

TULSA WHITES VENT SPLEEN ON BUSINESS SUCCESS OF NEGROES.

Raped White Girl a Myth

Negro Business Section And Better Home Sec- tion Laid Waste.. by Torch.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Tulsa, Okla., June 10th.—Tulsa lies stricken almost unto death. The city is literally in sackcloth and ashes, and it seems like a veritable miracle that it has escaped complete destruction. Whatever it enjoyed in the matter of thrift, enterprise and a fair name has been, for the moment at least, by a wanton, fiendish mob, actuated by jealousy and race hatred, which sought to wipe out the Negroes and their section of the city for the simple reason their prosperity and intelligence it development was becoming too evident to suit the wishes of a certain element of whites.

WHOLE TRUTH NOT TOLD.

But little of the real truth has reached the outside world concerning the whole horrible affair. The attempted rape incident has turned out to be nothing more than a discovery of the fact that a giddy white girl had become infatuated with a comely young Negro lad of scarcely more than twenty years of age. He was arrested at the instance of a group of white men and the charge of attempted rape was lodged against him. The boy is yet in jail but the girl has disappeared and the rape charge is about to fall to the ground.

NEGROES FEAR LYNCHING.

It is true that shortly after the arrest of the young Colored man a small number of Negro men gathered in the vicinity of the jail. Tulsa Negroes had decided that no lynching should take place in Tulsa without a blood sacrifice to prevent it. Rumors had reached the Colored section that a lynching would be attempted by the whites. When the Colored men arrived in the vicinity of the jail they found a number of white men who immediately assumed a hostile attitude toward the Colored men. It was not long before trouble was started and the riot well under way. The Negroes, fearing that their suspicions that a lynching was to be effected was about to be confirmed, fought with great desperation and courage.

NEGROES OUTNUMBERED.

Within a short time the Negroes were outnumbered by the whites and they began an orderly retreat which carried them to the north side of the Frisco Railroad tracks where they made a stand as valiant and death dealing that a S. O. S. was sent out by the Chief of the local police for soldier help. In the meantime the casualties were mounting up with the odds in favor of the colored combatants. It was near midnight when the militia arrived on the scene. This turned the tide of battle to the whites again. The Negroes retreated. Then it was that the white hood-

lums began to apply the torch to the business concerns of the colored people located along Greenwood Avenue.

PROMINENT NEGROES KILLED.

It was but a short step from the business section to the better residential sections in this locality. Here three prominent Colored men met death defending their homes from the torch bearing mob. Dr. A. C. Jackson, the leading Colored physician of this city, was killed on his door step and his well appointed home touched by the torch and totally destroyed by the fire that followed. The same fate befell Wesley Williams, the wealthiest Negro in Tulsa and the owner of the Dreamland theatre—also destroyed by fire. Williams was reputed to be worth more than \$200,000. Dr. John Wayne died fighting protecting his home which was destroyed by fire. John Wheeler, one of the oldest employees at the First National, was killed by a stray bullet while on his way to the bank Wednesday morning. No Colored man in Tulsa was more highly respected than John Wheeler. He had been in the employ of the First National for a long number of years and was one of the familiar and popular figures of the city. He was buried with signal honors; the officials of the bank attending in a body.

THOUSANDS MADE HOME- LESS.

The fires spread. White brutes applied the torch, while the militia busied itself with the disarming and arresting of such Negroes who were unlucky enough to fall into their hands. In a short period of time a great host of defenseless women and children were being driven helter skelter by the unfeeling mob or made prisoners by the militia and police. The new Mt. Zion Baptist Church, recently built at a cost of \$95,000 was partially destroyed by fire. It was dedicated on the 10th of last April and is said to be the largest church structure owned by Colored people in Oklahoma.

MARTIAL LAW DECLARED.

Governor Robertson declared a state of martial law early Thursday morning. He was greatly affected by the condition of things which met him upon his arrival. He openly declared that a competent sheriff and a less cowardly chief of police would have put an end to the trouble without much effort. He has ordered an investigation and declares he is going to the bottom of the trouble to determine its origin and the causes which led up to the riot.

PLANS FOR RELIEF.

An elaborate plan for relief has been devised, backed by the local Chamber of Commerce and prominent citizens. It is proposed to raise a fund of \$500,000 at least for the purpose of rehabilitating the Negro section and thereby restore, as near as possible, normal if not better conditions for that end of the city where the Colored people lived.

MEN'S MEETING AT THE ST. MARY BAPTIST CHURCH

LAST Sunday evening proved to be an enthusiastic meeting for the men and boys at the St. Mary Church. Dr. N. D. Briley, chairman of the Board, and Dr. G. G. Brown, Secretary, opened the meeting with Prof. E. M. Barnes conducting the song service. Dr. J. E. Douglass the pastor, so reverently and trustworthily petitioned the Throne of Grace. Then, Dr. Briley, with well chosen words, introduced Capt. W. L. Hutcherson, who reasoned with us for the best interest of the future. A vision of the Y. M. C. A., was realized and the men acted like men and every man in the house (with exception of one) joined, and he will soon, we hope. A more live set of men could not have gotten together, men, who have enough of Christ in them to want to make the world better or the next generation. When you want a man to stand square for the uplift of his people from every angle, you will find Dr. E. T. Fishback, saying: "Follow me." His spirit is not to send, but to lead by actual deeds. When he was asked, had he paid his sustaining money to the "Y," he was offended and they had to beg his pardon as he was the first minister to pay. Every one left the meeting feeling uplifted and thinking, "no better friends in Wichita, than Dr. J. E. Douglass and his members."