

# Warwick Woman Kept Girls in Stitches

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Mrs. Rita A. Danese of 92 Shand Ave., Warwick, has her neighborhood in stitches.

Since Christmas she has been teaching 15 girls, ranging in ages from seven to 12 years old, how to knit.

Saturday, this yarn will unroll to its end when her students graduate.

Warwick Mayor Horace E. Hobbs will present certificates to Mrs. Danese's students in a 6 p.m. ceremony in Venetian Gardens, Warwick.

In December, Mrs. Danese knitted 283 outfits for dolls for Christmas presents.

"During the holidays, when the neighborhood little girls saw them, they kept asking me to teach them to knit," she said.

"It sounded like a fun idea to me and the first week I had a class, eight girls showed up. The second week there were 12 and the third week 15.

"They were a little too much to handle at one time, so I split the class up in three groups. Five met on Monday afternoons, five on Tuesdays and five on Wednesdays.

"Thursdays, I helped the ones, who were having difficulties," she explained.

The knitting classes have been a voluntary donation of her time and Mrs. Danese's pupils have been appreciative. "My little girls are wonderful," she said.

"When I told them that I had taken an evening job,



Busy with their knitting are (l-r) Susan Webb, 7; Nancy Miller, 11, and Donna Pigeon, 7; Warwick youngsters who have been taking lessons from Mrs. Rita Danese.

—Journal-Bulletin Photo

they told me not to worry. They offered to do my housework for me."

It appears that Mrs. Danese's reputation as a knitting teacher has begun to spread.

"After a while I saw little girls I never saw before coming to look at me through my windows," she said.

"They explained that they wanted to know what I looked

like when my little students talked about me at school."

After Saturday's graduation, the cry of "knit one, pearl two" won't be heard as often as before in the Danese household.

However, Mrs. Danese is ready to start on another project. But this time she'll get the boys in on the act.

"We're going to start mak-

ing our neighborhood pretty," she said.

"I've been growing plants for the boys to place along the street and we're going to build bird houses, too."

Even Governor Chafee will come into the picture at the Saturday graduation. He has sent a telegram congratulating Mrs. Danese and her pupils.