

LETTERS

Ritchie's Lynching Stand Is Unsatisfactory

By A. B. Koger

Negroes over the country are studying with great concern the attitude and actions of His Excellency, Gov. Albert C. Ritchie, in regard to the recent outbreak of lawlessness upon the Eastern Shore. Frankly, many of us have tired of the present administration and had hoped to see a good Democrat come to the front amply able to impress our group with fairness and honesty that would warrant our following. So far, by his utter lack of positiveness, the seeker of the Democratic color-bearer's place, has not qualified.

Of course, here in Maryland it matters little how Negroes vote so far as Mr. Ritchie is concerned, but in several states it must be admitted that Negroes are the balance of power. Ritchie can no more be elected without the Negro than the writer could be elected, and a positive stand at this time would have greatly strengthened Mr. Ritchie's chances of election, should he be fortunate enough to make the nomination. Nor would this have hurt him otherwise.

I happen to know that every scrap of matter on the recent outbreak so far, has been sent to national headquarters of our various organizations, as well as the under-current of opinion at this time. In every quarter, outside of a few political would-be leaders, Mr. Ritchie is not now the favorite. He has still a chance, and it's up to him as to what he chooses to do. Not only Negroes, but whites want to feel safe and secure, in life and property rights.