

GAMBLING HOUSE KEEPER IS FINED

Raid on Resort of Harry Witz Discloses Six Boys Engaged in Play.

Harry Witz, self-confessed keeper of a gambling dive frequented by boys and youths was arrested and taken before Judge Parker yesterday afternoon charged with running a gambling resort. The man pleaded guilty and was given the option of paying a fine of \$50 and costs or of spending 60 days on the rock pile. Witz paid the fine.

In all probability this will not be the end of the case, as a revocation of Witz's pool room license will be recommended by the police. This is in accordance with the statement made last night by Lieutenant of Police Darwin Scoon who has been leading the war on the gamblers during the past few weeks in which several raids have been made and a number of the knights of the green cloth have been taken into custody, either having been convicted or forfeiting bail.

In speaking of the matter Lieutenant Scoon said. "We are determined that the law against gambling shall be enforced. We will arrest the keepers of these places and the participants in the games just as often as we can. In the Witz matter we will go farther and use every effort to have his pool room license revoked. The gamblers have got to be taught to know that there is law in the land and that the police department of the city of Superior is going to enforce it."

Especially are the police officials hot on the trail of the leeches who cater to the trade of mere boys and young men. It is said that Witz runs his place as systematically as a Canfield. The front of the place, which is located at 1105½ Tower avenue, in the very heart of the business district, is devoted to the sale of cigars and confectionery. In the rear of the store is another room, the view of which is cut off from Tower avenue by a high board partition, in which are located two pool tables. Back of the pool room is a card room fitted out in a manner befitting any of the gambling places of lower Tower avenue in the boom days of the '90s. It is in this room that the young lads are taught the art of poker, "low ball," "smear" and any other game of chance. Six lads, their other game of chance. Six lads, their the old-timers, but never once forgetting to "ante" to the Witz coffers, were seated in the room when the officers raided the place Sunday night.

After the raid the young men arrested were taken to the police station and locked up. Several of them had lost their week's salaries in the gambling game, either to the other players or by "wetting their feet" into the Witz "kitty." These lads were compelled to spend the most of the night in the city prison. All, however, managed to obtain \$10 bail required before the opening of the municipal court at 9 o'clock. When the cases were called none of the young fellows appeared and the bail was declared forfeited.

At headquarters the youths gave their names as Fred Davis, Fred Edison, Harry Smith, Lee Anderson, Harry Shea and Jim Brown. It is understood that most if not all of the names given are fictitious.

On Christmas eve a raffle in which a number of young boys participated, was in progress at the Witz resort. Before the drawing had been completed a police officer appeared and advised Witz or his clerk to cease operations. It is claimed that the men did not attempt to reopen again at that time.