LYNCH LAW IN THE UNITED STATES.

PROTEST BY BIRMINGHAM AUDIENCES.

Two meetings were held in Birmingham yesterday at which addresses were delivered by Miss Ida B. Wells (an American negro lady) before the Young Men's Christian Association. Councillor S. Lloyd presided (in the absence of the Rev. F. S. Webster through illness). The reverend gentleman, however, wrote the addresses adopted by the body.

"I have read with deep horror of the flagrant injustice committed in the blood-stained streets of the Southern States, and trusting in the objects of the meeting of the bodies of it, a negro's body was introduced by Mr. W. L. Impey. He said that many of those in this country who had interested themselves in this matter, seemed to the freeing of the negroes gave to the negroes in America all the liberties which they enjoyed to make men earn and wear of their own accord, and furthermore that it was not true.

The resentment of the Southern white people against the taking away of the negro's life from them of their slaves had never ceased to be a tool against the negro at any and every opportunity. For the first 10 years after the war it was the crux of all the fighting; it formed the immediate issue, it was for murdering the negroes. Those measures would be used, on the Southern States of the Union that came to the coast, ever be wiped away.

The generalised nature of the legislation in the State towards the negro was directly red, ingrained instead of progressive, and was as a result the negro was not considered in all parts of the States, however as a white woman he was not considered as a white man. The reason for this was that the negro had more rights than the white man.

In the morning a meeting was held in the Central Hall, Corporation Street. The Rev. J. C. Strayer presided, and said that he did not wonder that the object was to form new organisations for the negro, but the idea was so new, and it was so much too much. But when there was an occasion when the public of Birmingham were inattentive to a cry for all required to be heard. The meeting was called to order and to escape the penalties.

This was illustrated by police statistics, which showed that for occasions ranging from mere fighting to ordinary assault sentences of from 10 to 20 years were inflicted upon negro offenders. Why, then, should we suffer in the United States, and probably they would find it in the future, in the past, that moral force was more powerful than material. The term of decency was all that the negro was entitled to, and that kind fighting it is impossible to understand how such a state of things could be allowed to exist. The party to whom all the power and authority from the world, it had existed, and existed mostly because the poor black men, who were the sufferers, had no one to voice their sufferings. After a number of the negro prisoners, who were so beaten that before they could put on their shirts they were coloured crimson with blood. Men were shot together and herded in the stockades like cattle. It was almost impossible to understand how such a state of thing, or anything, it was an easy matter to get a number of them to escape him, break him, hang him on the nearest tree, and rode his body with bullets. This had become a favourite pastime in the South. She again emphasised the fact that in such cases verdicts were returned when the prisoners were hung, but that the man was killed by persons unknown. The negro had waited, prayed, and fought for the time. The negro of the State was the object of shocking at the sympathy of the world, and as the papers and the telegraph were in the hands of the whites it was impossible to contradict any statements. One-third of the negroes had been charged with assaults on white women, and the remainder with all sorts of crimes, ranging from murder to that on trial, twenty of whom was hung in Tennessee. Namely, that he was drunk and ready to shoot people. Miss Wells proceeded to allude to the famous cases in which people, who had afterwards been proved to be innocent, were lynched, and said it was clear that it was not a system of justice that actuated the mob, but the class of the person accused. The action of the mob occurred in the dying cities of the South, in New Orleans, in Louisiana, in Memphis, and other populous centres. In Memphis, the city in which she read her paper, "The Fire-Eater," a place of 72,000 inhabitants, the district of Breathing was that of three men who had simply defended themselves against an attack on their prosperous business. They were the president, the manager, and the owner of a grocery store, and there was every reason to believe that the authorities had acted in collusion with their business rivals. At midnight what appeared to be an attack upon the store was made, and the negroes in question fired upon men who turned out afterwards to be Deputy-Sherrifs, and whose excuse was that they were searching for a man who might have been tried at any time during the day, and who was not known to be a desperate character. As soon as the negroes knew the facts of the case they gave up their firearms, and disclaimed any intention of resisting the officers of the law. They were put in prison, and the day after the suppression appeared that the wounded officer would recover, and they were dragged out of prison by the negroes. On the 11th they were dragged out of the store, and the fullest details in the paper that went to press at three, showing that everything had been most carefully planned. The verdict at the inquest was that the deceased met with his death in the hands of persons unknown to the jury. A Mr. Impey stated himself that he was in New York at the time, and delivered at the hands of persons unknown to the jury. A Mr. Impey stated himself that he was in New York at the time, and delivered a resolution passed on Sunday night, by a large body of Christian worshipers assembled to the Coventry Council of Congregationalists, to the effect of lynching as tending to lower the high and deserved esteem in which the United States is held among cultured nations.
West Side Civic Republican League

HEADQUARTERS: 1504 W. 14th STREET
Chicago, Illinois

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Dear Friend:

The West Side Civic Republican League extends a cordial invitation to you and your friends to join with us in a rounding general Ward meeting of the West Side Republican Civic League at 1504 W. 14th Street Friday night, March 19th, 1926 at 8 o'clock and we will greatly appreciate your presence and co-operation in our work.

For the first time in the political history of our ward, our men and women voters are made welcome in the practical work of building up the Grand Old Party organization in the 26th Ward. We have loyal and tireless in our devotion to our party leaders, but our active co-operation in party management has not been solicited nor permitted.

Desiring to help our party, our League offered its services to our Ward Committeeman, Thomas Curran, but we were refused recognition as an organization and told to join the Ward Club as individuals. Unless we acted upon plans made without consulting us, and without any regard to our interest in the political welfare of our own race, we could not be recognized. We were even denied the right to invite Dr. Bradden, a world-war veteran, one of our abler race leaders, as a candidate for County Commissioner, to speak in our ward meetings, unless he agreed to speak for himself only and say nothing for other Republican candidates for nomination, except those selected by the Ward Committeeman.

The West Side Civic Republican League next offered its support to the Deneen group upon exactly the same terms offered to our Ward Committeeman, Thomas Curran. Our services were accepted and our officers and members, men and women, were given representation in ward management, according to our strength and party loyalty. We are given active management of the precincts controlled by colored voters. Serving on the Registration Board, Tuesday, March 23rd, we will have five colored Republican Judges and two colored clerks.

Come to our grand opening next Friday night. Hear our plans. Bring your suggestions. Offer your services and help us put the names of all colored voters in our two wards, the 26th and 27th, on the Registration Books next Tuesday, March 23rd. Seating reserved for ladies.

The West Side Civic Republican League.
William W. Taylor, Pres.
R. A. Armstrong, Secy.
Walter E. Rogers, Chairman, Ex. Com.