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THE PLAYGROUND MOVEMENT; PRACTICAL OPERATION THROUGHOUT THE STATES

(Worcester, Mass., Telegram)

The board of trade began its fall and winter series of smoke-talks last night, in its hall, 11 Foster street, with Dr. Henry S. Curtis, Clark University, secretary of the Playground association of America, as the speaker. The general subject was "The playground movement," and by the aid of stereoptican views. Dr. Curtis showed the practical operation of playgrounds in cities throughout the country and the work accomplished. Dr. Curtis also explained the need of playgrounds in Worcester.

There was a representative attendance and the interest aroused was shown by the number remaining after the lecture to question and discuss with Dr. Curtis the application of the playground idea in Worcester.

Dr. Curtis prefaced his illustrated description with a history of the playground movement, what it has accomplished and what it is expected to accomplish. He said it was a movement rapidly spreading through the country so that now there is hardly a city the size of Worcester without a playground, while many smaller communities have several. He believes it is not fad or fancy bound to have a meteoric career, and then come to a standstill, but rather come more and more into general use so that a few years hence will find a city without a playground system, the exception rather than the general rule.

Rapid Growth

"The rapid growth and attendant success of the work shows this," said Dr Curtis. "From 1907 to 1908 saw the number of playgrounds in the country doubled and the number is constantly being increased and those in existence are being improved. The playground system is not only known to America but it is to be found in many of the European cities. In fact Germany my be said to be the originator of the playground movement. In Germany there are regular courses for the school teachers so they may instruct their pupils to the best advantage and the number of courses is being constantly increased and the system improved.

"The playground movement in a city generally begins with the organization of a playground association upon a philanthropic basis. The most influential people in the city are actively identified with the movement and raise the money necessary by subscription until the work is sufficiently developed to secure an appropriation.

"The first state to pass a playground law was New Jersey, ad others are following that example. Massachusetts has made playground provision by local option referendum vote. Of 42 cities voting at the last election 40 adopted the measure with a vote of nearly five to one.

"A detail of movement which is rapidly growing in favor is the presenting of memorial playgrounds to cities by wealthy men. The first example of this was in Philadelphia. Other cities have been remembered in similar manner, among them Springfield. The first six months of this year 20 such gifts have been reported, making 40 such memorials during the past year.

"The playgrounds are divided into three parts; school playgrounds, or those forming part of the school property of the city or town and in use before and after school and during intermissions under the direction of an experienced instructor, municipal playgrounds under the direction of a branch of the city government and park playgrounds under the directoin of the regular park commission. The school playgrounds are as important as the whole shool system and serve several purposes. The first aim is to improve and protect the physical health.

"The second aim is to preserve the organic strength of the pupils through exercises used not merely to give exercise, but to stimulate and keep in healthy condition the vital organs. The third aim is to uplift the social and moral conditions. The playground keeps the children out of the saloon, the alley or side street and the back stable. It gets in touch with those not reached by many organizations working for the betterment of social and moral conditions. Take a simple example. In the game of croquet, not a few children are prone to move the ball to an advantageous position if they can do so without detection. It may seem a little thing in itself and a detail that the boy or girl thinks little of. But following out this practice until 16 or 18 years old is not apt to fit the person for entering business with as fine a code of honor as if brought up differnetly.

In Worcester

"The proper way to handle the playground question in Worcester, now that the city has adopted the measure, is to have Mayor Logan appoint a playground commission. Have the members of this commission study Worcester conditions carefully ,and the needs of the children, and then investigate how the playground systems of other cities are managed, and they will then be in a position to make recommendations and handle the movement in Worcester. Crompton park would be an excellent place to start such a movement in Worcester.

The School league, organized in connection with the playgrounds movement in New York has proven one of the best details of school work yet in this line. The meets and championship contests give incentive for the schoolboys to do their best, and as a strict code of honor rules, it gives excellent moral training for those taking part in the playground contests.

"A part of the playground work that must be emphasized is proper supervision. if allowed to become the loafing place of a corner gang, its influence could hardly be worse in a community.

The need of proper supervision is a most important detail of the playground movement. Thoroughly trained instructors should be provided, and upon them will depend much of the success of the grounds. For example, in New York there were two playgrounds, about equal in facilities, provided for play. One had a particularly popular instructor, and attracted an attendance averaging 400 or 500. The other for a time had only the caretaker, and averaged 10 or 20."

In various parts of the country, where Dr. Curtis had visited or been in charge of the work. Among them were views of the playgrounds in New York, Buffalo, Newark, Washingnton, Pittsburg and San Francisco. All details of the work were shown, from the regular playground, devoid of the most modern improvements, to those supplied with field houses and other modern adjuncts. The playgrounds furnished with apparatus for exercise and games, athletic tracks, swimming and wading pools and field houses, with resturants and places for socials and dances were shown, and evil caused by the low dance halls.

At the close a number of views were shown of the improvised playground work in connection with Worcester vacation schools and explained by W. D. Hyde, director of the vacation work. It was shown where, at the Ledge street school, one shower bath was made at a cost of less than a dollar by hitching the sprinkler from an ordinary watering can on a garden hose. An average of 70 to 100 boys used the shower bath, who really appreciated it, but had never had the opportunity to enjoy the luxury before. Views of the sports at Crompton park in connection with the vacation school work were also shown.

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Your physician, pharmacist, banker or any mercantile agency will tell you that Pape, Thompson & Pape, of Cincinnati, is a large and responsible medicine concern, thoroughly worthy of your confidence.

Only curative results can come from taking Pape's Diuretic, and a few days' treatment will make any one feel fine.

Accept only Pape's Diuretic—fifty-cent treatment—from any drug store—anywhere in the world.

The annual meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of Exmouth street church was held last evening. An interesting programme of addresses and music was carried out and encouraging reports presented.

Eight cases of typhoid fever are reported from Aldershot, Ont.

$100 REWARD $100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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THE CATHOLIC REGISTER AND THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS

A Return to the Attack Made on the Work Among the Ruthenians in the West—Inconsistency of Methods is Contention of Catholic Paper

The Catholic Register, in its issue of Oct. 7th returns to the attack on the Presbyterian missions among the Ruthenians in the west. It expresses the opinion that the Presbyterian Board was actuated by "humanitarian motives," and asks why it does not try its hand on uplifting of the poor and degraded in English cities; so graphically described by the editor of the Toronto Globe. The Register contends that the Ruthenians compare favorably with other immigrants and then proceeds in a review of the statement of the Home Mission Society:—

"We have heard a great deal in praise of the public school system of Manitoba and we were rather surprised to learn that the provincial government had turned over the business of providing schools and teachers for the Ruthenians to the Home Mission Society. The Catholics of Manitoba and the other provinces are justified in asking why and on what grounds?

"The sight presented by the faculty of Manitoba College, a Presbyterian institution, preparing young Ruthenian men for "ordination" is to say the least, singularly edifying. We are informed that a 'Greek Archbishop' ordained many of these young men and sent them out to labor amongst their own countrymen. We will add a little information on our account. Some of them were ordained by the famous 'Bishop Cyprian,' in a livery stable at Sifton, Manitoba, at from $25 to $50 per head. Later on His Lordship lowered the rate and was satisfied with 'spirituous' remuneration.

"We also note that a second and third delegation of the Ruthenians have waited upon the members of the board and They were advised to organize a Greek Church in Canada not subject to the authority of any foreign ecclesiastic, and so set forth the clear light and fuller knowledge into which they and many of their people had already been brought. Note the fact that they were not advised to inaugurate the Presbyterian form of worship. We may be pardoned for asking the question, why not? We invite Drs. MacLaren and Carmichael to go out and make the attempt, but we warn them beforehand that we will not be responsible for the personal safety. We fear it will be a repetition of the famous incident in which Jennie Geddes figured in the olden days.

"The confession about the Ranok (newspaper) is very artless. It establishes a new principle in business as well as in religion. These good people put up their money to aid a journal whilst remaining in total ignorance as to its character and the nature of its contents. Of course we are informed that strange and disedifying articles sometimes slip into the pages of carefully conducted journals, but we find ourselves unable to slip this salacious passage from the Ranok into the busy columns of the Daily Globe. This guileless innocence on the part of the Mission Board in its relation with the Ranok renders comment unnecessary.

"We are told, too, that the Mission Board is inculcating 'larger views and a more liberal spirit.' This is very evident. There is a liberal spirit amongst the Presbyterians of the present day, when they can stand for this new class of missionaries saying Mass and rendering what they call 'a part of the Ruthenian Liturgy.' We would like to have these good gentlemen inform us just what parts of the Liturgy have been dropped. We had the privilege of witnessing one of these ceremonies in the Independent Ruthenian church in Winnipeg, on the 28th day of August, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin according to the Russian Calendar.

"It was identically the same ceremony which the real priest across the street in St. Nicholas' church was going through for the benefit of his own adherents. We could not see anything that had been dropped and we incline to the view that what they call 'a part of the Liturgy' means the whole Catholic rite as it exists amongst the Ruthenians. The part which has been retained includes the mass, the confessional, the seven sacraments, pictures and images of the Blessed Virgin and Saints, and the old Slavic Liturgy in its entirety. We are willing, however, to put this to the test and, accordingly invite Presbyterians who doubt our statement to have some of their own number go to the independent churches in Winnipeg and elsewhere and prove these statements for themselves. The testimony of the anonymous immigration official to the effect that half of the Ruthenians are members of the Greek church, is very refreshing to those who are familiar with the facts. Dr. McLaren has shown a tendency from the beginning to confuse the Ruthenians with the Greeks despite the fact that the Ruthenian Rite as conducted in the old Bulgarian language, is purely Slavic and bears as little relation to the Greek Rite as the French language does to the Arabic.

"We wish to repeat what we said before. We have no quarrel with the Presbyterians. In exposing the methods of their Home Mission Board, we merely desire to place the facts before the public here in Ontario and to point out the inconsistency of the methods pursued. Once again, we take the liberty of inquiring if the Home Mission Board believe in Presbyterianism, why do they not try to teach it to the Ruthenians of western Canada. Why this inconsistency between faith and practice? Why this new church? Are there not enough already in the field?"

NATURAL RULERS

To the Editor of the Times:—

Sir,—We have been treated to some ruling thoughts from the leader of the opposition, just come back from Europe, where there was an excellent opportunity to observe some old-time "natural" rulers. Naturaly he would look to the conservative side to assist his own conservative mind. The House of Lords would be a good field for his side of politics. The world knows of their past determination to obstruct everything progressive of the ordinary people's interests. Their defying the people's will at the time of the Corn Laws nearly led to a civil war; in fact, in my own country, Cornwall, there was incipient civil war, so much so that the Corn Exchange there was filled with soldiers of the so-called "natural" rulers. The country then was in considerable ignorance as regards general education, and the "natural" rulers had had a very long lease of their "natural" love of tyranny and dominating influence through their money and land value, in fact every one so naturally ruled by these "naturals" had to touch his hat and bow to the controlling god of conservatism—the wooden idol that so long kept the people in a slavish condition. The same thing is recurring in Britain today and the Lords, like Mr. Borden, would like to go back to the "natural rulers" plan. But liberalism now, as in the starving of the people in the Corn Law times, will come out triumphant in reason's sway for fair living condition of all her subjects. The time of bowing down to a privileged number of land holders, who crushed out all prosperity of their tenants by high rents, and so compelled the people to live on grass and roots in many cases, has gone by. In Roseberry's case it is seen that because the budget affects his purse and holdings, he has dropped his former liberal principles, as Hill dropped Cleveland in the United States when he desired the income tax to rule.

The people must ever watch the conservative mind, as in all countries and all times they have ruled without consideration for the masses, and to rule arbitrarily whenever in power. The strictly liberal mind is the only one that can serve with justice the whole human family, and in Canada it is clearly demonstrated every day by their boards of trade and associations and institutions of inquiry into best methods for business success. All the best minds are asked to assist liberal direction, hence our wonderful progress since '96, and to continue this should be our earnest and sincere desire.

Respectfully,

J. S. CLIMO.

OCTOBER ROD AND GUN

On the eve of the big game hunting season, the October number of Rod and Gun in Canada, published by W. J. Taylor, at Woodstock, Ont., gives foremost attention to big game hunting stories. They will be found varied enough in both localities and experiences to interest all sportsmen, and many will doubtless recall incidents in their own careers corresponding with some related in such pleasing fashion in these pages. In the same way the article on "The Characteristics of a Fine Backwoods Guide," will remind numerous readers of character features shown by their own guides, and revive many pleasant memories—a rich storehouse of which is the property of every sportsman. Fish culture in Newfoundland will receive attention from every brother of the rod, and its inclusion shows that even at such a time the interest of the devotees of the fishing art are not neglected. Other seasonable pages are given, making the number one that should be the companion of every sportsman either at home or on his vacation, giving him many pleasant half hours in perusing what others have done and enabling him to fight some of his own battles o'er again.

The housewife, in laying the table, must have an eye for preserving the balance with everything that is put on. Extra knives and forks, as well as extra dishes, add refinement to the table.

A vanilla bean kept in the sugar box will impart a delicious flavor to the sugar.

THE SUGAR REFINERY

Editor Times:

Sir,—I have read with considerable interest the discussion as chronicled in the Times, re the Durand Sugar Refinery Co. and the city council. It is a matter that requires serious thought. St. John cannot have too many industries. It seems to be an era when manufacturers are looking with favor upon our city as a manufacturing centre, and every possible inducement should be offered them to locate here. I was amazed when reading Saturday's issue to observe that the council has only two available building sites to offer in order to secure an industry that may be the means of giving employment to two or three hundred men, one situated in the vicinity of King street east, and the other in Carleton. I am strongly of the opininon that there is a more available site to be had than either of the above metnioned, at the extreme end of Sydney street across the railway track between the government pier and Rockaway Beach. There is sufficient space upon this site to meet all requirements. There is already good yard room, and waterways facilities could also be established. What more favorable location could be desired.

Yours,

Y.

A REMARKABLE MAP.

In Ottawa they are publishing a map or which in due course will be shown ever house, school, church, mill, blacksmiti shop, etc., in the dominion. This tremendous map will be made up of sheets, each of which will take in about 425 square miles. Already some 15,000 square miles have been mapped out along the frontier. A description of the way in which this unique map is being made is to be found in the Busy Man's Magazine for October.

All sorts of things will be recorded on it. For instance, all roads, streams and bridges are classified and by contours with a vertical interval of twenty-five feet, the height and shape of every hill is given. Woods and orchards are marked and the density of trees approximately indicated. Concessions and lots are numbered and a great amount of other valuable information supplied. It is the only map produced in Canada on which the correct names of all places are shown—all doubtful ones having been submitted to the geographic board for decision.

AT OUR BOARDING HOUSE.

I think I could stand the store eggs and raw bacon,
And wouldn't object to the soft pewter spoons;
I could hope, though the platter so seldom has steak on,
And I'd be cheerful in spite of the prunes,
If the fellow who sits at the head of our table
And owns a low brow with a southerly slant
Did not think himself the most palpably able
And suavely delectable joker extant.

I think I could stand without ever complaining,
The frayed and soiled linen, the cracked plates and cups,
The moustache the man next to me uses for straining
The tentative soup he suspiciously sups,
If the bride and the groom could be bravely contented
To "baby" each other when they were alone;
If they'd cease to perform as if each were demented.
The scorn I exhibit should never be shown.

I think I could stand the detestable cooking,
And I wouldn't object to the damsel who sings—
In spite of her voice she is pretty good looking,
Which makes up for many regretable things—
I could worry along I believe, without carping
If the landlady'd give up her kittenish ways.
And cease now and then to come plaintively harping
On the fact that she once had seen better days.

Mrs. Knowsitt—I think Mr. Shyboy will propose to Anna tonight.

Mr. Knowsitt—What makes you think so?

Mrs. Knowsitt—Didn't you notice how determined she looked as she went into the parlor?

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