

# CITY PARK

## Decides Upon More Improvements and Constant Work.

### A Lake Large Enough for Sail- boats, and an Artificial Hill Two Features.

The board of commissioners of the lower City park met yesterday at the headquarters in the park. E. W. Smith, first vice president, occupied the chair in the absence of Hon. Paul Capdevielle, president, who is in New York. Secretary Joseph Bernard recorded the proceedings.

There was very little routine business to be transacted, and the entire time of meeting was consumed in discussing the plans for improvement, which are to make the lower City park one of the handsomest in the south.

The plans were adopted several months ago, and work was begun on some of the improvements, such as digging the artificial lakes to complete a chain of waterways around the park, and which, when finished, will form a loop circuit around nearly 200 acres of ground.

Chairman Smith said that the real impetus in the work of improvements will be given in the early part of January, and that the park will be in its new and ameliorated dress in time for the annual festival in May.

It is proposed, among other things, to have a central driveway, shelled and with a neutral ground planted with trees, extending from Esplanade avenue back to the old Orleans canal, and thence making a turn and leading to Alexander street, at the main entrance. There will be a carriage drive and a pathway for pedestrians. The entrance at Esplanade avenue will be through an ornamental arch supported by beautiful columns of trellised ironwork. Half way of this elaborate driveway there will be a mound 400 feet in circumference, surmounted by an observatory, or large pavilion; and to that mound all paths will converge.

Special attention will be paid to bridges, which are to be very picturesque and solid structures of wood. Later on, when the financial condition of the park association will warrant it, the wooden bridges will be removed and durable bridges of stone and cement will be erected.

The biggest of the artificial lakes is being dug. Its head rests near the extremity of the park and Grand Route St. John, and it will be exactly modeled after lake Pontchartrain. When completed this lake will be wide and deep enough to float sailboats over its ample surface.

The commissioners postponed further talk on the subject of improvements until after adjournment, when they proposed to visit the park.

The report of Treasurer P. M. Scanziani showed a net cash balance of \$1086 83.

The executive committee called attention to the fact that they had a wild cat on their hands, and that the feline was proving a "white elephant." They don't know what to do with that big cat, and it is giving a good deal of trouble for its keep and feed. It was donated to the park and accepted without consulting the board of commissioners.

It was resolved that hereafter no wild animals shall be accepted, save by authority of the board.

Bids will be advertised for placing in position the fountain donated by Mr. Maestri.

The sum of \$100 was appropriated for the purchase of young trees.

Messrs. L. A. Richards and J. B. Cefalu were appointed a committee to obtain a crayon portrait of the late A. L. Tissot, who was the first president of the park commission. The portrait will occupy a place of honor in the directors' room.

The commissioners adjourned to the park and spent some time looking over the grounds, and they were satisfied with the progress of the improvements.