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MINIATURE SUN—Man-made suns, such as the Radio Corporation of America's space arc, will help develop improved paints, plastics, fabrics, dyes and other products that are exposed to the sun's rays. Electronics technician John Washington (left) operates a space arc while electronics Engineer William Bailey adjusts solar cells under the artificial sunlight.

PSYCHOLOGY

Police Neutral in Riots

A new report indicates that police neutrality in racial conflicts can be maintained if the officers are aware of their responsibilities and the roles they must play during riots.

➤ **POLICE NEUTRALITY** in racial conflict can be established by professional training sessions.

A report in the *Journal of Applied Behavioral Science*, released Aug. 27, describes two five-hour training sessions given to police officers of a Maryland county at the time of the 1963 Rights March on Washington.

Policemen in the county, adjacent to the District of Columbia, were apprehensive of the march, fearing that riots would be generated and spill over into their territory. They were untrained in handling organized public protests and uncertain about their roles.

To head off a possibly ugly situation, with policemen furthering instead of controlling violence, a team of behavioral scientists from the National Institute of Mental Health were called in to set up a Civil Disturbance Unit, composed of 45 of the county's most capable uniformed policemen.

The first session was a series of talks on police responsibility. The men were encouraged to give vent to their racial attitudes. Many of them were so strongly prejudiced that the scientists left feeling somewhat defeated and uneasy.

No riots erupted from the Rights March, but a test of the Unit came in September when CORE picketed two housing develop-

ments. Contrary to expectations, police behavior prompted a CORE member to write expressing her "personal appreciation and praise for the exemplary way in which the police . . . have conducted themselves and carried out their duties. . . ."

A second training session was built on the officers' new self-image and esprit de corps. Later, while town policemen nervously monitored a new picket line, one of the county officers stood quietly by. He was approached by a white man who emerged from a nearby bar and asked what the officer would do if he "punched one of the pickets in the nose." The reply was, "I'd lock you up the same as I would anyone else."

• Science News Letter, 88:135 August 28, 1965

PSYCHOLOGY

Pregnancy by Artificial Insemination Fills Need

➤ **PREGNANCY** by artificial insemination satisfies a wife's deep need to have children.

Between 1,000 and 2,000 childless women in the United States undertake this procedure each year, almost invariably with the consent of their husbands. How many of these attempts result in successful pregnancies or successful live births is not

known but is believed to range from 45% to 60%.

However, so many persons have such deep-rooted fears concerning artificial insemination that it will probably never be widely accepted.

The psychological advantages and problems of using an unknown donor to father a child are outlined in the *Archives of General Psychiatry* 13:121, 1965.

Artificial human insemination is a legitimate scientific procedure for fulfilling a childless wife's "psychobiological drive" for children, Dr. Bernard Rubin, a Chicago physician, concluded.

The strongest fear associated with this procedure is that of an incestuous marriage between the child and the semen donor or his family. This is a possibility because the donor's identity is kept secret.

This fear seems to be stronger than any other medical, legal or religious consideration, Dr. Rubin reported.

There are two kinds of artificial human insemination. Semen may be obtained from the husband or it may be obtained from a donor. The latter is often tried in cases of male sterility, to prevent hereditary disease transmission or for eugenic reasons. Here incest is a remote possibility.

Among a group of 43 women who had been artificially inseminated at a midwestern university center, only three suggested conflict with their husbands about this.

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MEDICINE

Prevention Discovered For One Leukemia Type

➤ **PREVENTION** of a type of leukemia in one strain of mice has been found in studies in New York and France. Immunity against the Rauscher virus is the first efficient immunity to be developed against leukemia of any kind.

The antibody-producing substance, or antigen, was derived from cultures of mouse thymus and spleen, which had been infected with the disease and injected into an inbred strain of mice called BALB/c. The virulent leukemia virus was then tested on the animals and found to be impotent.

Two different experiments were run at the Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif in France and the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Research Institute in New York. They have significant implications for other studies. Cells from the culture were found 100% effective against the disease while the fluid or supernatant that rises on the culture offered far less protection.

This suggests that the essential immunizing agent comes from cells themselves and that the more potent virus rises to the surface in fluid.

The implications for prevention of the disease in humans is not yet clear. But if the antibody can be induced in other strains of rats now being tested, prevention will have been found for at least one type of leukemia in animals, Drs. Georges Barski and Jung Koo Youn said in *Science*, 149:751, 1965.

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