Harold's Club Liquor License Revoked

The liquor license of the Harold's Club, 103 NE Washington St., operated by Harold Parker, was ordered revoked this morning by Mayor Robert G. Day. The order becomes effective immediately.

If an appeal to the state liquor commission is taken by Parker, the nightclub can reopen while the case is pending.

DAY HAD the case under advisement since last Friday, when a hearing was conducted by him before the city liquor commission.

Parker was charged with attempting to bribe a police lieutenant and operating his tavern after the closing hour.

Parker declared at the hearing that he was framed. He testified that it was Police Sgt. Thomas Barber who set up the $100 bribe which he (Parker) tossed onto the desk of Police Lt. Tony McMillan, about 5 a.m. June 25.

PARKER ALSO charged at the hearing that Corporation Counsel Max J. Lipkin had made up his mind about the closing hour violation. Parker was found guilty last December of selling to minors and his license was suspended at that time.

Parker claimed at the hearing that there were about a dozen persons in his tavern at 4:22 a.m. on June 25 and they were eating cake in honor of one of the customer's birthday. He said they were not being served drinks.

He said he had been told by Sgt. Barber that a club owner had complained about his tavern being operated after the closing hour. He testified he told Barber he couldn't stand the publicity and asked the officer what he could do. He said Barber suggested taking $100 to the police lieutenant.

Parker testified he took the money to the lieutenant's office and put it on the desk. He said at that time Detective William Helm came out of the closet off the lieutenant's office. Parker said he was then arrested for bribery and violation of the closing hour.

The after-hour cake serving was corroborated by Parker's bartender, John Trenholm. Willie Tillman, a resident above the tavern about two months, testified it was his birthday they were celebrating.

Two witnesses testified they heard Barber tell Patrolman Josh Burcher, Jr., that he found 18 persons in the club at 4:30 a.m. and Sgt. Barber ordered that all the names of the customers be taken.

Barber testified that he told Parker he could not square things. Sgt. Barber said he told Parker he would have to see someone higher than him. The police sergeant said he told Lt. McMillan of the bribe offer and said it might be a good idea to have a witness around when Parker arrived at the police station.

Detective Helm testified seeing the money placed on the lieutenant's desk.

Continued on Page B-12