

The Scopes Trial: A Conflict Between Traditional and Modern Values

Lindsay Amaya

Senior Division

Paper

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The Scopes Trial, a case that deals with beliefs that contradict each other. I chose this trial because I am a Christian and believe in the Bible, and its words. Even though I am a follower of Christ, I do not interpret the Bible as strictly or literally as others do. Along with being a Christian, I am a strong believer in evolution. I thought learning about this would open my eyes to a part of history for both. The communication behind this trial is easily noticed as a debate between opposing values. People in the United States, along with the rest of the world have their own ideals, which affects moral and logical reasoning.

Before I got too deep into the process, I read brief overviews of the trial. After understanding the basis, I began to find historical documents from the time and sources talking about similar ideas. Using digital libraries and going through many handwritten documents online, I gathered enough information to create an outline. I also read a section of Hunter's *A Civic Biology*, the book Scopes used, to get a different perspective.

I put together small pieces of information to shape my rough draft. Using my rough draft, I found specific quotes and documents to use in my final essay. I reread my essay, fixed any errors, and added additional information to be more distinct. When I knew I was done editing my essay, I added footnotes and adjusted it to be more presentable.

My historical argument is that the case was more than proving Scopes's stance. It paved the way for an everlasting cultural conflict between modern and traditional values. Throughout the trial, the discussion progressed and produced change for the people. The conflict represented still exists and will continue to evolve.

The Scopes Monkey Trial is important because it narrowed down a widespread topic into carefully sectioned individual beliefs. It served as the beginning of all similar conflicts and was the first trial to distinguish such admirable beliefs. Fundamentalists used this trial to project their

beliefs into the public sphere and to try to reject the theory of evolution. Scientists and evolutionary biologists conveyed their logical reasoning to reach an audience that would understand their argument. Both sides became increasingly popular, which contributed to religious and scientific altercations in the transforming world. In all, The Scopes Trial made two contradicting arguments open to the public, as well as creating an atmosphere to effectively do so for others.

On July 10, 1925, one of the most controversial trials in United States history began. John Thomas Scopes, a 24-year-old teacher at Rhea County Central High School in Dayton, Tennessee, agreed to participate in a test case challenging Tennessee's Butler Act. The Butler Act, enacted on March 21, 1925, stated that it was illegal "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."¹ The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), a nonprofit organization that fights to protect the rights of the people given by the Constitution, believed that the Butler Act contravened with the First Amendment's guarantee of the freedom of speech and the establishment clause prohibiting government endorsement of religion. They provided their services to any teacher who would agree to challenge the law.

This set the stage for a case that was about much more than the guilt or innocence of John Scopes. The case represented the larger cultural conflict emerging in the 1920s between religion and science, but also between traditional and modern values. Both sides used the case as a way to communicate their views to the whole country. Examining the way the participants and the media presented the trial offers insight into the broader cultural conflict, a conflict that is still present in the United States.

The controversy between fundamentalists and evolutionists began long before the trial. Fundamentalists, who believed that the Bible should be interpreted literally, opposed theological modernism.² Principles created in the series of pamphlets, *The Fundamentals: A Testimony to the Truth*, created throughout the 1910s, led to attacks on modern beliefs.³ According to the National Humanities Center,

¹Tennessee State, General Assembly, House of Representatives. Butler Act. 1925 General Assembly, House Bill 185.
<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/scopes/tennstat.htm>.

² Encyclopedia Britannica, s.v. "Fundamentalism". 2019 ed.

³ Encyclopedia Britannica, s.v. "Fundamentalism".

Social changes of the early twentieth century also fed the flames of protest . . . Fundamentalists felt displaced by the waves of non-Protestant immigrants from southern and eastern Europe flooding America's cities. They believed they had been betrayed by American statesmen who led the nation into an irresolved war with Germany, the cradle of destructive biblical criticism. They deplored the teaching of evolution in public schools, which they paid for with their taxes, and resented the elitism of professional educators who seemed often to scorn the values of traditional Christian families.⁴

On November 24, 1858, Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of the Species*. In this book, he described the process of natural selection, or the idea that all living things evolve from a common ancestor. Darwin's theory of evolution was heard worldwide. Many scientists agreed with him, but others felt that it was atheistic.

In the 1920s, the anti-evolution movement spread into the United States. Many members of this movement were fundamentalists. They were against teaching evolution because they believed that it would cause "spiritual and moral" harm to the development of students.⁵

By the time of the 1925 Scopes Trial, the theory of evolution was widely taught throughout America. Even though it was being taught in schools, people still thought Charles Darwin's theory was conflicting. This led to an increasing amount of beliefs of anti-evolution. Darwin theorized that living organisms derive from unicellular organisms and evolve into different beings. The theory was thought to disagree with the Creation of Genesis, where it says that humans were derived from one man and one woman. Both of these concepts were recognized in this time period, but fundamentalism grew and became more popular, which resulted in laws like the Butler Act.

⁴ Grant Wacker. *The Rise of Fundamentalism*. National Humanities Center, November 2000, <http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/tserve/twenty/tkeyinfo/fundam.htm>. Accessed 19 February 2021.

⁵ "The Scopes Trial: Who Decides What Gets Taught in the Classroom?" Constitutional Rights Foundation. 2006. Accessed 23 November 2020, <https://www.crf-usa.org/bill-of-rights-in-action/bria-22-2-a-the-scopes-trial-who-decides-what-gets-taught-in-the-classroom>

The argument between whether Scopes had taught evolution finally begun. Defending Scopes was Clarence Darrow, a firm believer in evolution. Prosecutor William Jennings Bryan, was a heavy fundamentalist who preached the word of God daily. The first three days of the trial were mainly legal matters, but on the fourth day, John Thomas Scopes pleaded not guilty. Even with his plea, the battle progressed.

The prosecution led by A. Thomas Stewart and William Jennings Bryan, stated that “Evolution should not be taught in public schools because the people of Tennessee do not want it taught . . . Evolution should not be taught because it undermines Christianity.”⁶ Bryan believed “that the state, through the legislature, had the right to control its schools by prescribing the content of their curriculum.”⁷

Dudley Field Malone, of the defense, argued for an expert testimony in the trial and that the purpose of the defense was solely to prove Scopes innocent. He gave an extensive opening statement for the defense, which included that teaching evolution “would prove that science and religion occupy two different fields of learning . . . would prove that scientists claim that no branch of science can be taught without teaching evolution . . . it *did not* intend to prove humans came from the long line of monkey.”⁸ The defense’s wish for an expert testimony was granted by Judge John Raulston, where Dr. Maynard M. Metcalf came into play. Metcalf, who was a scientist himself, believed in evolution. He stated his own definition of evolution, along with claiming evolution is a fact. His testimony was never printed.

⁶ “Handwritten Outline of Legal Arguments Of Monkeys and Men: Public and Private Views from the Scopes Trial.” Sue K. Hicks Papers. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Special Collections, 1925, <https://digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/islandora/object/scopes%3A447#page/1/mode/2up>.

⁷ Freya Ottem Hanson. *The Scopes Monkey Trial: a Headline Court Case*. Enslow Publishers, 2000.

⁸ Hanson, *The Scopes Monkey Trial*, 73.

On Thursday, July 16, 1925, Bryan spoke for the first time in the trial. He read out of *A Civics Biology*, attacking it and comparing it to the Bible.⁹ Dudley Malone spoke against him. Thinking that the trial was basically over, most of the people and media left without knowing they would miss one of the most important parts of the trial, Darrow's interrogation of Bryan. Without the presence of the jury, William Jennings Bryan testified. Clarence Darrow cross-examined Bryan on exclusive parts of the Bible. They continued with the questioning,

Q--You claim that everything in the Bible should be literally interpreted?

A--I believe everything in the Bible should be accepted as it is given there: some of the Bible is given illustratively. For instance: "Ye are the salt of the earth." I would not insist that man was actually salt, or that he had flesh of salt, but it is used in the sense of salt as saving God's people.

Q--Now, you say, the big fish swallowed Jonah, and he there remained how long--three days-- and then he spewed him upon the land. You believe that the big fish was made to swallow Jonah?

A--I am not prepared to say that; the Bible merely says it was done.

Q--You don't know whether it was the ordinary run of fish, or made for that purpose?

A--You may guess; you evolutionists guess.....

Q--You are not prepared to say whether that fish was made especially to swallow a man or not?

A--The Bible doesn't say, so I am not prepared to say.¹⁰

The lack of information in Bryan's testimony shocked almost everybody. With the continuation of arguments between Bryan and Darrow, Judge Raulston ended the court proceedings. Later, Judge Raulston removed Bryan's testimony from record, leaving the jury to decide the fate of John Scopes. After listening to instructions given by Judge Raulston on the final day, the defendant was found guilty. Later, the Butler Act was declared constitutional, and it was not repealed until May 18, 1967.

⁹ *A Civic Biology: Presented in Problems* by George William Hunter was the textbook that John Scopes assigned a chapter of evolution on.

¹⁰ William Jennings Bryan, *Cross-Examination* by Clarence Darrow, 1925.

Many news sources leaped to discuss the case. On July 19, 1925, the Sunday Star newspaper of Washington D.C. published “Scopes Convicted Before Case . . . Appeal to Higher Court and Effort to Save Other States.” Darrow stated,

We are now interested in two things: That a higher court shall pass upon this case, and that in other States those who wish to pursue the truth shall be left free to think and investigate and teach and learn. We know that the great majority of the intelligent Christians do - not accept the literal interpretation for the whole Bible. We have learned here, both from laymen and clergymen, that a large part of the fundamentalists do not accept it. This doctrine is a doctrine of the literalists, and we are perfectly satisfied that the majority of the Christian Church has long since passed beyond that.¹¹

Another article headlined “Plot To Kill Off Christianity Revealed in Trial, Bryan Says” is mentioned to try to critique the idea of evolution. Bryan believed that the trial had a different underlying message based off of the contrasting viewpoints,

But this trial had another important effect. The presence of Mr. Darrow here, an avowed agnostic both as to God and immortality -- he has so stated in court before the judge -- represents the most militant anti-Christian sentiment in the country. He protested against the opening of court with prayer, and has lost no opportunity to slur the intelligence of those who believe in Orthodox Christianity, and to hurl the charge of bigotry against every one who objects to the teaching of evolution in the schools . . . Mr. Darrow’s hostility to Christianity, proclaimed for a generation, and his conduct in this case are now known to the world and will arouse the devout Christians of the Nation.¹²

The two articles, which ran side by side in the same newspaper, highlight the true purpose of each group in the conflict, to either glorify evolution or vilify it. Darrow believed that evolution does not contradict the Bible, as most Christians do not strictly follow its sayings. Bryan expresses evolution as an idea made up to purposely harm the Christian community, as well as wipe out their traditional beliefs as a whole. Providing the perspective of both Darrow

¹¹ “Scopes Convicted Before Case Opened, In Darrow’s Opinion.” *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 19, 1925. See appendix 1.

¹² “Plot To Kill Off Christianity Revealed in Trial, Bryan Says.” *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 19, 1925. See appendix 1.

and Bryan shows how the two lawyers effectively used the trial, along with the media coverage, to publically convey their individual beliefs.

Other newspapers put the Scopes Trial on their front page, such as The Indianapolis Times' "When Darrow Opened Fire", which displayed a photograph of the intense argument over the use of the word "bigotry" between Darrow and Bryan.¹³ Even days after the trial, efforts continued to draw attention to the subject, including sectioning off an entire page as a tribute to Bryan after his death - only five days after the trial. Subheadings titled "Faith In People Was Revealed By Bryan's Last Court Speech" and "Bryan Was to Tread Holy Path of Christ" from The Evening Star of Washington D.C. on July 27, 1925, made it seem like Bryan died a hero to all Christians and fundamentalists.¹⁴ The Scopes Trial and its participants established the debate between science and religion while it also "shaped the scientific community."¹⁵

The true purpose of the trial can be seen by the day by day coverage by H.L. Mencken. This justifies the publicity stunt like trial and shows the eternal mark it left. Mencken states, "The Scopes Trial, from the start, has been carried on in a manner exactly fitted to the anti-evolution law and the simian imbecility under it. There hasn't been the slightest pretense to decorum."¹⁶ He describes how the results of the trial had been known from the start to follow with the anti-evolution beliefs, along with making evolution seem foolish. Despite Mencken's words, there have been attempts to change the public view of evolution. As Mencken states, "The whole world has been made familiar with the issues [of the trial] and the nature of menace that Fundamentalism offers to civilization is now familiar to every schoolboy."¹⁷ Unlike before

¹³ "When Darrow Opened Fire." *The Indianapolis Times*, July 17, 1925. See appendix 2.

¹⁴ "Interesting Studies of William Jennings Bryan at various stages of his career." *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 27, 1925. See Appendix 3.

¹⁵ Wood, "The Monkey Trial Myth," 147.

¹⁶ Mencken, "The Monkey Trial."

¹⁷ H.L. Mencken. "Aftermath." *The Baltimore Evening Sun*, September 14, 1925.

the trial, evolution became familiar to the public eye, but at the same time hidden. After the Scopes Trial, evolution had been wiped from nearly every biology textbook, until it finally resurfaced in the 1950s. Affecting the lives of almost every American,

The issues raised by the Scopes trial and legend endure precisely because they embody the characteristically American struggle between individual liberty and majoritarian democracy, and cost it in the timeless debate over science and religion ... only the Scopes trial fully lives up to its billing by continuing to echo throughout the century.¹⁸

The events that the Scopes trial caused continue to live freely in a world that evolves in a flash. The guided nation, known as the land of the free, secretly hides its own problems, disregarding the size, under a sheet of powerful voices who continue to morph the community as a whole.

Today, with an increase in government power, many demand for the federal government to put in place a law that emphasizes what should be taught in public schools. The problems that come with these requests are that it clashes with the separation of church and state, as well as the independence of state governments. More recently, states have passed bills over the matter. Most of which favor creationism rather than science. For example, in 2012, Tennessee passed the Tennessee Academic Freedom Bill, which protects teachers who allow students to criticize topics like evolution and climate change. This is a huge door opener to teaching creationism in public schools.

The Trump Administration has influenced the aspects of this culture war in ways that clearly show their anti-science beliefs. The skepticism of climate change and distrust of vaccinations are more issues that contribute to their control. The executive government's opinion shapes every form of government throughout America. New bills suggest teaching intelligent design or expressing the right of academic freedom will help end the controversy.

¹⁸ Edward J. Larson. *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*. Basic Books New York, 1997.

Again, a plethora of problems arise with this. For one, an administrator's personal beliefs may conflict with what is taught in a public school.

Almost all of the states require evolution to be taught, while creationism is optional in some. Most schools today barely touch the subject of evolution in their classrooms. However, studies show that a lot of private schools teach creationism and require their students to recall information from the Bible. Even though schools teach different subjects, the students show about the same performance level. With respect to the scientific community,

The world is rapidly advancing in its understanding of science, and the United States must incorporate these concepts into its curriculum in order to keep pace ... constant political repudiation of accepted scientific education in many areas of the United States.¹⁹

The Trump Administration's voice that distinctly favors religious values will eventually create a new generation of students who will miss out on knowing the significance of the theory of evolution and what it contributes to society, in a highly scientific world.²⁰

The *State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes*, also known as *The Scopes Monkey Trial*, was the first ever trial broadcast on radio. The trial heard by many ended on July 21, 1925, but the conversation never truly reached a conclusion. It left a perpetual discussion over Evolution v. Creation Science and paved the way for improvements in the educational system. Following the trial, personal opinions over the matter were introduced to the public, which kept the feud alive. Not only does this trial conveniently resurface this everlasting dispute, it also outlines the identity of the individual liberties reserved to America's people.²¹ Every soul's stance leaves a blemish in humanity, and creates a "symbol of change" for society.²² This trial helped shape

¹⁹ Sullivan, Megan Elizabeth. "'Alternative Facts' in the Classroom: Creationist Educational Policy and the Trump Administration." *The National Law Review*, 11 Mar. 2019, www.natlawreview.com/article/alternative-facts-classroom-creationist-educational-policy-and-trump-administration. 4.

²⁰ Sullivan, Megan Elizabeth. "'Alternative Facts' in the Classroom," 4.

²¹ Wood, "The Monkey Trial Myth," 160.

²² Wood, "The Monkey Trial Myth," 148.

America into what it is today - unified, yet individually separated. The debate regarding traditional and modern views began over a century ago, but will continue to evolve with time.

Appendix 1

THE SUNDAY STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 19, 1926—PART 1.

40 SEEK SCOPES' PLACE ON FACULTY

Applicants Look Intelligent, Come From All Sections, White Says.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—What are you going to do with the 40 who applied for the vacant position of professor of natural science at the University of Dayton? The question has been asked by the faculty and the board of trustees. The board has asked the faculty to select a committee to advise it on the matter. The committee has been appointed and will report to the board in a few days.

FRIENDLY ENEMIES CHAT AT DAYTON



Clarence Darrow, Chicago attorney, counsel for Prof. Scopes, and William Jennings Bryan, national abolitionist, at momentary conference in the State Court at Dayton, where Prof. Scopes is being held for violation of the State law relative to evolution.

SCOPES CONVICTED BEFORE CASE OPENED, IN DARROW'S OPINION

Appeal to Higher Court and Effort to Save Other States From Similar Law Now Aim of Defense Counsel.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—John T. Scopes, who was convicted of violating the State law relative to evolution, is appealing his case to the Federal court at Dayton. The defense counsel, Clarence Darrow, is making an effort to save other States from a similar law. He is also making an effort to have the law declared unconstitutional.

EAST TENNESSEE'S RECORD IS PRAISED

Achievements of Men Section Produced Cited by School Official.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—Calling attention to the achievements of the men section of the East Tennessee State University, the school official praised the record of the section. He said that the section had produced many excellent students who were well equipped for the professions.

PLOT TO KILL OFF CHRISTIANITY REVEALED IN TRIAL, BRYAN SAYS

Darrow's Agnosticism Proves Science's Real Aim and Will Infringe Devout to Defense of Bible, Commoner Says.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—William Jennings Bryan, national abolitionist, said today that the Tennessee evolution case had revealed a conspiracy against the Bible. He said that the case was a plot to kill off Christianity and that the defense was a defense of the Bible and the common sense of the people.

OUSTED MINISTER TO ATTEND SCHOOL

Rev. H. G. Byrd, Dayton's Liberal Pastor, Announces Plans.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—Rev. H. G. Byrd, Dayton's liberal pastor, announced today that he would attend the University of Dayton. He said that he had been ousted from his position at the University of Dayton and that he was now attending the University of Dayton as a student.

YOUTH IS TRAPPED IN EXTORTION PLOT

Asks \$50,000 From Brown-Ing. Realtor, Recently in Limelight.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—A young man who was recently in the limelight as a result of his involvement in an extortion plot, is now being held in custody. He is being held in custody because he is suspected of being involved in the plot. The plot is believed to have involved the young man and a group of other young men.

APPEAL TO HIGHER COURT AND EFFORT TO SAVE OTHER STATES FROM SIMILAR LAW NOW AIM OF DEFENSE COUNSEL.

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RECALLS DAYS WHEN GUNS NOT WORDS SETTLED ALL DEBATES.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The most heated moment around the issue of evolution was recalled today by a group of men who were gathered in a room in Dayton. They were gathered there to discuss the issue of evolution and the role of guns in settling the debate.

SHERIFF IS BORED BY MODERNITY OF DAYTON CONFLICT

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The sheriff of Dayton is bored by the modernity of the conflict between the defense and the prosecution. He said that the case was a case of modernity and that he was bored by the modernity of the case.

CORRUPTION RIFE IN U. S. DRY FORCE.

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The Federal agency which is in charge of enforcing the prohibition laws in the United States is rife with corruption. This is according to a report from a source who has been in contact with the agency.

PRESIDENT VISITS WEEKS, WHO SHOWS HEALTH GAIN

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—President Woodrow Wilson is expected to visit Dayton in a few weeks. He is expected to visit Dayton because he is interested in the case of John T. Scopes. He is also expected to visit Dayton because he is interested in the health of the people of Dayton.

MAKILLAN'S SHIP, PROPELLER FITTED, IS READY TO GO ON

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The ship Makillan, which is being built at the shipyard in Dayton, is ready to go on. The propeller has been fitted and the ship is now being prepared for its maiden voyage.

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DESTROYERS ROUT RUNNERS HOVERING OFF SWAMPSCOTT

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The destroyers of the United States Navy have routed the runners who were hovering off the coast of Swampscott. The runners were caught and the destroyers were victorious.

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JOHNSON PLANNING TO LAY ALIEN CODE BEFORE CONGRESS

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The President is planning to lay the alien code before Congress. The code is a bill which is designed to regulate the entry of aliens into the United States.

DARROW EXPECTED TO PAY FOR 'INSULT' TO JUDGE RAULSTON

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—Clarence Darrow is expected to pay for the insult which he gave to Judge Raulston. The insult was given during the trial and Darrow is expected to pay for it.

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ARTISANS BORMAN LESS

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—The artisans of the United States are being affected by the Borman law. The law is a law which is designed to regulate the work of the artisans.

FOUND DEAD IN BATHROOM

By the Associated Press. DAYTON, Tenn., July 18.—A man was found dead in a bathroom. The man was found by a woman who was in the bathroom at the time. The man was found with a knife in his back and the woman was arrested.

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THE MORRIS PLAN

The terms of Morris Plan Loans are simple and practicable and fair. Thoughtful people who do not abuse credit facilities will find it possible to borrow on The Morris Plan to their advantage.

Advertisement for THE MORRIS PLAN. The terms of Morris Plan Loans are simple and practicable and fair. Thoughtful people who do not abuse credit facilities will find it possible to borrow on The Morris Plan to their advantage. The advertisement includes a table of loan amounts and interest rates, and a list of participating banks.

Appendix 3

THE EVENING STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, JULY 27, 1925.

Interesting Studies of William Jennings Bryan at Various Stages of His Career



BRYAN AND BROTHER IN WASHINGTON. The Congressman and his brother Charles, then Governor of Nebraska, in Washington for a conference. Photo taken in 1914.



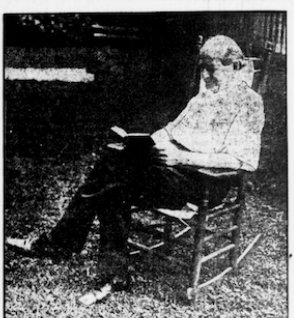
When Secretary of State, William Jennings Bryan presided at the White House for a conference with President Wilson.



BRYAN'S LAST SERMON. It was delivered in a little Dayton, Tenn., church, and was broadcast all over the world.



Photograph of Bryan taken in 1925, just after his last sermon, in which he said that the great Commission had been given to the people.



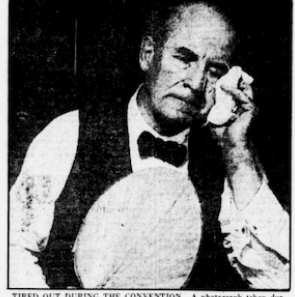
A LITTLE REST AT DAYTON. One of the recent photographs of Bryan, showing him in the yard of his Dayton, Tenn., home.



WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN AS A CAMPAIGNER. He was one of the most tireless of campaign speakers, traveling into all sections of the country and addressing great audiences.



TIRED OUT DURING THE CONVENTION. A photograph taken during the drawdown Democratic national convention in New York, when Bryan was one of the hardest workers of the convention.



FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT COCOON GROVE, Fla. William Jennings Bryan, Mrs. Bryan, the children, Mrs. Reynolds Owen, Mrs. Owen, granddaughters, Miss Kitty Owen, and Helen Hudd Owen.



FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT COCOON GROVE, Fla. William Jennings Bryan, Mrs. Bryan, the children, Mrs. Reynolds Owen, Mrs. Owen, granddaughters, Miss Kitty Owen, and Helen Hudd Owen.

BRYAN'S WEALTH PROVED IRKSOME
Pastor in Miami Reveals Commoner's Worry Over Fortune.

MIAMI, Fla., July 27.—William Jennings Bryan first became interested in the Florida estate tax law when he visited the state during the Democratic state convention, in which he was elected to the national convention. He returned to Miami and was called by the pastor of the First Baptist Church, who was worried over the public opinion. He did not, however, say anything in the public opinion, and his preaching contained no reference to the estate tax law. He, however, had a psychological effect.

6,000 People Heard Last Address Here Delivered on May 7

MIAMI, Fla., July 27.—William Jennings Bryan's last address here before the national convention of the Democratic party, was delivered in the Washington Auditorium May 7. Six thousand people heard him speak. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter. He was the first to speak in the hall, and his address was the longest of the convention. He was followed by the other speakers, and his address was the longest of the convention.

BRYAN FOR FRIEND AGAINST PRINCIPLE
Provided Drama at Church Convention by Fight Against Fundamentalists

COLUMBIEN, Ohio, July 27.—William Jennings Bryan presided at the Dayton, Tenn., church, and was broadcast all over the world. He was followed by the other speakers, and his address was the longest of the convention.

FAITH IN PEOPLE WAS REVEALED BY BRYAN'S LAST COURT SPEECH
Trial Great Because Cause Was Great, and Right Will Ultimately Prevail, He Declared at Close of Scopes Trial in Dayton.

DAYTON, Tenn., July 27.—William Jennings Bryan's last address here before the national convention of the Democratic party, was delivered in the Washington Auditorium May 7. Six thousand people heard him speak. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter. He was the first to speak in the hall, and his address was the longest of the convention.

BRYAN WAS TO TREAD HOLY PATH OF CHRIST
Death Came on Eve of Announcement of 'Crowning Glory' of Commoner's Life.

DAYTON, Tenn., July 27.—William Jennings Bryan's last address here before the national convention of the Democratic party, was delivered in the Washington Auditorium May 7. Six thousand people heard him speak. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter. He was the first to speak in the hall, and his address was the longest of the convention.

Bryan Threatened With Death Many Times During Trial

CHATTANOOGA, July 27.—That many threats were made against William Jennings Bryan's life during the Scopes trial was revealed by Capt. Martin Perkins, who headed the squad of Chattanooga officers who policed the trial.

M'ADOO EULOGIZES BRAVERY OF BRYAN
Country Loses Outstanding Supporter of Moral Issues, He Says.

CHATTANOOGA, July 27.—The career of William Jennings Bryan was distinguished by his great faith and courage, and his support of every moral issue, M'Adoo said. He was a great supporter of every moral issue, and his support of every moral issue was his greatest glory.

LONDON IS SHOCKED BY BRYAN'S DEATH
Morning Post Calls It Dramatic Ominous to Britain—Verdict Given: Guilty.

LONDON, July 27.—The news of William Jennings Bryan's death was received in London with the greatest interest. The Morning Post called it a dramatic and ominous event to Britain. The verdict was given: Guilty.

THEATERS WILL DELETE SATIRIZING OF BRYAN
Action Taken Out of Respect, Barbs Mainly Based on Part in Dayton Trial.

NEW YORK, July 27.—Out of respect for the late Congressman, theaters will delete satirizing of Bryan in their productions. The action was taken out of respect, and the barbs were mainly based on his part in the Dayton trial.

GREATEST FIGHT KILLED BRYAN, BROTHER SAYS
Charles W. Ryan, Congressman's Career Ended as He Would Have Wanted It to Close.

DAYTON, Tenn., July 27.—The greatest fight of his life was the one that ended his career, Charles W. Ryan said. He was a Congressman, and his career ended as he would have wanted it to close.

BRYAN FOUND CATHOLICS ATTACKING HIM A JOY
"Catholics Must Make a Living and I Enjoy Their Conversion," He Said.

DAYTON, Tenn., July 27.—Catholics attacking him was a joy, Bryan said. He enjoyed their conversion, and he said that they must make a living and enjoy their conversion.

DEATH WAS LIKE LIFE OF JOHN W. DAVIS EVER
Went as He Would Have Wanted to Go, Fighting for Constitution, He Says.

BALTIMORE, N. D., July 27.—But for the death of John W. Davis, the death of William Jennings Bryan would have been like his own, he said. He went as he would have wanted to go, fighting for the constitution.

SMITH PRAISES VIGOR.
Governor, Political Feat of Bryan, He Said.

MONROE, La., July 27.—The political feat of Bryan was his greatest achievement, Governor Smith said. He praised his vigor and his political skill.

CLEVELAND FLIES FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF FOR BRYAN
Bryon T. Herrick Will Write Letter to Congressman When News of Death.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 27.—Flags on all municipal buildings here will be flown at half-staff for Bryan, Cleveland Mayor Herrick said. He will write a letter to Congressman Bryan when the news of his death is received.

MONROE PRAISES VIGOR.
Governor, Political Feat of Bryan, He Said.

MONROE, La., July 27.—The political feat of Bryan was his greatest achievement, Governor Smith said. He praised his vigor and his political skill.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

ACLU Advertisement to Test the Constitutionality of the Tennessee Law, Chattanooga Daily Times, May 4, 1925. Retrieved online, <http://www.socstrpr.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/groce.pdf>. Accessed 19 February 2021.

This is a copy of the original ACLU advertisement. It shows the ACLU's method to gain people to challenge the law. I used this to explain what George W. Rappleyea read in the newspaper and it helped me understand what the ACLU was looking for.

Allen, Leslie H., ed., excerpt from "Bryan and Darrow at Dayton," Digital Public Library of America, <https://dp.la/primary-source-sets/the-scopes-trial/sources/238>. Accessed 22 November 2020.

In this record of a witness testimony, the witness describes the actions of Scopes in the classroom. This helped me understand the proceedings of the trial. It also helped me understand what the jury and judge listened to that contributed to their ruling.

Bryan, William J. *Scopes Trial Closing Speech*. March 1925, <https://history.hanover.edu/courses/excerpts/111bryan.html>. Accessed 24 November 2020.

This speech by William Jennings Bryan represents Bryan's negative opinions on evolution and shows how he thinks it is an attack on the Christian religion. This helped me provide an accurate description of Bryan's beliefs and how that affected him as a person.

Bryan, William J. "The Scopes Trial: Examination of William Jennings Bryan by Clarence Darrow." Interview conducted by Clarence Darrow. 1925, <https://online.smc.edu/courses/16602/pages/primary-source-the-scopes-trial-interrogation-of-bryan-1925>. Accessed 22 November 2020.

This transcript provides every word said during Darrow's cross-examination on Bryan. He brings up points that Bryan does not have a straight answer to. I used this to understand how Darrow outsmarted Bryan and used his own beliefs against him.

"Evolution Is Not a Scientific Fact." Of Monkeys and Men: Public and Private Views from the Scopes Trial. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Special Collections, digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/islandora/object/scopes%3A396#page/2/mode/2up. Accessed 17 November 2020.

This document explains different types of variations and that the law of evolution should have certain characteristics if it were to exist. It says that evolution has to have variants, but the variants are rare, so evolution is not possible unless there is a miracle. This helped me understand what many fundamentalists believed during the time and gave me an idea of how they thought.

“Handwritten Outline of Argument for the Prosecution in the Scopes Trial.” Sue K. Hicks Papers. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Special Collections, 1925, digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/islandora/object/scopes%3A347#page/1/mode/2up. Accessed 16 November 2020.

The transcript of an outline of a speech brings up key points to why Scopes should be convicted. The outline does not include who it was written by, but based on some of their concluding sentences, it can be easily seen that it was done by a prosecutor. I used this to gain information on why most people who wanted to convict Scopes believed to do so.

“Handwritten Outline of Legal Arguments Of Monkeys and Men: Public and Private Views from the Scopes Trial.” Sue K. Hicks Papers. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Special Collections, 1925, <https://digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/islandora/object/scopes%3A447#page/1/mode/2up>. Accessed on 16 November 2020.

This outline of legal arguments provides remarks done by the prosecution. It gives off a few reasons why evolution should not be taught and gives more details under those points. I used this as evidence used by the fundamentalist during the trial to win.

Hicks, Ira E. *Should Evolution Be Taught In Public Schools*. Presbyterian Church of Toms River, New Jersey. 1925, Sermon, <https://digital.lib.utk.edu/collections/islandora/object/scopes%3A453#page/1/mode/1up>. Accessed 16 November 2020.

This sermon goes into detail on why evolution should not be taught in public schools. It talks about how there would be no benefit of accepting the theory, along with the fact that it is an unproven theory. It helped me understand why some people reject the theory of evolution.

“Interesting Studies of William Jennings Bryan at various stages of his career.” *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 27, 1925, https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/data/batches/dlc_ellington_ver02/data/sn83045462/00280659265/1925072701/0191.pdf

This article helps me understand how Bryan’s beliefs were still discussed even after his death. I used this to help show how both sides used the trial to popularize their beliefs, even using death to gain supporters.

Lait, Jack. “Town of Dayton Celebrates High Holiday as Crowds Gather to Witness Opening of Evolution Trial Drama.” *The Omaha Evening Bee*, 10 July 1925, VOL. 55 - NO. 23., p.1. <https://www.rarenewspapers.com/view/573103?imagerlist=1>.

This article briefly shows how the people of Dayton reacted to the trial in the beginning. It is described as if the town became alive, as it is usually dull. They also compared it to setting the stage for a play. It helped me understand how other states reported on the trial.

Mencken, H.L. “Aftermath.” *The Baltimore Evening Sun*, September 14, 1925, <https://web.archive.org/web/20160530045230/http://www.positiveatheism.org/hist/menck05.htm#SCOPESD>.

The expression of Mencken's thoughts about religious freedom helped me understand how it can be easily misunderstood. I used this to compare the atmosphere before and after the trial.

Mencken, H.L. "Bryan." *The Baltimore Evening Sun*, July 27, 1925,
<https://web.archive.org/web/20160530045230/http://www.positiveatheism.org/hist/menck05.htm#SCOPEESC>.

This entry provides a detailed description of Bryan by H.L. Mencken. It showed Bryan's character and how it tied into his rulings and explained the nation's feelings of Darrow and Bryan after the trial. I used this to give me a better understanding of the thoughts of a spectator during that time.

Mencken, H.L. "The Monkey Trial." *H.L. Mencken's Reports from the Scopes Trial. Famous Trials*.

<https://famous-trials.com/scopesmonkey/2132-menckenaccount>. Accessed 16 February 2021.

This report written by Mencken describes an informal version of what it was like each day of the trial. It helped me understand other people's viewpoints instead of the facts. I used it to describe the events of the trial from another perspective.

"Plot To Kill Off Christianity Revealed in Trial, Bryan Says." *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 19, 1925,

https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/data/batches/dlc_ellington_ver02/data/sn83045462/00280659046/1925071901/0618.pdf.

This article talked about Bryan's view on evolution and Darrow. It helped me understand what else the trial caused. I used this to bring out the significance of the trial.

"Scopes Convicted Before Case Opened, In Darrow's Opinion." *The Sunday Star, Washington D.C.*, July 19, 1925,

https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/data/batches/dlc_ellington_ver02/data/sn83045462/00280659046/1925071901/0618.pdf.

This article about Clarence Darrow, along with the article about W.J. Bryan, helped me understand how he used the trial to publically convey his opinions. I used this to compare how Bryan conveyed his opinions.

The State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes: Excerpts. July 1925. Website of Douglas O. Linder, Professor of Law, University of Missouri-K.C.

faculty.smu.edu/jclam/science_religion/trial_transcripts.html. Accessed 19 November 2020.

This transcript of the trial has eight days worth of words said during the case. I used it to confirm the information I found in other sources. It helped me understand what was going on each day of the trial.

Tennessee State, General Assembly, House of Representatives. Butler Act. 1925 General Assembly,

House Bill 185.

<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/scopes/tennstat.htm>. Accessed on 16 November 2020.

This document explains the Butler Act passed during the time of the Scopes Trial. I used it to use specific words in my essay and it helped me understand, for the most part, why the Scopes Trial occurred.

“When Darrow Opened Fire.” *The Indianapolis Times*, July 17, 1925,
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82015313/1925-07-17/ed-1/seq-1/>.

This article shows when Darrow and Bryan got into a heated argument. I used this to show how newspapers across the country headlined the Scopes Trial. Also, it helped me understand how big of an argument the two had, along with how different they are.

Secondary Sources

Burgan, Michael. “The Scopes Trial: Faith, Science, and... Book by Michael Burgan.”

ThriftBooks, 2011,

www.thriftbooks.com/w/the-scopes-trial-faith-science-and-american-education_michael-burgan/2061064/.

This book has a lot of information from before the trial, as well as very important details of the trial. I used this to get a lot of information that could not be found elsewhere. The many details helped me understand the major points of the trial.

Fundamentalism. Online Highways, 2021,

<https://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h3806.html>. Accessed 19 February 2021.

This website goes over the roots of Fundamentalism and has a short section about the Scopes Trial. I used this to better understand the idea of fundamentalism.

Hanson, Freya Ottem. *The Scopes Monkey Trial: a Headline Court Case*. Enslow Publishers, 2000.

This book gives numerous features of the trial and has background information on almost all of the people involved with the case. This helped me understand the factors that contributed to the trial, which I used to correctly arrange the happenings of the trial.

Larson, Edward J. *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*. Basic Books New York, 1997.

This book goes into great depth over the Scopes trial. I used this mainly to learn more about its long-lasting legacy.

Linder, Douglas O. *Putting Evolution on the Defensive: William B. Riley and the Rise of Fundamentalism in America*. 2005,

<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/Fundamentalism.html>. Accessed 19 February 2021.

This article describes many events of the fundamentalist movement in the early 1900s. It mentions groups and people that contributed to the movement, which I used to help me understand the history of fundamentalism.

Linder, Douglas O. *The State v. John Scopes ("The Monkey Trial"): An Account*. Famous Trials, 2021,

<https://famous-trials.com/scopesmonkey/2127-home>. Accessed 14 November 2020.

This website talks about the Scopes Trial in detail. It helped me understand what happened during the trial, as well as many individual's beliefs during the trial.

Moore, Randy. "The Lingering Impact of the Scopes Trial on High School Biology Textbooks." *BioScience*, vol. 51, no. 9, Sept. 2001, p. 790. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1641/0006-3568(2001)051[0790:TLIOTS]2.0.CO;2.

This academic journal describes how the Scopes Trial affected biology textbooks. With this, I understand how the aftermath of the trial impacted more than just the people involved. I used it to make the importance of the trial more clear.

Munson, Henry. "Fundamentalism". *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 26 Nov. 2019,

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/fundamentalism>. Accessed 20 February 2021.

Accessed 20 February 2021.

Towards the middle of the article, it talks about fundamentalism in the United States. I used this to define fundamentalism in my essay.

"The Scopes Trial: Who Decides What Gets Taught in the Classroom?" *Constitutional Rights Foundation*. 2006,

<https://www.crf-usa.org/bill-of-rights-in-action/bria-22-2-a-the-scopes-trial-who-decides-what-gets-taught-in-the-classroom>. Accessed 23 November 2020.

This article talks about a brief history of religion, but it focuses on how the Scopes Trial affected future trials that are similar. This helped me understand what conflict the Scopes Trial brought out, which I used to further explain the significance.

Sullivan, Megan Elizabeth. "'Alternative Facts' in the Classroom: Creationist Educational Policy and the Trump Administration." *The National Law Review*, 11 Mar. 2019, www.natlawreview.com/article/alternative-facts-classroom-creationist-educational-policy-and-trump-administration.

This article explains the Trump Administration's role in the debate today. This helped me understand how this is still a huge problem in the United States.

Taylor, John E., Professor of Law. "30 Years after *Edwards v. Aguillard*: Why Creationism Lingers in Public Schools." *The Conversation*, 23 June 2017,

theconversation.com/30-years-after-edwards-v-aguillard-why-creationism-lingers-in-public-schools-79603.

This article talks about the Supreme Court case *Edwards v. Aguillard* and how it affected today's public school administration. This helped me understand how the Scopes trial caused other trials, which made a change in society.

Wacker, Grant. *The Rise of Fundamentalism*. National Humanities Center, November 2000, <http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/tserve/twenty/tkeyinfo/fundam.htm>. Accessed 19 February 2021.

This website talks about the history of fundamentalism. I used this to have a better understanding of what was going on before the trial.

Wood, L.Maren. "The Monkey Trial Myth: Popular Culture Representations of the Scopes Trial." *Canadian Review of American Studies*, vol. 32, no. 2, Mar. 2002, p. 147. EBSCOhost, doi:10.3138/CRAS-s032-02-01.

This article explains many aspects of the trial and brings up how the trial was deceptive. It helped me understand how this trial was not like any other, so I used it to show how it was different.