

Production Line Volunteers in Action for UF

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, October 24, 1963

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN SECTION CC



MRS. CLYDE C. BENNETT, JR.

Capable feminine hands are making light work of the heavy responsibility of running a charitable conveyor belt from Birmingham area homes to 197 Torch Drive agencies.

Headed by Birmingham's Mrs. Clyde C. Bennett, Jr., a co-chairman of the entire drive, Birmingham-Bloomfield homemakers are making their part of a \$19,760,000 conveyor system run smoothly. The sum is this year's goal for the health and community service agencies supported by the United Foundation.

"Every year we think our community campaigns system is perfect," says Mrs. Bennett, who has been working on Torch Drives since they began in 1949.

"Then, every year we think of one little thing that will make it even better."

THE TORCH Drive runs as smoothly as the 1964 cars around Birmingham-Bloomfield. Franklin, says Mrs. Bennett, giving a verbal citation to the area's homemakers.

"No unduly large burden falls on anyone, because the women in this community are all cooperative and willing to help."

Many join women from all over Oakland County to work in the United Foundation's Oakland headquarters in Birmingham. In offices supervised by Oakland County Director Margaret (Mrs. Frank) Heib of the UF staff, the homemakers tally returns before they are shipped to Detroit daily via armored car.

Some of the office volunteers make follow-up calls to families the doorbell-ringers — 1500 strong! — have been unable to reach. Others check card files, run adding machines and help with the record-keeping.

"I DON'T THINK many people know that we have an office in Birmingham," says Mrs. Bennett. "We need volunteers to help with the work there, as well as with the door-to-door calling."

In her own work with the Torch Drive, Betty Bennett has accepted greater responsibility with each succeeding campaign. That led to her appointment this year as co-chairman for community campaigns, one of General Chairman Edward N. Cole's two chief aides.

As a co-chairman, good-looking and gracious Mrs. Bennett is in government of 35,000 volunteers. They hope to contribute \$1.5 million toward the total 1963 goal.

Assisting the governor-general in the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin area is regional chairman Mrs. Robert N. Green of Turtle Lake Road. Division chairmen who are next in a strong chain of command are Mrs. John A. Mitchell, Mrs. John Canavan, Mrs. James H. Wask, Mrs. Robert Staffell, Mrs. Thomas Vandegrift, Jr., Mrs. Walter T. Hicks and Mrs. C. A. Rasmussen. Most of the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin Torch Drive workers run households as well as a campaign. Boss Lady Ben-

nett divides her days between Torch Drive, home, husband, nine-year-old Petty (real name: Priscilla) and 1-year-old Billy.

AFTER 14 campaigns, veteran Bennett is more enthusiastic than ever about the worth of the

gigantic "Give Once for All" project.

"I honestly look upon working for the Torch Drive as an obligation," says the sincere Mrs. Bennett. "I think it's everybody's responsibility because the United Foundation supports every health, welfare and community need."

Thanks to the capable help of homemakers like those in the Birmingham area, Mrs. Bennett can say with pride, "Our Torch Drive agencies are the best-financed in the country."



MRS. EUGENE HESS (LEFT), MRS. RICHARD OGLESBY AND PATROLMAN DARRYL BRUISTLE



MRS. WILLIAM PURTELL

Birmingham! Get Busy With Those Pencils

To nominate a friend or relative—your next door neighbor, your wife, your mother—as a candidate for Suburban Homemaker of the Year requires not a talent for putting words on paper, but only sincerity.

It can be neatly typed or written in pencil on ruled paper torn from a school notebook, as were many of the entries received from teenagers last year. Here are a few sentences from various letters nominating 1962 Suburban Homemakers of the Year.

"Her first concern is for her family. Many of her activities center around her children's and husband's interests which are her interests as well. She teaches Sunday school, is active in her church, works for Little League, PTA and other community affairs. Examples of how she demonstrates her abilities as a successful homemaker could be endless. Neighbors' birthdays are always celebrated with her surprise cakes, her home is brimming over every holiday or family birthday with many relatives and friends."

"SHE IS A SKILLED, imaginative cook and has taught this skill, as well as sewing and knitting, to her daughters. She gives her seven children love, understanding and respect. As a trained nurse she often donates her services to friends and relatives who are ill."

"Has played an active part in community affairs, working for betterment of street lighting and control of industry in the community."

Winners to Meet at Drake

Plans are progressing for the National Suburban Homemakers Conference in Chicago, Nov. 21-22. It will be held in the Drake Hotel in the huge and beautiful Gold Coast Room and will again receive national TV and press coverage.

Key speaker for the conference will be J. Edgar Hoover's personally appointed representative, Edward C. Kemper, Jr., of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Kemper will speak on Friday, Nov. 22, following the award presentation.

On Thursday, Nov. 21, the discussion session between the homemakers and the panel of authorities in various fields (a format which proved successful last year) will be repeated on an expanded basis. Two sessions, morning and afternoon, will bring together the homemakers and a panel made up of representatives of those who provide "goods and services" to the suburban home. These sessions will be, in effect, consumer opin-

Deadline Is Friday

Deadline for all organizational news, weddings and engagement announcements for use in The Birmingham Eccentric's women's pages is 5 p.m. on the Friday before publication.

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