

# 1953 HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from preceding page)

new well is producing water at the rate of 1,000 gallons per minute.

**Issue of July 30**

Birmingham's on-again-off-again off-street parking question was sidetracked Monday night by city commissioners after they had listened for two and a half hours to objections from 80 business property owners. The proposition was tabled indefinitely, although the commissioners indicated that they would see what the plan board would have to say about a modified proposal to apply only to

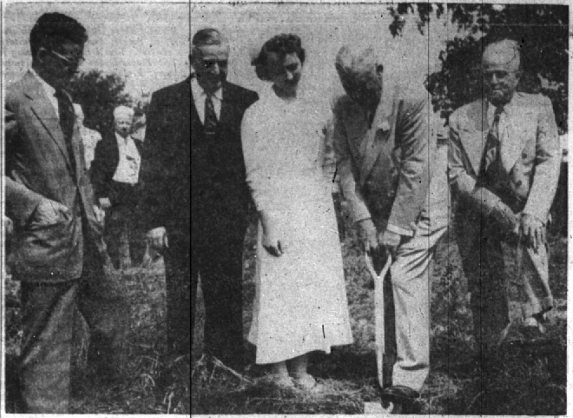
future commercial property rezonings.  
Birmingham recorded its first traffic fatality for the year when Mrs. Guy Vetter died in St. Joseph hospital as a result of injuries received in an accident July 22.  
The All Stars of the American division of Birmingham's Little League were eliminated from further tournament play when they suffered a 7 to 4 loss at the hands of the All Stars from Hamtramck, Saturday.  
A church received extensive damage and a private home was destroyed as Birmingham firemen

were called to the scene of two fires, July 29. A blaze centered around the organ loft and sanctuary of the St. James Episcopal church was brought under control but not until portions of the roof had been burned through. The home of the James Shafor family at 580 S. Woodward caught fire a few hours later. Hero of the day was George Jones, 588 Purdy, who received burns while rescuing two of the Shafor children from the roof of their blazing home.  
The Ford Motor company announced that it would officially establish its newly created Tractor Division in the former offices of the Dearborn Motors Corp. on East Maple on Saturday, Aug. 1

**Issue of Aug. 6**  
First step in assuring Birmingham  
(Continued on next page)



MID-SEPTEMBER SAW the break up the concrete for removal, since the breaking up job seemed to have been pretty well accomplished by automobiles over the past few years.



JUNE 19 marked the breaking of ground for the new Oakland-county hospital on 13 Mile road near Woodward in Royal Oak, E. A. Tomlinson, hospital board president, wielded the silver shovel while (left to right) Franklin Fricker, building committee chairman; I. B. Babcock, board member; Colleen Cole, student nurse from St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac, and Lloyd Clawson, board member, looked on.



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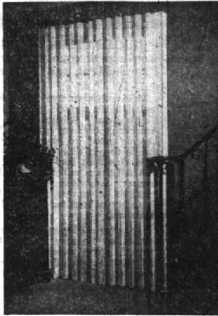
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EXTENSIVE DAMAGE was caused by the severe wind and electrical storm which struck Birmingham June 25. At the left, Pierce street residents examine the roof crushed by a falling tree. The photo at the right was taken near the F. B. Kurtz home on Brown street and is typical of the littered lawns throughout the area. In the outlying districts trees were destroyed, power lines downed, and other homes damaged. Utilities companies called out emergency crews who found themselves swamped with calls. City employees worked for more than a week clearing up debris left by the storm.



OFFICERS TO THE NEWLY-FORMED Civitan Club were elected Saturday, Sept. 26. Shown congratulating one another are, left to right, Bernard Bogue, secretary; Claude E. Walker, vice-president; Edwin P. Dowd, treasurer; Hugh McGuckin, president; and Doug Livy, board member.



ST. COLUMBA, NEW CATHOLIC PARISH, marked the first step toward its new home when ground was broken on the Melton road site of the new church, Sunday, Nov. 22. The Rev. Thomas Kenney, pastor, turned the first shovel of earth as members of his parish and clergy from other area churches looked on. Until the church is erected services will continue in the Upton school.



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