

LAKOTA MAN HAS BUILT AEROPLANE

**Machine Constructed in Lightest
Manner Possible With
Strength.**

H. J. Smith has built an aeroplane which is in design similar to the Morane monoplane, built in France, but is a little lighter than the French machine and also has less air resistance. It is driven by a two cycle motor of 50 horsepower, which weighs 165 pounds. It is the lightest motor for its power ever built in the northwest.

The forward part of the Smith aeroplane is built of steel tubing, with all joints securely brazed, which not only gives a light and rigid construction but also adds greatly to its appearance as there are no cumbersome joints in view. This trimness also adds to the speed by lessening the air pressure. The rear part of the frame work is of laminated spruce, trussed with piano wire. The forward part of this machine is covered with thin wood panels that protect the driver from the wind and also lowers the air resistance. The lighting gear cannot be further simplified, as it is composed of only one moving metal part on each side of the machine and a rubber band that furnishes the spring to reduce the shock of landing. The trailing wheel is also provided with a spring to reduce shock. This lighting gear is so designed that it offers no extra air resistance. The wings have a sustaining surface of 150 square feet and are so well trussed that the entire weight of the machine which is only 450 pounds, can be lifted from its outer ends. Whenever it is necessary to run the controlling wires over pulleys or around corners a steel chain is used, as this eliminates all danger of these most essential parts breaking while the machine is in the air. The lateral control is by tips at the ends of the wings and it is believed that this feature will in no way infringe the Wright patent.

The machine is now about ready to fly and as a great many people have expressed a desire to see its trial flight, Mr. Smith expects to try it in some town in this state that is going to have a Fourth of July celebration, providing suitable grounds are available for the purpose. Mr. Smith expects to keep this machine in the exhibition business, but will devote little of his own time to it as he is intending to take an active part in the perfecting of the aeroplane.—Grand Forks Times.