



THE organization of the Hastings Chautauqua association was suggested in the course of a conversation between Rev. Hiram B. Harrison and Evangelist Lincoln McConnell, in the latter part of 1905, when Mr. McConnell was here directing a series of revival meetings. The establishment of a Chautauqua in Hastings had been frequently discussed, but the agitation had never reached the stage of actual steps being taken. Mr. McConnell and Mr. Harrison considered the advantages Hastings possessed for such an enterprise, its central location, its superior railroad facilities, its beautiful parks and the interest always displayed by the people of the city

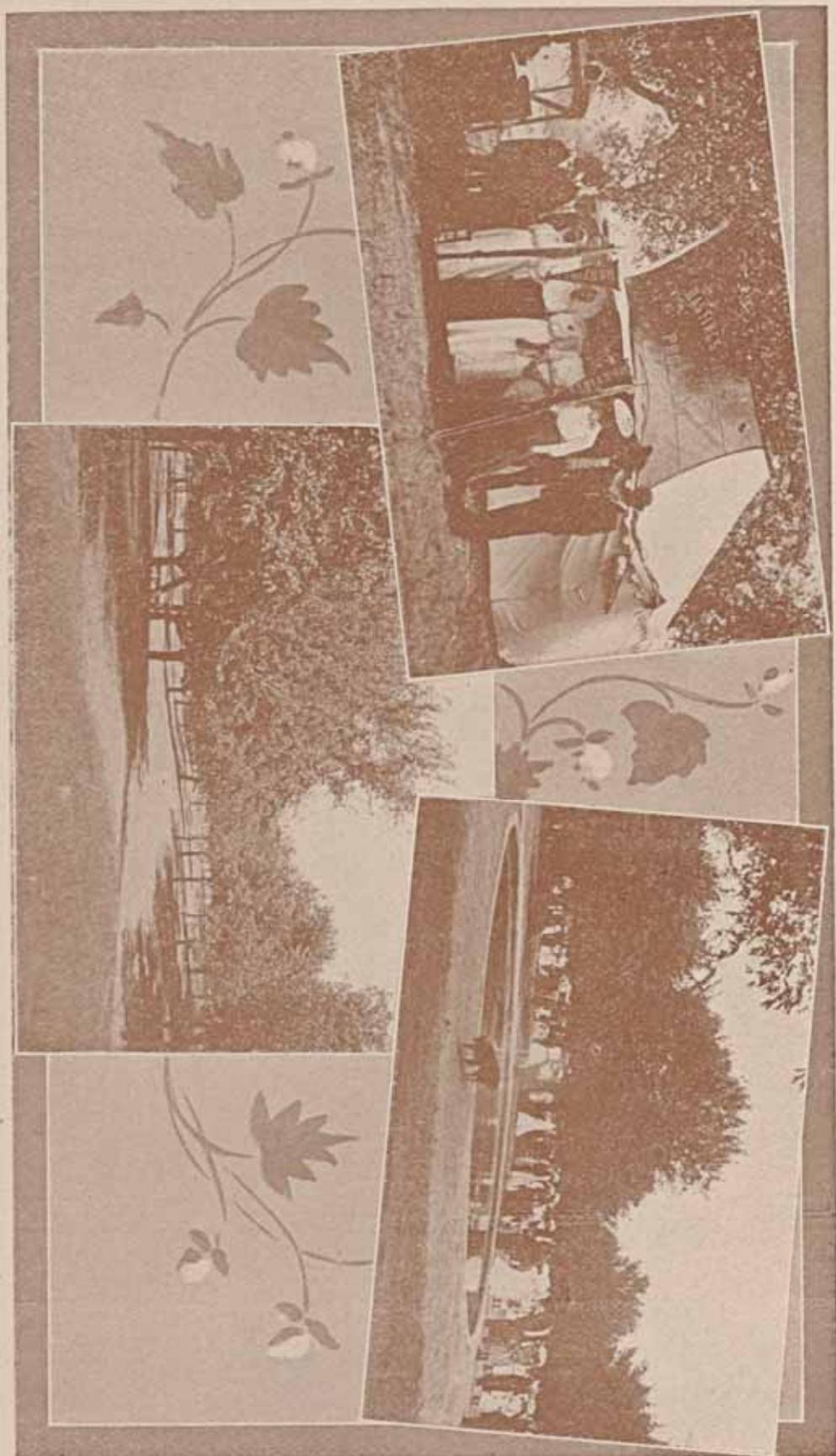


Residence of C. Koehler.

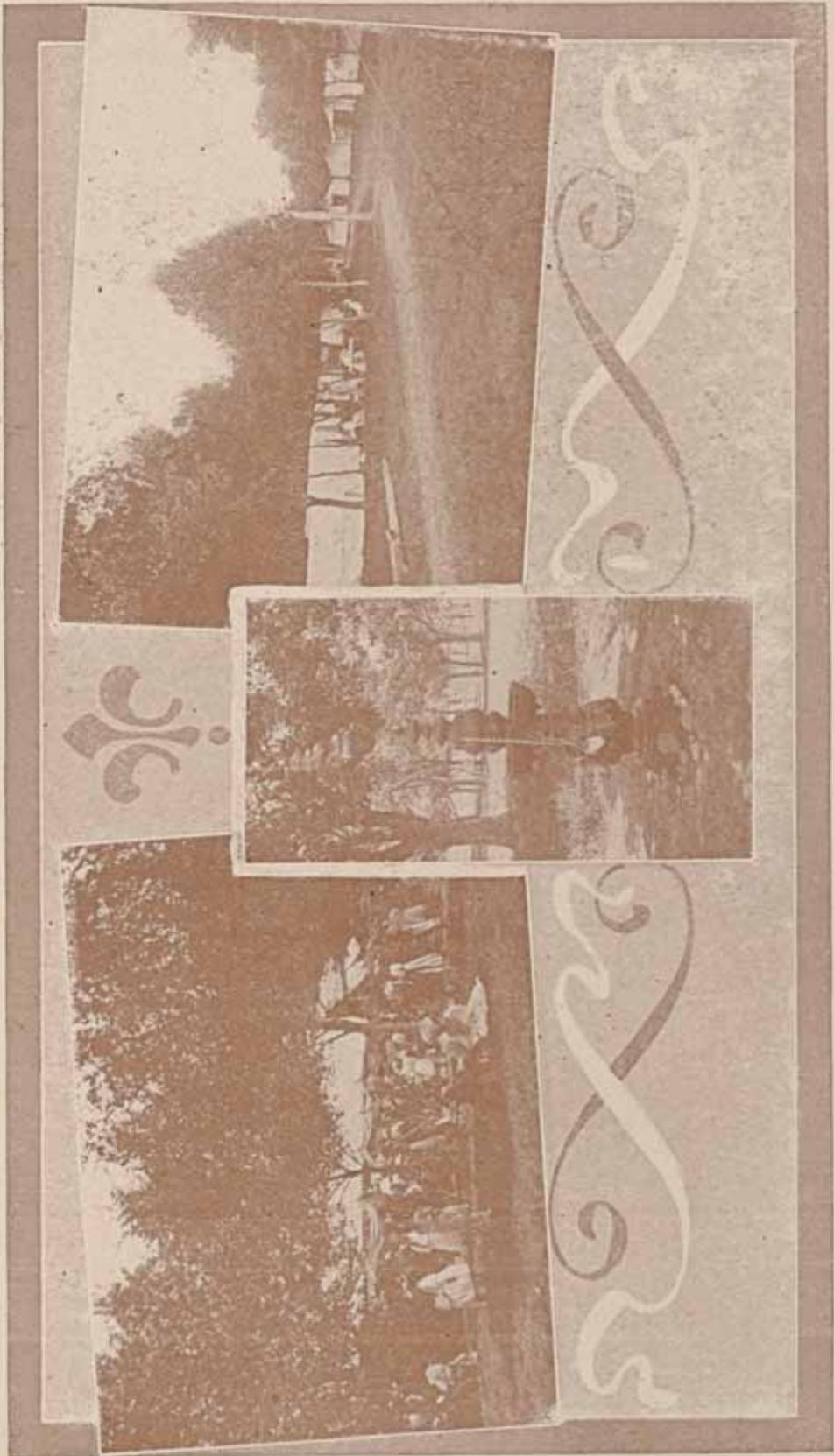
in lectures and high grade literary and musical entertainments.

Shortly after the conclusion of the revival services Mr. Harrison discussed the project with a number of business men,

Tommy Bailey House



Chautauqua Grounds, Prospect Park.



Chautauqua Grounds, Prospect Park.

and receiving their encouragement began, with the assistance of several interested citizens, the solicitation of stock subscriptions. Pledges amounting to about \$2,000 were secured and on February 13, 1906, the Hastings Chautauqua association was organized. James N. Clarke was elected president and W. M. Lowman vice-president, and these two men with W. T. Blackman, O. E. Von Oven, H. B. Harrison, J. C. Hedge and O. H. Barr were constituted a board of directors. Mr. Harrison was later elected secretary and W. A. Taylor, treasurer.

Soon after the association was organized Mr. Von Oven removed to Chicago and C. E. Higinbotham was elected to take his place on the board of directors.

The first Chautauqua was held in July, 1906, and as a result of the success of the venture the association has planned the erection of a permanent auditorium to cost about \$5,000. The city has granted the association the use of Prospect park for



Residence of L. B. Terrill.

the annual Chautauqua gatherings. It has been planned to have the auditorium completed in time for the next Chautauqua session, which will begin on July 19 and end on July 28, 1907.

The officers who so successfully piloted the Chautauqua project during its first session have been elected to serve for the year 1907.