

# New First Lady Will Avoid The Limelight

## Mrs. McKeldin Plans To Enjoy Stay Here — But Quietly

Annapolitans during the next few weeks will get their first good look at Maryland's new "first lady."

They'll find Mrs. Theodore R. McKeldin not very different from their friends and neighbors—though perhaps more unassuming than most. She comes to Annapolis prepared to enjoy her stay but determined to remain out of the limelight.

"My wardrobe will probably be looked at more than it's accustomed to, but I don't believe I'll really be much in the public eye," asserts the new governor's wife. "After all, it's the man who does the work and deserves the credit. I'm just part of the decorations."

### Move To Mansion

Calm, cool and collected about moving into the Governor's Mansion, Mrs. McKeldin explains she has been "too busy to be thrilled." "I haven't had time to sit down and think about it," she says, "but the children (a 14 year old son and 11 year old daughter) have. They wanted to pack their bags last Sunday."

The McKeldins' daughter Clara was all for bringing the family dog to the inauguration today. Her parents vetoed that move.

Mrs. McKeldin visited her new home for the first time several weeks ago, when Governor and Mrs. Lane invited them there to dinner and showed them through the house (where she was particularly impressed with the graceful stairway). The newcomer knows no Annapolis people, but considers Annapolis a "lovely place."

### Curtain Entertaining

She says she enjoys meeting people and entertaining, but believes the latter will be somewhat curtailed by the war in Korea and the threat of a bigger one. "That's what is on our minds most of all right now," Mrs. McKeldin believes.

During her husband's campaign she attended some political meetings and helped address envelopes, but aside from that took little part.

"When your husband is in politics," she explains, "I think it's just as well for the wife to keep in the background and let him do all the talking. That way she can't make any mistakes for him." She is interested in politics, however.

### Home In Baltimore

The McKeldins come to Annapolis from an attractive unpretentious



MRS. THEODORE McKELDIN

home in a quiet section of Baltimore, where they have lived since 1927—practically all of their married life. They don't dance or "go in too much for parties." "We always seem to be working," says the governor's wife.

A native of New York state, Mrs. McKeldin claims Baltimore for home now. The couple were married when Mr. McKeldin was in his last year at law school.

A formerly fervent gardener (especially "back in the 30's when I was young and had pep"), Mrs. McKeldin has won two first prizes in Baltimore Civic League summer shows. She also used to "draw a little" and is a graduate of the Maryland Institute.

In recent times she has been active as a member of the Free Arts Club, the Civic League, the Empty Stocking League, and treasurer of the Homeland Garden Club.

"collects" according to Mrs. McKeldin, who has a weakness for old jewelry and antique glass herself. Mr. McKeldin collects antique china and autographed papers and pictures of Revolutionary War generals. Their daughter collects dolls and their son saves old guns.

The new first lady of Maryland hasn't had any tips from her predecessor on the art of being a governor's wife and playing hostess to the citizens of the state. "I imagine I'll learn as I go along," she says hopefully. Her friendly manner, quiet charm and earnest desire to please should smooth the way for a command performance that requires no small share of diplomacy and tact.

All Collectors

The whole McKeldin family