

OPENING OF AVIATION SCHOOLS.

Signor Edmondo Bianchi, an Italian aviator, who took part in the recent Tripoli war, has arrived in Sydney. He stated he had not brought any aeroplanes with him, but later on—about June 1—five Bleriot machines, accompanied by a staff of mechanics, will arrive in Sydney. Two of these machines, which are for instructional purposes, are of 25 horse-power, one of 50 horse-power, one of 75 horse-power, and one of 120 horse-power. The 50 horse-power and 75 horse-power machines can carry two passengers and the 120 horse-power machine four passengers in addition to the pilot. Signor Bianchi, in reply to another question, said that M. Guillaux's skill and intrepidity were well known throughout the aviation world. "However," he continued, "I and the firm I represent do not specialise in aerial acrobatics. We study aviation only from a utilitarian point of view, featuring long, fast non-stop flights with heavy weights. I think that some of the machines I am going to introduce to this country will satisfy the people of the great possibilities that await aviation. This will be especially demonstrated with my large 120 h.p. machine, which, compared with anything else yet seen here, will appear like a small airship. With that machine I think nothing of covering a non-stop flight of 400 miles at an average of 100 miles an hour, and therefore, I anticipate no difficulty in covering the distance between Sydney and Melbourne in the time I have mentioned."