

Teacher, Youth Leader Held In Molesting Boys

By **ROBERT L. PEIRCE**

A 33-year-old Eastside teacher and youth leader surrendered to police yesterday on a warrant stemming from accusations he had been sexually molesting young boys in his charge for more than two years.

Victims may have included more than 20 boys, according to Detective Sgt. Daniel V. Marshall of the homicide division.

The teacher, identified as Thomas E. Hacker, who gave an address in the 300 block of South Audubon Road, was charged with assault and battery with intent to gratify sexual desires.

HACKER, who is married and has two pre-school age children, was served with the warrant, signed by Judge Valan S. Boring of Municipal Court, Room 4, on surrendering about 10 a.m. at Police Headquarters.

An Indianapolis teacher more than seven years, Hacker resigned Tuesday as a teacher of seventh and eighth-grade English classes at School 57, 5435 East Washington Street, school officials said.

He also resigned under pressure "about 10 days ago" as scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 3, which meets in the

Irvington Presbyterian Church, 55 Johnson Avenue, according to scouting officials.

POLICE SAID an investigation of Hacker's activities was triggered by a Jan. 31 complaint to police from parents of a 13-year-old eighth-grade pupil.

The parents told Lt. Patrick E. Uberta of the homicide division their son had confessed Hacker had been bothering him and other boys sexually for more than two years.

Sgt. Marshall said one of the boy's classmates, who is 14, also has come forward and that the two boys said Hacker may have been involved with

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