

THE FULL DAY DISCUSSION ON "HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE"

An all-day discussion on Helicopter Maintenance, organised by the Helicopter Association of Great Britain, with the co-operation of the Society of Licensed Aircraft Engineers, was held in the library of the Royal Aeronautical Society at 4 Hamilton Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, October 21st, 1950.

There were three sessions, a report on the first of which has already been published.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Chairman : MR. R. E. HARDINGHAM
(Society of Licensed Aircraft Engineers).

THE CHAIRMAN : I am extremely honoured and pleased to occupy the Chair at this session ; I would remind you all that in doing so I sever all connections with the Air Registration Board, and I stand here as a member of the Society of Licensed Aircraft Engineers. Our Society is extremely pleased and grateful to the Helicopter Association of Great Britain for having invited us to take part, and I offer our thanks, as a Society, to the Association.

This morning I was most impressed by the way in which all speakers were prepared to speak openly about helicopters. There was no apathy, and there was a readiness to face up to all the difficulties—and the difficulties facing the enthusiasts for helicopters are quite large. There is much criticism of the present-day helicopter ; indeed, in a recent conversation the designer of one of our best aeroplanes described the present-day helicopter as a *fatigue* machine

PAPER

By MR. G. E. WALKER (Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd.).

THE CHAIRMAN : Mr. WALKER is an Associate Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and is a Founder Member of the Helicopter Association. He has served with the Weir Branch of the Cierva Autogiro Company, and has been engaged on the design of all the Autogiros and helicopters from the W1 to the W6. He has been engaged on engine-design work with Messrs. Rolls-Royce, and in 1941 he was asked to join the Ministry of Aircraft Production and to work on the design and development of rotary wing gliders. He is now with the Bristol Aeroplane Co., working with Mr. Hafner.