CHARGES OF HERESY ARE FLATLY DENIED

Mr. Kerchen, Testifying in His Own Behalf, Dispels All of Accusations Made.

MONKEY THEORY DEBATED

Supervisor Asserts Patriotism, but Admits Pacificism, Laughs at Idea of Free Love and Alleged I. W. W. Sympathy.

On the witness stand in his own defense late yesterday for more than three hours and the target for a grilling cross-examination last night, John L. Kerchen, accused supervisor of manual training in the Portland schools, cleared up many of the charges of heresy against him.

Many accusations he scattered like chaff. Arguments for and against him and the decision in his case remain to be given. The Board of Education, which is judge and jury too, will make known its verdict later.

Many of the formal charges against him appeared trifling at yesterday's hearing. He declared he is religious, that his belief in a supreme being is firm and unshakable. He denied he is a Socialist, gave his adherence to the principles of Pragmatism and denied he has ever been guilty of unpatriotic acts. He admitted, however, that he is a pacifist and he made known his adherence to the principles of scientific evolution, although he said this was by no means in opposition to the Book of Genesis.

Evolution Idea Debated.

The monkey as the great ancestor of man came prominently into yesterday's hearing. It formed the topic of a dialogue between Chairman Munly, of the Board, and Mr. Kerchen. The latter expressed his belief that the weight of scientific opinion is on that side. Judge Munly scouted this belief and argued the point with the witness.

One statement charged to Mr. Kerchen aroused somewhat of a ripple of interest yesterday and, in fact, it played its part in the charges made against him. He admitted yesterday that he had made the statement and explained it.

It was while making a talk on the use of tools by man that the accused supervisor had said:

"Biologically considered, perhaps the most important event that ever happened to man was the day when he started to walk on his hid legs and gave up his two front feet to the use of tools, such as throwing rocks and wielding a club."

Judge Munly challenged that statement. Mr. Kerchen said he had read it originally in the Manual Training Magazine. He said he threw off this remark incidentally as merely introductory to his talk, and all this happened about four years ago.

He amplified this statement of man's lowly origin somewhat yesterday when he said that the form of man's hand was, according to high authorities, due to his former tree existence when his first cousin, the babboon, leaped from limb to limb and wore long, prehensile tails.

He even went further with this line of illustration, and said it is quite generally recognized that there is a psychological reason for the boy's love of a ball game. This is because the sport brings into action three movements that were practiced for many centuries by prehistoric man.

These old, outgrown actions, he said, are throwing the rock, swinging the club and engaging in the chase.

Prophet Again Unhonored.

It was hinted yesterday that Mr. Kerchen may be something of a prophet, and as such is without honor in his own neighborhood. The lack of current respect for the prophet has become the subject of a familiar proverb.

For when Columbus hung around the court of Sjain for five years, insisting to everyone who would listen that the world is round instead of flat, the wise ones wagged their gray beards and said: "Poor Chris; nobody in the bunkalow." Then the street urchins threw dornicks at him.

When Galileo was star-gazing every clear night with his newly invented telescope, the family in the flat below told the neighbors, "There's a zany upstairs who spends his time looking at the stars through a magic tube. We wonder how he is going to pay the rent." They then denounced him for a heretic and put hih where the birds could not peck him.

Charges of Free Love Brushed Aside.

When Isaac Newton sat in his garden at Wollsthorpe along in 1865 watching the apples fall to the ground and wondering why they did it, the merry villagers peered over the wall and yelled at him, "Run for your life, Ike, the squirrels are loose."

And so it goes. The list is long. The lot of an heretic is not a happy one, for heresy is disturbing to the neighbors and the punishment usually is made to fit the crime.

Many of the heretical charges, such as lack of patriotism, sympathy with the I. W. W., adherence to free love and other absurd accusations, were swept away like cobwebs by Mr. Kerchen's statements. He showed they were groundless and that suspicion and rumor had pulled on their seven-league boots and traveled with swiftness and dispatch.

Animus Is Alleged.

In fact, he declared the charges brought against him were due to the disappointed hopes of W. C. Mancur, who hoped for appointment to the position of manual training teacher at Franklin High, and that J. R. Bymhold, who sought Mr. Mancur's appointment, was behind the accusations.

Mr. Kerchen pointed out that many of the charges were four years old, and that he had received a signed statement of confidence since the charges against him were made by 24 out of a total of 28 teachers serving under him.

"The fact is absolutely untrue that I do not believe in the existence of a supreme being," said Mr. Kerchen. "I am unqualifiedly of this opinion and always have been. It is evident to me there is some sort of a supreme being, more or less near to man, just how close I cannot say."

Pragmatism Is Explained.

The tribunal where Mr. Kerchen's accusers are airing their charges breathed easier yesterday when the supervisor explained the meaning of the trm Pragmatist, to which h admittd. H said there are two definitions.

"One dictionary gives the meaning as a meddler, a sort of buttinsky," said Mr. Kerchen. "The word really comes from practical and means a belief in practical values. Dr. William James, of Harvard, who is perhaps the greatest teacher in the United States, has a book on Pragmatism, which I submit in evidence. In the last analysis, and to be brief, it is a study of things as they are. If things exist, and function, if they are on the job performing something useful, they are true."

As to the accusation that he was a believer in the I. W. W., the witness said he had never used the word half a dozen times in his life and that he had heard more about the I. W. W. at the present hearing than ever before.

He denied being a believer or an advocate of free love. "That is a vile epithet to throw at anyone," he declared.

Patriotism Is Asserted.

"I belong to a patriotic family," said Mr. eKrchen in answer to the charge that he is unpatriotic. "My father was a soldier and I hold that my concept of patriotism may be more inclusive than some. I do not think one's patriotism comes in question when one criticises certain institutions. I do not, I admit, feel quite satisfied with certain problems of the Nation, but I think that patriotism consists in trying to make things better."

Three utterances of Mr. Kerchen, the first several years ago, when he spoke amout man rising on his hind legs, form the basis of the charges of heresy against him.

In discussing the monkey-man statement, Judge Munly said he did not feel that the evolution theory of man's origin was accepted generally. Mr. Kerchen said the best colleges and universities of the country, practically all, in fact, teach this theory, for he admitted it was but a theory that remained to be proved.

Conversion Is Not Attempted.

Judge Munly asked if he did not think it more important to teach the young that they have a soul instead of regarding them merely as young animals, whose ecommon ancestor is a monkey or a frog.

Mr. Kerchen admitted that this is so, but said because religion is such a ticklish subject as applied to the schools that it was not one he could safely take up with his teachers. He said he referred to evolutionary theories only as a part of a general education of his teachers and did not seek to impress his views upon the teachers, much less upon the children, who he had never addressed on the subject. He intimated that Dr. William James and other eminent educators should also be tried for heresy, if it is heresy to cherish evolutionary beliefs.

The matter of the exhibit of manual training from the Portland schools exhibited at the Panama-Pacific Exposition took much time yesterday. It had been charged that the work was done mostly by instructors instead of pupils and that a wrong impression had been given to those seeing it.

68 Per Cent Done by Pupils.

Mr. Kerchen denied this and said when they prepared their exhibit they had been told by the San Francisco fair officials that exhibits made by pupils were not wanted, but exhibits showing the character of the work carried on here. He submitted a letter from the Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction at Salem outlining this same instruction.

Mr. Kerchen said a picked exhibit from the best work of the pupils, such as is usually shown at fairs, is manifestly dishonest, as it is rigidly selective. For example, he said, the writing exhibit from Portland showed the work of 30 or 40 children out of a total of 40,000 or 50,000. A diagram was shown by him giving the proportion of teachers' and pupils' work that went into the exhibit and this indicated the former percentage was about 32 and the latter 68.

Favoritism Is Contradicted.

That he selected men for promotion who were Socialistic in their belief was denied. He said he had promoted six men and employed a considerably larger number and in each case, the merits of the men themselves governed his action.

There were innumerable charges negatived by Mr. Kerchen; for example, that he is unrefined in language, that he gossips, arouses discord among his teachers, that he lacks qualifications for the position he holds, that he is biased in his opinions and warped in his ideas, etc., etc.

It was alleged that he had said he could not associate with anyone of fixed religious beliefs, so offensive were these opinons to him. Mr. Kerchen said that while in Spokane he lived for two years at the home of a Methodist clergyman; that this friendship still continues, and the clergyman and his family call on him when they are in the city.

Yesterday's hearing was marked by bickerings between Isaac Sweet, attorney for Mr. Kerchen, and B. G. Skulason, counsel for the accusers. Frequent charges of unfairness were made, and there were constant appeals to the chairman to include or exclude certain testimony.

CLATSKANIE PIONEER DIES

Mrs. Rachael Blackford Succumbs to Long Illness.

CLATSKANIE, Or., May 13.—(Special.)—Another of Clatskanie's earliest pioneers passed away at her home Tuesday night when Mrs. Rachael Blackford succumbed to a long illness.

Rachael Pike was born in 1835 in St. Claire County, Ill. She crossed the plains to California with her parents in 1852, the caravan being made up of 60 families. Miss Fike was married to James Craine. In 1856, her father, mother and husband having died, the 20-year-old widow and her baby and twi sisters, returned to their old Illinois home.

A few months after arriving home she was married to Thomas J. Pulliam, a wealthy young man of the neighborhood. Eight children were born to this union, three of whom survive, together with one daughter of the first union. After Mr. Pulliam died Mrs. Pulliam and her four children moved to Oregon in 1889. Those who survive her are Mrs. Mary E. Hamilton, of Holley, Linn County, Or.; James Pulliam, of Altoona, Wash., and Walter S. and Charles Pulliam, of Clatskanie.

The average American eats 80½ pounds of beef, 7½ pounds of veal, 78 pounds of pork and lard and 6½ pounds of mutton and lamb every year.

Jenning's Will Furnish Your Home

The Largest Stock of Furniture in Portland—The Lowest Prices—The Most Liberal Credit

$50.00 Wilton Rugs $38.25

A number of fine Worsted Wiltons in Oriental patterns; size 8-3x10-6. A most remarkable bargain, in view of the fact that rug prices are soaring. This week only..

$38.25

—Second Floor, Main Store

$12.50 IRON BEDS $8.75

These are in Vernis Martin finish, with ornamental brass caps, five ⅞-inch filler rods. A good bed at a tempting reduction.....

Celebrated Way Sagless Spring, $9

$8.75

—Both Stores.

Linoleums

The Ideal Floor Covering for kitchen, pantry and bathroom. Showing this week four good patterns in Inlaid Linoleums. Regularly $1.20 yard. Cut and laid special only **95c**

Summer Comforts

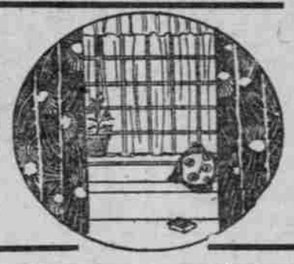
Let us make a Summer room of your porch. We show Crex Rugs in all sizes and in many beautiful patterns. All Aerolux shades bought this week put up free. We have them in 4, 6, 8 and 10-foot widths. Full line of Hammocks for the lawn or porch. —Second Floor, Main Store.

Curtain Special

Fresh, new Marquisettes, in beige, white or ivory. Regularly 25c the yard. Specially priced this week, yard,

18c

—Second Floor, Main Store.



Removal Sale Bargains!

Closing Out All Our Sewing Machines

Regular $25 Sewing Machines, drop head, five-drawer, solid oak case, latest improvements, closing out at only..... **$15.75**

Regular $30 Cabinet Sewing Machines, drop head, four-drawer, quartered oak, splendidly finished, closing out at..... **$18.75**

Regular $35 Sewing Machines, drop head, five drawer, full quartered oak, "Jenning's Special," automatic tension..... **$25.00**

Choose any machine in the store; pay $2 down and 75c a week thereafter. We will deliver it to your home.

—Second and Morrison-Sts. Store.

Extra Special!

$11 Mattresses, made of cotton felt, full 40 pounds, with roll edges and art tick, either full or three-quarter size, at **$6.85**

$3 English Breakfast Tables, either round or square, reduced to..... **$1.95**

$3.50 Best Hygeno Carpet Sweepers on sale this week at the low price of..... **$1.90**

Great Sale Library Tables

$14 Library Tables, solid oak, with two side bookcases, 24x36 top, reduced to **$9.95**

$16 Library Tables, solid oak, golden wax finish, side book shelves and drawer, 24x42 top, closing out at..... **$11.65**

$18 Library Tables, quartered oak, with book shelf and drawer, 28x44 plank top, massive square legs, closing out at..... **$13.25**

$27.50 Library Tables, quartered oak, in golden wax finish, with book shelf and two drawers, 30x48 plank top, four-inch legs, massive arts and crafts design..... **$19.85**

—Second and Morrison-Sts. Store.

Rugs at Removal Prices

$10 Hodges' Wool Fiber Kapawa Rugs, 9x12 size, reduced for this sale to..... **$6.40**

$12.50 Hodges' Wool Fiber Abak Rugs, 9x12, variety of small designs, in light Summer colorings, reduced for this sale to..... **$8.15**

$14 Rag Rugs, 9x12; blue, pink, gray, mottled, canary, etc., reduced to..... **$9.85**

Smaller sizes of above Rugs at corresponding reductions.

$18 Seamless Tapestry Brussels Rugs, 9x12, in exclusive patterns, reduced to..... **$12.35**

—Second and Morrison-Sts. Store.

Henry Jenning & Sons

Main Store: Washington Street at Fifth

Removal Sale at Second and Morrison Street Store

EAGLES ARE COMING

Prize-Winning Degree Team and Band Due at Festival.

LOCAL LODGE TO WELCOME

Rules and Awards Are Decided on for Fraternal Parade and All Orders Are Required to Bear Flag at Head of Line.

A feature of the fraternal, military and civic parade of the 1916 Rose Festival will be the degree team and band of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, of Seattle Aerie, No. 1.

The Eagles will reach Portland on the night of June 8 and will be met at the depot by local members of the order and an escort of Rosarians.

It is expected there will be more than 200 Eagles from Seattle and other Washington cities in the parade. The Eagles are coming to the Festival from the annual meeting of the Washington State Aerie at Chehalis. The dates for this meeting were changed from June 12 to June 7 to permit the order to take part in the June fiesta.

Many Prizes Are Won.

This team has won the first prize in every Washington state competitive drill and fourth prize at the last National convention of the order in Spokane last year.

Officers of the Rose Festival Auxiliary, to stage the big parade of Friday morning, June 8, are anxious to get in touch at once with all organizations planning to take part in the spectacle. This is necessary to assign positions in the parade.

While the auxiliary has already listed a large number of floats, it will be necessary to have a complete list of fraternal and civic bodies to take part by May 20.

Plans are now being made for a monster mass meeting at the Chamber of Commerce next Saturday night, when final details for the parade will be announced. In addition to the business meeting of the auxiliary, entertainment features are to be presented, to include the appearance of the junior band of the United Artisans.

Award Offered for Marchers.

A revision of the prize rules has been made by the auxiliary and a special award of $50 will be made to the civic body outside of the City of Portland having the largest number of men in the line of march. Indications are that the Cherrians, Fallsarians, Pheasants and Radiators will send big delegations to Portland for the closing day of the show.

The final regulations for prize awards as well as parade participation has been decided by the auxiliary and the rules to be observed will be as follows:

Float Prizes.

(Open to All Organizations.)

Prize No. 1—For the most attractive and artistic float, open to any fraternal, civic or business organization, $200.

Prize No. 2—For the float best depicting the purposes and aims of the organization, open to all fraternal, civic or business organizations, $100.

Uniformed Fraternal Organizations.

Prize No. 3—For the greatest number of persons in line representing a uniformed fraternal organization and wearing a regularly adopted and distinctive uniform of that organization as whole thing or of any lodge, camp, court, council, etc., competition only to uniformed fraternal organizations, $100.

Prize No. 4—For the best-drilled and appearing uniformed drill team, with a minimum of 16, representing any particular lodge, camp, court, council, etc., and wearing a regularly adopted and distinctive uniform of the particular lodge, camp, court, council, etc., competition only to uniformed fraternal organizations, $100.

Organizations Other Than Fraternal.

Prize No. 5—For the most attractive and artistic float, entered by any club or civic organization, competition not open to fraternal organizations, $100.

Prize No. 6—For the most unique float entered by any club or civic organization, competition not open to fraternal organizations, $75.

Clubs Other Than Fraternal.

Prize No. 7—For the greatest number of persons in line, uniformly dressed and representing any civic or business organization, not open to fraternal organizations, $50.

Prize No. 8—For the most attractive uniform, not open to fraternal organizations, $50.

Prize No. 9 (special prize)—For the most original and individual character, open to any fraternal, civic or business organization, $25.

Rules and Regulations.

Rule 1. Any fraternal, civic or business organization, as the case may be, of the states of Oregon, Washington, California or Idaho, shall be eligible to compete for prizes numbered 3, 4, 7 and 8, on the condition, and not otherwise, that each member of such organization shall wear the regularly adopted and distinctive uniform of the organization of which he or she is a member, or the regularly adopted and distinctive uniform of a lodge, camp, court, council, etc., of such competing organization; provided, that in all cases where two or more lodges, camps, etc., of the same parent organization have different uniforms, all members marching with a particular lodge or camp, etc., shall be uniformed in identical style; provided further, that any uniform proposed to be worn in the parade must be satisfactory to the parade committee before being entered.

Rule 2. Competition for prizes numbered 1, 2, 5 and 6 shall be open to any fraternal, civic or business organization, as the case may be, of the states of Oregon, Washington, California and Idaho, on conditions set forth above under the list of prizes for each of said numbers.

Flag Must Be Carried.

Rule 3. All organizations participating for the prizes offered by the Rose Festival Auxiliary shall carry at the heads of their columns a distinctive banner and at least one American flag.

Rule 4. Any organization intending to compete for any prize offered as herein set forth shall, on or before June 1, 1916, communicate to the chairman of the committee on parade upon a blank to be furnished by said committee, the name of the organization competing, the prize or prizes for which it intends to compete, the style of dress to be worn by its members, the character of the float, the names of its officers and such other information as the committee may require. Additional information will be furnished to any organization upon request to the committee on parade.

Rule 5. There shall be four sets of judges for the competition: One set for prizes numbered 1 and 2, one set for prizes 5 and 6, one set for prizes 3 and 7 and one set for the remainder of the competition. Additional sets of judges may be provided if, in the judgment of the committee on prizes and parade, they shall be necessary. Each set shall be composed of three judges. All judges of competition shall be appointed by the Rose Festival Association, by and with the advice and consent of the committee on prize.

Board of Appeal Provided.

Rule 6. All awards of prizes shall be made in the first instance by the judges of competition, appointed and provided by rule 5. Any dispute which shall arise from the making of any award shall be submitted to the board of appeal. One member of said board shall be appointed by the executive committee of the Rose Festival Auxiliary and one member by the Rose Festival Association.

The two members so appointed shall choose a third person to serve with them and the three shall constitute the board of appeal. Said board shall give fair and impartial consideration to any and all disputes which may arise and its decision shall be final and conclusive as to all parties.

Rule 7. The duties of the committee on prize and parade as determined by the Rose Festival Auxiliary are to decide fully and finally upon the rules for the award of prizes; to see that all judges of competition are provided with the information necessary for the proper discharge of their work, and to act with full authority in the matter of parade arrangements, drilling and marshaling parade, deciding assemblage, station in line of march, appointment of division commanders and to co-operate with the grand marshal in the final arrangements of the parade.

SEATTLE FRATERNAL DELEGATION WHO WILL TAKE PART IN ROSE FESTIVAL.

SOME MEMBERS OF DEGREE TEAM OF FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES TO MARCH IN FESTIVAL, MILITARY AND CIVIC PARADE.

FREDA LEONARD PAROLED

Work Is Found for Woman Convicted of Arson Attempt.

Freda Leonard, convicted in the Circuit Court of an atempt to commit arson, was paroled by Circuit Judge Morrow yesterday. The woman is past 50 and, so far as known, it was her first offense. Work has been found for her and the parole met with the approval of the District Attorney's office.

Mrs. Leonard set fire to her home, after removing all clothing of value, with the hope of collecting a $1000 insurance policy. Evidence of incendiarism was found, the reported burned clothing discovered at a sister's and Mrs. Leonard lodged in jail, within 24 hours after the fire was discovered, through work of the arson squad.

The woman had been in jail nearly a month awaiting trial and it was thought she had been punished sufficiently.

Grays Harbor Pioneers to Picnic.

ABERDEEN, Wash., May 13.—(Special.)—Melbourne has been named as the place and July 4 as the date of the annual Grays Harbor County pioneers' picnic. Several hundred old-timers and their families are expected to gather for the speechmaking and a big old-fashioned dinner. The meeting will vote upon the motion to admit as pioneers all coming here before 1889, the year in which Washington became a state.

Dr. Boyd Will Speak at Reed.

Dr. John H. Boyd will be the speaker at the Reed College vesper service this afternoon at 4 o'clock in the college chapel. The music will consist of an anthem by the Reed College quartet and an organ postlude.

SCHOOL FARM STARTED

GRESHAM INSTITUTE TO TRAIN BOYS OF LIMITED MEANS.

Wholesome Rural Environment, With Educational Advantages, to Be Afforded by Enterprise.

Dr. J. D. Corby, president of the Junior Agricultural School, recently established by Portland people on a farm at Gresham, for the purpose of assisting boys of limited means to secure an education, has taken active charge of the institution, and already several boys have been enrolled and the work started. The boys are domiciled in the old farmhouse, and have the wholesome farm environment while pursuing their studies.

Many applications are being made to Dr. Corby from those who desire to enroll boys at the farm school, and as rapidly as the funds are provided the equipment is being purchased and installed and new students accepted.

Plans are being worked out for the cottages and shops which it is proposed to construct. As far as possible the labor of the boys will be utilized in their erection. Individual gardens have been platted by the boys and some prize vegetable contests are anticipated.

The new school, which is unique among the schools of the West, is situated on a 60-acre farm, with groves and pasture land, and has a beautiful location. There is also a large area under cultivation. E. M. Fairchild is superintendent of the farm operations.

Musical Programme for Tonight.

The Sunday school of the First Evangelical Church, East Sixth and East Market streets, will give a musical entertainment tonight at the church, when the following programme will be rendered: Piano solo, Mrs. E. D. Hornschuch; song, by the congregation; Scripture lesson by the pastor, Rev. E. D. Hornschuch; choir, "All Hail"; solo, by Mrs. Schmidtke; male chorus; duet, Miss Pio and Miss Wilsted; quartet, Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore, Miss Barringer and G. Scholl; solo, Professor Streyfeller; piano duet, Mrs. Talbot and Mrs. Hornschuch; vocal duet, Professor Streyfeller and Miss Barringer; music, by the choir.

TEENIE WEENIES HAVE LARK

Kiddies Entertained by Pranks in Show Window of Powers' Store.

The Teenie Weenies literally stepped from the children's page of The Sunday Oregonian yesterday to amuse the kiddies from a show window of Powers' furniture store, at Third and Yamhill. A lively brigade of the wee folk are seen capering about a big phonograph.

"The Lady of Fashion," "The Old, Old Soldier," crippled and bent, the funny grinning darkies and the whole wee race of 28 are there. The funny little cook is cooking his "dog" and numbers of the child Teenie Weenies are playing hide 'n seek. The whole effect is that of the page the kiddies love and mugbers of children admired their bright little cardboard friends as they stood about the window yesterday.

Programme to Be Repeated.

The programme on the development of Italian opera which was given several weeks ago before the MacDowell Club by Mrs. Edward Alden Beals, Mrs. Raymond A. Sullivan and Mrs. Warren E. Thomas will be repeated for the Musical Appreciation Club at the East Portland Library, East Eleventh and Alder streets, Monday night at 8 o'clock. The public is invited.

Candidates' Luncheon Tuesday.

The East Side Business Men's Club will hold a candidates' luncheon Tuesday at 12:15 at the Sargent Grill, Grand avenue and Hawthorne avenue. Candidates will be given two minutes to explain their positions. Wilson Benefiel will preside. All will be welcome to attend this meeting.

EFFICIENCY IN DIGESTION

In order to build up the system there must be, first of all, efficiency in digestion. From this source comes proper nourishment of the body, enriched blood, liver and bowel regularity, a strengthening of all the forces that stand for better health. Try

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

as soon as any stomach weakness develops. It is for Poor Appetite, Indigestion, Cramps and Constipation.