

One Woman, 66, and Her Fight for the Elderly

BY CHARLES RANDISI

Mrs. Thomas Mullaney is tired of isolation. A 66-year-old widow, alone since her husband died 13 years ago, she wants a change from her lonely life with her dog and parrot.

She lives in an eight-room, two-story house that is just too big for her. Climbing stairs is a chore, and the general upkeep of the house is too difficult for one woman. "I want to go on living this way, but on a smaller scale," she says.

Mrs. Mullaney would like to

own a little home where she could have her "pets, hobbies and garden, and perhaps stay out of a nursing home and live a little longer."

There is a place in Woodburn, Ore., that offers these opportunities and more to people at least 50 years old with no children under 18. Woodburn Senior Estates is a community itself, whose elderly residents own the homes built especially for them.

The homes are generally one-story, five-room dwellings, and range in price from \$13,000 to

\$21,000. Senior Estates has its own shopping center, and is minutes away from hospitals, churches, and neighboring cities. It is really like any other suburb except that it was built exclusively for the aged.

According to the 1970 census, there are 96,773 people in Monroe County over the age of 60, representing 7.36 per cent of the total population. Mrs. Mullaney feels that housing accommodations similar to those in Woodburn and other parts of the country should be made available to this large minority. To make her case heard, she

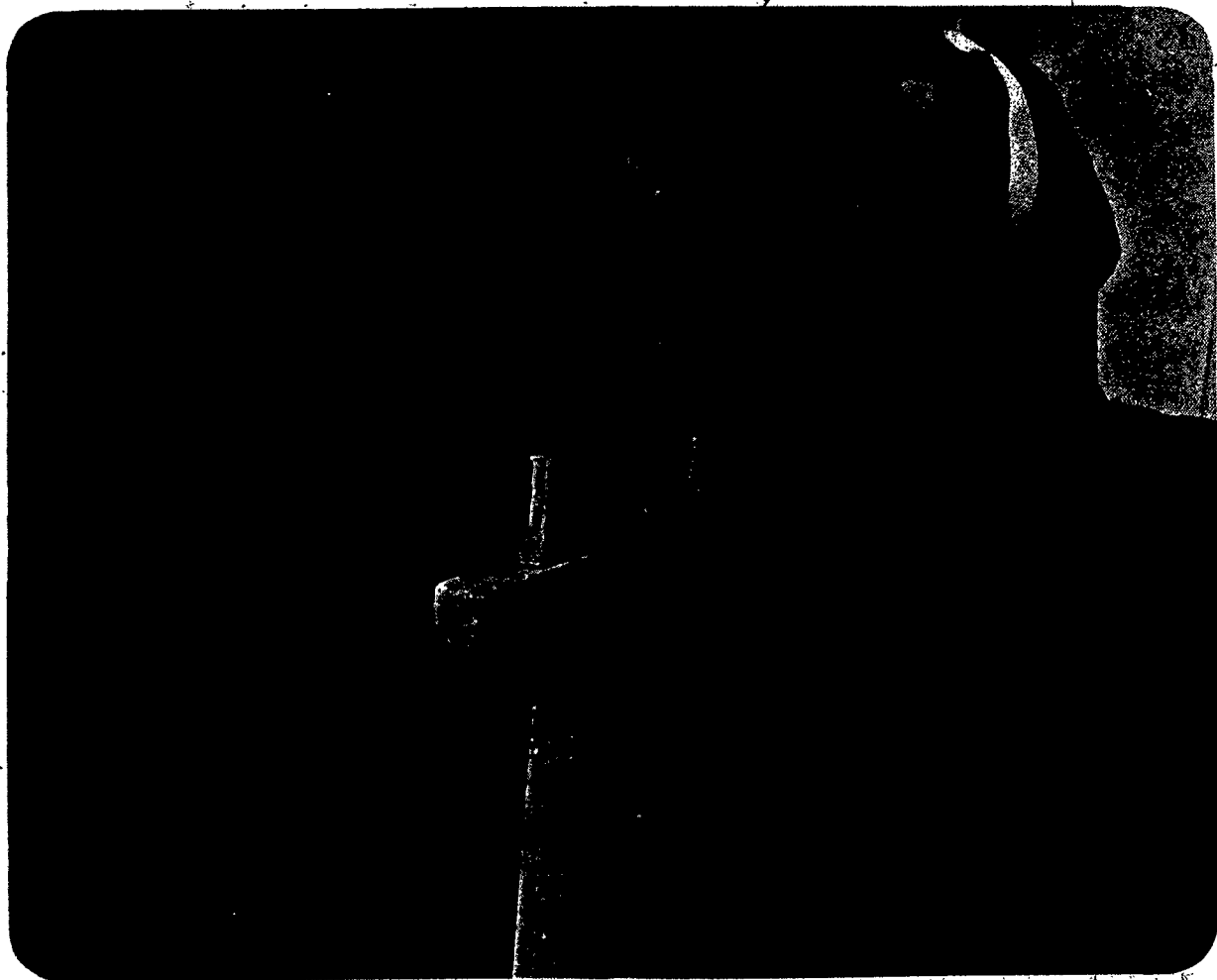
has written more than 120 letters to various legislators, committees, newspapers, television and radio stations, banks, building contractors, and other interested groups.

The biggest problem facing her now is getting people interested in her cause. "I think that the best way I can inform people is through the news media," she says. Out of some 97,000 people over 60, there must be many who feel the same way she does, and who are willing to work for her goal.

Thus far, response to her letter has been mostly favorable, though somewhat limited. Assemblyman William Steinfeldt has been very receptive to Mrs. Mullaney's idea, and has called for the Urban Development Corporation to consider her plan. "Unfortunately, UDC has so far favored high-rise towers to meet the housing problems of the elderly," Steinfeldt said.

Large apartment complexes such as Plymouth Gardens, Danforth Towers, Kennedy Towers, and Seneca Towers take away

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Pounds A-Weigh

Sister Roberta Rodenhouse, RSM, gets weighed by instructor Mrs. John Catallo at her last Diet Workshop class after graduating by losing 54 pounds, and going from a size 18 to a size 14. Wistfully looking on is Sister Mary Bernard, RSM, who herself was only one pound away from her goal. Both nuns attended workshops in Annunciation parish hall on Norton Road.

Bishop Plans Mass For Irish Peace

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will celebrate Mass on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17 at 12:05 p.m. in Corpus Christi Church for the intention of a peaceful settlement of the current troubles in Northern Ireland.

The Rochester chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians plans to send a delegation of about 50 members to the Mass as part of their St. Patrick's Day celebration, according to Francis McDonough, president. Bishop Hogan will deliver the homily on the need for a peaceful solution to the Irish question. The general public is invited to attend.

Priest Resigns

The Pastoral Office has announced that the Rev. Bernard Gross, who is serving on the St. John Fisher College faculty, has resigned from the active ministry.

Courier-Journal

Franciscans to Administer St. George's Church

At the request of the diocese, a Franciscan order of priests will take over the administration and staffing of St. George's Lithuanian Church at 545 Hudson Ave.

The contract between the diocese and the Lithuanian Franciscan Vicariate of St. Casimir, with headquarters in Kennebunkport, Maine, was signed Feb. 22.

Father Bernardino Grauslys, OFM, was named new pastor of St. George's and Father Augustine Simanavicius, OFM, his curate. Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey said the order nominates clergy for the church and the appointments come through the Pastoral Office.

Father Francis J. Valukevicius was pastor of the church until his death on Feb. 2.

Bishop Hickey explained that the administration of the church will be similar to those at St.

Theresa's, Ss. Peter and Paul's, and St. Hyacinth's in Auburn.

St. George's parish had its actual beginnings in 1906 when 140 Lithuanians from Rochester pledged support of the organization of a Lithuanian parish, selecting St. George the Martyr as its patron.

At the time of its organization, there were no Lithuanian priests in Rochester, so priests from that mid-European country made periodic visits to Rochester to care for the spiritual needs of their countrymen.

At the start, Mass was celebrated for them at Holy Redeemer Church, Hudson Ave., whose pastor, Father Jacob Staub provided for separate facilities in his parish church.

Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, the first bishop of Rochester, got interested in the effort of this determined hard working colony. He approved their ef-

forts to erect a church of their own.

Father Vincent Vizgirda was appointed first pastor of St. George's Church in January 1908. He remained for three months and was replaced by Father Joseph Krasnickas, who was also there for only a short time.

During this period, church activities were continued at Holy Redeemer. After Father Krasnickas left St. George's, Father J. F. Goddin of St. Bernard's Seminary celebrated Mass for the Lithuanian colony until Father Joseph Kasakaitis was appointed pastor in 1910.

It was Father Kasakaitis who began construction of a combination building which consisted of a church, school and basement, used as a hall.

The second bishop of Rochester, Bishop Thomas Hickey, blessed the cornerstone of the building in July 1910 and in December of the same year,

Father Dollen Named St. Andrew's Pastor

Father Bernard F. Dollen, assistant pastor of Holy Ghost Church, has been named pastor of St. Andrew's.

He will take over next Wednesday, March 22, from Father Robert Miller, who has administered the affairs of the parish since the beginning of February. Father Miller will stay on to help him.

Father Dollen has been at Holy Ghost since June 1966 and has had charge of Cana conferences in the Gates-Chili area. He also has been a volunteer fireman and police chaplain in Gates.

He is chaplain to the Order of Alhambra Musa Caravan 25 and a Third Degree Knight of Columbus, Council 178.

He formerly was diocesan director of the Christian Family Movement and, for 10 years, chaplain to the Boy Scouts.

The Portland Avenue parish is not entirely new to Father Dollen. He started school there and received his First Communion from Msgr. George W. Eckl, longtime pastor who still lives at the rectory.

He was ordained from Immaculate Conception parish June 6, 1953, having attended the diocesan seminaries.



FR. DOLLEN

Father Charles Dollen, librarian at the University of San Diego and a writer of popular religious books, is the local priest's brother. They have two half-brothers in Rochester, Edward Kelly, who works at Kodak, and David Kelly, a teacher at the National Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology. Their mother is Mrs. Edward P. Kelly of Buffalo Road.

dedicated and blessed the new \$13,000 edifice.

The old church edifice was turned into a new parish hall and was first used for that purpose in 1935, when a concert and play were presented to the public.

Father Kasakaitis lived at 1006 Clifford Ave. until 1925, when a new rectory was constructed. The present St. George's school was started in 1929, with four lay teachers as instructors.

Following the death of Father Kasakaitis in 1930, Father John Baksys became pastor and he invited the Franciscan Sisters from Pittsburgh, Pa., an order that was founded in 1922 for young women of Lithuanian descent, to staff the parochial school which had been expanded to eight grades.

Father Valukevicius became pastor in Jan. 1956 when Father Baksys retired due to ill health.