

trol. The wheel is retracted while on tow.

After releasing from the towline, the tow-hook spoon was retracted back into the fuselage. Now only the small tailwheel was left as a drag-producer.

In free flight, as I tried turns at different angles of bank and speeds, the wing stayed motionless, unbending and did not develop buckles on the skin like other metal sailplanes I have flown before. Roll rate is excellent. Control forces were light on aileron and rudder, but required higher pressure fore and aft. Airspeed built up rapidly in a shallow dive as I pushed it up to 115 mph. With the following wind we really moved like never before.

Landing is quite straight-forward with full flaps and airbrakes open. The airbrakes are less effective than those on the other sailplanes I have flown with L/D's over 30, probably because of their size and the aerodynamic cleanliness of the wings.

Sisu is a Finnish work meaning strength, integrity and stamina, but besides all these it represents beauty, gracefulness and above all dedicated workmanship to me. It amazed me to see how perfectly all parts fitted and clicked into position, whether put together or when slid into the snugly-designed trailer.

With the Sisu 1A designer/builder Leonard A. Niemi has created for the soaring world a sophisticated and price-worthy Cadillac. This superb design of Swiss watch precision will enable Sisu owners to capture all single-seater records there are.

Wish I had a Sisu.

Sisu Co. Moves East

The Arlington Aircraft Co. of Arlington, Texas, founded by Leonard A. Niemi to produce his high-performance sailplane design, the Sisu 1A, has been acquired by the Astro Corporation and moved east. The firm's new address is Sisu Division—The Astro Corporation, Box 1236, Greenville, S. C. Mr. Niemi remains with the firm as project engineer and will continue to supervise the construction of production models. The Astro Corporation is managed by Clifton McClure, III, and backed by P. J. "Jack" Baugh, Jr., of Baugh and Mouchet Co. of Charlotte, N.C., a well-

known textile firm. Baugh owns a 1-23H-15 and Skylark 4, in which he recently completed his Gold badge requirements. McClure is SSA State Governor for South Carolina and will take over the flight test part of the FAA type certification program. The fifth production sailplane, now nearing completion, will be used for this purpose.

The Sisu 1A is a single-place all-metal sailplane with full-span slotted flaps. It has a maximum L/D (lift over drag ratio or gliding angle) of 40 to 1. Current list price is \$9700, without instruments. A covered trailer is \$1000 extra.

Safety Committee Reactivated

The appointment of Miles Corderdale as Chairman of the SSA Safety Committee was recently confirmed by President Bill Ivans, and Miles takes over at once the work that has been so well done by Joe Robertson in past years.

Now, it is not enough merely to have a Safety Committee appointed and then sit back waiting for it to pour forth accident reports and safety suggestions—for the individual members should realize that they are, in effect, the only source of information on which the committee can base its analyses and reports. We must therefore each be alert to recognize any situation or incident that calls for a more careful consideration or a general airing among the members, so that we ourselves can help to make our sport a safer one. In particular, any accident involving damage to a sailplane or injury to pilot or passenger should be reported with as many details as possible, for only in this way can we hope to learn from our own mistakes and thus help to prevent a recurrence.

Miles was last year elected a Director for Region 2 and is presently Secretary of the SSA. He learned to fly ground-sliding in a Franklin with the M.I.T. Gliding Club in 1941 (he is an Aeronautical Engineer) and after the war flew for a short time with the Queen's Gliding Club at Kingston, Ontario. He is now the owner of a Schleicher Ka-8B and a member of the Long Island Soaring Association.

Please write him at 46 Old Estate Road, Manhasset, L.I., N.Y., with any ideas or information that might help him with his important work.



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