

# Use Playgrounds To Cure "Bad" Boys And Gangdom

### SAFE, CHEERFUL SPACES FOR PLAY SEEN AS SOLUTION—CHAIN LINK WOVEN WIRE FENCE USED.

THE playground is eliminating the "bad boy" from the American neighborhood, in the opinion of the Playground officials, who recently contributed their opinions to a survey made by the American City Magazine.

Juvenile delinquency has decreased to a remarkable degree in those cities where the playground movement was first started and has been successfully operated for a number of years. Practically all cities report that juvenile delinquency is being held in check through the establishment of adequate playground facilities, and all agree that where there are increases, it is far less than the increase in population.

In such cities as Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where supervision has been in progress more than 25 years, a decrease of 20% has been noted among delinquents although during the same period the population has doubled.

Playground directors in more than 200 cities throughout the country responded to the "American City Survey." Of these, 223 reported a distinct decrease in court cases arising from breaches of conduct among the children, and have also noted a direct relationship between this reduction and the establishment of proper playing facilities. Forty-six cities had no record of any relationship. The cities reporting no difference were mostly small towns, where the child problem is less acute.

**Grounds Used At Night**  
The use of the grounds after nightfall, with the aid of artificial illumination, giving increasing protection on the grounds when combined with a stout fence. School grounds are also being used more extensively than heretofore in this manner.

It is maintained by these authorities, that not only are the children more apt to break the moral and legal codes, particularly dur-

ing this evening period, but that with the supervision made possible by illuminating and adequate fencing, they are kept off the streets, and hence out of danger of the automobiles, that have during the past few years taken many thousands of young lives.

While the playground officials were nearly unanimous in holding the evening use of the lots of vital importance, it is found that only two thirds of the cities were equipped with flood lights, fences or other facilities, and hence do not open their playgrounds after sundown.

In stressing the importance of proper supervision, the playground directors emphasize the importance of proper fencing for the protection of the small child. This is another matter, however, which apparently has not received the same attention as has been given to other equipment, such as play apparatus.

It is interesting to note that the developing of playground activities has adopted a type of fence primarily designed for industrial use. This is the chain link woven wire fence, which does not obstruct the view, which is unclimbed and which has enough resilience so that a child bumping against it will not be injured.

**Fence An Aid In Supervision**  
The matter of personal supervision seems to be thoroughly developed, 224 stating that playgrounds in their communities were adequately supervised and had an abundant supply of play material. It is interesting to note that the developing of playground activities has adopted a type of fence primarily designed for industrial use. This is the chain link woven wire fence, which does not obstruct the view, which is unclimbed and which has enough resilience so that a child bumping against it will not be injured.

As to the future expansion of the playground, 134 officials state that they anticipate an increase in 1929, anticipate an increase in equipment. It thus appears that there will be probably an increase of 50% in playground activity within the next year or so.

Similar extensive reports come from Waco, Texas, Topeka, Kansas, Patterson, N. J., Sacramento, California, Philadelphia, Pa., New York, N. Y., Washington, D. C., as well as many others.

## SUICIDE RESORT HOPES TO CHASE GLOOMY SPIRITS

**By James A. Mills**  
(Associated Press Correspondent)  
**BUDAPEST**—Hungarians who seek death by suicide now find a happy home in the beautiful architectural castle which the government has converted into a Suicide Home.

Here would-be suicides have comfortable accommodations, relief from mental worries and inducement toward a brighter view of existence. Large, airy, sunny rooms, cheerfully furnished, are provided and inmates are given mental treatment when necessary.

The mental clinics, as they are called, were established by the government to check the ever-growing number of suicides due to unemployment, financial reverses, sickness and disappointed love. The inmates are called guests and are provided with libraries, small moving picture performances, radios and a daily orchestra concert.

Most of the women sent to these clinics are victims of unfortunate love affairs, and there are given special treatment by woman psychologists. Every effort is made to induce women to take a new interest in life and to forget their unhappy condition.

In most cases a week's treatment is sufficient to effect a complete cure. Hypnotism is sometimes used in order to induce a sane and healthy outlook on life. Games, outdoor sports and all kinds of mental diversions are encouraged.

Special attention is devoted to the large number of men who have sought suicide because of unemployment. It is found that most of these men are married and, finding themselves without means of supporting their families, have turned to suicide as the only way out of their trouble.

The government makes a complete investigation to the men's circumstances and an attempt is made to find them positions and to give them a new start in life.

### Lillian Gish at Rialto Today

Lillian Gish has furnished the world many surprises; her roles have ranged from the picturesque sweetness of "Tomboy" to the tragic sacrifice of "Christina," but it has remained for "The Wind," her newest vehicle, now playing at the Rialto theatre, to bring out a new side to the actress' manifold versatility.

### Billie Dove at the Rialto Today

Billie Dove never appeared to better advantage than in "Adoration," at Hunt's Craterian theatre today.

### Country Store Hunt's Craterian

What promise to be a most popular attraction is Joseph H. Kelley's Country Store, which starts tomorrow night at Hunt's Craterian.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(AP)—The department of the interior announced today that tax refunds on revested grant lands amounting to \$35,491.85 had been paid to three counties in Oregon.

## BETWEEN WAVELNGTHS

**By C. E. Butterfield**  
(Associated Press Radio Editor)  
Radio's receiver of the future, with less and less stress laid on the number of tubes, is beginning to materialize.

The new year may see the preliminary steps, for there will be available before the June trade show alternating current tubes that will mean much in reducing the next socket census. With their use a four-tube receiver will step all around today's sets in distance, getting and selectivity, may have an opportunity to qualify as a "multitube."

Decision as to a four-tube ultimate next season rests entirely upon the circuit designer. If he lays out his equipment to get the most out of the tubes that he will have to work with, five will be more than enough. The new tubes, which will do more per volt than their AC predecessors, are a new shield grid radio frequency ampli-

fier and a new power output device.

Two RF shield grid tubes in a set should be adequate with properly tuned circuits. If give good selectivity, while designers of the new output amplifier say that one step of audio will be sufficient. A single stage removes many of the difficulties encountered with two.

With a shield grid tube as a grid bias detector to handle the power that will be fed to it by two RF amplifiers capable of boosting a signal from 20 to 40 times per tube above the 201a, there seems to be little need for more than four tubes.

What effect tube reduction will have upon the pocketbook of the set buyer cannot be determined at present. Less apparatus and less time required in construction would be expected to have a favorable reaction when the manufacturer reaches maximum production.

In this connection the shield grid tube removes the need of oscillation control or neutralization devices.

Present indications are that there is no intention of manufacturers to substitute their entire lines with shield grid outfits. It is planned that they be supplementary until it is determined how successful they are in the hands of the dial artist.

Some day "man-made" radio may be in a class that will put it beyond the 12-tube limit as far as the United States is concerned. In many cities and towns local lawmakers are looking askance at disturbances that may radio reception with clicks and crashes. They are passing ordinances making it against the law to operate, within certain hours, electrical devices which generate unwanted radio frequency current because of defects in the equipment or because of the nature of the apparatus.

**Civil War Vet Dies**  
SAN DIEGO, Cal., Jan. 5.—Timothy Nathan Holden, 82, who attended the convention that nominated Lincoln for president in 1860, and was one of Illinois' first volunteers in the Civil war, died here after an illness of two weeks. He formerly was mayor of Aurora, Ill.

## Frenchman Plays on Sunday

**By H. Hawley**  
(Associated Press Staff Writer)  
**PARIS**—Churches cast no deep shadows over a Frenchman's Sunday, at least, still obey that rule very cheerfully and they think that man likes being ordered not to work.

Pope Constantine forbade legal procedure and labor on the first—or the seventh—day of the week, in the year 321. The French, at least, still obey that rule very cheerfully and they think that man likes being ordered not to work.

Similar extensive reports come from Waco, Texas, Topeka, Kansas, Patterson, N. J., Sacramento, California, Philadelphia, Pa., New York, N. Y., Washington, D. C., as well as many others.

**Play Areas Curb Gangs**  
W. A. Hanson, Superintendent of Recreation of Chambersburg, Pa., is quoted in stating that the development of playground work has materially reduced the "tough gang" element in his city.

Daniel M. Davis, Director of Recreation in Wilmet, Illinois, quoted the probation officer as stating that with the development of playgrounds in his community, juvenile delinquency has been practically eliminated and probation work made considerably fewer.

The Chief of Police, Charles W. Leggett, is also quoted in a similar statement, as is Mayor Karl E. Orner.

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adding a program of play. "Sunday clothes" is a popular phrase in French as in English. There are no Easter Sunday hat parades, but there are many Sunday church festivals when the solemn side is lightened by a spirit of joyfulness.

Some racing, picnics, games of all sorts and all elections are part of French Sunday life. It is a day of play for the whole family, and, except in some parts of the provinces where more severe religious traditions are observed, Sunday is a day of recreation.

There is no air of boisterous merrymaking about this day of enjoyment, but rather a rest from work, a desire to have a little "self expression."

The French Revolution abolished Sunday and instituted the civil "Decade," or tenth day of rest and amusement. It lasted while the revolutionists lasted, but it was one of the ephemeral features of the Terror days. A new law in 1802 again restored Sunday to the calendar and made it a legal holiday. A half century ago another law lightened some of the legal restrictions on how a Frenchman might utilize his day off and since then the people have shown an increasing tendency toward doing just what they like to do on their one free day.

Since the war they have adopted the week-end vacation when they could and they have turned Sunday more and more into a day of sports and public entertainment.

There are villages, of course, where much church-going and a few formal visits constitute the Sunday program, but in the cities and towns there is no restraint except common sense rules of orderliness.

Political meetings, parades, and all sorts of decorations of monuments, of which the French are so fond, usually are set for Sunday. The theaters are open as usual, sometimes there are court sessions in long trials newspapers are published, gambling casinos run full blast, and when certain festivals come on Sunday there is dancing in the streets. There is every effort by the public and the government to diminish the number of Sunday workers and to aid them to enjoy themselves. All cafes are open because the French family likes to sit before them and have an aperitif, but only a few drug stores are allowed to do business, in line with labor's crusade to relieve workers.

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## HESSIAN FLY INJURES GRAIN IN CALIFORNIA

**SACRAMENTO, Cal.**—(AP)—During some seasons wheat and barley in various sections of California are injured by Hessian fly.

Producers have been advised by agricultural specialists to plant early, the reverse of advice for the winter wheat belt, where it has proved advantageous to delay planting until after the main autumn flight of the flies.

In California, Hessian flies usually do not emerge until late winter and early spring, and the principal injury to wheat takes place in March, April and May.

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