

# Civil Aviation.

(Continued)

By NORMAN J HULBERT, A M I A e E

**The Marquis of Pinedo** I offer my sincere sympathy to the Marquis of Pinedo and to the Italian Government. It was indeed bad luck that his Savoia flying boat should be destroyed by fire off the coast of Arizona and I hope that with the new machine which is being sent out to him, he will be able to bring his great flight to a successful conclusion.

**Captain Stack** At the last House Dinner of the Institution, we were lucky to have with us Captain Stack, who has just returned from India after flying from London to Delhi in a "Moth." Captain Stack was persuaded to relate some of his experiences *en route*, which he did in a most amusing and entertaining way, and when one heard him say that they flew across the Mediterranean at a height of not more than 300 feet, one marvelled at their courage and the confidence they had in their machine, and both Captain Stack and Mr Leete deserve everyone's hearty congratulations on this flight, which also conclusively proves the reliability of the modern light aeroplane and its engine.

**Captain Courtney** It is an open secret that Captain Courtney proposes to attempt to fly during the Summer from Europe to Montreal. Unfortunately from the point of the British Aircraft Industry, the machine which he proposes to fly is not of British make, but nevertheless, I am sure everyone will wish Captain Courtney—who has earned for himself the title of "the man with the marvellous hands"—the greatest success in this flight, which will, if successful, be the first time the North Atlantic has been flown in a western direction. The previous flight in 1919, by Sir John Alcock, being eastward from Newfoundland.

**Air Racing at Brighton** I read with interest of a project to organise Air Racing and a light aeroplane club on the Downs two miles north-west of Brighton. I understand that the proposed aerodrome adjoins the new Motor Track which is being built under the guidance of such well-known people as Colonel Moore-Brabazon, Viscount Curzon, and Major Seagrave. It seems to me there could be no better place for Air Racing than Brighton, because it is within comparatively short distance from London, but, what is probably more important everybody knows how to get there, and visitors after enjoying a day's racing can readily find means of amusing themselves later in the evening. I had the good fortune to visit the site, which has already been passed by the Aerodrome Department of the Air Ministry, and in my opinion it is ideal, because it is very accessible in relation to Brighton, and is situated in very picturesque surroundings, and from a technical point of view it is quite good, there being a straight run of 800 yards.

into the prevailing wind. Among those associated with the enterprise is Lord Thomson, who has visited Brighton and who is well satisfied in every way. In view of the success which has attended Air Race Meetings held in much more inaccessible districts, I am confident that after organisation on energetic lines, the Brighton Air Race Course, which is at present the only race course of its kind in the country, will be undoubtedly successful, and will do much to encourage the Air Sense amongst the people.

**Berlin's New Air Port** The Templehofen Field which is the terminal aerodrome of Berlin, promises to be the scene of many enthusiastic race meetings this year. Grand stands are being built, and every week-end there are impromptu races, and on ordinary Saturdays and Sundays the crowd is never much less than about 10,000 to 15,000 people. This indeed shows a real interest in civil aviation, which is unfortunately lacking in this country. I cannot conceive what would happen if anything like this number of people turned up at Croydon one week-end, where the public enclosure was designed to accommodate little more than one-hundred. However, I hope that the Brighton Race Course outlined above, will do something to remedy this state of affairs, and that before long one of the most popular entertainments in London during week-ends will be to visit the Brighton Air Race Course.

## The Royal Air Force Display

WILL BE HELD AT

HENDON AERODROME,

On *SATURDAY, 2nd JULY, 1927*

## The Hampshire Air Pageant

(Organised by the Hampshire Aeroplane Club),

WILL TAKE PLACE

On *SUNDAY 15th MAY,*

AT

HAMBLE AERODROME, SOUTHAMPTON