

M. E. Church Upholds Denunciation Of Lynching

[Special Dispatch to The Sun]

Washington, Jan. 5—The attitude toward lynching reflected in the actions of state and county officials of Maryland and West Virginia, and condemnation of the practice expressed by the press of Washington and Baltimore, were praised by the district superintendents of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church at its session here today.

Lynchings in Maryland and West Virginia were described as "deplorable" in a signed statement issued at the conference. Law officers in West Virginia who arrested alleged members of a lynching mob were commended, as were Governor Ritchie, of Maryland, and William Preston Lane, Jr., Attorney-General of that State, for their announced attitude toward a lynching at Salisbury, Md.

Bishop W. F. McDowell presided over the session of the conference at which the statement was made public.

In part, the statement reads:

"We commend those officers of the law in the State of West Virginia who have put under arrest alleged members of the mob which put to death George Banks and Thomas Jackson and we further commend the Governor of Maryland, the Attorney-General and the local authorities of Salisbury, Md., for what appears to be a determined effort to bring to justice such members of the lynchers' mob as can be apprehended.

"We further make record of our appreciation of the attitude of the public press and especially the Baltimore Sun, the Afro-American and Washington Tribune for their courageous attack on the crime of lynching which these papers have supported both in their news columns and by strong and righteous editorials."