

The Outlook

December 27, 1922

~page 738~

AVIATION WITHOUT LAW

BOOTLEGGING by airplane between the United States and Canada continues to thrive; Lieutenant Maynard, the "Flying Parson," is killed; President Harding and thousands of spectators at the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial are placed in jeopardy by an irresponsible low-flying aviator; and the lives of countless thousands of innocent spectators at the Yale Bowl and other stadiums are risked unnecessarily because the House of Representatives has so far failed to provide, as forty other nations have provided, for Governmental regulation of civil aviation. And this in spite of the fact that the entire aeronautical industry has asked for that Governmental "interference" to which many American industries have objected.

Before you went hunting cottontail or deer this winter you had to have a hunting license; before you sat down behind the wheel of the new car you likewise had to have an automobile license. But if you have the price of an airplane and a few gallons of gas there is nothing in the world—or, rather, in the United States—to hinder your going and coming as you please, without let, hindrance, or license. If you are an irresponsible "stunt" pilot with an obsolete "war" machine, or an unattached or "gypsy" flier with a rickety contraption hitched to a sputtering motor, no one can prevent you from taking passengers for "joy" rides at so much per head.