



MRS. MAMIE BRADLEY (center) was swamped by alert news- men when she made her dramatic appearance in the courtroom to testify in the trial of her murdered son. Questions were fired at her from all directions, causing the court proceedings to be held up arrival in court Tuesday. Mrs. Turner, of the St. Louis Argus, is in rear center.

## Drama Marks Entrance Of Murdered Boy's Mom

By STEVE DUNCAN  
Argus Staff Correspondent

SUMNER, Miss.—There was tension and drama in the very atmosphere when the mother of Emmett Louis Till, 14-year-old lynch victim, arrived at the Sumner County Courthouse Tuesday morning to appear as the star witness in the sensational trial of two white men accused of the brutal murder of her son. Mrs. Mamie Bradley, 1637 Central Park, Chicago, appeared very calm when she entered the jam-packed courtroom precisely at 9:15 a.m., accompanied by her father, a cousin and a friend. Her dramatic arrival was in defiance of threats made against her since her only child was found adrift in the Tallahatchie River August 31.

Congressman Charles Diggs of Michigan arrived to observe the proceedings in the court of Circuit Judge Curtis Swango an hour after Mrs. Bradley appeared. His arrival, however, did not cause as much commotion as that of Mrs. Bradley. Representative Diggs was accompanied by Attorney Esau Brown and James Del Rio, both of Detroit.

Mrs. Bradley declared there was no doubt about the identity of her son, whose body was found badly-beaten, battered body that was kidnapped from the farm of an uncle, Mose Wright. Doubt of the identity of the body was raised by Tallahatchie County Sheriff H. C. Strider. Defense lawyers are making much of this point.

She was accompanied to Sumner by her father, John Carthan of Detroit; a cousin, Raphael Mooty of Chicago, and a friend, Mrs. Nannie Mitchell-Turner.

(Continued on Page 10)

## Intervention By Eisenhower Urged By CIO

SUMNER, Miss.—President Eisenhower was called upon to instruct the Justice Department "to use all of its facilities and power to see that the criminals (in the Emmett Louis Till murder case) are brought to trial and meted the full penalty under the law."

The appeal was in the form of a resolution protesting the lynch-murder of the 14-year-old Chicagoan widely circulated here by a white representative of a southern district of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO.

The strongly worded resolution was adopted by delegates to a joint meeting of the Women's Activities Committee of District 8 of the union Sept. 8 in Grenada, La. The district is comprised of Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona and Louisiana.

The organization condemned the murder of Till and all other anti-Negro attacks.

(Continued on Page 10)

## ON-THE-SPOT

AS THE EYES OF THE WORLD were turned this week toward the glistening little town of Sumner, Miss. Your St. Louis ARGUS was there to bring you first hand accounts of the top story of the year. Led by Mrs. Nannie Mitchell-Turner, president, Staff Writer Steve Duncan and Staff photographer William Franklin, were on-the-spot this week. Their graphic and complete report is contained here. It is another evidence of the desire of the St. Louis ARGUS to serve you better.

# The St. Louis Argus

VOL. 44—NO. 27

ST. LOUIS, MO., FRIDAY, SEPT. 23, 1955

24 PAGES—PRICE 15c

## New Witnesses May Hurt Defense

### Rev. Mose Wright Says He'll Leave Miss. as Soon as Crop is Harvested

By STEVE DUNCAN  
Argus Staff Correspondent

SUMNER, Miss.—Rev. Mose Wright, uncle of the murdered Emmett Louis Till, told the Argus Tuesday morning he will remain in Mississippi long enough to harvest his crop on the small farm located near Money and then move to Chicago.

It was from the home of Wright that two white men, Roy Bryant and his half-brother J. W. Milam, kidnapped Emmett August 28 because the 14-year-old lad allegedly uttered "ugly remarks" to Bryant's wife.

Bryant, 36, of Money, and Milam, 36, of Glendora, are on trial for the murder of the boy. They are also accused of kidnapping, but this charge is not being heard during the trial which started Monday.

Rev. Wright said he has had no trouble with the whites in the area since the horrible crime was discovered August 31. He said, however, that he will definitely leave this area soon.

Wright would take Till Christmas to get all of it (his crop) in. Wright said, adding that he wants to complete as much of the harvesting as possible before leaving his farm.

Rev. Wright's wife, who was present when Bryant and Milam spirited Emmett away, nearly suffered a nervous breakdown, the minister said. She did not attend the trial, but remained in Chicago where she fled after the murder.

Wright said he has not lived at his farm since the night his nephew was taken away. He returns to his place daily to work, but leaves before nightfall.

## Coke Bottle Is Considered A Deadly Weapon

(Argus Staff Correspondent) SUMNER, Miss.—"I have received over 100 threatening letters and I don't intend to sit here and be a target," Sheriff H. C. Strider told newsmen in explaining why he ordered spectators to be searched for concealed weapons.

From all outward appearances the tiny, isolated order piled only to Negroes and white newsmen. There was no evidence of white spectators being searched for deadly weapons (A move this writer would have wholeheartedly approved).

Believe it or not, an ordinary coke bottle was considered a deadly weapon by the sheriff's deputies. Swelling Negro newsmen who hired 50-year-old Tommy Wright, of Sumner, to act as a runner sent the lad out to buy some cokes. Tommy returned the first time with six bottles. In the crowded courtroom it was very hot. So Tommy was sent out for more.

The sheriff had returned empty-handed with this story; the deputy refused to let him bring any more bottles. In this rule, how ever, did not apply to "white" which indicates that Mississippi law officers consider a coke bottle in the hands of a colored man a dangerous and deadly weapon.



MRS. NANNIE MITCHELL-TURNER, president of the St. Louis Argus Publishing Co., talks to Uncle Mose Wright, the state's first witness in the Till murder case.

## Drive On To Recruit More Men For Police

A concerted drive in Sumner more men for placement with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department is underway following the announcement that the department is 150 men short of its authorized strength.

In a special message this week, Chief of Police Jeremiah O'Connell urged all officers to assist in the campaign by contacting their friends and asking them to make a career as police officers.

This announcement follows closely a detailed study by the United Negro Organizations which sharply criticized the hiring policies of the Police Department in its regular Newsletter.

The St. Louis Police Department needs to take a new look at its hiring and promotional policies. The Newsletter stated, pointing out that there are only five Negro sergeants out of 203; six corporals out of 204.

According to Newsletter figures, there are 106 Negroes to 105 Whites in the commission. In other job categories, says the UNO Newsletter, there are only 55 Negroes to 152 Whites. In this area, there are no Negroes among the department's 125 clerks nor are there any Negroes among its 37 switchboard operators.

## Josephine Baker To Return Here

Josephine Baker, the celebrated star of three continents will return to her hometown for one performance before retirement, the St. Louis Argus learned this week.

Miss Baker, whose career has been star-studded since she was featured in the famed "Follies of 1925," will be presented in a single performance at Kiel Auditorium on Sunday evening, Sept. 25. On her last appearance here, Miss Baker appeared in a benefit program to raise money to help equities the St. Louis Public Schools. The schools are now integrated under the leadership of the Board of Education.

Fashion conscious St. Louisans will look forward to Miss Baker's new 40-gown wardrobe by such great designers as Christian Dior, Jean Dessire, Jacques Griffe, Marcel Rochas and Balenciaga.

## Grocery Killing Trial In Session

The murder trial of Joseph A. White, a Negro in the fatal shooting of Tony Anthony, a grocery clerk at 4837 Fountain, February 21, began in Judge C. E. Williams' Court this week.

According to police reports, White admitted firing five shots at Anthony in an attempted holdup of the grocery store where the victim worked.

Important witnesses in the trial, which is expected to continue through the week, have been Anthony's father, Charles Anthony of the store, and a woman who was in the store when the holdup attempt was made.

## Till Jury Hears Uncle Name Killers

By STEVE DUNCAN  
Argus Staff Correspondent

SUMNER, Miss.—The announcement that five new mystery witnesses with damaging evidence have been found by the prosecution in the Till murder trial has visibly shaken the defense strategy and may blow sky-high the case of two white men accused of the lynch-murder of the 14-year-old Chicagoan.

The witnesses, as yet unnamed, were scheduled to begin testifying Thursday.

District Attorney Gerald Chatham has said the witnesses have "absolutely newly discovered evidence." The Argus learned the witnesses will place Roy Bryant and his half-brother, J. W. Milam, near the spot where Emmett Louis Till's badly battered body was discovered in the Tallahatchie River Aug. 31.

CONTRADICTION EVIDENCE It was also learned the new evidence will contradict statements of Bryant and Milam that they released the boy unharmed shortly after spiriting him away from the home of his uncle, Mose Wright, early on the morning of Aug. 28. Chatham said evidence will place the defendants with the boy several hours after his abduction.

Till disappeared three days after his allegedly "wolf-whistle" at Mrs. Carolyn Bryant, attractive 21-year-old wife of Bryant. Chief Justice attorney J. J. Braland attempted Wednesday to belittle the new information found by the prosecution. He said the new disclosure will have very little bearing on the case.

However, Braland protested vigorously Tuesday when Circuit Judge Curtis Swango recessed at mid-day to allow Chatham time to confer with the witnesses.

## NAME LIVES ENDANGERED

Names of the five-discovered by NAAACP officials in the area were not disclosed because it was feared their lives would be endangered in this region where tempers are about at the boiling point.

(Continued on Page 10)



TWO OF THE WITNESSES in the Till murder trial are the dead boy's cousins, Simon Wright (left) and his brother, Robert.