LONDON to NEW YORK in THREE HOURS?

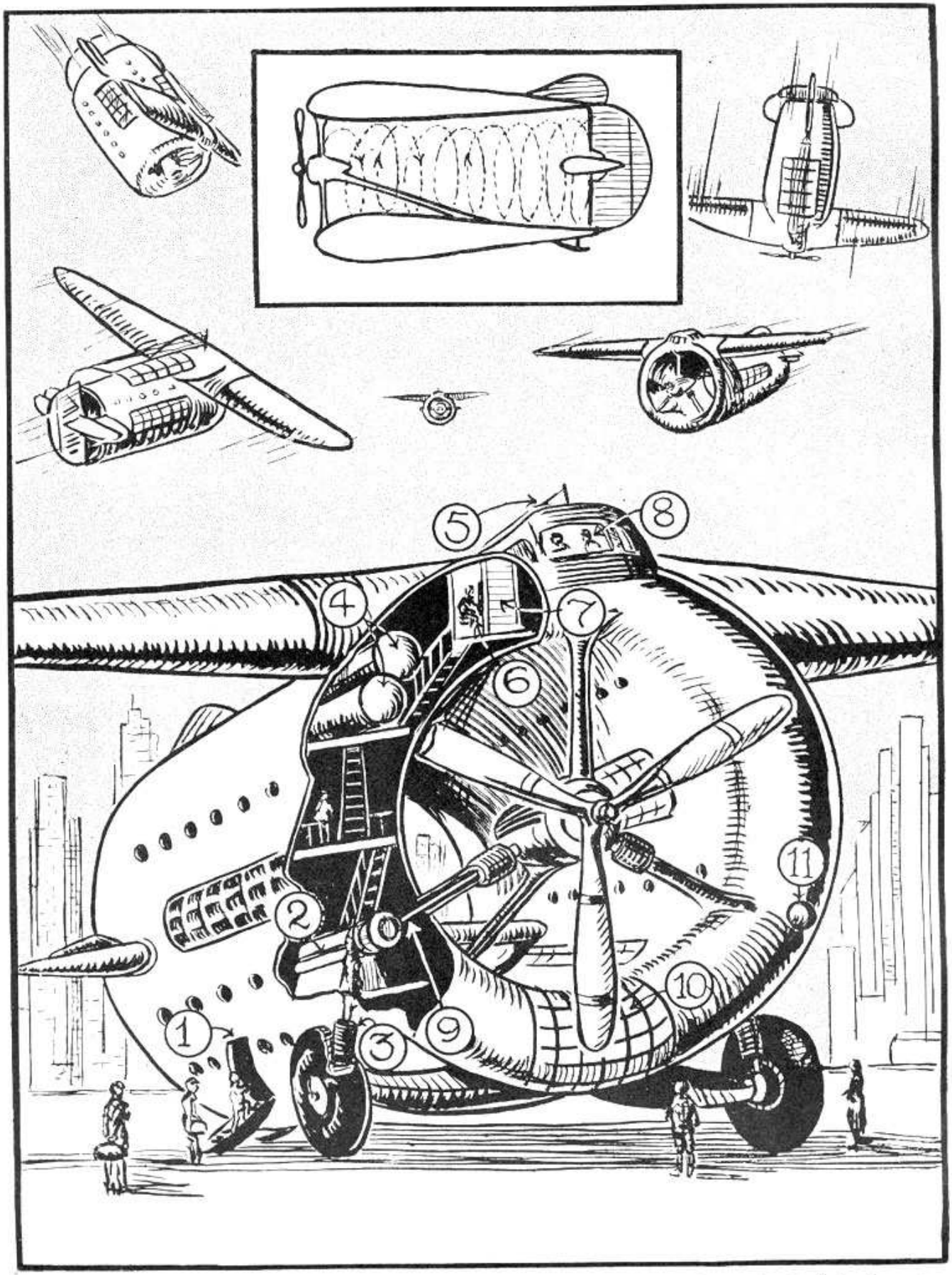
ACCORDING to some experts, we shall soon be travelling in machines like those shown on the opposite page. Like flying barrels, their peculiar shape is due to the presence of wide wind tunnels, running through them from nose to tail.

Enormous three-bladed propellers suck a constant stream of air through these tunnels, thus drawing the aircraft forward.

Stubby wings support the machine in the air, and the passengers—up to the number of a hundred—could be accommodated in the space around the wind tunnel.

In the big sketch, which has been numbered so that you can identify the various parts, (1) is the entrance for passengers; (2) the starboard engine, which together with the port engine on the opposite side of the fuselage drives the propeller through the driving shaft (9); (3) one of the gigantic shock absorbers necessary for landing a machine of this size; (4) the petrol tanks for the starboard engine; (5) the wireless aerial connected to the wireless cabin (6); and (7) and (8) are the pilot's chart room and navigating cabins respectively.

Besides these, (10) is a covered passageway by which passengers can move from side to side of the machine, and (11), a powerful light for night landing.



Is this huge "Flying Barrel"—at present only an inventor's dream—the transatlantic aircraft of the future?

(*See paragraph on previous page.*)