

New U. S. Bomber To Do 300 MPH

WASHINGTON.—The Army Air Corps announced its new bombardment airplane, technically known as the XB-24, is expected to have a speed of over 300 miles per hour, a range of approximately 3,000 miles and a bomb-carrying capacity of approximately four tons.

The new plane, which recently made its initial flight at San Diego, Calif., is of all metal construction, built by the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation. Power is furnished by four Pratt & Whitney 18-cylinder twin row radial air-cooled engines rated at 1,200 horsepower each.

DOWNTURN

The U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that an industrial downturn is expected in the first half of 1940, but that it is not likely to be prolonged or severe.

Damages Airplanes In Effort To Avoid Dog

Many a kind-hearted motorist has driven his automobile off the road in order to avoid hitting a dog or some other animal, but it's rather an unusual experience for aviators. Lewis Meldow, however, damaged his plane in an attempt to avoid hitting a dog during a takeoff. Meldow was taking off from a field near Walhalla, S. C., after a forced landing caused by an overheated motor. He did not hit the dog, but damaged his plane badly and had to hitch-hike into town.

Neighbors Rebuild Home Destroyed By Fire

Residents of the Hunter's Hill section of Nash County really are good neighbors. The home of Mrs. B. D. Barnes was destroyed by fire last Friday and early Tuesday her neighbors began rebuilding the structure after a successful campaign for materials.

Veterans' Chiefs in Capital



National commanders of America's outstanding veterans' organizations appear before the House veterans committee in Washington to discuss legislative plans. Left to right, Thomas Kirby, of the Disabled American Veterans; Raymond Kelly, of the American Legion; and Otis N. Brown of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

New Way To Relieve Gastric Ailments, Indigestion Discovered

VENICE, Fla.—By cutting a little muscle which controls the flow of bile into the intestines, a Canadian physician reported today he had found a way to relieve indigestion and gastric ailments that rest, diet and medication will not cure.

Before the International College of Surgeons here Dr. Otto Demuth of Vancouver, B. C., explained his instrument and technique for severing the sphincter of oddi, which rings the inside of a duct leading from the pancreas, liver and gall bladder to the small intestines.

In certain cases of chronic indigestion and diseases of the gall bladder and liver, the sphincter tightens and cuts off the supply of juices needed to complete digestions of food.

Dr. Demuth said he had used the technique successfully since 1933. The instrument is a small knife concealed in a tube. It is inserted into the duct to the point where the blade, when expelled, will sever the muscle. Delicate handling is necessary in the operation because the muscle is hard to reach and a small artery which lies near the sphincter must not be cut, Dr. Demuth said.

In a paper read at the meeting, Dr. Thew Wright of Buffalo, N. Y., told surgeons how the death rate from diffuse peritonitis in two Buffalo hospitals was cut from 45 to 12 per cent.

The disease is an infection of the inner lining of the cavity abdominal organs. Most cases result from ruptured appendixes.

Dr. Wright said fatalities were lowered by letting stomach gas escape through a tube to prevent such enormous distention of the abdomen that pressure on the lungs made pneumonia a peril; by injection of extra fluids into the veins to prevent drying up of body cells because of high fever, vomiting and inability to swallow liquids; by injections of morphine to conserve energy through quieting patients with intense pain; and with blood transfusions to combat blood-destroying peritoneal infection.

An old wreck exposed by a storm at Nag's Head, N. C., has been tentatively identified as a U. S. gunboat built about 1805.

Girl's Hearing Returns After Doctors Give Up

GRAFTON, W. Va.—Specialists said eighteen-year-old Eloise Lockard would never hear again but she did—and fainted with joy.

Totally deaf for thirteen months, Miss Lockard was sitting at home talking with other members of her family by reading their lips when she suddenly asked her startled brother:

"What did you say? I believe I heard you."

She collapsed after he repeated the statement. Just to confirm return of her hearing, Eloise telephoned her father yesterday and said she experienced no difficulty in understanding him.

Police Captain A. E. Lockard reported his daughter became deaf while a senior in high school but graduated last June despite the handicap. Specialists said the nerves in her ears were paralyzed and that they couldn't help her. Physicians there were unable to explain return of her hearing.

Child Gets Lesson In Life By False Alarm

The education of an eight-year-old Spartanburg boy is far from complete but it has been advanced by a considerable degree. At least, he has learned one very important thing—and that is not to play with fire alarm boxes. The youth, police reported, was responsible for a false alarm which sent heavy trucks loaded with firemen dashing to Green and Brawley street only to find, after their arrival, that there was no fire to fight.

Investigation revealed that the small boy, probably realizing the full consequences of his action, had pulled the alarm. After fire and police department authorities had "lectured" him at City Hall, he was released and permitted to return home with his mother who pledged herself to seeing that her child will not repeat yesterday's action.

Aged Couple Marry In Raleigh Ceremony

James Harvey Price, 84, and Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gregory, 76, were married in Raleigh yesterday by Magistrate J. B. Danieley, himself a man of 71 years. The bridegroom has four living children, 27 grandchildren and 36 great grandchildren and the bride four children, ten grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, they told the magistrate. Price said their courtship had been of about four weeks' duration. Each had been living with a child near Willow Springs. The bride and bridegroom said there would be no honeymoon.

Politics, Now



The "Big Train" of the Washington Senators, Walter Johnson is pictured as he announced his candidacy for Congress from Germantown, Md. The old speedball merchant has had two years of training in local politics, the only Republican in his county to be elected in 1938.

Senate Increases Appropriations By \$35,596,261

The Senate passed a \$1,139,783,528 appropriation bill carrying funds for more than a score of Government agencies and bureaus. The total approved was \$39,596,261 more than the sum voted by the House.

The measure was returned to the House for action on amendments—principally one allotting \$39,000,000 to the Maritime Commission's construction fund. This and other increases were offset in part by minor reductions.

The Chamber rejected, 57 to 18, an amendment by Senator Robert A. Taft (R) of Ohio to cut the TVA appropriation from \$40,000,000 to \$35,000,000. Senator Taft said the "whole question of whether this is to be an economy Congress" was involved in the vote, because TVA was given more funds than it had this year, while activities of other agencies were cut.

Included in the Senate-approved measure were funds for the National Resources Board and for continuation under the Civil Service Commission of activities of the Council of Personnel Administration. The House had not provided this money, which amounted to \$735,040 in the Senate measure.

One Senate increase made at the request of Senator Carter Glass (D) of Virginia, boosted from \$100,000 to \$190,000 the appropriation for the New York Customs House.

Deputy Clerk Sews Button On Judge's Coat

Mrs. Frances Lyles, deputy clerk of court in Anderson, S. C., is right on hand for all emergencies in Circuit Court. Last week Judge C. C. Featherstone snapped a button off his vest and called on Mrs. Lyles to come to his rescue. She produced a needle and thread and quickly replaced the missing button.

Nonglare Headlight Is Ready But Adoption Offers Problem

DETROIT, Mich.—Ways and means of introducing polarized headlights to solve the problem of night driving glare, came up for discussion by P. J. Kent, chief electrical engineer of Chrysler Corporation at the last meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

There have been rumors that such headlights would appear on the 1941 model cars, and it has been acknowledged that large automobile engineering research laboratories are making studies of polarized light in connection with headlights. Mr. Kent said that an agreement among manufacturers to install polarized lamps on new cars after a given date would be the initial step to take, at the same time providing old cars with polarized light shields to give them the benefit of the glare-eliminating affect as well.

He told the automotive engineers that it would perhaps be necessary to include standard beam-depressing switches even in the new cars, however, so that their strong headlight rays could be lowered in meeting cars not equipped with glare-eliminating windshields. Polarizing shields on headlights and windshields would have their optical axes crossed so that the polarized light rays could be practically eliminated. However, such crossing would not prevent a driver from seeing more clearly than ever the path illuminated by his own headlights.

"Whether or not it will be necessary to step up headlight intensity is still debatable," said Mr. Kent. "The polarizing screens cut the light intensity emitted by the headlight some 60 per cent. It has been suggested that brighter headlights could overcome this absorption and also surmount additional absorption encountered in the windshield screens."

He added that the engineering problems involved in the switch to

polarized beams are still require consideration before they can be applied to automobiles. The change as simple as the installation of safety glass, with which, compared, for the gain effectiveness, all cars equipped with polarized for headlights and The benefits of safe came real immediate installation in and not depend upon other

Governor Hoey in His Longest Silence

When Governor Hoey taught his Sunday school class in Raleigh this week, he passed in 35 years of teaching a public speech or taught his old class in Shelby County, Duke Hospital Jan. 4 for the press gridiron dinner, and his speaking again here Sunday. Last year made 245 speeches in May, 1937. Hoey made his speech in May, 1937, seventeen and spoke a class of Cherryville

Another Sign Of Approaching Spring

Another sign of Mr. Groundhog's progress more weeks of winter reported near Mebane. been reported in various the state, and now W. a garageman, has reported a King snake cross in certain quarters the snakes is considered of spring.

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