

The Weather
Oakland and Vicinity—
Fair and continued cold to-
night and Saturday; heavy to
killing frost; moderate east-
erly winds.

BOYS, AFTER THRILL, HELD AS BURGLARS

Desire for Real Excitement
Caused Youths and Girl
to Start Bandit Career,
One Suspect Tells Police

Loot Stolen by Gang Over
Period of Month Recovered;
Officers Say No
Charges to Face Girl Aide

BERKELEY, Dec. 26.—A career
of banditry extending over a
month's time started to "get a
thrill out of life," is at end today
for two 19-year-old Oakland boys
and a 16-year-old high school girl
of the same city.

William C. Gaskin, a former
bookkeeper for the Pacific Mail
Steamship company in San Fran-
cisco and the son of William E.
Gaskin, blacksmith, residing at
2338 East Twelfth street, was
brought to Berkeley today from
Napa where he was arrested early
this morning as he sought refuge
in the home of relatives. The
police declare he is the leader of
the youthful bandit gang.

John Warren, 19, of 5513 East
Seventeenth street, Oakland, Gas-
kin's self-confessed companion on
his banditry career, was arrested
by the Berkeley police last night.
The name of the 16-year-old girl,
the companion of the two youths
on their wild life in which they
engaged in a gun duel with Pa-
trolman Harold Schulz on Tuesday
night, is being withheld by the
Berkeley police because of her age.
That the girl accompanied the two
boys on two "jobs," one last Sun-
day when they looted the home of
Garrett Owen, jeweler of 2310 Elwood
avenue, where they obtained
\$400 in loot, and the other last
Tuesday night when they entered
the home of Ralph Hanley, 51 Tun-
nell road, was her "confession" to
the police. She will not be prose-
cuted, having had no active part
in the robberies, say the authori-
ties.

GIRL ACTED AS "LOOKOUT" ON JOB.

The girl is the "blonde-haired,
mailed" young woman of un-
usual beauty who is described by
accounts of the Claude Gignoux
residence adjoining the Hanley
home as acting as a "lookout" for
the two youths. She is a student
at an Oakland high school while
both boys formerly attended Tech-
nical High school in Oakland.

"We wanted to get a thrill out
of life," declared young Warren
in his cell at Berkeley police sta-
tion today. Warren admits firing
shots at Patrolman Schulz in the
five-mile chase last Tuesday night.

The youths had not converted
any of their stolen loot into cash,
according to the police. At the
Warren home two expensive cut
glass bowls stolen from the resi-
dence of William Milwan, 1503
Oakland avenue, and a diamond
ring wrapped in Christmas paper
and ribbons marked gifts for
"Mother" and another feminine
relative of the young bandit.

LOOT RECOVERED IN YOUTH'S ROOMS

Thus far, say the police, three
burglaries and the theft of four
automobiles can be laid to the
youths. Practically all of the \$2000
in loot stolen by Gaskin and Warren
has been recovered. A large
portion of it was found in an apart-
ment maintained by Gaskin at 1400
Jackson street, Oakland, where he
and the "blonde-haired" girl, who
is declared to be his fiancée, are
said by the police to have spent
much of their time.

Jewelry, silverware and other
articles were also found at the
Warren residence while about \$400
in other loot was brought to po-
lice station yesterday. The
Ogilvie, 2121 Emerson street,
Berkeley, an employee of the Para-
dise Paint company, was arrested
yesterday and the police that on
Tuesday night he saw two youths
and a girl in a coupe near the plant
and he was attracted to the car by
the noise of the young woman.

"We're lost and I want to go
home," the girl told Ogilvie as the
youths pacified her. Ogilvie dis-
tracted them and the trio left. The
next day, the watchman says, he
found a large quantity of silver-
ware and jewelry back of the paint
company's plant. Figuring that
the articles had been "lost," he
had kept them until he read in
the newspapers of the activities
of the two youths and their girl
companion.

WARREN ADMITS MOUTH OF BANDITRY.

Of the automobiles stolen one
was the property of Dr. A. L.
Sayer of San Jose, one was taken
from Dr. O. S. Dean, 507 Magnolia
street, Piedmont, while the police
are checking up the ownership of
two others declared to have been
used by the boys.

Warren admitted to the police
today that he and Gaskin were
companions in looting the Owen,
Hanley and Milwan homes and in
the theft of the four cars. He de-
clared that they had been "keep-
ing" for about one month. Warren
is the stepson of John Warren of
Oakland.

"I'm glad they have him," was
the statement today of the senior
Gaskin, father of the boy bandit,
who has been aiding the police
in their efforts to capture the trio.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1.)

Girl in Car Crash Hurled on Pilot of Speeding Train; Rides on Unhurt

Husband, Seeking Wife After
Accident, Finds Her 12
Miles Away.

BY UNITED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 26.—
Smiling courageously from a hos-
pital cot, Mrs. Kenneth Clark, 18,
today told of her thrilling ride of
twelve miles through zero weather
on the pilot of a speeding locomotive
which had crashed into her
automobile.

"It was just a natural thing to
do," she said. "When the engine
hit our car and I was thrown into
the air, my hands went out above
my head and caught something in
the dark—God knows what."

"But I held on for dear life
and realized soon that I was cling-
ing to the front end of the en-
gine, riding fast."

"So," stuck, but the cold air
seemed to eat right into my bones
and pretty soon I didn't seem to
remember much and I guess I
passed out of the picture."

Mrs. Clark smiled again. The
next thing she remembered was
when she was lying on a bed in a
farm home with a group of people
trying to restore her to conscious-
ness.

"It seemed like I was waking up
out of a dream," she said.

The Knickerbocker Special on
the Erie railroad, traveling
eastward at a 60 miles an hour
clip, struck an automobile in which
Mrs. Clark was riding at a cross-
ing in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Clark's husband and his
parents were injured, but she suf-
fered only from exposure to the ex-
treme cold.

Kenneth Clark, the girl's hus-
band, notified storekeepers across
the street from the crossing and
aid was summoned, but his wife
could not be found.

County and city authorities
formed searching parties and
searched in the darkness along the
track. An agent at a small station
notified police he saw a woman
riding the pilot of the Knicker-
bocker locomotive. A special
switch engine trailed the fast train
to Fort Harrison and then returned
to Indianapolis. Further on, near
Oakland, twelve miles from the
scene of the accident, a farmer
picked up the girl's unconscious
form and notified authorities.

BANDIT'S WRECK TRAIN; KILL 7

Mexican Express Looted by
Robbers; Troops Sent
After Raiders.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
MEXICO CITY, Dec. 26.—Fifty
armed bandits on Wednesday night
dormed a Laredo to Mexico City
passenger train at El Cobre, south
of Saltillo, killed a woman passen-
ger and the six soldiers of the
guard and sacked the express car,
according to press dispatches from
Saltillo. Several dispatchers were
wounded during the fight, in which
the soldier guard put up a gallant
but futile resistance.

A military column has been sent
to Saltillo. A similar outrage oc-
curred at the nearby station of
Concepcion last October.

N. Y. Yule Liquor Kills Three More

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Three
men are dead, thirty-one others
are ill in Bellevue Hospital and
the police court calendars are
crowded as a result of the liquor
celebration of Christmas.

In addition to the dead and sick, between
forty and fifty persons are in the
accident ward of Bellevue from in-
juries sustained in fights or falls
due to liquor.

Yesterday's fatalities increased to
thirty-four, the number of deaths
in the city from poison liquor dur-
ing the month.

Man Routs Villagers And Sets Hotel Afire

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
BAKERSFIELD, Dec. 26.—Tony
Rodriguez, a section hand at Jus-
sumine, a small village near here,
last night after driving the twenty
odd residents of the place a mile
from town armed with a pick axe
handle, he returned to the village
and set fire to the hotel there,
causing damage to the extent of
from \$15,000 to \$20,000, according
to charges of the peace officers.

Rodriguez was later arrested by
reinforcements from this city.

Fight Board Heads Discuss Secretary

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 26.—Can-
tain Seth P. W. Strellinger of Los
Angeles, Fire Chief Louis Almgren
of San Diego, and W. H. Hinton
of Sacramento, recently appointed
members of the Athletic Commis-
sion by Governor Richardson, met
for the first time today and dis-
cussed the appointment of a sec-
retary to the commission carrying
a salary of \$3600 per annum.

HARBOR MUD MIRE'S SHIP; CITY TO ACT

Plight of Lewis Luckenbach
Steamer in Channel Mouth
Arouses Oakland to Need
for Adequate Water Depth

Unified Front and Plan Is
Urged as Proper Approach
for Aid in Developing to
Limit Dockage Facilities

When the steamship Lewis Luck-
enbach, the largest carrier flying
the American flag, grounded at the
entrance to Oakland harbor this
morning it was the signal for the
opening of a new campaign in the
Eastbay for adequate federal ap-
propriations for harbor improve-
ments.

Shipping men of the Eastbay,
harbor officials, and the Chamber
of Commerce agree that this har-
bor incident will do more to
awaken the federal government to
the actual needs of the port than
all the memorials to Congress for
the past few years.

Also, says W. L. Miller, manag-
ing director of the Oakland Cham-
ber of Commerce, the stranded
steamer in mid-harbor had a mute
appeal to the Oakland population
that calls for a combination
of forces for an organized harbor
development program than could
any group of harbor boosters.

BIG STEAMER FAST

The steamer is the largest cargo
carrier flying the American flag.
She ran aground on the mud bank
at the entrance to the Oakland har-
bor this morning while attempting
to proceed to the Howard termi-
nal in the inner harbor. With
the incoming tide she was floated
free, however, and proceeded to
the dockage at the Howard
wharves. Captain Read made a
hasty examination and reported
that he did not believe any dam-
age had been done to the vessel.

The vessel was inbound from Bos-
ton with an unusually large cargo.
The channel where the freighter
went aground is supposed to have
a depth of over 80 feet at low tide,
but at the entrance to the channel
a mud bar had been in gradual
formation by the tides. Soundings
taken after the boat went aground
are said to have shown that the bay
was only 24 feet deep at this point.
The vessel was drawing 25 feet of
water.

OTHER VESSELS HAVE DIFFICULTY

Owing to this mud bar a num-
ber of vessels have encountered
difficulty in entering the inner har-
bor recently, and it was only
through the repeated solicitation
of shipping men that the federal
government recently put a dredger
to work to open up the channel.

Director Miller of the Chamber
of Commerce said the embarrassing
plight of the Lewis Luckenbach
today was due to two things: the
failure of the city to agree and to
put its strength behind a scheme
of harbor development, and the
failure of the federal government
to recognize Oakland as one of the
important ports of the Pacific
Coast.

LITTLE AID FROM GOVERNMENT RECEIVED

"Oakland has received less aid
from the federal government for
harbor development than any other
important port on the Pacific
Coast," said Miller. "This is due
to a lack in the past of a thor-
oughly organized plan with the
support of the entire community
which could be presented to the
federal government. In the past
individual schemes for harbor im-
provement have been presented
piece meal, and have been
granted or disallowed in the same
way. Usually they have been dis-
allowed. This is apparent from the
figures showing that a total of \$2-
000,000 is all that has ever been
allotted for harbor improvement in
Oakland, while the little port of
Humboldt has obtained over \$1-
000,000."

The Oakland Chamber of Com-
merce, in order to help the harbor
development program, is preparing
for Commissioner Carter a state-
ment showing the factory invest-
ments in industrial Oakland, the
pay rolls, annual output, imports,
exports, source of raw material,
markets, and statistics regarding
the back country.

American Buying of Mexico Land Probed

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 26.—The
Mexican consul at McAllen, Tex.,
has notified the foreign office that
American companies recently ac-
quired extensive tracts of land on
the right bank of the Bravo river,
which is prohibited by the Mexican
constitution.

(The Rio Grande is also known
in Mexico as the Rio Bravo del
Norte.)

The foreign office has referred
the matter to the department of
the interior for investigation.

Belgian Premier Ill of Influenza

BRUSSELS, Dec. 26.—Premier
Theunis of Belgium is confined to
his room with influenza.

BOMB BLAST CLUE POINTS TO S. F. PLOT

Postmark on Wrapping of L.
A. Death Box Opens Trail
for Police Hunting Sender
of Deadly Yuletide Gift

Vendetta Theory Held by
Investigators; Victim in
Critical Condition Puts Up
Brave Fight for His Life

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—In-
vestigators today found the
wrapping paper cover of the
"Christmas gift" bomb which
exploded and probably fatally in-
jured Ernest M. Torchia, a San
Francisco Postmark. Officers
are now looking for the send-
ers' addresses, torn off by the vic-
tim in opening the package yes-
terday.

Faced with the mysteries of Latin
feudalism, police moved slowly today
as they searched for suspects in
the bombing of Ernest M. Torchia,
Italian attorney, possibly fatally
injured when a Christmas package
he was opening exploded in his
hands.

Hidden in all the secrets of a
foreign vendetta, the perpetrator
of the outrage, may never be
known, it was feared.

The attorney's condition this
morning was pronounced "un-
changed." He is in the Glendale
flashed from his home in the Ver-
dugo foothills, where the tragedy
occurred.

Members of his family spent the
night by the bedside, but the at-
torney is making a valiant fight
for life. His left arm was blown
away, one eye is gone, and por-
tions of his abdomen were torn
out.

Postal inspectors were called in-
to the case today, the bomb hav-
ing been sent through the mails.
Yesterday morning Torchia and
his 18-year-old daughter, Emily,
started opening the gifts. Mrs.
Torchia was still in her bedroom.
One of the first packages the at-
torney picked up was the death
box.

As he tore off the lid there was
a terrific crash and Torchia was
hurled to the floor. Windows
were shattered and the furniture
was overturned. Torchia's left arm
was blown from his body. Emily was
shocked speechless and slightly
hurt.

Neighbors who heard the explo-
sion rushed in and put out the fire
the bomb had started. They pul-
lled the mangled attorney from be-
neath the overturned Christmas
tree and rushed him to the hospi-
tal.

Torchia, 51 years of age, is a
prominent member of the local
Italian colony. He has served in
several Italian divorce suits, his-
tories of which are being studied
to ascertain what enemies he may
have made.

Mexican Ambassador To U. S. Not Chosen

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
MEXICO CITY, Dec. 26.—The
appointment of a Mexican am-
bassador to the United States is still
undecided and the foreign office
is refusing to make statements re-
garding the matter. The recurrent
reports carried by the newspapers
since December 13 regarding the
possibility of the appointment of
Manuel Tellez, now charge d'aff-
aires at Washington, have neither
been denied nor confirmed by the
foreign office.

Two Abatement Suits Are Begun

Pete Pellegrini, owner and op-
erator of an alleged bootlegging es-
tablishment at 129 Adeline street,
and James Williams, operator of a
similar place at 1201 Fifty-second
avenue, it is charged are
named as defendants in suits to
abate the places for one year filed
by District Attorney Ezra Decoto.
J. P. and William Denchy are
named as owner of the property
operated by Williams.

Fireman Dies, 2 Hurt As Train Leaps Rails

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 26.—
Fireman J. H. Gerstenschlager was
killed and two other trainmen were
injured today when a freight train
on the Marysville, Utah, branch of
the Denver & Rio Grande Western
railroad was derailed. The cause
of the derailment has not been re-
ported to Salt Lake.

Three Killed in Blast From Kitchen Stove

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
BUNKUM, Ill., Dec. 26.—Mrs.
Cecelia R. Hierold, 65, Miss Russle
Hierold, 23, and Dorothy Brooks,
39, were burned to death today when
a kitchen stove in which coal oil
had been poured exploded and set
fire to the home of W. C. Brooks,
a farmer. Five persons jumped to
safety from a second-story window.

Carpet of Frost Decorates State; 18 Above Zero Is Santa Rosa Mark

Weather Bureau Predicts
Continuation of Low
Temperatures.

All California awoke today to
find a white carpet of frost on the
ground, the mercury having tumbled
to new low levels in certain
sections. It was very cold every-
where throughout the state, but
Santa Rosa early this morning re-
ported the lowest temperature of
the season. It was 18 degrees above
zero at that point, and Orland was
not far behind with 19, and Chico
and Red Bluff in the upper Sacra-
mento valley followed closely with
20 degrees each. Southern Califor-
nia had some low temperatures in
the mountain sections, but Los
Angeles was approximately 3 de-
grees warmer than the bay cities,
although San Diego dropped to 40,
which was a very cold reading of
the mercury for that city.

The weather bureau predicts a
continuation of the icy condition
and heavy to killing frost for the
next 24 hours. Low temperatures
from other California points were:
Porterville, 23; San Jose, 24; Mer-
ced, 24; Lindsay, 24; Santa Bar-
bara, 24; Stockton, 25; Pomona,
25; San Bernardino, 26; Riverside,
26; Sacramento, 26; Fresno, 32;
San Francisco, 33; San Diego, 40;
Los Angeles, 45.

The weather bureau pointed out
that it probably seemed colder than
reported in many places because
official thermometers are hung
stop buildings, while people feel
the colder air which settles near
the ground.

Higher temperatures for the Pa-
cific coast states within the next
36 hours were promised late to-
day by the San Francisco weather
bureau in a special forecast based
on radio advices from points along
the Pacific coast. The moderate
weather will be accompanied by
snow and rainfall in Oregon and
Washington, and by rain in north-
ern California, the forecast said.

GERMS BARED IN M'CLINTOCK QUIZ

Autopsy Shows Presence of
Typhoid But Fails to
Determine Death.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—An autopsy
over the body of William M. Mc-
Clintock, "millionaire orphan," has
disclosed the presence of typhoid
but has not determined the cause
of death. Corner Oscar Wolf an-
nounced today.

The preliminary report of the
pathologist engaged by the at-
torney for the estate, Dr. W. D.
McNally, the coroner's chemist, to-
day asked for further time.

The coroner said he had con-
ferred with the pathologists and
that he was only able to say that
typhoid was present, but that the
physicians had not been able defi-
nitely to determine what caused
death.

Asked directly if traces of poison
had been found, the coroner an-
swered:

"If I could answer that I could
make a statement. You know some
medicines contain poisons. The
embalming of the body has made it
more difficult. And if we were to
pursue the theory that some defi-
nite persons were present we might
destroy other evidence."

'Coolness' With Fiancee Denied By Shepherd

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., Dec.
26.—William D. Shepherd, foster
parent of William Nelson Mc-
Clintock, the "millionaire or-
phan," and whose death was an-
nounced today, is now being made
in Chicago, left for Chicago last night
in response to advice from their
attorney that they had best be
present during the investigation.

Shepherd denied reports from
Chicago Wednesday concerning re-
lations between the Shepherds and
Miss Isabel Pope, McClintock's fian-
cée. There had never been any
coolness between them, Shepherd
said. He said they welcomed the
approaching marriage.

Rolph's Son Takes Unfavorable Turn

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—The condi-
tion of James Rolph III, son of
the mayor of San Francisco, who
contracted typhoid fever in Egypt
while a cadet on the steamer
President Van Buren, was re-
ported to have taken an unfavor-
able turn. Typhoid serum acted un-
favorably on the patient. The boy's
parents spent most of the day at
his bedside while Mayor James
Curley of Boston was another
visitor.

L. A. Moves to End Battle Over Water

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Be-
lieved to be a long step toward
adjusting the Owens valley aqua-
duct troubles, the Los Angeles
public service commission was on
record today with a plan to pro-
vide water at cost for irrigating
3000 acres of land in the Big Fire
district.

RECORD COLD WAVE'S TOLL IS 11 DEAD

Three Chicagoans Frozen
to Death and Policeman
Fatally Injured When He
Slips on the Icy Paving

BY UNITED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Another
cold wave will hit the Northwest
tonight, and sweep eastward and
southward across the middle dis-

Safe!

Lieut. OAKLEY G. KELLY,
one of the two fliers who
made the non-stop trans-con-
tinental flight, was hunted today
by air service officers after his
failure to arrive in San
Francisco from Vancouver,
Wash. He was accompanied
by Lieut. H. C. Miller. With
Lieut. Kelly in this picture is his
wife, who was Mary M. Wat-
son of San Diego.

—Keystone photo.

SHOT PERILS LIQUOR CASE PROSECUTOR

Bullet Fired Through Win-
dow in Federal Building
Believed Attempt to Kill
Asst. Atty.-Gen. K.C. Gillis

Official Leaves S. F. Office
Earlier Than Usual and
Finds Missile Lying on the
Floor Upon His Return

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The
possibility that some one may have
sought to assassinate Kenneth C.
Gillis, assistant to the attorney
general in charge of prosecutions
under the Volstead act, was re-
vealed today when it was discov-
ered that a shot had been fired
through his window in the Fed-
eral building.

Department of justice agents be-
gan an immediate investigation,
and after reconstructing the situ-
ation came to the conclusion that
had Gillis been seated at his desk
he would have been wounded by
the shot.

When Gillis reached his office
today he found a 30-30 bullet lying
near a filing cabinet. He picked
it up curiously, and was startled to
discover that there was a hole in
the window. It had been fired
directly toward his chair.

Gillis' office is on the top floor
of the Federal building, facing
Sixth street. The attorney left his
office earlier than usual Wednes-
day afternoon, and it probably was
at that time that the shot was
fired.

Gillis was inclined to take the
situation seriously, and Special
Agent Martin Fahey, of the De-
partment of Justice and Captain
Thomas B. Foster of the secret
service, who conducted an inquiry,
agree with him.

In order to have shot Gillis the
bullet would have had to have been
fired from an elevation. It is be-
lieved that it came from Sixth
street, and was fired from a rifle.
The distance is almost a city block,
and this would account for the
fact that the bullet was spent after
crushing through the window.

Officers immediately began an
investigation, questioning em-
ployees of hotels on Sixth street
in an effort to ascertain the iden-
tity of rooms within range.

Quaker Football Team on Its Way

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—
After a noisy send-off the Penn-
sylvania football team left at 3:10
p. m. today for Berkeley, Calif.,
where the University of California
will be played New Year's Day.

Accompanied by the college
band, Head Coach Lou Young and
his assistants, athletic authorities,
and about 100 rosters, the 33 play-
ers traveled in a special train, the
baggage car of which was fitted
up as a gymnasium for exercise
during the transcontinental trip.
Stops for workouts will be made
at Chicago, Omaha, Neb., and
Ogden. Fourteen hours will be
spent in Chicago as guests of the
Chicago Athletic club.

The party is due in Berkeley
Tuesday.

Elephant Given Boy for Christmas

BY UNITED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
SANTA BARBARA, Dec. 26.—
"Oh, baby! Buy me that,
please," cried Chris Holmes, 11-
year-old nephew of Max Fleischman,
polo star, pointing at a baby elephant
in a circus he and his uncle visited
some weeks ago.

Christmas morning the boy
yard. Uncle Max had purchased
it for a present and the yard was
as close to Chris' stocking as it
could be brought.

Veteran Undergoes His 14th Operation

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
LEASING WIRE TO TRIBUNE
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Buron
Fitts, chief deputy district attorney
of Los Angeles county and a promi-
nent American Legion member, was
today operated on for the four-
teenth time for an injury to his
leg, sustained when a piece of Ger-
man shrapnel pierced it along the
Argonne front in 1918.

Physicians hoped that amputa-
tion of the member will not be
necessary. Fitts' leg was injured
about four years ago when he was
in an airplane crash while cam-
paigning for a veterans' welfare
measure.