

Parents Asked To Aid Probe

Police issued a plea yesterday to the parents of youths in three city schools for help in their investigation of the activities of Thomas E. Hacker, 33-year-old schoolteacher and youth leader charged with molesting boys.

Meanwhile, 10 more names were added yesterday to the list of boys allegedly victimized by the teacher in the last two years, according to Detective Sgt. Daniel J. Marshall.

"We now have 61 names, and the number might go even higher," Marshall said.

"But we need the full cooperation of all the parents involved," he added.

He said he believed police were not getting all the names because some parents feared publicity and the embarrassment of police questioning.

"Who knows what psychological problems these youngsters might be experiencing?" Marshall asked.

"We want to help, but we've got to have those names."

He added that the names of parents and boys would be held in confidence.

SGT. MARSHALL said he received additional names from two boys he questioned yesterday. Fifty-two of the 61 boys are pupils at School 57, 5435 East Washington Street, where Hacker taught seventh and eighth-grade English until resigning last Tuesday, police reported.

The list also includes the names of five pupils at School 77, 6940 East Pleasant Run Parkway, South Drive, and four at Thomas Carr Howe High School, 4900 Julian Avenue, the detective said.

HE SAID he would question all of the alleged victims and then submit the information to the Marion County Grand Jury, where Hacker's case is pending.

The former Boy Scout and Young Men's Christian Association youth leader surrendered to police Thursday after a warrant was issued for his arrest the day before on a charge of assault and battery with intent to gratify sexual desires.

He appeared Friday in Municipal Court, Room 16, and was released on \$150 cash bond by Judge D. William Cramer.

Police investigation began Jan. 31, after a 13-year-old youth confessed to his parents he had been involved for two years with Hacker, who is married and has two pre-school-age children, Marshall said.