

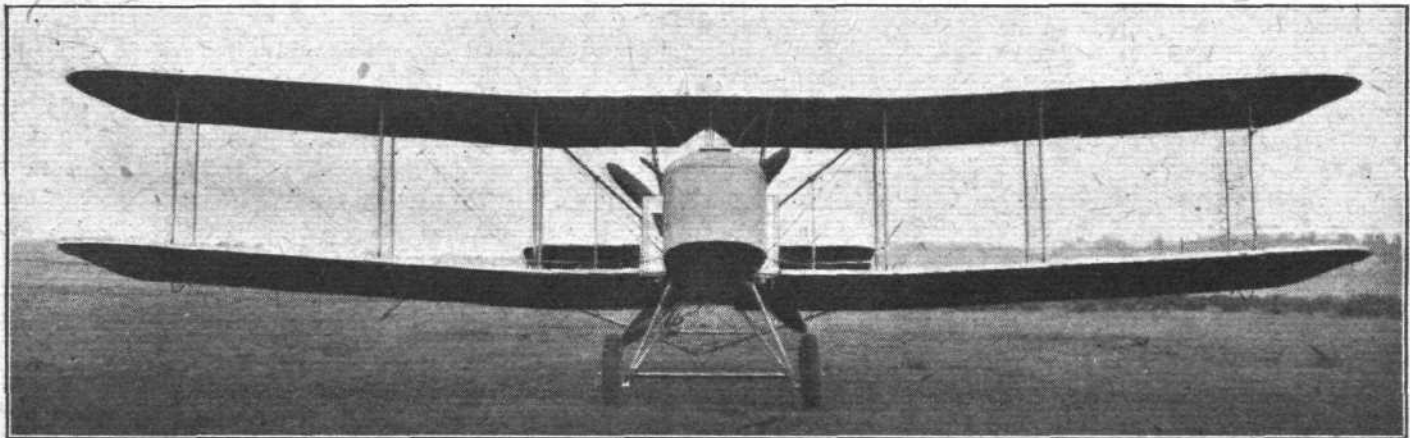
THE VICKERS "V.I.M." SCHOOL MACHINE

360 H.P. Rolls-Royce "Eagle" Engine

DURING the last two years or so the question of tuition has, it appears, been allowed to fall into the background. Yet this phase of the training of personnel is one of very great importance, whether viewed from the standpoint of military aviation, or in regard to commercial aviation of the future. That the question has not altogether been overlooked is, however, proved by the fact that at least one firm has quite recently produced a machine specially designed for school work. We refer to the new Vickers "V.I.M.," a photograph of which was published in FLIGHT recently. This machine, it will be seen from the accompanying illustrations, is of the

the front cockpit, the instructor sitting close behind him in a separate cockpit.

Generally speaking, the new Vickers "V.I.M." resembles the old Vickers "Gun 'Bus" which did such a great amount of useful work during the earlier stages of the War. The power plant is, however, much more powerful than that of the earlier machine, being a 360 h.p. Rolls-Royce "Eagle," so that in this respect also the "V.I.M." approximates to the "Vimy." The advantage of this will be obvious. The pilot learns to know and to handle the single "Eagle" of the school machine before being faced with the extra com-



THE VICKERS "V.I.M." SCHOOL MACHINE: Front view.

"pusher" type, a type which has not been built during recent years, and the revival of which, for instructional purposes, is therefore of special interest.

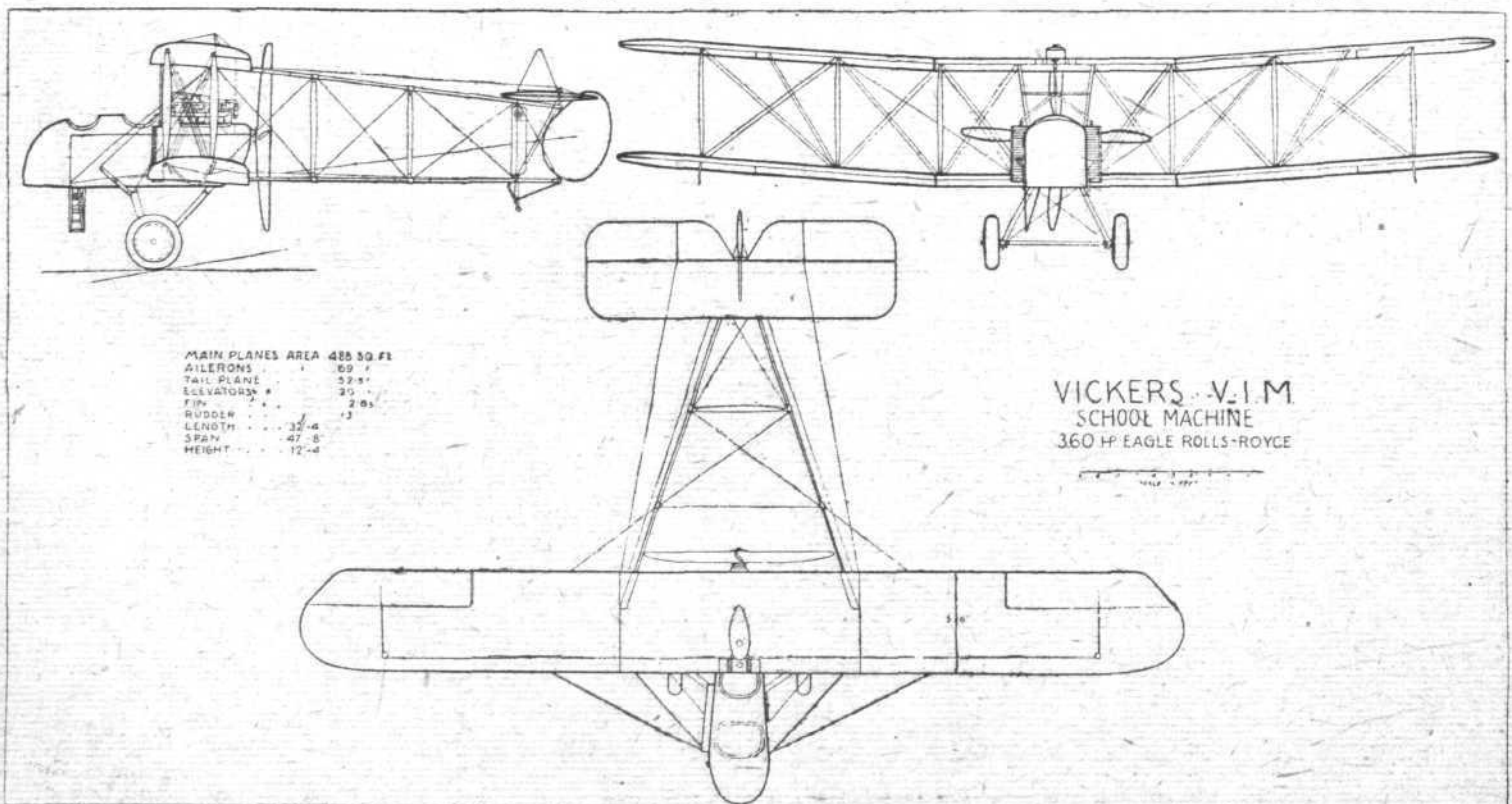
Although the new Vickers "V.I.M." is designed for school work, this is not the only, nor perhaps the main, reason for designing her as a pusher. The object kept in mind was, we understand, that the new machine was to form a stepping-stone, as it were, to the Vickers "Vimy." The cockpits, etc., have therefore been arranged to reproduce, as far as possible, "Vimy" conditions, all necessary instruments and controls being provided for both pupil and instructor. Needless to say, a system of dual controls similar to that of the "Vimy" has been installed. Normally the pupil occupies

plication arising out of the use of two engines in the larger machine. The fact that he has learned on a machine equipped with an engine of the same type reduces his difficulties to becoming used to twin-engine control, and avoids the trouble of having to deal with two unfamiliar engines.

The following is a brief specification of the "V.I.M.":—

Constituent Weights

Machine empty with water	2,950 lbs.
Petrol (39 gallons)	281 "
Oil (6 gallons)	54 "
Pilot and pupil	360 "
Total weight	3,645 lbs.



THE VICKERS "V.I.M." SCHOOL MACHINE: Plan, side and front elevations to scale.