



The workman is watering down the drain base of the running track so that it will settle completely before the cinders are laid. The running track at Wylie E. Groves

high school circles the football field. This utilizes the stands for both football games and track meets. The little house on top of the stands is a press box.

## Modern Athletic Facilities Offered at New High School

By TONY HAMMER  
Special Writer

Athletic facilities at the new junior-senior high school will be the most modern and up-to-date of their kind, says Frank Whitney, Birmingham's athletic director. He adds that the new athletic plant will be more functional than the present Birmingham high school set-up.

The old school, now renamed Earnest Seaholm high, was the first high school of modern design to be built after the war in Michigan.

UNLIKE SEAHOLM high—where athletic facilities were con-

structed one at a time; the track, for instance, was just completed in Spring of 1958—the Wylie Groves school had its football field complete before one piece of structural steel was up for the classrooms.

It is hoped that the complete athletic facilities will be complete for the fall of 1960.

Now, however, classroom construction is way ahead of the gym, and the pool hasn't even been started.

MOST OF the classrooms will be ready for occupancy next month when school starts, but the gym isn't scheduled for completion until February or March, 1960.

The varsity football stadium at

the new school is rated at a 3,400 seat capacity. This is smaller than the present football field, but it is anticipated that, as the school grows, so will the seating capacity.

Lights have not been placed on the field yet, but Whitney believes they will be added in the future. A six-lane track with a

(See FACILITIES, Page 25)

## Schools Primp For Fall Date

By AL SANDNER  
Staff Writer

Just like anyone else, we've got our spring house-cleaning to do," said Birmingham Assistant School Superintendent Norman Wolfe.

"Nothing spectacular about it," he went on. "We wash walls and floors, paint, clean furniture, wax, polish and clean, the way it used to be done every spring in every household."

BUT WHEN the household includes 18 schools, then mops, buckets and housemaid's knees are multiplied on a large scale.

Thrown in about 5.8 miles of sidewalks, a few driveways, fences, playgrounds and roofs and "spring house-cleaning" becomes an operation that slips through most of the summer.

It keeps 136 people bent over the mop pails for about eight weeks each.

THEN THERE are extra crews to take care of outdoor painting and roofing.

The ten-week "vacation" works out to "a short time to get our buildings in respectable shape," according to Wolfe.

NO SINGLE job, he said, reaches any great size.

Sidewalks have been patched up at Seaholm high, Adams and Pembroke schools. The driveways at Seaholm, Pembroke and Barnum schools were also on the repair schedule.

Tons of dirt were carted in for work at Adams and Walnut lake playgrounds.

A SPECIAL crew was awarded the contract to paint the exterior of Barnum junior high school. The school district's regular painter is handling the brush at Torry and

Pierce schools. The district's 31 boilers are being opened, flushed and inspected before they carry the schools through another winter.

HILL SCHOOL (the board of education building) is being switched from a one to a two-pipe system.

"That should stop those noisy pipes," Wolfe observed.

Adams school is being converted to gas; Pierce and Barnum to oil. They were the last of the coal-burning plants in the district.

"AND THAT should end complaints from soot-covered neighbors," he went on.

"We are also conducting an experiment this summer," Wolfe said. The school system is trying to combat a problem that has plagued schools ever since students started sitting at wooden desks with pencils, pens or knives in their hands—extra-curricular artwork.

"We're sanding down and refinishing about 700 desks—getting rid of the initials, the hearts, the flowers. Next step is up to the principal and teachers. We would like to see if they can use discipline in keeping the desk-tops in their fresh condition."

SCHOOL ROOFS stood up amazingly well under last winter and its load of snow, Wolfe reported. Only minor repairs have been needed to insure keeping next winter's weather outdoors.

"It's nothing big," Wolfe said. "Just the usual tidying-up."

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