

these conditions continue the masses will continue to hate the classes of our country and the time has come when every child should have restored to him his birthright and his childhood. This is not only justice and common sense but sane government.

Now there are three great constructive and social factors in every city and in each community. They are recreation, education and work. I mean by work—industrial conditions. These three great factors are equally credited with all the health, the happiness, and the prosperity of any community, and they are alike equally responsible for all the sickness, sufferings and sins of the community. Consequently recreation takes its stand, and place along side of education and is the foundation of all education and all culture.

Now I do not want to deal in generalities or indulge in pious platitudes in connection with this all-important subject of playground. We have the parks of our cities supervised by parks commissioners, the creation of our municipal government and restricted by the legislation of the Province of Ontario. These parks are primarily resting places for the toiler where he may spend his restful hours after his work is over.

The Parks Commissioners are securing lands in different parts of our city. They will try to make these places attractive to the people of the community, and we have only to bring this matter before any council and show them a way to do this matter and it shall be done. Anything that ought to be done CAN and WILL be done. The taxpayers of our city are roused to their individual responsibility in seeing that their boys and girls have proper recreation.

Our parks should be prepared, proportioned, managed and planned by specialists. It is not sufficient that an ordinary citizen be called upon to supervise our parks. I believe that specialists ought to observe the results of the parks and also to take care of the debris of our parks. While our parks are places of rest, they are also intended for our boys and girls to play and frolic in. It is just as natural for our boys and girls to play and frolic as it is a kitten to play and frolic, and we must be in line with their interests. For our children not to indulge in these sports is a violation to their physical constitution, as recreation has become an appetite and in turn an ordinance of the child's being. In any future scheme of salvation every legitimate consideration will have to be given the animal impulses as well as the moral and spiritual ones.

Personally my early education was evidently neglected. I was taught to look upon a dancing hall and card playing as fitting us in the next world for the hottest place in Hades. Now things are changing. We find in some of the American cities they are supervising the dancing hall of to-day, and why? In order to prevent the Grizzly Bear, etc. The dancing hall of to-day is charged with the destruction of thousands of our girls.

Further our parks boards will receive the strength and support of every well-thinking citizen of our community, providing the one-half mill on the dollar is not sufficient. We have also our school boards. They are planning recreation grounds. We have had several skating rinks brought about largely through our physical instructor. They have been a source of healthful amusement during this winter. We have several in this city and it is very pleasing to see the boys and girls frequent there on afternoons and holidays. There is not any use in our establishing playgrounds unless they are properly supervised. Everything depends on supervision.

Oftentimes the rink has not been in good condition. There has not been any one there to see if the rink was shared evenly. Sometimes the girls are just as worthy to it as the boys.

If we are going to take young men away from saloons and dancing halls we must give them something to take the place of this. Give them some places that are inviting. The churches are doing a great deal in connection with this. In the United States they have playground commissioners appointed by municipalities under municipal control.

The time has come in the city of Port Arthur when some grounds should be selected where we might have a swimming pool in one lot, a playground in another lot, and so on. The taxpayers