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to this fellow in Chicago, that picked up some books or things in the alley. He showed me a memorandum book and told me about it that certain writing was in the book when he got it. I examined it, and concluded it was not Conley's writing and told him so and that ended it, so far as I was concerned. I thought it was his own writing. He also had a pocket book. I never made the statement in my life that I had that pocket book in my possession. I have no pocket book or purse that any one claims to have belonged to Mary Phagan? I have no mesh bag. I never authorized the statement in any newspaper to that effect that I had it. I never at any time made any claim that I had it. I never made any statement in Cleveland, or any other city that the guilty man was at large. The newspapers have said many things that are not true about this in quoting me. They often misquoted me. At the time I asked Mr. Smith if he had implicit confidence in this man Tedder, I was not concerning myself about Ragsdale at the time. Mr. Tobie is my Chicago man. I have learned that he was down here on this case. I only know by hearsay who employed him. Mr. Tom Felder employed him. Mr. Tobie did not make any reports to me. I never heard of any reports he made, except what I read in the newspapers here. When I first heard of the Ragsdale incident, I told them I didn't care to hear any more of it. I first heard of it probably a week or ten days before the affidavits were made. Mr. Lehon spoke of it to me in my office. I don't know whether Charley Sears was present or not. The next time I heard of it Mr. Lehon came to me and told me the preacher had made an affidavit and that they had run out his record and found it alright. He did not tell me anything about Barber. He didn't say he had run out his character, he said it had been run out. I did not pay any attention to it. Yes, I did have a conversation with Mr. Lehon previous to that, he came to me again and told me about this preacher, and did say that he was corroborated, and I told him that I wouldn't have anything to do with a man who would keep that information all this time, and that he was not worthy of belief, and that I would not have anything to do with it, and to send them to Mr. Rosser or Mr. Arnold and after investigation if they saw fit to take it to do so. I don't know whether Mr. Lehon carried out my instructions or not. I suppose before the filing of amendment

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