

Jackie's Two Years as Widow

NEW YORK (UPI)—Mrs. John F. Kennedy ends her second year as a widow with new vitality, increasingly radiant beauty and some new friends and activities to divert her mind from tragic memories.

Not that Mrs. Kennedy will ever forget Nov. 22, 1963, the sunny day in Dallas that turned into a nightmare. She will observe the anniversary quietly, probably at her New Jersey farm retreat.

But time, the proverbial healer, has gradually restored the joy of living to Mrs. Kennedy. She officially ended her mourning a year ago but she did not begin to go out socially until last spring and then at the urging of her high-spirited sister, Princess Stanislas Radziwill.

Princess Radziwill will come from London to stay at her New York apartment next month and this will mean that Mrs. Kennedy's social calendar will be more crowded. She has not yet attended the opera or symphony this season and the only entertaining she has done was a small dinner party at a famous restaurant for retiring French Ambassador Herve Alphand and his wife, Nicole.

IT DOES NOT seem likely that Mrs. Kennedy will ever seek or accept an ambassadorial appointment or United Nations post, as has been suggested from time to time. Her future appears to lie along more private paths of service as a mother and patron of the arts and humanities.

Certainly her public appearances have disclosed that Mrs. Kennedy is more beautiful than ever. Her longer hair style is extremely flattering and she



FOR THEM, LIFE MUST GO ON

Mrs. Kennedy with children, John Jr. and Caroline

has acquired a lovely maturity without cost to her youthfulness. She has found a new strength and is likely to be more independent in the future.

Mrs. Kennedy has made no plans to go to Palm Beach, or any place in the South this winter, and may give her children a northern Christmas with snow instead of sand. Irrepressible John, who will be five on Thanksgiving Day, and dignified Caroline, who will be eight two days later, are

the center of her life. They have a Nanny but are not relegated to the nursery.

EAST SIDERS often see Mrs. Kennedy walking her children to school—Caroline to the Convent of the Sacred Heart where she is in the third grade, and John to kindergarten at St. David's School—or to St. Ignatius Loyola Church where she is a faithful parishioner.

The former First Lady has found her sunny, 15-

room apartment high above Fifth Avenue a joy.

She also is charmed with her recently rented 10-room farmhouse in New Jersey's Somerset Hills where she has had several weekends of riding to the hounds.

Mrs. Kennedy's circle of friends has not grown appreciably due to the quiet tempo of her life and the restrictions that naturally follow a former First Lady even in such social sanctuaries as Newport and Palm Beach.

Her most regular escort is an old family friend, William Walton, 55-year-old abstract artist who heads the fine arts commission in Washington. Like many young widows, Mrs. Kennedy has found there are few eligible men her age who are unattached and she is lucky to know a few men like Walton whose company she enjoys.

THE FORMER First Lady sees much of the Robert Kennedys and the Sargent Shriver, her brother Hugh Auchincloss, Jr., former Ambassador to New Zealand, Anthony Akers and his wife, Jane, writer George Plimpton, Sen. Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island and his wife Nula, Architect Philip Johnson, Frederick and Natalie Cushing and Mrs. Cushing's mother, Mrs. John R. Fell

Some of the happy experiences of 1965 for Mrs. Kennedy were her meeting with Pope Paul VI in New York, the naming of the White House garden for her, the successful symphony ball in Boston of which she was honorary chairman, her first big dinner dance for friends at an off-beat Manhattan restaurant, and her trip to London for the dedication of the Kennedy Memorial at Runnymede.