

AS BELLS TOLLED DORSEY CLOSED SPEECH

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There was a melodious blast of noon whistles. The courtroom was still. The whistles rang out over a working city at the exact hour Mary Phagan several weeks ago stepped into the pencil factory to her death. The solicitor's speech was done.

"I have heard Conley's whole statement, and I say the jury has heard that every time it was put to him, he used the word 'done' instead of 'did.' I want to see the physiognomy of the man who took these notes. I also want his original notes."

Judge Harvey L. Parry, the expert stenographer who had taken most of Conley's statement, stated that the character for "did" is so different from "done," that it would have been impossible for the stenographer to have made a mistake.

"Very well, then," said the solicitor, "you have said in your own argument Mr. Rosser that one thing a negro would do under any circumstances would be to absorb the words and expressions of a white man.

"Jim Conley is sustained by Frank's statement relating to his relatives in Brooklyn.

"When Jim was on the stand, Rosser questioned him about Mincey. Where is this Mincey? Echo answers: 'Where?' These men knew his per-juring, lying was so diabolical it would have sickened the jury mind. The absence of Mincey is a powerful support of Jim Conley's story.

"Every circumstance in this case proves that his man killed this girl. Extraordinary? Yes! But as true as the fact that Mary Phagan is dead.

"She died a noble death. Without a splotch or blemish upon her, a martyr to the virtue she protected to the extent of death in saving it from her employer.

"Your honor, I have done my duty -- I have no apologies to make. There will be but one verdict, guilty, guilty, guilty."