

HO SUPERVISED PLAYGROUNDS ARE MANAGED IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Excellent Results Obtained From the Judicious Working Out of Plan to Benefit the Children—An Article of Especial Interest to St. John.

(Mrs. John Graham Brooks, Secretary Playgrounds Committee.)

In 1900 the city of Cambridge adopted its school system the Vacation Schools, which had been carried on for years by the Vacation School Committee. Cambridge now maintains five of these schools. The older pupils are given a course of study and drawing, or of basket ball, cooking or sewing. The younger pupils are given instruction in drawing, coloring, reading, writing, and in other subjects of an interesting and profitable character.

In 1902, the same committee took up playground work, beginning with one playground in private grounds, for which they had to pay taxes to the city. The work was carried on each year and the playgrounds are now all on city property. The city furnishes sandboxes in schoolyards and public places, and allows the use of one room in a school building. As yet it takes no other responsibility for these playgrounds, but it is hoped that at no distant day Cambridge will have municipal playgrounds under proper supervision for boys and girls of all ages.

There are in Cambridge six open spaces owned by the city—Cambridge Common, Cambridge Field, Rindge Field, Riverside Field, Broadway Park and Captains Island.

In these open spaces where there is no brush, the children are allowed to play. Cambridge Field covers an area of eleven acres. In it there is a shelter with benches. In summer, baseball is played; in winter, there is skating. There are also sand-boxes. On Cambridge Common, a portion has been set apart for skating, football and baseball. Rindge Field has been used almost exclusively for baseball—a shelter with benches has been placed there, also some apparatus. Captains Island in the Charles River, is a bathing beach, with bath houses. There are now in connection with the bath houses two life-guards. Broadway Park was never used as a playground until last summer, when the Playgrounds committee asked to have a sand-box there, and put a teacher in charge. Last year the city appropriated a thousand dollars to make a tract of land (which had been used as a dump) fit for a playground for boys, here already existed in that neighborhood, under the auspices of the Shepard Memorial church, the Riverside Alliance, which had a number of Boys' clubs well organized. They had their houses, with tennis and a gymnasium, close to this site, which they call Riverside Field. The last summer the boys had a good field

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of the yard, in another part were busy groups sewing, knitting, crocheting, or pricking and working sewing cards in gay colors. Sometimes an older girl was teacher to the little ones gathered about her. Many little dolls were dressed, reins were knit on spools and scrap-books were made. The boys were eager to work on the sewing-cards and to knit the reins, even the older ones, although some would say with an apologetic air, "It's for de kids."

In one of the schools the children enjoyed going into the building and did good work there. They learned new songs, had their doll-parties and gave shows to which the admittance fee was needles or pins and clean faces and Lips. Shows were successfully given in other yards. They consisted mostly in singing, speaking pieces, marching and dressing up. One teacher writes in her report: "In addition to our sewing, the children sat round in groups and sang and recited to a quiet and earnest concert, with our hall canopied by the blue sky, reserved seats on the verdant grass, and one of the most appreciative and happy audiences that ever filled a Symphony Hall. Good story books and picture books were enjoyed in all the yards."

In almost all the playgrounds the children were formed into bands for cleaning the yards, picking up papers, watering the sands, etc. One teacher says her boys were organized into a police force and were allowed to care for others after they had shown they could care for themselves. The teachers were very wise in making the children feel that it is a privilege to be helpful, and often the reward for faithfulness was being allowed to do something for the teacher or to do a piece of work which had never been given to others.

The teacher in the Sargent Schoolyard left the boys busy in the morning with active games and in the afternoon took them to Cambridge Field for baseball and track running. He had a meet on the last day for which only those boys who had taken the preliminary training were allowed to enter. He was much pleased with the sportsmanlike spirit he had been able to develop. This was shown by their interest in the game even when not winning, and by their not questioning a decision even when the contest was close. "These boys," he says, "only need to have their activities properly guided."

A great gain over last year has been the interest shown by parents and neighbors in the playgrounds. Mothers have frequently visited them and have asked advice of the teachers showing that the influence had reached the homes. One mother said: "I haven't had near so much complaint about my children since this yard has opened, and I have decided it was just what they needed to keep them out of mischief."

Another gain has been that now the novelty has worn off the crowds of rough boys who used to gather on the outside of the schoolyard have greatly diminished, and fewer appeals have to be made to the police. The officers on duty have been very helpful and the police says of their work: "I believe in most, if not in all cases, it has been a labor of love, all believing that the children are very materially benefited as well as made happy by the efforts of the committee in their summer work."

Miss Ida Brooks, the superintendent, pays a tribute to the Vacation Schools in saying: "The playground teacher aims to promote her children to the Vacation Schools. The Vacation School children often join with the others and their influence is of value to all."

After this summer's report, the committee is thoroughly convinced of the necessity of having teachers in all the playgrounds, and then of the importance of having teachers with the right kind of personality. The turbulent element in some boys and girls is always there, ready to break out, and can only be kept under by firm, tactful, resourceful action on the part of the teacher. Added to this, the teacher must have enough material with which to keep the children occupied.

The expense of carrying on nine playgrounds for hundreds of children was \$981.81.

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Mens' Pants Different Tweed,79 to 1.98	Ladies' Covert Coats Different Styles,	\$4.48 to 7.98
Mens' Overalls, .....	.39 to .63	Ladies' Accordion Pleated Skirts, all colors,	3.25
Mens' Underwear, .....	.17 to .43	Ladies' Black and Blue Skirts,	\$1.98 to 3.98
Mens' Working Shirts, .....	.23 to .63	Ladies' Lawn Waist, .....	.29 and up
Mens' Regatta Shirts, .....	.39 to .63	Ladies' Sateen and Lustre, Black, .....	.39 and up
Mens' Braces, .....	.19 and up	Ladies' Under Skirts, Black, .....	.39 and up
Mens' Ties, 15c,	2 for .25	Ladies' Under Skirts, White, .....	.39 and up
Mens' Sox,	4 pair .25	Ladies' Night Dresses, .....	.39 and up
Mens' Collars,	6 for .25	Ladies' Drawers, Cotton, .....	.23 and up
Mens' Handkerchiefs,	4 for 1.10	Ladies' Corset Covers,17 and up
		Ladies' Underwear,08 and up
		Ladies' Hose, Cashmere,	2 pair for .25

SPECIALS

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PLAYS AND PLAYERS

KIRK BROWN IN OTHELLO AT OPERA HOUSE TONIGHT



Kirk Brown and his excellent company repeat their former success in a splendid production of "The Christian" in the Opera House last evening. Mr. Brown, Miss Jds. Mr. Crosby, Mr. Bird and the other members of the company were seen to distinct advantage, while Mr. Charles Savage's work was a revelation, even his friends. As usual the play was superbly mounted.

Thurs. evening Kirk Brown will appear as the Moor in Shakespeare's "Othello." This has been said of the able presentation offered by Mr. Brown in this drama, his masterful performance is remembered and it is with much pleasure one may anticipate the performance this evening.

As the Moor, Mr. Brown is seen in one of his greatest characters. The success of Mr. Brown's "Othello" has won him a wide reputation. Many admirers and friends have tried to prevail upon him to star in this play, but his ambition has been to give such a series of portrayals. Everything is carried to make "Othello" the greatest scenic production of the week.

GORGEOUS PICTURES AT THE PALACE

NAT NICKEL TODAY Good Entertainment at West Side Vaudeville and Picture Theatre.

Harrison and Moffatt made a decided hit in their sketch, Sambo's Pay Day, eliminating anything objectionable, keeping their listeners amused from the beginning of their sketch until the close. At each performance they introduced some musical novelty, and combined with the good songs sung by Miss Moffatt, which were finely rendered, and the eccentric comedy of Mr. Harrison who handles his part exceptionally well, the patrons of the Palace Theatre have indeed a great treat and the people of St. John should not miss the opportunity of witnessing these clever people.

The pictures were enjoyed by all, especially A Trip to the Moon, which was very pleasing.

The management have made a fine treat of this place, one of the best in the city for moving pictures; they certainly have an up-to-date place and well worth the patronage of the people of St. John.

DEAL SHIPMENTS

Parreboro, May 13 (Special).—The German steamer Providentia cleared today for Newport, England, with 2,500,000 feet of deals, shipped by J. Newton Pugsley. This is the first shipment of this year.

The steamer Pontiac arrived tonight to load for D. L. Tucker.

Hold Hands of Avenging Russians.

St. Petersburg, May 13.—At the urgent request of Persian commissioners from Teheran the punitive expedition sent by Russia into Persian territory to quell the brigands in the vicinity of Belesuvar has suspended its operations. The expedition already has burnt eight villages guilty of harboring brigands.

The Persian commissioners asked time to investigate and propose to deliver the guilty parties to justice and indemnify the widows and children of the men who have lost their lives.

Almost Choked to Death.

Mr. Lionel E. Schwartz, a commercial traveller writing from Winnipeg, Man., says "Catarhazone cured me of Asthma after doctors had despaired of my recovery. I seldom sleep through a whole night without waking up in a fit of coughing. Sometimes I almost choked to death. I have not been bothered since using Catarhazone. It has cured me entirely. Catarhazone is the only remedy I have ever met to give such good results." Sold by all dealers in 3 sizes, 25c, 50c, \$1.00 for 2 months' treatment which is guaranteed to permanently cure.

MUCH DISCUSSION BUT NOTHING DONE

Meeting to Discuss Workmen's Compensation Act Did Not Reach Any Decision.

There was quite a large attendance at a meeting held in the board of trade rooms last night to discuss the amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act. There were some interesting discussions over some of the clauses proposed but no formal action followed. The majority of those present were working men, including longshoremen and others.

The president of the board of trade, W. E. Pender, who was in the chair, said he had called the meeting at the request of a number of the members of the board who are manufacturers. He had the assurance of Premier Hazen that the passage of the bill would be delayed long enough to allow of any recommendations from the meeting to reach him.

The secretary, W. E. Anderson, then read the changes which it is proposed to introduce into the old act and on motion of James Pender these were taken up section by section.

The first one, which enlarges the definition "workman" to take in quarrymen, miners and pondmen was not criticized. Neither was the second which further defines the term "dependents" and brings in all relatives nearer than uncles, aunts and cousins.

The first objection was that taken to the change proposed in sub-section 6 of section 3, where the words "negligence of any person in the service of the employer," is added. The chairman said that this really extended the liability of the employer to accidents caused to a workman by the negligence of any of his fellow employees.

J. B. Cudlip thought that this was not a fair clause to either party. He contended that under the old act the workman was very fully protected. He went on to say that the introduction of this provision into the act would cause no end of trouble and gross injustice. He suggested that this clause be struck out. George Cushing said he quite agreed with Mr. Cudlip about the injustice of the proposed clause. He instanced the case of saw mills, the owners of which were under a very heavy onus now. The clause would also be very hard on all contractors and sub-contractors.

James Daley asked if the proposed bill was not a copy of the one now in force in England. The secretary replied that it was and that he had been assured it was a curse to Great Britain.

The discussion here became a little warmer. One man said he disagreed entirely with Mr. Cushing and Mr. Cudlip. He thought that the employer should be held liable if he at any time should employ an incompetent person. Another thought that no change ought to be made in that part of the law.

The next proposed change which provoked discussion was in sub-section 6 of section 4. This makes the principal liable for any accident occurring in work carried on for him by a contractor.

T. S. Simms took strong exception to this.

In answer it was contended by some that as under the law the principal is liable for wages where the contractor fails, therefore he ought also to be held liable in cases of accident. The result would be, it was added, that men would be more careful about drawing up contracts to cover such contingencies and also about the standing of the contractors they employed.

The next new provision in the act, increasing the liability from \$1,500 to \$2,500, excited little comment. It was said that the only effect would be to increase the amount of insurance employers would have to pay liability companies from one cent one and two-thirds per cent.

E. C. Elkin suggested that some action be taken on the question of the new act. He did not doubt the labor organizations had already approached the government in the matter and were pressing for the bill and he suggested that the manufacturers should do something.

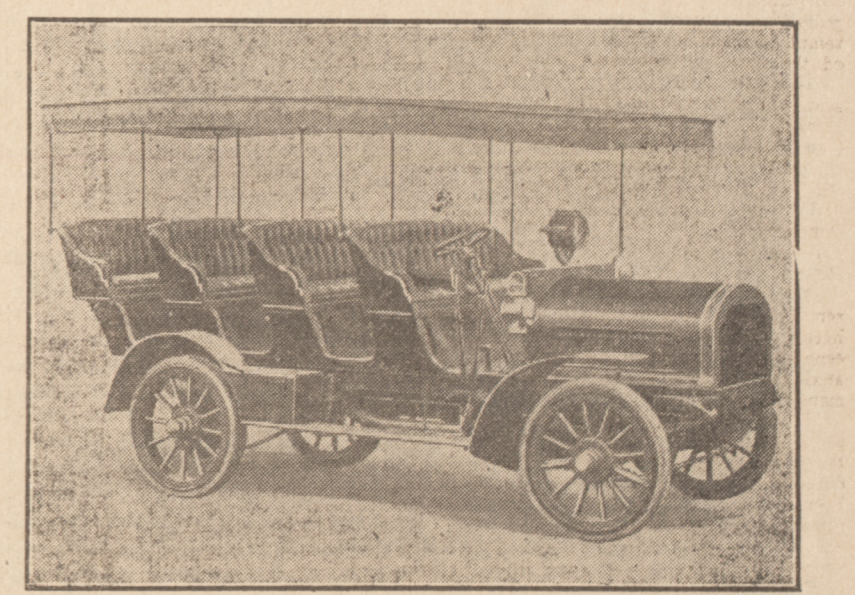
R. B. Emerson thought there was one phase of the question which the labor men had not taken into account. This was that the new act would have the effect of barring all but young men from getting work. Employers would be very careful not to have men more than forty or fifty years of age. The chairman at this point said he thought it was advisable to take some action.

Mr. Daley said that while the old bill was the best they could obtain at the time it was no good to them. Men were constantly getting hurt at Sand Point and it was impossible for their relatives to recover compensation.

Mr. Pender here remarked that there did not seem to be any chance of coming to any agreement. He moved accordingly that the meeting adjourn and his motion was carried.

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