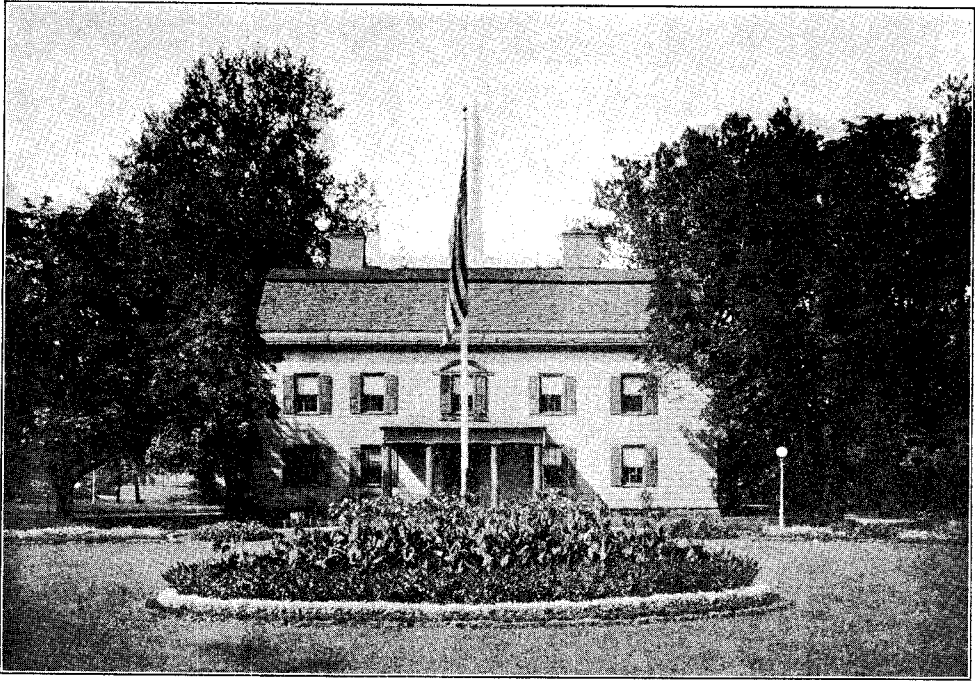
KISSENA LAKE PARK AS UNIMPROVED.



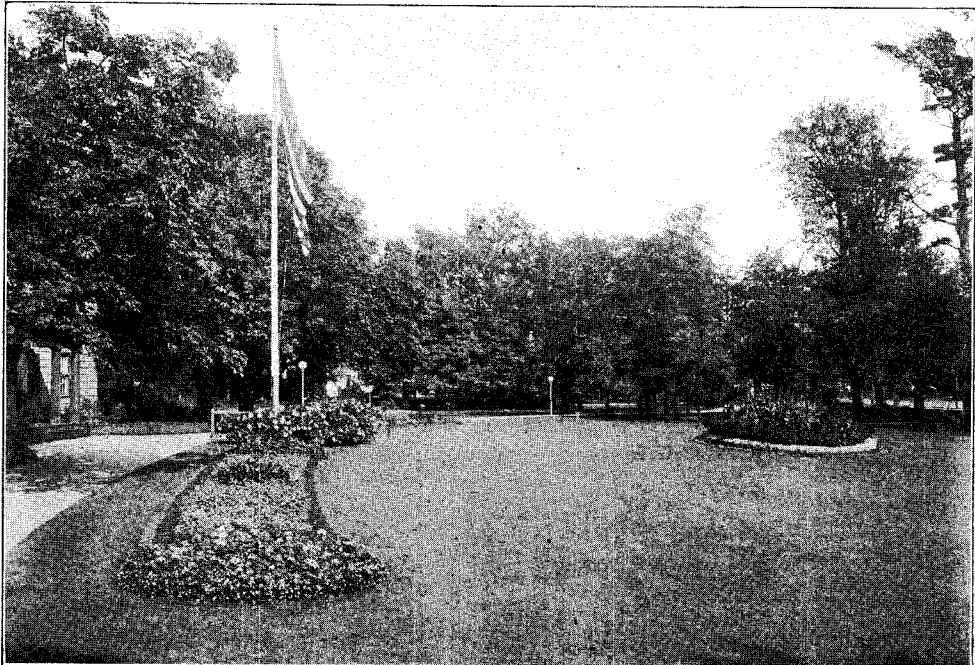
KISSENA LAKE PARK AS UNIMPROVED.

years as a place where its citizens could have all the privileges of sea beach enjoyment without let or hindrance and without expense. The development company which deeded it, with the streets and avenues lying within the area of Rockaway Park, had built a series of residences, with restrictions thereon, and restricted the beach before deeding it to the City, so that no objectionable features can ever be built thereon. The result is that it draws the best element of the population to its beach on Sundays and holidays during the season. It consists of nearly a mile of sea front bordered by detached residences whose grass lawns come to the edge of the boardwalk. Having only recently come into the possession of the City, it has yet to be shown to what state of attractiveness it can be brought. No money has yet been appropriated by the City for its improvement. Its beach area is about 17.5 acres.

A most serious problem is the lack of enough guards for the protection of this reservation, on which from eight to thirty thousand people will congregate on a single Sunday and for which we have had but one park laborer. No money was, until 1913, provided either for its care or improvement. Loud complaints are coming constantly from the residents demanding the repairing and rebuilding of long sections of the boardwalk. Injuries caused by defects in the latter have already developed into serious suits against the city.



OLD RUFUS KING MANSION—KINGS PARK, 1912.

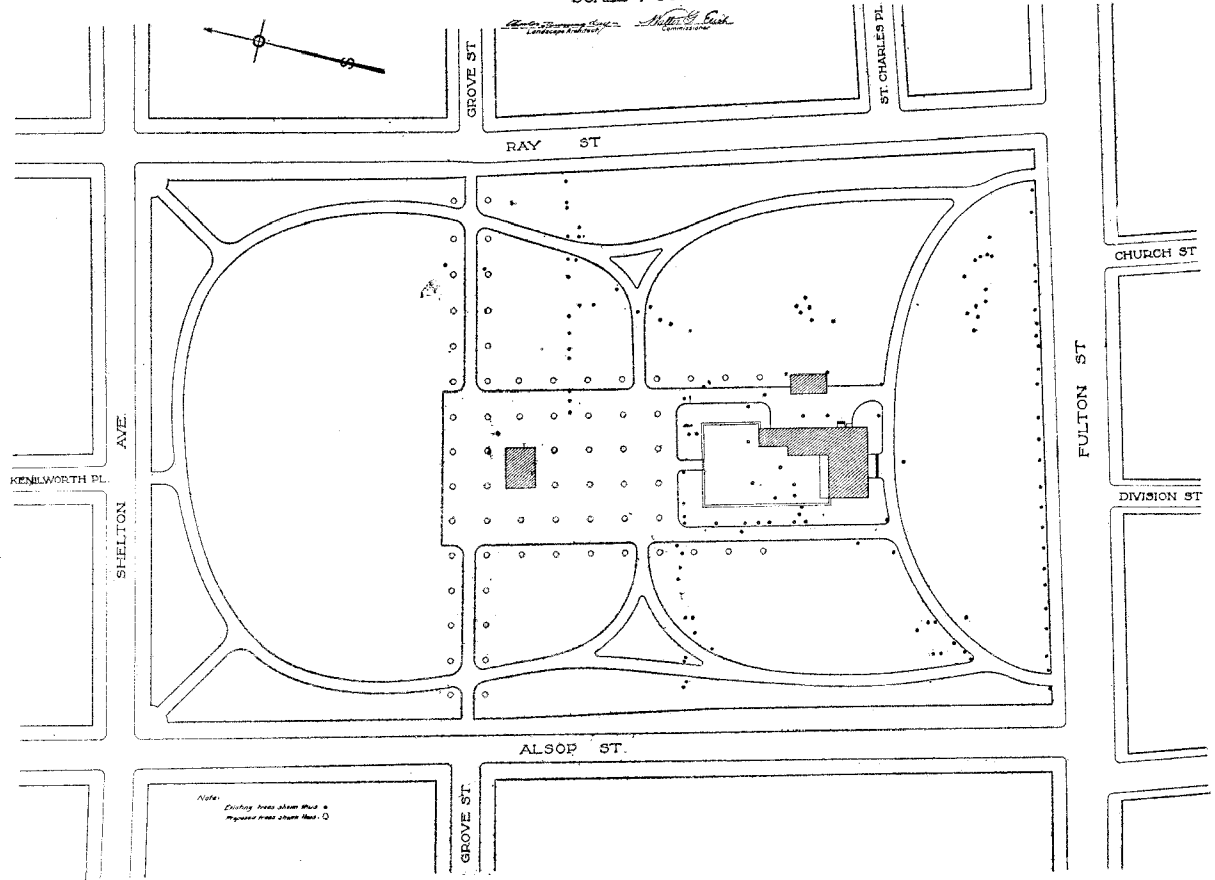


1912 —KINGS PARK, THE APPROACH.

PLAN OF KINGS PARK.
JAMAICA, BOROUGH OF QUEENS.
SCALE: 1"=30'

Robert Thompson & Co.
Landscape Architects

Walter S. Bush
Civil Engineer



KENILWORTH PL.

SHELTON AVE.

GROVE ST.

RAY ST.

ST. CHARLES PL.

FULTON ST.

CHURCH ST.

DIVISION ST.

ALSOP ST.

GROVE ST.

Note: Existing trees shown thus: ○
Proposed trees shown thus: ○

TELAWANA PARK.*

The new Telawana Park at Rockaway Beach, which, on March 21st, 1912, was purchased by the City for somewhat over a million dollars, is intended to serve a double purpose, namely, that of a public park for seaside enjoyments and a site for a considerable number of buildings for hospital and convalescent purposes. The latter purposes will probably require considerably the larger portion of the area and already there are urgent applications for the appropriation of considerable spaces for the immediate erection of these buildings.

One of them was for a series of low buildings covering a length of nearly 1,200 feet. Another, a space of over 600 feet in length. It is evident already that the number of institutions desiring space will require more area than there is in the entire reservation. As a consequence, the problem which confronts the Board of Estimate and the Park Department is the immediate planning out of this big space by the ablest talent that can be secured in the country, in order that the City can give the maximum accommodations without robbing the citizens at large of the right to enjoy the sea and bay shore at that point.

Your Commissioner sent a map of this area to the Board of Estimate's Park Committee showing the approximate area and the general location of spaces which should be reserved for the public uses and urgently advising that the Board of Estimate secure, in connection with the Department's Landscape Architect, Mr. Lay, the services of some noted consulting landscape architect to submit, at the shortest possible notice, a plan which will meet with the approval of the Board of Estimate.

The urgency of this is due to the fact that money is available, or has been offered, for the immediate construction of one or more of these institutions, and it is the duty of the citizens of Queens, as well as of the City of New York, to insist that this matter be treated seriously and scientifically.

In the wide range of America it would be difficult to find a place more admirably adapted for such uses. Time will unquestionably prove this to be one of the best investments the City has ever made. It is practically a great strip of sand dunes extending one mile west from the most westerly of the Rockaways, known as Neponsit, to the property of the Central Pacific Railroad, which covers the western point of the Rockaway peninsula. The property extends half a mile from the waters of Jamaica Bay on the south to the ocean front.

KINGS PARK.

The above described parks constitute the principal part of the park area of Queens, but there are several little areas of half an acre to twelve acres in extent scattered over the Borough in various stages of development, the handsomest being Kings Park, in the heart of the town of Jamaica, on its main street. It is dignified by the presence of the colonial homestead of Governor John A. King, whose father, Rufus King, built it about 125 years ago. The building is occupied as a colonial museum in charge of the "King Manor Association, Incorporated," public-spirited men and women of Jamaica and Queensboro. It is surrounded by old trees and is in a high state of cultivation, and is one of the garden spots of the Borough, containing about eleven and a half acres.

It has been planted with new flower beds.

Plans and specifications for the new combined band stand and comfort station in the rear of the King Mansion were approved by the Municipal Art Commission and the Board of Estimate and believed to be as economical as possible for the size absolutely required. The bids, when opened, showed that not less than fifteen thousand

* Named for "Telawana," "the last of the Rockaway *Indians*," just as this is likely to be the last of the Rockaway *parks*.

dollars would build it, while it was hoped that the appropriation of \$10,000 available would suffice. The additional sum was requested and refused.

Five tennis courts have been provided and equipped with nets, etc., and were in use on the northerly side of the park last summer. They will be maintained as long as no damage is done to the turf. They will be periodically shifted.

UPLAND PARK.

Not far away is the little hillside area known as Upland Park, in Jamaica, on the higher ridge of the town, a gift to the City.

No definite plan has been yet made for its improvement. It has thus far been developed along natural lines and with considerable taste by the employee in charge.

It seems to be desirable to wait until the question of the proposed small addition to this park is settled before designing for its future development.

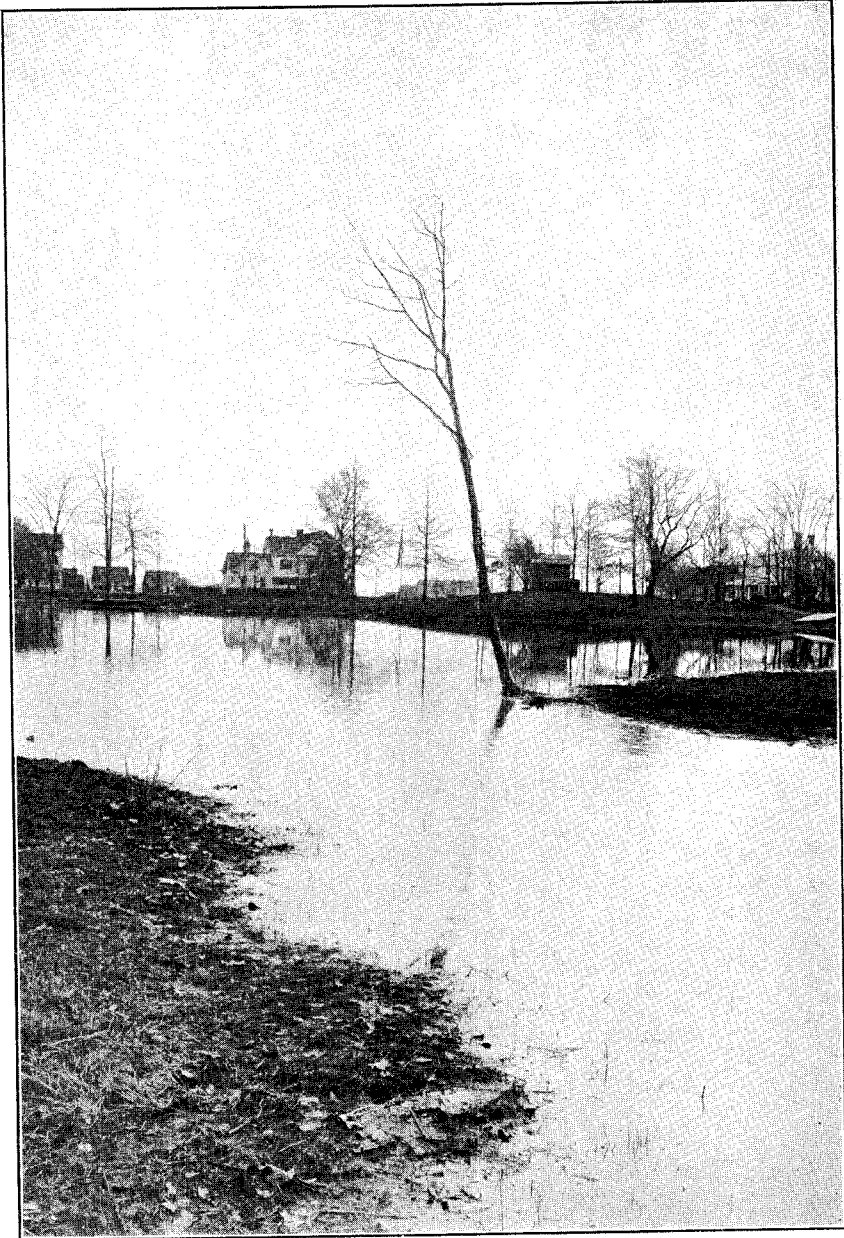
RAINEY PARK.

With the exception of a few unimproved triangles at the junction of streets there are no parks in Long Island City, except an area of five and nine-tenths acres known as Rainey Park, in Ravenswood, fronting on the East River. It will in time become an extremely attractive breathing spot. An elaborate retaining wall has just been designed and completed by your Commissioner to support a riverside walk and the usual music stand and comfort station.

The grading of the surface and proper planting will follow as soon as spring opens and I hope to have it ready for planting about the beginning of May, 1913. It will form one of the prettiest parks in the system.



UPLAND PARK IN 1911, UNIMPROVED.



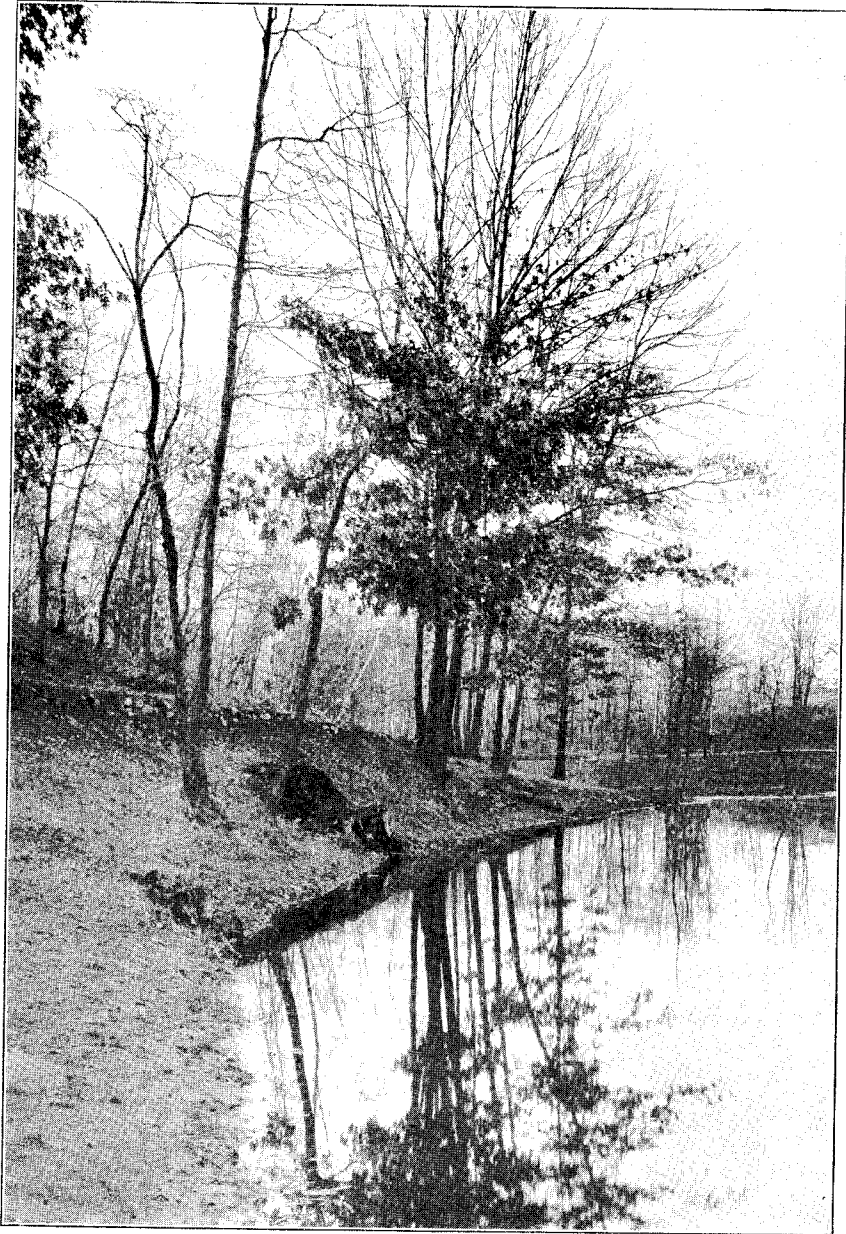
UPLAND PARK IN 1911.



WOODLAND SCENE IN UPLAND PARK.



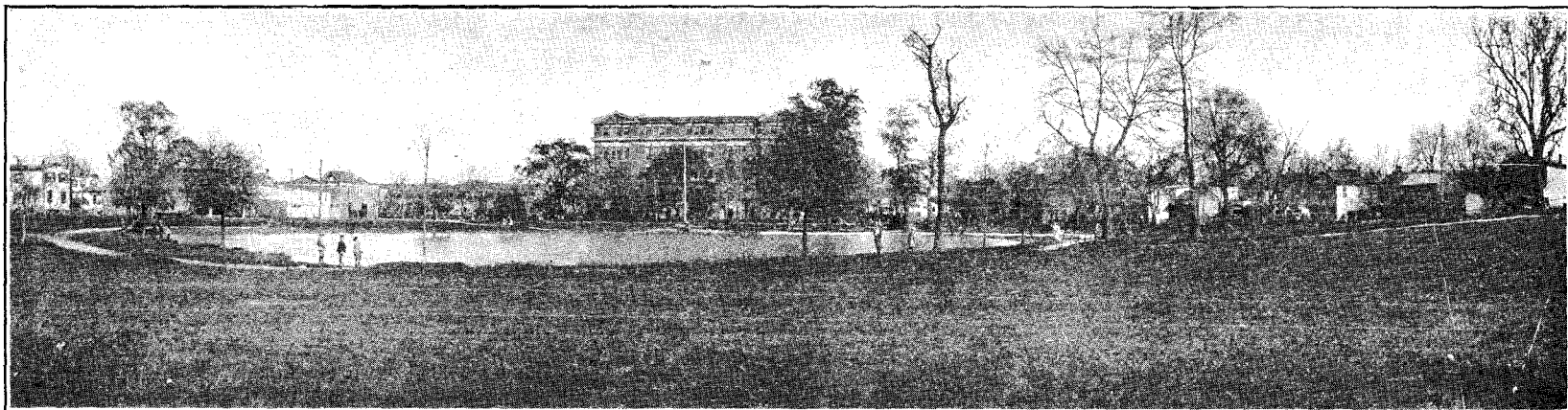
IMPROVEMENTS IN UPLAND PARK, 1912.



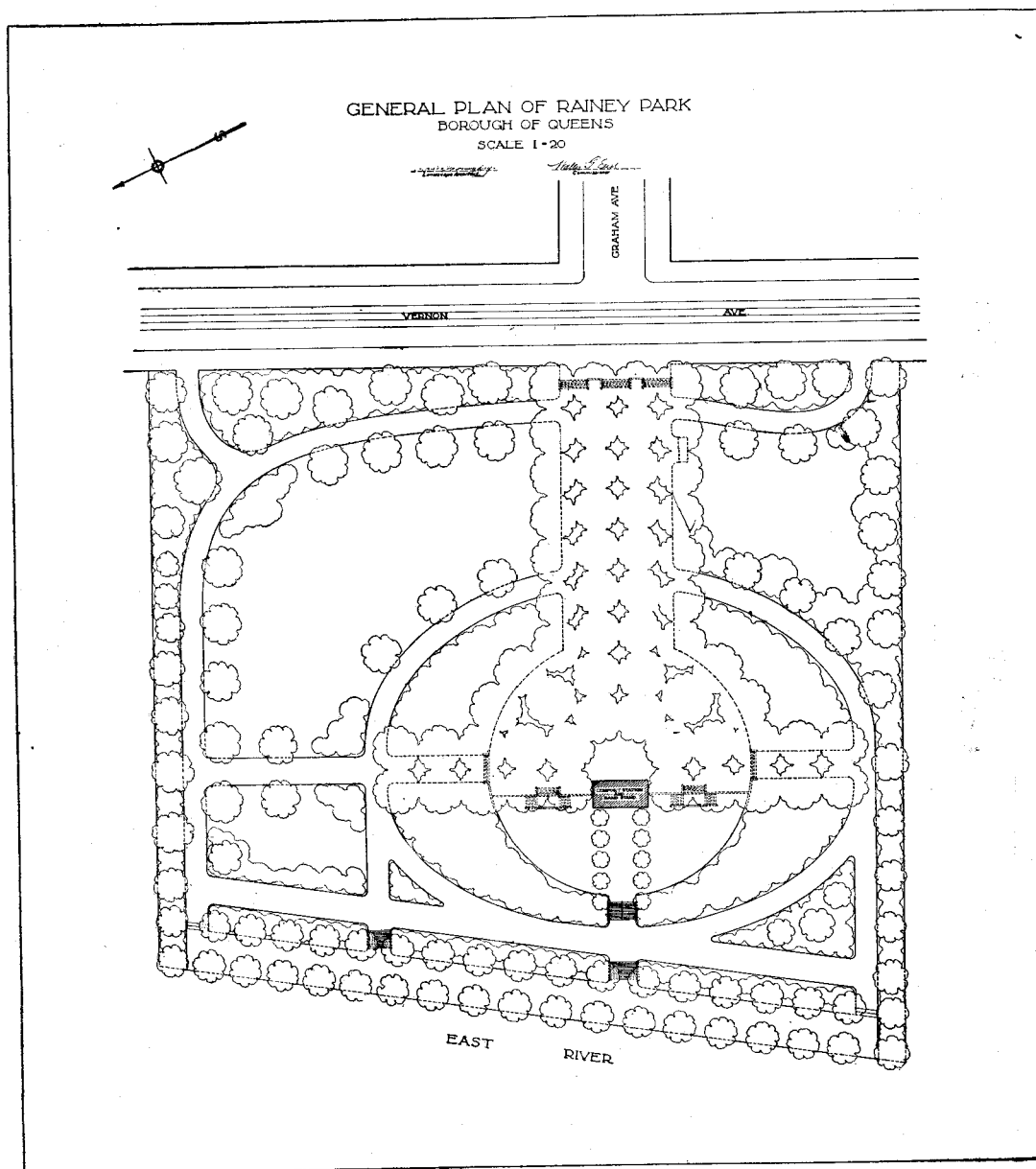
UPLAND PARK IN 1912.



UPLAND PARK IN 1912.



LINDEN PARK AS UNIMPROVED.



LINDEN PARK.

In Corona is a similar square of three acres known as Linden Park, containing a wading and skating pool in the center. It is bounded by four streets, on one of which is a modern public school. It is undergoing renovation and improvement at the present time.

A very serious problem confronted the Commissioner in the contemplated improvement of Linden Park. It appeared to be absolutely essential that the street on the northwesterly side of the park should be previously graded by the City authorities

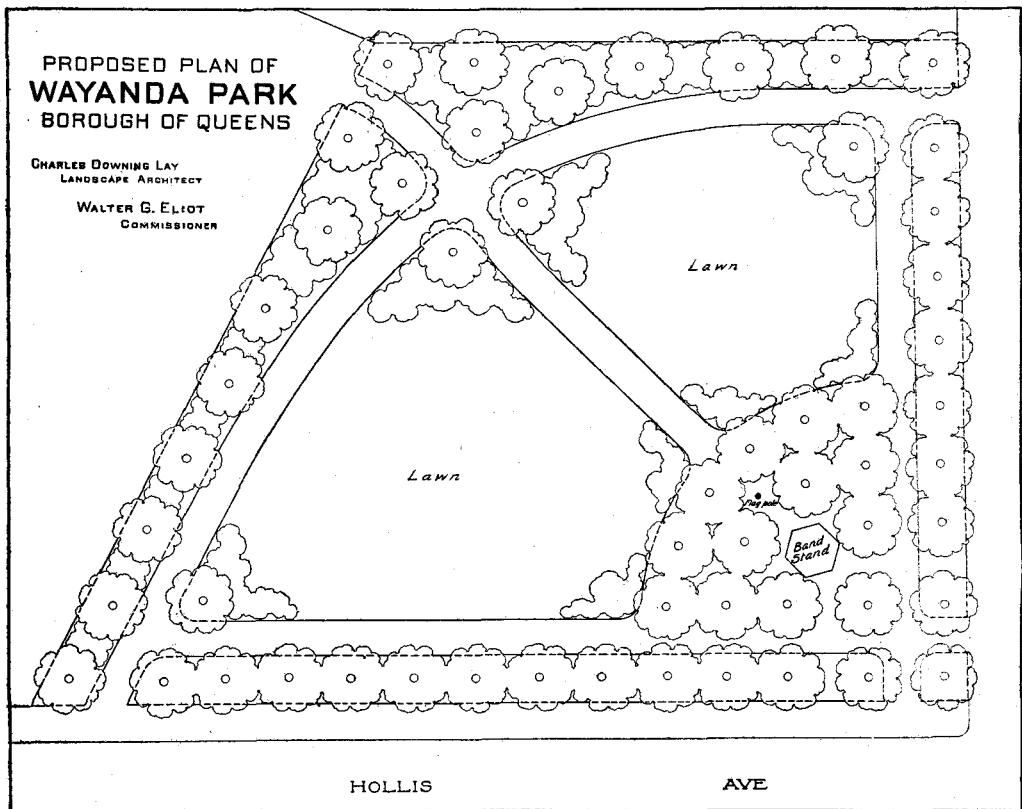
because seepage and drainage from neighboring houses produced a species of swamp on one side of the park, producing the foulest sort of odors and becoming a menace to health. It also prevented the proper cleaning of the pond in the park. Appeal to the Health Department and Borough President Connolly was effective. The pond has since been pumped dry, is being cleaned, and proper approaches to it built. The whole surface of the park has been raised, regraded and nearly resodded. It will be ready for the coming summer's use. Proper sewerage being impossible at present, a comfort station cannot be built now, although badly needed; but a band stand should be.

WAYANDA PARK.*

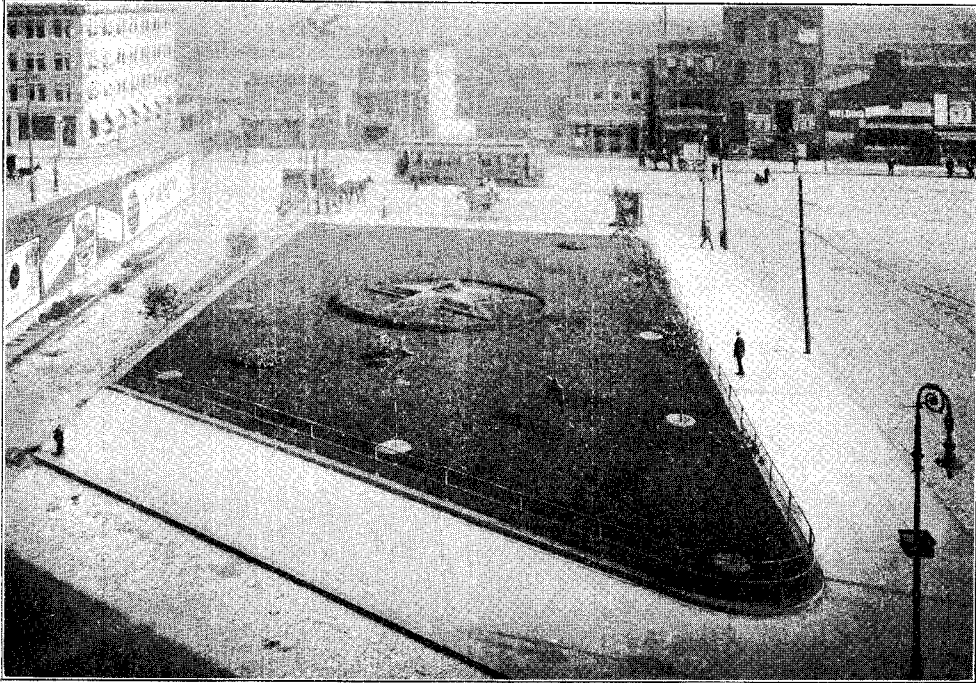
It would be unjust to overlook the little area of two acres formerly owned as a pauper's burying ground, adjoining the handsome public school at Queens, Long Island, which has recently been turned over to the Department of Parks, and which is being turned into a most attractive neighborhood park at very slight expense.

QUEENSBORO BRIDGE PLAZA.

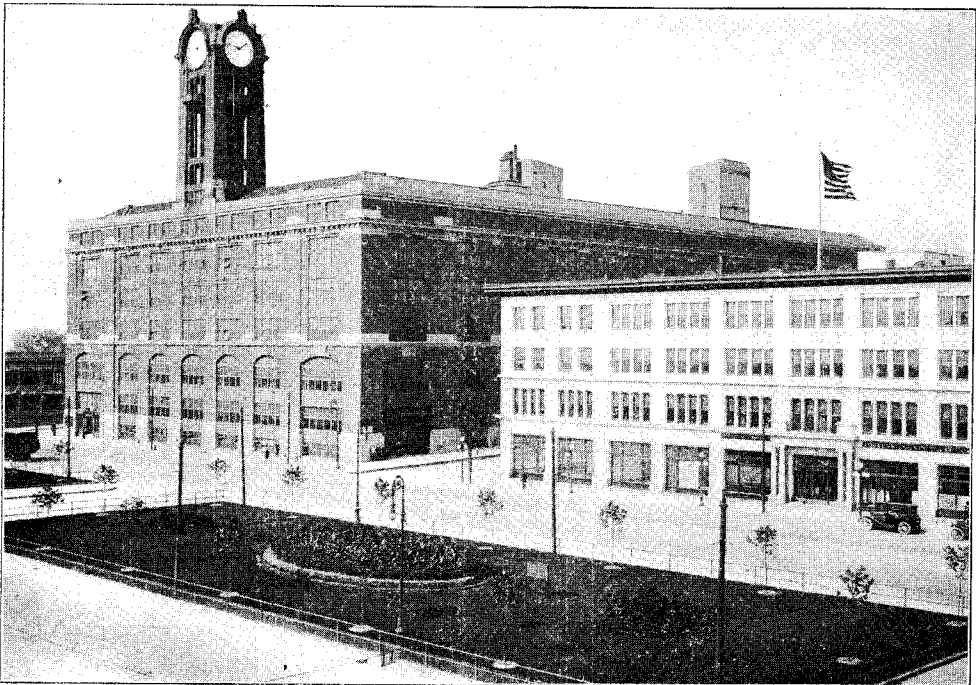
At the request of Bridge Commissioner O'Keeffe I took up jointly with his Department the planting of flower beds, trees, etc., on the Queensboro Bridge Plaza. It was early completed and the trees, as well as the flowers, have proved satisfactory to everybody concerned.



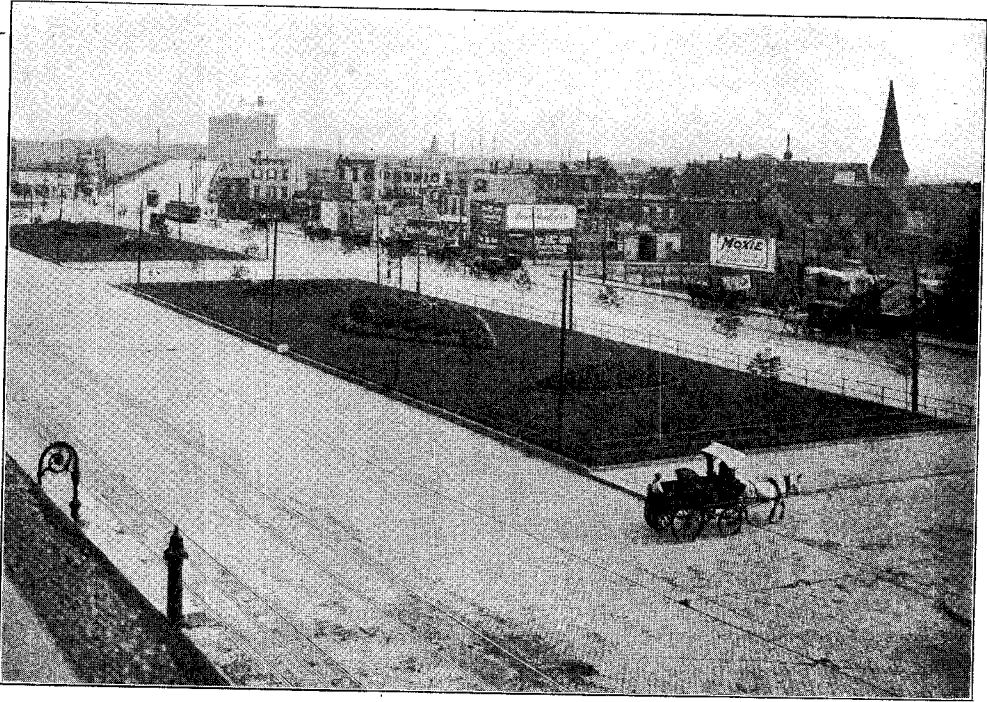
* Indian for "The Place of Happy Hearts."



ORNAMENTAL GARDENING, BRIDGE PLAZA, LONG ISLAND CITY.



ORNAMENTAL GARDENING, BRIDGE PLAZA, LONG ISLAND CITY.



ORNAMENTAL GARDENING, BRIDGE PLAZA, LONG ISLAND CITY.



ORNAMENTAL GARDENING, BRIDGE PLAZA, LONG ISLAND CITY.

COLLEGE POINT PARK.

Another similar, but less developed, park is the College Point Park of about one acre in a square surrounded by four streets. It boasts the possession of a fountain.

A very much needed and appreciated addition to this park was the copper-sheathed ticket booth secured from the Bridge Department and transferred to this park as a Foreman's office and tool house. It was one of several no longer needed on the Queensboro Bridge owing to the order issued by your Honor making traffic over this bridge free.

FUTURE PARK AREAS.

But Queens has as yet scarcely awakened to the great necessity which will face her all too quickly in the matter of a park system. There are portions of the Borough where extensive parks should be acquired as an absolutely essential part of a proper system in this great borough of 128 square miles. They should be acquired at once without fuss or delay and without prolonged haggling. Neglect to do so will impose a curse upon Queens that will be all too far reaching in the future. Provisions are now being made in this connection by the Topographical Bureau to lay out on the finished maps of the Borough certain necessary streets or avenues for the exclusive use of pleasure traffic and known as parkways. This is being done under the joint coöperation of the Borough President, the Department of Parks and the Topographical Bureau, all of whom are working in the greatest accord. But the great difficulty which stands in the way of park acquisition is the lack of a proper system by which parks, admittedly needed and which should be placed upon the topographical map, are wiped off because the acquisition is allowed to drag along for such time in every case that it forms a blight upon the property comprised within the desired area as well as the assessable surrounding and adjoining property. Some means should be discovered for obviating this. If ever the law of excess condemnation becomes a reality the park problem will be solved and the most enormous saving to acquiring communities result. In fact, they will pay for themselves in the hands of an ordinarily intelligent park department or Board of Estimate.

The need for neighborhood parks, entirely distinct from any great park system, is felt at the present moment less in Queens than in any other Borough, except in certain closely settling regions like Newtown, Corona, Flushing, Whitestone and Astoria. Some provision should be made without delay in the Maspeth section before land becomes too expensive. Such parks should unquestionably be assessed upon the local property benefited. But for such areas as, in the judgment of park experts, are a necessary part of a great *system* it is a grave injustice to local residents and the greatest obstacle to acquisition to have more than ten to twenty per cent. of the cost of such acquisition assessed upon the local or abutting owners.

As one of the best instances of this might be cited the recent case of the proposed Cryders Point park at Whitestone, which was wiped off the map after being put there, on the recommendation of park experts, because of the fear that it would be made a local assessment and seriously cripple abutting owners.

A great many demands have been made, and are being made in increasing numbers, for the opening of the connecting roadway through the Cypress Hills Cemetery, from the Highland Parkway, in order to give a continuous driveway from Prospect Park to and through the Borough of Queens.

The matter is in the hands of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. For some time it was held in abeyance by the Comptroller, under the plea that the City had no money to expend in the purchase of the cemetery area embraced within the limits of said parkway and that the cemetery demanded prices so high as to become prohibitive, *i. e.*, prices at grave lot rates instead of the usual lot prices. Since then the matter seems to be progressing more favorably. This office, jointly with the Queens Topographical Bureau, has completed a survey of the route and plans are

soon to be ready for submission to the Board of Estimate and the cemetery authorities for a conference.

The need for such a roadway is growing much faster than that for any public road in Queens. The location of this parkway has been approved by both the Park Department and the Topographical Bureau and by the Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and is favorably considered by the cemetery authorities.

MUSIC IN PARKS.

The matter of music in the parks of Queens is one which the public little appreciates. Last year money was provided for thirty concerts in the various parks, five of which were given in Forest. The Budget Committee cut down the appropriation for 1912 to \$1,500, which was enough for only thirteen concerts. In other Boroughs the appropriation was either increased over 1911 or remained the same. I am glad to say that for 1913 \$3,000 was provided.

THE ACQUISITION OF FURTHER PARK AREAS AND PARKWAYS.

Maps are attached to this report as follows:

No. 1. Map showing the five boroughs and the areas now devoted to parks.

No. 2. Map showing suggestion for Queens parkways.

Map showing, without too definite fixing thereof, sites desirable for the park system of the future.

No. 4. Map showing the areas recommended for parks in the report of Olmsted Brothers to the New York Improvement Commission, 1906.

An examination of No. 1 will emphasize the almost absolute lack of north side water front parks as well as the lack of one or two large areas in the Whitestone section and in the Oakland-Creedmoor section which will be extremely desirable within the next five or eight years, but which should be taken seriously into consideration at this early date.

It will be noted in this connection that no mention is made of neighborhood parks or playgrounds. The first reason for this is that, in my judgment, the selection and maintenance of playgrounds should come properly within the scope and jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission and such selection should be recommended by them only. The second reason is that in the creation of neighborhood parks, which would seem properly to be a charge largely upon adjacent owners, the question of their selection is more largely a matter of local choice and the Park Commissioner would prefer to content himself with calling the attention of the citizens to the desirability of establishing as many of these, within reason, as they are willing to pay for.

Furthermore, development companies who have been laying out a large portion of the Borough, very largely control such matters before the lots come into the hands of individual owners.

Taking the Sage Foundation Homes Company's and other development companies' experience, there is likely to be an increasing tendency on the part of home buyers to demand a larger and larger portion of neighborhood park space than in the case of lands now developed, if such companies hope to attract buyers.

Referring to the larger areas, it would seem evident from past experience that the method of acquiring extensive tracts for park purposes is far more economically and successfully accomplished from the City's point of view by clearly indicating the general location where land is desirable for such purpose and placing in the hands of a proper commission the areas indicated, leaving them to select from properties offered in competition those areas which they find best adapted or most economical for park purposes.

It is not the intention of the Queens Commissioner to recommend the purchase within the next year of more than one of these areas, and that should be the largest

MAP

one in the most undeveloped section of the Borough where a general park will be required in order that it may be possible to secure it before the march of improvement and building development has taken it entirely out of the market at a reasonable price.

PARKWAYS.

In regard to parkways, the lines on Map No. 2 indicate such portions of existing lines of communication or roads as are either now, or about to be, placed upon the map of Queens, which will form the most useful parkway connections between the System Parks at the least expense.

The length of the Conduit Parkway as estimated will be 7.1 miles, from Brooklyn to Nassau County line.

The length of the Interborough Parkway as estimated will be 12.1 miles, from Highland Parkway through Cypress Hills Cemetery, Forest Park, Union Turnpike, Head of the Vleigh road and east to the county line. (See footnote.)

The length of the Crossover Parkway as estimated will be 7.2 miles, from Conduit Parkway to the North Shore Parkway.

NOTE.—Action to establish the Conduit Parkway was instituted by the introduction of a bill into the Legislature by Senator Torborg, copy of which is given below. It was passed and approved by Mayor Gaynor, but was vetoed by Gov. Sulzer for the reason shown in the following letter from Asst. Corporation Counsel McGoldrick.

LAW DEPARTMENT OF CITY OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Albany, June 19th, 1913.

S—TORBORG—I—163, Pr. 1723

Re; Boulevard, Brooklyn water conduit.

My dear COMMISSIONER:

Your letter of the 16th with reference to the above bill is at hand. It passed the legislature and was approved by Mayor Gaynor. Governor Sulzer vetoed it, however, upon the ground that the object sought to be accomplished was covered by the recent Home Rule Law for cities. The bill, therefore, violated the Home Rule principle.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD J. MCGOLDRICK,
Assistant Corporation Counsel.

MR. WALTER G. ELIOT,
*Commissioner of Parks, Borough of Queens,
The Overlook, Forest Park, N. Y. City.*