

## News from Clubs and Members

### ELLENVILLE, N. Y.

The Memorial Day week-end soaring meet of the Metropolitan Soaring Association was held at Ellenville, N. Y., May 29th-31st. The Clubs and individuals participating and their ships, were as follows:

Airhoppers Gliding & Soaring Club of Brooklyn, N. Y., with a Franklin PS 2; The Y Flying Club of Newark, N. J., with the new Kestrel sailplane; The North Jersey Soaring Association, Glen Rock, N. J., with a Franklin; The Placek brothers of Little Ferry, N. J., with a gull-wing Franklin; Lewin Barringer of Philadelphia, Pa., with a Göppingen "Wolf"; The Schweizer brothers of Peekskill, N. Y., with their new all-metal secondary sailplane.

Soaring conditions were very poor throughout the meet with little or no wind and weak thermals. Activity at the Wurtsboro Field included training by the Airhoppers Club and first test flights of the new Schweizer ship by Emil Lehecka. The Mt. Meenagha site was crowded with hopeful enthusiasts who saw



Line-up of ships on Mt. Meenagha

only one take-off the first day, when Lewin Barringer made a "slide" to the valley, 1,100 feet below.

The second day there were four shock chord launchings from the mountain by Les Barton in the Kestrel, Willy Placek in the gull-wing Franklin, Pete Bonotaux in a Franklin and Lewin Barringer in the "Wolf". None of the first three were able to make flights lasting over ten minutes, but Lewin was lucky enough to catch a weak thermal (1-4 ft. per second climb) in which he spiralled the "Wolf" to over 1,000 feet above the take-off on a 43 minute flight.

The only activity on Monday was some gliding at Wurtsboro and the inspection of a take-off site on Sams Point by several members and local dignitaries. The Mt. Meenagha site has been sold and will no longer be available for take-offs. Tentative plans were made for clearing a runway for winch take-offs into southwest winds on Sams Point, which has soaring possibilities perhaps second to none so far developed anywhere, here or abroad.



### WINGS SOARING CLUB

On June 1st, there was held at Wings Field, Blue Bell, Pa., the organization meeting of a new gliding and soaring club which will be known as the Wings Soaring Club. Membership in the club was limited to fifteen charter members and the following officers were elected: President, Lewin B. Barringer; Vice-President, Samuel T. Freeman, 2nd; Secretary, Percy Pierce; Treasurer, Dr. W. Edward Chamberlain. The Club has bought the Stevens gull-wing Franklin from the Placek brothers and has entered it in the Contest.



The Stevens Franklin of the Wings Soaring Club



### FIRST CHICAGOLAND SOARING AND GLIDING CONTEST

The Contest which was held at Benton Harbor, Michigan, May 29-31, with entries of 9 ships, 8 clubs, and 28 pilots, met with no more luck in soaring weather than the meets at Elmira and Ellenville. The longest flight was one made by Bill Sherman who kept his Franklin up 10 minutes with the help of weak thermals. With the use of the Purdue Glider Club's winch, the utilities were towed to 1,200 feet altitude.

Although it was not possible to award the cup and prize money made available through the fine cooperation in Benton Harbor, the honors for spot landings were won on the 29th by Montgomery of the U. of M. Club, 1st place; and Chapman of the L.I.T. Glider Club, 2nd place. The following day 1st place was won by Guy Weber of the South Bend Glider Club with Montgomery of the U. of M. Club second.

As luck would have it, five days of the week following the Contest provided perfect soaring conditions. An informal meet is planned sometime in June to qualify a number of new "C" pilots.



### NEW MEMBER

We are very glad to welcome as a new member in the S.S.A., Peter Riedel, one of the foremost pilots of Germany. Riedel, who holds "Silver C" No. 7, is flying up from Bogota, Col-



Peter Riedel soaring his Condor sailplane

umbia, via Pan American and Eastern Airlines, to take part in our Contest. He will be flying a Rhönsperber sent over for him by the Aero Club of Germany.