



Mr. and Mrs. John J. Shaughnessy welcome their son and his children to their new home in Carey Courts.

a place to call home

by James Nevin Miller

A new development in Waltham, Mass., is pointing the way to decent housing for our senior citizens.

LONG A NEGLECTED aspect of the nation's building activity, decent housing for older people—at rents they can afford—is now becoming a fact in a number of places. Waltham, Mass., is the first city in the country with a public housing project for its older citizens.

Waltham's project, called Carey Courts, is a pleasant one on a quiet street five minutes from downtown. There are 24 units in two two-story brick buildings facing each other across an attractive mall. Each apartment has many features for safety as well as comfort. There are nonskid floors, a safety bar next to the bathtub, and buzzers in the bedroom and living room for admitting mailmen, doctors, or visitors.

Amplly large, the apartments have picture windows, a garbage disposal unit, refrigerator, electric range, and a double sink. Closets and storage spaces have sliding doors. The bedrooms have overhead lights, plus wall plugs, and the tiled bathrooms have a shower as well as a tub.

Rent, including heat and hot water, is \$41.50 for single occupants and \$43 for couples.

Typical early occupants of the apartments include five married couples, a retired woman Salvation Army officer, a Spanish-American War wid-

ow, and 13 single women. Average age of the residents is 74; a woman, 68 is the youngest, and a man, 88, the oldest.

Charles A. Lawless, executive director of the project, believes that Waltham's development is showing the way to other communities across the country, being neither a welfare project nor a rest home. Though three of the married folks have disabilities that normally would require care in a rest home, their spouses are able to care for them comfortably in Carey Courts.



Grab bar for tub makes bathroom safer.



Director shows how pantry door slides.



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