

New 20-Acre Playground Opened in Bronx; Moses and Lyons Dedicate It Before 2,000

A new sport and play area covering nearly twenty acres was opened in the upper west Bronx yesterday with ceremonies in which Park Commissioner Robert Moses, Bronx Borough President James J. Lyons, and Captain Howard L. Peckham, deputy works progress administrator here, participated. Two thousand children and older persons watched from the grandstand which overlooks the new track, football and baseball field in the center of the plot.

In a brief speech, Mr. Moses remarked how, when his department first began to extend park and play space in the city, they "looked around for any idle, vacant piece of land, and also for any piece of land we thought we could get away from some other department."

The old Williamsbridge Reservoir, at 208th Street and Bainbridge Avenue, looked particularly promising, he said. And after conferences with officials of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, the Park Department obtained control of the site on June 27, 1934.

Since then, according to the estimate of Captain Peckham, about \$1,500,00 has been spent in building up the new facilities. The job was done as a WPA project.

Mr. Lyons praised the cooperation he said he always had received from Mr. Moses in any improvement that seemed necessary. He said that one-fourth of the area of the Bronx is devoted to park and play space.

The entertainment, provided under the supervision of John McCormack, Borough Director of Recreation, included dances by 200 girls of the neighborhood, and sports events which included two races in which Glenn Cunningham, the famous miler, ran. He won a mile race and placed second in a relay. Football players from Manhattan and Fordham scrimmaged on the field, and there were tennis matches on several of the sixteen new courts. Other facilities include a wading pool, basketball court, field and recreation house, children's playgrounds, a baseball diamond and a "pedestrians' promenade."

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