

LANFORD DECLINES TO SHOW AFFIDAVITS

William J. Burns Leaves City Without Seeing Documents Charging Perversion.

Detective William J. Burns called for the first time at police station late Tuesday afternoon to see Chief of Detectives Newport Lanford for the purpose of gaining knowledge of the perversion affidavits against Leo M. Frank, said to be in the possession of the chief of detectives, and his request was flatly refused by Chief Lanford.

Burns remained in Chief Lanford's office only a few minutes, and then called upon the chief of police, James L. Beavers. With Chief Beavers Burns did not discuss the Frank case, but stated afterwards that he merely called to pay his respects to the head of the police department.

Did Not Think It Right.

Chief Lanford stated to The Constitution reporter that he refused Burns' request to see the perversion affidavits which he holds on the grounds that he did not believe that it would be doing justice to himself, to the state, or even to Frank, for any publicity to be given to the perversion affidavits until after today's hearing of the extraordinary motion for a new trial before Judge Ben Hill.

"At the trial of Frank we did not bring up the subject of perversion," said Chief Lanford; "it was brought out by Frank's lawyers.

"I did not wish for Mr. Burns to give these affidavits any publicity until after today, because I do not believe that it would be fair to Frank, or to myself, to have the public mind prejudiced either way by the affidavits until after the court has ruled on the extraordinary motion.

"I told Mr. Burns that I would be glad to have him call upon me after today, and that then I would show him the affidavits."

Burns Is Silent.

When Burns was questioned about his interview with Lanford, he would have nothing to say, but it could be seen by his manner that he was disappointed.

Burns would not say whether he would call upon Chief Lanford again. It is expected that he will leave Atlanta tonight.

After leaving police station, Burns, in company with Dan Lehon, his right-hand man, and Harry Alexander, of the Frank defense, paid a visit to Leo Frank at the county jail. The three were closeted for over an hour in a consultation with the convicted pencil factory superintendent. This visit of Burns to Frank is thought to be his last.

When questioned about the published statement that he had declared that Leo Frank was innocent of the murder of Mary Phagan, Burns positively denied that he had made any such statement, and that the afternoon paper had misrepresented him in the article.

He stated that he refused absolutely to divulge the contents of his reports, but that he did state that his report would show whether the murderer is a white man or a negro, and will show if Leo Frank is guilty.

"The crime is typical of a pervert," declared Burns, "and my report will also show that Leo Frank is not a pervert."