

DECEMBER GOES OUT

As the end of December closed another year, it brought with it the new look for British aviation. At Bittesfield the jet-propelled tail-less flying wing prepares for its first public take-off.

This boomerang-shaped 'plane cost £200,000 to build. Top speed is 500 miles per hour.

Aviation experts say that the flying wing will provide the basic design for future airliners. Passengers and crew would be accommodated in the wings.

Airworthiness of this eccentric looking machine is a revolutionary advance in the history of aviation. Its pilot, Squadron-leader Franklin says:

SPEECH

As December ended, death came to a famous Scotsman and a great British comedian - 62 year old Will Fyffe. Dundee born, Scotland paid its last tribute to him in Glasgow's St. Mary's Cathedral. From all walks of life came homage to an artist - from his personal friends, stage colleagues and from the "common old working chaps" of whom he sang.

Will Fyffe's partner in pantomime - bespectacled Harry Gordon - was there. With him was that other great Scottish artist - Sir Harry Lauder. Members from the Society of Water Rats represented Britain's variety artists. Also there - the team of Forsythe, Seamon and Farrel.

In a circle, much wider than that in which he worked, Will Fyffe will be greatly missed.

For the cameras, the British skating championships provided the week's sports news. Last year's holder, Daphne Walker - now a professional - was no longer eligible. Eleven teenagers were the competitors for the vacant title. Here is 19 year old Bridget Shirley Adams.

Favourite for the championship was Marion Davis, a 19 year old London girl and last year's runner-up.

Marion had to be satisfied with second place again this year. Britain's new skating champion is Jeanette Altwegge, a 17 year old from Liverpool.

A professional contract would bring champion Jeanette £300 a week, but the Liverpool girl has ambitions for the Olympic title. Together with her runners-up she's now off to St. Moritz for the Winter Games.

Cameras in Germany tell the story of a strange friendship. Mickey the Mouse, Felix the Cat and Rota the snake are companions of Frans Schmidt of Munich.

A zoology student, Herr Schmidt's chief worry is food for his pets. With Felix no mouser and Rota a vegetarian - Mickey's existence seems secure. But there's no knowing when someone may get ideas. It was in London that the cameras found the week's Christmas story. The circus had come to town. At Olympia, 6,000 children sat entranced - happily watching the animals parade in the first show of the season.

Coco, Michael, Huxter and Beasy kick off in the right spirit.

To his cheering audience, Victor Julian introduces his dogs and his monkey.

Bebe's hurdling should give him a place among Olympic possibles.

Triakas White Devils do their show way up under the Big Top.

Next in the arena - the brickbats bounding trio.

For the youngsters, it's the finest show they've seen since last year.

Rhodin's Sealions left their natural surroundings specially for this show. That's how they justify their £10 a week fish bill.

While the audience takes time off for tea - Cavalini's crazy car turns comic in its own right.

Highlight of the circus is left till the end - to the six young ladies of the elephant ballet.

With all the things they are not supposed to forget - they still find room to remember their finale. To 6,000 youngsters, the jumbos were the stars of the show.