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Anti-Lynching Law Is Constitutional

BRIEF DECLARES LYNCHING NO LONGER MATTER OF LOCAL OR STATE CONCERN AND CITES LEGAL CASES SUPPORTING RIGHT OF FEDERAL GOVERN-MENT TO ACT.

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 30th -A comprehensive 28-page brief setting forth the constitutionality of the Costigan-Wagner federal anti-lynching bill was filed last week with the Senate sub-committee on the judiciary by Charles H. Tuttle, former U.S. district attorney for New York.

The brief declares that lynching has become a national menace and that the lynchings of white and colored men last year "have been eloquent proof that this form of primitiive savagery is not on the decline, and that both in its manifestation and in its consequence it is not only of grave concern to the individual states, but an imminent peril to the nation as a

Nation should Defend Self. The introduction to the legal arg-

"The time, therefore, has come when the nation should defend itself against this national evil which has assumed colossal proportions. Whatever our views of state rights may be, we must recognize that, under present day conditions, in the solution of national questions state boundaries are becoming less distinct. . . . More and more the national resources are called upon for the making of local improvement within the several states and for the relief of their population from economic and physical distress. Hardly, then, does it seem fitting that where the national government is, on the solicitation of state and local communities, making ever increasing investment among them, they should deny to the national government an interest and voice in preventing in their own midst recurrences of mob insurrection which destroy the security of the national investment and which undermine the strength of the natioinal credit and of the national institutions. No. Constitutional Bar

"Surely nothing in our national enostitution prevents our national an act of self-preservation and from protecting itself against the conseof the laws through the tyrannies of mob rule.

"The power this to protect the nation against internal national danconferred upon Congress by the United States Constitution."

The brief then cites many decisions of the United States supreme court in support of constitutional- for a white farmer. Local police did ity of the Costigan-Wagner bill. It the conscripting. One Negro who closes with a citation of the opinion complained to Washington is now in of the supreme court in Ex Parte Sie- jail. The letter concludes: "For God bold, 100 U.S. 371 (p. 395):

the United States may, through its jobs."

official agents, execute on every foot of American soil the powers and functions that belong to it." Letters to Committee Urged.

The national office of the N.A.A. C.P. has sent a copy of the brief to every member of the Senate judiciary committee urging prompt and favorable report of the bill out to the floor of the Senate. All branches of the N.A.A.C.P. and all organization and individuals supporting the federal anti-lynching law are urged to write members of the judicitary committee sking them to vote the bill favorably and to support it on the floor. Thei address is Senate office building Washington, D.C. The members of the committe are: Senators Henry F. Ashurst, Arizona, chairman: William H. King, Ctah; Hubert D. Stephens. Mississippi; Clarence C. Dill, Washington; Hugo L. Black, Alabama; Matthew M. Neely, West Virginia; Huey P. Long, Louisiana; Frederick Van Nuys, ndiana; Pat McCarran, Nevada; M. M. Logan, Kentucky; William H. Dieterich, Illinois; William E. Borah, Idaho; George W. Norris, Nebraska; Arthur R. Robinson, Indiana; Daniel O. Hastings, Delaware; Felix Hebert, Rhode Island; Thomas D. Schall, Minnesota; and Warren R. Austin,

Protests Dipriving of The Negro

NEW YORK, April - In a strong etter to Harry L. Hopkins, federal emergency relief administrator, Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, vigorously protested today against depriving Negroes of both public work and relief at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and urged that steps be taken to remedy conditions

Mr. Wilkins' complaint was based on a lengthy letter from a Fort Laud. erdale Negro charging color discrimingtion and mistreatment by relief as. sociation officials in the Florida city. "We have had no work since last seagovernment from undertaking such son," he writes. "A great many have been on federal relief. When they tell us to register for civil work hunquences of the break down of due dreds have done so. Then they give process of law through state inac- all the work to the whites except three tion or ineffectiveness, and of whole- days before thanksgiving when about sale discrimination in the protection 60 Negroes were put in the Flamingo Swamp to work in the mud. After thanksgiving no other Negroes have had a single hour's job. Hundreds of whites work every day. Last week gers of this character were expressly \$4000 was paid whites and not a cent paid Negroes." The writer tells of hundreds of Negroes." The writer tells of hundreds of Negroes being forced with rifle and pistol to work in heaven's sake do something for "We hold it to be an incontrovert- we poor devils in Fort Lauderdale. ible principle, that the government of We are off the relief and have no