

Cop In Closet Sees Bribe Try As Club Owner Faces Charge

JUN 29 1961 E

Harold Parker, 45, operator of Harold's Club, 103 N. Washington St., was charged with attempting to bribe a police lieutenant after he had been arrested early yesterday for an after-closing-hour violation.

Parker apparently thought he was alone with Lt. Tony McMillan in an office at police headquarters when he tossed a roll of bills on the lieutenant's desk.

"This ought to square things."

Parker was quoted as saying as he dropped the money in front of McMillan, seated at the desk.

What Parker didn't know was that Detective William Helm was hiding in a closet in McMillan's office, heard the conversation and saw the reported bribe attempt through a crack in the door. The roll of money amounted to only \$97 when counted by McMillan.

PARKER HAD been brought to police headquarters by police who said they found the club in operation at 4:30 a.m. Sunday. Parker has a 4 o'clock license.

Parker, who resides at 415 N. Goodwin St., is charged with attempted bribery and violation of the city's closing law. He was



McMILLAN

PARKER

Parker said he would go to the station and indicated he would try to set things right.

Suspecting a bribery attempt, Lt. McMillan posted Helm as a witness in the closet adjoining his office.

Parker's license was suspended for 20 days in January after he was charged with selling liquor to minors. Two 17-year-old girls testified at a liquor commission hearing they were served liquor in the club.

released on \$2,500 bond, pending police court hearing July 5. The warrants were issued by Lester Gerber, justice of the peace.

Police said that a cruising squad car noticed that the tavern was still open at 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

When Sgt. Thomas Barber and two patrolmen entered the place, they found some 15 patrons and a number of employes in the bar. Many of the customers, police said, had money on the bar and fresh drinks before them.

Spotting Sgt. Barber, Parker reportedly asked him who was in charge of the police department during the morning shift. Told that it was Lt. McMillan,