


**AIRISMS**  
**FROM THE FOUR WINDS.**

QUITE a number of greetings for the season has reached us from various R.A.F. squadrons, and one of the happiest, which we reproduce, carrying with it up-to-dateness, comes with the best wishes of the officers of 213 Squadron R.A.F., Flanders, the legend accompanying R. Graham's clever picture being—

"He's crashed for good, so here's for—  
 A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, 1918-1919."

AND so say all of us, with hearty reciprocity.

Looks as if when the next war *does* arrive war in the air is likely to be catered for from a variety of sources. From Salt Lake City Mr. John M. Browning—good name to be connected with shooting-irons—announces "the perfection of a combination of three machine-guns on an aeroplane mount, enabling the flyer to fire 3,500 shots a minute, by pressing one trigger." Some shoot! A few equipments like this should make it pretty unhealthy for the quarry when hunting by aeroplane becomes the vogue.

HUN aeroplanes appear like advancing in price. A message from Copenhagen states that the Workmen's and Soldiers' Councils are offering 4,000 German aeroplanes for sale at about £111 apiece, stimulating buyers by promising a generous supply of benzol. Looks as if our Armistice terms, in claiming only 2,000 planes, somehow missed the mark. The Peace conspirators should look into this little lot of Hun machines agoing begging.

OUR auto constructors who are puzzling their heads to evolve a cheap light motor car that will attract prospective purchasers who may be hesitating between car and plane in the near future, had better get on with their output, ere it is too late. According to our French contemporary, *l'Auto*, "a French aeroplane constructor has invented a new type of machine which will not cost more than a small

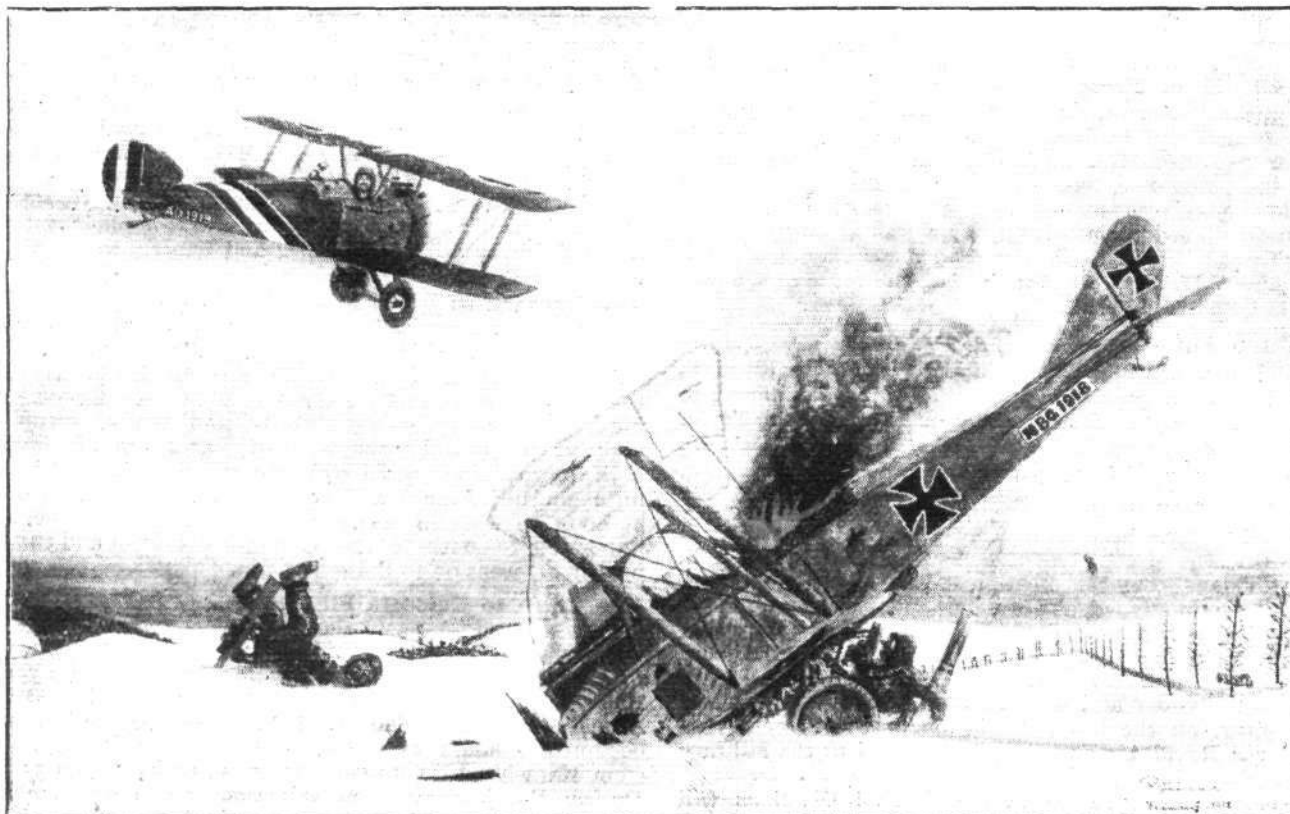
motor car, and of which the speed will be 100 miles an hour. The machine, it is added, is very light, and can be taken to pieces in a few moments." All the same the day of the quick-assembly plane is hardly yet, whatever the far future may bring with it. We have a hazy recollection of hustle in the past in aeroplane building, where the designer started to design at 6 a.m. one day, had his working drawings out by 10h. 33m. 17 sec. the same morning, was finishing the body by—, but that is another story. The executors never sent us the details of how she didn't fly.

THE Aero Club of Belgium, wishing to confer a merited honour on their airmen during the war, has decided to present to all, pilots and observers alike, a diploma. Metal plaques will be given to men mentioned for distinguished service and the first gold plaque has already been awarded to Capt. Willy Coppens, the first Belgian "ace."

AN aerial postal service is among the measures of reconstruction contemplated by the Belgian authorities. It is hoped that a Brussels-Liège and Brussels-Bruges mail may be inaugurated soon, to run daily from the Evers Aerodrome. At the outset this will be confined to official mail, but it may be extended to become a permanent institution.

A MONUMENT is to be erected in the near future in a Brussels square to the memory of Belgian aviators who have given their lives for their country. So far, a definite site has not been decided upon, but the great Belgian sculptor, Rombaux, has been asked to proceed with the monument.

POSTAL services from Naples to Rome, which have recently been inaugurated under the aegis of the military authorities, are now running regularly and without a hitch. The saving in transit is said to be such that in all probability this aerial line will be continued under civil management.



The Christmas and New Year's greeting card from the officers of 213 Squadron R.A.F., Flanders.