

FINDS THREE BASIC HUMAN BODY TYPES

Man started his evolution with a stocky, solid body of medium height and moderately brunette complexion, and worked both ways from that beginning, according to Prof. R. Bennett Bean of the University of Virginia, who proposes a new system of classification of racial types in forthcoming issues of the quarterly Review of Biology and of the American Journal of Anatomy.

Prof. Bean regards the primitive Neanderthal man of central Europe as the ancestor of the human race, and his physique is taken as the type of a medium-built body, or "Mesomorph". From this central type development took place in two directions, toward a long-legged, long-headed figure and toward a short-limbed, round-headed one. The former Prof. Bean calls "Hypermorph", or "high-form", and the latter "Hypomorph" or "low-form".

According to the theory, changes in the body conformation took place when the descendants of the original, "mesomorphic" men began their migration. Those who remained inland, under conditions more or less similar to those of their first home, retained their medium structure. Those who migrated to the coastlands developed the longer and rangier "hypermorphic" characteristics under their new environment. Those who wandered southward and southeastward toward the tropics, or northward into the arctic zone, got into regions more or less unfavorable for the best human development and, in Prof. Bean's words, "were reduced to a more or less infantile form, with short arms and legs and round heads and faces. This finds its extreme manifestation among the Negrillos of Africa, the Negritos of the Pacific, and the Malays, and in a more or less modified form among the peoples of the sub-arctic regions, as the Siberians and the Lapps."

Prof. Bean's new system of classification does not run parallel with the older arrangements of the divisions of the human race, but cuts right across them. In the white race there are both mesomorphs and hypermorphs, but none of the low type hypomorphs. In the two other great color-groups, the blacks and the yellow-browns, all three of the new form-types are found.

THE SPHINX HAS FIRST CLEANING SINCE 1886

Visitors to Egypt now have the opportunity to obtain an unobstructed view of the front of the Sphinx, including its feet which are on exhibition for the first time in forty years. The Egyptian government, according to advices reaching here, has undertaken not only to clear away the ever mounting desert sand but also to make much needed repairs on the venerable genius of the Nile.

The clearing away of the tons of sand and gravel necessary to uncover the Sphinx completely involves so much labor that it was undertaken but three times during the nineteenth century, the last excavation occurring in 1886. A veritable army of fellaheen is required to remove sand by the basketful to a point far enough away so that it will not immediately blow back and render their labor useless. It is recorded by medieval travelers that sometimes only the head of the image has been visible over the shifting sands of the desert.