

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED in Lewisburg, West Virginia, on December 10 bring the total for the year to thirteen. This is bad enough, although it is vastly better than the total of twenty-five for 1930. This improvement, indeed, is surprising in view of increasingly depressed economic conditions in the South and a corresponding increase in animosity toward the Negro wherever he interferes with white men's jobs. Governor Conley of West Virginia has issued the by now usual statement of horrified indignation at the lynching and a promise, also to be expected, that the lynchers will be speedily apprehended and summarily dealt with—if they can be identified. We do not wish in any way to disparage the Governor's statement or to imply that we are skeptical of his sincere desire to bring about the arrest and conviction of the mob leaders. We merely await results, as we are still awaiting them from Maryland, where a lynching occurred on December 4. Governor Ritchie also issued a statement denouncing the lynchers and calling for their blood; but so far the only blood that has been spilt has been the blood of the lynched.