

THREE NEGROES LYNCHED IN DULUTH LAST NIGHT MOB OF 5,000 SWEEPS POLICE ASIDE

Stirred by Deed of Brutes Thousands See Red and Join Shrieking Mob in Wreak- ing Swift Diabolical Vengeance

Disgraceful Violence of the Mob Brings Shame Upon the City and Deep Regret is Profoundly Expressed by Citizens

(By Associated Press)

Duluth, Minn., June 16.—All ten negroes arrested in Virginia, Minn., last night, and those "acquitted" by the mob last night just before it killed three of their companions for outraging a white girl here Monday night, are locked in St. Louis county jail this afternoon with a heavy guard of a tank company of home guards around the building prepared to foil any attempts to lynch them tonight.

Adjutant General Rhinow went out today with several truck loads of Minnesota National Guardsmen to a remote spot on Vermillion Road between Duluth and Virginia and there met two heavily armed automobile parties that had stayed there throughout last night and kept guard over the circus negroes until General Rhinow arrived today.

Quietly as possible, the negroes were brought to Duluth, and when once within the city limits a quick run was made for the county jail. The city is absolutely quiet, and the negroes were jailed without a half dozen people knowing they had arrived.

The national guardsmen sent here with General Rhinow have their rifles stacked in front of a hotel on Superior street. The tank company on guard at the county jail is being reinforced by marine guards, the latter having been called out this afternoon. Five hundred home, marine and state guards will be under arms here tonight. No order has been issued up to 2 p. m., recalling the down state guards to Fort Snelling.

Duluth, June 16.—Immediate investigation of last night's lynching and rioting to the end that the responsibility may be fixed against those who threw law and order to the winds, will be instituted by the county authorities at once.

Four judges of the district court this forenoon signed an order convening a special grand jury at the court house tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock to "inquire as to grave public offenses recently committed in this county."

Two of the judges, Judges W. A. Cant and Bert Fester, witnessed the gathering of the mob last night in front of police headquarters, but neither saw the lynchings.

County Attorney Warren E. Greene stated today that his office would do everything within its power to bring the offenders, who had incited the rioting and three lynchings to justice.

A report received here early today from Virginia was to the effect that ten negroes were being rushed in automobiles to St. Paul, guarded by deputy sheriffs, to be placed in the Ramsey county jail for protection. A score of automobiles carrying members of last night's mob had been reported on the way to Virginia from Duluth in an effort to siege other negroes employed by a circus, whom they believed might have participated in the attack on a white girl here.

Frank L. Magie, sheriff of St. Louis county, said today that the ten negroes arrested at Virginia, in connection with the attack on a 17-year-old white girl, would be in the St. Louis county jail today. "Chief of Police Murphy took four of the men from Virginia last night and left them in a secure place in the country. I took the six others to another place. All ten will be in the county jail here some time today," Sheriff Magie said.

Duluth Calm Today.

Duluth, June 16.—Virtually normal conditions prevailed today on the Duluth business streets over which a mob of 5,000 persons surged last night, sweeping the police from power and seizing and lynching three negroes held in connection with an attack on a 17 year old white girl.

When two companies of Minnesota National Guardsmen reached here at an early hour after a special train trip from St. Paul, they found only a damaged police station and littered streets as visual evidence of the mob's activity.

Under personal command of State Adjutant General W. F. Rhinow, the 124 men and six officers went into temporary camp, preparing to patrol the streets if necessary, to guard against any eventuality that might arise as an aftermath of the mob's mad run. The men are equipped for riot duty. Captain W. P. Townsend commands Company H of Faribault, and Captain W. A. Miller heads company I of Long Prairie.

Available records today showed only one previous lynching in Minnesota, but this had not been confirmed in official sources. Twenty years ago, it was stated, a white man was lynched in this county near Mountain Iron for attacking a girl.

For at least two hours, the mob ruled, only relinquishing its power after the negroes had been lynched.

Six negroes had been arrested by the police in connection with the attack on the girl, which took place at a circus ground Monday night. The negroes were attached to the circus as roustabouts. The mob held a work trial, declaring three of the negroes guilty and acquitted the other three, who today still were in the hands of the police.

These three "convicted" negroes were banged within a block and a half of the police station, the mob hooting down pleas of two priests that the law be permitted to take its course. It took

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THREE NEGROES WERE LYNCHED

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Three starts to hang the first negro, as the rope broke the first two times.

Troops Going Back to St. Paul.

Answering a telegraphed call for assistance, made on the Governor by Sheriff Frank L. Magie of St. Louis county, before the lynching occurred last night, two companies of state troops arrived here this morning from Fort Snelling, where the national guard is in camp. Since quiet reigns, Sheriff Magie said today, it is likely the troops will be sent back to Snelling late today.

The troops are accompanied by Adjutant General Rhinow, who is this morning consulting with city and county authorities as to what is advisable to do. The troops left St. Paul at 1:30 this morning. The companies are H of Faribault, commanded by Senior Captain W. P. Townsend and I of Long Prairie, in command of Captain W. A. Miller.

No More Trouble Feared.

After the mob had dispersed early today, the police cut down the bodies of the negroes, which had not been mutilated. The authorities did not expect any further trouble today, and expressed themselves doubly sure of this in view of the presence of the guardsmen.

The injuries suffered by eight policemen and a newspaperman in the brickbat and firehose attack on the police station were said to be trivial today.

An investigation of the action of the mob will be made, it was understood today, but just what form this investigation would take had not been known when the guardsmen reached here.

Prosecution Will Follow.

A promise of prosecution of last night's lynchers to the full extent of the law was made today by Warren E. Greene, St. Louis county attorney. "It is a terrible thing to have happened," he said. "An investigation will be started today and steps taken to bring all offenders to justice."

Police here this forenoon were unable to state definitely whether the ten negroes taken from the Virginia jail were being taken to St. Paul in autos or in a chartered train. The best information they had was that a train had been commandeered and the negroes are aboard that and that the train has right of way to St. Paul.

Reports of auto loads of Duluth lynchers enroute to Virginia last night were not confirmed this morning. It is said the roads to the Range are bad and that the cars, if they started, probably did not get far.

The lynchings took place under the windows of the Shrine Auditorium on First Street. Duluth Shriners were in the building, preparing to leave for Portland, and witnessed the lynching.

The Catholic priest, Father W. J. Powers made a plea for the lives of the negroes. Father Powers climbed the pole already selected by the mob and asked for law and order and was met by "to hell with law."

Negroes Plead Innocence.

Isaac McGhie, first of the three to hang, was then strung up. He pleaded innocence of the attack on the girl as he died. Elmer Jackson and Nate Green followed to their deaths.

An auto load of youngsters, said to be from the west end where the girl lived, started the lynching by riding rapidly up and down Superior Street asking for volunteers. Some men on the side walks laughed and told them to "go south," but others started toward the city jail. Presently 5,000 people had gathered there. Theatres emptied themselves hurriedly and the crowds joined in. A 20-year old boy then jumped on an automobile and made an impassioned speech, and a four hour battle with police ensued.

Firemen came and turned a hose on the mob. Some one cut the hose. No shots were fired by police.

Given Swift Trial.

A "trial" was given the negroes as they came into the hands of the mob. Those not sentenced to die were turned back to the police.

One negro dropped his dice on the pavement and a boy handed them to him, telling him he would need them in hell.

Out of the confusion during the

mock trial of the negroes comes the statement that one negro, McGhie, confessed it was he who held the gun to the girl's escort's head while the assaults were committed.

Street cleaners before 9 A. M., had cleaned up several bushels of cigarette stumps and other evidence of mob's activities, but the city jail is standing with glassless windows, battered doors and a general aspect of mob violence.

Laughter and Brutality.

It was a laughing mob. Thousands yelled different wishes and then all laughed. There were jokes. There was brutality. A white man mounted the pole above a dying negro and kicked him repeatedly in the face. A strangling negro fell when a rope broke. Another rope, a strong one, was found.

Today the city is calm. Men stand in groups, discussing the tragic night's work.