

Most of the principals and spectators who have crowded a Marion county circuit court room for three days of a trial over alleged secret society activities in Salem high school are shown here, as the final day of testimony opened Thursday. Several students and par-

—The poor success of the past fur in Missouri, was due not to the paid for fur, according to field men season, which ended last month lack of animals but to low prices of the Conservation commission.

(Story also on page 1.)

Considerable discussion of the Salem high school boys' club alleged by officials to have been a secret society was carried on by parents with neighbors and friends, it was stated Thursday as testi-

mony ended in Marion county circuit court.

Mrs. W. R. Howard, parent of a member, said she had talked to several persons to try to learn if Alpha Beta Chi was of the type prohibited by law. She said she talk-

ed to parents of other members instead of going to school authorities because she felt it parents' concern to learn first if the club was all right for the boys.

Also called to the stand briefly by plaintiffs' counsel were Mrs. Reeves Coates, a parent; V. H. Switzer, uncle of the Willamette university student who aided in organizing ABC as a branch of his Portland chapter; and Lloyd Reinholdt, friend of a parent. Denies "Frantic Search"

Mrs. Ralph Moody said she first learned of the group from a neighbor boy who was a member. She continued that she conferred with parents about it and consulted school regulations. She said she was trying to secure a local man as sponsor for the club but in crossexamination denied that it was a "frantic search," since she didn't know the boys had been called into the principal's office a few days earlier on the matter.

sulted with him October 9, when the boy had stated he felt ABC was not a secret society. He also told of October 12 interviews by Knapp, Director L. J. Stewart, had too many activities, rather principal E. A. Carleton and Assistant Principal Gurnee Flesher.

Bennett stated he had employtion, which they added was inten-ded to become a chapter of an al-ready established high school fra-

Other Meetings Outlined Otherwise, said Knapp and Board Chairman Harry Scott, they were not contacted by boys or parents concerning the prob-lem. Other meetings of the board, separately and with parents, were

Ralph Moody, an attorney for plaintiffs, elicited that the expulsion action was taken without the boys involved ever having had a hearing before the school board. Superintendent Frank Bennett pointed out that many activities of the extensive district are handled by delegation to committees for study or action. Scott added that Bennett, Carleton and Flesher are in administrative positions

and "we take their word."

Too Many Activities

At the October 10 meeting many parents discussed the situation with the board, according to testimony, which held that all were given a chance to speak and none was shut off. Bennett said he told Gardner Knapp, school director, said Gene Lebold, a club edge of an organization did not member, and his father had conmake it acceptable under the law. He added that he had cited the large number of school clubs and activities available and that most parents complained their children

Bennett stated he had employ-At those talks, he said, the boys said all members were a bout equally involved in the organization with James M. Switzer, the Willamette student. Didn't Withdraw

Chairman Scott testified

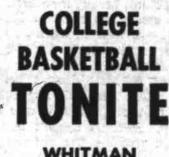
secret society setup, he said Carleton was directed to give the boys a chance to withdraw from school voluntarily. When they didn't, the expulsion letters were sent the following day.

Flesher said he first talked to member of the club Sentember.

a member of the club September 19, was told of its officers and

activities, told Jim Kroeplin, FROST DESTROYS CROPS president "it didn't look good to VANCOUVER. B. C., Feb. VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb. 23 me" and should go no further. He -(CP)- Bud-killing frost has dessaid Kroeplin was cooperative and did not withhold any information Similkameen valleys, it was learnsought. Flesher said he had alrea- ed here today.





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