

After 28 years

And the inspired work of thousands of women

A Federation dream comes true

DAY OF DEDICATION

THERE will be Dedication in the most profound sense of the word on Sunday, September 22, when National President Hazel Palmer cuts a green and gold ribbon and officially opens the handsome new Headquarters of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

The serene and gracious new Building, of course, serves as National Headquarters of the BPW Research Foundation, established to serve as a clearing house, library and research center on all matters pertaining to women who work.

Miss Palmer's action will mark the realization of a 28-year-old dream which survived a major depression and two wars to come to a triumphant fulfillment with the single snip of a pair of gold scissors.

It was no accident, perhaps, that a brilliant display of aurora borealis greeted delegates to the Mackinac Convention in 1929 where far-seeing BPW members voted the Lena Madesin Phillips Building Fund into existence and designated specifically that the projected Headquarters be located in the nation's capital.

Such was the enthusiasm of this so-called "Pioneers' Convention" that \$29,000 was raised from the floor in a spontaneous demonstration of a matter of minutes.

The imminent worldwide depression, however, and the intervention of two wars forced suspension of such plans until the Building Fund was revived in 1954.

At 2:30 p.m. on September 22 the revitalized project will burst into glorious reality as Miss Palmer proceeds through the front door of the impressive red brick mansion to greet Federation guests in the assembly area at the back of the House.

She will be accompanied to the platform by President Eisenhower's pastor, Dr. Edward L. R. Elson of the National Presbyterian Church; Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell; Erwin D. Canham, National Manpower Council chairman and Philip M. Talbott, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce. The Executive Committee will share the dais with the four distinguished guests.

The strains of the Star Spangled Banner will float over the police-guarded assembly area, which has a capacity of 1,300 seated guests. Dr. Elson will pronounce the invocation before Miss Palmer introduces past national presidents, Federation founders, state presidents, board members and officers of other organizations represented.

Mr. Canham will then moderate a panel discussion of "The Future of Women Who Work" with Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Talbott participating.

While Sunday, of course, is the Federation's banner day, the national staff is planning a gala weekend for members who come to Washington for the occasion. On Saturday, the new Headquarters will be open for inspection from 10 a.m.

until 5 p.m. with staff members acting as hostesses.

From 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. on Saturday there will be a meeting of national board members and the executive committee in the Conference Room of the new Building.

Out-of-town visitors are reminded that the House will be closed from noon until 2:30 p.m. on Sunday to permit completion of preparations for the ceremonies. Members planning to come to the capital for the Dedication are also reminded that they should plan their own hotel reservations in advance of their arrival. Dining room and restaurant facilities are available within very short distances of the Building.

Punch will be served in the Conference Room by staff hostesses throughout the Open House period. In the event of rain, the Program will take place indoors.

Members of the national staff, who have worked so hard to make the Dedication the rich emotional experience of a dream come true, hope and believe that as many BPW members as possible will be present on that historic Sunday afternoon.

After all, the dream of the Federation pioneers came true only through the donation by every single member to the "Two Bucks for Bricks" campaign which is now about to give to working women everywhere an appropriate and vital symbol of their hopes, dreams and future.