SNYC Asks Probe of Jail Slaying

BIRMINGHAM — The Southern Negro Youth Congress last week requested Attorney General Tom C. Clark to order a "speedy and vigorous" investigation into the recent slaying of Samuel Bacon, an employee of the "Proctor" Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio, by Marshall S. D. Coleman in the Fayette (Miss.) jail.

Bacon, whose daughter, Mrs. Francis Perry, is an office employee of the local SNYC, was en route to visit relatives in Natchez, Miss., when he was arrested by sheriff Millard Johnson of Jefferson county. A SNYC representative is making an on-the-spot investigation of the slaying in Fayette.

The sheriff's assertion that Bacon was killed in self-defense when he attempted to attack the marshal with an ax left in the jail, was labeled as a "transparent and clumsy coverup for barbaric cruelty" by the SNYC.

EX-AFRO REPORTER WINS NEWSPAPER GUILD AWARD

CLEVELAND — Eumen Booker Jr., a graduate of Virginia Union who formerly was a reporter for the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN and who now is attached to the Cleveland Call and Post, won an award given by the local chapter of the American Newspaper Guild for outstanding reporting on the housing problem here.

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Evidence Of Negro Frees Trigger Happy White Man

The testimony of a Negro janitor led last week to the acquittal of a trigger-happy Mississippi law officer who killed a Negro bus passenger from Michigan "who didn't know his place."

A grand jury investigation focused upon the State of Mississippi by "unfavorable publicity in Northern Negro newspapers" of the slaying of Samuel Mason Bacon of Detroit, resulted in a whitewash of the crime Thursday.

The jury was assisted in acquitting Fayette Town Marshal Stanton Coleman of the killing of Bacon by a "version" of the incident given by 70-year-old Bill Gray, janitor of the Jefferson county jail.

"True To Dixie"

True to the "traditions" of the South, the Negro janitor gave testimony to the grand jury which brought about the freeing of Coleman.

In its report, the jury said the marshal shot and killed Bacon in "self-defense." It added that the case was investigated because of "unfavorable publicity in Northern Negro newspapers."

Bacon was arrested last March 15 for allegedly creating a disturbance on a southbound bus. Coleman, who made the arrest killed his defenseless prisoner in the Jefferson county jail. The marshal is said to have been enraged because the slain man refused to stand with vacant seats in the bus. After the long rear seat for Negroes over the motor, became overcrowded.

The officer is said to have stated: "He had to "kill the n------ because he didn't know his place."

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