



1925-2025

un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft

#197 | 18 juillet 1925

TWO CENTS
Special to The New York Times
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JUDGE SHATTERS THE SCOPES DEFENSE BY BARRING TESTIMONY OF SCIENTISTS; SHARP CLASHES AS DARROW DEFIES COURT

TEXT OF JUDGE'S RULING

He Holds Law Makes Clarification by Scientists Unnecessary.

INSISTS INTENT IS CLEAR

This, He Explains, Is to Prohibit Theory That Man Descended From Lower Animals.

SEES JURISDICTION LIMITED

Court Holds That Proof of Theory and Question of Policy Are Matters for Legislature.

Rush for Evolution Books Clears Tennessee Libraries

Special to The New York Times.
DAYTON, Tenn., July 17.—Tennessee, to which generally evolution has been merely a word and where only the most cursory reference was made to it in high school textbooks, has just begun, it seems, to feel the effects of the prohibitory statute and is soon to find within its own borders a greater questioning than the one it has undergone from the "fortresses" from other States.

AFFIDAVITS TO BE READ

Six Scientists Must Explain Evolution in 12,000 Words.

DATA ALLOWED FOR APPEAL

Darrow Faces Contempt Charge as He Criticizes the Proceedings of the Court.

CASE MAY END TUESDAY

Adjournment Is Taken to Monday, Which Will Be Devoted to Statement and Arguments.

AUTHOR OF THE LAW SURPRISED AT FUSS

John Washington Butler Thought All "Right-Thinking" Men Believed the Bible.

THE CALMEST MAN IN COURT

Regrets Barring Scientists, Declaring Evidence Would Be a "Right Smart" Education.

Special to The New York Times.
DAYTON, Tenn., July 17.—There was only one calm man in the Dayton Court House today when Judge Houston ruled. First, that scientific evidence could not be presented to the jury, and then that the theory of the defense that evolution does not contradict the Bible must be presented in affidavits. That man was John Washington Butler, the Blount County farmer who introduced in the Tennessee Legislature last March the bill which has become the law which caused it all.

There was tense excitement in the court, the Fundamentalists flushed with triumph and the Moderates filled with chagrin. The crowd pressed forward.

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DAYTON, Tenn., July 17.—The trial of John Thomas Scopes, which was to enlighten the world on evolution, blew up today when Judge John T. Houston ruled that expert testimony on evolution was not admissible. The only question before the court, he held, was whether Mr. Scopes taught evolution, and experts were not needed to prove that.

It was Tennessee's answer to the question of the defense that a little evolution would do them good. Promptly he "staid doors" of Attorney General Stewart were slammed shut against the intrusion of this doctrine, which Mr. Stewart feels will demoralize the children of the State.

There was nothing left of the case at the end of a short but feverish session of recrimination except the "certainty" that Clarence Darrow would employ every resource of his brilliant and satirical mind in contention when it comes time to sum up, and that William Jennings Bryan will empty the vials of his wrath on the evolution and anti-evolution theory.

This decision of Judge Houston and his announcement that he would permit the State to cross-examine witnesses put on by the defense in the absence of the jury, for the purpose of making a record of what they intended to prove, was used on appeal, and later his appointment as chief justice of the state.

Procès Scopes : l'affaire ne concerne pas les scientifiques, dit le juge.
Et tant pis pour la défense.

[1925, samedi 18 juillet]

Up early — wrote letters continuously — out for groceries — write again
— read & retire.

*Levé tôt. Écrit des lettres en continu. Sorti pour des courses. Écrit
encore. Lu et couché.*

Dans sa lettre hebdomadaire à sa tante, Lovecraft utilise le même terme que pour faire le ménage : « *cleaning up all my correspondence* », avec ce qu'il y a de rituel dans cette tâche — et manière aussi de nous rappeler que nous n'avons retrouvé encore qu'une si faible partie du continent épistolaire, même pour cette année 1925. Et si passionné par ce qu'il doit en dire à Lillian, Lovecraft, qu'il se trompe sur la date : « pour ce samedi 17 », écrit-il... Dans la journal : ce micro-tsunami à Coney Island, ce n'est pas ça qui va donner à Lovecraft l'envie d'apprendre à nager. Les fédérations de clubs féminins, dont l'association des Femmes d'affaire, demande une loi pour prohiber la guerre : et c'est seulement ce petit entrefilet ? Et le marquis Boni De Castellane demande à ce que la France revende ses colonies, tout comme Napoléon avait revendu la Louisiane pour 60 000 francs de l'époque (soit 15 millions de dollars pour le « Louisiana Purchase », mais les USA doublent leur surface d'un coup — « de toute façon, il l'aurait perdue », dit le *NYT* de Napoléon). Et Knapp toujours en fuite.

New York Times, 18 juillet 1925. Une vague géante a surgi de l'océan, hier à 5 heures de l'après-midi, recouvrant les vingt-cinq mètres de sable sur les plages de Coney Island, au niveau d'Ocean Parkway. Quand le mur d'écume s'est abattu dans un rugissement, son rapide retrait a créé un violent courant sous-marin, et une centaine de personnes, sur les milliers qui étaient dans l'eau ou sur la plage, se sont vues entraînées au large avec lui. Les sauveteurs de la ville et ceux du Corps des volontaires se sont précipités à l'eau pour rattraper les nageurs en danger. Les autres baigneurs ont aidé les personnes restées plus près de la côte. Pour la plupart, les baigneurs s'en sont tirés sans autre conséquence, quatre d'entre eux ont dû être secourus, dont deux par Mike Carris, sauveteur le jour et portier de nuit au Manhattan Supper Club la nuit, qui est devenu l'homme du jour. Carris a secouru plus de cent personnes depuis qu'il travaille à Coney Island. La vague a surgi sans prévenir en plein temps calme. On suppose qu'elle a été créée au large par un soudain tremblement de terre.

Giant Wave Crashes on Beach at Coney; 4 Bathers Rescued; Scores Sent Spinning

A huge wave swept in from the ocean at 5:30 yesterday evening, raced seventy-five feet over the sands at Coney Island at the foot of Ocean Parkway, and broke with a roar. As the wall of foaming water collapsed its quick recession produced an unusually powerful undertow. About a hundred persons of the thousands who were in the surf or on the beach went bobbing or spinning back toward the open ocean with it.

Men of the Municipal Life-Saving Station and of the United States Volunteer Life-Saving Corps plunged from the beach and raced to deep water to help the flustered swimmers. Other bathers helped persons in difficulty nearer shore. For the most part the swimmers reached the beach little the worse for their sudden experience. Four required rescue, and of these two were saved by Mike Carris, life-saver by day and a Manhattan Supper Club doorman at night. Carris has saved more than 100 persons at Coney Island in his years of work there.

Well out from the shore he caught Jonas I. Dubenstein, 65 years old, of

3,024 Ocean Parkway, and a man who first said that he was William Klein of 252 South Third Street, Brooklyn, and then said he was David Schaffner of 9 Oak Street, Manhattan. Carris had a hard struggle before he brought them in. He turned them over to Dr. Messer of the Coney Island Hospital. They were treated and went home.

Other guards brought to shore Reuben Seigel, 55 years old, of 2,047 Eighty-first Street, Brooklyn, and Ethel Yonover, 13 years old, of 3,027 East Third Street, Brighton Beach. Dr. Gabery of Coney Island Hospital attended them.

The wave broke without warning out of comparative calm. It is believed to have been piled up at sea by a sudden squall.

A checkup at Hammonton, N. J., of the damage in South Jersey by Thursday's storm showed the loss about \$250,000. A church was struck by lightning at Folsom, N. J., but firemen saved it. A wind wrought damage at Riverside and hundreds of telephone poles and fruit trees were leveled. Damage at Moorestown was estimated at \$50,000.

SELL FRENCH COLONIES, URGES DE CASTELLANE

**He Says They Drain France and
May Later Be Lost, Citing the
Louisiana Purchase.**

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Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, July 17.—The Marquis Boni de Castellane, former husband of Anna Gould, now the Duchesse de Talleyrand et Sagan, head of one of the oldest French families, has joined the ranks of those Frenchmen who think France ought to sell her colonies if she is to recover her strength as a nation. In today's *Eclair*, a Nationalist Conservative paper, de Castellane publishes a long article filled with historical precedents for such a course.

Napoleon's sale of Louisiana for 60,000,000 francs is, of course, his best argument. By that sale, he says, Napoleon strengthened France and sold what he would eventually have lost.

Faced as she is with the problem of a dwindling population, enormous debts, crushing taxation and a too powerful neighbor, France, in his opinion, cannot afford to dissipate her strength by holding colonies.

He adds that with Africa in revolt and Asia seething with animosity against European peoples, France's position as a colonial power is one of greatest danger. Especially is this the case, he says, since she is deprived of her naval strength.

If the Chinese anti-foreign movement reaches Indo-China, he argues, France could do nothing to protect this possession.

It is much better, therefore, to seek to recover her financial and economic power and strengthen herself at home by the sale of these perilous possessions than to seek to hold them only, most probably, to have to abandon them later.

To his article *Eclair* publishes a reply from Ernest Outrey, a Deputy from Cochinchina, who declares that there is no danger whatever of a Communist or other anti-foreign movement gaining in his colony, and that France must never surrender that possession.

WOMEN ASK ANTI-WAR LAWS

Business and Professional Clubs
Also Favor a World Tribunal.

PORTLAND, Me., July 17 (AP).—Resolutions calling for the abolition of war and for adherence of the United States to a world arbitration tribunal were adopted today at the closing session of the seventh annual convention of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. The resolution said in part:

"The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs hereby reaffirm its conviction that we must establish 'law, not war' (1) by outlawing the use of aggressive war in the settlement of international disputes through declaring its use a crime under the law of nations, and (2) by requesting Congress to take early action toward establishing such a world tribunal as can substitute international adjudication for the arbitrament of arms."

Other resolutions adopted upon recommendation of the National Legislative Committee, of which Miss Mary Stewart of Washington, D. C., is Chairman, favored ratification of the Child Labor amendment, support of the Education bill, which includes the creation of a Department of Education with a Secretary in the President's Cabinet; a permanent Federal Employment Service and the Pass amendment to the Smith-Hughes act which provides for placing training and home economics on the same basis as that in trade and agriculture.



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