

Kept Close Watch, Tavern Owner Says

Hazel Nicola, 63-year-old Sharp Park night spot owner, claimed from the witness stand today she "watched my place like a hawk because I knew people were talking about it."

Mrs. Nicola, owner of Hazel's Inn, is charged with operating a resort for sexual deviates and with sale of and consumption of liquor by a minor on the premises.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Department hearing was to continue this afternoon with Mrs. Nicola still on the witness stand.

She said she meant nothing by a statement to a special officer that the inn was a "gay place." The officer yesterday testified that he saw men dancing with each other. •

Hazel Guilty, Is Fined \$25

(Times Peninsula News Service)

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 31. — Hazel Nicola, 63-year-old proprietor of Hazel's Inn in Sharp Park, was fined \$25 in municipal court yesterday after the charges against her in connection with the round-up of alleged perverts at her establishment were reduced to a simple charge of disturbing the peace.

Charges of allowing dancing after midnight without a license and selling liquor at a disorderly house were dismissed on motion of the Deputy District Attorney Walter Harrington. Mrs. Nicola pleaded guilty to the substitute charge.

Judge Bocci, after hearing a plea for mercy from Mrs. Nicola's attorney, John Putkey, agreed that the long-time Coast-side tavern and motel owner had suffered enough. He noted that the state alcohol beverage control board had suspended her liquor license — worth about \$12,000 on the present-day market — and she had "suffered severe embarrassment."

Bocci also warned that such activities as had occurred at Mrs. Nicola's establishment would not be tolerated in the northern district. He said that if he heard of any such affairs in progress he personally would notify the sheriff.