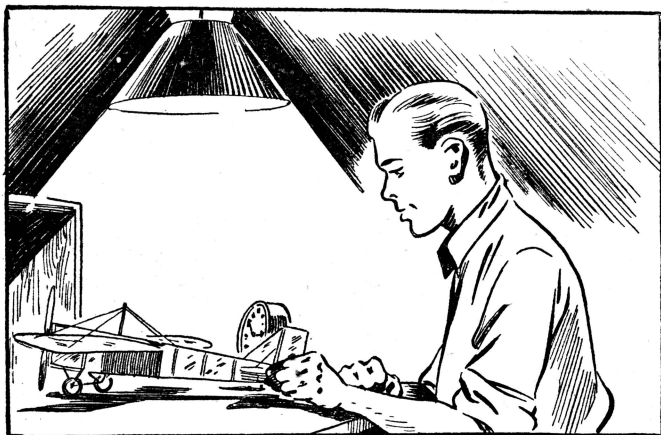


They Had What It Takes

XXXIII—ARCH WHITEHOUSE—SKYFIGHTER-WRITER

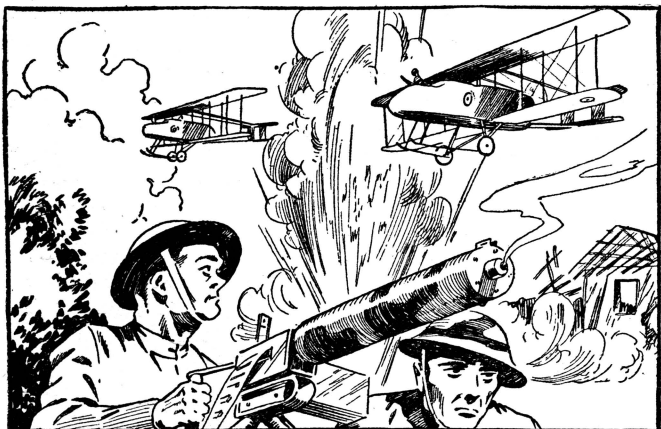
By ALDEN McWILLIAMS



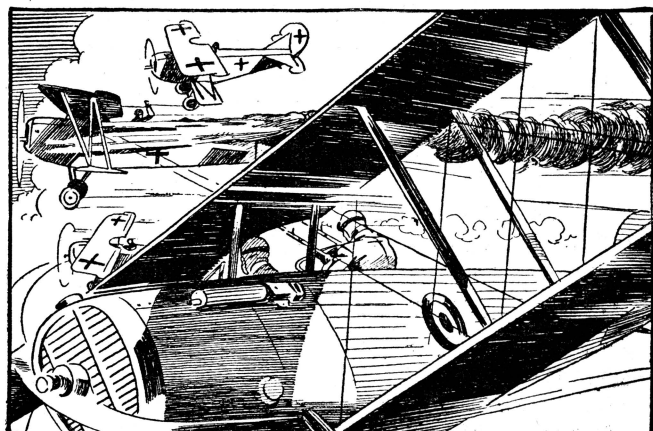
1—Born in Northampton Eng., in 1895, Arthur "Arch" Whitehouse came here with his parents when he was nine. At fourteen, family financial hardships forced him to leave school to sell papers in Newark. A 1910 air race attracted him to making models which he tried to fly with clockworks. Then he nearly got a ride in a Bleriot—but it wouldn't take off.



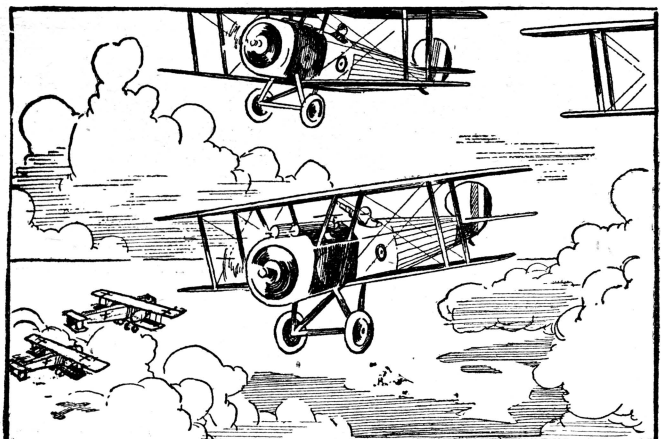
2—Later Arch built and flew a hang-glider of his own design. Then when war broke out in '14 he quit his current job of helper in Thomas A. Edison's laboratory and worked his way to England on a cattle boat. On the way over the crew mutinied and Arch only escaped with his life. He landed by sliding down a hawser at Liverpool—and joined a cavalry outfit.



3—Being handy with a rifle he was soon put in the machine gun school. Then it was France and action! But Arch quickly decided that trench warfare wasn't so swell and he found himself envying the airmen. So he pulled wires to get transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. It was not until late 1916, however, that young Whitehouse got his "break."



4—Sent to No. 22 Squadron as a gunner on F.E.2.B pushers, he chalked up a victory on his very first "show." Again and again he scored. And at one time he acted as Flight Commander, though then only a Corporal. Later, in a Bristol Fighter, Arch and his pilot were sent crashing by von Richthofen—but only after they'd downed three of the Baron's tail men!



5—Arch was wounded in 1917 . . . came back to fly bombing missions over Cambrai . . . next led a big warplane formation into a 70-plane dogfight with a German Circus, an action in which his outfit downed 23 Jerry jobs! Then came training on Camels at Cranwell while quartered with the present King of England. Finally, he commanded many North Sea sky patrols.



6—Credited with 16 victories, Lieutenant Whitehouse received the British Military Medal. After his return to the States, he quickly won a new success as a popular author drawing upon the authentic background provided by his skyfighting experiences. His first air yarn appeared in FLYING ACES more than ten years ago—and he's been an F. A. writing Ace ever since.