But a nation which has entered 47 machines should be reasonably certain of getting a considerable number through. However, if a British machine does succeed in winning the competition, the honour will be all the greater for having been pitied against so many competitors.

An intriguing story has appeared in the press of India. It concerns a proposed air service by amphibian "Moths" between the city of Madras and the summer capital of Ootacamund in the Nilgiri Hills. According to the press report, certain influential people, whose names are not divulged, are promoting an aerial transport company to bring the summer capital of the Madras Presidency within four hours' journey of the great seaport which is the capital in winter. Ootacamund stands some 7,000 ft. high in the Nilgiris, whose highest peaks are not more than 9,000 ft. This range is very unlike the precipitous Himalayas. There are rolling downs on the top of the Nilgiris where the jackal is hunted as the fox is hunted in the Shires. The Ootacamund hounds are the best known pack in India. There is also a lake at Ootacamund and application has been made to the Municipal Council for leave to use this lake as an airport for the amphibians. At the other end of the route the machines would land on wheels. The Government of Madras would, doubtless, highly appreciate a rapid delivery of official mails. Occasional passengers would think it worth many rupees to get quickly up into cool air, reach the hills in four hours, and escape the torment of a train journey in the hot weather. But technical difficulties are another matter. Flying over hills always presents problems, and even over the Nilgiris there must be many places where an engine failure would be awkward. Then there is the question of the "Moth" getting off from a not very large lake at an altitude of 7,000 ft. That appears to us an insoluble problem.

This report, we must suppose, has been inspired by parental wishes rather than by filial thoughts. All the same, though it may for the present be a fanciful scheme, it is a very charming one. Technical progress does not stand still, and the time may not be far off when some type of aeroplane or autogiro will make this dream come true. We sincerely hope that the editorial "We" will live to see, or at least to record, the inauguration of an air service from Madras to Ootacamund.

BIRTHDAY

The following are included in the official list of Honours conferred by His Majesty the King on the occasion of his 65th birthday:

Baronet

Knight
Henry William Watson McAnally, C.B., J.P., Principal Assistant Secretary, Air Ministry.

Order of the Bath
K.C.B. (Military Division)

K.C.B. (Civil Division)

Miss Amy Johnson, in recognition of her outstanding flight to Australia.

Archibald Havenal Downes-Shaw, Chairman of the Bristol and Wessex Light Aeroplane Club.

Royal Air Force

Bar to Air Force Cross
Squadron Leader Augustus Henry Orlebar, A.F.C.

Air Force Cross
Squadron Leader Alan Lees.

Flight Lieutenant Henry George Watts Lock, D.F.C.

Flight Lieutenant Alfred Kandles Wardle.

Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service

Royal Red Cross (First Class)
Miss Katherine Christie Watt, Matron, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service, in recognition of exceptional devotion and competency displayed in Royal Air Force hospitals at home and in Iraq.

Royal Red Cross (Second Class)
Miss Esther Wilson Hunter, Sister, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service, in recognition of special devotion and competency in the performance of nursing duties in the Palestine General Hospital, Sarafand.

HONOURS

M.B.E.
Flight Lieutenant Sidney James Bailey, R.A.F.
No. 472 Sergeant-Major Alfred Box, 1st Class, R.A.F.
No. 798 Sergeant-Major Frank Landin, 1st Class, R.A.F.
No. 7977 Sergeant-Major Laurence Richard Fears, 1st Class, R.A.F.

(Civil Division)

O.B.E.
Archibald Havenal Downes-Shaw, Chairman of the Bristol and Wessex Light Aeroplane Club.

Royal Air Force

Bar to Air Force Cross
Squadron Leader Augustus Henry Orlebar, A.F.C.

Air Force Cross
Squadron Leader Alan Lees.

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Miss Esther Wilson Hunter, Sister, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service, in recognition of special devotion and competency in the performance of nursing duties in the Palestine General Hospital, Sarafand.

At St. James's Palace

By Command of the King a Levee was held on June 2 at St. James's Palace by the Prince of Wales, on behalf of His Majesty. Air Marshal Sir E. Elliotting, Principal Air Aide-de-Camp, was amongst those in attendance upon His Royal Highness. Others present were Air Marshal Sir Sefton Brancaster, Group Captain L. W. B. Rees and Wing-Commander Louis Greig. The following were amongst those presented to the Prince of Wales:—Sqn.-Ldr. N. Aide-de-Camp, was amongst those in attendance upon His Majesty. Air Marshal Sir E. Elliotting, Principal Air Office of the Judge Advocate General, War Office.