were burned and colored residents driven from the town. Robert Ducrest, a colored man, was arrested and charged with the murder. Investigation established the fact that the white prizefighter had been the aggressor. The National Office felt this was a case which could adequately be handled by the New Jersey branches. It urged action and promised them aid if they undertook the case. Mr. William B. Brandon, a colored attorney of Newark, volunteered his services and the New Jersey branches agreed to raise the expenses of the trial, at least. Mr. Brandon made a splendid defense and it was felt in New Jersey that the twenty-year sentence which Ducrest received constituted a moral victory.

The total expenses of the case were \$326.10, a part of which was paid by the National Office. Other sums were contributed as follows: The Ducrest family, \$100; the colored citizens of New Brunswick, \$55.49; the Jersey City Branch, \$17; the Atlantic City Branch, \$25, and the Newark Branch, \$45.

III. LYNCHING

DYER BILL

A new Anti-Lynching Bill, H. R. 3777, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman L. C. Dyer on December 7, 1925, and on the day following Senator William B. McKinley introduced in the Senate a similar bill, S. 121. On February 16, 1926, a hearing was had on Senator McKinley's bill before the Sub-Committee of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. The Association's Secretary appeared at this hearing and placed before the Committee the facts regarding lynching. He also testified as to the need for this legislation, giving briefly the arguments as to its constitutionality. A memorandum on the bill prepared by Mr. Herbert K. Stockton of the Association's Legal Committee was filed with the Judiciary Committee, being published, together with the testimony, in a Senate document.

The Aiken, S. C., Lynching.—An exceptionally dramatic investigation and exposure of a lynching, and widespread editorial protest against the evil mark the continuance during 1926 of the Association's seventeen-year campaign against mob murder.

One of the most forceful blows ever struck by the N. A. A. C. P. against lynching was the investigation by the Assistant Secretary of the mob murder, on the morning of October 8, in Aiken, South Carolina, of three colored people, Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman.

The Assistant Secretary, Mr. White, thoroughly investigated this lynching on the scene. He obtained not only a full and corroborated story of what had occurred, but sworn affidavits naming persons, including officers of the law, charged with having been members of the mob or assisting it. These names were sent by Mr. White to Governor Thomas McLeod of South Carolina. The facts assembled by Mr. White, turned over to the New York World, brought about the sending by the World of its special correspondent. Oliver H. P. Garrett, to Aiken. Mr. Garrett's dispatches conspicuously featured for 30 consecutive days on the first page of the New York World, not only roused the press of South Carolina but editors throughout the country and revived the public demand for a Federal Anti-Lynching Law. The facts, as brought to light by Mr. White, are as follows:

Early in 1924 the Lowmans, then living in Saluda County, South Carolina, moved to Aiken County and covenanted to share-crop on the land of a white man, named Hartley. The Lowman family consisted of Sam Lowman, the father; Annie Lowman, his wife; Bertha Lowman, a daughter; Demon Lowman, a son; and Clarence Lowman, thirteen-year-old nephew, reared in the family. The Lowmans were industrious, hard-working people with a good name in the community.

In April, 1925, H. H. Howard, Sheriff of Aiken County, received a letter, first alleged to have been signed by a Negro minister but later said to have been anonymous, accusing the Lowmans of making and selling whiskey. Sheriff Howard and three deputies, Nollie Robinson, Robert L. McIlhenny and Arthur W. Shepherd, in plain clothes and displaying no insignia of their office, went to the Lowman home, thirteen miles from the town of Aiken, with a warrant for the arrest of Sam Lowman. When the officers neared the house they found Mrs. Annie Lowman and Bertha working in the yard, Mrs. Lowman making soap and Bertha sweeping. Sam Lowman, the father, was away at the mill, having meal ground. The two women, seeing the white men approach, thought it wisest to retire into their house. The sheriffs drew revolvers and started running to surround the house. Bertha Lowman and Sheriff Howard reached the back porch simultaneously and, as she screamed, he struck her in the