of going to press HP engineers were still investigating; it had not been concluded whether or not the landing exceeded the design loads.

"FLIGHT" AT FARNBOROUGH

Next week's issue, dated September 19, will present an on-the-spot report of the SBA Show, with special emphasis on what is really new in aircraft, engines, spaceflight and equipment. As in past years, numerous Flight photographs, taken at the exhibition, will supplement the story.

The following week—on Thursday, September 26—our Farnborough Review number appears, with many pages of Show-week news and pictures.

Both these special issues, on sale at the normal price of 2s 6d, will also contain a variety of articles and regular features.

BIS Honour USSR Academicians

The possibility of the instrument capsule of Venus 4 spacecraft having landed on a mountain of Venus was raised by Academician B. N. Petrov in a scientific paper read to the British Interplanetary Society in London on September 5. He said that certain discrepancies between measurements obtained on October 18 last by the Venus 4 capsule which entered the planetary atmosphere, and those of the American Mariner 5 spacecraft which made a fly-by of the planet the next day, were still being evaluated in Moscow.

Earlier, on behalf of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Professor Petrov—who is an original member of the USSR Committee for the Exploration and Use of Space and head of a laboratory at the Institute for Automation and Tele-mechanics—received a BIS award in the form of a silver replica of Venus 4. Making the presentation, Mr Kenneth W. Gatland (vice-president) said the award acknowledged "the supremely difficult feat of directing an instrument capsule, with soft-landing apparatus, into the atmosphere of Venus and receiving back from the capsule data on the planetary environment. . . . At the time of the encounter the distance between Earth and Venus was nearly 50 million miles; and such was the importance of the experiment that the USSR Academy of Sciences asked the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Station at Jodrell Bank to join them in recording signal data—which was done, and the results sent to the Soviet Union for analysis."

In reply Academician Petrov paid warm tribute to the BIS and looked forward to further examples of space collaboration between Britain and the USSR. On behalf of the Academy he presented the Society with an inscribed model of Venus 4, and also with a volume of records of research compiled from the results of the Luna Moon-landing probes.

Coachmakers' Officials

Col G. D. T. Harris was on September 3 elected the new Master of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers, which has a close interest in air transport. The Hon John Siddeley was elected Senior Warden, Sir George Dowty, Renter Warden, and Mr Roger Gresham-Cooke, MP, Junior Warden.

Japanese Studies ACV Market

Plans by the Japanese Government to form a corporation which will operate hovercraft on selected routes in Japan and the Far East to determine where, and what kind of, hovercraft are economically feasible appear in this month's Air-Cushion Vehicles, published yesterday (September 11).

The issue also describes the new hybrid craft under construction by Vosper Thornycroft and gives full details of the modifications which will be made to the SR.N4 car ferry now running across the English Channel.

Of interest to amateur builders are the results of rallies at Abbotsford in Canada and at Skegness, Lincs; Part 2 of Home Constructors' Handbook; and a cutaway drawing of the unusual Wotsit 2 craft.

Copies of Air-Cushion Vehicles are obtainable from all branches of large stationers or from the publishers at Dorset House, Stamford Street, London SE1.

Aerial hoarding The fantastic configuration of the Camco V-Liner, here revealed for the first time (see also page 420), is the result of a very specialised requirement for an amphibian for aerial advertising (the picture is of a model, with a model Boeing 707 to give scale). Sponsored by an American firm, it will be built by Slingsby at Kirkmoorside, Yorks, and is designed to cruise at only 52 m.p.h. Commercial studies claim that up to 1974 there would be a market for 400 V-Linear at a price of about £36,000 each, and that revenues could reach £5,000 per aircraft per hour.