

## Opening Day School Enrollments to Set New High

### Water Supply Hits Critical Stage Here

#### Demand Is Just Under 1952 Peak

"With the cooperation of its citizens, Birmingham's water resources are holding their own against the threatened water shortage brought on by the current drought," Birmingham Fire Chief Vern W. Griffith announced Tuesday afternoon.

He emphasized, however, that if drought conditions continue, the situation could become critical.

At evidence that citizens were cooperating in conserving water, he cited the fact that the city's record day's pumpage of 5,256,000 gallons of water, established in the month of July, has not been equaled. Also water levels have not fallen off to as great a degree as they did last year.

HOWEVER, Chief Griffith cautioned that continued cooperation is imperative since well levels are continuing to decline.

Sunday was the most critical day thus far. During the peak demand from 4:30 p.m. to 11:45 p.m., water users took the production of all pumping stations to over a million gallons of the city elevated storage tanks.

Water pressure fell to 15 pounds less than normal, and came dangerously close to a point where the household's kitchen sink, Griffith said.

During last week, the average day's pumpage was 5,000,000 gallons with a high of 5,228,000 on Aug. 26.

THAT PEOPLE are using a lot of water to save their lawns is borne out by the fact that in the month of July the average daily pumpage was 3,000,000 gallons.

Chief Griffith said he is confident that if everyone continues to cooperate and to observe the present restrictions on water use, the city will get through the present crisis without much trouble.

Citizens living on even numbered side of the street must restrict use of water on lawns to the even numbered days and persons living on the odd numbered side of the street may water their lawns on odd numbered days.

IT IS REQUESTED that watering of lawns be confined to evenings to give pumps an opportunity to fill elevated storage tanks.

In the event of a major fire, signalled by more than three blasts of the fire siren all water must be turned off for a period of two hours. Water may be used for emergency purposes only during such a period.

#### Schedule Fall Hours For YMCA Branch

Fall hours for the Birmingham Branch of the YMCA will begin Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Daily hours will be from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., on Saturdays.



BETTY JEAN PAULETTE, daughter of the R. E. Pauletts, 856 Lakeview, wonders if the extreme hot weather has had anything to do with the aquatic horns which one of her tomatoes sprouted. Somewhat amazed and thoroughly confused by the freakish fruit, Betty Jean brought it to The Eccentric office the other day, asking staff members if they had ever met such a creature before. All had to confess it was their first experience with a "horned tomato." (Eccentric Staff Photo)

### 9 Clubs Sign Up As Sponsors of Booths at 'Fair'

Cooperating with the League of Women Voters on the County Government Fair will be five men's organizations and four women's clubs in the city.

The event will take place at the Birmingham high school gymnasium Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Each organization will be responsible for one or more of the booths of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, calling themselves the "muscle men" committee.

Mrs. W. M. Molligan and Mrs. W. H. Jackson as representatives of the AAUW are handling the details of the affair as stage manager.

Since Ralph A. Main, county drain commissioner, is a member of the committee, (See FAIR, Page 2)

### 10 Per Cent Increase Forecast

Facilities of five public schools and two parochial schools in and around Birmingham are bracing for next week's opening day when an estimated 15,852 students will storm the entrances of schools in the area.

Crowded classrooms kenote the educational picture again this year as enrollments in the seven schools are expected to exceed by 1,852 students, the combined June enrollments of 14,520.

Unprecedented building programs in progress in most districts, school boards are improvising and cutting corners to stretch existing facilities until planned constructions can be completed.

IN BIRMINGHAM, where a record 7,000 students are expected on opening day, Sept. 8, special facilities are being converted to classroom use. Quanton school's gymnasium has been partitioned to provide four more classrooms.

At Pierce school, conversion of two locker rooms and moving of the library to one end of the cafeteria has provided needed space. A science demonstration room at Baldwin has become a kindergarten room. Redistricting of Pierce schools will increase the number of its lead to Baldwin. The high school, designed for 1,200, will carry a load of 1,400 students.

MEANWHILE, additions to Terry Quanton and Barnum are being rushed in hopes of relieving congestion—brought on by an estimated increase of 850 students—before the end of the school year. Greatest increase in student population is expected in the Southfield schools where enrollments are expected to expand by 600 over last year's figures. A total enrollment of 4,400 is expected on opening day, Sept. 8.

To alleviate over-taxed facilities, Southfield first grade students will be on half-day sessions, according to Glenn Schoenals, superintendent.

ALSO WITH the beginning of school, two church buildings will be used for classrooms, and it is expected that during the year facilities of another church will be added.

Southfield is pushing construction in its \$1,000,000 expansion program for which it recently sold bonds.

Seven rooms have been completed on the Berg school addition, and construction has begun on a two-room addition at John Grace. (See SCHOOLS, Page 2)

### 2 Southfield Men Released by Reds



Cpl. Clifford Ayotte

Sgt. Richard Caverly

#### BHS Gridders Begin Practice

In 90 plus degree temperature Monday morning, Birmingham High school football coach Vince Secotine sent his high school gridders through the opening day of football practice.

Secotine's task to build a strong contender in the Eastern Michigan League from a graduation-riddled football squad will prove a difficult one.

The team that will face Cranbrook in the season opener Sept. 25 is made up of mystery names, according to the coaching staff.

Nearly every position is open as only 12 lettermen from last year's squad are returning this season. Of those 12, only six have seen any considerable action in league play.

LITTLE IS expected from candidates of last year's reserve squad and Secotine guesses that many on this season's varsity team will be brought up from the freshman squad of last year.

The team will have a week longer to work out this year than they had last. In the 1952-53 season opener, Birmingham met Romulus the third week in September.

One thing Vince does promise that on Sept. 25 Birmingham High school will field the best conditioned 11 men available and players who fail next week will be dropped from the team.

#### Duffy the Hero Finds Wandering Papa for Family

Duffy is a hero.

Duffy reunited a father with his family, after daddy took an overnight trip and more or less upset the entire neighborhood with his meanderings.

The start of the disturbance was at the John Hirsey home, 433 Baldwin, when daughter Pat brought two hamsters home with her on Thursday.

When Friday morning dawned, the family learned to its dismay that papa had vanished and named had had 10 babies. Panic ran high and members of the family scurried about the house looking for the wayward father.

Neighborhood children joined the search only to find no trace of the missing parent.

FINALLY Betty Ann Shelley, daughter of the Richard Shelleys of 431 Baldwin, brought her white setter, Duffy, into the act.

Taken to the hamster box, in a true dramatic story style, Duffy was permitted to sniff around and acquaint himself with the type of missing person he was after.

Amid shouts of encouragement from the youngsters, Duffy started off—and out of rooms, upstairs and down, and finally, right to where papa hamster was hiding in the basement.

The little fellow was returned to his family where, it is assumed, an immediate reconciliation took place and he was forgiven.

Duffy, meanwhile, goes about looking very smug and wearing the role of hero as gracefully as possible.

Auto Club Award Accepted By City

Mayor Ralph A. Main, on behalf of the city, accepted the Automobile Club of Michigan's certificate for excellence of pedestrian record during 1952.

The Club's traffic safety education consultant, Robert Lewis, presented the award to the city in the annual contest for escaping any traffic fatalities during the year.

### Prisoners For Almost 3 Years

Two Southfield township men were released in the prisoner of war exchange Thursday night, Aug. 27, at Panmunjon, Korea.

They were Sgt. Richard A. Caverly, age 21; son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Caverly, 23820 10 1/2 Mile road, and Cpl. Clifford A. Ayotte, age 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ayotte, 19841 Midway.

Both had been prisoners of the Reds since late in 1950.

Cpl. Ayotte's father was preparing to leave his home to report for the midnight shift at a machine shop when the news of his son's release reached him. Both his wife and their daughter, Mrs. Florence McCarthy, were asleep at 11 p.m.

Prayers for their son kept hope alive in the trim Southfield home. His sister's husband, Eric, James McCarthy, is stationed with the 65th Infantry Regiment in Korea.

The first word of their son's whereabouts came to the Caverly family when the Reds released his name on the December, 1951, prisoner of war lists. He was captured Nov. 29, 1950.

After that time, according to Mrs. Caverly, the family received word of his whereabouts from the American Red Cross.

Tom, second brother of Richard, Tom, is stationed with the Army at Camp Sill, Okla. Another brother, Larry, was discharged in February. His first action on arrival at Freedom Village was to salute an American flag flying above the camp.

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### Southfield Crash Fatal To Two And Injures Six

Two Royal Oak children were killed Tuesday night in an automobile accident on W. Thirteen Mile near Lamber in Southfield township.

Six other persons involved in the accident also were injured.

Dead were Michael Little, 18 months old, 330 Woodland, and Judy Hubbard, 14, of 3354 Ellwood.

The children were passengers in a car driven by Mrs. Margaret Little, 28, which was in collision with a car driven by Norman Fehberg, 48, of 24818 Lois Lane, Southfield township.

ACCORDING to state police, both cars were eastbound and witnesses reported to police that Mrs. Little crossed the center line.

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### School Time Is Youngster's Despair, But Mother's Delight

By ALICE E. MORGAN

Mrs. John Q. Public opened her eyes the other morning to another day of bright sun and the promise of extreme heat. For a moment she lay sun that crept through the venetian blinds and thought of what the day would be.

"His protest got no farther and Junior found himself back upstairs, the steam of a rushing hot water tap wafting past his recumbent form. She whined the tub.

"Now you scrub and scrub," she admonished as she left to make the beds. The words of a gay song fell off her lips like droplets of rain off sun parched leaves.

While she worked the song continued. She whined the tub into smooth neatness and the words of the gay song began to sound like "Junior's going back to school, O happy day!"

IN THE BATHROOM Junior was scrubbing—not as a dutiful son but because he knew his mother would do it for him if he didn't. Mrs. W. M. Molligan and Mrs. W. H. Jackson as representatives of the AAUW are handling the details of the affair as stage manager.

Since Ralph A. Main, county drain commissioner, is a member of the committee, (See FAIR, Page 2)

### Early Copy Next Week, Please!

What with Labor Day arriving next Monday, The Eccentric's work-week will be only 4 1/2 days instead of the usual 5 1/2. Therefore, for the issue of Thursday, Sept. 10, all

NEWS, DISPLAY AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AT THE EARLIEST MOMENT to facilitate and insure its publication.

Again — EARLY COPY NEXT WEEK, PLEASE!

### To Inform Owners

Owners of the property on the northwest corner of Maple and Coolidge are to be informed that the plan board has recommended their petition to rezone the land from residence to business has been denied by the plan board before the city calls a public hearing on the request.

### STRICTLY FRESH

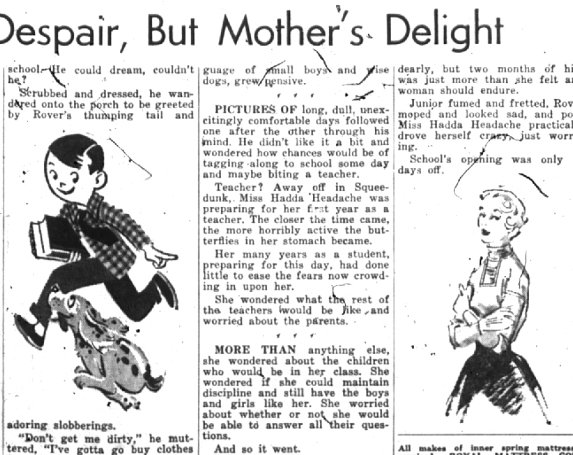
Experts say that male mosquitoes do not bite. It's only the female that puts the bite on you, as usual.

When Muharran Alan of Turkey was taken down by an ever heart he blew the roof off her house. That's nothing, Washington is blowing the ceiling of houses any time it wants to.

You'll never see your head if you always use it.

Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have invented a talking robot. As if there aren't enough talking machines in this world already!

The coming of autumn reminds us that leaves should not be burned when they are not between covers.



adoring slobbering. "Don't get me dirty," he muttered, "I've gotta go buy clothes for school!"

And so it went. Mrs. Public bubbled with happy anticipation. She loved her son.