12 Feb 1934 - CRASH INTO HOUSE.

Queensland Times (Ipswich, Qld.: 1909 - 1954), Monday 12 February 1934, page 7

CRASH INTO HOUSE. ARCHERFIELD 'PLANE. Escapes After 3000 Feet Drop. BRISBANE, February 11. Falling into a spin when at an altitude of 3000ft. this afternoon, a CirrulsMoth 'plane, one of the Queensland Aero Club's machines, oreshed through the roof of a house in Jurgan~l-treet, Woolloongabbs. Five persons mirac. ulously escaped death. These were: Pilot Roy Ambrose Tucker (24), Thompson Estate; his passenger, Mrs. Alma Karauges (21), Kangaroo Point; and the occupants of the house, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Christie, and their five-months-old baby. The machine was completely wrecked, and one side of the house suffered extensive damage. The dwelling, which was an old structure, gave wyit the force of the impact, and undoubtedly saved the occupants of the 'plane from instant death, Pilot Tucker, who is a holder of an "A" pilot's licence, had left Archerfield aerodrome for a flight around the city. Tlie movements of the machIne attracted the attention of many residents, a number of whom declared that they noticed that the engine stopped when the 'plane was at a helght of about 3000ft. over Redfern-street, a few hundred yards west of the ocene of the smash. A moment later they were startled to see the machine commence to drop through the air for 2000ft. In a headlong spin. The The roar of the engine, however; broke out again, and the 'plane appeared to pick up within a few hundred yards of the ground. THROUGH ROOF AND FLOOR.

A moment later, however, the engine again cut out, and it became obvious that the pilot must crash. The machine hurtled nose first through the verandah roof of the Christles' residence. The first impact stove in the greater portion of the verandah roof, and the machine continued to crash through the flooring. The nose came to rest within a foot of .the ground. Sheets of iron were flung broadcast by the whirling blades of the propeller, which cut through them as though they were cardboard. Not o10ft. away in the front bedroom Mr. and Mrs. Christie with their baby were lying on the bed. Mr. Christie, thinkh?g a car had run Into the house, Jumped up and was appalled at the sight of the wrecked fuselage of an aeroplane through the tangle of broken timber and twisted sheets of iron. Then the heads of a man and a woman were visible through the debris. The woman, who was in the front cockpit, was shouting for help, while the pilot struggled to free himself from the rear seat, When released from the debri'eloth appeared calm and uninjured: bu-onr regaining her feet Mrs. Karauges collapsed. As it was feared that the 'plane would burst into flames the Fire Brigade was summoned; but its services were not required. Pilot Tucker and Mis. Karauges were taken to hospital, the pilot suffering from a contusion on the chest, a probably fracture of the Jaw, and severe shock. Mrs. Karauges escaped injury, but suffered shock. Before being taken to hospital Pilot Tucker said he got into a spin about t000ft. up, and he had Just righted the machine again when it fell into another spin. He then was too low to avoid a crash, and the 'plane went straight into the roof. Souvenlr hunters were busy within a few minutes of the crash. Before he left for the hospital, Pilot Tucker missed his goggles, while a number of spectatoras quite openly tore strips of fabric from the wings of the wrecked 'plane.

1 of 1 10/06/2022, 4:27 pm