

a panorama of surpassing loveliness is spread before the gaze, bounded only by the limit of human vision. Many persons of extended travel have compared this section of the State to Northern Italy, while others have declared that they have nowhere seen a grander or more inspiring view than that which can be obtained from Reservoir Park, the most elevated point of the city, whence the gaze to the west rests upon the twin Peaks of Otter, that stand like mighty sentinels to guard the approach to the city from the southwest. In recent years, under the direction of the Council Committee on Parks, of which Mr. E. C. Hamner is chairman, an earnest effort has been made to establish here a system of parks, and today Lynchburgers have several most attractive places in which they can spend a summer afternoon and enjoy cool breezes, the shade of numberless trees, and a multitude of flowers. The largest of the parks is what is known as the City Park, which is situated at the West End and is reached by both the main divisions of the street car system. Near the center of the upper part of the park is the superintendent's home, an ideal mansion of its kind; for the broad and spacious verandas with which it is surrounded render it exceedingly convenient for picnic parties and a pleasant shelter from a summer shower. At various points throughout the park immense beds of flowers and shrubs have been arranged, and in the sunlight of the warm season, when the plants have gained a full growth, the mass of luxuriant foliage, touched with sprays of bright and exquisite colors, presents a scene of rare beauty, and almost leads one to suppose that one has been suddenly transported to some distant tropical region. The new portion of the park, which contains fourteen acres, is receiving careful attention, and under the direction of an expert florist and horticulturist is rapidly becoming one of the loveliest spots in the city.

Perhaps one of the most important features of the City Park is its zoological department. Four years ago a resident of Lynchburg presented to Chairman Hamner for the use of the Park a handsome buck deer, and from this animal as a nucleus has grown the splendid collection that the park contains today. This department includes bear, deer, monkeys, badgers, raccoons, opossums, ground hogs, rabbits, elk, Guinea pigs, foxes, squirrels, alligators, white rats, gophers, terrapins, gold fish, wolf, peafowls, eagles, hawks, owls, cara-caras, parrots, cockatoos, crows, pigeons, snakes, and many other birds, reptiles and animals. The new aviary, which has just been erected at a cost of three thousand dollars, was the gift of Mr. Randolph Guggenheimer, of New York City, a native and for many years a resident of Lynchburg.

The Lynchburg Traction & Light Company, which has an energetic and progressive president in Mr. R. D. Apperson, takes care of two parks, one in Rivermont and the other at Westover, both of which are beautiful and picturesque. In Rivermont, the company has established a large casino for summer entertainments and a pavilion for dancing and music. Reservoir Park is one of the most attractive places in Lynchburg; for it is not only filled with flowers and shrubbery, but its great basin of water like a radiant lake crowns the highest eleva-