

1925-2025

un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft

#191 | 12 juillet 1925



« S. H, qui était sortie pendant la journée, est revenue le soir avec de somptueuses provisions ; nous avons dîné de sandwiches au bœuf, de cornichons, de pudding, de soda au gingembre et de glace. [...] Quant à cette histoire Scopes, ce fut pour moi une véritable révélation d'apprendre à quel point l'esprit du Tennessee est resté parfaitement et naïvement médiéval. Il est évident que la logique et l'information ne peuvent avoir aucun effet sur une psychologie aussi arriérée ; on pourrait tout aussi bien laisser cette localité tranquille jusqu'à

ce qu'elle se développe naturellement au cours des générations suivantes. La seule chose qui exige des mesures actives est l'obligation de freiner ce pauvre vieux Bryan avant qu'il n'installe les rouages politiques qui étoufferaient la science dans les régions moins défavorisées de la nation. Les catholiques et les gluants débris conservateurs (*mossbacks*) de tout le pays ne seraient que trop heureux de l'aider dans cette tâche. »



*Honneur à l'Amérique : pour le centenaire de l'ouverture du procès
Scopes, ces jours-ci, tout un monde d'articles et de photographies
d'archives...*



[1925, dimanche 12 juillet]

Up early — read Weird Tales all day — SH out & return bringing dinner
& ginger & ale & ice — read more & retire.

*Levé tôt. Lu Weird Tales toute la journée. Sonia sort et revient avec
de quoi dîner, de la limonade au gingembre et de la glace.
Lu encore et couché.*

Régime estival pour le numéro du dimanche du *NYT*, le supplément littéraire doit puiser dans les réserves non publiées des mois précédents. Évidemment de nouveau l'affaire Scopes, à la Une, dans l'intérieur du journal et même dans la partie magazine. Quelqu'un dans le jury ne sait même pas lire. Consolons-nous avec les publicités, la nouvelle gamme des très jolis camions Ford, Rickenbaker qui produit des voitures et pas encore des guitares, plus le nouveau Kodak Pocket (vendu 26 dollars) pour vos vacances... Et on n'a pas retrouvé Robert Kapp, en passe de devenir l'ennemi public numéro 1. En tout cas, pour le pique-nique du soir des Lovecraft, il y avait des cornichons sur les tranches de bœuf, par solidarité ce soir j'en ferai autant !

New York Times, 12 juillet 1925. De Dayton, le 10 juillet. Le jury de douze hommes qui jugera John Thomas Scope pour avoir enseigné l'évolution a été choisi en quelques heures à l'ouverture du procès aujourd'hui, et la question d'admettre le témoignage de scientifiques et de spécialistes de la Bible est venu dramatiquement se mettre en avant. La défense conteste qu'il y ait des témoins compétents des deux côtés et le procureur a annoncé qu'il combattrait l'admissibilité de telles preuves. Le jury comporte dix agriculteurs, un instituteur à la florissante moustache grise et un comptable. L'un d'entre eux ne sait pas lire. Tous ceux-là se prétendent la capacité de juger si M Scopes était dans l'illégalité en enseignant l'évolution et de lui proposer un jugement équitable. La sélection du jury a fonctionné parfaitement, et même le juge Raulston a exprimé sa surprise de la vitesse à laquelle elle a été obtenue, tant la défense a décidé de prendre tous ceux qui se présentaient. L'État ne s'est pas même donné la contrainte d'interroger plus de trois ou quatre des douze jurés. « Si vous pouvez trouver n'importe qui ici qui croie à la théorie de l'évolution, je vous invite à le féliciter », a déclaré M Darrow pour la défense. Après le vote du jury, la cour a évoqué la question de savoir si la défense pouvait convoquer des scientifiques et des théologiens pour prouver que l'évolution n'est pas en conflit avec la religion, ou, plutôt, qu'une croyance en l'évolution n'est pas nécessairement incompatible avec le christianisme.

ARMY OFFERS PLANES TO SEARCH FOR KNAPP AS THRILL MURDERER

Mineola Soldiers Help Police as
Formal Charge Is Laid
Against Deserter.

PURSUERS READY TO SHOOT

Fugitive's Father Gets Lawyer
and Is on Way Here to
Stand By Son.

PROSECUTOR'S CASE READY

Will Be Presented to Grand Jury
July 27—Circumstantial Evi-
dence Is Held Adequate.

Philip E. Knapp, soldier, Cornell University man and member of a prominent family of Syracuse, N. Y., who deserted from Mitchell Field, Mineola, on June 30, was formally charged yesterday with the murder of Louis Panella, Hamstead, N. Y., taxicab driver. Captain Frank McCahill of the Nassau County Police, went before Justice of the Peace Walter R. Jones at Mineola and obtained a warrant for Knapp's arrest on that charge.

The taxicab owner was murdered and his body partly buried under slabs of plasterboard in the ruins of the old army base hospital on the site of Camp Mills, on Hempstead Plains, some time between 1 A. M. and daylight on July 1, the police say.

At 9:30 on the night of June 30 Knapp left Mitchell Field, where he had served three months as an enlisted man. Early on the morning of July 1 he was seen with Panella, and that was the last time Panella was seen alive. Panella's body was found by three of his friends in the ruins of the old base hospital on July 4.

Soon after the warrant for Knapp's arrest was issued by Justice of the Peace Long, District Attorney Charles R. Weeks of Nassau County asserted that he would present the evidence in the case before the Nassau County Grand Jury when it meets on July 27. The evidence is entirely circumstantial so far. But it is so strong, according to the police, that they have no doubt they seek the right man.

Lightning Strikes the Dome Of the Capitol at Washington

Special to The New York Times.
WASHINGTON, July 11.—The dome of the Capitol, surmounted by the colossal statue of Liberty, was struck by lightning yesterday. It was disclosed today. There was no damage. It was said that his was a usual occurrence during electrical storms.

William Tyler Page, Clerk of the House of Representatives, and others in the big building said they felt the shock distinctly.

DAYTON'S POLICE SUPPRESS SKEPTICS

Free Thinker Held as a Dis-
turber—Dr. Potter Forbidden
to Preach.

SHOW EVOLUTION IN FREAKS

Farmers View a "Cat-Ratbit"
and "Two-Species Hen," but
Scout Implication of Atavism.

Special to The New York Times.
DAYTON, Tenn., July 11.—Evolution became a more lively issue in Dayton today than it was yesterday, although court was adjourned and the two's visitors were mostly blue-ovalled mountaineers come to "trade."

Everywhere in the tiny business section of the village, moving with the sun to keep in the shade, or else sitting in Robinson's drug store, "where I all started," the backwoodsmen defied Fundamentalism against Modernism and free-thinking to the point where one the police had to come to the rescue of one man by arresting him for "disturbing the peace."

And while most of the demonstrations of the arguments against Fundamentalism were, of course, verbal, there were also brought to the attention of the visitors two freaks of nature which were pointed out as practical demonstrations of the theory of the origin of the species. They were two kittens which had the hind legs and the tufted tail of a rabbit, and a pullet which on one side had the perfect markings of a well-bred barred Plymouth Rock and on the other the coloring of a prize Rhode Island Red.

Scenes Goes Swimming.

HOSTILITY GROWS IN DAYTON CROWDS; CHAMPIONS CLASH

Bryan and Darrow Gird for Mon-
day's Battle, Contending Over
Testimony by Scientists.

SECTIONAL FEELING RAISED

Bryan Scores 'Invasion of Out-
siders'—Defense Counsel Tilts
at Commoner's 'Chinese Wall.'

TALK HERE OF RETALIATION

Ignoring by Universities of Creden-
tials From States With Such
Laws Urged.

Special to The New York Times.
DAYTON, Tenn., July 11.—Clarence Darrow is girding himself today for the effort he will make when court opens on Monday to breach what he calls "the Chinese wall" that William Jennings Bryan has erected around the State of Tennessee and open the way to introduce the evidence of scientists who will tell what evolution is. If he fails, the defense case falls to pieces and the trial will relapse into a monotonous legal discussion of constitutional rights.

There is a growing feeling of hostility on both sides, their honestly held views being so far apart that each regards the other with a kind of sad incredulity that man should be so obtuse. There is no common ground on which they can meet except in the exchange of ordinary social amenities.

While arrests were made in Dayton today for "free-thinking" and a too inquisitive inspection of a scissors-grinder's toolbox, both sides in the Scopes trial kept up the battle which started yesterday when Attorney General Stewart announced his intention to bar the defense's scientists. Mr. Bryan sat under the tree, surrounded by an admiring court, and pronounced against the proposed foreign invasion of educators. Mr. Darrow reposed on a mattress in the old mansion known as "the Big House," just outside town, and told Mr. Bryan that if he succeeded in isolating *Washington* intellectually there would never be no scientists in the State.

Indict Nine in Boston Dance Club Collapse; Architect, Club Head and Lessee Arraigned

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, July 11.—Nine men were secretly indicted today by the Grand Jury that has been seeking to fix responsibility for the collapse of the Pickwick Club with the loss of forty-four lives a week ago tonight. Three of them were arraigned immediately in Suffolk Court on charges of manslaughter.

They were Timothy J. Barry, President and Treasurer of the Club; Hyman Bloomburg, lessee of the building, and George C. Funk, architect.

Three more have been summoned for arraignment on Monday. They are John L. Pultz, general contractor, who is constructing a garage in the empty lot adjoining the club site; John M. Tobin, Pultz's superintendent, and Nathan Fritz, a contractor employed by the estate of Albert R. Rosenzweig, owner of the property on which the club was situated. Fritz was engaged to renovate the upper stories of the structure, after a recent fire there.

The names of the other three men who were indicted cannot be learned until they appear at the Court House on Monday.

Barry and Funk are specifically charged with having caused the death of Patrolman Paul Halleran, one of the victims. Arraigned before Judge Lummus, each of the defendants pleaded not guilty and was released in \$2,000 bonds for trial Wednesday. Bail was furnished.

Funk, the first to be arraigned, waived reading of the complaint and pleaded not guilty. His counsel asked for time to file special pleadings. The court said that Monday should be time enough to file a dilatory plea.

Judge Lummus asked the newspaper men to take the indictments calmly "so that this case may be tried in court not in the newspapers."

The Grand Jury had sat seventy hours since last Monday.

OSBORN STATES THE CASE FOR EVOLUTION

In Answering Bryan He Summarizes the Evidence in Support of the Darwinian Theory—He Condemns as Demagogic the Assertions That Evolutionists Are Exponents of the "Monkey Origin" Doctrine



Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn.



A Group in Evolution—The Great Mass of the Rastafarian Race.



Mr. Bryan.

THE case of the evidence in support of the Darwinian theory, as summarized by Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, President of the American Museum of Natural History, is set forth in a new book, "The Darwinian Theory of Evolution," published by the Museum. The book is a comprehensive summary of the evidence in support of the Darwinian theory, and is a valuable contribution to the understanding of the subject. It is a book that should be read by all who are interested in the history of life on earth.

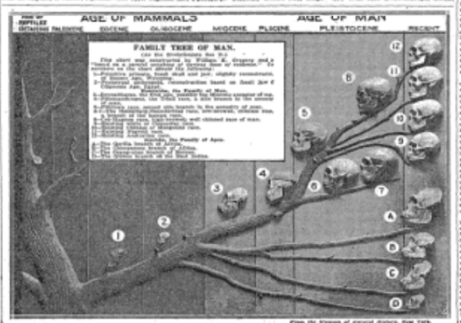
PROFESSOR OSBORN SAYS:
"Every great biological and paleontological discovery has been a step forward, leading to a new view of the world. It is the duty of the scientist to follow the evidence wherever it leads, and to accept the truth when it is revealed. The Darwinian theory of evolution is a theory that has been supported by a vast amount of evidence, and it is a theory that is in accord with the facts of the world."

MR. BRYAN SAYS:
"The Darwinian theory of evolution is a theory that is based on the assumption that man is descended from a monkey. This is a theory that is in direct conflict with the facts of the world, and it is a theory that is based on a complete disregard for the evidence. The Darwinian theory of evolution is a theory that is based on a complete disregard for the facts of the world, and it is a theory that is based on a complete disregard for the evidence."

Dr. Osborn's book is a comprehensive summary of the evidence in support of the Darwinian theory, and it is a valuable contribution to the understanding of the subject. It is a book that should be read by all who are interested in the history of life on earth.

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