

F. J. Billiarde, Esq.,

162 Home Street,
Winnipeg,
5th October, 1908

Dear Sir:

I have yours of recent date re playgrounds. The movement is certainly timely and should receive the hearty support of every parent. Money could not be spent in a more worthy object. The reasons why every citizen should be in favor of playgrounds for the children of the city, and give it his hearty support, are only too apparent. One has only to take a walk through the thickly settled districts on an evening when the little ones are trying to enjoy themselves on the streets and sidewalks, or in a miserable little back yard, to be convinced that some provision should, and must, be made that they may play their games under proper conditions. It is idle to expect that we shall produce a manhood morally and physically strong under conditions such as exist at present in some parts of the city.

We spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in building gaols, reformatories and hospitals, and we point with pride to these institutions as monuments to our civilization, but forget that we create the conditions that produce to a large extent the necessity for building and maintaining these institutions.

An ounce of "prevention" is better than a whole ear-load of "cure" any day and if we may be able to prevent even 25 per cent. of our young people becoming criminals or invalids by instituting a system of playgrounds throughout the city, or say, even 10 per cent., then by all means let us have them.

Yours truly,

A. W. Woods.

Public Parks Board,
Winnipeg, Man.,

F. J. Billiarde.

15th October, 1908.

Dear Sir:—

Replying to your favor regarding the establishment of children's playgrounds, I may say the Public Parks Board endorse your sentiments, are heartily in accord with the project and they will do all within their power to further the scheme.

I may say further that Messrs. R. D. Waugh and F. W. Drewry were appointed a sub-committee to act in the matter with representatives from the School Board, City Council and other public bodies interested in the subject.

J. H. Blackwood,
Secretary.