

Exodus of Beat Generation From San Francisco Leaves Gap

San Francisco — (UPI) — Police swooped down on a "beatnik pad" recently in a raid for "dangerous drugs."

All they found was a handful of vitamin pills and a hypodermic needle.

Whether or not the victims of the raid was taking A, B

and C, instead of H (heroin), the red-faced police didn't explain.

But this episode underlines the fact that the beatnik is

about as scarce as a Havana cigar these days.

Even in North Beach, its original sneering grounds, that all-but-vanished phenom-

enon called the Beat Generation represents an era the enduring colony of artists, writers and other nonconforming practitioners of the seven lively arts would like to forget.

And these serious Bohemians even have a clean bill of health.

Keep to Selves
"Concerted police action got rid of the beatniks in North Beach," reports Deputy Police Chief Al Nelder. "The present bunch are mostly legitimate artists and no problems. They mind their own business."

Where did the beatniks go? They've scattered to the four winds, some heading for Los Angeles, New York, New Orleans, or Mexico City.

The rest went back to school, or, as a last resort before total starvation or jail for vagrancy, got jobs where unsympathetic employers insist on shaven faces and a complete set of clothes.

It was much different five years ago when the full tide of publicity broke over North Beach and left upper Grant ave. buried under the currentless pool of whiskered hipsters, tangle-haired chicks in leotards, vague-eyed "poets," "writers," "painters" and other drifting, untalented flotsam whose common bond was a carefully nurtured outlook that the world was a "square drag."

Since then all but one of the original Bohemian hangouts, started by the restless rebels of post World War II, have folded.

For the present colony, now wise as wolves, has learned a hard lesson:

Tourist Lure
Too many public shenanigans can turn a ripple of interesting artists into an unstoppable tidal wave of penniless phonies — and right behind it an invasion of the not-so-penniless tourists.

The Bohemians still retain an intense dislike for tourists with their ever present cameras and the indulgent attitudes of people visiting a zoo.

Enterprising showmen rushed to fill the vacuum left by the Beat Generation exodus, and have opened a conglomeration of rip-roaring night spots along Broadway within rock-throwing distance of artistic upper Grant.

The tourist can find everything from clubs offering New Year's Eve every night, to imitation speakeasies with hourly raids, to Paris-type sidewalk bistros (warmed against the foggy nights by heat lamps), to jazz-blues, ragtime, Dixie or progressive.

The tour bus no longer stops at the intersection of Grant ave. and Green st., the former crossroads of the Beat Generation. The real art shows are reclaiming spots usurped by the pseudo arts-crafty establishments much admired by visiting firemen.

So, if you're making the rounds and some suspicious character tries to sell you some vitamin pills, don't panic and turn him in to the police as a beatnik.

NYSE Describes Steps Taken To Regulate Trade

New York — (UPI) — The New York Stock Exchange in its annual report went into some detail on steps taken the past year to keep trading under close supervision and regulation.

The report was made public just about seven weeks before the Securities and Exchange Commission deadline for submission to Congress of the SEC report on a special study of the securities industry. The study has been going on for more than a year.

In his report to members, G. Keith Funston, president of the exchange, said the "exchange is carrying out its pledge to cooperate fully with the commission's study."

Largest Market
The NYSE is the nation's largest securities auction market, and its officials and members have an interest and a stake in whatever the SEC may recommend in the field of additional regulation of securities issuance and trading.

In the past year, Funston disclosed, the SEC study had "added more than \$85,000 of overtime and clerical costs to our operation."

"Many aspects of the exchange community's performance were described and documented, and literally hundreds of requests for specific information were filled," said the report. It said the \$165,000 was to pay "expenses directly involved in assembling and preparing this material for the SEC."

Belief Reiterated
What the SEC will recommend in further legislative steps governing the securities industry is yet unknown, but this year's NYSE report reiterated the belief that self-regulation is best for the exchange.

"Over the years, self-regulation within the exchange community has centered on developing strengthening and enforcing a rigorous code of business standards, compatible with guidelines established by the federal and state securities laws," it said. "It is no secret that, in many areas, the exchange's standards—and those maintained by many individual member organizations—are considerably more stringent than the government requires."

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