

WILLIAM J. BURNS DRIVEN OUT OF MARIETTA

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NOTED DETECTIVE FORCED TO SEEK REFUGE IN HOTEL FROM BIG CROWD

Mob Surrounded Whitlock House, Yelling for Him to Come Out, and for a Time Violence Was Feared--The Crowd Quieted by Agreement That Burns Get Into Automobile and Leave Cobb County at Once.

TROUBLE BEGAN WHEN BURNS AND A CITIZEN HAVE AN ALTERCATION

Amidst Jeers and Hoots Detective Was Bundled Into Auto and Started for Atlanta While Eggs Began to Fly—Lehon Sought Safety in Sheriff's Office and Was Spirited Out of Marietta.

Attacked by a prominent business man, and threatened by a crowd of angry citizens, from whom he sought refuge in the Whitlock hotel, William J. Burns was rushed from Marietta to Atlanta early last night in an automobile to prevent further trouble. Prominent citizens, however, stated that they did not believe the detective was in any serious danger while in the Cobb county town.

His lieutenant, Dan S. Lehon, of New Orleans, found safety in the sheriff's office in the courthouse. In the meantime, a crowd, 200 strong, surged around the hotel, and for awhile there were fears for the noted detective's safety.

After thirty minutes of disorder, a truce was brought about by level-headed citizens of Marietta. Burns, escorted by Judge Newt Morris and Thomas M. Brumby, a leading business man, was bundled into an automobile and hurried at top speed toward Atlanta.

EGGS HURLED AT AUTO.

Eggs were hurled at the automobile as it whizzed through the town. Several found their mark. One struck Judge Morris. Others bombarded the atmosphere.

The trip to Atlanta was made in thirty minutes in a White Six machine, driven by Mr. Brumby, who is president of the Brumby chair works. Upon reaching the city, Burns went immediately to his apartments in the Piedmont hotel, where a conference was held with Herbert Haas and Reuben B. Arnold, attorneys for Leo Frank's defense. Arrangements were made for the freeing of Lehon, who still sought the protection of the sheriff's office up in Marietta.

At nightfall, Deputy Sheriff G. M. Hicks spirited him through a rear entrance and into an automobile, which, driven by J. F. Shaw, of Marietta, sped him to Atlanta.

The demonstration ensued from an incident in the Brumby garage, where Burns and Lehon were waiting for the limousine in which they had traveled

to Marietta to be repaired. Robert L. Howell, a substantial citizen of Marietta, stepped into the garage and, catching sight of Burns, recognized him by his picture.

"You're Detective Burns, aren't you?" he is said to have asked.

BURNS SEEKS SAFETY.

There was a reply of some kind. The presence of the machine and its occupants had drawn a crowd to the front of the garage, which is near the business section of Marietta. At the reply, heated words followed. Howell, according to witnesses, struck at the famous sleuth and his blow landed. Cries and shouts came from the

crowd. In a twinkling, Burns darted from the garage, through the gathering of men and down the street toward the hotel. He reached the building in a few strides. It was about a block away. Leaping through the doorway, he sought refuge in a room.

The crowd—or, at least, most of it—followed Burns. Lehon, in the meanwhile, found safety within the shelter of the sheriff's office in the courthouse, only a block or so away, with a number of trusty deputies on hand.

Loud and boisterous cries of "Lynch him!" "Shoot him!" "Mob him!" arose from the gathering around the Whitlock hotel.

A number of more level-headed citizens, including Mayor E. T. Dobbs, Deputy Sheriff Hicks, Judge Newt Morris and Mr. Brumby, went into the room to which Burns had fled. They assured him that they would protect him. Mayor Dobbs stepped upon the porch of the hotel and made a short talk to the mob, rebuking the men and asking them to disperse.

COMPROMISE SUGGESTED.

But the crowd seemed to grow more demonstrative. So Judge Morris stepped before the crowd. He asked that a compromise of some kind be arranged, and suggested that he bring Burns out and have him leave the county at once.

This met approval. There were still jeers and howls of derision, however. Escorted by the mayor, sheriff, deputies and Judge Morris, Burns emerged from the hotel toward the automobile of Mr. Brumby, which had rolled up to the sidewalk and was chugging and ready for travel. Burns jumped in, the gear was thrown in and the machine started with a snort.

Its explosions were drowned by the cries and howls of the mob. As fast as possible the machine sped away from the scene. From the midst of the crowd a white, oval-shaped object flashed into the air. It whizzed and splashed against a tree some distance away. An oily yellow coursed over the bark where it had landed.

Another white object traveled through the air. It landed on the back of the machine. Other similar objects flew in the direction of the auto. Soon the air was full of them. The car's occupants ducked low. Judge Morris, however, was not so fortunate as the other occupants of the car, and one egg struck him. He was the only one hit.

CROWD GOES TO COURTHOUSE.

The mob then made its way to the courthouse, where Lehon bided his time. It was not so demonstrative

there, however, as it had been in front of the hotel. Cries and jeers and cat-calls filled the air, but no manifestation of vicious intentions were evident.

As soon as it was learned that Lehon's get-away had been accomplished, the mob dispersed. It was composed of men from all sections of Cobb county, who had come into Marietta to vote at the county primary that was held Friday.

Sheriff Hicks told a reporter for The Constitution over long-distance last night that no arrests had been made and that none would be made. No action will be taken against Howell.

A reporter called at the Piedmont last night in effort to see Burns and get his version of the experience.

BURNS' STATEMENT.

He stated that he and Lehon had gone to Marietta en route to Cedartown, where they were to meet a prospective witness in the Frank case. They were riding in a taxicab-limousine, which broke down in Marietta. They were having it repaired in Brumby's garage when the altercation occurred between Burns and Howell.

"I am none the worse for it," Burns said over the phone. "It was only a mild affair. This man Howell struck at me, and I walked on to the hotel to avoid trouble. A crowd of a few men followed me and created a kind of a demonstration in front of the building.

"When the car drove up I walked out to it, and we drove back to Atlanta. It was all caused by this attack of Howell. He seemed to be looking for trouble, and, when I saw what was impending, I walked away to avoid it."

Burns said that he would remain in Atlanta until he had appeared before Judge Hill. Then, he stated, he will go to Oklahoma to testify before the courts there in the case in which he is a witness. He notified them last night that he would not be able to come until after Tuesday.

"I'll return, however," he said, "immediately I have finished my testimony, which will occupy no more than two days—possibly much less."

Marietta is the birthplace of Mary Phagan. Feeling has been at high pitch in the place ever since the murder. Her body lies in the quiet little graveyard beneath a mound, over which a monument will soon be erected.

No statement could be had from Howell last night, as he could not be reached over long-distance telephone. The automobile in which Burns and Lehon traveled to Marietta was returned to Atlanta last night by the chauffeur, who is connected with an Atlanta taxicab concern.