

OBITUARY

ARTHUR CARPMAEL, A I A E

We regret to announce the death on 5th August of Arthur Carpmael, one of our original Founder Members

A partner of Messrs Carpmaels and Ransford, Chartered Patent Agents, Arthur Carpmael was a Member of the Association's Executive Council, and of the Finance and General Purposes Committee from 1946 to 1949

A generous donor to the Association's funds, it was due to his initiative and influence as a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers that the Association was able to entertain Mr Igor Sikorsky and other distinguished American visitors to dinner on September 9th, 1947, at the Armourers' Hall
W/Cmdr R A C Brie writes

I well remember Arthur as one of a small select group of amateur enthusiasts who were early pupils at the Autogiro School Alan Marsh was his Instructor, and he went solo on 12th September, 1932, after 4 hours 10 minutes dual on a C19 Mk IV autogiro

Amongst my files I have found the following letter dated 21st September, 1933

'This being the anniversary of the day on which I made my first solo flight on an Autogiro, I had intended to come to Hanworth Unfortunately on Tuesday I slipped when getting off a motor bus and damaged my shoulder

"I tell you all this in order that you and Mr Marsh may impress upon your pupils how increasingly necessary it is to be careful when on the ground—point out to them that a bad landing on or from land transport machines may be just as dangerous and far more painful than a bad landing on an Autogiro"

When we informed him in 1945 of our intention to create the Helicopter Association his response was immediate, and I am sure that he derived much satisfaction from the knowledge that we needed his wise counsel and assistance

BOOK REVIEWS

"*A B C of Helicopters*," by J W R Taylor Publishers Ian Allen, Ltd

This is an invaluable little reference book which includes illustrations and silhouettes of some 65 helicopters and projects, giving also figures on performance, power and dimensions There is a short historical review

The book is the first of its kind to come to our attention and is already proving its value within the Association office We can most highly recommend it to all who are working in or who are interested in the helicopter field Our only comment is that since the booklet is intended to be an annual presentation, it is a pity that this first issue did not include pictures and descriptions of some of the earlier auto-gyro and helicopter developments For instance there is no picture of the Sikorsky V S 300, no section covers the early auto-gyros, nor are such machines as the first ten-seater twin-engine helicopter, the Kellett K H -2 covered Perhaps a pictorial history could be recorded in some future issue, to include all the rotating wing aircraft ever to have made practical flights

"*The Helicopter and How it Flies*," by John S Fay pp 102 and index Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman Price 10/6

Mr Fay has produced a useful primer of the helicopter which attempts to explain in simple physical terms the essentials of its flight and control

As is perhaps inevitable with such an approach some of the explanations may be regarded with a certain amount of suspicion by the purist This applies particularly to such things as ground effect and stability But the author is to be congratulated upon the success of his achievement within the self imposed limitations of space and simplicity

The book is copiously illustrated We feel that some of the illustrations are not as helpful as they might be and that some could be dispensed with These are features which we think might perhaps be improved upon in subsequent editions