

Private Flying & Gliding



IRELAND'S FIRST WOMAN PILOT: Miss Shamrock Trench, who obtained her "A" licence at the Irish Aero Club on the Club's "Moth" at Baldonnel Aerodrome.

PROGRESS IN IRELAND.—Considerable progress in private flying has been made in the Irish Free State during the past year, and a number of "A" licences have been issued to members of the Irish Aero Club. An event in the history of the Club was the obtaining of a "ticket" by Miss Shamrock Trench, who is the first home-trained woman pilot; she is now preparing to take a course for her "B" licence. There is still some difficulty for "B" licence candidates, as the night equipment has not yet been installed at Baldonnel aerodrome. Obstruction lights have been fixed on the hangars, but the floodlight has not arrived. As soon as this is completed, one member of the Club, Mr. A. C. Woods, and a pupil of Iona National Airways, Mr. St. John Kearney, are expected to carry out their night-flying tests. The present strength of the Aero Club is about 130 members, about 50 being pilot members. During the season the two instructors, Mr. W. R. Elliott and Mr. C. F. French, have put in a considerable amount of work on tuition and joy-riding in the country; the latter has been very successful both from a financial and propaganda standpoint.

THE BRISTOL AND WESSEX AEROPLANE CLUB DANCE.—Bristol lived up to its reputation for good hospitality and bad weather again on Thursday, December 17, when the Bristol and Wessex Aeroplane Club held its first dance of the season at the Grand Spa Hotel, Clifton.

Although the attendance at these dances usually approaches the 300 mark, this time it fell to about 180, which was probably partially accounted for by a very heavy fog which covered this part of the country after nightfall, and prevented many people coming in from outlying parts.

The dance itself was a most delightful affair, being more or less in the nature of a family party, as everyone seemed to know everyone else, and all went merry until 2 a.m., when the assembled company, tired but happy, was reluctantly packed off homewards in the freezing night air by Capt. "Gerry" Winters, who so successfully organised the whole show.

HANWORTH CLUB.—The Committee propose to give a Children's Party at the Club on Wednesday, January 6, 1932, at 4 p.m. Admission will be by ticket only (3s. 6d. for each child, adults 1s. 6d.).

Members wishing to bring children to the party are requested to communicate immediately with the Hon. Secretary of the Club Committee, giving the full names and approximate ages of the children they propose to bring, and, if possible, the number of adults accompanying them. On receipt of this information invitations will be issued to the children through the members concerned; these invitations can only be sent if the above particulars are forthcoming. Joy riding for children from 2 p.m.

CINQUE PORTS FLYING CLUB.—It is reported that at a meeting held last month the directors of the Cinque Ports Flying Club decided to wind up voluntarily and sell the whole of the assets to Brooklands Aviation, Ltd., for £914. The Chairman, Mr. A. Dallas Brett, stated it was the only alternative to the closing down of the club altogether. Most of the shareholders had £1 shares and they would receive at least 19s. in the £ if not paid in full.

CODY'S GLIDER.—A correspondent—an ex-member of the Royal Engineers—who assisted the late S. F. Cody with his glider at Aldershot, is anxious to get into touch with other ex-members of the R.E. who did likewise. He is anxious to form a model aircraft club in memory of S. F. Cody, and would therefore like to hear from any of those who assisted that pioneer, and from anyone interested in the scheme. We will be pleased to forward letters concerning this from readers to our correspondent.



GLIDING COUNTRY: (Left to right), Mrs. Addyman and "the boys," N. Pickles, L. Brook, E. W. Addyman. From this slope flights of over a mile have been made in the "Dickson" glider built by the Aircraft Club of Harrogate.