

THE DULUTH RIP-SAW.

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NEGROES DID NOT RAPE GIRL

EXAMINATION BY DOCTOR DISCREDITS GIRL'S STORY

ALLEGED VICTIM'S BODY SHOWS NO MARKS, BRUISES, CUTS, TEARS, SWELLING OR SENSITIVENESS.

Stories of Young Couple Do not Ring True—Young Sullivan's Moral Character Questioned—Late Lynching Marked by Sickening Barbarity and Savagery—Priests Jeered and Judges Ignored—Grand Jury Investigating Terrible Affair—Expected that Governor Will Remove Murnian—Will Take Years to Live Down Disgrace.

After investigation and a careful analysis of allegations, The Rip saw is forced to the conclusion that six Negroes did not rape Miss Susan Tuckan at West Duluth on the night of Monday, June 24.

Not only did that young woman's physical condition, as diagnosed by a highly reputable and experienced physician, fail to corroborate the statements story told by James Tuckan and William Sullivan, but their tales do not ring true. They do not square with native, common experience and common sense.

All this being the case, there was not the slightest reason, in any such case of rape, for brutally and unmercifully hanging these Negroes, thereby putting a lasting stain on the fair name of the city of Duluth, in any such case of molesting the Negroes and showing the marks of the discipline of such law and order.

The whole miserable affair, at this time and in the light of developments in a country on humanity, law, order and justice.

The hanging of these unfortunate colored boys was the sporting tag of a generation. The girl was crucified in a lawless society, crucified and by lawless and permitted by a weak and incompetent police department.

Human life is waste in Duluth. Might and force make right. There is no effort making more savage and lawless than the second hanging. That single case was the culmination of five years of sympathy with "breast-feeding rough" law less endorsement, healthy, dangerous of human life in the wilds of St. Louis county (see our special report on the authorities to suppress tough gangs and their dirty pool room smokes).

The law seems not far off when reputable citizens will be compelled to carry weapons of defense to protect themselves against thugs, thieves and murderous assassins.

It was only a few months ago that a West Duluth man was killed by a blow over the head with a piece of scumming in the hands of three more boys who created a few jolly dollars the victim was supposed to have in his pocket.

It was only a few weeks ago that a prominent business office was burned like the suburbs, burned, burned into the way-side bushes to see, while the murderers drove away with his car and his money.

It was not so very many months ago that three men of wealthy men took turns at violating a young girl in a woodland cabin. Instances headed off

publicity and punishment for the terrible crime.

A local preacher over vents against some lawless threatening to visit the editor of the Rip saw with such violence.

Reduction, mainly as last a crime on rape, is a violation and a gesture with every eye of this city who associate with many members of the recent mob, if not actually taking part in the mob's work of manager, barter and lawlessness.

The Tax Commissioners seem white in Duluth, in any such case of rape.

When devoted priests tried to reason with the rebel mob and to persuade the leaders to give up their plan, what was the reply?

"To hell with the church! To hell with the law!"

"Did you ever have a wife and daughter?" one priest was asked.

"What office are you visiting for?" one Ripper, lawyer asked another priest.

The alleged victim of the alleged rape was Miss Susan Tuckan, a young girl who was taken to the house in Duluth on Monday, June 24, Tuesday morning, the residence of the alleged victim was located in the hands of the alleged victim.

The high Jack Robinson shows more in Duluth as Monday, June 24, Tuesday morning, the residence of the alleged victim was located in the hands of the alleged victim.

For lawless and savagery, and young Tuckan who created the pile and locked the dying Negro in the face is entitled to the highest badge of infamy.

James Sullivan and James Tuckan were the two who assaulted that startling tale. They stated that, at about 12 p. m., while watching the circus heads lead out the sidewalk, a band of Negroes grabbed the girl and dragged her in a clump of bushes near the M. & N. tracks. One Negro was alleged to have put a revolver in young Sullivan's hand and then to have told him, "Lightly. Lightly. Lightly" that six Negroes, in turn, forcibly raped the young woman and that he was required to witness the horrible act.

After speaking with the girl, she and her escort maintained, the Rip sawer compelled them to leave the vicinity by a circuitous route and forbade them to go across the circus grounds.

She then made the street car and the girl was taken to her home, where she arrived without satisfying her parents of the alleged outrage.

Young Sullivan went to the Milwaukee

see docks, where he works as a boat boy. His father, Patrick B. Sullivan, is night superintendent of the ice docks. The Sullivan live at 1274 Michigan street.

The Tuckan girl lives with her family at 625 West Ninth street. The father, William E. Tuckan, is a mail carrier and a man of respect.

Young William Sullivan is alleged to have worked a couple of hours at the docks, when he told his father that the Tuckan girl had been raped by six Negroes and that he had been compelled to witness the outrage. That is supposed to have been about 2 a. m. Tuesday morning, June 24.

Superintendent Sullivan is alleged to have at once called up Mr. Tuckan and reported the boy's allegations. The police are credited with having arrested suspected leaders B and C at 8 a. m. The Iowa Tribune office knows of it before 4 a. m., too late to get into their 4:30 edition.

It is alleged that the circus was overhauled out near the Canadian Northern yards. It further is alleged that both the girl and the boy were taken out there, but that both failed to identify a single Negro.

A census of the Negro heads were taken to police headquarters and given a local "scrutiny." It is claimed that three of them admitted guilt and were locked up. At that time, at least six of them were locked up. The high Jack Robinson shows went on to Virginia and, that afternoon, called Murphy went up to the Queen City and advised still another batch for witnesses, it is claimed.

When given a bill of analysis, dear old reader, and you will find many things that do not ring true or properly square up. Of course there are so many rumors and allegations that even the good jury, now in session, finds it difficult to sift the truth from the false.

In the first place, back of a circus is a particular place for a decent boy and a respectable girl, he admitting to 17 years and she not exceeding 20 years, at 10 o'clock at night.

There is no evidence that the boy brought or that he failed to bring up any evidence. There is no evidence that the girl screamed or struggled. Her clothing was not torn when she got home, although it is stated that the mother has said that one garment was torn.

The alleged victim of the alleged rape is credited with saying that she became unconscious when the Negro grabbed her and started to take her to the bushes. She said she was

driven that she walked to the street car, went home and to bed, without saying anything about her horrible experience to her parents. Then, a few hours later, she was able to go away alone to attempt to identify her assailants.

Any man or any woman who knows anything about human anatomy and, especially, the anatomy of a young girl and her young Negro boys, must will believe that such a girl, walking home at 11 p. m., in a dark street, would have to take in a handful, if not a mugger, instead of walking to a street car, going to bed without attention and then getting up a few hours later, apparently in normal genital condition.

Sullivan, the greatest young defender of female virtue, claims that he and the girl were watching the circus pull up stakes and head out. That being the case it was a most strenuous time for him. A rough, rolling foreman customarily strolls over his men and puffed them to the limit. It may not be out of place to ask where was that foreman and how did he permit a considerable number of his gang to go to the bushes long enough for such and every case to occur, something not accomplished in an instant, especially with such legs instrumentally of race as most of these Negro boys carried.

To see who knows anything about circus, a foreman at time of pulling up stakes would be right on the heels of all of his men. Anyway, the story of that foreman might be interesting and profitable to hear.

About 9 a. m. the grieving father of the girl called at the office of a highly reputable and experienced physician in West Duluth. He has lived in Duluth for many years and has saved the Tuckan family professionally at different times.

When the physician arrived at the Tuckan home, he found the girl in bed. He began his professional services. There were no marks or bruises on her face or neck. The girl's body was not examined. When it came to an examination of the organs that were supposed to have suffered as a result of the rape, the physician, after a review of medical examinations or conditions. That physician believes as true the Rip saw, that James Tuckan never was raped by one Negro, to say nothing of six Negroes.

Some who know young James Sullivan believe that he would be fully as dangerous to a young girl as a Negro circus band. Although young in years, Sullivan is credited with being quite as intimate acquaintance with Old John Hartgering, the operator of one of the most vicious forms of her moral disorder.

Frank Hodgkin, the shoe man, and (Continued on page 2)

the regular constables just as they were leaving her. The girl tells about the Negroes leaving her, yet the log claims that they stood by and forced the departure from the scene of the outrage.

After being forcibly raped by six well developed Negroes, James Tuckan would have the people of this city be

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(Continued from page 1)

Johnson and Jermstad, formerly West Duluth grocers, own cabins a couple of miles north of Lakewood.

Once upon a time, a small company of young people went out to Blodgett's cabin, where they found young Sullivan with a girl, both of them drunk. The members of the little party were so startled and somewhat scared that they quickly faded away without driving out the young roysterers and trespassers.

About 18 months ago, a company of high school boys secured Blodgett's cabin for a little party. Some time later, Blodgett discovered that his cabin had been turned upside down and that it had been befouled in a way that no one but low hoodlums would do. Johnson & Jermstad's cabin also was broken open, the furnishings turned upside down and the place left in a nasty condition. Signs of drunken revelry were evident, such as whisky bottles, together with hair pins and other articles of feminine wear.

Mr. Blodgett informed the boys that it was up to them to discover the ones who committed the nuisance, otherwise they would have to pay Johnson and Jermstad for the damage done. The boys got busy and developed the fact that young Sullivan and a party of roystering boys and girls had broken in, staid there all night, engaged in sinful stunts and then committed the acts of nasty vandalism.

What an innocent young girl was doing out there in the dark, behind a circus tent, with a tough young kid, may be a subject for thought.

Time, space and personal knowledge do not permit a detailed narration of the collapse of Duluth's police department and the terrible scenes incident to a lynching of three Negro boys, pleading for mercy and even denying guilt to the last.

That allegation of confessions will await analysis and discussion at a later day. False confessions often have been made under duress and as a result of great fright. Anyone who knows the primitive Negro character will not show much surprise at the confession, especially if the third degree caused the boys to believe that a wall was all that separated them from

an angry mob. Without that confession, the extreme pacificists on the police force have mighty shaky ground under their feet.

For barbaric, cruelty and primitive savagery, the recent lynching topped anything in the history of the country for many years. Burning at the stake in the South usually is the result of a positive identification by the victim. In the Duluth case, there was an utter absence of identification. One Negro, too, might accuse another with an idea of saving his own skin. White men have done such things, why hit a simple Negro boy?

A wave of horror, shame, anger and burning resentment swept through the city when the details of the lynching were known. Both the sheriff and the police department became very zealous after everything was over. Gov. Burnquist quickly complied with sheriff Magle's call for troops. An investigation under way by Gen. Rhinow is believed to be for the purpose of laying a foundation for commissioner Murnian's removal by Governor Burnquist.

There also is a general feeling that Chief Murphy was not equal to the emergency and if Murnian goes, Murphy surely will accompany him.

One peculiar thing was the large number of persons in the mob who seemed bent on finding chief of detectives Schulte. Many a demand was made as to where he was. It's a dollar to a doughnut that he would have been lynched had he been in the station when the mob was in complete control.

The shooting of Yukadinivich was rankling in the breasts of many. It is feared that the final chapter in that tragedy has not yet been written.

As stated, district judges Cant and Fesler were witnesses of the lynching. Their souls must have been filled with horror. As quickly as time and pen would permit, the bench joined in a call for a special grand jury. That jury now is investigating and, in time, undoubtedly will arrive at conclusions and make a report.

It is stated that members of the mob were filtering out of Duluth and that, already, officers have failed to find men for whom they had subpoenas.