

Daily News 1957

Mrs. Honora Hickey, Oldest Irish Resident, To Get St. Patrick's Honors

Mrs. Honora Hickey, 97, of 36 Hammond St., who has been designated as the oldest Irish resident by the St. Patrick's Day parade committee, will be honored Saturday in Newport's first such procession since 1914.

Mrs. Hickey, a charter member of Division 2, Ancient Order of Hibernians Auxiliary, will be given a place of honor in the procession if her health permits, and will receive an appropriate gift.

The committee, meeting last night in City Hall, found that no other claimants for oldest Irishman had been advanced from elsewhere in the state, all areas apparently bowing to Newport's supremacy in Irish spirit. The

first prize was to have been a week's vacation in Newport, but since Mrs. Hickey is already enjoying her home town's attractions another gift will be decided on.

The parade will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday, with marchers forming on Long Wharf at 2:15. The route will be from Washington Square down Thames Street and past the reviewing stand at St. Augustin's Church, with units disbanding on Carroll Avenue. A party for the marchers will follow in Knights of Columbus Hall on Mill Street.

If plans are carried out, a green stripe will be painted down the entire length of Thames Street, using some inexpensive washable hue. Shamrocks and other Irish decorations will be placed along the street.

The internecine strife among Irish clans for supremacy at the head of the parade has come to an end in an atmosphere of good will. Actually, the strife was all in good fun. The Sullivans, most numerous clan, have invited all other Irish families to march with them, according to Frank John Pershing Sullivan, who cited the U. S. Supreme Court's historic decision on intergration.

The parade will be held, rain or shine, snow or earthquake.

Mayor is Marshal

Mayor John J. Sullivan is parade grand marshal and Manuel F. Moitoza, without whom a Newport parade would be a motley line of stragglers, will serve as chief of staff and adjutant.

Bands will include the LaSalle Academy Band, DesLant Band, Attleboro Concert Band, Kingsmen and Cavaliers of Bristol, and the Richards Drum Corps of Newport, plus possibly some others which have not yet said "ah, yes, no or maybe," according to the committee.

Several floats are planned. The Order of Ahepa will have its model of the Parthenon, the Newport Auto Racing Assn. is entering a float emphasizing highway safety and the Hibernians are planning a float. Parochial schools will have a display of some sort.

Platoons of police and firemen will be in the procession. The drill team and color guard of Capt. Kenneth L. Gilbert Post, Middletown VFW, is entered, as are marchers from the Fourth Degree and Newport Council, K. of C.; the Hibernians, the American Legion and others.

John W. Stewart is general chairman of the committee.

Dance At Night

A dance will be held Saturday night in Holy Ghost Hall on Fenner Avenue, which will be appropriately decorated. An Irish band will play. William Gill heads the dance committee, which reports tickets still available.

A tag day last Saturday raised \$109, Sheriff Herbert E. Macauley reported last night.

An essay contest is underway in St. Catherine and De La Salle Academies on the theme of St. Patrick. The winner will receive \$25 and will read his or her entry over