

Our helicopter industry has the following achievements to its credit. The Westland Aircraft Company has obtained a full Certificate of Airworthiness for their Westland Sikorski S.51, the first British Helicopter in this class. Three of their machines have been sent to Malaya with special equipment for the evacuation of casualties and for use in other roles, and there are now 17 in operation. The Cierva Air Horse has been flown at its all-up-weight of 17,500 lb. and autorotation tests have been carried out. The Skeeter Mark II has made successful initial flight tests, and normal development work is now in progress.

The Bristol Aeroplane Company are continuing with their test programme of the 171, while another of this type is at present undergoing flight performance tests at A.F.E.E. Beaulieu.

In the field of operations, it is of interest to note that your Association has actively assisted in the preparation of the briefs for the New York City helicopter case. Our co-operation was requested by the American Aircraft Industries Council and a full dossier of our views and appropriate data was contributed. It is also pleasing to note the British European Airways obtained the world's first certification for flight under instrument flight rules and that, moreover, an operation of scheduled flying was undertaken with these conditions. The Corporation will also inaugurate on June 1st, the first helicopter scheduled passenger service in the world.

Messrs. Pest Control Ltd., again carried out spraying operations in the Sudan last autumn, and have now re-opened their seasonal programme in this country, and are extending their field of activity to Switzerland, where two of their aircraft are operating at this moment.

It is with regret that we note the death of Dr. Alexander Klemin, so long a protagonist of rotary wings and President of the American Helicopter Society. We have sent expressions of our sympathy to the Society.

We were represented at the recent Annual Forum of the American Helicopter Society by one of our Council Members, MR. L. S. WIGDORTCHIK, on which occasion the Association film on British Helicopters was shown.

I am pleased to report again that your Association has, from time to time, been represented on helicopter committees set up by various ministries and other bodies.

Finally, on behalf of the Council, I wish to thank those honorary officers, members of sub-committees and others, who together with our auditors and accountants have made possible the smooth running of the Association during the past year. Although the names of all those who have willingly given their assistance during the past year are too numerous to mention, I do feel that the work of our Honorary Secretary together with his Office staff, deserve particular recognition.

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### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At the Meeting of the Executive Council held on the 26th May, 1950, the following officers were re-elected for the coming year :—

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| <i>Chairman :</i>                  | H. A. MARSH, A.F.C., A.F.R.Ae.S.                      |
| <i>Vice-Chairman :</i>             | N. J. G. HILL, A.M.I.Mech.E., A.R.Ae.S.               |
| <i>Honorary Treasurer :</i>        | G. C. TURNER, A.F.C.                                  |
| <i>Honorary Secretary :</i>        | MAJOR J. W. RICHARDSON.                               |
| <i>Honorary Editor :</i>           | H. ROBERTS, B.Sc., D.I.C., A.F.R.Ae.S., A.M.I.Mech.E. |
| <i>Honorary Assistant Editor :</i> | C. C. COOPER.   |