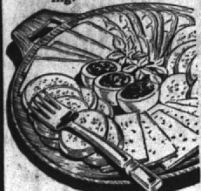


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Recreation Roundup

Adams, Pierce, and Querton playgrounds held their big Indian Village day last week. Each playground constructed an Indian wigwam and the children dressed and played as Indians.

Sam Holland defeated Tom Unger in the final of a good old fashioned marbles tournament. A regulation marble ring was constructed at Barnum and the contestants went through many contentious in efforts to cap the title.

A still crass has swept the Barnum playground. We have some expert still walkers but in addition there are some grained knees and elbows.

Some new kick-boarders are in daily use at the Barnum Pool. Bob Joyce and Jackie Buck are busy developing new swimmers everyday.

Today the biggest tourney of the summer will take place. Nearly every child on all the playgrounds will enter in the urban tennis tournament. Jack Donnelly is the defending champion.

The first reply came in from our gas balloon release. On kite day four gas balloons were released with envelopes attached. The finders of these envelopes receive a cash prize. Milton Miley, 514 Fourth St., Pontiac, Michigan, found the first envelope on Colby Lane.

Another record has been established by the 1948 recreation season. The program has seen 15 days of rain already. Last year only three rainy days marred the entire season. Parents should remember the established regulation that the playgrounds are closed when rain falls before and during a.m. Should rain fall while the program is in session, the children will continue their activities indoors.

Boys and girls are reminded to keep working on the big 4-wheel derby. As soon as you have an entry, let the recreation staff know. We will put the OR stamp on it Friday morning, the 23rd, is the big day.

Get your bikes oiled up for the huge bike day. A very large crowd is expected as we have no worries regarding wind, or no wind. Start thinking about the way in which you are going to decorate your vehicle. Unlike day is the 29th at Pierced Field.

Attendance at Barnum Pool has been so great that the department is looking forward to some good swimming on the coming weekend nights. The pool's big treasure hunt is tomorrow.

The playgrounds and the pool were visited by W. G. Robinson from the University of Michigan. Robinson has been connected with the National Recreation Association for the past 29 years. He submitted a report to the Recreation Department and made several comments and suggestions.

The Adams playground will be closed for the remainder of the summer but the Barnum playground will be opened soon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Several recreation directors of our nearby cities have been invited to make evaluational tours of all local recreational facilities. Their ideas and advice will be incorporated in future program changes.

Grant park recreational facilities are soon to be expanded to include a complete playground of slides, swings, climbing towers, and other pieces of outdoor apparatus. These will be supplemented in time by the city locating some "natural obstacles" nearby. Local small fry can look forward to spending many enjoyable hours in the park.

The still walking contest was a thrilling affair at Barnum as the contestants raced against time on the course. Frank Caniff proved the old adage that practice makes perfect as he copped the boys' division with the time of 31 seconds. Jack Kelley was runner-up. Shirley Hopkins won the girls' division in 38 seconds.

The boys' croquet tourney was won by Bill Anderson of Riveroak avenue. Shirley Hopkins, the natural girl athlete of the Barnum playground, won the girls' croquet. This was Shirley's third crown in the current tournaments.

Although the all-city playground checker tournament has long been completed, battle has been existing daily among Robert Sterling, Tim Cleary, Tom Rice, John Bolton, Dennis Byers and John Thurber. It seems that these gentlemen either are in love with the game or the many arguments and sideline kibbitzing that accompanies this activity.

The Recreation board wants to call attention to the Saturday morning adventure story hour which the city library is conducting weekly for all boys and girls six years and over. Parents should find this a real aid in introducing their youngsters to the world of books.

Sallie Buck states that the morning theatre group is working on

Bell Rate Case Is Scheduled to Close This Week

LANSING, July 21—Federal hearings in the \$19,400,000 Michigan Bell Telephone Company rate case were scheduled to close this week—just 11 months after the company filed its application for a rate increase.

The bulky record in the case contains over 4,000 pages of testimony and some 140 exhibits ranging from single-page charts to an document of nearly 300 pages. Hearings began last October.

Latest testimony to go into the record was an admission from consultants employed by the state for the rate inquiry that they had underestimated Michigan Bell's Federal income taxes by nearly \$2,000,000 in a forecast of company operations. Testimony also developed that their forecast for

1948 had revenues on the high side and expenses too low, on the basis of actual experience for the first 6 months of the year.

Erred in forecasting.

The company objected to a claim that its books over-valued its properties by \$9,500,000, most of which was attributed to 1949 entry when the Michigan Bell company was organized. It pointed out that an extensive investigation of the company's properties in 1929 had shown substantial agreement with the records and that successive commissioners have accepted the book figures for more than 40 years.

Consultants also admitted errors in forecasting operations of Western Electric Company, manufacturing and supply unit of the Bell System, including a \$14,000,000 omission in Federal income taxes.

In 1947 Americans set a new chess-ating record, consuming \$1.5 billion pounds. Manufacturers say the nation's growing appetite may break that record this year.

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