

1948 ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
ON THE PROGRESS, ACTIVITIES AND FISCAL AFFAIRS
OF THE NATIONAL AIR COUNCIL

Given at the Annual Meeting
of Members October 25, 1948

During the past year, The National Air Council initiated an intensive five-year campaign of public education focused on recommendations of the President's Air Policy Commission and the Joint Congressional Aviation Policy Board. Most principal media of public information were employed - the distribution of booklets and pamphlets, a speaking program, a series of round-table radio talks, and a lecture series. The dissemination of information was considerably facilitated by cooperation with national labor, education, farm, women's, and other aviation groups.

This campaign will be continued for the next four years, with revisions as they become necessary, in the belief that long-range planning, a five-year procurement program, and continued research are essential to aviation progress and that public understanding and support are equally essential. The Council will endeavor to make the public aware that the necessary legislation to implement the findings and conclusions of the Finletter Commission and the Congressional Board has not been achieved, and that much remains to be done if the principal recommendations of these two groups are to become our established national aviation policy.

It is the belief of the Board of Managers that the functions of the Council can best be fulfilled by vigorous support of the worthy recommendations of the two governmental aviation boards, which recognize that civil and military air power is indivisible, that international peace and national security depend upon American air power, and that development of aviation in all of its phases will have a vital effect on the future national economy.

While you are already familiar with most of the activities of the Council, I should like to report briefly upon our activities during the past year.

Time Is Running Out

As a member of the Council, you have received a copy of the graphic booklet entitled "Time Is Running Out", which depicted the national security aspects of aviation. This booklet contained a synopsis of the recommendations of the President's Air Policy Commission and the Joint Congressional Aviation Board as to military air requirements and the need for this country to be foremost in aviation research, production, and transport. Approximately 20,000 copies of this booklet were distributed to educators, editors, radio commentators, federal and state governmental officials, and thousands of industrial and civic leaders. Along with this booklet, the Council distributed three small leaflets summarizing the information given in "Time Is Running Out". These were made available at cost for mailing by individual companies and groups to stockholders, employees, customers and the general public.

In both these publications, as with all informative material produced by the Council, an attempt was made to reach not only its own members, other aviation groups, and general public opinion channels, but those influential persons among the general public who are not otherwise associated with aviation. A means of achieving this end was supplied by the active cooperation of the International Association of Machinists, the National Aeronautics Association, the Civil Aeronautics Association, several women's organizations and other national groups which mailed the material to their own members.

Radio Programs

A series of four recorded radio discussions of air policy, also entitled "Time Is Running Out", was sent on request to 530 radio stations, covering all 48 states. Participating in the recorded round-table talks were Senator Owen Brewster; Harvey Brown, President of the International Association of Machinists; Representatives Carl Hinshaw, Clair Engle and Karl Stefan; Mrs. Roscoe O'Byrne,

President General of the D.A.R.: Joseph D. Keenan of the American Federation of Labor; and Fred Bailey of The National Grange. John Dwight Sullivan, Executive Vice President of the Council, served as coordinator.

Educational Conference

The first of a series of educational conferences planned by the Council was held at the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences in June when certain leading educators and industrialists met to discuss the requirements of present-day air education. The meeting was conducted by S. Paul Johnston, Director of the Institute.

Among the various subjects discussed were the findings of the survey conducted by the Council for more than a year under the direction of Charles F. Kettering. The purpose of this survey was to effect an integrated relationship between industry and the nation's colleges and universities, and to suggest a possible scholarship and fellowship program to be undertaken by the Council.

Participating in these discussions were Dr. Leslie A. Bryan, Director of the Institute of Aeronautics, University of Illinois; Frank W. Caldwell, Director of Research, United Aircraft Corporation; Charles H. Colvin, M.E.; Dr. R.P. Harrington, head of the Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn; William K Ebel, Director of Engineering, Curtiss-Wright Corporation; Dr. John R. Markham, Professor of Aeronautical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Clark B. Millikan, Director of the Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory, California Institute of Technology; H.E. Mehrens, Chief of the Aviation Education Division, Civil Aeronautics Administration; and Dr. Daniel C. Sayre, Chairman of the Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Princeton University.

A summary report of this meeting has been prepared and will soon be made public. Copies will be sent to all members of the Council for their information and for that of personnel directors of their organizations.

Lectures at the Library of Congress

Next to speak at the Library of Congress in the series of lectures

sponsored by the Council will be John K. Northrop, President of Northrop Aircraft, Inc., and President of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences. His lecture will be delivered on November 3rd and will be followed later in the fall by a talk to be given by Donald W. Douglas, President of Douglas Aircraft Company. Mr. Northrop will be introduced by S. Paul Johnston, Director of the IAS, and Mr. Douglas, by Dr. Jerome C. Hunsaker of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The most recent lecture delivered this year was given by Dr. John C. Cooper, member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton and author of "The Right to Fly". His subject was "Fundamentals of Air Power". Plans are being made for further lectures to be given by equally prominent aviation authorities under the joint sponsorship of the Council and the Library of Congress.

Film Library

Twenty-seven 16 mm. sound films, many of them in color, are made constantly available by the Council to veterans' organizations, Civil Air Patrol units, flying clubs of all kinds, high school classes, college aviation clubs, Rotary Clubs, boys' camps, and numerous other air-minded organizations. The service is provided free of charge.

This is an immensely popular service which the Council hopes to expand. As funds become available, consideration is being given to the proposal that the Council produce its own informative motion pictures for showings both in commercial theaters and community meetings.

Speakers Bureau

Since the Council was first formed, it has maintained an active speakers' bureau to provide lecturers at meetings throughout the country. During the past year, various members of the Board of Managers have spoken before Chambers of Commerce on air policy. The cooperation of the President's Air Policy Commission was also enjoyed in this respect. Members are invited to call upon the Council at any time when authoritative speakers are required for group meetings.

Consider the Little Airfield

An extremely popular publication produced this year was the illustrated pamphlet on private flying and small airfield operation entitled "Consider the Little Airfield". It has been widely and favorably commented upon and has been reprinted and quoted from in many instances. Thousands of copies were sold at cost to state aviation and development commissions, independent operators, oil companies, manufacturers, aviation schools and the like, and additional thousands were distributed by such groups as the NAA, National Aviation Trades Association, Aeronautical Training Society, CAA, National Association of State Aviation Officials, Air Reserve Association and the Civil Air Patrol. The need for an authoritative analysis of this subject was made apparent by the demand for the pamphlet, which required a second printing.

International Air Exposition

The National Air Council participated in both the planning for and the maintenance of the International Air Exposition of New York City's Golden Jubilee celebration at the New York International Airport. It was represented on the Mayor's Committee which planned the event, and also sponsored an aviation information center during the nine-day celebration, at which it distributed more than 500,000 pieces of literature of various kinds. Some of this literature was contributed by Aircraft Industries Association and Air Transport Association.

Annual Awards

At a ceremony held at the Council exhibit at the International Air Exposition, the first annual awards for aviation research and experiment were made to the Air Force and Navy air officers recommended by the Secretaries of the two departments as having contributed the most to research and development during the past fiscal year. The awards were in the form of large silver trays, bearing the Council insignia, and appropriately engraved.

Similar awards will be granted each year to that member of the Air Force

and naval air arm considered to have done most in this vital field. Selections will be made in accordance with standards adopted jointly by the two departments, as they were this year. Plans for the making of additional awards are under consideration.

Writing Fellowships

Three of four volumes dealing with the history of air warfare in World War II, for which writing fellowships were awarded in 1946, appeared this year. These are: "Air Victory: The Men and the Machines", by Harold B. Hinton; "Devilbirds", a history of the Marine air arm, by John A. DeChant; and "The AAF Against Japan", by Vern Haugland. The fourth book, which is being written by William R. Laidlaw and which will cover AAF operations in Europe, will be published early in 1949.

Executive Board of Managers

Several changes in board membership were made this year. E. R. Boots, formerly a member of the Board of Governors, was elected to the Board of Managers. Edward V. Rickenbacker and Albert J. Weatherhead, Jr., resigned as members of the Board of Managers and were subsequently elected to the Board of Governors. L. Welch Pogue resigned as a Manager representing NAA and was replaced by Louis E. Leverone, the newly-elected President of National Aeronautic Association.

Financial Status

Accompanying this report is a copy of The National Air Council's balance sheet as of September 30, 1948. It will be observed from this statement that the Council presently has a balance of funds available of \$83,373.19. It should be pointed out that a drive for funds, both for new and for company members, was initiated only recently, and that members were presented with bills for renewal of membership only during the past few months of this year. No renewal bills were presented to members during 1947, the year in which the affiliation of AIA, ATA and NAA was effected.

National Aviation Clinic

One worthy contribution made by the Council this year which contributed to the success of the National Aviation Clinic held last week in Detroit was made to the National Aeronautic Association. This appropriation was for a minimum of \$5000 and a maximum of \$10,000, depending upon the ultimate requirements.

Summary

While the Council's informative program has been too varied and detailed for full review here, I believe that the foregoing gives a representative account of our activities to date this year.

As I have mentioned before, the Council, as its program develops, will expand many activities. It will continue to seek the cooperation of other aviation groups having the same general objectives in the effort to avoid, and to eliminate wherever possible, duplication of effort.

When sufficient funds are available, and where real need is evident, it will award scholarships and fellowships at leading universities for specialized studies. It plans to produce documentary films on aviation which can be adapted to television. It will take part in public air celebrations and will continue to produce timely and authoritative radio shows. It is currently working on the format of a non-competitive periodical to be published regularly which will handle the best in international aviation writing, study, comment and research.

It will publish special timely studies on various phases of air power and will make these constantly available to editors and commentators, including writers for the various labor and women's organizations. I might add parenthetically that the Council will meet with labor groups regularly to keep them informed as to aviation's requirements and progress. We believe that no other air organization is as well equipped as the Council to maintain liaison with such groups.

In conclusion, I should like to point out that the program being carried on at the present time requires strong leadership and continued enthusiastic support.

We believe that we have made significant progress in the past year and look forward confidently to future achievements. These depend, however, on your active participation in your own community. We most sincerely hope, therefore, that we may count on your individual interest, activity, and support.

Respectfully submitted

F. Trubee Davison
President

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Enclosure

THE NATIONAL AIR COUNCIL
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 1948

ASSETS

Cash:		
In Bank		\$80,040.60
Petty Cash		100.00
Furniture & Fixtures	\$9,935.58	
Less Reserve for Depreciation	<u>6,702.99</u>	<u>3,232.59</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>\$83,373.19</u></u>

LIABILITIES & FUND

Federal Taxes Withheld		\$ 409.60
Federal Old Age Benefit Taxes Accrued		<u>33.56</u>
Total Liabilities		\$ 443.16
General Fund		<u>82,930.03</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund		<u><u>\$83,373.19</u></u>

Statement of Income and Expenditures

	For period of <u>9/1 - 9/30/48</u>	For period of <u>1/1 - 9/30/48</u>
Income:		
Charter Membership Renewals	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 8,350.00
National Membership Renewals	None	100.00
Membership Subscriptions:		
Patron	250.00	750.00
Contributor	None	1,600.00
National	None	1,900.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 2,650.00</u>	<u>\$12,700.00</u>
Expenditures:		
Salaries	\$ 3,066.67	\$26,740.03
Federal Old Age Benefit Taxes	4.00	118.60
Publicity	591.23	24,961.12
Educational Projects	None	10,141.08
Insurance	None	177.76
Traveling Expense	191.12	1,910.51
Stationery & Printing	104.32	2,891.14
Depreciation - Furniture & Fixtures	165.27	1,500.52
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous Expense	19.56	1,680.06
Office Rent and Light	281.09	2,723.20
Telephone & Telegraph	59.19	972.48
Library	98.75	314.29
Postage & Mailing	170.21	739.11
Awards	None	676.92
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,751.41</u>	<u>\$75,546.82</u>
Excess of Expenditures Over Income	<u>\$ 2,101.41</u>	<u>\$62,846.82</u>

Deducted from
General Fund