

DETECTIVE BURNS GOES TO NEW YORK TO HUNT EVIDENCE

Leonard Haas Left for Gotham on Sunday Morning and Sleuth Will Leave This Morning.

Detective William J. Burns and Leonard Haas are going to New York to investigate the same phase of the Frank case which Attorneys Luther Z. Rosser and Herbert J. Haas probed several weeks ago during their journey to the metropolis.

This was the information which prevailed in various offices of the defense Sunday. Leonard Haas left Atlanta for Gotham Sunday morning. Burns remained, however, until this morning, when he departs at 11:01 o'clock on the New York-Atlanta special.

The particular angle of the Frank case, which exists in New York, has been shrouded in secrecy. Detective Burns himself declared to reporters that it will be one of the most important of his entire investigation. His proposed probe of it is expected to last three days or more.

Does Osborn Figure?

It has been rumored—while neither verified nor denied—that the New York end of the investigation is a bit of reported evidence against tactics of the prosecution of Leo Frank. The handwriting expert, W. M. Osborn, of New York, is said to be a principal in the affair.

On the other hand, it is likely that Burns and Haas go to New York to examine Nina Formby and H. F. Becker, the two witnesses who have furnished newly-discovered evidence for the convicted superintendent's defense. That Burns is probing the rumors of a police "frame-up" is obvious from his investigations in Atlanta during the past week.

The Formby woman is the strongest accuser of police tactics. She swears in a sensational affidavit that Detectives W. A. Chewing and J. H. Norris coerced her, under threat of deprivation of police protection, to swear to a false story against Frank. Chewing and Norris have also been accused by other witnesses.

Rosser and Herbert Haas have never revealed the cause of their trip to New York, although it was generally known that they went to investigate certain phases of the case that had a New York source. Each of these men have held frequent conferences with Burns since their return from New York.

Expect Important Evidence.

It is said that the evidence Burns expects to secure on his New York trip will be undoubtedly the strongest arguments in the application for a new trial to be submitted before Judge Ben Hill by Frank's counsel. Immediately upon finishing his work in Manhattan, Burns will return to Atlanta to resume his local inquiry.

Burns spent most of Sunday working in co-operation with C. W. Burke, a detective attached to the offices of Luther Z. Rosser. The two traveled over the city in Burke's automobile. When seen at the Georgian Terrace late Sunday afternoon by a Constitution reporter, Burns and Burke were leaving the hotel in the machine.

"Give my regards to Bill Smith," said the detective laughingly.

"And, by the way, Mr. Burns," the reporter replied, "do you care to make an answer to Mr. Smith's card?"

"No," he answered. "Smith is right."

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I agree with him in most of his card. He is the negro's counsel, and has a right to handle his client's case in any manner he deems fit and proper. I am not antagonistic to Smith nor to Conley. And I'm not going to be. Smith and I will come to terms at the proper time, and don't worry over that."

William Smith, in a statement following his sensational card published in Saturday's Constitution, said that he felt no personal animosity toward Detective Burns, and that if Burns came to him in a proper spirit, terms could easily be reached.

"I have no particular objections to permitting Burns to see Conley," he said. "But I am not going to let Burns run rough-shod over me and my client. Conley is as worthy of protection as any prisoner.

"Conley doesn't mind facing Burns. He is more willing to face him than Frank was to face the detectives when they tried to see him before the trial. The only thing I want to be assured of is just treatment of my client and myself. If Burns will agree to this, very well. We can then reach an agreement."

Luther Rosser, senior counsel for the defense and the first attorney employed for Frank's counsel, returns this morning from Gainesville, where he has been fighting a case in the courts of Hall county.