

THE FUTURE OF THE A. E. A.

Time passes rapidly, and the 30th of September, the day assigned for the dissolution of the Association in our agreement of organization, will be upon us almost before we know it.

Aerodrome No. 4, McCurdy's Silver-Dart, is practically completed, and the first experiments with it may perhaps be made in time to be noted in this Bulletin.

Aerodromes No. 5 and No. 6 are advancing rapidly, but it is pretty certain that experiments with them can not be made before September 30. It seems therefore advisable that the Aerial Experiment Association should be continued after the 30th of September for a sufficient length of time at least to enable us to complete and test the aerodromes we now have on hand (Nos. 4, 5 & 6). In the event of the failure of 5 & 6 it would be well for the Association to continue experiments on the same lines until we have succeeded in putting a tetrahedral structure into the air, propelled by its own motive power and carrying a man. For this was the problem with which we originally started and we should pursue the problem to a successful issue.

The experiments in this direction were interrupted in December 1907 by the destruction of the "Cygnet", and the lateness of the season, and the summer was well advanced this year before they could be resumed here, on account of Mrs. Bell's illness which prevented me from coming to Beinn Bhreagh until quite late in July so that the experiments did not really begin until August. For this reason the tetrahedral experiments have