

NATION SHOCKED, VOW ACTION IN LYNCHING OF CHICAGO YOUTH

'Murder,' White Promises Prosec

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

Splitting Over 'Lynch'

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 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 Money, 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 kidnaping 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

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ower To See e Is Served'

... was blasted to death by unknown persons in Belmont, Miss., and Lemar Smith, 33, was shot to death virtually on the court house steps in Brookhaven on Aug. 13. Both had been active in the vote registration drive.

charged that M-

... 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.



MRS. MAMIE BRADLEY

'Protest' Mississippi 'Shame'

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

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



Eisenhower Huff

A. C. P., write 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 unprovoked and heinous crime."

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

Baptist Hold

Thousands of members of the National Baptist Church in Chicago this week-mond Jubilee celebration.

Dr. Green L. ...

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 fact pertaining to the slaying of Emmett Louis Till has been submitted to the Civil Rights section of the department which has ruled that they do not constitute a violation within investigative jurisdiction of the FBI."

The Defender wired Hoover for comment after Till's slaying and

station, Veteran newspaper men and photographers, whose daily schedules include murders and fatal accidents, were grim-faced as grocers were refused ballots when and intimidation.

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 at Chicago's Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ, 4021 S. State at. A public address system carried the service to the crowds standing in the streets Saturday.

Rev. Isaiah 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 pitiful filed in to view the remains of the boy, who may or may not have insulted 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 to keep 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 tortured 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 "L" mark to a white woman in Mississippi and got shot 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.