

WASHINGTON CROSSING PARK.

Five years ago the Legislature created a commission consisting of the Governor, Comptroller, Treasurer and five citizens named by the Governor to purchase one hundred acres of land "at or near the point where Washington crossed the Delaware on the night preceding the battle of Trenton." An appropriation of \$25,000 was made, the land was bought, and for a time considerable enthusiasm was manifested in the project to provide a National Park, in which the United States Government and the state of Pennsylvania were expected to co-operate.

Then interest fell off, possibly because the work of the commission was transferred to the Board of Conservation and Development by one of the economy and efficiency acts passed in 1915. It is said that the tract of land and the house upon it have been rented to a farmer in the neighborhood, though the law declares that it "shall be kept and maintained as a public park" and that the commission is to "fence, grade and improve the said lands."

If the failure of the Board of Conservation and Development to carry out the instructions of the Legislature is due to the lack of funds, the members of the Mercer County delegation should interest themselves in trying to get the money needed; though the whole state is interested—and the nation, too—in this movement to commemorate an event that had such an important bearing on the history of this Republic. If there is a lack of interest then some one should be prodded up.

Now that the land has been bought and paid for, the cost of development and maintenance should not be great, and the sooner the grading is done and trees and shrubbery planted the sooner will Washington Crossing Park be fitted for the uses for which it is intended. The matter is one in which the patriotic societies should show some interest.