

land. Without exception it was found that land owners were willing to do this.

The method of securing land was also applied to the problem of equipment and improvements. Playgrounds already established were more or less completely equipped. In the event that school or other funds were not available for the purchase of equipment, the situation was met by appealing to organizations, individuals and business men. The response was both heartening and generous. No really necessary piece of equipment was left unprovided for. Seemingly impossible problems of obtaining equipment were solved by appealing to civic and patriotic organizations for aid. In one instance a swimming pool was built entirely without cost, labor, material and equipment being donated. Sponsorship of each unit of the expanding system by civic organizations or leaders generally went with their interest and enthusiasm in the work.

Telephone and electric light companies donated poles and mail order houses supplied the chicken wire for back-stops; hardware and sporting-goods stores supplied athletic equipment; lumber companies gave lumber and cement; contractors loaned the use of machinery for grading; oil companies donated oil and gasoline and hundreds of citizens gave freely of their labor. Such was the outpouring of sympathetic assistance in recognition of the worth of the work and the sincerity of the workers.

In addition to the recreational areas, school grounds were thrown open and equipment, gymnasias, stages and swimming pools were obtained from school boards. In many instances school rooms and auditoriums were thrown open for the evening activities of both children and adults. Almost without exception it was found that school boards were glad to cooperate with the movement in this way.

It is of historic interest to record here before passing on to the next phase of recreation project under the State Emergency Relief Administration program, that several other projects which later leaped into national significance and scope were conceived, planned, organized and put into operation by the County Recreation Department under James K. Reid's directorship and under the active leadership of Mr. Dahl and Major Miller during the last six months of 1933.

Among these were the Musicians Project which quickly absorbed 400 unemployed professional musicians; the Drama Project, forerunner of the Federal Theater Project,