La. Serious Crime Rate Rises

Labor, Bombing Problems Listed in Uniform Reports

17 Per Cent--FBI

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Baton Rouge, La. — For the first three months of 1967 the number of serious crimes in Louisiana increased 17 per cent, according to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reports.

—Labor - management problems continue to plague many of the state’s industrial areas.

—Louisiana is one of eight states in which the wealthiest and most influential organized crime core groups operate.

—Many bombings in southwest Louisiana remain unsolved.

Pointing to these and many other aspects of crime in Louisiana, the president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana (PAR) urged state and local officials to work together toward a solution to this most pressing problem facing the state.

PAR is sponsoring a conference on crime at the Jung Hotel in New Orleans on March 8 in an effort to acquaint these officials and the general public with various means of attacking the problems involved, Clifford Strauss, PAR president, said.

Harry Roberts, chief investigator of the governor’s labor management commission, will be on hand to discuss the commission’s activities.

The morning session of the conference will focus on “Crime Prevention and Control” with the executive director of the Chicago Crime Commission, Virgil W. Peterson, discussing “Coping With Organized Crime.”

Col. Curtis Brostron, chief of the St. Louis Police Department discussing “Local Law Enforcement and You.”

Reacting to the speeches in the morning and directing pertinent questions to Brostron and Peterson will be Joseph I. Giarrusso, New Orleans superintendent of police; J. C. Kelly, Monroe chief of police; and Robert A. Kleinpeter, a Baton Rouge attorney.

The afternoon session will be concerned with “New Concepts in Corrections.” Milton G. Rector, director of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency will outline techniques for “Coping with the Juvenile Delinquent,” and Dr. E. Preston Sharp, general secretary of the American Correctional Association will talk about the 98 per cent of criminal offenders who return to society and the correctional methods essential to their successful return.

Commentators in the afternoon will be Judge Leo B. Blessing of the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court and Gen. David L. Wade, director of the Louisiana Department of Institutions.

“We want to invite Louisiana sheriffs, police chiefs, mayors, judges and district attorneys, as well as state officials and the general public to attend this conference and participate in the discussion of the crime problem in Louisiana,” Strauss said.

“There is no registration fee for attending the meeting; the only charge is for the luncheon,” Strauss added.

There will be question and answer sessions at both the morning and afternoon meetings.