



THE SHORE FRONT AT PINE ORCHARD, 1900.

## Seashore Parks for the Public

There is a measure before the Legislature which should have a good deal of interest for the people of the state at large, although it might appear at first sight as something calculated for the advantage of towns along the shore. Judge H. W. Doolittle is author of the bill, which is intended for the preservation of some of the Sound shore front for the public. Commencing at the western end of the Connecticut shore almost all the shore front for many miles is owned by private parties, mainly New York sojourners, who have erected high fences, shut off the beach, and even tried to stop people digging clams out on the flats. This system has worked steadily along toward the eastward, and the very few places on the shore which are open to the public are growing less, and less every year. Judge Doolittle's bill asks for an appropriation of \$15,000 for a park, situated somewhere along the shore, and possibly more may be secured later. The upper state people oppose the resolution, as not doing them any good. The shore people say it is for the visitors' benefit principally, as the residents of the towns usually have some way of getting to the shore. Last year the diminution of the shore front property, open to the public, was very noticeable in this vicinity, several large tracts in the vicinity of Branford being acquired by speculators, and closed to the people who have enjoyed the shore for years.

Even though it is still winter, and the ground in many places is still covered with snow, it is but a few short weeks before the shore resorts in this vicinity will begin to take on new life, and the people in the city who are so fortunate as to own homes at the shore, or in the country, will be opening them and making ready for the summer season, which, here in Connecticut, lasts from May to October.

As soon as the planting season was over the Indians left their homes, if such they could be called, and, taking the family and such household goods as they had, went to the shore for a more or less extended time. This has been proved from the arrowheads and heaps of shells and so forth, which have been found along the Connecticut shore. Slowly, but surely, the Indians disappeared from this part of the country, but those who followed them, inherited more or less some of their characteristics, and through every generation, up to the present one, there has been that same tendency to spend as much of the summer months as possible at the shore. In earlier years there were but few people who owned shore cottages and practically the entire stretch of land along the Connecticut shore was at the disposal of the people at large. As time went on, however, the land has been built up, and along almost the entire state coast there are small settlements, which in the summer are alive with people from all over the state and from other states, for that matter. As building has increased from time to time there has become of necessity less and less shore front which is available to the people at large, and the rapidity with which it has increased in value for the past ten or fifteen years threaten to shut out entirely those of the citizens of the state who are less fortunate or who may desire to spend only a day or so at the water.

The matter of reserving certain sections of the shore for the convenience of the citizens in general was first brought to the notice of the public in

October, 1903, by a letter which was published in the local press by Judge Harry W. Doolittle of Branford. The following extract from that letter gives the idea of the author:

"The suggestions to which I have been leading and which I have much at heart is to provide reserved tracts of shore front for the benefit of the general public, before the people shall awake to find the short all taken up for private use. The public should demand consideration in this matter. Connecticut has already

in view for this reservation, as that matter will lie entirely with the state. A board of trustees will be appointed, to serve without compensation, and all of the affairs connected with the reservation will rest with the members of this committee.

Since this project was first brought to the notice of the public, it has been more and more favorably looked upon, even by some of the upper state people, who as stated above have opposed it as not being



JUDGE H. W. DOOLITTLE.

more than one million people. It has, and will continue for all time to have, but one seashore, and from nearly all of that the public, even now, is excluded.

"In every town in Connecticut bordering on the Sound there should be reserved a liberal acreage of land, open and free to the use of all who may desire a temporary sojourn at the seashore, either for camping or for a day's outing. These reservations should be under state control and permanently secured to the people of the whole state."

This, in brief, is the idea which was suggested by Judge Doolittle and which it is the earnest hope of every public-spirited citizen will be carried out, and that in the near future. Following the suggestion in part, a committee was appointed to act on the matter, and a bill was drawn up by Judge Doolittle to be presented to the state legislature.

Judge Doolittle has no particular place

of any benefit to them. But there is really no reason why it should not benefit them, even if not to such an extent as it will the people living along the shore. One of the objects for this reservation mentioned at the very first was that people might have a place where they could camp for any desired length of time, and this surely applies to the residents of the upper part of the state as well as those on the coast.

There was a hearing on the bill before the judiciary committee on Tuesday afternoon of this week, and aside from Judge Doolittle there were several prominent men present who spoke in favor of the bill. As a matter of fact it has met with great favor throughout the state, and if the committee reports on it favorably there is practically no doubt about its going through. In Judge Doolittle's speech before the committee

he first explained the purposes of the bill and showed that shore front property is rapidly being taken up for cottages and hotels, and that in a short time it will be impossible for the general public to view the Sound at all, inasmuch that most of the streets do not, even now, run down to the water. The only objection raised by the committee was the matter of expense, but Judge Doolittle explained that if the measure was ever to be passed, it must be done now, because if expense was to stand in the way now, it would surely be a much greater obstacle in a few years from now, as the value of shore property is steadily increasing. Among those who spoke in favor of the bill at the hearing were the Hon. Henry T. Blake, president of the New Haven Park Commission; Mr. G. A. Parker of Hartford, vice-president of the American Civic Association; Judge Mathewson, Professor George E. Beers, Mr. Norman S. Platt, treasurer of the State Grange, and Mr. C. H. Scholey, editor of the Shore Line Times. There are several other prominent Connecticut people who are in favor of the bill, but were unable to be present at the hearing.

Several publications have taken up the matter and among them is the last report of the State Shell-Fish Commissioners, which has the following item:

"Should the effort be made to appropriate and maintain, on the part of the State, areas upon the water at places not now occupied by private residences and estates, and to keep such areas open to the public for approach to the water from which it is now being rapidly shut out, the retention of such areas would afford an opportunity for the establishment of signals where they would be permanent, and permanence is one great and chief element in their value. The Commission would heartily commend the proposed movement, not only on account of its benefit to the signal system of the State, but on grounds of public policy and for the advantage and accommodation of all the people."

Every effort is being made on the part of Judge Doolittle to have this bill passed and it is to be hoped that he will succeed in his efforts, as it is a worthy object and one which should have the support of every citizen of the state, as no bill has been introduced for a long while which so closely concerns the interests of the public as does this one.

The bill in full is given below:—

### AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SEASHORE RESERVATIONS.

Resolved by this Assembly:  
Section 1.—The Governor shall appoint five persons, who shall constitute a board to be known as the Trustees of Public Shore Reservations. The members of this board shall hold office respectively for the term of one year, two years, three years, four years and five years, beginning with the first Monday in May, 1905, and annually thereafter the Governor shall appoint one such trustee to hold office for the term of five years, beginning with the first Monday in May in the year of his appointment; and if any vacancy occurs in said board by resignation or otherwise, the Governor shall, in like manner, appoint a trustee for the residue of the term in which the vacancy occurs, and may also remove any trustee. The members of said board shall serve without compensation, but their traveling and other necessary expenses shall be allowed and paid.

Sec. 2.—Said board may procure proper plans and surveys, and employ to that end, and to carry out the various purposes of this Act, necessary and proper assistance. Said board shall have a suitable office, where the maps, plans, documents, records and accounts shall be kept, subject to public inspection at such times as the board shall determine. On or before the second Wednesday in February, biennially, said board shall make a report of its proceedings to the General Assembly, together with a full statement of its receipts and disbursements. Two thousand copies of such report shall be printed biennially.

Sec. 3.—Said board shall have power to ac-

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MR. WILLIAM H. PENDER.

Mr. William H. Pender, who has been a resident of the twelfth ward for the past twenty-five years, has become quite prominent in political circles during the past eight years, having been elected a delegate to several democratic conventions, and at the

last one made the speech nominating Mr. Louis A. Fisk of Branford for congress. Mr. Pender will in all probability be nominated for alderman from the twelfth ward, and if elected his friends feel sure that he will do all in his power for the benefit of the ward and the city at large.

#### Hull-Coe.

The wedding of Miss Jennie Mae Coe, daughter of Mr. J. B. Coe, director of Public Works, and Mr. Charles Theron Hull, took place Wednesday evening at the First Baptist church, the pastor, Rev. Frederick Lent, officiating. The bride wore a white gown of silk grenadine over taffeta with lace yoke and carried white tulips. The maid of honor, Miss Myra C. Russell of Clinton, Iowa, wore green silk crepe over taffeta and carried pink tulips. The flower girls, Miss Evelyn Alling and Miss Kathryn Bunnell, wore white Persian lawn with Val lace. Mr. Hull had as his best man, Mr. Fred C. Buell of New York, and as ushers, Mr. Frederick Jackson, jr., Mr. Louis Holman, Mr. Peter Engel, Mr. William McDannich, Mr. Clarence L. Coe and Mr. Fred S. Marsh. After the reception, which followed the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Hull left for a southern trip, but will be at home after April

#### Mrs. James Mason Hoppin.

Mrs. James Mason Hoppin, the wife of Professor James Mason Hoppin, professor emeritus of the Yale Art school, died at her home on Hillhouse avenue, Tuesday morning, at the age of eighty years. Mrs. Hoppin has been in poor health for some time, and has been quite ill for the past few weeks. Mrs. Hoppin was born March 17, 1824, and was the descendant of a prominent Litchfield family, her grandfather having been Julius Deming, a merchant of that town. She was Mary Deming Perkins, the daughter of Charles Perkins of Norwich and Clarisa Deming of Litchfield. Of a large family, there is but one now surviving, Hon. J. Deming Perkins of Litchfield. On June 30, 1850, she was married to Professor Hoppin, and they had two sons, Benjamin and J. Mason, Jr., Benjamin, a graduate of Yale, 1872, is now living in Cape Breton. James Mason attended Yale for a short time, but was graduated from Oxford university. His death took place several

#### Latest Ocean Leviathan.

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transmitted through more than 3,000 individual lamps and a powerful search-light.

Another important installation is the refrigerating machinery and cold-storage. This is one of the largest plants ever placed on board ship. The 13,600 tons of dead-weight cargo which the Caronia will carry is all handled easily and quickly by the 16 steam winches. There are, in addition, two electrically driven winches on the boat deck for handling the life boats.

The culinary department of the ship has been given most careful attention, the principal kitchen being of vast size and magnificent fittings, including electric roasters, steam ranges and stock-pots, silver grilles and everything that ingenuity can contrive or experience suggest for the preparation of food under the best conditions. There are even automatic egg broilers, sandwich-making machines and such modern contrivances, unknown on other ships.

In conclusion it may be said that the Caronia represents in every feature the most advanced accomplishment in marine construction and equipment. She will shortly be followed by the Carmania, which will be of identically the same dimensions, but which will be equipped with three, instead of two propellers, driven by turbine engines. Early in 1907 the two great turbine ships of the Cunard line, which are expected to make over 25 knots an hour, and reduce the ocean trip to close on to four days, will be put in service.

Messrs. Swezey & Kelsey, 102 Church street, the well-known steamship agents of this city, are representatives of the Cunard Line, owners of this magnificent floating palace.

#### Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The large room on the fifth floor of the Y. M. C. A. building, which is given over to the automobile school, presents a most enterprising appearance. Two great machines occupy one side of the room, both of them in such a state of dissection that they are well-nigh reduced to their original elements. There is no doubt that the work of the automobile school is eminently practical. The second machine has been placed during the last week. It is a modern four-cylinder, air-cooled motor. For the benefit of those who came into the school late, the first lecture was repeated on Tuesday evening. The size of the class necessitated a division into three sections, meeting respectively on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening for practical and demonstrative study of the machine.

A members' social is to be given Saturday evening. The feature will be games, popular songs and refreshments.

Secretary Lotze presided over the Thursday morning session of the New England Secretaries' conference. Assistant Secretary E. D. Monroe, Physical Director George M. Martin and Educational Director Harry Wayland Smith also attended this conference.

The Women's Auxiliary met Tuesday afternoon in the ladies' parlors. The devotional service was led by Mrs. William G. Lotze, who spoke on the subject, "He Must Increase; I Must Decrease." A solo, "Crossing the Bar," was rendered beautifully by Miss Hendee. After the report of the various committees, a short talk on salient points in Y. M. C. A. work was given by Secretary William G. Lotze. The meeting was followed by an informal social, refreshments being served by the social committee.

The Intermediate department is planning to conduct a series of practical talks on Stocks and Bonds, Banking, Insurance and kindred subjects. These subjects were chosen with special reference to the fact that Success Catering Co. (an Intermediate club) has just declared a dividend of 250 per cent. The stock of organization is in great demand.

In the Grammar school work the month of March will finish the six months' record for which the boys are working. This record has a three-fold significance—attendance at gymnasium Bible classes and gospel meetings.

#### Seaside Parks for the Public.

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quire, maintain and make valuable to the inhabitants of the State of Connecticut, for public use and enjoyment, open spaces, bounded on Long Island Sound, and to this end is hereby authorized to take in fee, or otherwise, in the name and for the benefit of the State, by purchase, gift, devise, or eminent domain, lands and right in lands on said Sound, and within one-half mile of mean high water mark, including islands in said Sound; to preserve and care for such public reservations; to receive, in its discretion upon such terms as it may approve, any open spaces which may be entrusted, given, or devised to the State or to said board, by the United States, or by cities, towns, corporations, or individuals, for the general purposes of this Act, or any one or more of such purposes as the donor may designate.

Sec. 4.—Whenever said board shall require any land, or interest in land, for the purposes of this Act, and shall be unable to agree with the owner or owners thereof as to the damages accruing from taking the same, either party may apply to any judge of the Superior Court, who, upon such notice as he may deem proper to all parties to be heard, shall appoint three disinterested judicious persons appraisers, who, upon notice of the time and place of meeting, shall assess to such persons or owners the just amount of damages by them sustained and the benefits which may accrue to other lands owned by them, and shall report their doings to such judge of the Superior Court for said county, subject to their order, or if no such sums be awarded them upon the passage of said order or decree, title to said lands shall vest in the State for the purposes of this Act, and said board may thereupon enter said land and hold the same for the purposes of this Act; and in any proceeding under the provisions of this section, when the matter has been finally heard and determined, all the papers relating thereto shall be deposited with the clerk of the Superior Court of said county and be kept by him with the other records of said court.

Sec. 5.—The said trustees shall incur no expense or liability exceeding in the aggregate the amounts herein appropriated, or which may be hereafter appropriated by the State.

Sec. 6.—The sum of fifteen thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to said board for the purchase of land and the other purposes of said Act, and the comptroller is authorized and directed to draw his orders on the state treasury for amounts not exceeding said sum in the aggregate in favor of said board.

Sec. 7.—This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

#### A Resort Unequaled.

A most unique health and pleasure resort is Atlantic City. Favored by nature in a thousand ways and with the assistance of the energetic business man it has become the most popular, and likewise the most frequently visited resort in America. The position geographically of Atlantic City is at the extreme southern part of the state of New Jersey, and though directly on the ocean, its proximity to the Gulf Stream tempers the climate so perceptibly that there is a marked difference in temperature during the winter, and the summer months cool breezes are more frequent than at any other point on the coast. No other resort is reputed as is Atlantic City as an all-year-round resort, and the season at Atlantic City at Easter time is most fashionable. The great hotels, and there are scores of them, are thronged with a gay assemblage and the board walk is a moving mass of happy tourists. No city pays greater attention to the care and entertainment of its guests than Atlantic City, and every possible method of amusement is provided. The hotels are mammoth in proportions, elaborate in furnishings and nearly every one located adjacent to the board walk or Strand. The New Jersey Central was the pioneer road in making Atlantic City so accessible to New York and northern territory through the introduction of its famous Atlantic City three-hour flyers. These trains leave New York from station at foot of Liberty street at 9.40 a. m., 3.40 p. m. and 9.40 a. m. Sundays. The route traversed is the shortest and most direct. The trains are vestibuled and are drawn by hard coal burning locomotives and there is neither dust, cinders or smoke. There are Pullman buffet cars on every train, and for comfort and convenience the New Jersey Central's Atlantic City express service can't be equalled. If you want time tables and other information, drop a postal to C. M. Burt, G. P. A., New Jersey Central, New York City.

AT

KIRBYS', the Jewelers