

President

Secretary

Street and No.

Baptist Ministers' Conference

OF BALTIMORE AND VICINITY

BALTIMORE, MD. Dec 7, 1931 193

The Baltimore Baptist Ministers Conference, Baltimore and vicinity, to the

Honorable Albert C. Ritchie, Governor, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

We are delighted with your expressed intention of offering the aid of the state in prosecuting the lynchers of Sailsbury, and the steps you have already caused to be taken; but in view of the atrocity of this mob and the unanimous sanction seemingly given them by the citizenry of Sailsbury and vicinity, we are certain extraordinary efforts will be necessary, or else this very bold and daring flaunting of lawlessness and disorder will go absolutely unpunished.

We protest and deplore this diabolical lynching in this fair state, which has heretofore shown a spirit of fairness to all her citizens. Any laxity on the part of the authorities of the state in the vigorous prosecution of this mob will place this fair state in the category with the states that have winked at lynching till it has become a mere past time.

The attitude assumed by the state authorities of Sailsbury, and the citizens generally towards mob violence, showing their almost unanimous consent, would make it a matter of impossibility for justice to get a hearing; for those who were not actually engaged in it, by their very attitude were in hearty accord and each must be regarded as particeps criminis. We therefore appeal to you as governor of the state, not to depend upon criminals to bring criminals to justice. The state owes to its citizens protection on every foot of its soil, even on the Eastern Shore.

With thanks for steps already taken by you, and with hopes that it will be vigorously followed up, we beg that you give this your earnest consideration.

Respectfully,

Baptist Ministers Conference, Baltimore and Vicinity

George A. Alrawley

President

D. Bryant

Secretary

A. J. Payne

E. W. White

A. F. Green

George A. Alrawley

Committee