

I received an email from a friend that collects Texas illegal chips. He thought he had found a new Texas chip for his collection. Unfortunately things are not always what they seem to be, in the world of illegal club chips.

Email from my friend:

What do you think?



2att2

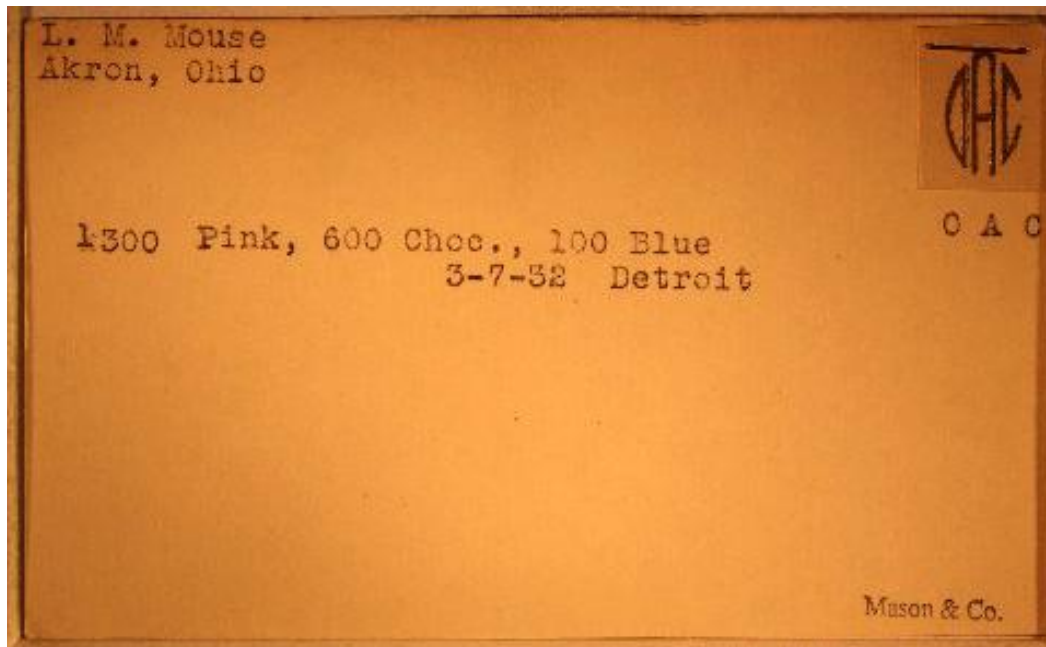
I got the chip because its hot stamp is virtually identical to the graphic on this old matchbook cover:



My email reply: Looks like a match to me, I will try to get the record card.

Enough of that:

Ohio:



OAC

I've been looking into the OAC hub and found a few things about Mouse, but nothing definitive about where the chip was used. Here's a copy of Loyd Macelory "Nig" Mouse's obit from 1967:

LOYD MOUSE

BARBERTON — Loyd M. "Nig" Mouse, 78, a Barberton resident 25 years and formerly of Akron, died Tuesday in Citizens Hospital after a long illness.

Born in Martinsburg, W. Va., Mr. Mouse moved to Barberton in 1942 from Akron.

He previously worked for Goodyear, Firestone and the former Miller Rubber Co. and was a brakeman for many years for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

He was a member of Akron Eagles 555 and Akron Elks Club and Holy Name Society of Barberton St. Augustine Church.

He leaves his wife, Bertha; sisters, Mrs. Pearl Bachman of Cumberland, Md., and Mrs. Rose Wagner of Louisville, Ky., and brothers, William, Francis and Paul, all of Cumberland.

Services will be at 9:30 a. m. Saturday at the church, with burial in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Friends may call at the Dunn-Quigley Akron Funeral Home from 7 to 9 p. m. Thursday and from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p. m. Friday.

Holy Name Society will recite the rosary at 8 p. m. Friday at the funeral home.

OAC1att2

The obit doesn't mention Mouse's association with various gambling enterprises.

It does mention the fact that he worked for several rubber companies, which he did from the 1910's through the early 1930's—including the time when the chips were ordered in 1932 (insofar as the city directories are accurate). The 1933 Akron city directory:

" Saml [Grace] contr brick 2619 Paxton ave h same
Mouse Gordon C [Ethel] wks Firestone h 640 McKin-
ley ave
" J Russell [Ella] h 894 Peckham
" Lloyd M [Bertha E] rubwkr h 1415 Brown
" Wilbur, D [Fva] wks Goodyear h 313 Sumatra av
Mouser Jesse [Katherine G] h 1772 Issaquah (C F)
" Wm H r 41 Ira ave

OAC2att2

This is the last year that I saw any evidence of him as a rubber worker. By the early 1940's he was associated with a place called Riley's Tavern which was located at 773 Portage Lakes Dr. and owned by a known gambler: William Riley Jerrel.

Around 1942 Jerrel opened a place in Barberton (just SW of Akron) called the Pennant Sport Shop which had a horse book as well as card and dice games. An ad from 1946:

BILLIARDS

PENNANT SPORT SHOP

BILLIARDS, CIGARS, TOBACCO, LUNCH,

SODA FOUNTAIN, ETC.

160 2d N. W. Phone SH-6515

OAC3att2

1942 is also the year when Mouse moves from Akron to Barberton—and he's associated with Jerrel again.

From the 1943 Barberton city directory:

Mountz Wm T [Loreen L] wks Seiberling R Co h 44 18th S W
Moury Walter H wks H A Etling r 201 Norton ave
Mouse Loyd M [Elizabeth B] (Pennant Sport Shop) h 555 Robinson ave E
Mowder Harold B [Helen] formn Ric-Wil Co h 281 3d N W

OAC4att2

The place was robbed in 1947:

Bandits Rob Sports Shop

BARBERTON. (AP)—Four armed bandits overpowered a watchman and obtained \$75,000 in cash from two safes early today at the Pennant Sports Shop, local gambling club, Sheriff Robert Smith reported.

In the third robbery of an Akron area gambling establishment within two months, the robbers leaped from an alley, slugged Watchman Robert Powell, tied and gagged him and covered him with a billiard table cloth, the club employe told sheriff's deputies.

The bandits then cracked open two safes and escaped with their loot before three local residents discovered Powell at 3 a. m. The watchman said it was "too dark" for identification of the quartet.

Riley Jerrel, manager of the club, estimated the loss in club deposits at \$75,000.

OAC5att2

It's possible that Mouse was associated with Jerrel in 1932 when the chips were ordered but I couldn't find anything to back that up. I looked for a place in Akron in 1932 that might have had the initials OAC or

AOC among taverns, billiard halls, newsstands, clubs, associations, etc. but could only find one thing that *seemed* to fit—Akron Owls Club. Unfortunately I have no idea if Mouse was a member of the Owls (since his obit says he was an Elk and an Eagle, it suggests that he may have been). The Owls were busted for liquor violations in the 20's and slot machine violations in the 40's. Maybe something more definitive will show-up.

My note: Lots of info on Mr Mouse but no club name for the chips. AOC was searched because sometimes when the middle initial on a chip is larger than the other 2 initials, it will read first in order when translated to a name, so AOC

Lots of gambling associated with Mr Mouse but all we can find is 10 years after the chips were made.

Thought I'd include this article—accident occurred 2 months prior to chip order:

HEADON CRASH OF AUTOS TAKES LIFE OF YOUTH

AKRON, Dec. 28 — (AP) — Clarence Sylvester Mouse, 19, of Chagrin Falls, was instantly killed in a head-on collision of two automobiles on the Cleveland road between Stow and Darrowville today.

Lloyd M. Mouse, 40, and Mrs. Bertha E. Mouse, 38, his parents, were injured seriously, and Ramon Maldonado, 24, of Canton, driver of the car that hit the Mouse automobile, sustained minor cuts.

Deputy sheriffs said Maldonado would be arrested when he was released from the Akron hospital to which the injured were taken.

OAC6att2