

His Excellency,  
Albert Ritchie,  
Governor of Maryland.

The decent, peace pursuing, law abiding American citizenry is justly encouraged by the immediate and sweeping investigation ordered by you yesterday of the lynching of Matthew Williams, a resident of Salisbury, Maryland, which followed the conference with William Lane, Attorney General of the State of Maryland, on your hurried return from New York and before you departed from Baltimore for Chicago.

Such fearless and direct official action by the State executives of the nation for the past few years has all but eradicated from the escutcheon of the United States the horrible blemish of mob violence and lynching.

On behalf of the 246,000 colored citizens of Chicago we add our genuine welcome to another of the nation's State executives whose oath to uphold the majesty of the law and to protect all citizens regardless of creed, color or previous condition has meant more than empty lip service.

More power to the Governor of Maryland who meets every challenge of leadership for the whole citizenry.

(Signed) Edgar G. Brown,  
Director Ten Years Progress Plan and  
Program for the Colored Citizens of  
Chicago.