PORTUGUESE WINS CHANNEL SWIM.

There was a big crowd of sightseers at Cap Gris Nez as almost as big a crowd of swimmers, propared to start mathem on the International Competitions cross-Channel swimming race. One of the starters was Britain's Brenda Fisher --- who broke the Women's Channel record in 1951.

This year's event was organised by the International long Distance Swimming Federalism With by Mr Billy Butlin --- who acted as starter. There they go --- representatives of a dezen nations, beginning the ordeal of battle, with mearly twenty miles of MIM waves and tides between France and England.

The champion of Portugal, Baptista Pereira, quickly went into the lead.

First among the women swimmers was Brenda Fisher

The twenty-seven-year-old daughter of a Grimsby trawler-skipper, once again was putting up a powerful performance --- but she was unable to cut down the advantage inskips establised by Pereira Coming up strengly in second place, was the 1951 winner, Hassan Hammad of Egypt. He, too, failed to overtake the Portuguese --- who was first to reach the English coast, His time was twelve hours twenty five minutes. Bruda Wies, Fisher was the first woman home --- and the third of its summ

seven competitors who finished.

And here's another story of the crossing of another stretch of water that has an unfailing attraction for the adventurous...... the Atlantic. It's the first direct sele flight from Newfoundland Shannon to /Insignat in a single-enged aircraft --- and it's Thomas Danagher from Texas who's done it.

This takes us back to the achievement of Colonel Charles Lingbergh ---- first solo flight from America to France --- in 1927. It took him thirty-three and a half baurs.

To Jim Mollison --- who flew the Atlantic sole from east to west in 1952

And to Miss Amelia Earhart --- the first woman to fly the north Atlantic --- in 1928.

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24/8/54.

PORTUGUESE WINS ETC.

After his landing at Shannon Airport, Danagher's plane was blessed and named "St Brenda". And then the Mayor of Limerick presented him with an Irish mascot; before the flyer took off again --- to continue his travels.

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