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At a meeting of the Charity Circle of the King's Daughters, held on Monday morning at the residence of the president, Miss Strange, a life membership in the Red Cross Society was presented to Mrs. Campbell Strange, who has been for many years a member and office bearer in the Charity Circle. Since the beginning of the war, Mrs. Campbell Strange has also been upon the ex-

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RECOMMENDS WEST SIDE

OF MACDONALD PARK FOR THE BATHING HOUSE

Town Planning Expert Thinks It the Best Spot—Gives Reasons For Holding To This View.

The following is the report of Thomas Adams, town planning adviser to the Canadian Conservation Commissioner, with regard to the Richardson bathing house in Macdonald park, made to Mayor Hughes:

At the request of a few citizens of Kingston I paid a visit to the city on 10th of May and looked over the situation in regard to the proposal to erect a new bathing house on the lake front in Macdonald park after consultation with your Worship and some members of the Board of Trade. I have decided to send you this letter on the subject and have written with the pros and cons of the different sites which seems to be available in the park and its neighborhood. I do so with deference to the opinions of those who are more familiar with the local conditions or better able to judge of the desires of the voters and other parties interested in the erection of the new building.

Among other things I realize that there must be a matter of sentiment attached to the proposal to erect a memorial to one who has been a citizen of Kingston and who has fallen in defence of his country. It would be unfortunate, however, if that sentiment was to be exploited entirely on behalf of those who may have one particular view regarding the location of the bathing house. One may judge that the desire of the taxpayer would be to have the monument placed where it would be of most value to the greatest number of citizens and do least injury to the amenities of the city; and, moreover, that he would not wish and sudden conclusion to be arrived at without careful consideration of alternatives. We may also be sure that he would have regretted that any large section of the citizens of Kingston would find themselves in the position of having to nurse suppressed antagonism to the memorial building for the reason that, while they did not wish to say anything that would be otherwise than expressive of gratitude and honor for his memory, they were unable to look upon the site chosen as an appropriate one.

With these reflections in mind one might, for instance, object to the site which has already been chosen, with no other desire than that there should be no feeling of soreness attached to it and, therefore, that the building should give fullest expressions to the object for which it is being erected as a memorial.

Macdonald Park the Place.
In looking at the different sites I came to the conclusion that the proper thing for me to do was to limit my consideration of the matter to the frontage of Macdonald park. Having regard to what has already been done in preparing a site and in perfecting negotiations between the different parties interested, including the City Council and the Department of Militia, I do not think it would be desirable to propose that the building be erected further afield or in a more inaccessible position than is now proposed. Unfortunately there is not much choice in regard to the selection of sites for a bathing house in Kingston. The frontage of the city to the east of the waterworks is crowded with industrial buildings and is usefully occupied to its full extent. To the west of the waterworks the great beauty of what is the most valuable asset in Kingston as a residential town is very largely destroyed by a few scattered industrial plants surrounded by disorderly wooden buildings and yards. No one can have any objection to useful industrial development, but in the case of the waterfront between the waterworks and the old distillery we find that the use of a few hundred feet completely destroys the amenity of a long stretch of the front. In the interests of the future of Kingston it is of vital importance that the matter of the future development of this stretch of land should receive vigilant attention by the citizens and the city Council.

From the point of view of the bathing there is also the difficulty that no part of the stretch to which I refer is free of contamination from sewage. Whatever may be said in favor or against one site or another appears to be of little moment on this account. There is comparatively little choice and no escape from some contamination.

From the data which was shown to me by the city engineer, I should think that the frontage of Macdonald Park is as free as any other part of the frontage from pollution and that the currents tend to keep that portion of the waterfront compara-

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When the liver becomes sluggish it is an indication that the bowels are not working properly and that complications are liable to set in.

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lively free of any such pollution as might be regarded as dangerous. I think, however, there is no doubt that the western side of Macdonald Park is just as good as the eastern side in this respect.

West Side Best Spot.
Taking everything into consideration and ignoring all factors connected with the history of the movement to erect a bathing house in the present position, I have come to the conclusion that the best situation for a bathing house is as shown on the accompanying plan, namely, on the western side of the park, approximately at a point marked B. The above spot is adjacent to a small bay with a ledge which is well adapted for bathing purposes. In some respects the bed of the lake at this point seems to be an improvement on what is suggested at A, on the eastern side of Martello tower. As the tendency of the in-shore current at this point is towards the west, the existence of the sewer beyond the end of Hill street is no disadvantage on the site at B compared to the site at A. Moreover, the distance of 600 feet between the two sites makes it of little difference in regard to the matter of sewage pollution.

I understand that the really serious objection to this site is the possibility of an ice jam taking place over the point a little further to the west, thereby making it somewhat risky to erect a building in that position. I should have thought it would be possible, without much expense, to have protected the building from any danger of this kind, but I confess it is the only real objection to the change of site and one which should be considered from an engineering point of view.

The Most Adaptable.
From all other points of view the western site is the most adaptable. It will cause least injury to property and will in effect appreciate its surroundings instead of depreciating them. The building will form a pleasing terminus to the two streets which would converge upon it. It would not seriously affect the views of the houses facing onto the park and would make the western side of the park of much greater use to the public. During bathing hours the bathers would have much more freedom than if they were on the other side of the tower, which is largely used by the public for rest and enjoyment of the view. Freedom of bathing would not be so attractive and much of the advantage of the erection of the building would be lost.

With regard to the erection of the building on the site at A, on the plan, I can realize its seriousness to property owners in the adjacent houses, but I imagine this would not be regarded as a sufficient objection if it were in the public interest to put the building as proposed. The public interest, however, is one in common with the property interests in this case. Whatever injury to the community over what it, itself, consumes than this class of property. It is not desirable to injure it if possible in the interests of the general taxpayer. I think the transference of the site would appreciate property values if the present site is used. It may have the effect of causing serious depreciation.

Objection to East Side.
The chief danger of building on the present site is that the only piece of park frontage which the city possesses for quiet and restful enjoyment of its citizens will be destroyed for its present purposes. The bathing house will only occupy ninety feet and the loss of the view of the lake is not serious, but the bathing frontage will not be limited to ninety feet or 200 feet, but will extend the whole length between Emily street and the part opposite Martello Tower. Either the freedom of the bathers will have to be seriously curtailed, or the free use of the park by citizens for enjoyment of music and rest will be impaired. Of course all this is on assumption that the bathing house will be a success and will be of sufficient utility to the citizens having regard to its location in proportion to the success of the building a bathing house the park as a water-front park will be of relatively less value to the community. In my judgment the western part of the park can be adapted for bathing purposes without so much interference with the present purposes for which Macdonald Park is used, with most benefit to the citizens as a whole, with greatest advantage to the bathers and without, as a whole, depreciating any property.

Ice Danger.
It is probably not the site I would have suggested in other circumstances if a comprehensive plan of the water-front of Kingston had been prepared and sites selected in appropriate positions for different kinds of buildings and treatment. Within the limited scope of Macdonald Park, however, I think the site suggested at B is the best one from every point of view except that of the danger of the ice, which is a matter of concern which some safeguard would have to be provided. The slight extra cost of erecting the building on the west side is immaterial in view of the advantages to be gained.

As I stated at the outset I am sending you this letter with all deference to the opinions of those who have already judged what is the right course to take and with anxiety to be free from taking sides in a controversy which is, after all, the affair of the citizens of Kingston. It has been suggested however that the matter is not sufficiently definite in the minds of the citizens to make it appropriate for me to express an opinion which will help them to form judgment. It is in this spirit that I submit these views.

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