

Woman Drug Addict Tries to Get Dope From Rachmaninoff

Maddened thru lack of the drugs she craved, a woman narcotic addict attempted to beg a quantity of morphine from Sergei Rachmaninoff, famous pianist, at the Blackhawk hotel, where he was a guest Sunday.

Fearing to damage the reputation of the local hostelry, officials of the Blackhawk hotel today refused to give any information which would lead to the identification of the woman, altho police say she is from Muscatine. So wary was the hotel clerk that he refused to let reporters look at the register.

According to the story gleaned by police, the drug addict occupied a room near Rachmaninoff's in the Blackhawk. Unable to obtain morphine in Davenport, she became extremely nervous and hysterical, until she was willing to do anything to be relieved. Crazy, she knocked at Rachmaninoff's door and asked him for morphine.

The surprised pianist communicated with hotel authorities, and B. C. Northington, manager of the hotel, immediately called police. Detective John Quinn, of the police force, was assigned to the case. The detective did not learn the woman's name.

County Physician George Braunschlich was notified of the addict case by Police Captain Frank Lew. The doctor said that if the woman became any worse, she would be sent to St. Elizabeth's psychiatric institution here.

It is said that the woman created much disturbance in the hotel, and that she threatened to jump out of the window unless she was given drugs.

The whereabouts of the woman could not be verified today because of the "know nothing" policy of hotel employes. Mr. Northington himself was reported as being "out of town".

Police investigation of the case is continuing, in an effort to find out whether or not the woman was shipped out of the city to avoid notoriety.