ROYAL APPROVAL: H.M. King George VI inspects one of the Hawker Hurricanes at Northolt. With His Majesty is Sqn. Ldr. Gillan, who flew a Hurricane from Edinburgh to Northolt at more than 400 m.p.h. The general view below shows the clean lines of the Hurricane.

THE HURRICANE UNVEILED

A Detailed Description of the Fastest Fighter in Service in the World: Latest Aerodynamic Design Combined with Well-tried Construction

WHEN Mr. Sydney Camm and his staff began to plan their new eight-gun single-seater fighter, they had to make one very important decision before the design work could commence: Should they "go the whole hog," so to speak, and design a stressed-skin machine, of which they had at that time no experience, or should they try to marry the latest ideas in aerodynamic design to the type of structure with which they were familiar and of which they had years of successful experience? Many factors and considerations had to be taken into account. On the one hand, would the production of jigs and tools for stressed-skin construction, having to proceed parallel with the design of the machine, lead to such delays that deliveries by a certain date became problematic? On the other, if the older type of construction were adopted, could they be sure that the fabric covering would stand up to the speeds contemplated?