

JUSTICE?

By Arthur C. Parker

Innumerable trials tell us something of the hideous mockery of justice dispensed to Colored people in American Courts, particularly in the South. Our great daily press sheets in commenting on these legal tragi-comedies allude to them as "Legal Court Procedure".

It is no intention of mine to indulge in a tirade of groundless calumnies against United States courts and the kind of justice given to all poor men and especially colored citizens. I intend only to lay the miserable facts before you. If the truth of what is happening to our people in this so-called land of impartial justice, freedom, and equality does not revolt you and cause you to fight for your rights; then the American colored people of the United States have finally relinquished every claim to the rights and privileges guaranteed men and women under the constitution for which many colored men have fought and died.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has facts and figures, to be had on request, definitely proving it to be as hard for a colored citizen who has offended a white, to get any semblance of fair dealing in nearly all the southern and many northern courts as it is for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.

The Record In Blood

Do you know that in 1930 the following brutal lynchings are known to have occurred:

Jimmie Irvine	Feb. 1	Ocilla, Ga.	Beaten to death
J. H. Wilkins	April 5	Locust Grove	Beaten to death
Dave Harris	April 23	Gunnison, Miss	Shot
Allen Green	April 24	Walhalla, S.C.	Shot
John Hodaz (White)	April 27	Plant City, Fla	Hanged and shot
George Hughes	May 9	Sherman, Texas	Burned in jail
Goerge Johnson	May 16	Honey Grove	Shot and burned
Henry Argo	May 31	Chickasha	Shot
Poell Roan	June 18	Bryan	Shot
Dave Jenkins	June 21	Union, S.C.	Shot
Jack Robertson	June 28	Round Rock, Tex	Shot
Esau Robertson	June 24	Emelle, Ala.	Hanged
S. S. Mincey	July 22	Mt. Vernon, Ga.	Beaten to death
Thomas Shipp	Aug. 7	Marion, Ind.	Hanged and shot
Abraham Smith	Aug. 7	Marion, Ind.	Hanged and shot
Oliver Moore	Aug. 19	Tarboro, N.C.	Hanged and shot
George Grant	Sept. 8	Darien, Ga.	Shot
Pig Lockett	Sept. 10	Scooba, Miss.	Hanged
Holly Hite	Sept. 10	Scooba, Miss.	Shot
M. C. Whitly	Sept. 12	Rhyne, Ga.	Shot
Wm. Kirkland	Sept. 25	Thomasville	Hanged
Lacy Mitchell	Sept. 27	Thomasville	Shot
John W. Clark	Oct. 1	Cartersville	Hanged

While Government Sleeps

Think of it! In this land where the National Government spends months and millions detecting larceny and graft among its officials and years plus billions enforcing a foolish unenforceable prohibition law, human life with all its promise, living souls that God created inviolate, are crucified in writhing agony.

Our same government that send a dozen mammoth warships and thousands of cossack marines to Nicaragua or Haiti to protect the life and property of its concession grabbing white citizens, stands idly permissive in all its sovereign nobility while thousands of her darker citizens are raped, disfranchised, beaten and killed. Lynchings and orgies of killings in which mobs of renegades wallow in the slime of their beastly lusts sacrifice to the God of Race Hatreds all that is decent, human, or sacred in a Christian society.

The Scottsboro case in which nine colored boys have appealed from a malicious death sentence is another burning example of the sort of justice dispensed to America's dark-hued citizens.

Ten thousand howling natives of Alabama's back woods, with a brass band and rifles, overalls and tobacco cuds, surrounded the local court house, and with hoots and dire threats, demanded death for the nine accused lads.

We Must Do Our Own Thinking

LOCAL COURTS ARE COMPOSED OF THE CITIZENS RESIDING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF ITS JURISDICTION.

This is too true in the case of the Scottsboro abomination. The men officially sitting in judgement over the nine helpless colored lads are the same type of prejudiced southerners who unofficially derive their greatest pleasures from lynching hapless colored folk for any kind of trivial offence or fancied wrong.

The bitter truth about our position in this predominantly white society is a problem that can only be solved by sincere study and earnest application. The daily capitalist press won't tell you a true and unbiased story of the issues affecting you and your welfare.

Business depressions inevitably bring unemployment, crime, hunger, strikes and sharpened race differences; and colored people in the United States, always the last hired and the first fired, are always more acutely distressed than any other national group.

It is time we laid some concrete foundation for our future and the future of our children. America is our native land, we belong, and since we intend to and must live here we must do something to make the United States a fit place for working men and women to live, regardless of color or creed.

Read your own papers and learn the truth about our place as a large contributing group in this great nation. Support organizations fighting lynching, segregation, discrimination and disfranchisement.

O.E.A.12755

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