ARCADIA IMPRESSIONS

(Dedicated to Riddle Aeronautical Institute, Division of Embry-Riddle School of Aviation, Arcadia, Florida.)

Here we go, kids, the boss just called and told us to pack up, we're going to Arcadia!

12:15 - Take-off in the Stinson Reliant, Boss Riddle Pilot, Atty John McKay and ye Editor, the old flying reporter, as passengers.

West North West out of Miami Municipal Airport, and over the Everglades --- miles and miles of desolate wilderness...thank God for Mark Trammell and a swell gang of mechanics...it's nice to know we have a gang on whom we can depend to keep our ships in shape...and the swamps, what a swell place for mosquitos to breed...oh, yes, on the take-off, we asked the Boss where he wanted us to sit in order to keep the ship in trim...he says to sit on the right side and keep our tongue in the middle...was tough going, but we did...cautious, that's us......Jack McKay takes over as pilot...

Our first glimpse of Lake Okeechobee...so big!... Then Clewiston with its famous Inn and acres and acres of black muck and sugar cane...the cattle trails...we feel Florida could feed the whole nation if necessary...so much rich uncultivated land...Boss Riddle may not be lost, but we are...

(continued on page 3)
'STICK TO IT'

EDITORIAL

TRACK MEET in the AIR
E. Newman Eveslade in Youth Today
(As reprinted in READER'S DIGEST, March, 1941)

With 15,000 college students earning wings, aided by the government's civilian flying program, a thrilling new sport, the "Airathon," may win as great a public following as collegiate football. Flying teams of colleges and universities all over the country are holding sectional meets and sending their champions to a tournament for U.S. titles. Seventy-five registered pilots from 25 schools competed in the 1940 National Airathon, sponsored by the National Aeronautics Association and the National Intercollegiate Flying Club.

The five tests used in intercollegiate competition require skill, speed and daring; yet not a single accident occurred in 284 take-offs and as many landings at the meet. A contestant first drops a small balloon at 2500 feet, then dives and punctures it by flying into it. Next, from 1000 feet, he glides to a 360-degree spot landing. Third, at 2500 feet he tosses out a roll of paper and cuts it twice, as fast as he can. Then he leans out and drops a "bomb" (flour-or lime-filled sack) at a spot marked on the field -- a feat which tests his eye, and judgment of speed and air currents. Point scoring gave the national championship to the University of Michigan's team, whose Earl Rottmayer was the highest individual scorer. Girl flyers from six colleges, though they broke no records, did well enough to keep in the running.

Collegiate flying and the Airathon are developing what America needs -- good pilots, ready not only for national defense but for commercial careers and for flood and forest fire emergencies.

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At 2000 feet, the shadow of our plane looks like one of Jimmie Cousin's models... the 'glades looks like a golf course with its fairways, greens, water and sand hazards...

1:20... First sight of Carlstrom Field in the far distance... where's the town of Arcadia?... Coming in, - most impressive... the field's plenty big... a mile square, and if you over-shoot there's another umpteen thousand acres of sweet, flat land all round... convict labor in stripes clearing a clump of brush...

1:28... Line crew motioning us into our place in a line of beautiful new Stearman PT 17's... Here comes Cap't Povey, rushing! --- what a host, it's "Hello and let's eat"... we'll look around later... and so to the first meal ever served in the new mess hall... about 40 employees and guests... and what a meal!... an excellent Spanish dish... chicken and rice... and for dessert, a strawberry, jello custard whipped cream pie... those who could still get up began a tour of inspection... the kitchen where we met Mr. Gillen of the catering department and Joseph Deschner, the chef... congratulations to them for an excellent meal... they told us they'd serve similar meals each day... but they can't kid us, we saw that sack of beans back in the kitchen.

Thence on a Cook's tour... on foot... through the recreational area... six tennis courts... the swimming pool and cabana club with its bright yellow awning... we can imagine instructors observing solo in a swimming suit... Capt. S. J. Donovan takes us in tow... he's Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Air Corps., Training Detachment...he says you can't describe Carlstrom Field, - you have to see it to believe it... and eight miles over thataway, is Door Field, another mile square job to be used as auxiliary practice area...

Accommodations are being built for 250 flight cadets... west barracks will be completed this week... those on the East were being furnished... to be ready for the first batch of students due in about the 22nd... McKay tested a mattress and nearly went to sleep... four cadets to an apartment... two doubledock bunks... private bath... clothes lockers... study table and plenty of room... no better accommodations in the Biltmore...

Inspecting the administration building... a flash - 4 more new ships just in from Wichita, making a total of 16... another dash, this time to the hangar line... vivid memory of NO SMOKING signs... and the local rule that visitors contribute a fine to the athletic fund... no cigarettes being sold at the field, everyone puts out ciggies and keeps stubs for future reference... everyone carefully pacing out 50 steps before lighting up
again...and the big laugh in the hangar when Lt. Clark Howland, who just flew in one of the new ships, began smoking, in his pocket...it seems two packs of matches got too chummy and ignited...if he can bail out of a ship as fast as he bailed out of those pants, that was speed...

Met the famous Flight Surgeon, "Doc" Nethery, who is going to give Kay Bramlitt her physical exam...then inspected his infirmary and saw the new type saddle he's designed for the local horsemen...Jim Burt got in Tuesday night but was in town (?) recuperating from a snowy drive from New York...

About this time feet begin to get tired...personally we'll hold out for that white horse or a bicycle...not much further now...the ground school class rooms...and recreation building...with game rooms, dance floor, fireplaces and a milk bar...thence thru the oil and fuel house, shops and into the hangar and to the good old Reliant.

5:10 Take-off for home, and a lovely flight thru quiet evening hour...McKay takes over the controls and does a nice job of flying thru a squall...while Bess Riddle dozes...always wondered when he slept, anyway...swamp fire in the distance...white cranes, startled into flight by the thunder of the motor, soar away into the dusk...ahead of us, Miami Municipal, - and home at 6:10.

A grand trip and a wonderful place...we understand that good people go to heaven, but good aviators go to Carlstrom Field. But we still didn't see Arcadia town!

And to top off the day...a charcoal broiled steak with the Sheffield...and we take back everything we ever said or thought about brides not being able to cook.

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Eddie Boniske came in to tell us that he was reporting to the flying Marines on Monday. Other Embry-Riddle graduates already flying there include Tom Moore, Bill Moore, Harvey Duval and Dave Andre.

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A. P. Broderick, flying cross country from Ft. Lauderdale stopped in Wednesday morning to have his log book verified, and pulled the best quip of the week. Says his brother calls a Piper Cub a "Supercharged Pigeon."

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SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL PILOTS: - The Aircraft Instrument course, so long delayed in getting started at the Technical School Division is
now in process of formation, and will be one of the most interesting courses available. Sebie Smith, the instructor, is assured of all the material needed for the class, having been given carte blanche on ordering everything necessary up to and including the newest Sperry Automatic Gyro Pilot.

This alone will be worth the price of admission. The instruction will be of the individual progress type as is practiced in most branches of the school, so late comers will not need to feel the need of "catching up" with the more advanced students. For information on time schedules and tuition costs, get in touch with Don Watson, and hurry-hurry!

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Dedication of Carlstrom Field has been postponed until March 29th in order that the first flight class may participate.

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Those in the know are calling Ed China "Export". The story runs to the effect that Mr. China sent a telegram on a hurry-up order, signing it "Embry-Riddle Company, China." When no goods came forth, Ed called up that certain company, and was informed that since the order was for our China Division, they had had to refer it to the Government Export Control Department for approval. Sure, boys, but we aren't expanding that fast!

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The Miami Air Pilots Association held a meeting at the Tech Division Wednesday evening. About 25 members attended and concluded with a tour of the school.

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Visiting Municipal base during the week were Catherine D'Andelet and Helen Meyers, charming secretaries in the office of big CAA man, Grove Webster, in Washington, D.C. Which reminds us, Bill Hutchins is back in town, but he has been transferred to Airline Inspection Division where he will remain for the next few months. His base of operations will be the Atlanta Division headquarters, altho he will be in Miami occasionally. The local pilots threw a farewell party for him at his home Wednesday evening. J. C. Tippet replaces Bill as General Inspector in the Miami area.

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Richard Beaulieu, Butch Baine and Tommie Teate passed their commercial refresher tests during the week. Congrats, boys!

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Everyone was sorry to see Pan American's beautiful Stinson instrument ship go up in smoke Sunday. Let that be a lesson to us, and let's be more careful with cigarettes and matches around our own hangar.

Twenty of the 30 Secondary CPTPers have already reported and begun their flight training on the Wacos and Fairchild at Municipal Base. This first assignment, which includes many old friends who took primary training with Embry-Riddle, consists of Ross Aberle, Grant Baker, Richard Baker, Tom Campbell, Seaborn H. Chiles, Gerry Cook, Norman Cooper, Morton DuPree, Harry Eley, Jim Gilmore, Irving Glickman, Art James, Bill Jaster, Russ Lamm, Sam Lightholder, George Mason, Jim Parrott, Warren Reid, Charles Smith and Bill Tigh. The other 10 students are scheduled to report in next week.

Al Shultz turns in this week's Tall Tale for the hangar flying department. It all took place several years ago at Pontiac, Michigan when Ralph DeVore was flying the mail from Detroit to Grand Rapids. Weather grounded him at Pontiac and the warm stove and appreciative audience of embryo pilots brought forth this one.

"I was flying from Detroit to Cleveland on a bad winter day", said Ralph, "When suddenly the snow got so bad that I had to go on instruments. This continued for some time, and then, I noticed considerable vibration developing in the ship. This so increased in intensity that I began to doubt my ability to keep on but still I couldn't seem to break through the storm and make an emergency landing. Finally the shuddering of the ship got so bad that I decided the only thing to do was bail out while I still had a chance. I loosened my belt, reached for the ring and started to get up. Suddenly there was a clearing in the storm and I saw where I was. Believe it or not - I was flying down a railroad right of way and in an instant I saw that the vibration was due to my wheels hitting the ties."

And we thought C. W. Tinsley was stretching the truth when he came in and told of catching a 53 pound Kingfish the other day while out with
Billy MacDougall in his new speedboat. Also in the party were Mrs. Mack and June Colt and they all swear to C.W.'s story.

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Joe Neiser left Wednesday for Chicago and his Navy training. Roy Kunkel took his place on the operations desk at Municipal.

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Flying around the country on their day off were Jim Cousins, Bob Johnston and Max Husted. Taking off Sunday afternoon in the Stinson, they spent the night with Jim's family in Venice, and swung back to spend Monday at Carlstrom field.

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Sheet Metal instructor Jake Lacinak is back after a week of loafing, looking much better. Fourteen hours a day for several weeks at a stretch getting things set up is too much for even a big feller like Jake. New students to greet him on his return to the Tech Division included brothers Charles and Leonard Boaz, Seymour Newman, Ed P. Rowe, Harvey Young, brothers Odell and D. M. Gaines and Jimmy Culver.

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Welding course students recently enrolled include Walter K. DeBerry, George C. Meiron, Lomax Lester, Spencer Houston and W. H. Van Delinder. "A" course enrollee for the week is Del E. Draper and a new "E" course beginner is Stafford Purvis with us because of the salesmanship of his friend Byron Capes who has had to delay actual starting time for a few days.

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