



LEMBERGER LD-20b

By WALT MOONEY . . . Dick Baxter, one of the proxy fliers for our Parcel Post Proxy Peanut contest, designed, built, and flight tested this unusual biplane. Excellent model proportions and fine flier.

• The model in the photos is one of the best flying Peanuts I have seen in action. It will consistently fly around a minute indoors, and is stable and easy to trim out well. At the last Flightmasters scale meet, it had one flight of over five minutes. Of course, anything can do a long flight in a thermal, but only if it glides well, and Dick's LD 20b is a consistently good flyer outdoors as well as indoors. Several of the spectators at the contest suggested that it would make a good article, and I was pleased to volunteer to do the job.

A three-view for this airplane can be found in the 1970 issue of "Janes" All the World's Aircraft, and

some photos can be found in the 1973 issue. The LD 20b has equal span (23'-10-1/2") wings, with gap and positive stagger of a chord length. They are cantilevered, and the resultant lack of interplane struts and wires makes for less drag than is found in most biplanes, also, it is a simpler model to build. The LD 20b seats two people in tandem, and is powered with a 62 hp Walter Mikron, four-cylinder in-line engine, which results in a fairly long, (21'-10-1/2") airplane. The length makes for a stable model that is easy to balance and has a long base for the rubber motor.

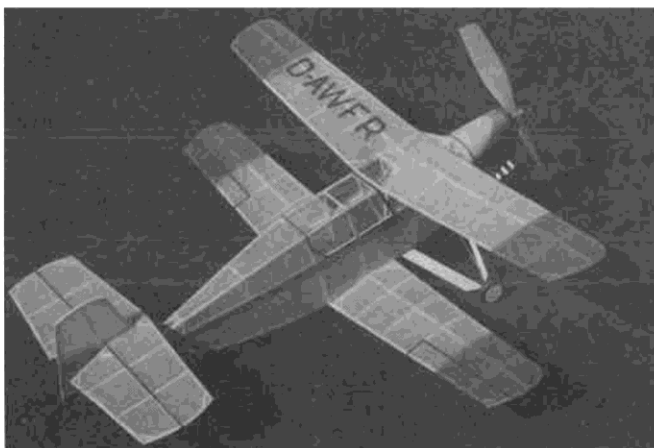
There is nothing very difficult to construct on the model, so there is

no need for a specific, "glue this to that," write up. There are some things worthy of note, however, and they will be discussed.

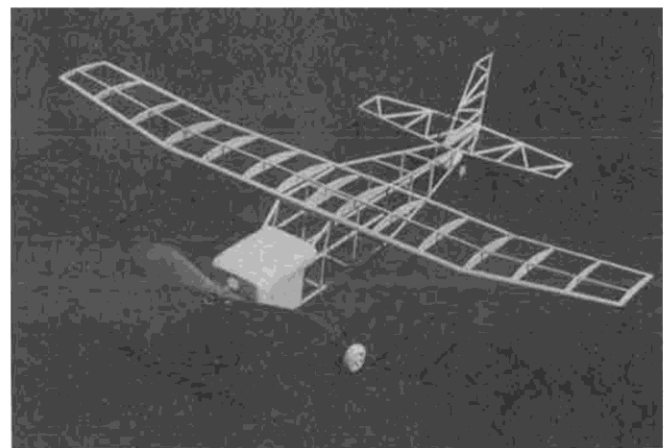
The gusseting method that Dick uses was new to me when I first saw it on his model (I notice that Mark Drela used the same system on his "Rivets" model in the Nov. '77 issue of **MB**). Regardless of the fact that nobody likes a copycat, I too am going to make my gussets this way from now on. Such gussets are easier to fit and lighter in weight than the triangular ones I have used before, and do just as good a job.

Use the lightest wire you can get for the landing gear. The amount of

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Can you think of another full-scale biplane without cabane or interplane struts? Even though legitimate, it still looks awkward.



Next Mooney Peanut will be this Found "Centennial 100". It has been averaging 55 to 60 seconds.

