

# BRITISH EMPIRE TRADE EXHIBITION BUENOS AIRES 1931



H.M.S. "Eagle" is the British Aircraft Carrier which will visit South America during the Exhibition.

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THE British Aircraft Industry will be well represented at the British Empire Trade Exhibition which will be formally opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in Buenos Aires on March 14. In addition to the aircraft, aero engines, accessories and materials exhibited in the Government Pavilion, the aircraft carrier "Eagle" will cruise in South American waters for several weeks, and will have on board three flights of aircraft, two of which will be of the types used as standard equipment of the carrier, while the third flight will include some of the fastest single-seaters and two-seaters of the Fleet Air Arm, the latest types which have not yet been issued as standard equipment.

In connection with the Buenos Aires Exhibition, the Society of British Aircraft Constructors will issue shortly a publication compiled jointly by the staffs of FLIGHT and *The Aeroplane*, dealing with the British Aircraft Industry. This publication, the text of which will be in Spanish, will contain messages from a number of prominent British officials, a series of Editorial articles on different aspects of Britain's air activities, descriptive illustrated articles dealing with British aircraft, aero engines, accessories, materials and so forth. This publication, which will form a most valuable guide for South American purchasers, will be available not only at the Exhibition but throughout the different South American countries. The products described and illustrated will include very many not actually exhibited at Buenos Aires, so that the publication will be truly representative of the whole of the British Aircraft Industry.

Starting before the opening of the Exhibition will be a series of flying displays, staged at El Palomar, where manufacturers who have aircraft in South America will be able to demonstrate their machines before any potential purchasers, so that what with the aircraft exhibited in the show, those carried on board the *Eagle*, and those at El Palomar, British aviation will have an unprecedented opportunity of showing British products. Many other South American States will also be visited.

The aviation firms which have taken space in the Government Pavilion are: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., the Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., The De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Palmer Tyre, Ltd., A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Smith's Aircraft Instruments, The Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Vickers (Aviation), Ltd., and C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd.

### The Exhibits

Armstrong Siddeley Motors will be showing a complete range of radial air-cooled engines, from the "Genet" to the "Leopard," and Armstrong-Whitworth will exhibit samples of their steel construction, &c.

The Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., will exhibit a "Jupiter" engine and models of Bristol aeroplanes.

Of De Havilland products, there will be a "Puss Moth" and a "Gipsy Moth," with, of course, their De Havilland "Gipsy" engines.

On the Avro stand will be seen six skeleton fuselage portions demonstrating the different branches of advanced training for which the new Avro type 626 can be used.

Rolls-Royce, Ltd., will be represented by a sectioned "F" type engine.

Vickers and Supermarine will have a joint exhibit of models, transparencies, &c., showing the products of the two firms.

Palmer Tyres will be represented by a series of aircraft wheels, with and without wheel brakes.

Smith's Aircraft Instruments will be displayed on a series of panels showing various combinations of instruments.

Wakefield & Co. (who will be represented by Evans, Thornton & Co.) will exhibit oils and lubricants of all kinds.

### The Flying Demonstrations

At El Palomar Aerodrome, placed at the disposal of British firms by the Military Air Authorities of Argentina, demonstrations will be given by an Armstrong-Whitworth "Atlas," a Hawker "Tomtit," an Avro type 626 advanced training machine, an Avro "Avian," and a Westland "Wapiti" general-purpose machine.

These flying demonstrations will begin before the opening of the Exhibition, and some of the machines used will later on go to other South American countries on demonstration tours. Thus the Westland "Wapiti," which will have two types of undercarriage, a wheel type and a float type, will, after the Exhibition, be sent to Uruguay, and from there, as a landplane, to Santiago in Chile, the floats being sent by train. After demonstration in Chile, the "Wapiti" will fly to Valparaiso, where the floats will be fitted. It is possible also that the "Wapiti" will visit Peru. At any rate, it will return to Buenos Aires prior to shipment home.

Other British firms have similar plans for their machines, but details of these are not available at the moment.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has expressed a desire to spend a day at El Palomar to inspect the British aircraft, and the visit of His Royal Highness is likely to take place about a week before the opening of the Exhibition. The Prince of Wales, as is already well known, will have his "Puss Moth" available for making such journeys by air as may be necessary in order to enable him to keep some of his many appointments. The machine will have the distinction of being the only civil aeroplane to be sent out in the *Eagle*.

### The Question of Patents

A very generous gesture has been made by the Argentine Government in a decree recently issued. All British patented inventions and designs registered by exhibitors as showing at Buenos Aires are automatically protected in the Argentine Republic from the date of the decree until three years after the closing of the Exhibition.

This lengthy period of protection is of obvious value to all exhibitors, more especially as the formalities to be complied with to obtain such protection have been reduced to an absolute minimum.