



Photo by Smith

**FIRST PLANE LANDS ON NEW FIELD**

**Proved Reliability 1926 Prize Winner Makes Perfect Landing at Equinox Airport.**

An airport in Manchester is a reality! The idea of an airport in Manchester for the accommodation of the many flights in this popular summer resort, who might wish to come here by airplane, was conceived and carried to execution by Mrs. George Orvis, owner of the Equinox House. Of course the field is not entirely completed as yet, but the runway is in all readiness to receive planes.

Worked on a large average to the east of the Battiswell River, and about two miles from the Equinox House, and high enough so that the hotel may be seen, the new field has been put in shape during the past several weeks by a force of men under the charge of Jack Fox, professional of the Equinox Links. The runway is upwards of 2000 feet long and more than a hundred feet wide, with a second runway from the main one to the hangar. A large amount of work has been necessary to put the field in shape, cutting out brush,

picking up all the stones, filling in holes, and rolling the whole tract, making the surface hard. The land is situated on a large tract of Equinox soil, which makes the ground dry at all times, which is an essential of a landing field.

The formal opening of the field will occur on July 4th, and before that date everything will be completed; the erection of the hangar, a building 60 x 80 feet to house six planes; the installation of gasoline tanks, and all the small details. Mrs. Orvis expects that there will be at least a half dozen planes here for the opening, and planes may be expected to drop in at any time.

The first plane to have the honor of landing on the new field was driven by W. C. Billings, head of the Boston Airport. He came on Saturday in response to a telephone call and after landing and inspecting the field stated that it was in better condition than any Eastern field, except the field at Buffalo, N. Y. He said that landing fields should be easily located, and be of good construction, and 444-4 that he had no trouble in landing the field, and that he could see the boys high on top of the Equinox, several miles away.

W. C. Wells, one of the bankers in attendance at the convention here last week, was an aviator during the late war, and after going over the field, decided to make the trip to Boston, Mass., by air, and telephoned to that city for Mr. Billings. This trip was made in an hour and twenty minutes flying time, the plane landing here at 2 o'clock. It took the air at 2.45 with Mr. Wells and another one of the bankers, and they were in Boston in plenty of time for dinner that evening. Mr. Wells is head of the Boston Branch of the National City Bank of New York. He was an enthusiastic in his praise of the field, as was the pilot of the plane.

According to information compiled by the New England Council, Manchester takes its place as the 11th actual airport in Vermont. In a recent survey by the Council, Vermont ranks third in number of actual airports in New England, Massachusetts and Connecticut being first and second. There are at present 45 actual and 24 proposed airports in New England. There is a possibility that Manchester may be on the line of the proposed air mail route between New York City and Montreal.



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REAL ESTATE  
Manchester, Vermont

be able to strike back hard. But the reading public is watching to see how the paper will measure up under just this test and it forms its estimate by what it sees. While nobody regrets such things more than the publisher who has the test to bear, it is news to the line, sets dignity and treats all alike he will find it comparatively easy to follow the course marked out and will have the endorsement of

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**MARRIED**

MATTHESON - FOX -- In Manchester Center, June 19, 1928, Miss Lavinia Fox and Byron E. Mattheson.  
PEABODY-NOYES--In Manchester, June 20, 1928, by Rev. D. Cunningham-Graham, Miss Harriet F. Noyes of Manchester, and Carroll W. Peabody of Goffstown, N. H.

**DIED**

LINCOLN--In Manchester Depot, June 14, 1928, Robert J. Lincoln, aged 32 years.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**

**FOR SALE**

FOR SALE--The Peter Field house at Manchester Depot. Ten rooms, including attic. Good condition. Large barn. Apply Harry Sidney, Manchester Depot, Vt. 12-1

FOR SALE--Genuine leather pillows, blankets, tools, some furniture, large caldron kettle. Elmer E. Duff, Manchester Center, Vt. 12-2

FOR SALE--Top brass, square piano, kitchen cabinet, leather furniture and other articles of furniture. Telephone 142-J, Mrs. F. E. Fish, Manchester Center, Vt. 12-3

FOR SALE--Dresses: See the latest, Jersey's Beauty, The Graces, Champagne, U. S. A., Frocks of California, Gladys Sherwood, Ambassador and many others. Mrs. C. E. Beckwith, Manchester Center, Vt. 12-4

AA History is seldom as black and white as one might suppose. Apparently, from this newspaper article, the actual first landed took place in June of 1928, and the official Manchester Equinox Airport opening is dated on the Fourth of July, 1928. The pilot's name was W. C. Billings. This airport is no longer in existence, however a street sign remains indicating its past location. Thanks to Ron F. for the article.

Excerpt from second column →

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Please note a different version of the first landing story at the Manchester Equinox Airport on the *Edwin Throckmorton Thacher* page in this book (7th page).