

THE HEARING OF THE EXPERIMENTS WITH KITES A B & C UP-
ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF AERODROME NO.5: by F.W. Baldwin.

The general impressions made upon me by the experiments with Kites A B & C are as follows:-

As tests to determine whether or not the solid tetrahedral construction can be improved upon they seem to me conclusive. There is so little to choose between the flying abilities of Kites A B & C that I would say no reasonable doubt can still exist as to the inefficiency of a large number of cells when banked as in the Frost-King or Cygnet model (on a large scale).

Of course Kite B is an extreme case but I think Kite A is also extreme in the other direction and the happy mean lies somewhere between them (perhaps in the Kite C form).

Kite A has a flying weight of 411 gms per sq m (oblique). Kite B a flying weight of 626 gms per sq m (oblique) and has the disadvantage of uncovered cells in its interior. These uncovered cells surely offer a head resistance much greater than do the covered ones.

Now taking all this into consideration is there enough difference in the flying qualities of A & B to justify leaving cells in, where they are only an incumbrance structurally adding practically nothing to the strength of the machine, making it harder to build and inaccessible for repair and inspection after it has been built?

The results of comparison between Kite C and Kite A in which Kite C actually proved to be as light, if not a lighter flying kite than A, although of considerably heavier