the Scopes monkey Trial

part #1
The Scopes Monkey Trial

I would like to personally thank you for watching the Origins program. Origins was a special program, near to the heart of my late husband, Russell Bixler.

I trust that the information in this presentation will be helpful in your study of creation science. Thank you for your prayerful and financial support of Origins... you’re making the television production of this program possible.

Norma Bixler
The Trial Wasn’t a Fundamentalist Witch Hunt

“The trial wasn’t a ‘witch hunt’ as it has been called, because the accused and his defenders—the ‘witches’—were actually the hunters, stalking the law with the intent of overturning it or at least making it unenforceable.”

The Trial Wasn’t a Fundamentalist Witch Hunt

“The trial wasn’t a ‘witch hunt’, as was called, because the trial was not an unchallenged defendants’ declaration of ‘witches’. The trial was not about hunters, stalking the law with a weapon of overturning it or at least making it unenforceable.”

John Washington Butler

Representative in the State Legislature
The Butler Act

March 1925

“... unlawful for any teacher in any of the Universities, Normals, and all other public schools of the State which are supported in whole or in part by the public school funds of the State, to teach any theory that denies the story of the Divine Creation of man as taught in the Bible, and to teach instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals.”
John Scopes with father: July 1925

- Graduated in pre-law from University of Kentucky
- Taught one year in Rhea County School
- Taught math and coached football
- Filled in for sick biology teacher last two weeks of the year

Wide World Photos
Scopes Didn’t Teach Evolution!

“There’s something I must tell you. It’s worried me. I didn’t violate the law ... I never taught that evolution lesson.”

“Those kids they put on the stand couldn’t remember what I taught them three months ago. They were coached by the lawyers.”

(Conversation between Scopes and William K. Hutchinson of the International News Service during the last days of the trial)
George W. Rappleyea

- Operated Cumberland Iron and Coal mine in Dayton.
- Hoped to promote economic interest in Dayton with a big trial.
- Talked his friend John Scopes into cooperating in the ACLU’s test case.
Press Release from the Chattanooga "Daily Times"

“We are looking for a Tennessee teacher who is willing to accept our services in testing this law in the courts.”
Rappleyea’s Telegram to the ACLU

“Professor J. T. Scopes, teacher of science Rhea County high School, Dayton, Tenn., will be arrested and charged with teaching evolution. Consent of superintendent of education for test case to be defended by you. Wire me collect if you wish to cooperate and arrest will follow.”
Sue Hicks

- Lawyer in the Dayton law firm of Hicks & Hicks.
- Prepared the arrest warrant for John Scopes.
- Scopes was arrested and released on a $1000 bond.
- Asked William Jennings Bryan to help in prosecution John Scopes.
- Subject of the Johnny Cash song, “A Boy Named Sue.”
John Scopes With Friends in Robinson's Drug Store

Hunter's *Civic Biology*
Examples of Human Evolution in Hunter’s “Civic Biology”

“If we follow the early history of man upon the earth, we find that at first he must have been little better than one of the lower animals.”

“At the present time there exist upon the earth five races or varieties of man ... the highest type of all, the Caucasians, represented by the civilized white inhabitants of Europe and America.”
Scopes at the ACLU Headquarters in New York City

Clarence Darrow, Dudley Field Malone, John Randolph Neal, John Scopes
Bryan Arrives in Dayton
William Jennings Bryan (1860-1925)

- Great American orator and popular Chautauqua speaker.
- Outspoken Christian.
- Leader of the democratic party for 30 years.
- Ran three times for president of the United States.
- Served as secretary of state under president Woodrow Wilson.

The voice of William Jennings Bryan from “The Ideal Republic”
Bryan as Secretary of State

- Popular election of senators
- Federal income tax
- Unlimited coinage of silver
- Department of labor
- Department of health, education and welfare
- Workman’s compensation
- Minimum wage
- Women’s suffrage
- Minority rights
- Pure food act
- Tried to prevent WWI
Media Portrayal of Bryan

[2] The Modern Crusader. (From the Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio)

[3] He's Always Seeing Things. (Orr in the Chicago Tribune)
Bryan trashes all knowledge?

- Agriculture
- Law of gravity
- Mathematics
- Mechanics
- Animal husbandry
- Medicine
- Surgery
- X-rays
- Steam
- Navigation

[12] “Rubbish!” (Ireland in the Columbus Dispatch)
Clarence Darrow (1857-1938)

- America’s most famous criminal lawyer.
- Agnostic, outspoken critic of “fundamentalism”.
- Strongly opposed the death penalty.
- Defended unpopular people and radical causes.
- Defended Leopold and Loeb prior to the Scopes trial.
Media Portrayal of Darrow

[13] "There Ain't No Santy Claus!" (Ward in Judge.)

[10] "Papa!" (Thomas in the Detroit News)
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