ON Sunday, April 27, 1913, the body of Mary Phagan, a child laborer, was discovered in the basement of the National Pencil Company factory in Marietta, Georgia. Leo Frank, the northern-born factory superintendent, was director of the local chapter of the Jewish secret society, B'nai Brith. He was arrested and charged, tried, found guilty of murder and sentenced to hang. The sentence was later commuted.

On August 16, 1915 twenty-five men abducted him from his cell and lynched him the next day in Marietta. In the aftermath of his murder, the Anti-Defamation League was formed and campaigned vigorously for a posthumous pardon. This was finally granted in 1985.

- Exhibition by the William Breman Jewish Heritage museum
- Little Secrets - The murder of Mary Phagan and the death of Leo Frank
- The ADL: An Angel Of Death: Remembering the Murder Of Mary Phagan

[note, this website does not accept responsibility for opinions of authors]
The origins of the Anti-Defamation League

Mary Phagan

Leo Frank

Lynched, Aug 17, 1915

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Further links on the case

- The Leo Frank Case - information compiled by Charles Pou of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia
- The Leo Frank Lynchers - an identification of those involved in the lynching by Stephen Goldfiard, Ph. D.
- The Anti-Defamation League was formed in part due to the Leo Frank Trial
- Without Sanctuary - a harrowing look at the photographs and postcards made of lynchings in America. Included in the collection are several lynching postcards of Leo Frank (e.g. No. 34))

Brandeis University Library Special Collections department holds correspondence from Leo Frank and his wife, Lucille Frank: correspondence to and from Governor Slaton, Frank's lawyer Luther Z. Rossier and others; as well as miscellaneous articles, pamphlets and legal documents.