

# CITY HALL EDICT WILL CLOSE POOL ROOMS TODAY

Mayor Takes Action as Result of Alleged Flagrant Violations of Ordinance—Proprietors May Invoke Restoration of Old "Blue Laws"—Will Meet This Morning.

The pool rooms of the city will be closed today. This is the edict that has gone forth from the city hall. It is said that the action was taken by the mayor as a result of the flagrant violations of the closing ordinance and allowing minors in the pool rooms.

The proprietors will hold a meeting this morning to discuss the proposition and from the statement made by one of the pool room men yesterday there is a possibility that they will advocate the enforcement of the blue laws, such as closing the cigar stores, news stands and even stopping the running of the street cars.

The order closing the pool places is said to be the result of the failure of many of the proprietors to conduct their places within the law. A few weeks ago Harry Witz pleaded guilty to conducting a gambling game in the rear of his place on Tower avenue. The next day his license was revoked by Mayor Crumpton because he allowed boys under age to frequent his establishment.

It is said that another room had a game running but upon the Witz' expose stopped for fear of the police. The same place has been the cause of considerable complaint on the part of many citizens, from the fact that on Sunday the place was filled with young men who could be heard indulging in loud and obscene language by passers by.

A pool hall owner said yesterday: "If we can't run we will see that

not another tap of work is accomplished or any amusement feature allowed to run on Sunday. We don't propose to be made the 'goats.' I don't see why we can't run when I know that one can get a drink at eight out of every ten saloons on Sunday."

When shown the above statement last night Mayor Crumpton said:

"I wish the gentleman who made that statement would produce the evidence of his charges. He is just the kind of a man I am looking for. I have given explicit orders to the police and legal departments in regard to enforcing the Sunday saloon closing to the letter. I have no doubt that there are and always will be violations but we are getting after them wherever possible, I want to make the statement that anyone who will produce the evidence of the Sunday lid-titting will be regarded as a public benefactor."

Over a decade ago Superior had an experience with the "blue laws." The double rivited "Id" lasted just one Sabbath. While it lasted the city was as tight as the most ardent reformer could wish for. Street cars were stopped, a score of cigar dealers were arrested, newspapers could not be purchased, liverymen were not allowed to rent rigs even for funerals and other features made the day so unbearable that a storm of public sentiment demanded that the city return to the old regime.