

# BEGIN LAST FRANK PLEA TO GOVERNOR

## Slaton Goes Deep Into Conley's Story, Asking Many Questions as Counsel Outlines Case.

## TO VISIT MURDER SCENE

## Learns Jury Did Not Go to Fac- tory — Ex-Gov. Brown and Others Oppose Clemency.

## MILITIA IS UNDER ARMS

## Company Marches Past Anti-Frank

## Mass Meeting After Hearing Is

## Adjourned Until Monday.

*Special to The New York Times.*

ATLANTA, Ga., June 12.—Governor John M. Slaton will visit the National Penfil factory to thoroughly acquaint himself with the physical features of the building in which Mary Phagan met her death on April 26, 1913. He announced this today at the hearing before him on the petition of Leo M. Frank for commutation of sentence from death to life imprisonment. The Governor then invited counsel for both sides to accompany him on this visit. By a question the executive asked Solicitor General Hugh M. Dorsey, it was brought out that the jury which convicted Frank never visited the factory.

After three and one-half hours of argument by representatives of both sides, Governor Slaton adjourned the hearing until 9 o'clock Monday morning, when Solicitor Dorsey will make his argument against granting the petition.

A largely attended mass meeting was held on the Capitol grounds at 3 o'clock this afternoon at which resolutions were adopted protesting against commutation for Frank.

The meeting was called to order a short time after Governor Slaton had adjourned the hearing on Frank's plea until Monday. Addresses in opposition to clemency were made by N. F. Evans, Daniel H. Kent, and H. D. Spencer. The cheers that greeted the speakers were heard in Governor Slaton's office and also in Frank's cell in the jail, which is only a block from the Capitol. Many of those who attended the meeting were from other Georgia towns, although the large majority were Atlanta people.

### National Guard Under Arms.

While the mass meeting was in progress a company of the Atlanta National Guard marched by the Capitol grounds. No explanation given for the appearance of the militia, but it was generally understood that Governor Slaton had ordered the troops under arms so that they might be ready in the event of trouble. The mass meeting, however, was orderly, except for vociferous cheering, and the sight of the troops excited no unfavorable comment.

At today's hearing, which was begun at 9 o'clock and ended at 12:30, ex-Congressman William M. Howard of Augusta, outlined the case for Frank and offered the mass of petitions and evidence which the Prison Commission had before it during its consideration of the case. Opposing commutation, Herbert Clay, Solicitor of the Blue Ridge Circuit, followed Mr. Howard, and he was followed by M. M. Sessions, who was elected Chairman of the Marietta mass meeting, called to protest against clemency for Frank. Ex-Governor Joseph M. Brown's argument against clemency brought the day's hearing to a close.

Besides Mr. Howard, Frank was represented by Harry A. Alexander and Leonard Haas of Atlanta, and M. J. Yeomans of Dawson, Ga.

The State was represented by Solicitor Dorsey, Assistant Solicitor E. A. Stephens and several of the attachés of the Solicitor's office.

### Disregards Curiosity Seekers.

The Governor held the hearing in his private office, and admitted as many spectators as the room would comfortably hold. He explained at the start that it had been his custom to hold such hearings in his office, and that he would not vary his custom by moving into a larger room simply to provide entertainment for curiosity seekers. Such a thing, he declared, would lower the dignity of his office, as well as the dignity of the procedure. Then, turning to the lawyers, Governor Slaton began the hearing.

"How will you gentlemen arrange your speeches?" he asked. Solicitor Dorsey said he was not sure that he would make a speech—that this would depend on what the lawyers for Frank had to say in their arguments—but that he would like to have ex-Governor Brown heard at noon, or earlier, and would like to have Major C. E. MacGregor of Warrenton heard Monday at noon, both in opposition to Frank's petition.

Attorney Howard said he would outline his case for the benefit of the Solicitor, and then make his argument in one speech after the State's case was presented. There was a good deal of sparring for position between the Solicitor and Attorney Howard, and while this was in progress it was announced that ex-Governor Brown and a delegation of Marietta citizens were waiting in the anteroom. They were immediately escorted into the private office, ex-Governor Brown heading the procession and being followed by Herbert Clay, Solicitor of the Blue Ridge Circuit, and Representatives-elect John Dorsey and Fred Morris of Cobb County. These three were the speakers for the Marietta delegation that appeared before the Prison Commission in opposition to Frank's petition.

Solicitor Dorsey and ex-Governor Brown held a brief consultation, after which the Solicitor announced that after Mr. Howard had outlined his case, the Solicitor would speak and would be followed by ex-Governor Brown.

### Wants all Light Possible.

Mr. Dorsey asked Governor Slaton if he would have an opportunity to reply if Mr. Howard should introduce matter in his closing speech which he had not outlined in his opening speech. The Governor said he wanted all the light possible on the case, would not confine the hearing to technical rules and

Continued on Page 6.

