

CALLS FRANK CASE 'A GEORGIA MATTER'

If He Decides It; Governor-Elect Harris Will Ignore All Outside Pleas for Clemency.

FRANK'S CHAMPION CHOSEN

Ex-Congressman Howard to Move Final Argument—Atlanta Journal's Stirring Appeal for Commutation.

Special to The New York Times.

MACON, Ga., May 22.—Governor-elect Nat E. Harris announced this afternoon that if it should fall to his lot to render the final decision in the case of Leo M. Frank, he would deal with the matter from a purely Georgian standpoint. The Governor-elect made this statement after going through hundreds of letters written to him by persons outside of Georgia asking either pardon or commutation for Frank. His statement follows:

"You can just say for Nat Harris that if the matter of dealing executive clemency to the condemned man is to be considered by him, the entire outside world will not be taken into consideration one bit. It is entirely a Georgia matter, and if I am to consider the case I shall consider it altogether from a Georgia basis, with the interests of Georgia and the interests of Georgia persons at heart."

It is expected, however, that the final decision will rest with Governor Slaton.

The New York Times

Published: May 23, 1915

Copyright © The New York Times