

## AIRPORT FEDERAL AID BILL RETURNED TO COMMERCE

The DAILY learned this week that the Bureau of Budget has returned the Federal-aid-to-airports appropriation bill to Commerce with the recommendation that amendments to the Federal Airport Act be included before submission to Commerce. Among the amendments, authoritative sources report, will be the boosting of the Administrator's discretionary fund by 50% (Supplement, Mar. 19). Amendments also are expected to spell out the form the "new look" in federal aid is to take, i.e., eligibility based on tangible aeronautical necessity of the area.

It was further indicated that the Senate may be able to hold hearings on the bill at its open sessions on April 2 and April 5.

\* \* \*

## GURNEY, MURRAY, JOHNSON TO SPEAK AT AOC MEETING

CAB Chairman Chan Gurney, Under Secretary of Commerce Robert B. Murray, and Earl D. Johnson, president of ATA, are to be the principal speakers at the seventh annual meeting of the Airport Operators Council in Tampa, April 12-14.

The tentative program is as follows: Monday - "Measuring the Air Terminal Market," an address by J.B. Lansing of the University of Michigan and C.A. Franzmann of Port of New York Authority. Afternoon sessions will be devoted to discussions on airport fees, charges, and concession percentages; economic consideration in landing area construction and operation; and jet aircraft terminal requirements.

Tuesday will be devoted to discussions on helicopter terminal facility requirements; public reaction to aircraft noise; AOC program to ascertain noise characteristics of future aircraft; and underground fuel handling. Wednesday's schedule calls for a law review; and address on "The Airport as an Integral Part of the All Weather Air Traffic Control System," by Vernon I. Wye of ATA and Bert R. Moore of CAA. Wednesday afternoon is for discussion on reduction of ramp clutter; what's wrong with new terminal buildings; and a public relations program for airports.

\* \* \*

## IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR 4 MINN. AIRPORTS AUTHORIZED

Minnesota Legislative Advisory Committee has approved airport improvement projects for runway extensions and resurfacing at Grand Rapids, Fairmont, Marshall, and Eveleth-Virginia airports. Go-aheads were given the following:

1. Grand Rapids' runway extension project will cost \$37,500, with state contributing \$25,000 and city the balance. Restrictions regarding federal matching funds and scheduled airline service have been removed.
2. Fairmont will get permanent bituminous runway surfacing costing \$75,000, with state paying \$50,000. Federal matching funds restriction has been removed.
3. Marshall received \$15,000 allocation for rebuilding and resurfacing runway.
4. Eveleth-Virginia is to get \$40,000 for extension and lighting of runway.

\* \* \*

## ABILENE TO DEDICATE \$1,350,000 AIRPORT APR. 25

Dedication of the new \$1-1/3 million Abilene (Tex.) Municipal Airport will take place April 25. Facilities at the field include new administration building with restaurant and office facilities for Pioneer Air Lines; U.S. Weather Bureau service; CAA control tower with radar storm warning unit; concrete apron fronts connected to the 5400-foot N/S and 4000 NE/SW runways. The principal hangar has facilities for 40 aircraft. Thirty T-hangars are available for lease.

\* \* \*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY has received \$1,285,000 for the sale of Palmdale Airport to the Air Force. The 4864-acre tract is being used by Northrop, Lockheed, and North American for jet testing.

**FIELD CONSIDERED FOR SECONDARY ST. LOUIS AIRPORT IS LEASED**

The Parks Metropolitan Airport, possible secondary airport for St. Louis, has been leased to Mel D. Walston, operator of Alton Memorial Airport and a fixed-base operation at Springfield, Ill., Municipal Airport. There is a clause in the five-year lease granted by J. Will Young, president of Parks Aircraft Sales & Service, specifying that sale of the property cancels the lease. Walston plans to make \$50,000-worth of improvements to the airport. If the airport is sold this year, Walston will be totally reimbursed, and if not, \$5,000 will be deducted each year thereafter.

The lease would not impede St. Louis' eventual acquisition of the property. The long-range plan is still for St. Clair County to purchase the airport and lease it to St. Louis for a rental figure calculated to redeem the bonds sold to finance the purchase, plus interest, according to the East St. Louis Journal. Vincent McMahon, chairman of the airport committee, said the Missouri legislature must extend the St. Louis earnings tax before purchase of the airport could be effected.

\* \* \*

**NFPA PLANS ACTION ON AVIATION FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS**

Action on six new or revised aviation fire safety standards is indicated at the annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association at the Hotel Statler, Washington, D.C., May 17-21. Pamphlets outlining the texts of the new standards are available from the Association at 60 Batterymarch St., Boston, and include: Recommended Safe Practices for Aircraft Fuel Tanks During Certain Maintenance Operations; Fueling Aircraft while on the Ground; Fire Extinguishers for Aircraft Crew and Passenger Compartments; Suggested Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Equipment for Airports; Aircraft Hangar Standards; and Static Electricity in Aircraft Operations and Maintenance.

\* \* \*

**FOX JOINS NEW YORK FIRM AS AIRPORT CONSULTANT**

Francis T. Fox is resigning as assistant director of aviation for the city of Philadelphia to accept the newly-created post of airport consultant with James C. Buckley, Inc. of New York, effective April 5. Fox was responsible for concession development at Philadelphia's \$15 million terminal, as well as for lease and contract negotiations and airport public relations. He is a member of the board of directors of AAAE and is a past secretary-treasurer.

\* \* \*

**AIRPORT NOTES**

(Terminal buildings and areas)

United Air Lines has opened its new \$150,000 passenger facility at Los Angeles International Airport.

Dedication ceremonies for San Francisco International Airport's new terminal building will be held during the July 23-25 Flight Festival.

The control tower at Philadelphia International Airport is being moved to the new terminal building.

(Miscellaneous)

Bids for construction of a new municipal airport at Harlingen, Tex., are under study.

Igor I. Sikorsky will be the principal speaker at the dedication of Mercer County (W.Va.) Airport May 15.

## AIRPORT NOTES (Cont.)

Weir Cook Airport, Indianapolis, has been named alternate for Pan American World Airways.

Cleveland has budgeted \$1 million for capital improvements at its municipal airport for 1954.

ANG has requested use of 35 acres of land at San Antonio International Airport to build \$1,250,000 in jet aircraft facilities.

\* \* \*

## AAAE ANNOUNCES PROGRAM FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Program for the 26th annual meeting of the American Association of Airport Executives, at the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, May 16-19, is tentatively as follows:

Monday: CAB Member Josh Lee speaks on "The Sky is the Limit"; Leigh Fisher on application of cost accounting principles to airport management; Robert Aldrich on relationship of airport revenues to cost; William T. Raymond of Eastern Air Lines on "User Taxes - Airways"; Charles B. Allen on basic design criteria for heliports; C.M. Belinn of Los Angeles Airways on practical commercial helicopter operation; and Warren E. Avis on rental cars and heliports.

Tuesday: Bart Hewitt, TWA, on suitable airports from an airline pilot's viewpoint; Gordon K. Ray on concrete airport pavement; Norman C. Bird, on rehabilitation with soil-cement; Boyd Anderson on concrete hangar construction; Les Arnold, Eastern Air Lines, on "Aviation Today and Tomorrow"; Comdr. Carl T. Barrett on modern airport construction.

Wednesday: J.J. Stedem on automobile rental concessions; Eugene C. Marlin on car rental operations; William Neilson of Hawaii on "The Airport as a Community Center"; T.K. Touw on executive aircraft customers; Robert B. McKeagney on asphalt pavements; John M. Griffith on asphalt concrete overlays; Lester C. Andrews on airport zoning; Dr. August Raspet on easing the airport problem by aerodynamics; Cole H. Morrow, NBAA, on importance of business flying to airport operators; Charles Gartrell on NASAO aims and policies; Burton E. English, AIA, on the aircraft industry and national security; W.W. Owen on ALPA; R.C. Grubb on aviation weather; and Louis Inwood on "A New Look at the Federal Airport Act."

The annual banquet will be addressed by George E. Fouch of General Electric Co. on jet engines and civilian aircraft.

Board of directors meeting will be held on Thursday.

\* \* \*

## STOCKTON, CALIF. VISITED BY 3453 PVT. PLANES IN 1953

Private, corporation, and executive flying at Stockton (Calif.) Field brought an estimated \$950,000 in business to the Stockton and San Joaquin County area last year, according to Clarence M. Shy, airport mgr. A total of 3453 non-carrier aircraft stopped at the field, with 7900 passengers spending an average of \$275 each.

\* \* \*

CAA EXPECTS to have surveillance radar in complete operation at Oakland and San Francisco airports within 60 days. Experimental operations have been going on for about a year.

OAKLAND Board of Port Commissioners has changed the name of the Oakland, Calif., Municipal Airport by ordinance to the Metropolitan Oakland International Airport. Change was in preparation for the launching of the \$10 million expansion and improvement program.

REMMERT-WERNER, INC. of Lambert Field, St. Louis, has expanded its executive aircraft service to Toledo Municipal Airport (as of Apr. 1). Until the move to the new Express Airport, the company is using the facilities of Toledo Air Associates.

- E N D -