

Intricate and Special Panel Wells Firemen How Wells Perform

By George Wm. Averill

When the housewife turns on the kitchen faucet she rarely realizes what city department it is that supplies that water...

However, only the matter of water production is the concern of the firemen. Such things as water bills, laying of new mains and repairing leaks in old ones are delegated to another city agency, the water department.

Six Operating Wells But it is the interest in this particular article to discuss the city water supply as it pertains to the fire department.

The city has six operating wells at the present time that are capable of pumping 3,000 gallons of water per minute into the city's water distribution system.

The South well (at Southfield and 14 Mile) can deliver 1,200 gpm. The West (at Lincoln and Westchase) can deliver 1,000 gpm.

A seventh well, the Walker (just outside the city limits on East Lake) can deliver 1,000 gpm. It is a 200-gallon per minute capacity.

Must Maintain Pressure The fire department is responsible for the pumphouses and the operation of the city wells. It is up to the firemen to see that adequate pressure is maintained at all times.

In the fire station is a special panel which indicates at a glance the status of the wells and at what capacity. As the demand increases, wells are pumped faster and other wells are placed in operation to maintain pressure.

None of the wells are pumped at full capacity for a 24-hour period. With the cities present water supply potential, this is not necessary.

A Bit Different Last year for instance, Birmingham realized a total of \$42,348,200 gallons of water for various purposes. The four wells which were in operation at that time (the Redding and Baldwin wells came into the system just this summer) are capable of producing 2,650 gallons per minute.

Obtaining water from wells is quite a bit different than getting water out of a lake, particularly a large lake. Detroit, for instance, has an inexhaustible water supply such as phoning, writing and typing.

The Post is, in reality, a "service station" to volunteers in need of official badges and other restricted supplies not available through regular Boy Scout outfits.

After your first visit to open an account here at your friendly bank, we furnish special deposit envelopes, and you can do your business with the bank by long-distance, at the price of a postage stamp.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BUILDING



Happenings of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO August 12, 1889

Martiner O. Baglow, a former Birmingham boy now in the army, came in for some special praise for his horsemanship displayed in a recent parade in St. Paul.

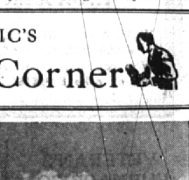
Attention young gentlemen—I will rent my tandem by the hour at a flat rate of 25c. I guarantee these horses to be well trained and easily managed at all times.

A fine new artificial stone walk, five feet wide, extends along the entire south side of our school building. A great acquisition to the pretty grounds.

Arthur Bakalea is happy about catching a 5 1/2 pound bass. He says that the fight to land this magnificent monster was very thrilling.

Members of the Birmingham Exchange Club are planning a moonlight excursion. Tentative plans are being made by Lawrence

THE ECENTRIC'S Camera Corner



A wagon wheel and a mailbox are probably items—but they combine in an interesting picture possibilities in the scene.

Pictures Everywhere

A friend of mine who went to school in the city of Niagara Falls confessed long ago that in two winters there only one had been visited the Falls themselves.

man regards as a shortcut on his way to work. All of which makes me wonder when I hear someone say he finds little to photograph. Or that he's shot all the picture possibilities which abound around him.

Consult with us if you are contemplating improvements or additions to your home. We'll help you with sound advice... tell you how to go about it at a minimum cost and we'll supply you with the finest building materials.

LAWSON & SON 484 Forest BUILDERS SUPPLIES

People's Column

St. Augustine, Florida August 8, 1948 To the Editor:

As an interurban bus car rolled through town Sunday we noticed an open door, and curious, looked into the car.

A contest is being planned to decide the horseback pitching champion of Birmingham. The affair will be held Thursday and Friday, Aug. 23 and 24, under the direction of G. F. Johnson.

FIVE YEARS AGO August 12, 1943 Friday marks the 30th anniversary of the Birmingham Fire Department. Founded on Aug. 13,

RESTAURANT OPERATION SCHEDULE So You'll Find Them Open When You Go to Your FAVORITE EATING PLACES

Knowing that you do not want to waste time, the restaurants listed in this advertisement are letting you know what days they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you.

CORNING'S EL PATIO WOODWARD AVENUE AT COOLIDGE HIGHWAY Near Birmingham

SEA-SHORE DINNERS OPEN WEDNESDAY EVENINGS ALL DAY SUNDAYS

FOOD AND HOUNDS INN JOHN INGELSON, Prop. Birmingham Hills Woodward at Long Lake Rd.

MIN'TS ICE CREAM CO. 1360 S. Woodward, Birmingham Week Days 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.

HOME PLANNERS



Consult with us if you are contemplating improvements or additions to your home. We'll help you with sound advice... tell you how to go about it at a minimum cost and we'll supply you with the finest building materials.

STOP IN AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

LAWSON & SON 484 Forest BUILDERS SUPPLIES Phone 111

You Guess When we visited our favorite Birmingham barber shop the other day, it was the first time we had to hand \$1.25 over to the barber for trimming the shaggy hair around our ears.

This two-bit boost, we decided, was all right. Prices of nearly everything else have continually gone up—so why not haircuts? Perhaps the price of barber's scissors, hair oil, shaving soap and other such necessities had recently been hiked, thus being reflected in the new price of the haircut.

But at last week's city commission meeting we began to think otherwise. From the comments the barbers' delegation made, it appeared we had better think again about this 25 cent raise. Was it to pay for increased costs the barbers had had to absorb? We finally decided this fact may have had little to do with the case. And here's why:

This barbers' group argued that they wanted the city to restrict barber shop hours. Why, if these hours weren't restricted, some upstart might come into town and keep his shop open 24 hours a day; he might even undercut local haircutting prices because he would be able to earn more per day, even at lower prices!

This shouldn't be allowed to happen here, these barbers argued. But, they admitted, they weren't concerned with the one-man shop. They could tolerate him. They were afraid of what would happen if a 10-chair shop sprang up selling haircuts at \$1 while the other, more established shops were asking \$1.25.

We profess to be no economic expert but we began asking ourselves a few questions. If \$1.25 for a haircut only assured the barber a normal net profit, then how could this new 10-man shop make ends meet by only asking \$1 per cut, let alone return a profit to the proprietor?

A businessman can lose money only for so long then he goes broke. He's out of business. His economics have been out of balance and he begins using a great deal of red ink.

So we came to this conclusion: if the \$1.25 is a TRUE price, what's to be feared by a man who wants to give away his money for a few months by selling haircuts at \$1. Should the new barber, if he can pay the rent on a 10-chair shop, buy the combs and the shaving soap and the scissors, pay his assistants the going rate and STILL MAKE A FAIR PROFIT FOR HIMSELF, ... well, we'll let you fill in the answer to this one.

(Come to think of it, just how far does this sort of thing, should it be an

inflated price, extend throughout the rest of the present American economy? The answer to this last question might shock a great many of us if we knew the facts.)

Television Ahead!

The nation now boasts of twenty-three television broadcasting stations and the number is expected to double by the end of this year and to double again next year.

Seventy stations have been given construction permits and about 18 other applications are on file with the Federal Communications Commission.

So far, it is estimated that there are close to 300,000 receiving sets, with half of them in and around New York City. However, television is expected to spread throughout the nation, with the spread depending in part upon the charges for coaxial cable lines and by the possible development of mountain-top microwave relay stations.

Those familiar with the markets say that the manufacturers expect to sell hundreds of thousands of sets during the next two years. They say that the fast-moving process has been speeded up by the decision of the FCC to give the industry the go-ahead signal for black and white broadcasts and putting the damper on color broadcasts.

Basically, the mechanics of war have not changed much. But communication and transportation methods have, which makes most of the difference. Mankind's failure to apply more of his scientific progress to the art of practicing the Golden Rule is mankind's dismal dereliction.

The family, as an institution, serves the needs of men, women and children. It serves, in many ways, to prolong human life. In brief, family life and home life exist for the benefit of human beings and until human nature changes, there will always be those to exemplify the best traditions associated with family and home life.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 210-212 North Woodward Avenue Telephone 11 12 and 18

Editor and Publisher GEORGE B. AVERILL Business Manager PAUL NEAL AVERILL Advertising Manager GEORGE W. AVERILL HAROLD P. BURKE

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Post Office at Birmingham, Michigan, on August 3, 1919.

Subscription Rates One Year—\$1.00 (Outside Oakland County) Six Months—\$0.50 (Outside Oakland County) Three Months—\$0.25 (Outside Oakland County)

The Eccentric is a member of: National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, and University Press Club.

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions of material providing it has news value and suggestions are welcomed. Contributions are usually sent unaccompanied so that they conform to general newspaper style. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

BIRMINGHAM MOVERS MOVING • STORAGE • CRATING 277 PIERCE ST. PHONE 1543

BENDIX BRAKES STOP HERE SO YOU CAN STOP ANYWHERE We are authorized Bendix Brake dealers which means you get the best in materials. Our experienced mechanics assure you of the finest workmanship, too. It Pays to Shop for Brake Service GET OUR PRICE GENERAL AUTO SERVICE

Scouts Seeking New Trading Post Head for Detroit Store The Detroit Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, is seeking a full time manager for their Trading Post in Detroit. Preference is being given to a veteran, and the present management points out that the position offers a splendid opportunity to a veteran who is physically handicapped.

FRIENDLY BANK BANKING BY MAIL IS THE EASY WAY After your first visit to open an account here at your friendly bank, we furnish special deposit envelopes, and you can do your business with the bank by long-distance, at the price of a postage stamp.