

instrument in the band himself. He was for many years bandmaster of the 13th Infantry Band, as was his father before him.

To make enjoyment of the Municipal Band as widespread as possible throughout the city, the Park Department is experimenting with radio broadcasting devices. The plan, if workable and not too costly, is to place amplifiers not only in Lakeside Park itself, but in other city parks spotted in appropriate and accessible locations. Were sufficient funds available I would like to see several bands subsidized by the city—but under present circumstances broadcasting from the one band must serve the purpose, and will give music at a tenth the cost.

In my opinion the Municipal Band is so worthy and popular an Oakland institution that its concerts should continue throughout the year. Oakland's climate is such that there are few Sundays when outdoor concerts cannot be enjoyed. During the few rainy Sundays, however, concerts could be given in the Oakland Municipal Auditorium arena, seating 9,000 persons. I would recommend that sufficient funds be placed in the Park Department budget in the coming year to allow band concerts every week without exception.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The City of Oakland can be proud of another most successful year in the work carried on by the Oakland Recreation Department under the administration of the Playground Board and the efficient direction of its superintendent, R. W. Robertson. Not only has the routine work of the department gone splendidly but many major improvements of permanent nature have been effected. This good work is all the more remarkable inasmuch as the Playground Department has been operating under a comparatively lean budget. Two new members on the Board itself have been appointed to fill vacancies, namely, Mr. George Janssen, well known East Oakland merchant, and Mr. Harold Paige, prominent Oakland businessman.

Additions and Improvements

Among the major improvements completed by the Recreation Department during 1929 are the following:

General

1. Installed 12 horseshoe courts and a "jungle-gymnasium" at Mosswood Park.
2. Laid 15,000 square feet of oil surface at Poplar Street playground.
3. Laid 500 feet of sidewalk at Poplar Street.
4. Remodeled and painted field houses at deFremery Park.
5. Painted and redecorated rooms at deFremery, Alexander and New Century Community Centers.
6. Repainted all playground equipment and signs.
7. Installed new hardwood floors.
8. Installed new handball courts.
9. Fencing at several playgrounds.

Golf Course

1. Two new greens and one new seeded fairway.
2. Pipe golf-bag racks and new sand holders installed at each tee.
3. Installed 1½ miles of 6-and 8-inch pipe for the watering system.
4. Planted additional trees and shrubs.
5. Built new concession stand.
6. Remodeled showers and lavatories and installed new hardwood floors in lobby.

Boat House

1. Neon sign, "Boating," and chain of lights installed.
2. Life preservers placed on all launches.
3. Rowboats and canoes repaired and painted.

Camps

1. Built new fireplaces and chimneys.
2. Erected 41 new tent platforms.
3. Graded and leveled around buildings and improved pathways and roads.
4. Purchased 26 new tents.