

Epps Boy Denies Trying to Avoid Being Called to the Stand Again

C. B. Dalton, who was used by the state to corroborate some of Jim Conley's testimony against Leo Frank, was the first witness called by the defense Saturday morning. He did not respond and George Epps, the newsboy who claims to have ridden to town with Mary Phagan the day she met death, was next called.

The lad, who could not be found Friday, was present and took the stand. State and defense clashed over the lad as Solicitor Hugh Dorsey stated that Attorney Reuben Arnold had tried to give the impression Friday that he had fled from the court and could not be got to testify for the defense.

"Do you remember the Sunday on which Mary Phagan's body was found?" Mr. Arnold asked the lad.

"Yes, sir."

"Did Mr. J. M. Minar, a reporter, come to your house that afternoon?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did he ask you and your sister when was the last time either of you had seen Mary Phagan?"

"I heard that he asked sister; he didn't ask me."

"Didn't your sister say she hadn't

seen her since the previous Thursday and didn't you stand there and say the same thing?"

"No, sir; I'd gone to get a wrap for her."

Mr. Dorsey then took the witness.

"George, did you try to hide from this court?"

"No, sir."

"You weren't here yesterday, were you?"

"No, sir; I wasn't here; I got tired of hanging around here and you told me I could go home and you'd send for me when I was wanted, and yesterday when they came for me I was out playin' ball."

"Didn't you call me up last night and ask if you were wanted?"

"Yes, sir."

At this point Mr. Arnold objected, saying that these remarks had nothing to do with the case.

"Well, your honor, Mr. Arnold tried to give the impression yesterday that this witness was hiding out rather than testify when the defense wanted him," said Mr. Dorsey, "and I wanted to show that this was not the case."