

Fire Department's Stepchild Receives Plenty of Attention

By ALICE E. MORGAN

When you think of the fire department you think of noisy sirens, dashing trucks and somewhere, a blazing building.

While this is primarily their job, most departments have other responsibilities, too. Some rescue people, some rescue cats and some, like Birmingham, see to it that there is a constant and ample supply of pure water available for everyone.

The seven wells, all 300 feet deep or more, are the special children of the local department. They are the men who see to it that a casing break is mended before the sifting sand and earth

can enter the mains and chew vital packings into useless pieces of rubber.

They are the men who know, from one minute to the next, whether or not all pumps are working. They are the men who can tell you, almost immediately, what the water pressure is.

They are the men who can tell you that in 1949 the people of Birmingham used 563,247,900 gallons of water, an average of 35,163 gallons per person. They can also tell you that 79 samples of water went from the Birmingham wells to city, county and state laboratories last year. All reports came back favorably.

WHEN REPAIRS are needed on one of the wells, the firemen do it. During the past year it meant pulling broken castings and replacing them. The men who handled the work are quite willing to go on record and say that 300 feet of pipe to remove and replace makes quite a job.

To check water pressure, each pump records, on graphs, its day's production. The records show pressure and gallons of water pumped are recorded in each of the houses for every 24 hour period. It is a constant and permanent record. The pump houses themselves are models of cleanliness and efficiency.

Most housewives would be amazed if they could see just how clean these stations are. Somehow they are almost entirely free of dust and completely without odor.

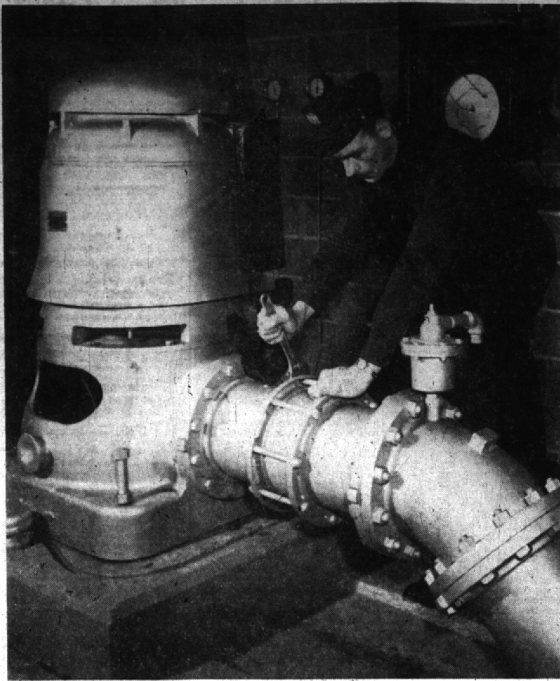
THE SLOGAN of the department is that each pump house should be as clean, or cleaner, than any food distribution center. They are.

Moreover, the houses are so constructed that it is virtually impossible for youngsters, looking for a little malicious destruction to do, to enter them.

During the past summer when nearly every nearby community was faced with a water shortage, Birmingham had an ample supply. This was due partly to the fire department's maintenance program and the long range plans of the city.

In the meantime, members of the fire department continue watching over their very important step-children and the residents of Birmingham are assured of plenty of water whenever it is wanted.

A Routine Check Is Completed



FIREMAN GEORGE WALLACE TIGHTENS A PUMP FITTING. Good maintenance insures constant water supply for city. (Dick Shirk Photo)

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PTA Tea Will Start Baldwin's Program

Mothers of all Baldwin stu-

dents, women of the faculty and high school girls will be special guests at the first general meeting of the Baldwin PTA. The meeting will be held in the music

room of Hill school at 3 p.m. today, Oct. 5. Mrs. H. W. Layland will be in charge of the tea, assisted by Roy Stringer, Mrs. Robert Trees,

Mrs. E. W. Averill, Mrs. A. S. McCall and Mrs. L. L. Colbert. Mrs. Dwight Ireland and Mrs. Walter Bodie will pour, assisted by several high school girls.

Holy Name Lists PTARoom Mothers

Room mothers of Holy Name school PTA met Sept. 27 at the home of Mrs. Bradley Stephenson, vice president, in Beverly Hills.

Plans for the coming year were discussed and those of the opening ceremonies of the new school.

Room mothers for the year will include Mrs. John Bode and Mrs. Paul Kuebler, kindergarten; Mrs. James Lillis and Mrs. Harry Stark, Jr., first grade; Mrs. Girard A. Racine and Mrs. James J. Kelly, second.

Mrs. Lucian R. Bloom and Mrs. Otto Schubert, third; Mrs. Lloyd O. McIntosh and Mrs. Frank E. Masura, fourth; Mrs. Frank W. Lynch and Mrs. Edmond Rindom.

Mrs. George A. Carpenter and Mrs. Robert L. Bodor, sixth; Mrs. Duward E. Rossman and Mrs. David W. Williams, Jr. seventh and Mrs. Martin Murawsky, eighth.

A TEA WILL BE held in the Community House Friday, Oct. 13, for all mothers of Holy Name school. Mrs. Bloom will be in charge.

Open house will be held at the regular meeting Oct. 23 when parents will have the opportunity of meeting all faculty members.

Some Naval Reservists travel as much as 40 miles to attend weekly meetings.

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