

Contest Glitter Paled As Word Reached Chicago

FBI Seeks Help From Homemakers As Tragedy Strikes

By MARY ELLEN MEAD
Society Editor

Twenty-seven youthful mothers from states across the Union sat in the Gold Control Room of Chicago's Drake Hotel Friday, Nov. 22, and heard Inspector Edward C. Kemper, Jr., FBI, lash out at the appalling rise of juvenile delinquency in this country as evidenced in suburban communities. Thirty minutes later these same women, along with the rest of the world, learned that President John F. Kennedy had been shot and killed by a 24-year-old man.

So ended, in stricken silence, gala festivities surrounding the National 1963 Suburban Homemakers Contest, attended by The Eccentric's nominee, Mrs. Walter H. Ekberg, Jr., and her husband, and Publishers Paul N. Averill and Henry M. Hogan, Jr., and their respective wives.

PRECEDING LUNCHEON and the \$2,000 award, which was won by Mrs. Owen Wells of Glendora, Calif. (Mrs. Ekberg was fourth), Inspector Kemper paid tribute to the American suburban housewife and the role she must increasingly fill as a leader and a force in her suburban community, at the same time imploring each to return to her respective community and crusade for more stringent discipline in training from the home-woodshed technique as opposed to "spare the rod."

"Too many kids in suburbia today," said Kemper, "have police records too early. It's a cinch for

adults to lift the phone and call the police rather than thrashing things out with the culprits and their parents."

"This kind of shift in responsibility," he continued, "is grim, deplorable and expensive. Billions of tax dollars a year are spent for crime in this country—statistically, \$9 per month as against the \$1 a month finding its way into our churches!"

WITH THE announcement at luncheon of the President's assassination, coffee cups stopped in mid-air, dessert forks were lowered and silence in the sparkling gold and white banquet room was broken only by the whip of rain slashing across picture windows overlooking storm-torn Lake Michigan.

First to move was Inspector Kemper, who sped noiselessly from the speakers' table headed for a pay phone. Eventually the rest followed, all intent on reaching TV or radio broadcasts.

Stark horror, disbelief and grief shook boisterous Chicago as a deaf storm. Offices and shops closed their doors, night club acts were cancelled, theaters stayed dark—the only moving things were at taxis, buses, trains and planes and these at dirge-like pace. Traffic, both on land and in the air, was practically at a standstill.

Thus was climaxed 1963's National Suburban Homemaker Contest, brightest note being the caliber of women who participated—all with terrific attributes, all, in our book, winners.

Mrs. Halsted Looks Back, Reminisces

Catching up with Mrs. James A. (Anna Roosevelt) Halsted recently has been a challenge, for most of her time is spent commuting between here and New York.

Monday, however, found her glued—like the rest of the country—to a TV set in her home on Bingham Lane, Beverly Hills. The shock of the President's assassination cut deep, for it recalled the attempt made on the life of her late father, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

An anarchist, Joseph Zanzara, shot at the president-elect in Miami Feb. 15, 1933. A woman grabbed Roosevelt's arm and the bullet missed him but fatally wounded Mayor Anton J. Cermak of Chicago.

MRS. HALSTED confessed that, living in the White House, she had learned to adapt to the constant threat to the lives of the President and his family. "You become accustomed to it," she said.

Like the rest of us, Mrs. Halsted is thinking of the man who died, his wife, his parents, his family and also the country. She has "the greatest sympathy for the Vice President who has now taken over. His burdens are even greater under these circumstances."

Mrs. Halsted's trips to New York have been by way of tying up loose ends—finishing projects started by her mother before she died a year ago. Currently she's assisting in a \$3½ million dollar fund-raising drive for a school Mrs. Roosevelt founded and helped for 25 years. It is for deprived and emotionally disturbed children.



Typical of what went on throughout the Drake Hotel in Chicago last Friday is this shot of Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Ekberg, Jr., who never left their TV set until it was time to fly home that evening. Mrs. Ekberg was Birmingham's nominee for the National Suburban Homemakers Conference sponsored by the Suburban Press Foundation. Word reached the conference following the award ceremony and after the keynote speech. It came during a festive luncheon which immediately broke up.

Social Activity Slows Down To a Halt

Birmingham-Bloomfield's social life came to an abrupt halt over the weekend as people reeled with the news of President Kennedy's assassination.

Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., back from a few days in Chicago, was so shaken she greeted neighbors Monday with the comment: "After this weekend, I feel like I've lost a member of my own family."

She and Mr. Willett spent Saturday and Sunday quietly with friends, feeling a need, somehow, to be with people.

Youngsters who put in so many rehearsal hours for Seaholm's annual Variety Show, cancelled Friday night's performance. Kingswood students did the same Saturday night for their biggest project of the year, the Autumn Festival. This however, is not a total loss, the girls hoping to pick it up again sometime in February.

DR. AND MRS. George Ritter of Lathrup did attend the Regional Meeting of the American College of Physicians in Detroit Friday, but the Old Wayne Club actually closed its doors (at 8 p.m.) and shooed them out before Mrs. R. had finished her shrimp cocktail!

Red Run cancelled its President's Ball, honoring H. Colin Campbell, Saturday evening; St. Dunstan's doing likewise with its program of two one-act plays and an afterglow.

The Women's Advertising Club, to which many localities belong, cancelled its huge dinner meeting Monday in Detroit. And so it went—a period of depression which brooked no gaiety.

There Was a Touch Of Gaiety Preceding Day's Fateful News

Out-of-towners attending the National Suburban Homemaker Contest last Friday in Chicago tucked away a few light-hearted memories along with the sad.

Who's to forget (none of us, at least!)... Block after block of Michigan Ave. decked in splendor for Christmas... with showers of miniature red and white lights threading trees and store fronts... a grandiose version of the Courtyard at the Gaslight... The restoration project (reminiscent of The Village in New York) in Old Town... Welles Ave. a bloom with such spots as Chaucer Arms across the Street, the Pickle Barrel, the Plug Nickel, art galleries, art theaters and La Strada, where the food is Italian and excellent... and where Waitress Barbara Ziegler is as efficient as she's attractive Birminghamite...

... a grandiose version of the Courtyard at the Gaslight... The restoration project (reminiscent of The Village in New York) in Old Town... Welles Ave. a bloom with such spots as Chaucer Arms across the Street, the Pickle Barrel, the Plug Nickel, art galleries, art theaters and La Strada, where the food is Italian and excellent... and where Waitress Barbara Ziegler is as efficient as she's attractive Birminghamite...

... a grandiose version of the Courtyard at the Gaslight... The restoration project (reminiscent of The Village in New York) in Old Town... Welles Ave. a bloom with such spots as Chaucer Arms across the Street, the Pickle Barrel, the Plug Nickel, art galleries, art theaters and La Strada, where the food is Italian and excellent... and where Waitress Barbara Ziegler is as efficient as she's attractive Birminghamite...

... "Tosca" now playing... Bonwit Teller's perfumed (it squirts from the ceiling!) air for holiday shoppers... Loquacious taxi drivers, with something to say about everything... from religion, to politics to slim skirts... "Lady, don't you know you gotta BACK in with dem akirts!"... Dorothy Sarnoff in the Camille Room (about to appear at the DAC)... or Gretchen Wyley at the Edgewater Beach... a better of show tunes and dancer supreme...

... "Tosca" now playing... Bonwit Teller's perfumed (it squirts from the ceiling!) air for holiday shoppers... Loquacious taxi drivers, with something to say about everything... from religion, to politics to slim skirts... "Lady, don't you know you gotta BACK in with dem akirts!"... Dorothy Sarnoff in the Camille Room (about to appear at the DAC)... or Gretchen Wyley at the Edgewater Beach... a better of show tunes and dancer supreme...

... "Tosca" now playing... Bonwit Teller's perfumed (it squirts from the ceiling!) air for holiday shoppers... Loquacious taxi drivers, with something to say about everything... from religion, to politics to slim skirts... "Lady, don't you know you gotta BACK in with dem akirts!"... Dorothy Sarnoff in the Camille Room (about to appear at the DAC)... or Gretchen Wyley at the Edgewater Beach... a better of show tunes and dancer supreme...

... "Tosca" now playing... Bonwit Teller's perfumed (it squirts from the ceiling!) air for holiday shoppers... Loquacious taxi drivers, with something to say about everything... from religion, to politics to slim skirts... "Lady, don't you know you gotta BACK in with dem akirts!"... Dorothy Sarnoff in the Camille Room (about to appear at the DAC)... or Gretchen Wyley at the Edgewater Beach... a better of show tunes and dancer supreme...

BLOOMFIELD WEST

To Grandmother's House We Go

By ELIZABETH VAN LOAN
MI 7-2324

"Over the hills and through the woods to Grandmother's house we go!" And Thanksgiving Day saw many township families going just that.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pierson, Bill and Sally of Middleton Drive drove to Dearborn to be with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pierson.

Off to Fenton, Mich., were the Ben Sweeney, of E. Newland Drive with their three daughters and infant son to have dinner at the home of her mother, Mrs. H. K. Schaefer.

Grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grigby of Detroit had as guests their son, daughter-in-law and six grandchildren of Kenmore Road, the Albert Grigbys, Jr.

Reversing the order, grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Leola Johns left Westmor Road to have Thanksgiving dinner at the Nankin township home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fraser and their four children.

FAMILIES STAYING at home welcomed relatives and friends from out of state and out of town.

Four generations were gathered under one roof at the John Evans home on Westmor Road where 21 persons sat down together at one table for the feast.

Normally, the Evans household consists of Mr. and Mrs. Evans; her father, D. J. Archer, Sr.; and children, John and Wanda. But for the great day, two married daughters came home with their husbands and families; the George Massaba and their four sons, and the William Rankins and their three daughters, all of Livonia.

Also present were Mr. Evans' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Evans of Detroit, his brother-in-law and sister, the Leon Peppers of Berkley and the Peppers' daughter Carol.

Two turkeys graced the table, one a prize won by Mrs. Rankin in a bowling tournament.

ANOTHER LIVELY household was that of the W. F. Drivers of Comfort Drive whose three sons came home from college to join their parents and 13-year-old twin brothers, Larry and Stephen, for the holiday.

Rocky Driver flew in from Barnesville, Ga., where he attends Gordon Military College. Bill, Jr., and Lee are students at MSU, a senior and sophomore, respectively.

SPENDING THE week with the John Cooks of Woodwind Drive are his mother and uncle, Mrs. John Cook of Union City, N. J., and Leo Frank of Brooklyn, N. Y.

From Pittsburgh, Pa., have come Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Benson, parents of Mrs. Ralph Gordon Smith of Eastwood Lane.

Frank J. Strudel is here from Omaha, Neb., for a visit with his daughter's family, the Martin family of Sutter Lane.

The John Quinns of Fieldbrook Road have as guests for the four-day holiday Mrs. Howard MacDonald of Midland, Mich., and her three children, Paige, Cameron and Charis, a freshman at MSU.

MR. AND MRS. George Campbell of W. Newland Drive celebrated their first Thanksgiving in their new home on W. Newland Drive and invited their parents to be with them. His parents are the Richard Campbells of Snowshoe Creek, and hers are Mr. and Mrs. William Doe of Detroit.

The Gordon Fowles of Inveray Road didn't have far to travel, just from Bras Three to Bras of Bloomfield. They and their three children were the guests of her brother and his family, the Charles Campbells and their three children of Eastmor Road. All were joined by grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Campbell of Pleasant Ridge.

EVEN NEIGHBORS with relatives too far away for convenient reunion got together to make the day more festive.

The Byron Lowrances, 6105 Idlewild Road, newcomers from Louisiana, crossed the street with their children to share a Thanksgiving turkey with the Robert Grays and their three children at No. 6130.

ONE HOLIDAY is over and another looms on the horizon. The annual Christmas party of the Walnut Lake Women's Club will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the West Bloomfield Township Library.

It will be a potluck buffet dinner with Mrs. H. G. Jacobson of Comfort Drive as committee chairman. She will be assisted by Mesdames J. Anderson, R. Baldwin, Andrew Yevich, D. K. Harrison and W. L. McCane.

Each member of the club is bringing a gift of clothing to be donated to the children in the Plymouth State Home and Training School at Northville.

ALSO ON Tuesday the afternoon bridge group of the New England Estate Women's Association will meet at the home of Mrs. Edward Girk, 4177 W. Newland Drive.

The Ben Sweeneys will entertain five couples Saturday night with an evening of bridge. Their guests will be the Jerry Eddys, Charles Myers, Art Morans, Ronald Charlson and Robert McDonalds.

BLOOMFIELD NORTH

Thanksgiving United Friends, Relatives

GLORIA JESSUP
MA 6-3257

Mrs. Homer V. Finch returned to her Oakleigh Drive home recently and began preparations for the Thanksgiving holiday with her family.

Mrs. Finch left the area a few weeks ago and flew to Springfield, Ill., where she was joined by her mother. The two women then went by auto to Ft. Meyers, Fla., where Mrs. Finch's mother's winter home is located. From Ft. Meyers Beach they drove to Miami for a few days shopping and then boarded a ship for Nassau. They used the ship as their headquarters during their stay in Nassau, which was a new and an enjoyable experience for Mrs. Finch.

Upon returning to Miami the women parted. Mrs. Finch returned by plane to Bloomfield Hills, and her mother drove back to Ft. Meyers Beach for the remainder of the winter.

ANOTHER COUPLE recently returned from vacationing are Mr. and Mrs. James O. Wright of Wing Lake Road. The Wrights have spent the last month at Sea Island in their new home just completed in March.

Coming from the University of Michigan, where he is a sophomore, to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with his parents was James, Jr.

THE JOHN MCKEES, also of Wing Lake Road, only had one in their three children with them this Thanksgiving holiday. John came from his studies at Alma College to be with his parents.

The McKees other son, David, is stationed with the Air Force in Germany and was unable to be home.

Mr. and Mrs. McKee have just returned from a week in Florida attending a convention and visiting with Mary.

Parr returned from the University of Michigan.

Also arriving was the house guest of Vandy and Dr. and Mrs. Klages, Ed Duffield. He is a classmate of Vandy's at U. of M. and a resident of Niles, Mich.

AT THE LONE PINE Road home of Mr. and Mrs. James V. Martin it was a family gathering. Around the Thanksgiving table were Mrs. Martin's father, Hugh Storey, their daughter, Kaye Ellen, home from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, and their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Boehmer of Clarkston.

JOINING the Brooke Stanfords and four of their five children at their Chalmers Lake home for "turkey day" were Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Turner (Mr. Stanford's sister) and their son Mike of Birmingham and Mr. and Mrs. Russ Stanford, with Russ and Tom, of Foxcroft.

Theater Draws Sigma Kappas

"Come Blow Your Horn" was the Ridgetale Playhouse theaterfare attended by the South Oakland county chapter of Sigma Kappa alumnae and their husbands recently.

Attending from this area were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Farlow, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Barlow, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kaufmann, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Huntoon, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Platter, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sorge, and Dr. and Mrs. John Thomson.

The Charles Huntoons, of 660 N. Williamsbury, later entertained the group at their home. Mrs. Huntoon and Mrs. Farlow entertained with some two-piano selections.

Alumnae To Meet

Mrs. Bruno Ujda, 663 Rudgate of Bloomfield Hills, will host the Birmingham chapter of the Mizogrove Alumnae Association at their membership meeting.

A Detroit Edison Company representative will provide a Christmas demonstration. Canned goods for the Christmas drive in admission to the meeting.

In a week filled with grief and sadness, celebrating a holiday is made lots easier for families with a houseful of children. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence M. Carino of Covington Road, Bloomfield Village, had no outside guests for Thanksgiving dinner, but who needs them, with eight youngsters to gather 'round the festive board? Mr. Carino, manager of WJBK-TV, has made innumerable moves with his family before settling

in Birmingham, but no matter which town they lived in, a football game for him and the boys on Thanksgiving Day is as traditional as the turkey itself. And so it was this year. Dinner was served after a trek downtown to watch the Lions. Seated with their parents are Teresa (from left in foreground), Jeanine, Susan and Marcia. In the back row (from left) it's oldest sister Carolyn; Dick, Art and Tom.

in Birmingham, but no matter which town they lived in, a football game for him and the boys on Thanksgiving Day is as traditional as the turkey itself. And so it was this year. Dinner was served after a trek downtown to watch the Lions. Seated with their parents are Teresa (from left in foreground), Jeanine, Susan and Marcia. In the back row (from left) it's oldest sister Carolyn; Dick, Art and Tom.

Eccentric Photo by Bill Thom