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Lynched Wrong Man

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Jacksonville, Fla., Sept.—The Negroes of this city and county are greatly excited over the brutal lynching of Ben Hart, last Friday night, by a mob of twenty or more white men. It is alleged that some Negro approached a white girl last Thursday at a point about three miles west of this city and asked her several "leading questions" and that during Thursday night the same Negro was seen by this girl peeping into her window. The matter was reported to a deputy sheriff, Frank Jones, who on Friday drove to the camp where Ben Hart was employed as a wood chopper and attempted to arrest him when his employer, Mr. Cab Pickett, (white) objected to his arrest, stating that Hart had not been away from the premises and that he was a good citizen and would not be guilty of such an offense. The officer left without making an arrest.

At a late hour Friday night, five or six automobile loads of white men appeared at the cabin occupied by Hart and several others and demanded that Hart come out. They represented themselves as officers, placed handcuffs upon him and drove away with him. When the lynching bunch reached a point about three miles west of the city it appears that they put Hart out of the car (still handcuffed) and told him to run. As he ran, they shot him from behind, riddling him with bullets. His lifeless body fell into a ditch and near-by neighbors who heard the shooting came upon the scene and soon reported it to the County Sheriff, who with deputies went to the scene and removed the body to the L. L. Pratt Undertaking Parlors.

County detective, Henry Lillenthal is investigating the matter and announced in the Sunday Times Union that he has several clues which point to the identity of the lynchers and expects to make startling arrests at an early date.

Many believe that the tragedy was perpetrated by deputies and city policemen and others believe that it is the work of hired members of the Ku Klux Klan who are professionals in such dark deeds. Several killings of Negroes have occurred in this section within the past few years and nobody has been found guilty.

The woman in this particular case, says that Hart is not the man who approached her. Hence, the innocence of the murdered man. But what of it? The white men who lynched him quite often get thirsty for Negro blood and someone must become their victim. Such is the state of civilization here in Florida.

NEGRO THE TOPIC OF WORLD-WIDE DISCUSSION

(By The Associated Negro Press)

The Negro on the Continent is being much written about by eminent English scholars. Pertinent articles dealing with African tribes in Central Africa, in the Congo, and on the West Coast appear in such magazines as the Contemporary Review and Hibbert's Journal. There is an article of timely interest appearing in the Forum from the pen of Dean William Pickens. American writers and journalists are cashing in on various articles relating to the Negro, and articles on Negro life are appearing in the leading metropolitan magazines and dailies. There are two articles on music among the Colored people in Philadelphia appearing in recent issues of the celebrated theatrical weekly, The Billboard, written by Daniel W. Chase, who also has contributed articles on "Negro Pageantry" to several periodicals on the Western Coast, (California).

Ernest T. Attwell, recently appointed by Governor Pinchot a member of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern State Penitentiary, delivered an address on the part leisure time activities must take in the life of the community at the community house recently started under the auspices of the Zoar M.E. Church.

THE N.A.A.C.P. CONVENTION

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Kansas City, Kansas, Sept.—The N.A.A.C.P. held its fourteenth annual meeting here this week. The principal theme of the conference was race relations. President Moorfield Story of Boston was unable to be present, but sent a stirring message to be read to the assembled delegates in which he urged them to take heart and fight on for final victory in civil rights.

Among the speakers were Prof. Geo. W. Carver of Tuskegee Institute who was presented with the Spingarn medal; Governor Hyde of Missouri; Attorney General C. B. Griffith of Kansas who spoke in behalf of Governor Davis who was ill; Miss Mary McDowell, Commissioner of Public Welfare, Chicago; Representative L. C. Dyer, of St. Louis; Bishop Heard of the A.M.E. Church; James Weldon Johnson, Executive Secretary, and Walter White, Assistant Secretary.

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