

THE CITY IS THE LANDLORD OF THIS TENTED TOWN

A Rental of One Dollar a Week Is Asked, Which Is Really a Water Tax---2,000 Persons in a Picturesque Community.



business man of 125th Street or thereabouts this Summer city is less than half an hour distant. It is to this section of the city that the Park offers an especially attractive outlook.

The picturesque tented city has its rush hours like any other. Just before train time the tide sets in strongly toward the station. The shaded walks are crowded with commuters, while many carriages, hacks, and the quaint old City Island horse car are overtaxed to carry the throng.

There is relief in sight, however, and the commuters are pointing with pride to the new monorail line which is to

down to enjoy a quiet day. There is bathing all day long, and the beach is always crowded. The breakfast over, the tents are deserted and the population gathers under the great trees along the beach or in the pavilions to enjoy all the delights of a shore resort within the city limits.

All of the tent houses are comfortable and some are elaborate. A degree of cleanliness and general neatness is of course demanded, and the careful policing keeps everything in perfect order. Without any oppressive rules, the entire region is rigidly restricted.

Most of the tents are built with open or inclosed porches. They are set up on regular platforms to insure their being always dry and healthful. Those long rows of open porches give the streets a very animated appearance.

It is in the evening, however, that the tented city may be seen at its best. The crowd of commuters has returned and the picturesque little settlement suddenly grows animated. The evening meal over, the family groups may be seen filling every porch. Visits are made back and forth. The little streets are crowded.

Orchard Beach is noted for being

exceedingly musical. As the hum of activity dies down one will hear the music of scores of impromptu choirs assembled on the porch before the tents.

There are few street lamps at Orchard Beach, but the lights of hundreds of tents serve to illuminate the long lanes beneath the trees. The evening is the most attractive period. The long rows of illuminated tents against the dark green of the wood makes one of the most attractive pictures imaginable. One would not expect to find such a scene hundreds of miles from the noisy, bustling city.

MANY thousands of people find Father Knickerbocker a very liberal and accommodating landlord. His tenants this Summer are more numerous than ever before. For a conveniently situated home site with modern city conveniences he is now asking a rental of \$1 a week, and throwing in many attractive features in the bargain.

Within a few days there has rapidly sprung up an exceedingly picturesque city of tents on the beautiful shore line at Orchard Beach, opposite City Island. The applications for these city lots indicate that upward of 500 families will take advantage of the city's hospitality. A city of 500 tents means a permanent Summer population of upward of 3,000.

For the New Yorker who cares for a Summer home within easy commuting distance on these advantageous terms, it may be mentioned that these lots are free to all respectable citizens. A nominal water tax of \$1 a week is charged, which is the only rent or financial obligation. The privilege to join this picturesque community is granted by the Park Department.

Above 125th Street the tide of Summer travel turns northward. The crowds of women and children laden with lunch baskets, which is so common a sight, is usually headed southward toward Coney Island and the various beaches. The destination of the crowd working its way northward by elevated and trolley is Pelham Bay Park. The beautiful shore line of the upper section of the city is scarcely less attractive than that to the south.

The attraction of this region comes to a great proportion of New Yorkers as a surprise. There are many miles of shore line deeply indented, extending in many heavily wooded capes far out into Long Island Sound. It is in many respects an ideal holiday region, with the cool recesses of the park on one hand and the broad Sound on the other.

Orchard Beach is happily situated in this region. It has been well named. An old apple orchard, the remnant of a great estate, extends along the shore line at this point for a considerable distance, affording ample shade. The ground is carpeted with a rich turf. A broad sandy beach extends down to the waters of the Sound.

All the elements of the ideal Summer

resort seem to be gathered here. There is an undisturbed wooded country inland inviting exploration. The beach affords excellent bathing. The sheltered waters of the Sound are well stocked with fish, and its broad bays are ideal for rowing or sailing.

A camp of nearly 500 tents makes a good showing. The settlement is stretched out in many regular streets for about half a mile. The streets run parallel with the shore line, so that every tenant enjoys a water view, and is within easy access of the beach.

This is no choice group of tents, but a regular city, both in design and government. The tents are set well back from the streets with regular spacing. The general effect throughout is neat and orderly.

It is a backwoods camp, however, with all, or nearly all, modern city conveniences. There is running water, a pipe every few feet for the use of the tenants. The entire ground is perfectly drained. One may be sure of a healthful neighborhood.

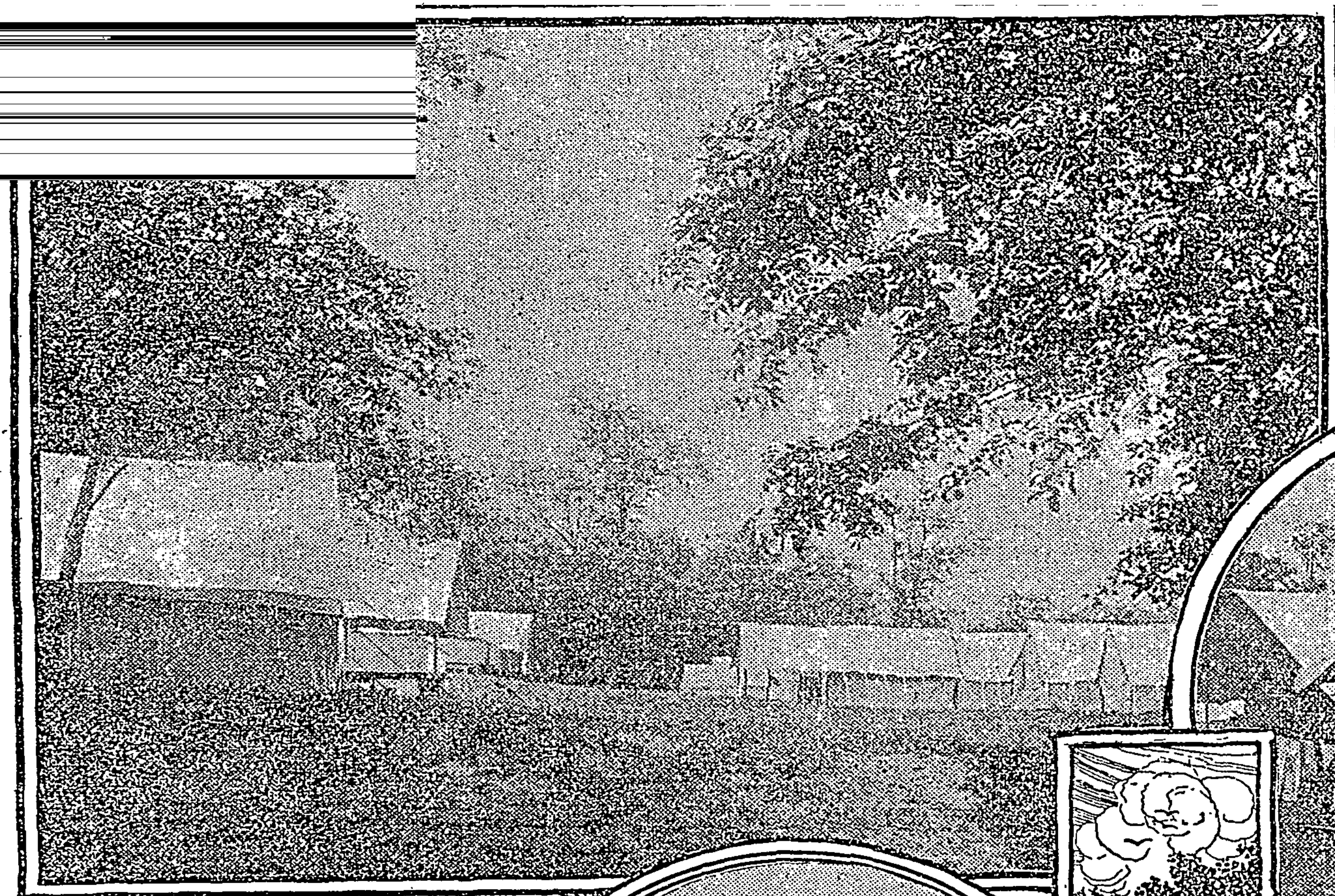
The picturesque tented streets are regularly policed, and property is protected. A sprinkling cart passes up and down the streets at regular intervals to lay the dust. The little settlement has its public green, with a broad pavilion for dancing.

One of the great attractions of Orchard Beach is the bathing. The clean, sanded beach is one of the most attractive on our entire coast line. Here one may enjoy salt-water bathing literally under the shade of the orchard trees which grow close to the water's edge.

The main beach is crescent shaped, occupying a beautiful recess of the Sound. The grass grows literally to the water line. A number of benches placed beneath the trees affords one of the most attractive bathing pavilions imaginable. Father Knickerbocker has even provided his tenants with well-equipped bathhouses convenient to the beach. Many of the residents naturally prefer to dress at home, since no tent is more than a few feet from the water's edge.

It would seem that every need of Father Knickerbocker's tenants or guests had been anticipated. At the centre of the bathing beach a life-saving station has been established, so that the safety of all is guarded, whether they be on land or in the water.

One of the features of the tented city



A Glimpse of the Town.

is its outdoor life. That every want may be anticipated, an excellent baseball diamond has been prepared. Throughout the Summer it is in constant use. The lawns near by offer every inducement to the lover of tennis, basket ball, and other games.

Orchard Beach is not merely a Summer camp, but a thoroughly organized neighborhood of the great city. Throughout the Summer several hundred people, at times upward of 500, regularly commute. The camp is but a few minutes' walk from the station, and from there a ride of less than half an hour brings one to 125th Street.

Orchard Beach is less than one hour distant from the downtown business section of Manhattan. In other words the average business man with an office near City Hall Square or Wall Street may reach Orchard Beach as quickly as he can journey to the now familiar resorts to the south.

Orchard Beach is economical as regards its commutation rates as well as its rentals. For the commuter whose business carries him to the upper section of the city the rate is little more than the ordinary car fare. For the

bring Orchard Beach in closer communication with the railroad. The tracks, or rather track, is already laid, and very soon the residents of Orchard Beach will enjoy a convenience enjoyed by commuters in no other part of the city, or for that matter in the country.

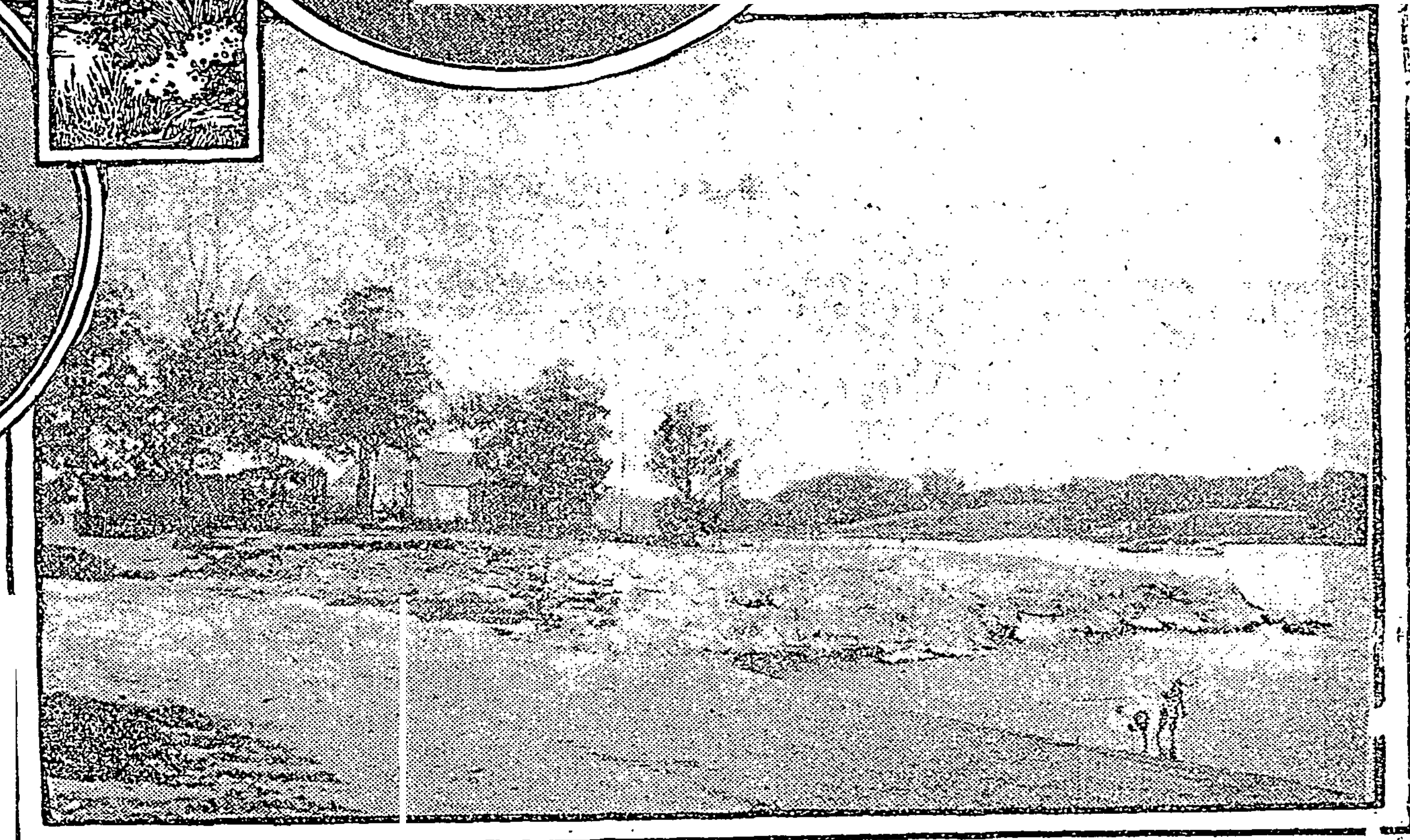
Once the crowd of commuters has started cityward Orchard Beach settles



A Typical Residence.



On Wash Day.



The Beach.