

## CLUB AND GLIDING NEWS



Warwickshire Aero Club at Elmdon were this year's winners of the P.F.A. Masefield Trophy. Among club awards at the recent dinner ("Flight," November 22) was the Warwick Trophy to W. E. Wassell (left) and the Navigation Trophy to J. Radcliffe

**A** PUBLICITY panel has been formed by the Royal Aero Club "in an effort to draw attention to the folly of the present official attitude and to win for the private-aviation world in all its aspects some of the recognition that is its due." The club's announcement of this states: "For some time past, the Royal Aero Club has viewed with concern the growing indifference and hostility in certain quarters towards private aviation in this country. Compared with the attitude of foreign governments, notably in France, Germany and Italy, which have resulted in healthy and expanding light-aviation industries, that of the authorities in this country seems aimed only at extinction by neglect and strangulation by an ever-increasing number of regulations and mandatory air traffic control procedures foisted on aviation generally in the name of safety of operation for the big commercial operators. . . ." Members of the panel are John Blake (Royal Aero Club), K. J. A. Brookes (Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers), F. Butters (membership), Maurice Imray (Popular Flying Association), Norman Jones (sporting flying), and W. A. H. Kahn (British Gliding Association).

**T**HE Tiger Club has announced vacancies for ten more pilot members; those interested and with over 100 hours solo should contact C. Nepean Bishop, 49 Zermatt Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey. The date of the club's race meeting at Sandown next season has been changed to Whit Monday, May 26. Participation at air displays at Swansea, Exeter and Goodwood has provisionally been arranged, in addition to the Tiger Club aerobatic contest at Sywell on May 4.

**M**ORE than 2,000 flying hours have been logged since the beginning of April by members of the Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd. (Weybridge), Flying Club at Fair Oaks. Among recent members qualifying for P.P.L.s was Miss Dinah Anag of the company's aerodynamics department, who is the first lady member to qualify. Sir George Edwards, managing director of the company and president of the club, has also obtained his Private Pilot's Licence—with a Viscount endorsement in Group C.

**F**OLLOWING our recent report of two flying members of an Australian gliding club aged eleven and twelve respectively, Plymouth Aero Club have weighed in with the news that their youngest flying member is David Fleet, aged 13. Flying instruction in a Tiger Moth and "some very competent aerial photography" in a Gemini have taken up much of his time this season.

### MORE IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS

**R**EADERS who are still undecided on the purchase of Christmas gifts may be interested to hear of a new line in presentation aircraft models which has been brought out by John Somers, Ltd., 142 Edgware Road, London, W.2.

Illustrated here, from left to right, are an Auster, Gemini and Messenger; the range also includes Tiger Moth and Chipmunk.

Heavily plated, the models have a span of about 6½ in and appear to be unusually well made, and the makers' association with Nat Somers, the well-known racing pilot, is a guarantee of accuracy. The stand, which on this type of model too often seems to be added as an afterthought, is refreshingly in keeping with the aircraft. The models retail at 12 guineas each.

Another idea for Christmas is provided by State Express, Ltd., who have produced their usual wide range of novelties. Included this year is a tin of 50 State Express 555 cigarettes in a half-pint or pint glass-bottomed pewter tankard, or in a pottery "Dickens" jug. Cigarettes and cigars are also available in a wide selection of novel packings.

Readers who are still at a loss may like to refer to our issue of November 29, page 832, where a list of books published by *Flight* and its associated journals will be found.

**B**OTH Elliotts of Newbury and Slingsby Sailplanes, Ltd., are building sailplanes intended for use by the British team in both open and limited categories at the world gliding championships in Poland next year. Target date for the completion of these aircraft is February 1, 1958, after which comparative tests will be flown and the British Gliding Association will make the final selection of aircraft for the British team.

From Warsaw it is reported that the rules and marking system for the championships will in general follow the lines of those of the 1956 contest at St. Yan. A suggested innovation, however, is the setting-up of an appeal committee consisting of team captains, the chairman of the sports section of the championship committee and the chairman of the committee of judges.

Leszno airfield, where the championships will be held, is being enlarged at present. New hangars, restaurants and spectators' verandahs are being built. The Polish Aero Club has appointed Marcin Monis, director of the club, to be chief organizer of the contests, and Tadeusz Rejniak, the club's secretary, to be chairman of the sports committee.

**T**RAINING and touring are the functions of the new PL-9 aircraft designed in Australia by Luigi Pellarini. A single-engined five-seater, the machine is intended specifically to meet the needs of Australian flying schools and private owners. Mr. Pellarini, designer of the Kingsford Smith PL-7 Tanker agricultural aircraft, was commissioned earlier this year by the Royal Aero Club of Queensland to design the new aircraft, and construction of the prototype is expected to begin in January.

**I**N an information circular (99/1957) dated November 20, 1957, the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation announces that the 1957 edition of *Aviation Law for Applicants for the Private Pilot's Licence* is now available. Known officially as C.A.P.85, this publication costs 1s 6d from H.M.S.O. All previous editions are obsolete and, according to the Ministry, should be destroyed.

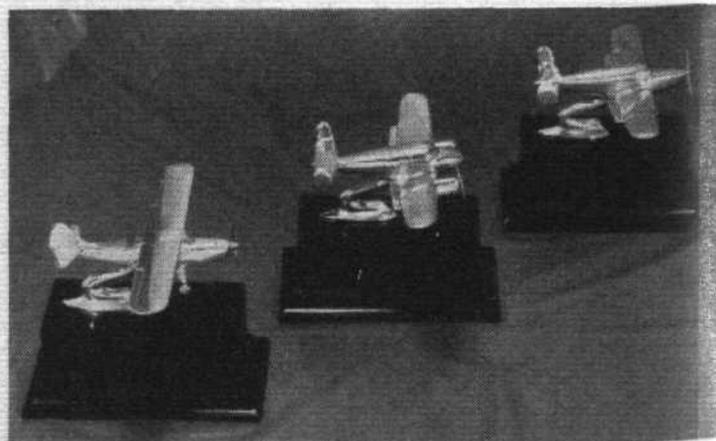
**W**ITH the double object of assisting Italian aircraft factories and increasing the number of pilots, the Italian government is encouraging the purchase of tourist aircraft by clubs and individuals by means of a 50 per cent subsidy on the purchase price. This applies to any Italian-built tourist aircraft. Some £20,000 was allocated for this purpose for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

**F**IRST social event to be held in the clubhouse of the Bristol Gliding Club at Nympsfield will be the Christmas Party planned for tomorrow, December 14. Recent activities at Nympsfield have been overshadowed by the tragic death of the club's vice-chairman, John Parry Jones, in the Britannia accident near Filton.

**A**T the Surrey Flying Club, Croydon, Alan Sproston has resigned as chief flying instructor on medical grounds. Peter Chinn has now taken over as C.F.I.

**A** NEW member of the instructional staff at Denham Flying Club is Adrian Vaughan, who learned to fly at the club and made his first solo on his 17th birthday. The opening party at the club's newly decorated lounge bar was scheduled for Friday last, December 6.

**M**EMBERSHIP of Exeter Aero Club now stands at over 100. Among the club's Christmas festivities is an Ashen Faggot party on Christmas Eve, at which "an ashen faggot will be burnt and the appropriate toasts drunk in mulled ale."



Presentation aircraft models by John Somers, Ltd.