

WHITES DRAFT DEFY TO LYNCHERS, URGE SHERIFFS TO SHOOT

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 11.—Sheriffs, their deputies and all other law enforcement officers are urged to use armed force and to risk their own lives in suppressing lynching and mob violence, in a pamphlet entitled, "Mississippi and the Mob," which has just been brought out by state officials, officers and leading members of the State Bar association, and other prominent citizens.

Among the signed statements making up the book are ringing declarations against mob violence by Governor H. L. Whitfield, Speaker Thomas L. Bailey of the house of representatives, President J. N. Flowers of the State Bar association, a number of judges of the supreme court, members of congress, prominent lawyers, educators, club-women and churchmen. Prominent place is given also to the recent anti-lynching statement made by the Mississippi woman's committee on interracial co-operation which has since been affirmed by hundreds of Mississippi women at meetings throughout the state.

A section of the pamphlet is given to suggestions for the prevention of lynching. Sheriffs are urged to announce in advance that they expect to do their duty in every case, even at the risk of their own lives; to employ as deputies only those persons who agree to go to the same length in upholding the law; to ascertain the names of men who are

opposed to mob violence and to swear these in as special deputies at the first sign of trouble; to remove to the jails of other counties prisoners threatened with mob violence, and to call upon the governor to order out the national guard if needed.

The lynching statistics for the last 40 years are given, showing 530 victims to the discredit of Mississippi. The popular fallacy regarding "the usual cause" of lynchings is also mercilessly exposed. Photographs of a recent lynching are shown and "respectfully referred to the next grand jury."

State officials, members of the Bar association and other prominent people are distributing the pamphlet widely and are offering medals in each congressional district for the best essays on the subject by high school students.

This pamphlet and the recent statement by Mississippi women represent the first organized efforts in this state to mobilize public sentiment for the eradication of lynching. They are regarded as highly significant and are expected to have a profound effect on public sentiment.