SCHOOLBOYS LEARN TO MAKE AIR SHIPS

already organized are growing with surprising rapidity.

demonstrations and tournaments are far come as a surprise to the laymen. more ambitious than in previous seasons. England and America.

many intelligent observers of the progress! in aeronautics who believe that the cides on the eligibility of the new aviator. achievements of this army of youthful! aviator of to-morrow.

Eighty-fifth Street and First Avenue, satisfaction of the committee.

are hard at work on the problems their work by Mr. A. E. Horn, one of the patent restrictions of any kind. He is of the airship. The popularity of the Faculty of the school, who has done much free to copy any model he sees fit, and new sport or science has increased of for the general movement. Much of the the cheapness of the material brings such tured, chiefly in France, and their cost late by leaps and bounds. Everywhere actual work of construction is done in experimenting within the reach of all. new clubs are being formed, while those one of the workshops of the school, and Every meet or tournament of the boy dreds of homemade craft to every one the boys meet frequently to put lineir aviators serves to bring out many new of the foreign-built craft in use to-day. models to actual test. The intelligent | models. A large proportion of these are, | And such is the progress among the ama-The plans for the Spring and Summer interest displayed in these models will of course, futile, but each serves to bring

The progress of these young inventors Within the last few weeks definite plans is well illustrated by the thoroughness have been completed for an international with which their clubs are organized and or many of them, will have their first contest between the amateur aviators of their systematic way of laying out their flights in these amateur trials. work. The Aeronautical Society of the For every professional aeronaut there Stuyvesant High School of New York is are hundreds of these alert amateurs, an excellent example. The club, is not The young aviators bring to their work open to every enthusiast or even to all early days of the sport. The actual disunbounded enthusiasm and a downright; the owners of airships. Before being adgenius for invention. No pastime was mitted each boy must qualify according ever conceived for the American boy! to the rules of the club, and the requirewhich made so instant an appeal to his ments are surprisingly strict. There is leve of invention and conquest. There are a regular Demonstration Committee which passes on the applicants and de-

So strict are the rules that at present inventors is destined to rival, even sur- there are but nine members of the club, pass, the work of the professionals. The although the waiting list contains many boy inventor of to-day is the practical names. The young aviator must not only be able to design and build an aeroplane. One of the pioneer clubs in this work but he must be able to explain the prin-

the youthful inventors a step nearer to the goal. It is reasonable to suppose sign, workmanship, and achievement to clubs from the Atlantic to the Pacific that the successful airships of the future,

In the regular tests and tournaments again the rules laid down for the contestants are much more strict than in the tance traversed by these ingenious craft is not alone considered in making the award. If the aeroplane turns over in though it rise instantly to continue its flight, the official measurement must be taken from this point. The steadiness of

fudres, one at the starting point, another the air. standing midway down the course, and a is that organized in Public School 55 at ciples involved in its construction to the third near the point where the air craft added a new and surprising number of rected toward it will serve to solve the will alight. No one is permitted to wind unfamiliar words to the vocabulary of the problem.

ORE than 10,000 amateur aeronauts. The boys are encouraged and directed in | The boy inventor is not hindered by up the airship but the owner, nor, in average boy. The mere layman in such deed, so much as touch it.

> While elaborate models are manufacis reasonable, there are literally hunteur aviators in America that the homemade ones are actually superior in dethe foreign models.

The toy aeropiane is probably the cheapest toy in the world, as well as the most fascinating. The materials used in its construction cost but little. Few tools problem of supplying power for these are required in the building. The problem of insuring lightness with stability little craft are now driven by the recoil and the ability to fly may be attacked of rubber bands, which are turned upon over and over at trifling expense.

its flight it is disqualified. If it should discovered the best material. The frames have been made in driving the air craft touch the ground, however lightly, even of the airships are made preferably of by compressed air, the power being conbamboo or reed, while tubes of aluminium | tained in a tube forming the backbone are used for bracing. It is possible to buy of the craft. Still other attempts have propellers constructed with just the right been made to drive the craft by means of the flight also is considered in making pitch, but as a rule the boys prefer to clockwork mechanism. carve these themselves, following the The tournaments are watched by three; models used by the actual conqueror of powers is merely in the experimental

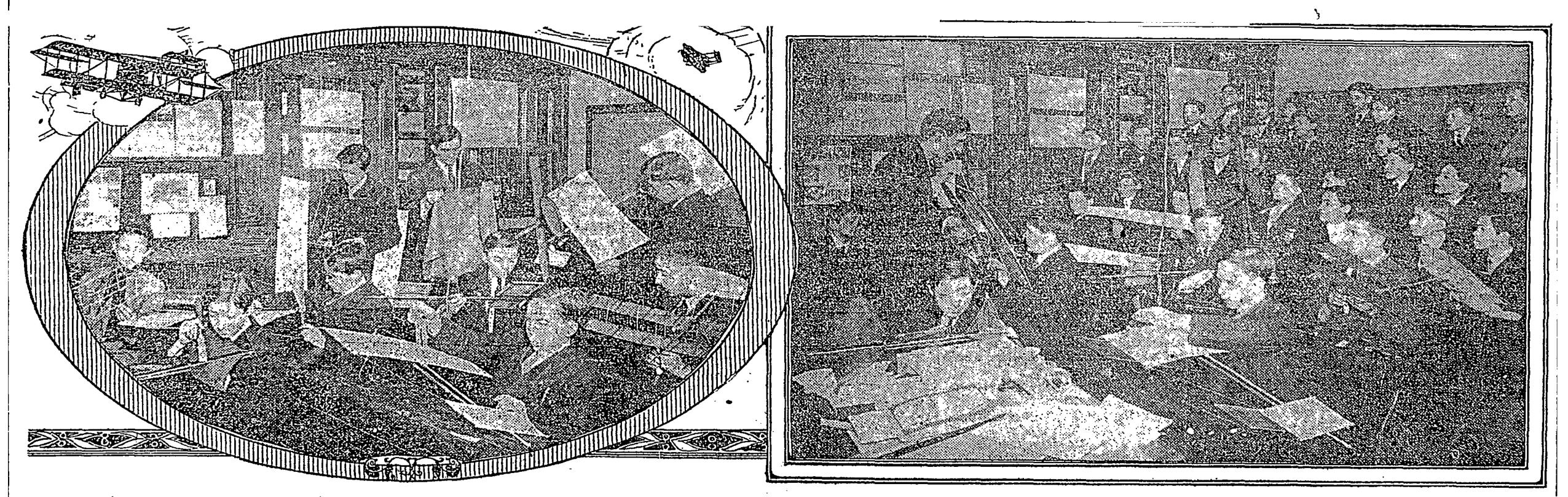
The enthusiasm for aeronautics has of thousands of bright American boys di-

matters will hear an almost wholly unfamiliar language spoken in the clubs or tournaments.

The aeronautical papers and the reports of the progress of aviation in the daily newspapers have no closer readers than the young inventors. Let a new type of airship appear in Europe to-day, and its merits will be discussed in junior aero Coast to-morrow, and in a week scores of models duplicating it to the last detail will actually be aloft.

The young aviators are attacking the flights with characteristic energy. The themselves. This is admitted to be mere-'The amateur inventors have long since by a makeshift, however. Experiments

> The application of all these new motive stage, but no one doubts that the genius



Future Inventors in the World of Aeronautics at Work in School.