

Looseness in governmental morality is no worse than looseness in business morality. Both are spawned from the desire and temporary ability to perform in an environment of wrong, and ultimately will be discovered. To the existing Laws of Justice, evil always is destroyed by its own forces, of destruction.

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Thursday, March 6, 1953

SECTION
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City's New Police Headquarters Ultra-Modern in Every Detail

The "moles" came up from underground last fall. Around the Birmingham municipal building, they sometimes referred to the Birmingham police department as "moles", because they worked underground. For more than 20 years they occupied quarters in the basement of the building.

Now they occupy airy, well-lighted quarters nearly twice as large as their basement station.

They needed the room. The present police force of 37 is nearly double the 19 policemen working just ten years ago.

THEIR NEW QUARTERS are in the municipal building east wing, formerly occupied by the fire department. It was converted to a police station at a cost of \$58,000, which included additional remodeling on the building's first floor.

The efficient lay-out for the rooms was worked out by Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley, after study of the modern police department plans furnished by FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover.

In the main room which houses the complaint and dispatch desks, visitors get more efficient handling at a separate driver's license bureau.

VISITORS TO THE main room will never see prisoners being brought in for interrogation or jailing, because all facilities for the handling of pris-

oners are grouped near a rear entrance for police only. Previously prisoners had to be brought into the room in which driver's licenses and other details were handled for the public.

Also additional to the set-up police formerly had is a waiting room for persons visiting the juvenile officer or detective bureau, a photography darkroom, a separate meter repair room, an interrogation room, identification room, and a commanding officers' room in which platoons going on duty are briefed.

EVEN THE JAIL is larger, and built according to plans approved by the state jail inspector. (Underground jails are sub-standard.)

Chief Moxley and his secretary occupy offices across the hall from the main room, near enough but still removed from the activity there.

The squad room and commanding officers' room used by the policemen are in the basement.

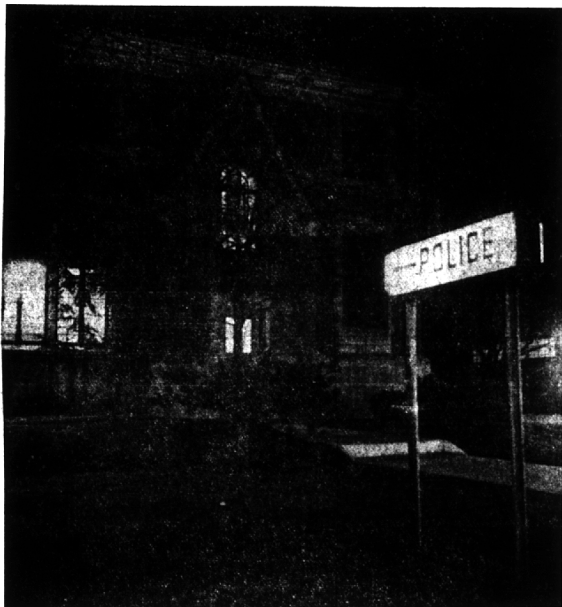
The day they moved into their modern quarters was a memorable one for the police force. Not only did it mark the beginning of work in more efficient quarters.

THE DAY ALSO MARKED another important event—that was the hectic day Sgt. Richard E. Brown got shot!

A PLAQUE BEHIND the complaint and dispatch desk in the spacious main room of Birmingham's new police headquarters tells who is in charge of both the staff and services and patrol divisions, as well as who is on the desk, in this case Patrolman Doug Marble, sorting teletype messages.

PERSONS IN NEED of assistance should have little trouble locating Birmingham's new police office. A bright sign points out the headquarters on the Pierce street side of the city municipal building.

—Eccentric photos by Les Line



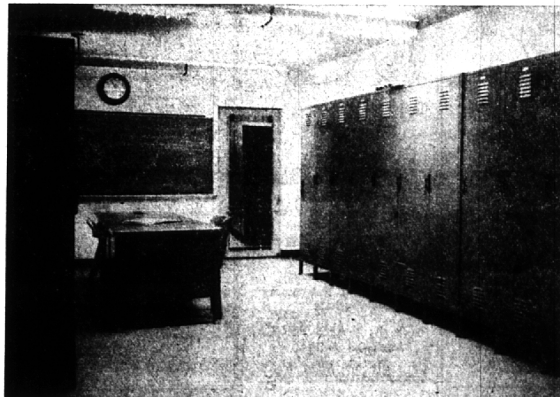
THE NEW OPERATORS license bureau remains open one evening each week to serve those unable to reach the office during the 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. hours Monday through Friday. Sgt. Robert Pepperell, who handles the licensing from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, fills in an application for a Birmingham motorist. The drivers license office is closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

THIS HALL LEADS to the new offices of the juvenile, detective and staff and services divisions. Also located in the same section of the new police headquarters are an interrogation room, the cell block, a waiting room and an identification room.

THE CHIEF, Ralph W. Moxley, has his new office, too. It's located across the hall from the police department's main office, along with the office of his secretary, Miss Winona H. Singers.



EVERYTHING IS NEW, even the jail. Sgt. Richard E. Brown stands inside the Birmingham police department's new cellblock, designed to accommodate three prisoners. If the total surpasses that, the overflow goes to the Oakland county jail at Pontiac.



THE SQUAD ROOM is the hub of activity three times daily as the shifts change. Here the men fill out reports and are briefed by officers. The blackboard in the background keeps them posted on the status of court cases in which the department is involved. The city's water department previously used the room for repair of meters.

