

Police (Continued from Page One) Det. Merlin Holmquist jumped the gun on the public and turned in the first "hole-in-the-street" report of the year...

mirmingham fire department enjoyed a quiet weekend. They began the New Year by responding to a request for aid to the Bloomfield Village department...

Water Department in 'Good' Financial Condition

By RAY DENNIS The Birmingham water department has operated without any financial loss for the past 20 years, according to the pamphlet outlining the department's history and status...

The report warned, however, that it is necessary for the department to have sufficient operating profit to pay bond maturities...

FROM 1924 TO 1948, the present water rates remained unchanged. In 1948 they were modified to the extent that the discount of 10% allowed for prompt payment...

NET OPERATING profit of the department has increased from \$19,840 in 1945-46 to \$87,743 in 1949-50. It was pointed out in the report that the increase in net operating profit must be not a must.

Prior to 1946, the consumption meters were not properly tested and replaced under a regular schedule. Such a program was undertaken that year...

Several other commissioners agreed. Oakland hospital did consider the 13 Mile site, but picked the Birmingham location when legal involvement apparently ended this private effort...

Hospital Act

should the city leave Birmingham on the hook for the support of another hospital? Commissioner Milton F. Malender agreed with Heier.

"IF ROYAL OAK, Berkley and Huntington Woods are pressing for the Woodward General facility and the Oakland hospital, I don't think we can depend upon them to assist us in supporting the Oakland hospital."

Commissioners Richard Patterson and Chad Rich also agreed. Birmingham people feel they'd like to see a hospital built outside Birmingham if it is possible, claiming it is of questionable value to the city from an economic standpoint.

McKENNEY, WHO is married and has three children, moved to Birmingham last August from Detroit. He resumed his active service in the army Dec. 27.

Local Man Heads Detroit Battalion Allocated for Duty

A Birmingham resident, Lieut. Col. Robert L. McKenney, 35, of 1922 Holland, is commanding officer of the Michigan National Guard's 97th field artillery battalion which has been alerted for active duty and will report Jan. 23 to an unnamed camp.

This Detroit battalion is a non-division unit attached to the state's 48th division and was reactivated last February. It is equipped with 150 millimeter city propelled rifles and has 400 men stationed at the Detroit artillery armory on Eight mile near Schaefer.

Before going on active duty, he was payroll supervisor at the Chevrolet gear and axle plant, Detroit. His father was the late Lieut. Col. Laurence McKenney, a Birmingham resident and principal of the Detroit Breitmeyer school, who was killed in New Guinea while serving with the 32nd division.

Col. McKenney has been a member of the National Guard for 18 years and was a member of the 99th field artillery division in the Battle of the Bulge during the last war.

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substantial improvements. These projects will require careful planning however. It warned that unless the rate of growth drops off substantially, little time can be lost in securing the additional improvements.

THE CONTINUED growth of the department can be emphasized by the fact that in the 11 years from 1935 to 1946, approximately 31% new accounts were added, while in the period from 1946-48, 851 new accounts were taken on.

Revenue for the water department comes from these sources: metered sales, 80%; hydrant rental and inspection services, 7%; water service construction, 5%; meter installation, 5.5%; water for construction, 1.5% and miscellaneous, 1%.

The money is spent on the following: wells, power and pumping, 33.4%; water mains, 13.6%; meter department, 12%; general administration, 2%; water service maintenance, 2.8%; accounting and collection, 6.7%; hydrant, 5.4%; interest on bonds, 3.5%; storage, 2.4%; and miscellaneous, .9%.

LOOKING TOWARD the future, Birmingham has been joining in discussions and plans with other southeastern cities to form a community relative to the establishment of a \$4,000,000 water supply system for the area.

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charges, the water would be sold to each municipality or participant based on the cost of the water, plus operating cost of the system. This will result in a cost of 11.2 cents per 1000 gallons initially, reducing to 9.7 cents per 1000 gallons in 1970.

PRESENT ESTIMATES figure that Birmingham produces 11 million gallons of water at a cost of five cents per 1000 gallons.

Other plans have also been proposed to supplement the present Birmingham water supply. Louis Ayres, consulting engineer, has indicated that Birmingham could acquire a supply directly from Detroit for an estimated cost of \$200,000.

THE COSTS would be distributed in the following ways: (1) One-half of the debt requirements will be distributed annually to the several communities on the basis of the latest respective qualified values.

(2) The other half of the debt requirements will be distributed on the basis of the ratio of maximum daily demand of each community. Birmingham's charges would be negligible in this respect, until such time as a substantial quantity of water is used to supplement the present well system.

(3) In addition to the above

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Local Man Heads Detroit Battalion Allocated for Duty

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