

I had a bit of an epiphany as I'm finishing Galen Cranz's book "The Politics of Park Design. A History of Urban Parks in America." The new design for Howard Park (featured at the bottom of this narrative) is like a series of vignettes dedicated as an homage to various eras of park history.

SOUTH LAWN (*Mid 1800's*)

Let's start at the open space in the south end of the park. It's highly unstructured space, designed for almost any activity – flying a kite, having a picnic, playing catch, or otherwise. The earliest "parks" in the United States were known as "pleasure grounds" and this space is precisely what they were. Fairly un-programmed and simple in design, these spaces were created for the public to enjoy in whatever ways they so desired. These spaces were less formal than a traditional garden or city plaza and were specifically created to encourage recreation. The term "pleasure ground" may sound funny today, however, it was the exact term Councilman Timothy Howard used in 1878 when he suggested that the area no longer be used as a dumping ground, but to be remediated and converted into a "public pleasure ground for the use of the citizens of South Bend." Let's continue our tour of the new Howard Park clockwise toward the river.

RIVERWALK (*Turn of the Century*)

When likes of Frederick Law Olmsted and George Kessler became popular in the late 1800's/early 1900's, the idea of the shapeless pleasure ground morphed into a more deliberately designed place. They introduced trees and plantings, winding paths, and benches with the notion that these places would serve as places of respite from the busy city life. This trail and heavy native landscaping is the exact treatment that we see along the proposed riverwalk in the new Howard Park designs. These early parks were, as Olmsted said, "a class of opposite conditions, a visual antithesis to gridded streets and rectangular houses." Preserving the WPA-era work in Howard Park additionally reinforces this era of our country's urban park history.

EVENT LAWN (*Early 1900's*)

As parks began to become more familiar and integrated into city life, music, plays, and festivals became an important part of experiencing a park. The proposed event lawn area reserves a high-profile space for this very use. Nearby is the arts grove, an homage to this same period when artists began to put their mark on public parks with creative landscaping, sculptures and monuments. Continuing clockwise still, we get to one of the signature areas of Howard Park.

ICE/WATER FEATURE & PLAYGROUND (*1920's – 1950's*)

Throughout "The Reform Period" in American Park history we see the advent of the playground. This period that starts in the 1920's and lasts approximately 30 years, also sees the formalization of recreational activities. Park designers and city officials noticed the trend that residents were starting to expect more than just open space and landscaped trails. Outside of programmed events, the parks started to become havens for illicit activity. City parks needed to do something to attract families and to encourage consistent vibrancy. In addition to playgrounds, this is when amenities like baseball diamonds, tennis courts, swimming pools, and ice skating rinks gain popularity. Ice skating has long been a tradition at Howard Park and the new skating trail will be among the most unique of its kind in the country. It'll also double as a water play feature in the summer months. The entire area will be flanked by a signature series of playground elements designed for universal access, intergenerational play, and discovery.

COMMUNITY CENTER (1940's – 1980's)

Continuing on our tour is the new Howard Park Community Center. Recreation Centers became an integral part of the suite of services offered by parks systems starting in the 1940's, increasing in popularity and necessity through the 1980's. Recreation Centers served as places to deliver services and opportunities to neighborhood families, senior citizens, veterans, and general users of the parks. Concurrent with the advent of recreation centers was the expansion of the definition of recreation. Recreation was longer just team athletics or play, it could be leisure activities or physical fitness activities. Recreation Centers soon became neighborhood anchors and some of the widely accessible, and used, civic institutions. The new Howard Park Community Center will feature flexible spaces designed to encourage varied programming and partnerships.

URBAN CORE (1990's – Current)

Cranz's text was written in 1989, and he doesn't offer much in terms of the "future of parks." Nonetheless, here is where I think Howard Park will offer a glimpse into another important era in the history of American cities and parks. After the crisis of urban renewal and the plight to the suburbs in the 70's and 80's, the dawn of the new millennium brought a renewed interest in restoring our urban fabric. Carefully complimenting the burgeoning retail corridor along Jefferson Boulevard, the new mixed-use Community Center and connected café will be located with right at corner of Jefferson and St. Louis. It will feature standard setbacks, quality streetscaping, on-street parking, and a generous plaza space around the building will create places for outdoor dining, reading, relaxing, and encountering. The café will serve as an amenity to users of the park, and the park will serve as an amenity to users of the café. It's an urban design that would make the likes of Jane Jacobs smile.

RELEVANCE (Emerging)

Like museums and libraries, parks today exist as public spaces that struggle to maintain relevance. I hypothesize that the "park of the future" is one that is informed by the eras above, true to a given community's identity, dynamic and multifaceted. Or course, not every park will need to be as heartily designed and programmed as Howard. A well-rounded city will have a broad range of parks, from neighborhood playgrounds to more quiet and contemplative spaces. A park like Howard, however, will only be complete with some progressive amenities – just like it's always contained. Illustrating our commitment to sustainability, the Community Center will be LEED v4 certified, perhaps the first in the state to claim this designation. Architectural lighting will artistically adorn areas of the park to complement the South Bend River Lights and modern, yet modest sound systems will be enjoyed in select recreational areas. Whether arriving by bicycle, car, foot, or wheelchair, conveniences throughout the park will ensure that it's relevant and comfortable for families, young professionals, seniors, and even dogs. The new designs also feature a unique space specifically designed for adjacent street festivals and food trucks. Despite all that, perhaps Howard Park's best feature is its amphibious ability to adapt to various active and passive uses.

The new Howard Park is truly a design for the ages, inspired by the ages. We are very fortunate to have this asset. I'm thankful for the wisdom of our city's early leaders who had the foresight to reclaim this space and those who have worked to protect and program it through the years. I'm thankful for those partners and colleagues who are working together to make this revitalization possibly. And I'm thankful to the South Bend community who continue to support, respect, and enjoy our parks. When John M. Studebaker spoke at the dedication of Howard Park in 1906, he said he was "surprised and delighted" at the community's reception. I look forward to introducing the residents of South Bend to the "surprise and delight" that will exist in our city's first public park when it re-opens in 2019.

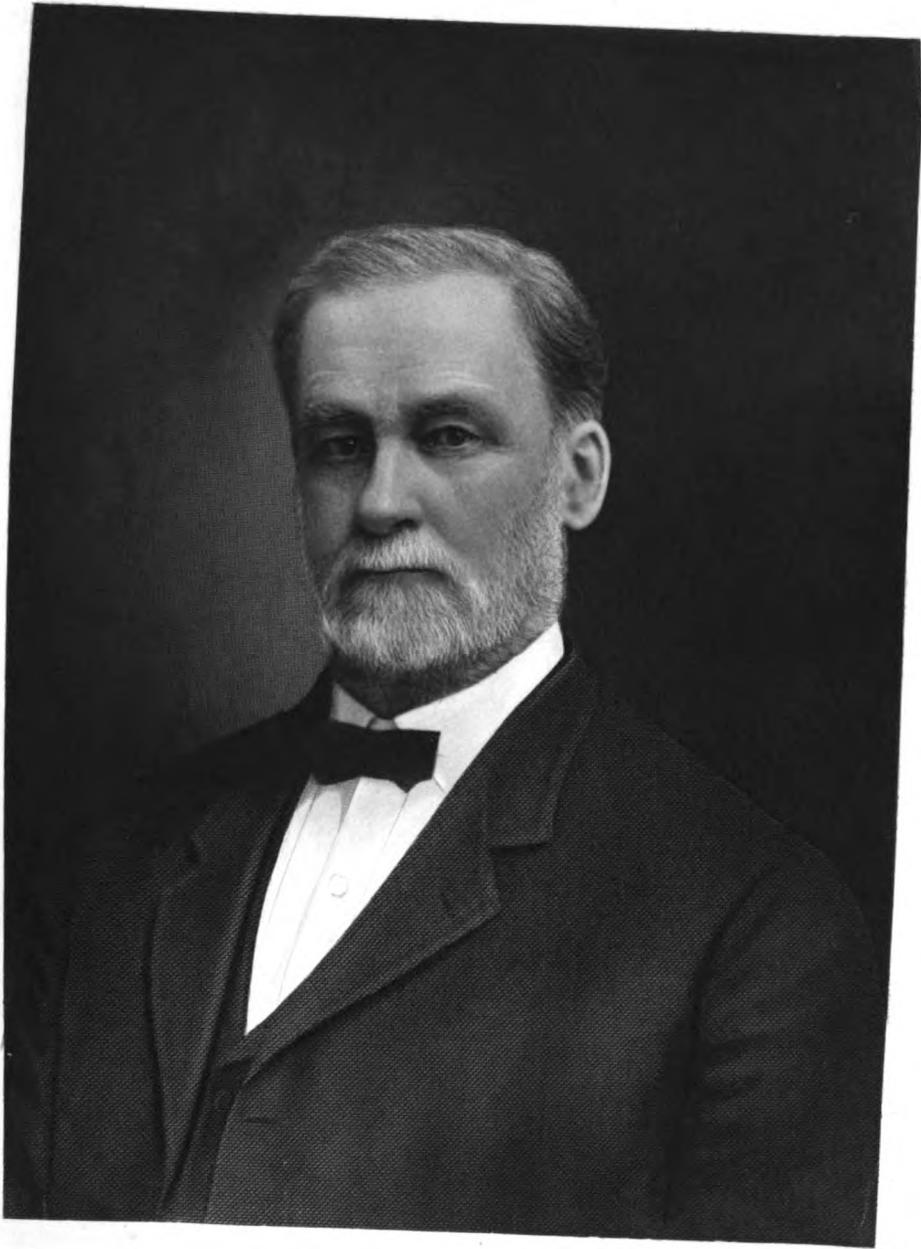
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*A History of St.
Joseph County, Indiana*

Timothy Edward Howard



Timothy E. Howard -

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PREFACE

It is now more than three-quarters of a century since the organization and first settlement of St. Joseph county. Of those who were present at the beginning there is no one left to tell the story. Three generations have since been born to the rich inheritance of those first toilers. Of these, the oldest yet living have, perhaps, heard the pioneer history from the lips of the pioneers themselves. As to the rest, if they know the story at all, they have learned it from tradition, from musty records, from letters, papers and documents of other days, and, it may be also, from such incidental references as are to be found in scattered pamphlets, books and other publications. For anything more definite concerning our early history we have been accustomed to look to the historical atlas of the county, published, in 1875, by Higgins, Belden & Company, of Chicago, and to certain historical and biographical works, particularly that published in the same city, in 1880, by Chapman & Company. The maps in the atlas referred to were excellent for their time, but have long been out of date. The footnotes in this atlas contain much valuable information that might otherwise have been lost. The Chapman work consisted of a brief history of Indiana, followed by detached sketches of the history of St. Joseph county and biographies of prominent citizens. These local sketches, like the notes in the Atlas, are of inestimable value, as preserving a variety of historical data furnished by men then still living, much of which also, if not thus preserved, might have been wholly forgotten. Since the publication of those works nearly a third of a century has passed, during which time many zealous students of our early history have gathered up the old traditions, searched the public records, turned over old newspaper files, and in a multitude of ways rescued from loss historical facts that were constantly slipping into oblivion. Chief among those students of antique historical lore have been David R. Leeper, Richard H. Lyon, George A. Baker and Charles H. Bartlett. Most of this good work has been done for or through the Northern Indiana Historical Society. To the labors of these painstaking searchers have been added numerous reminiscent writings prepared by older citizens, many of whom are now departed from us. It seemed high time to put into permanent form this wealth of material, new and old, to pick up these scattered threads of our splendid history and weave them into a continuous narrative, before they should again be scattered and perhaps lost forever.

For over a year the writer has devoted all the time which he could spare to this work, which to him has been a labor of love. He has, so far as he knows, overlooked no source of information which seemed open to him, and has sought to verify facts, names, dates and events, and to arrange the whole into a connected and readable history of St. Joseph county. How far these efforts have been successful must be left to the judgment of his readers. He has received aid from many sources, and has endeavored to give due credit for such help in the text, in the footnotes, and in the Bibliography printed on the follow-

Geo. E. Warner Apr. 5/09 (vols 1 + 2) #9.00

ing pages. This bibliography includes not only the books and other printed publications, but also all other authorities chiefly relied on in the writing of this history.

Acknowledgments are also due to many friends who have given valued information and furnished facts and reminiscences clearing up doubtful phases of our history. Among these generous helpers he would make particular mention of George A. Baker, secretary, and several other members, of the Northern Indiana Historical Society; H. S. K. Bartholomew, president of the Elkhart Historical Society; Samuel J. Nicoles, of Walkerton; and Albert H. Compton, of New Carlisle. Others who have suggested lines of research, answered requests, or who themselves have thrown light on the obscure past, are so numerous that even a list of their names could not be given. They will kindly accept this general acknowledgment of their invaluable services in helping, so far as could be done at this time and with the material now available, to make this a complete and satisfactory history of the county.

The publishers have been generous on their part. In paper, printing, binding and illustration, all pains have been taken that could have been given to a work that was to be sold throughout the country, whereas the patrons of this history must be found only within the limits of St. Joseph county. For their considerate kindness, which has done so much to make the labors of the writer a pleasant task, his acknowledgments are due and gladly tendered.

South Bend, Indiana, January 1, 1908.

TIMOTHY E. HOWARD.

including the police department, are housed within its ample walls. Indeed, it is doubtful whether any city in Indiana is provided with a more substantial, elegant and convenient city hall.

Sec. 6.—PARKS.—In the year 1878 the first public expression was made in favor of a park for the city of South Bend. While generous in many respects, as we have seen, the proprietors of the original plat of the town seem never to have thought of a park. It may be that the fine oak openings which formed the site of the town, together with the Parkovash on the east side of the river and Portage Prairie on the northwest, to say nothing of the other beautiful prairies and woodlands in the vicinity, made the whole country a natural park, so that perhaps the doughty founders of the city would have smiled at the idea of reserving valuable town property for so useless a purpose as park or pleasure ground. Yet the founders of other towns as pleasantly situated did not think it unwise to set apart public squares and plots of ground for pleasure resorts for the people. The lack of liberality in this respect is painfully apparent in our confined court house grounds; and here a comparison with the neighboring county seats makes our deficiency the more marked. In Goshen, Plymouth, Valparaiso and Laporte a full square is devoted to the court house; but in South Bend but one quarter of a square was set apart in the beginning for that purpose. The county commissioners afterwards bought an additional lot for the county jail, and still later bought two more lots, one for the present jail and one upon which the old court house has been placed. The founders of the city of Kalamazoo, were more far sighted in this particular, having laid aside two full squares for public parks, in addition to a square for the county buildings.

Even in 1878, when the subject of parks was first broached, the grounds considered were most unpromising. They consisted of an overflowed swamp waste along the east

side of the St. Joseph river, extending from Jefferson street to Division street. It was at first but a dumping ground; but, in the course of years, the unsavory locality has become the most beautiful spot in South Bend, and is known to the public as Howard Park. A more detailed history of this park will be given at the close of this section.

But little further interest seems to have been taken in public parks for many years. In 1889, however, Alexis Coquillard, who inherited the enterprise and public spirit, as he did the name, of his distinguished uncle, the founder of the city, showed his zeal in this direction by making a gift of four lots to Howard Park, and, still more, by offering to the city for park purposes a fine tract of ground, of nearly one hundred acres, on the east side of the corporation. He went so far as to lay out this park, plant trees and grade boulevards, walks and drives. In Coquillard Park, the city of South Bend seemed about to have one of the finest parks in the west. Unhappily, Mr. Coquillard, in the midst of his laudable enterprise, and in what should seem to be the prime of his active and useful life, died on February 25, 1890. With his death the life seemed to leave the noble project which he so fondly cherished. It was not until 1906 that all controversies as to this gift were settled, and the city accepted, in compromise of all its claims, a tract of ten acres, taken out of the grounds in dispute, for which the name of Coquillard Park has been retained.

With the coming in of the new century, attention was drawn to the large tract on the St. Joseph river, at the foot of Michigan street, which had been purchased in 1895 by the city for the use of the water works department. The building of a pumping station on those grounds, and the sinking and capping over of numerous artesian wells, left the greater part of the tract suitable for use as an additional park, without interfering with its use for water works purposes. The

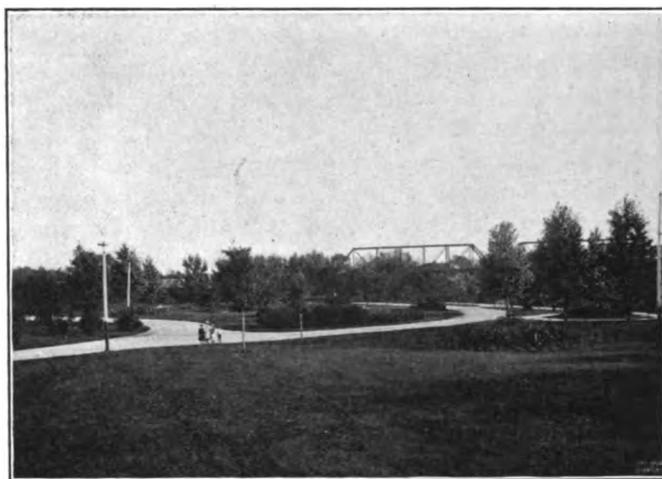
grounds were accordingly graded, planted and improved as a park.

On November 27, 1900, David R. Leeper died. He had been born very near to the present limits of the city of South Bend on January 12, 1832 and was during the whole of his vigorous manhood one of our most honored citizens. He represented the county in the state legislature, in both house and senate, and was also mayor of the city. His residence, during the later years of his life, just north of the river and near the new park, perhaps also suggested his name as one that might most appropriately be bestowed upon it. The beautiful stretch of

in 1905, by the placing of a drinking fountain in this park, the gift of Mrs. Mary P. Bugbee, in memory of her husband, Almond Bugbee.

Another park along the river is La Salle Park, located on the east side of the river, near the Sample street bridge. This will be only a park in name until the bayou in the river at that point has been filled up. When finally improved La Salle Park, like all our other river parks will be a place of beauty.

The Studebaker Park, in the southeast part of the city, named in honor of Henry Studebaker, and the Kaley Park, in the southwest part, are among the largest and



LEEPER PARK, SOUTH BEND.

ground along the river, including the island near the south shore, was accordingly named Leeper Park. In 1904, there was an extension of the park to the north along the river, from Michigan street to Lafayette street. Meanwhile a boulevard had been constructed all along the river, from Marion street to Michigan street, which has since been extended north, the intention being ultimately to have a continuous driveway down to River View cemetery and the old portage. Leeper Park is destined therefore to be one of the finest pleasure grounds anywhere along the banks of the St. Joseph. The name of another worthy citizen of South Bend was honored,

most valuable of our recent acquisitions. These fine breathing places are gifts to the city by public spirited donors whose names they bear. Pottawatomie Park, the old county fair grounds between South Bend and the town of River Park, has been described in connection with the history of River Park.^a

A comprehensive summary of the condition of the park system of the city, at the close of the year 1906, will be found in the following extract from the report of Herman H. Beyer, the park superintendent, for that year:

"The year 1906 was marked by numerous
a. Chap. 9, Subd. 3, Sec. 4.

park extensions in South Bend. The city acquired in the past year approximately seventy-eight acres of park property, distributed as follows: Coquillard park, comprising ten acres, secured by the city in the settlement of the old Coquillard park litigation. This ground is in the northeastern part of the city on East Campau street. It lies directly east of the Perley school and is a very desirable site for a public park. The most important park property which was added to our park system is the old County Fair grounds, presented to the city of South Bend by the county commissioners for park purposes. This ground is situated on the north side of Mishawaka road just beyond the eastern city limits. It comprises about sixty acres and is a most beautiful piece of rolling and wooded land. This tract will be known as Pottawatomie Park, in honor of the tribe of Indians of that name who formerly inhabited this locality.

"The city has also acquired by purchase an addition to Kaley Park which contains about three acres. This addition is a great improvement to the park as it is now entirely surrounded by streets. Formerly the south line was bounded by an alley which prevented a proper development of this beautiful piece of wooded ground. The next property acquired by purchase was about four acres from Messrs. Anderson and Du-Shane. This is situated at the foot of North Lafayette street, and will make a valuable addition to Leeper Park. It also forms a connecting link with the river shore drive (Marion boulevard) and Chapin Park.

"A great deal of work has already been done in the new park grounds. At Coquillard Park a great many trees and shrubs were planted; the entire park was seeded, and laid out with drives and walks.

"Kaley Park was thoroughly cleared of leaves and underbrush, twenty-four park benches were stationed in this park which were appreciated by the many people that

sought rest and shade in this beautiful piece of woodland.

"We have also done considerable work in Pottawatomie Park. This work was limited to the removal of stumps and underbrush. At this park were also placed thirty benches, which were much appreciated.

"There has also been considerable work done in Leeper and Howard Parks the past year. The west end of Leeper Park between Main and Lafayette streets, was graded, seeded and planted with trees and shrubs; this will soon bring this part of the park into good condition.

At Howard Park the new addition was developed. In this location was erected the beautiful Studebaker fountain that was donated to this park by Mr. John M. Studebaker, who is greatly interested in the development of this park. The band concerts at Leeper and Howard Parks were very much appreciated by the thousands of people that gathered in the parks on Sunday afternoons during the season.

"Our Zoo at Leeper Park is one of the chief attractions at that park on account of the numerous donations of pets that were received the past year. We were compelled to increase our cage room to take care of this fine collection of pets. This department is receiving considerable attention and is making gratifying progress."

After the foregoing report was made, Mr. Calvert H. Defrees, in the summer of 1907, placed in Howard Park a fine bronze drinking fountain; which, like the electric fountain presented by Mr. Studebaker, and the drinking fountain in Leeper Park, presented by Mrs. Bugbee, is highly appreciated by the throngs of summer visitors.

Closely connected with the pleasure resorts of the city, yet not of them, is Springbrook Park, owned and managed by the Chicago, South Bend & Northern Indiana railway company, and situated near the river on the line of the interurban, between South Bend and Mishawaka. Upon the grounds are a

baseball enclosure, a casino and numerous other places of amusement. Throngs of people visit Springbrook during the summer season.

In the light of the splendid progress that has recently been made in extending and ornamenting our parks, it may be interesting now to look back over the history of our first park, the first effort at park making in our beautiful city. On April 7, 1903, the following paper was read before the Northern Indiana Historical Society by the writer of this history:

THE STORY OF A PARK.

“Prior to the year 1878, the tract along the east bank of the St. Joseph river in the city of South Bend, stretching from Jefferson street to the Grand Trunk (formerly Lake Huron) railroad, was an impassable morass, breeding malaria in summer and good in winter for skating only. Cottrell avenue ran on the eastern side of the tract, and the ownership of the part between the avenue and the river was in doubt. This morass was claimed by Mr. William Heck, who platted the same into lots, which, however, remained vacant and unimproved, except that a part of the ground was scooped out deeper to make an ice pond for the cutting and storing of ice in the cold season.

“The place had become a nuisance in the summer as an ague breeder; but, as the city had no unquestioned control over it, the means of relief were not apparent; and yet the people were insistent on some plan for the abatement of the nuisance. Few persons in those days thought of parks, still less did any dream of turning this swamp into a pleasure ground. Something however, had to be done in the interest of the public health; and here, as in many other cases, necessity became the mother of invention.

“On October 14, 1878, the writer of this paper, then a member of the city council, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

“ ‘Resolved, by the common council of the city of South Bend, Indiana, That the city attorney is hereby directed to examine the title of the city to that tract of overflowed land lying along the east bank of the St. Joseph river, between the Jefferson street bridge and the Chicago & Lake Huron railroad, and bounded as follows: On the north by Jefferson street, on the east by Cottrell avenue, on the south by Division street, and on the west by the St. Joseph river; and if the title of the city to said tract is found to be good, then that the attorney report an ordinance to the council setting apart said tract as a city dumping ground for the deposit of all refuse matter from the streets and alleys of the city, with the view of finally filling, leveling and planting said ground, and thus, in time, converting the same into a public park or pleasure ground for the use of the citizens of South Bend.’

“On November 25, following, the city attorney, now the Hon. Lucius Hubbard, reported that, in his opinion, the said lands were a part of Cottrell avenue, but that as ‘Heck’s addition’ they were held adverse to the city; and he requested authority to bring suit in the circuit court to quiet the title of the city; which authority was granted.

“On January 6, 1879, the attorney reported that John and George Beck, who appeared to have title to the greater part of ‘Heck’s addition,’ were willing to quit claim to the city their supposed interest for one hundred dollars, each party to pay one-half costs of suit in court.

“On February 3, 1879, the city offered to pay sixty dollars for the lots in Heck’s addition held by John and George Beck. This offer was accepted and the purchase made.

“On February 4, 1879, the Hon. Lucius Tong, then mayor of the city; Jonathan P. Creed and Charles LaCoss quit-claimed for a small consideration four other lots in Heck’s addition. And on February 17, 1879, the city engineer was directed to mark the boundaries of the park.

“On March 17, 1879, pursuant to a motion therefor introduced by the writer, ordinance No. 524, establishing the city park and placing the same under the control of the city marshal, was adopted by the common council.

“On April 5, 1880, also on motion of the writer, the board of public improvements was authorized to plant 50 trees, elm and soft maple, upon the narrow ridge of ground near the river bank; which was done. The maples all died, and some of the elms also, but many of the elms have grown and flourished, and now afford grateful shade in the summer weather.

“Afterwards, on like suggestion of the writer, the city purchased the Semortier property, between Hill street and Cottrell avenue, being lot 170, Cottrell's first addition to Lowell; and on June 4, 1883, the common council vacated that part of the avenue between the Semortier lot and the river, thus greatly enlarging the original ground.

“No further action, except the gradual filling up of the low ground, was taken until November 5, 1889, when Alexis Coquillard, as a gift for the park, made a deed to the city of lots 195, 196, 197 and 200 in Cottrell's first addition. Lot 200, so given by Mr. Coquillard, proved to be of exceptional value, inasmuch as it fronted upon St. Louis street, and thus enabled the authorities afterwards to connect the walks and driveways of the park directly with that street.

“During the fifteen years, from 1878 until 1893, the ‘City Park’ was little more than a by-word among the people, and in the city press. The locality was indeed an unsavory one. At first a quagmire, the filling of street cleanings made it only slightly less offensive; and those who saw a future ‘public park or pleasure ground’ in the repulsive tract were compelled to suffer much obloquy in connection with the embryotic park. But the refuse continued to be covered from time to time with fresh earth; and when the years 1892, 1893 and 1894 came around, the people began to see that, in the end, the originators of

the park on the St. Joseph were sure to be vindicated. To give some idea of the work accomplished, it is said that the filling, or ‘made ground,’ is, in places from ten to fifteen feet deep.

“On June 8, 1891, the common council elected a board of park commissioners, consisting at first of Frank Mayr, Corwin B. Vanpelt and Samuel S. Perley. On October 5, 1891, this board reported that steps should be taken for the improvement of the park. The filling was at this time nearly complete, and the ground almost ready for covering with fresh soil, preparatory to grading, laying out walks and planting to grass, flowers and trees. On July 10, 1893, the park commissioners took the first important action looking to the permanent improvement of the grounds. The members of the board at that time were Corwin B. Vanpelt, Frank Mayr and Joseph E. Robert. They recommended the appropriation of \$5,000 for the erection of a sea wall along the river front and for other necessary work. The matter was before the council for several months; and it was not until June 25, 1894, nearly a year afterwards, that ordinance No. 949, making the appropriation requested, was finally passed.

“On February 26, 1894, the city engineer, William M. Whitten, reported that he had nearly ready for the engraver a new map of the city and desired to have a name given to the park, so that he might enter the same on his map. The engineer in his report was kind enough to refer to the action taken by the writer while a member of the council in securing the grounds for the city and providing for their enlargement and improvement; and he suggested that the writer's name be therefore given to the park. The council accepted Mr. Whitten's suggestion; and by a unanimous vote ordered that the tract should thereafter be known as ‘Howard Park.’

“On June 25, 1894, Corwin B. Vanpelt, Martin J. Roach and Oren G. Huff were elected park commissioners.

"On February 25, 1895, the commissioners asked that the park cease to be further used as a dumping ground. The city then procured other ground for the purpose, since known as La Salle Park, adjoining the new Sample street bridge, and also lying along the east side of the St. Joseph river.

"The commissioners now sought for a competent landscape artist to lay out the park, and were exceedingly fortunate in securing the services of Mr. John G. Barker, at whose magic touch the former swamp began at last to assume the fair outlines of a pleasure ground. Under his skilled hand a wonderful transformation has taken place. Those who enjoy the park, as it is today, owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Barker. He has shown by apt illustration how 'a thing of beauty is a joy forever.'

"During the summer of 1895 the fine sea wall and cement walk along the river was constructed. The report filed by the commissioners, November 19, 1895, shows receipts \$5,673.96, and expenditures \$5,663.62. The funds in the hands of the board were most judiciously expended. The results of that summer's labors are not only for the pleasure of those now living, but for the enjoyment of thousands yet unborn.

"The good work continued. The trees flourished from year to year. The green sod grew firmer. The gravel walks and drives were extended until they wound gracefully over the whole tract. During the summer months picturesque mounds of flowers mingled their bright colors with the deep green of the grass and trees and with the silvery sheen from the waters of the St. Joseph.

"And, lest the people in their enjoyment should forget that life is not all a holiday and that there had been times that tried men's souls, Captain Vanpelt, president of the board, secured three fine guns that had done service during the war, and had them mounted where they remain today, as if on guard against any possible enemy that might

appear upon the placid bosom of the fair St. Joseph.

"On October 25, 1897, the board, in a petition filed with the city council, began to agitate the procurement of additional land to the east of the park up to the alley first west of St. Louis street. The demand for that addition did not then, however, seem to be sufficiently urgent to induce the city fathers to yield to the request of the park commissioners. That extension was destined to come, but only after many years.

"With his third, and final, report, filed January 24, 1898, Captain Vanpelt, in the following words, feeling perhaps that he had done his work of love, and done it well, handed in to the common council his resignation of the office which he had so acceptably filled: 'Owing,' he said, 'to the pressure of private business, I feel it my duty to tender you my resignation, to take effect immediately. I desire to thank you, on behalf of the board of park commissioners, for the uniform courtesy and consideration you have at all times extended to us in the matter of the improvement of Howard Park, transferring a pestilential tract into what is, even now, a clean and wholesome spot, which, in time, will inure to the benefit of the general public.

" 'C. B. Vanpelt,

" 'President and Treasurer.'

"Would that every public servant might lay down his burden with as much honor to himself and with as many good wishes from the public who have been so greatly benefited by his unselfish labors.

"Captain Vanpelt had a worthy successor in the person of Irving A. Sibley, who was elected in his place, and who continued the same progressive methods, until the enactment of the new city charter, when the department of parks was placed in charge of the board of public works.

"On Friday evening, August 18, 1899, the park was formally dedicated as a public pleasure ground, in one of the most splendid civic demonstrations ever witnessed in the

queen city of the St. Joseph valley. The dedication was in connection with a patriotic festival in honor of Indiana's distinguished soldier, Henry W. Lawton, then winning his laurels in the Philippines. Dedication and festival were under the auspices and direction of Auten Post No. 8, G. A. R., of which the writer was then post commander, and Auten Relief Corps No. 14, W. R. C. Full and graphic accounts of the double celebration were given in the city press next day.

"The following paragraphs are abbreviated from *The Times*:

"South Bend's park commissioners well earned the praise bestowed upon their park-making efforts by the great multitude that thronged Howard Park at the Gen. Lawton memorial festival and park dedication. The results were a pleasing surprise to the many who had not before visited the park; and many friends were made for park expenditures so judiciously directed.

"It was an imposing parade that was formed on South Michigan street in front of Auten Post headquarters, last evening, led by Col. George M. Studebaker and Capt. David A. Ireland on horseback. When the line of march reached the Jefferson street bridge there was a crowd found on that structure that was simply alarming from its density, and all breathed easier when the procession had passed over. At the park there was a vast multitude, one of the largest ever gathered in South Bend.'

"The Tribune said:

"Silvery rays of many electric lamps and the full flood of moonlight turned pretty Howard Park into a fairyland last night; and the thousands of visitors who strolled over its winding paths, its graveled roads and well-kept lawns, and gazed into the quaint and picturesque St. Joseph, will long remember the dedication of what is to be the most beautiful little park in Indiana.

"As the thousands assembled on the city's pleasure ground to take part in the formal dedication of the place and to do honor to

that Indianian who is distinguishing himself in the Philippines, they found a revelation, for Howard Park was never more beautiful nor the river more sparkling than on last evening.

"The speaking was from the open pavilion in the center of the park. The speakers, who were introduced by Post Commander Howard, of Auten Post, as master of ceremonies, were Mayor Colfax, Congressman Abraham Lincoln Brick, Attorneys Stuart McKibbin and George E. Clarke and Captain Edwin Nicar.'

"The articles in the city papers were elaborate and enthusiastic in the extreme; but the foregoing condensed extracts will suffice to give some idea of the wonderful interest awakened among the people by the final opening of the park upon the St. Joseph.

"In 1901, on the re-organization of the city government under our special charter, the commissioners who had done their work so well, turned over the park to the new board of public works, consisting of Arthur L. Hubbard, Samuel Leeper and Charles L. Goetz. During the administration of this efficient board the park became so frequented a resort that attention was drawn more and more to the need of extending the area of the grounds set apart by the city for recreation and breathing places for the people. Early in their administration the board established La Salle Park, an admirably situated tract half a mile further up the river. Soon afterwards, over a mile down stream, they laid out the fine Leeper Park, which includes the dainty island in the river at that point.

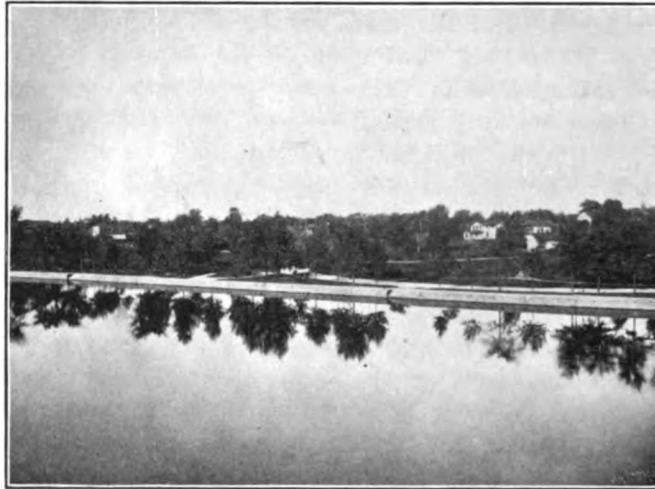
"The urgent desire of the people for the enlargement of Howard Park wrought upon the public-spirited and enterprising nature of one of South Bend's most eminent, as he is one of her most wealthy, citizens, Mr. John M. Studebaker; and in August, 1902, the board of public works received from Mr. Studebaker a deed for lots 187 and 188 in Cottrell's first addition, together with two thousand dollars in cash for the further im-

provement of the park. This timely gift was made conditional on the purchase by the city of lots 183, 184, 185 and 186, also to be added to the park. The purchase of those lots was accordingly made by the city at the price of twelve thousand, five hundred dollars; and the east limits of the park were thus extended to the alley next to St. Louis street, carrying out the design so long entertained by the park commissioners, as well as by the board of public works.

“As we have already seen, Mayor Tong, Mr. Creed and Mr. LaCoss practically donated four of the original Heck lots to the city

eastern part of the park, it was the desire of many people that the soldiers' monument, about to be erected by the county should be located on those high grounds, where it could be seen to so good advantage from all the city and surrounding country. The location finally chosen was different; and time only must tell whether a mistake has been made or not.

“With the ground clear from the river to the east side of the recent acquisition, the artist hand and brain of Mr. Barker will give us, with Howard Park and Leeper Park, pleasant recreation grounds, surpassing in



HOWARD PARK, SOUTH BEND.

when the park was first projected; and, afterwards, Alexis Coquillard gave four Cottrell lots for the same public use, bringing the grounds out to St. Louis street on lot 200. Finally, Mr. Studebaker added two lots more, with a gift of money for the same worthy purpose. So it has been that the generosity of high-minded citizens has combined with the ceaseless activity, wise economy and excellent taste of the officials in charge to make this park what it has now become, an ornament to our city and a place of delight for all our people.

“After the purchase of the last lots, giving a high and commanding position in the

beauty, extent and attractiveness those of any of our near-by sister cities.

“Howard Park will attain to its destined outlines and usefulness only when the lots immediately on the east are added to it. The grounds will then be bounded by Jefferson street, St. Louis street and the St. Joseph river. It will be a pleasure ground most romantically and at the same time most conveniently situated, consisting of nearly twenty acres of ground, lying in the very heart of the city, and stretching along the banks of the St. Joseph—by far the finest river in Indiana. That will, without doubt, give our fair city, if we have it not already, the most

delightful small park in the state, perhaps in the country.

To conclude, it will soon be twenty-five years since the passage by the common council of the original resolution first proposing to convert into a public park the tract of low and overflowed land lying between Cottrell avenue and the St. Joseph river. It has taken all those years to bring about the transformation proposed by the terms of the resolution. But the work is done, and the citizens of South Bend are in the actual use and enjoyment of the anticipated pleasure ground. Let us trust that this is but the first of the many public parks that are to adorn our beautiful city."

During the four years that have passed since the writing of the foregoing paper, the materials for "the continuation of the story" of Howard Park have been added to, by reason of the presentation of an ornamental electric fountain by John M. Studebaker and a bronze drinking fountain by Calvert H. Defrees.

On July 21, 1906, there was a double dedication in the park, as there had been on August 18, 1899, when the park itself was opened to the public, and at the same time the people united with the dedication a patriotic festival in honor of General Lawton, then doing honor to his country, and particularly to his state, during the war in the Philippines. On July 21, 1906, the people came together to dedicate the Studebaker fountain and also to witness the opening of the beautiful Melan bridge over the river, at Jefferson street, then recently completed. On the Monday evening following the dedication, the following particulars in relation to the exercises appeared in the South Bend Times:

"The outpouring of people Saturday night to witness the dedication of the electric bronze fountain presented the city for Howard park by John M. Studebaker, must have been greatly pleasing to that gentleman for the appreciation of the gift it evidenced. Estimates of the crowd assembled in the park

are from eight to ten thousand. It was a good natured assemblage, standing patiently through the concert given by Miller's band preceding the ceremonies, and listening intently to the speakers.

"Mayor Fogarty brought the assemblage to order, speaking of the pleasure it gave him to be permitted to preside at a meeting of this nature, when two such magnificent gifts as the fountain and the Jefferson street bridge were to be received by the city. He then introduced Mr. Studebaker.

"The address of the latter was of an extemporaneous order and of a happy nature. He said it was not his purpose to attempt making a speech, but he wanted to speak a few words to the young men who stood before him.

"He was surprised and delighted at the sea of faces before him; the appreciation of the gift thus shown was ample compensation.

"The incentive for giving the fountain to Howard park, he said, came from his travels over the country and visits to the parks of the larger cities. He had found that the parks most frequented were those made most attractive through public or private enterprise. This reflection caused him to reach the decision to do something that would make Howard park more attractive, and from it came the suggestion of an electric fountain as the best thing he could do.

"Mr. Studebaker then became most interestingly reminiscent, and told of his start in life; how he had struggled along, believing in the principle that God helps those who help themselves, eventually leading up to what made it possible for him to make the city this gift. It was at this point that he wished the close attention of his young auditors.

"'Fifty-six years ago,' said Mr. Studebaker, 'I landed in South Bend as poor a boy as stands before me tonight. The only shoes I wore were those God had given me. I lived with my parents in a log cabin and there are men and women here today who

can remember it. I got up at 4 o'clock in the morning and walked one or two miles in the woods where I cut my two cords of wood a day. That is the way I got my start. The opportunity for young men then was not very great or promising. It is better today. Times have changed it is true, but the opportunities are here just the same. The trouble is that many do not avail themselves of them, and are not willing to work as it is necessary to gain a start in life, and oftentimes fail to save and store away their earnings.'

"In his concluding remarks Mr. Studebaker made reference to the new bridge, and told of the struggle to get commissioners who would go on with these improvements. Where the commissioners were unable to realize the necessity for new bridges they were superseded by men who did. The improvements of the city had made, he said, South Bend known far and wide as a progressive and enterprising city, and it would grow still greater. Best of all, he said, was that in all these improvements there had been no grafting by officials.

"Mr. Studebaker then formally presented the fountain to William A. McInerny, president of the board of public works.

"The address of Mr. McInerny was a highly creditable effort, and in his remarks he took occasion to make it known that this was not the first evidence of public spiritedness on the part of this honored citizen. He said that Mr. Studebaker was an extensive traveler and greatly interested in municipal government. When he found something that was a departure from old established lines of government and that was an improvement, he brought the ideas home and laid them before the board.

"In the years he had served upon this board, Mr. McInerny said, he had always found Mr. Studebaker ready to co-operate in any necessary improvement and one who had never turned a deaf ear to requests for advice upon matters where his opinions would be of value to the board.

"The Hon. John B. Stoll, of The Times, referred to the value citizens of Mr. Studebaker's type were to a city, and also called attention to what an institution of the Studebaker factory's magnitude meant to South Bend. He said it should be the object and endeavor of every citizen to help improve South Bend as Mr. Studebaker had done. The poorest and humblest could do their mite and yet accomplish wonders by the planting of a tree, a shrub or a flower and keeping their lawns and premises in a neat, tidy condition.

"Congressman Abraham L. Brick was the last speaker. He spoke of the efforts to make the city more attractive and more beautiful and how its fame has spread. He had seen the new bridge built at Boston and although it was some spans longer he could honestly say that it was no prettier than the Jefferson street bridge, while he was confident that the county got better value for its money at less cost, than did the Boston builders.

"Mr. Brick referred to the charges of grafting that were being made over the country, taking occasion to say that citizens of South Bend could rest assured that there were no such conditions existing here. He believed in giving full credit to whom credit was due, and it was certainly due the present city administration for the improvements that were going on and the clean streets with the limited funds at hand.

"At Mr. Brick's close the water was turned into the fountain and as the cascades began falling over the basins the electric lamps burst into blaze, revealing the full magnificence and beauty of the gift of this most public spirited citizen and generous donor."

The Times took occasion in the same issue to speak in deserved praise of the public spirit of the citizens of South Bend who had been liberal in bestowing of their means in making their city beautiful. Some of these items are of special historical interest, and are here inserted for that reason:

"The thousands of people," said the Times, "who turned out last Saturday to witness

the dedication of the Studebaker fountain in Howard Park bore eloquent testimony to the high appreciation which the citizenship of this municipality feels in the beautifying of the queen city of the St. Joseph valley.

“Calvert H. Defrees is deserving of honorable mention in connection with the installation of the Studebaker fountain in Howard Park. With commendable generosity and by the manifestation of an appreciable public spirit he constructed free of charge the approaches to the fountain—the modern walks leading to that ornamentation of the city’s most inviting resting place. In doing this voluntarily and gracefully, the name of Mr. Defrees is given an honorable place in the list of South Bend’s benefactors. Doubtless the well-known contractor will find much satisfaction in contemplating that he has rendered a good service to those who seek recreation and joy in Howard Park.

“There are still opportunities for well-to-do citizens of South Bend to do something for the city by way of adornment and usefulness. Good examples have been set; emulation should follow according to circumstances and inclination. The Studebaker fountain in Howard Park serves as a pointer. It was, on a smaller but none-the-less appreciated scale, preceded by the widow of the late Almond Bugbee in rearing a fountain in Leeper Park. Epworth Hospital and St. Paul’s church constitute imposing monuments to the memory of that noble citizen, the late Hon. Clement Studebaker. The Y. W. C. A. will soon be provided with a splendid home through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. George Wyman. The Studebaker Manufacturing Company will presently give us a superb building for the Y. M. C. A., supplementing the spacious Auditorium. The Olivers have supplied the city with a magnificent hotel, preceded by an elegant opera house. Valuable school sites have been generously donated by Samuel S. Perley, James Oliver, the Muessel estate and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kaley; and Mrs. Jennette Reynolds has en-

dowed the Humane Society with a \$5,000 fund.”

The following also, from an editorial in the same issue of the Times, coming as it does from the philosophic and eloquent pen of the Hon. John B. Stoll, its able editor, is in the truest vein of appreciation of the deeds of those eminent citizens who have made South Bend renowned throughout the world and beloved by her own people:

South Bend on Saturday evening, wrote Mr. Stoll, accepted and dedicated the beautiful Studebaker fountain in Howard Park.

The formal ceremonies are, however, but introductory to the real acceptance and dedication of the fountain. These will continue day after day and year after year, as the citizens singly or in groups seek the wholesome recreations of the park, listen to the falling waters of the fountain, quaff its refreshing bounty or feast their eyes upon its beauty. Little children will accept it as they play about its base or laughingly dip their childish fingers in its waters. Youths and maidens will accept its influences unconsciously, perhaps, in their absorbed devotion to one another; tired manhood and womanhood will accept it in an hour snatched for rest from weary toil; old age will accept it as an aid to contemplation—and all will dedicate and rededicate it to purposes of culture and comfort. Nor will this acceptance and dedication be confined to the present time or to those now living.

When this generation shall have passed away, when its successor shall have come and gone and others still and others shall have followed; when the great industries which have built up our city and which effectuate its present prosperity may have passed into forgetfulness, this fountain, giving forth its waters like some of the old Roman structures that have blessed their localities for 2,000 years, will be annually accepted and consecrated by the people who centuries hence shall come after us. When the Studebaker wagon or automobile even shall perchance have become as obsolete as is now the chariot of the ancients, this fountain “gives bond in enduring brass” to guard the name of its donor and immortalize the trust committed to it.

This trust is to express, in material form, a bond of sympathy between employer and employe—between capital and labor. It

manifests a recognition by one whom fortune has favored of the obligations which prosperity has laid upon him. "Noblesse oblige"—nobility imposes obligation—was the motto of the old feudal lords of France.

In this land of equal manhood there are no lords and retainers, no barons and peasants—the highest rank may be reached by those in humblest conditions. But there are those whose organizing genius, financial skill or executive ability, combined with favorable circumstances, enables them to amass fortunes. They are the captains of industry, leaders of the hosts of enterprise. Such leaders are a blessing to any community. In their enterprise a city grows and its citizens prosper. The employment they furnish becomes a means of frugal comfort to many others, and of fortune to some. Of course, the concentrated profit means greater wealth to the few whose capital is risked and whose business ability is chiefly responsible for success or failure. If now, out of these accumulations the holder feels himself, under the obligations of good fortune, bound to use a part for the benefit of the citizens at large, his activities become a double blessing, and his individual success is still more the success of all.

South Bend is fortunate in her capitalists. They have not built up their fortunes in doubtful speculations or by crushing feebler competitors. They have conducted legitimate business enterprises in such a way as to benefit their co-workers as well as to enrich themselves. They have honestly earned the rewards that have come to them. They also are generous in sharing their surplus. Charities, churches, hospitals and Christian associations, in plans completed or projected, are continuously and munificently aided. The city, too, has been beautified by the generous expenditure of money not all with hope of return. This Studebaker fountain, though conspicuous, stands not alone as evidence of a generous, broad-minded public spirit in the successful men of the city. It may well be accepted as a type of what has been and is yet to be.

V. BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

Sec. 1.—THE STUDEBAKER BROTHERS MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—The writer of this history is indebted to the courtesy of Col. Charles Arthur Carlisle for the following sketch of

the evolution of the modern vehicle; including also an account of the organization of the Studebaker company and the development of its mammoth manufacturing business. The article has already been published in a widely circulated vehicle journal, and has received general commendation as a modest but comprehensive treatment of a most interesting subject. The article is followed by a summary of the Studebaker history since the coming of Henry and Clement Studebaker to South Bend, in 1852; also written by Mr. Carlisle:

All vehicles prior to 1750 A. D. were absolutely springless and the leather thoroughbrace, which preceded the steel springs, did not come into use until the end of the seventeenth century (about 1692).

Westward Ho! the advance of civilization carries us through all Europe, across the Atlantic, and we see the birth of a new nation—a people who will outrank and outshine all others in progress. In 1768 Boston proudly boasted of having twenty-two carriages of every description. In 1798 the number had increased to one hundred and forty-five.

In 1770 President Quincy, of Harvard college, wrote as follows of a stage journey between Boston and New York:

"The carriages were old and shackling, and much of the harness made of ropes. One pair of horses carried us eighteen miles. We generally reached our destination for the night, if no accident intervened, at ten o'clock and, after a frugal supper, went to bed, with a notice that we should be called at three next morning, which generally proved to be half-past two, and then, whether it snowed or rained, the traveler must rise and make ready by the help of a horn lantern and a farthing candle, and proceed on his way over bad roads, sometimes getting out to help the coachman lift the coach out of a quagmire or rut, and arriving at New York after a week's travel, wondering at the ease as well as the expedition with which our journey was effected."

In 1775 Washington went to take command of the American Army. It took him eighteen days to go from Philadelphia to Cambridge, Massachusetts.

With the improvement of good roads and the advancement of civilization we find the