

Eight Arrested Here In Narcotics Raid

Eight persons were arrested and sought today by sheriff's officers. A large quantity of heroin and marijuana seized last night in what was described as the first major crack-down on narcotics traffic in Peoria in many years.

The raid, staged by combined forces of the federal narcotics bureau in Chicago, and the Peoria

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state's attorney office and sheriff's department, centered on a house at 620 Sixth ave., believed to be the headquarters of the ring.

State's Attorney James P. Kellstedt said the raid was the result of two months of investigation into narcotics traffic in Peoria county by Walter F. Barnewolt, special investigator for his office.

Participating in last night's raid with four officers from the federal narcotics bureau in Chicago, were Jack Francis, chief deputy sheriff, and Deputy Sheriff Willard Kingsley, and Investigator Barnewolt.

King pin of last night's arrests was Richard (Dickie) Carter of the Sixth ave. address, who has been named on a federal warrant charging sale of narcotics. Another warrant charging the same offense has been issued against James (Jimmie) Bell, of 912 Sanford st., leader of an orchestra in a local night club.

Bell was not present when the raid was staged and was being

Arrested in or near the Sixth ave. house were a group of alleged drug addicts: John Diggs and Vernon Coleman, reportedly from St. Louis; Melvin Green, Charles Humble, Irene Perkins, Francis Young, and Richard Carroll, several of whom are reported to be members of the Bell orchestra.

State's Attorney Kellstedt said the latter seven are currently being held without charge but may be named later on state warrants charging violation of the narcotics law.

Shortly before the house raid, the officers arrested Carter when he assertedly sold a quantity of heroin to a customer on N. Washington st. The drug was found on the purchaser and is being held as evidence.

Carter waived preliminary hearing this morning before U. S. Commissioner W. H. Moore, and bond was set at \$3,000. He was released this morning by state authorities to Deputy U. S. Marshal A. B. Shacklett, and is being held in the county jail. He told federal authorities his real name is Richard Pryor, and also gave 2512½ S. Adams st. as his address.

The officers reported that most of the narcotics seized in the Sixth ave. house were concealed in hidden places and that they had to

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spend almost six hours in searching the place.

On advance information which he had obtained, Barnewolt found 29 No. 5 capsules hidden in a closet which, when tested by the narcotics agents, proved to be heroin.

A large number of hypodermic needles, "heaters," and other equipment used in the narcotics traffic also were reported found in the house, most of which were taken to Chicago by the federal agents for future use as evidence.

The federal warrants were issued here yesterday morning by U. S. Commissioner William H. Moore on affidavits furnished by a man produced by the state's attorney.

As a result of the raid here, federal agents said they may have obtained valuable leads to operation of the ring in other cities.



ARRESTED IN A RAID BY FEDERAL AND COUNTY OFFICIALS this morning, eight persons are being held in Peoria county jail for investigation in connection with the sale and use of narcotics. Shown being questioned by Chief Deputy Jack Francis (extreme left) and Deputy Sheriff Willard Kingsley (extreme right) are (seated) Beatrice Atkins (left), Irene Perkins and Richard Carroll. Standing (from left) Deputy Francis, Melvin Green, John Diggs, Charles Humble, Vernon Coleman, Richard Carter and Deputy Kingsley.