

Mr. Dooley On The Descent of Man

By FINLEY PETER DUNNE.

"What are ye readin'?" asked Mr. Dooley. "A comical little piece in the Sun-day paper on the Descent of Man," said Mr. Dooley. "Ye get a good deal of knowledge out of it, but ye get a fellow who's not lookin' for it, an' a fellow who's not lookin' for it, an' a fellow who's not lookin' for it."



"Drop a cocoanut on his head and see him jump," said Mr. Dooley. "It's scientific language," said Mr. Dooley. "I've been tryin' to warrick it out meself with the aid of a diction'ry, but I couldn't put it together till I read O'Leary, who's great at these puzzle-pieces, come in."

"P'r' what he said I guess that the pro-fesser that wrote it meant to say that the reason man is better than the other animals is because iv' what's in his head."

"I suspected as much before an' have often said so. But nobody has ever said me to go before a learned society an' have me chest draped with medals for sayin' it. I couldn't fill up me time on the program. All I cud say wud be: 'Fellow pro-fessors, the thing that give ye an' me a shade over the squall an' the grasshopper is that we have more marrow in the head. Thankin' ye again for yer kind attention, I will now lave ye while ye translate this almost untranslatable thought into a language that on a drug clerk can understand.'"

"P'r' what Dock O'Leary says, this here pro-fesser has seen Darwin an' histed him a couple iv' billion years. If ye'd like to hear about it I'll tell ye. Well, thin, it was this way: Some time before the big fire, when I was wurrukin' for Mullaney, the contractor, dhrivin' a team, a fellow be the name iv' Darwin came along an' made a monkey iv' man. He showed that the principal difference between us an' the monkey was that we had lost our tails."

"We had to lave the old entailed estates an' the ancestral bamboo threes where our family had spint so many happy millions iv' years an' come down to earth an' be men."

"Our first ancestor had his tail docked, an' havin' lost this here member, which was at want his manes iv' rapid transit an' his stay chair, the old gentleman cud no longer swing from the branch iv' the tree an' amuse the childer by pickin' things off the top, but had to go to wurrukin'."

"In order to apply for a job he was forced to lave to walk an' to talk. He mended his front feet an' made hands iv' them, an' so he cud win the effectivness iv' the fair, he was compelled to shed his comfortable an' natural hairy coat an' buy clothes."

"The family all took after the old man an' improved on him through the cinchies, till today ye have the magnificent looks ye see all around ye dressed up in queer garments, puttin' in for office, killin' each other, dancin' the Chicago tango, an' givin' the boys in so foolish that when the father iv' a family iv' monkeys sees a human bein' comin' along in the woods he hists him: 'Mother, bring the little wans to the end iv' this branch. Here comes wan iv' our poor relations who has to wurrukin' for a livin'. He wud've been just as well off as we are if his family hadn't squandered their tails. Dhriv a cocoanut on his head an' see him jump. Ain't he the funny sight?'"

Anyhow, we're going on, Not Back. "I can well remember how hot ivy-body was agin Darwin on account iv' what he wrote. Nobody but a very proud iv' Adam as an ancestor, but still ye cud put up with him if ye took into account that he was a monkey with new problems an' was the first married man."

"But it hurted a good many proud people to think that but for the luck iv' the game they might all be up in the different menageries, hidin' their tails through the glass at little boys an' girls. So Darwin was excommunicated from many a church that has since an' generally threatened as he deserved for a long time."

"But after awhile people begun to take more kindly to the idea an' to say: 'Well, anyhow, it's more comfortable to feel that the monkey than to feel that the angel. For awhile it looked as though we weren't holdin' our own. But now it looks as if we are on our way, an' though no more about it."

"An' the monkeys had no access to the press, so they couldn't write in kickin' letters signed 'Indignant Monkey' or the like iv' the day."

"But this pro-fesser has gone further than Darwin in pursuin' our line down to its disgraceful start. He has run across a lot iv' old town records, marriage certificates, birth registers, an' so on an' has discovered that our original progenitor, the boy that give us our push towards respectability, the first member iv' the family that moved uptown, the survivor iv' the Fort Dearborn massacre, the pilgrim father that came out iv' the jungle, the founder iv' the family fortune was—what d'ye think?"

"I'll never guess if I give ye a thousand guesses. It was the jumpin' shrew iv' South America."

"It's as I tell ye. Here ye see it in black an' white before yer eyes: 'Man descended from the jumpin' shrew.' Hence our sunny dispositions, our never cud understand why if mankind come down from the monkey we weren't more janyal. But now I know. It's the old shrew blood that still courses through our veins that makes us so cross with each other."

"Yes, sir, this is lead with the aid iv' a microscope, a knife, an' perhaps a dhrain book, has thrashed out the shrew blood in the jumpin' shrew. Ye wudn't, then, there are very few jumpin' shrews in this neighborhood."

"But back in the old estate in South America they are numerous an' highly respected. Many iv' the ministers iv' the original branch iv' our family still live in the homes iv' our ancestors an' keep up the traditional customs like the old families iv' Boston."

"This scientific doct gives us a plain picture iv' their lives. These three shrews," says the pro-fesser, "are small, squirrel-like animals which feed on insects an' fruit. When feedin' they often set on their haunches, holdin' their feet, after the manner iv' squirrels, in their front paws. There, Hinnissy, ye have a view iv' ye'rself as ye were before the flood."

"Manny is the time I've wondered this in thest' little cratur. Prob'ly how ye'd look in a suit iv' an' a bull skin, settin' on a horse, holdin' on to the reins with one hand an' to a spear with the other! But I injye more the thought iv' ye still further back, perch on the branch iv' a three main' a light lunch iv' a peanut an' an' an'."

"Some day I'm goin' to take a step-ladder an' go to South America an' visit these relations iv' ye'r an' mine. An' why not? If a man be the name iv' Jones will spin money thev' to prove that he's descended from a chili-brated holdup man iv' the same name in the reign iv' Queen Elizabeth why shouldn't he look up his relatives, the jumpin' shrews iv' South America, an' be took over the family residence by a caretaker, for a shillin', an' see where the old jock died definin' his treasures iv' huckleberries an' wewils against the night attack iv' the an' enter an' the banded army-dillo? Tell me why?"

"An' why, now that this pro-fesser has thrashed out the line, shudn't we resume the family name? By rights we'd all be called jumpin' shrews. There's a chance for a byphen there that nanny a member iv' the stock exchange wud welcome!"

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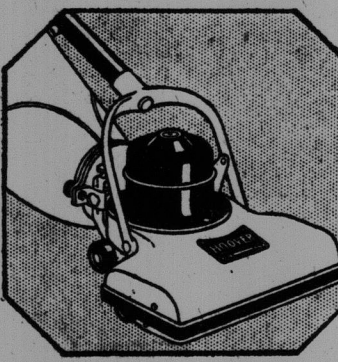
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10. Attachments connected easily.

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In all, ten important features have been added. This model is lighter, more convenient, more efficient. The New Hoover utilizes, of course, those three vitals of thorough cleaning—beating, sweeping and suction—but in a manner which widens the range of cleaning efficiency and gives a greater power to increase the life and beauty of floor coverings of all kinds.

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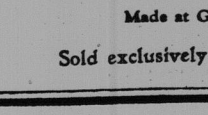
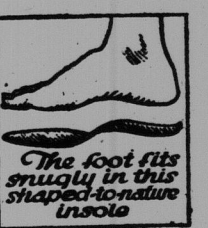
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Arch Defenders will prove a boon and a blessing. The patented spring steel arch support and the moulded foot insole will build up (not just prop up) your fallen arches.

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that lived in a three, because I never see wan that cud climb a three. An' anyhow I don't care! Divlie th' bit iv' attention I give to a fellow lookin' at a glass iv' water through an eye-glass an' guessin' what happened in South America eighty-three billion years ago."

"Mind ye, I don't blame this doct for thrivin' to make us all—th' Dooleys, an' th' Bouns, an' th' Vere de Veres—members iv' the same family. His name is Smith."

"But if he'd forget about th' origin iv' the race an' tell us, now where man comes from, but where he's goin' to, I'd take an' inthreper around an' listen to him."

"These men are innies iv' religion," said Mr. Hennessy.

"Praps," said Mr. Dooley. "But they'll never be dangerous outill some rain comes along an' translates their lectures into English. An' I don't think there's a chance that cud be done."

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noon. The meeting was presided over by Miss Honner and the announcement that Professor Falconer had consented to give his illustrated lecture on the "Bay of Naples" was most enthusiastically received. The lecture will be given at the end of the month and will be the closing event of the present season for the W. M. S.

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