

**Race Riots  
in Illinois**

It has been necessary to station the entire militia force of Illinois. two negro regiments excepted, at Springfield, the capital, owing to race riots which began on the 14th and were not checked until the 16th, when 4,200 soldiers were on guard. Six persons have been killed (two of them lynched) and more than fifty wounded. The disturbance began with an attempt by a mob to take two negroes from the jail. One of these, Joseph James, had been indicted for murdering Clergy A. Ballard, a white man. About a month ago, James attempted to assault Ballard's daughter at her home. Her father sought to protect her and was stabbed to death. The other negro, George Richardson, had been arrested for assault upon Mrs. Hallam, the wife of a street-car conductor. She had been dragged from her house to her garden by a negro on the night of the 13th. Her identification of Richardson was not complete, and he may be innocent. By a ruse

the sheriff took the two negroes from the jail in an automobile, and they were carried on the railroad to Peoria. The automobile had been loaned to the sheriff by its owner, H. T. Loper, whose restaurant was the largest in the city. When his part in the affair became known, the mob wrecked his restaurant and burned the automobile. This was the beginning of great disorders. On the night of the 14th thirty-five houses occupied by negroes were burned, and the firemen were not permitted to do their appointed work. Two men, one an innocent bystander, were killed. Mayor Reese was roughly handled when he sought to restrain the rioters. Mr. Chafin, Prohibitionist candidate for the Presidency, while making a public address, defended a hunted negro who ran to him for protection. The candidate was struck on the head by a brick and his meeting was broken up. On the 15th the rioting continued, in defiance of 2,500 soldiers. Assistant County Treasurer Bowe was robbed and killed by negroes in the morning. Later in the day, Charles Hunter, a negro, was lynched by the mob, and in the evening George Donegan, an aged and respected negro, was taken from his house, brutally beaten and hanged. The charge against him was that he had a white wife. Many of the injured were wounded by the militia, some by the mob, others by negroes defending their homes. More than 2,000 negroes have fled from the city; hundreds are sheltered and protected by the soldiers in their camps. Fifty rioters have been arrested, and Governor Deneen has ordered a special grand jury for the consideration of the charges against them. The entire power of the State shall be used, if necessary, he says, to preserve order in Springfield. The chief of police asserts that alien anarchists were leaders of the mob.