

# Ritchie Orders Prosecution Of Shore Lynching Leaders

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was held in Cambridge, it was decided that the record should be sent to the Court of Appeals as soon as it could be prepared. Judge Pattison said:

"This, of course, means that Lee cannot be brought to trial Tuesday as planned."

## MEETS IN JANUARY.

The Court of Appeals does not meet in regular session again until January 11, but it was pointed out that a special session may be called at any time by the Chief Judge. In view of attitude taken by Governor Ritchie, this action is anticipated in legal circles.

After declaring he had every confidence in Mr. Bailey, the Governor added:

"In the face of this outrage, which is of State-wide importance, it is my duty to give all the assistance within my power."

The Governor then referred to the effect that this case might have on the trial of Yuel Lee.

## RECEIVED LETTERS.

He stated that he had received letters from local authorities, assuring him that, in their opinion, the State militia will not be needed either for the protection of Lee or his attorney.

These letters were written prior to the lynchings, and the Governor said:

"In view of the lynching, I have decided that whatever may be the opinions which local authorities now hold, it is my duty as Governor of the State to take the steps which I consider necessary to assure the protection of both Lee and his attorney.

## MAY CALL TROOPS.

While refusing to state what these steps might be, it was implied that he referred to sending National Guardsmen to the trial. In an informal comment the Governor said:

"There is little doubt in my mind that the names of the mob members can and will be learned. After that it is up to the grand jury."

Last night six special policemen were on duty in Salisbury. The usual Saturday night crowd surged through the streets but there was no sign of disorder.

## NEGROES ABSENT.

No negroes were seen in the downtown area. They remained in the colored section across the Wicomico river, on orders issued by the State's Attorney. The lynching was still the principal topic of conversation where two or more citizens gathered.

At a conference yesterday in the Hotel Belvedere, with Mr. Lane and other officials, Governor Ritchie declared in effect that "lynch law" would not be tolerated in the State and that the mobsters would not go unpunished.

Deputy Sheriff John Parks and Chief of Police N. H. Holland, who talked with members of the mob at the front door of the hospital

while other members entered the side door, said that they did not know the names of any of the lynchers. However, both men said that they would be able to identify the men who talked with them, if they saw them again.

Prominent residents of Salisbury declared the affair was the outcome of a meeting staged by Baltimore representatives of the Labor Defense League Thursday night, to protest the trial of Yuel Lee in Cambridge.

## BLAMED ON LEAGUE.

Mr. Bailey said:

"This affair, which is a blot on the community, would never have happened if it had not been for the interference in the Lee case of an agency in Baltimore known as the International Labor Defense League.

"If the man accused of the murder of four people had gone on trial in the regular manner, this would not have happened, and if it had the persons responsible for what occurred last night would have allowed the law to take its regular course."

The statement of State's Attorney Godfrey Child of Wicomico county that "if the International Labor Defense League did not keep out of the Eastern Shore something might happen," called for a hot reply last night by officers of the league.

## SENDS TELEGRAM.

In a wire addressed to Mr. Child at Pocomoke City, the league said:

"Your threats of further violence in your circuit will not prevent the International Labor Defense from protecting workers against legal lynchings by you and your courts. Eastern Shore mobs may dictate the orders of your courts, but we will still lead the workers in their organized fight against your terrorizing."

Late Friday night, after the lynching, Mr. Ades received the following wire from Salisbury:

"Have a negro murderer here a little dilapidated. Interview guaranteed. Same treatment awaits others."

The wire was sent prepaid and signed "John J. Justice."

## WROTE TO RITCHIE.

The League also wrote to Governor Ritchie yesterday, demanding that any investigating committee he appoints contain negro members of the International Labor Defense. The letter states:

"Any whitewashing of Eastern Shore officials in the lynching will be protested."

## STREETS CLEARED.

State's Attorney Bailey ordered the streets of Salisbury kept clear of negroes last night to prevent any possible outbreak. He said:

"I have conferred with negro leaders and their employers, and have obtained their promise to do all in their power to keep the negroes in their own section across the river, and to keep

other negroes from driving into town.

"I have also instructed the police to break up any gathering of persons on the corners, and to keep everyone moving in an orderly manner through the streets."

The Wicomico river flows through Salisbury. The whites live on one side of the river, while the negro colony of about 1,500 is located on the other side. The bridges across the river were under heavy guard last night. The population of Salisbury is about 11,000.

## DENIES JURY SESSION.

Mr. Bailey denied that a special session of the Grand Jury would be held at this time to investigate the lynching. He said:

"I have questioned many prominent citizens and officials, and so far have been unable to find anyone who recognized a member of the mob. Until the coroner's jury returns a verdict there will be nothing to go before a special session of the Grand Jury with."

The coroner's jury, impaneled with special care at the direction of the State's Attorney, yesterday viewed the charred remains of the murderer where it rested in a negro undertaker's.

## MEMBERS OF JURY.

The members of the jury are:

W. Arthur Kennerly, foreman, an ex-mayor of Salisbury; D. Frank Holloway, an insurance broker; John H. Tomilson, retired business man and Republican leader; S. Irving Johnson, manager of a dry goods store; Wade H. Bedsworth, a retired business man; Virgil J. Wowing, an automobile salesman; Charles Hurtt, insurance; W. Gorman Hastings, a printer; Walter R. Disharoon, lumber dealer; Frank A. Mitchell, an auditor, and P. Mark Carey, an insurance broker.