

St. Ann's Home for the Aged was opened in 1906.

St. Ann's Home Marks 50 Years Care Of Aged

Rochester institution and city landmark, founded in 1906, provides Catholic home where senior citizens discover 'life can be worth living' even at eventide

By MONSIGNOR PATRICK J. FLYNN, editor of the Catholic Courier-Journal

THIS IS THE Golden Jubilee Year of St. Ann's Home, which, since its opening in Rochester in 1906, has cared continuously for 50 years for aged and infirm men and women, irrespective of race or creed.

Attractively located on spacious and pleasant grounds on lower Lake Avenue and almost in the shadow of the Eastman Kodak Company's vast industrial empire, St. Ann's Home today is one of Rochester's proudest and best known landmarks. It also represents the city's most outstanding achievement in an ever growing special field of social service, the care of the aged.

This half century of service to Rochester's senior citizens will be commemorated next Sunday morning at 9 o'clock when a Golden Jubilee Mass will be offered in St. Ann's Home Chapel. His Excellency Bishop James E. Kearney will preach the sermon at this Mass which will be celebrated by His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey.

Immediate direction of this home for older people is in charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph who have directed the home continuously since its establishment fifty years ago. At the present time, the executive director of St. Ann's is Sister Mary Walter. She is assisted by a staff of seventeen St. Joseph Sisters, six of whom are registered nurses.

This group of dedicated Sisters supervise the large and capable personnel of 54 full-time workers required for the efficient management of the Home. A physician-on-call and a Catholic Charities staff worker complete the staff.

During the past year St. Ann's Home provided a total of 76,633 days care for the 261 "guests" who were resident there. The Home currently

cares for 228 residents, 181 women and 37 men.

Financial reports covering the annual cost of operating the Lake Avenue Home reveal that it is one of the major charitable institutions of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester. Records for the last fiscal year (April 1, 1955 to March 31, 1956) show that the cost of operating St. Ann's during that period was \$302,173. Payments by guests and donations covered only \$253,737 of the annual expenses while the deficit of \$48,436 was contributed by the Rochester Community Chest of which St. Ann's is an affiliate.

The community's respect for the work carried on at St. Ann's is revealed not only in the generous public support which it has enjoyed during the past half century but also in the continuous and ever

growing demand on its facilities by aged folk seeking admission.

Since the initial opening of the main building fifty years ago St. Ann's has been forced to undertake major expansion of its facilities at least three times. This was necessary in order to care for "the waiting list" of applicants wishing to live at St. Ann's. Following the opening of the original building in 1906, the North Wing was opened in 1912 and the South Wing in 1931. More recently, in 1954, the completion of a new Convent for the Sisters freed 18 rooms formerly occupied by them in the Home and offered partial solution to the waiting list of more than 50 applicants.

ELDER CITIZENS of the community who today make St. Ann's their home enjoy splen-

did facilities and a daily routine designed to provide them contentment, comfort, and companionship.

For its resident guests, the Home provides not only the comfortable rooms where privacy may be enjoyed but also the excellent community facilities including cheerful dining rooms and recreation centers for both men and women. In the latter, guests find television, card games and the chance to chat with their neighbors. Elevator service gives the guests easy access from floor to floor.

Most appreciated by St. Ann's residents is, of course, the beautiful Chapel. To this sanctuary, centrally located in the main building of the Home, the guests can come at any hour they wish. Here they find the Holy Mass and a place for devotion and prayer.

For the bedridden and seriously ill, around-the-clock, professional nursing service is provided in the Home's Infirmary. Here care of the soul as well as the body is of prime interest, as is revealed in the ever present, vigilant Sister and the spiritual ministrations of the Chaplain.

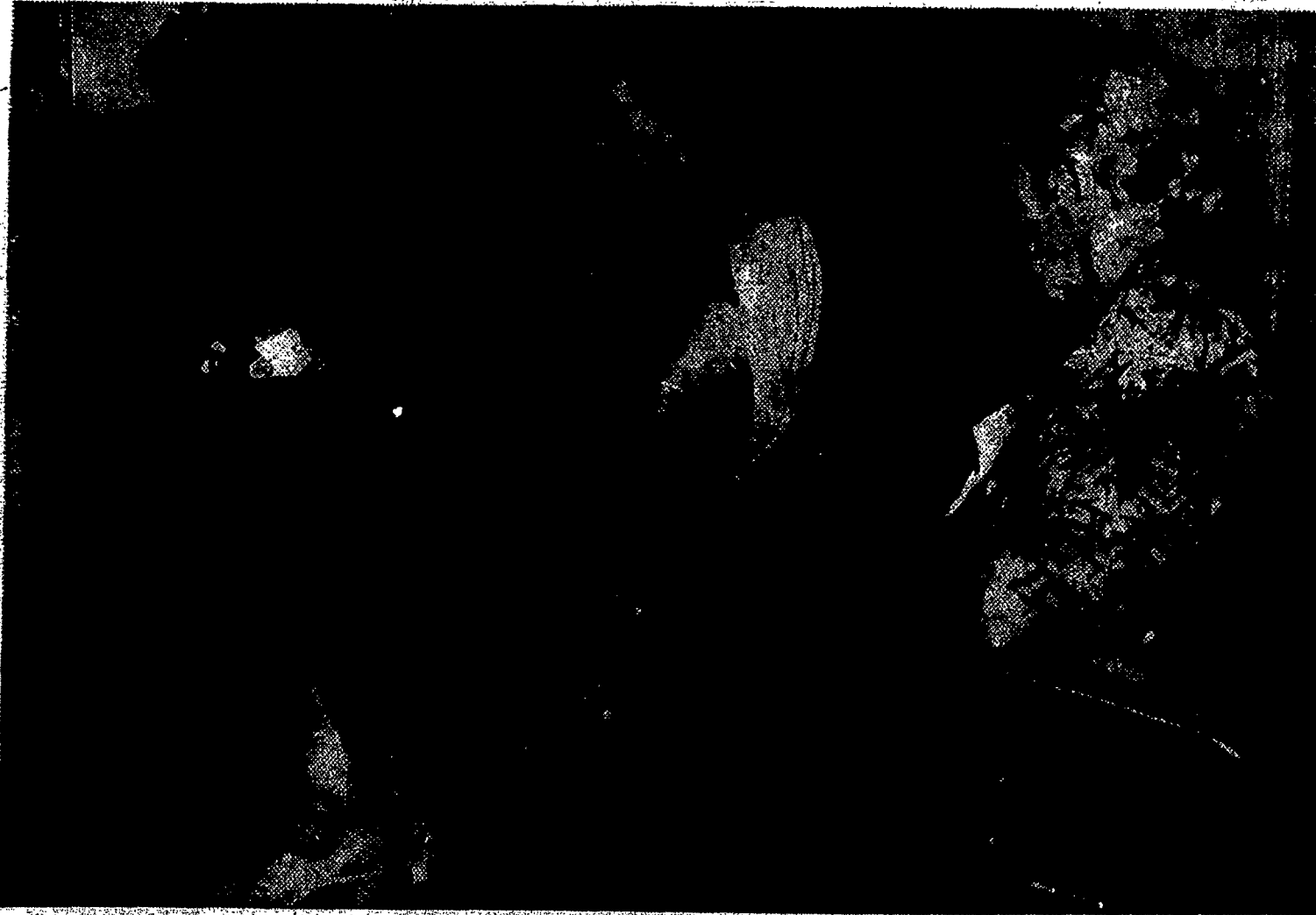
The daily program at St. Ann's is very flexible and geared to suit the convenience of the guests. There is the morning Mass in the Chapel for those who wish to attend and are able. Those confined to their rooms or the Infirmary are brought Holy Communion by the Chaplain.

The large grounds surrounding the Home offer ample opportunity for a pleasant walk in the sunshine. Benches casually located under shady trees are an invitation to relax and chat with friends.

ST. ANN'S IS a home, not a prison. Guests are free to come and go during the day and those who are able do so. Alone or in groups, St. Ann's residents may be seen going out every day on downtown shopping trips, on visits to friends and relatives in the city, and on personal errands. But always they have St. Ann's to return to, the place they call "home".

Time does not hang idle on the hands of those who live at St. Ann's. Besides the normal opportunities of friendly conversation, television, card games, reading and the like, there are also formal programs offered to those wishing them. These latter include classes in sewing and knitting for the ladies and classes in leather handcraft for the gentlemen. Always welcome to the guests are frequent entertainments and movies brought to the Home by charitable groups and individuals.

Most of the men and women
(Continued on Page 9)



Television is popular at St. Ann's.