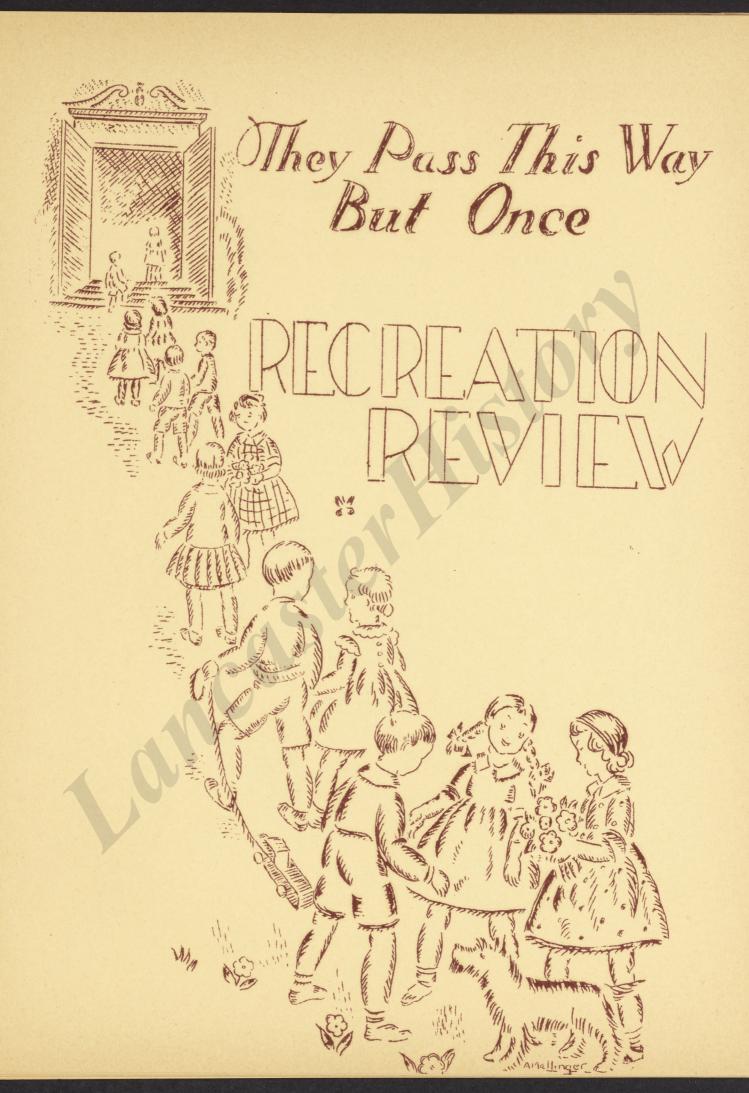


RECREATION AND
PLAYGROUND ASSING
LANCASTER, PENNA.

This manuscript was compiled and mimeographed entirely in the Recreation office.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the

Lancaster Recreation and Playground Association

PRESIDENT

M. M. Harnish, Esq.

VICE-PRES.

H. P. Smith, Jr.

2ND VICE-PRES.

Mrs. Isadore Rosenthal

3RD VICE-PRES.

H. M. Hoover

TREASURER

Charles A. Sauber

ASS'T TREAS.

Melo Hess

SECRETARY-DIRECTOR

Grant D. Brandon

BOARD MEMBERS

W. F. Gibble	Retiring	1936
Lewis Hartman		11
H. A. Schnitzer	11	19
Mrs. W. K. Baer	41	19
Wm. H. Trost	19	1937
Rev. C. D. Spotts	19	19
Rev. A. L. Benner	11	17
R. W. Coho		11
Mrs. H. W. Barnard	. 68	1938
C. W. Stehman	+9	11
Charles T. Aument	17	" (deceased)
A. A. Krimmel. Jr.	11	11

Statistical reports dealing with the activities

of human beings do not tell the whole story. We may say that so many people attended a given activity a certain number of times. If this activity were a boys' club; behind that mere statement of attendance might be written the story of a boy's life, the direction of his leisure time activities, the friendship with boys of his own age, the joy and satisfaction of making a simple piece of handicraft, the absolute guarantee that while he is associated with the boys' club his activities will not be of an anti-social nature.

Our community activities are reaching a larger number of people each year. This has been made possible through the assistance of governmental agencies, such as: W.P.A., N.Y.A., etc. During this time our budget has made a steady decline from a peak of \$14,300. in 1930 to \$7992. in 1935.

There is a growing consciousness on the part of our people that taking care of and directing the leisure time activities of children, young people and in many cases adults, is a very necessary part of modern life. In spite of this and with the growing yearly attendance at all recreation activities, the fact remains that very few modern cities have either adequate equipment or leadership to take care of the enlarged leisure opportunity. The enlarging of a recreation program to what for the moment might be considered adequate, simply discloses greater possibilities and needs of our leisure conscious people.

Our recreation program which a few years ago aimed to take care of only a few small children on a summer playground has grown to include drama, music, major and minor sports for groups as well as individuals. These activities are not confined to children, but include the entire family.

We would like to pay tribute here to all the character building agencies of our community; school authorities and others who have cooperated with facilities to make this enlarged program possible.

and Brandon

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

PRE SEASON

On May 15th, John Farnum Playground, Rodney Park and Fremont St. School Center were opened for outdoor activities from 5:00 to 8:30 P.M.

685 boys, girls and young men were registered at these 3 centers.

Total attendance for the season - 3255.

3 leaders were furnished by the Lancaster County Emergency Relief Board. Henry O. Fisher at John Farnum; Frank F. Fisher at Rodney Park; Richard Bear at Fremont St. School Center.

MARBLE TOURNAMENT

The Fourth Annual Marble Tournament was held in May, 1935.

2000 boys and girls were entered from the city and county.

The city play-offs were held from May 13th to the 24th at the 5 centers - John Farnum, West End, Rockland, 6th Ward and Market & Lemon Sts.

16 Public Schools, 5 Parochial Schools and 3 borough schools participated.

Countys participating: Lititz, New Holland, Strasburg, Quarryville, Leacock, Millersville, Denver, Christiana, Paradise, Columbia, Ephrata, Mt. Joy, Marietta, Elizabethtown and Manheim.

The championship was won by Carl Nagle of Lititz, who was given the trip to Ocean City accompanied by Geo. W. Kirchner of the Lancaster New Era.



SUPERVISORS' TRAINING CLASSES

The Supervisors' Training Classes were held the evenings of June 19 to 25, from 7:00 to 9:00 o'clock, in the Sunday School Room of the First Reformed Church.

Enrollment: 33 men, 29 women.

These classes were open to any persons interested in physical education and child activities. The program consisted of the following subjects: Inspirational talks on community responsibility, game demonstrations, boys' and girls' handicraft, folk dancing, first aid, story telling, dramatics, tournaments, leagues, special days, etc.

Talks were given by: Mr. M. M. Harnish, Dr. H. E. Gress, Rev. C. D. Spotts, Mr. Arnold Fink, Mr. H. M. Hoover, Miss Vesta M. Miller, and Mr. Charles K. Brightbill, Miss Marian Shelmerdine and Miss Anna Kowalksa of the Reading Recreation Department.

Demonstrations and instructions were given by: Mr. Donald Witmer, Miss Anne Mellinger, Mr. Richard Bear, and Miss Mildred Ressel. The Director and Mr. P.C. Gast were in general charge.

These classes are held each year previous to the opening of the playgrounds to prepare the supervisors for their work during the summer months.



PLATGROUNDS

14 playgrounds were opened for the 1935 season on June 26th, for a full time program of 9 weeks.

PLAYGROUNDS	SUPERVISORS	ATTENDANCE FOR SEASON (By visits)
Buchanan Park	Henry Markley Florence Rieker Eve. Harry Brian " Ann Edwards	17,671
West End	Joseph Wesley Anne Frey	3,136
Fremont	Francis Kirchner Mina McNerney	6,338.
John Farnum	Ralph DeFranco Mary Hauck Eve. Henry Fisher Margaret Keppel	32,921
	" Kathryn Kreider	

Rodney	Donald Witmer Mildred Ressel Eve. Frank Fischer	22,014
Hess Park	Paul Diller Betty Stumpf	4,897
East Junior	John Gates Mary Eckenrode Eve. Louis Gehr " Anne Henderson	13,651
Reservoir Park	Helen Hanna Florence Kreider	6,662
6th Ward	Roy Fisher Helen Kirchner Eve. Dorothy Yohn "Merritt Jeffers	12,542
North End	Theodore Rupp Jean Witmer Eve. Andrew Kritscher	3,956
Chestnut	John Diller	2,431
Duke St.	William Stergios Rebecca Trauger	5,298
Chester Field	Mrs. R. M. Payne	5,691
Lemon St.	Madeline Fasold Total Attendance on the	2,046
	14 Playgrounds	139,214

Substitute Supervisors during the season:

Annabelle Weller, Betty Lowis, Dorothy Coulter, Eliaz Fritz,
Richard Altick and James Nestle

WADINGPOOLS

Buchanan Park	H. Grant	t Hurst		5,995
Rodney Park	Rebecca	Farmer		7,035
	Total	attendance	at pools-	13,030

.. 7 .. SHOWERS STREET 8 Street Showers were opened July 1st on various streets to accommodate the children who live too far away from the wading pools to travel back and forth every day during the extremely hot weather. The following streets were roped off every afternoon and guarded by a supervisor for half hour periods: Attendance for Season Ann Street 2,830 1,715 Burrowes Avenue 3,923 Chester Street 2,245 Ico Avenue 2,930 Water St. Reservoir St. 3,400 1.065 Heiland Avenue 1,361 Fremont St. 19,469 Total for season: Supervisors in charge: Robert Johns and Donald Horst. This is made possible by the cooperation of the City Water Department. LESSONS FREE SWIMMING For the fourth consecutive year, children of the city have had the opportunity to learn to swim free of charge. Classes sponsored by the New Era, Maple Grove Park and the Lancaster Recreation and Playground Association, opened last year July 12th until August 9th. Approximately 300 boys and girls under 10 years of age were given instruction every Friday morning for 5 lessons. 15 instructors from the Maple Grove Pool staff and the Playground Supervisor staff were engaged in this work. Certificates of award were given those children having passed the diving test and swimming 20 feet. 100 boys and girls received certificates.

TWILIGHT CENTERS

4 Twilight Centers were open from 5:00 until dark, the leadership being furnished by the Lancaster County Emergency Relief Board, from June 26th to September 13th.

GROUNDS	SUPERVISORS	ATTENDANCE FOR SEASON
Rodney Park John Farnum 6th Ward Park North End	Frank F. Fischer Henry O. Fisher Merritt Jeffers Andrew F. Kritscher	8,011 5,473 4,789 1,837
	Total Attendance -	20,110

These supervisors sent daily reports to the Emergency Relief office stating the number of games played, type of games, hours ground was open, attendance for the day, etc.

Each center was allowed to put on such reorgational work as best fitted the needs of the community. The leading activities were softball, tennis, quoits, handball, paddle tennis, etc.

The educational part of the program was taken care of in the form of nature hikes, tours through plants, factories, etc., such as: Armstrong Linoleum Co., Lancaster Water Works, Sewage Disposal Plant, Safe Harbor Dam, Bell Telephone Co., etc.

A swimming meet was held at the Ephrata Pool under the direction of the North End Supervisor. Competitors from the 4 centers in the city and the various county centers took part. Badges made at the playground office were awarded to the winners. North End won.

HIGH LIGHTS

The first special event put on by all the playgrounds was THE INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM July 4th. Beginning at 10:00 o'clock in the morning on each ground, a patriotic program was given:— "Salute to the Flag", reading of the "American Creed", and singing of patriotic songs, after which an athletic program for which badges of award were given the winners.



Buchanan, Rodney, Farnum, Sixth Ward and East Junior were open from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. All other grounds were open in the morning only.

This is an endeavor to keep the Fourth of July SAFE AND SANE.

ANNUAL PLAYGROUNDS PICNIC

On Wednesday, July 24th, the 14 playgrounds were practically deserted when at least 1000 children made their way to Maple Grove Park for the Annual Playgrounds Picnic.

The day's activities commenced at 9:00 o'clock with a track meet held in the park baseball diamond in the old quarry. At 2:00 o'clock the annual swimming meet was held in the massive swimming pool.

The winners of the track meet and the swimming contest were awarded ribbons and given free tickets to the park amusements.

HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT

All through the season, Miss Anne Mellinger, our very competent Handicraft Instructor, directed the children in making grand little useful things out of practically nothing.

Linoleum carving, as in the past several years, held its superiority over other crafts. Pocketbooks made of yarn, modeling in plaster of Paris, sponge animals, wooly animals, stuffed dolls, hot dish mats and many other little novelties were carved or sewed from remnants of oilcloth, cretonne, scraps of linoleum, etc.

At the end of the season, Aug 8 to 12, the Annual Handicraft Exhibit was held in the storeroom of 141 N. Queen Street. Hundreds of children from every playground in the city offered numerous pieces of work to be displayed at the exhibit.

KITE KARNIVAL

The Annual Kite Karnival at Buchanan Park was held Wednesday, July 17th. 100 boys and girls participated.

Kite material was distributed free to all boys and girls desiring to build a kite and instruction for construction was provided. The construction of the kites lasted about three weeks. As a climax to this period of building and working, the Kite Karnival was held. There were many events on the list for the carnival and finally when the

scraps of wood and paper from the construction contest were gathered up it was found that RODNEY PARK had compiled eight more points than its nearest rival, Fremont. Hess Park placed third with Buchanan and Sixth Ward respectively. AIRPLANE CONTEST The day following the Kite Karnival, work was begun on model airplanes. Balsa wood, Jap tissue, glue, wire and all the materials necessary for making the models were distributed free to the boys. As a grand finale to the model airplane season, an air meet was held in conjunction with the opening of the new Municipal Airport on August 9th, at 2:00 P.M. The Lancaster Aero Club cooperated with the Playground Association in staging this model contest, and Mr. J. P. Jones, Manager of the Airport, awarded a free airplane ride to the boy who made the best duration flight of the day. CARL DEFRANCO was the winner of the airplane ride, but EAST JUNIOR playground accumulated enough points to be declared an easy winner. Chief Judge: Summer L. Brown, Ass't Judges: G. D. Brandon and Ralph DeFranco. Richard Bear of the Emergency Relief staff and Kenneth Banzhof of the Playground staff were special supervisors in charge of this type of boys' handicraft. WEEKLY PROGRAM ON THE PLAYGROUNDS: Sufficient space does not allow writing about our weekly program in letti. Following is a brief outline: At the weekly staff meetings on Saturday mornings, special events for the week, arranged by the supervisors in charge of the grounds are presented. Some of the events are: Pet, Doll, Costume Shows, Backward Parties, Circuses, Treasure Hunts, Parents' Nite, Quoit and Padule Tennis Tournaments, Story Telling, Track Meets, Mask Making Contests and many other accivities in which thousands of children eagerly participate, Ribbons of award were presented to the winners. These ribbons are made at the office of the Playground Association. A linoleum block is cut by the art instructor for the printing. Printer's ink is used for the stamping and this is covered with gold or silver dust before drying. The finished product is very attractive. City Playground championships were won in the following o ents: JOHN FARNUM PLAYGROUND GIRLS: VOLLEY BALL LEAGUE .. SIXTH WARD PARK SENIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE SIXTH WARD PARK JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE

ANNUAL PLAY AND FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

2000 parents and friends attended the Annual Play and Folk Dance Festival held in the spacious "bowl" at Buchanan Park, August 13, at 6:30 P.M.

This was the first Folk Dance Festival held and we feel proud to say it was successful.

Groups of little girls from every playground were taught a series of folk dances under the direction of Mr. Brandon, and when arrangements were made for the festival, our Handicraft Instructor directed the making of peasant costumes out of

crepe paper and remnants of material, which were made by the supervisors and mothers of the children. All the colors in the rainbow were used and made a lovely picture as the little girls danced, accompanied by the specially arranged music of Ira Bowman's Orchestra. 200 children participated.

In between the dances, special events were given, Pantomimes, Minstrel Shows, Tumbling Acts and finally the Big Chariot
Race which ended in a storm of applause as "Ben Hur" drove his four
"horses" to overwhelming victory.

THIS WAS THE LAST BIG EVENT OF THE SUMMER SEASON, and we consider it the most successful festival we have had for many years.

His face may be dirty, he may look forlorn,
His pants may be shiny, his coat may be torn;
But what greater joy can you get from a boy
Than a smile on his face and a heart filled
with joy.

So if you get weary while leading in play
And feel just like quitting and running away,
Just look in their faces and soon you'll take
heart,
And have loads of fun while playing your part.

-- M. M. Harnish.



SPRING FALL HIKES AND

Combined Nature Study and Hikes have been held for adults in the city and county every spring and fall since 1929, with a competent leader in charge each week.

A group of 35 hikers last year visited such places as: Lake Grub , Gable's Woods, Rohrerstown, Hammer Creek, Lititz, Little Conestoga, etc., where the study of flowers, ferns, birds, trees and rocks was made.

Volunteer Leaders:

Dr. H. Justin Roddy Mr. Roy Palmer Rev. C. D. Spotts Prof. Clifford Marburger Mr. Wm. S. Gleim Mr. M. M. Harnish Mr. G. D. Brandon Dr. A. R. Gerhart Mr. H. B. Gehman

Note: The Association has 500 ft. of film at the office taken at different times on the various hikes.

COLLUNITY PARTIES

These parties or dances for young people have been held at the Y.W.C.A., Saturday evenings during the fall, winter and spring months since 1922. This year they were opened October 26th, and continued until April 4th. 23 parties were held.

The parties are chaperoned by leading citizens. The gym is decorated by the specific committee in charge and plans for the dance, such as: booking of orchestra, purchasing of prizes for the 2 feature dances of the evening, securing chaperones,

taking charge of desk, etc., are made by the Board at a meeting held every Thursday evening previous to the dance on

- 13 the following Saturday. Members of the Board consist of representatives from the following schools and organizations: F. & M. College, F. & M. Academy, Millersville State Teachers College, Shippen School, Y.W.C.A., Theological Seminary, Lancaster Business College, Catholic Group, Industrial Group, Boy Scouts, Bowman School of Technology, DeMolay, Girl Reserves, and the Recreation and Playground Department. The attendance at the dances this year was approximately between 100 and 175 every Saturday night, and it is estimated that between 800 and 1000 young men and women were registered. BASKETBALL FOR MEN Through the cooperation of the Lancaster School Board, 500 young men have been given the opportunity to use the courts at the East and West Junior High Schools this year. West Junior's 2 courts were open 2 nights a week - Mon. and Wed., from 7:00 to 10:00, allowing 6 teams and their opponents at one hour periods to play their games. East Junior's 2 courts were open 1 night a week, Monday, from 7:30 to 9:30 which allowed 3 teams and their opponents to play at one hour periods. The season opened December 11th, 1935 and ran through to April 15th, 1936. The supervisors in charge were: W.P.A. - Sherman Hill, Henry O. Fisher, Joseph Holzinger, Paul Bachman, Lloyd Sandt, Joseph Parr, Harry Lowry, John Ferguson, Ralph DeFranco and Wm. Mitchell; N.Y.A. - W. R. Simpson, Wm. Ciebere, Wm. Bracken and MacDonnel Lingenfelter This activity was formerly carried on at the State Armory, but it was impossible to meet expenses and also to accommodate the great number of teams requesting playing space. This year 37 teams requested courts, out of which 25 were accommodated. 4000 spectators attended the games this season. "Important as it is to organize and direct the industry of the world, it is more important to organize and direct the leisure time of the world." -- George Elidt.

CLUBS

Through the cooperation of the Lancaster School Board in allowing us a wider use of their school buildings and the help of the W.P.A. and the N.Y.A. in furnishing leadership, we have been able to enlarge our number of clubs this year.

365 boys and girls were registered in the various clubs.

Total attendance for the season - 5,840

The clubs are open to the boys and girls in the neighborhood where clubs are located. Basketball, pingpong, wrestling, harmonica class, leathercraft and woodwork are some of the activities carried on. They are open from 7:00 to 9:00 in the evening.

Jr. Boys' Club at Fremont St. School opened this year November 12th, 1935. Meets one night a week (Tues.) Registration 110.

Sr. Boys' Club at Fremont St. School opened January 30, 1936. Moets every Thursday evening. Registration 50.

Girls' Club at Fremont St. School opened March 7, 1936. Meets every Friday evening. Registration 100.

Boys' Club at George Ross opened February 5, 1936. Meets every Wednesday evening. Registration 55.

Colored Boys' Club at Rockland St. School opened for the first time this year February 28, 1936. Meets every Thursday evening and also Tuesday evenings since March 31st. Registration 50.



"When you provide the opportunity to boys and girls for recreative play under wise guidance in a clean, wholesome, social environment, you have created one of the surest bulwarks against the development of delinquency."

CRISPUS ATTUCKS RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER

The Recreation and Playground Association has a colored center known as the Crispus Attucks Recreation and Community Center, under the very capable direction of Mrs. R. M. Payne, assisted by a small Board of influential colored citizens.

The Center is open the entire year, and is a veritable beehive of activity. Clubs are held for all ages, from the tiny tots' story hour to adult classes in dramatics, choral work, sewing, nursing, public health, etc.

The Center sponsors yearly Negro Health Week and a Well Baby

Clinic to encourage the mothers of the community in the proper care of their children. Local Negro physicians assist this work: Dr. H. C. Bemby, Dr. John Victor Sterr tt and Dr. John H. Travis, Dentist.

Annual tribute and memorial services are held to Thaddeus Stevens. A Forum group moets regularly in an attempt to build better interracial relations.

During the winter menths, with the assistance of the W.P.A., classes are held in Sewing, Handiernft, Drama, Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Piano Instruction and discussion groups on Social Problems.

1000 persons registered in various clubs and classes of the Center. 300 weekly enrollment.

210 young men and women were registered in the 7 different drama classes in the city. This is the second year we have been able to introduce drama into our winter program and this was made possible by the W.P.A. furnishing the leadership.

Mr. Paul Nagy, Jr., and Mrs. Emlene Johnson, have been directing these classes since January 20th.

COM UNITY DRAMATICS

16 plays have been rehearsed and 14 were produced.

This project has meant a great deal to the young men and women of our community who are interested in drama. This has partially taken the place of the Drama Club of Lancaster disbanded several years ago.

Joy comes to us only as we use the gift that makes us different from every other human being. It is the voice of our souls. We must live in its expression or die in despair.

GRAND SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE

Expression production with the control of the contr	Registration	Total Attendance (By Visits)	Spec- tators
Pre Season Play Centers	685	3255	1000
Marble Tournament		2000	500
Supervisors' Training Classes	62	75	
Summer Playgrounds (14)	3500	139214	15000
Wading Pools		13030	
Street Showers		19469	
Swimming Instructions	300	1500	200
Twilight Centers	350	20110	6000
Playground Picnic	1000	1000	200
Annual Kite Karnival	100	100	200
Annual Play & Folk Dance Postival	200		2000
Nature Hikes (10)	35	350	
Community Parties (23)	1000	3450	
Men's Basketball	500	4500	4000
Bers' and Girls' Clubs	365	5840	
Dramatics	210	210	1000
Crispus Attucks Center	1000	13200	at one operations the second
GRAND TOTAL	9,307	227,303	30,100

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Our national head, the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City, is always available as a source of inspiration and information. Mr. J. W. Faust, Regional Field Representative makes periodic visits to our city to counsel and advise. Mr. L. H. Weir, from the Parks Department, gave us one day to go over our Playground Association and present recommendations to our board. Specialists in other fields such as music, drama and publicity, are from time to time available.

The National Recreation Association maintains a regular bulletin service which contains new suggestions from the field along the lines of new developments throughout the country.

"To 'make others happy' except through liberating their powers and engaging them in activities that enlarge the meaning of life is to harm them and to indulge ourselves under cover of exercising a special virtue. To foster conditions that widen the horizon of others and give them command of their own powers, so that they can find their own happiness in their own fashion, is the way of 'social' action."

FINANCIAL REPORT

RECEIPTS

WELFARE FEDERATION

Maintenance	\$6792.00	
Replacement	1200.00	
Balance on hand beginning of year	323,00	4.

\$8315.00

FROM PUBLIC FUNDS

Receipts from City	500.00
School District of Lanc. for services of Dir.	960,00
Refund Salaries	45.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS -

1505.00

\$9820.00

DISBURSEMENTS

APMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Administrative Salaries	4320.00
Office Supplies	37.71
Telegraph & Telephone	42.56
Postage & Printing	52.82
Misc. Administrative	53.38

4506.47

SERVICE EXPENSES

Service Salaries	3011.91
Auto & Upkeep	600.00
Educational Work	29.79
Athletic Supplies	2 94.26
Repairs to Equipment	47.15

3983.11

GENERAL EXPENSES

Insurance & Taxes	110	.00
National Association	50.	.00
Conference Expense	25.	.00
Misc General Expense	53.	38
Replacement	1092	.04

1330.42

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS - - - - - -

\$9820.00

GENERAL

The Recreation office is used daily as a bureau of information. Requests are received for information on, how to equip a small backyard playground, where to secure equipment, how to arrange and obtain equipment for a social evening, material and plans for a picnic, educational moving pictures, books on recreation, etc. Materials and plans for all forms of recreation are in constant demand and are made available at the office.

Credit should be given the Community Committee from Rodney Park, the members of which for the past two years have staged a festival on the park grounds, raising sufficient funds to keep the park open until September 15th.

The efforts of the members of the 6th Ward Memorial Park Association, who for the past ten years have shouldered the burden of raising yearly the \$500 necessary to take care of the mortgage interest, are worthy of the highest commendation. This work has been supported by the ward and has been the means of saving the park to the present date. The officers are: Pres., W. E. Alexander, Vice-Pres., Miss Anna M. Eby, Sec'y, Mr. Albert Seitz, Treas., Mr. Henry E. Warren.

The Recreation Association is very grateful to the Lancaster Newspapers, Inc., and their reporters who have so faithfully portrayed our work to the public.

The cooperation of the City Park Department in maintaining Buchanan Park, Rodney Park and the 6th Ward Memorial Park in such excellent repair, was a great and important factor in the success of our work.

The depression and the accompanying decrease in financial support has in some sections hindered the normal expansion of the recreation program; yet, on the other hand, it has assisted us in finding other methods and avenues of expression.



May The coming year be filled

May The coming year be filled with golden opportunities

