

THE

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H.E. Dr. HAFEZ AFIFI PASHA
H.E. AHMAD SEDDIK BEY
GEORGES CATTAUI • KEM
CAPT. I. P. MULLER
Dr. E. H. TRIPP
HARRY HARPER
LESLIE KARK
ETC.











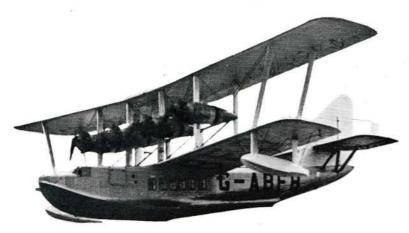
## FLYING

## FROM LONDON TO CAIRO

## A PAGEANT OF AIR, SEA AND LAND THE BEAUTIES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

By HARRY HARPER

(Author of "The Romance of the Modern Airway," etc.).



•HE clock on the control-tower at the London air-port points to the hour of departure. The last mail-bag has been stowed aboard the air-liner which stands out on the departure platform. The last passengers have just arrived. And now the saloon door is closed, and the four powerful engines wake to life. The big machine taxies away from the departure platform, and out on to the grass of the 'drome. Faster the motors run. There is a gentle, floating sensation, and the machine leaves earth and soars skyward. Like some immense bird it Then it settles on its swift course above the Surrey Hills, which are dwarfed by your height as you look down on them from the windows of the air saloon.

On, smoothly and rapidly, your big airliner sweeps. Beneath, now, extends a vista of Kent, "Garden of England," the land stretching away below like some vast jig-saw

puzzle. The undulating hills, from your bird's eye view point, suggest the rolling waves of a mighty ocean; while roads, fields, and rivers weave themselves in an intricate pattern.

Sometimes, high aloft, fantastic cloudshapes are encountered, and your view of the world beneath becomes hidden completely for the time being, streamers of vapour gliding like ghosts past the cabin windows.

Now you take a glance at your fellow-passengers in this Pullman of the skies. Some sit reading newspapers. Others are skimming the pages of novels or magazines. One or two, lulled by the drone of the engines, are dropping off already into a doze. Others gaze down eagerly through the windows of the saloon.

More and more business men are using the airway nowadays, making journeys between London and the Continent, and along the Empire routes. Seasoned air travellers,

these, and they settle down in the air-liner saloon just as they

One of Imperial Airways 4-engined Flying-boats, which are used to operate the Cross-Mediterranean Sections of the Empire Routes.