

tivities for all age groups was developed for the guidance of the workers and made extensive use of in the building of the program.

All of these activities were immediately reflected in a county-wide decrease in juvenile delinquency that was nothing short of astounding. Boys who had grown away from home influences were soon convinced that organized play was just as exciting as running wild in mischief-making gangs. Even fathers, forced into complete or partial idleness by the depression, and mothers, burdened by more than their share of cares, found recreation available for their participation that resulted in better health and a more cheerful mental outlook.

The net result of the first month (July) of the project's operation was a reduction of 13% in juvenile delinquency cases over July of the previous year, while the playground attendance increased 38.2%. When the project was inaugurated there were 268 supervised playgrounds in Los Angeles County available for use, but of these only 64 were in condition to operate at capacity, most of them being in large population areas. The directors of the project moved forthwith to amend this condition. Within a few weeks not only were the 268 County playgrounds being operated at capacity, but also 85 new playgrounds had been opened,--an increase of 31.7%. This increase represented an outstanding benefit to the County in itself but it assumed an even greater importance when considered from the viewpoint that these new playgrounds were operating in 37 of the smaller communities which theretofore did not have supervised play centers of any description.

As the beneficial work of the project continued during the summer, the universal approbation of its achievements, not only among the higher official circles of the County but also among the citizenry the county over, was manifested in a great quantity of requests and appeals that its continuity be unbroken by the approaching fall school term and the work be carried on into the school year.

A meeting of recreation executives from every section of the county, together with representatives of many county departments and <sup>Mayor George Braden</sup> the Western Representative of the National Recreation Association, was held during the first week of September. The reports of the activities exceeded the fondest hopes of those who had been so closely associated with