

NEWS FROM LESZNO

The Soaring Center at Leszno, Poland, site of the 1958 World Soaring Championships, was honored in the fall of 1960 by a visit from Miss Jacqueline Cochran, then president of F.A.I. She was treated to her first flight in a sailplane, after which she expressed her enjoyment of it and said that, in time, she may become a convert from airplanes to sailplanes.

The Center has developed into a competition and cross-country school, specializing in speed and distance soaring, as well as a school for instructors. The flying resembles a permanent contest with over 20 sailplanes participating in the daily tasks. In 1959 and 1960, 62,100 and 39,800 miles, respectively, of cross-country soaring were accomplished.

The Polish Nationals were at Leszno from June 4-18th. All 55 pilots, including 15 foreigners, flew



Two of Poland's top soaring pilots, Mrs. Palagia Majewska, winner of the Lilienthal Medal for 1960, and Edward Makula, holding the Leszno Cup, given annually for the best soaring achievement flown from Leszno. It was awarded to him for 1959 for becoming the first Polish pilot to exceed 100 kmph (62.14 mph) around a 100 km. triangle. He did 104 kmph using a Zefir sailplane.



Miss Jacqueline Cochran in the Bocian two-seater at Leszno, Poland, about to make her first flight in a sailplane.

Mucha Standard sailplanes, similar to that in which Adam Witek became Standard Class Champion in the 1958 World Championships. Josef Pieczewski won after seven contest days interrupted by some poor weather. On the last day the task was a 327 mile goal race which only two completed but 21 others exceeded Diamond distance of 310 miles.

WILLS PLACES FIRST IN ITALIAN NATIONALS

Philip Wills of England was winner of the Italian National Soaring Championships held at Perugia in early August. He earned a total of 7,429 points flying a Skylark 3F and placed 1st in 4 of the 8 tasks. Pronzati was second in a Mucha Standard and Vitelli was third in an M 100 S sailplane. Vitelli is Italy's first Diamond C pilot. He arned his third diamond with a 507 km. flight at this year's Polish Championships.

Wills has written an interesting account of his "Italian Adventure" which appears in the October 12th issue of the British *Flight* magazine. He describes in detail his longest flight, a little over 200 miles, south-east down the "boot."

BARBARA WINS FRENCH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Daniel Barbera, well-known French pilot, won his country's National Soaring Championship, held from June 19th through July 10th. He flew a Breguet 901 sailplane and earned 7,576 points. In second place was Lacheny with 6,540 points, also in a 901. Adam Witek of Poland placed fifth with 5251 points and he, too, flew a Breguet 901.

CALENDAR

Items listed in bold face type are to be sanctioned by SSA.

Jan. 27-28. SSA Directors' Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona.

June 30-July 1. Holiday 1-26

Regatta, sponsored by the Holiday Soaring School, Tehachapi, Calif., Airport.

Sept. 1-3. Great Plains Soaring Contest, Civic Memorial Airport, Alton, Illinois.

CLUBS!!

Please send SSA information for the above calendar as soon as the dates for your meet are known.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY ON SOARING

Recent articles or items on soaring which have appeared in non-soaring publications.

American Airman, Sept., 1961, p. 40. News release from Schweizer Aircraft and photo of 1-23H proclaiming that "Soaring is on the Move."

Flight, Oct., 1961, p. 43. Full page coverage of Bob Fisher's transcontinental soaring trip. Page 57, two photos of 1-26 Regatta at Elmira.

Flying, Nov. 1961; p. 8, a "briefing" on Bob Fisher's trans-U.S. soaring trip; pp. 46-47, eight photos and brief description of the National Soaring Championships.

Go Ahead New York (publication of N.Y. Bureau of Aviation), Aug., 1961, cover photo and story proclaiming that soaring is on the move, with recent news from Schweizer, the state's sailplane manufacturer.

Sports Illustrated, Nov. 6, 1961, pp. 66-78. "A Silence in the Sky," an extensive article by Roy Terrell describing the sport of soaring and his experience while taking a course at the Schweizer Soaring School.

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