



The Indianapolis Times

Mostly cloudy tonight and Friday, probably showers and thunderstorms not much change in temperature.

HOME

VOLUME 40—NUMBER 41

INDIANAPOLIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1928.

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Postoffice, IndianapolisTWO CENTS Outside Marion
County 3 Cents

U. S. AID ASKED TO CRUSH CITY GAMING RINGS

Baseball Pool Operators
Will Face Probe on
Income Taxes.

EQUIPMENT IS SEIZED

Lottery Czars Also Hit in
New Smash Directed at
Gamblers.

Two new moves were started by the prosecutor's office today to ruin the game of baseball pool and lottery operators.

1. Deputy Prosecutor John L. Niblack directed a deputy income tax collector to investigate the wealthy pool operators, to determine whether they have reported their enormous profits to Uncle Sam.

2. Niblack announced he will seek to impound all gaming materials seized, thereby tying up equipment and considerable capital of the operators. Judge Collins impounded equipment seized in a raid on an alleged lottery headquarters as the first step in this direction.

Cases Are Rushed

As further evidence that the fight to suppress high, commercialized gambling (as opposed to sociable, home poker sessions had passed the stage of mere sniping here and there, the prosecutor's office started filing cases directly in Criminal Court.

This will avoid at least part of the delays and legal loopholes through which big gamblers manage to wriggle now and then in municipal courts.

Niblack invited the internal revenue department to send an agent to his office to get data on profits of pool and lottery operators and a conference was arranged for this afternoon.

Should the Government prove the operators failed to report their full incomes stiff penalties can be imposed.

Charges Are Dismissed

The prosecutor's office suddenly dismissed lottery charges in municipal court this morning against three Negroes and another man arrested after the raid on 322 N. Senate Ave., Wednesday morning, in which a patrol load of baseball pool tickets and other materials was seized.

The charges immediately were referred in Criminal Court and Niblack filed a motion to impound the more than 20,000 books of tickets seized.

Defendants in this case are Denver D. Ferguson, alleged operator of the ticket factory; his brother, William Ferguson; his cousin, William Ferguson, and Michael Gray, alleged agent.

Meanwhile, the second big case of the present drive remained in Judge Paul C. Wetter's municipal court. Criminal Court Investigator John G. Willis late Wednesday arrested Joseph P. Rollis, printer, 540 Century Bldg., as the operator of a huge lottery, and Edward J. Holmes, 1435 S. Illinois St. as an agent of Rollis.

Willis charged he had information that this lottery brought in about \$4,000 a week from "regular customers" and disbursed only weekly prizes ranging from \$20 to \$100 and one monthly prize of \$1,000.

Winners formerly were determined by a spin of a roulette wheel, Willis said.

Rollis and Holmes asked for a change of judge. The defense struck Ralph K. Kane from the list supplied by Judge Wetter.

The State struck Harry E. Yockey, the special judge whose rulings stopped several pool selling prosecutions Wednesday. This left Charles S. Wiltse, who is to try the case July 12.

Meanwhile, Prosecutor's Detective Harry McGinn obtained a search warrant for Rollis' place and seized a box about two feet wide and deep full of lottery tickets, and a smaller box from which the winning numbers are said to be drawn. This method replaced the roulette wheel it is said.

This equipment was impounded by Judge Collins.

Evidence Is Obtained

Patrolmen George Stricker presented such a case against three men today that Municipal Judge Paul C. Wetter, who frequently has discharged gaming defendants and criticized police for arresting them, remarked: "This is one case in which the police had the evidence."

The judge fined Floyd Newman, poolroom operator, 401 Virginia Ave., \$25 and costs for keeping a gaming house; his attendant, Wayne Thomas, 930 Lexington Ave., \$10 and costs for pool selling; and Charles Ludwig, 1134 Hoyt Ave., customer, \$5 and costs for gaming.

Stricker testified he stood near the baseball ticket and scoreboard in Newman's place and saw Ludwig buy \$2 worth of tickets from Thomas.

Boy Is Killed by Train

ALLENTEWON, Pa., June 28—William Dunbar, 6, disregarded the warnings of railway men and attempted to dash across the tracks near here. His foot caught in a switch and he was run down and killed by an oncoming train.

Bigger and Better Than Ever—and Much Wetter

By United Press

ODGENSBURG, N. Y., June 28.—Ogdensburg will not see the circus this year. The show is ready to go on. The birds and the beasts are here. The big tent is up and none of the performers is ill. Prohibition violations did it. When the first three sections of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey train pulled in from Canada, Federal officers got a tip that day and the plenitude of liquor in Quebec had combined to make the train a saloon on wheels.

A hasty search turned up 1,000 bottles, hidden among baggage of performers. The folds of the Japanese acrobats' kilimanas yielded rare wines; beer bottles rolled out of clown costumes and even the car in which the camels were riding contained whisky.

Performers, on the fourth section of the train, the rest of the performers heard a raid was on. Pullman windows flew open, bottles showered out. It costs \$5 when a dry agent seizes a bottle of liquor at the border.

Then the Federal inspectors started a thorough search, announcing it would take all day and that the show could not go on. The latest count showed that 4,000 bottles had been seized.

SUICIDE NOTE LEFT ON BANK OF RIVER; MAN DISAPPEARS

Naughty Boys

Man, 65, Threatens to
Spank Nephew, 52,
in Buggy.

Police today planned to drag White River to determine whether Gilbert L. Wood, about 49, R. R. 6, Box 214, near Edgewood, committed suicide by jumping into the stream from the Illinois Central bridge between Oliver and Kentucky Aves.

A note in clothes found on the bridge early today said that Wood had ended his life in the river because of domestic difficulties.

Possibility that the man may have faked the apparent suicide, so he could disappear to escape his alleged troubles, was suggested by Captain Claffey, however.

Youths Find Clothes

Herbert Mascoe, 18, of 2110 W. Morton St., and Edward Garr, 18, of 2110 Martha St., found trousers, coat, vest and a 38-caliber revolver near one shell of the gun was discharged, but Captain Claffey did not believe the shot had been fired recently.

They told of two men engaged in a brawl, but Motor Officers J. E. Okey and Fred Brennan found that it was just an argument over the length of the buggy ride.

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