

NINETY NINE

NEWS LETTER



September

Editor,
Jimmie Kolp

1939

Box 591
Electra, Texas

NEW ENGLAND NEWS

N-ews from New England again I'll tell.
E-veryone's happy, Caroline Moran is well.
W-ith us Arlene Davis spent a few days

E-njoyed flying on our water ways?
N-ancy Love to Augusta, Maine flew
G-oing up to deliver a Stinson new
L-ast but not least Florence Boswell we're greeting
A-rrived to attend our July meeting.
N-ice to be able to fly around
D-ay in and day out from town to town.

N-ew England held its annual election
I-nstalled Hortense Harris Governor of the Section.
N-ow Gertrude Merserve Vice-governor was voted.
E-lected Ruth Hamilton Secretary, noted
T-o serve again another year.
Y-es, Daisy's News Reporter, I fear.

N-antucket held a week-end air meet
I-nvited all Ninety-Nines to attend the fete.
N-ever heard of a gayer affair
E-veryone had a grand time there.

N-ice Connie Sheridan chartered a ship
E-ncouraged the gals to make the trip.
W-ith wēather the way we get it here
S-ummers the time to fly, my dear.

Cheerio - Daisy Kirkpatrick

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY SECTION - Notice to CHARTER MEMBERS: If you have not already done so, please communicate with Marjorie Ludwigsen, 4 Irving Place, New York, N. Y. Without doubt there are CHARTER MEMBERS who do not receive this magazine and so if anyone knows their whereabouts, please have them write Miss Ludwigsen. REMEMBER THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 4th! - Tenth anniversary dinner-dance, Waldorf-Astoria, New York City.

Nell Foster Behr of Anderson, South Carolina, was the honored guest at a tea given by Mary Nicholson on Sunday afternoon, July 23. The lucky girls in town that day also had the pleasure of meeting (papa bear), Lieut. Howard S. Behr, manager of the Anderson Airport and the Anderson Petroleum Company, and the two husky little bears, Billy and Teddy Behr. Mary served so many delicacies and the company was so pleasant that we were reluctant to leave. Please, Nell Behr, come to visit us again soon and be sure to bring the family. Gertrude Brown and her husband flew one of thirteen Aeroncas in a cruise from Bondix Airport, New Jersey, to Salisbury, Maryland, on July 29. The local chapter of the American Legion was on hand with the Mayor of the city to greet them. Fred Ennis, manager of the airport, arranged the festivities and so the next morning they all flew to the beach about three miles below Ocean City and landed there for a swim before breakfasting on the beach. They returned to the airport before leaving for their flight home. Homeward bound, they had to dodge numerous rain storms and a few of them landed at Newark when the weather closed in around Bendix. It was such a pleasant cruise that Gertrude and her husband decided to continue on to Providence, Rhode Island, for the next week end. We don't know if Magda Tisza is hunting a cool spot or inspecting airports-- --anyway each week finds her going to a different place. Hyannis, one week, then Norwalk, and the latest was Oakland, New York. That Taylorcraft will soon know its way home from any airport. Pat Thomas spent the week end of July 4 in Quebec, having flown up there in an Aeronca. Pat and Dorothy Ross are planning a trip to California over the Southern route and then hope to be back to Cleveland for the Races.

Margo Tanner, in a Ranger Fairchild on floats, on July 28 flew to Plattsburg, New York, surveying the territory over which will be staged the largest peacetime practice mobilization in the history of this country by the Regular Army, National Guardsmen, reservists and civilian components. From Plattsburg, Margo flew on to Washington, then to Williamsburg, and back to New York on Monday. Our president, Betty Gillies, her husband, and their guests--Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Greenway III, Mr. and Mrs. Olcott Payson--made a sea-plane cruise in a Grumman 21 to Moosehead Lake, Maine, the week end of July 15. An ideal place to be this very minute with the thermometer 80° and the humidity too high to talk about! Ruth Nichols is busy with her students these days of good flying weather and then in betwixt the flying hours is working on the project for a county airport in Westchester. Ruth feels that the possibility of such a development is evident by the interest and encouragement given her. They have several locations in mind but none definitely selected as yet. Alma Hefflin and Nancy Schwartz flew to Philadelphia July 26. Nancy is working for her Private license and incidentally is also interested in Air-Shopping. The monthly meeting held August 7 at the Hotel Pennsylvania was sociable, instructive and last, but not least, business like. Frances Flashe was a guest of Amy Andrews; Jo May Burwell from Enid, Oklahoma, friend of Loretta Leonard; Nancy Schwartz, Jean Hamilton and several husbands were present for the dinner. The business of the evening was centered around the plans for the dinner-dance and the Races. Cecile Hamilton, Commercial Pilot at Armink Airport, was welcomed into the Club.

Cecile favored us with an interesting resumé of her flying experience. She learned to fly in England when and where the test for a license meant three hours' solo flight; one figure eight; one spot landing, and one spin. The instructor was the examiner. When she came back to the States she had to practically start learning again with the demands for precision flying. Cecile now teaches night classes for Arents Air Service, acts as relief pilot, and assists with the business.

Peggy Lennox is now an active member, having obtained her Private License within the last couple weeks. Mary Reifschneider attended the Air Meet, July 23, at Barrett Airport near Scranton, Pennsylvania. Mary was a contestant but came home empty handed. Better luck next time! Mary visited friends at Middletown, New York, on August 6 and then stopped in at the Tri-State Airport, Montgomery, New York, on her way home. Amy Andrews in her Stinson, which just had a major overhaul, left August 13 for Portland, Oregon. She expects to stop over at Denver, Colorado, for a ten days' vacation in the mountains and then be back east again by the first of September. A pleasant trip to you, Amy, and take a couple of good deep breaths of fresh mountain air for us here at sea level. Mary Nicholson is spending two weeks' vacation at her home in Greensboro, North Carolina, having flown there by the Air Line. Jacqueline Cochran, flying her Seversky pursuit, left August 8 for Dayton, Ohio, where the ship is to have its final tests before she goes on to the west coast, and then starts back east in the Bendix Trophy Race. May the Good Fates speed you onward for the highest honors. Whether or not LIFE will use the story, at least that picture publication sent a photographer to cover an air cruise, July 29, from Floyd Bennett Field to a farm in New Hope, Pennsylvania. On this cruise were two old timers, as women pilots go--Marge McCormick, formerly of Chicago and Pittsburgh, and Peggie Lennox, our recent Cleveland contribution, and a third femme pilot (solo) Nancy Schwartz. The SPOOKS, (local term signifying pilots and near pilots) in seven Luscombes, flew in formation to New Hope. After the photographer was through with every conceivable angle shot: on hay rakes, airplanes and cows, Spooks being greeted by the burgomaster, etc., there followed food, and drama at Bucks County Summer Theatre. After the performance the Spooks proved their enjoyment of the production by inviting the cast to the farm. Among those celebrities of the drama was Connie Bennett's father, and as Chief Spook Evers was explaining to him some of the simple details of flying, Bennett was overheard to say that he had been forced to give up flying in 1914 after some 150 hours in the air. All members of the cast were in costume and many of them received their first airplane ride. The leading lady, in a bridal gown, climbing out of a plane with the aid of one of the local baseball team was quite a picture. Camp fire and songs after dark--bunks in nearby farmhouses--then Sunday and goodbye to all the townspeople who had served as audience to the excitement of the day before. Off to Mercer for gas, then another formation flight to Sea Girt, landing on Camp Moore parade ground. Bathing scenes were subjects for pictures until time to leave. (Changing to bathing suits in a two-place cabin plane is a trick, but the swim at the Jersey shore proved worth the trouble.) Need-

less to say, the trip did not end with parking the ships in the hangars. Back at Floyd Bennett's that evening, the flight was again flown using table tops, coffee cups and beers. (Thanks for sending the story of this cruise to the writer.)

Through Cecile Hamilton, the members of this section were invited to a Sunday morning breakfast, August 13, at Armonk Airport and which was given by the Arents Air Service. The weather being what it was that morning (a darkened sky and poor visibility) doubtlessly kept various ones at home. Many arrived so late that it was almost noon before the breakfasting was over. The tables, decorated with flowers, set beneath the trees in front of the operations office and laden with hearty-men's food, afforded those present a pleasant treat. Oh, yes! At most of those places sat men--the minority group consisted of: Mrs. Wilbur Cummings, recently returned from flying her Stinson to Montana; Olive Brudelare, an artist specializing in military aircraft; Cecile and Jean Hamilton; Margo Tanner, our governor, and Paula Lind. After the tables were relieved of their burdens, the men tried their skill at spot landings. The honors went to the youngest pilot flying a Dart. It was a very pleasant morning and thanks to Arents Air Service for their hospitality.

- - Paula Lind

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Los Angeles Chapter - One morning last week a gay voice, with an unmistakable southern drawl 'phoned this humble person, and what a joyous surprise! It was Jimmie Kolp, all the way from T-e-x-a-s! Since this chapter does not have meetings in the summer, it was most disappointing not to have the pleasure of meeting our new Editor. At the Aviation Breakfast last Sunday we hoped to see her, but again were disappointed. Well, hope you can come back to us soon again, and give us a "break". Dan Cupid has been busy again. This time it was while driving home from the Ranch at Nevada that Roger Keyes and Onita Thorley succumbed to that big prairie moon. Now we congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Keyes, and wish them smooth sailing and happy landings always!

This well advertised California sunshine ain't done right by one of our fair members. Wilma Fritschy strolled to the beach, decided to rest a while by the cool breeze-wafted sand, and fell asleep. Next thing she knew she was in a white hospital room, where she was brought after many hours of too much infra-red rays. She is well again, but says no upside-down flying for some time, as her head feels as though a buzz saw was going full blast when she moves it suddenly. Another member who just reported back from "sick-bay" is Jean Witty Stuart. We understand the operation was successful, and are happy to report Jean is well on the road to recovery. Bessie Owen, we hear, is busy planning a Santa Barbara Chapter, and now has about seven prospects lined up. Good work, Bessie. Hasta la Vista!

- - Hilda Jarmuth

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - Our July social meeting was held in Anderson, South Carolina, and was sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Club of that city. Everyone had a grand time. Those professional business women have more genuine get up and displayed more

spirited enthusiasm about aviation than some of our own 99 members. If those girls overlooked one single source that would have provided a more delightful reception for the 99's, I don't know what it was. The preceding event of our meet was an "On-To-Flight" which was won by Clayton Patterson in her Warner-powered Fairchild with an average of 93.6% percentage points attained out of a possible hundred. Charlotte Frye came in second in her Beechcraft with 87.5%. Flight judged on navigation, points checked and speed from point of departure to Anderson. Nell McKee was third in her Luscombe. The prize was a delicately carved Gold Cup given by Frank Thompson, an air-minded citizen who has figured greatly in the progress of aviation in Anderson. A bus was chartered and we were taken to all the historic places of interest in the city. The Fants received the entire crowd and were served refreshments and escorted through their famous tropical gardens of palm, bamboo, banana trees, lilies, and every other flower or shrub we had ever heard of. A Southern fried chicken luncheon was served to us at the Anderson Country Club and topped off with gifts and favors from the merchants of Anderson. Three lovely pieces of material (enough for a dress in each) were presented to each guest present from three of the leading textile mills of the city. (Clayton has already had hers made into three stylish flying suits). Before departing we were entertained at "Behr-Port", the lovely home of Nell Behr, and spent a grand half hour looking over Nell's collection of antiques. All in all, we had a swell time and even we Southerners received a new and bigger version of Southern hospitality. Thank you, Business and Professional Club of Anderson. We hope you will invite us again next year!

Zoe Audrey Stephens of this section has moved to Dallas, Texas. We are sorry to lose you, Audrey, but we know Jean LaRene Foote will have you feeling like a real Texan before long. Zoe just received her Private certificate renewal and we are happy she has regained her health. Charlotte Frye is having a long vacation in the cool glens and dales of the Rockies at Colorado Springs. Agnes Pittman of Florence, South Carolina, recently bought half interest in an Aeronca K and has been flying all over the state. We welcome a new member to our section--Catherine S. Boyers of Hartsville, South Carolina. Catherine has been flying for a long time and we are very pleased that she is now an active 99'er. She was hostess last Sunday to the South Carolina Flyers' Breakfast Club and reports that there were twenty-seven visiting planes on the field. Ann Reed Johnson is taking a position the first of September with the Aeronca Distribution Plant at Atlanta, Georgia. She has a grand boss in the personage of Wally Schaunt and I know she will be a success in her new position. Congratulations, Ann, and we know how hard you have worked equipping yourself for exactly this kind of work that you are now entering upon. The Southeastern Section presented Lucille Brockenbrough's twins, James Gay and Jane Fay, with twin silver cups engraved with their names and on Baby Jane's a wee "99", and a "49½" on Baby Jimmie's. In spite of the fact that Lucille is the mother of four husky youngsters, and since the twins are not bottle babies--which cuts her cruising range down to four hours--she is steadily adding hours to her log book. On nurse's day off she simply loads the twins in the Cub and does her daily dozen just as jauntily as if she were solo.

Mabel Griggs Clemson has transferred her membership to the New York section. I hope the girls up there enjoy her as much as we do down here. However, she is still on our mailing list and no matter

where she pays her dues we are looking forward to having her with us the winter months she spends at Southern Pines. Clayton Patterson is planning an extended tour of all the towns in her section where there are women who fly or are learning to fly. The object is to stimulate flying activity and interest among the future women pilots in the Ninety-Nine organization. She has been asked to give talks on "Women in Aviation" at several Women's Clubs this coming season. Clayton, a woman of diversified accomplishments, is an excellent photographer--has a "dark room" so complete and modern as to cause a sparkle in any commercial photographer's eye. She does her own pictures completely from the snap of the camera shutter to the nail in the wall that supports the finished product. She has very graciously donated her time and equipment to picture taking of local pilots and their flying machines and has turned the financial results into our local treasury to be used as gas money in her tour. The "Pat's"--yes, her husband is the expert picture-snapper of the family (so she says), for two of his pictures were selected by the Photographic Society of America among forty-eight others and have been hung at the New York World's Fair in the Eastman Kodak Exhibit--are enthusiastic photographers. One of the above-named pictures is a shot of the "Cavalier" on which they flew to Bermuda and return in 1937; the other is a very artistic view of the church spire of the oldest Presbyterian Church in the South, entitled "Aspiration".

For a little more aid in swelling the Fund, eight baby puppies from my Flying Bull Dog were sold at the Airport for a choice price. Chandelle, their mama, has over a thousand hours in the air over a period of nine years of flying with us on tours and thinks the donation very much in accord. A great deal of interest is being displayed among our section members over Ruth Nichols' suggestion on the Living Memorial to Amelia Earhart. Letters have been pouring in to section headquarters from all points with a fairly unanimous idea of their own that they feel would be of greater benefit to more women flyers than the one suggested. Even though their ideas differ from the one outlined we are pleased over the spirited action on the matter and our suggestion as a section is being outlined and will be ready for presentation at the Annual Meeting.

- - Jessie Woods

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - The North Central Section meeting will be held Sunday, September 17, at 11:00 o'clock Eastern Standard time, at the Fowler Hotel, Lafayette, Indiana. There will be a party Saturday night, September 16, at the Fowler. Make reservations with Jane Tompleton, 635 Columbia Street, Lafayette, Indiana. We would be glad to have visiting 99's. We of the North Central Section are more than pleased to present to the Ninety-Nine organization two new chapters--Indiana and Minnesota. Helen House of Rochester, Indiana, has again joined our ranks, hence our newest chapter. Rose Dals of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed her private thus giving us our Minnesota chapter.

- - Florence H. Boswell

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter - The summer exodus from home ports continued when the Michigan Chapter members met at Lansing for a breakfast session, Sunday, August 13, with Marion Jane Weyant acting as hostess. A delicious breakfast of Canadian bacon,

scrambled eggs, toast, jam, coffee and doughnuts was served to the belated guests in the airport restaurant, which is operated by Marion and her mother. A strong headwind was encountered by those girls who came from an easterly direction, making them late in arriving, and no less ravenous. Jeannette Lempke, Sara Winn and Betty Grohman, although all set to fly from Saginaw, were compelled to resort to Jeannette's trusty car because the weather was right on the ground at their home airport. Louise McEnna likewise drove in from Ypsilanti with a prospective member in tow--Mrs. Pauline Sharrock of Ypsilanti. Those arriving by air were Leila and Ray Baker in a new Aeronca, Alice and John Hammond in a Luscombe, Eloise Smith and husband in a Fairchild, Mary Von Mach in a Fleet, and Helen Montgomery in an Aeronca. We were honored by the presence of our Sectional Governor, Florence Boswell, who flew in from Cleveland in her Cessna, carrying as passengers a lady friend and her son, Lewis. She took off for Chicago after the meeting. Other guests included Miss Maude Shipman of Grand Ledge and Mrs. Floyd Evans, Mrs. Rhoda Davis, and Miss Given Malpass, all of Lansing. We were sorry to hear that Mabel Britton had to remain at home because of illness and hope that she has recovered by this time. Our congratulations go to Alice Hammond who placed second in the women's events at a recent Air Meet at Pontiac. She has a nice trophy which symbolizes her prowess in bomb dropping, ribbon cutting, and spot landing. She was flying a rented Waco F, which she reports as familiar as an old shoe after three years of absence from its cockpit. Due to local rainy weather, several of the Ninety-Nines were obliged to miss the Meet. Sara Winn has made a very nice gesture to the Club in offering to enlarge our aerial library by the addition of several books from her own library. Clara Livingston, with her aerial load of Puerto Rican linens, recently held a sale in the home of Alice Hammond. Girls, here are some important dates to keep open, and some events which you will surely want to attend: September 2-4--National Air Races at Cleveland.

National Ninety-Nine meeting.

September 16-17--Sectional Meeting, Lafayette, Ind.

September 24--Annual Michigan Girl Flyer's Day,
Gratiot Airport, Detroit, Michigan

October 8 - Michigan Chapter meeting at Ypsilanti.

- - Helen Montgomery.

ALL-OHIO CHAPTER - Summer time is vacation time and we find our members scattered with the four winds. Tropical and beautiful Isle of Hawaii has beckoned to Marion Jackson, who has been matriculating at Stanford University. She expects to return home for Air Race time, and hurrah, for we will be thrilled to see her again. Florence Boswell is having fun with the compass again. She took off for Lansing, Michigan, then will visit the Chicago Chapter, hop over to Omaha, and finally wink an eye at Minneapolis. Then, she will return home only long enough to repack her bags and will go winging East. Florence has been spending several weeks flying counsellors and young boys to and from Camp Wa-Li-Ro, in Put-in-Bay, of which she is a board member. On one of these sojourns she took Mrs. Paige of Painesville, original donor of the camp, who stated, "After soaring through the clouds, I feel 79 years young instead of old!" Helen Curtiss has been acting co-pilot on a few of these trips. One night these two gallant fledglings attended the Alligator Club Rally, where they had quite an exciting time with the mascot, Orlando, a real honest-to-goodness alligator sent up from Florida. We certainly can be proud of the

perfect attendance at our last meeting. Even our out-of-town members made their appearance; namely, Marion Coddington and Sue Mosteric from Akron, and little Mary Winstanley, who drove in from Sebring. It was due, we believe, to the threatening notices sent out by Helen Curtiss--anyhow, they brought results. Last-minute trade winds bring elating news. First, we hear that Marion Coddington has just received her Limited Commercial. Florence Boswell has added to her illustrious list of passengers, Roscoe Turner. Grace Birge has been instructing the arts of swimming at a summer camp close enough to the Willoughby Airport that she has only to hop a fence to go for an air spin. And last but not least, the surprising news that Arlene Davis is anticipating flying in the Transcontinental Derby. And now, before switching off, we state that our Air Race Committee, headed by Mary King and Marion Pease, are doing all they possibly can to make your stay in Cleveland pleasant while you attend the Air Races. Hoping to see you all again in September--

- - Ann Barille

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION - The August meeting of the Eastern Division of the Middle Eastern Section of the 99's was held at Camden Airport, August 6. Those present were: Lee Hazen, Dorothea Peck and Jane Shaw, all from Easton, Maryland. Mary Houch flew in from Bridgeville, Delaware and Helen Jones and kid sister, Jessie Jones, Jr., came in from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Lee Hazen was elected to be our delegate at the National Air Races next month. Lee flew to the meeting in a 50 h.p. Aeronca Chief, but don't be surprised to see her sporting a new 65 Aeronca Chief--all her very own--at the Races in Cleveland. Lee's guest, Dorothea Peck, had her first plane ride coming to the meeting and you can bet dollars to doughnuts it will not be her last ride. Lee has been dashing around the country since May with National Secretary, Elizabeth Phillips. During that course of time both Lee and Elizabeth obtained their seaplane tins. They did everything from watch little children at a dance recital, to flying cops over the everglades, to fox hunting on an old ranch. Incidentally, Lee is going up for her instructor's rating this month. Good luck to you! Elizabeth Phillips, with another individual, has started a new field. It is located at Fredericksburg, Virginia. The field is a natural, with one runway 3500 feet long. Elizabeth extends an invitation to all the girls of the 99's to come and see her, and stay as long as they want. She can accommodate you in a fine old house built in the year 1600. She is planning on having an air-meet September 20, 1939. Come on now, let's all drop in to see her and give her a big boost on her new venture. Elizabeth has quite a few ships already--Cub, Aeronca and Fairchild. The Fairchild is equipped for blind flying, and she will gladly teach you how to use 'em. Mary Houch at one time did have some appendix. It so happened that she got a little pain and the doctor politely relieved her of it. She has been rather weak but is up and going now. Jane Shaw from Easton, Maryland, Airport is their assistant mechanic. She claims to be able to tear an engine apart--I won't commit myself and tell you that she can put 'em back together and have 'em work like new. We will give you more time, Jane. She passed her solo license test recently with honors and now has 18 hours to her credit. That's all for now. See you at the Races!

- - Helen E. Jones

SKETCH OF FLORENCE H. BOSWELL

Here is a lady who really makes her home in the sky! Since she soloed December 7, 1935, she has logged over 900 hours and has covered the land from coast to coast and border to border. On April 23, 1938, she received her Non-Scheduled Instrument Rating, which placed her third on the list of women pilots in the world who had acquired such a distinction. Five days later, on April 28, she received her Radio Operator's License, which up to this time was the third Radio Operator's License issued in the State of Ohio. Also, she was the first woman in Ohio to receive an Instructor's Rating. Before taking a fancy to the air she had quite a list of accomplishments to her credit. She is a graduate nurse of St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland. Received her degree from Columbia University and took post graduate work in six subjects. She furthered her study in Anesthetics at University Hospital in Cleveland. Having a teacher's degree in piano might account for her great love of music. She has been a Professor of Speech and of late her Aeronautical talks given all over the country have been very invigorating and inspiring. Her most recent lecture was presented to the student body of Purdue University.

As a Ninety-Niner she has been a very active member. She has filled the capacity of Chairman of the ALL-OHIO CHAPTER; Secretary and Treasurer of the North Central Section; has been National Air Race Committee chairman for two consecutive years, and now is the Governor of the North Central Section. Her flying accomplishments have won her prestige in many flying organizations. She has chosen to serve as one of the Official Hostesses at the Miami to Havana Air Cruise this year. She has been appointed on the Membership Committee of the Private Flyers' Association. Her most recent appointment is serving on the Advisory and Aeronautical Committee of the Cleveland Junior Chamber of Commerce. She is the wife of a prominent Cleveland physician and surgeon, Dr. Louis Boswell, and is the mother of three lovely children--Louise, Robert and Louis, Jr., who have become just as air conscious as Mother. One may ask what her ambition is and she will answer with a twinkle in her eye--"I want to do all I can to help under-privileged pilots in aviation. And such are the makings of a Great Aviatrix! Bless you, Florence, and many, many Happy Landings!

- - Ann Barille