

Mike Vuolo sent me some newspaper links a couple weeks ago. I could not download them. So I sent the links to our friend of the Hobby. The FEZ and 744 chips were both mentioned in "Illegal Of The Day Wisconsin posted on 9/13/10 but it did not have much in the way of history in it. This post solves that little problem. <g> Mike has a few of the FEZ and 744 available for trade.

Enough Of That:

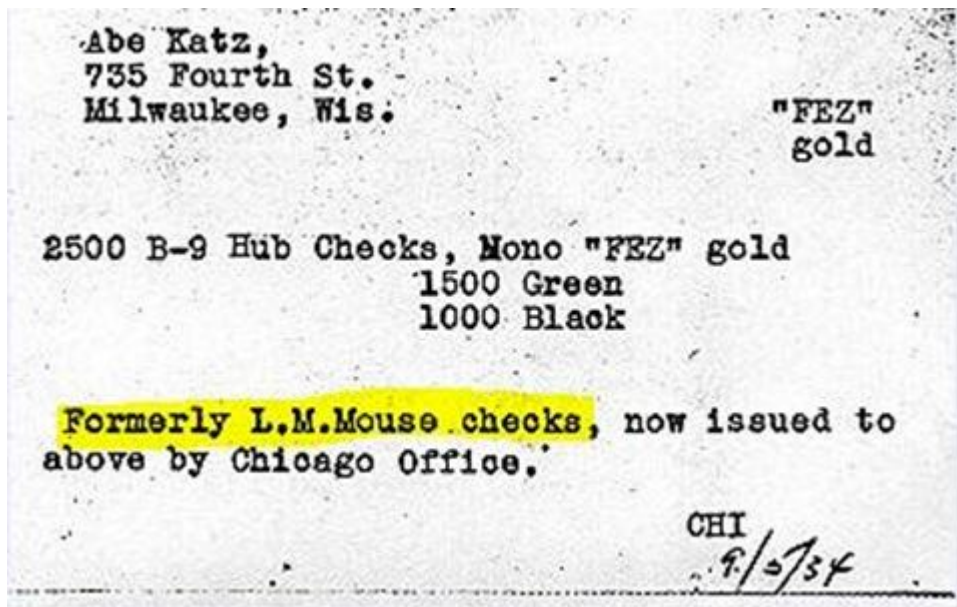
Wisconsin:

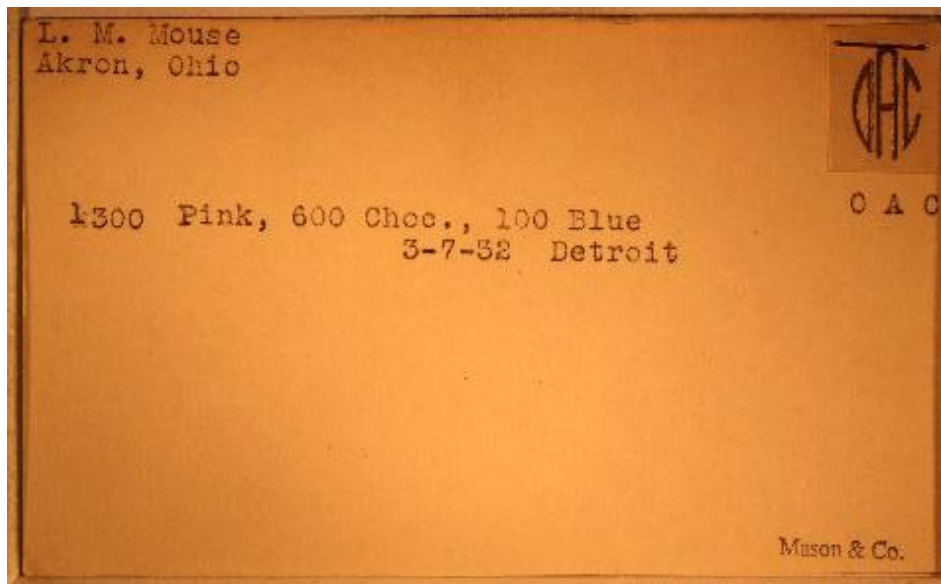
Enter our "Friend Of The Hobby."
FEZ and 744 hubs.

Here's the articles. I added a couple more.

Abe Katz was born in Russia, emigrated around 1914.
Katz died at Las Vegas, NV in 1972 age 76.

Also, I thought I recognized the name L.M. Mouse on the FEZ chip card:





Looks like Fez chips also went to LM Mouse in Akron. I did an “Illegal Of The day Ohio 7” posted on 4/24/11, about him and the OAS chips in Akron, OH. Not sure what this means yet.

May be another FEZ Mason card for Mr Mouse.

Mr Mouse did not pick them up and Mason resold them to Katz. (this is my guess)

Katz and Mouse had some kind of connection.



Chip9957att2

Fourth Street Smoke Shop

735 Fourth St

Milwaukee, WI

1934



chip9958att2

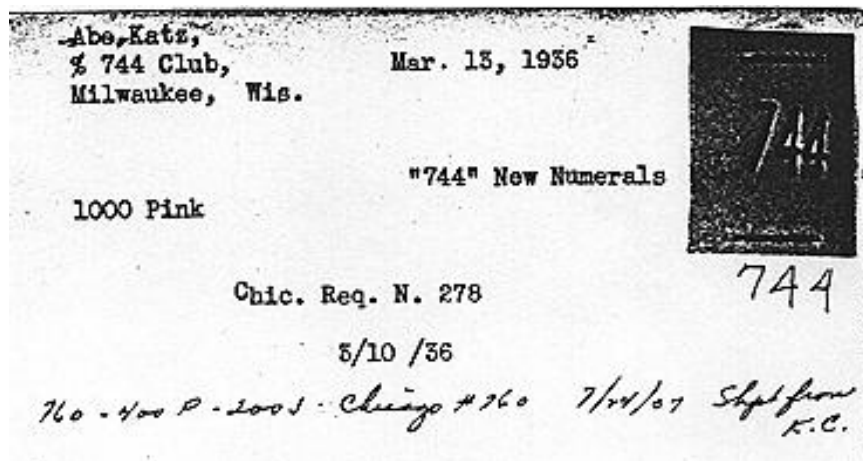
744 Club

744 N Sixth St, address change per article below.

Abe Katz

Milwaukee, WI

Chips delivered in 1936-37



Milwaukee Journal—6nov1942

Lost \$11,000 in Dice Games, Is Claim in Bankruptcy Case

Jack Forman, former operator of a liquor store at 608 N. 3rd st., went out of business last Aug. 19 after losing "about \$11,000" in dice games at a downtown gambling spot above a restaurant at 224 W. Wisconsin av. according to testimony at the federal building before Thomas F. Millane, referee in bankruptcy.

Millane adjourned the hearing late Thursday until the first meeting of all of Forman's creditors on Nov. 18, when further details of the alleged gambling losses will be ascertained.

Questioned by attorneys for three creditors who filed an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against him, Forman testified that he "won once in about 50 times but I can't remember how much."

Two Men Are Named

Forman told Millane he lost the money to Chunky Krasno and Abe Katz.

[Morris (Chunky) Krasno and Abe Katz are widely known Milwaukee gamblers. Police records show that both men have been arrested a number of times on gambling charges.]

In his bankruptcy schedules filed in federal court Thursday afternoon, Forman listed liabilities of \$11,898, consisting entirely of unsecured

claims, and assets of only \$303 in liquor stock.

Forman testified that he sometimes took cash from his business place to shoot dice and on other occasions wrote out checks and cashed them at department stores before going to the gambling spot. He said that he kept no record of how much cash he had taken from the business and lost in gambling.

Brother Gave Him Credit

Forman's brother, Harry, former head of the Marquette Liquor Co., a wholesale firm, testified that he extended Jack credit freely on wholesale liquor purchases he (Jack) had made. Jack listed in his bankruptcy schedule a debt of \$5,500 to the Marquette Liquor Co., 261 N. Erie st.

"I didn't know about Jack's gambling until I returned from my vacation and found his store closed," testified Harry.

Millane appointed David Charness as receiver until the first meeting of the creditors, when a trustee will be named.

Before starting the business at 608 N. 3rd st., Jack Forman operated a liquor store at 2713 W. Lisbon av. The license for the W. Lisbon av. store, however, was in the name of his father, Ely Forman.

Jack lives at 2510 W. Lisbon av. and is now employed at a war plant as a tool and die maintenance hand.

We have seen the above lawsuits in other "Illegal Of The Day" posts. I have been gambling for over 50 years and never blamed anyone else for losses. Las Vegas has this type of lawsuit quite often.

Milwaukee Sentinel—24oct1948

40 More Witnesses on Probers' List

By EDWARD P. HALLINE

Now 10 weeks old, the John Doe inquiry has about another two weeks to go before the panel investigators finish digging into gambling operations and charges of police "protection."

About 175 witnesses already have been questioned and another 40 are scheduled for appearance in the hearing chamber in the Safety building, according to Deputy Dist. Atty. Joseph E. Tierney, a panel member.

POLCYN TO APPEAR

These prospective witnesses include leading downtown gamblers and such high officials of the Milwaukee Police Department as Chief Polcyn, Inspector Hubert E. Dax and Deputy Inspector Hugo Goehlen, who is in charge of the morals squad.

Present and former members of the morals squad already have had their respective turns in the John Doe hearing chamber along with the Negro policy operators and gamblers in the 6th Ward who started the long procession of witnesses.

Even before the inquiry started Aug. 16, Police Department officials and morals squad officers had been emphatic in their denial that any gamblers, white or Negro, were "protected."

CHALLENGE CRITICS

They have pointed out that a "fix" of the type charged would have to involve so many different officials and police officers that it was virtually impossible—not to say beyond the financial resources of the comparatively small gambling fraternity here.

They also have challenged their

critics to produce proof that police are "protecting" gamblers or doing nothing to stop such activities.

So far the only story of cash payments from gamblers to any police officer has come from an ex-policeman who told of accepting \$85 in "vacation presents" from four Negro gamblers a year ago last spring.

But he insisted he had promised nothing in return, and there has been no evidence to show they got any benefit from their gifts.

Finishing their long scrutiny of policy operations, the investigators last week turned their attention to downtown gambling activities. Leading the procession of witnesses was Louis Simon, long a leading figure in that field of endeavor and currently the operator of the wire service which supplies race track results to local bookie joints. Simon left his books with the panel.

Starting at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday, another batch will be run through the John Doe wringer. Among those still to testify are such other celebrities as Dave Kohler, Abe Katz, Gaston (Toots) Goldman and Garrett Stell, all under subpoena.

The subpoena servers, however, haven't yet caught up with two other important personages, Joe Krasno, Milwaukee's gambling emperor, and Harry (O'Malley) Glinberg, another operator. But the deputies with the subpoenas

have been told Krasno will voluntarily appear.

Meanwhile William Shimeta and Robert Fisher, the court reporters taking the testimony, were busy catching up. By Tuesday they estimated they will have transcribed 5,000 typewritten pages of testimony, totaling 1,250,000 words.

Surely the cops would not be protecting the gambling joints! <g>

Milwaukee Journal—28oct1948

Gaming Panel Calls Goldman

Operator of Handbook for Many Years Was First Heard

Gaston (Tutz) Goldman, widely known race horse handbook operator here for many years, led the parade of witnesses Thursday who testified before the secret John Doe investigation into gambling and possible police complicity. The inquiry is being held before District Judge Harvey L. Neelen at the safety building.

Goldman, who lives at the Astor hotel, was one of nine witnesses summoned to testify Thursday morning. The others were Abe Katz of 1419 N. 21st st., who also testified Wednesday; Isadore Rosen, 2114-A N. 15th st.; Michael Marasco, 1402 W. Meinecke av.; Oscar Plotkin, 5036 N. Idlewild av.; Sam Shaiken, 3104 W. Wells st.; Nathan Klein, 2050 N. 14th st.; Dave Collier, 1931 N. Prospect av., and Theodore Ivalis, 2403 W. Lloyd st.

Four Others Scheduled

Four additional witnesses, scheduled to testify Thursday afternoon were: Sam Schatzman, 824 W. Vliet st.; Max Gindlin, 620 N. 30th st.; Walter Hutchinson, 2805 W. Wells st., and Joseph Latona, no address given.

Wednesday afternoon's witnesses included Dave Kohler, operator of a tavern and restaurant at 732 N. Water st., reputedly one of the "big three" of downtown gambling operators, and Eddie Fenzl, operator of a tavern at 625 N. 6th st., a former handbook operator.

Before the John Doe inquiry got under way, Melvin Gerds, a former Milwaukee policeman, told The Milwaukee Journal that someone from the police department tipped off

Fenzl in 1946 when Gerds, in plain clothes, was trying to get evidence of horse race betting in Fenzl's tavern.

Freed on Bail

Gerds is free on bail pending an appeal from a contempt citation from the John Doe board on a charge that he gave "evasive" answers when called to testify.

Other Wednesday afternoon witnesses were:

Jack Enca, 1536 N. Jackson st., serving a 60 day jail term as keeper of a gambling house following his arrest in a raid in Cudahy; Edward Borgiasz, 2933-A N. Buffum st., who has been picked up for possessing football pool tickets; Garrett Stell, operator of Sailor Ann's tavern, 224 W. Florida st., above which police recently conducted a raid, and Max Distenfeld, an employe of Louis Simon, operator of a wire service supplying horse race results.

FEZ7443att2

pic from article above:



FEZ-7444att2

Similar raid method used by police in both instances below.

A couple of months after the FEZ chip order, the Fourth Street Smoke Shop at 735 N. Fourth is raided. Milwaukee Journal—30dec1934

Crowd Sees 68 Trapped in Gambling Raid Here

In one of the largest gambling raids in recent months police Saturday afternoon arrested 68 persons at the Fourth Street Smoke Shop, 735 N. Fourth st.

A crowd of several hundred persons gathered as the patrol wagons arrived. The wagons had to make several trips to transport all the prisoners to the safety building.

Michael Schalk, 36, of 2345 N. Tenth st. was booked as the keeper of a gambling house and posted \$500 bond for his release, and \$30 apiece, a total of \$2,510, for the release of the alleged patrons.

At No. 1 station, where the men were booked, police ordered the prisoners to "give their right names" or bail would be refused. Despite this warning the booking sheets

showed the usual preponderance of Smiths and Joneses.

The raiders, led by Sergt. Albert Kornitz of the morals squad, succeeded through the efforts of Esdras Baker, a "rookie" policeman, only two weeks on the force.

Baker had been in the Smoke Shop Friday night, after being "introduced" to the door man by a chance Wells st. acquaintance.

Saturday afternoon he made another visit. He bought several dollars' worth of "chips" and joined in a dice game. Then, at 4 p. m. by prearrangement with Sergt. Kornitz, Baker announced his identity and ordered the doors opened to admit the raiding squad gathered outside.

Several of the "customers" attempted to flee through the rear door but were caught by officers stationed outside.

FEZ-7445att2

Six months prior to the 744 chip order, 744 Club at 744 N. Sixth raided. Police seized some chips, I guess the club needed more.
Milwaukee Journal—5nov1935

A 'Lucky' Cop Shakes Dice, Fools 'Club'

After making 18 straight "passes" and getting half the chips in the house, Edward Mimler, a member of the police department for 16 months, pulled back his coat to display his badge and announced that the "744" club at that number on N. Sixth st. was in for a raid.

It was about time. . When Mimler was admitted into the club he made for the dice table and as soon as his turn to handle the dice came around he made the "bones talk" for him. After he made his point for the thirteenth successive time the other players began to eye Mimler with distrust.

"Roll them dice," said the "stick" man.

"What's the matter? Ain't I doing pretty good?" Mimler asked.

When Mimler announced that he was a police officer, everybody agreed it wasn't any use trying to beat his streak of luck. The door was opened for the morals squad.

Walter Albert, 1715 W. Cherry st., was booked at police headquarters as the keeper of a gambling place. Thirty-four other men were arrested as patrons.

The morals squad seized gambling paraphernalia in the place, including Mimler's stack of chips.

If I ever made 18 straight passes I would own part of the joint. <g> I quit shooting crap in the early 1980's but I always was a shooter that played a rush and shoved winnings back at them as fast as I could. <g>

pic from 1948:



ABE KATZ

FEZ-7447att2