

In a letter of March 6, 1912 Gray wrote of his observations of the Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration. He wrote, "So many complimentary things were said that I have been a little dizzy ever since and yet I know that more than half of them were not true nor were they intended to be. You know how important it is to put soft soap on the elevator that goes to the cellar in order to make it go, and so I suppose that that was the idea".

The summer of 1913 was an active one at Saugatuck and the Park. Plans were made to build a wooden stairway up to Mt. Baldhead. The Interurban trains brought guests from Holland to the Big Pavillion in Saugatuck where the Tango Contest was the highlight of the season. Trains also took people into Holland to visit the many recreational parks.

At the Forward Movement Park the classes, entertainment, and concerts which guests had grown to expect were again offered. Members of the "Prairie Club" of Chicago stayed at the Park for a few days. They were described as "business men & college professors who take long walks through the country each Saturday while they are home". One family of guests had a campfire for roasting marshmallows on Mt. Baldhead so big that it could be seen from town. And the editor of the local paper climbed the hill to see it. He wrote that the "light of the hundred or more cattail torches stuck in the sand was a sight never to be forgotten..." Today it would give a modern camp director a fit to have campfires so big.

This was also a time of more building; at least in the planning stage. Plans were announced of a concret walk from the ferry to the cottages on the lakeshore, but they were never built. Henry Lytton did give money to improve the walks near Lytton Hall. A chi ding remark in a September issue said that the sand dumped on the Forward Movement dock at the Kalamazoo River was not to be for a warehouse nearby, but was to be for a concret walk near Swift Villa. Work was also begun on the Helen Leet Walk going from the Office building across the ravine to the Vesta Putnam Cottages and then on down near the lake.

Gray and the Head Resident of the settlement house in Chicago, Miss Mary Dix, were at the Park in May, but in an article of July Gray was said to have not felt well for the last few days and stayed in his room most of the time. This was the first account of any weakening of Gray's physical health.

William S. Harbert, a Board member, had a cottage called "Oak Openings" on the west side of the river, "directly north from the end of Butler Street across the river". James Fenimore Cooper wrote a book called "Oak Openings" and ever since then it had been a popular name for things in the area. It was the story of a bee keeper on the American side who lived in the Saugatuck area during the War of 1812. An Oak opening was a natural meadow clearing in the forests of southern Michigan.