

The Eccentric Spends Busy Day with Mayor Willett

Eight-Year Career Ends April 1



Monday night Mrs. Florence H. (Twink) Willett, Birmingham's mayor, will preside over her last commission meeting.

Mrs. Willett, the first woman to become mayor of Birmingham, feels "the need of a sabbatical" from city government and has decided not to seek re-election to the commission this spring.

A commissioner since 1955 and mayor since 1960, Mrs. (Twink) Willett said she intends to spend much of her time "serving the community."

ALONG WITH her chores as Birmingham's first citizen, Twink is a full-time wife, mother and grandmother. Wife of Detroit manufacturer G. Howard Willett, Jr., she is the mother of Mrs. H. A. Miller of Missouri, Howard and Gordon and grandmother of Eric Miller.

A chain of circumstances of trying to improve city streets got Mrs. Willett into politics back in 1955. Her interest in city government was probably inherited from her father, Raymond A. Jacobs, the first mayor of Huntington Woods.

ALTHOUGH SHE will no longer be on the commission, Mrs. Willett hopes to be "considered for appointments to boards."

"Madam Mayor," or Mayor Willett as she is officially known, has described her job of presiding over the commission meeting as "an enlargement of applying family living principles." She believes each member of the commission is an individual just as each member of the family is different.

"I must understand the individual commissioners and work with them," she said. Her prime concern in her three years as mayor has been "to represent the city of Birmingham as the commission would want me to."

HER MAYORAL duties take from 20-40 hours a week. In addition to presiding over the commission meetings, she represents the city at various official functions, gives talks on the structure of local government and stirs up interest "in the flavor of Birmingham."

She also attends meetings and conferences with other suburban mayors and is active in the Metropolitan Mayors Association.

Reflecting on her eight years of service to the city, Mrs. Willett feels the highest tribute paid to her was when the "commission asked me to serve as mayor for a second term."



A quick check of the mail at the Municipal Building begins the official day for Mrs. Willett. She generally checks with department heads on her daily trip to city hall.



Brig. Gen. Hallet Edson, deputy commander of the Army Mobility Command, drops by the office to pick up an official proclamation honoring Medal of Honor winners.

Mayor turned handyman—new wallpaper for the den.



A dash home to change clothes and off to Marian High School for a noon-time meeting with the senior class. Chris Ackley (left) and Jean Garrett get some valuable advice from the mayor on their future plans.



Late afternoon finds Mrs. Willett in a local supermarket with grandson Eric Miller, 3, of Boonville, Mo. After the election Mr. and Mrs. Willett expect to visit Eric's mother and father in Missouri.



At 8 p.m. every Monday Mrs. Willett raps a gavel and presides over the weekly Birmingham City Commission meeting. Many times the mayor and City Manager L. R. Gore (left) confer on city policy.

Baseball

(Continued from 1-E)
Bloomfield Junior High, and at Vaughan, Hickory Grove, Eastover, Conant, Pine Lake and East Hills.

Interested young persons may find applications at all of the schools.

OLDER BOYS playing in the Federal League will play their games on 90-foot diamonds at the high school and the two junior high schools. All Continental League games will be played on the 75-foot diamond at Vaughan. National and American Leagues will play on 60-foot diamonds.

Rules governing age eligibility have been changed this year and the date of determination is established as May 1, 1963. A boy now eight, whose ninth birthday is on or before May 1, 1963, is eligible to play. A boy now 16, whose 17th birthday is on or before May 1, is not eligible.

Boys who are nine but not yet 11 on May 1 will play in the National League. Those who are 11 but not yet 13 on May 1 will play in the American League. Continental Leagues are boys who are 13 but not yet 15 at deadline. Finally, those who are 15 but not yet 17 on May 1 will play in the Federal League.

Baseball-minded fathers are the backbone of the Bloomfield Baseball League, so the call for applications includes an appeal for 28 dads to serve as managers and another 50 fathers to handle coaching chores.

Warriors Drop Track Decision

Brother Rice dropped a 68-23 decision in track to Detroit Western in a practice meet last week but the outcome was an improvement over last year.

The Warriors scored only six points against the same squad last year.

Bill Moore of Rice set a new school record in the high jump with a leap of 6'2". Others finishing well were Roy Lytle, second, high jump; Jack Kelly, third pole vault; Richard Hush, third in 30-yard high hurdles; Pete Foley, second in 30-yard dash; and Bill Quinlan third in the same event.

Others were Norm Kolts, second 880; Paul Mason, third in 440; Dave Walters, third in low hurdles; Mark Tangway, second, and Bob Stark, third, in the mile.

"We do not intentionally stress winning—but neither do we teach the boys to lose. If we teach them to be good winners, they will be good losers."

Breaugh's personal philosophy on Little League is this:

"The Little Leaguers play on a diamond smaller than regulation size. The basepaths are 60 feet, as compared to 90, and the pitching distance is 46 feet, instead of 60.5."

"We do not intentionally stress winning—but neither do we teach the boys to lose. If we teach them to be good winners, they will be good losers."

"A DESIRE to work with boys," Parcels explains, "is the basic qualification. In some cases, the responsibility of running a team is divided between two or three fathers so that one parent is always present for every game and every practice."

Further information on the Bloomfield Baseball League can be obtained by writing to P. O. Box 286, Bloomfield Hills, or by contacting Dan Tate at Midwest 6-7873 for the National League commission; Bob Anderson (MI 4-5205) for the American League commission; or Wally Perkins (FE 4-9087) for the Federal and Continental Leagues, or, for general information, Earle Parcels, (MI 6-3667).

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