

Virginia M. Thomas

JUNE

1937

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99 TAXI - Last year some enterprising 99's decided they could help their fellow members by furnishing transportation to visiting women pilots whenever possible, so they registered at the home airport leaving name and telephone number. Pleasant contacts and new friendships resulted. With summer here and the girls flying about the country more, it would be nice if traveling members could know what other 99's are near them; so a membership list is now available at cost for the personal use of members. If you wish the list, send 10¢ to the secretary, Alice Hammond, 15011 Glenfield Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

WEDDINGS - Dorothy Pressler, Governor of the South Central Section, was married to Merrill Morgan, Tulsa pilot, on May 15th. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan are at home at 1601 S. Knoxville Ave., Tulsa.

Helen MacCloskey, Airmarking Pilot with the D. of C. was married to Howard Rough, Assistant Director of the Bureau of Air Commerce, May 27th in Pittsburg. Mr. and Mrs. Rough will be at home after July first at 2929 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C.

RECORDS - Louise Thaden set a new speed record for women at St. Louis May 28th by flying a 100 kilometer course at a speed of 197.9 miles an hour. The former record was 175 miles an hour, held by Amelia Earhart.

NON SCHEDULED INSTRUMENT RATINGS were awarded two more women in April, thus making a total of four women who hold this high award. The two newest holders of the rating are Florence Boswell of Cleveland, Ohio, and Margaret Dorst of Atherton, California. The other two are Margaret Kimball and Amelia Earhart.

Mrs. Boswell began flying less than a year ago and in that unbelievably short time has received her 'private', I.C., Transport and Radio Transmitter's licenses and now the highest of all, her Non-Scheduled Instrument Rating. She took her test April 23rd in her new cabin Cessna from Inspector William Robertson.

Florence says, "I don't plan to go into storms, but when I do get into them, I can come through on my blind flying and not have to sit down at a Podunk airport and wait for fair weather." Abbie Dill testifies to her ability at instrument flying, as recently on a trip from Chicago to Cleveland they were forced to fly blind most of the way, landing at Cleveland when most of the ships were put away in hangars. Flying isn't Florence's only accomplishment by any means, as besides running her household, she acts as anesthetist for her husband, who is a surgeon.



Mrs. Dorst, formerly Margaret Fuller and member of the well-known flying Fuller Paint family has been flying for some years and has taken extensive aerial trips about the United States. She has owned a 6 place Travel Air, a Wright-powered Beechcraft and now has a Wright powered cabin Waco in which she took her instrument rating test April 29th from Inspector Robert Bedinger.

ANNOUNCEMENT of interest to the 99's is the arrival of John III to Mr. and Mrs. John Smith Hammond at Harper Hospital, Detroit, April 30th. Mrs. Hammond, or in other words, Alice Hirschman Hammond, is national secretary of the 99's.

### WHY I LEARNED TO FLY

Why I learned to fly isn't very exciting, but I'll try to tell it in as few words as possible.

At one time in my life I was the most nervous, irritable person in the world, or so my mother said. I just simply didn't know what to do with myself. The latter part of September 1935 I rode up to the airport and told Bill Craig that I wanted to learn to fly. The answer was, "Come right ahead, you can take your first lesson now." I got out of the car, excited---- a little frightened, but nevertheless determined to go through with it.

One day when Bill was out of town Frank Hulse flew around with me. It was an ideal day for flying. I went around the field in the Taylor Cub with Frank in the front seat and made the usual bumpy landing just before soloing. While we were at the end of the runway Frank got out and told me to take it around by myself. I took off and have never seen such a big, empty seat in all my life. I don't believe, however, that I ever made a better landing. From that day on I was completely "sold". In April 1936 I passed my test for an Amateur license and in July 1936 received my Private. A short while before I received my private my mother said that she wanted to be my first passenger. The D. of C. Inspector, Jimmy Nall, was really my first, because directly after he had given me my test he took the stick out and let me fly him around the field.

Last and best of all on November 14, 1936, I was married to W. A. Stephens, Transport and A&E. I think this will be a flying family from now on.

-----Zoe Stephens

### NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Illinois Chapter - Florence Boswell, Sect'y Treas. of the North Central Section, is rapidly becoming one of the Illinois Chapter's steady customers, and we're flattering ourselves that our meetings are so interesting that whenever she hears that a meeting is on, nothing less than zero-zero weather would prevent her hopping into her Cessna in Cleveland and winging her way to Chicago. We were delighted to have Florence present at the March meeting when Helen Colton and Vi Crosbie were co-hostesses at Helen's



home at the Lincoln Park West Hotel. Other guests were Mr. Patrick, instructor in instrument flying and Mary Winstanley, all from Cleveland.

The Chicago Municipal Airport restaurant was the scene of the Illinois Chapter's May meeting. Mabel Sherman and Doris Langher were hostesses at a charming breakfast to the girls. The place cards were diminutive menus, with the girl's name and club insignia worked out in silver. After consuming fruit, cereal, ham and eggs, toast, rolls and coffee----no we're not dieting----we took over a corner of the airport offices for a meeting, which was called to order by Jane Ray, chairman.....We were delighted to have as our guests Jeannette Lempke, Governor of North Central Section, who flew her Davis in from Bay City, Michigan, and Florence Boswell, who hopped from her ship spic and span, even to the point of a gardenia corsage. Abbie Dill was Florence's companion on this jaunt. The local talent present were: Alice DeWitt, Helen Budwash, Helen Colton, Eleanor Domack, Doris Langher, Jane Meyer, Jane Ray, Dorothy Ring, Emma Sprague, Mae Wilson, Ruth Haupt, Mabel Sherman, Martha Stadler and Maxine Bennett.....Jane Ray turned the meeting over to Jeannette Lempke, who discussed the election of National Officers in September. President, Vice-President and Secretary will be elected and changes in the constitution which will be taken up in the sectional meeting May 30th.....Lake Wawasee or South Bend were suggested for the meeting. It was hoped that by selecting Indiana as the state for the meeting it would serve to interest women flyers of Indiana in forming a chapter and joining the 99's. Illinois members were favorable to the location.

Chit Chat: Some of our gals must be fair weather pilots. Only three showed up for the April meeting, due to a local deluge. Many of the gals are planning a flying week-end to South Bend over the 30th. The rest are trekking toward St. Louis for the Air Races..... Helen Colton is expecting to be in Arizona and California for the first two weeks in June. United Air Lines will carry her there..... Jane Meyer is flying to St. Louis to "cover" the air races for her paper. She'll fly Chicago and Southern Air Lines.

Jane Ray, her health regained after a siege of illness, is her cheerful self again, and we were all delighted to have her among us once more. She is talking about a trip to Germany this summer, and June Kraft is Europe bound too. She left on a two month's vacation trip with her father.

Dorothy Ring is making 'em sit up and take notice at Chicago Municipal Airport. She's hopping passengers, and the news reels have been doing her up flying high, taking off and landing---three pointers, you can bet!.....Our Rod-Air-0 movies have been in demand. They were shown at the April meeting of the Illinois Air Pilot's Ass. and the Lawndale Flying Club.

----Jane Moyer

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter- The May meeting of the Michigan Chapter was held at the Detroit City Airport May 2nd. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed with Faye Kirk as Hostess, after which the business meeting was held. It was decided to hold a hard-times party at the Detroit Airport on the evening of May 22nd with dancing



and games of all sorts to raise money for the Chapter.....A lovely blanket was presented Florence Swanson, who is being married May 17th to Robt. Pasineau of Detroit, and a white silk scarf and matching handkerchief of parachute silk to Dorothy Carpenter, who recently completed the work for her Ph. D degree at the University of Michigan.....We have two new members; Ethel Nikrant and Roberta Lupton, both holders of private licenses and both of Detroit. Bobby Lupton recently journeyed out to San Diego to bring back her new Ryan S-T. It was her first cross country trip of any length and she flew it back alone, a right smart feat !.....Dorothy Carpenter gave a brief account of her experiences in the Aeronca cruise from Cincinnati to Miami and return, during the winter, and after the more formal part of the meeting, Ray Baker showed several reels of colored film to the group..... Jeannette Lempke's Warner Davis is now finished and was test-hopped Thursday after a vacation since last September.

---Dorothy Carpenter

Dorothy Carpenter has bought a low-wing Aeronca in which she will fly to Colorado Springs June 12th. From there as headquarters, she and a fellow-worker in Botany will spend the summer collecting and classifying cacti in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Northern Ohio Chapter - is having a round-up meeting and tea at the Women's City Club on Saturday, May 22nd at 3:00 P.M. Anyone who is in this vicinity is welcome. The purpose of the meeting is to gather together all of the women who are studying any phase of aviation, and plan for their participation in the entertainment of out-of-town women flyers during the Air Races and in the Air Defense Day at the Exposition sponsored by the Cleveland Women's Chapter of the N. A. A. The Northern Ohio group covers all of this part of the state as far south as Columbus, but at this meeting, all of Ohio will be represented. Some of these girls will compete in the Air Races, and most of them will perform on Air Defense Day at the Exposition. Tea will be served in the French Court and Mr. Don Patrick of Cleveland will speak on "New Licenses in Aviation". Jeannette Lempke, Governor of the Section, will fly in from Bay City, Michigan, for the meeting.

Florence Boswell has been taking a number of trips to other chapter meetings and business meetings and always takes some of the less fortunate flyers with her. She is most generous with her Cossna and helps the other girls to practice flying on instruments. I personally have learned a lot in the past few weeks. Last week we went to Chicago and she had a chance to prove how well she learned her lesson. I can guarantee she sure can fly blind, because we flew that way most of the way back from Chicago.

If any of you can plan to come a day or so early for the Races this year, September 3-6, we would like to have you participate in the Air Defense Program at the Great Lakes Exposition on Sept. 1st, just prior to the races. You may get in touch with me at 13419 Harlon Ave., Lakewood, Ohio.

----Abbie Dill

Leora Stroup of the Northern Ohio Chapter sends along some news bits. Cleveland N.A.A. gave a luncheon for Florence Boswell in celebration



of her receiving her Non-scheduled Instrument Rating and presented her with a corsage. Florence gave an interesting radio broadcast recently and in addition talked to the Cleveland Air Mail Service Club etc.....Mary King, Transport, thinks nothing of interstate flying. She flew to Wichita, Kansas, to help fly back a new Cessna for the Willoughby Field, then took off for a week-end in Virginia and recently made a round-trip to New York City.....Alma Arlene Davis surely makes use of her Beechcraft too. She gave a talk Saturday at the airport to a group of wide-eyed Girl Scouts of Lakewood and she opens her most lovely tulip gardens to frequent parties.....Mary Winstanley proudly owns her Private License now. She flies from Sky Haven Field in a Great Lakes. Your correspondent, who likes slow ships (so as to see the scenery) has developed a devotion to a new Taylor Craft at Willoughby Field. Hedge-hopping has gotten to be a passion at present.

The Cleveland 99's have sponsored a new Cleveland Heights Aviation Club of High School girls. They are studying airplane construction and traffic rules and as a matter of courtesy (and future business for Willoughby Field) rides were arranged in the Cessna last Saturday.

Cleveland Airport is the world's biggest and best now. The 1080 acres has a finished macadam asphalt landing mat of 85 acres, which is black and can be seen for miles. All this is to make Cleveland the place for the National Air Races Sept. 3-6. Entertainment plans are being made, also plans for the National 99 meeting.

--Leora Stroup

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY - Once again members gathered for the monthly meeting on May 3rd at the Hotel Pennsylvania. Ora May Luscombe was proposed for membership and voted in as a junior member of this section. Welcome..... To avoid any further misunderstanding, it was decided that applications for junior membership should have a certification of the solo time of the applicant. To become a junior member of this section it is necessary to have had 10 hours of solo time, and inasmuch as the application blank does not differentiate between dual and solo time, some girls have applied for membership without stating whether they have had the requisite solo hours. By the foregoing ruling, we hope to avoid this in the future..... It was also decided that delinquent members should pay the \$1 initiation fee, plus the usual membership dues, in order to be reinstated. ...Due to the fact that there are quite a few New Jersey members and they have very willingly been coming to New York for the monthly meetings, there was some discussion about holding a meeting in Jersey and reversing the proceedings. However, talking about it was as far as we got and it was decided to postpone such an event until fall.... But, the next meeting will be held June 7th at Alma Harwood's place in Rye. I really shouldn't call it a meeting, though, as it is really a party and anyone who was there last year still remembers it. We all had such a grand time and look forward to it eagerly..... Air Service Post No. 501 invited the 99ers of this section to be their guests at their meeting on May 12th at Marta's in Greenwich Village. From the reports I have had, members who took advantage of this invitation had a grand time.... That's all now. See you next month.

--Kay Tisza Traulsen



Added news of the New-York-New Jersey section states that Margaret Cooper and Amy Andrews flew in Amy's Stinson to Ypsilanti, Michigan, May 10th to visit Mabel and Harry Britton.

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Los Angeles Section - Wilma Fritschy flew up to Bakersfield and over the surrounding territory to see the wild flowers while they were at their loveliest. She didn't get low enough to pick a bouquet, but she got plenty of them from her passenger for her skillful navigation ..... Della Lawhorn flew to Santa Barbara in a Monocoupe recently, bent upon both business and pleasure..... At the May meeting of the Club, William McCormack, who was with Commander Byrd in Little America on his last trip told us something of the vicissitudes of an Antarctic expedition. It was a fascinating narrative, but ended all too soon..... Tony LeVere, a friend of Mr. McCormack's, was a dinner guest the same evening..... The Los Angeles Chapter girls were guests of the San Diego Jr. Chamber of Commerce over the week-end of May 8 and 9th. Genevieve Savago entertained the girls at a cocktail and swimming party on Saturday P.M. This was followed by a dinner dance at the San Diego Club. A few hours of sleep were sandwiched in before the Sunday activities started. Several girls attended the races. The Jr. Chamber of Commerce was assiduous and untiring in its efforts to show the girls every courtesy. There were fifteen members of the 99ers present and all report and extra good time..... Margaret Blair and Bessie Owens flew down in a Stinson and Ethel Sheehy saddled her trusty Great Lakes and galloped over for the hoe-down..... Mary Alexander is back in our fold after proselyting among the San Francisco gals for the past year..... Clema Granger's recent house party at Palm Springs was a grand success. The proverbial loaves and fishes turned into huge hampers of food and ample sleeping accommodations for the crowd. Joy reigned unconfined, but we hope not unrefined, for Clema's hospitality knows no bounds. There was swimming, a stage coach ride, dinner on the mesa and possibly a few other features that the degree of freedom of the press does not warrant our telling (I wasn't there, worse luck!).... Everyone attended the Aviation Club Breakfast at the Desert Inn on Sunday morning and took a final swim in the hotel swimming pool before starting the trek home.

---Gayle Stewart, pinch hitting for  
Hilda Jarmuth

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Bay Cities Chapter - The monthly meetings of the Bay Cities Chapter are getting more and more interesting. Our May meeting was held at the lovely new home of Ruth Wakeman in Burlingame. Those present were Maxine Fuller, Pansy Bowen, Ruth Rueckert, Afton Lewis, Vilma Johnston, Harriet Isaacson, Beatrice Nadon, Janet Knight, Phyllis Birchfield, Nelda Anderson and Maude Miller. After the business meeting games were played following which a delicious repast was served (My, my, is your reporter going highbrow in this news item! Well, after visiting Ruth's home, it just can't be helped, the place is so nice) Any visiting 99er should take advantage of the nice big welcome that is so apparent in this charming home..... Bessie Owen, of Santa Barbara, was a three day visitor in our fair city recently. We wish you would come oftener and stay longer, Bessie, so all of us could get a chance at hearing

first-hand about that grand trip of yours..... We are most happy to welcome into this Chapter a new member, Nelda Anderson of Oakland. Until recently Miss Anderson lived in Los Angeles..... The rummage sale held on May 22nd netted some \$15.00 for the treasury..... Ruth and Fred Rueckert flew to Modesto in Janet Knight's Fleet over the 30th..... Ruth Wakeman practically commuted between San Francisco and Sacramento, making five trips there during the past month in her Fairchild. She also acted as chauffeur and flew her husband down to Bakersfield.

--Hauco Miller

The 20th of the month is the deadline for news items for the News Letter. The last two letters have been late due to delay in receiving items from the sectional reporters. Remember, that the news must be in by the 20th, and reporters or members with interesting contributions must have their reports in by that date or such news cannot be included in the issue.

- Editor-