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REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF METROPOLITAN PARK COMMISSIONERS.

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CONTENTS.

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REPORT.

The Metropolitan Park Commission presents herewith its twenty-fifth annual report.

The year 1916–17 covered by this report has been one of unusual quiet if measured by new acquirements of land and new construction, but a very busy one in other ways, and marked by events which make it a notable one in the history of the Board.

After a busy life of accomplishment for eighteen years in offices in the Congregational Building, 14 Beacon Street, the Board found itself obliged to seek new offices because its former quarters were required for their own use by those having charge of the many activities of the American Congregational Association. No offices were available in the State House, but after a thorough canvass of available locations, a suite of offices reasonably adapted to its work was secured in the Kimball Building, at 18 Tremont Street, and the Board removed to them just before the 1st of January. The change was accomplished with practically no interruption of business.

Very few acquirements of land have been made. Slight changes have been made by exchange and acquirement in the southwesterly boundary of Middlesex Fells Division, which makes it possible to connect the South Border Road with the West Border Road by a new piece of road 1,400 feet in length, and so have a continuous border driveway connecting the westerly branch of Middlesex Fells Parkway with Mystic Valley Parkway. Land has also been acquired in Arlington at the point where the highway between Medford and Arlington crosses Mystic Valley Parkway. This acquirement, though small, is very important, as it makes it possible to preserve an