



## These Are Your Parks

During the summer of 1951 about 110,000 persons, mostly boys and girls, used the swimming pools at Lions Park and Miller Park. About one third of these took advantage of free admissions during stated forenoon hours. The others paid their nominal admission charge.

More than 60,000 boys and girls took part in supervised summer activities in those two parks, and in Washington Park, Milroy Park, and Larson Park.

Those admissions were recorded. How many children and adults used the parks for other play, sport and recreation must be estimated . . . at least 100,000.

## Who Maintains These Parks?

Someone must water and mow the grass, tend the flowers, install and repair the equipment. Someone must protect the properties, and safeguard those who use the parks.

Until 1943 that responsibility was the city's. Then the citizens voted to set up a Metropolitan Park District, operated by a Park Board. This district can legally operate inside and beyond the city limits, own property, and levy a 3 mill tax for park purposes.

## Park Area Grows

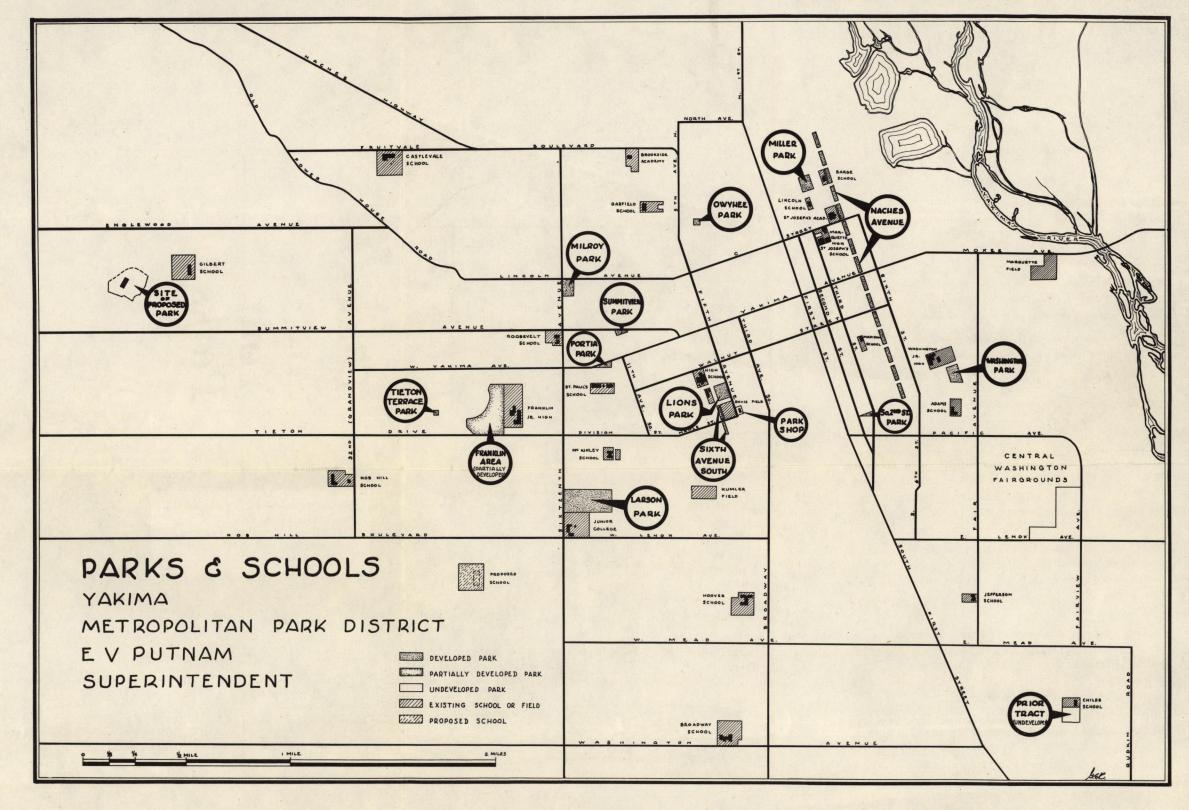
In 1942 the city owned and had improved four parks, Miller, Lions, Washington, and Milroy, with about 12 acres; four small areas, Portia Park, Summitview Park, Owyhee Park, South Second Street, totalling 2 acres, center strips on Naches Avenue and South Sixth Avenue, about 7 acres.

Since that year Larson Park, about 16 acres, has been improved, with about \$60,000 tax money, and with donations; trees by the Lions Club, tennis courts by the Yakima Tennis Club, Lions Club and the John C. Lampert Estate.

In 1945 park commissioner Wellington P. Hews and his neighbors above Franklin School donated about half the \$28,000 purchase price of the 17½ acre open tract west of the school and playgrounds, and it was acquired by the city for future development as a park.

In 1950 the Lions Club, H. L. Cahalan and E. A. Bannister gave to the park board 5 acres adjoining the Ruth E. Childs school in southeast Yakima. In the West Summitview district a large area was annexed to the city on Sept. 1, 1951, in which is 10 acres dedicated as Curtiss Park, and addition of this to the park system is under consideration.

Yakima's pioneers had open spaces almost unlimited, close at hand. But rapid growth put land to use. Need for parks was slow in appearing. Thanks are due the citizens and organizations whose foresight and generosity have helped bring what we now have, and a growing consciousness of park needs.



Yakima's park system is on the way to become truly metropolitan, providing some sort of park space near each thickly settled area, planning for parks in areas sure to be developed.

These are your parks. Use and enjoy them. A little of your property tax helps to pay part of their cost. Ideas for park improvement or development, by individuals or or-

ganzations, are welcomed by your Metropolitan Park Board.

Under the state law the Metropolitan Park District is administered by a Board of Commissioners. For the Yakima district the members now are:

JOHN F. CHESTERLEY, President EARL M. FISHER, Vice President JOHN S. APPLEGATE, Clerk MRS. WILBUR LINN GEORGE W. WILKINS

Operation and maintenance of the parks is directed by E. V. Putnam, Superintendent of Parks.





Click C. Relander
Vogue Courts
Yakima, Wash.