

economic birth differentials among Negroes are still dyagenic, as they were among whites 25 and more years ago.

Eugenics requires that the conditions necessary to an eugenically effective form of society be met for all people and races in the American melting pot.

We cannot afford for long to countenance environments in which job opportunities and education are not equally available, in which subservience is necessary for survival, or staying on relief is the only means of supporting one's children.

Negroes, because of their numbers, have more to contribute towards increasing the frequency of genes for ability than any other minority group. It is high time to provide conditions which will make this contribution possible.

Dr. Osborn is one of the leaders in the study of how biology, sociology and culture affect tomorrow's human population. He resigned his position as corporation executive in 1930 and became research associate in anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Dr. Osborn was a general in charge of troop information and education during World War II.

• Science News Letter, 86:54 July 25, 1964

Nature Note

Big, Bad Hailstones

► THE AVERAGE hailstorm just taps on your window or the roof of your car for a while and then goes away. In Moradabad, India, however, a hailstorm in the spring of 1888 killed 230 people, and an additional 30 in surrounding areas. Many were wounded by the storm, which hurled lumps of ice "as large as cricket balls."

A decade later, a storm in Missouri killed hundreds of small animals, and chunks of ice went entirely through the roofs of houses. One house was stripped bare of its board siding on one wall. Another house, built of second-rate lumber, had all the knots in the boards beaten out, leaving walls full of holes.

Crops, especially, are subject to damage from hail. In the years from 1944 to 1953, Kansas suffered over \$100 million in losses, mostly in corn and wheat. On Aug. 18, 1925, one storm, in southeastern Iowa, caused over \$5 million in damage, forcing many farmers to abandon their homes and seek other employment.

Needless to say, all hailstones are not little pellets. One of the largest fell in Troy, N. Y., in April of 1949. It measured about five inches on a side and weighed four and a half pounds.

Finally, the worst hailstorm in recent years was perhaps the worst of all time. On June 23, 1951, a portion of Kansas from Sedgwick County to Allen County was inundated with a storm that cost \$14,340,000 worth of damage to crops, homes and other property. That is about \$7.55 for every man, woman and child in the state at that time.

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AERONAUTICS

Plastic Plane Takes Off From Streams or Roads

► A NEW ALL-PLASTIC airplane has been designed that can take off from narrow roads or even streams.

Designed for the U.S. Navy as a counter-insurgency (COIN) aircraft, the plane has less than two-thirds the wingspan of the smallest military plane now in use. Thus, it can be handled on aircraft carriers and freighters without the need for folding wings.

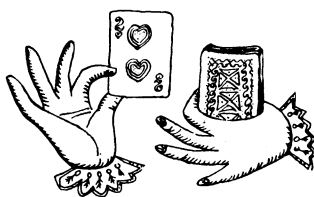
The amphibious craft is pushed, rather than pulled, by two propellers facing backwards from the tops of pylons mounted

above the wing. It has a top speed of 275 knots, but more importantly, it can takeoff in a mere 500 feet, clearing a 50-foot obstacle at the end, while carrying a 1,300-pound payload.

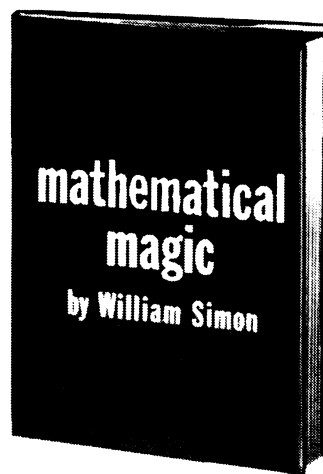
The overhead position of the propellers enables the underside of the wing to be used for any sort of armament or cargo. Tip tanks at the ends of the wing give the fiber glass reinforced plane great enough range to fly from California to Hawaii with a "sizable" payload.

The design for the plane was submitted to the Navy as a counter-proposal to several metal planes. It was developed by Goodyear Aerospace Corporation, Akron, Ohio.

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