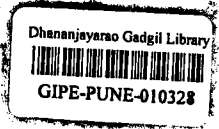




(Photo: Central Press)

CAPTAIN OLLEY.



A MILLION MILES IN THE AIR

A MILLION MILES IN THE AIR

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES,
IMPRESSIONS, AND
STORIES OF TRAVEL
BY AIR

BY
CAPTAIN GORDON P. OLLEY

The famous British air transport pilot who, since he left the ground in an aeroplane, as far back as 1915, has spent more than 10,000 hours in the air, flying a total distance of 1,000,000 miles—the equivalent of about forty flying journeys round the world

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I DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO MY
FELLOW-PILOTS EVERYWHERE,
WISHING THEM "HAPPY
LANDINGS" ALWAYS.

GORDON P. OLLEY.

*Air Port of London,
Croydon,
England.*

September, 1934.

PREFACE

IN writing this book I have drawn not only upon my own personal experiences, but have incorporated other incidents, stories, and impressions which I hope may prove of interest or amusement to the reader.

I should like to make it clear, to all my friends in the flying world, that this book is a volume written from the point of view of making the widest possible appeal—a book, in fact, for the general public. In preparing it I have visualised that great body of readers who, though they have no technical knowledge of flying, are keenly alive to, and interested in, the development of aviation as a new high-speed method of travel. At the same time, I hope those in the air world itself may find something to amuse them in the pages that follow. But one is apt to fall between two stools if one tries to make a book like this a compromise between technical and non-technical. It has to be one thing or the other. For this reason, aiming at gaining the attention of that big public who *must* be interested in air matters if we are to develop this great movement on a world-wide scale, I have written my book not for those who are already converted, but for those who want to be told, without the introduction of technicalities, something

A MILLION MILES IN THE AIR

of this big, fine story of aerial progress by one who can write from personal experience.

I thought it would be helpful, right at the beginning of my book, to introduce a quite brief summary of the early days of flying. It seems to throw into a stronger relief all our more recent progress since the war.

GORDON P. OLLEY.

Air Port of London,
Croydon,
England.

September, 1934.

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