

Aeronca Acquires Flight Refueling of Baltimore

Aeronca Manufacturing Corp. announced that Flight Refueling, Inc., of Baltimore is now a wholly owned subsidiary and will be operated as part of Aeronca's Aerospace Division.

John A. Lawler, Aeronca's president, said that the holders of all the outstanding stock of Flight Refueling and the holders of all its convertible debentures have exchanged them for Aeronca's common stock in accordance with the exchange offer.

Lawler said the Flight Refueling facilities and organization are needed to broaden the Aerospace Division's ability to market electronic and space research, as well as to develop and produce work in aircraft, missile and space fields.

LATE IN JULY, Aeronca filed with Securities and Exchange Commission, a registration statement covering 180,531 common shares to be exchanged as outlined. Of the stock registered, 138,878 shares were exchanged at the rate of 1.55 shares of Aeronca for each share of Flight Refueling. The other 23,655 shares were exchanged for

Flight Refueling's six per cent convertible notes, due in 1963 in the ratio of 19 shares for each \$100 principal amount.

Under the direction of Aeronca's Aerospace Division, Flight Refueling will continue the development and production of equipment for the refueling of airplanes and helicopters in flight. The company is a producer of equip-

ment for the fueling of missiles on the ground, also vessels at sea. Work is currently in progress in the development of specialized components for nuclear reactors, as well as on space studies and high altitude pilot feeding.

AERONCA'S Aerospace Division is already occupying the Flight Refueling facilities at Friendship International Airport in Baltimore. Aeronca also has Defense Products Divisions in Torrance and Middletown, Ohio.

Success of California Farmers Important to All Householders

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District
Homemakers as well as farmers have a sizeable stake in the equitable, efficient operation of our California system of farm marketing orders. To keep a sufficient supply of nourishing foods of all kinds flowing to dinner tables here

and across the nation, growers must be assured enough return to pay their full costs of operation, and to give them a just profit for their time and effort. Equally, the homemaker must be able to maintain a high standard of living for her family at reasonable prices.

Our system of marketing orders started during the depression years, when it became necessary to take effective steps in order to preserve our agricultural producers from economic destruction. Under one procedure, if the required majority of producers, handlers, or both, agree in a referendum vote to a proposed order controlling the marketing of a commodity, the order goes into effect, and thereafter is administered by the state department of agriculture. At present about 35 such orders are in effect, the products covered ranging from brussels sprouts to wine. The so-called "assent" procedure would be left as is.

SEVERAL proposals for changes in the referendum method were introduced in the last session, but were referred to interim study. Recently the Assembly Committee on Agriculture held a hearing at which the need for such changes were explored. Present law requires that 51 per cent of all producers of particular commodity who produce at least 51 per cent of its total volume must agree to a proposed marketing order for it to go into effect. The proposed change would substitute two alternatives for this provision. Under the first, an order could be made effective if approved by 65 per cent of the voting producers who grow a majority of the total grown by all those voting. The second would enable approval by 51 per cent of those voting who produce 65 per cent of the total grown by all voters.

PROPOSERS OF this amendment argued that it would simplify and make less expensive the process of conducting a referendum on an order without depriving anyone of his voice in determining the outcome. It was also said the change would bring our California law nearer to law on federal marketing orders, thus making life easier for everyone.

One influential farm organization opposed this change on the ground that producers who don't vote still should not be ignored. The minority, was contended, should not be permitted to control the majority as would be possible if the law were amended. This group reaffirmed its policy of opposition to amendment of the existing law.

ANOTHER CHANGE suggested would provide that if a marketing order affects only producers or handlers of a particular agricultural commodity, the board governing its operation need include only a majority of them as members. At present all members must be producers or handlers. Obviously, such an amendment would permit representatives of the general consuming public to serve as board members.

The committee was not surprised to have one staunchly individualistic farmer lash out vigorously at all marketing orders. California agriculture would be better off without controls of any kind, he declared. Government should let the farmer solve his own problems. Without marketing controls, costs would decrease, acreages in surplus crops would be reduced, and the small farmer would have a better opportunity to succeed. Prices to consumers would not be affected by removal of controls, he concluded.

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