

DETECTIVES SEEK CLUE IN WRITING OF NEGRO SUSPECT

Another Employee of the
National Pencil Company
Now Held at Police Head-
quarters.

VALUABLE EVIDENCE FOUND BY BURNS MAN

For Hours the New Detective,
Col. Thomas B. Felder and
Solicitor General Hugh
Dorsey Discuss Case.

In the first report of his investiga-
tion of the Mary Phagan tragedy,
William J. Burns' agent informs So-
licitor General Dorsey that he already
has obtained a valuable clue, and that
a new phase of the mystery, upon
which he is basing his operations,
will be productive of early and start-
ling results.

Sunday was a day of vigorous
activity in all three sources of in-
vestigation of the Phagan mystery.
At police headquarters, a new negro
suspect was put through the third
degree and forced to give specimens
of his handwriting. His wife was
taken into custody and thoroughly
examined by Pinkerton men and po-
lice detectives.

The Burns agent and Colonel Thom-
as B. Felder held an eight-hour con-
ference with the solicitor at the home
of Colonel Felder from noon until 8
o'clock last night. The principal ob-
ject was to thoroughly acquaint the
new officer with the situation as it
has previously been developed and
with the evidence now at hand.

Frank Has Little to Say.
Leo M. Frank, the suspected fac-
tory superintendent, and Newt Lee,
the negro night watchman, were both
seen in their cells in the Tower last
night by a Constitution reporter.
Frank had only a few words to say.
He would not discuss any phase of
the case. Lee talked freely, and ap-
peared optimistic of the future.

Frank's health is holding up ex-
ceptionally well. He declares that he
now feels no ill effects whatever of
the three weeks of imprisonment. His
cell was thronged all day Sunday with
scores of friends and relatives, many
of whom remained from noon until
nightfall.

"My health is good, and I feel phys-
ically strong. I have adapted myself
to the routine of a day in prison, and
it is not so hard on me as it was at
first. The jail attaches are exceed-
ingly solicitous of my comfort," he
said, "and I deeply appreciate their
attitude."

He was asked if he had any state-
ment to make.

"No," he answered, "I care to say
nothing of the case. I would not
discuss it at all. Please do not ask."

Lee Reiterates Innocence.

Newt Lee reiterated his plea of in-
nocence which he has so often made
to detectives, newspaper reporters,
and to anyone who took the pains to
question him.

The new suspect on whom head-
quarters detectives are concentrating
most of their energy is James Con-
nolly, a negro sweeper of the pencil
plant, who was arrested several days
ago when he was caught washing a
soiled shirt on the second floor of the
factory.

Although neither Chief Lanford nor
his men will talk regarding the ne-
gro's suspected connection with the
crime, it is hinted around headquar-
ters that a deal of suspicion is di-
rected toward him. This must be so,
as for two hours Sunday afternoon
he was closeted with two sleuths and
a handwriting expert, who compelled
him to write, from dictation, the word-
ing of the mysterious notes found be-
side the victim's body.

Connolly stoutly denies knowledge
of the murder. A link in the chain

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PHAGAN CLUE SOUGHT IN NEGRO'S WRITING

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said to be forming around him is his statement made at the time of arrest that he had stayed at the home of his mother at 92 Tattnall street on the night of Mary Phagan's death, and the contradictory assertion of his mother who declared he had not slept at the Tattnall street address for several months.

Makes His First Report.

The representative of the Burns agency made his first report Sunday afternoon. It was submitted during the conference with Colonel Felder and the solicitor general. The evidence he is reported to have obtained Saturday is being kept secret, and will not be revealed until the grand jury's investigation. He would neither admit or deny to reporters that he had found the widely-hunted girl who is said to have accompanied Mary Phagan to the pencil factory.

Also, Mr. Felder and the solicitor are withholding information of the new phase upon which the Burns sleuth is basing his investigation. It is stated, however, that it is one entirely overlooked heretofore, and that it will be productive of immediate and startling developments.

Mr. Felder told the reporter last night following the conference:

"I am happily surprised with the progress of our investigation, even though it is in its first stages. The Burns man already has secured evidence which makes me confident that the mystery will be cleared within a remarkably short while.

"Solicitor Dorsey is as highly pleased as I am. He was given certain valuable articles Sunday which make him decidedly optimistic as to the outcome of his efforts to apprehend the murderer. There is not the least doubt that the slayer will be found."

Reports Again Today.

Immediately after the conference at Colonel Felder's home, the Burns agent returned uptown, where he began an investigation of new clues. He will report to Mr. Felder and the solicitor general this morning at 11 o'clock.

The Pinkertons were active Sunday in the efforts they have directed toward the suspect Connolly. They obtained a specimen of his handwriting and subjected him to thorough examination. The investigation was conducted by Superintendent H. B. Pierce and Harry B. Scott, assistant superintendent of the Atlanta office, assisted by a number of detectives.

Connolly's home was searched for possible clues and for specimens of his handwriting. His wife was brought to headquarters, but was later released. She championed her husband, and firmly declared belief in his plea of innocence.

Chief Lanford said that he was pleased with progress in its present state. He refuses to talk of the new evidence he says he holds.