

# . . . stretching out to the things which are before, I go forward . . .

13th and 14th verses, 3rd chapter, Letter to the Philippians.

**T**HE recruiting of future glider pilots from a new source was accomplished on Friday evening, December 15, in Seaford, Long Island, New York, when a group of boys, girls, and young people organized in the Methodist Church there the "Seaford Soaring Society," with full approval of both the pastor and Official Board of the church.

Ben Shupack, Secretary of the Soaring Society of America, in addressing the gathering, opened his remarks with the statement that so far as he knew "this is an historic occasion: the first time in the history of our country, and perhaps in the world, that a glider unit has been organized by a youth group directly connected with a church, and as a definite part of a church program."

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Harry D. Robinson, informed the meeting that the Official Board had approved the project at a special meeting several days earlier, and given permission for working space in both the parsonage and church buildings to be used by the club. There was not a single dissenting vote in this action of the Official Board.

The group plans to build a singleplace glider, with interchangeable non-flying and flying wings from plans

of the Denver Pioneer Utility glider which have already been purchased. When the glider is completed, it will be used at a nearby airport not in use at present.

Mr. William Moore, employed at Republic Aircraft, whose original idea and enthusiasm led to the formation of the club, was elected its first president. Mr. James Pratt is secretary-treasurer. Together with the above-mentioned men, two other Republic employees will act as adult counsellors of the group: Mr. Alastair G. Cameron and Mr. Wilbert DeW. Bresler.

The new president announced that meetings will be held weekly, with dues of 25¢ per person payable at each meeting. Other funds to launch the work of the group have been raised among the church members in the form of loans repayable by the group in 8 months. He also stated that members of the club will be asked to sign, or have their parents sign, a waiver releasing the officers of the club, and the church, from responsibility for possible injuries while building or flying the glider. However, group insurance is being purchased to cover all group members while they are at work or learning to glide.

Thirty persons were present at the organizing meeting for a program which included the showing of a sound film used by the U. S. Army in training glider pilots for the invasion of Normandy, and a beautiful Kodachrome short of glider competitions at Elmira, N. Y., sponsored by the S.S.A. Nineteen people signed up as charter members of the glider unit, and it is hoped that this number will shortly be increased to a maximum of thirty. The membership of the group is not being limited to members of the Methodist Church, and there are several religious denominations represented already among the charter members.

#### List of charter members:

Harry D. Robinson, Jr.	William Colban
William Moore	Joseph Klapthor
James Pratt	Robert Grover
Alastair G. Cameron	Ronald Kanen
Wilbert DeW. Bresler	William Morgan
Robert Tuthill	Eva Wichera
William Annett	Ella Livermore
Howard Emery	Harry Tuthill
Albert Van De Griek	Henry Smith
	Florence Schneibel



The basement of this church houses the work shop and meeting room of a unique glider club.