

Squadron Leader F.D.R. Swain of the Royal Air Force Experimental Station left Farnborough to regain for Britain the world's altitude record, previously held by France. Enclosed in a special pressure flying suit with celestroid -window helmet and oxygen supply tube --- the pilot looks like the man of the future of popular imagination. The big R.A.F. machine took off --- and the great adventure began. In wide circles the 'plane gained height --- 10 -- 20 --- 30 --- forty thousand feet <sup>to 9 1/2 miles</sup> until the pilot was able to see England almost as a map --- from the Wash right down south to Land's End. ~~At a height of 49,967 feet --- nearly nine and a half miles --- Squadron Leader Swain began to descend. Owing to a technical fault he was not sure whether he had broken the record or not and by staying up longer than was actually necessary he was overtaken by weakness. It~~ With great skill he brought the machine back to earth --- bringing down with it a new and brilliant record for Britain. . . . nine and a half miles --- the highest any aeroplane has ever flown.

Well done, Squadron Leader Swain.

Well done, the Royal Air Force!

Well done, Sir.

Well done,

Howell.