
Annual Reports of the Park Board

Report for
1908

(Extract from message of Mayor Harry Lane, dated January 12, 1909.)

PARK DEPARTMENT

The work of this Department during the year has been carried on with a view to meeting the conditions which will arise when the new and enlarged system is entered upon during the year 1909.

Bonds to the amount of five hundred thousand (\$500,000.00) dollars have been issued and sold to provide for the extension of the system and purchase of land for the purpose should be made as soon as possible.

The report of the Park Keeper, giving a detailed account of the work done during the year, is submitted herewith.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARK BOARD

Portland, Oregon, January 6, 1909.

To the Honorable Park Board of the City of Portland, Oregon.

Gentlemen: Herewith I beg to submit a report on the executive phases of the department during the period subsequent to my assuming office in March last.

In addition to a brief summary of the work of the past year, there is considered the manner in which development and adequate care and maintenance ought to be provided for in the furtherance of the best interests of the parks.

City Park has virtually been, hitherto, the sole usable park among the properties owned. Purchased some years ago, when the city was yet a village, its development has been gradual and commensurate with the funds available. Construction in it must be extended to meet the increased daily needs.

The gardenesque treatment has been materially reduced, and another season it is to be virtually eliminated, except at the entrance and in the vicinity of the overlook. The suppression of high-colored exotics, distributed in ribbons, circles and the like among features of a

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landscape primarily composed of native verdure is discordantly contrasting and disquieting where simplicity, subdued refinement and repose are the strong and principal existing features. Similarly the cultivation of single specimens spread promiscuously over all the lawn areas and through the woods is conducive to interest from a museum viewpoint rather than a scenic. Most of these specimens have been assembled and massed in composition to afford proper embellishment to a woodland type of scenery. This treatment is to be extended by a continuation of this work and supplementary planting on the steep turf slopes and forest areas. Even with the development of a series of local areas so as to provide a variety of scenery specially appropriated to the region, it will tend toward monotony if all the under planting is to be so low as to permit a view over it. Several restricted areas have accordingly been planted with sorts of vegetation which attain greater height at maturity. It is intended that by the installation of more lights and extra vigilance in policing, the sole objections to such treatment can be overcome to an extent sufficient to warrant the work being done.

Some paths have been introduced to follow the carriage routes, some steps and walks have been altered to provide more logical means of connection, prevent short-cutting, to consolidate or eliminate others or to develop the scenic qualities of the park as a whole. In keeping with this, several of the buildings used for housing the animals have been removed from various parts, and all of them grouped along the western border of the park.

On the completion of this work and the establishment of the plantations, the scenery will be more harmonious, natural and appropriate, besides permitting of a more economical administration.

Besides the work of planting, the gradual substitution of rustic guard rails for the laurel, cedar and privet hedges bordering walks and drives is to take place.

It will ultimately be imperative to materially widen some of the drives and walks to suitably care for the crowds of people using them. When this is done it would be far preferable to erect retaining walls rather than grade by slopes, and ruin many trees and other verdure.

The drives have been repaired, but the local stone has insufficient cementing qualities and the customary practice with the city streets has been adopted—that of using a clay to effect this purpose. This is merely a temporary and unsatisfactory expedient, one that will be strikingly apparent when the proposed parkway is constructed, with their inducement to much automobile traffic. The ultimate solution of this is the use of tar as a binder, creating at slightly greater cost than ordinary macadam, a virtual bitulithic at once smooth, dustless and impervious to surface seepage.

Larger space was provided for several sorts of animals; two iron

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cages were constructed in a manner to permit of their being utilized elsewhere should it later be deemed desirable to move the menagerie. With the development of the residence property west of the park, the zoo will in all probability prove to be a highly objectionable nuisance. Should it be moved, the new buildings at the new site ought to be architecturally meritorious.

On account of the restricted area available, it is advised that future additions to the animal collection be limited to hardy species. It is to be remembered that animals are an incident, popular, indeed, but not an essential of park interest.

In the arranging of the animal buildings, those requiring heat to properly maintain their occupants have been grouped and are heated by a single hot water system installed to replace the series of flues hitherto in use.

The greenhouses were about the most dilapidated of the buildings in the park. They have been removed and a new range built at Columbia Park. The principal recommendation urged is that adequate methods be adopted to relieve the congestion of the City Park. The adjoining 68.10 acres of land now lying idle and controlled by the Water Board, if acquired and fitted for the use of visitors, would be the most important act toward that end.

RECORD OF ZOO FROM JANUARY 1, 1908, TO JANUARY 1, 1909.

NAME.	Number	Increase Number	How Increased	Lost	How Lost
Cockatoos.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cockatoos, Asia.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Parrakeets.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Australia Parrots.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Australia Pigeons.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
China Pigeon.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mexican O. Parrot.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Peruvian Arab Bird.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rattlesnake.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Alligators.....	2	.....	.....	1	Died.
Canary Birds.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....
Finch.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pigeons, Carrier.....	36	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pheasants, Golden.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pheasants, Silver.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pheasants, China.....	10				
Peacocks, males.....	2				
Guinea Hens.....	5				
Stork.....	1				
Eagle, Bald Head.....	4				
Eagle, Golden.....	1				

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NAME.	Number	Increase Number	How Increased	Lost	How Lost
Owls.....	5				
Owl, Snow.....	1				
Alarm, Owl.....	1				
Crow, Talking.....	1				
Pigs, Guinea.....	100				
Monkeys.....	15			2	Died.
Rabbits.....	12	10		12	Lion feed.
Lion, African.....	1				
Coyotes.....	5	2	Donated.		
Wolf, Timber.....	1		Traded.		
Bear, Japanese.....	1				
Lynx.....	2			1	Killed fighting
Dogs, Alaska.....	2			1	Died.
Foxes.....	3				
Wildcat.....	1		Donated.		
Raccoons.....	6	1			
Badger.....	2			1	Died.
Polar Bear.....	1				
Black Bear.....	5			1	Drowned.
Kangaroo.....	2			1	Killed by dogs.
Beavers.....	2			2	Injured.
Seal.....	1			1	Injured.
Oregon Deer.....	6	3	Donated.	3	Killed by buck 1; died blood poison 2.
Nose Bear.....	1			1	Old age.
African Porcupine.....	1			1	Died.
Native Porcupine.....	2		Donated.		
Japanese Deer.....	7				
American Elk.....	9				
American Bison.....	3		Born.		
Angora Goats.....	5				
Fish—Gold, 12; Silver 15.....	27				
Swans.....	4				
African Geese.....	2				
Manchurian Geese.....	2			1	Died.
Wild Ducks.....	5				
Mandarin Duck.....	1				
Pekin Ducks.....	2				
Wild Geese.....	3				
Silver Squirrel.....	2				
Fox Squirrel.....	1				
Gray Digger Squirrel.....	1				
White Turkeys.....	2				
*Cockatoos.....	3			1	Consumption.
Cockatoos, Asia.....	5	1	Donated.		
Parrakeets.....	2				
Australian Parrots.....	2				
Australia Pigeon.....	2				
China Pigeon.....	1				
Mexican Parrot.....	1				
China Parrot.....	1				
Peruvian Arrow Bird.....	1		Loaned.		

* Beginning at this point the
Zoo report covers 1909.

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NAME	Number Increase		How In-creased	Lost	How Lost
Peruvian Sparrows....	2	2			
Mexican O. Parrot....	2	2	Donated.		
Rattlesnake.....	1				
Alligator.....	1			1	Cold.
Canary Birds.....	130	100	(Raised 92 (Donat'd 8	3	
Golden Pheasants....	9				
Silver Pheasants....	1				
Japan Finch.....	1				
Carrier Pigeon.....	48	12	Raised...		
Fantail Pigeon.....	8	8	Donated.		
China Pheasant.....	40	30	Raised...		
Peacock.....	2				
Guinea Hens.....	5				
Stork.....	1			1	Killed by swan
Copper Pheasant....	1	1	Donated.		
Bantam Chickens....	24	14	Raised...		
Bald Head Eagle....	4	1	Donated.		
Golden Eagle.....	1				
Owls.....	5			2	Unknown cause
Snow Owl.....	3	2	Donated.		
Alarm Owl.....	1				
Crows.....	3	1	Donated.		
Guinea Pigs.....	100				
Monkeys.....	13	2	(Raised 1 (Donat'd 1	2	Pneumonia.
Rabbits.....	12	6	Raised...	8	Lion feed.
African Lion.....	1				
Timber Wolf.....	1				
Coyotes.....	4			1	Killed by mate
Japanese Bear.....	1				
Lynx.....	1			1	Poison.
Alaskan Dogs.....	2				
Foxes.....	3			1	Died, old age.
Wild Cats.....	1				
Coons.....	7	1	Donated.		
Badgers.....	1				
Polar Bear.....	1				
Black Bears.....	5	1	Donated.		
Kangaroo.....	1			1	Weather condi- tions.
Native Porcupine....	2				
Japanese Deer.....	9	2	Raised...		
Native Deer.....	3			3	2 bone affec- tion; 1 injur- ed by fence.
American Elk.....	7			1	Senility.
Buffalo.....	3				
Angora Goats.....	6	1	Donated.	1	Operation.
Gold Fish.....	12				
Silver Fish.....	15				
Swans.....	4				
African Geese.....	2				
Manchurian Geese....	1				

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NAME.	Number	Increase: Number	How Increased	Lost	How Lost
Wood Duck.....	5				
Werchen Duck.....	4				
Teal.....	5				
Mallards.....	25	21	Raised..		
Mandarin Duck.....	1				
Wild Geese.....	7				
Japanese Goose.....	1	1	Donated.		
Silver Squirrels.....	2				
Grey Digger.....	2				
White Turkey.....	2				
Turtle.....	1				
Magpie.....	2	2	Donated.		
White Rats.....	2				
Mountain Quails.....	5		Donated.		
Bald Head Eagle.....	3				
Chicken Hawks.....	2	2	Donated.		



PARK BLOCKS

All these, twenty in number, were spaded during the winter of 1907 and 1908. The work was done by men suffering the aftermath of the financial panic. All told, 10,006 hours, or approximately three months of forty-eight men's services, were thus gratuitously devoted to park purposes. The Associated Charities furnished the men (1,038 in number). During the spring each block was graded and seeded to turf. Every alternate block was planted to roses or tender exotics, a treatment that evoked much praise and criticism.

Criticism to the effect that the adopted treatment was not the highest type of ornamentation and that the innovation was not warranted is well taken. It is extremely gratifying to realize the public park work is to be judged by such intelligent and discriminating aesthetic standards. It bodes well for the quality of the entire system if the same opinion continues to pass on all future work.

The adopted treatment justifies itself by reason of this being the only area which, by the formality of its design, and the sophisticated surroundings lends itself to that style of adornment. It is the only tract in the system where this or a similar type may be developed with so much propriety. To eliminate it here would be to abandon it in the system.

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There is always a large body of the general public attracted and interested by a display of high color, worked out in geometrically arranged patterns and in contrasts. Their tastes and pleasures should be gratified in a legitimate way and opportunity afforded for their aesthetic cultivation. The adopted style of treatment has that trend. Moreover, this gardenesque style is the most expensive of any in park maintenance, and it is deemed that, partly to give opportunity for a larger body of people to view the display, partly to induce a greater use of the park blocks, and partly to relieve the frequent congestion at the City Park, the policy has been warranted, and merits further continuation. It is to be remembered that the park blocks in their present state, though not exactly nondescript, fail to fulfill their highest office as an ornamental accent in the street system of the city or as a purely local park ornament. Several sorts of trees of varying shapes, ages and sizes are arranged in various regular rows. The highest development would ensue were a single sort used, all of the same age and size, and disposed in regular sequence throughout. The pleasing impression to be gained is from the precise and deliberately arranged repetition of the same form, indicating the intent and complete control the designer had in mind. Adding to this the beauty that form, proportion and the restfulness all greenery offers, in addition to the deep, rich color of the short-shorn turf, the essence of the park value of the park blocks is conceived.

The value of the park blocks as an interior foreground to a setting of public and semi-public buildings facing it from either side should be carefully regarded. It would be well worthy the expenditure of persistent effort on the part of the Board were it to bring the public to a full realization of the highest fitness of this property in a scheme of general civic ornamentation. One of the first steps in this direction would be to have the municipality commit itself to the adoption of such a programme. In this relation it is to be remembered that new court, museum and historical buildings are now projected.

During the year the trees are to be treated by removing the old knots, stubs and broken branches and limbs. Cut surfaces will need treatment, and this will comprise the limit of what may properly be done in their improvement without adopting a radical and uncalled policy.

Much more seating capacity is urgently required and should be provided early in the season.

HOLLADAY PARK has its surface roughly smoothened and laid down to turf. It was expected that some improvement could be made during the season, but the neighborhood populace are quite unanimously expecting an extension of the park toward Sullivan's Gulch. Since any extension would probably vitally affect the sort of improve-

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ment in the whole park, it would be indiscreet to proceed far until the neighborhood was satisfied that it is virtually hopeless or else certain that an addition is to be made. Meanwhile the maintenance includes merely the care of turf, buildings and seats.

ALBINA HOMESTEAD has received but little care. The play-field and turf are kept in order, but the care of toilets comprise the main attention given there. I would recommend the improvement of this tract during the current year.

At COLUMBIA PARK the new greenhouses and potting shed have been erected. The surrounding territory is rapidly being occupied by dwellings and the park is used to a very gratifying extent.

If there is to be any material improvement effected in the park system the current year, I would recommend that the major portion be on the Columbia Park. No other large and undeveloped park area is so conveniently available to large number as this, and after its development it would permit of uses such as tennis, croquet, and similar indulgences not now provided for in any of the parks.

The FORESTRY BUILDING has been reshingled and the roof and window casings stained.

The defining of property bounds and the securing of title to the land should be concluded at an early day.

In size, beauty and style of architecture the Forestry Building is a worthy feature of Portland's public possessions. Its usefulness should be further extended by issuing a catalog of the exhibits. So long as Oregon's great need is immigration and development, every effort should be made to utilize the scientific and educational features of the Forestry Building exhibits. The present custodian is amply qualified to prepare a catalog of scientific merit and popular instruction. It requires but a comparatively small appropriation to publish it. That this be provided, I recommend.

MACLEAY PARK, the treasure of our present possessions, is being guarded from injury by fires and policed for the greater protection to women and children.

The flume used by a private body in hydraulic sluicing is a source of great injury to the scenery. It is hoped by the terms of the contract between the Board and the owner that the flume will be effaced by next summer. Steel spring wire fencing has been placed around the park as an assistant to policing and to define some of the boundaries in dispute. No arrests were made since, the difficulty heretofore being that hunters were unaware of their being on park property. Nowhere in the whole system is the capacity of a police officer more thoroughly tested than in Macleay Park. To maintain the necessary degree of espionage on visitors who require it, while yet acting as guide and protector for the more timid requires unusual tact, discipline

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and intelligence. During the dry season it is this work and the fire-guarding that occupies practically the sole attention of the keeper. It is pleasurable to record that the acts of sheer vandalism have been very few. During the winter the removal of dead limbs and other remains of the former woodman's slashing occupies the principal attention of the keeper. In addition, the cutting of trails or their re-opening is more or less continuously in progress.

The waste from a near-by dairy pollutes the waters of the brook. Notices proclaiming the unwholesomeness of the waters are posted along the stream, but are too frequently disregarded by the public at its peril. The Board of Health and the Food Commissioner have the case under consideration, and it is trusted an effective remedy will result.

By the statute of limitations a dairyman owning property adjoining the southwest corner of the park acquired a right of way over the park. For about twenty years he had appropriated several acres of park land to his own use, and even enclosed it by the erection of fences. The City Attorney effectively secured the removal of his buildings and fences from park property without litigation.

I would recommend that the county be requested to repair the fence along Cornell road, and that our park guard be given deputy sheriff power to enable the better policing of that part of the park located within the confines of the county and over which I am advised the municipal police power does not extend.

At GOVERNOR'S PARK a boundary fence was erected.

FULTON PARK boundary fence is under construction.

TERWILLIGER PARK received no other attention than the customary mowing of hay. The development of this park as a whole or part of it is very desirable. The surrounding community is comparatively dense and on the basis of mere geographical distribution some progressive steps are warranted. Accordingly, I so recommend.

BATHS

During the year a private association having had the floating bath in operation for about six years, transferred the institution to the city, and it devolved upon this department to continue its operation. One of the side floats was partially dismantled, and considerable repairs were necessary before they were opened.

The general regulation heretofore in vogue was put in operation, but the usefulness of the institution was greatly impaired by reason of the unwholesome location in the river (foot of West Jefferson street). A sewer empties into the river at the foot of virtually every street on the West Side in the entire downtown section of the city. Although moored close to the channel current, the objections were never wholly or even reasonably overcome.

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For the ensuing year the baths are located at the foot of East Madison street, and from last season's observations and other assurances it is hoped that they may be more serviceable and more satisfactory in general. On examination by qualified judges it is probable the baths will prove to be unsafe for use another season, and if so I will later offer a communication with a recommendation for their replacement by another. Their builder has given an opinion that they outlived their natural life, and could be used another season only with some misgivings as to their safety.

Appendix "A" records the detail of their use and revenue. I beg to recommend that during the current year the baths be absolutely free, including towel and suit throughout the day for five days in a week, and that a charge be made during two entire days of every week.

The revenue is comparatively so small in proportion to the outlay for suits, laundry, salaries and general maintenance it would be unfortunate if the very ones who would profit by and desire to make frequent use of them are deterred by the charge made. Further, that as a sanitary precaution all suits after each use by youths or adults be sent to the laundry for scalding. The public has a right to insist that service in its behalf shall be of the best it can sustain, and any curtailment of that should come from the citizens rather than its servants.

CONCERTS

During the season thirty-three concerts were held, as follows: Sunday afternoon, City Park; Tuesday evening, City Park; Wednesday evening, Holladay Park; Thursday evening, Plaza; Friday evening, Albina (Russell and Knott streets).

The concerts were invariably well patronized and continued to be so in increasing numbers as the season advanced. Music-lovers were free with commendation about the class of music provided, and its rendition.

DeCaprio's band of thirty-two pieces fulfilled the engagements throughout the season.

There has been a marked inadequacy of seating capacity at the concerts. I beg to recommend that further conveniences be supplied by the addition of benches.

PAPER THROWING

I beg to suggest the advisability of enlisting the co-operation of the general public in preventing the littering of the parks. Were it to afford some pleasure to deposit newspapers over the parks and squares, it would be proper to clean up afterward without complaint, but in view of the unsightliness it causes the parks and especially the squares to present, it not only indicates a rather general abandon to

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negligence and carelessness, but it injures the better uses of the parks. It is perhaps largely heedlessness by persons susceptible to polite suggestion, and it would certainly operate toward the public pride, if no more, to suggest the propriety of people while in the park showing some concern about the matter.

PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds used distinctively as such are under the control of the People's Institute Club.

The sociological and economic benefits of sufficient playgrounds, properly equipped, conducted and regulated, is too generally appreciated to warrant further comment here.

In the development of Columbia and Terwilliger Parks some opportunity for play can be provided this year, though complete equipment at once will not perhaps be advisable.

Playgrounds follow in natural sequence to the establishment of parks, and in some of the parks excellent playgrounds will be developed.

The deductions to be made from the experience gained by municipalities in the past few years are of great importance and profit should be taken from it when the establishment of playgrounds is once comprehensively undertaken.

It is quite generally agreed that playgrounds are not properly nor judiciously equipped without the services of a trained director to supervise and teach.

It will probably be possible to construct a modern playground this year in one of the tracts secured for park purposes, but if so, its use should be contingent upon the attendance of a director in charge; accordingly, I recommend that if a proper area is available this programme be initiated this season.

FOUNTAINS

Three fountains of conspicuous architectural merit exist in the city. There are seventeen throughout the city, ten of which were graciously donated by citizens humanely inclined and largely at the solicitation of Mr. W. T. Shanahan, the secretary of the local Humane Society. I recommend that the future fountains be of stone or masonry, exclusively, and of simple supply and overflow mechanism and practical in arrangement, and, further, that metal fountains be declined absolutely.

The fountain at Washington and Burnside streets is surmounted by several electric lights. The electric light company supplied the current for these during the summer months, but has not done so during recent months.

I recommend that provision be made to have these lamps supplied with current.

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CONCESSIONS

I beg to recommend that concessions for the sale of light refreshments in the parks be let during the winter. Changing in June is undesirable to the lessees.

NURSERY

As a matter of economy a nursery should be established for the rearing of hardy plants. I recommend that this be authorized in order that preparation of the ground may be made this season.

SCHEDULE OF SALARIES

I beg to recommend that a revised schedule of salaries be adopted at once. To pay a draughtsman less than a watchman and a mechanic laborer's wages, and all laborers the same scale without distinction as to capacity or efficiency, is unjust, and tends to eliminate the spirit and incentive to do one's best. There should be more opportunity to regulate inefficiency and more opportunity to reward conscientiousness and merit.

STREET TREES

Street-tree affairs are in a very unsatisfactory state. One section of the charter gives the Board "power to regulate and control the planting, trimming, growing, use, preservation and maintenance of all shade or ornamental trees, shrubs, plants or flowers in, upon or over any street, boulevard, path or sidewalk of the City"; but the City Electrician and City Engineer also have some control. A recent opinion of the City Attorney was in effect that all the existing trees might be dealt with by any one of the several bodies; that existing trees are the property of the abutting property owner, subject to easement for public use for traffic purposes. If a tree grows into overhead wires owned by a body having a franchise to use the street, the trees must be lopped off to prevent interference with the lines and as a measure of safety.

Whether desirable or not from a silvicultural or aesthetic point of view so to do, the owner cannot be refused a permit to injure his trees if asked for on the pretext or for the purposes of clearing the wires. The outcome of this program has been intensely farcical. If the Board is so limited in its power of control as to require its ordering and concurring in acts it deems to be unwise and prejudicial to the public interest, it is a proper subject for communication to the legislative body of the government with a request that responsibility for its affairs be taken entirely from the Board, or the power sufficiently extended and made exclusive and absolute to the end that the power of control will exist in fact.

I deem it a disgrace that a municipal park board should be responsible for the present state of the city's street trees without adequate power to remedy it.

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it is to be remembered that the stringing of overhead wires and the cultivation of handsome street trees are opposed to one another; it is but a question of time when one must give way in favor of the other.

According to the City Attorney, there is no question but that the Board has full control over any street tree it plants. Under the present circumstances trees are generally provided with too narrow a planting strip. As a consequence, just about the time trees begin to assume their most handsome appearance, the roots force out curbs and heave walks. Where the planting strip cannot be sufficiently widened to provide reasonable conveniences for the tree, the planting should be omitted. Many of the roadways or public streets could be advantageously narrowed without ensuing harm. The traffic on the streets of a city's system are not uniform, nor should the provisions be identical. Indeed, there is a wide range in actual need or conveniences, and to recognize it and endeavor to solve it would at the same time be a solution of the worst difficulty now confronting a progressive and systematic street-tree project. I recommend that street-tree planting under municipal control be inaugurated this year.

RENAMING PARKS

Some of the names now in use for park property suggest neglect, paucity or crudeness. A public possession might well be named so as to be descriptive as to scenery, historically, topographically or in memoriam; it should in any case be euphonious and sufficiently brief to come easily into common use. Lewis and Clark, also Mutnomah, have been suggested for City Park, Albina Square for the Albina Homestead Tract; Federal Park for the North Park blocks, and Civic Parkway, also Park Panhandle, have been suggested for the South Park blocks. Except the above, parks seem to be satisfactorily named. I recommend further consideration of this matter with a view to the adoption of a system of satisfactory park nomenclature.

LANDS

Several of the existing park properties have been acquired by dedication; others were secured by purchase, and some by gift. It is worth while to point out that establishing a park is one of the most satisfactory forms of public benefaction. They are cosmopolitan in serving all classes, always useful in supplying an edifying refreshment to all ages, and in all moods, they are zealously guarded by all the people when once owned by them; they increase in value and service with age, and are not prone to being perverted into other uses or to defilement.

As a people we are coming to regard wealth as a position of responsibility and trusteeship, and are ready to suitably honor one

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who can creditably acquit himself of the task. This is a typical American attitude and temperament, and merits rehearsal in a city supposed to be 95 per cent American born. There are always persons who wish to show their gratitude to a city in which they prospered, or in a spirit of pride or public benefaction they are ready to bestow some gift to the public. Knowing the desire, hope and readiness of the Board to facilitate acts of individuals toward that end, I believe a public announcement of its feelings will tend to bring about acts similar to those of the late Donald Macleay and Governor Pennoyer. The munificence and appreciation of the public toward these benefactors seems to extend in scope and intensity with the advance of time. That it will so continue, as it does in parallel cases in other municipalities, is reasonably to be anticipated.

ORGANIZATION

With the expansion of the system the need for better organization is imperative.

During the process of land acquirement the existing legal department can search titles at the registry of deeds, and on the result of its findings can prepare deeds and necessary certificates of title to the City Auditor. Likewise, claims can also be legally negotiated by it.

In any extension work, and especially if construction work is to accompany, it is customary to retain professional advisers to guide and assist. Whether in the outlining of a general system or in the preparation of general construction or detailed plans, such advice is always valuable, even if not followed in every particular. It generally proves to be well worth its cost. Accordingly, I recommend that a landscape advisor be engaged for a period as may appear to you wise.

One of the principal needs of this department are engineering and office facilities. The present system of having engineering done is cumbersome and unsatisfactory. With construction work to be undertaken and the need of engineering services on it; the need of surveys as a preliminary to land takings and their use as a basis for the preparation of plans for the use of the legal department such as are required for claims, conveyancing and drawing of contracts; all these require the services of an engineering corps and a draughtsman. For reasons of efficiency and economy, these employes should be under the direct supervision of the head of the department in which they are engaged. At present the charter opposes this arrangement, but an alternative founded on the same basis as that in vogue in the Water Department would be acceptable. I recommend that the above facilities be provided.

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ACCOUNTING

A modern system of accounting has been ordered by the Board. While avoiding cumbersome and undue detail, some system to check costs, disbursements and accomplishments is highly desirable. It should be carried to an extent sufficient to permit of an annual statement being made that would enable the public to make an intelligent analysis of it. The regular routine of the office and this added clerical assistance requires the services of a clerk, and I recommend that it be provided.

The frequent cordial assistance given by the City Attorney and his corps of assistants is especially to be acknowledged; the Chief of Police, City Engineer and City Auditor have also facilitated the workings of this department, and deserve special note.

APPENDIX "A"—BATHS

Baths opened July 19. Closed September 12.

Receipts

July	\$ 47.80
August	62.20
September	9.00
Total	\$119.00

Attendance

Boys	8,881
Girls	812
Men	345
Women	96
Total	10,134

Respectfully submitted,

E. T. MISCHKE, Parkkeeper.

(Extract from Treasurer's Report for 1908.)

PARK FUND

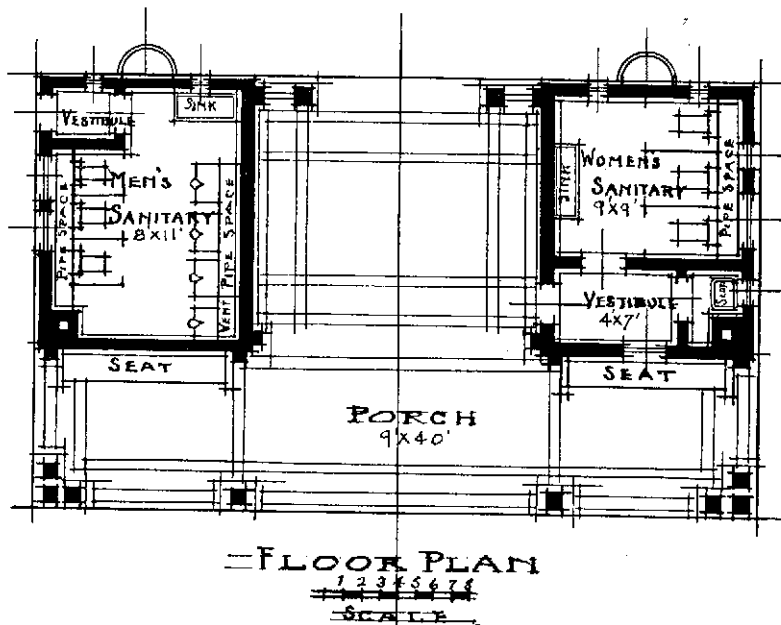
Balance as per report December 31, 1907.....	\$10,880.92
Received taxes, J. M. Lewis, County Treasurer.....	57,633.32
Transferred from General Fund	8,558.00
Received sale guinea pigs	73.80
Received public baths	121.00
Received S. H. Burnett, park privilege.....	350.00
Received donation Portland Railway, Light & Power Co.....	1,000.00
Warrants paid and returned.....	\$54,702.18
Balance	23,914.86
	\$78,617.04 \$78,617.04

REPORTS OF THE PARK BOARD

Tax levy for 1908, .3 mills on assessed valuation of \$215,579,945.

PARK AND BOULEVARD FUND

Received sale of bonds	\$500,000.00	
Received premium on bonds	10,945.00	
Balance	\$510,945.00	
	\$510,945.00	\$510,945.00



Ground Plan of Comfort Station at Columbia Park