

“SAUCER” INVENTOR SAYS HOW All in the lift

HOBART, Friday. — Difference between the flying saucer and the ordinary aircraft was explained to-day by Mr. Charles Edmund Johnson, first applicant for a flying saucer patent in 1930.

In the construction of orthodox aircraft, aerofoils, or wings, were forced up against the air by the propeller, and so gained a lifting effect, he said.

In Johnson's patent, the aerofoils are stationary, and the air is put in motion by the impeller and driven against the aerofoils.

He said the lifting was gained from the impact of the air against the aerofoils, obtaining a hovering effect similar to a helicopter.

Johnson, formerly Receiver of Public Monies at the Tasmanian Treasury, was born in Beecac (Victoria). He spent 51 years in the Tasmanian Public Service.

At Dromedary, about 100 miles from Hobart, he and a friend, Frank Conlan, experimented with a glider, with a 100-foot span.

His practical flying amounted to no more than a return passenger flight to South Australia.

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