

PASTORS TO PLEAD FOR COMMUTATION OF FRANK SENTENCE

Agreement Is Reached at
Conference of Prominent
Members of Atlanta Evan-
gelical Ministers' Associa-
tion.

DR. C. B. WILMER VISITS CELL OF THE PRISONER

"It Is Not Right to Hang a
Man Convicted Under Cir-
cumstances Surrounding
This Case," Says Dr. J. E.
White.

Pleading that time be allowed to clear up the mystery of Mary Phagan's murder, a number of Atlanta's prominent ministers have banded themselves to secure commutation of the sentence of Leo M. Frank from death to life imprisonment.

Leaders in the movement are Dr. John E. White, pastor of the Second Baptist church, and Rev. C. B. Wilmer, of St. Luke's Episcopal church. Other ministers interested are Rev. C. W. Daniel, pastor of the First Baptist; Rev. C. O. Jones, pastor of Trinity Methodist church; Rev. Jacob L. White, pastor of the Baptist Tabernacle; Rev. Richard Orme Fliin, pastor of North Avenue Presbyterian, and Rev. A. R. Holderby, pastor emeritus Moore Memorial.

Will Appear Before Governor.

A resolution appealing for commutation and strongly advising against capital punishment in Frank's case has already been drawn and is ready for presentation to Governor Slaton. It will be submitted by the body of ministers in person to the governor and they will also deliver verbal arguments in behalf of the condemned man.

A meeting was recently held by the group of ministers to confer over the advisability of coming to the prisoner's aid. It followed a visit of Dr. Wilmer to Frank's cell, where he spent an entire afternoon in company with the doomed man. An address urging commutation was delivered to the gathering by Dr. Wilmer.

The movement, it was stated by ministers Sunday, is being made independent of any organization or cause. As was stated by Dr. J. E. White, "It is purely a gentleman's agreement to aid a move we consider, in this case, worthy and necessary. It is not right to hang a man under the circumstances that surrounded the Frank case. Time should be given a chance to wipe out all doubt."

W. M. Howard Here.

W. M. Howard, former congressman, who has been employed to present the petition of Leo Frank for commutation of sentence before the state prison commission, May 31, arrived in the city Sunday to study the court records of the noted case. He will remain at the Winecoff hotel until after the final arguments.

"I have nothing to say concerning the case of Leo Frank," said Congressman Howard last night. "I spent the day consulting with a few of Frank's friends who are aiding him in his fight for his life. I made only a casual survey of the situation, and shall spend the intervening time before the hearing in studying the court records."

Congressman Howard said he had an interview with Frank two weeks ago.