

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University
Ohio State Engineer

Title: Keeping Up With Aviation

Creators: Ewing, Robert M.

Issue Date: May-1930

Publisher: Ohio State University, College of Engineering

Citation: Ohio State Engineer, vol. 13, no. 7 (May, 1930), 15.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/34706>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 13, no. 7 \(May, 1930\)](#)

KEEPING UP WITH AVIATION

By ROBERT M. EWING, M.E. 2

It is significant to note that the Army Air maneuvers held on the west coast were completed with but four accidents and no fatalities or injuries. This is an improvement over the maneuvers of last year and shows that safety in the air is increasing.

The latest addition to the already large Curtiss family is the "Kingbird." It is an eight-place cabin monoplane with two motors and designed for private use. The two engines are Wright Whirlwinds of 225 h.p. The new ship has a high speed of 135, cruises at 120 and lands at 63.5 m.p.h. It has an absolute ceiling of 16,500 feet and a service ceiling of 14,700.

An interesting plane in the medium sized cabin class is the Ogden Cirrus Trimotor "Osprey." It is a six-place ship using three American Cirrus engines, each rated at 95 h.p. at 2100 r.p.m. The ship, a monoplane, develops a high speed of 125, cruising at 98 m.p.h. and climbs to 15,000 feet.

An all-metal Barling NB-3 monoplane was recently tested by being struck by artificial lightning and it was found the lightning used had no damaging effect on the ship. The discharges were of 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 volts. These tests are to be continued to see whether lightning can cause accidents in the air.

A field has been named after one of the greatest flyers of all time, Floyd Bennett. It will be remembered that this noted flyer died of pneumonia contracted while on a rescue flight to the Arctic. Floyd Bennett field is New York City's new municipal airport.

An order for seventeen observation planes has been placed with the Douglas Aircraft Company of Santa Monica, Calif., by the Army Air Corps. The order, including spare parts, amounts to \$224,687.91. The planes will be equipped with geared Curtiss engines.

Again Colonel Lindbergh comes to the front and establishes a new record for coast to coast flying. He cannot be said to have broken Captain Hawks' non-stop record, although his flying time was less, because he made one stop at Wichita for gas. The flight was not for the purpose of establishing a record, but rather to find out whether high altitude flying would be practicable for long distances. The entire flight was made at an altitude between 10,000 and 15,000 feet.

The Berliner-Joyce Aircraft Corporation merging with the Douglas Aircraft Company has joined two companies well known in the production of army planes.

Littoria airport, a private enterprise, located about four miles north-east of Rome, Italy, is a good example of European practice in airport building. The airport covers about one square mile. The useful length of the field in all directions is not less than 1000 meters.