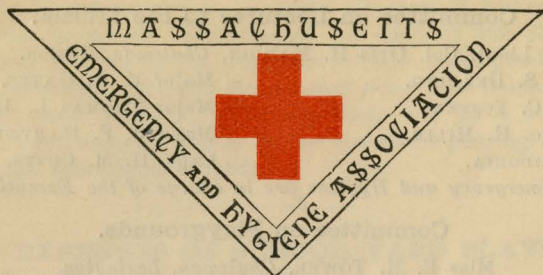


Weston Playgrounds.



SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

MAY, 1901.

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THE MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the house of Mrs. K. G. Wells, April 17. In the absence of the president, Dr. J. J. Minot, Dr. E. G. Cutler presided. The officers for the ensuing year were duly elected by ballot, after the records of the last annual meeting and the reports of the various committees had been read and approved. These reports are now printed in a condensed form.

The Report of the Executive Committee, presented by Mrs. K. G. Wells, stated that emergency lectures had been given by Mr. T. J. Browne to the Y. M. C. A., of Cambridge; and by Dr. T. L. Jenkins, of Salem, Dr. J. A. Cronin and Dr. O. H. Marion, of Boston, to the militia.

Eight Lectures to the Police were given at Station 16 by Dr. Harry H. Hartung, one hundred and twenty men coming from the different stations in the city. Owing to the small size of the room, Dr. Hartung divided the men into sections, giving to each four lectures, and to both divisions a written examination, so that he spent a total of ten evenings with the police.

The chairman of the Committee on Lectures to the Police, Dr. Francis D. Donoghue, is preparing a full report on the subject of Improved Ambulance Service, which will give the conditions prevailing in towns and cities of the State in regard to the transportation of the sick and wounded, and will suggest methods by which beneficial changes in patrol wagons can be effected at comparatively slight cost.

The Report of the Work at Charlesbank showed a gain in every way over that of 1899. The total attendance in the gymnasium from May 15 to October 1 — exclusive of many days when it was closed on account of

the extreme heat and of the laying of a cinder track and the putting in of tan bark — was \$2,959, as registered by the turn-stile; but there are no registers to mark accurately the number of women and children using the baths, the playroom, the sand pens, and the green, which, however, is estimated as at least 100,000. There were five regular classes in gymnastics, ranging in age from five to sixty-five years, and seven classes for children in other occupations, such as making scrap-books, picture puzzles, games, sewing, reading ("Grimm's Fairy Tales" was the favorite book), and dancing once a week to the music of a hurdy-gurdy. Miss H. S. Cutler, the superintendent, is ingenious in her devices for the amusement of the little ones, and is firm and pleasant in her discipline and very watchful and skilful in her gymnastic instruction. The experiment of eating was tried last summer for the first time at Charlesbank, and though in the beginning the paper bag or box lunches were productive of general unsightliness on the grass, when, later, eating was allowed only at the circular bench and on its graveled path, the plan worked excellently and became a boon to mothers and children, who soon learned to be proud of their ability to keep the place clean and neat.

The winter classes have been held four times a week from October 15 to April 15 for women and girls in the evening, and twice a week from 4 to 6 P. M. for children, Miss Cutler having the sole charge. The numbers steadily increased throughout the winter. On the closing night two silver medals were awarded by friends for the best all-round work, the decision having been made by the votes of the pupils.

The Report of the Committee on Instruction to Attendants was read by Miss Ida Mason. The classes had again had the benefit of the thorough and careful teaching of Dr. Anna G. Richardson and Miss Isabel Strong, save during the absence of the latter, when her place was taken by Miss Luce, a graduate of the City Hospital Training School, and later by Miss Hall, a Waltham Hospital nurse. The only change in the course has been the reduction of the number of Dr. Richardson's lectures from two to one a week, thus leaving more time for practical teaching. The classes begin in the middle of October and continue until the middle of April, each lasting nine weeks, the number in each class being generally limited to twelve. The three classes of this season have been full, and nine applicants have already been accepted for next October, yet nothing has been spent in advertising. The receipts have increased, over \$150 having been cleared, most of this coming from tuition fees, but we also received one donation of \$12.50, and the proceeds of lectures given at the School of Housekeeping. Our thanks are due to Dr. James M. Jackson, Dr. Walter E. Bailey, and Dr. William R. May, who have examined some of the classes, and to the physicians of the Associated Charities and District Nursing Associations, who have sent us cases. Pupils have been kept unusually busy and have given satisfaction, all of our graduates are apparently well employed, and we often hear enthusiastic reports of them.

Dr. Richardson and Miss Strong have each given five lectures at the School of Housekeeping, and Miss Strong three lectures to a club in Cambridge.

The Report of the Committee on Playgrounds for 1900 was given by Miss Ellen M. Tower, chairman. In the summer of 1900 your Committee maintained 21 school yard playgrounds, and entertained each day, for nearly ten weeks, 4,390 children, at a cost of \$4,280.78. This was an increase of 273 over the average daily attendance of 1899, and the amount expended was \$146 less. Of this money, \$3,000 was granted by the School Committee of Boston; the remainder, \$1,280.76, was subscribed by friends and

members of the Association. Sixty-four people, besides the Committee, were employed in caring for the children, and \$3,187.22 was spent in payment of their salaries.

The distinguishing feature of the work in 1900 was the continuance of the experiment of providing games, athletic exercises, and instruction in the yards, for boys between the ages of ten and fifteen. Two excellent young masters, Mr. Cross and Mr. Bennett, were in charge at the Dearborn, Wait, and Lyman Schools, and they both report seriously and cautiously, without a trace of youthful exaggeration, that they achieved a moral success. The daily attendance ranged from 37 at Lyman yard to 64 at Dearborn, and to these boys a new vision was opened. In the beginning they were deceitful, distrustful, and selfish, eager to win a victory in their games at any cost, by any means, no matter how unfair; but they slowly acquired a respect for honest methods and fair play, or rather a knowledge that such methods are practised by honorable men and are an evidence of strength, not weakness.

At Cyrus Alger and Phillips Street School two young men aided the matrons by looking after the boys, and at Hancock and Andrews the janitors were employed for that purpose. During the coming season, if sufficient money is subscribed, the experiment will be continued on slightly different lines.

To report for the sand gardens is to repeat the tale which has been told for so many years, of children made happy and contented and law-abiding for at least three hours each day of the vacation. They sang and played games, dug in the sand, worked their cards, played checkers, ran with the express wagons, and read their library books as of old. The matrons were very proud of the fact that out of 400 books used every day for two months by 4,390 children, only five were lost. The clay modeling interested boys and girls equally, and now and then a boy would show signs of artistic talent. The sewing has been a great resource this year, and hundreds of articles have been put together by busy little fingers.

The children are indebted to Messrs. Waldo Brothers for supplying five yards with sand; to Mrs. C. J. Paine for an excursion into the country; to F. A. Foster & Co., Hovey & Co., and Jordan & Marsh for generous bundles of stuffs, which made their sewing a delight; to the Flower Mission for the weekly gift of flowers; and to many friends and visitors, who, from time to time, sent presents of candies, toys, or flowers; but most of all do they owe gratitude to the superintendents and matrons, who gave themselves to the work in a way which no money can repay.

The plans for the summer of 1901 will differ materially from those of the past two years. Owing to the constantly growing demands upon its resources, the School Committee is unable this year to appropriate money for the support of the sand gardens, and our annual petition for the use of the school yards and for financial aid was referred, with full powers, to the subcommittee on vacation schools. This committee gave a hearing to one of our members, who urged the incorporation of the two branches of summer educational work, as hitherto carried on—the indoor vacation school and the outdoor playground. Later, in response, the vacation school committee stated that, as they had been allowed but a limited sum of money for the vacation schools, they had planned at best to maintain but four; yet, upon further careful consideration of the subject, had decided to open one less vacation school, and, with the money thus set free, to establish four school yard playgrounds. This is the fullest formal recognition by the School Committee of the educational value of playgrounds, and we hope it is the dawning of the day when in all schoolhouses in the crowded districts there will be a combined vacation school and playground, under the care of the School Committee.

Although this is a long step in the right direction, it leaves your Playground Committee financially embarrassed for lack of the \$3,000 which has previously been granted by the city; therefore, to make good the number of last year's playgrounds (21), the Association must raise money enough to support seventeen sand gardens; otherwise there will be a host of disappointed children next summer idling in the streets or peering through the closed gates of the schoolhouse yards.

ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES OF SCHOOL YARD PLAYGROUNDS IN 1900.

Paid by the City :		
Salaries		\$2,942.34
Toys		57.66
		<u>\$3,000.00</u>

ACCOUNT OF ELLEN M. TOWER WITH MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION.

Received from Dr. Robert Gardner Loring, treasurer, \$1,280.78.		
Expended for salaries	\$244.88	
Expended for sand for 15 yards	65.25	
Expended for toys	290.01	
Expended for sand boxes, care of sand, repairs, new covers to sand boxes, drums	174.55	
Expended for repairs on settees, locks, wagons, carting, cleaning, brooms, pails, barrels	95.83	
Expended for apparatus for boys	48.91	
Expended for worsted, paper, cardboard, clay, scissors, thread, bean bags, etc.	61.60	
Expended for cards and needles	28.15	
Expended for fares for superintendents, errands, fetching flowers and library books	30.32	
Expended for janitors' fees	84.00	
Expended for books lost from public library	5.27	
Expended for peanut hunts	12.45	
Expended for candies and cakes for closing day at 18 yards, Expended for stationery, postage, printing, blankbooks, tags,	123.95	
	15.61	
		<u>\$1,280.78</u>
Paid by City		3,000.00
Total		<u>\$4,280.76</u>

Average daily attendance, 4,390 children.

School Yard Playgrounds Open During the Summer Vacation of 1900, under the care of the Massachusetts Emergency and Hygiene Association.

MORNING PLAYGROUNDS OPEN FROM 9 TO 12 O'CLOCK.	Average Attendance	AFTERNOON PLAYGROUNDS OPEN FROM 2 TO 5 O'CLOCK.	Average Attendance
Quincy School, Tyler St.	260	Ira Allen School, Leon St.	157
Sherwin School, Madison Sq.	184	Ware School, Tileston St.	169
George St. School, George St.	144	Hancock School, Parmenter St.	255
Parkman School, Broadway, South Boston	242	Wait School, Shawmut Ave.	237
Cudworth School, East Boston	290	Andrews School, Genesee St.	225
Warren School, Charlestown	124	Dearborn School, Roxbury	348
Hancock School, Parmenter St.	200	Comins and Phillips St. Schools	231
Cyrus Alger School, South Boston	189	(Playground was moved, as buildings were being repaired.)	
Dearborn School (for boys), Roxbury, 64		Lawrence School, South Boston	239
		Ticknor School, Dorchester St., South Boston	200
		Cyrus Alger School, South Boston	165
		Lyman School, East Boston	265
		Plummer School, East Boston	202
		Total daily average,	4,390

TREASURER'S REPORT.

ROBERT G. LORING, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY AND HYGIENE ASSOCIATION.

1901.	DR.	
April 1. To	Balance on hand April 1, 1900	\$565.92
	Annual dues	182.00
	Interests on deposits	14.19
	Donations for general purposes	131.33
	Donations for Charlesbank	19.00
	Donations for playgrounds	1,233.00
	Tuition fees	949.50
	Total	<u>\$3,094.94</u>

1901.	CR.	
April 1. By	Cash for postage	\$4.00
	General printing and stationery	52.75
	Rent, general expenses, etc.	32.50
	Expenses of playgrounds	1,280.78
	Expenses of Charlesbank	116.70
	Expenses of teaching	739.45
	Balance in Bay State Trust Co.	868.76
	Total,	<u>\$3,094.94</u>

Balance divided on books as follows:

General fund	\$97.27
Charlesbank	62.17
Playgrounds	209.85
Teaching attendants	499.47
	<u>\$868.76</u>

Acquired as part of the Wellesley collection, 1958
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