

Journal
of
THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE INSTITUTION OF AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERS

*A Monthly Illustrated Journal devoted to
all subjects connected with the Profession
of Aeronautics*

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by

JOAN BRADBROOKE, Associate

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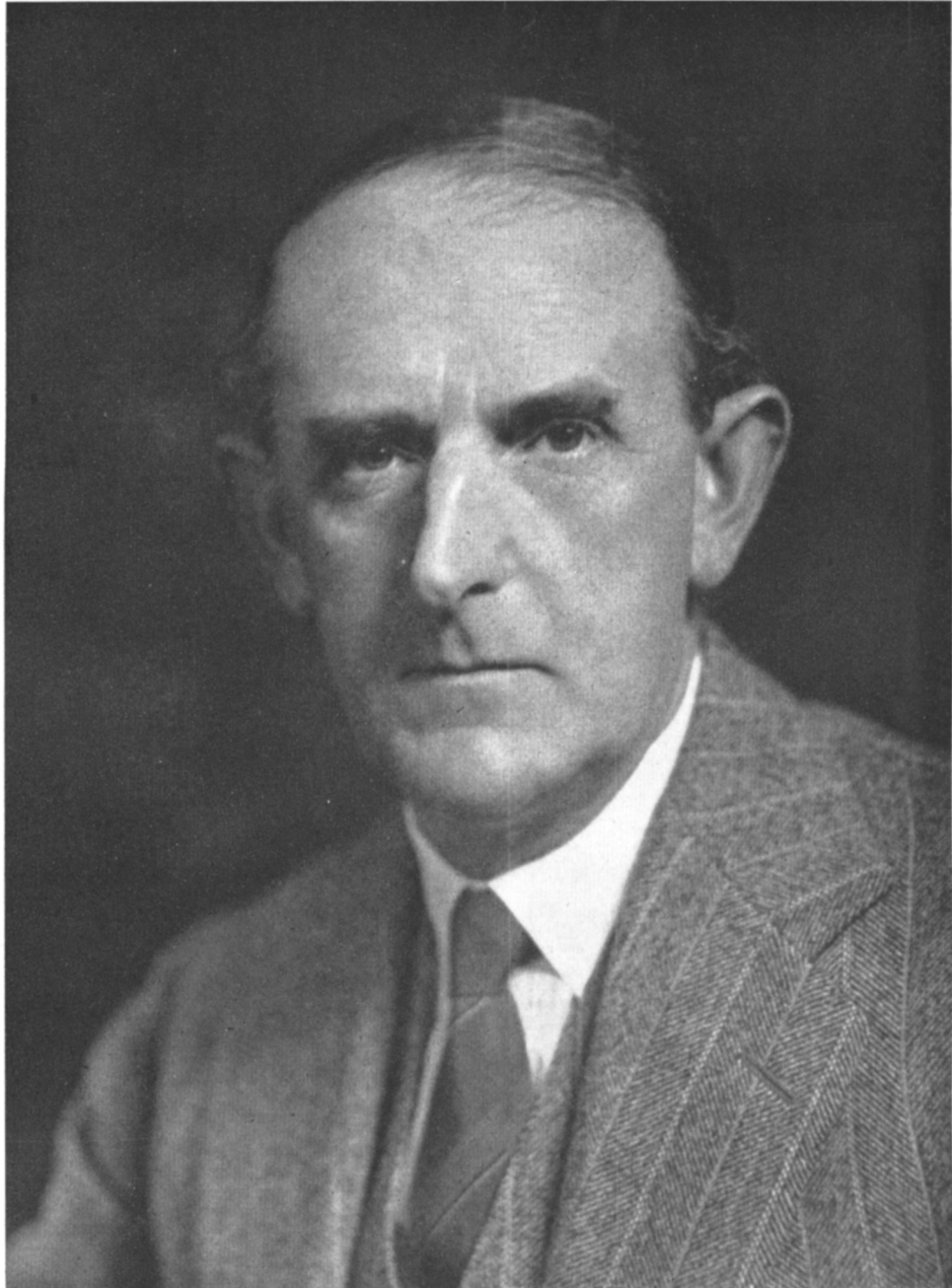
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All communications for publication in, and advertisements for, the JOURNAL should be addressed to the Editor, JOAN BRADBROOKE, A.R.Ae.S.; all communications on general matters affecting the Society should be addressed to the Secretary, A. M. BALLANTYNE, T.D., B.Sc., Ph.D., A.F.I.A.S., A.F.R.Ae.S.

None of the papers or paragraphs must be taken as expressing the opinion of the Council of the Royal Aeronautical Society unless otherwise stated.



Sir Sydney Camm, C.B.E., F.R.Ae.S.

President 1954 - 1955

From the President

ALTHOUGH I have been a member of Council for very many years, and should by now be familiar with the work of the Society, since I have become President I have been much more aware of the tremendous importance of the Society to aviation, and also of the valuable work of the Branches. We who live near London are apt to overlook the interests of our members much farther afield, and of course the Divisions overseas.

In this connection, the past year has been very important, because in May our Secretary, accompanied by Mrs. Ballantyne, was able to visit Canada and attend the inaugural meeting of the Canadian Aeronautical Institute in Montreal. On this occasion he also visited Toronto and New York. In July the Secretary embarked on a more ambitious journey, and visited the Divisions in Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, and also the Singapore Branch. These visits were undoubtedly of great value, and perhaps their effects were expressed in the following quotation from a letter I received from the President of the Division in South Africa:

"It is difficult for me to express how greatly I personally appreciated this gesture on behalf of the Parent Society, but I can assure you that Dr. Ballantyne's visit has cemented the bonds which exist between our Division and the Society itself . . . he brought us a Standard which, when he presented it to me at the Extraordinary General Meeting, seemed to consolidate the intangible link which exists between our Parent Body and ourselves . . ."

The Society's 1954 Garden Party was held at London Airport, as we felt that it would be of interest for the members to see some of the work there, as well as the newly acquired Nash Collection of Vintage Aircraft. The weather was about as bad as it could be, but nevertheless the attendance was good and the Party a success. In the past few months many meetings have been held to discuss the future of the Collection, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Peter Masefield, and a committee has been set up to determine the lines on which a National Collection or Museum could be formed.

During this year the Council has been concerned with the arrangements for the Fifth Anglo-American Aeronautical Conference to be held in Los Angeles next June, and I sincerely hope that our representation will be a strong one, as this Conference is of national importance.

1954 was a memorable year as it was the occasion of the Tenth British Commonwealth and Empire Lecture, which was given by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh in Church House, Westminster. At the conclusion of the Lecture, as members will know, His Royal Highness was presented with the Diploma of Honorary Fellowship.

Previous Presidents have referred to the Secretary and Staff of the Society, but I feel some difficulty in putting into words how much I have benefited from their assistance, and how fortunate we are to have such a keen and enthusiastic Staff.

I look forward to the steady expansion of the Society's activities, and to all our members at home and overseas I send greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

