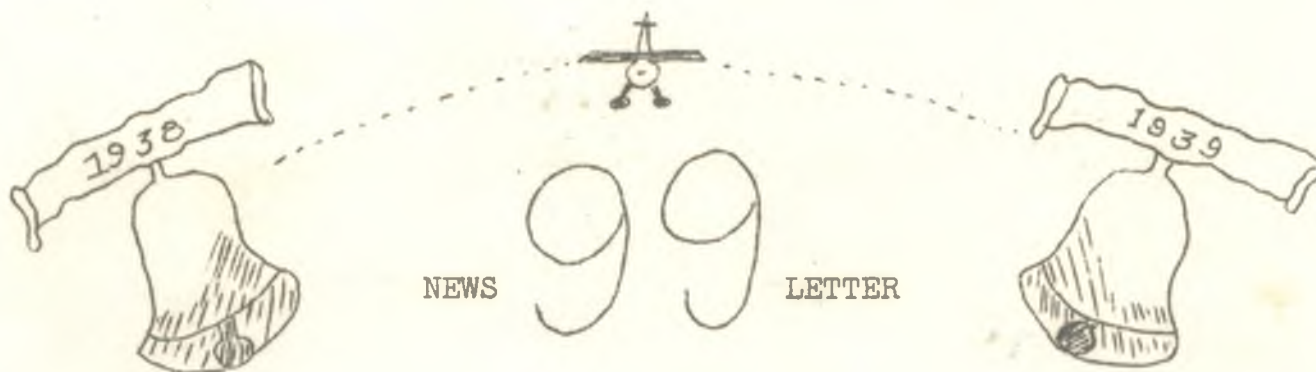


2001
news



January

1939

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

99 DUES: Will members who have not yet paid their 1938-1939 dues please send remittance of \$3.00 promptly to their Sectional Secretary-Treasurer or Governor? Names and addresses of Sectional officers are listed on the last page of this issue.

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The following is a most interesting account by a member of our newly formed Minnesota Chapter of her trip to Czechoslovakia a short time ago:

"During my recent trip to Czechoslovakia I had one of my fondest hopes realized when I was allowed to fly at the Bata Airport near Zlin in Moravia. You might be interested to know that they had a Taylor Cub there too, but inasmuch as it was under repair at the time, I flew in a Zlin XII instead.

"The Zlin XII is a small low-wing monoplane about the same speed and power of the Taylor Cub, but has more sensitive controls and responds very quickly to the lightest touch. The throttle opens just the opposite way it does on the Cub and on the dashboard are a compass, an altimeter, oil guage, tachometer, motor temperature guage and a meter showing angle of ascent and descent. I flew with the Chief Pilot, Jan-Serhant, who let me handle the controls. The next day he made arrangements for me to fly from Zlin to Praha in this little Zlin XII, a distance of about 200 miles I should judge, and we made it in 2½ hours. Along the way we stopped at a small emergency field for additional petrol and then continued on to Praha. We landed at the civilian airport there and reported to the Field Master. It was interesting to note the big Russian transport plane getting ready to take off with such names as Moscow, Paris, Praha, Berlin, Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest printed on its fuselage."

- - Emily Cikanek
St. Paul, Minnosota

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter - There's something magnetic about an invitation to the home of a girl like Alice Hammond. She very graciously invited us to have our Christmas meeting at her beautiful new home in Grosse Pointe Farms, and we turned out en masse on Sunday, December 11. Florence Boswell, Sectional Governor, hopped over from Cleveland in her Cessna with Helen Curtis holding down the co-pilot's seat. And for Florence a flight from Cleveland to Detroit is only a hop, for we understand she recently flew all the way to Minneapolis, a distance of 700 miles, for the sake of attending a 99 meeting. Other guests included the old standbys--Jeanette Lempke from Saginaw, Peg Horton from Flint, Marion Weyant from Lansing, Mabel Britton and Louise McEnnan from Ypsilanti, and a host of Detroit girls. Ruth Wakeman was again present as guest of Alice Hammond. Ruth must indeed be a remarkable girl! She had her Christmas shopping all done at this early date! There were 17 of us seated at two tables for the delicious luncheon of ham with sweet potatoes and all the trimmings. (The trimmings included bushels of salted pecans, it seemed, and Alice attributed this to the fact that she had put Ruth Wakeman on the "Nut Committee".

The tables were decorated with centerpieces of silver Christmas trees and red and green candles. Each place boasted either a green candy tree or a red candy Santa Claus. Mary Von Mach was later seen biting the head off her Santa Claus. Each member contributed a gift which would be appropriate for some needy child in cooperation with the Michigan Children's Aid Society. Mabel Britton's car really looked like Santa's chariot when she had loaded all these gayly decorated packages into her coupe to turn them over for distribution.

Florence Boswell has volunteered to do the dishes for the next meeting, for she extracted from the 25¢ gift exchange a lovely flowered apron with "99" appliqued on it. Many lovely gifts were to be seen glittering in the light. Especially delighted with her gift was Jeannette Lempke because she received a toy airplane, class 4M. Mary Von Mach furnished four mysterious looking Christmas packages, for which everyone drew chances. And what do you suppose they contained? Such useful items as motor oil, varnish, etc!

Alice proved to be such a splendid hostess that every girl was bubbling over with good fellowship and Christmas spirit. Her little son, "Butch", really stole the show but seemed just a little bit awed by the profuse display of dazzling femininity. Just wait until he grows up!

It looks as though we are all going to be several degrees wiser in the elusive ways of radio beams and blind flying instruments, for we have considerable talent lined up for our educational program this winter. Those two energetic workers, Gladys Hartung and Alice Hammond, have made some important contacts with prominent instrument and ground school instructors in this vicinity who have offered to conduct a series of lectures at our meetings this winter.

On January 7, which is the day before our next meeting, we are going to have another hay ride, or will it be a sleigh ride? Anyway, Faye Kirk, who constitutes the hay-sleigh ride committee, says we're all set for the weather this time. Everyone is going to be there and bring a friend or two, as we all had such a grand time at the last such event.

We told you last month that Marion Weyant went deer hunting. Well, we have her personal report on it now for your perusal. Here's the dope. Everyone in her party got his buck except her mother and her grandmother! Now we thought this was a modern age! What was the matter with grandma?

Last month we took in a new member, Mrs. Louise McEnnan, of Ypsilanti, who has a private license and seems partial to Cubs, especially the "50's". She has been flying for some time and has clocked up pretty close to 100 hours. Before she obtained her license, she made a trip from the Cub Factory in Pennsylvania to her home. Since she has obtained her license, her daughter has enjoyed riding with her. Her husband, Eddie McEnnan, runs a flying school and sells Cubs in his spare time. We hope that Louise will enjoy a pleasant and worthwhile association with our Chapter.

- - Helen Montgomery

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Illinois Chapter - After too long a lapse of time the Illinois Chapter held its November meeting at the Medinah Athletic Club of Chicago. Lately the meetings have been few and far between, and it was good to see all the girls again. Florence Boswell of Cleveland was a more than welcome guest. A roast duck dinner and all the trimmings preceded our meeting at which some important things happened. Mae Wilson, former vice-governor of the Northwest Section, was elected our new chairman. Mae is a transport pilot and owns and operates her own field, the Wilson Airport. Jane Ray, former chairman, is now vice-chairman. Alice DeWitt of Ashburn Airport, is our new secretary. All prospective members will be ably taken care of by Dorothy Ring, and Jane Meyer has charge of programs for future meetings. We are very proud to present a new license belonging to Ruth Martin. Congratulations, Ruthie! The chapter again contributed to the purchase of Christmas baskets which are given yearly to the needy. Here's hoping that each and every one of you has enjoyed a lovely holiday season.

- - Loucille Young

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Minnesota Chapter - Busy, busy, busy . . . describes the 99's in Minnesota this past month. Florence Boswell and Helen Curtis flew in from Cleveland Saturday, November 19, for dinner. We enjoyed their visit--fleeting though it was--and hope they'll wing their way to Minneapolis again soon. Mrs. Boswell added some ideas on air-marking to those received from Major Ray Miller of the 109th Air Squadron, who dined with us the previous week. Two business meetings on our air-marking project were held; the one at Ruth Kunz's home culminated in a jam session--Lambeth-

walking while the apples burned (in the fireplace); the other, at Emily Cikanok's, gave us the opportunity to see her costume and other lovely things she brought back from Czechoslovakia.

Frances Lennon got her hands on the Stinson's wheel when she flew north to Duluth with Rose Dale's brother, Wally, and a couple of Cedar Airport students. Rose missed out--needs must work. And, speaking of Cedar Airport--were the 99'ers up in the air! They were the guests of honor at the dance given Thanksgiving eve by Wally Dale and his partners in recognition of the opening last summer of their new private field. Our new member, Barbara Archer, was appointed a traffic representative for Northwest Airlines and has left for New York City. How about some of you girls looking her up? Her headquarters are in Rockefeller Center. Zero weather up here--some snow--but not enough for skills on the planes.

- - Janet Wakofield

MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER - The Christmas spirit descended upon our chapter a little early so that we could be assured that Santa wouldn't forget us entirely. In lieu of nice, shiny planes, some of us at a get-together at Belle's on Saturday, December 10, received small silver, red and green, or even rubber ones. Tests on spot landings, cutting the ribbon, blind flying, and steadiness of nerves were conducted by Annabell Nielsen and Dorothy Berendson. Of course, onlookers might have thought us other than pilots if they had seen us blindfolded doing such stunts as trying to pin a little plane on a spot on a pictured airfield, cutting strings hanging from lights, or dropping peanuts into a bottle. Nevertheless, those were the tests. One pilot of the other sex who happened in to snatch away our new junior member, Adele Joppson, failed to hit the spot with his plane. Was his face red! As guests we had Sonnoe Mae Joe, Miss Von Hous, a nurse who has recently soloed, and Ruth Nelson, another nurse who began her flying in Denver and hopes to continue it here.

- - Beatrice Mack

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION - West Pennsylvania Chapter - In the glare of

many newsmen's flashbulbs, the Western Pennsylvania Chapter's second meeting got under way at luncheon on Sunday, December 11th, in the Hotel Roosevelt, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. . . being especially honored with the presence of none other than Louise Thaden as guest speaker. Our guests also included Helen Ball, a former "99" who still keeps an active interest in aviation by assisting her husband, Cliff, and she had many interesting tales to tell about flying back "when". Ellen Douds and Betty Heckert attended as prospective members. We have TWO NEW MEMBERS to boast about. . . Miss Theresa James of Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania, an all-round flyer and stunt pilot. Theresa has caused many a sunburned tonsil with her loops 'n rolls 'n spins. . . and Mrs. Helen Walker of Warren, Pennsylvania, who expected to fly down for the meeting but the weather was lousy so she

couldn't make it. The Western Pennsylvania Chapter is just mighty happy to welcome these two gals into the "99's".

We missed the happy laugh and ready wit of Ellen Smith, our Secretary and Treasurer, who is recuperating at the Meadville General Hospital, Meadville, Pennsylvania, after a very recent operation. Our good wishes to her for a speedy recovery. Until Ellen is able to again take up her duties for the Chapter, Leona O'Shea has consented to write our minutes and manipulate the purse-strings of our treasury. The treasury, by the way, is now taking form, one member having turned in the total proceeds from her money-making plan.

At the suggestion of Marge McCormick, it was decided to offer a trophy to the member of our Chapter who landed at the most airports from January 1st to April 30th. We're all out to WIN that trophy so our logs will probably look more like Autograph Books by the end of the contest.

The main topic of the meeting naturally was THE MIAMI AIR RACES. Louise Thaden very graciously outlined and explained the details and procedure of air races in general and the current Miami Races in particular. The girls in this area have never had the opportunity to compete in such events locally, and needed Louise to fire our enthusiasm. Her word pictures of the "problems and joys" of cross-country and closed-course racing did the trick. The members in attendance were unanimous in their agreement with Louise that the "99's" must GET GOING if we expect to continue to have national competitions for women.

The four members from Western Pennsylvania Chapter who stated at the meeting that they expected to fly to Miami via the New York-to-Miami Race, or in light-plane cruises are: Margaret McCormick, Leona O'Shea, Theresa James and Frances Allen. We hope to see many other "99's" in the Races there. . . giving Daisy Kirkpatrick and her Committee 100% support in their efforts to promote women's air races.

- - Frances L. Allen

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION - Washington, Baltimore, Richmond Chapter -
The first meeting of our newly formed chapter was held in Washington, D. C., on November 20 for the purpose of electing officers. Present were: Johanna Busse, Chairman pro-tem; Ruth Wieland, Harriett Sackett Black, Helen Frigo, Lydia Clement. The officers elected were: Ruth Wieland, Baltimore, Chairman; Anne Byers McKee, Richmond, Vice-Chairman; Thelma Elliott, Baltimore, Secretary-Treasurer. It was tentatively decided to hold the next meeting the last week in January or the first week in February, the meeting place probably being Baltimore, (by permission of the Chairman.) There being no further business the meeting was adjourned and the members scurried out to College Park Airport to participate in or comment upon the WADA Air Meet being held there.

- - Johanna Busse

METROPOLITAN TRI-STATE SECTION - This Section has been doing so much in the past weeks that it is difficult to cover it properly. Out of the whirl of activities, the following seems to be uppermost in importance: Our dance at the Hotel Woodstock on November 18th. Daisy and Harry Kirkpatrick came down from Boston with Jean Adams. We are grateful that the National President found the party worth sending a report personally. We are merely tagging on a few details and modestly mentioning a few distinguished guests. Distinguished guests included those of Mary Nicholson's party--Commander J. S. Kenworthy, Commandant of the Naval Air Station at Lakehurst, New Jersey, and Mrs. Kenworthy; Commander and Mrs. T. D. W. Settle. Commander Settle, recognized the world over for outstanding accomplishment in Lighter-than-Air work, received additional honors from two foreign governments earlier in the day. From Lakehurst, also, came Lieutenant and Mrs. George S. Watson and Lieutenant and Mrs. R. S. Tyler. Also present and thereby doing us honor were Mr. and Mrs. LeBrun of Paris. Mr. LeBrun is American representative of the French Air Union and the French Line; Atlantic commuter, Dick Merrill; Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Bruno; Mr. and Mrs. Alfredo Studer (Clara Studer, to you all), and Mr. Dudley Field Malone.

We were extremely flattered at the way the American Legion Aviators' Post, especially mentioning Suwanee Taylor, Chuck Kerwood, Colonel Harold Hartney, Major E. E. Aldrin (erroneously reported as "Dedrin" in last issue) and Harry Bruno crashed through and aided so much in the success of the party--not only the success but the gaiety of the party.

Unquestionably this was the most successful of our annual dinner dances. Having received and taken care of approximately eighty reservations in excess of the one hundred and fifty promised, I am sure the Committee in charge needs no mere words to assure them their efforts were appreciated. They saw for themselves. The scroll presented to Jackie Cochran was parchment, carrying at the top the 99 insignia, under that the words "To Jackie Cochran." Under that a line of verse, composed by a 48.5er (99er's husband, case you don't know) running something like this. . .

"and clearly she soaks in her bright winging,
A boundless sky, a boundless flight". . .

Then in three columns followed the names of the Metropolitan Tri-State 99's. The scroll was tied with ribbons of the 99 colors. Belle Heinman assisted Ruth Nichols on decoration, and made a clever mural for the wall behind the guest table depicting Jackie Cochran, her Seversky airplane and plenty of blue sky and white clouds.

Our last meeting--Monday, December 5--was guest night and very interesting movies taken by past National President, Margaret Cooper, and guests, Mr. and Mrs. Abbey, were presented. Margaret's covered a Mediterranean cruise--Egypt, India (Red Sea) Burman, Straits Settlement, Hong Kong, Shanghai, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Abbey, guests of

Mary Nicholson (what interesting people our Mary knows!) showed activities in Alaska. Especially interesting was where Levanesky, the Russian pilot--now lost in the North--and companions brought Jimmy Mattern back to Alaska after he had been found in Siberia.

Messrs. Johnson and Roberts of Twentieth Century-Fox had dinner with us. Asked one of the girls why she learned to fly--a 99 visitor from Rochester--and the answer was "There wasn't enough of interest on the ground." Nice going!

Christmas cheer and prayers from the Metropolitan Tri-State 99ers to you all! Prosperity for the New Year!

Novetah H. Davenport

NEW ENGLAND SECTION - The New England 99's if so accused will admit to being "monkey see-ers, monkey do-ers". We so liked Dorothy Carpenter's idea of selling chances on a radio that we're doing it too. The drawing will be December 18--the radio, a Philco. At the November meeting the 1939 officers were elected: Jean Adams, Governor; Hortense Harris, Vice-Governor; Ruth Hamilton, Secretary; Louise Howard continues to be reporter. We had the pleasure of a visit from Ruth Nicholson of New York, who is Jackie Cochran's secretary. She came up from Providence with Louise Sisson. The club presented Louise Howard with a silver spoon for daughter, Judith, born recently. It has the 99 insignia on it, the name and date. Louise Sisson, who is an expert in silver craft, made it. Jean Adams, Constance Sheridan and Lillian Holmes were doing tight spirals recently and rumor hath it that she who occupied the rear seat felt like a tight spiral when it was over. No names mentioned.

Ruth Granger, who is now secretary to the terminal manager of American Airlines at East Boston, has been doing a lot of weekend flying at Falmouth, Mass. Marion Tibbetts, one of our recent members, gave patients of the Lakeville, Mass., hospital a treat with stunt flying easily observed from their windows. Nancy Love and Daisy Kirkpatrick are flying to Washington, D. C., for the week of December 12-18 in a Beechcraft, and to Florida for the air races in the same ship. Jean Adams is slated to fly in the races. She will spend the winter at St. Petersburg and hopes to make the acquaintance of all 99's in the vicinity. Constance Sheridan flew to New York recently in a Douglas and decided afterwards that she wouldn't be happy until she had blind flying lessons, so she's now concentrating on that angle. Malva Doyle says she still has plenty of 99 address books left. 25¢ to her at 1129 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, Massachusetts, will bring you one; they're handy and nice to have with addresses of all 99's in the country. New members are Gertrude Meserve of Winchester, Massachusetts, Isabelle MacKinnon of Providence, Rhode Island, and Carolyn Moran who has been transferred from Washington, D. C. She is executive head of the Red Cross, trained at the New Haven Medical School, and has a private certificate. And that's this month's story.

- - Louise Howard

SOUTHWEST SECTION NEWS - Los Angeles Chapter - At the December meeting, we had a delightful guest--a 99 from Bay Cities Chapter, Miss Ya-Ching Lee. She has recently returned from China, and told of her experiences flying an ambulance plane, carrying medicine and doctors to the stricken areas. She also acted as co-pilot in both northern and southern China, flying a Stinson. She says all flying there is under government control, and no private flying is carried on. The girls who fly have learned either in Europe or America, and they are few. She personally learned to fly in Geneva, Switzerland, and then came to America and continued at the Boeing School at Oakland in 1936. Then she went to China in 1936 and just now returned. She plans a tour of America in the interests of the Red Cross and Chinese Refugee Relief Association, to get aid for her people. A very charming girl, and we hope that before many moons have gone, she will see her beloved native cities being rebuilt again.

Ethel Sheehy and husband, Bill, were recently enthusiastic passengers in Bessie Owen's Beechcraft, and had a won-derr-ful trip. Talk about covering territory in a short time - from Friday to Sunday. They started from Fontana to Phoenix, Arizona, where Bessie gave a talk to the Phoenix Flying Club about her European flights. Next day they proceeded to Tucson, where they had a pleasant sight seeing tour by car. Then early next morning flew to Grand Canyon, where the sights were gorgeous. On to Boulder Dam, seeing "all" and to Barstow for lunch. Then to March Field where Ethel and Bill departed for home. It was still a good day, so Bessie flew on to Long Beach, attended a dinner party, and since it was a gorgeous full moon night, proceeded on home to Santa Barbara. Whew! Talk about a day's flying--that certainly was it!

Dorothy George and Elizabeth Hayward XC'd from Alhambra to Mines Field for the Aviation Breakfast Club's Christmas party last Sunday. Elizabeth looks all well again, and enjoyed her first aerial jaunt in many months.

A-visitin' is all right, but our southland birds come back home when the snow starts flying. Esther Johnson had her second vacation this year. (Some people are lucky!) Went to Washington, D. C., for a wedding and was snow-bound on her way back. Onita Thorley was home for weeks--way up north in Cedar City, Utah, but decided to come back to her "new familiar haunts", and is sporting a new fur coat, new car and - guess what??

Our busy little instructor, Evelyn Kilgore, just soloed another student. She doesn't look the part, being VERY feminine with lovely blond curls, long black eyelashes, and the smartest duds. A picture from Harper's Bazaar perfectly describes this lassie. Hasta la vista!

- - Hilda Jarmuth

SECTIONAL OFFICERS - 99 Club 1938-39

NEW ENGLAND SECTION - Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island.

Governor - Jean Adams, 424 Jamaicaaway, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

TRI-STATE SECTION - New York, New Jersey, Connecticut

Governor - Margo Tanner, 93 Jane Street, Hartsdale, New York

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION - Pennsylvania, W. Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia

Governor - Dorothy Carpenter, 124 S. Franklin Street, Allentown, Pa.

Chairman, West Penn. Chapter - Margaret McCormick, Lebanon Hall Apts., 318 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Chairman, Washington-Baltimore-Richmond Chapter - Ruth Wieland, 5409 York Road, Baltimore, Md.

Chairman, East Penn. Chapter - Dorothy Carpenter, 124 S. Franklin Street, Allentown, Pa.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina

Governor - Clayton Patterson, Box 182 A, Sharon Lane, Route #2, Charlotte, North Carolina

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky

Governor - Florence Boswell, 1334 Inglewood Dr., Cleveland, Ohio

Chairman, Michigan Chapter - Leila Baker, 14294 Wilshire, Detroit, Michigan

Chairman, Ohio Chapter - Helen Curtiss, 2025 Atkins Ave., Apt. #18, Lakewood, Ohio

Chairman, Minnesota Chapter - Rose V. Dale, 2826 11th Ave., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER -

Governor - Belle Hetzel, Avoca, Iowa

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION - Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, Nebraska, Louisiana

Governor - Una Goodwin, 1814 Ramsey Tower, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

SOUTHWEST SECTION - California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah

Governor - Ruth Rueckert, 1035 Rivera St., San Francisco, California

Chairman, Los Angeles Chapter - Ethel Sheehy, Arrow and Linden Sts., Fontana, California

Chairman, Bay Cities Chapter - Vilma Johnston, Hotel Alameda, Alameda, California

NORTHWEST SECTION - Washington, Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho

Governor - Alyce Pashburg, 2138 N. E. Halsey, Portland, Oregon