

FLIGHT

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EDITORIAL COMMENT



OTTAWA is drawing to a close. So far the newspapers have made no mention of questions of Empire aviation having been discussed, although it is known that the subject was down on the agenda. Lt. Col. Shelmerdine, Director of Civil Aviation, is in Ottawa to represent the British Government, while Sir John D. Siddeley has gone over there as chairman of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors on behalf of the British aircraft industry. Among the larger issues it is to be sincerely hoped that the question of Empire aviation will not be lost sight of. When the subject does come up for consideration, Britain's two representatives may be relied upon to do everything possible to find a solution to any problems that may arise. The Director of Civil Aviation has had experience not only at home but also in India, while Sir John Siddeley's extensive interests in and control of important industrial firms fit him very particularly to act as the spokesman of the British aircraft industry.

The subject of Empire aviation has been before this country and the Dominions for a long time, and there is cause for hoping that real progress will be made at Ottawa. As long ago as the last Imperial Conference, held in London in 1930, the subject has been occupying the attention of the various Governments, but for a number of reasons the progress made has been rather slow. This is very seriously to be regretted, as the entire future of civil aviation may well be profoundly affected by the manner in which the British Empire attacks the problems.

Before discussions could be usefully commenced, the fundamental question of certificates of airworthiness had to be settled. We are glad to be able to state that, although but little has been heard of the fact, Great Britain and the various Dominions have gone a very long way towards agreement on this vital matter.

At the last Imperial Conference in London it was decided that an effort should be made to arrive at a uniform airworthiness system for the British Empire,

DIARY OF CURRENT AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Club Secretaries and others desirous of announcing the dates of important fixtures are invited to send particulars for inclusion in this list:—

- Aug. 11-28. International Touring Competition, Berlin.
- Aug. 19-21. 4th Annual Canadian Air Pageant, St. Hubert, Quebec.
- Aug. 22-27. Plymouth Air Week.
- Aug. 25. Folkestone Aero Trophy Race.
- Aug. 28. Close of International Touring Competition, Berlin.
- Sept. 3. Manchester-Liverpool Inter-City Race.
- Sept. 3. Leicester Chamber of Commerce Day, at Desford.
- Sept. 4. Divine Service at Ratcliffe Aerodrome, 2.30 p.m.
- Sept. 5. F.A.I. Conference at The Hague.
- Sept. 8. International Meeting, Vicenza, Italy.
- Sept. 17. S. African Air Rally, Rand Aerodrome, Germiston.
- Sept. 24. Hillmans' Air Display at Maylands Aerodrome, Brentwood.
- Sept. 24. No. 45 Sqdn. R.A.F. Reunion Dinner, at Overseas League Club House, Park Place, S.W.1.
- Sept. 25. Gordon Bennett Balloon Race, Basle.
- Oct. 1. Bristol and Wessex Ae.C. Garden Party.
- Oct. 18. Aero Golfing Society: Cellon Challenge Cup, West Hill G.C.
- Nov. 18-Dec. 4. Paris Aero Show.