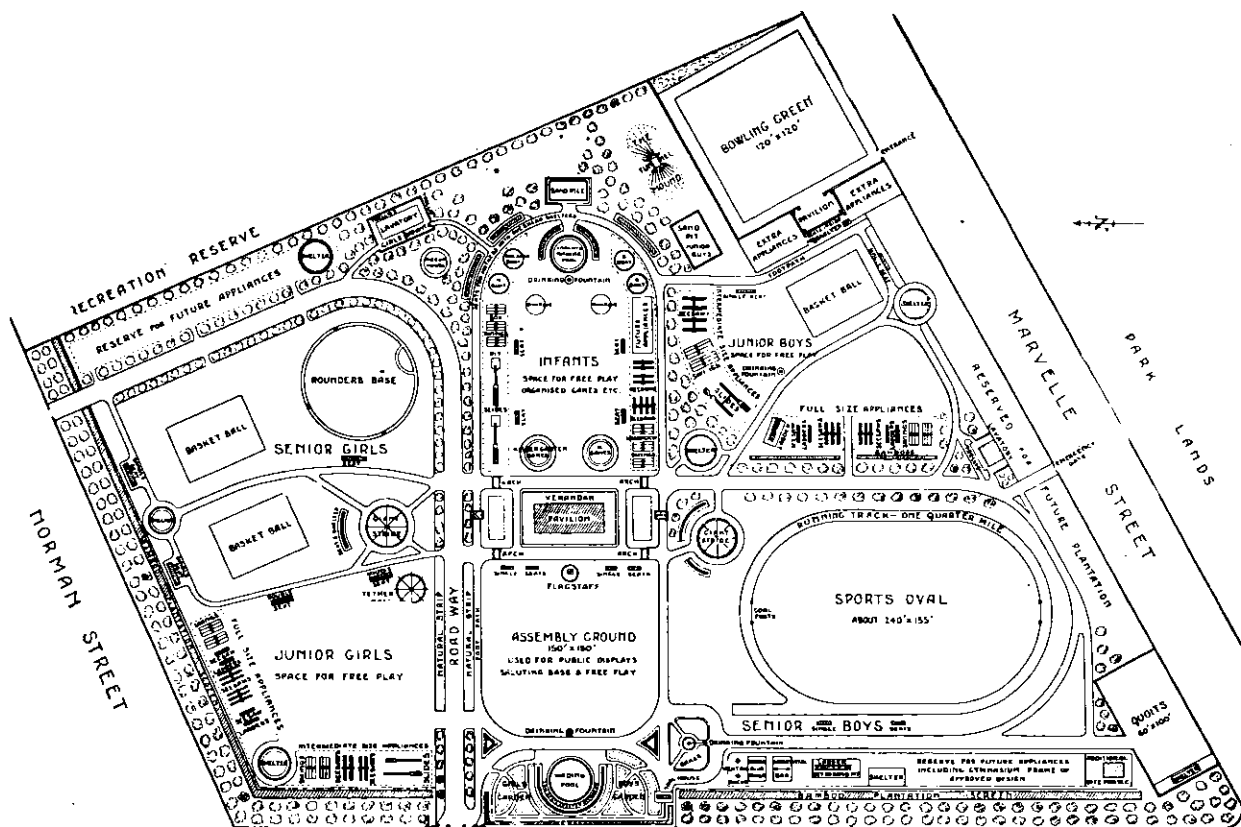


BUILDING A PLAYGROUND IN ONE DAY

Port Pirie's Big Effort.

The building of a large playground for children and others, covering over ten acres of ground, with its full complement of equipment and its completion in one day by 3000 workers at Port Pirie, South Australia, marks a step forward by those interested in town planning and civic welfare generally.

and separating the central area from its suburban districts. Increased rents and building costs in recent years had created a housing problem before the war, but except for the original plan providing for streets $1\frac{1}{2}$ chains wide, little had been done towards meeting its problems in town planning or housing.



Children's Playground at Port Pirie, by Mr. Chas. C. Reade, Government Town Planner to South Australia. This Playground, with its buildings, shelters, etc., was built in One Day (Saturday, August 17th, 1918) by 3000 workers, giving their services free.

Port Pirie is an important seaport, situated near the head of Spencer's Gulf, 228 miles north of Adelaide by rail, and where are smelted vast quantities of tin, lead, silver, etc., mined from Broken Hill in the far interior.

The population of the town is over 10,000. It lies on the extreme edge of an old subtidal flat, exposed to the extremes of summer temperature. The site of the town is devoid of natural attraction and native vegetation is but sparse and scanty.

The town is one of a number of communities in South Australia, planned in earlier days by the Government with a wide belt of parklands enclosing

It grew instead under the influence of land and building speculators.

The Broken Hill Associated Smelters, Limited, is a new company with new ideals. It came into a legacy of antiquated works and a town dominated by nineteenth century ideas of industrial enterprise and social responsibility. Strikes and industrial discontents generally had become indigenous to the place and its people, likewise overcrowding, high rents, and social disabilities. Prior to 1914 high and increasing wages had failed to prevent a general speeding up of bad housing and living conditions, and their inevitable reaction on industry. These ex-