

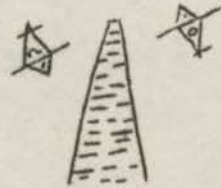


FALL

NEWS

99

LETTER



RACES

September

1938

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

By the time this reaches you, vacation will be over for many of us and the annual meeting and Cleveland races will be a thing of the past. We hope, as our new 99 year begins, that it will be a most successful one for our new officers, and that there will be good weather and lots of flying made possible for everyone.

- - D. C.

HURRAH FOR OUR SIDE
or
THE MOSTA OF THE BESTA

The Ninety-Nine Club roll, it seems,
Has Dorothys in reams and reams.
There's Dorothy B. SHAW, and lo,
We find a Dorothy MONRO.

The REUTHERS next a member bring,
And then we have a girl named RING.
The good old name of JONES we see,
And then a Dorothy named LEH.

The name of BERENDSON won't rhyme,
And so we'll just skip it for a time,
And go to EDGAR; KINSMAN, too,
Appears among this famous crew.

A CARPENTER is next revealed,
No doubt a "buildup" for BROADFIELD.
McBIRNEY'S name is written down,
And MORGAN from the same home town.

A "Dora" SKINNER won't quite fit,
And "Doris" LANGHER'S out of it.
But still we have a feast--a gorge--
Of Dorothys (including GEORGE).

- - Dorothy George

The following is the flying life history of another of our members, twenty-two-year-old Nancy Bird of Australia. It is part of a longer account written by her for a last May's Sydney, Australia, Morning Herald:

"Before I ever dreamed of being useful in the air by running an aerial ambulance, I just dreamed about becoming a pilot. Finance was a drawback, but I left school early, went to office work, and set to to save. I did, and after training under the late Sir Charles Kingsford Smith and Mr. Pat Hall, I took my 'A' license at 17, the youngest pilot in the country. Next I set my heart on the 'B' commercial license and obtained it at the stipulated age of 19. Enough money was scraped up for a second-hand plane and with Peggy McKillop (Mrs. Colin Keleman of Moree) as co-pilot and companion, we made two trips which covered the inland of New South Wales.

"An incident in that tour brot me into contact with aerial ambulance work. While we were at Bourke the Far West Children's Health Scheme unit asked if I would do a trip to take a clinic sister to some outlying towns. Virtually a portable clinic, we went from town to town, unpacking equipment and attending to the needs of mothers, babies and the various patients who had come from miles for attention. Upon my return they offered me a retaining fee of \$1000 a year if I would establish myself there and carry out aerial baby clinic and ambulance work for them. First I returned to Sydney to take delivery on a new 'Leopard' Moth, a cabin plane holding two passengers besides the pilot, and better suited for ambulance work. I returned to Bourke, built my own hangar, and settled in as aerial clinic pilot. My first district stretched 300 miles north, 300 south, and any distance west. The 10 months were alive with hair-raising thrills and adventurous work. Some of the poorer children out back grow up in homes of corrugated iron 20 miles from the nearest neighbor, hundreds of miles from a town. The homes have no running water, no gas, no light, are stifling in summer; vegetables and fresh fruits are scarce, and milk of poor quality. To these people we sped with our flying clinic. If they were poor we gave them emulsions, the medicines they needed, and even books.

"The carrying of outback patients in to the hospital was the most serious and satisfying part of my work. However the work was difficult for it is almost impossible to steer a compass course to Far West destinations. Rain or dust can blot out paths and landmarks in a few hours. Impromptu landings are often necessary. I had at my disposal three licensed landing grounds, but mercy errands were always bringing me to fields where I never knew what was below until I landed. For one desperate case I made a safe landing to reach my patient, only to find that before we could take off again a temporary stockyard had to be removed. I learnt to take the greatest possible care; never was my sense of responsibility so

great as with patients, so that I have had no accidents in my 70,000 miles by air. I was obliged to withdraw because the Society could no longer help me financially and I could not support the venture myself, indefinitely.

"As for my venture to England where I am now going, I ask no more than to be able to earn my living by flying, except that in future occasions, I would prefer sometimes that the path would be a little easier. At an earlier period I, too, might have been tempted with record-breaking, but aerial ambulance work has left me convinced of the uselessness of record-breaking. I have friends who were record-breakers, and greatly admire some of the flights that have been made, but it seems to me we have come today in aviation where we need something more cooperative."

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY - Mrs. Clemson's party on July 24 was a huge success in spite of the weather. The East had been doused in a drenching downpour for a week--the Sunday of the get-together being the first time many of us had seen the sun in ten days. Even then there still wasn't too much of it, and only one ship flew in from the Coast. There were a good many on hand, though, and we were most happy to welcome--guess who!--Doctor and Mabel Britton, who flew in from Ypsilanti just special. Mr. and Mrs. Clemson are among the world's most charming hosts. Mrs. Clemson was ill--feeling very rotten; but instead of checking out as she should have done and saying "You all just go ahead and enjoy yourselves" she stuck around and saw to it that we did! And she did such a wonderful job of it that none of us even knew she was feeling badly until after it was all over. First off everyone went for a dip. Then food--and such food! It looked so delicious that everyone hated to disturb it--until the first bite. After that there was no hesitation. The ice cream was the most fun of all; each serving was a different shape, running the whole gamut from Airplanes to Calla Lilies. (If there's anything apropos about that statement, it is unintentional I assure you.) In short, the meal was lovely to look at, delightful to taste--and oh, how we ate! Then Mrs. Clemson showed everyone through the Japanese garden, which is one of the loveliest, if not the loveliest, in the entire country. The beautiful shrine, the Japanese houses with their sliding glass panels and funny furniture, the moon bridges--everything was brought here from its native Japan. Mrs. Clemson has very generously invited us to come back every year. Can anybody guess what our answer was?

On the Sportsman Pilot's Cruise to Canada the 99's were represented by three members. Daisy Kirkpatrick was there for four days until Monday, July 25. The Brittons, who were, against their better judgment, prevailed upon to come, went up with my husband and

myself. But unfortunately we arrived in Canada the day Daisy left, and missed seeing her. The Cruise was quite some fun; a good golf course, tennis courts, boats, swimming, horses, and a Waco Seaplane for fishing purposes being thrown in with the room rent. The S. P. A. saw to it that we all had lots of fun. Betty Gillies went on the Seaplane Cruise to the same place, as did some of our other members; but I've not had a full report as to just who the others were. From what I have heard, though, a good time was had by all.

At our meeting of August 2nd, after the annual battle over the constitution had been fought and settled to the satisfaction of practically everybody, we planned a beach party for August the 20th. The girls are to fly out near the tip of Long Island to Hampton Field, which is but a stone's throw from the beach, if you're a good thrower. There will be a Spot Landing Contest upon arrival at the field, the girl who comes the closest to the line, without cracking up in the process, being the winner. Anyone who crashes into the center of the line is to be disqualified.

We have two more new members, Ethel Fedders and Carolyn Moran, whom we wish to welcome at this time. We hope you will enjoy the club, girls, as much as we will enjoy having you with us.

We talked over plans for a Picture Hunt at the Aviation Country Club late in September. A Picture Hunt isn't really a picture hunt at all--that is, you don't hunt for pictures. You already have the picture--what you do is climb into your ship and hunt for the place in the picture. In October we want to have a Paperchase at the Chateau Maggi on Long Island. (Now a Paperchase really is a paperchase, because you chase paper.) A Turkey Shoot before Thanksgiving sounded like a good idea if it can be arranged, as did a dance with that swell colored orchestra that we had last year some time in December, and a showing of some extra-special movies of her wonderful trips that Margaret Cooper promised us. Besides these we want to get in some more flying trips before the weather gets bad (Correction: worse) if we can. The next business meeting will be September 12.

Jeannette Lempke of Michigan flew out about the 4th of August to see Corrigan arrive. She said that was as good an excuse as any to fly to New York! (Incidentally, three cheers for a fellow who really knows how to take his fun where he finds it, and after he's found it knows how to keep it fun.) I was her proud and privileged host for one brief day, and enjoyed the visit very much. It's a bit doubtful whether Jeannette did or not, as the weather was so bad (to put it politely) that she had to come to Trenton on the train. Trouble was she got a very late start back, having, with a little (?) help, missed two trains, and had to get up very early next morning to fly back to Bay City.

Flew up to Roosevelt Field the other day to get the prop pitch changed, and who should walk out of the hotel but Mabel Britton!

Recovering from my amazement I learned that she'd flown in from Ypsil to get her Lear radio fixed, preparatory to a vacation flight through the Northwest with her husband. Margaret Cooper played host to us both that night, and Mabel got an early (Aviation Time) start back next morning.

See you all in Cleveland!

- - Johnny Brunton

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter - Peg Horton was hostess to the Michigan Chapter of Ninety-Nines, at Flint, Sunday, August 14. After converging on Flint's Bishop Airport in the morning, we drove to Flushing Park, where a good old-fashioned picnic dinner was held. For further information on how to successfully combine hot dogs, ice cream and olives, see Jeannette Lempke. The Flint meeting always draws out a large crowd because of the delightful time we always anticipate there, and this meeting was no exception. The Ninety-Nines present were Leila Baker, Jeannette Lempke, Marion Jane Weyant, Helen Lehtio, Faye Davies Kirk, Helen Montgomery, Alice Hammond, Louise Carson, and the hostess. We also had with us again our Section governor, Florence Boswell. Several of the girls brought guests with them, making quite a jovial crowd in all. Mabel Britton was unable to attend because she and her husband, Dr. Britton, were starting on a Western trip in their Fairchild. Good luck, Mabel! They also recently took in the New York-New Jersey section meeting, and the Sportsman's Pilot Cruise to Canada. Alice Hammond and husband have just recently returned from a vacation trip to Boston. Marion Jane Weyant has just returned from a plane trip with the Michigan Light Plane Cruise. She flew a Taylorcraft and came out in third place in the trophy competition. She is negotiating for a ship of her own, an Aeronca C-3.

Our plucky little pilot, Jeannette Lempke, flew her Davis monoplane to New York City to be among those present to welcome back that intrepid Irishman, Douglas Corrigan. From what we can piece together from her modest comments, we gather that she was entertained in royal fashion, having dined next to Mayor LaGuardia, among other things. While in New York, she stopped over at Holmes Airport. She also visited Max Brunton in Trenton and was given a ride in the new Luscombe Nifty-Fifty. Jeannette reports an uneventful flight except for a blister on her empennage. She recommends frequent stops for gassing in the future. Helen Montgomery just recently received her L. C. certificate and is now hopping passengers occasionally at Triangle Gliderport. Florence Boswell and daughter stayed a few days in Flint, where they are visiting Florence's mother. Her suggestion is that everybody send in a photo or snapshot of herself and her plane, if possible, to be posted on the wall at Ninety-Nine Headquarters at the National Air Races. In this way she hopes that everybody can identify her fellow Ninety-Nines and associate the faces with the names she has so often heard mentioned. Leila Baker will be our delegate with Faye Davies Kirk as alternate.

Our next local meeting will be held in connection with the annual Michigan Girl Flyers' Day at Hartung Airport, September 25.

- - Helen Montgomery

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - All-Ohio Chapter - Major Barnhill presented a very fine talk to the girls on Friday, July 29. Those who did not attend really missed something. Florence Boswell and daughter, Louise, are flying over North Central section territory and stopping to say hello to 99 members. Florence plans to wing as far west as Omaha and then return. (Plans for the Air Races beckon her home). Mary King has nosed her Stinson east and from what we hear is having a grand time. Some secluded spot in Canada or Alaska has attracted Ellesse Dahlgren; the secrecy because she wants to rest. Leora Stroup has finished her summer course at Western Reserve University and has done a very fine job. We welcome you all to the 99 Headquarters at the Cleveland Grand Stand building on September 3, 4, and 5. Hope you'll enjoy the Air Races and that we'll meet all of you.

- - Ann Barille

MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER - Our chapter is having a special treat this month. For the first time a governor of the 99'ers is visiting us. Mrs. Florence Boswell, governor of the North Central Section, and her daughter, Louise, are guests at the home of Belle Hetzel at Avoca, Iowa. We are all flocking to Avoca on the 18th of August. Some of us will be there for the chicken dinner at one o'clock; others will have to come later but in time for a supper out on Belle's lovely lawn. We are looking forward to the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Boswell and her daughter and to coming into closer touch with the 99's through this visit.

Another member has been feeling proud (at least she should be) lately, for she has her private license now after having been flying a comparatively short time. This is Annabell Nielsen. Dorothy Broadfield and Annabell gave a flying exhibition at the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Municipal Airport on Sunday, August 14, at which time the Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored a precentennial program of races and stunt flying. Other 99er's helped Burnham-Miller Flying Service, which put on the program, by selling tickets for rides.

- - Beatrice Mack

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION - Jimmie Kolp has been winging around over the country recently, visiting San Antonio and Oklahoma City. Jennie Tschoep has been taking a course at Spartan School of Aeronautics the past year and now has her L. C. License and is getting ready

to take her Transport. She is the first girl to become President of the "Dawn Patrol". We expect to hear a lot about Jennie in the next year or so. Una Goodwin spent her vacation at Dallas and San Antonio, visiting all the airports while gone. Gayle Horrall flew up to Greeley, Colorado, two weeks ago to spend three months with her husband, who is working there. Abbie Haddaway has been building up time on a Fleet down at Fort Worth. She and her husband have been flying around to many of the ports.

- - Una Goodwin

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Los Angeles Chapter - One exodus of the chapter this month is Gladys O'Donnell, who at present is in Chicago, busily working with the National Policy Forming Committee. Gladys has been very active in the Republican Party activities, and her enthusiasm is a guiding light for the women of today.

Clema Granger and Kay Van Doozer had a private winging party from Inglewood to Santa Barbara recently. They were entertained at luncheon by Kay's relatives, and after a swim party, left for home just as the sunset sky was most colorful.

Bessie Owen has been very quiet recently. And, you know, when little girls are very quiet there is usually cause for investigation. . . Her red Beechcraft is being groomed and polished--where to this time, Bessie, South America??

Your reporter has had a busy summer. No, can't afford a vacation, but had interesting experiences with radio broadcasts and stage performances. Have been everything from French maid, wealthy American widow, English lady and comedian. The career of a Thespian has its points--never a dull moment. Hasta la Vista!

- - Hilda Jarmuth