



Vase Type
American Elm.

On Latta Road.
Height, 70 feet.

ROCHESTER
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THE 1917 REPORT

Rr
711
R676p
1917

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*rp#s marked
in this copy.*

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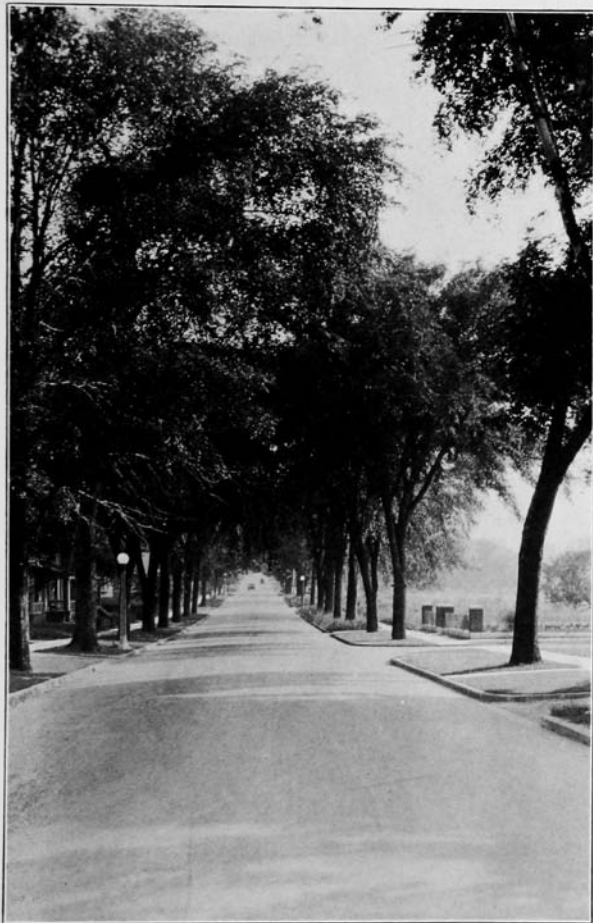
ROCHESTER
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

THE 1917 REPORT

THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN THIS REPORT
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N. R. GRAVES

R676g

1917



CULVER ROAD.

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AREA OF PARKS—MARCH 4, 1918.

GENESEE VALLEY PARK.

	ACRES	ACRES
Land purchased and given, - - - - -	460.23	
Genesee River controlled by Park, - - - - -	79.60	
		539.83

SENECA PARK.

Land purchased, - - - - -	171.74	
Land given, - - - - -	15.50	
Genesee River controlled by Park, - - - - -	29.00	
		216.24

MAPLEWOOD PARK.

Land purchased, - - - - -	110.74	
Land given, - - - - -	4.87	
Genesee River controlled by Park, - - - - -	29.00	
		144.61

HIGHLAND PARK.

Warner Property, came from city for back taxes, - -	33.00	
Land purchased, - - - - -	16.258	
Land given, - - - - -	19.63	
Land owned by city and turned over to Park Board, -	38.415	
		107.303

DURAND-EASTMAN PARK, - - - - -		484.00
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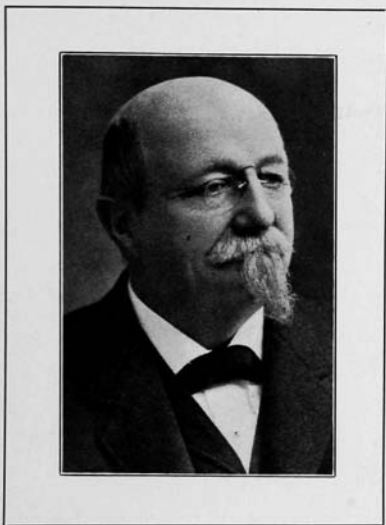
SMALL PARKS.

Armory Park, - - - - -	2.908	
Carter Street Park, - - - - -	6.84	
Cobb's Hill, - - - - -	61.50	
Convention Hall Park, - - - - -	.19	
Jones' Park, - - - - -	6.72	
Brown's Park, - - - - -	4.50	
Madison Park, - - - - -	.84	
Plymouth Park, - - - - -	.75	
Franklin Park, - - - - -	.98	
Washington Park, - - - - -	1.08	
Wadsworth Park, - - - - -	.85	
Lake View Park, - - - - -	5.18	
Sumner Park, - - - - -	.58	
Wilson Park, - - - - -	3.327	
Anderson Park, - - - - -	.94	
Burke Terrace Park, - - - - -	.15	
Atlantic Circle, - - - - -	.002	
River Bank, St. Paul St., Evergreen Park. - - - -	.038	
Douglas Triangle, - - - - -	.003	
Kelly Triangle, - - - - -	.013	
Webster Avenue Park, - - - - -	15.59	
Linden and South Goodman, - - - - -	.001	
Morrison Park, - - - - -	.098	
Washington Playground, - - - - -	.99	
Aberdeen Park, - - - - -	1.53	
Exposition Park, - - - - -	41.28	
		156.88

Total acreage of Parks, 1,648.863



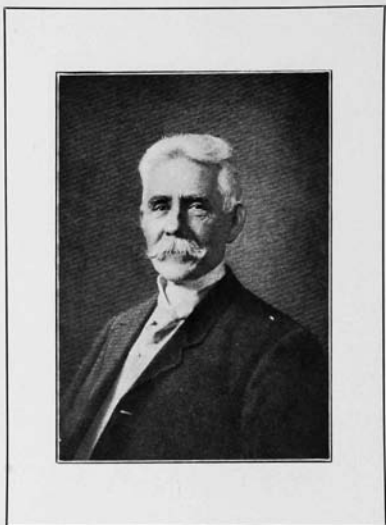
RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS, HIGHLAND PARK.



MAYOR HIRAM H. EDGERTON.

Mayor Hiram H. Edgerton was elected Mayor of Rochester in the fall of 1907 and he has been re-elected every two years since. During his administration the parks and playgrounds have received larger appropriations than ever before and the Park Band has been developed and has acquired a great reputation for furnishing excellent music. The parks have increased in size and attractiveness, and the playgrounds have been greatly increased in number and usefulness.

Mayor Edgerton has always taken a deep interest in playground work for the children of Rochester.



A. B. LAMBERTON.

rp-1437

A. B. Lamberton was appointed Park Commissioner in 1894 by Mayor Geo. W. Aldridge and he was elected President of the Board of Park Commissioners to succeed Doctor Edward M. Moore who died March 2, 1902. Doctor Moore was elected President of the Park Board at its organization in May 1888 and served until his death.

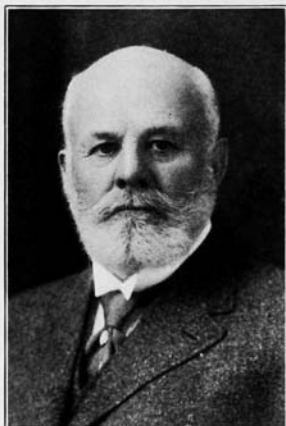
Mr. Lamberton served as President of the Board until it was legislated out of office in 1915. On March 8th, 1915, Mayor Edger-ton appointed Mr. Lamberton, Park Commissioner and he served until Feb. 1st, 1918 when he resigned.



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WILLIAM S. RILEY.

William S. Riley was appointed Park Commissioner in April, 1902 by Mayor A. J. Rodenbeck to succeed Dr. Edward M. Moore. He was Chairman of the Purchasing Committee, Chairman of Genesee Valley Park Committee and Third Vice-President of the Parks for several years. While Chairman of Genesee Valley Park Committee he was instrumental in conducting the famous Gymkana sports on the meadows and the most beautiful water carnivals on the Genesee River, as well as the winter carnival on the Genesee Valley Skating Rink, and at the Eastern Widewaters. The song and light festival at Highland Park was inaugurated by Commissioner Riley and was first held on Sept. 30th, 1915. The weather was favorable for the festival and it was one of the most beautiful spectacles ever witnessed in the parks. The song and light festival was repeated in 1916 for two nights. The Indian festival at Seneca Park for the past two years, the May walk at Durand-Eastman Park, and the special musical festival at Seneca Park have been managed by Commissioner Riley.

When Mr. Lamberton was appointed Commissioner in 1915, Mr. Riley was made Deputy Commissioner of Parks and held that office until Mr. Lamberton resigned on Feb. 1st, 1918, when Mayor Edgerton appointed him Park Commissioner.



C. C. LANEY

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C. C. Laney was appointed Surveyor for the Board of Park Commissioners in June, 1888 and he made the topographical survey of the parks for the Landscape Architect, the late Fred Law Olmsted. On April 1st, 1889 he was appointed Superintendent of Parks.

John Dunbar was appointed Foreman of Highland Park on April 22nd, 1891 and on March 1st, 1895 was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Parks.



JOHN DUNBAR

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BERNARD H. SLAVIN

Bernard H. Slavin began work on the parks as laborer in 1890 and was made Foreman of Highland Park in 1895 and served there eight years. In 1903 he was made Foreman of Seneca Park and in 1911 he was made Second Assistant Superintendent of Parks. In 1915 he was given full charge of the street trees and he has done excellent work.

PATRICK J. SLAVIN

Patrick J. Slavin, General Foreman of Parks, began work as a water boy on the parks in 1892. Later he was laborer, and in 1903 he was made Foreman of Highland Park and when work was started at Durand-Eastman Park in the spring of 1908, he was made Foreman there. In the fall of 1908 he was made Foreman of Genesee Valley Park and in 1915 he was made General Foreman of all the parks. By his diligence and capability he has merited all his promotions.

MISS GERTRUDE M. HARTNETT

Miss Gertrude M. Hartnett began work in the parks as stenographer on April 26th, 1905. She is also General Office Manager and has general charge of the books in the office.



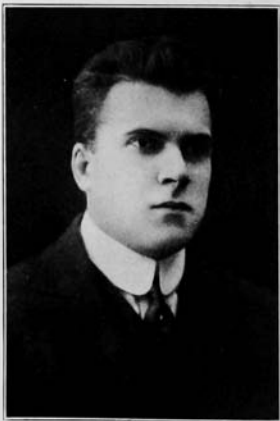


THEODORE DOSSENBACH

The Park Band was organized by Theodore Dossenbach, Director, and has since been employed by the Park Board and the Department of Parks to give five concerts a week in the various parks of the city, during the pleasant summer weather. Last year sixty-one concerts were given in the parks, ten in Convention Hall on Sundays during the winter, and thirty-two times it lead parades escorting soldiers and sailors to the train when they were leaving for their various camps.

The music furnished by the Park Band is of a high order and thousands of music lovers are attracted to the parks when concerts are given. They have given free the Christmas Serenade about the city on Christmas Eves for the past several years.

Robert A. Bernhard was appointed Superintendent of Playgrounds and Recreation on March 8, 1915.



ROBERT A. BERNHARD



LILAC SUNDAY AT HIGHLAND PARK.

FACTS OF INTEREST



THE bill to abolish the Board of Park Commissioners and to create a Department of Parks under the Mayor of the City passed the legislature in February and was signed by Governor Whitman, March 3rd, 1915. On March 8th, Mayor Hiram H. Edgerton appointed A. B. Lamberton, who had been President of the Board of Park Commissioners continuously since the death of Dr. Edward M. Moore, March 1902, Commissioner of Parks, and a few days later Commissioner Lamberton appointed William S. Riley, the Third Vice-President of the late Board of Park Commissioners, Deputy Commissioner of Parks.

DURAND-EASTMAN PARK

This great pleasure ground of 484 acres is next to the largest of all the large parks and was a gift from Dr. Henry S. Durand and George Eastman to the Park Commission in 1907. It extends along the shore of Lake Ontario for four thousand feet and about the same distance back from the lake, and nearly one hundred of its acres are a noble forest of white pine, hemlock, chestnut, ash, red maple, white, red and black oak, black and yellow birch, black cherry, beech, tulip, sassafras and dogwood. The land is rolling and of great natural picture-queeness. Three and one-quarter miles of walks and drives have been constructed and a small lake has been created by a dam across a ravine. Bison, deer, elk, tahr, aoudads, camels and llamas wander over the rolling land, scarcely knowing that they are confined.

Thousands of trees and shrubs have been planted in various parts of the park. Rhododendrons, azaleas and other plants

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that will not thrive in limestone soil thrive here. A nut grove of 1200 trees has been planted on the northwest corner of the park, consisting of hickories, butternuts, black walnuts, Japanese and Persian walnuts and several varieties of chestnuts.

In the park is a nursery in which many choice trees and shrubs not obtainable in other nurseries are grown to plant in the parks.

A refectory has been built on a bluff overlooking Lake Ontario. A fine picnic grove a few hundred feet back of the refectory is convenient for park visitors. In the grove is a log house and a rustic shelter, swings and sand boxes, also an ice-house convenient for picnickers. One may roam for hours through the groves and meadows and over the hills on May days as secluded as in the Adirondacks. Two ball grounds, several tennis courts and a golf course have been laid out. It is a splendid park for picnics and is used for church picnics by a great many churches in Rochester. The trolley lines have been extended from near Sea Breeze to the refectory.

A subway under the R. W. & O. R. R., nearly opposite the refectory to permit the safe passage of persons to the beach of Lake Ontario, has been built by the Railway Company and the Park Department, each of which paid one-half of the cost.

A pier 1000 ft. long, costing \$10,000.00 on which passengers from the excursion lake boats may land, has been built. It is a fine place from which to fish and to dive into the lake, and to rest on hot evenings.

SENECA PARK

This park of 216.24 acres is situated on the right bank of the Genesee River below the lower falls where the banks of the river are about one-hundred-sixty feet high. The New York Central Railroad is the eastern boundary of the park and the river the western boundary. A plantation of native trees hides the view of the railroad. The length is about three miles and the width several hundred feet. The electric car lines have been extended into the park nearly to the refectory. There are two picnic groves and a small number of deer, elk and bison are confined near the lower picnic grove.



REFECTORY AT DURAND-EASTMAN PARK.

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An artificial lake and a swimming pool are convenient to the lower picnic grove. A playground is maintained here. A fine band stand has been erected on the west shore of the artificial lake. Tennis courts and a ball ground are maintained in the park. The native trees and shrubs are given preference as it was designed to remain as natural as possible. Many varieties of hickory thrive better in this park than in any other park, and all the choice varieties that we have been able to get have been planted here.

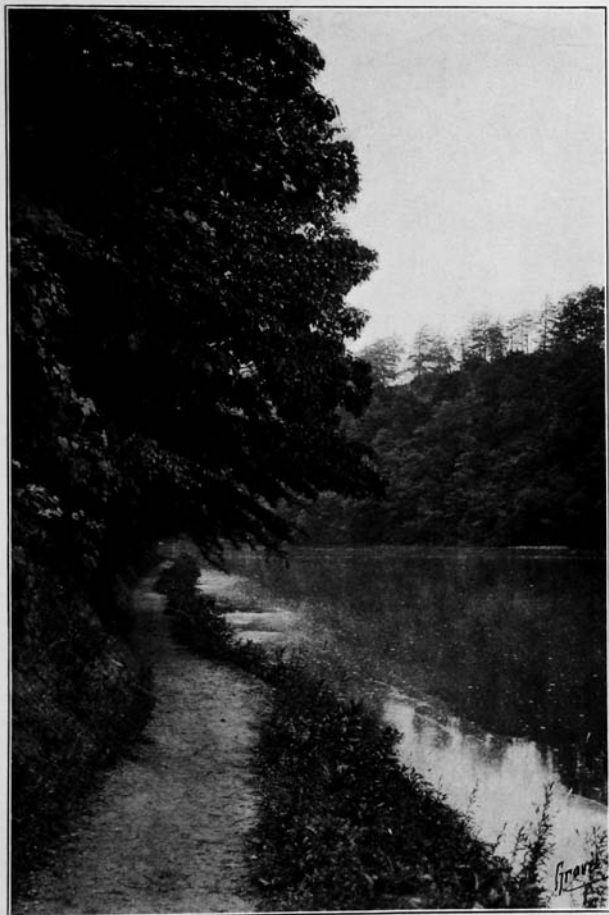
In summer birds are kept in a flying cage on the west shore of the artificial lake, and at the upper grove bears, wolves, birds of various kinds and other animals.

There is a walk along the high bank of the river for the whole length of the park and the view from it is grand at all seasons of the year, but especially in the fall when the gorgeous colors of the foliage appear. In the winter the ice on the artificial lake of five acres is kept in good condition for the many skaters who come to enjoy the quiet and restfulness of the park.

MAPLEWOOD PARK

Maplewood Park of 144.61 acres named for the fine old sugar maples in the grove on Lake Avenue near the bridge over the Genesee River is situated on the left bank of the river, was formerly a part of Seneca Park and was called Seneca Park West. It is a long narrow park extending from Driving Park Avenue to a road leading from Lake Avenue to Hanford's Landing, a distance of about one and one-quarter miles. At the corner of Driving Park Avenue and Lake Avenue is a rose garden and below that the picnic grove known as Maple Grove. A fine dove cot is across the road from the grove.

There is a shelter and a fine band stand located under the trees where band concerts are generally held on Thursday evenings, by the Park Band. An average of from 10,000 to 15,000 people attend each concert. Under the shadow of the trees the attendants sit on park seats, or on Maplewood Avenue which has been greatly widened opposite the bandstand to accommodate the many automobiles whose owners drive to the



WALK ALONG GENESEE RIVER, MAPLEWOOD PARK.

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park. Thousands of persons listen to the music. About a mile north the park widens and here are situated the refectory, the playgrounds, tennis courts and the ball grounds. A bowling green is maintained for those who enjoy that sport. Picnics are often held near the refectory. The trees and shrubs are mostly the native ones of Monroe County. There is a walk along the top of the high bank of the river and one that leads from Driving Park Avenue down to the river and back to the top of the high bank at Hanford's Landing Road. In the refectory there is a good collection of some of the common native birds mounted. The small lake of one acre affords skating to a few children who live close to the park. The views to be obtained from several places along the top of the high bank of the river are very fine.

COBB'S HILL

The land, 61.50 acres, on which this park is located was partly bought for a city reservoir and partly presented to the city by philanthropic citizens. George Eastman presented fifteen acres extending along Culver Road from Monroe Avenue to the Eastern Widewaters, and George Eastman, Granger A. Hollister and Mrs. Hollister, James A. Watson, Hiram W. Sibley, Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company, Miss Elizabeth Clarke, Edmond Lyons, Bausch & Lomb, Lewis P. Ross, Edward W. Mulligan, Harvey E. Corey, Joseph T. Alling, Henry A. Strong, Mrs. Florence Yates Ward, William A. Sloan, M. I. Covell, William Eastwood, Albert Eastwood and Walter S. Hubbell furnished thirty thousand dollars toward paying \$35,625.00 for the fine grove of forest trees east of Cobb's Hill Reservoir. The City of Rochester paid \$5,625.00 toward the amount paid for the land.

A path has been made from the corner of Monroe Avenue and Culver Road to the grove of 12.5 acres of land mentioned, and paths were graded through the grove. Some of the dead, decayed and crowding trees were cut down. For about a third of a mile the path to this grove is perfectly level and the remainder of the way it leads up a good grade to the grove.

Many choice trees and shrubs have been planted along the



FIELD DAY, EXPOSITION PARK.

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level paths and tennis courts have been built. On a meadow a ball ground has been established. A shelter for skaters in winter has been built along the widewaters. During the winter several acres of ice have been cleared and planed and thousands enjoy the fine skating. Electric lights have been installed to light the skating rink. A few evergreen trees have been planted around the reservoir. Cobb's Hill is at an altitude above the sea of 640.72 ft. and the water in the reservoir 635.75 ft.

Lake Ontario is about eight miles north of Cobb's Hill and from the summit a grand view of the city, Lake Ontario, the Genesee Valley and Bristol Hills can be seen on a clear day.

EXPOSITION PARK

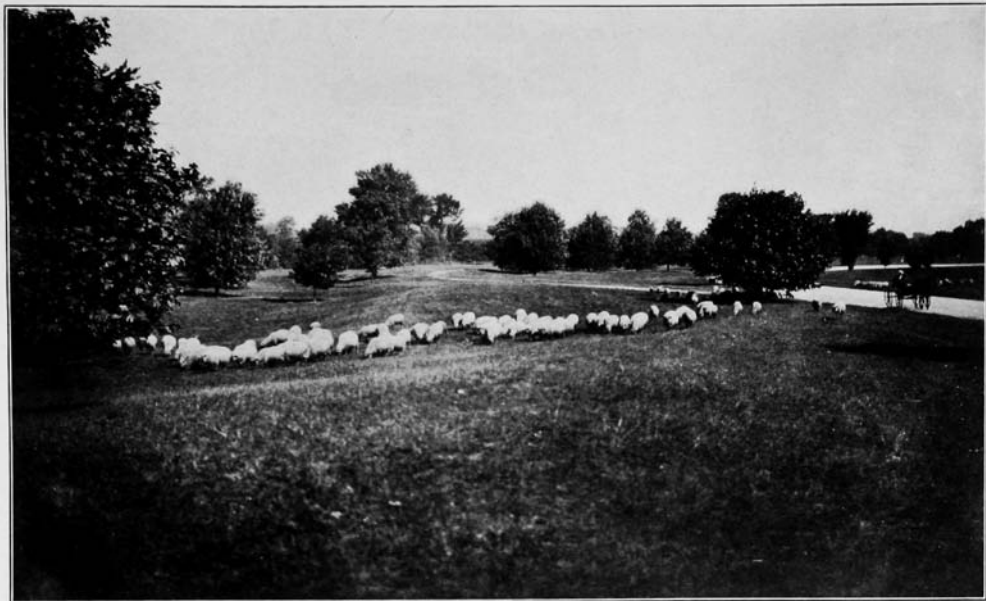
Exposition Park containing 41.28 acres is located half a mile north of Jones Park. It is a park playground with several ball grounds and tennis courts and has a small collection of animals and birds.

On the spacious meadows in front of the grand stand, the yearly horse show is held. Several pageants have been given in front of the grand stand. In the large buildings on the grounds various entertainments have been given. The Main Municipal Library and the Municipal Museum are located in this park. A fine large band stand has been erected and the band concerts are given weekly there during the summer evenings.

GENESEE VALLEY PARK

This is the largest of all the parks, containing 539.83 acres of land and water. The Genesee River runs through it, about ten feet below its banks during the pleasant summer weather. The river is navigable for canoes, row boats and small motor boats for about eight miles.

Miss Frances A. Baker gave 101 acres of this land and money to repair the old brick house, which is used for a resting place for park visitors. The park includes a supervised playground for little children, an athletic field, baseball diamonds, a swimming pool, many boats and club houses where canoes



SHEEP ON THE MEADOWS, GENESEE VALLEY PARK.

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and boats are kept, a picnic grove, a band stand, a refectory, a polo field and public golf links. It is well planted with native ornamental trees and shrubs.

The new Barge Canal passes across the wide meadows south of the picnic grove and temporarily renders the park useless.

The flock of 120 Shropshire sheep was sheared in the latter part of April and the wool which weighed 1137 pounds was sold 52 cents per pound. Seventy-eight lambs were born of which forty-three were males and thirty-five females. The males were sold and the females kept.

The river carnivals have been held in the park and thousands assemble to see the annual carnivals which have been conducted by Commissioner Riley for the past twelve years.

HIGHLAND PARK

Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry proposed to give 19.63 acres of land adjoining the land owned by the city for a reservoir was entering wedge of the park project for the City of Rochester. The late celebrated landscape architect, Fred Law Olmsted was consulted and plans were made to secure enough land for a shrub collection and a pinetum, so with the land purchased and what was owned by the city and given by Ellwanger and Barry 107.3 acres were secured.

The pinetum contains about 300 species and varieties of coniferous evergreens and the principal genera are pines 67, spruces 50, firs 30, junipers 45, arbor vitae 40, yews 23 and larches 9.

Among the deciduous trees, and shrubs the principal species and varieties are of willows 77; poplars 34; walnuts 8; hickories 19; birches 48; oaks 42; elms 27; hackberries 10; basswoods 26; maples 73; ashes 34; magnolias 32; crab-apples 45; pears 19; cherries and plums 114; crataegus (Hawthorn) in Genesee Valley Park 550; Ionicera (Honeysuckle) 102; rhododendrons 142; azaleas 136; lilacs 306; deutzias 51; philadelphus 56; viburnums 54; dogwoods 40; sumacs 22; spireas 58; roses 396; rubus 55; ribes 63; barberries 74; buckthorns 18; euonymus 21.



LILACS IN HIGHLAND PARK.

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Among the deciduous trees and shrubs there are 32 species and varieties of magnolias some of which are in flower from early in May until late in July. Not all the genera of the plants in the park are mentioned. The willows, poplars, rubus and ribes have been transferred to Durand-Eastman Park. The rhododendrons and kalmias are really broad leaved evergreens. The great variety of evergreen trees and the trees and shrubs that bear fruit, that birds eat in winter as well as summer, attract large numbers of birds which are fed suet, sunflower seed, hemp, millet and canary seed, nuts and bread. The result is that many birds, that otherwise would starve in cold weather, survive and nest in the parks during the summer. A list of the birds seen in the parks, is printed weekly in the Rochester papers, so that a large number of persons become interested in birds and learn how to care for them in the winter. The number of species seen last year was 161.

The children's pavilion at Highland Park which was erected by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry in 1890 and presented to the children of Rochester, affords a fine view of the city and lake and the Genesee Valley on a clear day. The park band plays in the pavilion on Lilac Sundays and other days, about once a week during the summer.

A toboggan slide was built on the Warner property several years ago and that is maintained during the cold weather. The lily pond which is so attractive in the summer, affords an acre of skating in the winter.

The Lambertson conservatory, which was presented to the city in memory of the former President of The Board of Park Commissioners and late Commissioner of Parks, is kept filled with flowers and foliage plants during the whole year. Four principal exhibitions of flowers are given during the year. The Easter exhibition, the early summer, the chrysanthemum exhibition and the Christmas exhibition. Crowds of persons through these exhibitions during the pleasant weather, on Sundays and holidays and many persons of leisure are attracted to the displays during ordinary days.

The herbarium is maintained to keep on hand specimens of the flowers, foliage and fruits of the various plants that grow

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in the park system. This herbarium is open to inspection for anyone interested in plants. The collection of living plants in the parks is visited by arboriculturists, landscape architects, nurserymen, college professors and students every year in large numbers. Several gentlemen from England and Ireland were advised by Professor Charles S. Sargent, director of the Arnold Arboretum, not to return to their homes without seeing the collection of trees and shrubs at Highland Park and the park system generally.

Lilac day is held on the Sunday in May when the greatest number of lilacs are at their best. A concert is given by the Park Band in the Children's Pavilion and thousands of persons from the city and the surrounding country and neighboring cities and villages flock to see the fine display. In the past few years new varieties have been added to the collection so that the season of bloom from the earliest to the latest is greatly extended. While the average time for the blooming of the greatest number is about May 20th, the time of bloom from the earliest, April 30th to the latest on July 1st, is about eight weeks, during which time there is always some interesting lilacs in bloom. The total number of species and varieties of trees and shrubs in all the park system is about four thousand.

STREET TREES

There are about 401 miles of street in Rochester and most of them are planted to street trees. All the trees in the streets of the twenty-three wards were examined and one hundred thirty-four streets were trimmed. One hundred ten dead, four hundred seventy-six crowding and one hundred thirty-five dangerous trees, a total of seven hundred twenty-one trees were cut down in three hundred eighty-eight streets. During the year 1917, six hundred thirty-eight trees were planted on ten streets. Two hundred seven were American elm and four hundred thirty-one were Norway maple.

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REPORT OF THE
BUREAU OF PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION

We operate 14 Playgrounds in the winter months and 20 Playgrounds in the summer months. 31 men directors and 43 women directors are employed on the playgrounds. They have been selected with great care to give the best possible service to the children, and their work has proven them to be competent directors.

ATTENDANCE ON PLAYGROUNDS

1917

South Ave.	- - - - -	58,225
Hartford St.	- - - - -	98,915
Washington	- - - - -	345,870
Brown Square	- - - - -	125,757
Front St.	- - - - -	58,224
Exposition	- - - - -	77,328
No. 7	- - - - -	72,595
No. 9	- - - - -	142,090
No. 11	- - - - -	96,662
No. 14	- - - - -	96,880
No. 15	- - - - -	37,606
No. 20 (5 Months)	- - - - -	58,814
No. 21	- - - - -	44,989
No. 36	- - - - -	72,348
Seneca Park (summer Season)	- - - - -	37,625
Maplewood Park (Upper & Lower) (summer)	- - - - -	19,026
West High	- - - - -	46,891
Total Attendance for	- 1917	1,489,845
.. ..	- 1916	1,077,865
Increased Attendance for	1917	411,980

ATTENDANCE AT BATH HOUSES AND POOLS

1917

South Ave. Bath House (12 months)	-	113,707
South Ave. Pool (12 months)	-	164,332
Baden St. Bath House (12 months)	-	70,693
Seneca Park Pool (summer season)	-	21,327
Total Attendance for	- 1917	370,059



FOURTEEN SCHOOL GROUNDS POOL.

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Among the activities carried on in our Parks and Playgrounds, and which take an important place in our work are the following :

Library and Story Telling (under direction of
special teacher)
Sewing (under direction of
special teacher)
Basketry and Crepe Paper Work (under direction of
special teacher)
Dancing (under direction of
special teacher)
Swimming
Special Girls' Clubs
Special Boys' Clubs
Athletics
All-Round Point Contest
Red Cross Work
Wireless Class
Snow Shoe Club
Skiing
Bowling on the Green
Fox Chase
Municipal Baseball League
Municipal Basketball League

SPECIAL GIRLS AND BOYS CLUBS

We have in addition to the Camp Fire Girls reported by other Cities, "Girl Scouts" "Girl Pioneers" and local clubs. The various playground localities are carefully studied, and in case none of the different national organizations meet the special need, we construct an organization suited to the group ; selecting the best features from each of the other organizations. For the year 1917, 875 girls were registered in 28 clubs.

MUNICIPAL LEAGUES

In baseball, indoor-baseball and basketball, the Bureau maintained Leagues. However, Military Drill has required the use of the Basketball Courts and indoor Ball Diamonds, so that this phase of the work is at a stand-still. It looks as though the buildings may be available for athletics in 1918.



PART OF PINETUM, HIGHLAND PARK.

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WIRELESS CLASS

We have conducted a wireless class at the Washington Play-ground, and find that the boys have taken unusual interest, many becoming proficient enough to pass the Aviation Section, Signal Corps Requirements.

RED CROSS WORK

We have made Tampons, Gauze Packings, Compresses, Comfort Pillows, Wash Cloths, etc. by the hundreds for the various relief agencies.

The annual report of Miss Fern B. Wall, the Playground Librarian, shows that libraries were conducted at seven play-grounds throughout the winter, spring and fall, and at eleven playgrounds during the summer months. A gratifying increase in the circulation over that of 1916 is noted.

Stories were told at eighteen playgrounds during the summer and were attended with enthusiasm by the children.

Total circulation from Jan. 1st, 1917 to Jan. 1st, 1918, 11,375.

CIRCULATION BY MONTH		CIRCULATION BY PLAYGROUNDS	
January	- - - 908	Brown Sq.	- - - 2126
February	- - - 772	Front St.	- - - 467
March	- - -	Hartford St.	- - - 2245
April	- - - 334	*South Ave.	- - - 94
May	- - - 825	Washington	- - - 1151
June	- - - 1479	*West High	- - - 297
July	- - - 2386	No. 7	- - - 1363
August	- - - 1482	*No. 11	- - - 350
September	- - - 350	No. 14	- - - 836
October	- - - 958	No. 21	- - - 1746
November	- - - 939	No. 36	- - - 700
December	- - - 942		
	11,375		11,375

Stars indicate playgrounds where libraries were conducted only during the ten weeks of the summer season.



ROCHESTERIANS ADOPTED INTO SENECA TRIBE OF INDIANS.

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During the past year the story-telling has become more firmly established than ever before, and story hours were conducted at more playgrounds, with not only the expected increase in total attendance, but an increase as well as in the average attendance. Through the summer months, stories were told at 18 playgrounds, and while the weather permitted at all of the seven playgrounds where libraries were conducted the year round, but with the coming of cold weather and the crowding of the children into the shelters it was impossible to keep up all the story hours. Stories cannot be told in a room where all the other activities of the playground are going on at the same time.

Number of story hours from Jan. 1, 1917 to Jan. 1, 1918	-	245
" " stories told	" " " " " " " "	410
Total attendance at story hours	- - - - -	9429
Average attendance at each story hour	- - - - -	38

ATTENDANCE BY PLAYGROUNDS

Brown Square	- - - - -	591
*Exposition Park	- - - - -	647
Front St.	- - - - -	477
Hartford St.	- - - - -	590
*Lower Maplewood Park	- - - - -	304
*Upper Maplewood Park	- - - - -	160
*Seneca Park	- - - - -	324
*South Ave.	- - - - -	138
Washington	- - - - -	1640
*West High	- - - - -	385
No. 7	- - - - -	608
*No. 9	- - - - -	360
*No. 11	- - - - -	433
No. 14	- - - - -	495
*No. 15	- - - - -	328
*No. 20	- - - - -	719
No. 21	- - - - -	684
*No. 36	- - - - -	546
		<hr/>
		9429

Stars indicate playgrounds where stories were told only during summer season.

ROCHESTER DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

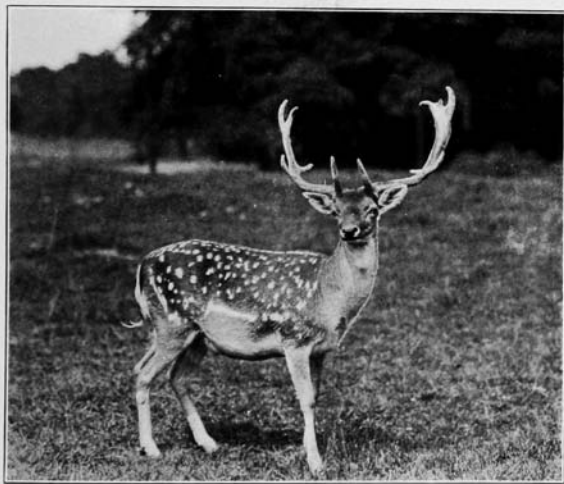
The following is the report of the inventory taken January 1st, of all the books constituting the playground libraries:

BOOKS ON PLAYGROUNDS

Brown Square	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Front St.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	113
Hartford St.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	176
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
No. 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	124
No. 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
No. 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	115
Books ready for use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	222
Books unsuitable for playground use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	319
Books unsuitable for playground, lent to Pub. Lib.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Books to be mended	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Books to be rebound	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
Books at bindery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	154
Books discarded	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	248
Books missing at inventory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Books reported lost	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
									2094

The report for the year would be incomplete without mention of Miss Adeline B. Zachert. Her constant personal supervision, interest and suggestions have been the dominating factor in making the playground libraries what they are.

WM. S. RILEY,
Commissioner of Parks.



FALLOW DEER, DURAND EASTMAN PARK.

