

## LIFE FOR BUNDY

In July of 1917 the sovereign state of Illinois was disgraced by a race riot at East St. Louis. To fully understand the conditions out of which the trouble grew it is necessary to take a comprehensive view of the rottenness of civic conditions in that unfortunate city. For years vicious political machines, both Democratic and Republican, had dominated its municipal affairs. The law was constantly suspended by those in authority, and because of the laxity of law enforcement low dives sprang up without number, disreputables from the surrounding country swarmed in, and all this, added to the supineness of the police force, made a situation that was well nigh volcanic in its possibilities.

The Labor Unions, inspired by the situation, thought the time ripe to settle a long-standing grievance with the employers of labor, who from time to time had been charged with importing large numbers of our workmen from the South. Our people, scenting trouble, commenced to arm themselves and to make such preparations for defense as were thought necessary. Among the leaders of this defensive movement was Dr. Leroy Bundy, a practicing dentist.

It is not our purpose here to defend the life of Dr. Bundy nor his methods in dealing with the situation prior to the riot. It has been charged by his enemies that his practices were not altogether commendable. The fact remains, however, that in playing the part that he did he acted only as any other sensible, far-seeing man would have done under like circumstances. He knew conditions as few other men in that section knew them. He knew the mob spirit of the white man, whether the mob comes from Texas or Illinois, and when he saw the storm gathering he prepared to fight.

Any other red-blooded man would have done what Bundy did. He exercised a right that is as old as the centuries—the right of self-defense. We have had too much supineness on the part of our people in such crises, and it is decidedly refreshing to find a member of our group who knows his rights and is not afraid to defend them. The proneness of our people to move along the lines of least resistance to forms of outlawry such as characterized the actions of the East St. Louis mob encourages and feeds this form of evil.

There is but one way to deal with a mob—that is to prepare for it, and when you see it in action move to meet it with every weapon at your command. We have found from bitter experience, and this case is no exception, that we cannot depend upon the police, the posse of the sheriff, or the militia. If Bundy felt that the forces of constituted authority could not be depended upon to safeguard the lives and property of our citizens, was he not then justified in taking the steps that he did?

All in all, one must regret that the governor of the state, who was undoubtedly in touch with the situation, did not take prompt measures to forestall the trouble. We are informed that his adjutant general had been on the scene for several days for the purpose of keeping the chief executive of the state informed as to conditions. A little exercise of executive backbone at the proper moment might have resulted in the saving of many lives and in preventing the destruction of thousands of dollars worth of valuable property. It might have kept the great state of Lincoln and Grant from stepping into the same column with Texas and Mississippi.

This was not done, and a black and bloody page was written into the history of Illinois. A few white men have been given light sentences, a few of our men heavy sentences,

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as a matter of course, and Leroy Bundy, one of the central figures, must serve a sentence of life imprisonment. We believe that Dr. Bundy's case present a gross miscarriage of justice when all the facts in the case are considered. We believe him to be the victim of prejudice and clamor. In England and France he would have been acquitted, in all probability, but in America, where the color of a man's skin has much to do with the measure of justice dealt out to him, things are quite different. The white participants in the Springfield riot of a few years ago went upon the witness stand and openly confessed their part in the disgraceful scenes that gave a lasting black eye to the capital of the state, and were acquitted. There was no excuse for their conduct, but much can be said in palliation of the conduct of Bundy and those associated with him.

It is not our purpose to hold up Dr. Bundy as a martyr, nor do we wish to enter into a defense of the criminal element of our people. If they violate the law we want to see them punished. We cannot escape the conviction, however, that in the case of Dr. Bundy the element of color prejudice entered too largely, and if a reviewing court cannot see its way to right the wrong which we believe has been done him, then the matter should be brought strongly to the notice of the pardon board of the state with a view of securing his freedom.

It goes without saying in this connection that the trouble for which this unfortunate community was made to suffer lies primarily at the door of the lawless white element. For days they had been muttering dire threats against our people until, in their alarm, they began to make preparations for the defense of their lives and property. With the conditions reversed the white residents of East St. Louis would have taken the same steps, and they would have been commended on all sides for so doing. Had they fought and taken life in defense of themselves and their homes no white jury would have convicted them. And because we do not believe in one law for the white and one for the black forces us to array ourselves in the cause of Dr. Bundy.—Chicago Defender.

## GRAND BALL

The Compliments of the

## EFFICIENCY CLUB

### Easter Monday

### April 21, 1919

at

## GREYERBIEHL'S HALL

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Music by Smith's Jazz Band, which means things doing from 8 o'clock P. M. until 12.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF Washington for King County.

John J. Shirley, Plaintiff, vs. Jesse W. Rawlings, and Mabel Rawlings, his wife, and Emma T. Rawlings, Defendants.—No. .... Summons and Publication.

The State of Washington to Jesse W. Rawlings, and Mabel Rawlings, his wife, and Emma T. Rawlings:

You and each of you are hereby summoned to appear within sixty (60) days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit: sixty (60) days after the 29th day of March, 1919, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court and answer the complaint of the plaintiff and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for the plaintiff at his office below specified in Seattle, King County, Washington, said King County being the place designated by the plaintiff as the place of trial of said action, and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint which has been filed with the clerk of said court.

The object of the above entitled action is to foreclose a certain mortgage executed by the defendants Jesse W. Rawlings and Mabel Rawlings, his wife, bearing date the 17th day of December, 1906, and filed for record in the office of the Auditor of King County, State of Washington, December 23, 1908, in Volume 424 of Mortgages, page 315 of the Records of King County, Washington, whereby there was mortgaged to the said Emma T. Rawlings the following described real estate situate in King County, State of Washington, to-wit:

The north twenty and six one-hundredths (20.06) feet of Lot two (2) and the south nineteen and ninety-four one-hundredths (19.94) feet of lot one (1) in block one (1) Leschi Heights Addition to the city of Seattle, together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining.

That said mortgage and notes were duly assigned, transferred and set over for a valuable consideration by the said Emma T. Rawlings to said John J. Shirley, the plaintiff herein.

That said assignment of mortgage was dated the 23rd day of September, 1918, and duly recorded in the office of the Auditor of King County, State of Washington, on the 28th day of January, 1919, in Volume 760 page 460 of the Records of King County, Washington.

The object of said action is to exclude defendants therein and each of them from any lien or interest in said property and otherwise as will more fully appear from said complaint.

JOHN J. KINNANE,

Attorney for Plaintiff.

Office and Post Office Address: Hotel Seattle, Seattle, Washington.

First publication March 29, 1919.

Last publication May 10, 1919.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF Washington for the County of King.—No. 133363.

Summons by Publication.  
J. Abe Fisher, Plaintiff, vs. Fred Therriault, and William Fisher and Eve S. Fisher, his wife, Defendants.

The State of Washington, to the said Fred Therriault, Defendant

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit, within sixty days after the 1st day of February, A. D. 1919, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiff at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the Clerk of said court. The object of the said action and the relief sought to be obtained therein is fully set forth in said complaint, and is briefly stated as follows:

To partition the following described real property: The East Forty-five (E. 45) feet of Lots Eighteen (18), Nineteen (19) and Twenty (20) in Block Thirteen (13) of Front Street Cable Addition to the City of Seattle, King County, Washington.

ANDREW J. BALLIET,

Attorney for Plaintiff.

P. O. Address: 320 Railway Exchange Bldg., Seattle, County of King, Washington.

First publication Feb. 1, 1919.

## MASS MEETING

Monday, April 28th, 1919

at

## Grace Presbyterian Church

The Seattle Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold the above meeting to determine whether a delegate will be sent to the

## Tenth Anniversary

of the Parent Body and to transact other important business.

S. H. STONE, President,  
ARTHUR WILLIAMS, Secretary