GAS POWERED MODEL PLANES OFFER INTERESTING HOBBY

By BERNARD FRIEDMAN

Altho the hobby of modeling is an old one, in recent years there has been a new twist added to this delightful avocation. With the coming of the airplanes, modelers have reproduced all of the hundreds of different sky cruisers in miniature flying form.

POSTS BOND . . . Herbert Fleishhacker, the former San Francisco bank president indicted by federal grand jury on charges of misapplying funds and false entry, as he posted $5,000 bond. Arraignment set for April 5.

There are scores of plane modelers in Torrance and several are members of the Gas Model Association of Southern California, one of the largest model clubs in the world. This organization holds semi-annual contests at its own field at Rosecrans and Western, just outside of Torrance.

The June contest is expected to draw an entry of 500 modelers who will compete for a $50 first prize and many other worthwhile awards. The field where the contest is held is leased by the club and is a recognized airport for model planes. The rent is paid by dues of the members and by a five-cent charge for "parking" of entrants' planes.

Only Five Years Old

The club numbers many noted persons on its membership roll, among them Reginald Denny, former motion picture star who is now one of the nation's outstanding model motor manufacturers. The organization is composed mainly of older men. Gas modeling is a sport for adults as well as for youth.

There are two definite divisions in the hobby of building model airplanes: the construction of models powered by rubber bands and those powered by gasoline.

Planes powered by gasoline are larger, more strongly constructed and more expensive. They are, however, more intriguing to build. Gas modeling started about five years ago. In New York at the National Model Airplane contest a gas model was entered against rubber band-powered models. It was evident that there would have to be a dividing line, and soon there were separate contests for rubber powered models and gasoline powered models.

Design All-Important

From crudely designed airplanes, shaped like flying box cars and monstrous in size, models have been streamlined and made smaller. Because they do carry a motor that causes much vibration and because they have to carry a load—batteries, ignition system, fuel, etc.—the gas jobs require very careful designing. Principles of aero-dynamics used in full sized planes are employed in the models. Either a modeler buys a prepared kit for his model, or he designs his own. In either case a model has to be strongly designed and built. When a modeler invests about $30 for motor and plane he wants to be sure he is getting his money's worth.

Building a gas job entails a knowledge of various kinds of jobs. A modeler must not only know how to handle balsa and hard wood, but must also have a knowledge of ignition hook-ups, soldering, how motors work and how to keep them working. To top it off, experience at flying models is necessary.

Must Run 20 Seconds

All these things and more are learned by a gas modeler. If he designs his own models, a great deal of valuable information is learned. If he plans to go into aviation later, this information proves useful. This opinion is held by such eminent airplane manufacturers as Douglas and Northrop.

Competition of gas modelers leads to interesting results. The object is to send your plane up with a 20-second motor run; after that the plane is on its own, depending on the wind and currents of warm rising air to keep it up. Consequently a model has to be designed well to win. When hundreds of modelers are gathered together for a contest, beautiful designs are seen. It is a great new hobby and has thousands of followers all over the country.

H.C. Chamber Seeks Better Fire Protection

At the meeting of the Harbor City Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night Sam Barraclough, president, reported on the matter of better fire protection.

Barraclough appeared before the fire commission as representative of the chamber and of the Harbor City Improvement Association and placed the local situation before them and the lack of proper facilities as shown by the recent destruction of the church with all its furnishings. He is hopeful that Harbor City will get consideration when the fiscal budget is prepared.

Zoning Help Appreciated

Complaint was received about the condition of 257th street and Belleporte and a request will be made for street improvements there.

The successful passage of the zoning ordinance for which Harbor City has worked so long was reported and the president thanked all who had given time and effort towards its passage, not only members of the chamber but all residents who had helped to finally settle the matter so that a definite building program could be started.

Warn Housewives Against Comforter Racket In State

The state department of professional and vocational standards today warned housewives against house-to-house agents attempting to sell the "best comforter on the market today."

The department said the agent claims his firm has a patented process by which they can make chicken feathers the most practical and efficient filling for comforters, and at times even claims his comforter is filled with a mixture of feathers and down.

A laboratory analysis of the product showed the filling material was entirely colored chicken feathers and that the agent's claims were fraudulent.

The department recommended that housewives should hesitate in purchasing from individuals who do not have a locally established place of business.

"As You Are" Party Proves Hilarious

Forty-five members and friends of Orange Street P. T. A. were rounded up Monday morning by a "Galloping Breakfast" brigade and taken to the home of Mrs. Joe Bader where they enjoyed a breakfast of coffee rolls, doughnuts, toast and coffee.

A good sum was realized for the P. T. A. and a good laugh enjoyed over the appearance of some of the guests, who had to come "as you are" when the car stopped for them. Those responsible for the successful party were Mesdames J. Bader, C. E. Eipper, J. H. Marriott, E. B. Roberts and Howard Hart.

See the new furniture store opening ad under class. 53c for $$$ savers.