



November

1936

DUES: Annual dues of \$3.00 for September 1936 to September 1937 are now payable to your Sectional Secretary-Treasurer or Governor. Following is a list of Sectional officers for 1936-1937:

NEW ENGLAND

Governor - Daisy Kirkpatrick, 2 Prospect Ave., Swampscott, Mass.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY

Governor - Margaret Cooper, Syosset, Long Island, New York.

Sec.-Treas. - Betty Duncan, Woodbury, Long Island, New York.

MIDDLE EASTERN

Governor - Vee Shakarian, 5536 Margarett St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sec.-Treas. - Lydia Clement, 816 Connecticut Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

SOUTHEASTERN

Governor - Clayton Patterson, 1527 Providence Road, Charlotte, N. C.

NORTH CENTRAL

Governor - Jeannette Lempke, 706 1/2 5th Avenue., Apt. 2, Bay City, Michigan

Sec. - Treas. - Florence Boswell, 1334 Inglewood Dr., Cleveland, Ohio.

SOUTH CENTRAL

Governor - Dorothy Pressler, 620 N. 13th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

SOUTHWESTERN

Governor - Harriet Isaacson, 3021 Modesto Ave., Oakland, Calif.

Sec.-Treas. - Peggy Vining, Box 611, Coalinga, Calif.

NORTHWESTERN

Election pending.

RECORDS - Mrs. Margaret Bain Tanner of Hartsdale, N. Y., recently set a woman's seaplane speed record by flying 66.68 miles per hour over the measured course off Old Point Comfort, Va. She used an Aeronca on floats.

Altho perhaps not established as official, Gayle Pond's qualification for an "A" license in England might come under the heading of "Records," since we believe she is the first American woman to receive such a license. Gayle, who has recently returned on the Queen Mary from a two-year sojourn abroad, writes this interesting bit: "It was good fun and absurdly easy to qualify for an "A" license in England. All I had to do was fly three hours solo and then do a series of 8's and spiral in from 2000 feet. The technical examination was merely routine stuff about rules and regulations. Of course there was a lot on international rules that was new to me, also quite a lot about sea-planes and marine regulations. I had to make the the flight test with a sealed barograph in the ship, which was some-

thing of a mental hazard. Never having seen one before, I wasn't sure what kind of a picture I might 'draw' on it. I was flying a Gypsy (105 HP) Moth, and I used bends in the Thames River for pylons and practiced verticles over Hampton Court! I was flying at Hanworth, which is a rather small field where there is a good deal of activity. The field at one time was a big country estate and the Manor House--now the club house and hotel--sits in the exact center of the field. Since the flight test had to be taken directly over the airport, I chose 'tea time' to go up for my license and had the sky to myself, since everybody stops for tea in England--even Aviators!" - Gayle Pond

NEWS FROM A MEMBER AT LARGE - This month there comes news of Bessie Owens, who when not flying in some odd corner of the map of the world, resides in Santa Barbara, California. Bessie, as most of you know, is making an extensive tour of Europe in her red Waco cabin. In the past few months she has flown through Belgium, France, England, Spain (just ahead of the revolution), northern portion of Morocco, Algeria, Switzerland, Holland and is now flying in Austria and the Balkan countries and plans to include Persia, India and China in her itinerary before returning to the U. S. A.

APPOINTMENT of Dr. Eleanore Burham Lay, flying instructress, as a member of the classical department faculty on the Hill, was recently announced by Syracuse University, New York. Dr. Lay has won fame by her aviation experiences and her archaeological researches as assistant to Dr. D. M. Robinson of John Hopkins.

✓ WHY I LEARNED TO FLY - Five years as secretary to an aircraft and engine repair depot gave me practically a college education on "Why Airplanes Don't Fly" from a mechanical structure viewpoint, and being one of those confirmed aviation enthusiasts who spends seven days a week at an airport, it was a natural conclusion that my objective would be to round out that education by learning "How Airplanes do Fly" with the application of the human element.

Of course, the proverbial barricade was--how to budget the salary. However, I had just about figured how I could salvage enough each week for a few minutes' time when I won ten dollars on a gamble with one of the instructors on the field, was promptly told I was made a member of the school and if I wanted to collect my winnings the credit was on the books. I've been "on the books" ever since.

Flying, I believe, not only teaches how to manipulate the controls of an airplane, it gives you a sense of height, depth, distance, speed, coordination of physical and mental powers, and more important--it teaches you to think fast, a highly practical virtue to possess.

Considering, in addition, the diversified pleasure involved, which is the average reason for girls flying, the cost is not high, for value received. I wouldn't sell my license for double the amount paid and I don't think many girls would. How about it?

- - Beatrice Nadon

FORCED LANDING - It was a beautiful afternoon in the month of June and Buddy (my airplane) and I were feeling fine as we left Transcontinental Airport at Toledo for Ann Arbor, Michigan. You see it was the first time I had been to Ann Arbor for a number of years and the first time I had ever flown in there, so of course I wanted to look my best to my old friends who had said, "I simply cannot think of Helen as a flyer." For their special benefit I had dressed in my very best white flying suit. I had "Buddy" all shining and pretty in his lovely blue and yellow linens.

We were humming a tune called "Seventeen Hundred Revs." as we winged our way over the high level bridge when I glanced at my instruments and saw the oil pressure drop suddenly. I stuck my nose out to smell of the engine and about a gallon of hot oil smacked me in the face! I jerked off my goggles and pulled my head in where it belonged and took another look at the oil pressure which registered all of zero. I looked out at the ground and there was that beautiful bridge, but not quite so beautiful as it had been a few minutes before. My engine was hot, so I cut the switch (I might add that I was heading toward the airport) and looked over the terrain. It looked bad, but I still had a couple thousand feet and I felt sure I could make the airport.

All was well until I spied a nice, big Boeing 247 about to land where I had to land, since it was the only spot on the field unobstructed by men and tractors. The Boeing was getting closer. I tipped my wings and was about to give up when the nice pilot gunned the Boeing and went around. I landed, was towed in and got out of my "Buddy" looking more like a mechanic than the spotless little pilot who left Toledo. I thanked the United Airlines Pilot who said, "Don't thank me, little lady, you were in distress and the right away was yours." What was wrong with the engine, did you ask? Just a broken oil lead--the main one.

- - Helen Johnson

AERIAL TRIP FOR SALE - Ruth Harman of North Central Section writes the following inquiry: "As you perhaps know, I bought a new Taylor Cub in August, and I hope to have my transport before November. I have an idea that I would like to take my Cub on a trip through Texas, Arizona, Mexico and then Miami and the American Air Races and back home in the spring. I have planned to earn money by taking pictures and writing stories of our trip for a Milwaukee newspaper. Do you think there is another Ninety-Nine member who would have enough money or some idea of how to earn money en route to

pay her own expenses, who would like to come along?" Anyone interested may communicate with Ruth c/o Coopers, Inc., Kenosha, Wisconsin.

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

MIDDLE EASTERN - Vee Shakarian of Pittsburgh was elected governor of the Middle Eastern Section at a meeting held at the apartment of Jo Busse in Washington, D. C. Lydia Clement of Washington was elected secretary-treasurer. Former Governor Harriet Sackett of Washington was appointed chairman of the membership committee, which also included Peggy Haynes of Ardmore. Governor Shakarian will entertain the Middle Eastern girls in Pittsburgh on December 6th.

- Helen Zeth - Reporter

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION meeting was held on Sunday, September 20, at Dearborn Inn, Detroit, Michigan. A breakfast was enjoyed by about twenty girls at 9:30 o'clock and was followed by the business meeting. Jeanette Lempke was re-elected governor; Mae Wilson of Chicago was elected vice-governor; and Florence Boswell of Cleveland, secretary-treasurer. Florence Boswell with three passengers from the Northern Ohio chapter flew to the meeting in her Stinson, and two Rearwins and a Waco arrived filled with Chicago chapter girls. Helen Lehtio and Leila Baker from Detroit also flew over to Ford Airport, where Dearborn Inn is located. The Southern Ohio chapter was represented by Ione Coppedge.

The meeting adjourned in good time to allow everyone to get to Wayne County Airport, Wayne, Michigan, by noon for the Michigan State Air Races, which were being held there that week end. There were free-for-all men's races with several such planes as Art Chester's Jeep entered, direct from the National Air Races, and stunting and parachute jumps. On the afternoon of the 20th, a women's race, sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of 99's with a purse of \$600 took place. First prize was won by Betty Browning in a Warner Cessna; second by Nancy Love in a Warner Monocoupe; third by Helen McCloskey in a Lambert Monocoupe; fourth by Faye Davies Kirk in a Vervielle; and fifth by Dorothy Carpenter in a Great Lakes. The Women's Aeronautical Association of Detroit presented each participant in the women's race with a waterproof, zippered cosmetic carrying bag.

Michigan Chapter 99's held their October meeting at Gratiot airport, Detroit, on Sunday morning, October 11th. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: Chairman, Faye Davies Kirk; vice-chairman, Mary von Mach; secretary-treasurer, Helen Lehtio. Following a delicious luncheon as guests of Gladys and Howard Hartung, operators of the airport, the third annual Michigan State Women's Air-meet was held under the combined sponsorships of Mr. Hartung and the Michigan Aero Activities Association. All girls in the state holding student permits or higher were invited to participate.

Events in bomb dropping, balloon bursting, ribbon cutting, aerobatics, spot landing, gliding, balloon ascension, parachute jumping, parachute foot race and a written exam on recent aviation conditions were offered. There were individual prizes for first and second places in each event, and the Joyce Hartung loving cup trophy together with a large three-layer cake for the grand winner. Joyce is Gladys' and Howard's six-year-old daughter who has been flying since babyhood, and now has several hundred hours in her log. The trophy is to be kept for a year by the winner and then defended at next year's airmeet.

Entrants in the flying events were Mary von Mach in a Fleet; Mabel Britton in a Waco; Leila Baker in an Aeronca; Faye Davies Kirk in a Verveille; Alice Hammond in an Aeronca; Florence Swanson in an Aeronca and Dorothy Carpenter in a Great Lakes. In the parachute foot race and written exam there were also a large number of Student Permit holders. High scorer for the afternoon was Dorothy Carpenter who was awarded the trophy and cake, with Mabel Britton second, and Faye Davies Kirk, third.

Individual event winners and prizes were as follows: Balloon bursting, 1st, Dorothy Carpenter; 2nd, Mabel Britton: Bomb dropping, 1st, Alice Hammond: Ribbon Cutting, 1st, Mabel Britton; 2nd, Faye Kirk: Spot Landing, 1st Dorothy Carpenter, 2nd, Faye Kirk: Parachute foot race, 1st, Miss Mochris (student pilot), 2nd, Florence Swanson: Written Exam, 1st, Dorothy Carpenter; 2nd, Faye Kirk.

Illinois Chapter - Instead of Orchids it was Gardenias to the Chicago 99ers at their gala dinner that was held in their club rooms in the Medinah Club. The occasion was the election of officers for the coming year. A unanimous vote reelected the former officers of the chapter. They are: Jane Ray, Chairman; Vi Crosbie, Vice-chairman and Helen Colton, secretary-treasurer. The mention of gardenias was in view of the fact that at each girl's place at the table reposed a corsage of lovely white gardenias. Place cards in the form of airplanes were painstakingly made at Jane's house by Dot Ring and Eleanor Domack and herself. . . We were glad to welcome home June Kraft, who had just returned from an extended vacation in California and Hawaii. After the business meeting the girls were shown movies of their Rod-Air-O that had been taken at the meet by Jane Ray and Dot Sprague. Dot and Jane brought their own projectors and put on the movie. Some of the films were in color, and they were beautiful. Jane also attended the National Air Races as a delegate for the 99ers. . . The occasion of the air races in Detroit sent a number of the girls flying in that direction. Mabel Wilson flew over in her green Waco F and took Doris Langher as her passenger. At the 99 meeting in Detroit, Mabel was elected vice-governor of the North Central Section. Eleanor Domack and Dot Ring flew over in a Rearwin. On the return trip they blew a cylinder, and after making a perfect forced landing, the remainder of the trip was made in an American Airline's Douglas. Helen Colton flew over in a Travel Air, and just sneaked back into Chicago

as darkness fell. . . At a recent airshow at Sky Harbor airport, Loretta Breen arrived in her Travel Air with her brother as passenger. . . In last month's News Letter the names of several of the Chicago girls who participated in the Rod-Air-O were inadvertently omitted. They were: Vi Crosbie, Ruth Haupt, winner of the spot landing and bomb dropping contest, Marg McCormick, winner of the Naperville race, June Green and Loretta Breen, and last, but most important, Jane Ray, whose unceasing work was responsible for the tremendous success of the show, both financially and from the standpoint of attendance. . .

- - Jane Meyer - Reporter

NORTHEASTERN SECTION met October 3rd at a luncheon at Daisy Kirkpatrick's house in Swampscott, Massachusetts. Daisy is the new governor and her first meeting went off with a bang. Nancy Love, Transport, told of some of her experiences flying to California in her Beechcraft and gave us first-hand impressions of the Air Races. We had two new members at this meeting, Nancy Allen, amateur from Providence and Priscilla Murphy from Brookline. Priscilla is the youngster who obtained her driver's license and student's permit on the day she became 16 years old. She soloed a Stinson in a little over six hours and has piled up her ten hours to become a Junior member. . . Northeastern Section plans a Hangar Party at East Boston for Hallowe'en. All ships will be moved out of Shobe Airlines Hangar to make way for an orchestra, apple bobbing and pie-eating contests. An invitation is extended to all 99ers that are nearby on October 30th.

- - Barbara Southgate - Reporter

SOUTHWEST SECTION NEWS - Los Angeles Chapter - Miss Kilgore of Riverside, California, was installed as a new member of the Los Angeles Chapter at the October meeting. Betty Furman, chapter chairman, bid her welcome and we all hope to see her regularly at our meetings. . . Ethel Sheehy gave an interesting review of her experiences in the Ruth Chatterton Derby, in which she and her husband Bill participated again this year. The little Great Lakes certainly comes through with flying colors. . . Katherine Cheung, our only licensed Chinese member, also told a most thrilling number of experiences of her tour over the country this past fall. All her fellow countrymen turned out everywhere she landed her Fleet and gave her such ovations and parties, that Katherine is still resting up from the grand receptions.

- Hilda Jarmuth - Reporter

Bay Cities Chapter elected its new officers for the coming year, and they are: Janet Knight, chairman, Beatrice Nadon, secretary-treasurer. Janet is a transport and owns and operates her own flying school at Mills Field. Beautiful corsages and 99 pins on which had been attached small gold replicas of the chapter gavel were

presented the outgoing officers, namely, Ruth Wakeman, Maxine Fuller and Marjorie Hook. Members of Bay Cities have been invited by the Modesto Chamber of Commerce to attend the dedication ceremonies and Air Show at the new Modesto Airport November 1st. It was unanimously agreed upon by those present that the next Winging Party would be to Modesto for this occasion and at least seven planes are expected to join the flight. . . Mary Alexander, a former Los Angeles 99 was a guest. Mary is still an enthusiastic booster and we hope to get her back into the fold when she renews her license. . . Vilma Johnston, secretary to Colonel Clarence Young of Pan-American Airways, gave a most interesting account of her recent trip to Acapulco, Mexico, via one of the Pan-American Clipper ships, which was a visitor at the base at Alameda last month. She illustrated her talk by showing photographs taken along the route. As she was the only one on board other than the crew, Vilma hove to and acted as Stewardess, which provided her with plenty of diversion during the trip. . . Esther McCollum of Loyalton, California, was installed as a new member and we are most happy to welcome her.

- - Maude Miller - Reporter

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY SECTION - Several of the 99's who participated in the Roosevelt Field-Montreal Goodwill Flight this summer were present at the dinner given recently at the Paradise Night Club in honor of the return visit of the Canadians. . . The annual New Haven Air Meet was attended by Amy Andrews, Annette Gipson, Hope Noyes and H. Lucille Boudreau. Amy Andrews received first and H. Lucille Boudreau second prize in the visiting pilots special awards. . . Miriam P. Blagden entertained the 99's at her home in Manhattan. The monthly business meeting was followed by a social hour. . . Blanche Noyes has been appointed an air-marking pilot for the Bureau of Air Commerce, and has been assigned to the Washington office of the Airport section. She will work on assignments with Helen Richey, Louise Thaden and Helen McCloskey. . . Fay Gillis Wells and her husband have flown to California for an extended visit. . . Patricia Thomas of Castle Stevens, Hoboken, New Jersey, is a new member.

- H. Lucille Boudreau - Reporter

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - The Georgia Air Tour, which visited ten cities and covered a total of 25,575 miles, had among its participants Mrs. Ruth Mohr of Atlanta flying a Taylor Cub, Mrs. Charlotte Frye of Griffin in a Beechcraft and Clayton Patterson of Charlotte, N. C., in a Fairchild. . . Clayton Patterson flew to the Tobacco Festival in Florence, South Carolina, October 13th and on October 17 she and Zoe Harley attended the meeting of the Carolina Aero Club in Charleston.

- Clayton Patterson - Governor