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Newspaper Article: "Sprowls Says Incident is 'Closed' but He Still Contends Man is Brother of Ape and Aeons Old"

University of Tennessee - Knoxville

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SPROWLS SAYS ISSUE "CLOSED"

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cestry between the great races or divisions of men, and the four great races of apes. He said that the human limb of the common ancestry branched off in one direction, and the ape limb branched off in another.

Sprowls Says Matter Closed

Dr. Sprowls declined to discuss today what course he will take. He said he did not want to speak of his future plans. He did not hesitate to say, however, that insofar as he is concerned, the matter is closed. He indicated that he would not seek to have any order or notice revoked.

Dr. Sprowls does not hesitate, however, to say what he thinks of the principles of evolution, and when drawn out on the subject speaks with freedom.

"There have been many estimates made as to when life began," he asserted. "Physicists, geologists, paleontologists and astronomers have all busied themselves in trying to estimate when life began on earth. All agree that in order to get anything like a true estimate of man's ancient history, we must draw freely on the bank of time. One curious reflection is that held by Schmidt and Haeckel. They have put forth their idea in what is now known as the famous Haeckel's clock. They reduce the history of man to a hypothetical creation day of twenty-four hours. The oldest geological period known as the archaozoic is supposed to have occupied 52,000,000 years, and is represented by a time space of twelve hours and thirty minutes on the Haeckel clock.

8 Hours for Paleozoic Age

The second great period is known as the Paleozoic which is calculated to be 34,000,000 years in length. It would take up eight hours and seven minutes on the Haeckel clock. The third period is known as the Mesozoic period which is estimated at 11,000,000 years and would take up two hours and thirty-eight minutes on the clock. The next age is the Cenozoic age which is 3,000,000 years in length. It would take up forty-three minutes on the dial of the clock. Next comes the Anthropozoic age estimated to be 140,000 years long. It would take up two minutes of time on the Haeckel dial. The next is the historic period which is 6,000 years long. This would take up five seconds of the time of the twenty-four hours of the Creation Day of Haeckel. Next comes the Christian Era of 2,000 years. It would take up between two and three seconds of the time measurement. The individual lives are so small in this incomprehensible expanse of time that several of them would have to be crowded together to make the minute hand on the dial move," Dr. Sprowls concluded.

Dr. Sprowls said that investigations had shown that the brain basin of a certain ape is but 400 cubic centimeters less than the brain basin of man.

SPROWLS SAYS INCIDENT "CLOSED" BUT HE STILL CONTENDS MAN IS BROTHER OF APE AND AEONS OLD

Information coming from University of Tennessee circles today is that an attempt may be made to get the legislative committee, which is coming here to investigate the East Tennessee Normal school, to take cognizance also of the retirement of Dr. J. W. Sprowls from the University of Tennessee faculty. This relationship is to be severed as a result of certain theories as to evolution, of which Dr. Sprowls is an exponent.

The resolution adopted by the two houses of the General Assembly on the normal school question limits the activities of the legislative committee to that school, however, and a question has developed as to whether this committee can legally take up this development in connection with the University of Tennessee.

In the face of the fact that he has

been notified that he will be dropped from the faculty of the University of Tennessee at the end of the present semester, Dr. Sprowls declared today that he stands pat on science, and that the investigations of scientists have established that man is 150,000,000 years old. He declared further that there was a common an-

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