

Brownell Orders Probe Of Mississippi Voting

NATION SHOCKED, VOW ACTION IN LYNCHING OF CHICAGO YOUTH

'Murder,' White Says; Promises Prosecution

An aroused and angry nation this week demanded quick justice for the kidnap-lynchers of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till of Chicago, whose bound and mutilated body was found Wednesday in the Tallahatchie river near Money, Miss.

Even Mississippi's Gov. Hugh White, traditionally silent on such matters, promised a complete investigation and full prosecution of persons responsible.

However, Gov. White disagreed with the NAACP, which last week charged that the boy's slaying was an outright lynching. Gov. White termed it a "straight out murder."

White also denied the incident had any connection with desegregation of public schools in the South.

In a telephone interview with the Chicago Defender Thursday, White said:

"The people of Mississippi and the governor's office do not condone such an act. I am going to order, immediately, a complete investigation of that affair."

Young Till, accused of whistling at the wife of Roy Bryant, a Monday, Miss., storekeeper, had been missing since Sunday, when he was spirited away from the home of an uncle, Moses Wright, a tenant farmer.

Accused of kidnapping and slaying Till are Bryant and his half brother, J. W. Milam. Officers issued a kidnap warrant for Mrs. Bryant late last week.

The case was scheduled to go

before the grand jury early this week and Greenwood and Tallahatchie county law officials promised to obey the governor's order for a complete investigation and speedy prosecution of the case.

A 17-year-old fisherman found the boy's body floating in the Tallahatchie river. He had been shot in the head; beaten and a 150-pound cotton gin fan tied around his body with barbed wire.

Till was an eighth grade student at McCosh school in Chicago and lived with his mother in a second floor apartment at 6427 St. Lawrence.

His father, Louis Till, died in service in World War II. The boy's mother has been married and divorced since.



EMMETT LOUIS TILL

Urge Eisenhower To See That 'Justice Is Served'

(FULL PAGE PICTURES, PAGE 5)

Richard J. Dailey, mayor of Chicago, last week urged President Dwight D. Eisenhower to use all the facilities of the federal government to see that justice is served on the slayers of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till of Chicago.

Meanwhile, the boy's mother, Mrs. Mamie Bradley, of Chicago, declared:

"The whole state of Mississippi is going to pay for this thing. He was a good boy. I know he didn't do anything to deserve that."

Till's body was found Wednesday in the Tallahatchie river by Floyd Hughes, 17, while fishing.

Leaders and government officials in Illinois and throughout the country deplored the ugly incident and called for immediate action.

was blasted to death by unknown persons in Belzoni, Miss., and Lamar Smith, 63, was shot to death virtually on the court house steps in Brookhaven on Aug. 13. Both had been active in the vote registration drive.

The situation in Mississippi has been growing steadily worse since the Supreme Court outlawed segregation in public schools on May 17, 1954.

Whites in the state have organized themselves into groups known as the Citizens Councils and have attempted to effect an economic freeze in order to force Negroes to stop "agitating" for integration.

Protest Mississippi 'Shame'

Sharp protests were made to President Eisenhower and other national and Mississippi state authorities last week in the gun lynching of a 14-year-old Chicago boy and Money, Miss.

William Henry Huff, attorney for the Chicago branch of the N. A.



Eisenhower Huff

A. C. P., wrote the president: "The dastardly act on the part of these criminal-minded persons is so outrageous that it opens the door for condemnation even from the president of the U. S."

He urged Eisenhower to "speak out, and see that a thorough investigation is made of this unwarranted and dastardly crime."

Victim of the slaying was Emmett Louis Till, only child of Mrs. Mamie E. Bradley of 6427 St. Lawrence ave. The lad was kidnapped from the home of his uncle, Moses Wright, beaten, shot, and his body weighted with a heavy gin pulley and dumped into the Tallahatchie River.

Prominent officials who joined in the protests were Mayor Richard J. Daley, Gov. William Stratton, Sen. Paul Douglas, Dr. T. R. M. Howard, and all NAACP officials led by Roy Wilkins, executive secretary.

WIVES ILL

Mayor Daley in his wire to Pres.

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Hoover Answers Chicago Defender

In answer to a query from the Chicago Defender, J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said "the facts pertaining to the murder of Emmett Louis Till have been submitted to the Civil Rights section of the department which has ruled that they do not constitute a violation within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI."

The Defender wired Hoover for comment after Till's shot and mangled body was pulled from a river last Wednesday.

Splitting Hairs Over 'Lynching'

Gov. Hugh White of Mississippi has said the slaying of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till was "not a lynching." He called it "straight out murder."

It appears that the Governor was splitting hairs, but for the record, Noah Webster's dictionary defines "lynch" as "to inflict punishment, especially death, upon, without the forms of law, as when a mob captures and hangs a suspected person."

There seems to be no doubt that Till was being punished. The doubt is over what for.

However, to complete the definition, Noah Webster supplies the further information that a mob is the "disorderly element of the populace... one (a member of these)..."

Satisfied, Governor?

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15¢ and WORTH IT

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MRS. MAMIE BRADLEY

Thousands At Rites For Till

By ROBERT ELLIOTT

More than 50,000 people appeared to mourn over the body of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till as it lay in state in the Rayner Funeral Home at 4141 Cottage Grove, on Friday.

Throughout the night the lines stretched a blocklong outside the home.

The scene was duplicated as thousands attempted to get into funeral services in Chicago's Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ, 4021 S. State st. A public address system carried the service to the crowds standing in the streets Saturday.

Rev. Isiah Roberts officiated at the service. He called the burial lynching of the boy a black mark against the U. S. and called for justice and a swift trial of the boy's slayers.

BISHOP GIVES EULOGY

The eulogy was delivered by Bishop Louis Ford.

Officials of the funeral home where the angry, the awed and the curious filed in to view the remains of the boy, who may or may not have insured a white woman, declared they had never seen anything like it.

Many of the people were in an angry mood, they said.

As the crowd grew larger, police assistance was needed to keep the line moving and the people under control.

The condition of the body did not help, said a Rayner spokesman. Efforts at reconstruction were hampered by the advance decomposition of the body.

The boy was found three days after his body had been thrown into the Tallahatchie river. The marks of his barbed wire bindings were still visible.

The people saw them and grew angry.

Few of them had ever seen or heard of "Bo" Till until he whistled or made an ugly remark to a white woman in Mississippi and doomed himself.

Most of them were thinking it is no crime for a boy to whistle at a pretty woman. They were thinking, "My son might do it or yours."

And thinking that, they suddenly felt "Bo" Till belonged to them. And they came to see him. Many of them talked to him.

They all swore they'd never forget him.

Blood On Their Hands ...

An Editorial

The lynching of 14-year-old Emmett Louis "Bo" Till of Chicago in Mississippi last week is an outrage to all decent American citizens, white, and colored, and dramatically points out to the world the ugliest aspects of life in our Democracy.

The Chicago youth vacationing in Mississippi was kidnapped from the home of relatives and brutally lynched after he was accused of whistling at the wife of a storekeeper in Money, Miss.

The blood of "Bo" Till is on the hands of the five candidates for governor of Mississippi who campaigned on an anti-Negro platform in the recent elections. They charged the atmosphere of the state for acts of violence.

We accuse these racist rabble-rousers with contributing directly to the murder of "Bo" Till and the lynching of American reputation for decency and respect for law and order in the eyes of the entire world.

No country that tolerates the barbarous hate-filling of a child within its midst deserves nor can it expect the respect of the civilized world. There can be no compromise this time. Your child can be the next victim of the white supremacists.

It is up to the administration in Washington to begin action once and for all to end the crime of lynching that has degraded our nation. Full justice must be meted out to the two men now being held for this dastardly crime. A federal anti-lynching law must be passed and in addition, it should be made a federal offense to interfere with or attack any religious or racial group in elections. Republicans and Democrats alike have been too quick to appease and forgive bigotry and its consequent acts of violence.

Unless the Administration acts at once to stop this wanton and ruthless taking of lives, the blood of "Bo" Till, Rev. George Lee, Lamar Smith and the long line of martyrs in the fight for first class citizenship for the Negro in America will be on its hands and "all the perfumes of Arabia will not wash it away."

Mother's Tears Greet Son Who Died A Martyr

By MATTIE SMITH COLIN

"Oh, God, Oh God. My only boy," Mrs. Mamie Bradley wailed as five men lifted a soiled paper wrapped bundle from a huge, brown wooden mid-victorian box at the Illinois Central Station in Chicago Friday and put it into a waiting hearse.

The bundle was the bruised and bullet-ridden body of little 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till of Chicago, who had been lynched down in Money, Miss.

Limp with grief and seated in a wheel chair among a huge throng of spectators, Mrs. Bradley cried out:

"Lord you gave your only son to remedy a condition, but who knows, but what the death of my only son might bring an end to lynching!"

As Bishop Louis Ford and Rev. Isiah Roberts prayed and rolled the wheel chair, Mrs. Bradley screamed, "Let me pray," and assisted by the ministers dropped to her knees, crying, "Lord take my soul, show me what you want me to do, and make me able to do it."

A morbid silence engulfed the station. Veteran newspaper men and photographers, whose daily schedules include murders and fatal accidents, were grim-faced as they watched the procedure and then went about their work.

Dr. T. R. M. Howard of Mound Bayou, Miss., while boarding a plane at Midway Airport here Wednesday said when queried about this case, "There is going to be hell to pay in Mississippi."

About the recently slaying in

(See TEARS, Page 2)



NEAR COLLAPSE from shock and grief, Mrs. Mamie E. Bradley sobs hysterically as the body of her son, 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till, is taken from train at Chicago's Illinois Central Station. Mrs. Bradley's condition made it necessary for her to use wheel chair during this ordeal. Offering comfort in photo are Crosby Smith of Mississippi, an uncle of the boy, and Mrs. Lillian Smith of Chicago, aunt of Mrs. Bradley. Defender photo by Rhoden.

Baptists Of America Hold Meet In Chicago

Thousands of delegates to the 75th annual session of the National Baptist Convention of America arrived in Chicago this week to take part in the denomination's Diamond Jubilee celebration.

Dr. Green L. Prince of Galveston, Texas rapped the gavel to open the parent body meeting on Sept. 7 at Tabernacle Baptist church, 4129 Indiana ave. He has been president for the past 21 years. On that night welcome speeches were given by Mayor Richard J. Daley, Judge Wendell E. Green and Dr. Joseph Evans, pastor of Metropolitan Community church.

Mrs. M. A. B. Fuller, president, will rule over the Senior Women's convention at Ebenezer Baptist church, 45th and Vincennes; Mrs. H. L. E. Williams will have charge of the Junior Women sessions at Zion Temple; the Youth Convention led by Rev. Edward Hill of Houston, meets at Morning Star Baptist while the Brotherhood Union under Ira Clark, is slated to meet at Antioch Baptist, 51st and Indiana.

Rev. J. H. L. Smith, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist, who recently returned from London, England, where he attended the Baptist World Alliance, was guest speaker when the Planning Committee for the National Baptist Convention of America met on Monday. A 500-voice chorus was featured along with guest singers: Mrs. Ethelyn Ingram, soprano; Robert Anderson, gospel singer; Beatrice Cloud, dramatic soprano; Edna Hammett Porter, organist; Virgie Dewitty is director; Marion B. Williams, junior-women's conductor, and Freddie L. Kibry, senior women director.



DR. GREEN PRINCE

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