

Newspaper articles from September 1931

CROWD SCARES A NEGRO WITH DIRE THREATS!

Man Jailed for Serious Offense Re-
moved to Hennepin County
for Safe Keeping

SCORE OF MEN BESIEGE
ANOKA CITY JAIL

Officer Larson Called on Fictitious
Case Foils Plans of
Crowd

A negro was jailed Saturday afternoon, charged with taking liberties with an eight-year-old child. He should be thankful he's alive; and he surely was given a real scare by a score of men at midnight Saturday.

According to reports given the Union, three little children were near a warehouse on Second avenue north Saturday afternoon, one a boy of 9, another a girl of 8, and the third a child of 6. The negro, who is known as Ernest, drove a tractor to the warehouse and a car was on the floor with a flat tire. He is said to have asked the little girl to put the jack under the car. The boy with her remonstrated, saying he was stronger and would put it under himself. The negro told him to get out and he and the youngest child did. The negro closed the doors it is said and removed part of the girl's clothing. The children outside heard her crying and ran to her mother, who notified the police and the little girl told her story to Chief Melberg. The negro had returned to the garage to work evidently frightened from his purpose, and protested his innocence. He was taken to the jail and locked up. A physician called for the little girl found she had not been hurt in any way.

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As the news of the arrest spread, there was some talk, but no fear of any violence was felt. About midnight two men accosted Officer Jack Larson at the city hall, saying he was wanted at the Mississippi bridge, where a bad accident had happened. He started for the bridge in the police car, but something told him all was not right, so he turned up Jackson street and when the light from his car headlights fell on the jail, he saw a score of men, armed with shot guns and ropes. Ladders were handy and the men shouted. Let's shoot through the window at the ———." Others wanted to hang him.

Chief Melberg was notified and the men were ordered to disperse, which they did.

Just what charge will be preferred is a question.

LYNCHING BLOCKED

Young Negro, Accused of Attacking Girl, Threatened

An attempt to lynch a young Negro at Anoka after he had been arrested on a charge of mistreating an eight-year old girl resulted Sunday in the transfer of the prisoner to Minneapolis to prevent further demonstrations.

The Negro, who is employed as a mechanic and attendant in an Anoka garage, was lodged in the Hennepin county jail Sunday night.

The Negro was arrested by Chief of Police Melberg Saturday.

When the news of his arrest circulated around the city, groups of men were said to have gathered in various sections, making threats to "get the Negro."

Shortly after dusk two men came to the jail and told John Larson, jailer, that there had been an accident at a bridge crossing the Mississippi river. Larson took the patrol car and started for the scene of the supposed accident, but when two blocks from the jail thought the matter over and decided to return.

He drove through an alley to the rear of the courthouse and there found the men attempting to enter the jail. Larson said the men carried ropes and were using ladders.—Minneapolis Tribune.

The Negro, Ernest McGuire, is to appear in municipal court to answer the charge against him.

Sentenced to St. Cloud

The case of Ernest McDuffy, negro, charged with indecent assault on an 8-year-old girl, was held in municipal court Wednesday. His attorney waived preliminary hearing and he was bound over to district court. In district court he pleaded guilty to the crime and was sentenced to the St. Cloud Reformatory to be discharged by due process of the law.

ANOKA LYNCHING MOB BALKED

Attack Suspect Brought to Jail Here for Safety

Held Incommunicado in the Hennepin county jail, a Negro was closely guarded today following an attempt to lynch him at Anoka Sunday. He was arrested on a charge of mistreating an eight-year-old girl.

John Larson, jailer, was induced to leave the jail for a few minutes, being told an automobile accident had occurred nearby. When he returned he found a crowd about the jail and ladders being hoisted to second story windows.

Sheriff Oscar Olson and several policemen, called by Larson, finally succeeded in dispersing the crowd, but the Negro was taken to Minneapolis for safekeeping.

Clipped By:

ANOKA BLOCKS LYNCHING MOVE

Police Transfer Negro to Minneapolis Jail After Hanging Attempt.

A young Negro, arrested at Anoka on a charge of mistreating an eight-year-old girl, was removed to the Hennepin county jail Sunday after an attempt had been made to lynch him Saturday evening.

More than 20 men tried to make forcible entry to the Anoka jail after luring John Larson, jailer, away by reporting an automobile accident. Larson returned to find the lynching party placing ladders against the walls of the jail to get at windows where an entry could be made.

After the group had been dispersed, Sheriff Oscar Olson and police decided to bring the Negro to Minneapolis for arraignment. He will not be returned to Anoka for several days if at all.

The lynching party is said to have formed shortly after news of the Negro's arrest had spread.

Clipped By:

NEGRO LYNCHING PLOT IS FOILED

Anoka Sheriff Outwits Mob; Prisoner Taken to Cell in Minneapolis.

Anoka, Minn., Sept. 7 (UP)—Feeling still ran high today after an attempt to lynch a negro youth was thwarted by Jailer John Larson who spirited the youth away from a mob of more than score.

The suspect gave the name of Earnest McGuire, 22. He was arrested by Chief of Police John Melberg Sunday after it was claimed he had molested an eight year old girl.

Small groups of citizens began gathering across the street from the jail when word spread that the negro was captured. Several attempted attacks on young women lately had resulted in wild goose chases by posses and sheriff's deputies.

Larson was approached by two men shortly afterward and asked to help in an accident. Larson drove away from the station but becoming suspicious he returned through an alley. He found the rapidly forming mob trying to scale a rear wall of the jail.

The suspect was taken to Minneapolis for safe-keeping.

ANOKA—An attempt to lynch a young Negro at Anoka after he had been arrested on a charge of mistreating an eight-year-old girl resulted Sunday in the transfer of the prisoner to Minneapolis to prevent further demonstrations.

The Negro, who is employed as a mechanic and attendant in an Anoka garage, was lodged in the Hennepin county jail Sunday night.

Attempts to enter the Anoka jail to take him were made shortly after dusk Saturday by a party of men who stormed the place while the jailer was absent.

With some of them armed, more than 20 men were reported to have attempted to enter the jail through doors and windows.

They were dispersed without any trouble and the authorities took immediate steps to thwart further attempts to storm the jail.

From the Le Sueur News-Herald Sep 9 1931 p. 2

A young negro suspected of mistreating an 8-year old girl, came near being lynched at Anoka. He was taken to Minneapolis for safe keeping.
