

Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin

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FOREST HILLS GARDENS, LONG ISLAND

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No. 5

GREAT SUCCESS

The Community House Fair Nets a Large Sum for the Fund

Crowds Attended and Were Happy to Buy the Articles Sold at Fair Prices Women Presided Over Thirty Booths

The Community House Fair, for which the women of the Church-in-the-Gardens had been working for five months, and which in the end enlisted the women of every religious organization in town, took place in the sales office on the afternoon of Nov. 2 and the afternoon and evening of Nov. 3 and 4. The gratifying sum of \$4,168.23 has been cleared to date and the Women's Guild promises to add to the amount from its treasury, so that \$5,000 will be sent before Jan. 1 to J. Floyd McTyier, treasurer of the Community House Fund.

A great variety of booths in charge of the women, announced in the last BULLETIN, offered the purchaser a splendid opportunity to choose according to his taste. It has been said by many people that the prices were fair and in many cases below the city shop prices, so that every one felt that he had secured his money's worth.

One attractive feature, not mentioned in the last issue of the BULLETIN, was the fortune telling booths, which were very popular and were presided over by Mrs. Jewell St. Leger Aldrich, Miss Martha Allen, Miss Donna Moore and Mrs. D. P. Maddux. Many caught a glimpse of the future through these gypsy-clad women seated in gypsy-decorated booths.

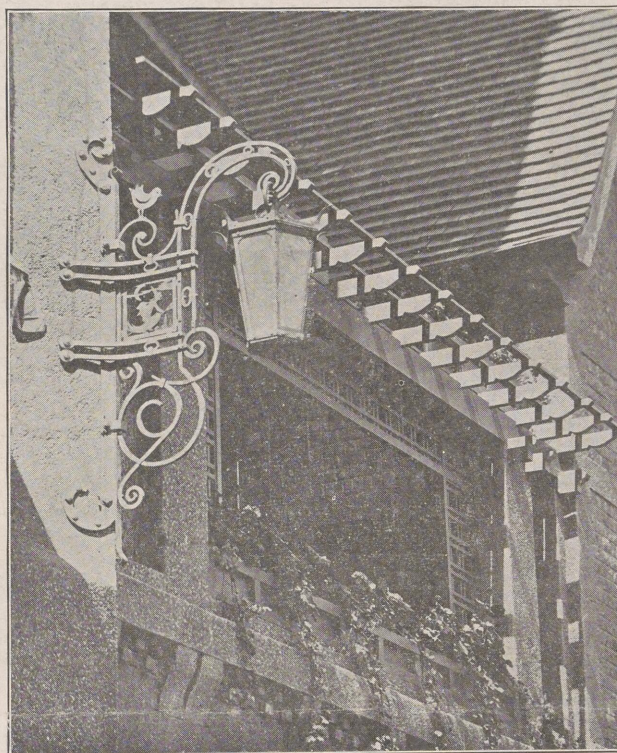
Women from the Catholic Church, from St. Luke's, from the Christian Science Church worked hard to make the fair a success, each group having charge of a booth. The Catholic ladies gave a card party on Nov. 1, at the home of Mrs. W. F. Mohan. In addition to the women mentioned last week as helping with the party, must be mentioned Mrs. W. S. Von Helmholt who was of great assistance. Women from the north side helped in the refreshment booth.

The decorations of the building, the decorations and arrangement of the booths were planned by Mrs. Charles H. Scammell, general chairman, and Walter Hartwig, president of the Gardens Players. The ensemble in its autumnal coloring, and the individual rooms and booths, decorated to suit the purpose for which they were used, all received complimentary comment.

The children of the town had a jolly time at the fair. There was the pony, ready for riders; the gypsy camp furnished many novelties; it was always possible to get something as a surprise from the charming girls who were gowned as grab bags. The Punch and Judy show pleased the boys and girls. Many ways Mrs. N. F. Holch found to entertain the children.

S. W. ECKMAN ON "PRESENT DAY EUROPEAN CONDITIONS"

The next meeting of the Community Council promises to be one which will attract a large attendance. S. W. Eckman, Greenway Terrace, who made an extended European trip last summer, will deliver an address on "Present Day European Conditions," an intensely interesting subject at the present time. Thomas B. Paton Jr. will make a report for the committee on public safety as to what has been done in regard to recent burglaries and other matters. The trolley situation as it affects Forest Hills, particularly as to the Metropolitan line, will be discussed and other subjects of importance will be brought to the attention of the Community Council. The meeting will be held in the Church-in-the-Gardens on Nov. 19 at eight o'clock.



A LANTERN IN STATION SQUARE

One of the beautifully executed lanterns which light the Station Square. In the background is a charming trellised loggia belonging to the Inn. From the design of Grosvenor Atterbury, F. A. I. A.

WOMEN'S CLUB

Song Recitals and Dance Planned for a Benefit Entertainment To Be Given at Hotel Pennsylvania on Dec. 1—November Meeting an Interesting One

Mrs. Curtis E. Kloetzer, the chairman of the ways and means committee of the Women's Club of Forest Hills, is planning several most attractive programs and entertainments for the benefit of the club. The first will be given at the Hotel Pennsylvania on the evening of Dec. 1, when the Misses Mildred and Marjorie Freeman, sopranos, will be heard in a song recital. They possess well trained voices and have great personal charm. Robert S. Flager will be their accompanist. Following the program of the Misses Freeman, Graham McNamee, who is famous for a baritone voice of rare quality and training, will give a program, accompanied on the piano by Francis Moore. After the musical program there will be general dancing with a good "up-to-the-minute" orchestra. The tickets will be \$2.50 each. Such an evening's entertainment is worth more. Mrs. Kloetzer is not a novice in planning programs, and all who attend will be well repaid. The proceeds will go, 60 per cent. to the Community House fund, 25 per cent. to the philanthropic chapter, and 15 per cent. to the club treasury. Tickets may be ordered from Mrs. Kloetzer, apartment No. 25, Tennis Place Apartments, or from any of the three drug stores in Forest Hills.

November Meeting

The new members admitted to the club, at the meeting (Continued on Page 4.)

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MAILED TO ANY ADDRESS ON REQUEST

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JOHN M. GLENN	- - - - -	Vice President and Secretary
JOHN M. DEMAREST	- - - - -	Vice President and General Manager

Local news notes and other items of interest for publication in the Bulletin should reach the Homes Company Office, 9 Station Square, not later than Tuesday morning of the week of publication.

THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

THE Community House Fair was a good thing for several reasons. The large amount of money turned into the fund because of the fair is a matter of rejoicing, but that is not the most important reason. As the crowds elbowed their way around the sales office to the attractive booths with their inviting display, more than one thinking, leading citizen of Forest Hills said: "Well, this proves that we need a Community House." No one who had even a small part in the work or play of the fair could question the need of the general meeting place for every one in the town. The women are grateful to the Homes Company for the use of the building, which was the only available place in town, but it proved itself inadequate.

The fair did more than raise money and prove a physical need. "It demonstrated that our hopes of a united community interest in the Community House are not misplaced. With the right spirit and leadership it can be done." These are the words of Dr. David Latshaw. The women of all religious denominations worked with the members of the Women's Guild of the Church-in-the-Gardens to make it a success. One had a chance to buy jellies made by a Methodist member of the Church-in-the-Gardens and sold by a Presbyterian member of the same organization. A Baptist member of the Church-in-the-Gardens donated bread and rolls to the Catholic booth. The canned goods sold by the St. Luke's members and the beautiful etchings, of the gifted Lester G. Hornby, sold by the Reader of the Christian Science Church, were bought by people of all faiths. And the great variety of things sold at 27 booths by the members of the Church-in-the-Gardens, representing many denominations and bought by everybody, proves beyond a doubt that *we can work together*.

This Community House project is attracting attention all over the country as a forward movement in community life. The insert in this number of the BULLETIN gives valuable information to all who are interested in this splendid undertaking. It will succeed.

MRS. REBECCA S. ELLINWOOD

At the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Batcheller, 160 Greenway North, Mrs. Rebecca Sibley Flint Ellinwood died Nov. 8, 1920, after a lingering illness. The services were held on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 11, with Dr. Robert J. Kent former pastor and Dr. David Latshaw pastor of the Church-in-the-Gardens, in charge. The hymns were rendered by a male quartette. The burial took place at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Mrs. Ellinwood traced her ancestry back to Hon. Thomas Flint, who settled in Concord, Mass., in 1638. The old records show that "he possessed wealth, talents and a Christian character." Mrs. Ellinwood was born in Athol,

Mass., Sept. 26, 1834, and she was the widow of George B. Ellinwood. She has made her home with the Batchellers for a number of years and moved to the Gardens with them over three years ago, when she joined the Church-in-the-Gardens. She was much interested in genealogy, and at the same time was a student of current events and spent considerable time in writing to men of prominence politically, who in turn appreciated her letters and wrote to her. Among others the late Theodore Roosevelt wrote to her.

MEN'S CLUB

Program Committee and President Abbott Make Plans For the Year.

The Men's Club will meet on some Monday night of each month during the year, from November to May. On Nov. 15, at the home of Lawrence F. Abbott, 194 Greenway South, at 8 o'clock, Frederick K. Seward, Whitson Street, will speak on South America. B. S. Van Rensselaer, a resident of Rio de Janeiro and a law partner of Mr. Seward, will also speak. These gentlemen both belong to a firm of international lawyers and the evening will be a profitable one for the Men's Club.

Laurence La Tourette Griggs, an officer of the Aero Club, and a man well versed in aviation, will speak on the subject, "The Development of Aviation in American Industrial Life," at the home of Henry W. Hirschberg, 108 Greenway North, on Monday evening, Dec. 20. "How Your News Gets to You" will be the subject of the talk which William P. Beazell of the New York World, and a resident of the Gardens, will give before the same club on Monday evening, Jan. 31. The place will be announced later. Frederic W. Goudy, the great type designer, also of the Gardens, will speak on Monday evening, Feb. 21 in the Social Room of the Church-in-the-Gardens, on the subject, "How the World Learned its A B C's" using lantern slides to illustrate his story. On March 21 and April 18 the club will meet, subjects and places to be announced later. May 16 is designated as "Ladies' Night," and the meeting will take place in the Church-in-the-Gardens. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Rogers will give groups of songs and recitations which they gave during the war to the United States soldiers in France.

PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

An enthusiastic meeting of the Executive Board of the Forest Hills Gardens Celebrations Association was held at the Sales Office on Monday evening, Nov. 8. Chairmen for the special committees to be in charge of the Christmas Eve celebration were appointed. That celebration consists of a pageant, which passes up and down the streets of the village, and a chorus of men's voices singing carols. There is Santa Claus, too, who has gifts for all the children in the town who believe in good old St. Nicholas. Then a finale takes place on Station Square where the women's voices blend with the men in singing the beautiful Christmas songs.

Mrs. Charles H. Scammell will be in charge of the music; the costumes and mechanics will be cared for by Louis P. McGahie; the toys will be selected by Mrs. George A. Douglass and Henry W. Hirschberg; the finale will be planned by Mrs. Scammell, Arthur H. Flint, Francis H. J. Paul and Dr. Ralph W. Waddell. The Grand Marshal of the pageant will be John M. McMillin. Mr. Hirschberg is treasurer of the organization and will head the finance committee. The general chairman of the whole celebration is Dr. Waddell.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be held at the same place on the evening of Nov. 29.

THE GARDENS PLAYERS

The Gardens Players announce their first subscription performance of the Season 1920-21, Nov. 22 and Nov. 23 at the Kew Gardens Country Club at 8:30 P. M. Four one act plays will be presented. A distinctive feature of this bill is that The Players are giving a premier performance of "The Storm" by John Drinkwater. The other plays are "Fifty-fifty" "Where but in America" and "The Wonder Hat" and the casts include Bertha Mandell Lolita Cordon, Hildegard Diechmann, Maida Birmingham, Beth Cason, Mariorie Wilson Helen Smith Ruth Swazev Charlotte Packard Harvey Warren, Crispia Bebb Erik Huneker, Edward Swazev, Irving Hare, Walter Claynoole, James S. Cassell. Tickets at the Inn and Chemist Shop.

FOREST HILLS IN ELECTION RETURNS

Forest Hills went early to the polls on the historical election day of 1920 and contributed its share to the country's overwhelming support of the Republican candidates. It is encouraging to note that even in the sweep many Forest Hills voters displayed their political independence by voting for such candidates as Judges Scudder and Humphrey, and others who spoke at the open political night of the Community Council.

The totals for the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Election Districts (Forest Hills) of the Sixth Assembly District were as follows:

President and Vice-President—Harding and Coolidge 726; Cox and Roosevelt, 187.
 Governor—Miller, 508; Smith, 400.
 Lieutenant-Governor—Woods, 564; Walker, 299.
 United States Senator—Wadsworth, 595; Walker, 261.
 Justices of the Supreme Court—Republicans, Aspinwall, 580; Jaycox, 537; Dike, 551; Strong, 489; MacCrate, 496; Democrats, Garvin, 272; Scudder, 436; Druhan, 190; McMahon, 211; Humphrey, 403.
 Secretary of State—J. J. Lyons (Rep.), 604; Mrs. Mills, (Dem.), 245.
 Congress, Second Congressional District—Hantusch, (Rep.), 580; Kindred (Dem), 263.
 Sheriff—Wagner (Rep.), 600; Flanagan (Dem), 260.
 District Attorney—Wallace (Rep.), 522; Gresser (Dem.), 200.
 State Senator, Second Senatorial District—Karle (Rep.), 622; Berger (Dem.), 237.
 Assemblyman—Baum (Rep.), 337; Locke (Dem.), 288.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boyd McKee, of 49 Summer Street, announce the arrival of a baby girl, Lenore L. McKee, Friday, Nov. 5, 1920.

C. C. Foster, of 36 Slocum Crescent, has rented his house to Charles H. Meigs, and moved to New York for the winter, taking an apartment at 305 West End Avenue, corner of West Seventy-fourth Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Tracey Warren, 73 Greenway North, announce the birth of a son, Richard Bronson Warren, on Oct. 22.

Homer Croy, Standish Road, has been asked to write the chapter on motion pictures for the new edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica.

This afternoon Mrs. J. Gorton Marsh, 68 Greenway North, will give a tea for Mrs. Alden H. Vose and Mrs. Harry Pushae Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Vose and family are living in the Rowland H. Smith house, which they recently purchased from Mrs. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Williams and daughter are making their home at the Inn.

Recently Mrs. George Smart and Mrs. George C. LeBlanc gave a program before the 360 members of the Leonia Women's Club. Mrs. Smart gave her impersonation of Abigail Adams and Mrs. Le Blanc gave an organ recital.

BREWER—RIDPATH

Mr. and Mrs. John Brewer announce the marriage of their daughter, Mabel, to James W. Ridpath, at Warsaw, Poland, Oct. 25. Mr. and Mrs. Ridpath expect to be at the Inn for a while before leaving for their home in California. Mrs. Ridpath was a popular kindergartner here before doing reconstruction work for the American Friends' Service Committee in France. For a number of months she has been working for the same committee in Poland.

MOTHERS' CLUB

The regular monthly meeting of the Mothers' Club will be held on Monday afternoon, Nov. 15, at 3 o'clock, at public school 101.

Members of the club, under the direction of Mrs. Charles B. Nelcamp, have been making a silk United States Flag Wednesday and Thursday of this week at the home of Mrs. George J. Simons. The Flag will be presented to the new school building by the Mothers' Club.

The editor of the BULLETIN knows of a very needy and deserving case where an invalid's chair would be a most acceptable gift. If any one knows of such a chair or is willing to give some money towards such a purpose, please tell the clerk of the Inn.

THE INN



The most interesting episode in the social life of the Inn for sometime was the immensely successful dance given on Hallowe'en for the benefit of the Big Sisters of Queensborough. Not only was the affair a financial success, but everyone agreed that never had there been so much real fun at any previous party nor had they seen the Inn more beautifully decorated.

Pumpkins and corn husks were everywhere, while each light was shaded with Hallowe'en decorations—spooky skeletons, cats and witches. Mrs. Katherine P. Collins was a most successful "Witch" and gave much assistance in the collection of tickets at the entrance gate to the "barn;" Mrs. Murray Brown took charge of the refreshments, from which a goodly sum was realized thanks to the kind donations of many ladies of the Gardens. Over three hundred dollars was cleared and handed over to the Big Sisters, who have most thoroughly expressed their appreciation for the effort in their behalf. Mrs. W. F. Gray and Miss Agnes have returned from their trip to Maine and anticipate spending the winter at the Inn, having disposed of their home on the Greenway for this season.

Mrs. James R. Harrar, wife of Dr. Harrar of the Mc-Alpin Hotel, and her two children, are making the Inn their home for the winter season, Dr. Harrar spending as much time with his family as his New York practice will allow.

Miss Jane Davenport of New York has arrived at the Inn to join her friend Miss Jeannette Ransom.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Jackson of Detroit have returned to the Inn for the winter season, much to the pleasure of their many Inn friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are the parents of Mrs. E. H. Robinson of the Gardens.

Mrs. James Hitchcock was heartily welcomed at the Inn upon her return from England recently, she will be joined by Mr. Hitchcock about the middle of December.

Miss Katherine H. Beeson and Miss Martha Brown of the Ossining School, were the guests of Miss Sally Pierce over the last week-end.

W. J. Stout of the Inn recently returned from a month's hunting trip in Maine.

Miss I. M. Shaw of New York has recently arrived from Stockbridge Mass., to join her sister Mrs. Herrick who, with her daughter Miss Claire Herrick, has been a guest of the Inn for sometime.

Mrs. L. W. Renfrew of the Inn entertained a delightful party of ladies from Brooklyn, who comprise an auction bridge club of which Mrs. Renfrew has been a member for some years, on Friday afternoon last. Luncheon was served in the loggia of the dining room followed by cards in the sun parlor.

THE PLAYGROUND

After a month of intense activity and life, the playground was closed on Nov. 5. The successful and popular leader of the play was Miss Elizabeth Hughes. There was an attendance of over 2,500 for the month, or an average daily of 100. The largest number in attendance for one day was 200, and the lowest was 50.

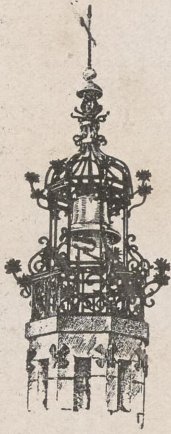
Mrs. George A. Douglass, chairman of the playground work for the Mothers' Club, mailed a letter appealing for financial help for the playground to 473 residents of the Gardens. The letter contained a stamped, addressed envelope for reply. Receipts have come from seventy families. The children need and want the playground; the mothers use it as a nursery. Why is there not a more general response?

More money now would insure a winter skating rink, free for the children; it would guarantee the spring opening of the playground. This good cause needs the help of every one who appreciates organized play for boys and girls.

FIRST MEETING OF MASONS IN NEW BUILDING.

The Forest Hills Lodge of Masons will hold the first meeting in the basement of the new building (which is in the process of erection), at 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening, Nov. 16. All Masons of Forest Hills whether members of this Lodge or not, are urged to attend this important and interesting ceremony.

THE CHURCH-IN-THE-GARDENS



Dr. Latshaw will be in the pulpit tomorrow morning at the regular service—11 o'clock.

The steady increase in attendance is indeed gratifying. A congregation of 142 on a normal Sunday—November 7—points toward a filled church in the very near future.

It was with regret that the Church Committee granted a letter of transfer to Miss M. C. E. Barden. She was one of the charter members of the Church-in-the-Gardens and for a number of years was superintendent of the cradle roll of the Sunday School. Miss Barden moved to Brooklyn three years ago.

"A Collective vs. an Individual Moral Ideal" will be the topic for discussion at the mid-week (Thursday night) meeting on Nov. 18. The attendance and the interest at these meetings are most encouraging. The dinner and social hour—6:45 to 7:45—preceding the discussion is proving a worth while feature of the evening.

The young people are finding their Sunday evening discussions on "How Jesus Met the Problems of Life," interesting and profitable.

W. P. McC.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The November meeting of the Women's Guild of the Church-in-the-Gardens was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Ward J. MacNeal 82 Rockrose Place, where the speaker was Mrs. Franklin Warner, of White Plains whose subject was "The Far East Through the Eyes of a Lay Woman." Mrs. Warner has just completed a trip around the world with a committee of the American Board of Missions and she has first hand knowledge of the mission field. She gave a splendid address and dressed as she talked, three of her audience in the costumes of China, Japan and India picturing the life of the people of those nations as she did so.

Reports on the fair were given. Assisting Mrs. MacNeal in receiving were Mrs. William B. Davis and Mrs. S. S. Freeman. The Guild has 106 members.

ST. LUKE'S

The Women's Guild held its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. E. C. Stokes, 165 Livingston Street, on the afternoon of Nov. 5. There was a large attendance and many interesting things were discussed for the good of St. Luke's.

The rummage sale is to take place the first week of December and the home-makers of Forest Hills are requested to look over their clothes, pictures, furniture and dishes and see if there is something which they would like to dispose of in this way. Anything will be gladly received by Mrs. G. W. Drake, Greenway South and Summer Street, or Mrs. T. T. Sweeney, 5 Russell Place. The sum of \$700 was cleared in this way last year and the members hope for \$1,000 this year.

A number of the new members joined the Woman's Altar Guild of New York City to help along the wonderful work that is done for missions. Any others wishing to join the Altar Guild kindly give the names to Mrs. Arthur Wrgiht, 38 Greenway Terrace. Dues are \$1.00 a year. J. LeB.

OLD-FASHIONED BARN DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 24, there will be held under the auspices of Forest Hills Lodge No. 946, F. & A. M., a real old-fashioned barn dance and entertainment.

The new Masonic Temple at Gown Street and the Boulevard will lend itself admirably to an affair of this nature, and all who attend are promised a jolly good time.

The music and entertainment for the evening will be rendered by the famous Deacon Johnson and an orchestra of eleven celebrated artists.

Tickets at one dollar each can be procured from any member of the Lodge or at any of the local drug shops. Dancing will start promptly at 8:30.

WOMEN'S CLUB

(Continued from Page 1.)

on Nov. 1, were: Mrs. Verner M. Kline, Mrs. Albert Sheppard, Mrs. G. G. Thomson, Mrs. Harry Pushae Williams, Mrs. C. B. LePage, Mrs. F. Clark Thompson, Mrs. Frederick Bauer, Mrs. George E. Ward and Mrs. Francis B. Colton.

Dr. S. Dana Hubbard, of the Department of Health of New York city, spoke on the work of his department.

Mrs. E. Jean Nelson Penfield, an attorney of New York, and a fine speaker spoke on the subject "What Have We a Right to Expect of the New Electorate?" She said: "America has a right to expect a veritable spring-tide of reform from the new electorate." She continued by saying: "Women should accept the franchise with a patriotic integrity of purpose coupled with a will to be as intelligent as it is possible to be." Approximately 26,000,000 women voted at the last election as opposed to 8,000,000 in 1916. Mrs. Penfield urged the club's support of the "Campaign pamphlet bill," which has been in force in Oregon since 1909, and will be considered by the New York Legislature this winter.

Work of Chapters

On Monday afternoon, Nov. 8, at the home of the chairman, Mrs. Forry R. Getz, the philanthropic chapter met and listened to a talk from Mrs. Webster F. Williams, who spoke of the work of the Jamaica Day Nursery, which the chapter is considering helping. The new current events chapter will meet at the home of the chairman, Mrs. Lyman Beecher Stowe, Greenway South and Union Turnpike, Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 23, at 2:30 P. M., when Charlotte Perkins Gilman will speak. The music chapter will meet at the home of Mrs. Edward H. Moir, 141 Jewell Street, at 2:30 P. M. Friday, Nov. 26. The current readings chapter will meet on Nov. 16 and 30, as announced in full in the last BULLETIN and also briefly scheduled in the Coming Events column of this edition.

CHURCH SERVICES

Roman Catholic—Sunday mornings at 8 and 10 o'clock, Ascan Avenue, near Queens Boulevard.

St. Luke's Episcopal—Sunday 8 A. M. Holy Communion. 9:45 A. M. Sunday School. 11 A. M. Morning Service Holy Communion first and third Sunday in each month.

Church-in-the-Gardens—David Latshaw, D. D., Pastor, Sunday mornings. Sermon at 11 o'clock. Sunday School 9:45 o'clock.—Christian Endeavor Society, Sunday, 7:45 P. M. Social Room. Thursday 6:45 P. M., Dinner and Thursday Night Social Study Club.

Church of Forest Hills—Sunday mornings, Sunday School at 10 A. M.; sermon at 11 A. M. Seminole Avenue and Gown Street.

Christian Science Society of Forest Hills. Services Sunday at 11 A. M. Sunday School 9:45 A. M.; Wednesday evening at 8:00. Reading room open daily from 2 to 4 P. M. except Sundays and holidays. 173 Continental Avenue.

COMING EVENTS

- Nov. 15, 3 P. M.—Mothers' Club Public School 101.
- Nov. 15, 8 P. M.—Men's Club, 194 Greenway South.
- Nov. 16, 2:30 P. M.—Current Readings Chapter, Women's Club, 20 Markwood Road.
- Nov. 16, 8 P. M.—Forest Hills Masons, Boulevard and Gown Street.
- Nov. 19, 8 P. M.—Community Council, Church-in-the-Gardens.
- Nov. 23, 2:30 P. M.—Current Events Chapter, Women's Club, Greenway South and Union Turnpike.
- Nov. 24, 8 P. M.—Barn Dance—Masonic Hall, Boulevard and Gown Street.
- Nov. 26, 2:30 P. M.—Music Chapter, Women's Club, 141 Jewell Street.
- Nov. 29, 8:30 P. M.—Executive Board, Celebrations Association, Sales Office.
- Nov. 30, 2:30 P. M.—Current Readings Chapter, Women's Club 84 Puritan Avenue.
- Dec. 20, 8 P. M.—Men's Club, Greenway North and Puritan Avenue.

Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin

Supplement to Edition of November 13, 1920

History of the Community House of Forest Hills

Born of Necessity for Larger Quarters for Religious Education, the Plan Developed Along Broad Lines, Appealing to All Progressive People.

By GEORGE SMART

THE Community House is an evolution, a development from a modest beginning to a broad movement, starting with a small group in one church and extending to include the people of all religions and even those who think they are not religious but are willing and anxious to be helpful. The original idea was not narrow, for in the little church were representatives of eight or nine denominations and there was also the spirit of Olivia Sage, of honored memory, who in presenting the beautiful place of worship to the community stipulated that no denominational test should ever be applied to those who sought membership and that all who loved the Lord should be welcomed within its portals. Hence it was not surprising that the people who had come together on such a liberal basis welcomed plans for greater service than they had conceived.

The Inception of the Enterprise

Like many other good things, the idea was born of necessity. The increasing number of children coming to the Sunday School of the Church-in-the-Gardens clearly demonstrated that the accommodations for the little ones and those somewhat older were inadequate and were certain to become much more so as time passed. It was first proposed that two or three of the lots adjoining the church property on Ascan Avenue be purchased and that the church erect a modest parish house to meet the needs of the Sunday School and carry on other kinds of religious education while also serving the community as much as possible. The subject was first presented to the trustees of the church on May 9, 1919, when it was stated that the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor had in mind a plan for raising a fund to be the first payment toward establishing a parish house. The plan had been approved at the mid-week church meeting. The trustees appointed a committee to confer with the Sage Foundation Homes Company as to the terms on which the lots could be purchased and on Oct. 24 the purchase of four lots was decided upon by the board.

Larger Project Made Possible

Then came the pleasant surprise which made larger plans possible.

At a meeting of the board of trustees held Nov. 10, 1919, one of the members, Rowland H. Smith, stated that his mother, Mrs. Alfred H. Smith, being desirous of rendering a service to the church in a way that would promote also the interests of the community, wished him to say that she would give the church an amount equal to the cost price of such lots on Ascan Avenue and Borage Place as might be necessary for use in building a parish house and a pastor's residence on condition that within a year from Jan. 1, 1920 an

equal amount would be raised by the members of the church and others interested.

The generous offer was accepted with thanks and a committee appointed to raise the necessary amount of money. The action, a few days later, was approved by the church congregation and before the end of the month of January three lots at the corner of Greenway North and Borage Place and five lots on Borage Place were purchased and a committee on preliminary plans for the building was appointed. The building was still called the parish house, but a meeting of the board on Jan. 14 the committee on plans was instructed to ask the advice of the advisory board of the Community Council as to taking care of the need of the community organizations. The broadening movement was now well under way.

The Passing of Rowland Smith

Then came the shock that filled Forest Hills with sorrow, for on April 2, Good Friday, 1920, Rowland Holbrook Smith, whose influence had been unceasingly devoted to the development of the higher life of the people of the village, and whose constant effort had been exerted in the new movement, was taken from his field of action in this life. His influence abided, and with new determination his friends, with many who knew him little personally but had felt the inspiration of his unselfish life went forward to complete the great work as he would have had them do it.

The House and Hall Named

A noteworthy forward step was taken at a meeting of the trustees on April 30, when it was voted that the board recommend to the corporate body of the church that the new structure be called the Community House of the Church-in-the-Gardens and that the main auditorium be called Rowland H. Smith Hall. It was voted to present the project to the community as a one hundred and fifty thousand dollar undertaking, not including the parsonage.

One of the last acts of Mr. Smith in connection with the Community House was to make preliminary arrangements for the purchase of two additional lots on Ascan Avenue and this transaction was completed shortly after his death, so that the church now owns ten lots, surrounding the present edifice on the East and South.

The June Campaign

The campaign for funds was started June 6, carried on for three weeks and \$70,150 including the land valued at \$20,000 now represents the assets of the Community House. When the fund amounts to \$75,000, a gift of \$10,000 will be forthcoming and when the fund reaches \$100,000 there will be available as a loan another \$10,000 at 2 per cent. It should be stated that it is now impossible to say definitely what the total cost of the enterprise will be. As the plans of the committee on building have developed,

(Continued on Page 4.)

Community House of Friendship and Good Will

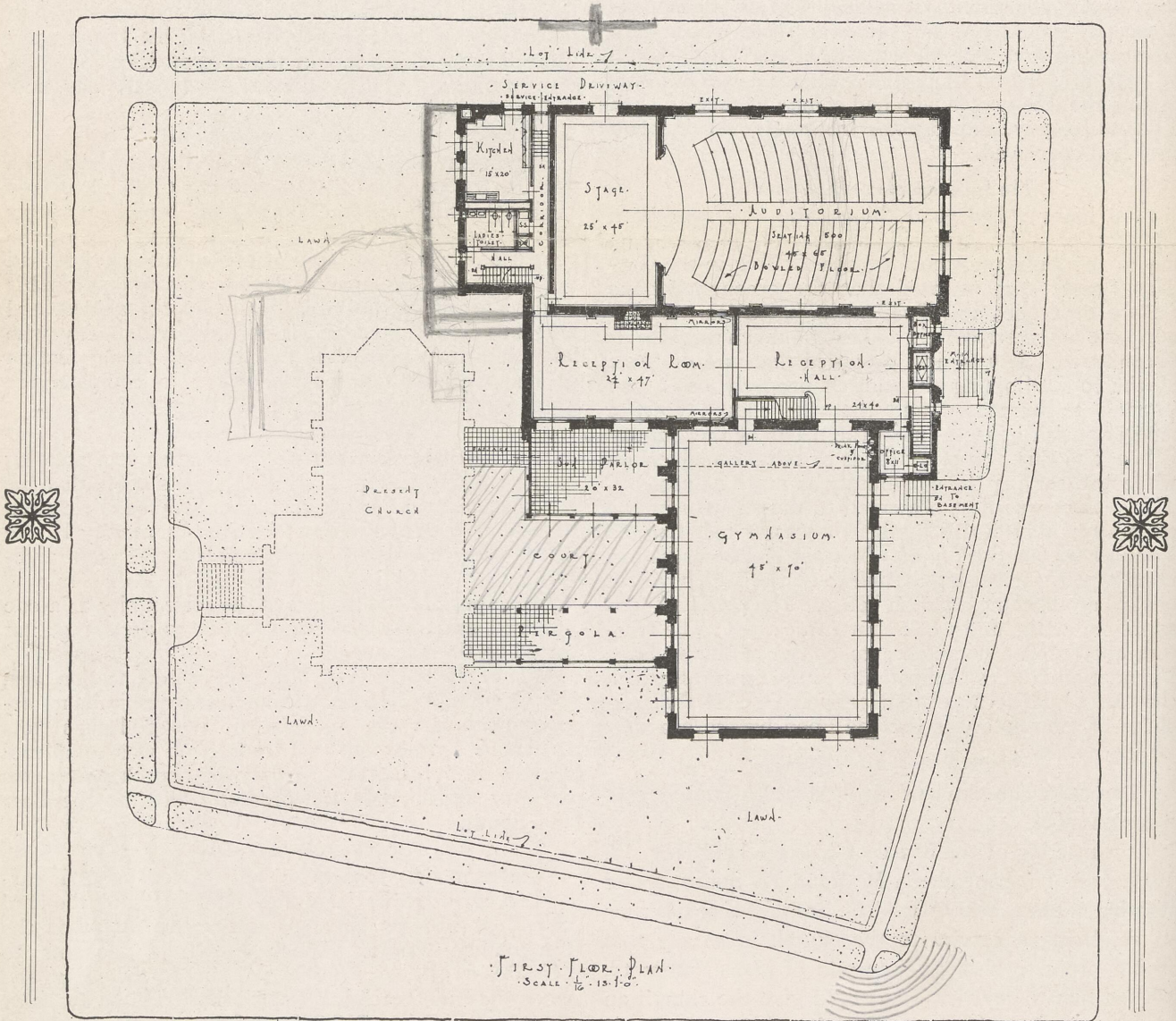
BY DAVID LATSHAW

Expectancy is big in the faith of the Christian Men of America. They expect great things to happen. They wait only for leadership to make them happen. Christianity as in the early days challenges to the great adventure. Adequate statements of our faith have been hammered out on the anvil of debate. The age of religious debate is past. The age of religious emotion has enlarged the hearts and horizons of men.

The age of *action* is here. Our time demands a demonstration of the friendship Christian men have thought, felt and talked about. The masses of men want to be shown and thousands of Christian men want to live more fully the ideals they have accepted. They honor their leaders, but in these days, adventure by proxy will not be enough. The Community House aims to give this spirit an adequate channel of expression.

The Church-in-the-Gardens has already demonstrated that men and women of various denominations can unite for worship and service. Old points of disagreement are deliberately pushed into the background. Points of agreement are emphasized and acted upon. In other words we do more than *tolerate* each other. We are friends.

We expect the Community House to enlarge this spirit in the Community. We demonstrate our good faith in the community by asking the community to participate in its management. Other churches and constructive agencies in Forest Hills will have a voice in the management of the house, with the active co-operation of the Church-in-the-Gardens. We are therefore building a house in honor of friendship and good will.



PROPOSED FIRST FLOOR PLAN
Showing Gymnasium, Auditorium, Reception Hall, Reception Room and Sun Parlor

PROPOSED PLAN

**Governing Board of Community House —
Method of Appointment, Powers,
Duties and Responsibilities**

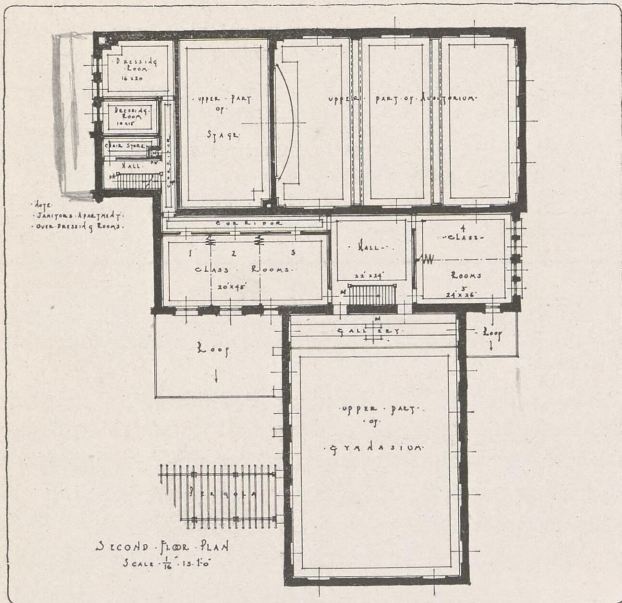
The Board of Trustees of the Church-in-the-Gardens, after consultation with Thurlow M. Gordon, attorney and other residents, has prepared the following document to be presented to the church for formal action:

**Memorandum of Resolution to be Recommended
by Board of Trustees**

Acting upon the suggestions of the Campaign Committee, the Board of Trustees recommends to the church the following resolution to be adopted by the church for the purpose of fixing definitely the plan of government for the new Community House when completed and put into operation.

RESOLVED: In order that the proposed Community House shall in the broadest way serve as an institution for the character building of our children and the religious, educational, charitable, patriotic and other proper activities of the people of Forest Hills as a whole, the trustees of the Church-in-the-Gardens (hereinafter called the "trustees") are hereby directed to create a Board of Governors of the Community House (hereinafter called the "board") which shall consist of nineteen (19) members selected in accordance with the following plan:

- (a) Six (6) members of the board shall be appointed by the trustees to represent the Church-in-the-Gardens and shall include one trustee, one member of the Church Committee, a representative of the Sunday School, a representative of the Women's Guild, a representative of the Young People's

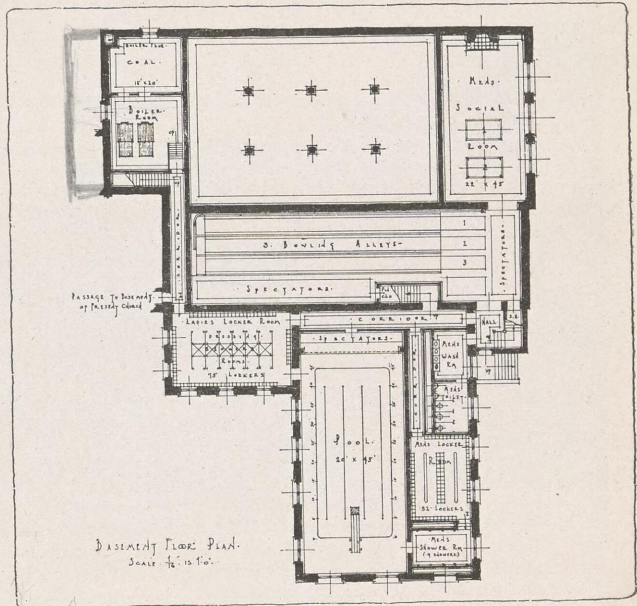


TENTATIVE SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Class and Club Rooms and Upper Part of Gymnasium and Auditorium.

- (b) The second group of ten (10) members shall represent the ten leading non-political organizations in the community, with the understanding that for the three years following the opening of the

Community House these organizations shall be the Protestant Episcopal Church of Forest Hills, the Roman Catholic Church of Forest Hills, the Church of Forest Hills, the Christian Science Church of Forest Hills, the Community Council, the Men's Club, the Women's Club, the Mothers' Club, the



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

Swimming Pool, Lockers and Showers, Men's Social Room, Heating Plant and Store Room.

Gardens Players and the Boy Scouts; and with the further understanding that the same ten organizations shall continue to be represented on the board thereafter unless and until the trustees shall designate from time to time other organizations in the opinion of the trustees more suitably qualified to carry out the spirit and purpose of the Community House. Each organization shall be asked to appoint one representative. If any organization designated shall cease to exist or shall neglect for six months to appoint a representative whenever one should be appointed, another organization shall be named in its place by the trustees, if in the opinion of the trustees a suitable organization exists in the community of Forest Hills. If no such organization exists, then, until such an organization shall come into being, the place so left vacant shall be filled by the appointment of a representative of the community at large as hereinafter provided in paragraph (c).

- (c) A third group of three (3) members shall consist of representative men or women of the community and shall be selected by the members comprising the first and second groups. These shall represent the community as a whole and shall be appointed without regard to affiliation with churches or other organizations.

The first board shall be appointed to serve until the following November 1, and until the respective successors are appointed and confirmed. Thereafter, members of the board shall be appointed annually to serve for a period of one year (beginning November 1 in each year) and until their respective successors are appointed and confirmed. If the successor of any member shall not have been appointed at the expiration of six months after the time for such appointment has come then the term of such member shall automatically expire at the expiration of such six months period.

To conform with legal requirements, the trustees shall ratify and confirm all appointments.

In the event of a vacancy on the board through

death, resignation, or otherwise, it shall be filled by the appointment of a new member for the remainder of the unexpired term, to be selected in the same manner as the member whose place shall be vacant.

The Church-in-the-Gardens and the trustees thereof delegate to the board the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

- (a) The care and management of the Community House generally;
- (b) The selection of the Community House personnel to originate and carry on Community House activities (other than religious activities), i. e., activities originated by the Community House itself and not by outside organizations;
- (c) The duty of meeting the cost of maintenance and repairs of the Community House and the care of the Community House funds;
- (d) The responsibility for the character of entertainments conducted in the Community House or for it;
- (e) The responsibility of granting or refusing permission to persons or organizations desiring to use the Community House or any part of it, and of fixing the terms and conditions upon which such use shall be permitted; it being understood, however, that the Church-in-the-Gardens, in view of the greater proportionate responsibilities undertaken by it, in comparison with other organizations, shall have the right to specify the use of the Community House on Sundays;
- (f) The board shall at the opening of the Community House and on January 1 of each year thereafter submit to the trustees of the Church-in-the-Gardens a budget covering income and expenditures for the ensuing year. The board shall also submit to the trustees every three months a statement of the current financial condition of the Community House;
- (g) In view of the ultimate responsibility of the Church-in-the-Gardens for any indebtedness which may be incurred on behalf of the Community House, all acts of the board shall be subject to the veto of the Church-in-the-Gardens; and in case of unforeseen contingencies the trustees shall have power to amend or modify this plan in such respects as may be necessary to carry out the spirit and purpose of the Community House. The board shall not incur any indebtedness or obligation which may become a lien upon the Community House or other church property, and shall not, without the consent of the trustees, incur any financial obligations outside of a budget approved by the trustees. No activities shall be permitted in the Community House which are inconsistent with the tax exemption to which the property will be entitled as property used for mental or moral improvement, or for religious, educational, charitable, patriotic and such other activities as are exempt from property taxation under the Laws of the State of New York;
- (h) The board shall have full power to act by a majority, to establish its own by-laws and to determine its own manner of organization and action, including the manner of electing the members to be chosen by the board. It shall be authorized to act either at a meeting or by consent without a meeting, and may delegate its authority to such individuals or committees as it sees fit. No member of the board shall be responsible for the acts of any other member or for anything except his own individual, wilful malfeasance.

These resolutions shall not constitute a declaration of trust or the assumption of any legal obligation of any nature whatsoever, but shall constitute an expression by the Church of its purpose faithfully and conscientiously to carry out the spirit and purpose of the Community House in conformity with this plan.

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suggestions for enlargement and improvement have been accepted in a tentative way, thereby increasing the estimated cost to about \$250,000, but to offset the increased cost to a considerable extent will be the decrease in the cost of materials and labor which is certain to come in the near future unless all indications fail. The Community House will be built in units and will be so carefully planned that it will not become a greater burden than this progressive community will be glad to bear to promote the common good.

Plan of Government

One of the most difficult problems which has been met was that of providing a plan of government of the house which would meet legal requirements and also appeal to the entire community as liberal and fair. In working on this problem the trustees have had the invaluable guidance and counsel of Thurlow M. Gordon, an able lawyer of broad sympathies and strong community spirit. The plan published elsewhere in this issue has been approved by the board, but has not been finally acted upon by the church and

A FEW VITAL QUESTIONS

1. Are we as a community making Forest Hills the best possible place in which to live?
2. Are our educational leisure time activities developed to the full?
3. What are we doing to develop the cultural and art life of our community?
4. Are we seeing to it that all the groups in our community have an opportunity for a richer recreational life?
5. Are we promoting the physical well being of our community through leisure time activities?
6. Do we want our community to have a community program in which we all may share?
7. Shall we as community members pull together for the good of our community?
8. Is our community one of neighbors or a place of strangers?

is subject to amendment. Suggestions will be welcomed by Donald G. Clark, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The plans of the building committee pictured in this issue are the result of long and thorough consideration after including consultation with architectural and other experts, but they are not final and any one who desires to submit suggestions for changes will be cordially received by the chairman, J. Gorton Marsh.

You are cordially invited to get in touch with Dr. S. Ellsworth Davenport Jr., secretary of the Campaign Committee, for it may not be possible for members of the committee to make a personal call upon all and it is hoped that many who have not subscribed will do so without waiting to be called upon.

The very efficient treasurer of the Community House fund is J. Floyd McTyier, 57 Summer Street.