

M.V. "TONKING" 24 HOURS AFTER OUTBREAK OF FIRE,





...ive work is in hand with a view to continuing the marine air-line on from Singapore to Australia. Flying-boats will be operating through to Australia early this summer; and, as soon as the route is fully-established, the 'all-up' mail scheme will be brought into effect right through from Singapore to Sydney.

In the reverse direction, the last load of first-class letter-mails to be carried by sea has left India for England, and on March 6th, a flying-boat with non-surcharge mails alighted at Southampton from India, while on March 9th the first 'all-up' mail by air arrived in England from Singapore.

## Children Flying Home For Holidays

**M**ENTION was made recently of the scheme whereby Imperial Airways are to grant special fare concessions in respect of children flying home for their summer holidays over Empire routes.

An official in the Empire booking department of Imperial Airways threw additional light on this subject the other day.

"Take the case," he said, "of parents living in Kenya who have children in England. The speed of air transport makes it perfectly feasible for such children to fly out to Kenya for their summer holidays and have an adequate time with their parents there before returning to school; whereas such an idea would be impracticable by slower surface transport. While children are on unaccompanied Empire air journeys they are constantly under the care of our airway staffs."

national Air Traffic Association, have been meeting in Amsterdam with a view to simplifying methods employed in effecting through passenger bookings on continental air-lines.

Business men, and also tourists, make an increasing use, nowadays, of the facilities enabling them to change from one air-line to another, and thus to fly for long distances in various parts of Europe.

"Reservations necessary for such journeys," explained an Imperial Airways official, "are made by wireless, telephone, or telegram according to the urgency of the case and the general circumstances arising. Much can be done, by co-operation between airways, in simplifying routine operations not only in effecting inter-change bookings, but also in dealing with the documents that have to be exchanged."

## Luxury Of Modern Air Travel

**W**HEN air-liners of fresh types are introduced, such as those of the new 'E' and 'F' classes of Imperial Airways, important work has to be done not only by engineers and other technicians but also by those responsible for the internal decoration and equipment of aircraft saloons.

Those experts of Imperial Airways who are responsible for passenger comfort in such matters as chairs, tables, lighting heating, and ventilation will have pleasant surprises for the public in the 'E' and 'F'

means have been exhausted for tracing the real owner. Meanwhile 'Percy' being well looked after.

## Air Notes And News In Brief

**S**IX 'C' class flying-boats will be operated by Qantas Empire Airways—the Company in association with Imperial Airways—when the new marine Empire air route is extended to Australia. These flying boats are to bear the following names chosen for them by Qantas Empire Airways:—'Carpentaria,' 'Coolangatta,' 'Coogee,' 'Corio,' 'Coorong,' and 'Cootee.'

From the Belgian Congo has come a striking illustration of the value of the commercial aeroplane. Officials visiting widely-separated plantations used to take something like a month completing the round of calls. Nowadays, by the use of an aircraft, a trip of this kind can be completed in a day.

It is now proposed, in the United States to make regular meteorological observations by aircraft in the sub-stratosphere while pilotless balloons carrying automatic radio-meteorographs are to be employed with a view to investigating stratosphere conditions up to a height of 50,000 feet.