

I recently got these from Luke Rapley. I wasn't sure they were a legal licensed casino or an illegal operation. The Alder Tavern may or may not have had a license. It was raided several times for illegal gambling. Stockman's was just a name change by the same owner. Looks like Stockman's had a card room license but was busted number of times for illegal gambling through 1971. <g>

You make the call. Was it legal or illegal? <g>

This research will have to be uploaded as 2 parts due to too many scans for 1 post.

Enough of that:

Oregon:

Stockman's was located in The Alder Tavern per the Mason hub mold record card.

Located in

Alder Tavern

323 SW Alder

Portland, OR

Hub mold chips delivered in 1947

The Steer logo Sqincir was listed as a stock die per the Portland Card Company records. No record the die belonged to Stockman's. The chips were found together and below you will see tokens with the same logo. IMO, the SqinCir chip was a Stockman's chip.



Stockmen's Club

You mentioned the Alder Tavern. It was located at 323 SW Alder from around 1933 until the late 40's. Around 1943, a few doors down from Alder Tavern, at 331 SW Alder was a place called the Alder Club Room (a card room). By 1950 both of these addresses were occupied by the Stockmen's Club—323 a "beer parlor" and 331 a "card room," both owned by Emil Ramberg (although I'm not sure if he was the owner when the chips were ordered in 1947). Also not sure how long Stockmen's kept the separate card room address.

In 1950 there were 41 licensed card rooms in Portland—28 on the west side and 13 on the east side (Stockmen's on the west). On the west side a card room license cost a minimum of \$500 (add \$50 for every card table in excess of 10); on the east side a license was a minimum \$250 (add \$50 for every table in excess of 5).

Around 1964, when Stockmen's was owned by John & Ben Ell, it moved around the corner to 612 SW 4th Avenue where it ran well into the 1970's (perhaps longer). Neither of the structures which housed the addresses exist today (parking garages).

Here's a photo showing the south-east corner of Alder & 4th from around 1950. The old location can't be seen, but it was directly across the street from the back corner of the tall building; the new location was housed in the 2 story building next to the tall building:



Stockmans1att2

The photo below, from 1931, gives a little feel for the location. The point of view is looking west down Alder—the opposite direction from the photo above--taken about where I put the red dot in the photo above (current google street view shows that the old street lamps are still there). If the photographer

would have turned to his right, he would have been standing directly across the street from the original Stockmen's location:



Stockmans2att2

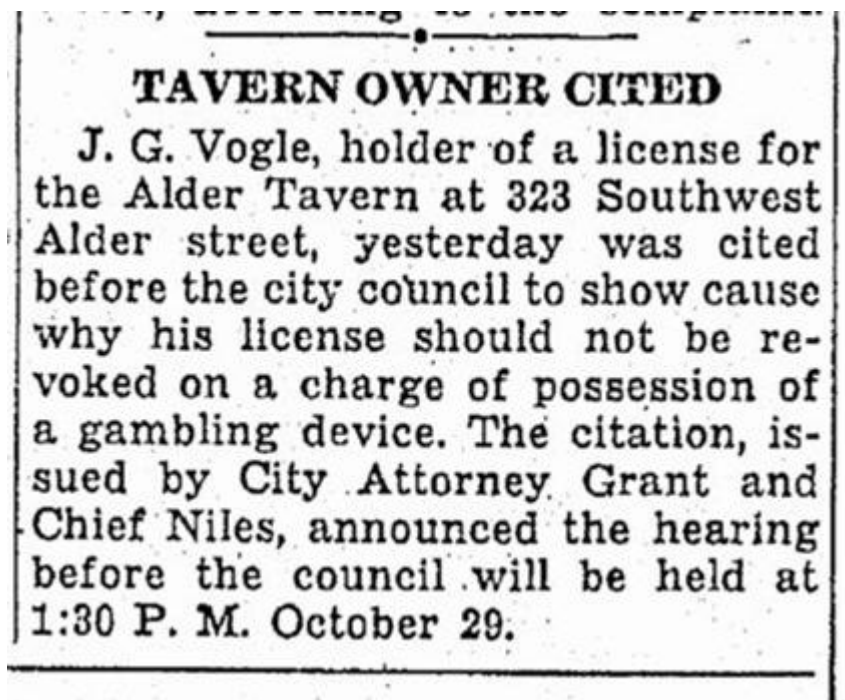
Here's a poor quality photo of the Stockmen's Club from 1974 (not sure why 3rd Avenue Smoke Shop is on 4th Avenue):



Stockmans3att2

(all articles below from *Oregonian*)

Cited for possession of gambling device when 323 SW Alder was the Alder Tavern—24oct1936:



Stockman

Raid Nets 53 On Gambling

11 Women Included Among Suspects

Fifty-three persons, among them 11 women, were arrested in a "surprise" police raid early Sunday morning that sent five carloads of plain-clothes city officers converging on an alleged gambling house known as the Alder card rooms, 311 S. W. Alder street.

The arresting force broke into the premises about 2 A. M., with a district court search warrant, halted a number of games and ordered all persons present held in custody.

It was reported the police acted on a warrant obtained and signed by a private complainant, whose name was not revealed, who earlier last week said he lost \$3200 at the establishment.

Gambling Gear Seized

Green layout cloths were stripped from tables and \$663.25 confiscated. An assortment of orange-colored chips, table rakes, money aprons and other visible gambling paraphernalia also were impounded as evidence.

Art "Gypsy" Butler, 40, 1983 N. W. Flanders street, was charged with conducting a gambling establishment. Similar charges were lodged against three suspected "dealers" and a "doorman." They gave their names as Phillip Ciano, 39, of 4903 N. Wilbur avenue; Henry Marcus, 31, of Campbell Hill hotel; Arthur F. Ericson, 36, of Park hotel. Bail was set at \$250 each.

Forty-nine persons were booked in jail on charges of being behind barred doors and visiting a gambling establishment.

Five "hauls" of the patrol wagon were necessary to accommodate them.

False Name Forgotten

At the jail, women prisoners took a "lighter" view. One woman taken into custody said she forgot the "false" name she had given the officers, was worried lest she not remember it when "they're ready to let us go." Among those arrested was a 74-year-old woman from Rex, Or.

Among the persons taken in as frequenters were several men with known police records.

Punchboards at Stockmen's—20june1949:

PURSUED MEN ESCAPE

Two unidentified men who attempted to punch out extra holes in a punchboard and to steal a pencil-lighter which was attached to the board early Sunday morning at the Stockmen's club, 323 S. W. Alder street, were pursued by the operator, but escaped, according to police reports.

Stockmans6att2

Pinball machines getting Stockmen's in trouble—26april1950:

Pinball Payoffs Bring Penalties

Operators of four taverns were fined \$50 and sentenced to 90-day suspended jail terms each, while a fifth drew a \$50 fine Tuesday following convictions before Municipal Judge J. J. Quillin on charges of conducting gambling, by using pinball machine pay-offs.

The four included a smoke shop at 608 S. W. 2d avenue; the Stockman's club, 323 S. W. Alder street; Kelly's Olympian, 521 S. W. Washington street, and the Little Apple, N. Williams avenue and Killingsworth street.

The fifth, with the \$50 fine only, was the Friendly tavern, 915 N. W. 21st avenue.

Stockmans7att2

Although a licensed card room, Stockmen's raided for permitting gambling—8aug1957:

Police Gambling Raids Downtown Arrest Six Portland Card Room Dealers in Big Coup

Five downtown Portland card dealers were arrested Thursday afternoon by vice officers in simultaneous raids aimed at eliminating gambling in the city's card rooms. A sixth was arrested Thursday night.

This was the second such raid since January—the month Chief of Police William J. Hilbruner assumed command of the bureau of police.

At least a dozen uniform and plainclothesmen, under the direction of Lt. Dudley Nelson, vice squad chief, participated in the daylight arrests.

Arrests Listed

Booked Thursday afternoon were Christ James Smirniotakes, 80, 2803 S. W. Hood avenue, employed by Dahl & Penne, 604 S. W. 2d avenue; Raymond Vincent, 41, 135 S. E. 12th avenue, employed by the Stockmen's club, 323 S. W. Alder street; Harold Frank Brimball, 58, the Majestic hotel, employed by O'Connor's restaurant and card room, 415 S. W. Washington street; Gerry Reynolds, 56, 812 S. E. 45th avenue, employed by Kelly's Olympian, 521 S. W. Washington street, and William Miller, 60, 8044 N. Syracuse street, employed at Art's, 8608 N. Jersey.

George Gerald Conners, 57, bartender at the Fourth Avenue cardroom, 415 S. W. 4th avenue, was arrested on a gambling charge late Thursday night.

Agents Borrowed

Nelson said the arrests were made following a two-week investigation conducted by undercover agents who were borrowed from an out-of-town police department.

The six men arrested Thursday were charged with permitting gambling on warrants issued by Municipal Court Presiding Judge J. J. Quillin. The six were booked in the city jail with bail set at \$250 each.

Photos of the guys mentioned above being booked at the city jail (plenty of smiles):



Also booked on gambling charges were Gerry Reynolds (left), 56, employed at Kelly's Olympian, 521 S. W. Washington street, and Raymond Vincent (right), 41, dealer employed at the Stockmen's club, 323 S. W. Alder street. (Oregonian staff photos by Allan de Lay)

Stockmans9att2



Oldster arrested in card room raid was Christ James Smirniotakes (above), 80-year-old dealer employed by Dahl & Penne, 604 S. W. 2d avenue. Policeman at right is Robert D. Platt.

Stockmans10att2

maybe just ticklish:



Among persons nabbed in police raids on Portland card rooms Thursday was William Miller (upper left), 60, dealer at Art's, 8908 N. Jersey street, shown being searched by Jailer James

Less than a year later, raided again—25may1958:

Six Men Face Game Count

Six men were arrested on gambling charges Saturday in the wake of an undercover investigation of downtown cardrooms in the past week.

All six were taken into custody on warrants issued after a vice squad officer gained evidence of alleged gambling in the cardrooms where they were working during his investigation. It was the third such roundup of gambling suspects employed by cardrooms in the past 17 months. Previous raids were made in August and January of last year.

Several Places Visited

The men arrested and the cardrooms where police said they were employed include:

Marion P. Mercep, 68, 305 SW Hall St., Fourth Avenue Cardroom, 415 SW 4th Ave.; James Baker, 62, 6838 SE 50th Ave., Labor Temple Cardroom; Thomas B. Baumgardner, 59, 3417 NE 72nd Ave., Valhalla, 7 NW 3rd Avenue.; Joseph Pecchia, 41, 11905 SE Taylor St., Dahl & Penne, 604 SW 2nd Ave.; Gerry Reynolds, 56, 812 SE 45th Ave., Kelley's Olympian, 521 SW Washington St., and Frank F. Lanxon, 38, 6403 SE 92nd Ave., Stockmen's Club, 323 SW Alder St.

All were charged with permitting gambling. Some were picked up late Saturday afternoon and others at night. All were released under \$500 bail each.

And again, this time at the new location—6jan1971:

Cardroom Raids

Multnomah County Grand Jury subpoenas were issued to 119 persons after a task force of police Monday night raided seven city-licensed cardrooms, arresting six persons.

Operating in teams, 25 uniform and plainclothes officers raided the cardrooms on the basis of intelligence developed during a recent police investigation.

In addition to the arrests and subpoenas, police used search warrants issued by Circuit Judge Pat Dooley to confiscate cards, chips and other gambling equipment.

Those arrested were accused of the state misdemeanor offense of conducting a forbidden game. Bail was set at \$500 for each defendant.

Subpoenas General

Arrested at the Past Time Tavern, 417 SE 80th Ave., was Jerry Decou Wilkins Sr. of 204 NE 11th Ave. Arrested at the 4th Avenue Card Room, 415 SW 4th Ave., was Leland Leroy Litke, of 419 SW 4th Ave.

Those arrested at the Stockman's Club, 612 SW 4th Ave., were Kenneth Albert Ewing, 51, of 325 SE 192nd Ave., and Basil Duncan Boner, 57, of 415 SW Alder St., Apt. 104.

Taken into custody at Tiny's Cafe and Drum Room, 8131 N. Denver Ave., were Charles D. Headrick, 39, of 843 N. Holland St., and Robert L. Owen, 57, of Vancouver, Wash.

The men will be arraigned Thursday before Circuit Judge John J. Murchison.

Police also raided and searched Dad's Club, 8608 N. Lombard St.; Kelley's Olympian Club, 426 SW Washington St.; and the Lotus Cardroom, 932 SW 3rd Ave.

Stockmans13att2

In addition to chips, Stockmen's had several tokens; most old address:



Stockmans14att2



Stockmans15att2



Stockmans16att2

New address:



Stockmans17att2