

PATHE GAZETTE: 41/38. (DUBLIN)

BIGGEST BOMBER TEST FLIGHT

An historic chapter in the annals of aviation opens in Santa Monica with the launching of the world's mightiest wonder bomber called the B.19. For its maiden trip there are crack army pilots at the controls. The 42 feet high rudder is equivalent to a three-storey building and it's the business end of a deadly cannon. A 100,000 letters will be marked to celebrate the historic hop and stamp collectors will have a rare field day. Limbering up the engines puts the climax of four years steady experimental work. Eight thousand horse power is let loose as she takes off. Three and a half million dollars worth of laboratory and factory development. With a full load she can carry 28 tons of bombs and a range of over 7,000 miles. The 82 ton monster, the most powerful flyer the world has ever known, spreads her 212 feet of wings over Marks Field ready for a landing. Test pilot Major Huntstead and giant plane won through with flying colours. America can be proud of the B.19.