

The First Hydro-Monoplane Flying.

The experiments made by Mr. Oscar Gnosspelius with his hydro-monoplane on Windermere have now been crowned with success, and he will now continue them *over* Windermere. On the 13th Mr. Gnosspelius was out again on his rebuilt monoplane, doing hops off the water, and on the 14th he had improved so much with practice that he was able to get nice straight flights out of the machine, leaving the water cleanly and "landing" quite gently. The short broad float, with a good aspect ratio, seems to operate well and to make less disturbance, both in getting off and landing, than do the longer and more boat-like type.

The machine thus captures the honour of being the first hydro-monoplane of normal type to fly properly, as well as being the first hydro-aeroplane of any type to leave British waters. She is actually the first hydro-monoplane, because the Paulhan-Fabre machine of a year ago was not really a success, and was a freak in many ways.

It is to be hoped that when the Navy really starts work in earnest Messrs. Wakefield and Gnosspelius, and the Lakes Flying Company generally, will not be left without their just rewards in the shape of orders for experimental machines.