

# INVESTIGATION HERE WILL AID FRANK

Detective Burns Says He Has  
Obtained More Light as to  
Girl's Real Slayer.

HE WILL REPORT SOON

His Findings Will Convince the  
Most Skeptical of Condemned  
Man's Innocence, He Asserts.

William J. Burns, the detective, announced last night that the investigation in this city into the case of Leo M. Frank, sentenced to death at Atlanta for the murder of little Mary Phagan, had turned out very well so far as he was concerned and had strengthened his conclusion as to who the murderer of the little girl really was. He would not tell what lines his investigation here took, but said he would hurry back to Atlanta in a day or two and run down the last ends of the case there.

"Thereafter," he said, "I shall make public my report in that city, giving the facts to all the newspapers at the same time. The report will convince the most skeptical as to who murdered the Phagan girl. I cannot tell anything further now, for I do not wish to anticipate that report. I think it will be made public before Frank's attorneys move for a new trial."

At Atlanta, Mr. Burns said, he would interview the Chief of Police, the Chief of Detectives, and the Solicitor General, and the attorney for the negro Conley, as well as Conley himself, whose testimony convicted Frank.

"I shall speak to every witness and all concerned in the case, except the private detectives who worked on it," he said. "Those detectives I would not believe under oath anyway; and I have investigated their conduct without talking to them."

He refused to say whether he had spoken in this city to Nina Formby, the woman who told a reporter for THE NEW YORK TIMES that she had been forced to give perjured testimony against Frank's moral character. He refused also to say whether he had spoken here to Becker, the former Superintendent at the pencil factory, who has asserted recently that the paper on which the murder note was found near the girl's body had been thrown into the discard bin in the cellar long before Frank came to the factory, and could, therefore, not have been drawn from Frank's desk as Conley testified it was.

Mr. Burns denied that he was working on the Frank case under a large retainer.

"I took this case on exactly the same basis as every other case I handle," he said, "except that in this case

I am charging just about half as much as ordinarily. Those who called me into it know that and appreciate it. They told me at first they were willing to pay me anything I asked. The case is perfectly clear. The evidence left by those responsible for the murder is sufficient to clear it up if used properly."

"Do you mean to imply that more than one person was responsible for the murder?" Mr. Burns was asked.

"Well, I will say 'the person or persons' responsible for it," he replied. On Wednesday night Mr. Burns said that the murder was not the result of a plot involving several persons.

Mr. Burns said that he expected to receive fair treatment and co-operation from the police authorities of Atlanta and from Solicitor General Dorsey. He reiterated his belief that Mr. Dorsey had been sincere in the case, and that he had been honestly convinced of Frank's guilt. Mr. Burns reiterated his own firm conviction that there was absolutely nothing sinister or abnormal in Frank's character.

Leonard Haas, of counsel for Frank, said yesterday that at the new trial to be sought for Frank, affidavits would be introduced which would be of far more startling importance than any of those which have been brought out since the conviction of his client and which have brought about the revulsion of sentiment in his favor. Mr. Haas would not divulge the nature of these new affidavits.