

DORSEY ASSAILS SLATON AND JEWS

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Prosecutor of Frank, Seeking
Georgia Governorship, Says
Fund Is Raised to Beat Him.

TELLS OF LETTERS WRITTEN

And Asserts Slaton Came Here
When Jews Formed an Organiza-
tion, Led by Louis Marshall.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Sept. 11.—Hugh M. Dorsey, who is a candidate for the nomination for Governor in tomorrow's primary, has issued a long statement in regard to the case of Leo M. Frank, who was convicted of the murder of Mary Phagan and lynched after the death sentence had been commuted to life imprisonment by John M. Slaton, then Governor.

Dorsey, who was Solicitor General at the time of the Phagan tragedy and prosecuted Frank, opposed the commutation of Frank's sentence by Slaton. He is being supported for Governor by Thomas E. Watson, whose incendiary writings on the Frank case in his monthly magazine had much to do with inflaming public feeling in the city and State.

In his statement Dorsey attacks ex-Governor Slaton and the Jews, who, he asserts, have raised a large amount of money to be used against him.

Dorsey's address says in part: "An enormous slush fund has been contributed from interested sources within and without the State, primarily for the purpose of insuring my defeat as a candidate for Governor.

"Whatever motive underlies the attack upon my record must necessarily

be found in my official actions as Prosecuting Attorney in behalf of the people of this county, my jurisdiction as Solicitor General being confined to Fulton County.

"Every observing citizen of Fulton County is familiar with the facts upon which the prosecution of Leo Frank was based. It was my duty as Solicitor General of this circuit to prosecute him for the offense of murder as vigorously as I would have prosecuted any other defendant, regardless of race or nationality.

"The Hebrew race, to which the defendant belonged, is, under ordinary circumstances, remarkable for its law-abiding tendencies, and if Leo Frank had been a Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, or member of any Gentile denomination, the Hebrews of this country would have been first and foremost in their commendation of the time, labor, and result involved in his conviction, as they formerly had been prominent and unanimous in their congratulations in other convictions secured by my administration as Solicitor General.

"I was made thoroughly cognizant during the prosecution of this case, and after its termination, that the impartial and successful discharge of my official duty in that particular case had cost me the friendship of practically every member of the Hebrew race in this county, and had incurred against me their relentless animosity, and that of those of their friends and connections subject to their influence.

"Leopold Haas, a prominent Hebrew, publicly stated on the streets of Atlanta, subsequent to the conviction of the defendant, that not only would I be made to suffer for my part in the prosecution, but that the Frank case would be made a political issue in this State to the limit of his ability and the activity of his friends. That prediction has been justified.

"When I announced for Governor I made no reference in my announcement or platform to that case or to any other case prosecuted by me, and in the progress of my campaign I never alluded to it even remotely in my speeches, literature, or correspondence.

Intimates Slaton Consulted Jews.

"I received letters written by John M. Slaton to his correspondents in various parts of Georgia three months ago, in which he urged that I was unfit to be elected Governor because of my record in the Frank case, which letters were considered so offensive by his correspondents that they voluntarily forwarded them to me.

"Recently it was brought to my attention by an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES that the Hebrews of the United States had sent delegates to the City of New York to organize a national Jewish

congress, which meeting was held in New York in the middle of July, 1916, in the midst of his campaign.

"On the very day on which that congress was being organized John M. Slaton arrived in the City of New York. The meeting was attended by representative Hebrews from every State in the Union, and the man who was elected its Chairman and presided over its deliberations was Louis Marshall, who was attorney for Leo Frank in the conduct of his case before the Supreme Court of the United States, and who subsequently conducted a systematic newspaper attack on Georgia laws and Georgia justice through the columns of the Northern press.

"The first State to organize subsidiary lodges of the National Jewish Congress was Georgia, and its lodges were organized in practically every Georgia city during the progress of my campaign. The avowed and published purpose of the organization was the protection from and retaliation of the Jewish race against persecution.

"The attitude of that race in the Frank case and in every criminal case in which a Hebrew is the defendant has demonstrated the fact that the successful prosecution of a Hebrew is regarded by the members of that race as persecution.

"On the heels of the announcement of this organization and its subsidiary branches in Georgia I was reliably informed that John M. Slaton had contributed a large fund to secure my defeat as a candidate for Governor of Georgia.

"In my speeches of Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 I read one of the letters from John M. Slaton, sent to me, and charged that John M. Slaton had contributed substantially to a slush fund to accomplish my defeat. Slaton immediately admitted the authorship of the letter and sought to justify his position that my record in the Frank case was sufficient cause to prevent my nomination.

"For a time the funds, admittedly contributed by Slaton and supplemented by enormous sums contributed from other sources, were distributed in the various counties of Georgia until the opposition became satisfied that no amount of money could defeat the purpose of the people to nominate a Governor who would impartially enforce the laws of this State regardless of the status or influence of the defendant.

"It was then determined to concentrate the remaining funds secured from this source in an effort to debauch the voters of Fulton County. * * * Evidence of the free use of this slush fund is abundant, and is becoming daily more apparent.

"I cannot press too strongly upon your attention the self-evident fact that the only attacks launched against my record have been the veiled attacks against my administration as Solicitor General, and that these attacks have come exclusively from friends and connections of those

who have considered themselves aggrieved by the impartial enforcement of the law.

Appeals to Calm Judgment.

"I am willing to submit to the calm, unbiased judgment of the people of this county who are familiar with my services as Solicitor General whether my record in that office has been such as to deprive me of the confidence and support of the people I have served.

"If there is in this county a single citizen not directly interested as counsel or otherwise in any defendant I have convicted in the discharge of my official duty, who feels that I have been actuated by any motive other than official duty in depriving any citizen, Jew or Gentile, white or black, of his liberty, then that citizen would be justified in sealing with his ballot the stamp of his disapproval on the record I have made among you.

"I have just returned from a speaking

campaign which covered nearly every county in Georgia. I have been amazed at the brazen misrepresentations of campaign speeches as printed in the afternoon papers of Atlanta. The Journal, managed and controlled by its managing editor, Cohen, and for obvious reasons violently opposed to my nomination, has not even done me the justice to fairly report even a substantial synopsis of my speeches.

"The Georgian-American, owned by Hearst and controlled locally by its Director and Secretary, John M. Slaton, has exhausted all limitations of its proverbial partisanship in the perverted use of its news columns against my interests.

"I ask you in conclusion to vote your independent, honest judgment on the question of this indorsement, and to see that those of your neighbors who have not had the opportunity to hear me speak or to read this letter go to the polls next Tuesday and join you in expressing by their ballots their approval or their condemnation of the record I have made."