

# Observerland Author's Persistence Pays Off

By JAN WILLIAMS

"Fastest Quitter In Town," is the name of the book, but it's not the name of the game for its author, Phyllis Green of Livonia.

For the former teacher and mother of two, it was her first published book and came out in September 1972.

Since then Mrs. Green has sold four other books, soon to be published.

"I've been writing seriously for the past five or six years. But I've been interested in it for the past 15."

All of her books are for children with the exception of one adult novel. She also writes short stories, articles and poetry for children and adults.

"I enjoy all kinds of writing, but I suppose I enjoy writing children's books the most."

She says she gets many of her ideas from her own chil-

dren - Sharon, 13, and Bruce, 9.

"Some come from my own childhood experiences and many are just fictional."

One book she has sold, "Nantucket Summer," is a young teen novel which begins in Livonia.

Although Mrs. Green says she plans to stick with children's books, she hasn't ruled out adult novels.

Her one adult novel evolved from a European experience.

"I went to Europe on vacation, came home and wrote the book."

She explained that while in Europe she and her daughter were looking for some books to read.

"The things we found I didn't think were suitable for children to read. So I decided to write an adult novel that could be enjoyed by all - and I did."

Mrs. Green says she has to

get the content set in her mind before she can sit down to write.

"I sit around and stare at the wall a lot. Then I outline it on paper, proceeding from beginning to end."

She says she wrote a 50-page children's book in 14 days, working 14 hours per day.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, she will be participating in a writers' conference at Oakland University. It will be her second time to participate as a member of Detroit Women Writers, co-sponsors of the conference.

"Writing is a full time career for me, but I'm not making a living out of it. It's not something you can get rich on."

But she's not a quitter and she has many ideas in her head.

"A person who hasn't read a children's book since Nancy Drew or the Bobsey Twins, are in for a surprise."



FIVE FARMINGTON students will be with the University of Michigan marching band when it makes an unusual guest appearance at Church Hill High School in Livonia, Thursday, Oct. 25. In uniform, from left, are Debbie Tomchak, French horn; Paul Kubitskey, French horn; Mary Miller, clarinet, and Richard Pryor, trombone. At the left is Ron Snow, assistant announcer with the marching band.

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