

IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
**Fisheries Donates
Playground Site**

**Atlantic Coast Leases
Howland Street Land
To Town**

Land for the purpose of creating a summer playground for children has been leased to the Town of Provincetown from the Atlantic Coast Fisheries through Manager Frank Rowe. The site is located between the rear of the Morris-Light Post, American Legion, headquarters, and Bradford Street, bordering Howland Street and contains approximately 5,000 square feet. The lease calls for the payment by the Town of one dollar for the use of the land.

Plans for this playground are being drawn up by Mrs. Elmer Greensfelder who spearheaded the successful campaign for the Monument Field bleachers. She is heading a special committee appointed by the Recreation Commission and the project is also sponsored by the Nautilus Club of which Mrs. Greensfelder is chairman of the Youth Conservation Committee.

The playground will be open to children from all of Provincetown and equipment will consist of swings, slides, teeter boards and sand boxes. It is hoped that this first playground will mark the beginning of a series of others in various parts of the town. It is also in the nature of an experiment, Mrs. Greensfelder said, and should sufficient support and interest from parents be forthcoming, and it proves popular with children, then a program to provide a wider playground project will be undertaken.

At the present time funds are needed and any donations from parents and interested people will be greatly appreciated, Mrs. Greensfelder said, and added that it is hoped that \$300 can be raised immediately, which, if it comes in quickly will make it possible to get the playground ready for early Summer use.

**VACATION SPENDING
EXPECTED TO DROP**

**Competition for Trade Returns
as Cottage and Hotel Owners
Cut Prices or Improve Service**

With the summer season officially opening tomorrow at most resorts—after a week-end of preview—owners of cottages and hotels and beachfront concessionaires are looking hopefully for a "good season" financially, but are keeping their fingers crossed.

The uncertainty reflects the wariness being shown by this year's summer renters as they shop around for the biggest bargain, for the money in a buyer's market. The pre-war bargaining instinct has reasserted itself and the general opinion is that while vacationing crowds may be large "there will be less spending."

Competition for summer trade virtually disappeared in the boom years of wartime wages and in the period immediately following the war when hotel rooms, summer cottages and any sort of livable quarters brought whatever the traffic would bear. But competition is definitely back this year, a survey indicates.

Where last year's prices have

not been cut, better food and services and enlarged recreational facilities are being offered. Even baby sitters are being pressed into service to court 1949's economy-minded vacationists and tourists, a check in New England, New York and New Jersey shows.

Owners Hope for "Break"

Some sections report summer cottage rentals "good." Others say that summer shoppers are shying away from paying 1948 rates, which they consider too high. Where rental activity has been slow owners blame recent rains and declare that they will stick to last year's rates, hoping for "a break" after Memorial Day.

In the Rockaways bungalow rentals have dropped \$75 to \$100 for the season. Plenty ofungalows and rooms in private dwellings are said to be available, however. Small cottages are renting for \$400 to \$600.

George Wolpert, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of the Far Rockaways, commented that "owners holding out for wartime prices will find themselves holding the bag."

A tally in the Cape Cod area of Massachusetts shows no reduction in last year's rates, with many cottages available and few takers. Last year prices were 5 to 10 per cent lower than in the 1947 peak year.