

# Upholds Ruling In Vice Case

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The conviction and sentencing of Viola Ann Pry to one year in the Illinois Women's Reformatory on a charge of keeping a house of prostitution has been affirmed by the Illinois Supreme Court.

She appealed to the Appellate Court at Ottawa which sustained the conviction with one judge dissenting. She was then granted leave to appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court.

THE DEFENDANT, along with Holly Fountaine, alias Carolyn Pierce, and Barbara Ray were arrested on May 28, 1965, and charged with prostitution. The three cases were consolidated and all defendants moved for dismissal at the close of the state's evidence.

The prostitution charges were dismissed against the Fountaine and Ray women but Magistrate David C. McCarthy denied the motion as to the Pry woman. She offered no evidence and was found guilty.

In her appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court, the Pry woman charged that the testimony of the only witness, Ray Trunk, former sheriff, was contradictory, that the entry into the house and the arrest of the defendant were unconstitutional, and she was not proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The only evidence introduced at the hearing was the testimony of Trunk who said he went to 405, 412 and 409 Aiken Ave. on May 28, 1965, the Supreme Court, in affirming the decision of the Appellate Court, reports.

"IT APPEARS that 405 Aiken had been padlocked for one year and the sheriff was unlocking it. He then checked the padlock at 412 Aiken and while walking across the street he was approached by a sign to come to 409 Aiken and he proceeded to the porch of 409 Aiken.

"The front door then opened about six to eight inches and a girl told him to come to the back door. The sheriff proceeded to push open the front door and found Barbara Ray and Holly Fountaine."

After placing the girls under arrest, Trunk walked into another room where he found the Pry woman and took all three to the police station.

According to Trunk's testimony, he asked the Pry woman if she was the sole proprietor of the place and she said that she and her husband were and they had been working at prostitution.