

RECREATION PROGRAM
FOR THE
CITY OF STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA

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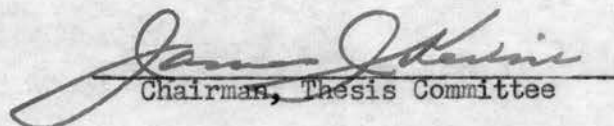
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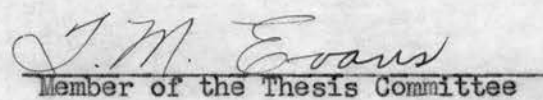
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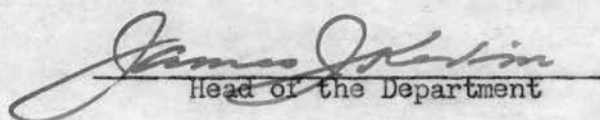
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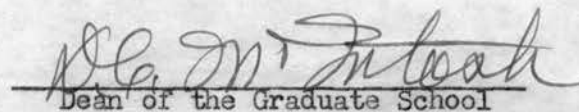
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PREFACE

The purpose of this thesis is to show the present recreation program that is being carried on by the City of Stillwater, with the hopes that a complete study will reveal its weaknesses, thereby affording the City Recreation Council and others interested a basis for making improvements.

The author will attempt to make suggestions and illustrate methods whereby the program will meet the needs of the people of this city as far as their recreation is concerned.

P.T.E.

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1. DEFINITION OF RECREATION

The author has selected as his definition of recreation, that of J. C. Elsom, Professor of Physical Education, University of Wisconsin, - "Recreation is a pleasureable activity, either of mind or body, which implies to a certain degree a change from one's usual and required occupation."¹

2. NEEDS OF A RECREATION PROGRAM

Basically, the needs of the people of Stillwater for a recreation program are no different than those of any other city of this size as far as the author can detect, but he believes that the recreational needs of all the cities are increasing as the improvements of methods of doing the various tasks of providing a livelihood become less complicated.

This increase in the amount of leisure time is making it necessary for each city to find clean wholesome outlets for its people to consume this additional time. The average individual will seek some form of recreation as the way in which this time will be spent rather than indulge in some type of additional work activity.

There is a slight difference in the City of Stillwater and other cities of its size in that we are privileged in having so many of our total population employed in connection with the college and the high school groups. This difference may be more evident in the form of recreation desired rather than a deficiency or an excessive amount of recreation activities in Stillwater in comparison to other cities.

The program of recreation that is being carried on by such groups as the churches, schools, boy and girl scout organizations, etc. will exceed that provided by cities the same size as Stillwater. Other factors that make this city more adequately supplied are the facilities provided by the college, surrounding lake areas and the parks.

¹ J. C. Elsom, Community Recreation, p. 15.

The chief needs are to be found in different groups rather than the population as a whole. The author will try to point out different groups that are decidedly lacking in their recreational requirements.

One of the greatest specific needs for a recreation program is to provide youth with something constructive to occupy his time, as well as a means to prevent him from becoming involved in some type of crime or delinquency.

Professor Jesse Feiring Williams, Professor of Physical Education, Teachers' College, Columbia University, states:

"The causes of crime have been explained from different points of view, but many of the offences of youth spring from a wholesome and natural desire for play, for adventure, for dramatization that are denied the child in the modern city. Play and recreation have been thoroughly commercialized, so that persons grow into adulthood knowing nothing of play and self-expression."¹

The major needs of a recreational program in the City of Stillwater are as follows:

1. A larger appropriation of funds for carrying on a program of recreation.
2. An increase in the number of facilities for this program.
3. Trained personnel for directing the recreation program.
4. Enlargement of present summer program with the continuation of a similar program throughout the entire year.
5. A well-rounded program which will include all the various groups in Stillwater.
6. An efficiently organized program of administration of the recreation program.

¹ Jesse F. Williams, Principles of Physical Education, p. 58.

3. LIMITATIONS

With such a large group of people as we have in the City of Stillwater, it is almost impossible for the author to determine all of the various functions which are carried on in small groups which could be classified as recreational activities. He is well aware of the fact that various individuals participate in recreational activities which are not listed in this study.

The short period of time over which this study was made would not permit a complete research into these various activities.

4. PROCEDURE

The method used in obtaining the material for this thesis was largely by interviews. Those contacted and interviewed were the mayor, various members of the college faculty, physical education directors, coaches at both high schools, grade school teachers who were in charge of playtime activities, members of the Recreation Council, members of the Youth Council Board, ministers and secretaries of most of the leading churches, and other citizens of the City of Stillwater.

The history of Stillwater was obtained by checking the material compiled by Dr. B. B. Chapman of the History Department, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and by a conference with Mr. Frank Eaton of Perkins, who is a Texas Ranger and was in this area of Oklahoma before the State was opened for settlement.

The city charter was checked at the mayor's office and at the City Library to find important information related to the growth of the city and to find the provisions established for various recreation facilities.

Through the aid of the City Clerk and the Chamber of Commerce, the financial status was determined together with other facts about Stillwater. This information will show the city's ability

to pay for and provide the type of recreation program that will be adequate to meet the peoples' needs.

The number and nature of the juvenile delinquency cases in this city were determined from the records at the County Court House.

In addition to this, a suggested list of recreational activities was presented to various groups of different ages to try to determine the type of activities these people would like to have provided.

As a basis for evaluating the program, material was obtained from the National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City, to serve as a basis for determining what should be included in a recreation program and what a program should cost for a city of this size.

5. HISTORY

The City of Stillwater derived its name from the Stillwater Creek according to Mr. Frank Eaton of Perkins, Oklahoma, who was familiar with this country before it was settled. Lieutenant M. W. Day made the first official mention of Stillwater when he wrote: "The settlers call this place the town of Stillwater."¹

We are only concerned with the history of Stillwater as far as it has a part in setting up facilities and form of government which will affect the recreation program.

The original plat of Stillwater was Weiles' plat, which was drawn up on June 11, 1889.

In approving Weiles' plat, the board did not change the number of any street or avenue. Lines dividing blocks 7, 20, and 54 into lots were erased by the board. Block 7 is on Main Street between Avenues three and four, or is now the site of Jefferson School. Block 20 is the location of the Payne County Court House. Block 54

¹ B. B. Chapman, (Manuscript of) History of Stillwater, p. 11.

is now the site of the South High School. Blocks 7 and 54 were each labeled "Park Reserve".

The following Ordinance 23 for Block 54 stated:

"An Ordinance Relating to Parks and Public Grounds.

"Be it ordained by the President and Board of Trustees of the town of Stillwater OT:

"Sec. 1 That Block No. 54 of the town of Stillwater is hereby declared to be a public park.

"Sec. 2 That any person who shall place any camp, tent or stand, or drive any wagon or teams or stock upon, or through said park, or any other park or parks of said town to be hereafter established, or shall deface, destroy, or damage any trees, shrubs, or vines thereon, or pick, pull, or carry away any flowers or plants therefrom, or shall in any manner deface, destroy, or damage any fences, buildings, seats, stands or other structures thereon or dig up or destroy any grass thereon shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$1 or more than \$10.

"Passed January 9, 1895."¹

The form of government was set up to include a mayor with five commissioners. The commissioner mayor shall have charge of police, fire, streets and alleys, and public parks and grounds. (Taken from the City Charter, Page 8, Article II, Section 2.)

The board of commissioners shall have the power to levy an ad valorem tax for all purposes not to exceed the limit provided by the constitution of the State of Oklahoma. This levy shall include the levy for parks and library purposes. (Article V, Section 1.)

6. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the midst of the industrial age of today, we are witnessing a steady increase in practically everyone's interest to insure that our country goes forward in its stride to give to everyone the type of life with the greatest happiness possible. Along with this, is the job of presenting to the youth of America the kind of

¹ City Ordinance Book No. 1 (May 27, 1899), p. 215.

environment conducive to a happy contented individual who will grow to maturity and will be an asset to his country, rather than an individual who has to be a charge of the law to prevent him from being a menace to society.

There was a time when it took all the time and efforts of a family to provide the needs of the home. This often took long hours of hard work from six to seven days a week. Under this condition, there was little time for any form of recreation. Another factor responsible for the small amount of recreational life of the past was the sparse settlement of the people. They lived at such distances from each other that it was rather difficult for them to get together in large groups as they do today. Accompanying this, the present mode of transportation has changed so that large numbers of people have gone into the cities where they are living under congested conditions and away from all of the natural things which used to be provided for them by their nearness to nature.

Mr. Jesse F. Williams said:

"In a remarkably short period of time, a few minutes in the life of the race, great numbers have been taken into sedentary occupations, collected into shops, stores, and business houses, forced by economic consideration to cluster in large groups in one locality.

"The majority of people in the United States are living under urban conditions today. The concentration in cities shows in New England 80% of the population, in the Middle Atlantic states 70%, and in New York State 80%. In New York City the tenement houses occupy 70% to 90% of the lot area, and 20 families are crowded upon a spot where a generation ago there was but one."¹

The City of Stillwater is now growing rather rapidly. It has shown the second largest growth of any city in Oklahoma, with a population of over one thousand. The present average density of

¹ Williams, op. cit., pp. 41, 42.

the population per acre is 16.50 with an expected increase which will raise the density to 19.60 persons per acre. In a survey conducted by the Citizens' committee in Stillwater, they have shown the increase in the city's population, and have made an estimate of the probable increase in the next twenty-five years. Along with this, conditions are presented which tend to limit population growth and those which tend to increase population. The report of this committee will follow in its entirety as a means of showing the rapid growth which this city is making and to give an idea of what we may anticipate in planning a long time recreation program here in Stillwater. It would be very unwise to spend a large sum of money for recreation to meet the demands for the present without considering the possible growth in the near future.

Projected Population Changes in Stillwater (Citizens' Committee)

The city area is the incorporated city limits, and the rural area is that area just surrounding the city area.

Section A. Size of Population.

	Census Projected								
	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1945	1950	1960	1970
City	2431	3444	4701	7016	10097	10500	15000	20000	25000
Rural	266	395	731	1080	1642	1719	1800	1900	2000
Total	2697	3839	5432	8096	11739	12219	16800	21900	27000

Conditions which tend to limit population growth in the area:

1. Decline in birth rate in rural areas.
2. Decline in normal enrollment of Oklahoma A.&M. College.
3. Small decrease in oil prospecting and production in this area.
4. Excessive property valuations.
5. Failure to build adequately to meet the needs.

Conditions which tend to increase the size of population in the area:

1. Increase in normal enrollment of Oklahoma A.&M. College.
2. Families moving to Stillwater as a community in which to live in retirement status.
3. Increase in industrial payroll.
4. Small increase in oil prospecting and production in this area.
5. Improvement of Lake Blackwell recreation area.
6. Improvement of highway and air transportation.
7. Other: Stillwater's reputation for being desirable place to live.

Section B. Projection of Residence Area.

Average population density per acre in city area 16.50.

Population density per acre in additions to provide homes for expected population increase 3.10.

1. Bounds of city residence area in 1910 (give bounds in terms of present street and highway names, natural water courses, etc.)

Washington, Elm, Santa Fe Railroad, 14th Street

2. Bounds of city residence area in 1930.

Cleveland, McElroy, Burdick, 17th Street

3. Bounds of city residence area in 1940.

West line Sec. 22; South line Sec. 22-23; West line Sec. 19;
South line Sec. 12-11.

4. Acres added to the city residence area and now occupied by residence, since 1910, by geographic location in relation to the business district.

(Community will designate as many areas as necessary.)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| (1) East of Main Street and south of Tenth Street | 150 acres |
| (2) East of Santa Fe tracks | 120 acres |
| (3) West of Main Street and south of College Campus | 280 acres |
| (4) West of Santa Fe tracks and north of Elm Street and College Campus | 90 acres |

5. Conditions which will affect directions of population change of city residence area.

- (1) Toward East of Main Street and South of Tenth Street.

a. Favorable factors.

1. Highway 40.
2. Inexpensive building sites.

b. Unfavorable factors.

1. Low ground.
2. Nearness of Stillwater and Boomer Creek overflow area.
3. Fair Park grounds already occupied.
4. Sewage and paving.

- (2) Toward East of Santa Fe Tracks.

a. Favorable factors.

1. Highway 51.
2. High and well drained topography.
3. Short distance to business district.
4. Inexpensive building sites.
5. Area not crowded.

b. Unfavorable factors.

1. Cemetery.
2. Not in trend.
3. Long distance from College.
4. Present industrial usages.

(3) Toward West of Main Street and South of College Campus.

a. Favorable factors.

1. Highway 51 and Lake Blackwell.
2. In trend.
3. Favorable topography and soil.
4. Relatively near business district.
5. Utilities and paving.
6. Qualities of improvements already built.
7. Proximity to College Schools.

b. Unfavorable factors.

1. Closed in on north and west by college property.
2. Stillwater Creek.
3. Older improvements in Washington-Main area.
4. Drainage surface waters.

(4) West of Santa Fe Tracks and North of Elm Street and College Campus.

a. Favorable factors.

1. Favorable topography.
2. Boomer reservoir recreation area.
3. Airport.
4. Highway 40 to business district.
5. Near campus.
6. Unlimited area for development.

b. Unfavorable factors.

1. Distance from business district.
2. Mail service (rural delivery).
3. Aerial noise and disturbance due to activities in air.

6. Projected residence development with increase or decrease in size of city's population.

CITY OF STILLWATER
POPULATION INCREASES (1944 BASE) BY AREAS*

<u>Size of total population</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
12,000	200	400	600	700	
15,000	500	600	2000	1800	
18,000	1000	1200	3000	2700	
20,000	1000	1500	3500	4000	
23,000	1400	2000	4500	5000	

*The base (1944) population is 10,000

In the preceding material, we have presented a break down of the City of Stillwater into four different areas and have given the desirable and undesirable factors of each area as far as a place to live is concerned. In these various areas we find people segregated to a large extent according to their income and their

occupation, with the exception of the group in the colored district which is brought about by racial factors. Even this group is very closely grouped according to the economic standards.

The colored group, which is in the southwest part of Area Three will probably show the smallest amount of facilities which are available for their use in finding an outlet for recreation. It is true that they have a park under construction with a total acreage of five acres for a population of 410 of which there are 163 individuals of school age. They have a small balcony at the Mecca theater which is available for their use if they enjoy the type of movies shown there. The only facilities for their other activities are the school and the church.

According to the principal of the colored school and the athletic director, there is a definite desire on the part of the children for a place to play basketball, volley ball, and other games during the out-of-school season, over week ends and after school.

The next area which will probably show the least ability to have a substantial sum of money to use for recreational purposes would be the group in Area One. One advantage which this group enjoys is the nearness to Fair Park which affords them a place for picnicing, hiking, fishing, a play area for the children and all the other available facilities. The author does not mean to imply that all the people living in these areas just mentioned are unable to pay for their desired recreation. It is believed, however, that there is a greater need here than in other areas as a whole.

Concerning playgrounds, Mr. George Hjelte makes the following statement:

"The number of neighborhood playgrounds should probably exceed the number of elementary schools because children are required to attend school, whereas they attend playgrounds voluntarily. They will in many cases travel farther to school than to a playground for this reason. Experience shows that playgrounds for small children serve effectively an area no more than one-quarter of a mile in all directions from the playgrounds with allowance for natural and artificial barriers which tend to reduce the area."¹

This should be considered in planning and locating playgrounds and other recreation facilities for children. The playground areas may be the school grounds in many cases, or they may be the parks. But regardless of what the facilities provided, they should be kept accessible to the group for which they are designed and that group should be encouraged to use them.

Following is a list of parks, the area in which they are located, the size of the park in acres and the facilities that are available.

Area #1 City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Fair Park
 Location: Southeast edge of City
 Size in Acres: 55 Acres
 Facilities: (For those facilities indicated by an asterisk, indicate the number of such facilities available; for others simply indicate their presence by a check mark.)

Lights.....	Yes	Drinking Water.....	Yes
Shelter House.....	No	Toilets.....	Yes
*Softball Diamonds.....	No	*Baseball Diamonds.....	Yes - 1
*Tennis Courts.....	No	*Croquet Courts.....	No
*Wading Pools.....	No	*Slides and Swings.....	Yes
Shade.....	Yes	12 Slides	
*Tables and Benches.....	21	2 Giant Strides	
Tables Without Benches...	2	1 Ocean Wave	
Benches.....	89	Garbage Cans.....	Yes
		*Cooking Units.....	8
		Sand Boxes.....	3
		See-Saws.....	4

Present General Use:

Supervised By: No One Maintained By: Park Board

¹ George Hjelte, The Administration of Public Recreation, pp. 157, 158.

Area #2 City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Morningside Park
 Location: Eastern side of City
 Size in Acres: 7 acres
 Facilities: (For those facilities indicated by an asterisk, indicate the number of such facilities available; for others simply indicate their presence by a check mark.)

Lights.....	Yes	Drinking Water.....	Yes
Shelter Houses.....	3	Toilets.....	No
*Softball Diamonds.....	No	*Baseball Diamonds.....	No
*Tennis Courts.....	No	*Croquet Courts.....	No
*Wading Pools.....	No	*Slides and Swings.....	Yes
Shade.....	Yes	1 Slide	1 Giant Stride
*Tables and Benches.....	6	1 Swinging Bar	1 Set Flying
Benches.....	30	4 Swings	Rings
		*Cooking Units.....	4
		Garbage Cans.....	Yes
		See-Saws.....	4

Present General Use: Picnicing and Playground

Supervised By: No One Maintained By: Park Board

Area #3 City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Carver Park (Colored)
 Location: South side of City
 Size in Acres: 5 Acres
 Note: Now Under Construction
 Facilities: Not Added.

Area #3 City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Tower Park
 Location: Corner of Walnut and College Avenue
 Size in Acres: 1 Acre
 Facilities: (For those facilities indicated by an asterisk, indicate the number of such facilities available; for others simply indicate their presence by a check mark.)

Lights.....	Wiring only	Drinking Water.....	No
Shelter House.....	No	Toilets.....	No
*Softball Diamonds.....	No	*Baseball Diamonds.....	No
*Tennis Courts.....	No	*Croquet Courts.....	No
*Wading Pools.....	No	*Slides and Swings.....	Yes
Shade.....	Some	1 Slide	1 Handwalker
*Tables and Benches		6 Swings	
Benches.....	6	*Cooking Units.....	No
		Garbage Cans.....	No
		Horseshoe Pegs.....	1 pr.
		Sandbox.....	1

Present General Use: Playground

Supervised By: No One Maintained By: Park Board

Area #3 City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Arrowhead Park
 Location: Northwestern part of City
 Size in Acres: 1/2 Acre
 Facilities: (For those facilities indicated by an asterisk, indicate the number of such facilities available; for others simply indicate their presence by a check mark.)

Lights.....No	Drinking Water.....No
Shelter House.....No	Toilets.....No
*Softball Diamonds.....No	*Baseball Diamonds.....No
*Tennis Courts.....No	*Croquet Courts.....No
*Wading Pools.....No	*Slides and Swings.....Yes
Shade.....No	7 Swings
*Tables and Benches	1 Giant Stride
1 Table (small)	*Cooking Units.....No
3 Benches	Garbage Cans.....No
	See-Saws.....1
	Sandbox.....1

Present General Use: Playground

Supervised By: No One

Maintained By: Park Board

Area #4 Vicinity City of Stillwater Parks Inventory, 1945

Name of Park: Lakeside Memorial Park
 Location: North of City
 Size in Acres: 160 Acres
 Facilities: 9 holes grass greens golf course
Golf House

Present General Use: Open to public for Golf.

Supervised by:

Maintained By:

Mr. Labron Harris

Lakeside Memorial Park Golf Association in cooperation with City of Stillwater and its Board of Park Commissioners.

The following map (compiled by the Chamber of Commerce) shows the aforementioned 4 areas in which the city of Stillwater was divided by the Citizens' Committee.

In addition to that, the locations of the parks have been shaded in to give a clearer understanding of their location in connection with that of the distribution of the population of Stillwater.

Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College Buildings

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Fire Station | 23 Power Plant |
| 2 Biology Building | 24 Y. M. C. A. |
| 3 Auditorium | 25 Book Store |
| 4 Old Engineering Building | 26 Publications and P. O. |
| 5 Reserve Library | 27 Ceramics |
| 6 General Library | 28 Chemistry |
| 7 Old Central | 29 President's Home |
| 8 Cafeteria | 30 Willard Hall |
| 9 Morrill Hall | 31 Whitehurst Hall |
| 10 Gardiner Hall | 32 Receiving Station |
| 11 Hanner Hall | 33 Life Science |
| 12 Thatcher Hall | 34 Dairy |
| 13 Gymnasium | 35 Animal Husbandry |
| 14 Lewis Athletic Field | 36 Swine Barn |
| 15 Field House | 37 Cattle Barn |
| 16 Cordell Hall | 38 Sheep Barn |
| 17 Industrial Arts | 39 Horse Barn |
| 18 Crutchfield Hall | 40 Dairy Barn |
| 19 New Engineering Building | 41 Poultry Plant |
| 20 Greenhouse | 42 Infirmary |
| 21 Home Economics | 43 Murray Hall |
| 22 Entomology | |

- PARKS
- AREA #1
- AREA #2
- AREA #3
- AREA #4

- Names and Addresses of PRECINCT REGISTRARS
- Precinct 1—Mrs. Laura Knorr, 121 Main street.
- Precinct 2—John O'Larry, 1123 Main street.
- Precinct 3—Mrs. Ivo Lyle, 523 East Thirteenth avenue.
- Precinct 4—Mrs. Ethel M. Longfellow, 1114 Duck street.
- Precinct 5—Mrs. Oscar Fanning, 409 West Ninth avenue.
- Precinct 6—Mrs. Bessie Baker, 214 Husband street
- Precinct 7—Mrs. Georgia Swim, Swim's Campus shop.
- Precinct 8—Rueben Jay, 501 Washington street.
- Precinct 9—Mrs. Elza Bilyeu, 802 Knoblock street.
- Precinct 10—Mrs. Bertha D. White, 913 West Tenth avenue.
- Precinct 11—W. B. Murphy, 116 West Eighth avenue.
- Precinct 12—A. L. Hudiburg, Corner Washington street and McElroy avenue.

WHERE TO VOTE

- Pct. 1—John Show, 410 Lewis.
- Pct. 2—Former mayor's office.
- Pct. 3—Copley Bicycle Shop, 405 E. 14th.
- Pct. 4—South High building.
- Pct. 5—Court House.
- Pct. 6—Mrs. Besse Lowry, 302 West.
- Pct. 7—Swim's Corner.
- Pct. 8—A. Paulding, 417 Ramsey.
- Pct. 9—Ralph Boyd, 807 Monroe.
- Pct. 10—Jim Davis, 901 W. 9th.
- Pct. 11—Riggs Garage, 95 College Circle.
- Pct. 12—A. L. Hudiburg, N. Washington.

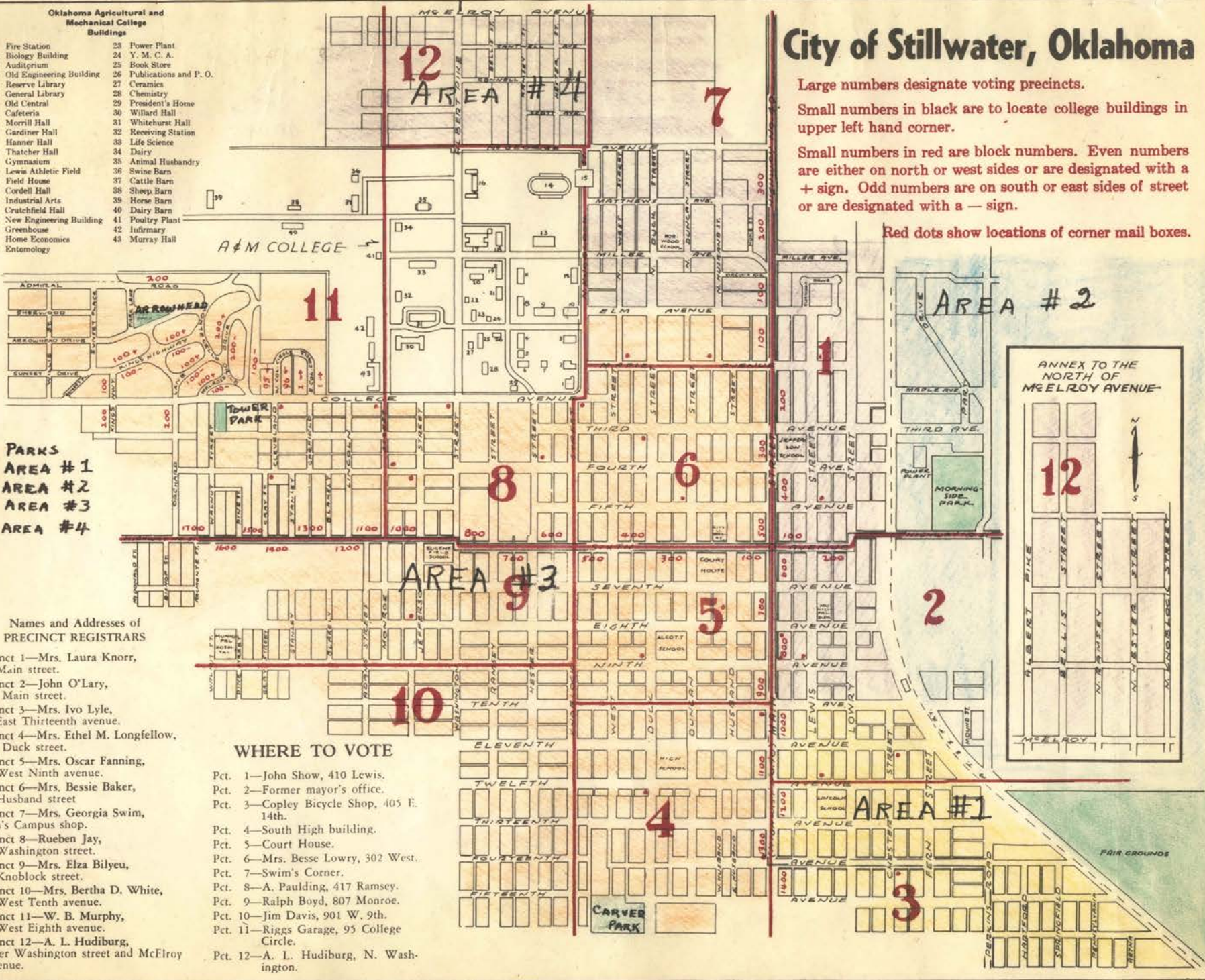
City of Stillwater, Oklahoma

Large numbers designate voting precincts.

Small numbers in black are to locate college buildings in upper left hand corner.

Small numbers in red are block numbers. Even numbers are either on north or west sides or are designated with a + sign. Odd numbers are on south or east sides of street or are designated with a - sign.

Red dots show locations of corner mail boxes.



In addition to the parks just mentioned which are located in the immediate vicinity of the city, we have available such other areas as Blackwell Lake, Yost Lake, and Boomer Lake which are used for boating, fishing, swimming, hunting, picnicing and other activities.

Other facilities available for public use are three golf courses, the swimming pool at Crystal Plunge, the roller skating rink, four theaters, two pool halls not including the facilities at the American Legion Hall, one bowling alley and various dance halls.

Even though this may seem like a sufficient number of facilities for a city of this size, one will find there is a definite need for an increase in some of these facilities. One example is the bowling alley which is not nearly large enough for the group interested. It is almost impossible to secure an alley without waiting considerable time for it.

There are two more specific factors to consider in relation to the facilities that we now have and those that we would like to add to this list:

1. The probable increase in population as set up in the report of the Citizens' Committee which precedes this.
2. A probable increase in the demands for these facilities.

The author believes that as the amount of leisure time increases and as the knowledge of the various activities becomes more universal, there will be a greater demand. The factors that point toward the rise in the knowledge of these games and activities are the part the schools play in teaching students these activities and the evidence of appeal so many of these activities have to the individual today.

There probably has never been a period of time in the history

of the United States of America when there was so much interest displayed in the realm of recreational activities. It is quite common today to find adult individuals who are trying many of these activities for the first time. Examples of this may be evidenced especially at such places as the bowling alleys, dance halls, golf courses, etc. The author is aware that most of these facilities are privately owned and there would be a number of problems arise if the city should try to provide these in competition with the present form of management.

The contribution of the schools to the recreational life of the people of Stillwater comes about in more than one manner. Speaking of the Stillwater schools as a whole, we find a fairly wide variety of activities being offered not only to the students but to the parents and friends of the school children.

It is true that there is not an abundance of events provided for the benefit of the adults alone, but such events as seasonal parties and programs have their value in bringing the parents of the school children together occasionally for some entertainment. ~~This type of recreation~~ comes from the standpoint of social interaction and the joy derived from seeing the part taken by their child in the various activities. Therefore, it must be classified as a passive form of recreation, which has its part in a well-rounded recreational program.

[Another value derived from the school program is that gained from the various games taught in the physical education classes, music classes, industrial arts shops and other activities which may be followed in later life. From this group of skills, one derives a joy or sense of satisfaction in the ability to do something beneficial to himself and others.]

The fundamentals taught along these lines aid the individual

in that he does not have to consume additional time after he is out of school in his chosen profession to learn an outside interest. He may want to improve upon it, however. To explain this further, [in the field of physical education, for instance, we find these things being taught to the junior and senior high students: ping pong, badminton, tennis, basketball, volleyball, football (both touch and tackle), baseball, softball, wrestling, track and field. These activities for boys are largely of the sports type. The only advantage is the way the program is handled. It is set up on the intramural plan, and most of the boys get an opportunity to participate. The knowledge of the game will be of value to them in later life as a recreational activity. It is understood that such games as football will normally be dropped from the list of activities for most men after they reach the age of about thirty. Such games as softball, badminton, tennis and volley ball will be suitable in most instances.

The girls' program includes tumbling in the less strenuous form, rhythms, badminton, tennis, basketball, deck tennis, archery, softball, shuffle board, lawn tennis, and skating.

There is some variation in the activities in the grade schools. At one school there is no form of organized playground activities. The teachers are used only to watch the children while they are on the playground. No organized games are given and, therefore, they present little or no method of teaching the children anything in activities that might have a carry over value into the out of school life.

In the other schools checked, we find a fairly wide variety of organized activities being incorporated into their programs. At one school the activities are placed wholly on a democratic basis and include those activities which the children would like

to play, with the exception of the introduction of different games to the group. After the game is introduced, the children have their own referees, make their own rules and play by them. This school also has rhythms, relays, and various functions where the child has an opportunity to learn to speak, sing, and some training in dramatics.

The third school has a fairly thorough program for the short time allotted for a grade school activity period. This program includes games for the first, second and third grades which are applicable to this age group. They have a fifteen minute recess each half day. The fourth, fifth and sixth grades have only a five minute period in the morning and one-half hour in the afternoon for their play period. This system gives them sufficient time for a well organized play program. Their activities include calisthenics (in preparation for a unified demonstration), touch football, softball, relays, basketball, volleyball and a jumping pit. Other activities are carnivals (with parents attending), luncheons for pupils and parents, seasonal parties and a very good chorus for this age group.

The author believes, even though we have a fairly good program in the schools, there could be shown a greater interest in those activities that will have a greater carry over value in adult life.

Other organizations that provide a form of recreation for their members are the civic clubs such as the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, the lodges and other organizations such as the American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. The latter three groups, although organized for other purposes, serve a very definite recreational need for many of their members. In addition to their regular

meetings, they have parties and picnics at various times with their wives and friends as guests.

Another group of Stillwater organizations which might be called social organizations follows with the frequency of meetings and the approximate number of people who attend these meetings:

	<u>Name of Club</u>	<u>Approx. Attend.</u>	<u>Number of Monthly Meetings</u>
1	Round Table Study Club	8 units Membership 120	2
2	W.C.T.U.	Unknown	2
3	Stillwater Woman's Club	125	1
4	Writers' Club	12	2
5	V.F.W. Auxiliary	Unknown	2
6	Rotary Anns	50	1
7	A.A.U.W.	30	1 and 1 tea time discussion
8	Children's Benefit	30	1
9	Stillwater Garden Club	11 units Membership 125	2
10	Post Office Auxiliary	25	1
11	K. D. Mothers' Club	20	1
12	Royal Neighbors Lodge	60	4
13	Pre-School Child Study Club	60	2
14	Past Noble Grands	30	2
15	Daughters of Veterans of Civil War	20	2
16	Rebecca Lodge	100	4
17	Zeta Tau Alpha Mothers	40	1
18	National Research Club	25	2
19	Past Matrons, Eastern Star	50	1
20	Phi Mothers' Club	45	1
21	Sewing Clubs	150	2
22	Bridge Clubs	Unknown	Unknown

	<u>Name of Club</u>	<u>Approx. Attend.</u>	<u>Number of Monthly Meetings</u>
23	Cimarron Ch. D.A.R.	30	1
24	20th Century Club	20	2
25	St. Cecelia Music Club	110	2
26	Delta Zeta Mothers & Alumnae Club	40	1
27	Woman's Relief Corp	45	2
28	United Daughters of Confederacy	30	1
29	Rainbow Girls	80	2
30	Mousiki Club	20	2
31	Lahoma Club	100	1
32	Chi Omega Mothers	25	1
33	Demolay Mothers	40	1
34	A. D. Pi Mothers and Alumni	45	1

There are probably other clubs and organizations that are not included in this group through the inability to find all of them. But even with the organizations listed, one can readily see what the recreation value can be if these groups will carry out their programs with the proper enthusiasm.

The contribution of the church is often greater than the credit given it. It is true that the church has as its main function that of providing the proper religious atmosphere in the community, yet while carrying on this first and primary purpose for which the church is established, it provides facilities to satisfy the recreational needs of many of its members.

With this under consideration, ^{I asked my church} the ~~author~~ has asked a number of the leading churches of Stillwater to submit ^{its} their programs for analysis to determine to what extent ^{its} their various activities might be classified ^{either} as social or recreational. The following is a report ~~from some of the churches.~~ ^{of my findings.}

1. First Christian Church

Regular church services with preaching every Sunday morning and evening.

Sunday School on Sunday mornings.

Christian Endeavor Sunday evenings.

Activities of purely social nature are:

College Group:

Occasional hikes, picnics, and parties; two to three banquets per year, social hour preceding services each Sunday evening, including a meal and a planned program; and a social period after church in the home of some member of the church.

High School and Junior High:

Parties once each quarter, game night in church basement each Tuesday night.

Young Married People:

A class party or picnic once each month.

Other Adult Classes:

No planned recreation.

2. First Baptist Church

	<u>No. Attending</u>
W.M.U. Circles.....	135
Business Womens' Circle.....	16
R. A.....	18
Intermediate G. A.....	20
Adult Sunday School Class.....	225
Scout Troop.....	24
College Y.W.A.....	30
College Brotherhood.....	25
Choir.....	50
College B.T.U.....	300
Sunbeam Band.....	24
Training Union Group.....	200
B.S.U. Council.....	50
Intermediate Sunday School Classes	90
Junior Sunday School Classes.....	86
Primary Dept.....	65
Beginners Dept.....	40
Fellowship Hour (College & Adult)	100
Intermediate Fellowship Hour.....	40
Junior G. A.....	15
Vesper Services	
Deacons Meeting	
Committee Meetings	
Prayer Meetings	
Workers Council	
Sunday School for all Adult Groups	

3. Church of the Nazarene

Sunday School

Preaching twice each day

Mid Week Prayer Meeting

Social:

Party once each month.
 Fellowship hour irregular.
 Young Peoples' missionary work.
 Junior party society.
 W.M.S. every two weeks.

4. First Methodist Church

Sunday School classes for various ages, each of which has a monthly party.
 -Mens' Brotherhood.
 -Womens' Prayer Group.
 Worship Guidance Group.
 Wesley Foundation Council.
 -Womens' Social Christian Service (meets once a week with entertainment).
 College group - weekly party.
 -Monthly buffet supper.
 Annual Installation Banquet.
 Wesley Players.
 -Evening Fellowship.
 Vesper Service.
 Wesley Choir.
 -Boy Scout Troop.

5. Episcopalian Church

Communion breakfast once per month.
 Canterbury Club, two meetings per month.
 High school groups and junior high social group meetings four times per month.
 Womens' Guild, two meetings per month.
 Regular church services on Sundays.

6. Catholic Church

N.E.C.M. (for men) - 1 monthly meeting with speakers.
 Altar Society (women) - care for needs of sanctuary, Red Cross work, train Catholic social workers in vocational schools.
 Order of Foresters (men's fraternal organization).
 Newman Club (College) - two meetings per month; breakfast and religious discussion group; one social each month.
 High School - 1 quarterly meeting with other regional groups.
 1 monthly local meeting.
 Youngsters - seasonal parties.
 Theta Kappa Phi - National fraternity.

7. Presbyterian Church

Sunday School Pioneers.
 Communicant Class.
 Tuxis Society (College).
 Phi Ki Delta.
 Junior Mariners.
 Regular Mariners.

Men's Brotherhood.
 Boy Scouts.
 Five Circles.
 Guilds - (working women).
 Women's Association.
 Parties for various groups at 2 week intervals.

8. United Brethern Church

Sunday School classes holding regular monthly parties:
 Golden Hour for older folks.
 Truth Seekers for middle aged.
 Sempre Fidelis for young married people.
 High school class for high school students.
 Intermediate Department.

Christian Endeavors holding monthly parties:
 Intermediate and Senior.

Boy Scouts - meetings once a week.

Girls' Guild - meetings once a month (for young girls).

These activities are educational and spiritual as well as recreational:

Missionary Society for older women.
 Ladies Aid for women of church.

Once a month a fellowship dinner for the entire church with supper, program, and fun.

This list of ~~churches~~ has in it a ~~great~~ number of functions that are of a purely social nature, while others, basically religious, have a sense of social value in that people are aided in forgetting their troubles, and they receive a sense of satisfaction from this phase of church life.

In recent years, there has been considerable increase in the amount of recreation work carried on by the church. The need for a program for youth was recognized as far back as 1925, when Mr. Herbert C. Mayer said:

"There is only one attitude left for the church. It must accept responsibility for the activity of boys and girls; it must correlate these activities, and supply those which are lacking, breathing through it all the spirit of Christ. The church which undertakes this task must have a method of studying the varied life of adolescents. It will discover the agencies which are at work in the community and will consider them as allies. It will provide the needed activities when they are not supplied by other organizations."¹

¹ Herbert C. Mayer, The Church's Program for Young People, pp. 197, 198.

"Those activities which are distinctly her own responsibility will be provided in the church. In short, the church will adopt the same attitude which a mother has for the life of her boy or girl. It will supplement the school, the playground, and other community programs rather than go into competition with them. The one greatest service it can render is in the nature of helping to balance all these activities, to keep the proper perspective, and to inspire them with the spirit of Christ. This can be the only sensible and feasible attitude."¹

Another source of recreation that is carried on in ^{Chickadee} Stillwater is the summer recreation program which has played its part in providing activities especially for the youth of this city. Although this program has not reached its maximum efficiency yet, it has made a beginning in the right direction toward setting up a program that will eventually work out to supply the recreational needs of this community.

Following is Coach ^{Howard J. Powell's} ~~Ralph A. Hamilton's~~ report of Stillwater's 1942 Summer Playground Program.

1. The program began two weeks after school was out.
2. Four playgrounds and school buildings were used.
3. The leadership included seven paid instructors - five full time and two half time.

Finance

Amount Received:

City Council	\$1500
Board of Education	250
Council Donation	20

Expenditures:

Teacher Salaries	\$1660
(Full time instructors \$125 mo.)	
(Half time instructors 65 mo.)	
(Supervisor 200 mo.)	
Equipment, Labor and Music	
(Labor for park, and seating \$10)	110
(Music for Square Dance 16)	
(Soft Ball 20)	
(Art Equipment and Games 64)	

Total Receipts and Expenditures	\$1770	\$1770
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Major sources of equipment:

1. School equipment was used.
2. Air Corps contributed a large amount.
3. College Athletic Department gave considerable second

¹ Mayer, loc. cit.

hand equipment.

These sources are all out of playground equipment for this summer (1945), so some other arrangement will have to be made. Equipment will be difficult to find.

Enrollment

Total, around 800 students.

Total students and people that attended and took part - estimate 2700.

Program

1. Organized play and games.
2. Arts and crafts.
3. Story telling.
4. Soft Ball League for Juniors.
5. Soft Ball League for City Grown Ups.
6. Bicycle Club.
7. Swimming Classes at Crystal Plunge.
8. Life Saving Class.
9. Square Dance.
10. Programs in City Park South of High School.
11. Air Plane Club.
12. Picture Shows.
13. Volunteer Lectures on Wild life.

Suggestions for Summer Playground Program for 1945

1. Seven full time teachers.
2. Arts and Crafts in each building.
3. New equipment.
4. Begin one week earlier.
5. Programs on same night each week.
6. Do not depend on volunteer help to make program go.
7. Close contact with College program committees.
8. Do not wait until school is out to get materials and equipment.
9. Teachers should be hired before they obtain other work for the summer.
10. Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
11. Some arrangements should be made to have contact with the band for concerts.

This program was not in effect during the summer of 1945, but is to be resumed in a similar manner during 1946.

During the past winter there were only two programs given by the city for the purpose of offering a recreational outlet for the people of Stillwater, and those two were for the teen age group only. These two activities were Teen ^{Hops} Town and the basketball tournament.

The disadvantages of the present Teen Town are:

1. It serves only one age group.
2. It serves the group which has the best home situations in Stillwater, and the group with the most need for it is not deriving any benefit from such a movement.
3. The program as it is, has not received full support from the city as a whole, and as a result is not functioning at maximum efficiency.
4. The facilities are inadequate to handle all of the children who should be included in such an organization.

One must admit that there are benefits obtained from this work, but it should expand as rapidly as possible if the effects of such a program are to be evidenced to any great extent. There should also be a similar plan developed to allow the children with less financial ability to have access to this form of recreation.

From a study of juvenile delinquency in Stillwater, we have found that a larger number of cases have come from the area where the income is lower than average for this city. The Juvenile Delinquency records at the Payne County Court House state that from January 1, 1941 to January 15, 1946, there were eighty-one cases of juvenile delinquency in the City of Stillwater. This does not include all of the cases apprehended and dismissed by the authorities.

According to John Edgar Hoover who states in this regard:

"Remember also that for every boy and girl actually arrested there are many other so-called delinquent children who are handled more informally by the police in the hope that their initial contacts with 'the law' will straighten them out."¹

Following are the total offences which were reported as juvenile delinquency cases occurring in the City of Stillwater:

¹ J. Edgar Hoover, "A Third Front...Against Juvenile Crime," The New York Times Magazine, (Feb. '44), p. 8.

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>
1941	13
1942	14
1943	28
1944	13
1945 - Jan. '46	<u>13</u>
Total	81

Of these 81 juvenile delinquency cases which were found in Stillwater, a large percentage was due to neglect on the part of the parents, thus showing that the home situation plays a large part in encouraging juvenile delinquency.

In 1944, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover prepared for National Family Week an article, "Treason in the American Home," which stated that America suffers nearly a million and a half major crimes each year plus countless millions of lesser offenses. The crime bill is enormous from both the financial and spiritual viewpoints.

Religious, educational and civic institutions combined with law enforcement agencies in a solid front can go far in overcoming this menace but home training is indispensable. Culpable negligence must be crushed and home life should revert to the position it formerly occupied. Neglectful, thoughtless parents who fail to teach and discipline children will inevitably be required to explain at some future date their reasons for neglect - their Treason in the American Home.

In December, 1945, in an address before the International Association of Chiefs of Police, he said the fact remains it is the delinquent youngster of the war years who is now graduating into the ranks of seasoned criminals. The most recent figures disclose that 21% of all arrests are of persons under 21. More persons aged 17 are arrested than in any other age group. Those under 21 years of age represent 15% of all murderers, 36% of all

robbers, 51% of all burglars, 34% of all thieves, 26% of all arsonists, 62% of all car thieves, and 30% of all rapists.

These figures do not mean necessarily that all youth has failed; on the other hand, the generation ahead of them has failed. The best we can do to correct our mistakes is to aid the youngsters who have never had a chance in recapturing their rightful places and removing those forces which have contributed to their delinquency. The home, the church, and the school must be united in a common purpose. We need new attitudes of respect, both for the parent and for law. We need a rebuilding of the foundations which made this nation the greatest in all history, bulwarks formed of more staple materials than those of apathy, selfishness, or indulgence. Our boys and our girls are the foundation of America, to grow as their parents and their surroundings direct.

We must realize that homes must be restored to their rightful places as institutions of living and learning rather than for convenience and existence; the mothers and fathers of the land must recognize and measure up to their responsibilities as parents. Then, all community facilities must be expanded to meet the challenge of the times. Schools, churches, playgrounds and youth serving organizations must be given the facilities and means whereby they can give to the coming generation that which is rightfully theirs.

In trying to determine the type of activities the average citizen of Stillwater would like to participate in, and to give us some basis for the requests for certain facilities to be provided, the author has compiled a list of 66 various activities which he believes individuals might want.

This survey was conducted by taking this list before various organizations and groups such as Stillwater Woman's Club, Business and Professional Women, Stillwater Laundry (girls), highschool boy

and girl gym classes of both the white and colored schools, and business and college men (direct contact with individuals).

It is believed that there was not as much interest shown in some of these activities as there would have been had the knowledge of the specific activity been taught to the individuals who were checked. This lack of knowledge in games is definitely a factor which prohibits the individual's active participation.

This may not be as accurate a picture as the author would like to have, yet the following gives an indication of the activities with the greatest interest of the members contacted:

List of Suggested Recreational Activities

(Please enter in the blank space the total number of persons interested in the recreation listed. Each individual is to list all activities in which he is interested.)

Name of Organization _____

<u>48</u> Baseball	<u>65</u> Glee Clubs
<u>94</u> Softball	<u>65</u> Orchestras and Bands
<u>43</u> Football	<u>37</u> Musical Competition
<u>86</u> Basketball	Vocal <u>14</u>
<u>14</u> Hand Ball	Instrumental <u>23</u>
<u>22</u> Hockey	<u>13</u> Toy Symphonies
<u>41</u> Relay Games	<u>33</u> Social Music Activities
<u>45</u> Active Playground Games	<u>34</u> Home Music Activities
<u>58</u> Volley Ball	<u>12</u> Community Opera
<u>60</u> Tennis	<u>51</u> Congregational Singing
<u>69</u> Ping Pong	<u>108</u> Handcraft
<u>101</u> Swimming	Basketry and Reed Work <u>14</u>
<u>111</u> Bowling	Pottery <u>13</u>
<u>38</u> Miniature Golf	Carpentry <u>34</u>
<u>69</u> Roller Skating	Toy Making <u>38</u>
<u>88</u> Bicycling	Kites, Lanterns, Airplanes, etc.
	<u>70</u> Sewing, Knitting, etc.

<u>87</u> Horseback Riding	<u>84</u> Cooking & Domestic Science
<u>77</u> Boating and Canoeing	<u>106</u> Gardening
<u>100</u> Camping	<u>59</u> Nature Study
<u>94</u> Fishing	<u>47</u> Debating
<u>76</u> Hunting	<u>52</u> Forums
<u>58</u> Gymnastics	<u>45</u> Public Speaking
<u>73</u> Badminton	<u>31</u> Writing
<u>75</u> Aerial Darts	<u>35</u> Lit., Study and Apprec.
<u>57</u> Archery	<u>68</u> Community Art
<u>43</u> Paddle Tennis	<u>46</u> Painting
<u>109</u> Dancing	<u>29</u> Rhythmic Art
<u>34</u> Snooker	<u>75</u> Photography
<u>59</u> Golf	<u>64</u> Hobby Clubs
<u>48</u> Forms of Community Drama	<u>120</u> Parties
<u>61</u> One Act and Full Length Plays (Comedies, Farces and Tragedies)	<u>88</u> Fun Nights
<u>62</u> Minstrel Shows	<u>48</u> Dramatic Stunts
<u>40</u> Vaudeville Entertainments	<u>24</u> Pantomime
<u>27</u> Folk Play Making - to promote American Folk Lore	Other Activities:
<u>53</u> Propaganda Plays: Safety-Health-Thrift	<u>10</u> Red Cross Work
<u>46</u> Educational Plays: Historical-Mythological-Better English-Americanization	<u>10</u> Travelogues
<u>92</u> Community Singing	<u>1</u> Flying
<u>72</u> Community Choruses	<u>1</u> Astronomy
<u>60</u> Community Concerts and Recitals	<u>29</u> Wrestling
	<u>6</u> Touch Football
	<u>18</u> Boxing
	<u>8</u> Collecting Stamps

206 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CHECKED.

Of this list, 50% or more indicated their interests in parties, bowling, dancing, handcraft, gardening, swimming and camping. Less than 10% approximately were interested in hockey,

handball, toy symphonies and community opera.

One of the greatest problems confronting a recreation board in any city is its method of support. As we have stated in the preceding report of the Summer Program for Stillwater, for the summer of 1944, the financing of the summer program exceeded the appropriation of the city for this work.

The amount set aside for this summer has not been increased which will probably mean that there will have to be additional funds raised for this summer if the proposed program is to continue. With the rising prices of materials and cost of leadership, this sum of money, no doubt, will not provide as good a program to the citizens of Stillwater, as it did in 1944.

We should not be satisfied with the equivalent program which has been carried on, but should try to enlarge upon the program of the previous years until we have a program that is commensurate with all the needs and functions of the majority of the people.

The better plan would be to establish a year round program of recreation. In order to do this, it will be necessary for a much larger sum of money to be appropriated for this program. From the National Recreation Association, material has been obtained by which we may show the approximate cost of providing a year round recreation program for this city.

Some cities of this size (10,000-12,000) may be financing and conducting a more extensive program, and others may not be able to start with the full program included in this budget.

Briefly, the program which is covered by this budget statement provides for one playfield; three neighborhood playgrounds, one of which is located in the playfield; four tennis courts; two regulation diamonds; four softball diamonds; and one indoor recreation center with a broad program of activities. It is assumed that the playgrounds

and playfield will have adequate shelter and field house provisions.

The leadership items in the budget include provisions for a year round superintendent of recreation. All other personnel suggested for the program will be part-time or seasonal personnel.

The budget proposed by the National Recreation Association is as follows:

TABLE I

Budget for Playgrounds and Playfields Personnel

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>I. Leadership Personnel</u>				
A. <u>Summer</u> (3 areas, 10 weeks)			\$2100	\$3750
<u>Directors of Playgrounds and Playfields</u>				
3 Directors, 10 wks. @ \$30				
- \$45 per wk. each	\$ 900		\$1350	
<u>Recreation Leaders</u>				
6 Leaders 10 wks. @ \$20 -				
\$40 per wk. each	1200	2400		
B. <u>Spring and Fall</u> (3 areas, 14 weeks)			750	1275
<u>Directors of Playground and Playfields</u>				
3 Directors, 10 wks., half time				
@ \$30 - \$45 per wk. rate	450	675		
<u>Recreation Leaders</u>				
3 Leaders, half time, 10				
wks. @ \$20-40 per wk.	300	600		
<u>Total Leadership</u>			\$2850	\$5025
<u>II. Maintenance Personnel</u>				
A. <u>Summer</u> (10 wks.)			\$ 700	\$1000
1 maintenance worker, 10 wks.				
@ \$40 per wk. (40 hr. wk.)	\$ 400	\$ 400		
1 - 2 maintenance workers, 10				
wks. @ \$30 wk. (40 hr. wk.)	300	600		
B. <u>Spring and Fall</u> (10 wks.)				
300 - 400 hrs. @ 65¢ per hr.	195	260	195	260
<u>Total Maintenance Personnel</u>			\$ 895	\$1260
<u>III. Total Leadership & Maintenance Personnel</u>			\$3745	\$6285

TABLE II

Budget for Playgrounds and Playfields (7 Areas)

<u>Object of Expenditures</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>Services, Personal</u> (See Table IIIA)					\$3745	\$6285
<u>Salaries and Wages, Regular</u>			-	-		
Leadership	-	-				
Other	-	-				
<u>Salaries and Wages - Temporary</u>			\$3745	\$6285		
Leadership	\$2850	\$5025				
Other	895	1260				
<u>Services, Contractual</u>					30	45
Communication & Transportation			30	45		
<u>Commodities</u>						
Supplies, Recreational			120	240		
Supplies, Maintenance			50	75		
Supplies, Repair			25	100		
<u>Properties</u>					130	875
Permanent Equipment, Recreational			100	800		
Permanent Equipment, Maintenance			30	75		
<u>Totals</u>					\$4100	\$7620

TABLE V

Budget for Administration

<u>Object of Expenditures</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>Services, Personal</u>					\$3200	\$4300
<u>Salaries and Wages, Regular</u>			\$3200	\$4300		
Leadership						
Supt. of Recreation	\$2000	\$3000				
Other	1200	1300				
Secretary & Stenographer	\$1200-\$1300					
<u>Salaries and Wages, Temporary</u>			-	-		
<u>Services, Contractual</u>					250	300
<u>Communications and Transportation</u>			250	300		
Postage	25	50				
Telephone and Telegraph	25	50				
Traveling Expenses	200	200				
<u>Printing, Binding and Advertising</u>					50	100
<u>Commodities</u>			50	100		
Office Supplies						
<u>Current Charges and Obligations</u>					25	150
Insurance			-	100		
Registration and Subscription (including books)			25	50		
<u>Properties</u>					-	300
Permanent Equipment, Office			-	300		
<u>Totals</u>					\$3575	\$5250

TABLE VI

Budget by Object of Expenditure

Object of Expenditure	From	To	From	To	From	To
<u>Services, Personal</u>					\$9655	\$14,245
<u>Salaries and Wages, Regular</u>			\$3200	\$4300		
<u>Leadership</u>	\$2000	\$3000				
1 Supt. of Rec.	\$2000	\$3000				
<u>Other</u>	1200	1300				
<u>Salaries and Wages, Temporary</u>			6455	9945		
<u>Leadership</u>	5560	8685				
3 Playground Directors						
10 wks. @ \$30 - \$45 wk.						
\$900 - \$1350						
6 Recreation Leaders						
10 wks. @ \$20 - \$40 wk.						
\$1200 - \$2400						
3 Playground Directors						
10 wks., half-time						
@ \$30-\$45 wk.						
\$ 450 - \$675						
3 Recreation Leaders						
10 wks. half-time @ \$20 - \$40 wk.						
\$300 - \$600						
2 Recreation Leaders						
140 community center sessions						
ea. @ \$2.50 - \$3.00 per session						
\$700 - \$980						
1 Community Center Asst.						
Leader 140 sessions @						
\$1.50 - \$2.00						
\$210 - \$280						
Special Assistants, part-time						
\$1800 - \$2400						
<u>Other</u>			895	1260		
1 Maintenance Worker -						
10 wks. @ \$40 wk.						
\$400 - \$400						
1 - 2 Maintenance Workers						
10 wks. @ \$30 wk.						
\$300 - \$600						
Spring and fall maintenance workers						
300 - 400 hours @ 65¢ per hr.						
\$195 - \$260						

TABLE VI Continued

Object of Expenditure	From	To	From	To	From	To
<u>Services, Contractual</u>					\$ 330	\$ 445
Communication & Transportation	\$ 280		\$ 345			
Printing, Binding & Advertising	50		100			
<u>Commodities</u>					565	1055
Office Supplies		50		100		
Recreation Supplies		440		780		
Maintenance Supplies		50		75		
Repair Supplies		25		100		
<u>Current Charges and Obligations</u>					470	1040
Rents*		420		840		
Insurance		-		100		
Awards		25		50		
Registrations & Subscriptions		25		50		
<u>Properties</u>					130	1175
Permanent Equipment, Office		-		300		
Permanent Equipment, Recreation		100		800		
Permanent Equipment, Maintenance		30		75		
Totals					\$11,150	\$17,960

*Board of Education charges for use of school buildings.

7. HANDLING THE PROBLEM

In the foregoing part of this thesis the author has attempted to give the facilities available for recreation in Stillwater; the ability of the city to pay for the program proposed; the form of government; the different agencies contributing toward the total recreation program at present; the juvenile delinquency problem; the various types of activities that different ages, sexes and races would like for participation; and a year round recreation budget.

With these under consideration, the author would like to mention several things that should be considered in handling the future recreation program. In doing this he has consulted various books and recreational agencies to try to have a basis for his recommendations.

The National Recreation Association of New York City has published nineteen principles which should be used as a guide for setting up a recreation program in any city. These are as follows:

- "1. Every child needs to be exposed to the growth-giving activities that have brought satisfaction through the ages, - to climbing, chasing, tumbling; to tramping, swimming, dancing, skating, ball games; to singing, playing musical instruments, dramatizing; to making things with his hands, to working with sticks and stones and sand and water, to building and modeling; to caring for pets; to gardening, to nature; to trying simple scientific experiments; to learning team play, group activity and adventure, comradeship in doing things with others.
 - "2. Every child needs to discover which activities give him personal satisfaction. In these activities he should be helped to develop the essential skills. Several of these activities should be of such a nature that he can keep them up in adult life.
 - "3. Every man should have certain forms of recreation which require little space and which can be fitted into small fragments of time.
 - "4. Every man needs to know well a certain limited number of indoor and outdoor games which he himself likes so that there will never be an occasion when he cannot think of anything to do.
 - "5. Every man should be helped to form the habit of finding pleasure in reading.
 - "6. Most men should know at least a few songs with good music so that they may sing when they feel like it.
 - "7. Every man should be helped to learn how to make something of beauty in line, form, color, sound, or graceful use of his own body.
 - "8. Every man should be helped to form habits of being active, of breathing deeply in the sunlit outdoor air. Man thrives best in the sunlight.
- Since living, not business, is the end of life, our cities should be planned for living as well as for business and industry. Sunlight, air, open spaces, parks, playgrounds, in abundant measure are essentials to any living that is to give permanent satisfaction.
- "9. Every man should be encouraged to find one or more hobbies."¹

¹ National Recreation Association, "Nineteen Recreation Principles."

- "10. It is of the greatest importance that every person be exposed to rhythm because without rhythm man is incomplete.
- "11. About one year in every ten of a man's life is spent in eating. It is of fundamental importance that this one-tenth of a man's life shall be so lit up by play of mind upon mind that eating shall not be a hurried chore but an opportunity for comradeship and for growth for the whole man. Eating should be a social occasion, in the home something of a ceremony.
- "12. Rest, repose, reflection, contemplation are in themselves a form of recreation and ought never to be crowded out by more active play.
- "13. Those recreation activities are most important which most completely command the individual so that he loses himself in them and gives all that he has and is to them.
- "14. Ultimate satisfaction in recreation comes only through one's own achievement, of some kind.
- "15. The form of one's recreation as an adult, often, though not always, should be such as to use in part powers unused in the rest of one's life.
- "16. A man is successful in his recreation life in so far as the forms of activity he chooses create a play spirit, a humor, which to some extent pervades all his working hours, helping him to find enjoyment constantly in the little events of life.
- "17. The happy play of childhood is essential to normal growth. Normal men are most likely to grow from the children who have played well and happily. Normal men more easily continue normal as they keep up childhood habits of play.
- "18. Participation as a citizen in the cooperative building a better way of life in which all may share is one of the most permanently satisfying forms of recreation.
- "19. That children and men and women may be more likely to live this kind of life, experience shows there is need for community action:
- "Every community needs a person, and an unpaid committee or board charged with thinking, planning, and working to provide opportunity for the best possible use of the leisure hours of men, women, and children.
- "Community recreation programs should continue throughout the year."¹

¹ Ibid.

"Support of community recreation programs should be through tax funds under some department of the local government.

"Every community needs playgrounds, parks, and recreation centers just as every city and town needs streets and sewers.

"Every community should provide opportunity for its children when they leave school to continue the musical and dramatic and other specialized recreation activities which they have enjoyed during school days.

"Community recreation programs should allow for a broad range of tastes and interests and varying degrees of mental and physical energy.

"Every community needs persons trained to lead in recreation just as much as it needs persons trained in education.

"Satisfying recreation, whether for the individual or for the community, involves careful planning."¹

From an "Editorial," we find these ten principles of recreation which list some of the objectives of such a program.

- "1. Provision of safe place to play for children.
- "2. The reduction of juvenile delinquency.
- "3. Education and character building.
- "4. The development of health and physique.
- "5. Good citizenship.
- " 6. The provision of adequate facilities for both young and old to develop and to find an outlet for their recreational interests.
- "7. The development of good leadership.
- "8. The development of harmony within the home by the organization of games and activities.
- "9. Development of community pride.
- "10. Functioning of a community, as a whole, to give a well rounded life to its inhabitants."²

In order to meet all the requirements given in the nineteen principles and the ten objectives just enumerated, it will take the

¹ Ibid.

² Mrs. Frederick Beggs, "Editorial," Recreation Magazine, XLV, (1930), p. 483.

full cooperation of all the different agencies contributing toward the total program. To do this effectively, it will be necessary to set up the form of governing body that will work most efficiently.

Considering the size of Stillwater, the facilities available at present, and the present interest in a recreation program, the author suggests a program that includes the cooperation of the park department, the schools, and the recreation council. In such a unified program, the facilities of the school could be used by the school and the recreation program heads, thus the cost of operation would be lessened. There could be an efficient utilization of the leadership ability of the school faculty to supplement the regular recreation leadership of the city.

Because of the scope of a well rounded recreation program, it yields itself quite readily to the use of people trained in various fields. This should aid in the problem of supplying the proper leadership. There are, however, certain specific characteristics which make a successful recreation leader.

Mr. Charles F. Smith has given thirteen qualities of a leader as follows:

- "1. Secures the cooperative effort of his group to determine what they can do and how they can do it.
- "2. Selects and develops leaders, and develops the ability on the part of all to choose a leader wisely.
- "3. Stimulates creative ability of individuals together with the desire to work for the good of the group.
- "4. Plans clearly, foresees what will happen, utilizes leadership of others, is loyal to his group.
- "5. Knows that what he does has its chief importance in what it causes others to do.
- "6. Respects himself.
- "7. Looks for, expects, demands that the fine qualities of his group show themselves, and at times he is even seemingly blind to some faults."¹

¹ Charles F. Smith, Games and Recreational Methods, pp. 9, 10.

- "8. Modifies games quickly to meet existing conditions.
- "9. Stirs the imagination of his group, and appeals to their dramatic sense.
- "10. Says and acts "Do" instead of "Don't".
- "11. Recognizes that "Do good" is a greater stimulus to boys and girls than "Be good".
- "12. Builds morale through activity.
- "13. Has a sense of humor."¹

The importance of getting a well qualified leader for the recreation program in Stillwater cannot be minimized. It will require an individual that is well trained in recreational methods and one that can mix well with all types of people. He should possess a high degree of skill in organization and in promotion of the program due to its newness. He must have the ability to obtain the full cooperation of the entire population if he hopes to put over the type of program which will be satisfactory for this city. On his shoulders rests the success or failure of this program.

The organizations that are making definite contributions to the recreation program have already been mentioned in the survey of the facilities of the present recreation program. If the recreation leader secures the fullest cooperation, he should appeal to all of these groups for their hearty cooperation.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover says in this regard that what is needed now more than anything else is leadership to coordinate the efforts of our schools, churches, child bureaus, civic groups and youth-serving organizations to avoid duplication of work and achieve maximum effectiveness.

Some of the agencies to be included in a coordinated program would be civic clubs, social clubs, lodges, schools and

¹

Smith, loc. cit.

churches as mentioned by Mr. Hoover. There is an awakening in process on the part of all of these groups to the need for proper recreation for their members.

The greatest change seems to have started in the church. More than any other time in its history, the church has arisen to meet the needs of its people.

Mr. Davis states:

"A distinctive characteristic of the socialized church is that it adapts itself to the needs of the local environment. In the tenement house district, it finds that the people living around it have in their homes no opportunity to take a bath; it therefore furnishes bathing facilities. It sees that the people have little or no healthful social life; it accordingly opens attractive social rooms, and organizes clubs for men, women, boys and girls. The people know little of legitimate amusement; the church therefore provides it."¹

If the program uses all of the available facilities, it will utilize the commercial forms of recreation that are available in this city. There should be careful selection of these agencies, as their motive is so often that of financial gain regardless of the results on the morals of the individuals attending this form of activity.

Mr. Maurice R. Davis says on commercialized recreation:

"Commercialized recreation in particular has been associated with vice and immoralities, with delinquency and crime. History shows that amusements are a pitfall in which good mores may be lost and evil ones produced. They require conventional control and good judgment to guide them. These requirements cannot be set aside. Amusements always present a necessity for moral education and moral will. This fact has implored itself on men in all ages and all religions have produced Puritan and ascetic sects who sought welfare not in satisfying but in counteracting the desire for amusement and pleasure. Their efforts have proved that there is no solution in that direction. There must be an educated judgment at work all the time, and it must form correct judgments to be made real by cultivated will or the whole societal interest may be lost without the evil tendency being perceived."²

¹ Maurice R. Davis, Problems of City Life, p. 670.

² Ibid., p. 581.

"Commercialized recreation has been decried because it emphasizes the place of the spectator and minimizes that of the participant. A more serious objection is that it has a demoralizing influence and is frequently associated with vice, crime, and immorality. This has given rise to a demand for its regulation in the public interest."¹

Another factor to be included in the type of recreation facilities provided, is that adequate facilities with encouragement in the use of them should be available to make individual participation in activities of his choice. So often the average layman thinks of recreation as an athletic program where a few participate while the majority enjoy it only from the passive rather than the active standpoint. If one would derive the greatest value from his experiences he would take part in some form of activity that would give him satisfaction plus the proper amount of exercise. It is also wise to learn something that may be participated in during old age.

"Specialists in the field of recreation are of the opinion that participating forms of recreation such as mountain climbing, camping, and outdoor sports, gardening, naturalizing, amateur acting, and good books are superior in recreational value to those of second and third hand participation. According to this view, the normal outlet of excitement is muscular action. What all recreation lovers wish to promote is freer self-activity and fuller physical expression."²

8. CONCLUSIONS

The author might point out some of the specific things he personally would like to see added to the city recreation program such as tennis courts, addition to the bowling alleys, a snooker room that is free from the stale air and smoke with proper supervision to make for a healthy situation for the city's youth, a larger participation on the part of the schools, churches, civic organizations and any other individual or group who has a definite

¹ Davis, op. cit., pp. 585, 586.

² Ibid., p. 567.

pride in their city and in the type of individuals they want the youth of this city to grow to be.

There should be playgrounds made accessible for the children of all ages in the surrounding area. The elderly people should have aid to promote any type of program that would make their life at that age more worthwhile. The working girls should have some type of facilities at their disposal. The negro group should have facilities equal to those of the whites in proportion to the number of individuals affected.

There should be a health program to assure a more contented life through better health conditions. Safety instructions in driving, life saving and all phases of first aid should be made available to the population with encouragement to everyone to participate.

As a basis for judging the effectiveness of the program for the City of Stillwater, the author has obtained the following list of 18 criteria:

"The following criteria should be met if a recreation program is to serve the recreation needs of all the people of the city:

- "1. Afford equal opportunity in the way of facilities and activities to all parts of the city (no neighborhood should be neglected).
- "2. Afford activities well distributed throughout the entire year (program should not be restricted largely to the summer months or to a brief winter season).
- "3. Serve all age groups including the old folks.
- "4. Provide for a reasonable balance between outdoor and indoor activities.
- "5. Provide equal opportunities for both sexes.
- "6. Provide for varying levels of skill and ability."¹

¹ National Recreation Association, "Criteria for the Community Recreation Program."

- "7. Have a definite relationship to the school program of teaching leisure-time skills and of developing recreation interests.
- "8. Definitely encourage individuals and groups to initiate and carry on their own activities.
- "9. Give participants a share in the planning and conducting of activities.
- "10. Afford opportunities for cooperative activity as well as competition.
- "11. Be definitely related to the recreation programs furnished by non-public agencies.
- "12. Be sensitive to changing conditions, interests, and needs of the people as evidenced by program changes from year to year.
- "13. Encourage informal individual activity as well as highly organized group projects.
- "14. Sponsor home play and activities which individuals can carry on at home.
- "15. Include community-wide features as well as activities conducted at individual playgrounds and centers.
- "16. Provide special service to racial groups, industrial and commercial organizations, churches, and other institutions.
- "17. Afford recreation workers a definite opportunity to submit each year or season specific suggestions regarding the program.
- "18. Provide definite means for people to indicate their recreation desires and preferences and to submit suggestions regarding the program."¹

In conclusion, the author believes that this work has only scratched the surface as to the possibilities of what might be accomplished in the future recreation program for the City of Stillwater. He is aware of the fact that this survey may not have included some of the more remote forms of recreation which exist in this city, and believes that anyone interested could

¹ Ibid.

determine many worthwhile things of interest concerning the many opportunities for recreation in this city.

It is believed that with the city's ability to pay for a recreation program, a plan could be put in effect that would more adequately meet the needs of all the various groups to the extent that their life would be made much more enjoyable and pleasant while residing in this area. The author believes that this can make a great contribution especially to the youth of the city.

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