

The NC-4 Type Will Be the Air Dreadnought Used in the Larger Operations in the Canal Zone.

America's Air Gibraltar

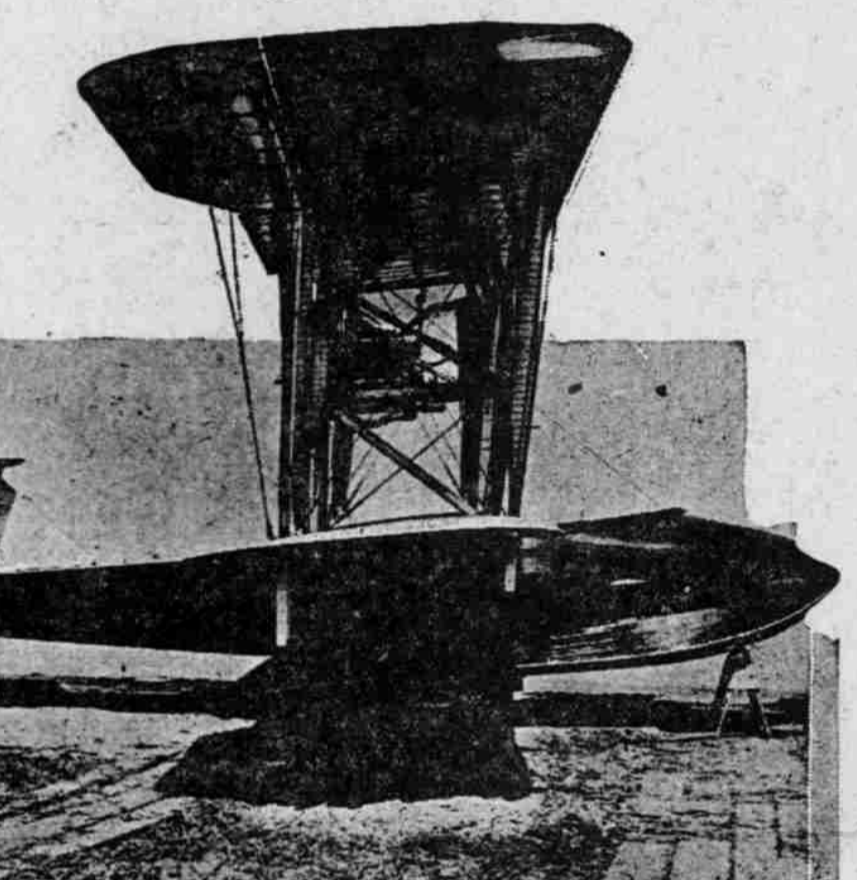
How Uncle Sam Is Diverting His Air Craft Strength to New Plans for the Defense of the Panama Canal--How the Canal Might Be Injured or Attacked, and How the System of Defense Will Be Organized.

BY F. A. COLLINS.

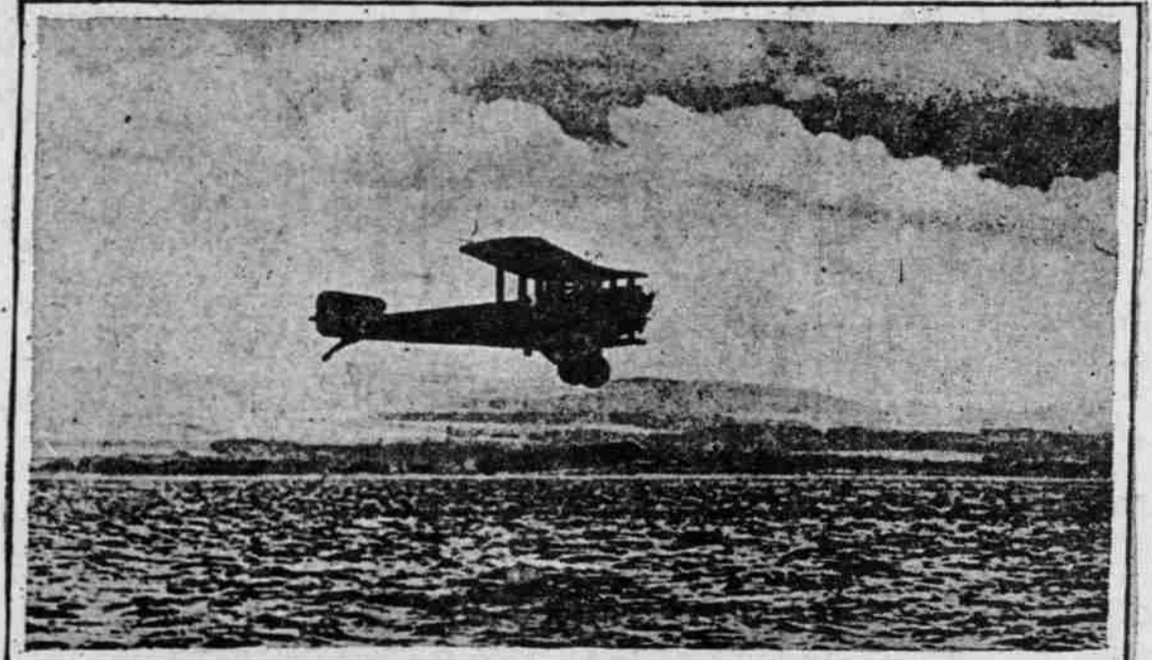
UNCLE SAM is building a Gibraltar of the air to defend the Panama canal. In the event of war with any foreign power the canal would, of course, be a most vulnerable point. When the great waterway was designed and built the possibility of attack by air forces was scarcely thought of, or at least appeared to be a danger of the very remote future. The amazing advance of aeronautics during the late war has completely transformed the situation. Without adequate air defense the canal would be at the mercy of the enemy. The fortifications constructed to defend the canal contain some of the heaviest artillery in the world, but these would be powerless against a well-directed air force.

The government has been quick to realize the necessity of adequate air defense. Within a few days 278 scout planes were shipped to the isthmus. The station designed for the air fleet of the Panama canal is one of the most elaborate in the world. It will ultimately rank among similar air stations such as Gibraltar ranks among the world's sea fortifications or as Heligoland before its demolition. The great air station now in course of construction is known as France field, being named for Lieutenant France, who lost his life there in May, 1918. Although the field has been in existence only since April, 1918, is doubtless destined to be one of the most famous in the world.

The Panama canal makes it possible for the United States to shift its fleet from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean or the other way about on very short notice, which gives an immense advantage over an enemy. Before an invading army could be landed on American soil it would doubtless be necessary to overcome the resistance of Uncle Sam's navy. Within the time it would require an attacking fleet to cross the ocean the forces on both sides of the continent could thus be combined by employing the convenient short cut afforded by the canal.

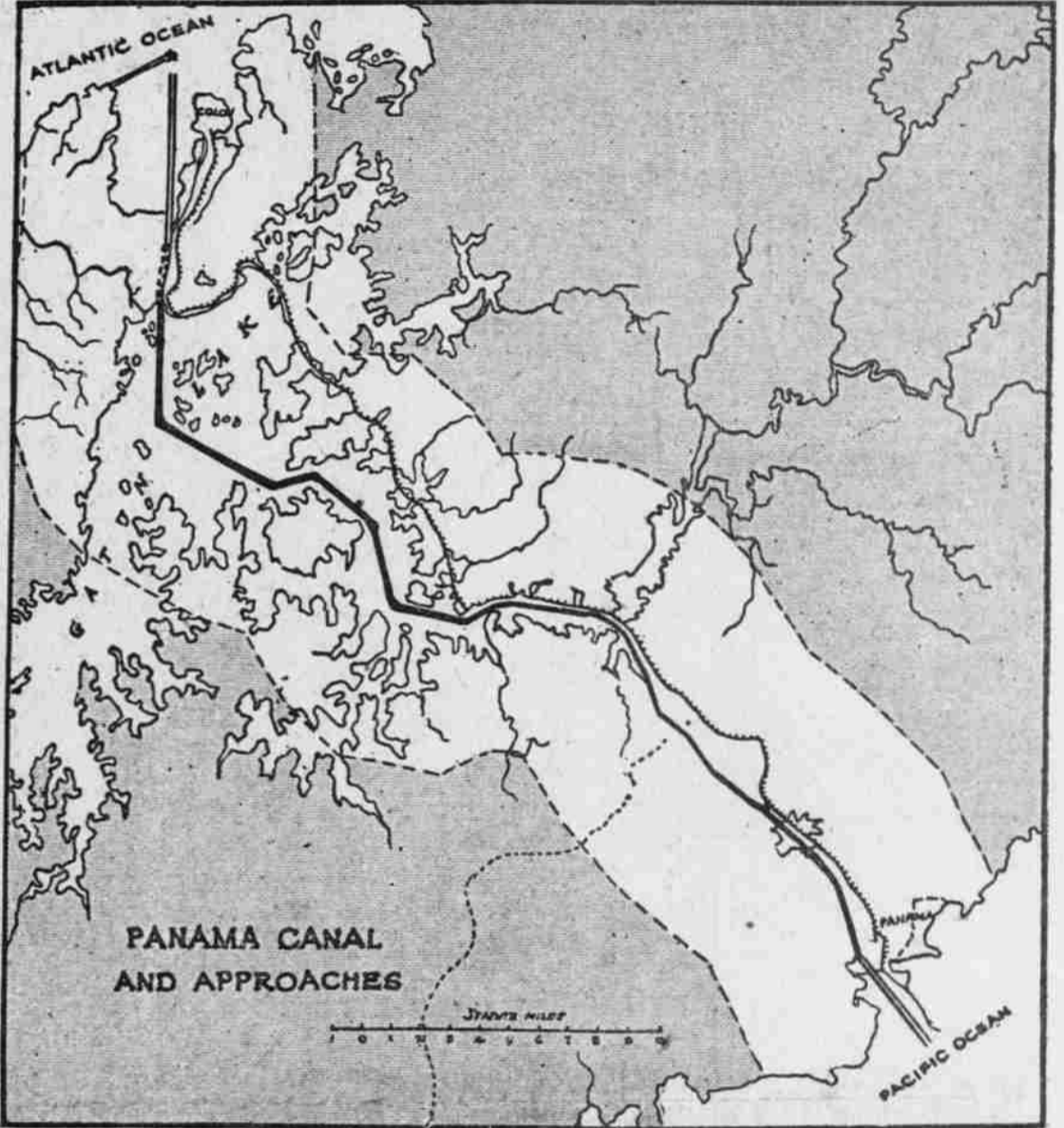


The Flying Boat Designed for Scouting Service at the Canal.



A Torpedo-Carrying Seaplane Dropping a Torpedo During Flight.

inite length of time. A single bomb dropped directly above the Gatun locks, for instance, might work such havoc that a year or more of labor would be required to open the canal to navigation. The war has shown that air attacks can be directed from a fleet stationed many miles offshore and well out of the range of the enemy's fortifications. An enemy fleet, for instance, could cross either the Atlantic or



Showing the Panama Ship Route from Sea to Sea. The White Parts of the Land Area Indicate the Canal Zone Controlled by the United States.

Pacific ocean and launch a number of aeroplanes which could fly swiftly high above the anti-aircraft guns mounted against such an attack. If the enemy worked from a land base the problem of attack would, of course, be greatly simplified. It will be recalled that the Zeppelin attacks on London and Paris were launched from bases several hundred miles distant.

The location of the flying grounds is ideal. It is situated on the eastern shore of Folks river and an estuary of the bay. The land, though fertile, is naturally marshy, but by filling in a practically unlimited area becomes available, which is also convenient to an ideal body of water suitable for flying boats. The location is conveniently connected by a brush line with the Panama railroad and by concrete roads. The hangars are built around the edges of a lagoon, while the quarters of the officers and non-commissioned men are located at the ends of the hangars on opposite sides. The landing field is in the rear of the hangars on the south side. Both land and water planes can thus be easily handled and housed.

PORTLAND'S FOREIGN NEWCOMERS RAPIDLY ADJUST THEMSELVES TO NEW CONDITIONS

Process of Making New Citizens Here Is of Vast Importance, and, Though Generally Well Handled, There Is Room for Much Improvement.

(Continued From First Page.) caps and set out to overcome them, alert to seize every possible chance. Their teachers find that the children, once their interest is aroused, become tractable, though many of them at first have leanings towards incorrigibility. Here is called into play the most difficult task that could confront a teacher; she must be a good student of types, like her work, and be continually on the alert for ways and means of influencing her charges for the better. This is why the best of the faculty of Portland's schools are to be found in these districts; they have the most difficult tasks and it calls for a keen and tried expert of varied experience. Above all they must be interested in their work, and, indeed, most of them go even further than that; they are engrossed in it.

many essentials, they may be carried away by their longing to show their worth into channels fraught with moral peril. During the war some of the foreign societies here were found to be inculcating wrong principles. Instead of striving to gradually accustom the newcomers to their adopted country, they treated them as sections of the parent land, trying to hold them to their old affiliations, not wanting to make them Americans. Unmelting lumps were escaping from the cauldron. The foreign-born should not be expected to sacrifice all his customs, good or bad. Americanization is so little understood that it is commonly interpreted as the speedy assumption of the English language, the singing of "America" and the saluting of the flag. This is but a modicum of the real thing.

but there is much more that can be accomplished. Public-spirited individuals have tried to offset some of the ill effects of too much street by the erection of centers such as the neighborhood house at Second and Woods streets. Here Miss Ida Lowenberg is in charge, and it is a hotbed of Americanism. The clientele is almost all orthodox Jews, and the work is varied and complicated, for they care for all ages and both sexes.

been firmly repressed here, with healthy results. Recent efforts to spread unwholesome propaganda by the use of the public auditorium have been prevented and the general tone of Portland is impressive on account of the lack of serious trouble here when most of the rest of the country is writhing in the throes of unprecedented unrest. It is a matter of pride to know that here the citizens reside together in better harmony than in most of the other sections of the country, as a large and well-regulated family should.

the youngster who has nothing to worry about. A new departure in schooling, being handled with great success in Failing school, is the "opportunity room." Here are placed the pupils who show ability above the average, and who would be done an injustice were they held back in the ordinary classes waiting on the progress of their schoolmates. They are thus given a chance to progress more rapidly than were they in the grades. It is here that many of them make the usual nine grades in six years.

singers (there are no female singers in the Jewish orthodox church) sopranos, altos, tenors and basses. Their exposition of sacred music is wonderful. The majority of the Jews in Portland—and they are the majority of the foreign-born population of this city—come from the province of Volynia, and have brought their music with them.

Lawn Tennis Is Played for Queen 300 Years Ago.

LAWN tennis is at least three centuries old, having been played in 1591, when Queen Elizabeth was entertained at Elvetham, in Hampshire, by the Earl of Hertford. Strutt, quoting from Nichol's "Progress of Queen Elizabeth," relates that "after dinner, about 3 o'clock, 10 of his lordship's servants, all Somersetshire men, in a square green court, before her majesty's window, did hand up lines, squaring out the form of a tennis court, and making a cross line in the middle. In this square they, being stripped out of their doublets, played, five to five, with hand ball, to the great liking of her highness."

LONDON DOCKS CROWDED

Blockade One Reason for Present High Cost of Living. LONDON.—One cause of the high cost of living, against which all London is complaining, is given as the congestion at the docks where whole cargoes of food and other supplies are being held up because it is impossible to unload and distribute them to points where they are needed. Government occupancy of warehouses is given as the principal reason for the congestion.