

## SQUADRON LEADER M. J. ADAM, A.F.C.

WITH great regret, *Flight* records the death of Sqn. Ldr. Maurice James Adam, A.F.C., which occurred on Monday last as the result of a crash at Farnborough. Flt. Lt. R. Monks was the pilot of the machine and the wireless operator was Mr. B. T. E. Bond, a civilian employee of the Royal Aircraft Establishment. The machine, a Whitley bomber, burst into flames after striking, and all three were killed.

While all three deaths are equally tragic, and while the death of any of the Farnborough test pilots is a grievous loss to the R.A.F., public attention is naturally concentrated on the fate of the holder of the world's altitude record. It will be remembered that in September, 1936, Sqn. Ldr. F. R. D. Swain, flying the Bristol 138 monoplane, reached a height of 49,944ft. and established a world's record. This was then surpassed by the Italian, Lt. Col. Mario Pezzi, with a height of 51,362ft. Modifications were made to the Bristol



monoplane and engine, and Flt. Lt. Adam (as he then was) was chosen to make the next attempt. On June 30 last year he flew it to a height of 53,937ft., and regained the record for Britain. For this he was awarded the Air Force Cross.

Sqn. Ldr. Adam was born at St. Andrews in 1908 and was educated in his native town and at George Heriot's School, Edinburgh. In 1929 he was granted a short-service commission in the R.A.F., and afterwards a medium-service commission. He qualified at No. 1 F.T.S., Netheravon, and served with No. 24 (Communications) Squadron and then with No. 11 and No. 60 (B) Squadrons in India. He saw active service on the North-West Frontier and returned to England towards the end of 1935, when he was posted to the Experimental Section of the R.A.E. at Farnborough. A fortnight after his record flight he married Mrs. Doreen Marjorie Martin, with whom deep sympathy will be felt.

### R.A.F. Boxing Association

THE annual general meeting of the R.A.F. Boxing Association will be held in Room 271, Air Ministry, Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2, on Wednesday, September 21, at 14.30 hours.

### Recruiting Returns

RESULTS for the eleventh week of the new R.A.F. recruiting campaign for 31,000 pilots, observers, airmen and boys, are announced by the Air Ministry. The total number of men enlisted during the week was 711, making a total of 5,980 since the campaign began eleven weeks ago.

The applications during the week for entry in the various classes were 1,412; as airmen 1,286, as pilots 110, and as observers 16.

### Queen Bee Depot Ship

H.M.S. *Argus* (Capt. W. G. Benn), now fitting out at Portsmouth, is the first aircraft carrier to be commissioned on the new Fleet Air Arm basis. She has no Royal Air Force headquarters and very few R.A.F. officers, though she does carry the usual complement of R.A.F. fitters and riggers, because the Navy has no skilled ratings available.

The *Argus* in her new form is a depot ship for Queen Bee wireless-controlled target aircraft. She will serve as required with the Home Fleet and Mediterranean Fleet and will join the Home Fleet during its autumn cruise.

Although the Queen Bee unit is normally Royal Air Force it is under the operational control of Lt. Cdr. R. A. Peyton.

A Fleet Requirements Flight is also carried. This is a Fleet Air Arm unit and is in the charge of Lt. Cdr. H. Wright, R.N.

Queen Bees will be launched by an accelerator.

### Central Flying School Categories

THE undermentioned reserve officers have recently been tested at the Central Flying School, and are awarded the following categories:

A.2.—Flt. Lts. J. C. Evans, I. G. E. Dale, R. C. W. Ellison.

B.—Flt. Lt. A. Moncrieff, F/O. F. B. H. Hayward, P/O. C. F. French.

### The Air Force List

THE September issue of the *Air Force List* has now been published. It can be purchased (price 4s.) from H.M. Stationery Office at the following addresses: Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh; 2, York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 15, Donegall Square, Belfast; or through any bookseller.

### R.N.A.S. Mediterranean Reunion

THE reunion dinner of the R.N.A.S. East Mediterranean No. 2 Wing, H.M.S. *Ark Royal* and *Canning* (1915-18), will be held on October 19. Details can be obtained on sending a stamped-addressed envelope to Major E. S. Savory, 35, Hanover Gate Mansions, London, N.W.1, or to Mr. A. G. Furlong, 29, Kenton Park Avenue, Kenton, Harrow Middlesex.

### Flying Accidents

THE Air Ministry regrets to announce the following accident:—Sgt. Stanley Robert Morris lost his life in an accident which occurred at Edmonton, London, on September 4 to an aircraft of No. 1 Elementary and Reserve Flying Training School, Hatfield. Sgt. S. R. Morris was the sole occupant of the aircraft.

## Royal Air Force Gazette

### General Duties Branch

The following are promoted (September 1):—

**Squadron Leaders to be Wing Commanders.**—A. P. Colthurst (Cdr., R.N.); J. I. Robertson (Cdr., R.N.); J. B. Heath (Cdr., R.N.); C. W. Byas (Cdr., R.N.); G. C. Dickens (Cdr., R.N.); G. Willoughby (Cdr., R.N.); C. John (Cdr., R.N.); D. W. Mackendrick (Cdr., R.N.); H. A. Traill (Cdr., R.N.).

**Flight Lieutenants to be Squadron Leaders.**—R. A. Peyton (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, January 1, 1936); G. K. Martyn (Capt., R.N.), (seniority January 1); S. W. D. Colls (Lt. Cdr., R.N.); J. A. D. Wroughton (Lt. Cdr., R.N.); W. G. C. Stokes (Lt. Cdr., R.N.); W. H. G. Saunt (Lt. Cdr., R.N.); J. D. C. Little (Lt. Cdr., R.N.).

**Flying Officers to be Squadron Leaders.**—H. C. Ranald (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, July 1, 1937); C. A. Kingsley-Rowe (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, January 1); H. L. Hayes (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, January 1); H. Wright (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, January 1).

**Flying Officers to be Flight Lieutenants.**—J. O. Mansell (Lt. Cdr., R.N.), (seniority, July 1, 1938); J. N. Garnett (Lt., R.N.), (seniority, January 1, 1938); P. M. Gregory (Lt., R.N.); H. E. R. Torin (Lt., R.N.); M. W. Watson (Lt., R.N.); H. S. MacN. Davenport (Lt., R.N.); E. A. Greenwood (Lt., R.N.); E. D. G. Lewin (Lt., R.N.); R. L. Johnston (Lt., R.N.); R. C. B. Stallard-Penoyre (Lt., R.N.); H. D. Mathew (Lt., R.N.); P. N. Medd (Lt., R.N.); N. E. Ward (Lt., R.N.); A. G. Leatham (Lt., R.N.); F. D. G. Bird (Lt., R.N.); N. T. O'Neil (Lt., R.N.); P. W. Compton (Lt., R.N.); A. S. Whitworth (Lt., R.N.); R. A. W. Dobbs (Lt., R.N.); P. E. O'Brien (Lt., R.N.); R. J. W. Nott (Lt., R.M.).

Capt. G. K. Martyn, R.M., is re-attached to the Royal Air Force

as a Flight Lieutenant with effect from August 22, and with seniority of July 1, 1934 (notifications in *Gazettes* of March 10 and 17, 1936, concerning this officer are cancelled); Lt. D. R. F. Campbell, R.N., is re-attached to the Royal Air Force as a Flight Lieutenant with effect from August 29 and with seniority of January 1, 1935; Lt. Cdr. A. C. R. Duvall, R.N., Flight Lieutenant, R.A., ceases to be attached to the Royal Air Force on return to Naval duty (August 29); Sqn. Ldr. C. A. B. B. Wilcock, A.F.C., is placed on the retired list at his own request (September 5).

The following Flight Lieutenants are transferred to the Reserve, Class A, on the dates stated:—H. V. Kennedy, J. R. L. Rumsey, E. L. A. Walter (September 2), G. N. Snarey, A.F.C. (September 15).

Flt. Lt. D. W. H. Gardner is transferred to the Reserve, Class C (September 2).

### Accountant Branch

F/O. E. Bowman (Acting Flt. Lt.) is promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant (June 1).

### Medical Branch

Air Comdre. B. A. Playne, D.S.O., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., is placed on the retired list at his own request (September 1).

The following Flight Lieutenants are transferred to the Reserve, Class D (September 2):—C. M. Carlyle-Gall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.; W. J. L. Dean, M.B., Ch.B.; T. J. M. Gregg, M.B., B.Ch.

### Dental Branch

F/O. H. B. Shay, L.D.S., is promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant with effect from August 8, and with seniority of April 1.