

# Aged Home Shut, Patients Moved



TRIBUNE Staff Photo by Michael Budrny

Patient uses two canes as he is helped from West Side Nursing Home.

BY JOHN DAVIES

Twenty-nine patients of the West Side Nursing Home, 1900 S. Kedzie Av., were moved out of the 40-year-old, three-story building and into other city nursing homes yesterday. The Board of Health closed the building for alleged building code violations.

The patients were taken by private ambulances to about 10 other nursing homes in the Chicago area under the orders of Dr. Murray C. Brown, city health commissioner.

The Board of Health announced it was closing down the facility because it failed to comply with orders given March 4 that the building, which has operated as a nursing home for at least the last 17 years, undergo a complete electrical rewiring and an emergency electrical generator be installed.

#### Official Is Angry

Miss Evelyn Price, administrator of the facility, complained that the building code ordinances cited by the Board of Health did not apply to her building. She said the ordinances cited only covered buildings constructed since 1960.

She also said that city building inspectors have not re-examined the building since the inspection they made between Jan. 1 and 15.

Of the 29 patients ordered moved out yesterday, 27 had been sent to the home by the Cook County Department of Public Aid and two others were referred by the state Department of Mental Health.

The action yesterday was the latest in a series of nursing



Miss Evelyn Price, administrator.

home closings ordered by Brown and the Board of Health after a series of articles detailing violations by some nursing homes in the area was published by THE TRIBUNE in cooperation with the Better Government Association.

The West Side Nursing Home

was not one of the many nursing homes visited and inspected by TRIBUNE reporters and B. G. A. investigators.

The nursing home has 13 employees, including Miss Price. The owner of the building is Samuel Solomon, of Beverly Hills, Cal.

#### Closed Once Before

Yesterday was the second time the nursing home has been closed for violations, said Mrs. Evelyn Williams, suburban Glencoe, acting general manager of the building and owner of the Anna Hadley Nursing Home, 3209 Douglas Blvd.

Formerly the Brown Convalescent Home, the building was one of 17 nursing homes in Chicago owned by Dr. Leonard Tilkin. The buildings were emptied of state welfare patients in 1962 after a TRIBUNE series detailed inadequate patient care in them.

At the time of the current closing, nursing home officials were seeking to renew its license, Mrs. Williams said. Its 1970 license expired Dec. 31.