

sentence to life imprisonment, following the recommendation of the judge who tried the case.

"In this action I merely discharged the duty imposed upon me by the constitution and laws, according to my honest opinion, and if I had not done so I could not have retained my self-respect or have been entitled to the respect of others.

"After the judge had recommended to me commutation, on the ground that he doubted Frank's guilt, I could not arrogate to myself that which belongs to God alone, to look into the heart of a self-confessed and repeated liar and tell when he was lying and when speaking the truth. There is no case known to me where any governor took upon himself the responsibility of having a man executed when the trial judge urged commutation.

"The path of duty is not always easy. If I had been willing to listen to those who advised me to play politics about this matter of life or death, I might have avoided prejudice and enmities and misrepresentation, but I would have been unworthy to stand before you and look you in the eye with a conscience at rest, as today.

"As between Frank, the white man, whose guilt I greatly doubted, and Conley, the negro, with whose guilt I was profoundly impressed, I sided with Frank and sent him to the penitentiary for life.

"That is the Frank case."

Governor Slaton also repeated charges against Senator Harris made by him in his other radio talk, and urged him to deny them "categorically and not in mere generalities."

Replying to attacks from Senator Harris, he itemized the high points of his service while a member of the legislature and later as governor. These included prompt payment of appropriations, reduction of tax rate, sale of state bonds, negotiated at record low rate of interest and the lease of the W & A railroad.

Slaton Discusses Frank Commutation

In a radio address delivered in Atlanta Monday night, former Governor John M. Slaton, candidate for the United States senate against Senator William J. Harris, explained his commutation of the sentence of Leo M. Frank. He declared he made the statement in response to a number of requests that he do so, following his first radio talk a week ago.

After reviewing the Frank case up to the time it was brought to him on an appeal for commutation of sentence, Slaton said:

"After the most careful and painstaking examination of all the evidence, I had so much doubt of the guilt of Frank that I felt it my duty to both God and man to commute the