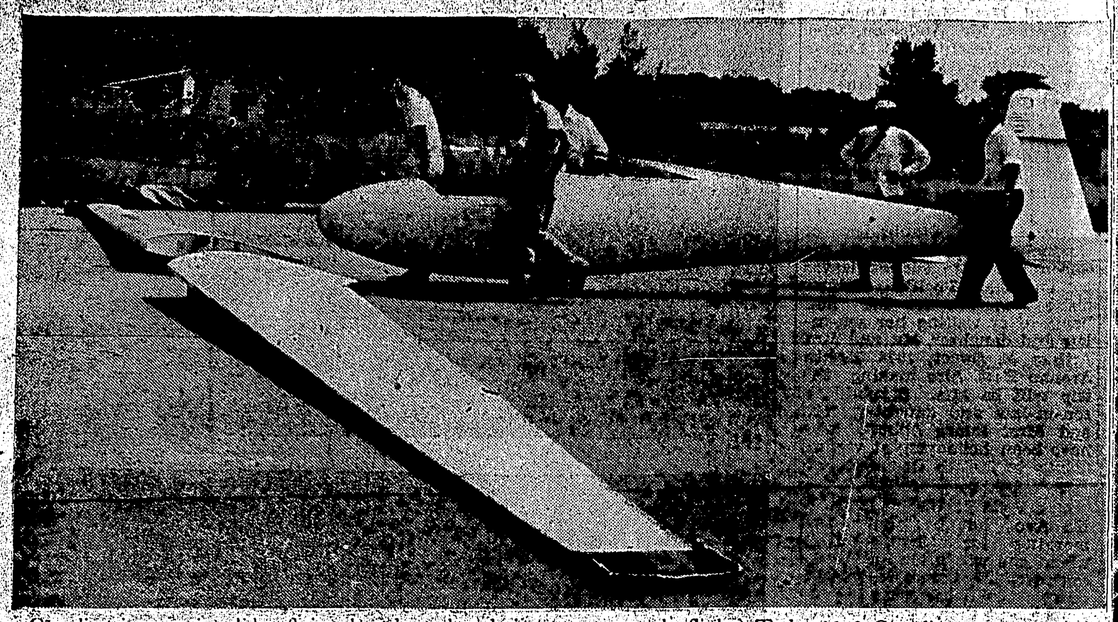
Soaring in Sailplanes

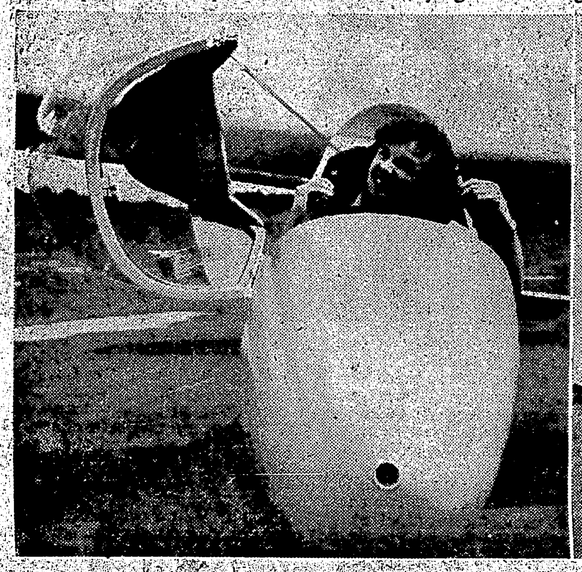
More Canadians up in the Air



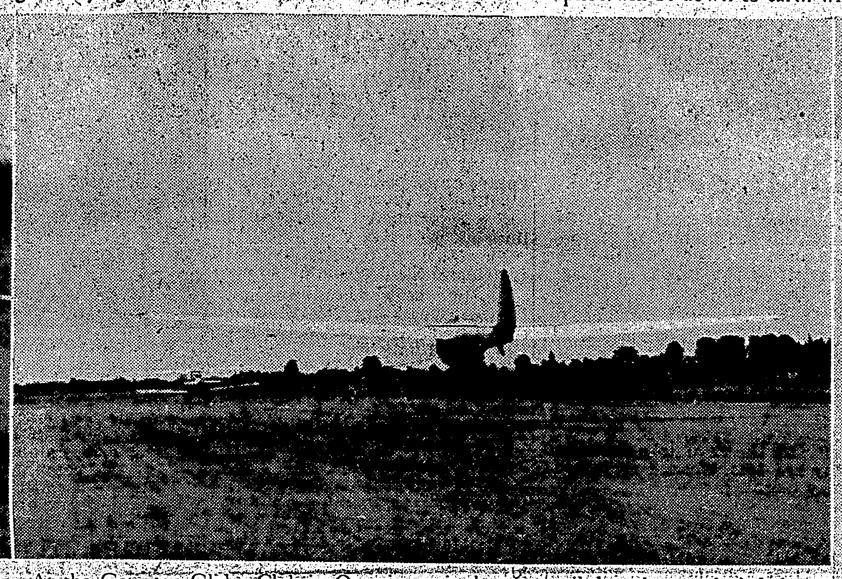
Canadian interest in glider flying has skyrocketed since the end of World War II. Thirteen soaring clubs with over forty-five gliders are now operating across Canada. Glider pilot licenses are granted by the Department of Transport after completion of three hours flying time and twenty solo flights. Today, 348 Canadians are registered glider pilots. 1959 celebrates a half century of powered flight in Canada and, at the same time, focuses one of aviation's spotlights on the increasingly popular sport of glider flying.

The nylon tow-rope is released by the glider pilot when sufficient height has been reached—usually 2,000 feet for first-year flyers. Without thermals or updrafts, glider and pilot will be down to earth within thirty minutes.

Glider club instructors usually give their time free of charge. This student is having his harness checked before takeoff. Most pilots soaring above 2000 feet carry parachutes as a safety precaution.



Men have no monopoly on soaring. Flying clubs across Canada have many qualified women pilots. Membership rates are usually under $20.00 per year with small fees for soaring time and towing.



At the Gatineau Glider Club in Ontario, a single-seater sailplane is towed aloft by a Tiger Moth. After release, some sailplanes have soared over 300 miles while others have climbed beyond 16,000 feet on existing air currents. In Canada, the longest cross-country flight qualified for the highest attainable international award after soaring 312 miles.

Soaring through the clouds in soundless flight is an experience attracting more Canadians each year. Glider clubs like the Southern Ontario Soaring Association, the largest in North America, welcome new members to their ranks. Costs are low and spirits high in Canada's newest of sports — soaring.

National Film Board of Canada photos by Cliff Buckman.

MOVIE COLUMN

Time slot squabble could land George Gobel at the top of the Broadway tree this year

By JAMES BACON

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—A Madison Avenue squabble over a TV time slot could catapult George Gobel into the toast of Broadway next fall. George filmed a pilot film last winter for a comedy series, and a sponsor bought it almost as soon as the film was developed.

"The sponsor even had a time of their own available," says Gobel. "If ever a series was set, this was it. We were to be on ABC-TV Thursday night between Fred MacMurray and The Untouchables.

But then someone in the network thought my show was too similar to MacMurray's. I played a bachelor uncle who helps his widowed sister raise her kids. Fred plays a widower who also raises a family.

NO PLACE TO GO

"The argument makes sense except it comes from the same jokers who programmed three westerns in a row. So I wound up with a TV series that has no place to go—even if it's bought and paid for."

But don't feel sorry for lonesome George. He will be the star of Let It Ride, a hit Broadway musical even before it opens next October.

"The advance sale from just theatre parties alone is $1,200,000," says George, who owns a healthy piece of the show. "It's gonna cost us $400,000 to put it on, so I guess we got a profit already."

The musical is based on the famed farce of 25 years ago — Three Men on a Horse.

Gobel, of course, plays a mild-mannered greeting card poet whose hobby is picking horses—always 100 per cent right.

Sam Levene, recreating his original role, will be the gambling boss.

Gobel, who can really sing, previewed some of the Linvingston and Evans score for me the other day.

"I don't excite easy, but I guess I'm excited about this," says George. "I've never been on Broadway before, but I figure I got to keep expanding in this business."

Pope quoted in union war

SUDBURY, Ont. (CP)—Construction union leaders are quoting a former pope in support of their campaign against the use of non-union labor in a Roman Catholic building project here.

The Sudbury Building Trades Council, which represents 1,500 men in seven trades, Sunday handed Catholics on their way to mass leaflets quoting Pope Leo XIII on "the plight of the working man." Leo XIII, who resigned at the end of the last century, was considered ahead of his time in his views on the rights and obligations of labor.

The council issued the leaflets in protest against the use of non-union labor by a contractor building a $250,000 Jesuit retreat house on nearby Long Lake. Union members have been picketing St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church and the Jesuit rectory for the last week.

MILK OVER BEER

WELLINGTON, N.Z. (CP)— New Zealand ranks among the top countries in beer consumption, averaging 21.1 gallons per capita per year, but milk producers have come up with figures showing beer is not the national beverage. Average milk consumption was 32.8 gallons per capita in 1960.

OLD REMINDERS

MOSCOW (AP) — A log cabin that stood across the street from Moscow's most elaborate hotel, the Sovietskaya, has been torn down and replaced by a modern apartment house. Thousands of other log cabins however remain in the Russian capital, despite the stepped-up housing program.

Glacier coal dusted to aid mineral search

TERRACE (CP)—More than five tons of coal dust was spread from aircraft in a Saturday novel attempt to melt snow which is hampering prospecting operations in a glacial area near here.

The coal dusting took place near Seven Sisters Mountain in the Coast range just east of this community, 450 miles northwest of Vancouver, in an area in which claims for molybednum have been staked by Telkwa Prospectors Club.

The dust was trucked to Kitwanga airfield, 50 miles northeast of here, where it was loaded aboard aircraft of Interprovincial Air Carriers under charter to an exploration company.

The Beaver planes released the dust over the snowfield at the foot of a glacier where deposits of the steel-hardening mineral are thought to lie. The operation took about eight hours and was photographed from the ground.

It is hoped the change in color resulting from the dusting will hasten melting of the snow by the sun.

Driving side change mooted

LONDON (CP)—Britons are wondering whether driving on the left is the right thing after all.

A change to decimal currency is already being contemplated if Britain joins the Common Market. Now a reversal of the drive-on-the-left rule is called for.

At the moment Ireland and Sweden are the only other European countries that keep left on the roads. Sweden now has a strongly-supported bill before its parliament to make a change in the next 12 months.

The cost and complications of such a change would be enormous. The steering and headlights of some 9,000,000 vehicles on British roads would have to be corrected and tens of thousands of road signs removed or altered.

Most difficult would be the actual timing of the switch. It would have to take place overnight at a given moment, and could produce all kinds of dangers.

On the credit side car manufacturers now dividing their assembly lines between home-market and foreign cars could slice production costs.

VICTORIA (CP) — Recreation Minister Westwood Thursday announced approval under the Railway Act of a 9,400 - foot chair lift which will carry skiers up Tod Mountain near Kamloops. He said it will be the longest twin - seat lift in the world. Construction of the lift is expected to be completed in October.

Grease thief given 3 months

QUESNEL (CP) — A man was jailed for three months here Thursday for theft of oil and grease from the B.C. Forest Service camp at the huge Baker Creek forest fire near here last month.

Lenard Harrington, 31, was found guilty of the offence by police magistrate H. Q. Fawcett.

His brother, Ronald, 24, was convicted of possession of the stolen goods and fined $50. Both men live near Baker Creek.

Neither were engaged in the fire battle.

CANADIAN LEGION

BINGO

8th game—$50

No Games Under $15

Blackout Jackpot in 50 numbers — $500

— CONSOLATION: —

51 numbers $450
52 numbers $400
53 numbers $350
54 numbers $300
55 numbers, $250
56 numbers $200
57 numbers $150
no less than $100

Legion Auditorium, Tuesday, July 11, 1961

EVERYBODY WELCOME

LI'L ABNER — By AL CAPP

THE HEART OF JULIET JONES — By STAN DRAKE

LARRY BRANNON — By WINSLOW MORTIMER