

BALLOON WILL DO A "KON-TIKI".

What on earth's a balloon doing in this age of space-rockets? They call it the Small World here at Cardington, where once the Airship B-One Hundred was housed. And a test-inflation was made in the presence of the man who commanded that craft, back in 1925. In the Small World, three men and one woman plan to fly across 3,000 miles of the South Atlantic. It'll be a sort of Kon-Tiki voyage of the air - as reported exclusively by the Daily Mail.

In London three of the four adventurers examine the car of the balloon; Tim Eiloart, Rosemary Mudie and her husband Colin. Tim and Rosemary demonstrate how they pedal the propellers, which can give the balloon extra lift, or help to bring it down, and also work the generator, to charge batteries.

There's also a hydrogen-generator, to make up for what the balloon leaks. It's ingeniously connected with a cooker, which uses the heat the generator gives off. By radio, Tim Eiloart will send regular weather observations. An automatic altimeter will warn them if they lose height.

Not present here was the expedition leader, Tim's father, 51-year-old Arnold Eiloart. Mr. and Mrs. Mudie examined the route to the West Indies, across the South Atlantic; the route they hope the wind will take them. Very soon the gasbag and the car will be joined together, shipped to the Canaries; there, as soon as the weather's good enough, off they'll go.