



### A BRAZILIAN CAPTIVATES PARIS

Combining ingenuity and courage with wealth, Alberto Santos-Dumont scored victory after victory in the conquest of the air. The dashing young plantation owner from Brazil spent lavishly in building sausage-shaped airships while establishing the very first airport for his growing fleet of dirigibles.

His first flight was made in 1898 in a cylindrical balloon 80 feet long and propelled by a small gasoline engine suspended in a car below. He became a well-known and popular figure, responding to mishaps such as crashing on the roof of a hotel.

Sometimes DuMont travelled by air down the Champs - Elysees stopping at the club for a drink. Parisians could always tell when he was there from the airship tied up outside.

In 1901 Dumont flew his dirigible #6 from the Parisian suburb Saint-Cloud around the Eiffel Tower and back in under 30 minutes to win a 100,000 franc prize.

