### Scopes Trial for Teaching Theory of Evolution is a Test Case for Nation story of the Genesis those who might of education. Were evolution demonstrated evolution.

He Is "IT"

John T. Scopes, professor of biology at Dayton, Tenn. high school, on trial there for violating

the "monkey-law" - or, charged with teaching the theory of evolu-

tion. It is a test case watched with a great deal of interest throughout the country.

Some Interesting Opinions

If the Oregon law stands, any majority of a legislature may compel all children to attend the schools it establishes; if the Tegnessee

law stands, any majority of a legislature may determine that hte

world was created out of nothing in 144 hours, or that Bacon wrote

The truth or falsity of the Darwinian theory does not enter into

this case. The constitutionality of the Tennessee law should be

tried at once. It is intolerable that such a prohibition should be on the statute books of any American Commonwealth. It smacks al-

together too much of the edicts of government where church and

There is no more reason for regulating the right to teach evolu-

The issue is not whether the Bible or Darwin is right, or whether the teaching of the latter's theory endangers young minds, but

whether the people of a state are entitled to say how their money is

to be spent for education. So long as they make public schooling com-

pulsive for all children; so long as they permit individuals and private

school to teach what they please, and deny no the privilege of writing or speaking on evolution, it does not appear they are interferring

"What William Jennings Bryan calls Fundamentalism, I call In-

. . . . .

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tion than there is for regulating the right to teach bee culture or

political economy. Any effort to throw legal safeguards around the teachings of specially selected studies is on unwarranted lay intru-

sion and a step in the direction of obscrantism and intolerance.

"Cannot Legislate a Limit for Human Mind in Inquiry After Truth" Says Opposition. Comments From the Press of the Country.

> Written Specially for News By Edward Percy Howard

Tennessee's battle over the right to teach the theory of evolution in the public schools has now engaged serious attention of all civilized think ing peoples. It is contended in some quarters that the whole question of human freedom and development is wrapped up in the issue. The question is of importance not only in Tennessee or Florida or Oklahoma or any other state. It is regarded even as more than a national issue.

Of course it is accepted that no legislative body can alter natural law by statute. It is just as impossible to prove by legislative enactment the truth or falsity of evolution as it would be to pass a law that would definitely establish the truth or fals'; of gravitation. What is, is, and no legal pronouncement can make otherwise. The question raised involves \* the right of the human being to try to learn the truth regarding the origin of life. Of course in so far as in-

THE NEW YORK WORLD SAYS:

THE LOUISVILLE COURIER SAYS:

THE NORFOLK VIRGINIAN PILOT SAYS:

THE PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN SAYS:

with "freedom of thought" as some maintain.

FINALLY, GEORGE BERNARD SHAW SAYS:

Avoid the rush

state are not dissevered."

Shakespeare, or that blank verse is blasphemy."

"Greatest Question Ever Rais- quiry presupposes doubt, the issue in that the theory of evolution necess ed," Says Wm. J. Bryan. embraces the question of agnosticis n sarily runs counter to the Genesis story of the creation.

> Judge John Randolph Near, of Knoxville, Tenn., states his position in the controversey in this way: "We regard it as equally un-American and therefore unconstitutional, whether it is kingly or ecclesiastical authority or to limit the human mind in its enquiry after truth."

On the other side of the fence stands the statement of William Jennings Bryan, arch foe of the evolutionary theory. "This" says Mr. Bryan. is one of the greatest questions ever raised-the question of the right of still left as the unhampered media the people who created and support through which evolution or any other the schools, to control them. If not they, then who? The Fundamentalises are trying to establish the doctrine that the taxpayer has a right to say what shall be taught-the taxpayers and not the scientists-Can a handful of scientists rob your children of religion and turn them out atheists?"

Rebuttal then advances this argu



Judge John T. Raulston of Rhea County, Tenn., who is presiding at the trial of Prof. Scopes, charged with violating the state law, in teaching the theory of evolution in Dayton, Tenn. high school. Wm. J. Bryan aids the prosecution and Clarence Darrow the defense.

accept the truth could not be considestrated or accepted as the true princiered atheists. They point, too to the ple of life, then such knowledge wide divergence between atheism and would be barred to the poor: indeed

Another viewpoint; there does not appear to be any particular quarrel rect. with Mr. Bryan's theory that the taxpayers have a right to set up schools. and to govern the school curriculum. legislative power that would attempt It is only when this is coupled with informed on the thought of the world legislation making education com- and be given the liberty then to exerpulsory that the right of the individual clse their own judgement in the formto seek truth becomes abridged. On ing of opinions, and whether the Tenthe one hand it is said compulsory education does not necessarily involve study only in public schools. Paroch :1 and sectarian and private schools are



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they would be compelled to learn only the story of Genesis, correct or incor

The crux of the argument appear to hang on the natural right of the human species to seek the truth, to be

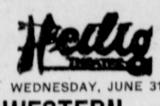
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ment: Even though the theory of theory of life or conduct may be | nessee statute allows that right. This evolution be true and be finally ac- taught. Other controversalists say applies to economics, to religion, to cepted by the people as against the this is not a practical answer in that history, indeed to all bases of human



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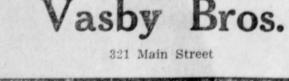
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