

one bank of Palo Seco Creek and allows the other bank with its hundreds of native redwoods still in private hands and liable at any time to subdivision. In my estimation the city should control both banks of this canyon if the park in future is to be of any value at all to the people of Oakland. This I have already stated in writing to the Park Board with my urgent recommendation that immediate steps be taken to purchase such land on the north bank of Palo Seco Creek as will complete city ownership of the entire stream and the redwoods adjacent thereto as far down as the present western boundary of Sequoia Park.

At the same time I would again urge the extension of Sequoia Park to the north and east. A large proportion of the land area in these directions likewise has a growth of native redwoods which for the sake of future generations we of today should not allow to be destroyed. The land at this time can be purchased at a cost not prohibitive and it is my plan in the near future to recommend the acquisition of these additional groves.

Board Changes

There have been two changes in the Park Board during the past year. Colonel Anderson resigned in order to accept my appointment to the Civil Service Board. In his place I appointed Mr. Jacob H. Lesser. Mr. Thomas F. Watson, prominent business man and well known citizen, I appointed to fill another vacancy. I am happy to see that the new members are taking a most active interest in park affairs. Their business experience of long standing in the City of Oakland will render their presence on the board most valuable.

Purchases and Improvements Made

Major achievements in this department during 1929 are:

Purchase of three-quarters of an acre adjoining Sequoia Park....	\$ 2,600.00
Final payment on Leona Heights Park.....	5,788.50
Final payment on Sanborn Park.....	7,555.00
Improvements in Sequoia Park (water mains, etc.).....	662.97
Improvements in Lakeside Park.....	447.09
Improvements in Sanborn Park (comfort station, bridge, horseshoe court and water mains).....	1,885.71
Improvements in Brookdale Park (water mains, grading, planting of lawns, construction of walks and curbs, comfort station and horseshoe court)	6,939.14
Improvements in Dimond Park (tennis court, walks and rock wall along creek)	3,028.37
Improvements in Elmhurst Park (tennis court).....	1,752.84
Improvements in Zoo (new cages and purchase of elephant).....	3,736.18
Improvements in Peralta Park (new lawn and grading).....	1,660.24
Improvements in swimming pool (fences, bleachers, and sand beach, rock work, equipment, etc.).....	6,936.68
Purchase of concrete mixer.....	321.70
	\$44,314.42

Besides the above a contract has been let for the construction of a concession building in connection with the swimming pool in Dimond Park. This may or may not be completed during the present calendar year.

Dimond Swimming Pool Gift of Lions Club

The Lions Club of Oakland during the year constructed a swimming pool in Dimond Park and presented it, through the Park Department, to the city. The approximate cost to the club was \$18,000, and the facility is modernly equipped in every way with particular emphasis upon the devices for maintaining purity of the water itself. Since the opening day the pool has been in daily use.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Lions Club and of congratulating its members upon their public spiritedness. Far too few of our Oakland organizations and of our citizens of great wealth have made contributions to their city's esthetic or