



**Mrs. Bernard G. Shohet (Edith M.)**  
**17<sup>th</sup> GCFM President**  
**1957-1959**  
**“Conservation”**  
**168 clubs – 12,566 members**



During this administration GCFM celebrated its thirtieth anniversary. Mrs. Shohet’s objectives were to promote horticulture in order to grow what is good, to promote conservation to preserve what is good and to promote flower arrangement study in order to display what is good.

The theme for this administration was conservation. A new idea was promoting educational programs for the member clubs.

The Sears Roebuck and Company Civic Beautification project was initiated during this administration. Awards were presented to individual garden clubs that contributed the most to beautify their town or city.

Working with Freedom House, GCFM began the Roxbury Project that assisted inner-city residents in planting and maintaining the lawns and flower boxes.

Workshops were presented to club presidents on how to be an effective president. As a result of these workshops, GCFM published the *Leadership Guide* by Esther Card, GCFM Parliamentarian, that proved useful for years to come.

After years of renting space in different areas in New York City, National Council was able to move their offices on December 1, 1958 from New York City to their new Headquarters Building on 6.2 acres adjacent to the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis.

On January 23, 1959, the first meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the new Headquarters. Mrs. Shohet attended the annual meeting in St. Louis on May 10, 1959, when the building was dedicated.

Mrs. Shohet was the first president to be presented with the President’s Pin, a gift to GCFM by Mrs. Leon Monnier. It was gold, hand carved with GCFM’s seal and two diamonds by Long’s Jewelers.