

SNYDER FREED BY JURY ON LYNCHING CHARGE

First Man to Be Tried for Lynching William Brown is Acquitted by Verdict After a Deliberation of Nearly Five Hours—Must Now Stand Trial on Charge of Rioting.

RALPH Snyder, held for murder on the charge of lynching William Brown on the night of September 28 was found not guilty by a jury in Judge Redick's court last Thursday. The jury was out for nearly five hours. Several witnesses testified that Snyder mounted the burned police patrol near the court house and said: "We have showed this nigger what a northern mob can do;" and made similar speeches at other points. He is said to have warned the mob not to carry out their threat to go north with Brown's body, because there were armed but to wait until the next night and then go out and clean up.

Snyder is the first man to be tried for the actual lynching of Brown. "Froggie" Howard, alleged to be with Snyder, will be soon tried on a similar charge. He stoutly denied his guilt but admitted that he was in the crowd around the court house, but took no actual part in the lynching. He admitted that he made speeches admonishing the crowd not to go to Twenty-fourth and Lake streets.

Attorney Shotwell prosecuted the case with vigor, but no witnesses testified that they saw Snyder lay hands upon Brown or the rope.

Although acquitted of the charge of lynching Snyder is still held to answer to the charge of rioting.

CALIFORNIA GIRL LEADS CLASS OF 105 STUDENTS IN EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Thereby Arousing Jealousy of Classmates Prior to Graduation—Defended by School Head.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 18.—A young colored woman who, like Abou Ben Adhem, "led all the rest," is the storm center around which the board of trustees, the teachers and the pupils of Calixto, Imperial county, high school, are revolving.

The colored pupil ranks highest in educational attainments among the 105 students and the white girls scholars have refused absolutely to sit on the same platform with her at the coming graduation exercises.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Will C. Wood has received a letter from the board of trustees of the school in which it is stated that these same white students have sat with the colored student for four years without objection. The opinion is expressed that the whole affair resolves itself into a matter of jealousy at the progress of the colored pupil.

Separate Schools

The El Centro schools are cited as having some bearing on the matter as in that Imperial county city separate grammar schools have been established for the white and the colored races.

The high school problem as regards colored students never reaches El Centro, it is stated in the letter, as it is the plan to "discharge" colored students in that particular high school.

The intimation is made that the problem has been imported to California by cotton growers from the southern states who will not allow their children to attend the same schools as Negroes.

Job H. Wood, Jr., deputy superintendent of public instruction, has sent the following reply to the board of trustees:

"We have your letter relative to graduation of pupils from your high school. Permit me to state in reply, that the state of California taxes all people alike, without reference to color or 'previous conditions of servitude,' for the purpose of maintaining its public schools. And at this time we have nothing on the statute books that separates, in any way, the colored from the white children.

"The public schools are maintained for the purpose of educating the mass of humanity and making them able to meet their obligations as American citizens. The colored people of that community are taxed where they have property or they pay their rent for homes and this rent is used to pay taxes, just the same as everyone else does, and they are guaranteed their rights under the constitution and under the laws of this state. If this colored girl has done her work as the law provides, she is entitled to her diploma and her recommendation for her entrance into college or normal school and the courts will compel your school to issue this diploma.

"I am glad to see that the spirit of your board is to give the colored girl her chance. If these white girls refuse to graduate with the girl with whom they have attended school through all of these years, they should go back into the public schools and have a real training for American citizenship. They must mix in the public for the future and they must meet these people, be they colored or white.

"Of course, your board may arrange to pass out these diplomas to all the

children who are entitled to them and have no graduating exercises if they want. But, if you have graduating exercises, this girl must be recognized and be on the platform with the balance of the children and receive her diploma.

"JOB H. WOOD, JR.,

"Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction."

BUSINESS LEAGUE OPENS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Local Organizations to Be Put on Sound Footing—Colored Bankers Co-operating With Business League Officials.

Washington, D. C.—The decision reached by the National Negro Business League at its meeting held in St. Louis, Mo., in August to establish at Washington national headquarters, is being carried into effect. Arrangements have been perfected by the secretary of the league, Mr. Emmett J. Scott, whereby a portion of the Y. M. C. A. offices formerly occupied by Dr. J. E. Moorland and his staff of assistants during the war, shall be taken over and maintained hereafter as National Negro Business League headquarters. This arrangement is admirable as the Y. M. C. A. building is the center of Negro life and activity in Washington. The influence that count for most in the life of the colored people in Washington more or less radiate from the Y. M. C. A. building.

The program to revive local Negro Business Leagues will be put under way at once and will be carried forward as earnestly as possible. The first movement in that direction has been to reorganize the Washington Negro Business League on the basis of \$5.00 joining fee per member with dues of \$10.00 per year payable quarterly with a hope that this plan will be adopted by Local Negro Business Leagues throughout the country. Forty persons have already come into the Washington League on these terms.

Mr. T. J. Calloway, an experienced business man, has taken the leadership in cooperation with the secretary of the national league in reorganizing the Washington branch, and will have charge of a campaign throughout the country to put local Negro business leagues on a sound footing. Associated with them will be a live-wire office manager deeply interested in business league work, who will represent the officers of the national Negro business at headquarters and keep the correspondence of the league flowing to the remotest corners of the United States. Back of all of these efforts will be the influence and counsel of Dr. R. R. Moton, president; Dr. Robert E. Jones, chairman of the executive committee, and the whole official staff of the National Negro Business League. A group of colored bankers headed by Mr. E. C. Brown, of Brown & Stevens, bankers, Philadelphia, has agreed to co-operate with the national organization in putting this extensive business league program through.

EPISCOPAL MISSIONARY SCHOOLS IN SOUTH CAROLINA REACH 2,000 CHILDREN

(By Associated Negro Press.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Dec. 15.—A plea for the Negro of the south was made by Archdeacon E. L. Baskerville of South Carolina, in an address at the meeting of the colored committee of the Women's Auxiliary of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Speaking of the work of the church in the state, he said:

"In our missionary schools we are touching the lives of nearly 2,000 children and the teaching in these schools has a telling effect on the lives of the children and their parents. Communities are being transformed by the influence of our missions and schools. The schools are not run in opposition to the public schools, but are doing a work which the latter are not able at present to do. It is plainly the duty of the church to assume the responsibility to give the Negro what the state is unable to give."

The speaker declared that the Negro had always shown himself a law-abiding citizen when left to himself and that his merits should be recognized. "There is no more loyal citizen than the Negro," he said, "and it is important that these black people who know no other country than America should be educated in hand, heart and head to take the place of the people who are making such disturbances in our land today. We have no I. W. W. troubles in the south because the Negro is law-abiding. The south would be paralyzed without Negro labor, and let me say right here that the Negro never yet has started a riot. In all the riots in which the Negroes were involved they only showed resistance to protect themselves."

Archdeacon Baskerville regretted that there was so little public sympathy for the Negro. The churches and the country poured money out on men of other races, he said, but forgot the black man in his own country. "If the people of the United States," he said, "turned as much

money loose on the Negro as they do on the Japanese, we would have splendid missionary results, not only in the south, but all over the country.

AFRICAN PRINCE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Boston, Dec. 18.—Stephen Balfour Mfoafo, a prince of an African royal family, is represented among the student body at the college of liberal arts of Boston university. The prince's father is a farmer at Larteh, West Africa, on the Gold coast, and is engaged in raising cocoa.

"Most young men from the Gold coast of Africa go to England for higher education," Mr. Mfoafo said. "The schools at home are under the English and German system. I heard so much about America at home, so we came over here instead of going to England."

Mr. Mfoafo has been in America five years, doing his college "prep" work and completing his plebe year of college at Wilberforce, O. He will remain this year at the college of liberal arts of Boston university, where he is registered as a sophomore. Next year he will go to Boston University School of Medicine. Upon completing his medical course in 1924 Mr. Mfoafo plans to return to Gold Coast and practice medicine among his native people.

Two of his fellow countrymen are students at Harvard university.

ST. LOUIS TO BACK COLORED CONGRESSMAN

(By Associated Negro Press.)

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 16.—At a second meeting of the "Citizens' Conference" held in this city, it was determined to run a colored man for congress in the Twelfth district in opposition to the present Congressman L. C. Dyer. There are more than 15,000 colored voters in the district, and



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a determined fight will be made. The movement has the endorsement of certain portions of the organization.

Those who prepared the resolution of action are: J. M. Weil, Eugene Robinson, Homer G. Phillips, Dr. Darrington Weaver, Arthur L. Washington, Ike Neal, C. M. Moore, A. W. Lloyd, Chas. Henry Phillips, Jr.

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