International Aviation Group Is Proposed

Torrance and Lomita civic interests agree with the suggestion for organization of an international association of aircraft, airport, and airline engineers to bring the world's airport facilities abreast of airplane progress, proposed Friday before the 1945 annual meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers in Book-Cadillac hotel at Detroit, Mich.

A Los Angeles man, Arthur Ayres, airways consulting engineer for Pan-American World Airways, explained need for the organization before the afternoon Air Transport session, as demonstrated by the fact that few airports, even those built during the war, can accommodate large planes currently used or contemplated. Ayres declared that airplanes already are at least 10 years ahead of airports and that world air commerce will be stagnated unless some means is found to provide the funds for the construction of air terminals adequate for present and post-war planes.

Of the 2,200 airports in this country, and of the 250 built around the world by the military during the war, scarcely 10 can accommodate planes of the B-29 bomber type which undoubtedly will be adapted to post-war air travel, Ayres reported. He recalled that in 10 years the weight of commercial planes has increased approximately six and one-half times, with the result that runway lengths must be increased at least 3,000 feet.

Many cities and nations will require the services of the big planes, but will be unable to finance the construction of suitable airports, Ayres asserted, adding that the financing of such airports is no more possible for airline companies than is building world harbor facilities for steamship companies. Even if the various governments agree to sponsor airport development, he warned, aircraft and airport designers scarcely are in a position to advise the governments on the type and size of airport facilities which would be required for the next 10 or 20 years.

Either various governments interested in large plane service must provide airports, it was suggested, or international airlines must restrict operations to dispatch points as far as 2,000 miles apart. The proposed international association, Ayres said, would facilitate the use of the technical, aeronautical, and other engineering skills that are performing military miracles today to establish criteria on design for the solution of tomorrow's airport problems.

The practicability of large aircraft is being solidly established by wartime air transportation, and the larger airports needed for an expanded civil air transportation system will require runways 5,000 to 7,000 feet long and 150 to 200 feet wide, according to Paul H. Stafford, of Civil Aeronautics Administration, Washington, D. C. He said the present trend toward thicker airport pavements, utilizing better materials and more exacting construction methods, may be expected to continue as aircraft size is increased.

Torrance already has taken steps to convert the army air strip on 101 Highway into a municipal airport after the war, it was pointed out.

Engineering Drawing Course Being Offered

The University of California War Training announces a course in Engineer Drawing I and II, to be given at 241 East Third st., Long Beach, starting Tuesday night at 7:00 p. m. Classes will meet thereafter each Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 to 10:00 p. m.

Students eligible to attend must be high school graduates working in war plants or those who will take a war job upon the completion of the course. Each student must furnish his own drafting equipment and textbooks. Extra gasoline mileage is allowed.

Help win the war and learn a post-war trade at the same time.

Sgt. Mitchell and His Group Given Commendation

Staff Sgt. Claude Mitchell, Jr., 819 Portola ave., Torrance, is a member of the Service Group, commanded by Lieut. Col. James M. Sullivan, that was recently commended for its part in the air-ground push that has driven the German armies from Northern France.

Sergeant Mitchell is a sheet metal worker in a Ninth Air Force Air Service Squadron.

This commendation came as a result of General Patton's appreciation for the aerial support given by the Ninth Air Force fighters and fighter-bombers to his troops in their rapid drive across France.

General Weyland of the Tactical Air Command to whom the commendation is addressed adds his appreciation for the work done. He gives credit to Colonel Sullivan's group and three similar groups for their work in keeping the planes under his command in the air and for the service given without which, such aerial support would not have been possible.

This group is responsible for all the supply and major repair to the Ninth Air Force P-51 Mustang group that recently received the Presidential Citation and an outstanding P-47 Thunderbolt Group, now giving aerial support to the allied drive into the reich from the west.

Sergeant Mitchell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Mitchell, Sr., 819 Portola ave., Torrance.

Red Cross Vets' Services Show Big Increase

Red Cross chapters' services to veterans have increased more than 150 per cent throughout the country during the past year, national headquarters officially announced today.

That the number of requests for Red Cross services will continue to mount is indicated in recent reports received from chapters in 22 states which show local demands for veterans' aid have jumped from 100 to 200 per cent over last year.

While fewer veterans in 1943 requested aid with claims than for any other Red Cross service, requests coming to chapters during 1944 shot claims service to third place as one of the most important chapter services.

Any veteran who did not file a claim for pension at the time of his discharge is entitled to Red Cross assistance in preparing his application after he returns home. The Red Cross has application forms on hand and can aid veterans in assembling the necessary evidence in support of their claims.

As one of the organizations recognized by the veterans administration in the presentation of claims, Red Cross accepts power of attorney and any veteran may, if he wishes, designated Red Cross to represent him when his claim is presented before the veterans administration rating board.

Chapter aid in the preparation of a claim, however, does not in any way obligate the veteran to designate Red Cross to represent him before the board. The important thing is that the veterans have some recognized representation and, if he prefers another organization, it can be arranged by the veteran himself or with the assistance of the Red Cross.

Vegetables Help Kill Disease Germs, Sav Vets

Common vegetables on everyman's dinner table contain germ-killing agents which may help to prevent and cure numerous human and animal diseases in the postwar years, according to first results of new research by an American veterinarian and others announced in the current Journal of the American Veterinary Medical association.

Rhubarb, onions, white currants, chives, and garlic are among the common vegetables containing substances that prevent the growth of disease-producing bacteria, according to the Journal's summary of finding by I. Forest Huddleson, Jean Du-Frain, K. C. Barrons and Marjorie Giefel in the division of veterinary medicine and department of horticulture of Michigan State College. Among the germs whose growth is inhibited by these plan tagents are typhoid bacilli, the pus-forming bacteria which cause "strep" infections, and those responsible for undulant fever in human beings; and such animal disease-producing bacteria as those which cause anthrax, and brucellosis, or Bang's disease, the report states.

"This new research supports and augments recent findings of Russian scientists, who announced the germ-killing power of onion vapors," Dr. J. G. Hardenbergh, executive secretary of the American Veterinary Medical association, said here today.

Satre Heads San Pedro Labor Council

O. T. (Bud) Satre, Marine Painters union, Thursday night was elected San Pedro AFL Central Labor Council president, defeating Charles Newey, Teamster, and replacing James Waugh, of the Cannery Workers.

Some of the locals in the Central Labor Council in San Pedro have jurisdiction in the Torrance and Lomita area.

Cecil O. Johnson, who last year was named to fill out the secretary-treasurer term of the late Arthur M. Gruber, was reelected to a full term. Johnson, a Pile Drivers union member, was labor relations coordinator at Calship before he took the full-time position with the Labor Council. O. F. (Brick) Moore of the Marine Pipefitters, opposed Johnson for reelection.

Other officers elected: Frank Krasnesky, Butchers, first vice president; George E. Burns, Carpenters, second vice president; Herbert DeMott, Butchers, warden, and Emmett Congo, Laborers, sergeant-at-arms.

The new trustees are Al Richie, Carpenters; Kitty Stewart Howard, Culinary Alliance, and John Burford, Plasterers. Elected to the executive board were Jack Eaton, Painters; L. R. McCall, Electricians, and L. McClain, Laborers.

Elected to the law and legislative committee were Harry Browitt, Operating Engineers; George Ellithorpe, Shipwrights; Martin Fransome, Cannery Workers, and H. W. Margo, Auto Mechanics; and to the board of publishers, George E. Burns, Carpenters; Ray Doran, Plant Protection; Everett Johnston, Marine Painters; William Mulligan, Bartenders; S. L. Putnam, Shipwrights; Chet Washburn, Sales Drivers, and Brice Worley, Electricians.

Installation is scheduled for Feb. 7.

B.I.R. Clears 'Dependent' Definition

Clarification of the definition of a "dependent" for income tax purposes was issued today by Harry C. Westover, collector of internal revenue for Southern California. "In prior years," Westover said, "a dependent had to be a minor child or someone physically or mentally incapable of self support. These restrictions have been eliminated.

"Nowadays it is possible to claim the $500 exemption for a dependent regardless of age or physical condition if four tests are met. The dependent must not have $500 of gross income; he must be closely related by blood, marriage, or adoption; he must be a resident of the United States, Canada, or Mexico; and the taxpayer must furnish more than half of the total support in the calendar year.

"In determining whether the dependent has $500 of gross income it is not necessary to take into account non-taxable income such as Social Security or Railroad Retirement pensions, California old-age assistance payments, municipal bond interest, or government allotments to families of servicemen," Westover explained.

"However, all the dependent's income must be considered in figuring whether or not the taxpayer has given more than half of the support. Thus, a person who receives $600 per year of non-taxable bond interest can be a dependent only if a close relative supplies at least $601 during the year for his support.

"Cousins are not considered close relations," Westover added. "Claim may be taken for the support of aunts, uncles, nephews, or nieces—but not for their wives or husbands."

ROBERT F. LESSING . . . Lays down tools to study for Episcopal priesthood.

Robert Lessing Enters School For Priesthood

Robert F. Lessing, former city judge, will leave Sunday for Berkeley, Calif., where he will begin study for priesthood at the Church Divinity of the Pacific, training college of the Episcopal church, located adjoining the University of California campus.

For the past two years, Lessing has been a licensed layreader at St. Andrew's Episcopal church at Torrance. After exhaustive examination and study by the Rt. Rev. J. Bertrand Stevens, bishop of the Diocese of Los Angeles, the latter certified Lessing as a postulant, which qualifies him to begin his studies at the church college at Berkeley.

For the time being, Mrs. Lessing and their two daughters will remain at the family residence, 2009 Arlington ave.

Lessing served for seven years as city judge here, and since 1941 has been employed at The National Supply Company as a toolmaker.

Irene Liggett Appointed Child Welfare Head

Miss Irene Liggett has been appointed to head the important child welfare division of the Welfare Council, the work of which has been tremendously increased by wartime conditions, it is announced by Mrs. Sumner Spaulding, president of the council.

Immediate function of the child welfare division is to correlate the work of 53 agencies in the Los Angeles area which look to the care of children. Included in the group are the public welfare organizations supported by tax funds, Community Chest and other private child-caring agencies.

Miss Liggett is one of the outstanding consultants on child welfare problems in the country, according to Mrs. Spaulding. She has just completed a special survey of children's agencies in San Francisco, and previously was instructor of case work at Pennsylvania School of Social Work, and general secretary of Pennsylvania Children's Aid Society. The 1940 survey for California Children's Home Society in Los Angeles was planned by Miss Liggett as a representative of the Child Welfare League of America.

Miss Liggett replaces Max Silverstein who for several years past headed the child welfare and the health division of the Welfare Council. Mr. Silverstein now is on the staff of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in Washington.

QUARTERMASTER BRANCH

The excess utilization section, Office of the Quartermaster General, in Washington, D. C., has saved $10,841,218 since its establishment last January, the Ninth Service Command Quartermaster, Fort Douglas, Utah, said.

Sewer Troubles Subject of New Darby Inquiry

A remedy for the conditions whereby residents and property owners of a neighborhood are barred from obtaining sewer facilities because of contract restrictions, is being sought by County Supervisor Raymond V. Darby.

The matter was brought to the attention of the board of supervisors recently by him, when the question of sewers in Daphne ave., near Gardena, came before the board.

Supervisor Darby said that although sewers were badly needed along the street, many property owners, buying homes on contract, were prevented from obtaining them by terms of the contract. He asked that legislation be prepared that would correct this condition and his motion to this effect was adopted by the board.

Lectures to Be Given in L. B.

A series of lectures by technical experts, qualified in the various fields involved in the manufacture of aviation gasoline, will be included in a course in Refinery Processes in the Manufacture of Aviation Gasoline, opening at the Long Beach Center, 240 E. Third st., Jan. 31.

This is a tuition-free course under the auspices of the War Training program of the University of California, and will open at 7:00 p. m., in Room 8, continuing for 15 weeks.

Monroe Ponedel, of the Wilshire Oil Co., will be the coordinating instructor.

Information about enrollment may be obtained by calling Long Beach, 6-6735.

SOUTH DAKOTA PICNIC

The annual winter picnic for all former South Dakotans reside in Southern California and all persons from South Dakota now visiting in Southern California will be held in Sycamore Grove, Los Angeles, Calif., on Sunday, Jan. 28, 1945. On the last Sunday in January of each year thousands of South Dakotans bring their picnic lunches and have a real get-together meeting at Sycamore Grove in Los Angeles.

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