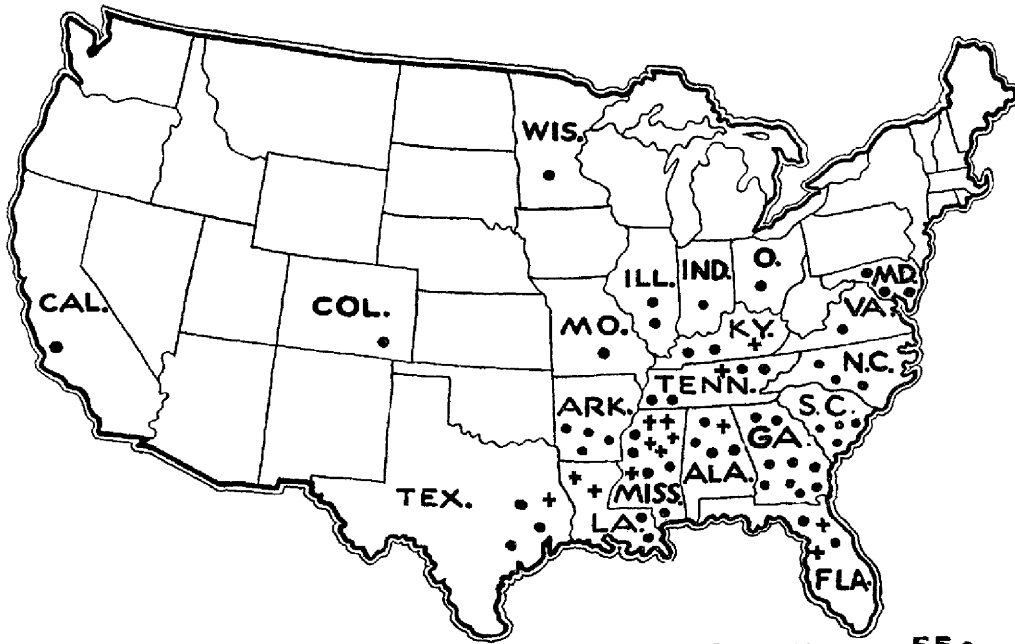


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Lynching

"This Business of Lynching"

Bulletin No. 4



Prevented Lynchings 55 •  
Lynchings . . . . . 14 +  
(1934)

JESSIE DANIEL AMES  
DIRECTOR

Association of Southern Women  
for the Prevention of Lynching

January, 1935

# Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching



## A Declaration

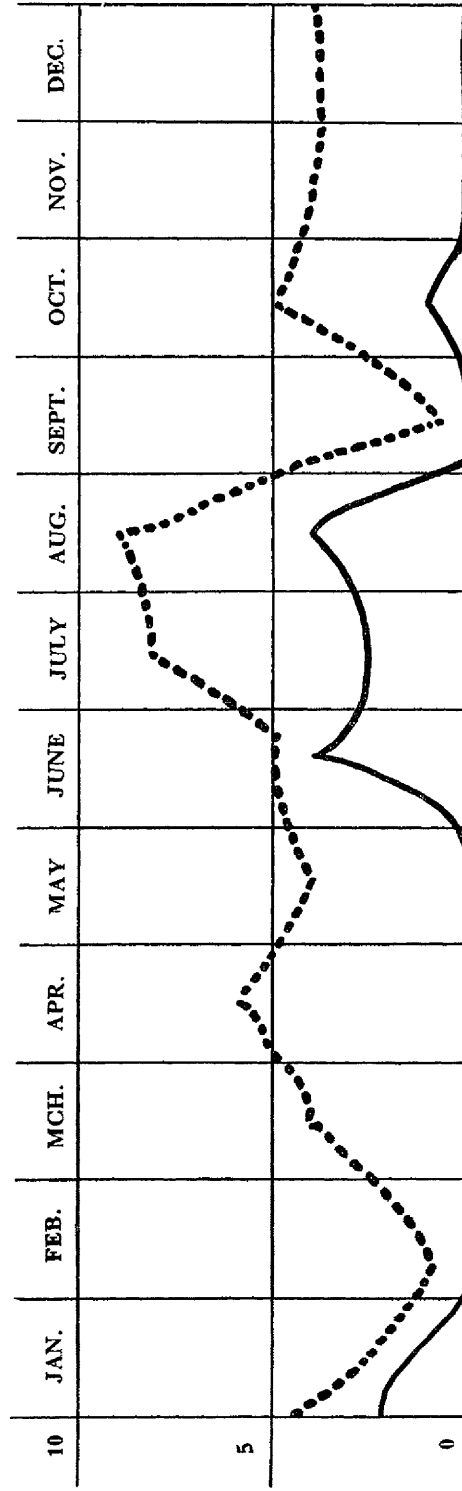
“We declare lynching is an indefensible crime destructive of all principles of government, hateful and hostile to every ideal of religion and humanity, debasing and degrading to every person involved. Though lynchings are not confined to any one section of the United States, we are aroused by the record which discloses our heavy responsibility for the presence of this crime in our country. We believe that this record has been achieved because public opinion has accepted too easily the claim of lynchers and mobsters that they were acting solely in the defense of womanhood. In the light of facts, this claim can no longer be used as a protection to those who lynch. We pledge ourselves to create a new public opinion in the South which will not condone for any reason whatever acts of mobs or lynchers.”—Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.



## Resolution

“We reaffirm our condemnation of lynching for any reason whatsoever. We declare as our deliberate conclusion that the crime of lynching is a logical result in every community that pursues the policy of humiliation and degradation of a part of its citizenship because of accident of birth; that exploits and intimidates a weaker element in its population for economic gain; that refuses equal educational opportunity to one portion of its children; that segregates arbitrarily a whole race in unsanitary, ugly sections; that permits the lawless element of both races to congregate in these segregated areas with little fear of molestation by the law; and finally denies a voice in the control of government to any fit and proper citizen because of race. We regard with favor any legal measure that promises sure and permanent eradication of lynching. Atlanta, Ga., January 9, 1934.

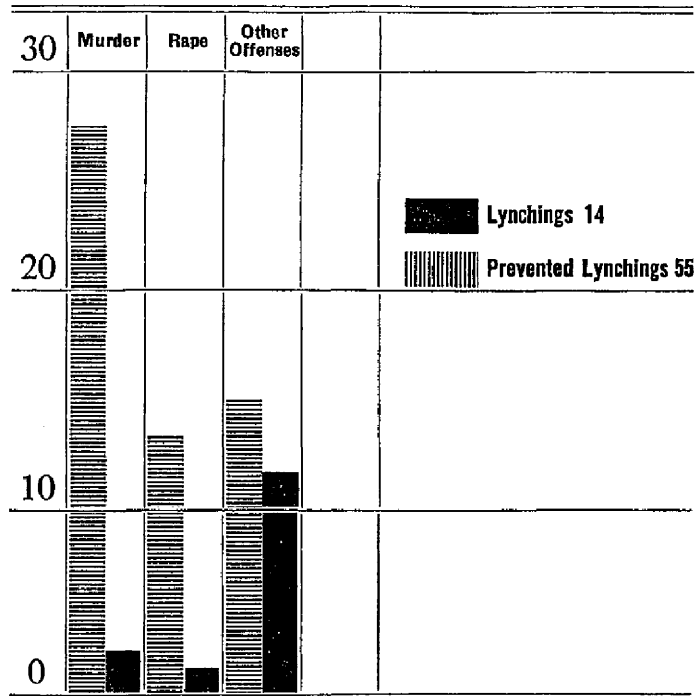
### LYNCHINGS AND PREVENTED LYNCHINGS 1934



Prevented Lynchings 55  
 Lynchings . . . . 14

In the months of June, July and August, 1934, 11 of the 14 lynchings were committed, while during the same months, 22 of the 55 near lynchings were prevented by officers.

## Alleged Offenses Prevented Lynchings and Lynchings 1934



74% of all persons *saved from death* at the hands of lynchers were accused of crimes *carrying the death sentence*.

Whereas

78.4% of all those *put to death* by lynchers were accused of offenses carrying no death sentence.



“When a sheriff, standing at the door of his jail, defies the mob demanding the surrender of a prisoner, and kills or is killed in resisting the mob, he is not ‘defending’ the prisoner. He may believe the prisoner to be guilty and deserving death. He may even contemplate with satisfaction seeing that prisoner hanging at the end of a rope—if he so hangs by due process of law. But at the moment the sheriff represents the Law; at the moment he is the custodian of the symbol of government. He embodies that majesty which a civilized, self-governing people hold for themselves and have delegated him, as their official agent, to maintain, sustain, defend. And the mob is attempting to tear from him that trust; the mob, spurning government and organized society is, in effect, in violent revolution.”—The State: Columbia, South Carolina, December 28, 1934.

Lynchings for alleged assaults on white women make the front pages of newspapers. The most indifferent women and men living in cross-roads communities read about the Marianna lynching of 1934. The horrible details of this crime supported the claims that lynching is necessary for the protection of women and that white men never lynch except for this reason. Few women, and not so many men, see the reports of the "quiet, deliberate, and orderly" lynchings which are buried among the stock market reports, if they appear in the great dailies at all. So strong is this conviction that lynching is the only method of protecting white women that they believe an alleged attempted assault must be dealt with in the same manner. The accusation that an attempted assault is an offense which makes necessary a lynching provides absolute immunity from investigation by officers to the men who have taken the law into their hands.

Causes of lynchings in 1934 lend support to a growing conviction that men lynch most frequently when they feel that the offense threatens white supremacy, but does not involve a crime for which the courts can assess the death penalty. This conviction is further supported by a study of the alleged offenses committed by those who were saved from lynching. Officers were less inclined to uphold the law when their prisoners had offended that intangible something called "racial superiority."

**OF THE FIFTY-FIVE PREVENTED LYNCHINGS:**

All were in the hands of the law.

**OF THE OFFENSES:**

One was innocent of any offense.

One was accused of a crime carrying a jail sentence or fine.

Thirteen were accused of crimes carrying prison sentence.

Forty were accused of crimes carrying the death sentence.

**OF THE FOURTEEN LYNCHINGS:**

Eight were taken from officers.

Six were not in the hands of the law.

**OF THE OFFENSES:**

Three were not charged with any offense.

Three were charged with offenses carrying fines or jail sentences.

Five were charged with offenses carrying prison sentences.

Three were accused of crimes carrying death sentence.

## Lynchings and Prevented Lynchings—1934

All communities except Birmingham and Manchester, Tennessee, in which lynchings were committed this year were visited personally either by some member of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching or by a representative of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching.

### Alabama.

#### Lynchings—1.

Birmingham, Jefferson County, August 23—  
Attempted hold-up of three women by an unidentified Negro man. Shot and later died in hospital. Officers not present.

*Three women crossing a park on the way to church were held up by a Negro. Two of them were thrown as they scuffled to get hold of the gun. One ran about a block to a tent meeting to give the alarm. Men hurried from the tent and began chasing a Negro who almost made his escape because of darkness. He was cornered in an alley and shot. He died in the hospital next day without regaining consciousness. All three women identified him. "Police have not decided who fired the fatal shot."—Atlanta Journal.*

#### Prevented Lynchings—4.

Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County, April 24—One Negro charged with attempted rape, removed from county for protection.

Birmingham, Jefferson County, April 25—One Indian charged with attempted rape, removed from county prison for protection.

Columbia, Houston County, August 25—One Negro, charged with murder, removed from county for protection.

Fort Deposit, Lowndes County, December 26—  
One Negro charged with shooting two white men, prisoner removed from county.

### Arkansas.

#### Lynchings—None.

#### Prevented Lynchings—4.

Stuttgart, Arkansas County, June 21—One Negro charged with rape taken out of county for protection.

Blytheville, Mississippi County, July 17—Two Negroes charged with murder, held in county, protected by increasing number of guards.

Osceola, Mississippi County, July 17—One Negro charged with murder, taken from county for protection.

Hot Springs, Garland County, October 21—  
One Negro charged with murder, taken from  
county for protection.

## Florida.

### Lynchings—2.

Tampa, Hillsborough County, January 24—  
Robert Johnson, Negro, under arrest for  
stealing chickens—Shot to death.

*Johnson, suspected of guilt in connection with rape on a young white woman was questioned by officers and released on insufficient evidence. He had confessed to stealing chickens some time before. On this charge he was arrested and held. T. M. Graves, Deputy Constable, came at 2:15 A. M. to remove Johnson from the city to the county jail. He was overpowered by a mob in cars, his own car captured, and he, with Johnson, were driven about six miles from Tampa, where Johnson was shot down with five bullets from one gun belonging to the officer, Graves. Governor Scholtz ordered an investigation. Several months later the investigators had not decided WHO KILLED ROBERT JOHNSON.*

Marianna, Jackson County, October 26—  
Claude Neal, Negro, accused of rape and  
murder. Tortured to death by small group of  
men, later hanged on Marianna Court House  
lawn. Taken from officers.

*A young farm girl was found murdered and reported raped. Claude Neal living near by was caught and taken to the jail at Marianna. Pursued by a mob, he was removed to Chipley and then to Panama City. He was put on a boat and taken to Pensacola, and was later moved to Brewton, Alabama. From Brewton he was taken by a mob into Florida to a hidden place on the Chipola River. Twenty-four hours before the lynching it was common knowledge that he was to be lynched. Dothan, Alabama, broadcast the information and newspapers announced it. Governor Scholtz urged to intervene by citizens of Florida offered help, but Jackson County officers said they did not need help. The Negro's body, horribly mutilated, was strung up on the Jackson County Court House lawn. A riot of mobsters, the next day, "pretty well likkered up", according to the Mayor of Marianna, tried to run all Negroes off their jobs. Troops were called to restore order and protect property. The Mayor said that he "regretted the necessity for the lynching." Sheriff Chambliss of Jackson County was exonerated in this lynching.*

Prevented Lynchings—2.

Jacksonville, Duval County, March.—A Negro charged with murder. Guards were augmented to protect the prisoner from violence.

Chipley, Washington County, October 10—  
Two Negro women charged with murder. They were moved from the county for safe-keeping.

**Georgia.**

Lynchings—None.

Tuskegee Institute reports one lynching. The facts are: Curtis James, a Negro, at Darien, McIntosh County was attacked by fourteen men, twelve white, two Negroes, all masked. Both James and the gang attacking him were said to be bootleggers of turpentine. James was believed murdered, but no body or evidence of death was found. Proof of death is required in all cases involving murder, and several weeks before, a *Negro reported lynched* at Ways Station, Georgia, was found, tried, and sentenced to the chain gang.

Prevented Lynchings—9.

Mount Vernon, Montgomery County, January 2—A Negro, accused of murder was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Sandersville, Washington County, June 10—  
One Negro accused of murder was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Douglasville, Douglas County, June 27—Two Negroes accused of murder were moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Newnan, Coweta County, July 9—One Negro, accused of murder, was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Greensboro, Green County, August 21—One Negro accused of seriously wounding a woman with a rock, was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Bryan County, August 30—One Negro accused of rape, was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Arp, Irwin County, September 8—One white man accused of rape, moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Rome, Floyd County, October 20—One Negro accused of wounding woman with knife, moved to another county for safe-keeping.

Ellaville, Schley County, December 25—One Negro accused of killing officer, moved to another county for safe-keeping.



## Kentucky.

### Lynchings—1.

Hazard, Perry County, January 24—Rex Scott, Negro, accused of striking a white man; taken from officers—Hanged and shot.

*Rex Scott, in jail for striking a white coal miner was taken by a mob of coal miners from Knott County, carried to a place opposite a grave yard, hanged and his body riddled with bullets. The stricken white man died sometime after the lynching. The sheriff was removed from office under a Kentucky law pending investigation, but it is reported later reinstated. Three men, Petie Carroll, 38; Lee Gibson, 37; Andy Workman, 30, were arrested on murder warrants, and James Collins, 32, was held on order of County Judge A. M. Gross. No one was punished.*

### Prevented Lynchings—2.

Glasgow, Barren County, July 24—One Negro charged with rape was protected by officers from lynching by the use of force.

Paducah, McCracken County, August 21—One Negro accused of attempted rape was moved to another county for safe-keeping.

## Louisiana.

### Lynchings—2.

Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, July 9—Andrew McLeod, Negro, accused of attempted rape, taken from jail, hanged and throat cut.

### THE CAUSE

*Early Sunday morning, July 8, a young white woman was walking on the highway from Jones, Louisiana, looking for someone to help in moving the car of her escort out of a ditch into which it had gone because its driver was too drunk to hold it on the road. She met a Negro man and asked where she could get help. She reported that the Negro said something insulting then grabbed her and pulled her off the road and across a ditch to a barbed wire fence. The lights of an approaching car caused him to drop her and run. While he was dragging her she said he had his forearm across her mouth as he held her head. She bit his arm in her efforts to get away.*

### THE CAPTURE.

*Sheriff Carpenter is credited locally with being a good detective. It was stated that he said Negroes always return to the scene of a frustrated crime of this nature. So in the morning, Sunday, it was reported he drove out to the place where the assault was attempted, parked his car on the side of the road, and went into a corn*

field to watch. The story goes that in time a Negro came along, stopped beside the empty car, examined it and then looked around at the road and ditch. After the Negro left, the sheriff came out of hiding and got in his car. He overtook the Negro and took him into town.

#### IDENTIFICATION.

The Negro, Andrew McLeod, gave an unsatisfactory explanation of his time about the hour of the attack. Also it was reported that grass and dew stains were found on his white trousers. These together with the fact that he had come along and stopped by the car constituted incriminating evidence. After the lynching the rumor was circulated that there were the marks of teeth on his arm.

#### LYNCHING.

On Monday about three o'clock, people reported to be from Jones began to congregate on the edge of town. At seven they were organized, and started a march on the jail. With a railroad tie and a telephone pole, the jail door was forced open. Only the District Attorney tried to stop them and he only with words. The county and city officers were no where around. One white woman, urged to go home because they were going to lynch a Negro is reported to have said, "No, I won't go. I am going to stand right here and see it all. It could have been my daughter or it could have been me."

After getting the Negro, the mob took him to the court-house to the West side where the trees were large enough to provide a gallows. A car was run under the lowest limb, the Negro was made to stand on the top of the car while the noose was fastened. The first rope broke, dropping the Negro to the ground. Someone in the mob ran out with a knife and slashed the Negro's throat. The second rope was fastened to the neck, the Negro pulled up, and at nine-fifteen "he was cut down being declared dead by hanging and a cut throat."—Newspaper report.

Bastrop, Sept. 24—Following a thorough investigation of the recent lynching of a Negro charged with attempted criminal assault on a white girl, which took place on the courthouse lawn in Bastrop last July, the Morehouse parish grand jury today returned no indictments after questioning a score of witnesses.—Shreveport Times, September 24, 1934.

The body was taken to the local undertaker and by nine-thirty when the sheriff returned, the mob was gone and everything was quiet.

Bethany, Caddo Parish, August 3—One Negro, Grafton Page, suspected of an attack upon Negro girl, flogged to death by members of own race. Not taken from officers of the law. (This lynching is of unusual interest because the press carried the story that Negroes had committed it).

*When Sheriff Hughes was notified that a Negro had been lynched at Bethany, he and the coroner, Dr. Butler, went out immediately to investigate. There was some fear that the act grew out of the death of a white man who had died of an alcoholic heart at the house of a Negro during the summer. Though indignation at that time was great, no violence had been committed by white people against the person or property of Negroes.*

*When the officers reached Bethany, Page was dead, but they found that it was not Page's house in which the white man had died. There were only Negroes near the body and though all of them were questioned at the inquest, none could or would tell what had happened. Page had been tied to a tree by his hands and flogged. Whether he died during the flogging or after he was released, could not be determined.*

*The Negro woman around whom the trouble was said to arise, denied that Page had thrown her out the truck. When the truck had swerved into a ditch to avoid a collision, she was flung on her head, knocked unconscious, and knew nothing more until after it had all happened. She did not know how she got to the house of James Hubbard, a blind Negro man. James Hubbard said that fighting began at his house. He was blind and could see nothing, but he knew only Negroes were in the fight. They left his house fighting and went toward the Negro, Page's home. He heard the screams but knew nothing more.*

*Four Negro women told the story that they saw the fighting; that only Negroes were present; they did not go down into the woods because they were afraid; they heard the screams. They had seen only Negroes but they couldn't say who these Negroes were because they were too far away.*

*A white woman, living in sight of the Page house, said she saw only Negroes about the place. She heard the screams and the noise, but did not pay any attention since the Negroes fought a great deal and she supposed it was the same story of liquor and fighting.*

*One officer expressed the opinion, but it was merely an opinion, he said, that the Negroes*

were not telling all they knew. They were holding back something. He did not believe that the job was done by Negroes alone. He had been there for years and it was the first time that a crime of this kind had been reported as done entirely by Negroes. It was not a Negro crime. When Negroes get mad and get into a fight, he said, they use knives, razors, ice picks, and fight madly. This deliberate taking a Negro and tying him up and beating him to death was not an act that could be called Negro. He did not believe that whoever killed the Negro meant to go that far. When white people want to get rid of a Negro they shoot or kill him outright. Consequently, he believed that what was intended was merely a severe punishment.

Prevented Lynchings—2.

Shreveport, Caddo Parish, April 17—One white man accused of murdering a young white girl was protected from lynching by increasing guards.

Monroe, Ouachita Parish, August 30—One Negro accused of attacking and robbing a man was moved to another jail.

Mississippi.

Lynchings—6.

Lambert, Bolivar County, June 8—Two Negroes, Joe Love and Isaac Thomas, accused of attempted rape were taken from officers and hanged.

CONFLICTING REPORTS ON  
CAUSE OF LYNCHING:

Newspaper	Official
<i>Two men entered the house after dark, and seized the woman. Her screams attracted her husband and another white man in the house, both of whom rushed to her aid.</i>	<i>Two Negroes approached the house at dusk and asked for matches. When the woman brought them to the door she was seized and dragged into the yard. One noticed the approach of her husband and they both fled.</i>
<i>The bodies found dangling from the bridge only a few inches from bottom of the dry bayou course. Thomas had his ear cut off, but there was no other mutilation.</i>	<i>The bodies were found ten feet apart at midnight. Could not examine them personally on account of the water under the bridge, but by flashlight saw that one had lost an ear.</i>

Though the bodies were found about midnight, they were still hanging from the bridge at 9:45 that morning.

INVESTIGATION:

The time element is a factor in considering the thoroughness of the investigation.

Newspaper	Official
<i>A sweeping investigation will be made by District Attorney though the case appeared closed since the officers could not identify one of the lynchers.—Daily Register, Clarksdale, June 9.</i>	<i>The county officers not being able to identify any of the mob the case was declared closed; the two column official report to the Governor was written and filed in time to make the afternoon edition of the Clarksdale Daily Register which went to press at noon of June 9, two hours and fifteen minutes after the bodies were reported still hanging.</i>

Then as to the sheriff—why did he go with his prisoners back into the Delta where he had been told a mob was forming to take and lynch them?

The Executive Committee of the Mississippi Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching protested this lynching and asked that the case be reopened because the District Attorney had completed his report within two hours after the bodies were cut down.

Bolton, Hinds County, July 16—James Sanders, a Negro, was shot for writing an indecent letter to a white girl. Not taken from officers.

*Two Negro men, James Sanders and John Henry Williams, kept company with Pinkey Burns, a Negro woman. James Sanders wrote a letter to a young white girl and signed John Henry Williams' name. White people generally thought that James Sanders conceived the idea of writing the letter and signing the other Negro's name, believing that naturally the people would be indignant and lynch John Henry Williams. In this way his rival, John Henry Williams would have been disposed of, and he, James Sanders, would have had right of way with Pinkey Burns, the Negro woman. When the letter was turned over to the sheriff he compared the handwriting with that of Sanders. Later Sanders confessed he wrote the letter.*

*Three men, father, uncle, and cousin of the white girl to whom the letter was written, made*

*the following sworn statement in court: After driving the Negro out a certain distance from town, they stopped the car. "The Negro grabbed the pistol from the pocket of the father of the girl and began shooting, so they had to shoot the Negro in self defense." The District Attorney "was present at the trial and recommended that the case be dismissed." A business man said, "It was something that just had to be done." (This is evidence that there was no conscience in regard to the matter).*

Pelahatchie, Rankin County, July 25—Henry Bedford, Negro, was flogged to death for speaking disrespectfully to a young white man. Not taken from officers.

*A land owner named Cawthorn had rented a small place to Henry Bedford, an old Negro. Benny Cawthorn, his son, charged that the Negro had talked disrespectfully when they disputed over a rental agreement. Four white men, Alec Murray, John Scales, Benny Cawthorn, of Pelahatchie, and M. M. Dodson of Shilo, took the old Negro to a secluded spot about three or four miles from town and whipped him with a leather strap. The sheriff was notified by Benny Cawthorn, one of the men who had participated in the tragedy, a few hours after it occurred. The Sheriff and Benny Cawthorn took the Negro to town and gave him medical treatment. The Negro died the following night. The four white men were arrested immediately. They were given trial in the city court but released several days later on bond to await the meeting of Grand Jury which convenes second Monday in January.*

Michigan City, Benton County, August 13—Two Negroes, Robert Jones and Smith Houey were taken from officers by a mob and hanged.

*"Ashland, Miss., Aug. 13 (AP)—Mobs snatched two Negroes from the hands of deputy sheriffs in Benton County today and hanged them from a tree near Michigan City. The victims were Robert Jones and Smith Houey, who were being brought here for trial for the murder of Connis Gillespie more than a year ago.*

*The mobs were masked, and deputies said they did not recognize any of the men. Sheriff Hudspeth said he was going to do his 'best to find the guilty parties,' and District Attorney Fred Belk promised a 'rigid investigation'."—Atlanta Constitution, September 14, 1934.*

Prevented Lynchings—5.

Hernando, DeSoto County, February 11—

Three Negroes accused of rape. Force was used to save prisoner from lynching.  
Columbus, Lowndes County, March 5—One Negro accused of murder was removed from county to prevent lynching.  
Meridian, Lauderdale County, April 3—Three Negroes accused of murder were protected by force.  
Jackson, Hinds County, July 30—One Negro accused of making improper proposal over the telephone was removed from county to prevent lynching.  
Tripp Crossing, Hinds County, August 25—One Negro accused of attempted rape on sixty-year old Negro woman was removed from county for protection.

#### **Missouri.**

Lynchings—None.  
Prevented Lynchings—1.  
New Madrid, October 14—Three Negroes accused of murder were removed from county for protection.

#### **North Carolina.**

Lynchings—None.  
Prevented Lynchings—3.  
Greenville, Pitt County, January 9—One Negro accused of rape, removed from county for protection.  
Bailey, Lauderdale County, July 15—One Negro accused of murder was removed to prevent lynching.  
Thomasville, Rankin County, November 1—One Negro accused of rape was removed from county for protection.

#### **Oklahoma.**

Lynchings—None.  
Prevented Lynchings—None.

#### **South Carolina.**

Lynchings—None.  
Prevented Lynchings—4.  
Greenville, Greenville County, May 18—One Negro accused of rape was removed for protection from lynching.  
Florence, Florence County, October 25—One Negro accused of rape was removed from county for protection.  
Darlington, Darlington County, November 21

—One Negro accused of murder was removed to prevent lynching.

Greenville, Greenville County, December 27—  
One Negro accused of murder was removed for protection.

## Tennessee.

### Lynchings—1.

Manchester, Coffee County, June 24—A Negro, Richard Wilkerson, was ambushed and shot for striking a white man. Not in the hands of the law.

*A party of white men went to a Negro dance. They had some trouble with Wilkerson in regard to their conduct, reports say, toward a Negro girl. Wilkerson struck one of them. On his way home after the dance, Wilkerson was ambushed by eight white men, shot, stripped of his clothing, and beaten on the head with an axe.*

*These eight white men were convicted of manslaughter and sentenced in September. Five of them, Elijah Keele, Edmond Keele, John B. Henley, Leonard Warren, and Wilbur Sherrill, were sentenced to two years; the other three, Willard Keele, Lewis Garner, and John B. Gibson, drew five years. They were charged with the murder of Dick Lou Wilkerson. The men began service of their sentence about September 20 and had been held in jail without bail from July 26 until the day of trial.*

### Prevented Lynchings—6.

McKenzie, Carroll County, April 24—One Negro accused of murder was removed from jail for protection.

Dyersburg, Dyer County, June 6—Two whites accused of rape were removed from county to prevent lynching.

Pikeville, Bledsoe County, July 24—One Negro accused of murder was removed from county for protection.

Donelson, Davidson County, August 1—One Negro, accused of beating white woman, later found innocent, was removed from county to prevent lynching.

Shelbyville, Bedford County, November 19—One Negro accused of attempted rape. Force was used, and prisoner later removed from county to prevent lynching. See daily papers of November 19, et. al. and "Time" news magazine of December 31.



## Texas.

### Lynchings—1.

Newton, Newton County, June 21—A Negro, Sonny Griggs, hanged for associating with white girl.

#### CAUSES LEADING TO THE LYNCHING:

*On June 19, Emancipation Day in Texas, a young white man about twenty-five was said to have taken a white girl about eighteen, to the Negro celebration. While there he got her drunk and took her, in the afternoon to the house of a Negro man, John (Son) Griggs. As the girl was entering the house with the white man, a passer-by saw them and reported to the Sheriff, Pete Hughes. Because there was a mulatto girl, Lena, in town who was almost white, the sheriff thought the man might be mistaken. He asked the doctor who, a few days before had dressed a cut on Grigg's arm, to go with him to the Negro's house, ostensibly to look at the dressings. If the doctor found it was a white girl, he would give a certain sign to the sheriff who would be waiting outside at the gate.*

*When the doctor went into the house, he found that a white girl, and not Lena, was there. He gave the sign to the sheriff who came in and together they took the girl back to town for questioning. Later the sheriff sent his deputy, Smith, back to the house for the Negro whom he found on the porch. The Negro had made no attempt to escape. He was taken back to town and lodged in jail on a charge of vagrancy. The white man was found and held for questioning.*

#### THE LYNCHING.

*Late in the afternoon of the second day, June 20, word got out about the affair. At six o'clock, there had been some few who had said the Negro should be lynched, and again at ten-thirty that night. Sometime after ten-thirty the Negro was taken from the jail by two deputies, Davidson and Smith, presumably for removal to the Orange County jail for safe-keeping. They were overwhelmed by a mob of about two hundred just where the Kirbyville road turns into the Orange road. The Negro was taken, and at the spot where Trout Creek empties into Cow Creek, he was lynched. At two in the morning of June 21, the body was found with a rope around the neck near the box factory.*

*Page was an unmarried man who had come to Newton with the box factory. He was unsocial with his own race. Though he held one "of the few good paying jobs in the box factory", he*

*was arrested on a charge of vagrancy. The officers reported that he was a "bad" Negro because he was "sullen and impudent" to white people and because he had said to a deputy sheriff that "he was as good as any white man or woman either." He had been arrested once or twice for misdemeanors and for "resisting."*

The Grand Jury in September investigated but returned no indictment.

How did the white girl get to the Negro's house?

Why was not Page taken at the time the girl was taken?

Why was the white man released?

Why was Page lynched?

#### Lynchings Prevented—3.

Angleton, Brazoria County, January 1—One Negro accused of murder, was removed from county for protection.

Tyler, Smith County, August 26—One white man charged with robbery and rape was removed from county to prevent lynching.

Beaumont, Jefferson County, October 10—One Negro accused of murder, was protected from lynching by force.

#### Virginia.

Lynchings—None.

Prevented Lynchings—1.

Clifton Forge, Alleghany County, November 18—Three Negro men and one Negro woman accused of rape and murder were removed from county to prevent lynching.

#### Other Parts of the Country:

Prevented Lynchings:

California—1.

Susanville, June 12—One white man accused of murder. Guards were augmented to prevent lynching.

Colorado—1.

Colorado Springs, April 15—Five Negroes accused of beating man and woman seated in parked car. Prisoners were removed for protection.

Illinois—2.

Harrisburg, March 24—One Negro accused of shooting and wounding man was removed to prevent lynching.

Kankukee, May 17—One Negro accused of wounding three men in altercation. Guards were augmented to prevent lynching.

Indiana—1.

Bloomington, August 4—Four white men accused of murder were removed for protection against lynching.

Maryland—3.

Marion Station, January 7—One Negro accused of murder was removed for protection.

Krisfield, April 20—One Negro accused of seriously wounding a man. Guards were augmented to prevent lynching.

Ruckville, December 17—One Negro accused of rape. Guards augmented to prevent lynching.

Ohio—1.

East Alliance, July 20—One Negro accused of rape was removed to prevent lynching.

Wisconsin—1.

Junneau, March—Three white men accused of murder were removed from county for protection.



**ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN WOMEN  
FOR THE PREVENTION OF LYNCHING**

<i>State</i>	<i>Counties</i>	<i>Towns</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Officers</i>
Alabama .....	55	165	1,003	26	----
Arkansas.....	29	51	592	53	3
Florida.....	48	121	1,080	74	4
Georgia .....	145	317	3,073	115	13
Kentucky .....	79	156	1,737	65	24
Louisiana.....	49	106	638	34	131
Mississippi.....	81	247	2,867	282	44
Missouri.....	28	58	323	2	-----
North Carolina	93	312	3,118	39	4
Oklahoma .....	37	82	563	23	1
South Carolina	45	182	1,679	20	6
Tennessee .....	68	172	1,960	38	15
Texas.....	195	576	4,262	41	38
Virginia.....	39	53	336	6	-----
West Virginia .	27	57	400	11	-----
<b>Total 1934.....</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>2,655</b>	<b>23,631</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>Total 1933.....</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>2,252</b>	<b>17,051</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>-----</b>
<b>INCREASE ..</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>6,580</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>283</b>

## **Objectives of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching—1935**

1. To enlist ten thousand men and women in this work.
2. To give immediate publicity to causes behind every lynching.
3. To secure the signature of every sheriff in the South through personal calls by local constituents.
4. To work to create an enlightened public opinion that will refuse to accept any defense of lynching.

### **Methods**

TAKE every opportunity to present the work;  
MAKE other opportunities to present the work.

1. Secure endorsement from state, sectional, and national conventions and conferences of men and women, and obtain signatures of delegates. If endorsements have already been made, continue to present a speaker on the formal program for educational purposes. Keep the program against lynching alive in every organization of the South.
2. Every lynching in the South in 1935 will be investigated either by a specially appointed person or by a committee from the Council of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. The information thus obtained will be sent to:
  - a. The Chairman of the State Council in the State in which the lynching takes place, who will send a copy to every officer of the law, court official, and legislative representative of the county and district in which the lynching is committed; and to every editor in the State.
  - b. Every member of the State Council of the State in which the lynching takes place who should send a copy to all on the regular mailing list of her organization within the State.
3. Reach every county in the South by delegating to one missionary society at the county seat the responsibility for:
  - a. Interesting every organization, men and women, in the county in the campaign against lynching.

- b. Securing signatures of officers and members of all organizations, religious, civic, and patriotic, in the town and county. Get signatures of men.
  - c. Securing signatures of county officials, preachers, and teachers.
4. A meeting of the Central Council of each state will be called at the State Capitol during the spring of 1935:
- a. To call on the Governor and State Attorney, and to discuss with them the law as each understands in its application to lynchings.
  - b. To draft a detailed program of work for that state during the year.

### **Organizations Committed to a Program of Education to Prevent Lynching**

- Woman's Advisory Committee of the Presbyterian Church, U. S.
- Southeast Regional Conference of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.
- Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention.
- Council of Women, Methodist Episcopal Church South.
- National Council of Jewish Women.
- Southern Interstate Conference of the National Council of Jewish Women.
- National Young Woman's Christian Association.
- Executive Board of the Woman's Auxiliary to the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church.
- Woman's Auxiliary to the National Council in the Province of Sewanee, Protestant Episcopal Church.
- Fifty-first Triennial, General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, 1934.

#### **STATE:**

##### **Alabama**

- North Alabama Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- North Alabama Conference, M. E. C. S.
- Alabama Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Woman's Auxiliary, Diocese of Alabama, Protestant Episcopal Church.

#### Arkansas

- Little Rock Conference, M. E. C. S.
- Arkansas Democratic Women's Clubs.
- Little Rock Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- North Arkansas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

#### Florida

- Florida Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Woman's Auxiliary, Diocese of Florida, Protestant Episcopal Church.

#### Georgia

- North Georgia Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- South Georgia Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Woman's Missionary Union, Georgia Baptist Convention.
- North Georgia Conference, M. E. C. S.
- South Georgia Conference, M. E. C. S.

#### Kentucky

- Louisville Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Kentucky Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

#### Louisiana

- State Federation of Women's Clubs.
- Louisiana Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Woman's Missionary Union, State Baptist Convention.
- State Association of Peace Officers, 1934.

#### Mississippi

- North Mississippi Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- South Mississippi Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

#### North Carolina

- Woman's Missionary Union, North Carolina Baptist Convention.
- North Carolina Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.
- Western North Carolina Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

#### Oklahoma

- Oklahoma Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

South Carolina

Woman's Missionary Union, South Carolina Baptist Convention.  
South Carolina Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.  
State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Tennessee

Woman's Missionary Union, Tennessee Baptist Convention.  
Tennessee Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

Texas

State Federation of Women's Clubs.  
North Texas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.  
Texas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.  
Central Texas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.  
West Texas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.  
Woman's Missionary Union, Texas Baptist Convention.  
Northwest Texas Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

Virginia

Virginia Synodical, Presbyterian Church, U. S.  
Virginia Conference, Woman's Missionary Societies, M. E. C. S.

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**ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN WOMEN FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF LYNCHING**

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**West Virginia**

Mrs. Sherwood Funk, East Bank



	4 Years Ku Klux Klan 1922-1925	4 Years Prosperity 1926-1929	4 Years Depression 1930-1933	1 Year Recovery 1934	13 Years State Total
Alabama.....	4	0	5	1	10
Arkansas.....	8	5	1	0	14
Florida.....	21	13	4	2	40
Georgia.....	19	1	10	0	30
Kentucky.....	1	3	1	1	6
Louisiana.....	6	3	6	2	17
Mississippi.....	25	17	10	6	58
Missouri.....	3	2	2	0	7
Oklahoma.....	2	0	1	0	3
North Carolina.....	0	0	2	0	2
South Carolina.....	2	3	6	0	11
Tennessee.....	3	4	4	1	12
Texas.....	24	13	6	1	44
Virginia.....	2	1	1	0	4
West Virginia.....	0	0	2	0	2
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>260</b>
California.....	0	0	2	0	2
Illinois.....	1	0	0	0	1
Indiana.....	0	0	2	0	2
Kansas.....	0	0	1	0	1
Maryland.....	0	0	2	0	2
New Mexico.....	0	2	0	0	2
North Dakota.....	0	0	1	0	1
Ohio.....	1	0	1	0	2
Utah.....	1	0	0	0	1
<b>GRAND TOTAL, U. S.....</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>274</b>

In November, 1930, a volunteer group of Southern women met in Atlanta, Georgia, to consider the crime of lynching and study ways for its eradication. They discussed many plans by which lynchings might be stopped, among which was a Federal anti-lynching law. In the end, however, they decided that they would adopt that of

*“Education of public opinion in the South against lynching, beginning this education with an emphatic repudiation of the claim that lynchings were necessary for the protection of white women.”*

State, sectional, and national organizations during the four years following, endorsed the plan of education outlined by the women in 1930 and made it their own. As a result of this, women of influence in these cooperating organizations were asked to form the Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

In 1934, women of the Council responsible for the program of the Association met again. Although they discussed each section of a Federal anti-lynching bill then before Congress, they held to the original program of education, leaving political action for individual organizations. They declared, however, that the Association

*“regards with favor any legal measure that promises sure and permanent eradication of lynching.”*

In 1935 the Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching held its annual conference in Atlanta, attended by members at large from eight national and sectional organizations, Chairmen and proxy Chairmen from twelve Southern states, and thirteen members of six State Councils. Again they decided to continue their program of education:

*“We believe that we should intensify our original program of education and enlightenment for the formation of right public opinion, which will be the creative force for changing the conditions out of which lynchings arise.”*