MERCY FOR ERRING MAN IS IN BALANCE

Judge McGinn Distressed With Youth and ex-Convict Who Seeks Clemency.

BEST COURSE IS PROBLEM

Jurist Would Be Lenient in Cases Where Circumstances Are Mitigating, but Public's Protection Is First Consideration.

When Homer Baker, ex-convict, indicted on a charge of assisting in the robbery of the residence of Mrs. E. E. Hewett on the night of December 8, would have entered a plea of guilty Tuesday Circuit Judge McGinn advised his to take further time to consider his plea, intimating strongly that the suspended sentence begged for by Baker's attorney because of his wife and minor children might not be forthcoming. Baker's time to plead was extended to Friday. Ed. Franks, alias Franklin, his companion in the robbery, has already pleaded guilty and has been sent to Salem to serve from one to seven years in the penitentiary.

"This thing of breaking into a house armed with pistols is a terrible thing. It means probably that murder would be committed in case of resistance," said Judge McGinn. "I know that some judges hold that they have the right to suspend sentence in the case of ex-convicts but I always have seriously doubted that right. Even if I were disposed to be lenient in this case, and no one would be willing to help more than I, I do not believe I have the right to thwart the operation of the law."

Ex-Convict Free Short Time.

Baker's attorney told the judge that his client had been released from the penitentiary at Walla Walla only a short time prior to the time Mr. Hewett's house was broken into and robbed and pleaded that Baker's action in threatening to shoot when Deputy Sheriffs Leonard, French and Phillips and city detectives went to his home to arrest him was caused by his lack of knowledge as to the identity of his early morning callers.

A great deal of the loot taken from Mrs. Hewett's home was found at the lodgings of the Baker family and Baker, when cornered by the officers, placed himself behind his wife and child and considerable arguing was necessary before he would relent from his expressed determination to shoot if his would-be captors advanced on him.

The judge also remained obdurate in the face of the pleading of friends that Albert Kroll, the youth who held up F. W. Isherwood one night a few weeks ago and who was induced by the latter to desist and accompany him to his home on promise of a job and a chance to make good, be permitted to plead guilty and take a suspended sentence. A business man of the city pleaded ardently for the boy, promising to keep him employed. The judge winced when Deputy District Attorney Michelet told him that the minimum sentence for assault and robbery with a dangerous weapon, the charge on which Kroll is indicted is 10 years in the penitentiary.

Situation Distresses Judge.

"God knows that I do not want to send this boy to the penitentiary. Experience has taught me that probably he will come out ten times worse than he went in," remarked the judge, "but what to do with him is a problem. What guarantee have I that he will not commit the same offense again? It is an awful thing to threaten a man's life with a revolver. You say that his family will take measures to keep him in check but they have not succeeded so far and I am afraid to trust the boy."

Judge McGinn finally decided to send both Baker and Kroll back to their cells, declaring that he wished some time to investigate their cases and think over what might be done for them. His remarks made it clear that his aversion to sending them to Salem was battling with his fear that they might not make good and he was plainly distressed by the situations put up to him for solution.

SEAMEN ARE MADE GLAD

Home on Everett Street in Readiness for Tars' Christmas.

All day Tuesday Chaplain Roper and Mrs. Roper and W. Bridge, to say nothing of Miss Roper, were busy decorating the Portland Seamen Friends' Home at 229 Everett street, as only those who have long had an intimate acquaintance with seamen know how. All the men will get a good dinner before they come off ship, and so beyond light refreshments and coffee and tea nothing has to be provided in that line.

What a sailor likes is good fun and, above all, a piano and some songs and a hornpipe or two. Then he is happy, providing there are plenty of pictures of ships and kings and queens and flags upon the walls.

All along the walls holly hung festooned around pictures and flags. In great green letters "Welcome" served as a frieze around the walls, a huge Christmas tree was hung with glittering snow and knick-knacks, the billiard tables were being given an extra ironing, a space had been cleared for dancing and everything was in readiness. Friends have promised to come down in force and sing and play, and there will be regular breezy, briny atmosphere of happy-go-lucky freedom from care, enhanced by the true Christmas spirit.

POLICE SHAKEUP POSSIBLE

Outside Influence Charged in San Francisco—Inquiry Ordered.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—John Mooney, captain of detectives, told the police commission today that members of the department were prevented from doing their duty because of outside influences. After making the charge, Captain Mooney said he intended to bring about a big shakeup in the detective bureau and Mayor Rolph demanded a general investigation of police conditions.

The Mayor said he was amazed at the assertion that outsiders were corrupting the San Francisco police.

FLOORWALKER LOCKED UP

Olds, Wortman & King Employe Is Charged by Firm With Forgery.

Earl F. Wilson, floorwalker for Olds, Wortman & King, was arrested Tuesday night on complaint of his employers, charged with forgery. He is being held in the County Jail pending further investigation. His employers believe that between $700 and $800 has been obtained through Wilson's alleged forgeries the last year, Wilson having been with the store for about that time.

As floorwalker Mr. Wilson had authority to OK checks brought in and presented by customers. A. C. Gowdy, assistant manager of the store, exercises this particular authority the most, however. By imitating Mr. Gowdy's signature and the peculiar protection punch, it is alleged Mr. Wilson successfully forged checks with spurious names and passed them through the cashier and received the money. The checks were in small denominations at all times. Mr. Wilson is alleged to have counterfeited a protection punch similar to that used by the store and when the checks came back through the bank the cashier had forgotten who presented the check and no definite trace could be followed.

It was when Mr. Gowdy changed the location of the protection punch that Mr. Wilson is alleged to have "fallen down." One of the checks attributed to him was not properly punched and was traced back to Mr. Wilson before it went to the bank. Mr. Wilson denies all knowledge of the checks and declares he is innocent of the charge. Further investigation is being made.

The arrest was made by Detectives Mallet and Hammersly.

AUTO PARTY NEAR DEATH

MACHINE WITH 6 PASSENGERS HANGS IN AIR.

Columbia River Crossway Scene of Miraculous Escape From Disaster as Car Crashes.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—In attempting to pass a horse and wagon on the Hayden Island trestle over the Oregon Slough, between Vancouver and Portland, a heavily-laden automobile carrying six passengers skidded and crashed through the railing of the viaduct.

The fore part of the car started on its downward plunge amid the shrieks of the four women passengers, but, as it was only half over the edge, miraculously the body of the car caught on the floor of the trestle and remained swinging in the air. Afraid to move, the occupants awaited until the car settled firmly on the edge of the trestle and then they slowly were removed from the car.

The women were greatly shocked, but none was hurt.

In the car were G. E. Mercer and wife and two small children, Mrs. Lena Erickson and Miss Lillian Erickson, all of Kenton. They were coming to Vancouver to visit over the holidays with Dr. R. J. Mercer and mother.

The distance from the trestle to the island below is about 25 feet. Had the car gone over the edge it would have meant almost certain death. H. L. Moody, Jr., was on the trestle in his car at the time, and when he arrived at the scene, helped to remove the occupants and convey them to the waiting-room on the island, where they telephoned to Dr. Mercer, who came in his own car. Later the supposedly wrecked car was removed from the edge of the viaduct and was driven into Vancouver under its own power.

The trestle is more than a mile long and the accident occurred about half a mile from the approach at Columbia boulevard. The absence of a light on the rear of the buggy which made it almost undistinguishable until it was reached, caused Mr. Mercer to throw on the brakes hurriedly and occasion the skidding.

GIRLS' WATCHMAN VICTIM

Three Boys "Hold Up" Special Policeman at St. Helen's Hall.

Three youths, believed to be contenders for favors from as many girl students at St. Helen's Hall, are blamed for the harmless attack on Thomas Gibbs, nightwatchman at the institution, last night about midnight.

The three youths accosted Mr. Gibbs as he was making his midnight rounds. They relieved him of his revolver, his police star and the commission from the Chief, which gives him the authority as a special policeman to carry the gun and wear the star. Mr. Gibbs was carrying a goodly sum of money on his person, but this was not molested.

The police believe that the "hold-up" was perpetrated by the three boys, who have been at one time or another, the "victims" of Mr. Gibbs' strict enforcement of "hours" around the institution.

Tenino Dogs Ordered Muzzled.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Following evidences of numerous cases of hydrophobia, an order has been issued in Tenino that all dogs must be muzzled. Marshal Bruley is preparing to see that the order is enforced and will shoot all dogs that are allowed at large unmuzzled.

REDMOND CERTAIN OF EARLY TRIUMPH

Gratitude to Irish, Resident Elsewhere, Is Expressed by Political Leader.

FINANCES DECLARED SOUND

No Opposition Is Looked For From Ulster, but Party Chief Declines to Predict Action by House of Lords.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—(Special.)—"The message I can give you for the Irish people abroad is one of deep gratitude for their unswerving devotion to the cause of Ireland and of confidence and hope for the immediate triumph of the Irish cause."

As John Redmond, M. P., leader of the Irish party, sometimes called the Dictator of British policy, told me this his eyes flashed with the anticipation of victory. The present strenuous struggle in the House of Commons, the years of bitter fighting and weary waiting and the cares of leadership have only resulted in making this famous Irishman younger in spirit and better in looks. He is 61 years old, yet in appearance he would pass for 45. He is full of enthusiasm, full of almost youthful spirits, and just as unaffected and just as approachable as in the days when he was a comparatively unknown follower of the great Parnell.

In the opinion of the average member of the House of Commons, regardless of party politics, John Redmond has proved himself even more able in tactics, strategy and leadership than did Parnell. The tribute is one which Mr. Redmond himself would be the first to deery, but nevertheless it represents the candid opinion of those "old hands" in Parliament who have fought both for and against Home Rule since the days that Gladstone, by raising the vital question, split old parties into rival camps and churned into seething violence the channels of public opinion.

Redmond Expresses Satisfaction.

"Are you satisfied," I asked Mr. Redmond, "with the Home Rule Bill, so far as it has gone?"

"I am completely satisfied," he replied, "with the progress of the Home Rule Bill up to the present. The recent defeat of the government was a mere ludicrous incident. It had, of course, its inconveniences, by reason of the fact that it wasted six or seven days of valuable time; but it had not the remotest effect on the fortunes of the bill, which will now go on, day by day, until it is completed, and the third reading of the bill in the House of Commons will be in the nature of a New Year's gift to Ireland. There is not a particle of opposition to the bill among the masses of the English people. The democratic forces are enthusiastically at its back, and the Unionists have utterly failed to arouse any act of hostility to it—so much so, that they are fighting all their by-elections on insurance and other questions."

"Do you think," I continued, "the financial provisions would provide a nucleus on which Ireland, before many years are over, can become independent of English money?"

Self-Support Is Predicted.

"Yes," said the Irish leader, "I feel quite certain that in a comparatively small number of years, Ireland will be quite independent of English money. Under the bill, Ireland agrees that all increases in the produce of existing taxes due to the natural, increasing prosperity of the country are to go towards wiping out the present deficit which has been created by English misgovernment in the past."

"How long do you think it will be, under favorable conditions, before the Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer has a surplus?"

Mr. Redmond thought a moment. Then he said:

"If the natural revenue of the country continues to increase at the same rate as it has increased for the past 10 years—and it is only reasonable to expect that the increase will be much greater—the entire deficit will be wiped out in less than 10 years."

"Do you think," I asked, "that the Home Rule bill will give Ireland a degree of autonomy which will be considered equitable by the Irish who have so keenly supported the Home Rule cause in the United States, Canada, Australia and elsewhere?"

Mr. Redmond grew emphatic.

"Most unquestionably, yes!" he replied. "The bill has been accepted as a reasonable and adequate measure of autonomy for Ireland by the Irish people in the United States, Canada, Australia and elsewhere."

Touching on more delicate ground I asked if he anticipated serious trouble in the North of Ireland? The reply came, emphatic and unhesitating:

"No; there may possibly be some street rows in Belfast; but even these will not occur if the people are left to themselves and not instigated to violence. I look forward to the near future when Ulster will play a prominent part in the government of Ireland, and when all asperities between Catholics and Protestants, when they are once brought side by side in the same Parliament, will disappear."

"Do you think there is any probability of the House of Lords, from a tactical point of view, passing the Home Rule bill, instead of vetoing it?"

Lords' Action Doubtful.

Mr. Redmond smiled—the enigmatical smile—which has irritated political opponents, into dubbing him "The Dictator."

"No man alive," said he, "can form any opinion of any value as to what the House of Lords will do. It has always done the insane thing, especially with reference to Ireland. We do not, however, trouble our heads about what they will do. The Home Rule bill will pass in spite of them."

"If the House of Lords, as is generally expected, vetoes the bill, when do you expect that the first Irish Parliament of the 20th century will meet?" I asked.

"If the House of Lords exercises to the full the powers of delay they still possess under the Parliament act, they can postpone the Home Rule bill coming into law until May, 1914. That is the limit of their powers."

Determination Is Shown.

In this pronouncement there was a finality and determination which bode ill for any government of any kind that attempts to step in between John Redmond and his relentless purpose.

I asked him for a word to the Irish in other parts of the British Empire and in the United States. He dictated the statement with which this dispatch begins. The Division bell rang—we were sitting in the outer lobby of the House of Commons—and Mr. Redmond hurried off to see that his party, which controls the situation in the Parliament of the British Empire, was marshaled in full force to vote in support of a government which is pledged to give home rule to Ireland.

OUR ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE

Begins today and continues through the Month of January

Every Piece of Furniture at a Noteworthy Reduction

Carpets and Rugs (with the exception of a few Contract Goods) also at Conspicuous Reductions

Drapery and Upholstery Fabrics, Decorative Materials, Lace Curtains and Curtain Materials, Etc., all Show Substantial Reductions

Watch for Announcement of Clearance Sale Prices from Every Department

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GRADE WILL BE CUT

Southern Pacific to Spend $10,000,000 at Tehachapi.

SANTA FE TO BE SHUT OUT

Recent Merger Decision Declared Responsible for Move, and to Give Harriman Line Control of Routing.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—The Chronicle will say tomorrow that the Southern Pacific Company, after three years of effort, has finally acquired the last section of a right of way for a low-grade line over the Tehachapi Mountains between Mojave and Kern City. The project, which would be begun immediately, calls for an expenditure of $10,000,000.

The United States Supreme Court's recent decision on the merger of the Southern and Union Pacific Railroads is indirectly responsible, according to the Chronicle, for the building of the new line.

The Southern Pacific, because of the dissolution decree, it is said, expects to benefit by the decision, as it will be in a position to dictate the route that shall be favored in trans-continental freight shipments. The building of the low-grade track is expected to bring about a vigorous fight between the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe, for transcontinental business. At present these lines have joint use of the only track over the Tehachapi. The Southern Pacific owns this track, a high-grade line, and for several years it has been planned to double it. That purpose has now been abandoned in favor of the low-grade project.

To have the right of ownership of the new line, it has been decided, according to the Chronicle, to shut out the Santa Fe from participation in the cost of construction and the Southern Pacific will endeavor to force the Santa Fe to abide by its terms as to the use of the tracks.

THOMAS P. BALDWIN DIES

Forest Grove Resident Succumbs to Heart Disease.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Thomas P. Baldwin, farmer and Civil War veteran, died of pneumonia at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. N. Robinson, in this city, Sunday. The funeral was held today, under the auspices of the Grand Army, with burial in Forest View Cemetery.

Mr. Baldwin, with his wife, came to Forest Grove a little more than a year ago from Marshall, Minn. Almost at once after the celebration of their golden wedding anniversary and upon the eve of the occupancy of their new home, Mrs. Baldwin died from an attack of heart disease.

Mr. Baldwin was born in Yates County, Illinois, 76 years ago, and moved to Minnesota in 1855, where he lived for 55 years, with the exception of his period of service in the Union Army as a member of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Returning to his Minnesota home at the close of the war, he took an active part in politics, serving in the Minnesota Legislature of 1873 and holding responsible county offices for a number of years.

Two sons and one daughter, with their families, survive: T. J. Baldwin, a realty operative, of Portland; R. D. Baldwin and Mrs. N. H. Robinson, of this city, and a sister, Mrs. B. F. Whitney, of Scappoose, Or.

Negro Club Is Raided.

The "Birdleg Club," run by J. H. Reed, a negro prominent at the police station, was again brought into the limelight Tuesday night, when Plainclothesmen Long and Wise, of the "moral" squad, brought 15 members of the North End negro colony to the police station on a charge of vagrancy. The tables at the club were covered with gambling devices. The dealer was caught with the dice in one hand and the other full of money. Those arrested are: M. C. Harris, A. Overton, F. Sims, Ed Weathersby, Joe Craig, James Wright, Will Johnson, Will Boon, John Hollis, John Landers, Joe Mayfield, Eugene Powell, J. T. Tate, Sherman Welch and James Williams.

A Turkish Bread Line.

Christian Herald.

A present center of interest is the house where Mohammed Ali was born, the great conqueror of Egypt. This house is maintained by the government in the same condition as when Mohammed was a baby and swung in a cradle hung from the hooks in the ceiling of the room where he was born. Ali loved his birthplace, and when he became rich and powerful he founded here a great school attended by poor boys from all the region round about. Here once a week in the great dining-room everybody who comes is fed, Turks, Jews, Christians, Greeks, Armenians, Americans even—no one is turned away. As I visited the establishment I saw great fires of logs in the basement of one of the school buildings, and over the fires pots of pilaff cooking. This delicious concoction, made of rice and meat and various delicious sauces, gave forth a savory smell, and I do not wonder that many a hungry mortal who comes for a square meal once a week to this ancient foundation blesses the name of Mohammed Ali.

PRONUNCIATIONS IN LATIN

A Discussion on the English and the Roman Models.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

Conservative England is much worked up over the effort of reformers to secure general adoption of the so-called Roman pronunciation of Latin in English schools and colleges. To the British mind the transgression upon their time-honored standards of rendering Latin by the English sounds is a violation of the dearest susceptibilities. The Briton may reconcile himself to having his church disestablished or the Irish raised from the position of a subject nation, but to assert that the vowel sounds of his alma mater are all wrong is to him close to sacrilege.

The debate is likely to be the more acrimonious because there is no well-settled basis of fact on which to determine what the old pronunciation was. The advocates of the Roman pronunciation claim that the descent of the language makes it the closest living approximation of the ancient Roman tongue. But we know that there have been decided changes of English pronunciation in two centuries, and can see the probability that the Englishman of 500 years ago could not be understood by the Englishman of today. Ancient and modern French present the same evidence of constant change. But in the case of Latin and Greek we are not dealing with the changes of five or six centuries, but of 20 or 25. There is hardly much doubt but that the Latin of Coriolanus would have been nearly, if not quite, incomprehensible to the Roman of Constantine's time. How much more to the Roman of today?

The important thing is that the Latin pronunciation of the whole world shall be uniform and that the educated man of England shall, if he attempts to talk with the scholar of Heidelberg or Stanford University, stand on a common ground of pronunciation. An illustration of this came within our experience. A father sent his children to the college where he graduated. In his day that college taught the English pronunciation; now it teaches the Roman. In a vacation with his offspring he made the discovery that two such common words as "alumni" and "alumnae" had swapped pronunciations, that which formerly meant the masculine now implying the feminine, and vice versa.

On this point the weight is entirely with the Roman school. The vast majority of the colleges of the world, and the vast majority of educated people, use the Roman pronunciation, or the Continental, closely akin to it. This has long been the rule in Europe. In this country the ancient scholar is still to be distinguished from the younger generation by his Anglicizing of Latin. It will come harder for our British cousins to make the change, but they will have to do it.

Chinese Diplomatic Institute.

Pekin Daily News.

Owing to the lack of men well versed in international politics, the ex-Premier, Mr. Lou, is making plans for the organization of a diplomatic institute in Pekin for the study and discussion of questions relating to international intercourse.

Noter Battle Painter Dead.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The French battle painter, Jean Baptiste Edouard Detaille, better known as Edouard Detaille, died here today at the age of 64.

INSIST ON MUNYON'S COLD REMEDY IT WILL CURE

Munyon's Cold Remedy Relieves the head, throat and lungs almost immediately. Checks Fevers, stops Discharges of the nose, takes away all aches and pains caused by colds. It cures Grip and obstinate Coughs and prevents Pneumonia. Price 25c. All druggists.

LITTLE CHRISTMAS-TIME STORIES

FIVE cooks and a score of waiters were working like beavers on board the steamer Harvest Queen at the Ash-street dock yesterday getting everything in readiness for the big Christmass dinner to men of the city, which will be given there this afternoon by J. D. Farrell, president of the O.-W. R. & N. Company. The whole boat with the exception of the woman's cabin will be at the disposal of the guests and arrangements have been made to seat 300 persons at a time. The force of waiters and cooks probably will be still larger today. Beginning at 12 o'clock and continuing until 3 o'clock, the men who have received the tickets and invitations to the dinner will be received and served. The tickets were given to the Salvation Army, the police station and several other institutions with instructions to place them where they would do the most good and it is probable that the list of guests that will enjoy Mr. Farrell's hospitality today on board the Harvest Queen will reach a total of nearly 1000.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 24. — (Special.)—The last chapter was written in the Northern Pacific - Winlock case today when a map designating the agreement reached was received by Auditor H. H. Swofford for filing in his office. The map shows what the railway company formerly claimed and what ground is contained in the new order of things. The old right-of-way included the ground on which many fine brick buildings now stand in Winlock which were built since the disastrous fire there. The new right-of-way includes but about half of this ground and since the agreement was reached the people of Winlock are ready to wish the Northern Pacific Railway Company the merriest of Christmases and the happiest of New Years. Everybody is satisfied, including the railway company.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—As a Christmas present Governor West today signed a parole for James L. Riley, sent to the State Penitentiary from Prineville for from one to 15 years on conviction of manslaughter. Riley shot and killed Louis Long, a prizefighter, after a whirlwind chase in an automobile. Long was fleeing with Riley's wife. It is doubtful if Riley will be able to enjoy Christmas with his wife, although the two have become reconciled and will live together again. Another Christmas parole was also signed for Frank Nash, serving a term for larceny by bailee. He was convicted in Southern Oregon in 1911.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Though three prisoners, George Fisher, James Surgner and James Daley, are in the County Jail, they will be fed with a far more sumptuous feast Christmas day than the average American family. The menu to be served, through the kindness of Mrs. Ira Cresap, the Sheriff's wife, will include 30-cent roast turkey, cranberry sauce, celery, dressing, sweet and Irish potatoes, brown gravy, bread and butter, coffee, apple pie and cheese. Last year there were 17 in jail, but this year but three guests remain, and they are for short terms.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Twelve hundred immigrants from all parts of the world detained on the threshold of the new world were given a taste today of Uncle Sam's Christmas cheer.

From two big Christmas trees in the dining-room on Ellis Island, gifts were distributed to every man, woman and child. Five clergymen made addresses in as many languages and the entertainment ended with a dinner in which figured ice cream and other dainties strange to a large majority of the guests.

The men received briar pipes, collar buttons, or purses. The women received small ornaments or toilet articles and the children toys.

CHICO, Cal., Dec. 24.—San Francisco, December 12, 1912—Boss of Terry Lumber Company:

"Dear Mr. Boss—Have you a man by the name of Harry working for you? He left here about two months ago to work for your company. I'm his wife and we have been married only four months and I am tired of living alone. I want you to hunt up Harry, pay him off and fire him and tell him to come right home as I am lonesome. I am tired of living down here in the city and Harry being way up there. Please see Harry so he can be here by Christmas."

The foregoing letter was received by Jack Cussick, superintendent of the logging operations for the Terry Lumber Company, who has arrived home for the holidays. Cussick declares that immediately upon the receipt of the missive he hunted out "Harry" and "fired" him forthwith. Harry's wife is believed to be happy, for her husband immediately returned home.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—To have given to him a hat bought with a fund contributed by each of the 27 county officials, and three prisoners of the County Courthouse, as a Christmas present, is the pleasure of William Kruse, city mail carrier. Mr. Kruse, not that he needed a hat, was presented with one because he has brought to the officials on so many occasions, glad tidings, presents from loved ones, and he has carried away with him to mail thousands and thousands of letters during the last year, and mailed them all without leaving one in his big leather sack.

DENVER, Dec. 24.—Mayor Arnold will not distinguish the gathering about the County Jail's Christmas tree this year. Neither will the police and fire board be taken from their family circles to jail. The honeymoon of Commissioner George Creel and Blanche Bates will be undimmed for the shadow of sentences for contempt of court hanging over their Christmas was removed today when District Judge Whitford declared the Mayor had not been guilty of contempt of court when he compelled the civil commissioners to sign the police and fire board pay rolls and thus pay long overdue payrolls. Under protest the Commissioners acted and Saturday retaliated by citing the Mayor and the police and fire board for contempt.

SPECIAL remembrance for two invalided members of the police department will be provided by their fellow-workers. The beneficiaries will be Patrolmen H. H. Harms and H. E. Taft. Harms is confined to his home with a bad case of smallpox contracted in the line of duty, and Taft, after suffering severe injuries as the result of a collision between his motorcycle and a streetcar, is making a most remarkable recovery in a hospital. Suitable material gifts, accompanied by more than the ordinary Christmas sentiment, will be received by the two men today as the contribution of the entire force.

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