

PLAYGROUNDS NOT TO BE CLOSED SUNDAYS

Despite Some Protests, Park Board Decided to Make No Change.

Portland's public playgrounds are not to be closed on Sundays to those who wish to play baseball and other games despite the protest of church people. When the protests came up before the park board and William L. Brewster, commissioner of public affairs, yesterday afternoon, it was unanimously decided to allow the Sunday games to continue.

Yesterday's meeting was the last one to be held by the old park board consisting of I. Lewis, Dr. E. G. Clark, Carl Stoll, T. Morris Dunne and Superintendent of Parks Mische. The charter provides that the board shall be abolished within six months and a Commissioner Brewster is now in charge of the park department. An ordinance will be introduced at the next council meeting officially abolishing the board.

The board yesterday recommended that Superintendent Mische be allowed an assistant to help him with the park supervision and carry out the details work. The need of a pathway to McClellan's park was pointed out. The members of the board also urged that work on the Peninsula park gymnasium and other buildings be rushed in order that they would be completed before winter.

COMPANIES WILL CONFER REGARDING USE OF POLES

A conference will be held soon between the heads of the various public service corporations and Will H. Daly, commissioner of public utilities, relative to the ordinance now being prepared requiring all companies having poles in the city to apply common user principles in the installation of wire and cables.

Since Commissioner Daly first announced that he would require companies to use common user methods the telephone people have agreed among themselves for use of the same poles in a number of instances. Two poles in the street are necessary anyway. One for the use of telephone wires and the other for high tension cables. It is stated that those who have complaints regarding the number of poles in front of their places can have the conditions remedied by calling upon the companies. The companies have signified their willingness to cooperate with the plan of Commissioner Daly.

FORMER LOCAL PASTOR IS ASKED TO RETURN

The presbytery of Portland has issued a call to Rev. Andrew J. Montgomery, now of Oak Park, near Chicago, where he is pastor of the Second Presbyterian church. Mr. Montgomery was pastor of the Third Presbyterian church here a number of years ago. If he accepts the call it will be to become superintendent of church extension for the presbytery. Advice from Chicago indicates that Mr. Montgomery will enter into the proposition and may accept.

SIX REQUESTS GRANTED FOR WOMEN'S PENSIONS

Fourteen Applications Thrown Out by the Board of Pensions.

Twenty applicants for pensions came before the women's pension board in its session at the courthouse Wednesday afternoon. Of these, six pensions were granted and the balance thrown out. Josie M. Berens, who is a music teacher, was granted a pension of \$10 a month. The pension commission is going to get her some children to board and some more music pupils, after which the pension will be discontinued. She lives at 281 Holladay avenue.

Mrs. Selma Danielson of 45 East Eighty-eighth street was given a pension of \$10 a month for two children. She was not granted the full pension provided, because she has some property.

Edith C. Moore, 1638 East Seventh street, Sellwood, was awarded \$17.50 a month for two children. Jania Isfeld, 603 East Eighth street north, with one child, was given \$10. Mrs. Catherine Kennedy, 987 Union avenue north, was awarded the same sum.

Mrs. Josephine Hankle has a boy working and until school starts and he goes back a full \$10 pension will not be granted her. She was told to return at one of the September meetings. Fourteen cases were disallowed or found not eligible. In a number of these the widows were found not dependent.

WILL COMPETE AT PLAYGROUND FESTIVAL

The work of all the playgrounds of the city will be exemplified at a playground festival at Peninsula park August 9, when folk dancing, the ordinary sports of the play spots and dancing on the green for visitors will be features. Teams from the various play districts will compete for prizes and individual boys and girls will enter into rivalry for honors.

The festival will open at 2 o'clock with a grand march and pageant. Playground Commissioner Krohn expects many hundred children and visitors at the exhibition. The children will be costumed as follows: Washington park girls, Dutch costume; North park girls, Finnish costume; Lakeview girls, Danish costume; Lincoln girls, Irish costume; Brooklyn girls, Scotch costume; Mount Tabor girls, Hungarian costume; Columbia girls, Norwegian costume; Sellwood girls, American costume; Peninsula girls, Russian costume; Peninsula boys, Roman costume.

French Depopulation Startling. Paris, Aug. 1. — The latest figures showing depopulation in France are regarded as the most startling in years. In the department of Germany it is shown that for every 100 babies born 143 people die; in Lot-Et-Garonne, the proportion is 100 to 131; Lot, 100 to 130; Haute Garonne, 100 to 128. In 30 departments the deaths outnumbered the births, while in only nine departments did the births come up to the average for the German empire.

CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT ORDINANCES

Plan of Having Work Drawn by Departments to Stop Emergency Clause.

Hereafter all ordinances with the exception of those drawn up for the purpose of improving streets and the laying of sewers, will be drafted in the office of City Attorney La Roche. This was the ruling made at the special meeting of the commission council yesterday morning. Copies of the ordinances are to be made and sent to each commissioner before coming before the council. In the past it has been the custom to have each commissioner draw up all ordinances relative to matters in his department. Men in the city auditor's office have also drawn up a number of the ordinances. Under the new plan all ordinances will be drawn strictly in legal conformity.

Commissioner Daly stated that he was opposed to having an emergency clause attached to ordinances so they could be passed at one meeting of the council and take effect immediately. "I am opposed to having emergency ordinances of any kind," said Commissioner Daly, "except those in which the public is not vitally interested. All ordinances should be given their first and second readings at one meeting and then have final action taken at a later meeting. In the past a number of ordinances have been passed which the public is interested in but have known nothing about until they have been put into effect."

INFORMATION BUREAUS WILL BE ESTABLISHED

Information bureaus will soon be established throughout the city. These will be in charge of competent persons who will be familiar with city affairs. The first bureaus to be established will be at the city hall and the comfort station at Sixth and Yamhill streets. "The city hall bureau is expected to be put in operation next week. It will be located on the second floor of the building in the place now occupied by the cigar stand, which will be moved to another part of the building."

In charge of this bureau will be placed a person who will be required to know the progress made by the city. He will be required to keep track of all measures before the council and of action taken by that body. He must know the location of all the city offices and the business transacted by each. People seeking information relative to new streets, sewer work, buildings and many other things can secure this from the person in charge of the bureau.

FUND WILL BE RAISED TO FIGHT REFERENDUM

Another lunch hour meeting of the Oregon Citizens Educational league, will be held this middle of next week when tentative plans for fighting the referendum invoked against the \$175,000 appropriation for the University of Oregon, will be discussed in more detail. The adoption of a definite plan for opposing the referendum may result also. At yesterday's meeting the principal

business transacted was a discussion of ways and means of raising a campaign fund and making a fight against the referendum. This resulted in the appointment of a finance committee, headed by Senator T. N. Day, which was instructed to decide upon a fund raising

policy and report back at the next meeting. Discussions yesterday brought out the fact that between \$3000 and \$4000 will be necessary to finance the campaign, and the speakers were unanimous in the declaration that the principal objections

they will have to overcome to beat the referendum is prejudice and misinformation in regard to the university and its objects. Eugene Brookings, president of the league, said today that the time and place for the next meeting has not been

decided upon, but that he will announce it soon. He said he anticipated an attendance of 100 at the next session. Just as a woman quite worrying about her own age she begins to worry about that of her unmarried daughter.

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