

PLAYGROUNDS WILL NO LONGER BE CONTINUED

By the Board of Education—
Now Up to the City Council.

"That the board of education discontinue maintaining playgrounds for this year, but hopes the city council will accept the board's offer of March 13th, and that copy of this report be sent to the city council."

The above recommendation, submitted by Mrs. Godwin, of the special committee dealing with the question of playgrounds, was passed at a meeting of the board of education held on Thursday night, after some discussion.

It will be recalled that at the regular meeting of the board, the members voted to hand over their playgrounds equipment and grant of \$1,000 to the city council, and asked that body to take over the playgrounds. A deputation from the parks committee met the special committee of the Board of Education, when the civic deputation suggested that the board of education accept a portion of Victoria and Frontenac parks and place their equipment in these parks and "Carry on."

Trustee Elliott stated that while he agreed with the report submitted by the special committee, he was sorry to see the playgrounds dispensed with. The speaker pointed out that many other cities were operating playgrounds and named Ottawa, Toronto and London. Properly supervised playgrounds were of great value to a city. In Hamilton the attention of the ratepayers had been called to the protection of child life. In Toronto last year there were 26 children killed by autos. The city council should give the matter very careful consideration and see to it that the city was provided with playgrounds.

Trustee Baldwin stated that when the matter was presented to the parks committee, it was pointed out that the work could be carried out for six weeks at a cost of \$900. This amount provided for the supervision. Trustee Mrs. Newlands pointed out that the cost for any one year had not exceeded \$1,000, outside of equipment.

Should "Carry On."
"It is lamentable to think that we have the apparatus and the sum of \$1,000 and are going to do nothing towards providing the children with playgrounds," said Trustee Jones. "I do not care if the city council acts or not. We have the apparatus and the money to 'carry on' and I say that we should go ahead."

"Use the money for fire escapes

that are needed," put in Trustee Bishop.
"Let us go to the best park in the city and use the apparatus," said Trustee Jones. "The best park in Kingston is none too good for the children where parents cannot afford to take a holiday in the country. Who will keep us out of the city parks? Public opinion will send us there. Is the little parks committee going to keep us out?"

"I think the parks committee will take the matter up further," remarked Trustee Wightman.
Trustee Mrs. Godwin explained that this last report of the committee had not gone before the city council as yet.

Trustee Campbell stated that he would not like to put a stumbling block in the way of the city council, but added that the committee of the board of education was unanimous, in that they would not consider the question of the parks offered. If the board was to go on with the playgrounds it was the intention to carry on "in their own back yard" as it were. The question of playgrounds had been very much discussed; there was a cry for economy and a diversion of opinion. The committee felt that the board could perhaps try one year without the playgrounds.

"This is the smallest piece of economy I have seen on the board in four years," remarked Trustee Jones. Let us use the money we have and use the equipment. The desks, fire escapes and other things we need will be provided for."

Trustee Bishop suggested that Trustee Jones be selected as the board's representative to go before the city council and put up his plea. "This board is looking after the children in the public schools," he added. "The city council is looking after all the children."

Trustee Newlands suggested that action be deferred on the matter for a month, but the chairman pointed out that action must be taken at once, or it would be too late for anything to be done this season.

"You can defer action as long as you like," said Trustee Campbell, "but the opinion of this committee will be just the same. Remember this committee has not come to this conclusion in a hurry. The matter has been given very careful consideration."

Trustee Mrs. Godwin pointed out that she was very much in favor of having the playgrounds carried out, but that the question was simply one of having them carried out in the best possible manner so as to give the greatest satisfaction.

Trustee Mills stated that the committee had been doing splendid work on the matter and he did not think it would be right for the board to upset their report. It should be passed unanimously.
The report on being put to a vote was then carried.

Reports of Committees.
The report of the management

committee submitted by the chairman, Trustee Bishop, was adopted as follows:

"That new regulation caps for the public school cadet corps be purchased, as requested by Capt. V. W. S. Heron, District Cadet officer. Inspection of cadets to take place Friday, May 23rd, at 11 a.m.
Clause 6, Management Committee Report, May 21st, 1923."

"That decision on the request of Principal Sitter, that the afternoon of Convocation Day at Queen's University be declared a half holiday at the Collegiate Institute, be deferred until February next year."

"That Principal Sitter be given power to dismiss classes at the Collegiate Institute on the afternoon of Convocation Day. Pupils must attend Collegiate in the afternoon and classes may be dismissed at Mr. Sitter's discretion."

"That permission was granted to H. Hill, supervisor of music, to take a boys' choir of thirty voices to the Ontario Musical Festival, Toronto, during the week of April 28th to May 4th, and leave of absence was granted for two days during the week mentioned, under the conditions mentioned in Mr. Hill's letter of March 6th."

"It was decided that no action be taken on the request of the K.C.I. Literary Society for a grant of \$25 towards the purchase of a curtain for the platform in the assembly hall at the Collegiate."

"That permission was given to the I.O.D.E. to place twenty-nine pictures in the Collegiate and public schools, a suitable date to be arranged for the presentation."

The following report of the property committee, submitted by the chairman, Trustee L. T. Best was adopted:

"That all requests for use of gymnasium at the Collegiate Institute must be considered by Principal Sitter and then referred to the property committee."

"That the tender of H. W. Newman Co., for electric wiring and fixtures for Frontenac school, being the lowest, be accepted. The figures are \$570. The financial committee will be asked to provide funds."

"That the tender of McKelvey & Birch, Ltd., for the erection and completion of fire escapes at the following schools, being the lowest, be accepted, and that the financial committee provide the funds. The figures follow:
Collegiate Institute, \$939; Macdonald school, \$644; Frontenac school, \$764.50."

"That permission was granted to the K.C.I. Literary Society for use of assembly hall for the evenings of March 26th and 27th."

"That permission was granted to F. Phillips, physical instructor K. C. I., for use of gymnasium on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for the purpose of training boys' concert class."

"That permission was granted to Kingston Choral Society for use of room in Victoria school for orchestra practice, on Wednesday and Friday evenings until April 11th inclusive."

Conditions at Collegiate.
On motion of Trustee Elliott and Bishop, it was decided to ask Principal Sitter to report on conditions at the Collegiate as regards accommodation.

Trustee Mills, who was appointed as a delegate to the annual convention of the Ontario School Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association, to be held in Toronto, April 21st to 24th, reported that he would be unable to attend and nominated Trustee Jones to fill his place and the board decided to send Trustee Jones. The other delegates are Chairman Cooke and Trustee Elliott.

Trustee Wightman referred to scarlet fever cases in the schools and asked what means were being taken to stamp it out.

Inspector Stuart stated that the teachers were giving the matter their close attention but it was his opinion that the medical inspection should be stronger and the board of health will be asked to put forth every effort possible to prevent the spread of the disease.

Trustee Wightman and Moore moved for a grant of \$25, to help defray the expenses to be incurred in the sending of the boys' school choir to Toronto, the latter part of the month, but action was deferred until next meeting.

Miss Hattie L. Chown, on the teaching staff, asked for two weeks leave of absence in September so as to give her an opportunity to visit the old country during her holidays. Referred to the management committee.

A request was received from Sydenham school, for a lantern for teaching purposes and also a sandpile for the children. The request was sent to committee.

The board was notified that Kingston's big pageant would be put on in September next and the board was asked to co-operate and allow the Collegiate and public school pupils to take part in some of the scenes. The matter was sent to the management committee.

James G. Cruse, caretaker at the Collegiate Institute, made application for permission to erect a fire proof garage on the Collegiate Institute property. Referred to the property committee.

R. J. McClelland wrote offering to supply the board with sand for playgrounds. Referred to the property committee.

The Department of the Interior wrote regarding lease of property given for recreation purposes and on which Victoria school is erected. Referred to property committee.

The secretary of the I.O.D.E. wrote stating that the presentation of pictures to the schools would take place on May 23rd.

The management committee was given power to act in the matter.

Inadequate Seating.
Inspector Stuart reported the total



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