

MAJOR BAKER FINDS CONDITIONS IN CALIFORNIA CITIES ARE APPALLING.

LOS ANGELES THUG CENTER CRIMINALS OPERATE IN HEART OF BUSINESS SECTION IN DAYTIME. GUN SQUAD PATROLS ROADS.

Crime conditions in California cities are appalling and beyond the control of the police, according to Mayor Baker, who has returned from a tour of California, where he made a careful study of police methods in vogue in various cities and towns.

Portland is experiencing little crime in comparison to other coast cities, the mayor stated. "Chief of Police Jenkins and the entire department are entitled to much credit for the earnest effort being made to protect this city from crime."

The crime conditions in Los Angeles are terrible, continued the mayor. "Criminals are operating on the main thoroughfares in broad daylight. Individuals are being watched to guard their homes. It is unsafe to leave an automobile unguarded in front of a home in Los Angeles for it would be stripped in a short time."

Police Patrol Highways. The worst conditions prevail on the highways from Los Angeles to the beaches, which have been relieved somewhat by the stationing of automobiles loaded with police officers in the mountains at various points along the highways.

The police department in Los Angeles is inadequate to cope with the situation. The city has grown so rapidly and covers such a wide area that it is impossible to give the city the protection necessary.

Every California city is faced with similar conditions. The problem of financing the municipal operations of the various cities has grown to be tremendous and difficult.

In San Francisco Mayor Rolph was ordered to bed by his physicians while he was in that city. He is almost a nervous wreck because of the crime conditions prevailing, together with the threatening strikes and other problems of similar magnitude.

I discussed the crime wave in San Francisco, which broke loose about seven weeks ago, with Chief of Police O'Brien of that city. He informed me that in all his experience, which includes many, many years, he had seen nothing which equaled the crime wave San Francisco is now experiencing. When the San Francisco lynching of gangsters occurred, I was told that fully 200 thugs affiliated with the gang implicated in the Howard street crime fled from San Francisco, drifting in all directions. Upon receiving this information I wired to Chief of Police Jenkins warning him of a possible influx of these gangsters.

Judge Rossman looked at him intently. "Abe you broke?" he questioned. "No," snapped Ferris. His hands frame together, and back of the two dark blotches where someone lately had planted a heavy fist his eyes flashed as he looked across the policemen across the court room.

SANTA VISITS HOSPITALS CHILDREN IN SICK WARDS RECEIVE HOLIDAY CHEER.

Gifts Are Distributed to Ailing of City by Merry Old Saint Nicholas. Joy reigned in the children's wards of the city hospitals yesterday, for Santa Claus in his wondrous way brought the pain of the sufferers and left a touch of his own red cheeks on the wan faces of his little friends.

At St. Vincent's four little boys and four little girls in adjoining rooms of the children's wards romped hither and thither from bed to bed, for all were cured for the day by the wonderful spell. Dr. Dillehult had been there, an Santa Claus and lots of others whom they did not know and each little bed was marked with treasures and no one was left without.

Happiest of all on a day when happiness reigned supreme was nine-months-old Bronnie. He lay flat on his back in his crib with his arms and legs kept toys and blankets stirring. Later with the nurse's helping hand about him he stood by the edge of his crib with the jaunty sport cap that Santa brought and smiled and shook the ralling while nurse told his story. For five months ago Bronnie was found with a fevered girl-mother, underfed and dying from malnutrition.

INSKEEP NOT PUNISHED MAYOR BAKER OVERRULES ONE DAY'S SUSPENSION.

Attempt to Discipline Police Captain by Commissioner Bigelow Fails When Executive Returns. When Mayor Baker returned home Christmas eve, Captain Inskeep of the first night police relief saw his vacation of one day go glimmering. Both the mayor and Chief Jenkins said Captain Inskeep would not be suspended.

YOUTH IS GIVEN LETTER 14-Year-Old Albany High Football Player Is Honored.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Leland Allen, aged 14, received a football letter at the Albany high school yesterday. He is the youngest student ever to receive a football letter in the local school and probably is the youngest boy who ever made the football team in a high school the size of Albany.

CAR THROWS RIDER OFF POLICE INSPECTOR CATAPULTED WHEN CARRIER HITS CURVE.

Police Inspector Dan Kelleher was thrown headlong from an Irvington street car yesterday at the Holiday avenue and Adams street curve. He landed on his back and head, receiving injuries which sent him to the emergency hospital for treatment. He later was able to return home.

TELEPHONE OWNERS MEET IN PORTLAND Oregon Association Convenes Its Sixth Conference.

MANY ATTEND SESSIONS Subjects Important to Members of Companies Are Discussed by Speakers. The sixth annual meeting of the Oregon Local Telephone association was held in the blue room of the Hotel Portland December 17 and 18.

The association was organized for the mutual benefit of its members through co-operation in securing needed legislation, establishing uniform rates, methods and telephone utility values throughout the state.

At the closing business session on December 18 the following officers were elected: Charles E. Wells of Hillsboro, Or., president; P. L. Brown of Silverton, Or., vice-president; E. E. third of Newberg, Or., secretary-treasurer.

Plans were made to insure that the next convention will be by far the largest ever attempted in the telephone line in Oregon. The meeting will convene in Portland on December 9 and 10, 1921.

The following companies had representatives attending the meeting: Canby Co-operative Telephone company, Canby, Or.; J. W. Smith; Canby Telephone & Telegraph company, Canby, Wash.

The visiting representatives were A. Halliday, F. R. Bingham and I. L. Phillips of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company of Portland.

AUTO RUNS DOWN NURSES Two Women on Way to Christmas Party When Struck.

A Christmas party to which Blanche Post and Mary Swartz, nurses at the Mountain View sanitarium, were wending their way was spoiled for them last night when they were struck down by the automobile of A. R. Kimbley near the curb on Division street.

TWO HELD ASPHYXIATED Gas Leak Found Near Where Woman and Son Died.

SANTA ANA, Cal., Dec. 25.—Mrs. M. N. Putnam, wife of a Los Angeles dentist, and her 15-year-old son, found dead in their beds last night by Dr. Putnam, died from asphyxiation, according to a belief expressed tonight by physicians who examined the bodies.

UNDESIRABLES WARNED White-Robed Figures Parade and Scatter Circulars.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Dec. 25.—White-robed figures paraded tonight and scattered circulars which read: "Warning! Undesirables, both black and white, we are after you. We know you—ask warnings—this looting, thieving and prowling around has got to stop. KU KLUX."

PUBLIC BACKS ROSE FETE APPROPRIATION BY COUNTY WILL BE DEMANDED.

Chairman of Carnival Auxiliary Says Hornet's Nest Will Be Turned Loose Upon Board. A demand for \$25,000, emphasized by a storm of public criticism, is about to descend upon the heads of the county commissioners, according to E. J. Jaeger, chairman of the Rose Festival auxiliary, who is leading the fight to obtain that sum from the county to aid in staging the famous show.

"No two commissioners can thwart the public will by standing out against the granting of that money," Mr. Jaeger said yesterday, referring to the actions of Rufus Holman and Ralph W. Hoyt, county commissioners, who have vetoed the proposed appropriation.

The sum of \$20,000 originally was asked from the county by the festival board. When the commissioners denied this request the sum was halved and aid to the extent of \$10,000 was asked. When this sum also was refused the commissioners added a request for \$5,000 to the \$5,000 already in hand.

The new board of directors for the Rose Festival will be elected Wednesday night at a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce.

FOUR PRISONERS ESCAPE Getaway Made From Prison During Christmas Ceremonies.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 25.—James O'Keefe, James Lane, James Cullen and Harry Smith, four members of a gang committed to the state prison here last night, escaped this morning during Christmas ceremonies. Posses searched for the men all day and night behind the Mount Hood. Because of a heavy snow storm the fugitives are not thought to have covered much ground.

CANDY JARS THROWN IN QUARREL VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 25.—(Special.)—Candy jars and billiard balls were used as missiles following an argument between Peter Stone and P. J. Lavelle in the latter's billiard parlor yesterday morning.

SEATTLE PREACHER IS VISITOR Rev. P. E. Bauer, pastor of the Fairmount Congregational church of Seattle, is a holiday visitor in Portland and will preach today at the Oregon City Congregational church.

STORK PLAYS SANTA ROLE WELL-KNOWN BIRD VIES WITH SAINT IN BRINGING JOY.

New Male Residents Outnumbered but Tenors Drown High C of Coloraturas. A nine-pound Christmas package arrived at the home of Dr. Harold L. Bowman, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, early yesterday morning.

THE WEATHER. PORTLAND, Dec. 25.—Highest temperature, 50 degrees; lowest, 43. River reading at 11 A. M., 21.6 feet; total rainfall (5 P. M. to 11 A. M.), .1986 inches; normal, 17.88 inches; exposure, 1.93 inches. Sunrise, 7:52 A. M.; sunset, 4:58 P. M.; moonset, 7:39 A. M.; barometer (reduced to sea level), 30.07 inches. Relative humidity, 75.7 per cent; noon, 70 per cent; 5 P. M., 87 per cent.

Table with columns for Station, Temperature, Wind, and Weather. Includes cities like Baker, Boise, Boston, etc.

PORTLAND MEN GET HICCOUGH ATTACKS Seven Cases of Disease Are Reported in December.

Two Declared Severe City Declared to Be in No Danger of Epidemic Such as Is Raging in New York. Hiccoughs, the same variety which is raging in epidemic form in New York city, are present in Portland, according to three physicians, who said last night that they had been called upon to treat seven cases this month. Two were especially severe, one lasting four days and the other five. The latter case has not yet yielded to medical treatment.

The physicians declined to give the names of patients. They asserted, however, that the disease was especially severe, the hiccoughs continuing until the patient suffered from exhaustion.

John Balenzano, 39, a messenger for the Western Union, was recently cured of a stubborn case by internes of the city emergency hospital. The records show that Balenzano was relieved for an hour on his first visit by the administration of three drops of chloroform on sugar. He returned the next day, however, when his hiccoughs were complicated by intermittent sneezing. His stomach was washed out with chloroform and morphine were used, and the patient was put to bed. It was four days before he was entirely cured.

GANGMAN TRIES FOR ALIBI MURPHY IN LAST-MINUTE EFFORT TO ESCAPE.

Credulity of Witnesses for Girl Victims to Be Attacked—New Trial Is Sought. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—Affidavits attacking the credibility of the witnesses produced yesterday in a last-minute attempt to prove an alibi for Edmond (Spud) Murphy will be presented when the convicted gangster's motion for a new trial is argued Tuesday. It was announced today by Stanislaus Riley, assistant district attorney.

CARDINAL STILL IN BED Christmas Is Celebrated in Sick-room at Home of Friend.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—Cardinal Gibbons celebrated Christmas in his sick room at the home of Robert T. Shriver, near Westminister, Maryland, today with members of his household. He was able to eat some of the Christmas dinner, but visitors were denied him.

Brown & Co. Wholesale Produce, 310 Hoyt St., Portland, Or.

WE BUY Livestock, Hogs, Cattle and Sheep. Dressed Hogs. Butter and Eggs. Live and Dressed Poultry. Potatoes, Onions and Grain. All Kinds of Produce. Wire or Write Us What You Have. We Are Close to All Depots. References: State Bank of St. Paul, Oregon.

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Sale of Furniture Every Piece Greatly Reduced—Nothing Reserved

Note these trenchant reductions, taken at random during a trip around the store. Be here early tomorrow for the things you want for your home! You can save dollars.

- \$285 Davenport with cane panels, velour upholstered; loose spring cushions, at \$162.50
\$135.00 Arm Chair to match Davenport \$78.50
\$275.00 Upholstered Davenport with down cushions \$162.50
\$150 Overstuffed Davenport \$97.50
\$235 Overstuffed Davenport \$175.00
\$100 Upholstered Arm Chair \$69.50
\$55 Tapestry Upholstered Arm Chair with spring seat \$31.50
\$18.50 Mahogany Floor Lamp \$12.50
\$30.00 Mahogany Floor Lamp \$19.50
\$60.00 Mahogany Gate-leg Table for \$47.50
\$37.50 Mahogany Gate-leg Table for \$23.50
\$82.50 Mahogany Arm Chair \$49.50
\$18.00 Grass Chair \$9.50
\$19.00 Grass Rocker \$10.50
\$16.50 Grass Table \$9.50
\$95.00 Mahogany Davenport Table \$67.50
\$85 Mahogany Table only \$52.50
\$67.50 Mahogany Davenport Table \$39.50
\$115.00 Mahogany Spinnet Desk \$72.50
\$85.00 Mahogany Four-Poster Bed \$57.50
\$39.50 Mahogany Tea Wagon for \$28.50
\$45 Walnut Tea Wagon \$32.50
\$23.50 Mahogany End Table \$15
\$18.50 Silk Lamp Shade \$9.00
\$30.00 Silk Lamp Shade \$15.00
\$160 Mahogany Lowboy \$127.50
\$235 Mahogany Lowboy \$182.50
\$225 Mahogany Desk \$167.50
\$32.50 Mahogany Fernery \$19.75

ON ACCOUNT OF THE EXTREMELY LOW PRICES, ALL SALES WILL BE FOR CASH ONLY. NO MERCHANDISE SENT ON APPROVAL DURING THE SALE. ALL BARGAINS.

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Store Open 11 A. M. Tomorrow (Monday) First Day of Meier & Frank's January Clearance Sales Every Article Reduced

Advertisement for Oriental Rug featuring a camel illustration and text: 'The best rug value is an Oriental Rug. You need not sacrifice your judgment of values when you buy an Oriental rug. You do not pay for fictitious art values when you purchase from a reliable firm. A genuine Oriental rug is thicker, more pliable and more durable, more refined in color and gives more value for the money than any domestic weave. Considered either from the economical or artistic point of view, your best rug "buy" is an Oriental rug, and we have a wonderful collection to show you.'