Air Pioneers Honored At Opening Of Memorial

More than 40,000 people went to Adelaide Airport yesterday to see the opening of the £30,000 Sir Ross Smith and Sir Keith Smith Memorial and to inspect a Qantas Super Constellation flown specially from Sydney.

The twin - engine Vickers Vimy bi-plane in which the famous SA brothers made the first flight from England to Australia in 1919, will be permanently housed in the 80 ft. by 60 ft. glass and brick memorial.

They won a £10,000 prize by completing the flight in less than a month—in 27 days and 20 hours.

Guests of honor at the ceremony, which was watched by several hundred invited guests and about 12,000 of the visitors to the airport, were Lt. W. H. Shiers, sole surviving member of the crew, and Lady Smith, widow of Sir Keith Smith, who was co-pilot and navigator for the historic flight.

Unveiling

Air Marshal Sir Richard Williams, who opened the memorial and unveiled a 12 ft. by 7½ ft. stone bas-relief of the aircraft's four-man crew, said:—

"The flight was one of the most extensive and trying yet undertaken in world aviation."

Sir Richard Williams, who is also a South Australian, was Sir Ross Smith's commanding officer when he flew with No. 1 Squadron, AFC, in Palestine.

They had spent many hours in the air together, "some exciting and some frightening," said Sir Richard Williams.

"One's first impression of Ross Smith was: Here is a man of sterling quality, complete dependability and so he was," he added.

Ross Smith was one of the first officers from among the Australian Light Horsemen to join the AFC—first as "an excellent observer" who later became a "most meticulous" pilot, said Sir Richard Williams.

Sir Ross Smith, already the holder of the MC and bar, had won, when it established on April 1, 1918 at the same time as the RAF—three times between then and the end of World War I, about seven months later.

The awards were made in the field.

The flight to Australia had been successful largely because Sir Ross Smith, Sgt. (later Lt.) W. H. Shiers—who was the Marshal referred to as "my old friend"—and Sgt. J. M. Bennett (the other engineer, also commissioned for his part in the flight), had become a closely knit and experienced team in Palestine.

It was natural that Sir Ross Smith should have chosen his brother to complete the crew.

"Had Ross not died so tragically in 1922 I have no doubt he would have made an even greater contribution to aviation," said Sir Richard Williams.

The Lord Mayor (Mr. Hargrave), who is present deputy of the memorial committee, introduced Sir Richard Williams.

Mr. Hargrave said he had the privilege of having served as a Light Horseman under air cover provided by Sir Richard Williams's squadron.

Tribute

Asking the Premier (Sir Thomas Playford) to hand the key of the memorial to the Minister for Defence (Sir Philip McBride), who represented the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies), Mr. Hargrave paid tribute to those who had helped to make the memorial possible.

In 1955, he said, Senator Laught, of SA, had first raised the question in Parliament of finding a permanent home for the Vimy.

The then president of the Royal Aero Club of SA (Capt. N. S. D. Buckley) had pursued the matter, the late Mr. J. S. Philips, a former Lord Mayor of Adelaide, had established a memorial committee, and a public appeal for funds had been launched by the Governor (Sir Robert George) in August, 1956.

Of the appeal's target of £30,000, about £29,000 had so far been raised by contributions from every State and from the SA Government.

Mr. Hargrave said members of the committee wanted him to pay a special tribute to its chairman (Group-Capt. M. Rechner) "whose hand had guided the whole project, and to the secretary (Capt. Buckley).

"Fitting"

The Premier said he believed the memorial was a fitting commemoration of one of the greatest achievements of SA's sons.

It was most necessary that men who pioneered such great advances and had such a lasting effect on aviation should be remembered.

"It is fitting that the site selected for the memorial is the centre of aerial activities of civil aviation in SA, where every person who today enjoys the advantages of modern transport can stop for a moment and ponder on those who contributed to them," Sir Thomas Playford added.

He was most appreciative of the Commonwealth Government's interest in the project, for providing the site and offering to maintain the memorial, he said.

Accepting the memorial key from the Premier, Sir Philip McBride said that with the exception of the North Atlantic, Australian airmen had been first to fly across all the oceans of the world.

A service of dedication at the memorial was conducted by Canon A. L. Bubeck.

Shortly before, Sir Richard Williams had taken the general salute and had inspected an RAAF guard of honor, Chipmunks of the Royal Aero Club of SA and Canberra and Meteor jet aircraft flew past the memorial.

The RAAF Central Band, on its first visit to SA played the National Anthem.

Guests

Official guests at the ceremony included the Chief of the Air Staff (Air Marshal P. R. W. Scherger), the Director-General of Civil Aviation (Mr. D. G. Anderson), heads of services, many of the State's leading airmers, and contributors to the memorial appeal and their representatives.

Thousands could not get near the memorial and left the airport after seeing the Super Constellation.

However at dusk a few hundred people were still looking at the Vimy through the memorial window.

Of the thousands who saw the Constellation, more than 7,000 boarded it and contributed £100 to the memorial fund.

Visit By U.S. A-Men

SYDNEY, April 27.

A team of top American nuclear scientists will visit Australia in June to confer with the Australian Atomic Energy Commission.

Announcing this tonight, the Minister for National Development (Senator Spooner) said the eight-man mission would also represent the US Atomic Energy Commission at the Australian symposium on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, to be held in Sydney during the first week in June.

The mission was the sequel to the bilateral agreement between Australia and the US introduced last year.

"Australia has already used the agreement to purchase heavy water and other special materials from the US.

"Now it is intended to explore ways in which cooperation might be extended, and details of information exchanged," Senator Spooner said.

Leads Team

The American mission will be led by Mr. Clark C. Vogel, Assistant Director for Operations, Division of International Affairs, US Atomic Energy Commission.

Other members will be:—

Mr. Louis H. Roddis, Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Development, USAEC.

Dr. F. L. Cuthbert, Technical Director, atomic energy feed materials plant, National Lead Co., of Ohio.

Dr. F. W. Albaugh, General Electric Co., Hanford Atomic Products Operations.

Mr. J. M. Harrer, Associate Director, Reactor Engineering Division, Argonne National Laboratory.

Dr. J. A. Lieberman, Engineering Development Branch, Division of Reactor Development, USAEC.

Dr. J. E. Cole, Atomic Energy Division, E. I. Du Pont Nemours & Co.

Mr. Herbert Pennington, USAEC, Scientific Representative in the Far East.

WINNING LEAP AT SPORTS

TWO CLIFF DEATHS

From Our Staff Representative

SYDNEY, April 27.

A young nursing sister and a 38-year-old man were killed in falls down precipitous cliff faces in NSW yesterday afternoon.

Police believe both deaths were accidental.

Sister Robin Ritchie, 21, of Nedlands, WA, fell 200 ft. over The Gap, Watson's Bay, Sydney's notorious suicide spot.

Colin Braddock, 38, of Katoomba, fell 300 ft. from the Three Sisters, a Blue Mountains landmark at Katoomba.

Sydney police said today that, although 200 people had lost their lives at The Gap, Miss Ritchie's was probably the first accidental fall there.

She had been standing beyond the safety fence at the most dangerous part of The Gap trying to photograph a cave.

Her broken box camera had been found only a few feet from her body on the rocks at the bottom of The Gap.

Miss Ritchie started a 12-month obstetrics course at the Royal North Shore Hospital on Wednesday.

Two nursing sisters who trained with Miss Ritchie in WA identified her body and described her as "a charming and beautiful young woman," with a passion for photography and apparently without a care in the world.

A few minutes before the tragedy a 13-year-old boy saw Miss Ritchie smiling happily and speaking to two tourists — a man and a woman.

The man and the woman reported to Mrs. Edith Chapman, proprietress of The Gap cafe that a girl had fallen over the cliff.

Then they disappeared.

LOWERED

At Katoomba a police sergeant lowered by a rope recovered Braddock's body shortly before midnight—about seven hours after he had fallen.

Braddock, an interior decorator who lived with his mother in Katoomba, is believed to have fallen from the causeway leading to the First Sister.

Police were told that Braddock had stopped and spoken to two men and two women.

Braddock had grabbed hold of a nearby railing and lifted himself on to the path.

One of the men, Mr. William Peter Cramp, of Randwick, later told police that as he and his friends were walking away from the spot they heard a scream.

I glimpsed the body of Braddock disappearing over the pathway," he said.

3-MILE DASH

A rescue party of six policemen did not have enough rope to descend to the narrow ledge where Braddock lay motionless, so one of the policemen went three miles to the Blue Mountains City Council depot in Katoomba and obtained another four lengths of rope.

Blue Mountains City Council employs focused all available floodlights on to the scene of the drama.

Then Sergeant H. Asquith was lowered by rope.

About 10.30 p.m. faint vocal signals could be heard as Sergeant Asquith worked in the pitch darkness.

Police believe that Braddock, who was a keen outwalker, lacked the necessary experience to negotiate the precarious embankment leading to the Three Sisters.

Big House Output By Trust

In the 21 years of its operations the SA Housing Trust has provided more than 32,000 houses.

Giving these figures, the trust's quarterly report says that the work is still continuing.

In addition the trust is developing Elizabeth and planning a new "oil town" at Hallett's Cove.

The report, released at the week-end by the Premier (Sir Thomas Playford) says that the 32,648 houses completed since 1937 include 336 cottage flats for elderly people.

A further 159 dwellings have been converted from army huts.

On April 1, there were 2,360 houses under construction.

Revenue

The rents received by the trust for the year ending March 31 totalled £2,207,235.

To house about 300 employees of the oil refinery to be set up near Hallett's Cove, and for about 100 other townspeople, the trust will begin construction of 200 houses on 2,000 acres which it has acquired near Morphett Vale.

Building will not begin for some time, as the houses will not be required for about three years.

Much preparatory survey and other work has to be done, however, the report adds.

Ample open spaces and amenities will be provided, with an intensive tree planting plan.

Rent Range

In the metropolitan area, 9,884 houses have been let, rents in Adelaide ranging from 32/6 to 75/.

Rents of 4,135 houses in country towns range from 32/6 to 87/6.

These include both double-unit and single-unit houses.

At Elizabeth, where there are 1,492 double units and 163 single units, rents range from 61/6 to 105/.

Building for sale began in 1946, the report says.

A total of 13,784 houses have been sold, including 9,343 in the metropolitan area.

At Elizabeth, 3,591 have been sold.

Flats Vary

There are also flats for married couples without children, cottage flats for pensioners and those of small means, and single-storey flats for intermediate range incomes.

Rents range from £3 5/ to £4 12/6.

In certain conditions, involving water, sewerage and electric facilities, the trust will build a house on an owner's land.

At present, prices range from £2,695 to £4,500, excluding fencing.

With a present population of more than 8,300, and 2,258 completed houses, Elizabeth is expected to have a population of 23,000 by 1963, increasing eventually to more than 50,000.

A group of 22 shops, with a branch of the Public Library, has been opened recently.

The first two primary schools are open and five churches have been completed.

A modern hotel has been opened in the future Town Centre.

About one allotment in three is being left by the trust in its building, for sale to people wishing to build to their own design.

These blocks will be sold only to home-seekers.

TITO SAYS SOVIET UNJUST

Australian Associated Press.

BELGRADE, April 27.

President Tito said yesterday that Soviet bloc attacks on Yugoslavia were "unfavorable, incorrect, unjust and unconstructive."

They failed to offer any optimistic prospects for future relations.

The Yugoslav Chief of State told cheering delegates at the Yugoslav Communist Congress that the Soviet Union should abandon hopes that Yugoslavia would change its policies.

Such hopes were a waste of time and harmful.

He called for comradely and constructive criticism between Yugoslavia and the Soviet bloc.

"Conciliatory"

Marshal Tito's statement, winding up a five-day congress at which there have been daily attacks on Soviet pressure, was seen by observers as conciliatory.

He was clearly trying to persuade the Soviet leader (M. Khrushchev) to call off a threatening ideological campaign and to start serious talks instead.

The congress voted unanimously to accept a new party programme and statute reflecting sharp ideological differences with Moscow.

But Congress officials announced they were not ready to present a final text and for the 1,800 delegates voted permission for it to be produced by a special commission next month.

The vote postponing the final text appeared to suggest that the Yugoslavs were waiting for reaction from Moscow before deciding to include several changes originally inserted to meet Soviet objections.

A final resolution declaring that "differences in ideological views should not influence relations between States, particularly between Socialist States," was approved also.

Boy Cyclist Killed By Semi-Trailer

PT. AUGUSTA, Apr. 27.

A 13-year-old boy cyclist was killed when a semi-trailer driven by his uncle struck him at the Cudmore's Hill railway crossing on the outskirts of Port Augusta late this afternoon.

The dead boy was Roger William, apprentice mechanic, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Williams, of Port Augusta.

The semi-trailer was driven by the boy's uncle Leonard Vernon Roberts, general carrier, of Beltana, 210 miles from Port Augusta.

The semi-trailer was loaded with 18 tons of wool.

Sergeant H. J. Huxley is preparing a report.

"My Fair Lady"

It is claimed that 65,000 women in Britain are already wearing "My Fair Lady" blouses like this one. All over it are 1912 figures in settings typical of Eliza Doolittle's London. Model Valerie Gaten is wearing the blouse here with a gaily printed skirt showing flower sellers in vivacious London backgrounds following the theme of "My Fair Lady," the record-breaking musical based on Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion."

New Traffic Aids For Airport

New air traffic aids to cost about £60,000 would be installed at Adelaide Airport soon, the Director-General of Civil Aviation (Mr. D. G. Anderson) said yesterday.

The aids were a visual "light ladder" combined with a radio beam which would allow pilots to land easily and safely in bad weather conditions with a cloud ceiling as low as 200 feet.

"The effect will be that the airport will be far less likely to be closed because of weather," he added.

"Melbourne and Sydney airports have similar traffic aids."

The new aids would probably make Adelaide Airport "as good as the Commonwealth," said Mr. Anderson.

ARMS EXPENDITURE "MARKEDLY SMALL"

MELBOURNE, April 27.

Australia was not spending a shilling too much on defence, the Prime Minister said tonight.

"There may even be a very powerful argument that we should spend more," Mr. Menzies added.

"When we compare our position with that of Britain, the US and Canada the proportion of our national income spent on defence is markedly small."

Mr. Menzies was appearing on a Melbourne television programme.

Dealing with the world situation, Mr. Menzies said recent letters sent by Russia had been very successful propaganda.

Technical and technological achievements, such as the Sputnik, had had a considerable influence, but "perhaps rather more than should have been the case."

"We have been a little inclined to build up some of this propaganda . . . perhaps the newspapers have been to blame," Mr. Menzies said.

"The Western world had "no reason" to fear these Soviet technological advances.

Asked whether Australia was committed in any way if the Dutch were attacked in New Guinea, Mr. Menzies said, "No."

He did not take a problem that would give us cause for instant thought," he said.

**Asked about the admission of Asians as migrants to Australia, Mr. Menzies said it would be bad to violate the principles of the present immigration policy.