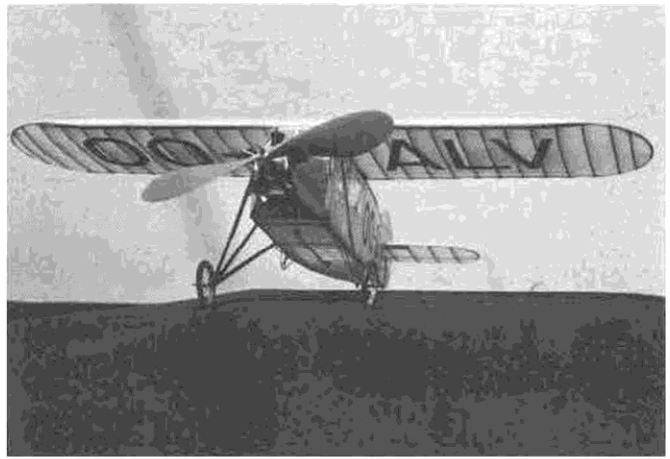


A lesson in how to be boxy with character!



When is dihedral not absolutely necessary? When the fuselage sides have barn door proportions and Walt Mooney does the flying.

A Belgian Peanut... Renard R-17

By WALT MOONEY . . . No innocent 3-view seems to escape the crafty eyes of our supreme leader of the great Peanut movement. Don't be concerned about all those ribs; you can leave some of them out!

● A few days ago a copy of "L'ALBUM du fanatique de L'Aviation" No. 55 came in the mail. This translates, I guess, as "The Aviation Fanatic's magazine." The title might even be right. In any case, inside was a nice 3-view of the Renard R-17 . . . a peanut builders delight with one exception . . . the horizontal tail is very small . . . but the rest of the airplane looks like model construction.

The plans are drawn with scale structure as nearly as possible, with the horizontal tail enlarged for better flight characteristics. Because this results in more structure than really needed for a peanut, and because it makes the model heavier than necessary as well as somewhat complicated looking for the beginner, we're going to tell you how

to simplify and lighten it.

First: There are many diagonals in the fuselage structure. These may all be omitted. The tissue covering of a peanut model is more than adequate to take the shear loads that the diagonals took in the full size airplane.

Second: Scale rib spacing is shown in the wings. Starting with the two center ribs, two out of every three ribs may be omitted in the wing. This will leave a rib spacing which is plenty strong and still looks OK on a peanut.

Third: The same approach can be used for the tail as for the wings. But if you really want to save time, pick some light balsa.

Fourth: The dummy engine can only be simulated with something simple, like lengths of soda straw painted black,

or something similar.

None of the above changes will affect the looks of the model in flight significantly, but of course, in a scale contest, one built with all the detail will outpoint a simplified one in the scale judging. The simplified one will fly better . . . at least it will fly longer, because it will be lighter.

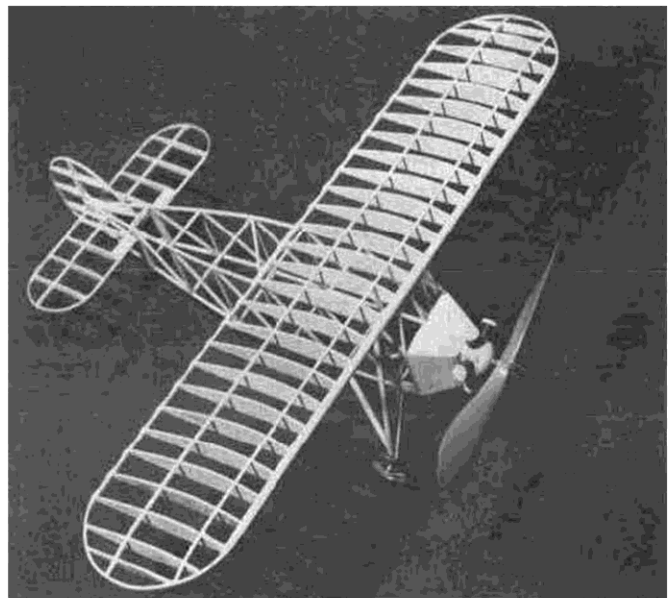
The Hungerford wheels shown are delightful, but since the wires on the full size aircraft were fabric covered, simple balsa or hardwood solid wheels can certainly be used.

The color scheme on the original appears to have been overall silver with black trim and registration numbers. The trim consisted of a black stripe along each longeron.

Have fun flying your Renard 17. ●



Even after enlarging, that stab looks pitifully small. Wing has lots of area in that 13 inch span. Look for low aspect ratios!



Walt explains how you can safely eliminate some of that structure. Sorta reminds one of the 1/2 inch scale Cleveland "Dwarf" series.