

MINIMUM AIRCRAFT

Sir,

I have been reading with interest your reports and those of readers on "Minimum Aircraft." Although I am fifteen years old, I have already developed my own ideas on this subject.

For the past years I have been content to build "bamboo" gliders, but now I have designed what I think could be a suitable "minimum aircraft."

Would you please look over these drawings and information and let me know if I am on the correct track.

First a mainplane is built, according to size of pilot and his weight. Four metal spars make up the tail boom (Fig. A). These would have to be braced in various ways. The pilot seat on cockpit is situated directly above the main wing (Fig. A.). A small engine (h.p. depending once again on weight and size) is situated in front of cockpit (Fig. A.) Wings could be braced to fuselage on top and under carriage beneath (Fig. B).

The whole of the aircraft could be made from metal including wings. Although it is fairly simple in construction, I feel it would have strength, too. The cost would be the main attraction. I don't know much about prices of materials but I would say the full price would be well under \$1,000.

This is the "minimum aircraft" as I see it. It may not be attractive but what does that matter as long as it is capable of lifting a human being off the ground for a while and depositing him back again when he wishes.

PETER NORVILL,

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Ed.—Photo appears on page 37.

PETER NORVILL'S MINIMUM AIRCRAFT

