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THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

The Council have set aside an annual sum of £250 for the award of premiums for papers published in the JOURNAL. Both members and non-members are invited to contribute original papers on their own special subjects.

The following notes on the preparation of papers for the JOURNAL are given to assist contributors: ---

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Unless an abbreviation is one recognised as standard practice, both in this and other English-speaking countries, for example, b.h.p. for brake horse power, the meaning should be given in full on its first use.

THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

A meeting of the Society was held at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1, on Thursday, 9th October, 1947, at which a number of the Society's medals were awarded and the new President was inducted before the 738th lecture by Mr. W. M. Widgery was read before the Society.

Sir Frederick Handley Page, C.B.E. (Retiring President), occupied the Chair during the early part of the proceedings.

Awards

The President said that it was a pleasing duty, on the last occasion on which he would preside over the deliberations of the Society before resigning office, to hand to the recipients their respective Medals and Prizes.

The Silver Medal of the Society, awarded for some advance in aeronautical design, was presented to Mr. W. G. Carter, C.B.E., F.R.Ae.S., Chief Designer, Gloster Aircraft Co. Ltd., for his work on the development and design of jet-propelled aircraft.

The Simms Gold Medal, awarded annually for the best paper read in any year before the Society on any science allied to aeronautics, was presented to Professor Leslie Aitchison, D.Met., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., M.I.A.E., F.R.Ae.S., Professor of Industrial Metallurgy at the University of Birmingham, for his paper on "Aeronautics and the Metallurgist."

The George Taylor (of Australia) Gold Medal, awarded for the most valuable paper submitted or read during the previous session, was presented to Professor A. R. Collar, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.Ae.S., Professor of Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Bristol, for his paper, "Aeroelastic Problems at High Speed."

The Wakefield Gold Medal, awarded to the designer of any invention or apparatus tending towards safety in flying, and open to members or non-members, was awarded to Mr. Edwin Link, the inventor of the Link Trainer.

Mr. Link was unable to be present, and the Medal was formally presented by the President to Mr. L. Satterthwaite, Civil Air Attaché at the American Embassy. The presentation to Mr. Link will be made in New York later in the year.

Sir Frederick Handley Page, in presenting the Medal, said it was nice that, so soon after the successful Anglo-American Aeronautical Conference held in London, the Society was able to make an award to one of the aeronautical brethren across the seas.

THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

The R.38 Memorial Prize, offered annually for the best paper received by the Society on some subject of a technical nature in the science of aeronautics (preference being given to papers relating to airships), was awarded to Mr. J. K. Hardy, of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, for his paper on "The Protection of Aircraft Against Ice."

The Edward Busk Memorial Prize, offered annually for the best paper received by the Society on some subject of a technical nature in connection with aeroplanes (including seaplanes), was awarded to Mr. J. Smith, C.B.E., F.R.Ae.S., Chief Designer of Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., for his paper on "The Evolution of the Spitfire."

Induction of the New President

Sir Frederick Handley Page then formally invested his successor, Dr. H. Roxbee Cox, with the Presidential badge of office, invited him to occupy the Chair, and wished him every success in his conduct of the affairs of the Society.

Dr. H. Roxbee Cox, on assuming the Chair, paid tribute to Sir Frederick, and referred to the gift to the Society of the new Presidential badge. The Society was the oldest aeronautical society in the world, 82 years old, but it had not developed many picturesque ceremonies or traditions. That fact had been perceived by Sir Frederick and, with his usual good taste and munificence, he had seen to it that later on the members of the Society would be able to look back and appreciate that they had a tradition, and a very pleasant one, to follow, a tradition whereby the cares of office were handed over in a symbolical, as well as in other, ways.

They would all regret that the occasion was the last on which Sir Frederick Handley Page would occupy the Chair as President. The Members of Council had deeply appreciated for a long time the way in which he had guided the Society's affairs and the help and direction he had always given. All who attended the meetings of the Society recognised also the excellent way in which he had conducted the business of the meetings, always with a touch of humour which had been appreciated almost as much as the technical discussions.

He invited the meeting to express the thanks of the Society for all that Sir Frederick had done. The vote of thanks was carried with enthusiasm.

Dr. Roxbee Cox then introduced Mr. Widgery, who presented his paper.