

SSA NEWS

DIRECTORS' MEETING

The Directors of the Society held their mid-winter meeting in Los Angeles, March 8 and 9. Eleven Directors were present in person, seven by proxy and four were absent. The first session convened at the IAS building on Friday afternoon.

That evening the Directors were guests of the SCSA Directors at a very pleasant dinner party. In the evening President Sweet addressed the regular monthly meeting of the SCSA. Following his talk, there was a question and answer period covering the affairs of the Society, its aims and objectives. Many of the Directors and the Editor of SOARING, Jock Forbes, participated in the discussion. The discussion was informative both to the Directors and to the members of SCSA.

The Directors reconvened on Saturday morning and were in session until 9:45 p.m. This being the 25th anniversary year of the founding of SSA, it was decided to have a celebration of the occasion during the National Contest at Elmira. Stanley W. Smith was designated to work up a program.

Approval was given for the publication of an Awards Handbook, draft of which was submitted by Ralph S. Barnaby. He was commended for the splendid work in preparing this important document.

It was announced that word had been received from FAI that Poland would be host for the World Championships in 1958. Also, that Paul B. MacCready, Jr., has been designated recipient for the Lilienthal Medal for 1956. Nominations for the Harmon Trophy and the Helms Hall awards were approved; also the recipients designated for the Warren E. Eaton and Tunland awards. These will be announced at the appropriate time.

The Board accepted the recommendation of the Contest Committee that the rules for the 1956 National be adopted as standard with minor modifications to meet local conditions. These will be the basis for all competitions with the Contest Committee drawing up rules for events not normally used in National Competitions.

With the advent of some promising new designs, which might eventually lead to design class competitions, the Contest Committee invited



Photo: John Graves

Attending the SSA Directors' Mid-Winter Meeting at Los Angeles were, left to right, Paul F. Bikle, Major Fuchs, Paul B. MacCready, Bill Ivans, Ted Nelson, E. J. Reeves, Gus Briegleb, "Doc" Harner Selvidge, Joe Robertson and SOARING Editor Jock Forbes. Seated left to right, SSA Secretary Paul A. Schweizer, President Floyd J. Sweet, Dr. Klemperer and SSA Executive Secretary Lloyd M. Licher.

any One-Design groups formed in the future to appoint a member to serve with the Contest Committee.

The Directors moved to employ a full-time Executive Secretary and were successful in employing Lloyd M. Licher, who will start work approximately April 1.

A Committee was appointed to prepare new By-Laws incorporating a plan to elect Directors on the basis of geographical membership. Paul F. Bikle was appointed Chairman with Messrs. Ivans, Robertson and Selvidge as members. A draft of these By-Laws will be prepared in time for the next Directors' meeting.

Officers elected for 1957-58 were: President, Paul A. Schweizer; Vice Presidents, William S. Ivans, Jr., and Stanley W. Smith; Treasurer, Harner Selvidge; and Secretary, William Fuchs. These officers will be installed on July 11 at the awards banquet of the 24th Annual U. S. National Soaring Competitions.

POLAND HOST FOR 1958 WORLD MEET

The Gliding Committee of the FAI met on February 4 at the Headquarters of FAI in Paris. One of the primary items of the business was to accept an offer from one of the member countries to organize the 1958 World Gliding Championships. Only two offers were received—one from the SSA and one from the Aero Club of Poland.

After considering the advantages of both invitations, the Committee chose the one from Poland. Cost was by far the influencing factor since it is much cheaper for all of the clubs in Europe to go to Poland.

In addition, the Poles offered to rent 15 gliders, an item the SSA could not include in their invitation. The dates for the contest have not yet been established.

LOOKING FOR A FLIGHT STRIP?

It now appears that gliding clubs have a new source of land open to them for use as flight strips on a non-commercial basis. The following is quoted from Go Ahead New York, published by the New York State Aviation Bureau:

"Farm land placed under the Conservation Reserve Program (3 to 10 year program) or the Acreage Reserve (annual through 1959) may be used for non-commercial airport purposes and still obtain program benefits, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has advised National Association of State Aviation Officials.

"The Conservation Reserve Program is a long-term measure to adjust production, to increase the conservation of soil, water and forest resources, and to rehabilitate worn out or eroded land. Each year \$450 million is available for payments to farmers placing acreage in the Re-

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