

TO DETERMINE THE BACKGROUND OF DELINQUENT AND NON
DELINQUENT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS OF BEAUMONT TEXAS
TO DISCOVER THEIR CHOICES OF RECREATIONAL
ACTIVITIES AND TO PROPOSE AN EXPANSION
OF THE CITY RECREATION PROGRAM
BASED ON THESE CHOICES

APPROVED:

Buriah A. Harris
Major Professor

Harold Brinkley
Minor Professor

Thomas J. Fozell
Director of the Department of
Physical Education

Joel J. Lusser
Dean of the Graduate School

TO DETERMINE THE BACKGROUND OF DELINQUENT AND NON
DELINQUENT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS OF BEAUMONT TEXAS
TO DISCOVER THEIR CHOICES OF RECREATIONAL
ACTIVITIES AND TO PROPOSE AN EXPANSION
OF THE CITY RECREATION PROGRAM
BASED ON THESE CHOICES

THESIS

Presented to the Graduate Council of the North
Texas State Teachers College in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements

For the Degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

By

Robert D. Shepard, B. S.

158573

Beaumont, Texas

August, 1948

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES	iv
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	v
Chapter	
I. INTRODUCTION	1
Purpose of the Study	
Definition of Terms	
Method of Procedure	
Source of Material	
Treatment of the Data	
A Survey of Previous Studies	
Procedures	
II. HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	6
III. A STUDY OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE JUVENILES OF BEAUMONT	12
IV. RECREATION PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF BEAUMONT TEXAS	27
Recreation Program of the City Schools	
V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	56
Conclusions	
Recommendations	
APPENDIX	58
BIBLIOGRAPHY	60

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. A Survey of Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency in the Beaumont High School	13
2. A Survey of the Number of Nights Juveniles Are Allowed Out in the Beaumont High School.	16
3. A Survey of the Results of the Domestic Life of the Juveniles of Beaumont High School.	19
4. A Survey of the Economic Status of the Juveniles of Beaumont High School	20
5. A Survey of the Religious Affiliations of Juveniles in the Beaumont High School	21
6. Results of 225 Responses of Beaumont High School Boys on Recreational Interests	24
7. Agencies Furnishing Recreation for the Youth of Beaumont Texas	32
8. Agencies Furnishing Recreation for the Youth of Beaumont Texas	34
9. Agencies Furnishing Recreation for the Youth of Beaumont Texas	35
10. Agencies Furnishing Recreation for the Youth of Beaumont Texas	37
11. Properties of the City of Beaumont Texas Under the Supervision and Control of the City Recreation Department.	41
12. Attendance - Recreation Department.	43
13. Gross Revenue from Recreation Department. . . .	45

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure		Page
1.	Plan of Organization of Parks and Recreation in Beaumont Texas	28
2.	Plan of Organization of the Public Schools	29

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

It is time we accepted leisure as an invaluable product of civilization; an opportunity for personal growth, for broadening our minds, rounding out and enriching our lives and for youth-giving, life prolonging play; not merely time in which to crowd more work, out of which to squeeze more profit; nor last and worst as time simply to be wasted!¹

Never before in the history of civilized people has there been as much leisure time as there is today. This has been brought about largely by a reduction of working hours, modern conveniences, transportation and communication, vacations and holidays, and early retirement. It has been the leisure time of the adults which has led to more leisure time for the minor. Therefore, too much time with nothing to do has led many of our children to become delinquents.

In a report made by Tom Clark, Attorney General of the United States for the year 1946, he stated that since sixty-two per cent of all burglaries, thirty-six per cent of all other robberies, thirty-four per cent of all thefts, twenty-six per cent of all the arsons, thirty per cent of all rapes, and fifteen per cent of all murders are chargeable to some of our youth of the United States, something must be done to prevent juvenile delinquency.²

¹ Austin Fox Riggs, Play; Recreation in a Balanced Life, p. 5.

² Tom Clark, "Juvenile Delinquency," The Rotarian Magazine, LXVIII (April, 1946), 21.

Twenty-three juvenile boys and eight juvenile girls were placed in institutions by the Jefferson County, Texas, juvenile court for delinquency during 1947, according to an annual report made to commissioners' court, Monday, January 26, 1948. Investigations by the court totaled 629. A total of 295 cases were reported. In all 121 cases brought to trial before the court. During the year 1947 two hundred and six visits were made to homes of youths on probation. A total of 220 youths were paroled by the probation office. The report showed two white boys charged with robbery with firearms, one negro boy charged with embezzlement, and another negro youth with murder.³

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this problem was: (1) to study the background of the high school boys of Beaumont, Texas, both those who come under the classification of juvenile delinquents and others that do not fall under this classification; (2) to find how the boys are using their leisure time; (3) what they would enjoy doing if the opportunity was afforded them; (4) to propose recommendations for an expanded recreation program of the City of Beaumont, Texas.

If these questions could be answered and evidence could be produced to show what the boys really want in a recreation program, possibly the people of Beaumont, Texas would know better how to meet the needs and desires of the high school youth. Therefore, this study was made with the hope that it will be possible to touch the delinquent. Also, the study was made in order to offer the delinquent a release from the

³ Beaumont Journal, Beaumont, Texas, (January 26, 1948).

warped emotions which have caused him to be a liability to society and to turn him into an asset. An ulterior motive would be to assist non-delinquents toward their place in society.

Definition of Terms

In the course of this study certain terms which are used in a rather specialized sense are explained below:

Juvenile Delinquents, as used in this work will include all white boys up to eighteen years of age who have committed a fault or crime against society during the time they were in school. Non-delinquents is used for those boys who have not been in any trouble while they were in school.

Recreation, which relates to the desirable use of leisure or spare time, means amusement, diversion, entertainment, pastime and sport.

Method of Procedure

In this research the author selected the questionnaire method and personal interview method to secure information from boys in Beaumont High School, Beaumont, Texas, who had actually been in trouble with the police and, to find out as much as possible about their background and their means of spending their leisure or spare time. Another group of boys was selected who at no time had been in trouble in school. The total number of these boys was 225 and they were asked to answer questions concerning religion, parents or guardians,

economic status of the family, whether or not the delinquent had ever been drunk, smoked or had had indecent relations with women, and their recreational interests.

In determining the amount of recreation provided by the schools, and City Recreation Department, the complete program as offered by each of these organizations was procured from the heads of these departments and published as Chapter IV of this thesis.

Source of Material

Both documentary and human sources were used in this study. Documentary sources were records of the City Recreation Department and the Public Schools of Beaumont, Texas, court records as published in the Beaumont Enterprise and Beaumont Journal, the two local papers of Beaumont, Texas. Human sources were senior high school boys (225), teachers, ministers of the local churches, and executive director of Boys Haven of Beaumont, Texas.

Treatment of the Data

The data gained through personal interview and questionnaires with the juvenile delinquent and non-delinquents were recorded in tables and charts to show objectively the social background of these boys, and their choices as to recreational activities.

The records of the city and public schools were likewise charted to show the extent of the present recreation program and to use as a guide for the expansion of this program.

A Survey of Previous Studies

Studies have been made by a great number of people as to the causes of juvenile delinquency. Recreation has been studied as a remedy and as a preventive of juvenile delinquency. Furthermore, it is considered a worthwhile use of leisure time for all ages of human beings. One thesis written at Texas University by Virgil Willie Ferguson in 1941 on "A Survey of the Recreation Interests of Adults in Beaumont, Texas." The writer has been unable to find other information made on the subject of the youth of Beaumont.

Procedures

This study was made of the juvenile delinquents and non-delinquents, the present city recreation program, and the recreational program as offered by the schools of Beaumont, Texas. The data gained were tabulated with conclusions drawn from the findings and changes and recommendations were made for the present city recreational program.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

Man is a social animal. He has a strongly gregarious instinct. He likes to work and play and share experiences with his fellowman. He likes to contest against his fellowman. He likes to contest against his fellows and to show off before them. He hungers to belong. Deeply rooted in his nature is a desire for this recognition. He covets the badge of eligibility to the group.¹

History has taught us the reality and truth of this statement. From the time of early man when there was little leisure time, on through the ages to the present time, the machine age, man has always contested against man to prove his superiority in strength or in mind. Also, from the time of early man to the present day we have had juvenile delinquents, and will continue to have them till the end of time. There is no definite cure, no sure solution for this evil which seems to have been bestowed upon the world. All that we can do is experiment and try to keep it at a minimum with those weapons we have at hand.

"An idle mind is the devil's workshop."² That is one of the faults of the youth today, too much time with nothing to do and nothing to do it with. During World War II, with many fathers having been called to

¹G. Ott Romney, Off the Job Living, p. 3.

²Old Proverb.

serve their country and to be away from home, the necessity for many mothers to go to work in war plants to help supplement the father's pay, our crime by youth has increased.³

One of our solutions to juvenile delinquency in Beaumont, Texas is to provide more and better recreation so that the boys of the town will have some wholesome way of spending their leisure time. I agree with the statement made by Father Flanagan, Director of Boys Town, when he said: "This is my creed, there is no bad boy. There are only bad examples, bad parents, bad environment. No boy can do better if he does not know better. Education is necessary."⁴

In recreation the individual is his own paymaster. His whole being records the value received. His mind, his emotions, his body -- these are receiving tellers. His hungers, inborn, and his tastes cultivated, must be satisfied. His need for balance and total expression, his longing for companionship, his desire to belong, his desire for competition, his love of adventure, his lust for combat for testing his skills and powers against a worthy foe -- are natural appetites and are not to be denied.⁵

Recreation is not a matter of motions but rather of emotions. It is a personal response, a psychological reaction, an attitude, a way of life. It is one of the valiant foes of juvenile delinquency. But only one. Decent housing, adequate health services, education, jobs -- and non-delinquent parents are some of the others.⁶

In some lives leisure may be measured by hours, in others only by minutes; in one it may occur irregularly, in unexpected snatches, in another regularly and in long even periods. But a surplus of unused time occurs and

³ Tom Clark, "Juvenile Delinquency," The Rotarian Magazine, LXVIII (April, 1946), 21.

⁴ Father Flanagan, "Juvenile Delinquency," The Rotarian Magazine, LXVIII (April, 1946), 22.

⁵ Romney, op. cit., p. 12.

⁶ Ibid., p. 46.

reoccurs daily in every life. That this truth is seldom recognized does not alter the fact.⁷

The result, that will surely follow the youth of Beaumont unless the city, the schools, and the churches provide better facilities for the use of their leisure time is crime and faults. Practically all of our criminologists are now agreed that crime is largely the result of thwarting the natural play instincts of the young human being.⁸

Can Beaumont, Texas afford an elaborate recreation program? Let us look back at the history of this city. Originally a "saw-mill town", Beaumont's rapid development followed the discovery of oil at Spindle Top when, in 1901, the Lucas Gusher with its tremendous flow attracted the interest of the entire nation. The total population of the city in 1900 was a little over 14,000 which today has increased to approximately 100,000. Consequently, upon the development of oil production and refining came improved shipping facilities. The widening and deepening of the Neches River and construction of the Sabine-Neches ship canal has provided an outlet to the Gulf of Mexico with a minimum depth of thirty-two feet, which is ample for any ship.

Forest and agricultural products have also played important parts in the growth of Beaumont, and the fact that there are approximately 100,000 head of cattle in Jefferson

⁷Austin Fox Riggs, M.D., Recreation in a Balanced Life, pp. 130-131.

⁸Lawrence Persall Jacks, Education Through Recreation, p. 150.

County, Texas, indicates the importance of cattle raising.

Beaumont, Texas, is favored by its geographical location in the State of Texas. It is completely surrounded by natural resources, with transportation favored by land, sea, and air connections. The city has a well-balanced industrial development and has shown a continuance rise in population during the past eight years.

The need for playground supervision is very evident in Beaumont, Texas. There are no trained recreational directors in each park, except during the summer months (June, July, and August). What are the children doing after school and on Saturday and Sunday? The answer is very clear, they are spending their time in bowling alleys, pool halls, movies, and other commercial places because there is no one in the parks to direct them in wholesome play.⁹

The growing boy definitely needs sunshine and fresh air which is necessary for their health and proper growth. Only the competition with their playmates in an activity which will require strenuous body movement will they fulfill their emotions. Lawrence Persall Jacks states in his book, "Education Through Recreation," that:

We need playgrounds for the body, but we need also playgrounds for the soul, and it is in them, I think, that the most enjoyable recreation, the most delightful and lasting of leisure occupations are to be found.¹⁰

⁹George D. Butler, Introduction to Community Recreation, p. 106.

¹⁰Jacks, op. cit., p. 87.

There are five possible ways to employ planned and incidental leisure time. The first one being work, is barred because it is essential for the livelihood of the individual. Play, hobbies, incidental rest and meditations are urged as being vitally necessary to a wisely balanced, happy life.¹¹

Many of the juvenile delinquents and non-delinquents of Beaumont, Texas have not been properly instructed in the use of their leisure time. Many of them have no actual participation in home life and, therefore, have no responsibility placed upon them by their parents. Therefore, these boys have many hours of leisure time in which to do nothing.

Among the 25,000,000 young people of the country, fully 10,000,000 admittedly attend the movies each night. These young people alone constitute an enormous social force that can be diverted to wholesome as well as instructive leisure time activities in which each individual could become an interested participant rather than merely a passive observer.¹²

Light should flow from school windows each night and other lights should drench outside areas, indicative of general participation in music, basketball, soft-ball and swimming, forums and wrestling, cooking and photography and whatever else may find demand strong enough and facilities available.¹³

The proposed recommendations offered by the writer are intended neither as a criticism nor a condemnation of the present program offered by the city, but are offered as a supplement to enrich the present program. The writer has but one thought in mind; that is to provide a more wholesome program for the youth of Beaumont, not only for the juvenile

¹¹Riggs, op. cit., p. 132.

¹²Pamphlet, Recreation Leadership as a Career, p. 5.

¹³Romney, op. cit., p. 64.

delinquent, but for all of our youth so that they may have the opportunity to enrich themselves and to provide for a better use of their leisure time now and later on in life.

CHAPTER III

A STUDY OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE JUVENILES OF BEAUMONT

Since this is a study of the social background and recreational participation and choices of juveniles of Beaumont, Texas, the information was gathered mainly from students of Beaumont High School. The writer being employed by the Beaumont Independent School District felt that the information collected would be of value to him as a teacher and coach.

Twenty-five boys who had been in trouble with the police, and were in school at Beaumont High, were contacted and personally interviewed by the writer. Two hundred and twenty-five boys of the school were selected and given a short questionnaire to fill out and in this survey the writer found that forty-three of these boys had at one time been arrested by the police and either questioned or given a reprimand. Ninety-one of them had been in trouble in school, either caught smoking or gambling on the school grounds, or dismissed from school by the principal or from a class by a teacher.

Sixty-six of the boys contacted by the writer claimed they were driving an automobile while only twenty-seven of them had drivers' license. According to state laws every

person must have a beginner's license before driving and must drive only with a certified licensed driver.¹ The writer has observed that many boys who claim to drive, and have no license, have their own car and drive and park their cars at the High School.

Table 1 shows some factors which contribute to juvenile delinquency. Many of our young people of today, especially in Beaumont, have many opportunities to drink intoxicating liquors.

TABLE 1

A SURVEY OF FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN THE BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL.

Years	Number Who Have Been Drunk		Number Who Smoke		Number Arrested by Police		Number in Trouble in School	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
14	4	48	14	38	5	47	9	43
15	7	35	6	36	6	36	16	26
16	8	42	11	39	10	40	25	25
17	4	27	10	21	8	23	28	3
18	11	39	16	34	14	36	13	37
Total	34	191	57	168	43	182	91	134
Per cent	15	85	25	75	19	81	40	60

Thirty-four of 225, or about fifteen per cent of boys surveyed, claim to have been drunk. Some of the boys questioned claimed they were at home and were given whiskey

¹ Department of Public Safety, Beaumont, Texas

or beer by their parents. Others said they were with a crowd and the rest were drinking so to be sociable they joined the others in drinking. Eighty-five per cent of the boys surveyed claimed never to have been drunk, nor to have tasted beer or whiskey.

Out of the boys in the fourteen age group, four of them had been drunk, while forty-eight had not tasted intoxicating drinks. In the fifteen year old group seven answered "yes" while thirty-five answered "no." The sixteen year olds answered eight "yes" and forty-two "no." The seventeen year olds answered four "yes" and twenty-seven "no." The eighteen year olds answered eleven "yes" and thirty-nine "no."

Twenty-five per cent of the boys surveyed claimed they smoke, while seventy-five per cent claimed they do not smoke. Boys eighteen years of age led in the number that smoked while boys fifteen years of age had the least number. Smoking does not necessarily mean that a boy is a delinquent nor does it mean that he is going to be delinquent, but it is habit forming and there is always a possibility that it may lead to other things.

Out of the number of the boys surveyed on smoking, those fourteen years of age fourteen answered "yes" and thirty-eight answered "no." Six fifteen year old boys answered "yes" and thirty-six "no." Ten seventeen year old boys answered "yes" and twenty-one "no." Eleven sixteen year old boys answered "yes" and thirty-nine "no." Sixteen eighteen year old boys answered "yes" and thirty-four "no."

When the juveniles were asked to fill in the blank whether or not they had been arrested by the police, the writer told them to answer "yes" if at anytime the police had stopped them and in any way given a reprimand. There was a surprising number that answered "yes." Forty-three claimed they had been at one time either arrested or given a lecture by a policeman, which is approximately twenty per cent of the number surveyed. Some of the worst things mentioned were throwing things at people from a moving car and "negro hunting." This "negro hunting" is to find a negro man or woman waiting on a corner for a bus and to drive by very slowly and one of the boys to lean out of the car and strike them with their fist or some weapon, then drive away as fast as possible. Out of the number surveyed two boys were fourteen years old, one boy fifteen years old, one boy sixteen years old and four boys were eighteen years old who had done some of this "negro hunting."

In filling the blanks on "trouble in school" the boys were asked to answer "yes" if they had at anytime been dismissed from school, or dismissed from a class, caught smoking or gambling on the school grounds. Boys fourteen answered nine "yes" and forty-three "no." Boys fifteen years old answered sixteen "yes" and twenty-six "no." Boys sixteen answered twenty-five "yes" and twenty-five "no." Boys seventeen answered twenty-eight "yes" and three "no." Boys eighteen years old answered thirteen "yes" and thirty-seven "no."

Approximately forty per cent of the boys surveyed had at one time been in trouble in school. The largest per cent of boys seem to have been sixteen and seventeen years of age.

Table 2 shows that twenty-eight per cent of the boys surveyed have little or no restriction placed on the number of nights they are allowed out. Nine per cent of the boys

TABLE 2

A SURVEY OF THE NUMBER OF NIGHTS JUVENILES ARE ALLOWED OUT IN THE BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL

NIGHTS ALLOWED OUT							
Age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	8	10	7	4	3	3	17
15	1	5	11	7	4	1	13
16	3	7	8	9	6	5	12
17	2	3	1	2	4	5	14
18	5	9	6	5	10	8	7
Total	19	34	33	27	27	22	63
Per cent	9	15	14	12	12	9	28

were allowed only one night out, fifteen per cent were allowed two nights out, fourteen per cent were allowed three nights out, twelve per cent were allowed four nights out, twelve per cent were allowed five nights out and nine per cent were allowed six nights out. Many of the boys who had unlimited nights out claimed that their parents did not object as long as they were in by midnight.

Of the boys fourteen years of age surveyed eight were allowed one night out, ten - two nights out, seven - three nights out, four - four nights out, three - five nights out, three - six nights out, and seventeen - seven nights out. Boys fifteen years of age, one - one night out, five - two nights out, eleven - three nights out, seven - four nights out, four - five nights out, one - six nights out, and thirteen - seven nights out. Boys sixteen years of age, three - one night out, seven - two nights out, eight - three nights out, nine - four nights out, six - five nights out, five - six nights out, and twelve - seven nights out. Boys seventeen years old, two - one night out, three - two nights out, one - three nights out, two - four nights out, four - five nights out, five - six nights out, fourteen - seven nights out. Boys eighteen years of age, five - one night out, nine - two nights out, six - three nights out, five - four nights out, ten - five nights out, eight - six nights out, and seven - seven nights out.

The relative number of offenses committed during each day of the week is given as follows: Sunday 23.8; Monday 8.3; Tuesday 10.0; Wednesday 14.3; Thursday 13.2; Friday 9.0; and Saturday 21.3.

The explanation given for the highest percentages being on Saturday and Sunday is that all the boys are free on these two days. Monday having the smallest per cent of offenses is due to the fact that, after two free days, the boys are more content to stay at home or have been forced to stay because

of things done on Saturday and Sunday. Friday having a comparatively small per cent of offences may be due to the fact that most high school athletic contests are held on this day.

Distribution of offenses during the day shows four to five P.M. to be the one of the peak periods with 21.8 per cent of offenses committed at this time. This may be due to the dismissal of school at this time of the day. Six to seven P.M. is the other peak period with 19.7 per cent of offenses committed at this time. This may be due to the fact that darkness begins at this time of day.

Table 3 shows that seventy-six per cent of the boys live with both parents while five per cent live with their fathers, eleven per cent live with their mothers and seven per cent live with guardians. The fifteen per cent of the boys who claim to have been drunk and the twenty-five per cent of the boys who claim to smoke all live with their parents. Of the forty-three boys who claim to have had trouble with the police all but two live with their parents.

Of the boys fourteen years of age one lives with his father, six live with their mothers, forty live with both parents, and five live with guardians. Boys fifteen years of age, one lives with his father, four live with their mothers, thirty-six live with both parents and one lives with his guardians. Boys sixteen years of age, six live with their fathers, six live with their mothers, thirty-two

live with both parents and six live with their guardians. Of the seventeen year old boys, one lives with his father, one lives with his guardian. Boys eighteen years of age, two live with their fathers, eight live with their mothers, thirty-four live with both parents, and six live with guardians.

TABLE 3

A SURVEY OF THE RESULTS OF THE DOMESTIC LIFE OF
THE JUVENILES OF BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Age	Live with Father	Live with Mother	Live with Both Parents	Live with Guardian
14	1	6	40	5
15	1	4	36	1
16	6	6	32	6
17	1	1	28	1
18	2	8	34	7
Total	11	25	170	19
Per cent	5	11	76	7

With the United States in an inflation period and World War II completed we find very little unemployment. Beaumont, Texas, is in an industrial section of the country with a great many refineries located in or near the city, a large rubber plant located at Port Neches, seven miles from Beaumont, and it is a seaport town with a channel leading to the open seas, so there is usually very little unemployment in the city.

As would be expected in a city like this with many transient people, we find the exact opposite. As will be noticed in Table 4, 120 of the boys surveyed or fifty-four per cent have parents who own or are paying for a home, while forty-six per cent rent their homes. This gives Beaumont a fairly stable condition.

TABLE 4

A SURVEY OF THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE
JUVENILES OF BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Age	Rents Home	Owens home or paying on one	Mother or Female Guardian works outside home	Mother or Female Guardian does not work outside home
14	28	24	10	42
15	16	26	7	35
16	22	28	7	43
17	15	16	6	25
18	24	26	2	48
Total	105	120	32	193

Table 4 shows that of the boys fourteen years of age twenty-eight rent their home, twenty-four own or are paying for their home while ten of the mothers or female guardians work outside the home and forty-two of them are only required to keep a house. Boys fifteen years of age, sixteen of them rent their homes, twenty-six own or are paying on a home, seven mothers or female guardians work outside their home while thirty-five are only required to keep house. Boys

sixteen years of age, twenty-two rent, twenty-eight own or are paying on a home, seven mothers or guardians work outside the home while forty-three are required to keep a house. Boys seventeen years of age, fifteen rent, sixteen own or paying on a home, six mothers work outside home, while twenty-five have only home duties. Boys eighteen years of age, twenty-four rent, twenty-six own or paying on a home, while two mothers work outwise with forty-eight required only to keep a house.

Table 5 summarizes the religious affilliations of the boys. We find in the age group fourteen that forty-seven

TABLE 5

A SURVEY OF THE RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS OF
JUVENILES IN THE BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Age	Belong to Church	Does not belong to Church	Attends Regularly	Attends Irregularly	Not at all
14	47	5	40	9	3
15	39	3	30	11	1
16	36	14	31	14	5
17	26	5	23	7	1
18	34	16	24	18	8
Total	182	43	148	59	18

belong to church, five do not belong to church, forty attend church regularly, nine attend irregularly, while three do not attend at all. Boys fifteen years of age, thirty-nine of them belong to church, three do not belong to any church,

thirty attend church regularly, eleven attend irregularly, and one not at all. Boys sixteen years of age, thirty-six belong to a church, fourteen do not belong to church, thirty-one attend church regularly, fourteen attend irregularly, while five do not attend at all. Boys seventeen years of age, twenty-six belong to a church, five do not belong to church, twenty-three attend regularly, seven attend irregularly, one not at all. Boys eighteen years of age, thirty-four belong to church, sixteen do not belong to a church, twenty-four attend church regularly, eighteen attend irregularly while eight do not attend at all.

In a survey made by Lathrop and Willard of teen-age boys of Santa Ana, California, the following was found. Three questions were asked with forty activities being listed under each. The three questions were:

1. What activities do you frequently engage in?
2. What are your three best liked activities?
3. Indicate the activities concerning which you would like more information and greater opportunity.

Results of 635 Junior High School Boys on Recreation

Interests are as follows:

<u>Question 1</u>	<u>Question 2</u>	<u>Question 3</u>
Football	Football	Swimming
Basketball	Swimming	Hunting
Swimming	Baseball	Horseback riding
Bicycling	Basketball	Ice Skating
Baseball	Horseback riding	Aviation
Fishing	Hunting	Football
Softball	Model Airplane	Boating
Horseback riding	Fishing	Fishing-Camping
Hiking	Bicycling	Boxing

<u>Question 1</u>	<u>Question 2</u>	<u>Question 3</u>
Model Airplane	Camping	Model Airplane
Roller Skating	Roller Skating	Photography
Camping	Aviation	Social dancing
Radio	Tennis	Tennis
Volley Ball	Boxing	Basketball
Reading	Ice Skating	Wrestling
Tennis	Soft Ball	Woodworking
Boxing	Wrestling	Radio
Drawing	Boating	Baseball
Wrestling	Radio	Roller Skating
Boating	Woodworking	Bowling
	Pet Raising	

Results of 416 High School boys of Santa Ana, California:

<u>Question 1</u>	<u>Question 2</u>	<u>Question 3</u>
Football	Football	Hunting
Swimming	Swimming	Swimming
Basketball	Hunting	Horseback Riding
Hunting	Basketball	Camping
Baseball	Fishing	Ice Skating
Fishing	Camping	Fishing
Horseback Riding	Baseball -Horse-	Boating
Bicycling	back Riding	Aviation
Roller Skating	Tennis	Social Dancing
Softball	Social Dancing	Bowling
Camping	Roller Skating	Boxing
Ping Pong	Aviation	Football
Hiking	Bowling	Radio
Radio	Radio	Basketball
Tennis	Reading - Ice	Wrestling
Social Dancing	Skating	Photography
Reading	Boxing	Hiking
Bowling	Model Airplane	Golf
Boating	Hiking - Boating	Model Airplane -
Model Airplane	Woodworking	Singing
Woodworking -	Softball	Tennis
Aviation	Wrestling	Badminton -
Wrestling	Bicycling - Pet	Drawing
Badminton	Raising	Ping Pong -
	Singing	Gardening ²

The survey is a common method of obtaining reliable information, and this information may be valuable as a check

² Recreation Bulletin Service, National Recreation Association, File Heading - Surveys.

on existing conditions and practices, or it may be used to give direction or planning for the future.

In a survey made of boys at Beaumont High School, Beaumont, Texas, the boys were asked to list five forms of recreation they took part in outdoors during the winter, indoors during the winter, outdoors during summer, and indoors during summer. Table 6 lists their answers.

TABLE 6

RESULTS OF 225 RESPONSES OF BEAUMONT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS ON RECREATIONAL INTERESTS

SUMMER		WINTER	
Indoors	Outdoors	Indoors	Outdoors
Basketball	Archery	Bowling	Archery
Badminton	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball
Bowling	Baseball	Boxing	Boating
Boxing	Boating	Craftwork	Breaking
Club Meetings	Camping	Club Meetings	Horses
Craftwork	Crochet	Dancing	Camping
Dancing	Driving Auto	Dodgeball	Driving Auto
Dodgeball	Football	Games	Football
Games	Fishing	Gym Work	Fishing
Handball	Golf	Handball	Golf
Listening to Radio	Hunting	Ice Skating	Hiking
Movies	Horseback Riding	Listening to Radio	Horseback Riding
Music	Hiking	Movies	Hunting
Model Planes	Leafing	Model Planes	Model Planes
Ping Pong	Pitching	Ping Pong	Nature Study
Pool	Horseshoes	Parties	Photography
Parties	Playing	Pool	Riding Bicycle
Puzzles	Roller Skating	Photography	Riding Motor-bike
Parallel Bar Work	Riding Bicycle	Roller Skating	Running
Reading	Riding Motor-bike	Reading	Rodeo
Roller Skating	Swimming	Sketching	Softball
Sketching	Scout Work	Swimming	Track
Tumbling	Tennis	Working on Radio	Volleyball
Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball	Working Cattle

Practically every boy that eventually grows into a man will at one time or another be in places or with groups that drink, gamble, or take part in other forms of vice. He must be prepared with the knowledge with which he may guide himself in the proper direction, knowing well what may happen if he takes the road of least resistance. It is the responsibility of the home, and the church and schools to equip the boy with this knowledge.

It must also be recognized that every boy who is a juvenile delinquent is not going to be a delinquent when he becomes a man. Many of the outstanding men of the country have at one time or another been delinquent when they were young. It has been observed by the writer that many of the men of today recognize their own faults and are careful to see that their sons do not commit delinquencies of which they were once guilty.

It is impossible to place your finger on any one thing and say, "this is the cause of juvenile delinquency." So many different things come into the picture. Some writers place the blame on the family, but what do facts show? Out of some of the best of families we have children who are delinquent. Some say it is because of the child's improper teaching in schools and churches but even then we check and find delinquencies. Some say it is the radio, newspapers, books, but what do we find? Some of our outstanding citizens read and keep in their homes the same listening and reading

material. Many believe it is the environment in which the boy is reared, but still this theory has been disproved because some of our outstanding citizens have been reared in the "slums."³ The writer would like to present a survey made by Helen L. Cleveland of North Central High School, Spokane, Washington. The students were asked: "What in your opinion influences you most?" The results were:

Family - - - - -	38.0%
Magazine and Newspapers- - - - -	17.0%
Close Friends (the gang) - - - - -	11.5%
Radio- - - - -	10.5%
Student Opinion- - - - -	6.0%
School Teachers- - - - -	5.0%
Church - - - - -	5.0%
Movies - - - - -	3.0%
No Opinion - - - - -	3.0%
Books- - - - -	1.0%

101,548 students and 1,555 schools were surveyed.⁴

³G. Ott Romney, Off the Job Living, p. 4.

⁴Helen L. Cleveland, "A Student Council Can be Very Influential in School Affairs," School Management, (May, 1946) p. 23.

CHAPTER IV
RECREATION PROGRAM OF THE
CITY OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS

The Chamber of Commerce census for the year 1941-42 shows the population of Beaumont, Texas, for that year to have been approximately 57,732. The net operating cost of the Park and Recreation Department for that same year was \$54,139.43, which makes the services of the department cost approximately ninety-one cents per capita. In 1946-47 the population of the City of Beaumont was approximately 100,000 and the net operating expenses of the Recreation Department were \$66,683.52, making the services of this department cost sixty-six cents per capita, or twenty-five cents less per person than it cost in 1941-42.¹

This low recreation cost may be explained in part by the fact that the public schools and the Recreation Department operate on a dual basis, and the school system furnishes its part of the equipment and personnel.

Figure one shows the plan of administration of the City Recreation Department and figure two shows the plan of administration of the public schools.

In the plan of organization of parks and recreation in Beaumont, Texas, the city is operated by a city council and

¹City Recreation Department, 1946.

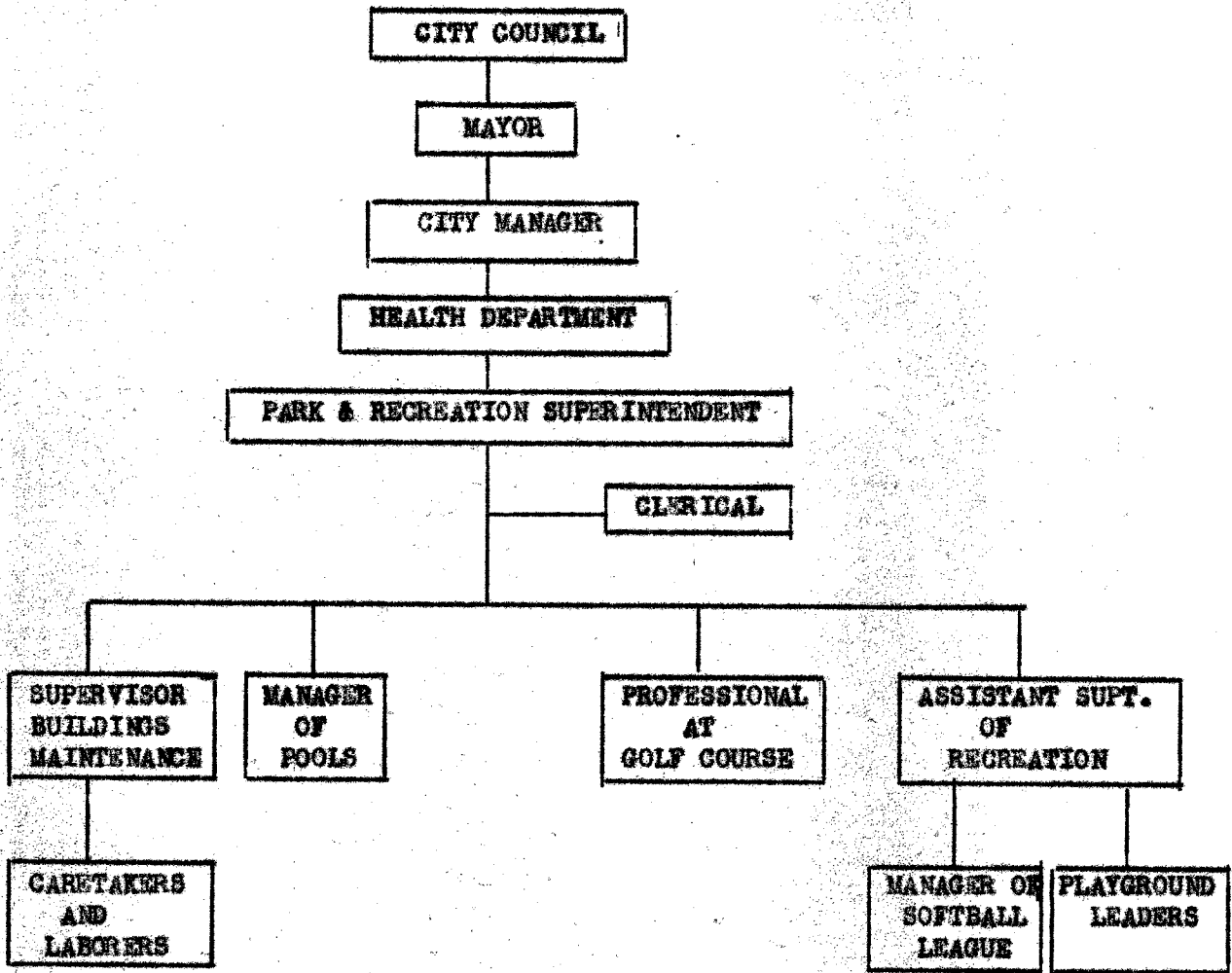


Fig. 1--Plan of organization of parks and recreation in Beaumont, Texas.

a mayor elected by the people. A city manager is hired by the City Council to insure efficiency in all departments. The City Manager's direction is under the Health Department.

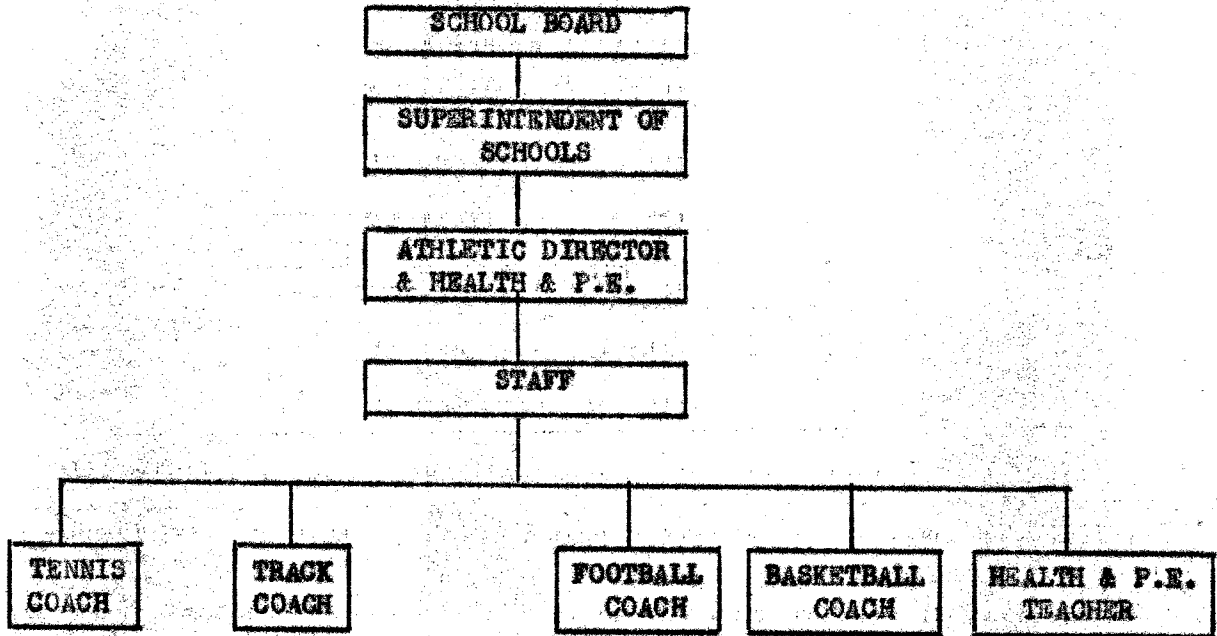


Fig. 1.--Plan of organization of the public schools

The Park and Recreation Superintendent is responsible to the Health Department for the efficiency of all parks and grounds of the city, which are used primarily for recreation. The Park and Recreation Superintendent has as his staff clerical help, Supervisor of buildings and maintenance, whose duties are to supervise the caretakers and laborers, the manager of pools, professional at golf course, and the assistant superintendent of recreation whose duties are to supervise the manager of the softball league and the playground leaders.

The Athletic Director of the schools is responsible to the Superintendent of Schools for the supervision of Athletics and Health, and Physical Education of Beaumont, Texas. He in turn supervises the athletic and health and physical education staff of the schools.

In view of the universal need and desire for recreation in its diversified forms, it is not surprising that there are a multitude of agencies which provide recreational opportunities of widely different types. Some of these serve only their members; others serve the entire community. Many are concerned with a single form of recreation; while others offer a wide range of activities. Some agencies exist for the financial profit which accrues from providing the public with recreation; the sole purpose of others is the enrichment of life. Recreation is the primary concern of many agencies, whereas it is merely an incidental activity in the case of others.

A simple and logical grouping of such agencies can be made under the following headings:

1. Governmental agencies, which include the various ones created and maintained by Federal, state, and local governments.
2. Semi-public agencies, those supported primarily by private funds but which are non-exclusive in their membership or afford recreation opportunities to individuals who are not members.
3. Private agencies, which comprise the innumerable clubs and associations organized for the benefit of members and in which membership is on a selective basis.
4. Commercial agencies, including many business organizations which cater to the public demand for leisure-time activities, and which have developed

commercial recreation into a billion-dollar industry. A knowledge of the contribution which each of these various groups is making in the field of recreation is essential to an understanding of the scope and significance to recreation in the life of America.²

The following tables present the agencies which furnish the facilities for the recreational interests of the boys of Beaumont, Texas:

1. Under governmental agencies as shown on Tables 7, 8, 9, and 10, the following agencies are considered - the Recreation Department and schools.

2. Under semi-public agencies in the above tables the following agencies are considered - churches, Y.M.C.A., and Boy Scouts.

3. Under private agencies of the above mentioned tables the following agencies are considered - country clubs and other private clubs of the city.

4. Under commercial agencies of the above mentioned tables - all clubs which are organized strictly for commercial recreation.

As shown in Table 7, under governmental agencies which furnish recreation for the youth of the city of Beaumont, Texas, indoors during summer months that the city or the schools provide for badminton, bowling, boxing, club meetings, dancing, dodgeball, handball, listening to radio, movies, model planes, pool, parties, puzzles, parallel bar work, roller skating, sketching, swimming, tumbling, volleyball, and working on radios. The semi-public agencies provide for basketball, badminton, boxing, club meetings, games, handball, listening to radio, music, model planes, pool, parties, puzzles, parallel bar work, reading, sketching, swimming, tumbling, volleyball, craftwork, and working on radios.

² George D. Butler, Introduction to Community Recreation, p. 25.

The semi-public agencies do not provide for bowling, dancing, dodgeball, movies, and roller skating. The private agencies

TABLE 7
AGENCIES FURNISHING RECREATION FOR THE
YOUTH OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS

ACTIVITIES	AGENCIES			
	Governmental	Semi-Public	Private	Commercial
Recreational Interests of Juveniles of Beaumont, Texas Indoors - Summer				
Basketball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Badminton	No	Yes	No	No
Bowling	No	No	Yes	Yes
Boxing	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Club Meetings	No	Yes	No	No
Craftwork	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Dancing	No	No	No	Yes
Dodgeball	No	No	Yes	No
Games	Yes	Yes	No	No
Handball	No	Yes	No	No
Listening to Radio	No	Yes	No	No
Movies	No	No	No	Yes
Music	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Model Planes	No	Yes	No	No
Ping Pong	Yes	Yes	No	No
Pool	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Parties	No	Yes	No	No
Puzzles	No	Yes	No	No
Parallel Bar Work	No	Yes	No	No
Reading	Yes	Yes	No	No
Roller Skating	No	Yes	No	Yes
Sketching	No	Yes	No	No
Swimming	No	Yes	No	No
Tumbling	No	Yes	No	No
Volleyball	No	Yes	No	No
Working on Radio	No	Yes	No	Yes

provide for boxing, club meetings, dancing, games, music, and pool. They do not provide for basketball, badminton, bowling, craftwork, dodgeball, handball, listening to

radio, movies, model planes, ping pong, parties, puzzles, parallel bar work, reading, roller skating, sketching, swimming, tumbling, volleyball, and working on radios. Commercial agencies provide bowling, boxing, dancing, movies, pool, roller skating and working on radios. They do not provide basketball, badminton, club meetings, craftwork, dodgeball, games, handball, listening to radio, music, model planes, ping pong, parties, puzzles, parallel bar work, reading, sketching, swimming, tumbling, and volleyball.

As shown in Table 8, under governmental agencies which furnish recreation for the youth of the city of Beaumont, Texas, outdoors during summer months, the schools provide for basketball, baseball, crochet, golf, pitching horseshoes, playing, roller skating, swimming, tennis, and volleyball. They do not provide for archery, boating, camping, driving automobile, football, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, hiking, loafing, riding bicycle, riding motor bike, and scout work. The semi-public agencies provide for basketball, camping, hiking, loafing, pitching horseshoes, playing, scout work, tennis, and volleyball. They do not provide for archery, baseball, boating, crochet, driving automobile, football, fishing, golf, hunting, horseback riding, roller skating, riding bicycle, riding motor bike, and swimming. The private agencies provide for automobile driving and basketball. They do not provide for archery, basketball, baseball, boating, camping, crochet, football, fishing,

golf, hunting, horseback riding, hiking, loafing, pitching horseshoes, playing, roller skating, riding motor bike, swimming, scout work, tennis, and volleyball. The commercial agencies provide for boating, fishing, golf, hunting, horseback riding, roller skating, baseball, and bicycle riding.

TABLE 8

AGENCIES FURNISHING RECREATION FOR THE
YOUTH OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS

ACTIVITIES	AGENCIES			
	Governmental	Semi-Public	Private	Commercial
Recreational Interests of Juveniles of Beaumont, Texas Outdoors - Summer				
Archery	No	No	No	No
Basketball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Baseball	Yes	No	No	Yes
Boating	No	No	No	Yes
Camping	No	Yes	No	No
Crochet	Yes	No	No	No
Driving Auto	No	No	Yes	No
Football	No	No	No	No
Fishing	No	No	No	Yes
Golf	Yes	No	No	Yes
Hunting	No	No	No	Yes
Horseback Riding	No	No	No	Yes
Hiking	No	Yes	No	No
Loafing	No	Yes	No	No
Horseshoes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Playing	Yes	Yes	No	No
Roller Skating	Yes	No	No	Yes
Riding Bicycle	No	No	Yes	Yes
Riding Motor Bike	No	No	No	No
Swimming	Yes	No	No	No
Scout Work	No	Yes	No	No
Tennis	Yes	Yes	No	No
Volleyball	Yes	Yes	No	No

They do not provide for archery, basketball, camping, crochet, driving automobile, football, hiking, loafing, pitching horse-shoes, playing, riding motor bike, swimming, scout work, tennis and volleyball.

In Table 9, it is shown that governmental agencies provide for recreation for the youth of Beaumont, Texas, indoors during the winter basketball, boxing, craftwork, club meetings,

TABLE 9

AGENCIES FURNISHING RECREATION FOR THE
YOUTH OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS

ACTIVITY	AGENCIES			
	Governmental	Semi-Public	Private	Commercial
Recreational Interests of Juveniles of Beaumont, Texas Indoors - Winter				
Bowling	No	No	No	Yes
Basketball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Boxing	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Craftwork	Yes	Yes	No	No
Club Meetings	Yes	Yes	No	No
Dancing	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Dodgeball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Games	Yes	Yes	No	No
Gym Work	Yes	Yes	No	No
Handball	No	Yes	No	No
Ice Skating	No	No	No	Yes
Listening to Radio	No	No	No	No
Movies	No	No	No	Yes
Model Planes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Ping Pong	Yes	Yes	No	No
Parties	Yes	Yes	No	No
Pool	No	Yes	No	Yes
Photography	Yes	Yes	No	No
Roller Skating	Yes	No	No	Yes
Reading	Yes	Yes	No	No
Sketching	Yes	Yes	No	No
Swimming	No	Yes	No	No
Working on Radio	Yes	Yes	No	No
Volleyball	Yes	Yes	No	No

dancing, dodgeball, games, gym work, model planes, ping pong, parties, photography, roller skating, reading, sketching, work in radio, and volleyball. They do not provide for bowling, handball, ice skating, listening to radio, movies, pool and swimming. The semi-public agencies provide for basketball, boxing, craftwork, club meetings, dodgeball, games, gym work, handball, model planes, ping pong, parties, pool, photography, reading, sketching, swimming, working in radio, and volleyball. They do not provide for bowling, dancing, ice skating, listening to radio, movies, and roller skating. The private agencies provide for dancing. They do not provide for bowling, basketball, boxing, craftwork, club meetings, dodgeball, games, gym work, handball, ice skating, listening to radio, movies, model planes, ping pong, parties, pool, photography, roller skating, reading, sketching, swimming, working in radio, and volleyball. The commercial agencies provide for bowling, boxing, dancing, ice skating, movies, pool and roller skating. They do not provide for basketball, craftwork, club meeting, dodgeball, games, gym work, handball, listening to radio, model planes, ping pong, parties, photography, reading, sketching, swimming, working in radio and volleyball.

In Table 10, it is shown that governmental agencies provide for recreation for the youth of Beaumont, Texas outdoors during the winter - archery, basketball, automobile driving, football, golf, model plane flying, nature study, photography,

running, softball, track, and volleyball. They do not provide boating, breaking horses, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, bicycle riding, motor bike riding, rodeo, and working cattle. The semi-public agencies provide for basketball, camping, hiking, model plane flying, nature study, photography, running, softball, and basketball. They do not provide archery, boating, breaking horses, driving

TABLE 10

**AGENCIES FURNISHING RECREATION FOR THE
YOUTH OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS**

ACTIVITY	AGENCIES			
	Governmental	Semi-Public	Private	Commercial
Recreational Interests of Juveniles of Beaumont, Texas Outdoors - Winter				
Archery	Yes	No	No	No
Basketball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Boating	No	No	No	Yes
Breaking Horses	No	No	No	No
Camping	No	Yes	No	No
Driving Auto	Yes	No	No	No
Football	Yes	No	No	No
Fishing	No	No	No	Yes
Golf	Yes	No	No	Yes
Hiking	No	Yes	No	No
Horseback Riding	No	No	No	Yes
Hunting	No	No	No	No
Model Plane Flying	Yes	Yes	No	No
Nature Study	Yes	Yes	No	No
Photography	Yes	Yes	No	No
Riding Bicycle	No	No	No	Yes
Riding Motor Bike	No	No	No	No
Running	Yes	Yes	No	No
Rodeo	No	No	No	Yes
Softball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Track	Yes	No	No	No
Volleyball	Yes	Yes	No	No
Working Cattle	No	No	No	No

auto, football, fishing, golf, horseback riding, hunting, bicycle riding, motor bike riding, rodeo, track, and working cattle. The private agencies provide nothing. They do not provide for archery, basketball, boating, breaking horses, camping, driving auto, football, fishing, golf, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, model plane flying, nature study, photography, riding bicycle, motor bike riding, running, rodeo, softball, track, volleyball, and working cattle. The commercial agencies provide for boating, fishing, golf, horseback riding, bicycle riding, and rodeo. They do not provide for archery, basketball, breaking horses, camping, driving auto, football, hiking, hunting, model plane flying, nature study, photography, motor bike riding, running, softball, track, volleyball and working cattle.

Recreation Program of the City

On the first Saturday in January of each year, the City Recreation Department holds an Invitational Basketball Tournament in the city for all high schools of the area, both "A" and "AA" classification. The tournament is held in the gymnasium owned by the Lamar College and Beaumont High School. Gold basketballs and trophies are awarded to the winning teams in each classification.

During the whole basketball season, the City Recreation Department sponsors a church league with eight teams participating. All games are held at the Harvest Club, which was converted to a basketball court during the year 1947. Admission of ten cents is charged, with the Recreation Department

being responsible for competent officials and gate keepers. Each church entering this league pays an entrance fee of twenty-five dollars. The winning team is presented a trophy, and the players of the winning team are presented gold basketballs.

In the spring of the year, the City Recreation Department organizes the Beaumont City Golf League which is composed of the four city high schools; South Park, St. Anthony, French, and Beaumont High School. A golf professional is in charge of this league and gives advice and instructions free of charge to the players. An Invitational Golf Tournament for boys and girls is held each year, with the winners receiving trophies and medals.

During the summer months, the golf professionals of the city golf courses and the country club give lessons for twelve weeks to the boys and girls of high school age and under, who are interested in learning how to play the game. All high school boys on golf teams are permitted to play free of charge when participating on a school team, and at other times are permitted to play at reduced rates.

At the end of the school year, and in cooperation with the Beaumont Exporters, a baseball clinic is conducted at Stuart Stadium with the professional ball players acting as supervisors. This is an all day affair with instruction given to the boys concerning all the positions of a hard ball team. During the afternoon the boys are divided up into teams and games are played.

Beginning the last part of May, and lasting through August of each year, a softball league is supervised and sponsored by the City Recreation Department with all games played at night on the three lighted fields of the fair grounds. Two church leagues, a junior league composed of boys fifteen years or younger, and a senior league with no age limit, one civic league composed of members of the civic clubs of the city, and two commercial leagues with no age limit, play on these three fields at night. These leagues are all required to pay an entrance fee of ten dollars to help maintain the field and to pay for the lights.

A baseball league is held in the city, but the only part the city plays in this is to furnish the diamond to play on, umpires, and supervision of the league. The city permits the semi-pro baseball teams to use the diamonds of the parks for practice. French High School also uses the baseball diamond, at the fairgrounds, for practice and for playing their games.

In the city there are three lighted tennis courts on which a tennis tournament was held during the summer 1947. No reservations are made. These operate "first come first served" and play as long as you like.

At all parks during the summer all balls, bats, and other playground equipment are furnished by the City Recreation Department. These parks are open during all the year, but supervisors are placed there by the department only during the months of June, July, and August.

Under the supervisory control of the City Recreation Department are the following properties of the city, as shown in Table 11. In Alice Keith Park there are three tennis courts, two softball diamonds, one wading pool, and one swimming pool. In Liberia Park there is one tennis court,

TABLE 11

PROPERTIES OF THE CITY OF BEAUMONT, TEXAS
UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF
THE CITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS	Tennis Courts	Handball Diamonds	Softball Diamonds	Wading Pools	Swimming Pools
Alice Keith	3		2	1	1
Liberia	1		1	1	1
Hebert	3			1	
Gilbert	2			1	
Roberts	1		1	1	
Magnolia	2		1	1	1
Piptin	1			1	1
Municipal Golf Course	4	1	1		
Fairground		1	3		
McLean			1		
Wiess				1	
TOTAL	17	2	10	8	4

one softball diamond, one wading pool, and one swimming pool. In Hebert Park there are three tennis courts and one wading pool. In Gilbert Park there are two tennis courts and one wading pool. In Roberts Park there is one tennis court, one softball diamond, and one wading pool. In Magnolia Park there are two tennis courts, one softball diamond, one wading pool, and one swimming pool. In Pipkin Park there is one tennis court, one wading pool, and one swimming pool. At the Municipal Golf Course there are four tennis courts, one hardball diamond, and one softball diamond. At the Fairgrounds there is one baseball diamond and three softball diamonds. At McLean Park there is one softball diamond, and at Wiess Park there is one wading pool.

The Recreation Department of Beaumont, Texas, gives the following figures on the number of people taking part in each sport - as shown in Table 12. A total of 70,185 people visited the pools of the city during the fiscal year of July 1, 1946, to July 1, 1947. Swimming instructions were given to 6,979 people during the year. The total attendance of the supervised park activities are 75,717. At the annual basketball tournament, including spectators and players, there was a total of 1,360. At the softball games there was a total of 560 players and 22,500 spectators, with a sum total of 23,060. In baseball in the high school league at the Fairground diamond, there was an attendance of 1,000. In baseball at the Municipal Diamond (junior age boys) there was an attendance of 360. In the baseball games at the Municipal

TABLE 12

ATTENDANCE - RECREATION DEPARTMENT
July 1, 1946 to July 1, 1947

Swimming Pools		
Magnolia Pool	32,676	
Alice Keith Pool	23,860	
Pipkin Pool	4,793	
Liberia Pool	8,856	
Total Swimming Pools		70,185
Swimming Instructions - June 1947		
Magnolia Pool	3,659	
Alice Keith Pool	3,320	
Total Swimming Instructions		6,979
Municipal Golf Course	27,246	
Terrell Park Golf Course	11,028	
Total Golf Courses		38,274
Supervised Park Activities		
Magnolia Park	20,525	
Alice Keith Park	36,984	
Roberts Park	5,428	(half day)
Liberia Park	10,894	
Beaumont High School - June, 1947	1,886	
Total Parks		75,717
Basketball Tournament	1,200	
Basketball Tournament Players	160	
Total Basketball Tournament		1,360
Softball Players participating	560	
Softball Games Attendance	22,500	
Total Softball		23,060
Hardball - Fairground Diamond (High School League)	1,000	
Hardball Municipal Diamond (Junior Age Boys)	360	
Hardball Games - Municipal Diamond Attendance	1,500	
Total Hardball		2,860
Semi-Pro Hardball Players - Sundays	45	
Semi-Pro Games Attendance - Municipal Ball Diamond	1,500	
Total Semi-Pro		1,545
Golf Tournament Players		50
Tennis Tournament Players		65
Baseball Clinic - Junior Age Boys		300
Golf Clinic - Average Attendance Saturdays for 12 weeks		30
Use of Harvest Club for all occasions		30,000
Use of Fairgrounds for picnics		15,000
Terrell Park Picnic Facilities		35,000
Zoo		34,154
GRAND TOTAL		334,579

Diamond there was an attendance of 1,500 giving a total of 2,860 in attendance at baseball games in the city for amateurs. For the semi-pro league there were forty-five players and 1,500 in attendance giving a total attendance of 1,545. The golf tournament players were sixty-five in attendance. At the tennis tournament there were sixty-five players. At the baseball clinic there was an attendance of thirty boys. There was a total of 30,000 people who used the Harvest Club, a building at the fairgrounds. There were 15,000 that used the fairgrounds for picnics. There were 35,000 that used the Terrell Park picnic facilities and 34,154 people that visited the zoo during the year, giving a grand total of 334,579 that were in attendance at the activities of the Recreation Department.

The buildings at Terrell Park and the Harvest Club at the fairgrounds are released free of charge to any supervised group of young people, but a charge is made for any adult group that might want to use these facilities.

In Table 13, there is shown the gross revenue from the Recreation Department from September 1, 1946, to September 1, 1947; total revenue from the pools was \$12,371.84 with concessions furnishing \$318.41 from Magnolia Park and \$183.24 from Alice Keith pool for a total of \$501.65 for concessions from the pools. At the golf courses located at Municipal and Terrell parks, there was a gross income of \$10,554.22 with concessions furnishing \$838.55. Tennis furnished a gross

TABLE 13

GROSS REVENUE FROM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

	TENNIS COURT LIGHTS	BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	CONCESSIONS	AIRPORT	SOFTBALL	FAIR PARK	GOLF COURSES	POOLS
Magnolia Pool			318.41					6,248.53
Alice Keith			163.24					5,085.95
Liberia								788.06
Pipkin								249.30
Municipal							7,627.64	
Terrell			838.55				2,926.58	
Harvest Club						3,950.00		
Rentals				3,977.86		7,443.04		
Softball			333.79		2,648.75			
Basketball*		107.85						
Tennis	194.74							
TOTAL	194.74	107.85	1,673.99	3,977.86	2,648.75	11,393.04	10,554.22	12,371.84

*Public Schools Furnish Gymnasium

revenue of \$194.74. The airport furnished a gross of \$3,977.86 for lease. Softball had a gross revenue of \$2,648.75 with concessions furnishing a gross of \$333.79. The basketball tournament furnished a gross revenue of \$107.85 with the city schools furnishing the gymnasias for the tournament. The total gross revenue from the Recreation Department was \$42,922.29.

As can be seen by the gross revenue from the facilities of the Recreation Department of Beaumont, the department goes a long way in paying for itself.

By checking with the gross revenue and attendance in regard to the budget of the department, we find that the swimming pools show a revenue of \$12,371.84 with an attendance of 70,185, with the actual cost to each individual being approximately seventeen cents. With the pools being in operation for three months during the year, the average attendance is 779.83 people day. The budget set up by the department for operation of the four city pools is \$9,350. The cost per individual to the city for swimming is thirteen cents per season, thereby showing a net profit of about four cents per individual using the pools.

Golf, with a gross revenue of \$10,554.22, and attendance of 38,274, costs the individual approximately twenty-seven cents. The golf course being in operation twelve months a year, seven days a week, shows an average attendance of approximately 103 per day. The budget for the municipal

golf course and Terrell Park being \$17,526, the cost to the city for operation is approximately forty-three cents per individual using the golf courses showing a loss of sixteen cents per individual person playing golf.

With supervisors being employed by the city during June, July and August, and the parks being used principally by the youth of the city, the average attendance is approximately twelve cents per individual using the parks during these three months.

Schools

As was stated in the opening paragraph of this chapter, the Recreation Department and the public schools operate a dual system in the over-all recreation program. The public schools have set up as their aims in regard to recreation:

1. To provide the children of Beaumont with a wholesome place to play.
2. To teach the child the proper way to use his leisure time, through books, through play and through crafts.
3. To provide trained instructors in recreation.

All of the schools have trained instructors in health, physical education and recreation. There are three times during the course of the day when the students have time on their hands. First, before school opens when all of those students must be provided with something to do besides stand around the building amusing themselves waiting for the bell to open the school day. Second, during the lunch periods for those students who complete their meals first and find

time on their hands with nothing to do. Third, after school when the students have completed sitting for at least five or six hours in classrooms.

In a study made Louis E. Means, Director of Student Physical Welfare at the University of Nebraska of several large city high schools found the following evident:

1. Boys pitching coins at cracks (gambling).
2. Consuming quantities of cigarettes.
3. "Tag" games being played with automobiles.
4. Congregating in nearby stores and hangouts.
5. Evidence of the sale of marijuana and liquor, gambling, sex problems, and all accompanying evils of unorganized loafing.⁴

All of the above, with the exception of the sale of marijuana and liquor, the writer has noted in his experience at Beaumont High School and visits to other schools of the town. The school officials are continuously trying to combat these evils by providing places where the boy may smoke and talk with other boys. During the writer's experience in the army, he observed that even during time of danger there was a tendency for American soldiers to gather in groups and talk when for safety they should have been separated.

In Beaumont, Texas, there are four senior high schools, Beaumont High School, South Park High School, French High School and St. Anthony High School (a Catholic school). The athletic programs carried on in each of these schools are much the same. Each of the schools sponsor football,

⁴Louis E. Means, "Noon Hour Recreation Program," Scholastic Coach, Vol. 17, Number 3 (November, 1947), p. 59.

basketball, track, tennis, golf, and baseball as inter-school competition, providing for those boys, who like sports, a way to spend their spare time.

During the months of September, October, and November, football is offered on a competitive basis with other schools, while those boys who are interested in track or basketball are offered the opportunity under trained coaches to work out for their sports. In football each of the schools have three teams, each playing a separate schedule, with approximately 300 boys taking an active part in the sport. In track and basketball, approximately 100 boys are taking part.

In December, January, and February, basketball is offered by the schools as the chief sport. Three separate basketball teams from Beaumont High School, two from South Park High School, French, and St. Anthony represent the schools at least twice a week during these months. The weather conditions in Beaumont, Texas, vary from 10° above zero to approximately 98° , thus weather conditions permit boys interested in track and golf to take part in their sports all year.

March, April and May are the months when most professional baseball teams begin their workouts so the schools offer those seasonal sports, track, baseball, tennis, and golf. With workouts each day and competition at least twice a week, the schools offer interested boys a chance to improve themselves and to compete with other teams.

The following was taken from a pamphlet written on professional athletics:

The constant interest in athletics engendered by press, radio, and the development of amateur sports forms a backlog for a growing demand for professional events. The whole country has become sports conscious. Softball, while not a professional sport attracts a total attendance of 131,000,000 a year -- a greater attendance than the 90,000,000 combined professional and amateur basketball gate entries plus nearly 20,000,000 professional baseball attendance.

Moreover, with the increase in leisure, which the machine age makes inevitable, there is certain to be a growing audience of amateur participants in sports who understand and appreciate the skill of the professional athlete.⁵

In intra-mural sports the schools offer flag football, basketball, touch football, track and softball conducted during the season when the sport is most popular. Teams and team captains are selected from the physical education classes and a schedule is played to determine a class champion. Final games are played after school to determine the school champion in a given sport. For track, each of the schools hold what is known as a school track meet. In order to enter this meet a boy must place first, second, or third in his event in the class meet to be eligible. The chief aim of the intra-mural in all schools is to provide each boy who is unable to make the school team a chance to participate in the sport he likes best.

For other recreational activities, the schools sponsor clubs, dances, dramatics, art and woodcraft. Beaumont High

⁵ Pamphlet, Professional Athletics as a Career, p. 23.

School has recently installed a "juke" box in the cafeteria to provide music for student dancing before the opening of school each morning and at lunch periods. All funds taken in by the "juke" box are placed in a recreational fund for the school. Appearing in the Beaumont High School News, a weekly paper published in the high school print shop, dated January 15, 1948, were some opinions as expressed by the students about their form of recreation:

The president of the "Voice of Youth" is highly in favor of the "juke box." She thinks that meeting in the cafeteria and dancing brings closer fellowship between students, and provides a place for them to go during the noon hour, thus keeping the halls clear.

The editor of the "Pine Burr," said, "A place for dancing in the cafeteria provides a place for students to go on bad days, and on clear days, it's fun. The music and dancing doesn't disturb the other classes as much as the noise made by students in the halls."

The treasurer of the Student Council thinks that the "juke box" is the best thing Beaumont High School has had in a long time. It breaks the dullness of the school day.

The assembly chairman thinks that the "juke box" provides good entertainment, makes Beaumont High School more modern and also builds up good school spirit.⁶

In addition to the previously mentioned recreational programs conducted by the schools, each system provides a library with the best of fiction, sports and hobby books, and all types of the best magazines published in the United States. A trained librarian supervises each library in order to help any student find the material or book he wants, and to offer advice that may help a student's reading.

⁶Beaumont High School News, (January 15, 1948), No. 6.

The schools sponsor various civic organizations such as: Junior Red Cross, Voice of Youth, Community Chest, and others for those students interested in that form of work. These groups give some of the students a way of using their spare time in a creative manner.

In the physical education classes the boys are taught all the fundamentals and rules of the major sports (football, basketball, track and baseball) with the hope that it will have a carry-over value to them either as a participant or a spectator. Volleyball, tennis, golf, archery, calisthenics, tumbling, and gymnastics, and boxing are taught to each regardless of his athletic ability.

The schools all have bands, glee clubs, and orchestras with a capable trained supervisor and director which provide music participation for those students interested. The school bands have an active part in all athletic contests, especially in football where they play during the game and present a program during half time of the contest. The orchestra plays in most assembly programs and during intermission of plays. The glee clubs frequently are invited by civic organizations to furnish music during their noon day luncheon meetings.

The schools also provide as part of their curriculum - wood work, automobile mechanics, printing, art, home economics, and drafting which furnishes many boys the opportunity to learn the use of their hands and stimulate the creative nature of the child which certainly is a form or means of

recreation. In each of the above courses, a trained instructor, shops, and equipment are provided.

G. Ott Romney states in his book "Off the Job Living" that:

The wholeness of man derives its nourishment from a wise balanced and satisfying exercise of all parts of the total being, the mind and the muscles, the emotions and the spirit.⁷

In the Beaumont Journal, dated January 22, 1948, South Park High School of Beaumont, Texas, announced a twelve month school plan to be placed in operation on June 1, 1948. Lee J. Vincent, Superintendent of schools, states, "The program follows the new trends in education and I believe that within a short time schools throughout the nation will be following the plan."⁸

The program, as set up, provides employment for teachers on a twelve-month basis. One third of the teaching staff will be engaged in teaching during the summer, one third will travel, and the other third will pursue studies in institutions of higher learning.

Classroom work will be offered to those students who need additional help, or who need credit toward graduation. School students as well as adults residing in the South Park Independent School District will be permitted to attend without fees.

⁷Romney, op. cit., p. 2.

⁸Beaumont Journal, January 22, 1948.

Under the playground activities, all forms of games and sports will be offered, including swimming, baseball, tennis, croquet, ice skating, hiking, archery, health classes, golf, flycasting, bicycle racing students, night contests of casting. In addition to the playground, there will be forms of recreation including drama, square dances, music, moving pictures, domino and checker nights. Another group of activities will present a great book series, lectures, library opportunities, classrooms for appreciation and study of art forums on any matter for adult or youth. There will also be arranged a series of informative tours over the business and industrial sections of the city as part of the work.

There will be a study in automobile driving which will include not only the handling of the automobile, but the orientation and study of nomenclature. Other subjects to be offered under this division of the school work will be photography, field trips, arts and crafts, and a home course for the entire family.

Tentative plans for the work of the summer include a camping trip for boys and a culmination party in the high school stadium to which the entire community is to be welcome.⁹

The superintendent emphasized that, "this program is in an experimental stage, and that while the year-around school program for the school is expected to be permanent the program will be altered or changed to fit the community needs."

⁹Ibid.

It is through this program of year-around activities that the South Park school administrators hope to cut down juvenile delinquency in their district. They also stress the advisability of using the expensive school plants twelve months out of the year, and of converting these plants into community centers where the young and the old alike will congregate for study and entertainment.¹⁰

Thus, the public schools are accepting their responsibility for the aid to juveniles in the wise use of their leisure time.

¹⁰Ibid.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

From the preceeding study the writer has reached the following conclusions:

1. In order to decrease juvenile delinquency in Beaumont, Texas, a drive must be made to prevent the sale or gift of intoxicating liquors to the minors of this city.
2. Dances and public meeting places of the minors must be sponsored and supervised by organizations, which in the eyes of the people, represent decent and wholesome means of recreation.
3. A cooperative program should be carried on by the proper institutions such as schools, churches, Y.M.C.A., and others to discourage smoking by the young people of the city.
4. The recreational facilities are inadequate in all sections of Beaumont, Texas, and the recreation program of the city needs expansion.
5. The regularly employed recreational staff is inadequate to direct recreation the year around.
6. The education of our youth is too limited in training youth in the proper use of their leisure time.
7. The governmental agencies are not providing adequately for recreational choices of the boys of Beaumont High School.

Recommendations

1. The writer recommends that a survey be made by the Recreation Department of Beaumont, Texas, to discover the recreational needs of the rapidly growing city.
2. That resources from the public and private agencies be pooled to meet the needs discovered by the survey.
3. That the expanded program include the use of all the existing facilities of Beaumont, Texas.
4. That year around staff and supervisors, both professional and voluntary, be employed in all parks.
5. That the program include both indoor and outdoor activities for adults and children, varying from athletics to music.
6. That an adequate record system be made of all voluntary leaders who would be happy to assist in recreation.
7. That all possible play space in parks be utilized.
8. That a long range program for recreation be outlined by the city.

APPENDIX

1. NAME _____ AGE _____
2. I live with (Father, Mother, Both Parents, Guardian.)
(Underline one.)
3. Religion, (Protestant, Catholic, Hebrew, None). (Underline one)
4. I attend church (regularly, irregularly, not at all).
(Underline one)
5. My family (rents, owns home). (Underline one)
6. Does mother or female guardian work outside home?
(Yes, No) (Underline one)
7. List at least 5 forms of recreation under each heading.

Indoors Summer	Outdoors Summer	Indoors Winter	Outdoors Winter
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____	3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____	4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____	5. _____	5. _____
8. How many nights a week are you allowed out?
(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.)
9. Have you ever been drunk? (yes, no)
10. Do you smoke? (yes, no)
11. Have you ever been arrested? (yes, no)
12. Have you ever been in trouble in school? (yes, no)
13. Do you drive an automobile? (yes, no)
14. Do you have a driver's license? (yes, no)

15. In what part of Beaumont do you live? (north, east, west, south)

Remarks: _____

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beaumont Enterprise, Beaumont, Texas, January 17, 1948.

Beaumont High School News, Vol. XV, No. 6, Beaumont, Texas.

Boaz, Kermit, "A Comparative Study of the Required Physical Education Program for Men at North Texas State Teachers College and the Physical Training Program for Naval Aviation Cadets With a Proposed Physical Fitness Program for Men to be Offered at North Texas State Teachers College," Unpublished Master's Thesis, North Texas State Teachers College, 1946.

Brownell, Clifford Lee, and Williams, Jesse Fering, Training for Living, New York, American Book Company, 1943.

Bruiner, Earle D., A Laboratory Study in Democracy, Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Page and Co., 1927.

Bulletin of Methodist Church, Waco, Texas, July 7, 1946.

Butler, George D., Introduction to Community Recreation, New York, McGraw and Hill Book Co., Inc., 1940.

Carr, A. M., Young Offenders, New York, The MacMillan Co., 1933.

Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, Vol. VI, Chicago, F. E. Compton and Company, 1935.

Cooper, Alice Cecilia, and others, Adventures in English Literature, Chicago, Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1947.

"Education and the World Community," School and Society, Vol. 63, (June 8, 1946), 35-39.

Hughes, R. O., The Making of Today's World, New York, Allyn and Bacon, 1947.

Jacks, Lawrence Pearsall, Education Through Recreation, New York, Harper and Brothers, 1932.

"Juvenile Delinquency," The Rotarian Magazine, LXVIII (April, 1946), No. 4, pp. 21-24.

- Keeping Fit, United States Public Health Service, Treasury Department, V. D. Bulletin No. 55, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1934.
- Mann, Paul B., and Moon, Truman J., Biology, New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1941.
- "Noon Hour Recreation Program," Scholastic Coach, Vol. 17 (November, 1947), 59.
- Pamphlet of Institute for Research, "Recreation as a Career," Chicago, 1936.
- Pamphlet of Institute of Research, "Professional Athletics as a Career," Chicago, 1947.
- Pamphlet, "A Doctor's Advice About Smoking," Seale Harris, M.D., The Signal Press, Evanston, Illinois.
- Pamphlet, "The Way of the Bad Boy," Braude, J. M., National W. C. T. U. Publishing House, Evanston, Illinois, 1945.
- Riggs, Austin Fox, Play, Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Doran and Company, 1935.
- Romney, G. Ott, Off the Job Living, New York, A. S. Barnes and Company, 1945.
- "Sex Offenses as Seen By a Psychiatrist," The Journal of Health and Physical Education, Vol. 18 (November, 1947), Number 9, pp. 645-647.
- "Small Community Plans Year-Around Program," The School Executive, Vol. 65., No. 9 (May, 1946) p. 38.
- "Schools Should Be Community Centers," Parents Magazine, 1939, p. 28.
- Steiner, Jesse F., Americans at Play, New York, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1933.
- Tatum, Leonard Ray, "A Study of Juvenile Delinquency in Stephens County, Texas," Unpublished Master's Thesis, North Texas State Teachers College, 1945.
- Winston Dictionary Staff, The Winston Dictionary for Schools, Chicago, The John C. Winston Company, 1944.