

Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching

703 STANDARD BUILDING

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December, 1931.

ARTHUR RAPER
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My dear Sir:

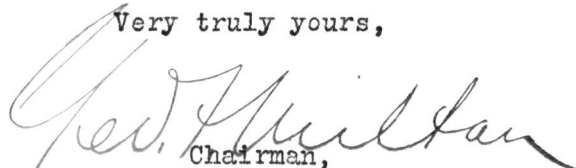
On behalf of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, of which I have the honor to be chairman, I attach a copy of the Report. In view of your own important position in the machinery of law enforcement in the South, it is our belief that you will be interested in reading these results of our inquiries, and that they may afford you some additional information and suggestion as to the causes and the remedies of these hideous crimes against law and organized society.

In making these studies, our Commission sought as earnestly as it could to ascertain the facts as to each of 1930's lynchings, not only the actual and obvious facts discoverable on the surface, but we have tried to find the environmental circumstances involved, and to seek for general threads of similarity in these various floutings of the law.

The Commission entered into this task with an especial confidence because its members knew that the best Southern opinion stood back of them in the task and because further we felt that the available public officials of our Southern states would welcome the results of our inquiries because of the possibility that they might contain information which would enable these officials to minimize mob violations in their own localities.

May I add that the Commission and its staff would welcome comments or suggestion from you concerning the Report.

Very truly yours,



Chairman,

Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching