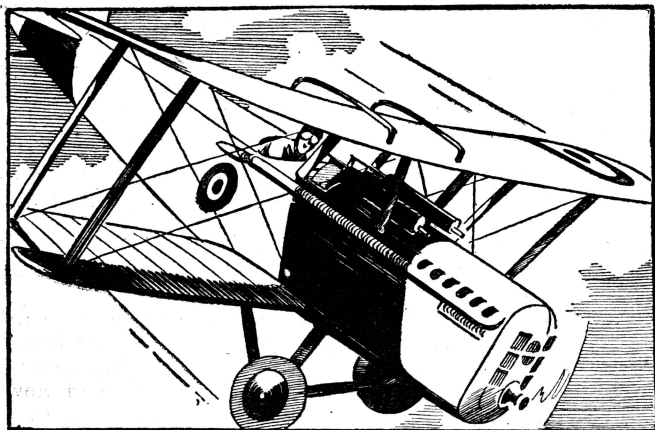


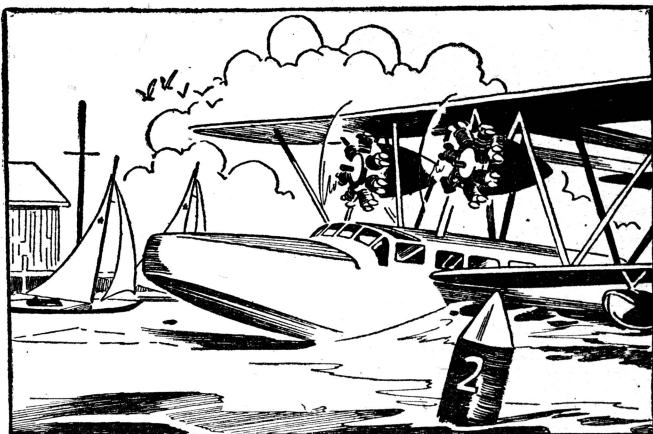
# They Had What It Takes

## XXVIII—ROSCOE TURNER—DASHING RACING ACE

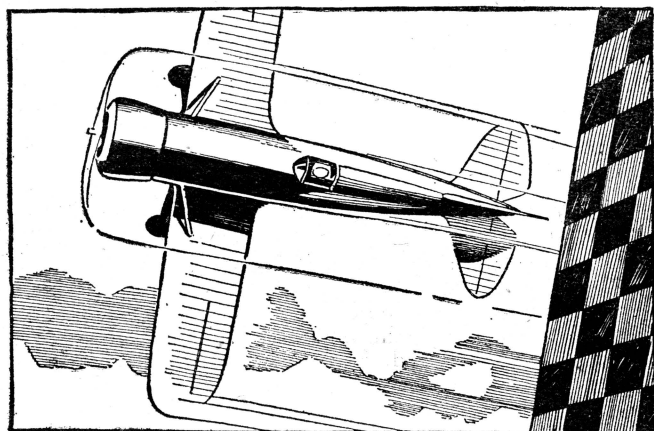
By ALDEN McWILLIAMS



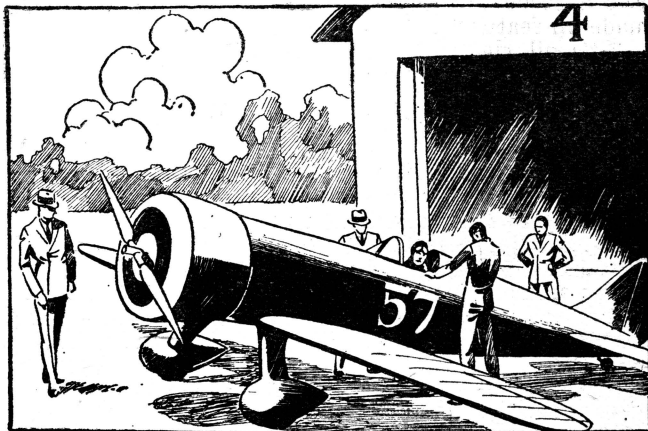
1—Born in Corinth, Miss., in '95, Roscoe Turner was 21 when the U. S. entered the War. He first joined the ambulance corps, then transferred to aviation and spent 10 months overseas. Initially, he was a 2nd Army instructor, and after the Armistice he was with the 3rd Army at Coblenz, Germany. He left the service in 1919 as a 1st Lieutenant.



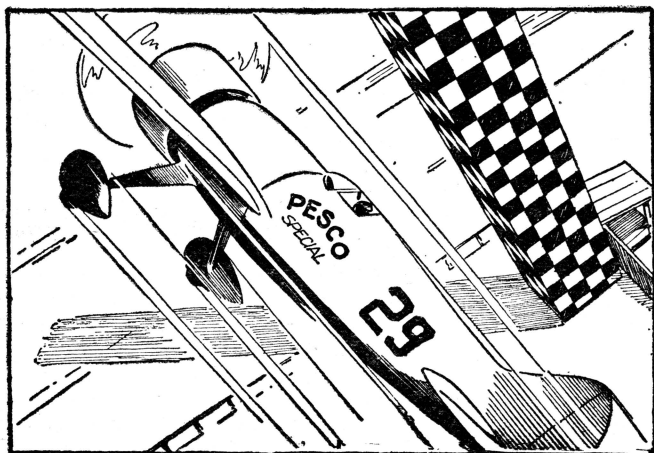
2—From 1925 to 1927, Turner served with the California National Guard. Here, he achieved a Captaincy, then he was commissioned a Colonel and made aide to Governor Rolph, for whom he acted as pilot. In 1927, this popular skyman finally "went commercial" when he assumed the chore of flying a Sikorsky amphibian for a chain cigar company.



3—Backed by more than 6500 flying hours, both wartime and commercial, Turner then expanded his aero activity. He became the first to lower a plane successfully by parachute, and he flew in that striking sky movie, *Hell's Angels*. Then air racing attracted his attention, and he piloted a Wedell-Williams speedster to victory in the 1933 Bendix Trophy Race.



4—But 1934 proved to be the Mississippian's biggest year! For he began it by establishing the best U. S. time for the gruelling London-to-Melbourne run, came back home to dash from Los Angeles to New York for a 10-hour record, then capped the climax by copping the Thompson Trophy Race in his Wedell-Williams "57" with a speed of 248 m.p.h. Some flying!



5—Failure to round one of the pylons cost Turner the Thompson event in 1937. But in 1938 he "didn't miss a stick"; indeed, his hurtling Laird-Turner "Pesco Special" was never headed after the seventh lap, and he set a new record of 283 m.p.h. This won him the coveted Henderson Merit Award, as well as the satisfaction of having taken the Thompson twice.



6—And so we laud that most colorful, dashing, and handsome of sky racers—Colonel Roscoe Turner! Even though Bendix and Thompson victories are now behind him as he tends to aero duties for Gilmore Oil, the Colonel still "goes" for speed tourneys in a big way. Will he be on hand for the starter's gun this year? Well, fans, our bet is that he will!