CHAPTER XII

Public and Semi-Public Buildings and Tracts

According to the contract, section 2, sub-section (k), the Plan should include recommendations with regard to "Civic centers and sub-centers, including general group and block plan or plans of public and semi-public structures."

Sub-section (n), "Markets, both open and in buildings, including central, community and neighborhood markets."

Sub-section (g), "General location of aircraft terminals, landing fields, hangars and shops. This shall include the metropolitan district of Cincinnati on the Ohio side."

The Public Building Program

Cincinnati's public buildings have not caught up with its growth. Except for the County Court House, the recent schools, the University of Cincinnati and the General Hospital, Cincinnati has almost no up-to-date, or even adequate public buildings.

The City Hall, while of interesting architectural design outside, is inadequate in space and inefficient in layout for today's needs.

The main public library has no redeeming feature except its location. Such a building is inadequate and obsolete for a city the size of Cincinnati, and the library trustees are to be heartily commended for their continued insistence on a proper building.

Cincinnati has no auditorium of any size except the Music Hall, which is antiquated and much too small to meet the modern needs of a city the size of Cincinnati. Its only redeeming feature is its location, which with the growth of the city has turned out to be very wisely chosen, as it happens to be at the focus of many main lines of communication.

The Board of Education headquarters, while practical and fairly well located, is hardly dignified enough for a city of the importance of Cincinnati.

The Fire Department headquarters and the Police Department headquarters in the City Hall are inadequate.

The Post Office and Federal Building was very good for its time fifty years ago, but has been entirely outgrown in size and character, and will be much too far away from the proposed rail center.

The Court House is a dignified and impressive building.

The Art Museum is a distinct credit to the city. Charmingly located in Eden Park and housing an exceptionally fine collection, it has become, as it should be,
a place of pilgrimage for art lovers from all over the country. The buildings, however, are quite inadequate.

The University is beautifully set in the southern end of Burnet Woods. The old buildings are dignified; the new are good in design, although it is unfortunate that the whole group could not have been constructed according to a well-thought-out general block plan, as it is difficult now to tie the existing and future buildings together in a harmonious whole. However, the new general lay-out plan to which the university is working, is probably the best solution of a difficult problem.

The schools are, many of them, very attractive in design and layout, while the Withrow High School presents one of the most interesting school groups to be found anywhere in the country. It is justly famous. It should serve as an inspiration for all future high school and junior high school groups, for it sets a standard that should certainly be maintained.

Cincinnati should have a War Memorial, but the form it should take should be left to local sentiment.

The Board of Park Commissioners has no buildings in its parks and few in its play-fields. Those existing are fully up to standard as far as they go, but owing to the inadequate funds available, a number of new park and play-field buildings are needed right away, in order to round out the usefulness of the parks to the public. These include shelter houses, comfort stations, baths, indoor gymnasiums, refectories, etc.
The problem of public works will be treated later in this chapter.

With regard to local public buildings in the various sub-centers, such as branch libraries, fire stations, police stations, comfort stations, public baths and public works, the type of building and architectural treatment throughout Cincinnati is up to the average of most cities of its size, although, like most other cities, no thought has been given to the grouping of such outlying buildings so as to create attractive civic sub-centers.

FIRE STATION, CANTON, OHIO
The setting of this fire station makes it one of the most attractive features of the city.

With regard to semi-public buildings, such as churches, clubs, private hospitals and institutions and public utility buildings, Cincinnati is better off than most cities. The appearance of buildings and their architectural quality is fully up to the average. But again, as in the case of local public buildings, no attempt has been made at grouping them in local sub-centers.

Locating and Grouping Public and Semi-Public Buildings
The problem of locating any public building is difficult and complex. There always are a great many factors which control the location. Of course, convenience and accessibility for those who are most likely to use the building are the outstanding considerations. Nevertheless, it is also important that the building should count for its full value and not be lost in the midst of sordid surroundings that tend to drag it down or hide it. There is really no public building in the "Basin" that is worthily set except possibly the old Post Office, the Guilford school building near Lytle Park and the Music Hall. Each of these three buildings, especially the two latter, has an adequate setting and approach, so that the buildings count for their full value. While on the other hand, the Court House, the City Hall, and particularly the public library, are shut in by their surroundings and inadequate approaches.

COURT STREET TOWARD COURT HOUSE BEFORE WIDENING
One-third of facade visible

COURT STREET TOWARD COURT HOUSE AFTER WIDENING
One half of facade visible

There is no attempt at grouping public and semi-public buildings, except for the quite charming ensemble of the City Hall with the three neighboring churches, especially as seen along Garfield Square looking west.

Outside of the "Basin," the best set grouping of public buildings is probably the Withrow High School, with its inter-
esting approach across the bridge from Madison Road. The Art Museum group is also well set on top of its hill in Eden Park, while the University buildings are only fairly well set. Unquestionably the latter group could have been much better located than it is, if thorough study had been given to the general block plan before any buildings were erected.

The chief trouble with the public buildings of Cincinnati is their haphazardness. Each public building seems to have been located entirely independently of all others. There appears to be no attempt to group related buildings, either for convenience or for combined effect.

The experience of other cities in the grouping of public and semi-public buildings, shows that without question, the public convenience is better served by locating related buildings near together. Experience also shows unquestionably that the combined effect of grouping related public buildings is far greater than the sum of the separate effects of the same buildings isolated from each other. In other words, where public buildings are properly grouped together, they form an ensemble that is often far more impressive than any one of the buildings by itself. The citizens can develop little civic pride over a single public building, but the great civic center groups of Denver, Cleveland, Harrisburg, San Francisco, Springfield, Mass., are an inspiration to the citizens as well as to the visitors. Such a center of civic life becomes a focal point for all civic interests, thereby tending to consolidate the loosely joined parts of the city into a cooperating whole. There seems to be nothing a city can do that tends so to head up civic consciousness as the creation of a central gathering point in a civic center.

The same principle applies to the grouping of educational and cultural buildings, such as libraries, museums, universities and schools of various sorts.

Therefore, as a guiding principle in locating the various public and semi-public buildings that must be built, sooner or later in Cincinnati, the possible creation of a civic center group and of a cultural center group has been borne constantly in mind.

Obviously it is ridiculous to try to locate public buildings without considering their relation to the thoroughfare and transit system and the effect which zoning will have on them and they will have on zoning.

Therefore, the location, size and grouping of the various public buildings that are going to be needed, have been studied concurrently with the rest of the City Plan, so that all parts of it will fit together as a unit.

Furthermore, in locating each public building, the various possible sites for each have to be weighed as to their relative advantages and disadvantages, and the one most appropriate site has to be determined by a process of elimination.

It is also to be borne in mind that few, if any, of the proposed public buildings will be erected immediately, or even for a number of years. In other words, the public building plan must be carried out over a long period of years. However, as some buildings will be needed sooner than others, a program of urgency has been worked out.

City Hall

The present City Hall is too good a building to abandon. Cincinnati is not growing rapidly enough to justify tearing down the present building and erecting a new one in its place. On the other hand, a certain amount of supplementary space is needed, and more will be needed as time goes on and the various city departments are able to function at normal capacity. Therefore, the most economical and the most practical solution is to erect an annex to the present City Hall. As the existing building fills its block, and as none of the boundary streets can be vacated for traffic reasons, an annex would have to be built on one of the adjoining blocks. Other things being equal, an annex should be across the street that is least used for traffic and on the cheapest land. The busiest bordering street is Central Avenue, the next busiest is Plum
Street and the third busiest is Eighth Street. Therefore, the normal tendency would be to locate the annex on the next block to the north. This block to the north has the further advantage of being fully as cheap as any of the other three, and being relatively less improved with costly buildings.

By 1940 at latest, a municipal office building should be erected on the block to the north of the present City Hall.

Public Auditorium

At the same time, in the not distant future, possibly as a commercial venture, possibly as a municipal enterprise, Cincinnati is going to erect a large auditorium. The present Music Hall, with its 3,600 seats and the Emery Auditorium, with 2,200 seats, are neither of them large enough for a city the size of Cincinnati, under modern conditions. The recent experience of cities like Cleveland, Oakland, Denver, Portland and San Francisco, would seem to prove that an auditorium that will be of real service to the city must contain from 8,000 to 12,000 seats. Such an auditorium will require several acres of land, and in addition there must be sufficient automobile parking space in the immediate neighborhood to take care of 1,000 to 2,000 automobiles without interfering with normal traffic and other local parking demands.

It is obvious that such an auditorium must be located as near the downtown hotel and shopping district as practicable, and at the same time be at a focus of the various transit lines and thoroughfares leading from all parts of the city to the center. It is also manifest that in acquiring a site for such an auditorium, the fewer existing improvements that have to be acquired and razed, the better.

Any study of the downtown district shows at a glance that there are only two locations which begin to answer these requirements. One is just east of the present Court House and the other is the old hospital site between Central Parkway and Central Avenue north of Twelfth Street. The property at the bend of the canal just east of the Court House, already contains several fairly costly improvements. It is readily accessible to the whole eastern part of the city by Reading Road and Gilbert Avenue, and it is at the terminus of the subway. On the other hand, it is not as accessible to the whole Mill Creek Valley and the rapidly growing western and northern parts of the city as the old hospital site, nor is it as near the converging point of as many transit lines as is the latter site.

Furthermore, an auditorium east of the Court House could probably provide less adjacent space for parking than is possible near the old hospital site, and the latter site is much nearer various other public and semi-public buildings in conjunction with which it would probably be used, than is the site east of the Court House. Therefore, all things considered, the old hospital site probably presents many more advantages for auditorium use than the site east of the Court House.

Within 10 to 25 years, and by 1950 at latest, a public auditorium containing at least 8,000 seats should be erected on the old hospital site at the corner of Twelfth Street and Central Parkway.

Post Office and Federal Building

In the not far distant future, a new Post Office and Federal building will have to be built. It is a rule nowadays, of the Federal Department, to locate new central post offices as near the railroad center as possible, and at the same time within easy walking distance of the center of the city. If the railroad center of the
future is to be in Mill Creek Valley, the Federal authorities would probably want to locate the central post office somewhere on the line between the union passenger station in the Mill Creek Valley and the central downtown district. For ready access to the downtown district, the Post Office obviously should not be farther west than Central Avenue. The most direct line of access from the downtown district to the new union station would be along Central Parkway extended to the west. Therefore, a location at the junction of Central Parkway, Plum Street and Central Avenue, would be a happy compromise between Post Office and public convenience.

A new Post Office and Federal Building should be located not later than 1950 at the junction of Plum Street and Central Parkway, preferably just north of the proposed municipal office building.

Board of Education Building

The present loft building quarters of the Board of Education will sooner or later be supplanted by a worthy building especially suited to the needs of the School Board. Such a building should obviously be near other public buildings. This would mean that a location near the corner of Central Parkway and Plum Street would be desirable.

By 1940 at latest a new building for the Board of Education should be located in the vicinity of Central Parkway and Plum Street.

Central Public Library Building

Several times recently, bond issues have been proposed for a new public library building. The present building offers little protection against fire to a most valuable collection of books and documents. It is of the utmost importance that a new public library building, dignified in character and properly located and laid out, should be built in the near future.

Modern library practice demands that a central public library should be readily accessible to the downtown business district for consultation and noon hour use. Therefore, any new public library building must be within easy walking distance of the central business district and readily accessible to all lines of transit and all thoroughfares converging in the "Basin." Reasonable quiet and a peaceful outlook is also most desirable, at least in a part of the building. The only site that seems to offer these various advantages in a marked degree would be one facing on Washington Park, preferably on the south side across Twelfth Street, and preferably running through to Central Parkway. A building located on this site would not only contribute greatly to the appearance of Washington Park, but would also be a great aid in determining a dignified character to the development of the western end of Central Parkway. It would also have the advantage on this site, of being near the various municipal and Federal buildings.

A new public library should be built by 1930, preferably on the south side of Twelfth Street across from Washington Park, and if possible, running through to Central Parkway.

A Civic Center

The location of a civic center appears to be automatically determined by the fact that most of the public buildings which must be erected during the next 25 years in the downtown district, would one and all be located between the present City Hall and the Music Hall. In other words, around the elbow of Central Parkway where it intersects Plum Street.

Of course a civic center is not the work of a day. It would normally be realized only over a period of 25 years or more. The development of the famous civic centers in Cleveland and Denver has already taken 15 or 20 years and they are not yet completed. San Francisco, on the other hand, as a result of the earthquake and fire, nearly completed its civic center in ten years.

If it is going to be desirable to locate the City Hall and its extension, the Post Office, the Board of Education building, the Auditorium, the remodeled Music Hall and the Public Library in the same part
of the downtown district, obviously every-thing is to be gained by so grouping them, that together they will form a worthy and impressive center. As a result of many studies, the scheme was evolved which is presented on a bird’s eye perspective of the “Basin” in 1975, and on the Downtown Plan. According to this scheme, the present City Hall and the three churches to the south of it, would stay where they now are and serve as the south terminus of the civic center. The present Music Hall would stay where it now is and serve as the north terminus.

Everything between the two from Central Avenue to Plum Street would gradually be remodeled, block by block, to create an effective public building group, with the new Auditorium on the old hospital site, the City Hall office building annex on the block next to the north of the present City Hall, with the Post Office and Federal Building on the block next north, of the City Hall annex and the Educational building on the block south of the Audi-

**CITY HALL TO MUSIC HALL — PROPOSED “CIVIC CENTER” SITE**

Aeroplane view showing buildings included within proposed center

**CENTRAL PARKWAY, LOOKING WEST**

The power plant chimneys mark the site of the proposed Memorial Tower with a Civic Center. The Parkway would be continued west to a union station and a Gest Street viaduct.
torium; the public library, meanwhile would be located between Washington Park and Central Parkway.

This grouping would make it possible to create eventually at the elbow of Central Parkway, a civic center, through which a broad parkway would extend to the proposed Gest Street Viaduct and to the proposed union passenger station.

A civic center in this location would be remarkably central, in fact there is no point in the city where so many thorough-fares and transit lines would converge as at this point. It would make excellent use of the present existing public buildings that should be retained, and at the same time present opportunities for a group development which architecturally would be unique.

Other possible public or semi-public buildings including clubs and society or company buildings, could be built on the remaining sites facing or adjacent to the proposed center. Other cultural buildings, such as a Natural History Museum, an Historical Museum or a Technical Museum could be located around Washington Park. Thus Cincinnati could have, in the ordinary course of events, by 1960 or 1975 at latest, a civic and cultural center comparable with any in the country.

The various public and semi-public buildings that must be built within the next 25 years or more, should be located as shown on the Civic Center Plan, so that eventually the complete scheme will be realized.

Memorial Tower

The rounding out of the civic center scheme calls for a memorial tower on the axis of Central Parkway and its extension westward to the Gest Street Viaduct. This tower should be connected by a colonnade or arcade with the Post Office to the south and the Board of Education building to the north. The roadways leading to the west extension of Central Parkway would pass through these colonnades. In that way, this tower, with its supporting colonnades, would become the Memorial Gateway to the city from the union station and from the west. This tower would be seen, approaching the city from the west, along Central Parkway, up Plum Street and down the part of Central Parkway above the elbow.

CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK CITY
Passing Through the Municipal Building
Central Parkway could be continued to the west through the proposed civic center group in a similar manner.

By 1950 a memorial tower, with supporting colonnades, should be built on the axis of Central Parkway and its extension to the Gest Street Viaduct, between the proposed Post Office and the proposed Board of Education building.

A Rapid Transit Terminus

The new rapid transit line should eventually terminate just east of the Court House. The block there between Sycamore Street and Broadway, as yet little developed, should lend itself admirably
for use as an underground rapid transit terminus. If plenty of space is to be allowed for the loading and unloading of trains, and for the storage of cars, nearly the whole block will be required. If this area could be cleared and treated with planted terraces, transfer stations and trolley and bus approaches, it would at the same time, give a splendid and much needed setting for the Court House. This will be further enhanced by the entrance of Eggleston Avenue into the corner of this site at Court Street and Broadway, and by Reading Road extended to come down into the other east corner of the square at Broadway and Central Parkway. This should induce the erection of dignified buildings to the east and north of this square.

A rapid transit underground terminus, with a transfer plaza above, should be developed by 1940 on the block east of the Court House from Sycamore Street to Broadway.

An Industrial Art Center

Cincinnati, more than any other city in the country, is a center of artisanry. It is not only noted for its exceptional proportion of high skilled workmen, but for the artistic value and finish of its products. It is only natural, as Cincinnati stands out among American cities as a center of art and music, that the skill of the workmen should be applied artistically. With such a background, it is manifestly to the advantage of the city to emphasize its artisanry, and assure its permanent leadership in this field.

However, to do this, a conscious effort will have to be made to develop artisanry
as a special science of art. It is already approached on one side in the Art Museum school in Eden Park, and on another side in the trade schools and at the University of Cincinnati. The Mechanics' Institute is well known for its work along this line. A collaboration of the three in a distinct school of artistry is an ideal to which Cincinnatians with vision should work.

Such a school would gradually develop into a group of buildings, among which would be a historical and working museum of applied arts.

In locating such a school, it should, of course, be readily accessible from the various parts of the city, at the same time not too far distant from the Art Museum, the University and the Mechanics' Institute.

Advantage should also be taken of the development of such a group, to place a "Jewel in the Crown" of the hills which surround the "Basin" on the north. It would present a splendid opportunity of repeating to the north what the development of Mount Adams already presents so strikingly on the east.

The only location which suits all of these conditions is up on the hill near Filson Outlook, where a group could readily be developed. It could be seen from all parts of the "Basin", and add remarkably to the beauty of the hilltop. Better access to this site should be provided.

By 1950 at latest, and preferably much earlier, a school of artistry should be considered on the hilltop at Filson Outlook.

Music and Dramatic Art Center

The Conservatory of Music is developing a group of buildings to the south of the Cincinnati Hospital. The College of Music is located south of the Music Hall downtown. Other schools of musical and dramatic art are scattered about the city.

Cincinnati is known throughout the country as one of the greatest music centers. It has an even still greater future ahead of it. While it is extremely difficult to uproot the present Conservatory and College centers, it would be a marvelous thing for the future of the musical and dramatic arts in Cincinnati, if they could be located together in one place, which might be known throughout the world as the Cincinnati Music Center. If in addition to combining the musical and dramatic interests in one place, the buildings could be so located that they would be seen from all parts of the downtown city, it would help wonderfully in focusing the interest of Cincinnati citizens on their development.

There is one site on the crown of hills to the north of the "Basin" that stands out above all others in its picturesqueness of location and aspect, and in the superb view from it which can be had at any hour of the day or night, and that is the location at the top of the long flight of steps leading to Upper Main Street. There is a great deal of ground there entirely undeveloped, and it is possible to conceive of a group of buildings there, which, in their appearance and effect would be unique in American cities, and which would give a setting to the Cincinnati "Basin" which it would be impossible to duplicate anywhere. The buildings on this site could be so laid out, with colonnades or cloisters looking out over the valley and down the river, that it would be a real inspiration to the art student.
Before the Conservatory or College of Music, or any of the other musical or dramatic schools make any further developments in their present location, and at latest by 1940, a concerted effort should be made to create at the top of Main Street, a combined music and dramatic art center.

Community Center

There is one more promontory in the line of the northern hills that must be developed in order to complete the "Crown of Jewels," and that is the hilltop at the head of the incline at Fairview Avenue over to Ravine Street. It is a most sightly location, whether seen from below, or looking out from above, for it not only gets the full sweep of the "Basin," but of the whole lower Mill Creek Valley as well. It is now hardly devel-

oped. It should be enjoyed by all. That there should be a public park there, cannot be questioned. The further ideal is, however, to see if it cannot be made so attractive and appeal so strongly to the imagination that it will become a resort for all.

If people are going to resort to such a place, there must be something to pull them there that will counteract the many consistent appeals in other directions. The strongest pull now is to the Zoo, to Coney Island and to Chester Park. Is it not possible to develop on the Fairview Avenue hilltop a similar pull which will have the added attraction of the inspiring, unique view that this site offers?

This would suggest the possibility of creating on this site a concert hall and restaurant of the same general character as that in the Zoo, combined with dance halls and a certain number of Coney Island features of attractive design, as part of an architectural ensemble, which would not only be most attractive in itself, but would also be most effective when seen from below.
By 1950 at latest, and preferably much earlier, a community resort for winter, as well as summer use, should be developed on the heights at Fairview Avenue.

A Church Group

There remains one promontory somewhat recessed between Clifton Avenue and Ohio Avenue.

It is already more or less developed. However, in order to complete the “Crown” it would be desirable to assure the development of this remaining projecting hilltop, with a group of striking buildings. It should appeal strongly to some church group or order to erect buildings here in a good architectural composition for the use of their denomination or order.

By 1960 at latest, it is to be hoped that some order or church body will develop a group of buildings on the hilltop, between Clifton Avenue and Ohio Avenue.

The Western Hills

The ring of hills to the west of the “Basin” presents no outstanding promontories. They are most attractive today in their present form, covered as they are with trees and shrubs. The Zoning Ordinance already passed, prevents the abuse of the sites on the tops of these hills with industrial or business structures. Thus their future character is assured. It is most important that the projects of the Park Board for conserving these hillsides as a part of the park system, should be carried out. Any special development with groups of public or semi-public buildings, is unnecessary, although the location of churches or other such buildings near the crest, should be encouraged in order to give variety to the silhouette of the western “Crown.”

In order to assure the permanency of the present charming aspect of the western hills, the Park Board projects should be carried out and the location of churches and other such buildings on the crest of the hills, should be encouraged.

Local Civic Centers

The Building Zone Map indicates several scores of local business centers outside of the “Basin.” Each of these tends to become a local community center for the surrounding tributary residence districts. Each of these is the focal point to which everyone gravitates who lives within easy walking distance of it. Such local buildings as branch libraries, public baths, public comfort stations, fire stations, local telephone exchanges, police stations, churches and clubs, as well as stores, motion picture houses, bowling alleys and billiard parlors, all tend to locate at or near these centers. This is especially true, as the centers are usually at the junctions of important thoroughfares and transit and bus lines. On the other hand, except for stores, garages, filling stations and commercial amusements, these various common use buildings should, in their own interest, be located outside of the actual business center, for they demand quiet, adequate parking space and an open setting.

Therefore, in locating each of these buildings as needed, special consideration should be given to the possibility of grouping them so as to secure all the advantages that may come from a local community center where buildings, related in function, may form part of a common group.

The grouping of the various public and semi-public buildings at Mariemont offers a striking example of how this can be done in a practical, and at the same time, in a most artistic way.

More or less similar groups are tending to form in places like Westwood, Price Hill, Cumminssville, Winton Place, Hyde Park, College Hill, Carthage, Bond Hill, Oakley, Madisonville, Mount Washington, Sayler Park and Columbia.

It is decidedly to the advantage of the local improvement association in each of these districts, and in any others that have a real homogeneity, to follow the location of each new public and semi-public building, with a view to seeing if it may not be possible to locate it alongside of existing similar buildings, so as gradually to create a local community group.
Each local improvement association should miss no opportunity to assure the erection of each new public and semi-public building, where it may contribute to the development of a local community group, and in each case, should secure the advice of the City Planning Commission, as to the best location from the standpoint of the City Plan.

Semi-Public Tracts and Cemeteries

In Cincinnati, as in all other cities, there are large tracts, usually near the borders of the city, that are used by institutions of various sorts, or by country clubs or public utilities. The city usually has no control over the location of these tracts, and they are placed wherever the promoters can find the sort of land they want at a cheap price. These tracts may be used for cemeteries, hospitals, institutions for dependents and for correctional purposes, or for country clubs, exposition grounds, water supply reservations, or for a myriad of other uses. It happens in many cities, although fortunately it has happened very little in Cincinnati, that these tracts tend to group themselves so as to create a formidable barrier to the growth of the city. So far, Cincinnati has been quite free from this menace, but with its 23 cemeteries, its seven golf courses, and with the number constantly increasing, great care should be given in the future to avoid the tendency to the creation of barriers which can now be seen in embryo, first in the three German cemeteries and the Zoological Garden, between Clifton and Avondale; and second, in the huge unbroken strip in Spring Grove Cemetery, and third in the group of public and semi-public buildings in Carthage, including Longview Asylum, the County Infirmary, the Fair Grounds and the City Infirmary. Each development of this sort, if too large in extent, or if the units are too close together, can do more to choke the normal growth of the city than almost any other factor. On the other hand, all of these types of use including the art museum, parks, camps, race tracks and baseball parks, colleges and private schools, are essential to the growth of the community. So important is the location of these larger tracts in respect to the city's growth, that it is highly desirable that the City Planning Commission should be consulted by the promoters of any new purchase of this type before action has gone too far so as to give the Commission a chance to advise whether or not the proposed site may have a harmful effect on the reasonable development of the city.

It is true that the Planning Commission has no right to insist that the promoter must follow its advice, but it is probable that in nine cases out of ten, the Commission would be able to convince the promoter that in his own interest as well as that of the community, he would be better off to conform to the needs of the City Plan.

Fortunately, the Board of Health itself does control, to a certain extent, the cemeteries and their extension, but in order to check up with the City Plan needs, it is decidedly to the advantage of the city that the Board of Health should consult with the City Planning Commission on each of these problems, as it arises.

Before purchasing any new or additional tract of land for semi-public, institutional, recreational or public utility use, the promoters should consult with the City Planning Commission, in order to be assured that each tract, as purchased, fits into the general scheme of development of the community under the City Plan, and so that no tract will interfere with the full use of the various present and proposed arteries of travel.

Aviation Fields

Cincinnati has only one aviation field, and that is just to the northwest of Blue Ash. Aviation fields are rather difficult to locate around Cincinnati, on account of the broken topography. Nevertheless, there seems to be little doubt that within a limited number of years, aviation will have considerable expansion on a commercial scale, and to a limited extent, governmental.

Therefore, appropriate sites for landing fields should be reserved where they
will be easily accessible by auto or trolley to the center of the city.

There are various possible sites, as follows:

1. In the Little Miami Valley below Newtown.
4. Southeast of Madeira.
5. Between Madeira and Deer Park.
7. Between Bond Hill and North Woodward.
8. East of Hartwell.
10. East of North College Hill.
11. West of North College Hill.
12. Southwest of Bridgetown.

Some of these sites are better than others, although all of them are relatively unimproved at the present time.

Whenever any one of the tracts that could be used as aviation landing fields comes into the market for other development, the City Planning Commission should give consideration to the possible need of setting aside the tract for aviation use.

Aviation experts ask for a flat field of at least 3,000 feet square, although 2,000 feet square, or even a trifle less, is possible. If it is impossible to provide a square field, an L-shaped field of the same over-all dimensions is desirable, or if that is impracticable, a T-shaped field. However, with the rapid improvement of airplanes which can mount vertically from a field, the time may soon arrive when large landing fields are no longer necessary. Therefore, too much stress need not be placed on the reservation of large tracts for possible landing field use.

**Public Markets**

The lower rentals in the five public markets are, to a considerable extent, reflected in correspondingly lower prices for foodstuffs. Thus the Cincinnati public markets, while they serve to bring in little revenue to the city, do probably help to lower somewhat the cost of living for the poorer citizens.

The Court Street market east of Elm Street, and the Pearl Street market should be abandoned by 1930, as their local clientele is moving away with the incursion of business.

The West Court Street, the Findlay and the Sixth Street markets can be retained without serious damage to traffic or the extension of business, but their usefulness does not warrant any large expenditures for enlargement or even for renewals.