

July 1937
Editor, Ruth K. Wakeman, 2821 Hillside Drive, Burlingame, Calif.

ANNUAL MEETING: The national annual meeting of 99's will be held in Cleveland September 5th; business meeting 10:00 A.M., annual dinner for 99's and guests 7:30 P.M. North Central Section will be hostesses to incoming members. Plans are already under way for a tent at the field and transportation to and from hotel headquarters. Chairman for arrangements is Florence Boswell, 1334 Inglewood Drive, Cleveland, Ohio. Further details regarding hotel headquarters, Air Race Program etc. will appear in the August issue of the News Letter.

NATIONAL AIR RACES - Cleveland Municipal Airport, Sept. 3, 4, 5, and 6th. A. T. C. handicap race for women only. Purse, \$1000, for ships of 800 cu. inch displacement, maximum speed 175 m. p. h., qualifying speed 100 m. p. h. Bendix Trophy Race, open to both men and women, Purse \$25,000 with an added \$2,500 to the woman who makes the best time in the race.

THE AIR RACE COMMITTEE, members of which are: Chairman, Annette Gipson, Margaret Remey and Melba Beard, hopes to serve the best interests of the girls, which means knowing what they want and are able to do, then helping them do it. Plane types, and pilot types and their preferences, change as the industry grows. So the Committee wants to know how many girls expect to be active in races and other events, their experience and just what kind of flying event they will enter.

The information received, favorable and unfavorable, is to be given careful consideration in drawing up a general policy for the Air Race Committee to follow.

For the present we believe that the interests of the women race contestants, both amateur and professional, can best be served if the girls are more closely united, and can put up a solid front in contact with officials, promoters and others. That is why we want you to register your experience, preferences and opinions with the committee. Thus the officials and promoters can be given accurate information on how many girls in any section of the country are available for certain types of events.

Information we want includes: Name and address; flying hours; racing qualifications, naming number of slow, fast, and very fast races, also number of local and national events; what kind of plane you own or have definite use of for competitions; whether you depend upon renting the plane needed; what kind of races you prefer; kind of handicapping; your criticism or favor of past races; your preference of many small local events or a few national events; list of other competitive events you like or prefer to racing, such as spot-landings, stunting, etc.; your opinion of transcontinental races and derbies; opinion of competitive-pleasure flights like those put on by aviation country clubs and breakfast flight groups.

One difficulty the committee wants to remedy by seeing that rules for major races are set sufficiently in advance to allow entrants to make definite plans. Another and most important function is acting as a Board of Arbitration and Consultation in helping girls iron out difficulties rising from a contest.

The Committee anticipates your replies, and hopes you feel the importance of the subject to answer fully. Address communications to Melba Beard, 1881 Meadowbrook Road, Altadena, California.

"THERE IS A BIG PLACE IN AVIATION FOR WOMEN PILOTS", says Edna Gardner, nationally known woman pilot, who has been employed for the past 16 months as instructor and charter pilot for the Hobley-Maynard Air Service operating at Shushan Airport, New Orleans, La. The fact that she has approximately 1800 hours in the air and has won eight closed course races eminently qualifies her for the position she now holds.

It is well worth noting that Miss Gardner, because of her ability to teach, coupled with a most winning personality, has at present perhaps more students than any other woman pilot in the U. S. She has just soloed her 71st student and there are several more who are just about ready to try their wings. Being a woman pilot is apparently no hindrance, as she experiences no difficulty in getting charter trips, having recently gone to Tallahassee, Florida, Jackson, Miss., Meridian, Miss., Mobile, Ala., and LaFayette, La. It was while returning from LaFayette a few weeks ago flying a J-6-5 Aristocrat carrying two heavy passengers that a link-rod in the motor let go. Miss Gardner brought the ship down on the edge of a swamp near Franklin, La., landing between trees and ditches with no damage whatever to the plane.

Miss Gardner says, "I started teaching a few students just for fun. The whole thing has grown so by leaps and bounds that I have three ships now and am taking delivery in June on three more. I have more students than I can handle alone. I often start flying at 5:00 A.M. and many nights am teaching night flying and night landings after midnight. I have from two to five students going up for licenses every time the inspector comes to New Orleans, and it is all such great fun! Women pilots can be independent in aviation as well as men. Try it, girls!"

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

North Central Section held a sectional meeting Sunday, May 30th at South Bend, Indiana. Thirty members assembled at Bendix Field between 11 and 12 o'clock and were welcomed by the War Fliers, local organization, and as each ship landed, pictures were snapped. We were then driven to Hotel LaSalle to enjoy a fine luncheon tendered by Bendix Aviation Corp. Speeches of welcome were given by Capt. Charles R. Bowers, Walter C. Miller and Horace P. Wells. Our very able governor, Jeannette Lempke, conducted the business meeting and appointed various committees, i.e.: Nominating Committee for N.C. Section; chairman, Mae Wilson, Belle Hetzel, Edith Lackner, and Leora Stroup. Section meeting com: Chairman, Mary Kind, Mary Winstanley and Edith Lackner. Com. on arrangements for Air Races; Chairman, Florence Boswell, Mabel Britton, Helen Colton, Ione Coppedge, Abbie Dill, Helen Lehtio and Jeannette Lempke.

Our national president, Mabel Britton, honored us with her presence

July 1827

and gave us a most inspiring talk. The meeting was adjourned so we could return to the airport to watch exhibition stunting by Edwin C. Hedler, experimental engineer for Bendix Aviation Corp., holder of the world's record for consecutive spins.

One by one the ships took off for home, feeling well repaid for attending and looking forward to the new Indiana Chapter now in the making. Those present were: from Illinois, Alice Adamec, Helen Budwash, Helen Colton, Maxine Bennett, Ruth Haupt, Doris Langher, Jane Ray, Dorothy Ring, Alice DeWitt, Emma Sprague and Mae Wilson. From Michigan, Leila Baker, Mabel Britton, Gladys Hartung and Jeannette Lempke. From Ohio, Anne Barille, Florence Boswell, Abbie Dill, Mary King, Leora Stroup and Mary Winstanley.

As a nucleus for the Indiana chapter, we were glad to have with us: Marjorie Jan Stables, Margaret Wilson and Paula Warner. Jeannette Lempke's cousin, Erma Helmer, was a guest.

NORTHERN OHIO CHAPTER - This chapter is very busy at present making plans for the entertainment of visiting pilots during the Air Races. The National Air Race headquarters are now in operation in the Terminal Tower, and a little advance information on the events for women follows: There will be one A. T. C. handicap race with a purse of \$1000 for women only. The requirements are 800 cu. inch displacement, a maximum speed of 175 m.p.h. and a qualifying speed of 100 m.p.h. The Bendix is again open to both men and women. There is an added \$2500 offered to the woman who makes the best time in this race. The total purse for this Derby has been increased to \$25,000. It is very possible that there will be a handicap Derby, although it has not been definitely established as yet. Ruth Chat-terton being in England, she will probably not sponsor it again this year. As soon as we hear definitely about this race, we will put it in the News Letter. We hope there is one, so that all the western girls can fly here in the race.

There will be a meeting place for all the women flyers with sandwiches and coffee on hand. This will be on the Air Race side of the Airport. Definite plans will be announced later.

Last week the local chapter had a meeting at the Willoughby Airport, at which time the committee for the activities at the Air Races was appointed and one new member was announced, Miss Marion Coddington of Akron, Ohio. She holds an amateur license. There were also two other prospective members at this meeting, Mrs. Pease and Mrs. Laughlin. The next meeting will be on Sunday, July 11th at 10:00 A:M at the Willoughby Airport. Many of the girls in the southern part of the state will probably fly up for the meeting, as they did last week..... The girls of this chapter are again going to make a little trip this next week-end. We're off to Selfridge Field (guests of the Army, if you please! I have always been partial to the Navy, myself) Mary King will probably fly the Waco and load it with members..... Arlene Davis is getting well along toward her blind flight rating. She hopes to take her test very soon, and as far as we know she is the only private pilot working toward this rating.....The very

active Cleveland Women's Chapter of the N. A. A., of which most of our girls are members, is planning big things too. Don't forget their Air Defense Day at the Great Lakes Exposition on Sept. 1st, just two days prior to the Air Races. It will be a grand day, and we want as many girls to fly over the Exposition as possible.

-- Abbie Dill

Illinois Chapter - Jane Ray and Maxine Bennett were co-hostesses to the Illinois members at breakfast June 6th at the Chicago Municipal Airport. It was Jane's last meeting with the group before her departure for a three months' jaunt in Germany. Tiny boats were used as place cards, and we displayed our usual healthy appetites by romping through a dainty breakfast of fruit, cereal, bacon, eggs, toast rolls and coffee. A business meeting was held in the offices of the Bureau of Air Commerce at the field. Ruth Haupt was voted to the office of acting chairman during Jane's absence. Alice DeWitt extended an invitation from the Illinois Air Pilots to the 99's to participate in Sportsmen Pilots' Events during the summer..... And we announce with pride the names of our gals who, after long hours and serious work, now have their 3rd class radio-telephone licenses: Dorothy Ring, Ruth Haupt, Helen Budwash, Alice DeWitt, Doris Langher and Maxine Bennett. Harold Sogert was their instructor.

-- Jane Meyer

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY - June 7th to Alma Harwood's we 99ers, escorts, husbands, and others went.

You no doubt a lot of details want as to the time there we spent.

We came by train, we came by auto, and some of us by plane,

But alack, no gallant 99er came clutching Pegasus' mane.

Ahem! You want every single detail---now let me see----

The party was held out of doors, I recall.

At her lovely estate in Rye (pronounced to rhyme with see)

T'was a delightful party, a perfect night, and from Luna never a pout,

Pleasant, cool, and I am sure I saw a lot of trees about.

We danced between snatches of mountains of hot dogs and steak,

Nor were liquid refreshments lacking, though sad to relate

Your reporter regrets that she still cannot take it.

But, to Dorothy's ice-water method of reviving

Its proficiency she will hereafter be a-testifying.

Incidentally, Dorothy danced for us, to the delight of all,

This party, certainly on none of us did pall.

Everyone had such a wonderful time that glorious night,

Its effect on me is this marvelous pertry? -- such is my plight.

--Kay Tisza Traulsen

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - There was no regular meeting of the Southeastern section this month. All attention was turned to the dedication of the Greensboro-High Point Airport, which was held on the 28th and 29th of May. Mr. Joe Martin, the chairman of the dedication, most successfully handled the committees in an effort to produce the greatest aeronautical spectacle ever staged in the Carolinas. Mary Nicholson was secretary of the dedication committee and Ruth Stilson was assistant. The first big event of the dedication was the arrival of Lieut. Com. Frank Hawks and many other notables such as

Sen. Robt. R. Reynolds, Repr. Wm. B. Umstead, Gene Brown, veteran Eastern Airlines Pilot, Rear Admiral Arthur B. Cook, Chief of Bureau of Aeronautics of U.S. Navy Dept., Johnny Crowell of Charlotte, stunt pilot, Col. J. Monroe Johnson, Ass. Secretary of Commerce, Governor Clyde R. Hoey, Ass. Postmaster Gen. Branch, Thomas A. Morgan, pres. of Sperry Corp., and Walter W. Everts of the Everel Propellor Corp. Two more 99's also came in that day---Clayton Patterson of Charlotte, and Zoe Stephens of Augusta, Ga.....An aviation banquet was held that evening at the King Cotton Hotel, at which there were over 400 pilots and guests.....Saturday at 1:30 the Air Show was started. Among the events was a women's race in which Clayton Patterson, Mary Nicholson and Ruth Stilson competed and came in in the order given.....That evening there was an aviation ball held at the Seddefield Manor, at which time the prizes were distributed. The entire program was a credit to the county, the two cities and to Mr. Joe Martin, who headed it.....Ruth Stilson was the guest of Mary Nicholson of Greensboro during the dedication week. She returned to her home in Providence, R. I., on the 30th of May by plane, and will spend the summer with her parents in South China, Me. There is a beautiful, large lake in front of their home, if any of the girls happen to have seaplanes.

-- Ruth Stilson

SOUTHCENTRAL SECTION - Missouri Valley Chapter of 99's attended the Air Races at Hastings, Neb. June 5th and 6th at the invitation of the manager of the airport, Jack Jefford. Three of the members flew from Omaha in a Stinson. The banquet hangar dance and Air Races were all part of the program enjoyed by members of this newly-formed mid-west group.....Two new members of our group are "better halves" of flying couples. They are Mrs. Noll and Mrs. Rafferty.....Our next regular monthly luncheon will be held as usual at Hotel Fontenelle, Omaha, June 26th. We extend a cordial invitation to any 99's to drop in on us when they come this way.

--Beatrice J. Mack

SOUTHWEST SECTION- Los Angeles Chapter - Lucillo Baker of Phoenix was recently in our midst. The main purpose of her advent into our town was to procure her transport license under the tutelage of Joe Plosser of Grand Central.....Many of our girls are planning to go to the Santa Ana Air Meet on Sunday, June 20th and stock up at the free barbecue (to pilots only) at noon. More of this anon !..... Betty Mae and Bob Furman spent three weeks recently in the far north country visiting relatives and friends and gazing at the scenery enroute. While in Seattle, Betty Mae contacted several girls who belong to the Ass. of Women Pilots. There is no 99 organization there. When our wanderers returned they had to go to Palm Springs for a few days to recoup from the ill effects of the cold, damp weather they experienced in the north. (Not in San Francisco, Harriet)Helen McClosky previewed the Bay Bridge a few days before the official opening from a Stinson which she flew from Los Angeles..... A high in Aviation social events was reached when the Hawaiian party engineered by Mabel Bull and cohorts got under way Sat. P.M, June 12th at the Strickland Ranch at Van Nuys. The tennis courts, swimming

pool and patio were utilized in handling the crowd which numbered in the vicinity of three hundred. The tropical decorations, Hawaiian maidens, orchestra and a real Hawaiian Princess and her lovely dancing daughter added the glamorous atmosphere which so intrigued the numerous guests they lingered far into the night. Dinner was served from 7 till 10 at tables placed in cafe style on the tennis courts. Dancing was enjoyed all evening as were numerous other diversions. Mabel Bull, Esther Johnson, Betty Mae Furman and others who took the responsibility of the party, unnecessarily lost a lot of sleep for the party was a success financially as well as socially.Georgia Benter and Genevieve Savage attended our last meeting. Although they are members of our chapter, they find it difficult to attend regularly because of the distance.....Bessie Owen has invited all 99's to her home at 175 Butterfly Lane, Santa Barbara, the first Sunday in August, (Aug. 1st) She will furnish the transportation from the flying field to her home, although anyone choosing to drive will be equally welcome. Try to arrive between 8:00 A.M. and noon and be sure to let Bessie know if you intend to partake of her hospitality, so she will know how many cows to barbecue. We are anticipating this event, Bessie!..... Jack Miller, assisted by the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, plus Joe Plosser of the Grand Central Flying School, are sponsoring a winging party to Oxnard, July 11th. The flight will not be based upon speed, but navigation and observation, so that any of the girls in any ship will have an equal chance. There will be three or more prizes (details not all settled), and the flight will leave Grand Central Air Terminal at 8 A.M. Our hosts in Oxnard are taking the girls to breakfast and later a swim at the beach for those girls who do not have to return planes to operators before noon. Entries should be in one week before.....By the time this publication reaches the patrons, Kay Van Doozer will have donned her sailor's togs and boarded a freighter for a round-the-world jaunt. The voyage will consume six months, six weeks of which will be spent in Peiping. With Kay in foreign ports, Hilda Jarmuth consorting with Dukes and such in Europe and Esther Johnson only recently shaking her foreign accent acquired on a trip around the world, we are indeed becoming quite cosmopolitan.....Lauretta Schimmolerand Pretta Bell are to be guest speakers at the Westwood Girl Scouts' Mother-Daughter dinner to be held the latter part of June.....Ethel Sheehy in her Great Lakes and Evelyn Kilgore in a Taylor Cub attended the Beaumont Cherry Festival and picked up a little business instead of picking cherries. The landing field was somewhat skimpy, but the girls gave hops all day long. They had no difficulty in getting people into their ships, but Ethel almost had to amputate an arm to get one hefty fellow out because of his excess avoirdupois.

----Gayle Stewart

SOUTHWESTERN SECTION - Bay Cities Chapter - The June meeting was held Tuesday evening, June 1st, at the apartment of Edna Johnson Brown in San Francisco where she delightfully entertained us and served delicious refreshments at the close of the business meeting. Those present were: Harriet Isaacson, Janet Knight, Afton Lewis, Maude Miller, Ruth Wakeman, Ruth Rueckert, Beatrice Nadon, Marjorie Hook, Phyllis Burchfield, Olive Bledsoe, Dolores Guinther, and as guests Kay Nidick, and Helen Richy, and Rita Gerry.....Edna Brown will sail in July for Arabia to join her husband who is with the

Standard Oil Co. They plan to make that their home for 18 months. Edna showed some pictures from there that were most interesting..... The June winging party occurred the Sunday of June 9th when Marjorie Hook and Olive Bledsoe in the former's Fleet, Ruth and Fred Rueckert in Janet Knight's Fleet, Harriet Isaacson, Bea Nadon and Phyllis Burchfield in a Fairchild, and Nelda Anderson in a Security flew to Salinas for breakfast at the invitation of the Junior Chamber of Commerce..... Sunday morning, June 20th found Harriet Isaacson, Bea Nadon, Ruth and Bill Wakeman over at the Oakland Airport awaiting the arrival of the Soviet fliers, but alas and alack, they didn't arrive, so Harriet and Bea flew a Fairchild to Sonora to attend the Air Show. Nelda Anderson flew up to Sonora in a Laird. The same week-end, Ruth and Fred Rueckert joined the Sportsmen pilots from the Bay Area and flew Janet's Fleet to Del Monte where they enjoyed golf, tennis, bathing and the dinner dance given in honor of the fliers..... June 23rd Harriet Isaacson, Ruth Wakeman, Bea Nadon and Olive Bledsoe attended a luncheon at the Lake Merritt Hotel in honor of the Soviet fliers..... Ruth and Fred Rueckert drove to Salt Lake City the week-end of the 25th to attend the wedding of Fred's brother..... Peggy Dorst and her husband will leave July 7th on the Clipper for Honolulu for a combined business and pleasure trip, and will return by boat.

---Ruth Wakeman

NINETY-NINE PINS, BRACELETS, AIRPLANE INSIGNIA, may be obtained from the secretary, Alice H. Hammond, 15011 Glenfield Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Pins, gold with movable propellor	\$ 1.50
Identification bracelets with movable propellor	\$ 2.00
without propellor	\$ 1.50

Emblem on bracelet, silver; bracelet, chromium.

Airplane Insignia, without cost, to be painted on members' planes.

Distinctive Club stationery, finest grade of Deckle Vellum, pale gray color, Club monogram in dark blue over Club name. Envelopes to match.

Postpaid, 100 sheets and envelopes	\$ 2.75
" 50 sheets and envelopes	\$ 1.50
" 25 sheets and envelopes	\$.75

Order from the treasurer, Dorothy George, 940 S. Oxford, Los Angeles, California

SKY STORMING YANKEE, the story of Glenn Curtiss written by Clara Struder, former editor of AIRWOMAN, is now on sale and may be procured from the publishers, Stockpole Sons, 250 Park Ave., New York City, N.Y. The price is \$3.00 .