

# FULL INQUIRY IS ORDERED

## Body Saved from Burning at Hands of an Angry Throng.

### RUSHED TO SAFETY IN AUTO

## Thousands in Atlanta View Corpse After It Has Been Prepared for Burial.

### SENT TO BROOKLYN HOME

## Crime the Outcome of Careful Plans That Made Work and Escape Easy.

*Special to The New York Times.*

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 17.—Dangling in a grove within a stone's throw of the hillside birthplace of Many Phagan, the body of Leo M. Frank, lynched by a mob perfect in its precision and organization, was cut down at Marietta this morning while threats to burn it were being made by the big crowd that gathered after the lynchers had departed.

Hurried to the village square—two miles distant—in an undertaker's dead wagon, the body was then transferred to an automobile, resting lengthwise across the tonneau in a wicker basket, and rushed to Atlanta, followed by a trail of automobilists.

Attempts were made by telephone to intercept the car, but without success, and an undertaker's ambulance met the machine at the outskirts of the city and conveyed the body in safety to Greenburg & Bond's undertaking establishment in Atlanta. It was there embalmed after being viewed by thousands, and about midnight, under a heavy police guard, was placed aboard a Southern Railway train to be taken to Brooklyn, N. Y., for burial. The funeral party, including Mrs. Frank and several Atlanta friends of the family, who will accompany the body to Brooklyn, was guarded carefully by the police until the train left the terminal station.

Friends and relatives had planned to hold a private funeral at 11 o'clock tonight. Mrs. Frank, who arrived from Milledgeville tonight and was taken to the home of Herbert Haas, objected, however, and the plan was abandoned.

Mrs. Frank appeared at the train unassisted and showed no serious effects of her ordeal. Several policemen surrounded Mrs. Frank and her friends and refused to allow any one close enough to converse with them.

No violence other than strangulation was committed upon the body by the lynchers. Despite reports that it had been riddled with bullets, not a mark except upon the throat was visible when it was cut down.

As it fell to the ground the foot of a frenzied onlooker was ground into the face, badly distorting the features, and adding to the discoloration caused by blood congelation.

### Governor Harris Promises Action.

No arrests have been made. Governor Harris has instructed officials of Cobb County to exert every effort to find the lynchers, but no State or county reward has been offered. It was said at the Governor's office late this afternoon that no application for the offer of a reward had been made. The Governor himself, however, in a statement to THE TIMES correspondent, pledged himself to do everything in his power to bring about the arrest and punishment of the lynchers.

Governor Harris, who had gone to Fitzgerald early today to attend the annual reunion of Confederate Veterans, started back to Atlanta tonight to aid the Prison Commission in an investigation of the lynching.

"The people are entitled to all the facts in the case," said the Governor, "and I propose to see that they shall have them."

The Governor had been awakened this morning to be told of the action of the mob. "I am greatly shocked and aggrieved," he declared then, "and I do not believe that the people of Georgia will at all approve of this action. I am sure that it will hurt Georgia greatly everywhere, and I am extremely sorry that it occurred."

"It can be taken for granted that I will use my every power to see to it that the members of this mob receive fitting punishment for their crime. I will see to it that the authorities of the County in which this crime occurred receive every help at the disposal of the State."

### Lynching Planned for Weeks.

The lynching of Frank was the outcome of weeks of deliberate study and planning. It was carried out with clock-like precision. The living victim, fully conscious and aware of his impending fate, was transported more than 100 miles.

As told in long-distance telephone messages to THE NEW YORK TIMES early this morning, Frank was taken from the State Prison farm at Milledgeville shortly after 10 o'clock on Monday night, after the prison authorities had been overpowered, was thrown into an automobile and rushed over the country

roads with so little disturbance that even in Marietta no one knew of the crime until a voice over the telephone to Deputy Sheriff L. Hicks said:

"Leo Frank's hanging to a limb down here in the Frey gin neighborhood. Retribution."

The Deputy Sheriff hastily donned his clothes and, in a buggy, traveled to the spot. He had been preceded by a score of others, one of whom, William Frey, owner and operator of the gin, had seen the procession of lynchers file along the road. They were standing in a circle beneath the body, which swung in the light breeze, still warm.

The story of how Frank passed his last hours and the incidents attending the hanging none but the self-appointed executioners know.

It was the first automobile lynching which Georgia has experienced, and it was carried out with reckless boldness. But few of the twenty-five men who drove up to the State Prison Farm in five automobiles wore masks. The prison was protected by a Warden, a Superintendent, and a score of armed guards, but apparently there was no opportunity given them to resist.

Just before midnight Superintendent J. E. Burke was summoned to the door of his house and handcuffs were placed on him. Two men with shot-guns guarded him, and he was told that it was useless to remonstrate, that the men were after Frank and would get him.

A trusty on guard at the penitentiary gate was overpowered and the men rushed up the stairs to Frank's room. Four men seized the prisoner by his arms and legs, a fifth grasped him by the hair. He fought and groaned with pain from the wound which was inflicted on him a month ago when another convict attempted to assassinate him while he was in the dormitory by cutting his throat. His captors paid no heed to his protests, but dragged him roughly down the stairs. They even put shackles on his wrists.

There were enough men in the lynching party to awe the guards who were accused and those who had entered the building for Frank were unmolested as they dragged him across the yard and put him in one of the automobiles. Telephone and telegraph wires were cut so that an early warning was impossible and the automobiles started on their way.

The Superintendent said that he did not recognize any of the men, who were believed to be citizens of Marietta, the one time home of Mary Magan.

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