

The law provides for cooperation between the Department of Recreation and other municipal bodies which have facilities. In this way full use is made of public parks, school grounds, and city swimming pools for which the Recreation Department provides all supervision and instruction.

The city program has grown steadily since its start in 1911. Its activities today are centered in 62 organized playgrounds and 32 buildings, all but 4 of which are schools. Eleven of the buildings are used chiefly for athletics and games; the rest operate as full-time social centers.

Personnel

The Department of Recreation maintains a corps of about 50 full-time professional workers. In addition, part-time workers are hired for specific activities having from one to three sessions a week. The school principal heads the social center, with the aid of a full-time assistant to direct activities. Almost 1,000 volunteers help in the program.

Sports and Athletics

Milwaukee's Municipal Athletic Association promotes no less than 28 sports. In 1941, more than 26,000 people belonged to 1,871 teams organized into leagues, which run a regular schedule of tournaments and meets. A handbook reports the year's activities and lists individual, team and league champions. A separate boxing program for boys includes training, tournaments, and exhibition bouts.

The Women's Municipal Athletic Association promotes an extensive sports program for women and girls 15 years old and up. Besides competitive sports, there are gymnastics, keeping-fit classes, informal games, and social and rhythmic dancing. Daytime and evening leagues are a part of the women's sports schedule.

Social Activities

To watch one of its 32 neighborhood centers in action is to know a good deal about Milwaukee. On any evening there will be classes, meetings, lectures, hobby groups and indoor