

CHARLESTON (cont'd.)

This building can compare in size to the Washington National Airport. The ticket agent doesn't even have to call reservations to see if a flight is open. An electric board at the counter reveals if a flight between two cities is open by flashing a light between the two. We visited the reservations and space control offices. Reservations and the downstairs office are in communication by pneumatic tube system, and messages to space control are placed on a conveyor belt from the reservations. The Sabena building itself consists of executive offices and reservations, ticket offices, restaurants, beauty parlor, snack bars, cocktail lounges and the Lady Sabena Club room. We went down on a large escalator to a train platform. Sabena runs their own train right out to the airport from this building. And of course we had a thrilling ride in their helicopter - the copter's maximum speed is 112 mph and cruising speed 90 mph. Their heliport is the city airport and we were transported to the Brussels Airport.

We were sad to leave, to be sure it was an experience we'll never forget. Sabena took wonderful care of us. I'm sure we made friends for Piedmont too. The Europeans are a grand bunch.

Thank you for being so kind to let me just hit the high spots of an adventure - a dream come true for me.



HICKORY -

At last we have our "H" Marker installed, engineers from the CAA were here last week to locate a site for a VOR and it seems sure a new terminal will be started this summer, so things look good around this part of the Carolinas.

Had a wonderful time at the party, fouled up returning IFR, missed a turn outside INT and drove about an hour before decided missed somewhere so had to go almost back to INT to get lined up with HKY again. Bill had Ted Arnold and wife and Jimmie Minnix and wife stop over for Satur-

day night as they were on their way back to LOZ and BLF.

NEWPORT NEWS -

Well, it's almost that time again so lets get all the rods and reels clean and stand by. In about 30 days the water will be just right. The shad probably will be running in about that time. Speaking of running, I can hardly walk. This comes as a result of breaking in a new sport called 'Riding The Bow', but don't try it when the water is cold because, well - Bob Lipscomb and myself know that the water just now is too cold for swimming. What is it - we didn't ride the bow very good. The point of this sport is to get a nice day when the water is sort of rough, take any outboard and attach it to a 16' flat bottom. Then go out in the water against the waves. One man pilot and the character that wants to ride the bow goes to the extreme front and without holding on try to stay on the front end. You might do it if you have heavy feet. This is a good sport, however, wait until the water is warm. It beats water skiing - almost. Hope to see some of you people down this way in the summer.

Lot of good vacationing down here for everybody.

SOUTHERN PINES -

Strangely enough, we had two visitors from the Company to drop in to see us. They being Ken Ross, who was passing through on Flight 3 and Ed Best, CLT Station Manager. How they found the outpost still amazes us, but we were glad to see them, and welcome any and all itinerant travelers.

Had a couple of charter trips out of SOP in February. The Ameritron Textile Co. of Aberdeen and Sanford opened a new plant at Barnwell, S. C. and several Ameritron officials from various plants met in SOP, and went over to Barnwell. 41V was the ship and it was just out of the hangar and sure did look good. The other Charter was a group of golfers from CVG, and talk about baggage, boy, they had it.

Really enjoyed some fine sport at the River Forest Manor at Belhaven, N. C. in Jan. Axson Smith, owner, sponsors a package deal on hunting, fishing etc. He is a genial host, and ardent PAI supporter. No reflection on his location, but we failed to score on two different occasions - what you might call a wild goose chase.

Dean has purchased a Pilot Log Book and in the near future, after 15 of March, he may make use of it, if Sammy sees fit to do so.

See you all next issue.

