

large head with binocular vision, lacked external ears, and had a deep chest with ribs all the way down the abdomen, opposable fingers, and no external genitalia. Russell did not suggest other characteristics of such beings or the possible nature of their social structure, but from what we know of ourselves, reptiles, and the nature of intelligence, many logical scenarios can be imagined.

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All in the Family

There are some interesting family connections brought to mind by different contributions in the 22 January issue. A report on page 493 by István Lengyel *et al.* discusses research connected with transient, spatial patterns predicted by the British mathematician Alan Turing, who was mainly responsible for breaking the German "Enigma" military code, believed by many to be decisive in the Allied victory in World War II.

Turing's maternal great-grandfather was Thomas George Stoney, whose second cousin, George Johnstone Stoney, was a distinguished physicist who, among other things, invented the word "electron" (1). This same man was uncle to George Francis FitzGerald, the proponent of the contraction hypothesis as an explanation of the Michelson-Morley result, described in *The Maxwellians*, which is reviewed (Book Reviews, p. 536) in that same issue.

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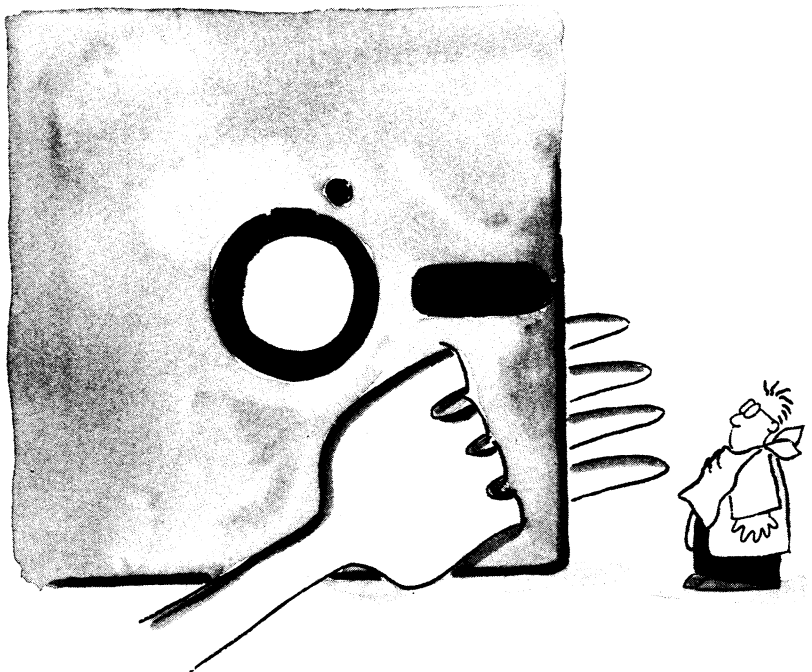
References

1. A. Hodges, *Alan Turing* (Simon & Schuster, New York, 1983).

Kuwait Oil Fires: Correction

In our article "Airborne studies of the smoke from the Kuwait oil fires" (15 May, p. 987) (1), we stated that the depletions of sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) in the smoke plume from the Kuwait oil fires were 50 and 60% per hour, respectively. These values were derived from measurements made aboard a Convair C-131 aircraft, and measurements of CO_2 were used as a conserved tracer. Subsequent comparisons of these measurements of CO_2 (which were obtained from a continuous

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