

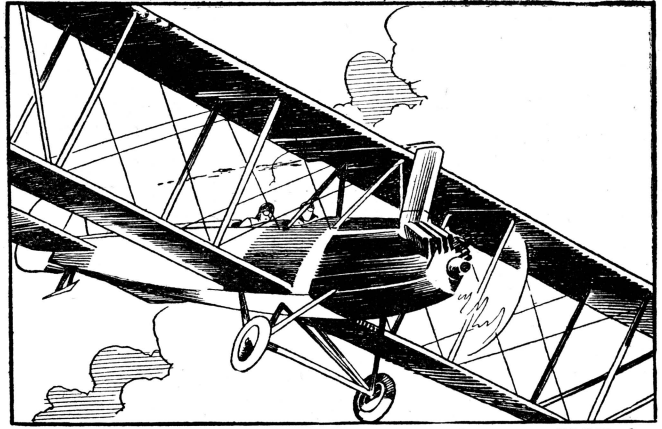
# They Had What It Takes

## XL—DONALD DOUGLAS—DOUGHTY DESIGNER

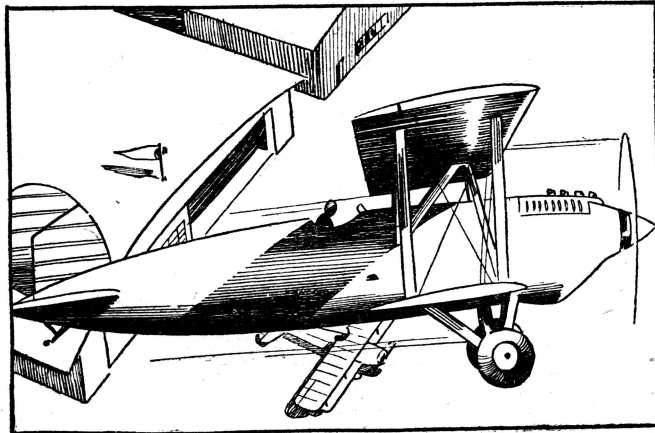
By ALDEN McWILLIAMS



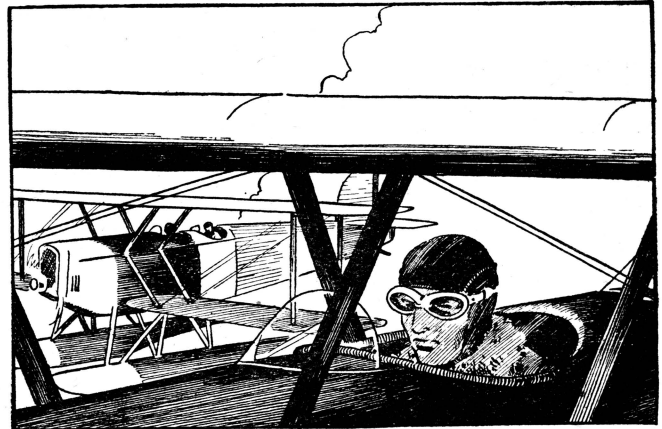
1—Born in New York City in 1892, Donald Wills Douglas attended public schools, then entered Annapolis. While at Fort Meyer, Virginia, on vacation in 1909, the young Midshipman saw the Wright brothers conducting tests with an early plane. His ambition to enter aviation was born then; for he visualized the growth of a great aero industry.



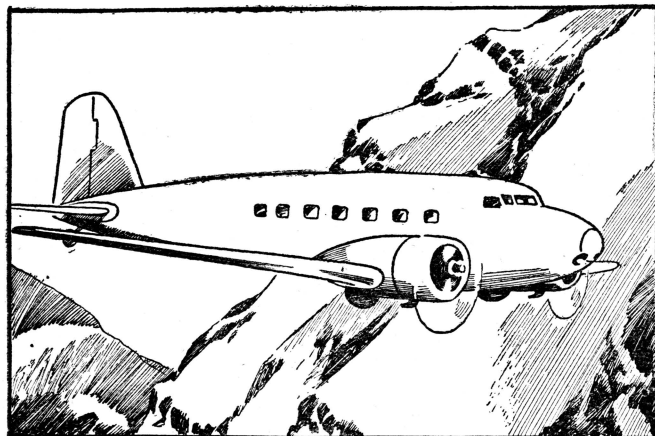
2—He resigned from Annapolis in 1912 and went to M.I.T. for his senior year, studying aeronautical engineering. After graduation, he worked at the Connecticut Aircraft factory. In 1916 he joined the Glenn Martin company and designed his first airplane—the Martin "R." Douglas left the concern later to be chief designer for the U. S. Signal Corps.



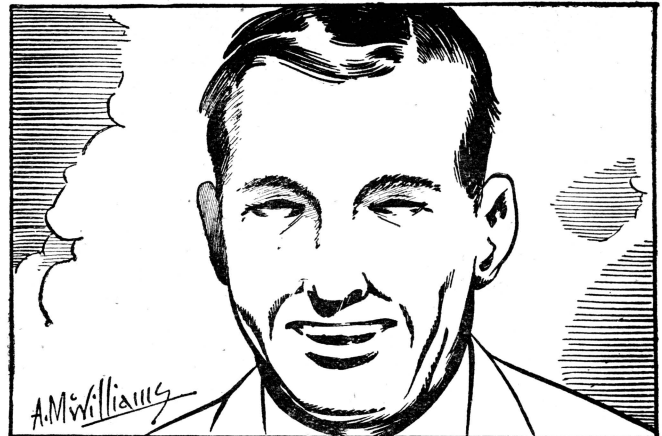
3—Douglas next returned to the Martin company and helped build the famous Martin bombers. Then, in 1920, he decided to go into business for himself. His first craft, the "Cloudster," was bought by David Davis, who took off for a cross-country flight in 1921 but was forced down in Texas. This plane had the first gas dump-valve in aviation's history.



4—Young Douglas then got a \$120,000 order from the Navy Department for "Cloudsters." The sea-branch service wanted them as torpedo carriers. After completing that contract, he opened a new plant in an abandoned film studio in Santa Monica, Calif. There, Douglas built the famous World Cruiser planes in which in 1924 our Army made the first circuit of the globe.



5—When the studio lease expired, he built his own plant in Santa Monica. At this factory, he has constructed planes for the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, and 22 foreign countries. Today, his famous DC-2's and DC-3's cover more air miles than any other commercial transports in the world. And his bombers are now making history in the New World War.



6—Donald Douglas was awarded the Collier Trophy in 1936 for developing the DC-2. Since that time, he has turned out even greater ships, one of which is the 42-passenger DC-4. Douglas received success as a young man, is still receiving it, and with new planes now on the drafting boards he will undoubtedly reap even greater successes in the future.