

Blond Gets 20 Years For Raping Teenager

The admitted ringleader of four white men accused of abusing a 16 year old girl was sentenced today to 20 years at hard labor and was told by the judge his actions "had brought bitter condemnation on the State of Mississippi."

Circuit Judge Tom Brady pronounced the sentence against 30-year-old Ernest Dillon, Tylertown, who last week was allowed to plead guilty to a reduced charge of assault with intent to rape. Dillon, one of three men accused of raping the girl, had been held on rape charges since the May 13, 1956 incident.

More Criticism

The judge said the state probably will "come in for a whole lot more of vitriolic abuse from people who hate the South" as a result of the case.

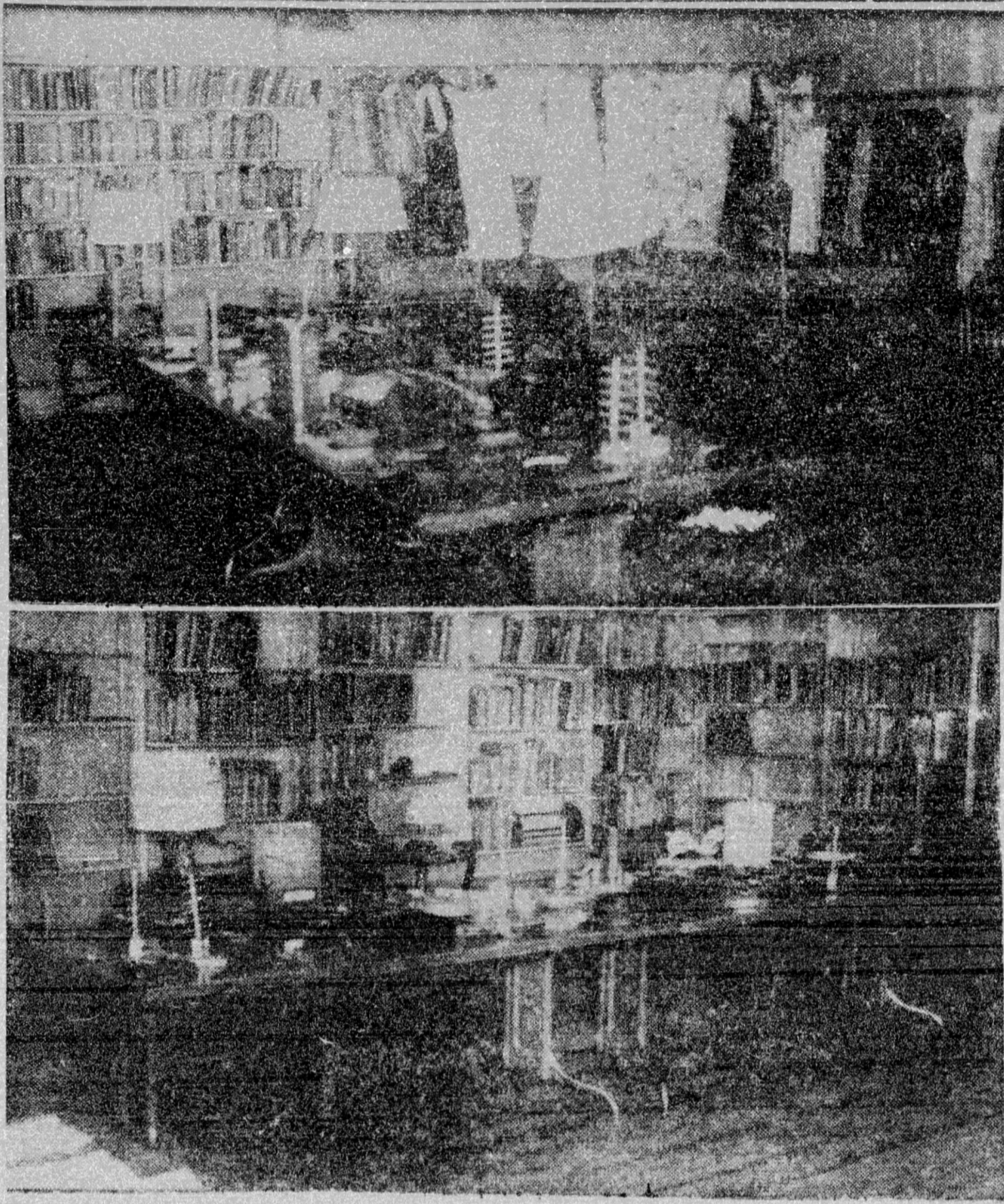
Brady disclosed the Negro girl, her mother and her uncle were consulted before the charge against Dillon was reduced. The judge said the three Negroes told him they did not want Dillon to suffer the death penalty and agreed 20 years

was an "appropriate punishment. Rape is punishable by death in Mississippi."

One of the other defendants, Willie Dillon, 48, was the only one of

the four charged with kidnaping. The rape trial at Durso Duncan ended last night in a hung jury and a mistrial declaration, but

Dist. Atty. Mike Carr said he will try him again in October. Duncan's cousin, Olen Duncan, was acquitted of rape charges last week.



EXHIBITS AT WASHINGTON SCHOOL — Industrial arts, science and home economics students at the Washington school display their handwork in the library this week. The home economics department exhibit, top photo, drew high praise from the hundreds of visitors that saw the display as did the industrial arts exhibit below. (STAFF PHOTOS BY CHAS. R. JONES)

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