

SOLDIERS NOW GUARD HIM

Crowd of 10,000 Marches Upon the Governor's Country Home.

MOB ATTACKS THE TROOPS

Brick Thrown and One Officer
Hurt—Governor Hanged
in Effigy.

SWAYED BY HIS CONSCIENCE

Executive Thinks the Law Sat-
isfied, in a Doubtful Case,
by a Life Term.

FRANK IN PRISON STRIPES

Grateful, but Awaiting Vindication
—Guards Have Been Doubled in
Fear of Attacks on the Prison.

Frank Gratified, but Awaits His Complete Vindication

*By Telegraph to the Editor of The
New York Times.*

STATE FARM, Ga., June 21.—
Deeply moved and gratified by Gov-
ernor's action, though innocent and
suffering for a crime I did not com-
mit, I await the complete vindication
and exoneration which is rightfully
mine. In the future I live to see the
day when honor shall be restored me.
LEO M. FRANK.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., June 21.—The death
sentence imposed on Leo M. Frank for
the murder of Mary Phagan has been
commuted to one of life imprisonment by
Governor John M. Slaton, and Frank is
now in the State Prison at Milledgeville.

The Governor is guarded in his country
home tonight by a battalion of the
Georgia National Guard because of the
strenuous efforts of a crowd variously
estimated at from 1,000 to 2,000 persons
to get at the Governor to show their
disapproval of his action. The soldiers
have formed a cordon about the grounds,
and martial law has been declared in a
radius of half a mile of the place.

In the house with Governor Slaton
are his brother, two nephews, Colonel
W. L. Peel, a member of his staff;
Sheriff Manghum, J. Ashley Jones,
Harry Alexander of counsel for Frank,
and several of their friends. Mrs.
Slaton and her mother, Mrs. Grant,
are not in the house. They were sent
into Atlanta late in the afternoon.

The crowd, which was estimated at
from 600 to 1,000 when it left At-
lanta after listening to speeches de-
nouncing the Governor, reached his
country place about 9 o'clock tonight
and hooted and jeered him, crying:
"We want John M. Slaton, Georgia's
traitor Governor!" No attempt at vio-
lence was made, however.

At 11 o'clock a battalion of the Fifth
Regiment arrived in automobiles. The
officers shouted to the crowd that five
minutes would be allowed for it to scat-
ter and leave. As soon as this order was
heard and the soldiers advanced with
fixed bayonets, there was a rush to get
away and the hooting of the Governor
stopped.

As the members of the crowd retired
they threw bricks at the soldiers and
struck several, Lieutenant Parker being
badly hurt. Several of the rioters were
prodded with bayonets, and one man,
Clyde Burroughs, was smashed over the
head with the butt of a rifle and
badly hurt. Burroughs's skull may be
fractured.

The crisis, however, seemed to have
passed at midnight, and no organized
attack on the Governor's home is ex-
pected, as the crowd has practically
been dispersed.

There were many persons from Mari-
etta in the crowd, who were very bitter
against the Governor and urged the riot-
ers to defy the militia. Mary Phagan
was born in Marietta and was buried
there.

When informed tonight that a mob
was on its way to his home, Governor
Slaton said:

"The mob can come and tear me to
pieces, but I will know that I have done
what should be done to follow the right
and uphold the honor of Georgia and
the office I hold.

"The ones who are howling the loud-
est now are the very ones who, six
months from now, will be the first to
approve my action of today. I could
not hang any man when there was a
doubt of guilt.

"I could not sit here like Pontius
Pilate and turn Frank over to be exe-
cuted. I had to do what was right. The
whole thing is just this—the people who
are doing all the talking have not read
all the evidence in the Frank case."

Mass Meetings in Atlanta.

There was much disturbance in At-
lanta earlier in the day, but at no time
did the demonstrations approach rioting.
A great crowd gathered at the City

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SLATON COMMUTES FRANK SENTENCE

Continued from Page 1.

Fall in the morning and listened to speeches in denunciation of the Governor. The police attempted to disperse it, and some trouble followed, but not of a serious nature. Five men were arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct, and one boy had his foot crushed by the hoof of a mounted policeman's horse. Chief Beavers had all the police reserves out, but cautioned them not to interfere unless there was actual disorder, and then to refrain from violence as far as possible.

Another great mass meeting was held at the Court House. This meeting, after hearing addresses, adopted resolutions denouncing Governor Slaton and asserting that he had destroyed the courts of Georgia and the United States.

The demonstrators, several thousands strong, then marched to the Capitol, hoping to find the Governor, but they were disappointed, as he did not leave his home during the day. The demonstrators swarmed through the Capitol and listened to addresses in the House and Senate Chambers and from the Capitol steps, and adopted more resolutions denunciatory of the Governor. While the crowds were moved by deep feeling, they were not disorderly and showed no desire to engage in rioting. They did, however, express a keen desire to get hold of Governor Slaton.

Reports indicate that similar demonstrations occurred in many other Georgia towns.

At Marietta, where the family of Mary Phagan, the victim of the factory murder, resided, a great indignation meeting was held, and Governor Slaton was hanged in effigy. A life-sized dummy was strung to a telegraph pole on the public square, bearing this inscription: "John M. Slaton, King of the Jews and Georgia's Traitor Forever."

At Newnan the effigies of Frank and Governor John M. Slaton were hung to a giant oak in the park at the Union Station tonight and set on fire, after which they were dragged blazing through the principal streets, accompanied by about fifty automobiles. Later the charred effigies were hung to the Chatahouchee sign which is stretched across the street at the Court House.

Later the effigy was removed from the telegraph pole by a small crowd of men and burned in the public square near the base of the monument to the late Senator Alexander S. Clay. The police made no attempt at interference. Ex-Governor Joseph M. Brown, who appeared before Governor Slaton in opposition to commutation, lives in Marietta.

Citizens of Valdosta today began to circulate a subscription list, with this preamble:

"We, the undersigned citizens of the State of Georgia, hereby subscribe \$1 each toward a fund of \$1,000 for the purpose of erecting a monument, suitably taking care of the burial place of little Mary Phagan, who lost her life in the defense of her virtue."

Contributions are solicited from all Georgians.

The Governor's Statement.

Frank learned of the clemency extended to him only at a very late hour last night, and the public was kept in such ignorance of the Governor's action that no knowledge of the prisoner's transfer from the Tower to prison leaked out until hours after he was on his way to Milledgeville. Governor Slaton spoke today with deep feeling of the driving force of conscience which had impelled him to his decision and bespoke the calm consideration of the people of Georgia for the statement of his reasons for commuting the sentence. There was much excitement in Atlanta when the news was made public, and mass meetings and demonstrations to express resentment at the Governor's action were organized, but no marked disorder resulted from them.

In a formal statement of about 11,000 words, the Governor today laid before the public the reasons for his exercise of his prerogative, calling attention to testimony in Frank's favor which had not been presented to the jury and expressing his belief that in commuting Frank's sentence to life imprisonment he was doing only what the trial judge (who had expressed a doubt as to Frank's guilt.) had had power to do under the statutes, though he had "misconstrued his power." The Governor, in concluding this statement, referring to the fact that Judge Roan had died since the trial, said: "He calls to me from another world to do that which he should have done."

In an interview granted to newspaper men, the Governor said:

"All I ask is that the people of Georgia read my statement and consider calmly the reasons that I have given for commuting Leo M. Frank's sentence to life imprisonment. Feeling as I do about this case, I would be a murderer if I allowed that man to hang; I would rather be blowing in a field than to feel for the rest of my life that I had that man's blood on my hands."

Frank's Departure Secret.

The removal of Frank was effected with great secrecy. Governor Slaton took only Sheriff Mangum of Atlanta and four of the latter's deputies into his confidence. Just before midnight Frank was slipped out of the jail by a rear door, thus eluding the newspaper men on watch. Once out of the jail, Frank and his guards entered an ambulance and were driven to the Terminal Station. Frank had a handkerchief over his face and posed as a sick man. The party attracted little attention at the station, and at once entered a sleeper and were locked in. At 12:01 A. M. the train pulled out for Milledgeville.

It was nearly an hour before the news that Frank had been spirited away began to circulate, and it was two hours before confirmation could be obtained. But for the keenness of vision of the gatekeeper at the Terminal Station Frank would have been in Milledgeville without the people of Atlanta knowing anything about the commutation of his sentence or his removal. This gatekeeper knew Frank and recognized him despite the handkerchief over his face and the tale of his being a sick man. As soon as he had been spirited away an investigation was begun that confirmed the report.

The guards and Frank reached Macon at 2:15 o'clock this morning, where they left the train and took an automobile for Milledgeville, thirty-one miles away. Frank, it is said, was allowed by his guards to select the automobile.

Frank did not know that he was to

escape the gallows until a few minutes before he was taken from the Tower to his train. He had spent Sunday in the Tower with his aged parents, his wife, and a few friends.

Soon after 10 o'clock Sheriff Mangum entered the cell and told him to prepare to leave the Tower, in which he had been confined for more than two years. The words of the Sheriff, which meant the life for which he has longed and for which his friends have struggled so earnestly, were received with the same manner he has shown when hearing the news of each movement in his fight against the gallows. Whether the tidings were as dark as death to his cause or were lighted with the brightest ray of hope, Frank has always been calm, cool, and reasoning when they were brought to him. And so he was last night. The commutation order of the Governor meant to him everything in the world, but he never allowed his emotions to overcome his power of reasoning.

The utmost secrecy was preserved at the Tower throughout the day. Even before Frank was notified of the Governor's action Sheriff Mangum had issued an order closing the jail to every one. Even telephonic communication with it was stopped.

Left Jail by a Side Entrance.

When Frank had prepared himself for the journey, Sheriff Mangum and a number of deputies assembled on the lower floor of the prison and Frank was brought to them by a jailer. An automobile was waiting near the side entrance. While reporters, who had been watching the Tower all day, were keeping their vigil at the front of the prison the little party went out of the side door and entered the car. They were whirled away to the Terminal Station. Tickets had already been bought, and no time was lost at the station. The party immediately boarded the Central of Georgia train for Macon, which left at 12:01 o'clock.

But even in that brief passage through the station, at an hour when few people are astir, the famous prisoner was recognized by at least a half-dozen persons. Sheriff Mangum took his prisoner into a coach which was practically deserted, and no one on the train knew that Frank was aboard. The train, a local, making stops every few miles, dragged into Macon in the half light of early morning. On leaving the train Sheriff Mangum and the prisoner paused but a few minutes. An automobile was quickly commandeered, and the final trip to the penitentiary began. It was not long after 5 o'clock when the prison was reached, and the sheriff formally turned over his man to the State authorities.

Secret Kept Till Sunday Night.

No intimation of the Governor's action had been received by Sheriff Mangum, or officials at the jail, until Sunday night.

In the absence of any intimation and because of the Governor's announcement that should he decide against Frank, he would grant no respite, and the execution of the death sentence would be carried out Tuesday, preparations for the hanging had been made, just as though there was no likelihood of Executive interference. The machinery of the gallows had been placed in smooth-working condition, and a rope had been tested. This rope had been attached to the crossbeam for several days with 200 pounds of sand swinging at its end. As there will now be no need for its services on Tuesday, it will remain on the gallows until July 16, the date fixed for the execution of a negro prisoner.

Dorsey Issues a Protest.

Declaring that he considered Governor John M. Slaton disqualified to pass upon the Leo M. Frank case, Solicitor Hugh M. Dorsey, who prosecuted the prisoner, issued a statement tonight, condemning the bestowal of clemency and explaining why he had gone before the Governor to oppose the Frank plea for commutation.

Solicitor Dorsey's statement follows: "The action of Governor Slaton nullifying the judgments of the State and Federal courts and overriding the recommendation of the State Board of Pardons was surprising to me as it was unexpected."

"No defendant within my recollection has had the benefit of more appeals to the judicial processes, State and Federal, than Leo Frank. His guilt was conclusively established beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of an impartial jury of twelve reputable Georgians, and their verdict was approved by the trial judge and affirmed by the Supreme Court of Georgia. Repeated efforts to have the judgment set aside have been denied by the State Supreme Court, the United States District Court, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

"With the unbroken record of all available courts declaring Frank guilty of the heinous crime with which he was charged, the influential friends of Frank appealed to the State Board of Pardons, elected by the people to pass on applications for pardons and commutations to be considered by the Chief Executive of the State, and the Pardon Board sustained the records of the courts of justice and declined to recommend the application for a commutation."

"I did not appear before the Pardon Board because I felt confident that, with the evidence and the court records before them, there would be no interference with the course of justice."

"When their decision refusing to recommend commutation was transmitted I felt it to be my duty to plead for the enforcement of the law by the Chief Executive because I knew the force of the influence at work to upset the judgments of the courts and of the Pardon Board."

"I knew that the senior member of Slaton's law firm, Rosser, Slaton & Phillips, was the leading counsel for Frank, not only throughout his trial, but in prosecuting the original and extraordinary motion for a new trial, and I knew it would be difficult for the Governor to escape the subconscious effect of his environment."

"The Constitution of Georgia commands the impartial and complete administration of our laws and imposes this command upon the Solicitor General of each circuit as well as upon the Governor of the State."

"My feeling that the Governor was disqualified, at least to an extent, by his environment and affiliations from viewing the records in this case impartially prompted me to appear before him in person to urge the enforcement of the law."

"Not one of the grand jurors who found the true bill against Frank and not one of the jurors who convicted him joined in the petition for clemency, which was granted over the protest of the prosecuting attorneys and over the adverse recommendation of the State Board of Pardons."

"I cannot find in the record of the Frank case, or in the Governor's lengthy statement of attempted justification, one reason why the Governor should have departed from his declared policy and interfere with the judgments of the courts in this case."

It was announced to newspaper men who called at the home of Mrs. Leo M. Frank, who is living with her mother, Mrs. M. Selig, at 301 Washington Street, that Mrs. Frank was ill and was lying down. She sent word that she had no statement to make. She also said she had nothing to make public as to her plans for the future.