

red-handed murder and that other crime without a name stalk unmasked through the country at noon day, defying law and setting at naught every semblance of public order. Then comes the mob as the hasty expression of the disgust and desperation of men who in this way show their lack of faith in the established order of things. All these things taken together spell C-H-A-N-G-E. This change must come and right thinking men without regard to race or party must reach an understanding and through this understanding, individual crime will be lessened in frequency and ferocity, and the mob will cease, having nothing left to call it into being.

Whatever anybody may think of the guilt or innocence of Jesse Washington, whatever doubts may be entertained as to whether or not he confessed to the murder of this unfortunate woman, there are none who doubt but that she was killed by some one, after having suffered a punishment worse than death. Her blood cries to heaven from the ground for vengeance! That vengeance, fierce and swift, has been meted out to Jesse Washington. There is this truth about the whole unfortunate affair—if Mrs. Lucy Fryer had neither been assaulted nor murdered, Monday, May 8th, there would have been no mob to do those things in Waco Monday, May 15th, which all good citizens must regret. This is not a time for the 15,000 white people who are said to have participated in the awful holocaust (nor as for that matter, any other number of white people), to damn and berate the Negro race; nor is it a time for colored people to condemn all the white people, but it is a time for the men and women, who love humanity and who uphold public order, to soberly consider the prevention of crime, the absence of which will dissolve the mob forever.

A study on the prevention of crime, brings one instantly to the conclusion that great progress in that direction can be made in every community, if the officers of the law and the law-abiding element of the people will agree to work together. The great hot-bed of crime is idleness. An understanding can be reached through the constabulary and the people working together, which will practically illimitate the idler in our midst. This understanding can not run along race lines, for no race has a monopoly of goodness. It must be broad and comprehensive since recognizing the fact that he who does not contribute his full quota to the maintenance of the State is an unnecessary burden to all. This sort of an understanding will mark the beginning of the end of the idler and his crime, and with the going of these will go the mob.

This is the doctrine and American statesmen, while spending sleepless nights over the question of preparation to meet a foreign foe, might with profit devote some attention to occurrences like the one at Waco, which if not checked, will in due time overthrow the republic and destroy its institutions.

"Several weeks ago we had occasion to differ from Editor King along political lines, and in the "heat" of argument said things which this able article forces us to take back. Any man who can write an editorial like the above is worthy of being a leader of the people regardless of color. Burning at the stake will cease when Negroes cease to commit unspeakable crimes.

"The burning of the Waco Negro was a foul blot upon the fair name of the Lone Star state, but no more so than the crime that he committed. Burning at the stake is not going to wipe out crime, nor do we know of any method that will bring about its complete elimination from among civilized men, yet we are of the opinion that our system of education is faulty to the extent that it concerns itself with only one side of human development. The Negro school, the Negro church, the Negro home, and Negro society should band themselves into one solid Negro union for the preservation of the race.

## SPIRIT OF THE NEGRO PRESS.

### The Waco Holocaust.

From The Dallas Express.

The fact that the Dallas Express gives so little space to the burning of Jesse Washington at Waco, Monday morning, May 15, 1916, and his crime, will excite some comment, but there is a time to write and a time not to write. There is a time to talk and a time not to talk. Solomon has wisely said that there is a time for all things. To our mind, here is a time for thought. Unquestionably the crime conditions of the country challenge the deep thought of every law-abiding citizen. It has gotten to the place that no one's life is safe. Highway robbery, arson,