

Action Vowed on Blockbusting

By MIKE POWER

Secretary of State John P. Lomenzo yesterday promised action against what 19th Ward residents have charged is a blockbusting tactic of real estate interests.

He said he will issue, at any homeowner's request, "cease and desist" orders against

realty firms which solicit residents to sell their homes.

"We're not going to have any blockbusting in this town," Lomenzo said. "It's been my policy to be very severe in these matters, and I intend to be in the future."

Lomenzo met yesterday with two 19th Ward residents who appealed to him for ac-

tion. One of them, Richard Harrison, an executive with the Urban League, has pledged that organization's cooperation. The other man at the session was Michael Fitzpatrick of 229 Warwick Ave.

Fitzpatrick was one of 11 Warwick Avenue residents who received a letter from John T. Nothnagle, Inc., Realtors two weeks ago "introducing" a Negro family who had recently moved into the neighborhood.

Part of the letter read:

"Recently we brought about the sale of your neighbor's home at 243 Warwick Ave. and we would like to take this opportunity to introduce your new neighbors, Melvin and Jerlene Adell.

"While negotiating this transaction, we received a number of inquiries from qualified buyers who desire to locate in your area, ONE OF WHOM MAY BE INTERESTED IN YOUR HOME!"

Blockbusting is a tactic in which whites are persuaded to sell their homes quickly and cheaply after blacks move into a neighborhood. Their houses are then sold to more blacks at high prices.

Lomenzo said yesterday that at his request, Nothnagle

has quit using the letter. Earlier, Nothnagle said his firm used the letter in all towns and suburbs and did not consider it blockbusting.

He was supported in his contention by the executive vice president of the Real Estate Board of Rochester, Robert S. Elwell.

Lomenzo said yesterday his office's investigators are now looking into the 19th Ward activities of three realty companies, including Nothnagle. He declined to name the other two.

Lomenzo said that if enough 19th Ward residents request cease and desist orders, he will declare the entire ward off limits to solicitations by realtors.

"We want to do all we can to be sure there's no panic selling there," he said. Lomenzo lived in the 19th Ward on Genesee Park Boulevard from 1946 to 1954.

Should a realty company ignore a cease and desist order, he said, it will lose its license immediately. The secretary of state's office has the power to issue and revoke licenses.

Naramore Estate Valued at \$350,000

The will of C. Raymond Naramore, founder of Lollypop Farm and executive vice president of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County, leaves \$500 to the society and an equal amount to First Church of Christ, Scientist, 400 East Ave.

Mr. Naramore died March 28 at the age of 71. With his wife Marjorie he lived at 190 Summit Drive, Brighton.

The will distributes an estate estimated at \$350,000. Gilbert A. Nusbaum was named executor and attorney for the estate.

Mr. Naramore left the Summit Drive house and all its furnishings, personal effects and the proceeds of a life insurance policy to his wife, whom he married in September 1968. His first wife, Josephine, died several years ago.

In addition, Mrs. Naramore is left the income of a \$50,000 trust and the privilege of invading principal to the extent of \$1,000 a year.

On her death half of the remainder of the trust will go into trust for the benefit of his son, Douglas Naramore, and half will go to his daughter, Nancy Tenny of Arlington, Va., who is also left \$20,000 outright and one-half of the residual estate.

More Local News
On Page 4C