



Ready for assembly. Members of NCSS take-off Langley Sailplane at Inverness.



Plenty of help as NCSS assembles Langley Sailplane at Point Reyes



Jim Gough takes off in a test flight in the Langley Sailplane at Point Reyes

Activities at Northern California S. S.

Photos by A. Hoeflich

The NCSS was organized by Ernest Langley, who has been the leader in San Francisco Soaring activity since 1930, when the great interest in primary gliding was on. This group used several Bowlus Sailplanes and secondary ships at that time and considerable soaring time was put in at Salada Beach, but crack-ups and the attendant rebuilding, along with the limited number of trained soaring pilots, prevented any great advance in the sport locally.

Since that time the society has tested many soaring sites near San Francisco and now uses three which present good soaring conditions. The nearest is the Salada Beach site which has a range of 800 feet hills parallel with the beach. At this site, steady winds are available from February to October, varying in velocity from 8 to 40 m.p.h. with an average of about 20. These hills extend for many miles down the coast, rising to about 1,800 feet near Sweeney's Ridge about six miles from the take-