

SECRETARY'S FINAL REPORT

On Sunday afternoon, January 29th, 1956, Chalmers Johnson and I met with Willis Nye at his house for a discussion of the possibility of forming some kind of organization devoted to the serious collector. Based primarily on the known results of seven years experience with the Nautical Research Guild (an organization identical to AAHS devoted to sailing ships), and the most effective persuasiveness of Mr. Nye, we decided to try such an undertaking. Chalmers and I then wrote personal letters to 61 collectors, asking for \$3.00 in advance and a little faith in future developments. As soon as the first twenty people had paid the first issue of the Journal was published, and it is to these people, *who* placed their support behind an idea only, that all of us today owe our sincere appreciation. They were (in order of payment) Larkins, Mandrake, Lucabaugh, Steeneck, Sloan, Holmquist, Olmsted, Nye, Carter, Kemp, Hufford, Reed, Levy, Shipp, Weaver, Johnson, Freeman, Bowers, Olson and Goodyear. Ever since the first issue was printed it had reached 73, 123 by the second, and 173 by the fourth. We now have 207 with every indication of a continuous, healthy growth. As an operating policy the AAHS has for the past year attempted to put as much

into the Journal as possible, while at the same time keeping other expenses as low as possible. We have felt that all money should go into the Journal so that the greatest number of people may benefit from our limited funds* We have been very fortunate indeed in being able to have the Journal published for such a low cost and all of the membership has benefited thereby. Our aim is to benefit a wide group of aviation enthusiasts, collectors, authors,

photographers, artists, historians, model builders and any others who have a common interest in accurate and detailed historical information* Since the AAHS is an amateur group, and strictly non-profit, with all services donated free, our aim is to provide the maximum amount of material for this specialized group. Since we are not sponsored, and do not carry advertising, the full total of our information is free and unhindered. There is no other organization that gives this same service. We are, so far, the only organization that makes known the interests and addresses of its members, and offers free want-ads for its members to use as often as desired* In the normal process of growth, however, it has been evident that this could

not be carried on by one person any longer* Indeed, it was not planned that it would be, for it was for this very reason that I listed myself as the Secretary, leaving the post of President etc* open for such time as a more formal group could be organized. Except for the Stearman article which Larry Smalley kindly typed, and the P# List prepared and printed by Sloan and Bodie, I have typed the stencils for all four Journals (30 minutes per page), as well as handling all other details. (At this point I wish to state my most sincere thanks to Chalmers Johnson for the 16 hours he spent typing the stencils for his Vega article in this issue; a tremendous help to me). In order to assist with some of the detail work. Douglas Olson took over the temporary position of membership chairman and handled it throughout the year* We all owe Mr. Olson a vote of thanks for sticking with this until such time as a formal organization could be arranged. It is with a great deal of satisfaction that the foregoing report has been pub-

lished in the Journal. It shows the growth and firm foundation of the AAHS and proves our original contention that an idea, with patient perseverance and slow but continuous progress, could be made into a tangible product that is of interest and

value to many people. The many wonderful and enthusiastic letters written by the members prove beyond any doubt the great enjoyment that the Journal has brought to many people. We sincerely hope that it will continue to improve and will be of value to many more members in the future.

Before discussing the present and the future, it is now time to present the financial report of the AAHS for the calendar year 1956:

INCOME

175 Members	\$525.00	
2 Duplicate subscriptions	6.00	
Gifts and donations	3.10	
Replacement copies	4.25	
		Total \$538.35

EXPENSES

Mimeographing	\$117.22	
Mimeograph stencils	22.00	
Multilith photo-offset	209.51	
Postage	77.43	
Envelopes	31.89	
Letterhead	26.52	
Bank charges	3.96	
Rubber stamps	5.51	
Miscellaneous	4.61	
		Total <u>\$498.65</u>

Balance	41.70
1957 Dues received in 1956	209.14
Balance on hand as of December 31, 1956	\$250.84

The main point that each member should note from this accounting is that 184 pages of text were published for \$139 as compared with \$209 for 17 pages of photos. This means that photographs are by far our most expensive item, and we ask you to keep this in mind when reading the Journal. We all like to see photos, and the more the better, but it should be realized that we have to manage the Journal carefully in order to end the year in the black and thus the only way in which more photos can be added is for each of you to get more members. Since we have now reached the saturation point on pages (we are limited to a maximum of eight ounces for mailing), from now on we can put all additional income directly into more illustrations and more publications. We are printing 300 copies of this issue, and present indications are that we will have to go to 400 before the end of the year. The four issues of Volume 1 will be reprinted as soon as 100 subscriptions are signed for, but the expense for this cannot be taken out of the operating budget so this reprinting will not take place until this extra money is collected in advance. If you want one or more sets of Vol 1 please send us your name now so that we may start the list. We will notify you when to send your money. Future plans include the possibility of additional issues of the Journal and/or additional special publications, and as more money is taken in we will publish more photos and drawings.

William T. Larkins, 17 February 1957