

cases where it may be interesting to spend 80 kilowatts to receive 25."

Although he was unsuccessful in the first two attempts to launch his mile-long tube, and was continually criticized by the skeptical, Professor Claude never became discouraged. As in this case, he declared, his chief troubles with previous inventions have come not from faults of the process or theory, which is the fight against matter, but from the fight against man.

"So numerous, so efficient today are the resources put at our disposal by nature and by science," he said, "that in my opinion material difficulties can always be mastered with some imagination and perseverance. But man—this is another business; to have the last word with him logic and good sense are not sufficient."

Science News Letter, November 1, 1930

ARCHAEOLOGY

Totem Poles, Monuments To Illustrious Dead

TOTEM POLES were not the idols of American Indians, but were the monuments erected to their illustrious dead. The poles were erected by the families of the heroes commemorated, and remained the prized possessions of their descendants for generations.

These are some of the facts collected by Marius Barbeau, an ethnologist for the National Museum of Canada in four field seasons spent among the Indians and recently published by him.

Science News Letter, November 1, 1930

GENETICS

Two Sets of Identical Triplets Have Been Found in Canada

Developed From a Single Cell, They Are Much Alike in Appearance and in Mental and Emotional Make-up

TWO CASES of that extremely rare biological phenomenon, human identical triplets, have been reported to the American Genetic Association in Washington, by Alfred E. Clarke, and Daniel G. Revell, biologists of the University of Alberta, Canada.

Triplets of the type known as identical, or monozygotic, are, like identical twins, developed from a single egg cell. They are always of the same sex, and since they have the same hereditary endowment, they are very much alike in appearance and also in mental and emotional make-up.

When twins develop from separate egg cells or zygotes, they are no more alike than ordinary brothers and sisters except that they are of the same age. Indeed, they may be decided contrasts in temperament as well as physical appearance.

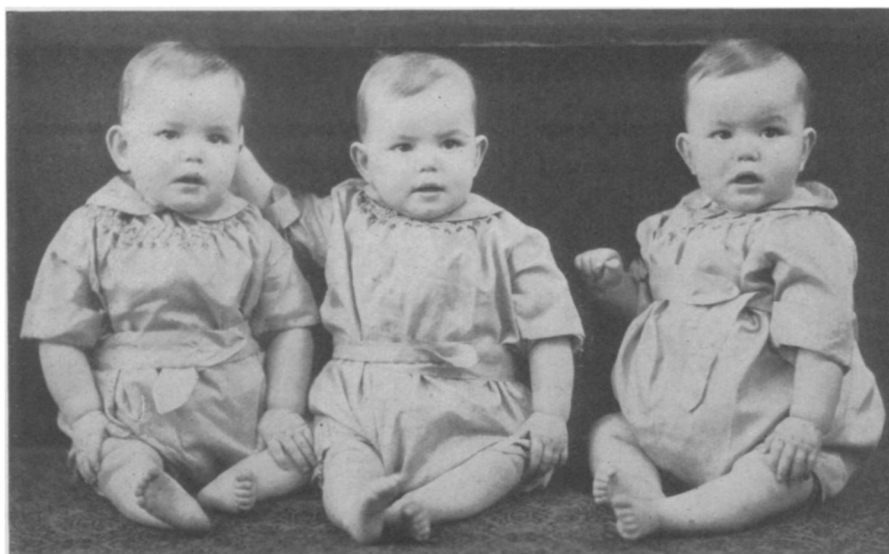
Triplets are usually of this non-identical type, because when a division occurs in the egg cell, the tendency is for it to form two parts, not three.

The identical triplets reported by Professors Clarke and Revell are all boys.

One set are the children of a family of German origin living in Stony Plain, Alberta. They look so much alike that their mother resorted to the scheme of having each wear a gold bracelet with his name engraved on it for identification. The hair of all three grows in an old clockwise whorl at the back of the neck although no other member of the family has this characteristic. The finger and palm prints of the triplets also follow a similar pattern which is like that of the father but unlike any others in the family. The boys received practically the same score on an intelligence test; they enjoy the same games and sports; and in school they all are good in arithmetic and poor in language.

The other set of triplets are still in infancy. They are now over two, but were only 17 months when they were examined. These boys look very much alike, although the parents are able to tell which is which without any great difficulty. The finger prints follow the same pattern which is different from their only sister.

Science News Letter, November 1, 1930



POSED AT SEVENTEEN MONTHS

All left handed, all slow to walk, and all teething at the same time



TEN YEARS OLD

Youngest of fourteen children