

Blind Pigs Raided

Welland Excitement

Prisoners Before Magistrate Yesterday Evening
---First Bunch of Twelve Convictions---\$1,889
Dollars in Fines and Cost---Clean Up Climax
to Many Weeks Police Work

"THE ILLEGAL SALE OF LIQUOR MUST BE STOPPED" SAYS MAGISTRATE BURGAR

The first batch of prisoners tried late night before Magistrate Burgar, following the raid on "blind pigs" in Welland district, as described in yesterday's Evening Review, resulted in the following record of prisoners convicted and the sums they were called upon to pay in fines and costs:

Tony Sunshine	\$ 48.00
Julius Hartzig	311.50
Mike Hartzig	211.50
T. E. Peters	111.50
John Scott	113.50
Annie Yazec	53.50
Joseph Yargelo	513.00
Mike Pazolig	219.50
George Pazolig	113.50
E. Z. Edor Trimers	113.50
Mike Tisco	50.00
Mary Munn	30.00

The trial of cases began at 10 o'clock yesterday morning before Magistrate Burgar and will probably occupy several days. G. H. Pettit is prosecuting and H. W. Maccomb represents a number of the prisoners.

Mike Sagtowski, pool room proprietor, plead guilty to offences on Dec. 14 and 15, and was fined \$100 and costs on each charge or three months in jail.

His step-father, Julien Hartzig, aged 59 years, plead guilty to an offence on Dec. 1. He has been convicted before and his worthiness assessed him \$300 and costs.

He will have to go to jail, said Mr. Maccomb. In these hard times it is as difficult to pay a \$100 fine as it was \$1000 two years ago.

"The illegal sale of liquor must be stopped," was Magistrate Burgar's answer.

Victor Subosits was charged as president of the Hungarian Club with permitting the sale of liquor on the club premises on the night of Dec. 31. He protested that the club was rented to another party on this occasion. This case was not disposed of at this writing.

John Sunshine, caught yesterday

morning, was fined \$40 and costs for selling liquor without a license. He was boarding car keeper on the M.C.R.

Full story of the raid.

The searchlight was turned into the dark recesses of the foreign section of Crowland, just south of Welland boundary line on Wednesday night, says the Welland Tribune, in an admirable write up, when a big organized raid of alleged blind pigs was made and about 26 prisoners gathered in the police net.

The notorious conditions prevailing in this section have been known to the police and the present raid had been planned weeks ahead.

Illegal sale of liquor is evidently carried on in a wholesale manner, despite heavy penalties inflicted on previous occasions, and added to this are extremely unsanitary habits of living, and frequently low standard of morality as well. In many cases the women and more particularly the children, have great hardships to undergo.

At 8 o'clock Wednesday night about 30 officers, provincial police from the Falls, officers from Thorold, railway detectives, the local police, special officers and members of the provincial license department, gathered at the local police office, and marching down Division street, embarked in three large sleighs and an auto, which carried them to the scene of action. Driving up Hellems avenue to the M.C.R. they were divided into three squads, one in charge of Chief Mains of Niagara Falls, doing the old cheese factory district; a second squad under Officer Varley, taking the section along the canal, and a third squad with Provincial Inspector Ayearst of the license department, Toronto, and Chief Laing, cleaning up Industrial Park. The conveyances were held and the prisoners bundled out and transferred to police headquarters. The raid was the largest ever made in this part of Ontario.

Children Screamed.

In many cases the appearance of the police officers and the arrests were taken stolidly, though some of the women wept and children screamed frantically. The clean-up was a thorough one, not a man who was wanted escaping. There were seven women and nineteen or twenty men taken into custody. Following is a partial list:—

Julian Hartzic, Victor Subosits, Andro Charnock, Mrs. John Tratt, John Tratt, Jas. Morello, William Peters, Mrs. Mary Nunn, Mary Jametra, Mrs. Palowsky Ludric, Demetrius Bezalobinko, Mrs. Sagtkowsky, Mike Sagtkowsky, Kapsa Hobza, Mrs. Sarbeto Saveto, Mrs. Geo. Pavlitch, Geo. Pavlitch, Mike Pavlitch, Joe Buloni, Katrina Liska, F. Jemetra, Pavlich Tokor, Jos. Yargello, John Scott.

Much Booze.

Hard as the times are, large quantities of booze, mostly whiskey and beer, were confiscated. No place was without it. Only a portion of that found was brought in. In all these cases violation of the liquor act by selling booze without a license was charged.

Other Charges.

Other charges of a more serious nature, including several cases of prostitution and one of white slavery, may result from the raid. Alleged stolen goods were also discovered in a couple of cases. Some firearms were taken by the police.

The crowd of prisoners filled the courtroom and ward. After the county jail had been filled to its capacity the balance were placed in the police cells for the night.

Six of the seven women were released under bonds for the night.