

but not the earliest symptom. A simultaneous rise in temperature, pulse rate and breathing rate is often the first sign of the condition, sometimes occurring hours before any other change.

Doctors should constantly keep in mind the possibility of pulmonary

embolism in medical patients, especially those with heart disease, the Boston doctors warn. When discovered, it should be treated by surgical interruption of the femoral veins in both legs, to prevent recurrence of the clots which could prove fatal.

Science News Letter, August 30, 1947

AERONAUTICS

England's Jet Planes

► ENGLAND is stepping forward with jet propelled planes, but America is not lagging. The British have announced what is claimed to be the first jet-propelled flying boat in the world, a fighter craft, and the first all-jet civil airliner.

The fighter flying boat, with two Metro-Vick jet engines housed within the hull, has made its first flight. It is a single-seater, with one large air intake right in front. Under reasonable conditions, this provides a minimum danger of water being picked up to enter the machine.

The Tudor Eight, a civil airliner

powered with four Rolls-Royce Nene turbo-jets, is about ready for flight tests. England already has a plane, the Lancasterian, which made successful flights a year ago, but it has a combination of conventional propeller power and jet propulsion.

The earlier seven Tudor planes are all powered by propeller-driving engines of the conventional type, and vary in size from 12-passenger to 60-passenger craft. The first Tudor Four, a long-range 32-passenger plane, is now undergoing testing under tropical conditions in South America.

The United States has several all-jet and combination jet-plus-propeller planes, but they are all military craft and comparable with Britain's jet fighters. The first was the war-developed P-59 Bell Aircraft. Others include the Lockheed P-80 Shooting Star, Republic P-47 Thunderbolt, Douglas Skystreak, Ryan Fireball, and now the six-jet Martin XB-48 bomber. Also there is the Bell Aircraft XS-1, rocket powered, a special plane to beat the speed of sound.

The Martin XB-48 bomber is said to be the first six-jet airplane ever completed. It can carry a bomb load of over ten tons. Its six General Electric turbo-jet engines produce 24,000 pounds of thrust, and give the craft a speed of over 480 miles an hour.

The Ryan Fireballs are jet-plus-propeller planes. The newest Fireball, the Navy XFR-4, has a Westinghouse axial-flow engine near the rear, and a Wright Cyclone to drive the rotating propellers. The Douglas Skystreak is powered with General Electric TG-180 turbo-jet engines.

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