

Christine Jorgenson Studying Pollution, Population Woes

EAST LONGMEADOW — Seated beneath a needlepoint design she had made for her sister years before, Christine Jorgenson told The Sunday Republican of projects she is currently involved in.

Miss Jorgenson, the first person to undergo sex-change surgery was visiting her sister, Mrs. Dorothy J. King of 30 Cedar Hill Rd., when she was interviewed.

The heat in the house had been turned up, she explained, because she was used to the weather in California where she has been living.

She moved to Hollywood more than a year ago where she served as technical advisor for the recent film based on her autobiography, "The Christine Jorgenson Story," she said, but she has visited this area on several occasions during that time.

On this visit, she and her sister and her nieces spent one afternoon fishing in the Huntington River, she said, but they failed to catch anything.

On the return trip from the river they passed through Westfield and she said she enjoyed the New England countryside, although it reminded her of a rather uncomfortable visit she had made last Christmas.

Leaving a part of the country that had no snow, she arrived in this town around Christmas laden with luggage and trudging through several inches of snow she said. As soon as she arrived she got a phone call from her agent in Hollywood saying how much she must be enjoying New England.

Miss Jorgenson said she, like many others today, was

concerned with the social and ecological problems facing the world.

Having spent the morning washing clothes, she spoke of the problem of phosphate pollution of waters caused by phosphate detergents and said that she used biodegradable soaps when she did her wash.

Beyond pollution and other problems, the biggest problem is overpopulation, she said, handing the reporter a sheet which began, "Whatever your cause, it's a lost cause unless we control population."

Her sister shares her en-

thusiasm for these causes, she said.

Of the recently-released motion picture based on her life, she said she was pleased with its accuracy, although, as her sister said, "It's difficult to condense 40 years of a life into an hour and a half."

The film is especially accurate medically, she said, as Dr. John Pearman of the University of California Medical School, who is now performing sex-change operations, remained on the set during the shooting of the operation scenes in order to insure their accuracy.



Christine Jorgenson, the first person to undergo sex-change surgery, returns to her sister's East Longmeadow home from a fishing trip with her family in the Huntington River.