## DEBUTANTES GO ON FOREVER

By W. E. Hill

"My dear, the steward out at the

Hunt Club wants TEN DOLLARS





## Light Plane Gains Favor

## U. S. Flight Points Its **Future**

By WAYNE THOMIS

N THE TRIBUNE of Dec. 1 there appeared a brief item under a New York date line announcing that an actor-airman named Johnny Jones had completed a transcontinental nonstop flight in an Aeronca airplane—one of the three smallest types of planes now in production in the United States. The story stated that the plane had a 50-horsepower motor and had made the trip in 30 hours 48 minutes.

Since that time the airplane and motor manufacturers who sponsored the flight have been telling all who are interested in aviation that the trip has moved the flivver plane into a new performance class. They imply that any light plane owner could do the same with his ship. They say that the transcontinental trip demonstrates the development of the light airplane.

It was a remarkable flight, an excellent job by the pilot, and a demonstration of sound engineering by all concerned. The effort, however, merely emphasized the outstanding weakness of all standard light planes by showing what it would be possible to accomplish with ships of this type given the most favorable conditions and the utmost in special equipment.

For Jones' flight was made possible by a great deal of special equipment that the average light airplane owner cannot afford and could not operate without special instruction. Furthermore, the flight was made with approximately 100 per cent overload and because of this falls strictly into the stunt class. It was, however, carefully planned from its inception.

The flight was conceived after tests had shown that the new Aeronca planes with 50-horsepower engines had a top speed of approximately 100 miles an hour and would cruise easily at between 85 and 90 miles an hour. This was a jump of approximately twenty miles an hour in the cruising speed over previous models with 37 and 40 horsepower motors. It compared very favorably with the cruising speeds achieved in the twenties approximately double the horse-

The Aeronautical Corporation of America at Cincinnati began studies to see if its ship could



The heavily loaded light plane in which Johnny Jones, actor, made record nonstop transcontinental flight, photographed just after its takeoff at Los Angeles.

carry enough fuel for a coastto-coast trip nonstop.

The normal 50-horsepower Aeronca weighs 1,130 pounds gross with two passengers and with 12 gallons of fuel and 3 pints of oil in the motor. It has a wing loading of about 8 pounds

Johnny Jones after his record flight.

to the square foot of area and a power loading of 26 pounds per horsepower. Studies indicated the Aeronca could fly with OX and OXX engines of nicely with a wing loading of approximately 13 pounds and a power loading as high as 38 pounds per horsepower.

aboard this would give about meter installed by the engine weakness at this time.

1,000 pounds for fuel and instruments, since the plane and passenger and extra tanks would weigh about 1,000 pounds. The Continental Motor company at Detroit worked out fuel consumption charts that showed their motor could fly for almost

40 hours on 1,000 pounds of fuel. The Aeronca factory then took a standard fuselage and installed three tanks in addition to the regular fuel tank of 12 gallons. One was a 28-gallon tank and the other two were 57gallon tanks. These occupied what normally was the passenger's seat and extended across the back of the cockpit. The fuel load was thus 146 gallons. A two-gallon oil tank also was fitted, and special trim tabs on the elevators to give better control with the heavy load.

For instruments the plane was fitted with a complete flight group-air speed, turn and bank. Kollsman sensitive altimeter, an aperiodic compass, oil pressure and temperature indicators, the usual switches, throttle, and special choke controls, and finally an exhaust gas analyzer which enabled the pilot to pick the most economical and perfect mixture of fuel and air for his

engine at any given altitude.

company so that the pilot could keep accurate track of fuel consumption.

Jones, an Aeronca distributor of Los Angeles, left Glendale airport after a wait for good weather conditions, getting into the air after a run of approximately 1,500 feet. He was able to climb to 5,000 feet at once even with his load, and followed American Airlines' route to Fort Worth, receiving special weather information and clearances through that company's ground radio stations en route. At Fort Worth he turned north to swing over Cincinnati, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, and thence to New York.

Although Jones flew some 2,700 miles in his roundabout route, he still had 46 gallons of fuel left, or enough for another 650 miles. He also had his full amount of 8 quarts of oil-not having used an appreciable amount of lubricant during the entire trip.

The flight does speak well of light airplanes and the new 50horsepower motors. It was made at an average speed of 90 miles an hour without tail winds.

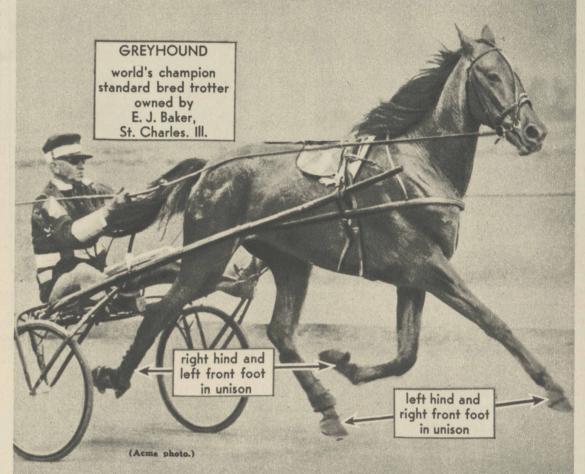
Obviously no Aeronca with the normal fuel allowance-12 gallons-could come anywhere close to this performance. The standard plane has a maximum range of 250 miles. In addition A special radio receiver also to boosting light plane sales the was mounted. On the receiver trip undoubtedly will bring out was attached a slide rule where a movement to increase the fuel it could be operated with one capacity for the little ships, With a single passenger hand. There also was a flow thus correcting their greatest

## **KNOW YOUR HORSES** By CAPT. MAXWELL M. CORPENING

AMERICAN The history of the American standard-bred trotter goes back to a horse named Messenger, a thoroughbred, foaled in England in 1780. Messenger was imported in 1788 and lived to be 28 years old. It was discovered that Messenger's offspring were particularly adept at trotting rather than running-hence the birth of the roadster, as the standard-bred horse is commonly

Perhaps the most widely known of standard-bred strains is the Hambletonian-derived from the great-grandson of Messenger and a remarkable producer of fast trotters. Yet in spite of the fame of yesterday's horses the world's speed record for trotters-1:56 on the mile-is held by Greyhoundpictured here—a product of the current decade. The standard-bred strain is not as pure as some others because of infusions made for improvements. These, however, according to trotting horse enthusiasts, have all been absorbed and they say the registered standard-bred is just as clean and blue-blooded as any other.

The trotter today is used mostly for show purposes in the roadster classes and in racing. While harness racing is nowhere near as popular as running races, there is still considerable interest in the sulkies.



Much credit for this is due the into romantic characters. In a beautiful sight. Naturally many old men whose entire an Eskimo dog musher in a of the horse-and-buggy days. lives have been spent with day's trek. A double roadster horses. They have developed class in a big show ring is still

drivers. Instead of boy jockies, a race some of them vent upon the standard-bred trotter was sulkies are occupied by pilots their animals in two minutes hard hit with the advent of who number among them a vocabulary equal to that of the automobile and the passing

Next Sunday-The Pacers.