

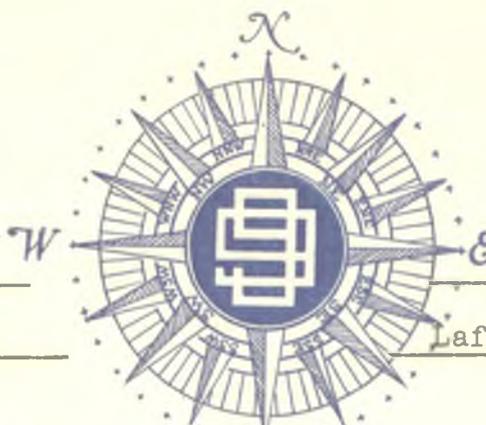
NINETY NINE

NEWS LETTER

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

March

Editor,
Fanny M. Leonpacher



OF WOMEN PILOTS

1940

Box 432,
Lafayette, Louisiana

NEW CHAPTERS: The formation of the Florida and Washington Chapters, at opposite ends of the country, is the biggest news of the month. Congratulations to Jessie Woods and Johnnie Brunton for a fine job of organization. The new officers of the Florida Chapter include: Chairman, Dorothy Lemon; Vice-Chairman, Vera Self; Secretary-Treasurer, Crystal Mowery. Their news reports will be found on another page.

MEMBERSHIP BOOKLETS. At long last the membership booklets are ready! The booklets sell for 30¢ each, and copies may be obtained from your Editor, address above. Coin, checks, money orders or stamps will be accepted. It is planned to issue a supplement some time before the close of the fiscal year, August 31st. Order your copy now!

NEW LETTER MAILING LIST. The News Letter goes automatically to all paid-up members and the subscriptions to the News Letter expire at the end of the fiscal year, August 31, just as the memberships do. If you are not eligible, but still want to receive the News Letter, you may subscribe for \$1.00 per year. Money should be sent to the National Treasurer, Barbara Southgate, 87 Grove Street, Stamford, Connecticut. The News Letter cannot be forwarded! Changes of address must be received by the Editor by the 20th of the month, otherwise they cannot go into effect until the next issue following.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS. Copies of these may be bought for 10¢ each. Send your dime to Marjorie Ludwigsen, National Secretary, 4 Irving Place, New York City, and know more about your organization.

MOTHERHOOD. According to the present interpretation of the regulations by the medical examiners, as soon as a girl is pregnant she must be grounded. Our President, Betty Gillies, is making an effort to convince the C.A.A. that pregnancy is not a physical deficiency, and that a girl's certificate should not be suspended under those conditions. Haven B. Page, Attorney for the P.F.A. has filed a petition with the C.A.A. on behalf of the 99's requesting remedial interpretation of the regulations which would omit pregnancy from the list of physical deficiencies, and the petition is well supported by letters from prominent obstetricians stating that pregnancy is not a physical deficiency. We hope that the C.A.A. will take favorable action on this problem as it is of paramount importance to many of our members.

AVIATION BALL. New England Section--Aviation Ball--Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund--May 3rd--Hotel Somerset, Boston!!! Let's go!

RACING. Records are made to be broken. Races are planned to be run. We handful of women pilots (comparatively speaking) ever since 1927 have been yelling our heads off for races for women. We've gotten a fair number of them--and what happens? It is said history repeats itself. Certainly it has with women's races. We end up by making laughing stock of ourselves, either by having too few entries or because the participants know too little about pylon racing. Don't you think it would be better to think of ourselves as pilots, instead of WOMEN pilots? Of course, there have been instances when some pilots who had every intention of racing could not do so because of circumstances beyond control. Let's get our feet on the ground and our heads out of the clouds--this is 1940 not 1929. Those of us who want to race, let's do a good job of it always because, remember, what we do or don't do, reflects on every other woman pilot.

What do we want in 1940? Shall we concentrate on one good pylon race or shall we try for a worthwhile cross-country event? Personally I am opposed to pylon racing, first because I believe there is too much hazard involved, and second what has the pilot really accomplished when the finish line is crossed? My thought would be cross-country race into the National Air Races, limiting airplanes to the Is class or to planes of 75 H. P. (that is, not to exceed 75 H. P.) and no other restrictions aside from that. Will you write to me at the address below and give me your opinion if you are interested, for if we wish to do something, now is the time to start working on the Race Committee.

- Louise Thaden, 280 Parker Drive, Mt. Lebanon, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - Florida Chapter. "Better late than never", so here's the prop torque of the Dixie Gals for the past two months. EXTRA: The Birth of a Chapter! On January 7, a Florida Chapter was established at the Municipal Airport, Miami, and officers elected. Five new members were secured and every one was all pepped up--all that was needed was a place to do the official deed. Now, the Miami Airport is a busy place during the Races and we were evicted from one office after the other looking like a bunch of sure-enough refugees roaming around in a band with our hands full of papers and such. The wind was blowing too hard to permit an under-the-tree council. One bright member discovered an old empty oil room in the hangar, and there, with an orange crate for a table and two soiled saw-horses for seats, one of the finest and most go-gettin'est chapters of the 99's was founded. During the course of the meeting, men wearing various facial expressions would poke an inquiring head in the door-well, at least, some serious attention was being paid to us! Finally, one man stalked determinedly across the room and disappeared thru the door in the rear. Imagine our surprise when our following eyes focused on the sign above that door--MEN!"; so, indirectly, the men were the cause of a Chapter of the 99's to be founded on the threshold of their common interest. The Florida Chapter held its first meeting at Venice, Florida, and was reported a success. Aviation associates and civic organizations all over the State are giving the girls their undivided support. Dot Lemon has been in deep conference with the Miami Race Commission and promises a new "high" for the women's races next year. Congratulations to our new Chapter and a hearty welcome to its new members: Marion Bertram, Dot Lemon, Evelyn McRae, Rhoda Davis, Katherine Rawls Thompson, Helen Dooley and Lorna Simpson. This gives the new Chapter a membership of eleven.

- - Jessie Woods

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION. Florida Chapter. YES SIR! THAT'S RIGHT. What's more, we held our second meeting with five members present at Venice, Florida during the Annual Air Show which is held in connection with the Assembly of National College of Surgeons. We were royally entertained by the Venice Aviation Club with a Bar-B-Q in the hangar and a dance at the Country Club. Dorothy Lemon, Chairman, arrived by car because the head wind and cruising speed of her ship were so near equal. She arrived in time to take charge and give us some good points on what a real Ninety-Niner should be. Crystal Mowery deserves a lot of credit for taking advantage of the Tamiami Trail Tours (bus) and being there with a very efficient report of our last meeting. We take off our hats to Evelyn McRae for flying through with Marion Bertram from Miami, when some of the men had to come down in Ponta Gorda. They landed at the bus station in Venice. What is this remark about women flying? Evelyn has proven to be a real pilot. Marion has a solo and was quite helpful with the navigation, we understand. It started pouring rain just as your Reporter started to leave with the Rearwin, so since it was only twenty short miles, she did "about face" and came by car. Evelyn extended us an invitation, which we gladly accepted, to hold our next meeting in her lovely home in Miami Springs. A cordial invitation is extended to all 99ers to visit us. Anyone in Florida who wishes to transfer her membership to this Chapter, please get in touch with Evelyn McRae, Box 308, Miami Springs. We've been informed that Saturday, March 23, has definitely been set for the first non-stop refueling "Air Marathon" ever to be held in the United States, and to think that our fair city-- Sarasota--has been chosen for this annual event. Here is a chance for all 99ers to get your "mugs" in the papers and win about \$10,000 by entering this contest. If you gals are interested, get in touch with me quick. I'll give you the lowdown. Box 736, Sarasota, Florida.

- - Vera Self

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION. Indiana Chapter. Nell Emery of South Bend was the only Indiana girl to go on the Miami flight and she flew her Cub down, with her brother-in-law acting as co-pilot. She was grounded in Louisville, Kentucky for two days due to bad weather. Helen House has been demonstrating the new Luscombe. She has been to Chicago four times in the last month and is planning to attend the Aviation Show there. Then she goes to Randolph Field, Texas. What's the attraction? Shall I tell them his name? Lois Hollingsworth of Purdue University has come out on the top again in the school of aeronautical engineering of which she is a student. We certainly are proud to have Lois in our Chapter because it takes a smart woman to beat the men at their own game. We are pleased to announce a BRAND NEW MEMBER, Ruth M. Slough of South Bend. She has a solo. Mrs. Betty Folsom has been doing some XC during the past month. She flew her Fairchild to Chicago and also over to Cleveland to attend a 99ers meeting over there. Her passengers were all prospective members, too; i. e. Mrs. George Greene, Mrs. Bobby Myers and Mrs. Clifford Warner. Your Reporter has some more prospective members lined up and Pat Dickerson has two girls from Indianapolis who are quite interested in the 99's, so perhaps we will have an even larger Chapter in March. We hope so anyway. And as we "come in for a landing," we send best wishes to all.

- - Marjorie Jan Stables.

NORTHWEST SECTION. Washington Chapter. (Ahem). The Northwest Section now boasts of its first Chapter, organized January 27th and going strong. Before the meeting the girls indulged whole-handedly in a bit of a cracked-crab luncheon with all the fixin's--including a terry-cloth table cloth, and a terry-cloth bib for each imbiber. It was a "complete coverage" affair, each girl with a smear to elbow and ear. In other words, a good time was had by all. Following the luncheon, a business meeting was held, and officers elected. Those present were Frances Sherley and Grace Johnson of Tacoma, Irma Wallace, Helen Durrah, and Laura May Brunton of Seattle. Since Dora Skinner, Cora Sterling, and Geraldine Snook were absent, we nominated officers and sent out ballots to be opened and counted at the next meeting, so that everyone could get in her nickel's worth. Nominated for Chairman were Irma Wallace, Dora Skinner, Frances Sherley; Vice-Chairman, Cora Sterling, Johnny Brunton; Secretary-Treasurer, Dora Skinner, Cora Sterling; Membership Chairman, Irma Wallace; News Reporter, Helen Durrah and Grace Johnson. Helen Durrah sent out the ballots. The next Chapter meeting will be held in Tacoma at the home of Frances Sherley. Mrs. Sherley offered to provide transportation to and from the Tacoma Airport if the weather permits flying. Prices on 99 pins and bracelets were quoted and orders were placed. The "EXTRA! EXTRA!" Edition of the News published to acquaint the 99ers with the fact that there is a Northwest Section was read aloud in its entirety. After the meeting was adjourned we had much fun. The consensus of opinion had it that the Chapter treasury was far too low. So we played poker--at very low stakes, five chips for a penny--and each girl donated her winnings to the Chapter. After playing for only 45 minutes, we wound up with 78¢ for the Treasury, besides having had a good time. A most entertaining way, everyone agreed, to raise funds. Might not be a bad idea for the Scholarship Fund.

The Oregon Chapter will soon be organized, since Oregon now has its five members. Idaho is a little behind, but is catching up. It gives me much pleasure to welcome to the Chapter six new members: Grace Johnson of Tacoma, Bessie Halladay who has her own flying school in Portland, Lucy Hathaway of Mabel, Oregon, who was a member once before and is now back with us, Elaine R. Hunt, Margaret E. Loy, and Genevieve W. Waples, all of Boise, Idaho. We are looking forward to having many good times with you all!!

Laura May Brunton, Acting Reporter

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION. Minnesota Chapter. At our last meeting there was a discussion of the financial question which was brought to the attention of all Sectional Governors and Chapter Chairmen by Betty Gillies in the last issue of the News Letter. In our Chapter we have adopted the policy of each member paying ten cents dues at each official monthly meeting and have found that although the amount is small, it soon adds up to a comfortable little sum and satisfactorily takes care of the financial needs of our group. We are glad to announce another new member to our Chapter--Joan Whelan, who belongs to the Minneapolis Flying Club and holds a 1/12 interest in the Taylor Cub they use for flitting about. Would that 1/12th allow you to claim the prop, Joan? Your Reporter is still straying up above the clouds because of her new job with the Airport Section of the C.A.A. and a still more recent private license. Oh sure, her hat fits O. K., but her feet can't seem to get down to walking on solid earth yet!

- Emily Cikanek

SOUTHWEST SECTION. Bay Cities Chapter. A recent meeting was held at the home of Dorothy Williams, who lives just outside the campus of Stanford University at Palo Alto. Dorothy flies a Beechcraft which was a wedding present. Among those present at the meeting were Phyllis Penfield, charter member of the 99's, who plans to get back into flying. Marion Jackson, a Stanford senior flew home to Detroit and back recently. Geraldine Masinter flies at Bay Airdrome, and received her private in September. Kay Kaylor, recently of Los Angeles, flies a Fleet at Bay Airdrome. She is working for a mechanic's license. Isabel Steiner flies a Fairchild 24 at Stanford Flying Club. Since her graduation she has been a C.A.A. trouble-shooter working as a shock absorber between the faculty and the students. Carolyn Hager of Virginia, now a student at Stanford, holds a private. Joan King, recently of Bryn Mawr, now of Stanford, learned to fly at Paoli, Pennsylvania. She and her brother recently toured the Eastern states in a Fairchild 22. Your reporter finally received the old Jenny prop she helped crack-up in 1928. And is she excited? Geraldine Masinter sailed on the Matsonia recently for a five-week holiday in Honolulu. Eleanor Turney pays for her flying time by editing an aviation column in the Lodi News Sentinel. Harriet Isaacson is attending the C.A.A. ground school class at Boeing School at Oakland. She recently flew to Reno over those high, cold Sierras in an open Stearman. Brrr! Marjerie Hook, with 28 members of the Flight Club, spent the weekend skiing at Soda Springs. We had two guests at a recent meeting--Martha Striebel of Lodi, guest of Eleanor Turney, and Elsie Lum of Berkeley, who is a cousin of Anna May Wong and a star pupil in the C.A.A. class at Boeing School.

Your candid-camber correspondent, - Rita Gerry

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION. Our Section was well represented in Miami this year by Agnes Pittman, Betty Baker, Dorothy Monroe, Lucille Greenwood, Crystal Mowery, Vera Self and this Reporter. We didn't get to see much of each other but from all appearances every one was doin' all right. Your Reporter flew to Cuba but the icing-up of the carburetor on the plane she was riding in had some effect on her exuberance. All in all the trip was great and I hope I can make it again next year. Ruth Stilson received her RERATING and at the time she passed her test was the second woman in the United States to achieve the honor. Ruth is now employed at Emporia, Kansas, and ten college students have been turned over to her for instruction. Congratulations, Ruth, we know how hard you have worked for this opportunity. An announcement was received last month from Peggy Greene that she is now Mrs. A. A. Pate and is residing in Laurinsburg, North Carolina. Nell Behr has just returned from a month's vacation in Florida with her two small sons. Nell McKee has finally dropped back into circulation and is living in Hapeville, Georgia. This Reporter has made several flying trips to Columbia, South Carolina, recently to hold Conferences with the Aviation Commission about working up a plan to stimulate flying interest among the women of that city. At present there is not one woman flying there and we hope to alter that condition very shortly.

- - Jessie Woods

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION. Washington-Baltimore-Richmond Chapter. The Chapter held a business meeting at the Raleigh Hotel on January 21. Besides the usual familiar faces, we were fortunate in having with us Cecile Hamilton, holder of a Commercial with an Instructor's Rating, and Margo Tanner, former Governor of the New York Section. Both of these gals are staying in Washington now and are going to give us the advantage of their experience in planning for the proposed dinner-dance. Definite plans are now being made to hold the dinner-dance in the spring as a means of raising the Chapter's quota for the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship. Please Note: Date, April 6--Place, Raleigh Hotel. Our next News Letter will list the Who's Who of Aviation and Politics who will be present. Publicity is badly needed in our Chapter, as there are too many people in Washington who think that 99 is merely the number before 100, and we hope that the dance may add to the glory of the 99's. No plans have been made as yet, but the girls are thinking seriously of having an all-woman Air Show later in the spring at Elizabeth Phillips' airport at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Incidentally, Elizabeth has transferred to our Club. Lu Shank reports that she had a letter from Elizabeth, who is out West, in which she says she is much in favor of the Air Show and promises to help all she can. We will know more about the show after our dinner is successfully over. Lu also reports that she had lunch with Betty Gillies, our National President, who flew down to Washington, and that Betty pledges her help and attendance in connection with the dance. With all the experienced assistance we'll have, we don't see how the dance can fail to be anything less than stupendous.

Your Reporter received a letter a few days ago from Ann McKee of Sandston, Virginia, from which some highlights are extracted: "Took my ancient and honorable (?) Beechcraft to the Miami Races with the following results. Downed by weather on the Florida coast leaving the rarin' steed tied under the beacon. Next day a nice uncomfortable landing at Daytona Beach with partly jammed ailerons. Then on to Miami with engine getting too rough to sightsee when we got there. After the show the engine had smoothed down a bit. Took off Thursday with delectable tail wind--to get stuck three days in Jacksonville. Weather again. Left Monday, everything peaceable until about twenty miles out of Raleigh when number one cylinder got unsocial and left the party. Nice visit to tobacco patch. With wings disassembled she was towed to Raleigh fully able to fly but powerless to do so. And her irate passengers finished their jaunt the last and shortest lap by bus, consuming more than the time all the way from Jacksonville! So ends a sad, sad story." If anyone else in the Chapter can tell us any tales about their experiences in the air, please let's have them.

- - Dorothy Carpenter

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION. The stork finally came in for a landing at the home of Abbie Putnam Haddaway and George Haddaway. He left a future 99'er, but details as to engine displacement, model name, etc., are missing. Abbie was formerly of Cleveland and we are sure her many friends will be glad to learn this news. Dorothy Morgan, with husband, Merrill, and daughter, Sharon, are spending an interval at Los Angeles. We hope the Los Angeles 99'ers look her up at her temporary address of 1659 S. Catalina.

NEW ENGLAND SECTION. We have drawn your attention to the dance to be given May 3rd at Hotel Somerset, Boston, to raise money for the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund. Don't forget! A delightful tea was served at the home of Carolyn Moran with Moya Mitchell assisting the hostess. Plans were discussed for the forthcoming dance. There was a very good attendance, but we wish more of the out-of-town girls could get here for the meetings. Our Governor, Hortense Harris, is very busy taking a Link Trainer Course at Boston and Maine Airways! Jean Adams flew from Falmouth to Nantucket Island for the week-end in a Luscombe. Saturdays and Sundays Connie Sheridan usually climbs into a Cub for a jaunt around. She recently flew to Nashua and Portsmouth. At the New England Sportsmen's Show, Dot Garside and Lillian Holmes may be found displaying a Cub for E. W. Wiggins Airways. Our newest Luscombe dealer in this section is Ann Kenyon who recently purchased a 65 Luscombe and is operating an airport adjacent to the Rhode Island State Airport at Hills Grove. Carolyn Moran has just finished an Instructor's Course in First Aid. She is off on a flying trip to Miami in search of warm weather. Bob and Nancy Love spent the week end in Quebec catching up on their skiing. A group of C.A.A. students from Harvard are receiving their instruction from Gertrude Meserve. She surely looks nice in her new blue uniform. Jean Adams and Margaret Kimball Harsh are collaborating on a book about women in aviation. Jean tells me Margaret is planning to fly up to Boston from Lynchburg, Virginia, (her new home). From Boston, Dorothy Munroe started out in her Rearwin on a very cold day to attend the Miami Air Races. The trip from Boston to New York almost froze Dorothy, but undaunted she went on. After the Races she flew to Havana in said Rearwin to arrive first of the group with which she started. Back in Boston now, she is taking a course at the Massachusetts School of Radio. What now, Dorothy--the ocean??

Steer clear of the prop wash! - Moya Mitchell

SOUTHWEST SECTION. Los Angeles Chapter. This Chapter welcomes a new member, Esther L. Nelson of Ontario, California. Hope you can attend our meetings and become acquainted. "Unusual" inclement weather necessitated the postponement of our February flight to Palm Springs. However, a mid-week meeting and luncheon at Santa Barbara brought Helen Walker of San Diego, with friends, in her Waco Cabin; Malcolm Clarke in her Monocoupe, with Jean Stuart; Ethel and Bill Sheehy in the Luscombe, and the "local gals" Jessie Bundy and Bessie Owen, who later entertained in her little hacienda (Spanish house to youse). Nelda A. Hulburd has been on the sick list, but reports she is now flying again, and well on the way towards a new solo achievement--shall the accessories be pink or blue, Nelda? Dorothy Ruether and 49.5'er Lloyd have a grand Ice Skating Rink in Hynes. Della LaVier and Jackie Cochran did some sky touring recently, and when landing at Burbank Terminal, Jackie discovered the brakes on the Beechcraft didn't work--all stopped safely in the rough with a few scratches on the wing, but the girls were O. K. A thrill, yes, and the mechanics on the field marvelled at the girls' calmness.*

Hasta la Vista! - Hilda Jarmuth.

*We learn that Melba Beard of the L. A. Chapter is spending the winter in the East. They will soon be leaving New York for Washington, D. C., to spend four months, then to wherever Bill's work may take them. Washington girls, please note!

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION. Western Pennsylvania Chapter. Helen Walker, Warren, is somewhere in Florida and Ellen Smith, Meadville, has been in Miami for some time. Grace Carrol, Latrobe, seems quite interested in the career of seven airport puppies--lineage unreported. Rae Trader and Helen Richey of Pittsburgh, Virginia Rushlander and Ruth Barclay of Meadville, are recuperating from the Florida Cub Tour. In fact, Virginia and Ruth, with the rest of their party, came home from Hagerstown on a bus, muttering softly of mountains obscured by snow. A card from Frances Allen informed us that the dance at Pittsburgh must be postponed till some time in April, the date to be announced later. The girls in Meadville (five) were more than pleased to have the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with Florence Boswell when she came from Cleveland to speak at an N.A.A. dinner. We can't say enough in praise of Florence. You might be interested to know that while some of us were skating on Conneaut Lake, several of the Cubs from Meadville equipped with skis landed and took off a number of times. Ruth Barclay is among our most proficient in ski flying.

- Betty DeVore

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION. Michigan Chapter. We had a lecture recently under the direction of Professor E. W. Conlon. He introduced Professor Stalker who explained boundary layer control and some new wing lift devices which we will soon see on new airplanes. He discussed wing loading and safety factors and a new accelerometer. Sylvia Knudsen attended with Mabel Britton from Ypsilanti. She flies a Stinson Reliant which she and her brother share and we enjoyed having her so much. Our next lecture was under the direction of Mr. Faunce of the Warnor Aircraft Company who told us a lot about cold weather operation which was particularly appropriate for us. We are pleased to announce another new prospective member, though not for a while yet. Her name is Barbara Louise Hammond. She miscalculated her flight plan and so prevented her mother, Alice Hammond, from attending the last meeting. On the other side of the ledger is the loss of Leah Ziegler who was forced to leave us abruptly to take up residence in the Carolinas. Mabel Britton is off to new fields again. She and Harry sailed last week for the sunny South and will visit Clara Livingston for a few days. Your correspondent is tearing her hair these days. Shepherding some thirty-five youngsters through the throes of a C.A.A. ground school course is quite a job. We all felt it was grand when Saginaw was picked for the non-college group--but the questions those infants can ask is terrifying. Mary von Mach, our hostess, awarded a heart-shaped box of candy to the girl who came the longest way, and Marion Woyant, who has just moved to Grand Rapids to manage the new restaurant there, walked off with it.

- Sara Winn

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION. Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter. We have had a siege of bad weather here so we were forced to cancel the plans for our last meeting. Your reporter, on the date of the meeting, was grounded in Richmond, Virginia, by fog, rain, or what have you. Plans for the next meeting are well under way. It will be held at State Airport, Harrisburg, on the regular date.

- Helen E. Jones

MAR 1940

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION. All Ohio Chapter. The Cleveland 99's have been a busy gang of girls, but did take time for a dinner meeting a few weeks ago when we announced a nice profit from our Christmas candy sale. This will be added to our Amelia Earhart Memorial Fund. February 12 was a big day for Florence Boswell as she entertained all prospective 99's, including Lake Erie and Kent College. The girls were entertained by a talk on cross country flying by our hostess, Florence Boswell. Helen Curtiss gave the girls a sketch of the duties and qualifications of the 99's. Ann Barille, one of our Charter members, gave the complete history of our Chapter, and our new member, Jean Gundelfinger, gave us a talk on all the reactions in learning to fly by instrument before contact. Marion Pease played a few violin solos which we all enjoyed very much. We were happy to have Betty Folsom, Bobby Myers, Gerry Green and Paula Wadner of South Bend, Indiana, as guests at our party. I have often wondered if Florence Boswell gets the credit she is deserving of. A licensed pilot in any corner of the United States cannot be hidden from her. She will fly anywhere, do anything to get a member and her heart is in it from morning to night. At this time we wish to announce the marriage of Rennie Lincoln to Ray Porter. Rennie just graduated from Western Reserve and has been flying since June 1939. Ray is operating a hangar at Chagrin Harbor and has been instructing for a long time at Willoughby.

- Frances Drenik.

CUBA'S 99er. In beautiful Havana, where the old and new make a crazy-quilt of delights, a lone 99er abides. She is Helen de Bustamante, very charming and as pretty as a picture. After a visit with her you feel as though you have seen a story of romance come true. Helen was born in Maine and received her education in West Palm Beach, Florida. While visiting in New York six years ago she met her Cuban husband who is now a Cuban Commercial pilot, holds a United States Private, and is a Q. B. Her husband, Gustavo, is tall, dark and handsome, and gallant as only a Cuban gentleman can be. He has studied International Law and his father, who practices law in Havana is also Magistrate of the World Court at the Hague in Holland. The young Bustamantes make (past tense since the war) frequent trips to Holland and do their Dutch flying in gliders. Helen has taken glider instructions over there and Gustavo says she is "muy bien". They live with the elder de Bustamantes during the winter months at their lovely home in Havana and tour the United States by air in the summer; this year they are touring the Northwestern States and part of Canada, then on down to California and plan to be back in Miami in time for the January races and fly on home to Cuba in the Flight Cruise. Helen learned to fly in California and now has 50 hours. She is taking her test for a Cuban Private this winter and flying over to Miami on the Clipper in the Spring to take her U. S. Private. Her husband gave her a new Luscombe 65, radio equipped, which she keeps at the Pan-Am Airport, Rancho Boyeros. She is the only woman who flies in Cuba and las Senoras think she is a mite coo-coo. Much raising of the lorgnettes can be seen when she makes her appearances at the social affairs. She gets mighty lonesome for news from the States and would like to hear from some of the 99ers up here. The only contact with American aviation she has while in Havana is the News Letter which she reads over and over. Here is her address: Helen de Bustamante, Paseo y 19 Vedado, Havana, Cuba.

Jessie Woods

March 1940