

makes taxiing a cinch, and take-offs are short and safe.

For the corporation, Beechcraft offers two exceptionally fine aircraft, the Twin Bonanza and the Super-Twin Beech. The Twin Bonanza is aimed at the corporation which requires a smaller airplane, up to six-passenger. With cruising speed around 200, and excellent single engine performance, outstanding short field performance, the Twin-Bonanza is the answer to a businessman's prayer. Talk about beauty! Twin-Bonanza owners can be mighty proud of their airplane, for a more handsome ship doesn't exist.

Beechcraft made history during WW2 with the C-45, AT-11 and At-7. After the war, businessmen were quick to recognize the possibilities of these fine airplanes, and they were converted by the score to corporation aircraft to provide an airplane for this market. Beechcraft came out with the D18S, which is to this day by far the most widely used larger executive aircraft in the world. However, the D18 was not as comfortable as might be, and Beechcraft has recently developed the E18 Super-Twin Beech which is the ultimate in corporation aircraft. Faster (215 MPH cruise), and with a great deal more comfort, the Super-Twin has a tremendous sales potential.

Piedmont's Beechcraft territory covers most of North Carolina except Charlotte and Asheville, most of Virginia except around the Washington area, plus the Tri-Cities area, the Huntington and Charleston area, and Southeastern West Virginia. With more and more industry moving into the New South, the market for all aircraft handled by Piedmont seems limitless.

We have already taken delivery on our new Bonanza and Twin-Bonanza demonstrators, and if you haven't already seen these beauties you owe it to yourself to smoke them over.

FIXED BASE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Northington spent a few days down in Daytona Beach, Florida, and altho the weather was not the best, Mr. N. came back with quite a nice tan.

Mr. Northington and Joe Culler attended

the Carolina Aero Club Tour, which originated in Savannah, Georgia and toured Florida, including several days at Key West. This was quite a tour, as there were over 80 airplanes which turned out for it. All the members are looking forward to the next tour, to be held in Canada, later on this year.

Sorry to say there has been a lot of sickness around Fixed Base, but we want to wish a very speedy recovery to Jane Foster, who is in City Hospital for an operation; Foy Grubb who has been ill; Fred Wyckoff, in VA Hospital, Durham, mighty sick with pleurisy; and Mrs. Red Willard, who just got out of the hospital. Mrs. Jane Foster's 12 year old daughter is recovering from an attack of polio, which luckily proved to be not too serious.

R. D. Davis is quitting Piedmont to head for the Air Force. We surely will miss him around Fixed Base. Hurry back and see us, Bob.

Eddie Culler and his men have been keeping busy. Had Pocahontas Fuel's Twin Beech in for a 100 hour, Gregory Pool's Lockheed 12 in for a double engine change and installation of hydramatic props, as well as other smaller jobs.

Also, Eddie delivered our old faithful Seabee to Detroit, where it was sold. It was almost becoming a permanent fixture until it was taken out and had its face lifted a few weeks ago. Editor's Note: A loud and fervent "Huzzanga".

Another ole landmark around Fixed Base was the original office of the Camel City Flying Service. The Airport Commission came over the other week and tore it down, which adds much to the view back this way.

We all want to welcome Lib Tatum to Fixed Base, Operations office. Lib is no newcomer to Piedmont, having done a beautiful job on Switchboard for many years, so we feel very fortunate to have such a charming person working out here with us.

Betty: "Does this bus stop at Virginia Beach?"

Driver: "Lady, if it don't there's gonna be one heck of a splash!"

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WELFARE WINS ACCOLADE

Winston-Salem's Division Chief Purser, Rapid Robert Welfare, recently got verbal bouquets from a 3rd grade class which he took on a tour of the field. Typical of the posies he received was the letter below.



Walmarton Public School
Walmarton, N. C.



May 18, 1955

Dear Mr. Bob Welfare,

Thank you for

showing us around the airport. You were a good guide. And you are pretty, too.

Your Friend,

Brenda Larrimore



Brenda, The Piedmonitor agrees with you, we think he's kinda cute, too.

APRIL TRAFFIC --RECORD !

Piedmont's April traffic set new records all around, largest April in history, biggest 30 day month in history. 31537 people travelled the Route of the Pacemakers in April for a load factor of 52.85%. Last year's April passenger load was 26130, 20% under this year, while April, 1954, load factor was 48.67%.

Blockbuster trip for the month was flight 27, with an average load factor of 82.22%. We've still got some trips averaging between 30 - 40%. Let's pull those up-up-up. Let's make every trip look like 27.

CHANGE IN OFFICE HOURS

Effective May 30, Piedmont General Offices work day will begin at 8:00 AM and will end at 5:00 PM. Let's see if we can't make the changeover with a minimum of confusion. Let's all get here on schedule on May 30.