

Death Penalty Properly Demanded In Fiendish Crime of Nine Burly Negroes

The Daily Times commends the citizenship of Madison and Jackson counties for its cool-headedness in the trying moments surrounding the apprehension and preparation for speedy trial of the nine negro brutes who are alleged to have attacked two white girls on a Southern freight train at or near Scottsboro late Wednesday. An even dozen of these hellish criminals are said to have been on that train, three escaped, according to reports, but be that as it may meeting out of swift legal justice is the thing. The crime is described as the most atrocious ever recorded in this part of the country, a wholesale debauching of society and so horrible in its details that all of the facts can never be printed. The courts of Jackson county have acted wisely and promptly in promise of immediate grand jury investigation and trials. On conviction of the nine brutes who have been protected by law since their apprehension, this newspaper joins with the public and the duly constituted authorities in seeing that the law is carried out to the letter. That will prove wholesome for society as a whole. Our community and that of Jackson county suffered an outrage that should never have occurred. There's no complete remedy for the harm that has been done but to the credit of the citizens as a whole they have sustained respect for law and order by not contributing further to its undoing. Co-operation with the officers of the law, including the good work of the State Militia and the officers at the scene of the trouble, good citizenship materially aided in conserving a situation from having become disastrous. This was a heinous and unspeakable crime, unthinkable in its deplorable conduct and savored of the jungle, the way back dark ages of meanest African corruption. The white man will not stand for such acts and because of this a sober mind and court are being allowed to take the place of incendiary and inflammatory maneuvers. Society is better for it. Our sympathy, too, runs for the two white girls who suffered the terrible attack and may God in His infinite mercy help all of us to forgive and forget.