

When we were traveling across the USA with the "Illegal of The day," posts, I completely forgot about Washington DC.

OH NO, "say it ain't so, JOE!!"

Surely there could not have been illegal joints within spitting distance of the Capitol dome. <g>
Well maybe a couple. <g>

I guess congressmen had to have some place to spend our money in those days. <g>

Enough of that:

Ritz Hotel

John Croft

1511 Rhode Island Ave NE
Franklin Apt #104K
Washington, DC
1933



15189 att2

JOHN CROFT
1511 RHODE ISLAND AVE N.E.
FRANKLIN APT #104K
WASHINGTON, DC

11/3/33
MONO DCE OLD STYLE BOTH SIDES IN GOLD

1000 BLUE
2000 GREEN



NOTE: CHOCOLATE RESERVED FOR Wm DIETZ (3/7/33)
ANOTHER CARD UNDER WILLIAM DIETZ (RITZ HOTEL,
WASHINGTON, DC) SAYS SAME AND ALSO BLUE 'DCE'
RESERVED FOR JOHN CROFT.

Printers Literary Club – 2 different fonts on the PLC.

John W Donald
1305 Eye St NW
Washington, DC
1937



15373 att 2

This is one of Allan Meyer's homemade record cards. Made from an emailed ID. <g>

PLC

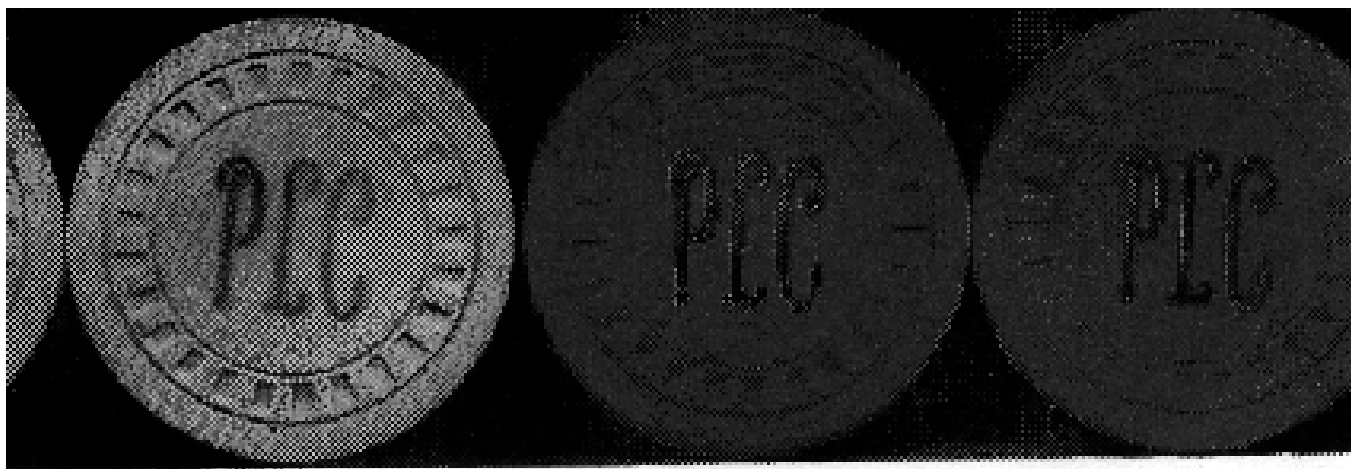
John W. Donald
% Printers Literary Club
Inc.
1305 Eye St. N.W.
Washington D.C.
1937



2nd font:



8822 att2



Donald, J. W.
 4445 13th St. N. E.
 Washington, D. C. 1/30/42
 PLC Pl

Inv. M 258
 700 B-9 Hub Checks
 200 Blue 200 Yellow 100 Red 100 Green 100
 Mono PLC Chicago Style both sides in gold

Below you will see the Printers Literary Club was raided in 1937 and again in 1938. But you can see from the chip order dates it was still operating in 1942.

Here is the real kicker the cops might have left this one alone if not for the angry wives! <g>
 Maybe we can get the wives after today's congress and their wild spending. <g>

John William Donald, died Mt. Rainier, Maryland (suburb of DC) in 1981 age 82.
 1306 I St. NW was the address of the club and 4445 13th St. NE was his residential address.
 Donald practiced the trade of printing most of his life.

Two raids on the club, over a year apart, both instigated by complaints of players wives (the Herbert Donald mentioned in the articles was John's younger brother):

Washington Post--20jan1937:

Wives' Complaints Bring Police Raid On 'Literary Club'

Housewives complained to police that their husbands were losing their wages gambling, so three men charged with setting up a gaming table were taken into custody yesterday when police raided the "Printers' Literary Club," at 1306 I street northwest. Those charged gave their names as Herbert Donald, 30, 1900 block Seventeenth street northwest; Thomas B. Reynolds, 29, 1200 block Thirty-first street northwest, and John R. Green, colored, 24, 700 block Fairmont street northwest. They were freed on \$1,500 bond.

Seven men, seized when police smashed through a door on the third floor of the alleged gambling establishment, were released as witnesses.

Led by Sergt. George C. Deyoe, the raiders entered the place armed with a United States commissioner's warrant. A quantity of alleged racing slips, dice and card tables were confiscated.

Capt. George M. Little said he has been receiving complaints every day about the place from housewives. The letters, forwarded to him by the District Commissioners, all complained that husbands were losing their wages. Police have raided the building numerous times.

Wives' Letters Bring Gaming Raid on 'Club'

22 Held After 6th Police Invasion of I St. Place.

Five men were arrested and 17 more booked for investigation at Police Headquarters yesterday as a result of a police raid on the Printers Literary Club on the third floor of 1306 I street northwest.

According to Capt. George M. Little, chief of the vice squad, the raid was his answer to letters he has received "from hundreds of wives" who have complained their husbands gambled away their wages.

Led by Sergt. George Deyoe, a corps of detectives and marshals arrived at the club early in the afternoon. They said they had to force an entrance through chicken wire which reinforced the door.

Poker Chips Seized.

The 17 patrons who were surprised in the room were taken to headquarters, booked and released to appear later as witnesses.

Deyoe arrested Joseph A. Amato, 42, 915 New York avenue northwest, on a charge of setting up a gaming table; Herbert Donald, 31, 917 Varnum street northwest, for setting up a gaming table, selling beer without a license and keeping beer for sale; John W. Donald, 40, 4445 Thirteenth street northwest, for setting up a gaming table, selling beer without a license and keeping beer for sale; John Robert Green, colored, 26, 909 T street northwest, for two counts of selling beer without a license and for

Raid on Printers Literary Club Draws Throng of Curious



Post Staff Photos.

Crowds gathered outside the Printers Literary Club in the 1300 block I street northwest yesterday as police herded club patrons to patrol wagons (upper). Deputy Marshal Charles Ward (lower) is shown examining confiscated property which included gambling equipment and nine cases of beer. Five were arrested and 17 were released to appear as witnesses.

Geez, was it right next to the White House? <g>

Map from 1928--looks like the the club probably catered to printers who worked in the area:

