

Missionaries Needed

LAST Friday night a mob of citizens of Salisbury, Maryland, broke into a hospital, seized a young Negro lying there in a cot, dragged him three blocks, hanged him to a tree and burned his body.

The victim was said to have confessed to the fatal shooting of his former employer after a dispute over wages. He had tried to kill himself and also had been shot by his ex-employer's son. His head and face were so bandaged that he did not see his executioners.

Down into Kentucky recently went Novelist Theodore Dreiser to investigate and preach against conditions among striking coal miners in Harlan county.

Out to California, more recently, journeyed Mayor James J. Walker of New York to plead with Gov. Rolph to wipe out the stain of 15 years of injustice to Tom Mooney and Warren Billings.

Deeply resentful, of course, were local guardians of culture over what they considered these impudent intrusions by outsiders. Yet, apparently, they were necessary.

Will it be necessary, one wonders, for another missionary to go into the Maryland Free State to remind its people that this is America and the 20th Century and at this place and time civilized men do not act like savages?