

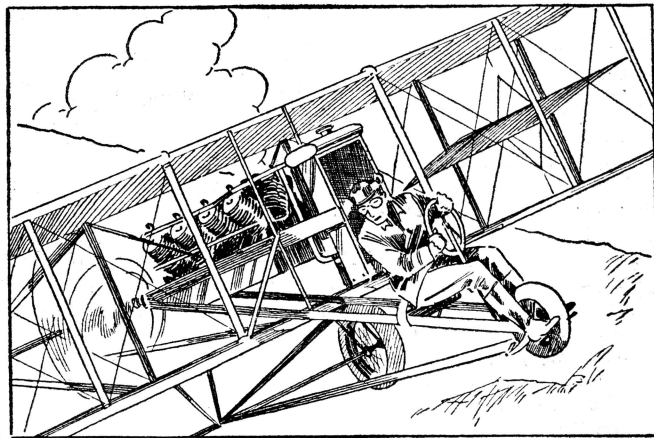
They Had What It Takes

XVIII—GLENN L. MARTIN—CLIPPER BUILDER

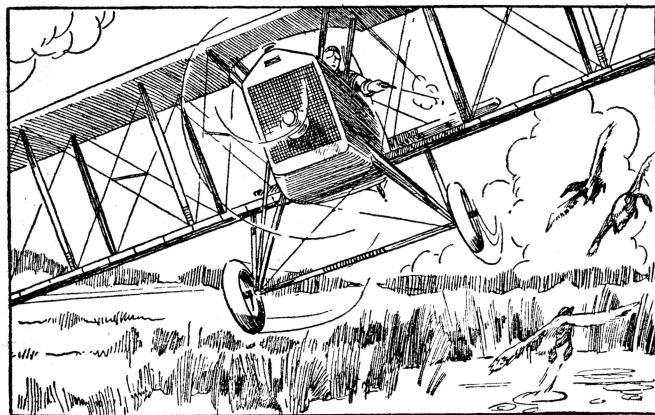
By ALDEN McWILLIAMS



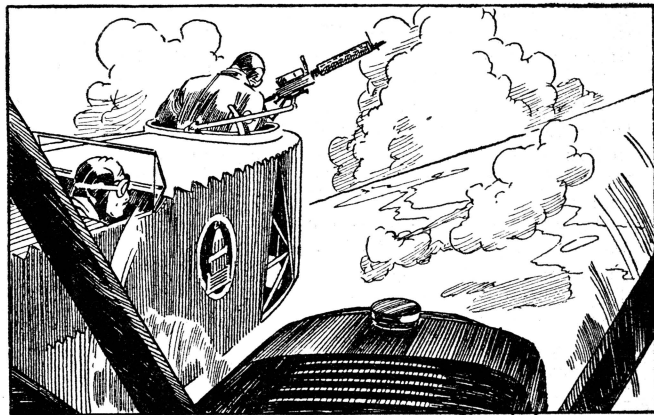
1—The son of a hardware dealer, Glenn L. Martin was born in Macksburg, Iowa, in 1886. Shortly thereafter, the Martins moved to California where, following high school training, young Glenn worked in a garage. However, birds and their flight were Glenn's real interest; and later, when he became an auto salesman, he studied aviation in his spare time.



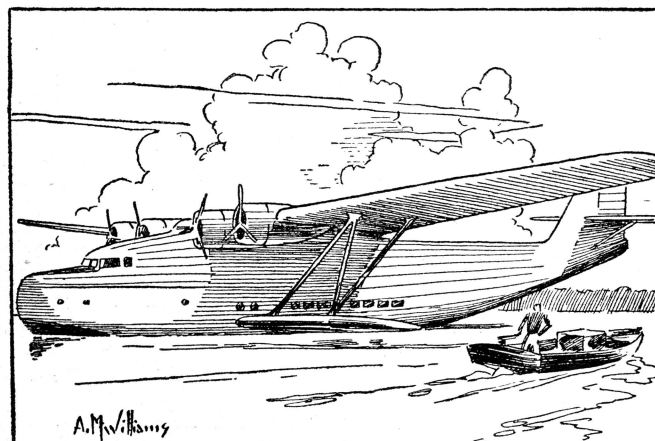
2—Then in 1907, after making a few gliders, Martin built a pusher-type plane, taught himself to fly, and participated in the first Pacific Coast air show. And finding the public enthusiastic for sensational sky work, he continued to race and stunt as a means of getting money—the money he used, in 1909, to found one of our first airplane factories.



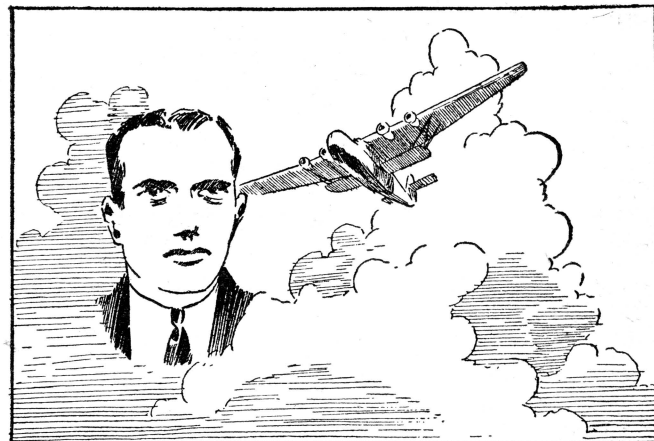
3—Progress being gradual, Martin went on with his racing, usually placing first or second in the meets. He also made sport use of his craft, hunting while flying near the ground. Then 1915 saw him in an early aero movie with Mary Pickford. And next, after a short association with Orville Wright when we entered the War, Martin set up shop in Cleveland.



4—Reception, in 1918, of a 24-plane order from the Netherlands constituted a great step forward for the famed builder. And in the same year, he completed his first huge Martin Bomber, a number of which were bought by the U.S. Slack years followed. But Martin kept working, and the early '30s found him filling a new Government order for 83 war planes.



5—From his Baltimore plant there next came the great *China Clipper*; and when Captain Musick piloted this gargantuan craft across the Pacific in 1935, the whole world applauded. Sister ships quickly augmented this trans-ocean service. Then this January, Martin finished the largest flying boat ever built and flown in America—a 31½-ton plane for Russia.



6—A born designer and an astute business man, Glenn L. Martin has guided his company into the front rank of the world's builders of leviathan aircraft. And ever with an eye to the future, he is now planning to construct a startling 125-ton bomber—a mammoth ship which would carry a crew of thirty men and be capable of flying fully 11,000 miles non-stop!