

"Taken From Court Room and Burned" - The Lynching of Jesse Washington, May 15, 1916

TAKEN FROM COURT ROOM AND BURNED

Fifteen Thousand Persons, Including Women and Children, Witness Lynching of Negro Boy ant Waco, Tex. - Confessed Assaulting Woman.

Waco, Tex., Mau 15. - With 15,000 persons as witnesses, including women and children, Jesse Washington, the negro boy, who confessed to criminally assaulting and murdering Mrs. Lucy Frya, seven miles south of here, last Monday, was taken from the district court room today and burned on the public square.

The burning came at once after the negro's trial was over and after the jury had brought in a verdict of guilty giving him the death penalty. Some one started the cry of "Get the negro," and Washington was seized.

A suggestion that he be burned on the plaza met with instant response and he was dragged to the city hall yard where the chain already around his neck was thrown over the limb of a tree, wood secured, and the fire started.