



**Mr. A. Allen Knight, a pupil at the Vickers Flying School, Brooklands, who took his pilot's brevet on the Vickers biplane last week in excellent style.**

pilots seemed to have over their respective machines. In the course of Mr. Hamel's second exhibition flight, something was seen to drop from the engine of his machine, and he thought it advisable to put the machine away until his mechanic had had an opportunity of thoroughly overhauling it before a further flight was made. Mr. Merriam, in the course of the afternoon, gave some very good exhibition flights on the Bristol biplane. The winner of the ballot for the free passenger flight was Mr. W. Beckingham, of 60, Field Road, Reading, and he was taken up for a nice trip by Mr. Hawker on the same machine, which the day previous had beaten the British altitude record. Mr. Hawker then made several trips, each time with two passengers, and the machine seemed to climb as quickly with and without passengers. On one occasion when Mr. Hawker had two passengers, Mr. Gordon Bell started after him on the latest Sopwith tractor biplane, and the two machines flew side by side, thus providing an excellent opportunity for comparison. Mr. Hawker has further intentions in the near future in regard to the British altitude records for one, two, and three passengers, with the Sopwith tractor biplane, and interesting results may be confidently anticipated. In Mr. Barnwell's absence from the Vickers school, two of his pupils who had previously passed their *brevet* tests in most brilliant fashion (Messrs. Waterfall and Mitchell) acted as instructors, and thus materially lightened the burden of Mr. Barnwell's assistant—Mr. Knight.

For next Sunday afternoon an interesting bomb-dropping competition will be held, in which both instructors and pupils will compete together in friendly rivalry for two handsome silver cups, amongst the entrants being: Bristol school, Messrs. Merriam and Bendall (instructors); Vickers school, Mr. Knight (instructor), Messrs. Andreae, Mitchell, Paterson and Waterfall (pupils); Mr. Herbert Spencer (instructor), and Mr. Hawker (instructor).

**Bristol School.**—Bendall out first on Monday last week, for solo, then as passenger behind Lieut. Morgan on straights. Afterwards giving Lieut. Noott straight flights. Merriam tested another machine with Capt. Wilson as passenger, and then sat behind this pupil on straights. Afterwards giving similar tuition to Lieut. Duncan on figures of eight. This pupil is much better on his right hand turns. Merriam later, behind Lieut. Morgan, on several straights. Lieut. Broder passed tests for his *brevet* in fine style, landing perfectly. Bendall behind Mr. Grahame Harris on straights. Merriam finished up by taking Mr. Bernard Howard for a high flight over Weybridge, and landing *vol plane* into aerodrome.

After breakfast Merriam for solo, afterwards giving a passenger flight. The conditions were too bad for pupils' work just then. At 5.30 p.m. Merriam and Bendall on several machines for tests, then

the latter giving tuition behind Lieut. Noott, Capt. Wilson, Mr. Richard Powell and Mr. Grahame Harris all on straights. Merriam up behind all these pupils afterwards allowing Capt. Wilson to go alone for first time. He flew four good straights splendidly and landed nicely. Lieut. Duncan also made a capital solo. Bendall and Merriam solo each to finish the evening.

Merriam testing on Tuesday, taking Mr. Richard Powell, and later sitting behind this pupil. Afterwards up behind Mr. Grahame Harris and Lieut. Noott, these pupils then alone for first time, doing very well. Capt. Wilson, after some straights, flew his first circuit in very fine style, the landings being perfect. Lieut. Duncan doing right and left hand turns. Bendall up behind Lieut. Morgan on several straights, he improving splendidly. After storm, Bendall for test, taking Lieut. Noott and afterwards Mr. Richard Powell. Merriam up with Mr. Grahame Harris and Mr. Skene (a new pupil). Darkness put an end to further work.

On Wednesday Bendall for solo, then up with Mr. Skene for figures of eight. Afterwards he took Capt. Wilson, Lieut. Duncan, and then again with Mr. Skene. No flying afterwards through rain, but all busy in the sheds.

Merriam testing machine on Thursday, afterwards out with Mr. Skene, and behind Lieut. Morgan on straights and circuits. Then this pupil out alone flying straights, circuits, and half right hand turns in fine style. Lieut. Duncan away for his *brevet*, finishing half the tests. Capt. Wilson, who has been at the School a week took his ticket in very excellent style. Of course this pupil has had a lot of instruction as he wanted to get away, but throughout he has shown marked aptitude for flying, and went right through without breaking a wire. Bendall tried the air, then afterwards Lieut. Morgan again doing well on half right hand turns, and circuits with very good landings. Merriam up behind Mr. Grahame Harris and Lieut. Noott on straights and circuits, also behind Mr. Richard Powell on left and right hand turns, and landings. Merriam finished up by taking Mr. Skene up to 2,000 ft. for a trip over Weybridge, gliding down into the aerodrome. All pupils are now making rapid progress. Bendall for test in the evening then with Mr. Skene, Lieut. Noott, Lieut. Morgan, Mr. Richard Powell, afterwards Lieut. Morgan going straights and half circuits. Bendall finished by taking Mr. Grahame Harris for a trip.

Bendall first out on Friday, afterwards behind Lieut. Noott, this pupil then alone flying circuits, and making good landings. Lieut. Morgan figures of eight in excellent style. Bendall up with Mr. Skene, Merriam on another machine testing, and later giving Mr. Skene instruction on bank turns, &c. Lieut. Noott made two more good solos. Wind too strong for flying in the afternoon and evening.



**Mr. T. P. Bayetto, who has just secured his Royal Aero Club certificate on a Blériot monoplane, at the Grahame-White Aviation Company's School at Hendon.**