CONLEY CONVICTED; GETS YEAR ON GANG The Atlanta Constitution (1881-2001); Feb 25, 1914; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Atlanta Constitution (1868 - 1945) pg 2

CONLEY CONVICTED; GETS YEAR ON GANG

Found Guilty as Accessory After Fact in Mary Phagan Murder at the National Pencil Factory.

Jim Conley today begins the serving of a year's sentence on the chaingang following the verdict of a jury in his case, which reported Tuesday noon, against the former pencil factory sweeper, charged with being accessory after the fact in the murder of Mary Phagan.

Conley took his sentence stoically. He smiled when he was told by his at-

torney that he "had got off light".

The second day's developments in the sordid trial proceedings in which conley was principal were not illumined by the sensationalism brought

out Monday.

Solicitor General Dorsey made a point in his summing up before the jury, ridiculing the recent affidavits of the Frank defense who claim that the hair found on the pencil factory lathe and that taken from the head of Mary Phagan were not the same. "That is ridiculous," said Dorsey.

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"Witnesses have sworn that the hair
was the same. Dr. Harris would not
say the hairs he examined were not
the same. He only said it was his
opinion that they were not from the
same head. The witness who testified
yesterday proved that the girl's hair
when she was laid in the grave was
clean. This hair found on the lathe
was dirty. The two pieces would not
be judged accurately, if such is the
case."

Judge Ben Hill, in charging the jury, asked the body to disregard the indictment holding Conley as an accessory after the fact in the murder in a felonious sense. The negro was found guilty of the same offense treated as a misdemeanor.