



SWIMMING POOL—Highland Park will indeed have a new swimming pool, and playground officials hope that it will be ready for use next summer. Shown above is an architect's drawing of the pool, to be located at North Figueroa street and Avenue 61.

Many improvements for local playground

After furnishing recreational facilities for Highland Park people for the past 30 years, the Highland Park playground at 6150 North Figueroa street is about to be rejuvenated.

By dint of the overwhelming passage of bonds in last May's municipal election, work is soon to commence on the construction of a new swimming pool at the playground, and the present community building is to be remodeled.

The present community building was built between the years 1920 and 1922, and has housed many festive celebrations and recreational activities in the 25 years it has been at the local playground.

When the Highland Park playground was first established in

1917 the only building on the site was a small field house containing showers and rest rooms. Women's recreational classes were held in rooms under the Arroyo Seco branch library, which adjoins the playground.

The next structure to rise on the playground was a house on the southwest corner of the playground which served a double purpose as residence for D. W. Lott, then playground director, and also a makeshift community building. In time this building became wholly a community building.

In the years since 1917 as the community of Highland Park has grown, the local playground has become one of the finest recreational centers of Northeast Los Angeles.

Christmas parties, Easter Egg hunts, patriotic observances, and Halloween Carnivals are but a few of the many activities staged by the playground for the children and adults of the community.

The Highland Park Tin Canteen, with headquarters in the basement of the community building, provides teen-age youngsters of this area with a spot to congregate and mix together in a pleasant atmosphere. Extremely active throughout the summer months when school is not in session, the Tin Canteen has proven itself a valuable factor in reducing the amount of juvenile delinquency in Highland Park.

Under present playground directors Harwood Coffin and Virginia Sparrow, playground activities now

include doll shows, athletic contests, parties, craft classes, dancing classes, children's parties and many others. Adults also come in for their share of fun at the playground with the old time folk-dancing, card parties, and the inevitable outdoor checker games drawing a good number of Highland Park citizens.

The annual all-around outstanding boy contest at the playground promotes the principles of good sportsmanship among the many youths engaged in athletic contests there. Boys are judged as to cooperation, sportsmanship, and athletic skill; the top lad being awarded a trophy at the end of the year. Winner of the 1947 all-around boy award was Millard Archuletta.

So after 30 years of providing a center for the recreational life of Highland Park, the local playground is to be remodeled so that it may better serve citizens of this community. It is expected that by the summer of 1948 children will be beating the summer heat by lunging into the cooling waters of the new Highland Park swimming pool at the old Highland Park playground.