

Fairchild Argus BY E. J. RIDING

THE high-wing design of the Fairchild "Argus" lends itself rather well to the scale flying model builder.

Intended as a "follow-on" type to the little A.B.C. "Robin" which I described in the July, 1946, issue of the AEROMODELLER, the 1/12th scale 24 W.41a "Argus" shown here should provide no difficulty to the average scale enthusiast.

The working drawing, a $\frac{1}{2}$ scale reproduction of which appears, on the accompanying pages, together with the Bagley cut-away drawing (Page 652) fully explains the method of construction and it is only necessary to explain one or two points which might give rise to queries of a technical nature.

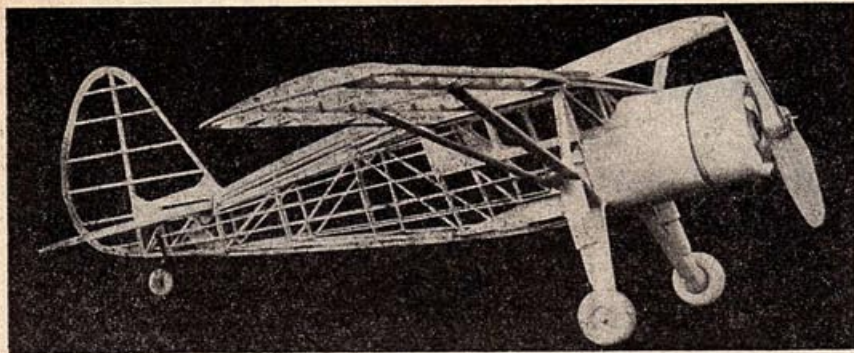
The undercarriage is built in two identical halves, each being pivoted at the bottom longerons. The upper strut ends in a loop, through which is threaded a stout rubber band which in turn passes through a paper or celluloid tube glued and bound to the top longerons. This provides all the spring that will be found necessary to absorb normal landing shocks.

The interplane struts, as in the "Robin", are glued to the wing spars at one end and fit into brass sockets on the undercarriage at the other end. A hardwood peg at the lower end provides anchorage for the rubber band which ensures that both struts are retained in their sockets.

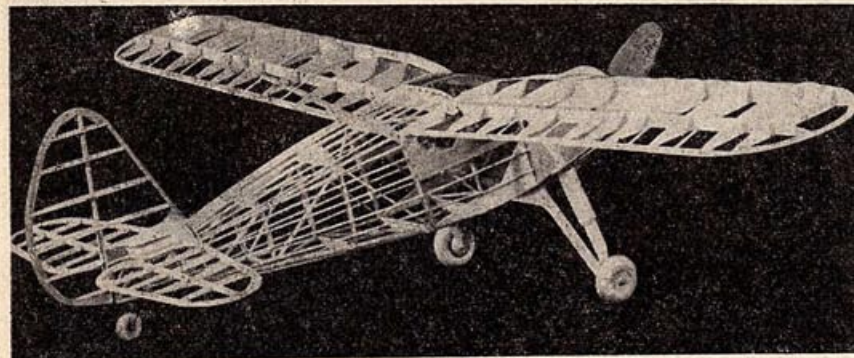
The tailplane and rudder are glued together as a unit and are held in position on the fuselage by means of two bamboo pegs at the leading edge of the tailplane and a

"Argus" in flight from take-off to ceiling! The two shots on the left-hand centre show the full size aircraft—but for the passengers it would be hard to tell which is which.





Uncovered airframe of the 1/12th scale flying model Fairchild "Argus". These pictures serve to indicate the simple straightforward construction.



rubber band passing underneath the fuselage and connected to two 24 s.w.g. wire hooks bound and glued to the rear spar.

The covering of a stringer type fuselage is always tricky and it is advisable to do it in sections of say three stringer widths at a time. When completely covered the model is given two coats of clear dope and two of pigmented dope, the latter being preferably sprayed on with a "Flit" gun or similar apparatus.

The cowling ring is built up from 3/32 in. and 1/32 in. sheet balsa and is a convenient place wherein to place any ballast required. It is detachable from the rest of the fuselage and is located in the correct position by means of the square shaped fuselage framework fitting into an appropriate recess in the cowling ring.

Ribs Nos. 4, 6, 10 and 12 are 1/16 in. by 1/32 in. flat balsa strips glued into position over the wing spars as shown in the drawing. Power is supplied by ten strands of 1/4 in. flat rubber, the skein at rest measuring about 1 1/2 times the distance between the rear motor peg and prop. shaft.

Colour.

The model is painted in exactly the same colour scheme as its full-size counterpart, *i.e.*, in the house colours of the West London Aero

The completed model which not only looks good but will repay care in its building with many hours of realistic flying.

Club at White Waltham. The fuselage is royal blue all over with aluminium flash and red letters outlined in aluminium. The wings and tailplane are aluminium and letters G-AJPI on the top and under surfaces of the wing are red. This colour scheme is admirably shown in C. Rupert Moore's cover painting this month, depicting full-sized machine in flight near Aylesbury with the Chiltern ridge in the background.

Flying.

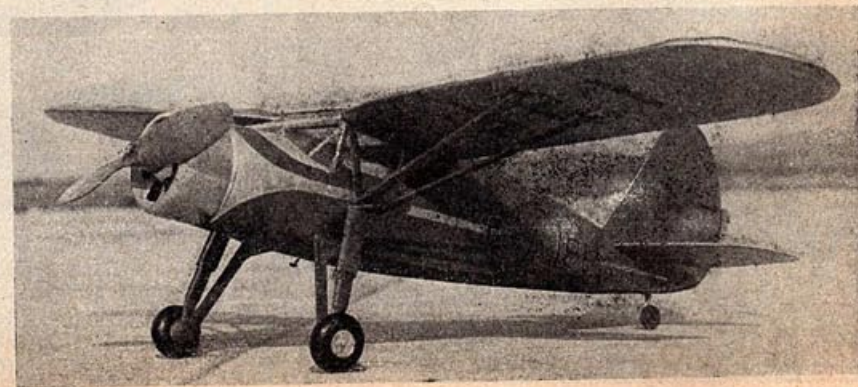
Fully rigged and ready for flight the model weighs just a fraction under 7 oz. It should balance about the C.G. point shown on the plan. To achieve this add about 1/4 oz. of plasticine to inside of the engine cowling.

For test flying, the motor is given 100-150 turns and the machine gently pushed off from a smooth stretch of ground. When model just begins to skim along take-off area in flying position it can be finally trimmed for flight by

giving a slight upthrust to the nose block, after which it should become airborne after a run of 10-15 feet.

Full-size plans may be obtained, price 2/6, post free, from Aeromodeller Plans Service, Allen House, Newarke Street, Leicester.

"Aeromodeller" Photographs.





1/12 SCALE FLYING MODEL

