

HOPE TO SAVE FRANK BY NEW CONFESSION

Friends Think Detective Burns Will Get Admissions from the Negro, Jim Conley.

MURDER REWARD HELD UP

Atlanta Councilmen Contend That Finding of Blood Stains Did Not Convict Frank.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 11.—Attorneys for Leo M. Frank will attempt to force a confession from the negro, Jim Conley, that he murdered Mary Phagan and accused Frank of the crime to shield himself.

To this end Frank's attorneys will make a determined effort to obtain permission for Detective William J. Burns to go to the jail and interview the negro. Burns will be here the latter part of the week, and Frank's attorneys believe that if the detective is allowed to visit Conley the negro can be induced to confess that he murdered Mary Phagan.

Burns has forced confessions from criminals where many others had failed, and it is believed he will be successful if he has a free hand with Conley.

T. C. Tedder, assistant to Attorney W. M. Smith, who represents Conley, was in secret conference to-day with Frank's attorneys, and it was believed that Tedder had made some statement in regard to Conley's story that would have a vital bearing on Frank's case. Tedder was closely associated with the prosecution, and his conference with the attorneys for the defense caused a surprise. Neither Tedder nor Frank's attorneys would talk about the conference, but there were rumors to-night of sensational revelations.

Practically since his first admission that he wrote the murder notes Conley has been zealously guarded from interviewers. When by chance a reporter visits his cell, Conley refuses to talk unless his attorney, William M. Smith, is present and passes on the questions put to him. This rule applies to all except Solicitor Dorsey and Detectives Starnes and Campbell, who have been working directly under the solicitor since the day of the murder.

Burns will ask a free hand with the negro, and friends of Frank feel sure that if he is not hindered by the negro's attorney and the State authorities, he is likely to obtain a confession, something they assert the police never have earnestly attempted to do. Frank's attorneys may appeal to the courts for an order allowing Burns to see Conley at will.

Three Burns agents are actively at work on the case here, and they are devoting most of their time to an investigation of the methods of the prosecution in obtaining the evidence introduced for the State at the Frank trial. The defense of Frank has repeatedly charged that agents of the prosecution coerced witnesses, and that other important testimony, like that of Dr. Harris relating to the hair found in the lathe, never was made known by the prosecution. These charges are being vigorously investigated by the Burns men.

Attorneys for Frank continue to refuse to divulge the new evidence which they are known to have obtained, and it is said every effort will be made to keep some of the defense's affidavits from the public until the extraordinary motion for a new trial is actually filed.

The fact that Robert P. Barrett found bloodstains and threads of hair on the second floor, in the lathe room, of the National Pencil factory does not establish positive proof that Leo M. Frank killed Mary Phagan, according to the views of the members of the Claims Committee of Atlanta City Council. Because he discovered the bloodstains and hair, Barrett claimed the reward of \$1,000 offered by the city for proof to convict the murderer of Mary Phagan.

His claim was heard by the committee this afternoon, and the members seemed to think it was not well founded. Barrett's claim to the reward will not be recognized by the city unless it is established beyond a doubt that the bloodstains and hair threads brought about Frank's conviction.

Jailed for Using Pistol in Defense.

John Supper, a porter, of 625 West Forty-seventh Street, was sentenced yesterday by Judge Wadhams, in General Sessions, to serve a year in the penitentiary for carrying the revolver with which he shot and killed Charles Graf on Oct. 15. Supper was acquitted of a charge of murder on his plea of self-defense, but Judge Wadhams held that, although he was within his rights in defending himself with the revolver, he was guilty of a violation of the Sullivan law by having the weapon in his possession.

Miss Litta Grimm Operated Upon.

Miss Litta Grimm, the contralto, underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Anderson Sanitarium, West Seventeenth Street, on Monday morning. Dr. Joseph B. Bissell, the surgeon in charge reports a successful operation and expects the speedy recovery of his patient. Miss Grimm for several years has been the soloist of the Second Christian Science Church in this city. She is also known through her teaching and concert work in different parts of the country.