

HOW "THE SUN"

ADVOCATES LYNCHING

After devoting column after column to criticism of Salisbury and the Eastern Shore for the hanging of a confessed murderer recently, *The Sun* (Baltimore) in an editorial yesterday describes how its editors would lynch a crowd in New York for demanding a five cent fee on each Christmas tree sold in the city.

We lift this excerpt from the editorial:

"Some method of coping with this latest depredation—trifling perhaps in itself, but all that more significant for that reason—should be a method, vivid and emblematic, grotesque and fierce, so that it would match the racketeers own dramatic intrusion of themselves into the celebration. 'If we were dictator' we might be tempted to round up all street and store Santa Clauses, equip them with nice, new shiny, machine guns, decorated in holly, and turn them loose (under supervision) upon the Christmas tree racketeers. Personally we should think it perfectly just to see a jolly Kris Kringle let go with a storm of lead in the direction of the racket's smartest boys, all the while laughing in his whiskers and wishing them all of the good things of the season."

So *The Sun*, we take it, would condemn the lynching of a man who murdered a prominent business man in cold blood, yet advocate the wholesale lynching of petty grafters.

In that, we again differ with *The Sun*. We never have advocated or condoned lynching and never will as long as there are established legal courts of justice.

It might be that ordinary hanging is too primitive for *The Sun*. They would use machine guns—a method *vivid and emblematic, grotesque and fierce*.