

F./O. Buxton making the best glide of the match.

INTER-CLUB GLIDING MATCH Lancashire v. London

A GLIDING match between two clubs is a new event in Great Britain, and so deserves more than passing remark. It does not matter at this stage that the performers were all more or less beginners, so that a total of 12 min. 52 sec. compiled in six glides was sufficient to win the match. The times may seem trifling to foreign experts who are accustomed to sit on top of a rising gust until the cows come home: and they were trifling. But that did not matter. The point was that the first match between two clubs was held, and that it was carried out with such enthusiasm, that the public turned up to watch to the tune of some hundreds of motor cars, and that it all ended happily in humour without tears.

The Greeks and Trojans of the day, it almost goes without saying, were the gliding clubs of London and Lancashire. The topless towers of Ilium were found on the summit of Ivinghoe Beacon. The said towers were scaled by swarms of Britons, Picts, Scots, Angles, Saxons, Danes and other barbarous inhabitants of Britannia Magna. The meed of victory was not a laurel wreath, in fact I believe there was no prize but honour and glory. The roads as far as the eye could see were lined with motor cars.

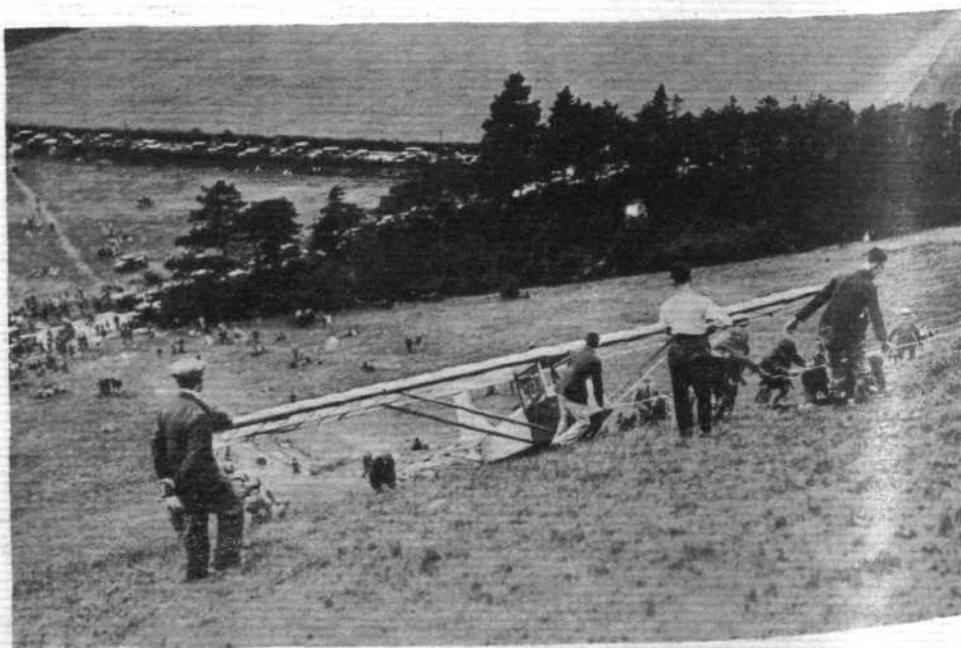
The event was advertised to begin after lunch, but at the last moment it was thought wise to make a start in the morning. There was no questioning the wisdom of the decision, as even with a fairly early start the last glider was not launched until 5.25 p.m., and though that glider went to roost all right, it did not come home to roost until about 7 p.m. But the press reporter must not be blamed if he did not witness events which took place before the advertised time of starting.

The teams were:—London: Capt. Latimer Needham, F./O. M. L. McCulloch, Flight Lieut. R. L. R. Atcherley, F./O. Buxton,

Mr. Marcus Manton, and Lt.-Col. the Master of Sempill, A.F.C.

Lancashire: Messrs. Alan Goodfellow, P. Michelson, F. B. Tomkins, B. A. G. Meads, and J. C. Weale. As only five Lancastrians were present, P. Michelson was allowed to make two glides.

In the morning five glides took place. It was not really a very good day for gliding, though possibly Herr Kronfeld might have enjoyed it. The sky was grey, with occasional rainstorms blowing up from the west. The wind might have been much stronger with advantage. It was variable both in strength and direction. The rising current of air, where the wind hit the rise of the Beacon hill was not very wide from end to end, or very deep. The lie of the ground is as follows. The mass of the Chiltern Hills runs roughly



Hauling a "Prüfling" up Ivinghoe Beacon. Behind are the trees in which Michelson "landed."