ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the County Commissioners and the County Controller for their financial support, the Executive Committee of our organization, the Pennsylvania State College and its Extension Specialists, local leaders and women's organizations throughout the county for their interest and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

LOTTIE B. HARTT,
Home Economics Representative.

ANNUAL REPORT
1933

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND AVIATION

January 29, 1934.

Board of County Commissioners
Honorable Charles C. McGovern, Chairman

Gentlemen:

I respectfully submit herewith report of the Department of Parks and Aviation for the year 1933. It was the most noteworthy year in the history of the County Parks, the principal reason for this being the construction of a large athletic field with a half mile race track and the building of a complete County Fair Plant at South Park, inaugurating the latter within a period of sixty days from the date of starting work on the buildings. The Fair and other improvements will be touched on later in greater detail. The test of the popularity of the Parks was the fact that without counting the more than half million present at the County Fair, the attendance was greater than ever. This is remarkable considering the fact that the Golf Courses and Swimming Pool, with a nominal charge, suffered a big drop in attendance. The past year's experience, it seems to me, demonstrates that the citizens want the Parks more than ever and will approve any reasonable expenditure for their development. Time and again throughout the past year, twice as many picnic groves could have been used. This record certainly justifies a constructive program of establishing more groves, building additional picnic tables, ovens, shelters, toilets, etc., and making the new groves accessible by the development of a system of Park drives. With this unprecedented and remarkable attendance no untoward incident occurred to mar the pleasure of the people. The Parks have beyond question, proven themselves the recreational center of the County. That progressive plans for the continuous development of the Parks meet with the hearty endorsement of the hundreds of thousands who use them, there can be no doubt. Many specific projects were completed during the past year tending to enhance the beauty and attractiveness of each Park.

The Old Miller Homestead which was the scene of one of the episodes in the famous "Whiskey Rebellion" was renovated by Park employees and restored as nearly as possible to its condition at the time of erection. A rail and rider fence was built around it, and through the members of the Allegheny County Women's Federation, the old Homestead was completely furnished with articles and furniture of the Rebellion Period, restoring completely the old atmosphere. Beside the general public, it was visited by groups of school and college students.

Your Honorable Board's authorization to transform the house on the former Agger's Property into a week-end camping home for

Girl Scout Troops and similar organizations, met with universal approval. The expense of the work necessary was kept to a minimum. Some of the improvements made were a new stone porch floor, new shingled roof, painting the house inside and outside, the building of a stone council ring in the yard, reconstruction of the old spring house and a general renovation of the property. Groups of women interested, completely furnished the home in a pleasing and practical manner. Its popularity is evidenced by the fact that permits have been issued for practically every week-end. For matter of record, this home is at present known as "Aggers Cottage."

Permanent Headquarters for the South Park police was established at Rising Valley Grove. The old Homestead and barn at this place were entirely remodeled. The barn was transformed into a modern stable with fourteen stalls. The house and barn were equipped with gas, electric light, water and telephone service. A new road was built into the grove and the ground landscaped around headquarters. The splendid big trees surrounding the buildings were all treated by the Park Tree Surgeon. At this point was also built a garage for the County Horse Van. The property adjoining is still available for picnic groups. During the past year, twelve cabins authorized by your Board for the Park police were completed and are now occupied by the officers.

Attractive solid stone pylons were erected at each road entrance to South Park. Each pylon was wired for light and a large white globe set on top decorated with the County Seal. These pylons have added dignity to the various entrances of the Park and their utility is, of course, without question. Many new large and substantial direction signs were built and erected and entrances landscaped in an attractive manner.

The new fairway and green for No. 9 hole at South Park was completed and will be ready for play this coming season. Careful attention was given both courses throughout the year and the proper seeding and fertilizing has placed the courses in good condition. All the fairways are now covered with turf, something they have lacked since the courses were built. It is, however, not yet of sufficient thickness but another year or two should result in a first class turf on all fairways. Water line trenches for the fairways were dug, preparatory to completing the sprinkling system before spring. Parking arrangements were improved, and a stone walk built around entrance to No. 1 tee at North Park. During the past year the caddie shelters were enlarged and fenced. Horseshoe pitching courts and mushball fields were provided for the caddies for their leisure moments. The concession stand at the North Park course was also enlarged and relocated.

During the year, six additional shelters were built in each Park. Besides the necessary routine work of the Parks, all buildings were

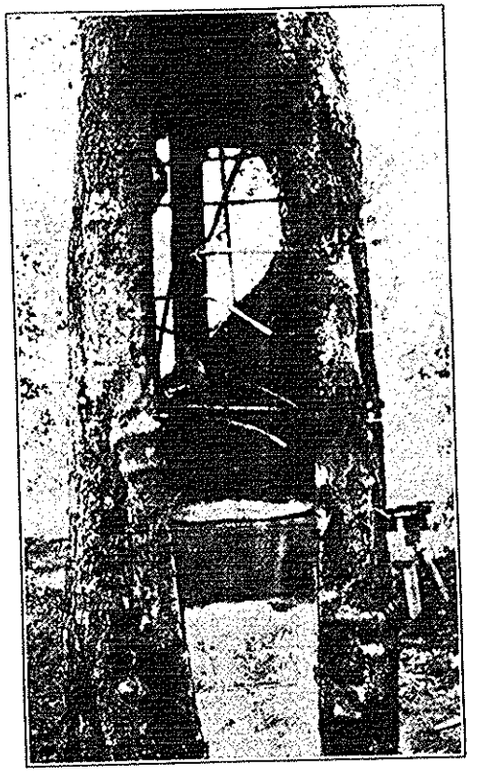
painted and the following jobs were completed: Remodeling of Glenn Homestead and barn at South Park, the barn is now the Riding Academy and accommodates fifteen horses; the Homestead was made into Athletic Headquarters with dressing rooms and showers in the basement and with two rooms on the second floor fitted up as an emergency hospital. The athletic headquarters are in constant use. A new foot bridge over Catfish Run was built at Edgebrook Soccer field. The small Glenn house on the Brownsville Road was completely overhauled, equipped with gas, electric, water and a bathroom. The grounds were landscaped. The house known as Officer Mutzko's home was moved across the Brownsville Road to a location farther down the highway. This house was equipped with gas, water, electric, and bathroom. All the barns were lettered with the name of the former known owner. The letters were made of wood and painted red. This bit of record is most interesting to the public from several viewpoints. A line of light poles were erected from near Spreading Oak to Rising Valley Grove and the house and barn at this place wired for electricity. This grove is now the location of the Civilian Conservation Corps State Park No. 3 and the house is used as headquarters and the former barn as the recreation hall. A new concession stand was built on the swimming pool roof pavilion which proved a great convenience. The concession stand formerly near old No. 8 hole on Golf Course near Woodland Crest was moved to near No. 10 tee and given a new roof. The old O'Block Farm house on Swaintek Road was renovated and made fit for residence. To make room for the relocation of the Catfish Run Road, the house near the Administration Building was moved over 700 feet in a southwesterly direction. Buffalo Inn restaurant at Fair Grounds was entirely remodeled. New kitchen, two rest rooms and heating plant being installed.

A large power and heating plant was constructed at the Fair Grounds. This will furnish heat for all the Fair Buildings and will permit their use during winter months.

At North Park, thirteen new water wells were drilled, harnessed and piped; also concrete platforms installed. Nine springs were built in at different groves. At the "Hemlocks" a new pump and settling basin were installed. Rose Spring was cleaned out and sides cemented. The Old Imhoff House and spring house were razed and ground cleared, also the sheds at the Klatt area, as well as the old brick garage on the Babcock Boulevard. The following buildings were improved, repaired and put in first class condition: Rose Shelter House, Hemlocks Dance Pavilion, Pearce House, Parish Hill House and Dance Pavilion. The Rose Grove Homestead was repaired and put in condition for habitation. At Oakdene Grove and Ledgewood Grove, a new entrance was constructed, bridge built and slag rolled and spread for new road. The Anderson Cottage No. 1

was moved from the Babcock Boulevard to the Hemlocks Grove and relocated; Cottage No. 2 was moved to the McKinney Road adjacent to the horse barn and is now occupied by the stable boss as a residence. One hundred picnic tables were constructed by each Park. As new groves are added, this work will be continued. New large direction signs were made and erected as well as individual signs for each grove.

Over three hundred tons of hay was cut and stacked, also fifteen tons of alfalfa.



Five thousand nine hundred sixty (5,960) trees were sprayed with a dormant spray to control diseases, such as San Jose, Oyster Shell and all sucking types of scales. Hundreds of diseased trees were cut down and burned in an effort to prevent the spread of

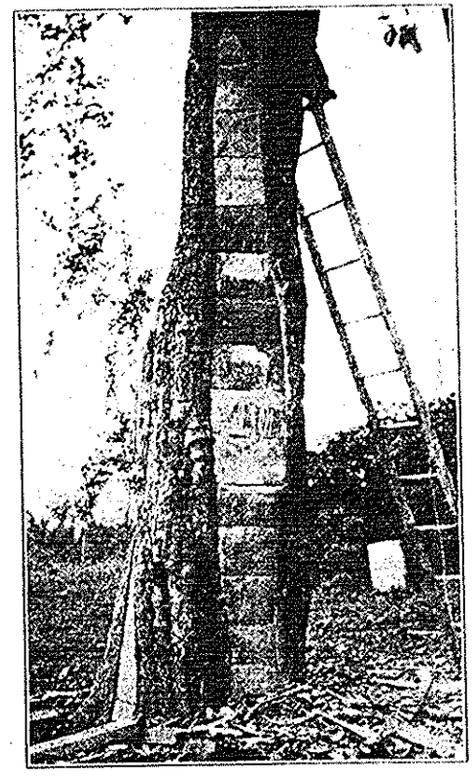
disease. Thousands of trees were pruned to control disease and decay and many were fertilized to stimulate growth. Many trees were treated surgically, such as bracing weak crotches and limbs, cleaning out, disinfecting and filling cavities—to fill which required a range of from two bushel of sand and cement to over one hundred bushel. (See photos attached.) Several thousand trees were trans-



planted, ranging from seedlings to trees twenty-four inches across the butt. Eighty-five thousand (85,000) young trees and seedlings of oak, walnut, pine, ash and tulip poplar were set out of which twenty thousand (20,000) were from our own nursery, sixty-five thousand (65,000) being purchased.

The Landscape Division, under the supervision of W. P. Gallaher, during the past year has done considerable work along the

boulevards and at safety islands throughout Allegheny County. Such of these islands as had been planted at all, were in grass, but have now been largely replanted with Barberry. There are still a number remaining to be so treated. This planting requires less care than the former grass plots and is more practical as well as attractive. In addition to taking care of erosion of the banks and planting along the roads, the Park entrances have been landscaped.



Always of great interest to Park visitors, are the Deer and Buffalo. It was deemed advisable, however, to reduce the number of these animals in each Park, so your Honorable Board authorized the sale of a certain number of Buffalo and Deer and we hope to dispose of them very shortly. In March, high water destroyed the North Park Beaver fence and five or six Beavers escaped. Four

were recaptured and returned to the preserve. We later enlarged the enclosure and it was so constructed that destruction by high-water in the future will be prevented. Six beavers were born early in June. Rabbit traps were set in the Parks and all trapped were released outside the Park, under direction of the State Game Warden. Quail seemed more plentiful and quite a few ring-neck pheasants have been observed. Many squirrels are in the wooded sections of the Parks, although the nut crop was not abundant this year. At the close of the year North Park had 10 Buffalo, 106 Deer, 4 Peafowl and 10 Beavers; South Park having 27 Buffalo and 92 Deer.

Detailed topographical surveys and plans of the Athletic Field were made and the field with a half mile track completed by the opening date of the Fair. This project embodied the relocation of a creek for a distance of 1,500 feet and 1,000 feet of water line. A survey of the coal measures underlying South Park was made and plotted so that the amount of cover at any point in the Park can be ascertained by referring to the map. Structural designs and plans were completed for the following: Tennis Courts designed, staked and graded; all utilities within the boundaries of the Parks surveyed and mapped; Swimming Pool parking area surveyed, designed and constructed as well as an auxiliary roadway from the Swimming Pool to Catfish Run Road. An intra-park system was estimated and plotted on plans but construction has not as yet been started. A small stone and timber bridge was constructed at the Athletic Field.

Allegheny County's first free Fair, the idea for which was conceived by your Chairman the latter part of June, was held August 31st, September 1, 2 and 4 at the junction of the Catfish Run and Brownsville Roads in South Park. It was the magnet for upwards of 500,000 persons. The attendance probably would have reached the 1,000,000 mark if the roads leading to the Park had been adequate to handle the traffic. The Catfish Run and Brownsville Roads, arterial traffic lanes in the Park, were clogged with motor vehicles from the time the Fair gates were thrown open until the lights were extinguished at night. The attendance clearly indicated that Allegheny County's citizenry approved the idea of such an event. The entire erection of the Fair plant was done by County employees. The primary purpose of the Fair was to acquaint Allegheny County residents with the rich products of its farming community, which ranks fourth in the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as bring home to the populace the educational advantages which present themselves. A huge athletic program and horse show were among the outstanding features of the Fair. Athletic activities included a track and field meet, amateur boxing contests, horse polo games and soccer football. There was a dog show, both for the

mutt class and those having pedigrees. Drum and bugle corps competition and a firemen's parade lent plenty of color to the exhibition. The horse show which brought out some of the best thoroughbreds, draft horses and timber toppers in Western Pennsylvania was held in the oval of the new half mile race track. Overlooking the natural amphitheatre were bleacher seats for thirty thousand (30,000) persons. The Athletic Field itself measures 350 x 1,000 feet. A special parking lot to take care of ten thousand (10,000) automobiles was created just off the Brownsville Road immediately across from the Fair Grounds but it proved to be entirely inadequate. Reminiscences of the World War were revivified with the firing of cannon by the 107th Field Artillery of Pittsburgh. The terrific din created by the sub-calbre shells fired from a battery of cannon echoed over the hillsides engulfing the Park. The artillery unit won the plaudits of the vast assemblage by its flawless work. Army airplanes from Langley Field, Va., zooming close over the packed bleachers, similated war maneuvers that sent many a thrill and chill down the spines of those who craned their necks to watch every move on the part of the expert pilots and their craft ships. Major H. R. Bazley, manager of the County Airport, took part in the demonstration. Gus Haller, glider champion, enthralled the crowds with his adroit handling of his powerless craft and landing on a knob just above the race track after he was cut loose from an airplane. Persons who attended the Fair at night were treated to the spectacle of aerial fireworks discharged from an airplane soaring about 1,000 feet above the crowd. Ground fireworks put on every night, cast a brilliant glow in the sky and provided thrills and delights for all.

Guardians of the law in South Park, known as the County Mounted Police, played an integral part in the success of the Fair. The mounted constabulary gave a demonstration that left nothing to be desired.

An amplifying system over which was carried a word picture of the Fair activities was installed for the occasion. This supplemented programs brought to the crowd by Station WJAS which installed a studio in one of the buildings on the grounds. Prizes ranging from ribbons to loving cups were awarded to the various winners. In addition, a certificate of appreciation was given to all those who took part in the exhibition.

Without question, the largest crowd that ever witnessed an Athletic Field Day in this district was present on the greatest day of the Fair, Saturday, September 2nd. All the star track and field athletes, men, women and boys of the Allegheny Mountain Association of the Amateur Athletic Union took part. The immense crowd stayed throughout the entire carnival, which started off with the

track meet, followed with a horse polo game, then the amateur boxing show and terminating with the Volunteer Firemen's Parade and Fireworks. The complete summary of the Field Day is as follows:

Women's Events:

50 meter dash—Won by Mary Bradley, Union A.C., second—Agnes Abbott, Allentown; third—V. Robertson, Union A.C. Time 07.3.

100 meter dash—Won by Marie DeMay, Union A.C.—second, A. Abbott, Allentown—third, D. Munz, Allentown. Time 13.8

High Jump—Won by Mary Bradley, Union A.C.,—second, Louise Frankofsky, Union A.C.,—third, Lenore Snyder, Union A.C. Height 4′ 9″.

Javeline Throw—Won by Francis Kanzius, Burgettstown, W.A.C., second—Mary Luckjoh, Burgettstown W.A.C., third, Flo Martz, Union A.A., Distance 107′ 8″.

Baseball Throw—Won by Francis Kanzius, Burgettstown, W.A.C.—second, Grace Wilde, unattached—third, Mary Bradley, Union A.C. Distance 228′ 9″

200 Meter Dash—Won by Marie DeMay, Union A.C.,—second, Marie Woessner, unattached; third—Pearl Baldwin, Allentown. Time .29

Broad Jump—Won by Francis Kanzius, Burgettstown, W.A.C., second, L. Clark, Burgettstown, third, A. Abbott, Allentown. Distance 14′ 1¾″

400 Meter Relay—Won by Burgettstown—Clark, Dugar, Karnicich and Allen; second, Union A.C; third, Union A.C. Time 56.8

Boy's Events:

50 Meter Dash—Won by William Daniel, Kay Club—second, Wills, Kay Club—third, Zilnoski, Filo. Time 6.5

High Jump—Won by William Daniels, Kay Club—second, Anderson, South Hills High School—third, Kramer, Vikings; Heights 5 ft. 4 in.

400 Meters Run—Won by Kay Club—second, Vikings—third, Filo. Time 51.3

Broad Jump—Won by Ricci, Vikings—second, Daniels, Kay Club—third, Koesis, Vikings. Distance 18 ft. 5⅞ in.

Men's Events:

Shot Put—Won by Alfsen, Homestead Library A.C.; Archibald, P.A.A.—Distance 40 ft. 6 in.

800 Meter Run—Won by Groat, Pitt—second, Connelly, Pitt—Third—Irons, unattached. Time 2 min. 7 sec.

100 Meter Run—Won by Mason, Oliver High—second, Marks, Filo Club—third, Thomas, Oliver High. Time 11 sec.

Polo Vault—Won by Blair, unattached—second, Hammrock, Filo—third, Blum, unattached. Height 11 inches

High Jump—Won by Lewis, Kay Club—second, Malone, Kay Club—third, Spencer, Kay Club. Height 6 ft. 2 in.

1500 Meter Run—Won by Gaines, Keystone Club. Time 4 min. 27.2 sec.

400 Meter Run—Won by Groat, Pitt—second, Williams, Filo—third, Bickin, unattached. Time 51.8 seconds

50 Meter Dash (exhibition) by Luke Dillon, 58 years old. Time 6.9 seconds

200 Meter Dash—Won by Thomas, Oliver High—second, Mason, Oliver High—third, Marks, Filo. Time 22.6 sec.

Discus Toss—Won by Attorney Harter, P.A.A.—second, Archibald, P.A.A.—third, Persenyi, P.A.A. Distance 116 ft. 6 in.

10,000 Meter Run—Won by Frank Jerry, Keystone Club—second, Mazzei, Keystone Club—third, Craig, Keystone Club. Time 38 minutes 24.5 seconds.

Broadjump—Won by Fleming, Kay Club—second, Malone, Kay Club—third, Good, Pitt. Distance 20 ft. 8 inches

1500 Meter Relay—Won by Pitt team (Connelly, Loncher, Watkins and Croat)—second, Filo Club—third, Kay Club. Time 3 minutes 21.5 seconds.

Stirring moments were provided fans during the 12 amateur bouts which featured the boxing show which was staged after the track meet. Following summaries bouts:

112 Pounds—Geo. Caraba, J. L. Thomas won over Gene Augelik, Uniontown

126 Pounds—Jiggs McKnight, Uniontown, won over Geo. Martzo, J. L. Thomas Club.
Eddie Katkish, Willow Club, won over Mickey Devlin, Springdale, Pa., Billie Miller, Boys Club, won over Billie

Lugar, Linwood Club; Leo Swaney, Boys Club, won over Jimmy Perry, Monon Valley A.C., John Tirpak, Willow Club, won over Joe Yotz, New Kensington (technical knockout)

160 pounds—Al Quaill, Pittsburgh Lyceum, won from Bill Schwerin, Monon Valley, A.C.

147 Pounds—Teddy Movan, McKeesport A.C., won over Johnny Leonard, Frawley A.C., Art McGivern, Willow Club, won over Charles Crovotta, New Kensington.

175 Pounds—Floyd Wolcott, Monon Valley A.C., won over Woodrow White, Mossgrove, Pa.

Heavyweight—John Ochs, Willow Club, won over Peter Landini, West Newton.

Officials:—Referees—Teddy Yarosz, Red Robinson, Joe Orsini. Judges—Ernie Serto, Chester Phillips.

The magnificent regulation championship Polo Field of 900 ft. by 250 ft. got a real try out when the South County Park Polo Team defeated the Library Club by the top heavy score of 11 goals to 2. Steve Madden, leader of the South Parkers scored seven goals.

Forty-five Volunteer Fire Companies of Allegheny County with bands and drum corps competed for six beautiful loving cups. The brilliant uniforms, stirring music made it a thrilling spectacle, which enthused the mammoth throng.

First Prize—Most men in line
Mt. Lebanon Fire Department

First Prize—Best Hook and Ladder
Avalon Department

First Prize—Best Triple Combination
Sharpsburg Department

First Prize—Best Drum Corp.
Brackenridge Department

First Prize—Best Band
Natrona Department

First Prize—Best Women's Auxiliary
Wilkins Township

A summary of the recreational activities in the County Parks during 1933 proves that the Parks are gaining popularity as more people attended than ever before, notwithstanding, the fact that a considerable drop in attendance was observed, for the swimming pool, golf courses and tennis courts. This can only be accounted for

by the economic situation as people did not have the money to spend. It is more necessary than ever to provide free play activities for the citizens, or at least, keep the cost down to a nominal basis. South Park is fortunate through the building of the County Fair plant in being provided with a splendid athletic field and half mile race track. It is hoped that full program of recreational activities may be started this year, such as horse polo, harness racing, track and field meets and other sports. It will prove a popular spot. Both parks are in need of established playgrounds, football fields, and tennis field houses; besides playground equipment for all groves. The demand for the proposed swimming pool at North Park still is tremendous. A detailed report of the 1933 recreational activities follows:

Picnics held under permits and without permits were really the outstanding feature during the past year. The number of permits for both Parks reached the top figure of 1,941 with an attendance of 240,814. Sundays and holidays, for which no permits were issued during the picnic season, were popular days for picnickers; each and every grove being occupied, with an estimated attendance of 520,000. Our present plans for developing new groves will fill a much needed want. Provisions are also being made for the erection of shelters in each grove, which action will meet with hearty approval by the public. Additional swings and slides for children are also needed for the groves. All the groves were used Sundays quite early in the day until October—some parties getting out as early as six o'clock and breakfasting in the Park.

During the 93 days of the 1933 swimming season, the attendance totaled 159,224, out of which number there were but few minor mishaps. Two aquatic galas were held in which the champion swimmers of the Allegheny Mountain Association of the Amateur Athletic Union participated. A feature of the meets was the appearance of two members of the United States Olympic Swimming Team: Misses Lenore Knight and Anna Mae Gorman of the Homestead Library A.C. Miss Knight is now the American Swimming Champion, outdoor and indoor. Both meets were well attended and heartily enjoyed. South Park Pool was honored by the awarding of the following Allegheny Mountain Association championships:

100 Meters Senior Swim for women, 100 meters Junior Swim, men and women; 10 foot Board Diving for men and women. The fancy diving championships were spectacular and attracted a large crowd of spectators. The results were as follows: 10 foot board diving for women won by Genevieve Vogel, Pittsburgh Athletic Association; Ann Bryan, Willows Pool, second; Francis Rimer, unattached 3rd; 10 foot diving for men won by Robert McTiernan, Willows Pool; William McQuillen, Keystone A.C. 2nd; Michael Lohas, Coyne

A.C., third. Miss Lenore Knight, Homestead Library A.C., champion broke the local A.M.A. record when she swam the 100 meter senior championship in 1 minute, 12 3/5 seconds. Other results were as follows:

50 meters novice for men—won by Joe Szobesky, Carnegie Library. Time 30 3/5 seconds.

100 meters junior A.M.A. championship for men—Won by Andy Campbell, Coyne A.C. Time 25 4/5 seconds.

Fancy diving for men—Won by Derland Johnston, unattached.

50 meter novice for women—Won by Pearl Muroski, Coyne A.C. Time 37 3/5 seconds.

100 meters junior A.M.A. championship for women—Won by Viola Campbell, Coyne A.C. Time 25 4/5 seconds

100 meter senior A.M.A. championship for women—Won by Lenore Knight. Time 1 minute 12 3/5 seconds.

The equipment of lockers in dressing room for male swimmers greatly faciliated the handling of large crowds.

Swimming Summary—Paid Attendance	103,554	
Children 12 and under, free	55,670	
		159,224

Golf at North and South Parks suffered considerably in revenue. This, however, was due to the depression as the condition was general. Other public links as well as private clubs throughout the country reported a decided drop in patronage. The County links, however, throughout the season were in first class playing condition and many favorable comments were received from the patrons. That the courses were in excellent shape and of championship caliber, was evidenced when the United States Golf Association accepted your Boards Invitation to hold the 1934 Public Links Championship at South Park. The local representative of the U.S.G.A. after thoroughly inspecting both courses, recommended to his National Body that they accept the invitation. From July 30th to August 4, 1934, public link champions from all parts of the United States will strive for national honors over the County Links. Should the entry list prove as large as is anticipated, both North and South Parks will be used for the early qualifying rounds. Improvements for the 1934 season will include the opening of the new No. 9 fairway and green at South Park, adding about 90 yards to the course, making a total of 6,590 yards. The laying of fairway water lines will insure the high class condition of the courses for the future. Championship tournaments for men were held at each park. Carl Kaufmann, three times National Public Links winner, was the champion at South

Park. At North Park, for the second year in succession, Alex Shacoski was the winner. In the play off for the County Parks Championship, Kaufmann defeated Shacoski, two and one.

Golf Summary—Receipts:

Season Permits	5,945.00	
Greens Fees	$23,150.00	
		29,095.00
Expenditures	$28,783.34	
Balance	$ 311.66	

Tennis activity received a set back over last year, due to our inability to complete a laid out plan of twenty courts at South Park, and ten courts at North Park. In South Park, the forces were engaged entirely on the County Fair work, while at North Park, the location of the C.C.C. Camp caused abandonment of the plan. Two months after the season opened, the six old courts of South Park were whipped into shape and from that time on the courts were the scene of continuous activity. At North Park, the six old grass courts were skinned and put into shape a month earlier. The improvement of the North Park courts caused a great increase in the play over last year. At the South Park Courts the Public Parks and Playground Tennis Tournament of District No. 11 comprising all the western district of Pennsylvania, was conducted. It was a very successful affair and was under the auspices of the National Tennis Association and was held the week of August 21st. The winners of the tournament were as follows:

Men's Singles—Russell Unger
Men's Doubles—Harry Wald and Frank Broida
Women's Singles—Elizabeth Cone
Women's Doubles—Elizabeth and Marie McColligan

It is expected that for the 1934 season, twenty courts will be operating at South Park and ten at North Park. A field house providing dressing rooms for men and women, refreshment stand and attendants should be provided at each tennis center as it is a real operating necessity:

Summary—South Park Attendance	21,630	
North Park Attendance	16,400	38,030

Both types of football were played at South Park during the past year. Soccer football held forth continuously at Edgebrook Field and from the spectators angle was no doubt the most popular field in the County. Silent Brook Field was used by soccer and rugby players and was the home grounds of the Bethel High School Team

and Coverdale Teams. Edgebrook was the home grounds of the strong teams of Curry and W. W. Riehl. These two teams had the distinction of playing the first game of soccer on the new Athletic Field during the County Fair; Curry winning. Night soccer football continues to be played by the South Park Junior League. The Zupancics of Curry winning the 32-33 championship. The present season which is still in force shows Bruceton and Zupancics fighting for the championships. South Park has been used by practically every team of the West Penn Football Association the controlling body for this district. More fields are necessary for football in South Park, as the park is conveniently situated to a hotbed of soccer. Although equipped with a splendid field North Park failed to attract teams on account of the distance, although fifteen soccer games took place at the Rose Grove Field. Football attendance was 177,030.

The exciting sport of horse polo was started during the past year at South Park. The games were played at Edgebrook Field which was a handicap to the teams on account of its size. With the new athletic field, having a championship regulation playing space of 900 feet by 300 feet, this game should flourish the coming season. Teams that played at South Park were Rosslyn Farms, Library, Monongahela, Charleroi, Chartiers Heights, Fox Chapel, South Park and 107th Field Artillery and Old Furnace.

No picnic was complete at either park this past season without a good mushball or minature baseball game. It is estimated that over 2,200 games were played at scheduled picnics and by organized leagues. Plans are under way to equip each grove with a mushball diamond, wherever possible, as the game requires such small space. Fairly good baseball diamonds were in use at Edgebrook and Rose Groves and the best teams in the district participated. Baseball is as popular as ever, but more regulation fields are necessary in each park to properly take care of the demand. Some of the baseball teams participating were as follows: Dormont, Canton, Ottis Cochran's, Canonsburg, Nashville, Tarentum, Whitaker, Greater Pittsburgh Champions, Grandview, Hazelwood, Bloomer Girls, Turtle Creek, Pitcairn, South Park and Verona. Participants and spectators estimated at 53,875.

Volley Ball continues to be popular as the courts were in constant use. A championship tournament was held by the Allegheny Mountain Association of the Amateur Athletic Union which was captured by the Layden Team of Buckhannon. Participants and spectators totalled 6,300.

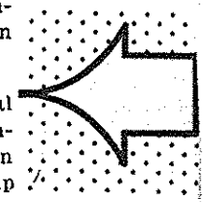
A marble champion was decided at South Park with all the youngsters from the surrounding schools taking part. The Bethel

Township Schools held their annual may Festival at Silent Brook Field.

Horseshoe pitching retains its popularity and the fact that almost every grove has two courts or more, fostered play. Eventually every grove will be equipped with regulation courts.

Four band concerts took place in the Parks at the following locations: Rose Grove, Swimming Pool Pavilion, Spreading Oak and the County Fair Grounds.

A short session of tobogganning and skating was enjoyed in the early part of the year. Organized tobogganning was discontinued late in the winter, but skating will be continued when weather prevails.



Following the petition of your Honorable Board to the National Park Service of the U. S. Department of Interior, a Civilian Conservation Corps was established in North Park June 16, 1933 when a company of two hundred young men were moved into their camp site at the Hemlocks. The first enlistment period ended October 30th and upon second application the North Park Camp was continued another six months; and a new camp established at South Park. The North Park Camp is officially known as State Park No. 1, Camp McGovern. There existed in North Park a large area of undeveloped woodlands which properly developed with roads, trails, bridle paths and groves would be useful for various purposes. This work could not have been done by normal County labor, as with the present Park millage tax, it is barely sufficient for maintenance. Under the CCC this area of woodland known as the "Henderson" tract which comprises approximately 500 acres above the Babcock Boulevard, has been opened for Park use. During the six months ending December 31, 1933 the following work has been done: all wooded area has been cleaned of all fire hazard and areas suitable for picnic groves have been developed. These picnic areas have been made available by the construction of a secondary type of dirt road, of which three miles have been completed. Approximately six miles of foot and horse trails have been worked in conjunction with this development. In the progression of this woods clearing, all diseased or dead trees capable of producing lumber were hauled to the Saw Mill. The cull trees were split and cut for firewood to be used in the picnic fireplaces. In the continuation of this Civilian Conservation Work it is planned to carry on similar projects in the remaining areas of the Park, with the addition of the building of rustic shelters and stone ovens in all groves. Approximately 200 acres of the bare hillsides are to be planted in trees, moved from the woodlands. Insect and plant disease control is planned throughout the Park. There can be no doubt as to the Benefit North Park has derived from the Civilian Conservation Corps. The boys of the

camp are to be commended for their effort and the work which they have achieved.

The South Park Camp was established October 13th and was named "Joyce Kilmer Camp" in memory of the author of the poem, "Trees". During the few months remaining in 1933, the CCC boys did considerable work. More than sixty acres in the section known as Hundred Acres were thinned and cleaned. Present plans call for the building of shelters, making of roads, thinning and cleaning woods for additional picnic groves—work which would have had to wait for many years to be done by the regular park forces.

Many improvements were started in the County Parks under grants of the Civil Works Administration of Pennsylvania. CWA work begun at South Park included the rebuilding of Catfish Run Road, cleaning and painting game preserve fence, buildings to shelter equipment, construction of new fence around the Ewing Property, erection of warehouse and shop building at the Swaintek Service Group, building 500 picnic tables and 50 outside toilets. North Park improvements included the erection of buildings to house equipment, building 500 picnic tables, 50 outside toilets, constructing nearly 1,500 feet of rustic barrier, rebuilding Pearce Mill Road and building a dam near Pearce Mill Road and McKinney Road to provide water for the Golf Course and fire hydrants.

The year 1933 was the first full year of operation for the Allegheny County Municipal Airport, due to the fact that activity at the airport did not really commence until May 1, 1932 when Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., and Pennsylvania Airlines, Inc., moved their operations to this airport from Curtiss-Bettis Airport. With this full year's operation as a basis and the benefit of a part of the preceding year, it has been possible to draw conclusions as to the potential value of the airport in the future and to anticipate the growth of commercial and other aeronautical activity. At the time of the 1933 Budget Hearing, the Department of Aviation was designated as the Bureau of Aviation under the Department of Parks and Aviation and the Director of Aviation was made Airport Manager. It is extremely gratifying to note that the airport has gradually become a center for aviation activity in this district and the use of the airport was materially increased during the year by transient, private and commercial operators coming to Pittsburgh from other points and that the U. S. Army Air Corps' pilots on cross country trips used the airport very extensively. During the year a great many famous pilots had occasion to visit Pittsburgh, some of whom were not acquainted with our facilities and all of whom express themselves with being very well pleased with the airport and most of whom stated that it was of the finest airports they had ever seen.

With the exception of airline transportation, the aeronautical industry as a whole made little progress due to the depression but it is interesting to note that all phases of airport activity showed an increase as reflected in the following:

	1932	1933
Gasoline Dispensed:		
Airline (gallons)	133,711	402,295
Transient (gallons)	19,253	43,442
Oil Dispensed		
Airline (gallons)	1,483	12,364
Transient (gallons)	191	736
Transport Arrivals and Departures	3,194	5,587
Transport Passenger Arrivals	3,901	9,168
Transport Passenger Departures	3,871	8,902
Transient Planes Arriving and Departing	844	1,268
Transient Passengers Arriving and Departing	1,586	3,046
Army, Navy and Marine Corps Arrivals and Departures	54	294
Sightseeing Takeoffs	2,271	2,588
Sightseeing Passengers	12,581	10,826
Visitors at Airport	132,150	258,000
Incoming Mail (pounds)	59,177	121,467
Outgoing Mail (pounds)	69,493	124,673
Outgoing Express (pounds)	3,161	8,012
Airplanes Stored: (storage nights)	1,337	2,012
Night Landings	1,580	1,871
Student Hours Flown	.....	483

During the year, there were two major airlines using this airport; the first, Transcontinental & Western Air, operating from coast to coast and also operating additional services from New York to Chicago via Pittsburgh. The second, Pennsylvania Airlines, Inc., operating from Cleveland to Washington via Akron and Pittsburgh. The schedule of Transcontinental & Western Air not only provides a through mail and passenger service coast to coast, but furnishes additional services from New York to Chicago via Pittsburgh and Columbus. During the year, this company had twelve schedules arriving and departing at the airport and present plans indicate that this will be increased to approximately thirty scheduled landings per day during the year 1934. Pennsylvania Airlines operating from Cleveland to Washington via Pittsburgh and Akron started the year 1933 with six scheduled landings at the airport which during the year was increased to twelve scheduled landings per day. This company is also contemplating additional service for the year 1934. Officials of Transcontinental & Western Air have said that the year 1933 showed a forty percent increase in passen-

ger traffic over 1932 and believe that the year 1934 will show a hundred percent increase in passenger traffic over the year 1933. In 1926 the cruising speed of the average transport plans was 100 miles per hour, while today new airliners are operating with passengers, mail and express at over 200 miles per hour and with extreme comfort and safety. In 1933 the airlines completed more than 95 percent of their scheduled mileage, indicating the reliability of this form of transportation. An average of 1,550 passengers, 750,000 letters and 4,700 pounds of express were flown over the country's airlines every 24 hours of 1933. More than forty percent of this flying was done at night. During the last five years the country's airlines have nearly tripled the total lengths of their routes from 16,667 miles in 1928 to 47,595 miles in 1933. The average daily flying with the U. S. Mail in 1933 was 124,154 miles. World speed records of airplanes indicate that tremendous progress has been made, as in 1903 the record was 30 miles per hour; in 1913, 126 miles per hour; 1923, 266 miles per hour and in 1933, 423 miles per hour. The world's record non-stop flights of airplanes clearly indicate the reliability of the airplane as in 1908 the record was 77 miles, in 1919, 1,916 miles; 1929, 4,912 miles and in 1933, 5,657 miles. It is almost impossible to conceive a non-stop flight of 5,657 miles. The above clearly indicates that there will be a tremendous growth in air transportation in the future, as the record flight of today will be commonplace tomorrow.

Due to the depression, there was very little private activity during the year 1933. The Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce realizes that private ownership and private interest in aviation is extremely important to the development of the aeronautical industry and for that reason has undertaken to stimulate the interest of private ownership with the assistance of the Federal Government. It is the belief of Eugene L. Vidal, Director of Aeronautics for the Department of Commerce, that there will be a natural, healthy and widespread growth in private flying when airplanes are produced in volume and sold at popular prices. The Department of Commerce is sponsoring a plan which will assist the aircraft industry to undertake volume production and development of a low priced, safe and reliable airplane which will greatly stimulate the use of privately owned airplanes.

In addition to its present use as a commercial airport it is contemplated that it will also serve as a base for the U. S. Army Air Corps as the Chief of Air Corps' Office is very anxious to take advantage of the modern facilities available at the County Airport. At the present time the 324th and the 355th Observation Squadrons function actively at Rodgers Field but as this airport is only approximately forty acres in size and located in a valley, it is naturally inadequate for the needs of the Air Corps. Negotiations therefore were started with the Chief of Air Corps to have this activity transferred to the County Airport and it is believed this transfer will be made early in 1934.

In view of the fact that Pittsburgh is a strategic center for the manufacture of wartime materials, it is of utmost importance that it be properly protected in a National emergency by an adequate air defense and that our airport be provided with all facilities necessary for the use of the Air Corps during such an emergency. The airport will be of tremendous value to the Air Corps in that modern airplanes now in use by the Army and Navy at present are unable to use Rodgers Field because of its small size and the lack of proper facilities for storing and servicing such equipment. It is the intention of the County to make the airport entirely adequate for all military aircraft. Further than the above, the Chief of Air Corps has indicated that as soon as such facilities are provided at the County Airport, the service base now located at Burgess Field, Uniontown, will be abandoned and all of their activities transferred to the County Airport.

Plans have been completed and bids taken for moving the present hangers at Rodgers Field to the County Airport and as soon as the Chief of Air Corps has officially approved the transfer, the change will be made.

In order to make the airport of greatest use and thus capable of returning as full value as possible on its investment, it was decided after careful study that certain improvements should be made and that an application would be made to the Federal Government under the Public Works Administration for funds to complete the necessary projects. The proposed projects are:

1. The completion of additional runways necessary to secure an A-1A rating and to meet the requirements of the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce and the installation of field lighting necessary to make these runways usable for night flying.

2. To construct two modern hangers, 160′ x 240′ in size which will not only furnish us with hanger storage space vitally needed but with additional shop and office space that will be needed in 1934.

3. The construction of a central heating plant to efficiently heat all buildings constructed and proposed.

4. Due to the fact that the elevation of the airport is 1250 feet above sea level, it has been impossible to secure an adequate supply of water for the airport for the proper protection of the buildings and property against fire. Under this plan it is contemplated that we will construct a 250,000 gallon storage reservoir with a 3200 gallon per minute fire pump and an additional hydrant sys-

tem that will give us adequate protection against fire in an extreme the main entrance. These improvements include the construction of a forty foot concrete highway at the Lebanon Church Road at the airport entrance and the construction of concrete roads and walks emergency.

5. During the year 1933 major improvements were made to leading to the Administration Building. Under our Public Works program it is contemplated that we will have constructed in addition two concrete roadways diverging from the Administration Building to the east and west of the main entrance which will enable us to work out a proper traffic control when major events are being staged at the airport.

6. This plan calls for the planting of shrubbery necessary to properly landscape the main entrance and the planting of vines, etc., to prevent the erosion of slopes adjoining the airport roadways.

7. The space between the loading platform and the northern edge of the present airport is much restricted and it is proposed to correct this hazardous condition by a large volume of fill which will increase the width by approximately 600 feet in the narrowest section. The material used in this fill will be slag obtained from the waste processes of steel furnace operations in the vicinity of the airport and will be obtained at practically no cost other than transportation. This fill will greatly increase the area of the airport and thus render it more available and increase its safety tremendously. The necessary plans were prepared and the application completed and, it is hoped, will be approved so that this highly necessary improvement may be started early in 1934.

Pending the approval of the application under the Public Works Administration it was deemed advisable to make other improvements at the airport which could be accomplished under the Civil Works program. This work involved the employment of 327 men and the project consisted principally of filling and grading the forty acre tract owned by the County at the western end of the present runways. In addition to the grading of this area, under this plan it is proposed to grade all slopes adjoining the roadways and the ramp leading to the hanger and workshops and to erect wooden barriers for the protection of automobiles using these roads and parking areas. This program was approved in 1933 and it is expected that all work will be completed by spring.

The following governmental agencies necessary to the proper operation of an airport are in existence at the County Airport:

1. The United States Railway Mail Service has an airmail postoffice at the airport, handling airmail in conjunction with railway mail.

2. The United States Weather Bureau has an established station at the airport with personnel on duty to prepare and disseminate weather information twenty-four hours a day.

3. The Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce has an inspector with headquarters at the airport who exercises a rigid control over the aviation industry through the inspection and licensing of aircraft and the examination and licensing of pilots as well as regulating flying activity. Because of this headquarters at the County Airport, airplanes and pilots from the tri-state district are frequent visitors at the airport for the purpose of having their airplanes inspected and for taking the necessary examinations to have licenses issued and renewed.

4. The Airways Division of the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce during the year moved their headquarters from their radio station located in Brentwood and now operate their station by remote control from the County Airport. This Division furnishes two distinct services, the first the operation of the radio range from which signals are broadcast known as the "Radio beam" which prevents a pilot from getting off his course. These beams operate from Pittsburgh in the direction of Washington and Cleveland, Harrisburg and Columbus. The second feature of their service is the operation of Broadcasting Station WWAP from which weather information over the routes from Camden to Columbus and Washington to Cleveland are broadcast at every hour. Both stations operate continuously 24 hours a day and this service is extremely important to the Pittsburgh district due to conditions in flying over the Allegheny Mountains which are sometimes difficult.

The airport's contribution to the success of the Allegheny County Fair consisted of a display at the Fair which included a working model of the airport, a series of interesting aviation pictures and an interesting display of trophies donated by Lt. McDarment, the Commanding Officer of Rodgers Field and collected by him while on an aerial tour of the Phillipine Islands.

In addition to the exhibit, through the cooperation of the Air Corps, each day a formation of army airplanes flown by local officers put on an interesting exhibit of flying, illustrating various tactical maneuvers used during actual warfare. In addition to this, Mr. Gus Haller, internationally known glider pilot, in a glider of his own make, was towed each day by airplane from the County Airport to the Fair where he cut loose and after an exhibition of soaring landed at a point near the polo field. Jim Franklin, another local pilot, flew his own airplane each night from the Airport to the Fair Grounds with an interesting exhibition of aerial night fireworks. During the time of the Fair, we were successful in having a squadron of six Army Pursuit airplanes come to Pittsburgh from

Langley Field, Virginia, who put on their own exhibition of military flying which was very much appreciated by the audiences.

The year 1933 has proven that the County Airport has done a great deal to stimulate aeronautical activity in this district and because of the excellent facilities available, there is no doubt that with increased confidence in the future, airline operators and others will be induced to operate from this airport, furnishing the community with adequate service and that Pittsburgh will rapidly take its rightful place among the major airports in the country.

It is believed that activity at the airport for 1934 will probably double the activity of 1933 and that during the year we will have the U. S. Army Air Corps established and several new airlines in actual operation.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. MARION,
Director, Parks & Aviation.

