



NEWS

99

LETTER



June 1938
Editor, Dorothy Carpenter, 124 S. Franklin St., Allentown, Pa.

An Aviator's Prayer

I do not need those four square walls
And pews and candle lights and things,
Nor hear the clanging church bell calls:
I only need the sky and wings.

The wispy cloud that scuds on high,
The prop that chops into the air,
The clean, unlimited blue sky
Contain all things that make a prayer.

Ten thousand feet below me lie
Mountain, valley, stream and coast,
Around me, light and winds and sky,
Thy handiwork of which to boast.

Down there below us, in men's lairs,
They go to church and fight and die,
Those little mites who say their prayers.
What can they know of YOU, as I?

Father in Heaven, may I be
Humbler than the tiny ant,
For it has been granted me
To view Thy works as others can't.
- - Bessie Owen

The Executive Committee recently appointed Edith Lackner of Cincinnati, Ohio, the National Secretary of the 99's to replace Dorothy Morgan. Dorothy felt it necessary to resign because of ill health. May we extend a very warm welcome to our new National Officer.

Birmingham, Alabama will hold its eighth annual national air carnival on June fourth and fifth. All 99's are invited to attend and a good time is guaranteed.



FLAG DAY

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SUMMER BEGINS

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The Michigan Chapter has suggested for the Amelia Earhart Memorial that a scholarship be given to some girl to study aviation in a college or university. The scholarship would be in the form of a loan fund: the amount, etc., would be decided on by the committee.

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

NORTH CENTRAL - Illinois Chapter - May, 1938 will probably be long remembered in this section of the country at least, for its wetness. The skies have dripped and leaked with discouraging persistence. As a whole, the flying has been pretty soggy. But the activity does go on between the raindrops, the old regulars, Helen Budwash, Alice DeWitt and Mae Wilson carrying on as usual. Jane Ray, now that she's finished interior decorating her beautiful new home, has been putting in time with a vengeance. Of course the brightest spot in the month has been Air Mail week. Some of us had the privilege of watching on May 15 the autogiro landing and take-off on the Chicago Post Office roof. As an experiment in air mail shuttle service between Municipal Airport and the Post Office building, it proved highly successful, the round trip taking only 17 minutes. The landing, on a small sheet metal "spot", and takeoff in rain and hail were really thrilling to see.

The 19 was the high spot of all though. Municipal Airport was a beehive, ships came in that had never been on that field before, and it's my guess some of them will never land there again. Hindered by haze and scattered thundershowers, the Air Mail went through! The 99's were well represented. Helen Budwash flew out of Harvey; Mae Wilson came in from her own airport in Schiller Park; Alice DeWitt carried Uncle Sam's Air Mail, and this weary pilot, after dodging thunderstorms over most of northern Illinois, finally arrived in Moline by way of Kewanee (which is not on the course). The weeks to come will probably be an anti-climax after the activity of the last one, but we're having a meeting soon, so may be we'll think of something then.

- - Dorothy Ring

NORTH CENTRAL - All Ohio Chapter - A bouquet for Helen Curtiss, program chairman, whose persistent efforts brought about the grand affair of April 29. We had a marvelous turn-out from practically every airport in Ohio, and from the new rules and regulations introduced by Mr. Robertson, Department of Commerce inspector, we think it would be a good idea to discard the old regulation book and get a new one. Florence Boswell has been winging it again. . . this time to Pittsburgh, Wichita, and Dallas, Texas, where she visited Abbie Dill Haddaway, former member of our group. Before coming home she stopped in Chicago for a 99 meeting scheduled there, and after a hair-raising time landing, was greeted with the news that the meeting was called off. Her twelve-year-old son, Louis,

accompanied her on this lengthy trip. We are very happy to report that Thelma Wilson, newly acquired member from Canton, has received her 2S rating. Congratulations, Thelma. Arlene Davis is logging time in a tri-motor job in order to renew her license which falls due soon. For such a tiny gal she certainly can maneuver big things.

Florence Boswell and Helen Curtiss represented our group at the May meeting of the Cleveland Engineering Society and they are still talking about the invigorating speeches by Jack Knight, United Air Lines ace pilot, and Major Jack Berry, grand old man of the airport. In commemoration of the 200th meeting anniversary, the 99's were invited to attend the reunion of the Air Mail Society. We came away with the feeling that there are many who have a great enthusiasm for the advancement of aviation, even though they are not behind the controls themselves. And some of their coveted air mail stamp collections shamed yours truly. We will board ships Saturday noon, May 21, and nose south for Cincinnati to attend the official opening of the new air terminal; we are calling a chapter meeting for Sunday morning, May 22. Since the southern and northern chapters united into one, we've been unable to get the southern girls to attend our meetings, so since they won't come to us, we'll go to them.

- - Ann Barille

NORTH CENTRAL - Michigan Chapter - The Michigan Chapter met for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, May 8, at the Pontiac Airport, 30 miles from Detroit. Louise Carson of Pontiac was hostess. The Club was greeted by the Mayor after which he took his first airplane ride with Louise as pilot. He enjoyed the trip very much and she gave him a fine three-point landing. The Airport manager attended the luncheon later, and told the girls that this event and the fact that the Michigan girl pilots had met at the field had helped aviation in Pontiac to take a long stride. The field there is a fine one and the Administration building is splendid. The N. A. A. club rooms in it provide many types of activities such as handball, shuffle board, ping pong, etc. Jeannette Lempke flew from Bay City in her Davis. She has invited the North Central Section to meet with her for the famous annual meeting in the middle of July. The June meeting will be an early morning breakfast at 9 A. M. on Sunday, June 12, at the Lansing airport.

Helen Lehtio and her husband have a nice new Stinson. Leila Baker announces the arrival of her third son, Brian Ray. Nice start toward a fine baseball team. Both doing nicely. Mabel Britton was missed at the meeting, being ill with a sore throat at her home in Ypsilanti. Leora Stroup reported the formation of a unit of the Aerial Nurse Corps in Michigan. She has been appointed Cadet Captain of Division A, Fifth Corps Area. This group will be in charge of the

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medical units at all Michigan air meets this summer. After the meeting most of the girls went to Erin Airport to attend an air show in progress. One of the highlights was the cranking of the propellor of a stalled Cub in the air by hand. The perfect day was ended with a little flight of our own at Gratiot airport where the Manager, Howard Hartung, annually holds the Michigan Girls' Air Day. This year it will be held on Sunday, September 25.

- - Leora Stroup

NORTH CENTRAL - Missouri Valley Chapter - The Missouri Valley Chapter is proud to have as one of its members the youngest woman in the nation to hold a commercial pilot's license, and the only commercial licensed flier of her sex in the state. Evelyn Sharp, 18, of Ord, Nebraska. Evelyn will carry the mail on Thursday, May 19. Presentation of the license was made in Lincoln at a banquet given in her honor. Another member, Dorothy Broadfield of Glenwood, Iowa, will be another pilot to carry the mail on that same date. Two red letter days for this chapter came during the past month. At the time of Osa Johnson's visit in Omaha on April 19, Dorothy Berendsen and Dorothy Broadfield met the train at Council Bluffs to present the Chapter's greetings to the gracious jungle flier. Thrills for our young folks! The management of the Omaha Theater invited the members, along with United Air Lines' pilots, to be guests at the first showing of "Test Pilot". The president of our chapter, Belle Hetzel, president also of the Omaha chapter of N. A. A., was responsible as chairman of the educational division of Air Mail Week, for the success of the Air Mail Essay and Poster Contest in the Omaha schools.

- - Beatrice Mack

NEW ENGLAND - The New England reporter regrets not getting the news in on time last month and hopes not to offend thusly again. In April, Daisy Kirkpatrick, via American Airlines, and Nancy Love, in a Kinner playboy, visited Washington to see Jacqueline Cochran presented with the Harmon trophy. Daisy was also in New York for the luncheon Lowell Thomas gave for Jacqueline. Jean Adams had the interesting experience of taking a 91-year-old woman for her first airplane ride. They went cloud chasing. Jean's efforts were more appreciated by the elderly passenger than by the other very young couple in the ship. The April meeting was held at Louise Howard's in Norwood. Ora King sends in the report of the meeting: Old man winter prevented the girls from flying in, but there were ten girls present and Louise was nearly taken off her feet by surprise when she opened the door to an armful of baby clothes and gadgets. It was a surprise baby shower. Good luck, Louise, we hope it's a girl--she already has a future aviator! The question

of whether women should continue to race at Cleveland was discussed at length; the girls were also urged to do more work in the air-marking campaign. Dot Garside, Mrs. Holmes and Louise Howard were picked to make up a 99 year book. After the meeting a supper was served by Louise and co-hostess Jean Adams.

On May 7 a dinner dance was held at the Fox and Hounds Club with 140 members and guests present. Guests of honor were Blanche Noyes, chief pilot of air-marking for the Department of Commerce, who spoke on the subject, and Grove Webster, president of Private Flying Association of America and head of the Airport Directory. He spoke on the history of private flying, its trials and tribulations. Other speakers were Daisy Kirkpatrick, Allen Andrews, co-toastmaster with Glynn Jones, Department of Commerce Inspector, and Ben Fallett, President of N. E. M. A. A. Jean Adams, New England Governor of 99's, gave a huge cocktail party before the dinner which absolutely guaranteed its success. Yvonne Broadcarems, who works for the Mayflower Airlines, did some grand poster work for the dance. She is flying an Aeronca and will soon be a 99. Melba Doyle, another new member, is to be welcomed in at our next meeting which is being held at Dot Garsides'.

Nancy Allen, the Rhode Island Fire Chief, was subject of a radio personality hour broadcast from New York City lately. Helen McCloskey Rough and her husband flew into Boston recently in their new maroon and blue Stinson to visit Nancy and Bob Love. Blanche Noyes flew in in her Cessna and divided her time between Margaret Kimball's, Daisy Kirkpatrick's, and being guest speaker several places. Lorraine Franklund, our member who has been very ill, after being away on a southern cruise is back and "rarin' to go". It's mighty nice to have her with us again for she's a very active 99'er and much missed when away. Elizabeth Horton, who has been traveling here, there and everywhere all winter, has also returned to the fold. Bernice Blake Perry was in from Manchester in her Monocoupe. And how about some of you Maine, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont girls sending us some news? We've not heard from any of you for ages and want to know how you survived the winter. Jean Adams has received her third class radio license. Hortense Harris has been at the Boston airport nearly every day flying her Fairchild. The dinner held National Air Week at the Statler Hotel has such famous and interesting speakers as Senators Henry Cabot Lodge and David I. Walsh, Governor Hurley of Massachusetts, and Frank Crawley, first mail pilot. We'll end this month's story with the announcement of the new magazine, "Yankee Pilot", the first issue of which is coming out in June. It is to be a purely sport magazine of New England, edited by Joe Garside, Manager of the Norwood Metropolitan Airport. It will have a section just for 99's, so girls, send in your news and pictures.

- - Louise Howard

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SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION - Dorothy Pressler Morgan has put in a lot of hours at the controls of her Sparton the past month. We have had reports on her from Dallas, Texas; Houston, Shreveport, and she is now in Winnipeg, Canada, taking in the sights. Fanny Leonpacher and Alma Martin are recuperating from the Louisiana State Air Tour. From all accounts and results, it was most successful. Those braving the high wind May 7 to take in the Ponca City air show were Gayle Horral of Tulsa, Jimmy Kolp of Electra, Texas, and Una Goodwin of Oklahoma City. Elizabeth Haywood has come through again: this time she has offered the assistance of the 99's to the Postmaster of Brownsville, Texas, in connection with Air Mail Week. Another state air tour, that of Texas, proved most entertaining and successful to Jimmy Kolp and Abbie Dill Haddaway.

- - Una Goodwin

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Los Angeles Chapter - During National Air Mail Week two of our girls were honored by being made postmistresses and flying the mail. Ethel Sheehy, duly authorized, flew the mail from Fontana to Grand Central, Glendale, California, using a Great Lakes. Evelyn Kilgore was honored by the city of Beaumont and appointed postmistress, flying the mail in a Taylor Cub from that city to Glendale, California. Evelyn is also very proud of her new Instructor's rating, and says she's soloed two students already. Good work! Melba Beard proved to a "non-believer" the other day that her Bird airplane, a pal of many years which always came home safely like a homing pigeon, could still get upstairs with the best-of-'em. So, taking this doubtful passenger, gasoline, and herself, Melba soared up to 12,000 feet. Not bad for little "Grandmother Bird".

Wanted, a Sherlock Holmes, to find out why, where and when the Kinner airplane participated in Kangaroo-like antics, recently hinted at by "pupil" Mabyll Bull and "instructor" Gladys O'Donnell. General locale is Long Beach airport. With the June meeting (our last one until fall) Chairman Bettymay Furman appointed as the nominating committee for chapter officers, Esther Johnson, Dorothy Ruether and Lois Stanton. She also appointed as nominating committee for delegates for national and sectional meetings, Ethel Sheehy, Gladys O'Donnell and Onita Thorley. We hope to continue our summer activities, however, with beach parties, barbecue and a dance. Also plans are now being made to participate in a coming air show in the Los Angeles area next month. Hasta la vista!

- - Hilda Jarmuth

Several Governors still have not sent in their lists of old members who have failed to pay dues this year, and should therefore be dropped from the mailing list. Please mail them in as soon as possible.