

COMPARATIVE TEMPERATURES

High		Low	
San Francisco	52	42	38
Seattle	48	38	34
Chicago	44	34	30
New York	44	34	30
London	44	34	30
San Jose	44	34	30
Los Angeles	44	34	30
Phoenix	44	34	30
Portland	44	34	30
San Diego	44	34	30
Albany	44	34	30
Albuquerque	44	34	30
Denver	44	34	30
El Paso	44	34	30
Houston	44	34	30
Kansas City	44	34	30
Memphis	44	34	30
Minneapolis	44	34	30
Omaha	44	34	30
Philadelphia	44	34	30
Pittsburgh	44	34	30
Portland	44	34	30
San Antonio	44	34	30
St. Louis	44	34	30
St. Paul	44	34	30
Wichita	44	34	30



San Francisco Chronicle

THE CITY'S ONLY HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER



WEATHER IN S. F. BAY REGION
Cloudy, Cooler
Complete Weather Report on Page 21

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CCC **

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1933

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KIDNAPERS LYNCHED!

Mob Storms Jail, Hangs Slayers in San Jose Square

Avengers of Hart Defy Tear Gas Bombs to Drag Thurmond and Holmes From Cells to Death

By ROYCE BRIER
Chronicle Staff Writer

SAN JOSE, Nov. 26—Lynch law wrote the last grim chapter in the Brooke Hart kidnaping here tonight.

Twelve hours after the mutilated body of the son of Alex J. Hart, wealthy San Jose merchant, was recovered from San Francisco bay a mob of 10,000 infuriated men and women stormed the Santa Clara County Jail, dragged John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond from their cells and hanged them in historic St. James Park.

Swift, and terrible to behold, was the retribution meted out to the confessed kidnapers and slayers. As the pair were drawn up, thrashing in the throes of death, a mob of thousands of men and women and children screamed anathemas at them.

HOWLING MOB BESIEGES JAIL

The siege of the County Jail, a three-hour whirling, howling drama of lynch law, was accomplished without serious injury either to the seizers or the 35 officers who vainly sought to defend the citadel.

The defense of the jail failed because Sheriff Emig and his forces ran out of tear gas bombs. Bombs kept the determined mob off for several hours.

Help from San Francisco and Oakland officers arrived too late to save the Hart slayers.

HOLMES PLEADS AGAINST HANGING

"Don't string me up, boys. God, don't string me up," was the last cry of Holmes as the noose was put about his neck in the light of flash lamps.

Thurmond was virtually unconscious with terror as the mob hustled him from the jail, down the alley and across the street to his doom.

Great cheers from the crowd of onlookers accompanied the hoisting of the two slayers. Some women fainted, some were shielded from the sight by their escorts, but the gamut of human nature was here in the park. Old women with graying hair and benign faces expressing satisfaction at the quick end of the murderers, and young women with hardened faces broke down and wept.

KING MOB TAKES LAW TO ITSELF

King Mob was in the saddle and he was an inexorable ruler.

And here was a sovereign whose rise in invincible power stunned San Jose and will stun the Nation and the world.

Brooke Hart's torn body was found in the water this morning. Barricades went up before the County Jail and the crowd gathered and stayed all the day. It was a good natured crowd. It knew the deputies and the police and the State highway patrolmen who stood guard. It banded words with them.

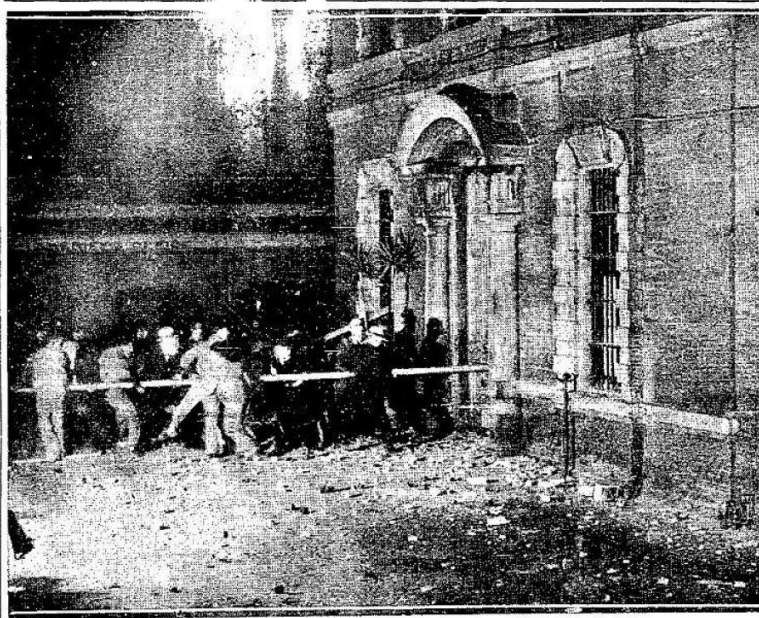
There had been talk of an organized mob, and as the crowd grew in the evening there was no organization. There was shouting, and good nature still ruled.

"This crowd won't do anything," was the constant reiteration of Sheriff Emig's deputies.

Yet as their words of confidence were being spoken there flashed, like a prairie fire, the word through San Jose—11 o'clock! 11 o'clock!

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)

PORTALS OF DOOM CRACKED!



The fall of the Santa Clara County Jail after a determined siege of three stormy hours by a howling mob of 10,000 persons. Heavy iron pipes were used for battering rams to smash in the jail door as officers inside the building hurled tear gas bombs from upper windows at the besiegers. The mob fought on blindly with eyes burning from the gas.

Deputy Tells Own Tale of Fight in Jail

Following is an eyewitness story by one of the officers participating in the struggle, of what happened inside the Santa Clara County Jail after the mob broke in to seize and lynch Jack Holmes and Thomas Thurmond, slayers of Brooke L. Hart, last night.

BY DEPUTY SHERIFF JOHN MOORE

The inside of the County Jail was fogged with tear gas when the mob rushed in behind a battering ram. Most of the windows were broken and all but a few dim lights were out.

I was standing on the stairs, inside the second steel mesh door, with Deputy Sheriff's Earle Hamblen and Howard Buffington. We had only a few gas bombs left and we knew they had no.

They began battering down that second door—our last hope—and we waited. When they came through we gave them two more bombs, but they charged through the cloud of smoke as though it were fog.

Just then some of the trustees on the third floor started to come down above us, trying to escape and not knowing they were headed right for that mob. I shouted for them to go back and promised them that no innocent man would be hanged.

The mob burst past us to Holmes' cell on the second floor, and four men stood me against a wall, searched me and took my keys. Then they went in for Holmes, who was sitting in the lawyers' of his cell.

He came out crying, "I'm no Holmes! I'm not Holmes!"—but one of the lynchers rushed up and grabbed him by the neck and told him to shut up.

Another man stepped up to Holmes and said, "The hell you're

Hell Rips Loose--Women Laugh--Women Sob and Cheer On Frenzied Mob

By CAROLYN ANSPACHER
Chronicle Staff Writer

SAN JOSE, Nov. 26—Hell turned loose here tonight and women laughed.

Their laughter and cries rose shrilly above the shouts of the men of an avenging mob as two men were banged by their necks until they were dead.

From the heavy boughs of darkened trees in St. James Park, across the street from the Courthouse and County Jail, John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, the confessed slayers of Brooke Hart, paid for their crime at the hands of a howling mob.

HUNDREDS ARE WOMEN
Hundreds of that mob were women. Old women, young women and girls in their teens.

Not all the women laughed. Some wept. Some of a laughter was hysterical. They knew not what they did.

Women milled with the men and surged around the gas-infused courtyard of the little jail. And when Thurmond and Holmes were seized from their jailers and dragged to their doom women followed and were in at the finish.

Earlier many of them had whispered words of encouragement to the men—egged them on.

"I hope they hang them. This is one case where I believe in lynch law."

All evening long, as the mob of thousands massed in front of the jail, which later was stormed and captured when the guards' supply of tear gas bombs ran out, this admonition was heard from many feminine lips.

RECALL HART'S FATE
During the day they had recalled Brooke Hart's fate, striking their necks on to taking the law into their own hands.

Rolph Calls Mob Action Best Lesson

SACRAMENTO, Nov. 26 (UP)—

When Governor Rolph was advised tonight, the slayer-kidnapers of Brooke L. Hart had been lynched in San Jose he said: "This is the best lesson that California has ever given the country. We show the country that the State is not going to tolerate kidnaping."

The Governor was in the executive mansion when he was told Thomas L. Thurmond and John Holmes had been taken from the Santa Clara Jail by a mob and lynched. He said E. Raymond Cain, chief of the California Highway Patrol, and Theodore Roche of San Francisco, director of the State Department of Motor Vehicles, had telephoned to him the men had been lynched.

Before he received word of the lynching, while the mob was being repulsed with tear gas bombs, the Governor had canceled his airplane flight to Boise, Idaho, where he was going to attend a conference of Western Governors. The airplane was due to leave Sacramento about 10 minutes after the lynching occurred.

"I want to be on the job," the Governor said in giving a reason for postponing his air flight. He also said when he announced he was not going to leave the State tonight that Sheriff William Emig of Santa Clara had been trying to reach him by telephone.

If conditions are normal in San Jose by tomorrow night the Governor said he will depart for Boise by airplane.

Embodied by the Biblical edict of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," they cast their robes of femininity from them and reared their approval of the fate meted

Drop All Refinement
From them dropped all vestige of refinement. They became beings who were guided by instinct rather than by thought.

Rabid Mouse Bite Fatal to Boy, 11
ADA, Okla., Nov. 26 (AP)—Bitten by a mouse, William Ryan Cooper, 14, died here today of rabies.

Kidnap Victim's Body Found in Bay by Hunters

Intensive Search for Murdered Youth's Remains Terminated by Chance; Knife, Tape Aid Identification

The body of Brooke Hart, 22, slain November 9, by kidnapers seeking to mulct his father, wealthy San Jose merchant, of \$40,000 in a fantastic plot, was recovered yesterday from San Francisco bay. It was found floating in five feet of water about a mile west of the Alameda shore and half a mile south of the San Mateo-Hayward bridge by two duck hunters.

Removed to a branch morgue at Hayward, it was identified by friends of the dead youth and by department heads of the Hart Department Store, of which he had recently been made a vice president by his father, Alex J. Hart.

Because of the condition of the body after 17 days in the water identification was established by the clothing, by a pearl handle knife found in the clothing and by the fact that the right foot was wrapped in tape. The torso and head of the victim were practically a skeleton.

The chance find terminated a search that had called into play all the agencies of four counties and the assistance of the Government—a search employing divers, Coast Guard boats, airplanes and even a navy blimp.

Climaxes Long Search

The discovery of the body, for which a reward of \$500 was recently offered by Brooke Hart's father, was made shortly after 9 o'clock by Leonard L. Dalve, a civil engineer, 628 Maple street, Redwood City, and Harold E. Stephens, Redwood City store proprietor, living at 174 Jeter street.

The two were in a skiff and were hunting ducks. They had started out from an Alvarado duck club on the Alameda shore at daylight, having slept at the club the night before.

Tow Body Ashore

They sighted the body floating about 400 feet from their small boat and at first thought it was a seal. Moving closer, they realized they had undoubtedly come upon the body for whom hundreds had been making a systematic search since November 16, when Holmes and Thurmond, captured in an elaborate trap, made their astounding confession.

Wrapping the body in a piece of canvas the two duck hunters towed it to a peninsula of mud on the Alameda shore.

Officials Notified

Making their way on foot through deep mud the discoverers notified a traffic officer, who immediately telephoned Sheriff M. B. Driver of Alameda County and Coroner Grant D. Miller.

Within a few minutes these officials and others, including Sheriff Emig of Santa Clara County and Sheriff James J. McGrath of San Mateo county, (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

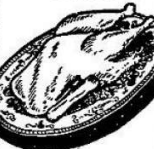
GUMP'S

END OF THE MONTH SALE

3 DAYS
NOVEMBER 27, 28, 29

LARGE PLATTERS

FOR FESTIVE HOLIDAY SPREADS



EACH
.95

Many Other Specially Priced China and Glassware Items

SHOP EARLY

THESE BARGAINS WILL MOVE RAPIDLY

GUMP'S
250 POST STREET

Where Hate and Lynch Law Reigned . . . Souvenirs for Frenzied Mob



Youth's Body Found in Bay By 2 Hunters

Hart's Remains Discovered Off Alameda to End Search

(Continued from Page 1)

who had directed the search, were rushing toward Hayward, where the body was taken.

The body was removed to the Pratt Mortuary at Hayward. Here groups of officials from four counties gathered.

IDENTIFICATION DIFFICULT

But positive identification was at that time impossible by those present.

Charles O'Brien Jr., associated with his father in a candy and cafe business in San Jose and a close friend of the dead youth, accompanied Sheriff Emig to the scene.

But young O'Brien, although unable to identify the body as that of his friend, could not positively identify it.

Then appeared at the little mortuary Louis Rossi, manager of the men's department at the Hart Department Store.

It was here that when found in a pair of gray trousers and a shirt.

Rossi examined the texture of the clothing, looked at the label on the shirt.

Tears filled his eyes. "That is Brooke," he said. "Those are his clothes, which were obtained in my department."

He identified also a pearl handkerchief found in a pocket of the dead man's trousers, as having been owned by young Hart.

And to make identification further certain he pointed to the right foot of the body, which was bound with tape. On the morning of his disappearance from a San Jose street, Brooke Hart had gone to his family physician for treatment of that foot. It was under treatment for a malformation of the right foot and the physician had taped it.

Dr. J. R. Connor, San Jose dentist, made identification complete when he arrived with a chart of Brooke Hart's teeth.

Dr. O. D. Hamlin and Dr. E. V. Murray, official county physicians of Alameda county, and Dr. Frederick L. Prosser, Santa Clara county pathologist, who played such an important part in the prosecution of the Lamson case, were made to complete an autopsy as possible under the circumstances.

They found two dents on the skull that had apparently been inflicted by a blunt instrument and a perforation on one leg that might have been caused by a bullet.

Prosser expressed himself as convinced that young Hart had been murdered.

BLOCKS DISCOVERED

Thurmond and Holmes in their report said that after being placed in a pillow slip they found two cement bricks in his hand.

They found him with a revolver, shot dead, three hours after he had been arrested and sent half a dozen men toward his struggling form in a crowd.

During the days of search the cement blocks that had weighed the dead man down from which he apparently saved himself during his struggles were recovered. His hat was also found. But searchers had practically given up hope of finding the body. The fate of the two red-headed civvie duck hunters to that point had attracted their attention and they had been at the will of wind and weather.

The body of Brooke Hart last night was removed to San Jose by Sheriff Amos Williams of Santa Clara county. The funeral, which will be held in the family and a few friends will be present, was announced, will be held tomorrow.

Death Penalty Urged for U. S. Kidnap Slays

Senate Group Planning Other Amendments of Lindbergh Act

NEW YORK, Nov. 26 (AP)—A move to amend the Lindbergh kidnaping law to invoke the death penalty is under serious consideration by the Senate sub-committee on racketeering. Colonel Franklin Hutchinson announced today.

"The feeling that the death penalty instead of life imprisonment should be invoked is growing and the committee may decide to make that recommendation," said Colonel Hutchinson, the committee's chief investigator.

LIFE PENALTY NOW

The death penalty was proposed when Congress enacted the law after the kidnaping and slaying of the infant son Colonel and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh, but it was changed to life imprisonment.

Amendments to bring under the law as Federal offenders kidnapers who communicate in any way with the families of victims is another suggestion being seriously considered by the committee, said Hutchinson.

"At present a kidnaping offense becomes a Federal offense only when the mails are used to conduct ransom negotiations or when the victim is transported to another State," he said. "The changes being considered would make the Lindbergh law if any means of communication, including use of telephones, were attempted."

FAMILY PENALTY UNLIKELY

Hutchinson said it was unlikely the committee, which concludes its public hearings Friday, would ask Congress to make families of kidnaped persons who negotiated with abductors subject to the Lindbergh law on conspiracy charges.

"The committee is not inclined to make it a conspiracy for parents to deal with kidnapers," he said. "I feel any parent no matter how the law might be worded would negotiate for the return of his child, and I don't think any jury would convict them of conspiracy."

NO RACKET LAWS

The committee, said Hutchinson, expects to lay before Congress a proposed bill for amending the laws striking at racketeering and crime generally.

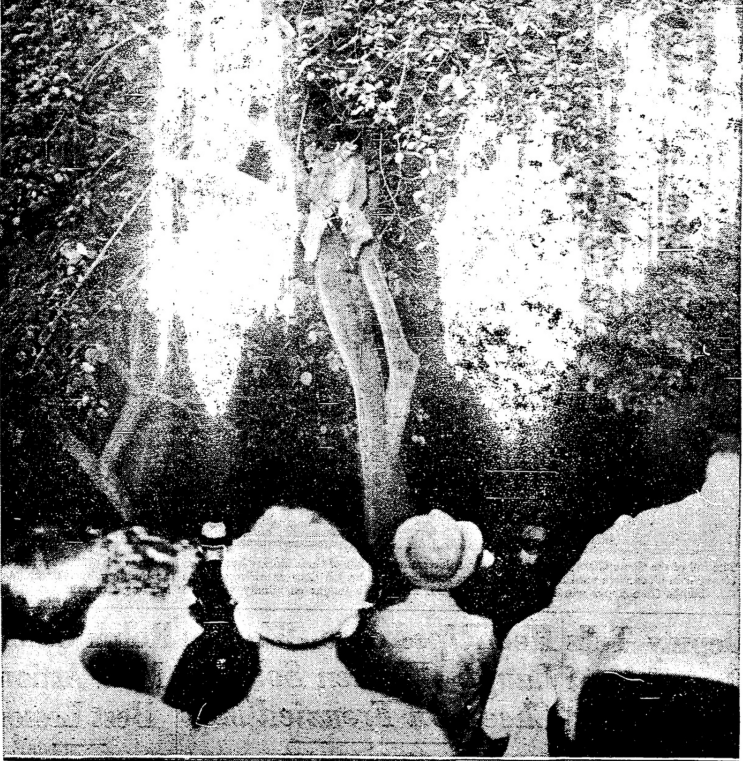
"If we have no cure-all," he said. "The crime we are not going to stop the minute our report is completed. It is going to take years to stamp out crime, but we make it more difficult for the criminal."

Several laws we suggest will stop racketeering, he said. "The first is to require that every person who registers a motor car must have a photograph and at least one fingerprint."

"While this seems a tremendous task, the cost for registration is being so rapidly increasing. It would not be as expensive and difficult as it seems at first. Anyway, it is being considered."

Among other recommendations under strengthening are enactment of laws to make it a felony for witnesses in criminal trials to skip the State ever exchange of firearms; negotiations of treaties, approved by Congress, for exchange of control of interstate shipment of firearms; by the various States; strengthening of Federal probation law, and possible bringing interstate shipment of stolen bonds and other goods under the Dyer act governing shipment of stolen automobiles.

Headquarters of the committee will be transferred to Washington on December 1 as the final work on its report to Congress gets under way.



In the trail of the lynchers. Upper left shows the wreckage left behind by the mob after they stormed the San Jose County Jail. The window is shattered, the ground littered with rocks and a scantling battering ram is lying on the sidewalk. Upper right, an injured State highway patrolman is helped into the jail for treatment. Below, one of the lynch mob cuts down the limb from which Holmes was hung for souvenirs for the crowd.

AVENGED!



Brooke L. Hart

Hell Rips Loose—Women Laugh, Sob, Cheer On the Frenzied Mob

(Continued from Page 1)

out to Holmes and Thurmond. "God, I'm excited!" screamed one. "God, I'm excited!"

And as she screamed, the fervor of the crowd grew. It mounted on a scale of feminine voices until there was no tone left. Only a sharp blade of passion.

"There were children there, too. Little round faced boys in knickers. Little girls whose good hair ribbons bobbed as they turned from side to side.

From time to time there was the sound of violent sobbing as these babies vomited their horror.

But their mothers did not tend them. Their eyes were turned toward the lowering skies, where dangled two limp forms on carefully tied ropes.

A FRENZIED DEATH FETE

"They chortled their sobs, implying that the bodies be cut down and burned. They begged for knives that they might cut the measure of their hate into the chilling bodies.

"A few even attempted to scale the nearby trees in order to have a better point of vantage.

"Little old ladies, hair of step white of hair, smiled pleasantly as they regarded the handiwork of their companions.

"I've never been to a lynching before, have you?" asked one. "No," her friend answered. "It's interesting, isn't it?"

"How do you like it?" screamed one pretty girl at the dangling forms.

"How do you like it you —?"

The hideous word burned across the delicate scarlet of her lips. "How do you like it up there?" She shook her dainty firs against the night. "We like it. Oh, we like you. We pat you there and we'd put you there again."

She laughed a crazy, raucous laugh—the laugh of a maniac.

Tonight the women of the peaceful little town knocked on the portals of death and demanded a ransom for two whom they despised.

The portals swung open. Swung as slowly and as surely as the ropes on which Holmes and Thurmond were hanged.

And the women laughed.

But all this took place tonight. Tomorrow those same women will awaken to their duties.

They will go about their work, washing, cooking, pecking at a typewriter, playing bridge, writing essays on the horror of mob violence.

They will smile placidly. For they will have forgotten the horror of tonight.

You see . . . women are like that.

District Attorney Hits 'Blame' Rumors

Special to The Chronicle

SAN JOSE, Nov. 26—Any suggestion that Santa Clara county might be held responsible for the lynching of Thomas Thurmond and John Holmes is "preposterous," District Attorney Fred Thomas declared tonight.

"I would have much preferred," he said, "that the law should have taken its course. We had ample evidence on which to convict both Thurmond and Holmes. The suggestion that the county may be held liable for the lynchings is preposterous."

S. F. Man Shot Twice in Seattle Holdup

SEATTLE, Nov. 26 (AP)—Shot twice through the abdomen by J. E. Seiger, street car operator, as he allegedly attempted to hold him up, John Zinn of San Francisco, was in a critical condition today.

Killers, Victim Side by Side

Special to The Chronicle

SAN JOSE, Nov. 27—The bodies of Brooke Hart and his two murderers lay side by side this morning in the undertaking parlors of Amos O. Williams, County Coroner.

This sardonic gesture on the part of fate was a strange aftermath of a San Jose night on a sidewalk.

The body of Brooke Hart, slain kidnap victim, had been taken to the morgue from San Jose early in the evening by deputies under the command of Amos Williams.

Several hours later the bodies of John M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond were cut down from the trees, where a mob had hanged them, and removed to the morgue to take their places beside that of their victim.

Phoney Restaurant 'Buyer' Peels Spuds in Oregon Jail

Cert Tate, 30, who "bought" all the leading restaurants in Spokane during a couple of days ago, is now peeling potatoes in the Washington city's jail.

Posing as a former executive of the Tail restaurants in San Francisco he arrived in Spokane 10 days ago from Portland, went to a bank and deposited \$50,000 with him—a restaurateur, explaining he was "answering part of his account, according to Associated Press dispatches.

Then he went to a real estate firm and told Robert Weinsteiner, a few hours later Tate was taken into custody and admitted his business scheme was a fake. Anyhow, he said, he ain't got to be an important citizen.

Boston Hitler Riot Hurts 6

BOSTON, Nov. 26 (AP)—Six men were arrested and several received bruised heads tonight, as police charged more than 5000 persons who gathered in support of a speech in support of Chancellor Adolph Hitler by a German professor.

A large detail of police had established lines around the hall after the crowd surged up Beacon Hill calling "Down with Hitler; down with Nazism" and otherwise attempted to disrupt the meeting where Dr. Friedrich Schoenemann, professor at the University of Berlin, spoke on "Why I Believe in the Hitler Government."

Superintendent of Police Martin H. Kins, who took personal charge of his forces, said it was the worst demonstration in Boston since the Sacco-Vanzetti riots some years ago. He said five of the men arrested would be charged with disturbing the peace.

Auto Racer Dying After Track Crash

DALLAS, Texas, Nov. 26 (AP)—An automobile racer, Paul Smith, was probably fatally injured today when his car left the Industrial Speedway track in the eighth lap of a race here today. His skull was fractured and it was believed his jaw was broken. Smith's home was said to be Wichita, Kas.

Boy of 4 Scalded In Tub Near Death

"Burns suffered yesterday when he fell into a tub of hot water at his home, 4 Harris place, may prove fatal to Silvio Pasquin, 4 years old. The boy was rushed to the Central Emergency Hospital by his mother and later was transferred to the San Francisco Hospital.

Hundreds Dour Jail To See Death Cells

Special to The Chronicle

SAN JOSE, Nov. 27—Long after the mob that lynched Jack Holmes and Thomas Thurmond had dispersed hundreds of men and women, in jubilent mood, trooped through the wrecked jail early today on a sightseeing tour.

They were a thickly sprinkled with women, many of them wearing coats to shut out the chill on their excursion from bed.

