

Lipkin Files Bid To Shut 10 Vice Houses

Declares He Acted Because Patt Didn't (Prostitution)

Suits to prohibit 14 Peorians from allowing 10 houses they own or manage to be used as houses of prostitution were filed this morning in Circuit court by the city of Peoria.

Max J. Lipkin, corporation counsel, said he brought the suits because State's Attorney Eugene Pratt has not acted to close up the places.

The suits ask the court for injunctions based on alleged violations of various city ordinances.

THE COMPLAINTS allege that in three years the 10 houses were raided, with arrests being made, a total of 40 times.

Owners and people who may have an interest in the houses and the addresses of the buildings involved are:

Ethel LaMar and the Koren Co., operated by Louis B. Koren—317 W. Aiken ave.

ELAINE STILL, alias Pam Miller, James Lewis, Dr. William F. Dixon, and James F. Jefferson ave., 408 Aiken ave., and 101 Warner ave.

Mike Joseph, William Joseph, Betty Joseph, and Evelyn Swofford—408 Oak st., 113 Warner ave., 115 Warner ave., and 406 Aiken ave.

Thomas O. Mariner, Irene B. Mariner, Rebecca Dennison, and Maurice Dennison—112 Warner ave.

Lipkin said he filed the suits because Pratt "hasn't processed the cases" which the state's attorney filed in the past year.

"Nothing has been done to bring them to a conclusion," Lipkin said.

The corporation counsel said he had asked Pratt to bring suits against all of the owners and properties involved in the complaint filed today.

TO DATE Pratt has filed seven suits, three of which are included in the city's complaints. All are still pending, some for a year.

The three places which now have been named both by Pratt and Lipkin are 608 SW Jefferson, 411 E. State, and 408 Oak.

The other four which Pratt filed suit against last year are 408 E. State, 409½ E. State, 225½ N. Adams st., and 405 Aiken.

Pratt's petitions call for padlocking the houses for a period of one year if an occupant is found guilty of using the premises for a house of prostitution.

UNDER THE city's suits, if injunctions are granted, the properties can never be used for prostitution, otherwise the owners would face charges of contempt of court. However, they would not be padlocked.

One of the four suits lists the

Lipkin Files To Close 10 Houses; Gives Up Waiting For Pratt To Act

Continued from page A-1

Koren Co. as the owner of the property at 317 W. Aiken, and in the possession of the LaMar woman, an alleged madam.

The Aiken ave. building is still being used for the purpose of prostitution, the suit alleges, adding that this is known and permitted by the Koren Co.

The other three complaints are similar, alleging that:

—Dr. Dixon, a retired veterinarian of 914 N. Sheridan rd., and Patrick, a retired Caterpillar Tractor Co. employe of 416 W. Aiken, are permitting Pam Miller, a madam, and Lewis, an ex-convict to operate the four properties involved.

—**THE JOSEPHS** knowingly permit the Swofford woman, who has been fined as an inmate of a disorderly house, to use their property for prostitution.

—**THE DENNISONS** are permitting the Mariners to operate a house of ill fame on their property.

The Koren property has been successfully raided by city police four times in 1958; the Dennisons' six times since September, 1957; the Josephs' 13 times since March, 1957, and the Dixon and Patrick properties 17 times since May, 1956.

The suits point out that the maximum fine which the city can impose under state law for a single ordinance violation is \$200.

THEY ALSO state that:

"Further efforts to apprehend and punish the perpetrators of these nuisances by ordinary means will make a mockery of the law, as the keeper and inmates will pay their fines and continue to operate said house(s) of prostitution."

The manner and method in which the defendants have conducted the premises, the complaints say, have caused a "disrespect for law" and local law enforcing agencies because of the agencies inability to "suppress" such establishments.

It was pointed out that it is difficult for these law enforcing agencies to obtain evidence of the activities being carried on because only persons who are known and acceptable to the keepers of the houses are permitted to enter.

"... the morals of the citizens of the city of Peoria have been lowered and contempt for law and the courts brought about" as a result of these houses operating, it was alleged.

"If the defendants are allowed to continue..." the complaint says, "the reputation of the city of Peoria for enforcement of law and order will check its growth and development by keeping and driving away law-abiding people."

ple, desiring to become residents in the city.

It was further stated that if this situation is allowed to continue Peoria would become a "center and gathering place for disorderly and undesirable persons."

The presence of houses of prostitution constitutes a menace to health through the spread of venereal disease, the suits say.

