

BUTLER FINDS PLUGGED GUNS

(Continued From Page 1)

victorious in pistol duels with policemen. I walked into a station house and ordered firearms inspection.

The first policeman had a .22-calibre revolver. A toy pistol, the kind boys use to celebrate the Fourth of July. The thing was silly. The pistol couldn't shoot straight, and if it did, by some chance, find its mark in a bandit, it couldn't do much damage.

Policeman No. 2 had a fairly good weapon and I was about to congratulate him when I noticed that the barrel was stuffed with a long wooden peg.

I asked him why.

"To keep the dirt and rain out," the policeman responded.

"He said it with a straight face, and it is possible he didn't know that if he pulled the trigger the weapon would probably have exploded and blown his arm off."

Some policemen had no weapons; others had weapons and no bullets; others had rusty weapons. I found, too, that policemen carried their revolvers under their long winter overcoats, so that it took a long time to find them and draw them. In one test I made it took a policeman twenty seconds to get out his gun. In a fracas with a bandit, the policeman wouldn't have needed his revolver after twenty seconds. A wooden box would have been more useful. Fine conditions!

Real Weapons Bought
Orders were issued to supply the entire force with the finest type of standard police revolver. Then the police were divided into groups and taught how to use their weapons.

After much struggle with the city council enough money was appropriated to purchase a number of speed flippers for use as bandit-chasing cars. In the past police had to chase bandits in cars on foot or in dilapidated motorcycles. With the police thus properly equipped orders to shoot to kill armed bandits were given. We wanted the score reversed—bandits killed by policemen for a change.

Charts were prepared, showing the day-by-day crime record in comparison with other years. When any district had a crime record above the average the policemen were required to work longer hours each day until crime was reduced. That made the policemen more watchful, for they didn't like extra work.

Crooks Leave Town
We made a lot of noise about these plans. We knew crooks are easily frightened and don't care to take chances in cities where police are on their toes. Criminals left town and none dared to come in.

Throughout the two years we had little crime in comparison with the records of other great cities. And, what was more important, we cleaned up many of the crimes that did occur and sent the crooks to jail.

Of course the vice and rum crusade continued. We raided hotels, cafes and clubs as well as saloons, although we found that many magistrates were tied up financially with the hotels and clubs and were afraid to issue warrants. When we did get warrants the establishments were often tipped off to our coming. We arrested employees of the two most fashionable hotels in the city—the Ritz-Carlton and the Bellevue.

Mother and Daughter Had Same Experience



—Photo by Bennett.
Mrs. Lloyd Wallace

I became weak and run-down in health. My mother always took Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription when she was in poor health that way, so I followed her example and began taking it. It soon made me feel quite different and I had no more trouble. But after motherhood I was rather slow to regain my strength, so I took a little of the 'Favorite Prescription' again and it gave me much strength and helped me in every way in just a short time."

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Stratford—on charges of bootlegging. We raided political clubs in various wards, conducted by ward leaders for their followers, and found drinking and gambling going on. The politicians didn't like this. Early in March they made their first open attack.

The attack was led by the chairman of the Republican city committee, Thomas F. Watson, a former saloonkeeper and ward leader, and also city treasurer.

Watson, speaking at a political dinner, said: "This guy Butler is

(Tomorrow General Butler will explain why law enforcement is almost impossible because of the belief in the "divine right of position" by the American public.)
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DEFAMING the fair name of our city. The city would be a lot better off without this guy Butler. What can you expect when they bring in an outside highbrow?"

I resented these attacks—although it should flatter a Marine to be

called a highbrow—and called upon the mayor to protect me from assaults of politicians as he had promised to do.

The mayor, as usual, said he would arrange it. I told him I didn't want it arranged. I wanted Watson rebuked; and I would do it myself if he didn't. The mayor then issued a statement reprimanding Watson and saying he was pleased with the work of the police.

It was then I made up my mind that I would remain as Director of Public Safety until I was dismissed

—that I would not voluntarily leave and permit politicians to chop off the blocks of those policemen who had been loyal to me.

I made a definite announcement of this kind to counteract rumors circulated by the politicians that I would soon leave.

The clergy of the city, resenting Watson's slurs, marched to city hall, some six hundred strong. They praised the work of the police and denounced the efforts of politicians to interfere. It was the voice of the decent majority out-shouting the noisy minority.

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