



The Indianapolis Times

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FORECAST: Partly cloudy today and tomorrow. Little change in temperature. High today, 50-55.

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Study \$2 Million Airport Expansion

Aviation Board Considering 5-Year Plan

Weir Cook Now Ranks Fifth Nationally in Total Traffic

By IRVING LEIBOWITZ

An immediate \$2 million expansion program for Indianapolis' Weir Cook Municipal Airport was under consideration today by the City Board of Aviation Commissioners.

The field, fastest growing airport in the nation, already ranks fifth in total traffic behind only Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta and Providence.

These statistics were released by Airport Sup't. P. H. Roettger and are backed by Civil Aeronautics Administration figures.

Of major importance to Indianapolis taxpayers, however, is the fact that the local field is one of the few non-tax supported airports in the country. Last year it showed a net profit of more than \$44,000.

Post-War Growth

On a comparative basis, Mr. Roettger said, Weir Cook is also in the nation's top bracket for handling freight.

The field's growth was "strictly a post-war expansion," Mr. Roettger added.

He cited CAA figures to prove that Weir Cook handles more aircraft operations than New York's LaGuardia Airport or Washington's National Field.

Safety hasn't been sacrificed for the increased traffic loads, Mr. Roettger observed. The field has won a national safety award for the past three years. It never has had a major traffic accident.

Reports Plan

A 5-year plan to keep the field's progress continually ahead, was released by Fred W. Sommer, newly-elected president of the city's bi-partisan Board of Aviation Commissioners.

Major alterations include:

ONE: Extensive expansion of main terminal, thus eliminating old entrance and halting the use of it as a hanger.

TWO: Construction of a large steel, fabricated hanger, big enough to accommodate some of the nation's largest aircraft, including the new Douglas DC-6 and the Lockheed Constellation.

THREE: Construction of an East-West plane taxi strip to facilitate handling of aircraft.

FOUR: Purchase of approximately 100 acres of land at the southeast corner of the airport.

Mr. Sommer, a flying enthusiast since 1927, was elected president of the aviation board last week. He succeeds Joseph G. Wood, who resigned recently.

Rebuild Tower

As yet, Mayor Feeney hasn't appointed a commission to replace Mr. Wood on the city's four-man bi-partisan board.

Currently under construction is a half-million dollar project to rebuild and remodel the main traffic control tower. Field engineers also are installing three safety features, including a radar ground control approach.

The field, served by four major airlines—American, Chicago & Southern, Eastern and Trans-World—has climbed from tenth in the nation for total take-offs and landings to fifth in less than three years.

Approximately 56 chartered flights are scheduled daily. The field's high standing, however, was largely due to the great number of small planes at the field, which accounted for 219,494 of the airport's 291,440 flights.

On the Inside

Uncle Sam, M. D.? . . . first of a series of articles on the Truman medical proposals.

Three satellites of Russia rapped.

Who's going to enforce rent controls?

(See Robert Breen's political column, Page 29)

Doll's tresses may be set beauty-shop style . . .

read Louise Fletcher's shopping column, "Counter-Spy."

(Society and women's news, fashions, gardening, home-making, beauty hints; Pages 12-26)

Statehouse alumni . . . a picture story of present and former governors.

(Editorial politics, world report, radio, movies, Page 28-29)

Cross-Word Puzzle.

Jack Conway wins a berth with Indians.

(Sports, Pages 40-42; classified advertising, Pages 43-51; Weather map and vital statistics, Pages 51; Business, Page 52)

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Headin' for the Hay



Railway Express employees Wills Spencer (left) and Rilla Jared comfort a sad-eyed traveler.

Texas Donkey Wasn't the Right Color, Turned Down by Man Who Ordered Him

AN EXPRESS TRAIN was speeding toward Willoughby, O. last night with a sad-eyed passenger named "Jack" confined in the baggage car. No conductor collected his ticket and no fellow traveler passed the time o' night with him.

They couldn't. He was just a little lost donkey, enmeshed in the coils of circumstance.

It all started about a week ago when the floppy-eared, shaggy, brown creature was placed on a train by the Zoological Supply Co. in Laredo, Tex.

A companion ticket on the donkey's crate read "To W. L. Wood, Indianapolis," so freight handlers at the Railway Express office here led him off the train according to instructions.

Employees at the terminal took a fancy to him and led him around the confines of the station. They fed him hay and gave him water.

He only stood waist high to a pretty express worker, but he tipped the scales at 320 pounds.

Then it happened. Mr. Wood, the prospective owner, walked into the station, looked over the donkey and turned his back. He didn't want it. He had ordered a white one, he said, and this creature was brown. He refused to take it.

TELEGRAMS flashed from Indianapolis to Laredo to ask for instructions and long distance calls from Laredo to Indianapolis were made to relocate Mr. Wood.

The near-owner wasn't found and the zoological company re-claimed its shipment. But the donkey will not see Laredo again.

Last night he was placed back in his crate and loaded into another baggage car.

Baldam broke loose. After about 45 minutes during which the mob slugged and pushed indiscriminately, police quelled the disturbance.

More than 50 police had been detailed to guard the meeting when the pickets appeared. The protest was spurred by the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS and Catholic War Veterans. CIO United Electrical Workers joined the crowd of sign-carrying pickets.

A shout went up that the attendees at the meeting were leaving by a side door and more than 300 people attended the meeting, called by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

3000 Around Building By the time the meeting ended, police estimated that more than 3000 persons had surrounded the building.

Police reserves broke up the rioting with no serious injuries reported. Four men were arrested for disorderly conduct and a fifth for inciting a riot.

Carts and stones were thrown as the crowd milled around north-side Carnegie Hall where some 300 persons attended the meeting.

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Police to Open Safety Drive On 'Junkers'

Old Cars to Get 3-Minute Checks

By Roving Squads

A police safety campaign to check the condition of automobiles on city streets and force removal of vehicles which are a menace to motorists will begin tomorrow.

The police traffic division will detail five accident cars to making spot checks of car conditions over the city.

Four officers will set up a check station on the south side of North St. between Meridian and Pennsylvania Sts.

Officers in the five cars will patrol the city looking for defective cars. These will be checked and if found unsafe will be ordered repaired. Drivers of unsafe vehicles will be ordered to return the cars for another check after repairs have been made. If the cars are not repaired police will order them removed from the streets.

3-Minute Check

Capt. Audry Jacobs, head of the traffic department, said the officers would check brakes, steering, tires, lights, horn and windshield wipers on each car. The check will take about three minutes.

Motorists will not be compelled to stop at the check station on North St. However those who do, voluntarily, will be given the three-minute check. If their cars pass the test they will be given a small windshield sticker designating a safe car. Cars which do not pass the test will be ordered repaired.

The safety campaign is being conducted in conjunction with the Indiana Traffic Safety Commission and State Police. The check will be made during April and May.

Holds 'Hundreds' Unsafe

Capt. Jacobs said hundreds of cars are being operated on the streets today with unsafe brakes, windshield wipers and horns which do not operate and lights which do not burn or are focused improperly.

He called these vehicles a "menace" to safe driving.

London Lights Up After Dark Decade

Piccadilly Cheers As Blackout Ends

LONDON, Apr. 2 (UP)—The lights went up in London tonight for the first time since the war and thousands of happy, cheering people gathered in Piccadilly Circus.

In the brilliant blaze of neon and mazda, it was a tumultuous celebration that o'did New Year's eve.

The huge crowd in London's Times Square shouted its hoarses as the famous signs were turned on one by one. When the famed Boivin sign cast its bright red glow against the overcast sky a mighty roar saluted the almost forgotten sight of London's "great white way" in all its pre-war splendor.

Zoe Gail, a saucy show girl who popularized the song "I'm Going to Get Lit' Up When the Lights Go Up in London" during the war, stood on a restaurant balcony and sang it again. Thousands were already well on their way toward that goal.

As she sang, electric signs theater marquees, and lighted shop windows in cities and towns all over Britain flashed on to end the ban on illuminated advertising which had been in force for almost 10 years.

The milling, noisy crowd acted like children. Many of the actual children in the square were seeing an illuminated electric sign for the first time.

A Cockney nudged an American Army sergeant and said "stone me, if little old London ain't herself again. just like like bloomin' old New York."

As the song ended, Prescher said he had asked for Mr. Ingles' resignation and that a county commander he called to select his successor by secret voting machine ballot.

Mr. Ingles last night declared: "The securing of signatures to the removal petition is nothing but a publicity move to conceal the Bradford-Brown alliance from public scrutiny. The State Committee alone can remove county chairmen and any acts by other bodies such as precinct committees are wholly unauthorized and without force."

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Hoosier's Own Story of Army Arrest—

Bird to Ask Release By Supreme Court

'Hello Girl' Says Goodby



Dial replicas dial. . . . Elvira Shorten, 2003 S. Pershing St., is one of dozen of manual telephone operators who will be transferred to other assignments. Number, please is a thing of the past in Indianapolis.

15,000 Manual Type Telephones Converted To Dial Service in \$4 Million Switchover

This morning some 15,000 Indianapolis citizens had something new in the house. It was dial telephone service.

With the cutting in of two new automatic exchanges at 1:30 a. m. the new green telephone books went into use with some 25,000 changed numbers.

The cutover highlighted the local telephone industry. Visitors gathered at the new Belmont Exchange, 740 S. Fuller Dr. and at the new Cherry office at 5000 E. 38th St.