

In Defense Of Salisbury

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—*Sir:* A special dispatch to *The Sun* in your issue of the twenty-fifth instant gives the findings of Dr. Broadus Mitchell with respect to events of December 4 in Salisbury. It is pathetic that a gentleman of his training should have such elemental knowledge of the functionings of life as not to know that he must breathe local conditions to know local conditions.

There is no backwardness in Salisbury from any angle you may look at it. Its citizens are all bright, quick-stepping and alert. If Dr. Mitchell's two days' sojourn in that town failed to aid him in proving a theory, he should at least have had intelligence enough to learn that the work was probably done by outsiders and that Salisbury people when talking to him were displaying wisdom in not expressing opinions.

As to why Salisbury people did not stop the lynching the answer can be found in the border days of the West. A certain Sheriff had papers for the arrest of a bad man whom he found in the company of twenty-four others. When later the party was chided for allowing the arrest they spoke in unison: "He had five cartridges in his pistol and who wanted to get one of the five?"

JOHN M. SAVIN.

Snow Hill, Jan. 25, 1932.