

ASSAILS FRANK DETECTIVES.

Judge Tells Grand Jury They Seek Notoriety, Not Truth.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 18.—A denunciation of Detective W. J. Burns and the methods employed by his agency was delivered to-day by Judge Ben Hill in a special charge to the Grand Jury which is to investigate the accusations of bribery, coercion, and other alleged irregularities against the defense in connection with the recent hearing on the extraordinary motion for a new trial for Leo M. Frank, convicted of the murder of Mary Phagan.

Judge Hill described the methods of the Burns agency as "a menace to the peace of the community, to the State, and to the administration of justice."

"It is not amiss to say," he continued, "that the people of this section and of all Georgia have been wrought to a high pitch by the actions of a detective alleged to be a famous sleuth.

"I doubt the wisdom of having sleuths from other States, noted and great, or infamous, as they may happen to be, coming here and criticising our officials and our courts as has been done.

"They come here under the pretense of seeking truth and they announce that their sole aim is to find the guilty and to uncover the truth, but they are here seeking notoriety. We don't want them here.

"They don't detect crime; they encourage it. They form a menace to the peace of the State and an obstruction to the administration of laws."

Judge Hill called special attention to the affidavits of the Rev. C. B. Ragsdale and Annie Maude Carter, in which they alleged that Jim Conley had confessed that he and not Frank killed Mary Phagan. Both affiants repudiated these affidavits, alleging that they had been bribed to make them by agents of the defense.

"Inquire into the Ragsdale and Carter affidavits," Judge Hill directed the Grand Jury. "Find out if money was paid and indict the briber or bribers.

"It is important that the streams of justice be not polluted by perjury. Perjury is more awful than murder, for murder kills the body while perjury kills justice itself."

It is generally believed that more than a dozen persons will be involved by the Grand Jury investigation.

BURKE COMING TO PLEAD.

Former Panama Official Says He Is Confident of Acquittal.

John Burke, former head of the Commissary Department of the Panama Railroad, who was indicted in New York, arrived here late to-night and made this statement:

"I expect to proceed to New York tomorrow to answer to the indictment found against me. I have been exonerated by two boards on the Isthmus and do not expect to have any trouble in vindicating myself before any court. There is absolutely nothing in the charges against me."

The charges are of accepting bribes from merchants of the Canal Zone.

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