

Free Flight—Radio Controlled

CEMENT MIXER

EQUALLY EFFECTIVE AS STRAIGHT-FREE-FLIGHT GAS MODEL, THIS UNUSUAL R.C. SHIP POINTS WAY TO NEW ERA IN FREE-FLYING CONTROLLABLE AIRCRAFT

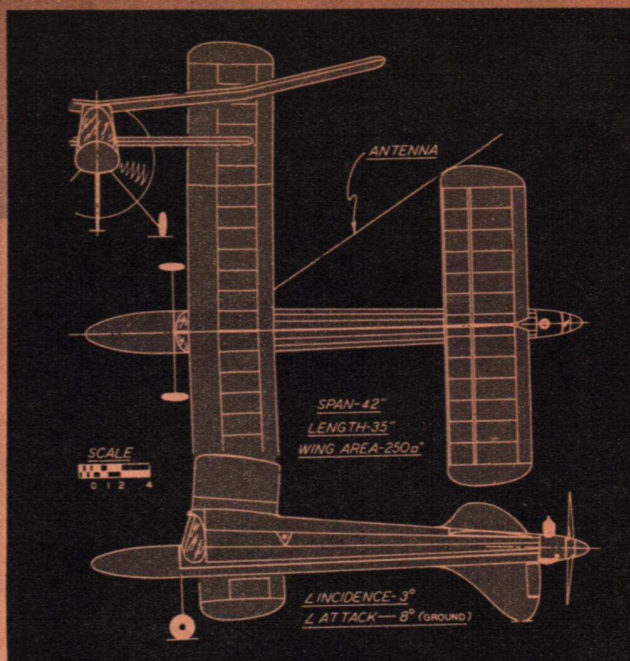
BY JOHN WORTH and DICK COEN

IN a postwar boom that has seen model aviation's greatest expansion, probably the most important progress was made technically. Among the advances, which included the development of ignitionless engines, super fuels and jet power, the latest improvements in the field of radio-control have at last brought the sport within the reach of the average model builder.

In past years, radio-controlled models were generally the product of considerable labor and experimentation which combined the technicalities of radio and model design, with attendant problems of space, weight, and construction. Pioneers, singly or teamed together to pool knowledge and experience, plodded steadily with varied degrees of success and were usually recognized through the pages of the model magazines. Readers become acquainted with such names as De Soto, Weiss, Lanzo, Sweeney, Walker, the Good brothers, and others.

The Goods, Walt and Bill, are the best known of these "oldtimers" and are credited with doing the most to popularize radio-control. Through their Nationals' championship performances, their published articles on the subject, and their official AMA activities, the Goods

● Fine feature of the "Cement Mixer" is that top fuselage half is easily removed for quick adjustment of radio unit.



proved that the sport had come of age and was ready for widespread acceptance.

Meanwhile, other enthusiasts labored in comparative obscurity and only now are being accorded recognition as their efforts bear fruit on the model market. One of them, Ed Lorenz, somehow just didn't become familiar to the model world. However, long overdue credit is at last coming to Ed for his practical application of radio to the smallest of powered models.

Ed's system is currently being marketed under the name "Aero-trol" and has been used regularly in tiny Atom and Arden powered ships, some of which were converted from standard scale rubber-powered kit types. This is possible with "Aero-trol" because the unit's extremely compact design is the smallest and lightest commercially available. The flying component, with a total weight including batteries of just under six ounces, makes possible the adaptation of radio-control to conventional models.

Designing a ship specifically for radio is no longer necessary as "Aero-trol" may be considered similarly with accessories such as the flight (Turn to page 97)

● Say good-bye to busted props and bashed-in engines when you "putti" (as the song goes) the power plant in the rear.

