



May

1936

AMELIA EARHART'S FLYING LABORATORY: Amelia Earhart has announced her purchase of a "flying laboratory" and the Purdue Research Foundation, a non-profit making research organization associated with Purdue University has announced the establishment of the "Amelia Earhart Fund for Aeronautical Research" which will provide for a more aggressive aeronautical research program in the field of pure and applied science.

Through the Foundation Amelia's purchase of a fast Electra airplane has been made possible. It will be equipped to include the latest devices evolved in modern air transport, and will literally become a "flying laboratory" for practical flight research in scientific aeronautics. Although Amelia will own the plane and be entirely responsible for its use, she will cooperate with the University and the Foundation in the expansion of research and education in the field of aeronautics.

Amelia said ". . . It is not often we of the feminine persuasion are given such opportunities to pioneer in our chosen fields. . . Aviation is a business to me and my ambition is that the project shall produce practical results."

The new plane, a Lockheed Electra, is now under construction at Burbank, California. Delivery is expected by July. The standard Electra is a 10 passenger, 2-pilot transport plane, in current use on various airlines. The ship is all metal, with two 500 h.p. Wasp engines, a normal cruising speed of about 190 m.p.h. and a top in excess of 210 m.p.h. Special equipment will include extra gas tanks for extended non-stop flights; robot pilot; de-icing appliances; radio "homing" device; two-way radio telephone, etc. The fuselage will be stripped of the normal passenger seats and fittings and equipped as a flying workshop. A hatch in the rear of the fuselage for navigational observation is planned.

About the middle of May Amelia and her husband, George Palmer Putnam, expect to return to the Pacific coast where she will supervise the completion and equipment of the plane. Then will follow a period of testing and trial flights in southern California and at Purdue. The many possibilities to be checked as opportunity offers include speed and fuel consumption under varying conditions; television experimentation; the use of oxygen; radio communication and navigation instruments and methods; the human equation of fatigue and endurance in relation to altitude, diet, sleep, eyestrain, etc.

Periodic "field tests" on actual flights are planned later. Such flights probably will include continental crossings and possibly a South American journey.

99 TAXI: An item of considerable expense, as well as delay and annoyance in cross-country flying is taxi service from airports into town. Often one spends as much for taxi to and from town as for gas and oil on the flight. Then, too, at some commercial ports where the airlines operate, little attention is given the comfort and convenience of the private flyer.

99 members can be of assistance to their sister pilots in this problem. It has been suggested that members who have cars available and some free time, leave their telephone numbers at the local airport office with the understanding that visiting women pilots may call upon them for taxi service. There are still few enough women flying cross-country for this to become onerous and such a courtesy offered by 99's gives a very pleasant impression of the Club, as well as offering the further possibility of interesting contacts and new acquaintanceship.

Suggestions of other friendly services we may render women pilots are welcome in these pages.

AIRWAY TRAFFIC CONTROL: An Inter-Airline safety agreement approved by the Department of Commerce defining air traffic lanes between Fort Worth and Dallas has gone into effect. The rules are similar to those affecting Newark, given in the April News Letter. Diagrams explaining the regulations regarding take-offs and landings at Love Field, Dallas, and Meacham Field, Texas, are given in the Bureau of Air Commerce Bulletin of April 15.

COMING EVENTS: Second National Intercollegiate Air Meet will be held at Wayne County Airport, Detroit, Michigan, June 19 and 20.

The Associated Women Pilots of Spokane are putting on a Women's Airshow at Spokane, Washington, June 27 and 28.

The National Balloon Race and Mile High Air Races will be held in Denver, Colorado, July 3, 4, 5. \$7,500 prize money is offered, \$1,500 of which is for the Balloon Race. Mrs. Carlos Reavis, President of W.N.A.A. has been appointed Chairman of all Women's Activities. Mrs. Reavis writes of festivities and banquets already planned and extends a cordial invitation to all Ninety-Nines to join in the events.

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National Air Races are scheduled for September 5, 6, 7 at Cleveland, Ohio. There will be a Women's Race, a handicap event limited to eight planes, maximum speed not to exceed 175 miles per hour, minimum qualifying speed of 100 miles per hour. \$1500 prize money is offered. The Bendix Trophy Race, a transcontinental free-for-all, is also open to women pilots; prize money, \$12,500.

Women Pilots Committee of the 1936 N.A.A. Contest Board has been announced with Phoebe Omlie, Chairman. 99 members serving on this committee are: Mabel Britton, Margaret Cooper, Helen MacCloskey, Alma Arlene Davis. The date for the first meeting is May 7, 10 a. m., Washington, D. C.

AIR MASS ANALYSIS: A series of about a dozen reprints from the American Meteorological Society, Milton, Massachusetts, by Jerome Namias is available at a cost of 50¢. Namias is a recognized authority on Air Mass Analysis, having had wide experience as a meteorologist of T.W.A. and at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of California. These articles are entitled "Introduction to Air Mass Analysis" and are intended to explain the basic principles upon which this method of forecasting depends. They are by no means easy reading and make one realize that this method of forecasting is far beyond the ability of the average pilot who would be wise to depend upon the results the experts present rather than his own interpretation for accurate forecasting.

To pass from the sublime to the ridiculous, 99's who by chance eat Kellogg's Corn Flakes have a treat in store if they buy the package carrying the story "All in the Day's Work". A dinner party of pilots has gone into shrieks of hysteric joy being regaled with this "heroic" tale of "Pilot Spike Standish".

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

SOUTHEASTERN: Clayton Patterson flew in her Fairchild to a meeting of the Carolina Aero Club at Raleigh, N. C., April 4th; was rained in and could not fly home for days. Clayton is so disgusted trying to fly amid floods and tornadoes that she threatens to get an old NAG and arrive at the next meeting on horseback. . . Leah Zeigler has returned to her home at Florence, S. C., temporarily abandoning her course in aeronautical engineering at the University of Michigan.

Clayton Patterson, Governor.

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NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY: Margaret Cooper will entertain the Section members at her home in Syosset, Saturday, May 9th.

Tiny Goddard has returned to New York after a month's vacation in Havana, Palm Beach and other southern resorts. . . Peggy Remy toured with her husband for a couple of weeks, also flew to Washington in her Fairchild for Easter week-end. . . Amy Andrews also spent Easter in Washington. . . Margaret Cooper has returned from a six weeks' cruise around South America. . . Teddy Kenyon, formerly of Boston, has taken up permanent residence in New York. . . Fay Gillis is back from Ethiopia. . . Tiny Goddard, Althea Lister, Marjorie Ludwigsen, Novetah Davenport, as guests of Amy Andrews, attended Lincoln Elsworth's lecture on his Anarctic Flight at the Engineer's Club, April 21st. . . Amelia Earhart is on the last stretch of an extended lecture tour which has taken her over most of these United States, and is now planning to take up comprehensive research work in high altitude flying. . . We are all happy to know that Ruth Nichols, except for a slight stiffness in one knee, is entirely recovered; she has already been piloting and is looking forward to cross-continent trips this summer.

Novetah Davenport, Sectional Reporter

NORTHWESTERN - Seattle Chapter: At the regular monthly meeting Mr. Richard Rummel showed the club a motion picture series taken from the United Airlines planes on their transcontinental runs.

April 5th seven planes with eleven Seattle women flyers made a breakfast flight to Olympia. Those taking part were: Gladys Crooks, Mildred Filz, Mary Riddle, Grace Shanahan, Lucille Stone, Opal Hiser, Lettie Johnson, Gladys Smith, Kathleen Green, Mildred Ajax, Rose Trick. The Olympia women were wonderful hostesses; four of them have student permits and six others are enrolled in an intensive ground school course. This trip was intended to boost their interest in flying and show them they have flying neighbors in Seattle.

April 19th, Mr. H. R. McDonald, Red Cross First Aid Instructor, presented Red Cross certificates and emblems to the following girls who had successfully completed the course: Mildred Filz, Gladys Crooks, Opal Hiser, Emma Leavenworth, Mary Riddle.

Gladys Crooks, Chapter Chairman

NORTH CENTRAL: Twenty-four members and three guests, representing Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Iowa attended the Sectional meeting in Chicago April 18-19. Elizabeth Meyer flew from Cincinnati in her Porterfield, Edith Lackner, Cincinnati, came on the airlines; north winds and wintry temperatures caused the rest to rely on humble trains and automobiles.

Through the courtesy of Jane Ray, Illinois Chapter Chairman, accommodations were arranged for the girls at the Medinah Club where the Illinois Chapter entertained the out-of-town members at a cocktail party Saturday night and Sunday morning all enjoyed a swim in the Club's beautiful pool. Breakfast-lunch at 1:00 p. m. started auspiciously with the following toast offered by Jane Ray:

We Raise a Toast
A Toast on High
We Gather From
Afair and Nigh
And Pay Our Tribute
To the Sky-
Ninety-Nines

So Here's to You
And You . . . And You
We Make a Jolly
Merry Crew
Of Us May Ne're
There be Too Few
Ninety-Nines

Jeannette Lempke, Governor, presiding at the business meeting stated North Central had grown by 50% this year and spoke of plans of further expansion. She called on Edith Lackner, Cincinnati; Leora Stroup, Cleveland; Belle Hetzel, Omaha; Jane Ray, Chicago; Dorothy Carpenter, Detroit, to sum up activities of their groups and Mabel Britton, President, to say a few words about the magazine. Sunday afternoon before leaving for home most of the girls attended the Chicago Women's Pageant of Progress as guests of Chicago Girls' Flying Club. Appreciation is due to the Illinois Chapter for the pleasant success of this meeting.

Jeannette Lempke, Governor

Ohio-Cleveland: April 4th Jeannette Lempke, Governor, flew to Cleveland on the Airlines to call a meeting of Cleveland members with the purpose of reorganizing the Chapter. Sunday, April 5th, a luncheon was arranged at the Carter for 99's and guests.

May 16th there will be a tea at the Women's Club, 3635 Euclid Avenue, from 2:00 to 4:00 p. m. for all women in Ohio who are interested in aviation. Major Berry of the Municipal Airport and others will speak. The tea is sponsored by Cleveland 99's and the Women's Committee of the National Air Races. All 99's are invited. Notify Leora Stroup or Abbie Dill, 2525 Euclid Avenue, Tel. Prospect 1450.

Mrs. Charles King is welcomed as a new member. . . Alma Arlene Davis has returned to Cleveland after a winter in California where she enjoyed skeet shooting at Palm Springs.

Abbie Putnam Dill

Southern Ohio: A meeting of Southern Ohio members is planned for Saturday, May 23rd, at the Alms Hotel, Cincinnati. 99's from northern Ohio and those in the vicinity who can come are welcome.

Edith Lackner

Michigan Chapter: The last of the series of lectures on Meteorology by Professor Higgins of the University of Detroit was given at the regular meeting of the Chapter at Detroit City Airport, March 29th. Two lectures on Navigation will follow in the next two months.

Following the luncheon, Alice Hirschman, National Secretary, was presented with a modern card table with electric attachments, a gift from the Chapter. Alice was married to John Hammond of Detroit and Riverside, California, on April 18th and is now honeymooning in Bermuda. Welcome to another flying couple in our Chapter! . . . Laura May Brunton who has spent the last few months in San Diego, California, with her parents is now motoring via Montana and Michigan to Trenton, New Jersey, to rejoin her husband.

Dorothy Carpenter, Chapter Reporter

SOUTHWESTERN - Los Angeles Chapter: At the April meeting of the Chapter the guest speaker, Mr. Leslie Goddard, Junior Barrister, explained the judiciary workings of the Supreme Court in interpreting the Constitution. It was very enlightening and gave us a much more comprehensive knowledge of how our Government works.

Cecile Hamilton is back again, after completing a course of Meteorology and Navigation, plus motors at the Boeing School in Oakland. She has generously offered to give us a series of lectures on the courses with the additional aid of the textbooks obtained, and beginning next month we will take advantage of this opportunity. . . Clema Granger has declared Open House at her two houses in Palm Springs and the 99's are invited from now until Sunday night (April 19th); it looks like a real time is in store for us; no dresses to worry about, play in play suits, bathing suits, and "solo" bicycles around the gorgeous desert which is now in bloom, from brilliant red to gaudy yellow flowers.

Hilda Jarmuth, Sectional Reporter

Bay Cities Chapter: The regular monthly meeting was held at the Hotel Whitcomb, Tuesday evening, April 7th. Tentative plans were laid for a week-end tour to Charles Hillman's ranch near Paso Robles on May 2nd and 3rd, where an annual horse show and rodeo is to be held with a barbecue at noon on Sunday.

Janet Knight gave a most interesting talk on her recent aerial trip to Los Angeles, Kingman, the Grand Canyon, Boulder Dam, Death Valley, Reno, etc.

The March winging party was a real success with four ships participating. Those who enjoyed it were Ruth Rueckert and her mother, Afton Lewis, Rita Gerry, Pansy Bowen and passenger from Sacramento, Olive Bledsoe, Ruth Wakeman and Kay Nidick. Upon returning to Mills Field, the girls found a wind blowing from 47 to 53 M.P.H. and every ship was forced to go elsewhere to land. Consequently Sunday morning found 99ers flying in from various points of the compass. . . Mrs. Margaret Dorst has a new 450 Wright Beechcraft which is a beauty.

Ruth Wakeman, Chapter Chairman

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MIDDLE EASTERN: Floods in Middle Eastern area have resulted in the cancelling of flying activities that are normally enjoyed in the early spring. However, flying fields in the Section are drying off, props are turning and Middle Eastern girls are all set "to give it the gun."

The spring meeting of the Section was held on Sunday, April 19th, at the home of Mary Tillotson in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania.

Governor Harriet Sackett has returned to Washington after a month's vacation in Florida. . . Secretary Vee Shakarian has returned to her home in Pittsburgh after spending the winter in Florida recuperating from injuries received in an automobile accident last fall. . . Edna Gardner is in New Orleans doing some sky writing for Chevrolet . . . Lydia Clement, Washington 99er, is visiting her family home in Charleston, South Carolina. . . Helen Richey, Airmarking Pilot, while covering Michigan territory was an overnight guest of Mabel Britton.

Helen Clegg Zeth, Sectional Reporter

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OMISSION: Through oversight the name of Hilda Jarmuth who sent in the poem, Pilot's Prayer by Frank Tillson, was omitted in the April issue.

Novetah Holmes Davenport, Hotel Webster, New York City, requests Republican members to get in touch with her.

CLOSING DATE for contributions to the News Letter is the 20th of the preceding month. MEMBERS, please send news items, articles, expressions of opinion to Mabel Britton, 408 Forest Ave., Ypsilanti, Michigan, or Alice Hirschman Hammond, 861 Edgemont Park, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan. This is YOUR magazine and should reflect YOUR opinions and ideas.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS: Be sure to send notices of changes of address to the Secretary, Alice Hirschman Hammond.

GOVERNORS, CHAPTER CHAIRMEN: Please help us see that every member receives her magazine by sending in, before next month's issue, an up-to-date, accurate list of your members with correct addresses.

NINETY-NINE PINS, gold-filled intertwined 9's with movable propeller, may be obtained from the Secretary or Treasurer for \$1.50.

NINETY-NINE BRACELETS with silver tag and emblem, chromium bracelet, \$1.50 without movable propeller, \$2.00 with movable propeller; the same with silver bracelet, \$3.00 without propeller, \$3.50 with propeller, may be obtained from the Secretary.