

AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

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CITY RESIDENTS MUST BUY CITY LICENSES

All Laboratory employees who reside within the city limits of either Hampton or Newport News are reminded that they are required to purchase an automobile license from their respective municipality in addition to the Virginia state tag.

City tags may be purchased in Hampton at the City Manager's office in City Hall for \$2.50. In Newport News they may be obtained from the City Treasurer in City Hall for \$5.50. Violators of the ordinance are subject to fine and they'll still have to buy the tag.

AMOLE POINTS OUT PICNIC PROCEDURE

Now that spring is here and sections are making plans for parties, picnics, and other gala affairs, Bruce Amole wishes to point out to Laboratory employees the policy in securing picnic grounds in the West Area. A written notice signed by the chairman of the section's social committee stating the date the use of the area is desired should be sent to Amole, Service Building, telephone 2377. If possible, several dates should be suggested in case the first one has already been taken. The chairman of the group will be notified as to what dates are available. In fairness to everyone concerned, Amole stated that no tentative dates will be accepted but that the first definite reservation will secure the use of the grounds.

CONFUSING TITLES STRAIGHTENED OUT

Several sections and units throughout the Laboratory have been having considerable trouble with mail deliveries and telephone calls, because the title of their outfit is confused with another of a similar name.

For instance, for several years the Model Supersonic Tunnel in the west area was the only supersonic group around here. Now there is a 4-Foot Supersonic Project so it's not safe to call either of them just plain "Supersonic Tunnel." Mike Ellis' original group in the west area should be addressed "9-inch Supersonic Tunnel" and Purly Baals' new outfit as "4-Foot Supersonic Tunnel Projects."

There are also four groups getting mail as Special Projects which causes confusion no end. The original Special Projects is Dr. Calvin Warfield's section in the Loads Division which should be addressed "Loads Special Projects." J. M. Benson heads "Instrument Research Special Projects" and the Engineering Section has two groups, Kent Horton's "Special Engineering Projects (East)" and H. I. Maxwell's Special Engineering Projects (West)."

One other confusion in designation of titles involves two individuals working on budgetary matters. Rufus O. House is the Budget Officer for the entire Lab, and Rolf T. Retz is the Budget Assistant for the Administrative and Technical Service Department.

NAME HEADQUARTERS FOR 15TH INSPECTION

Administrative headquarters for the Fifteenth Annual Inspection of the Langley Laboratory next month have been established on the second floor of the Administration Building, in a room on the northeast corner. The telephone number is 2208.

Dates of the Inspection are Thursday, May 9; Monday, May 13, and Wednesday, May 15. The first and last days are for the visit of aircraft manufacturers' representatives, and May 13 for military personnel.

Personnel assignments in connection with the mapping of detailed arrangements for the three-day occasion are now being made and research exhibits are being prepared to be placed on display at the buildings to be visited by the guests, who are expected to number approximately 400 on each day.

The majority of the guests are expected to arrive on the Peninsula by Washington and Baltimore steamers at Old Point. Part of the group will have breakfast at the Chamberlin Hotel and others will breakfast at the NACA Cafeteria in the Administration Building.

Opening exercises will be held each morning at the Langley Field Base Theater, and a photograph of the guests in a group will be taken each day at the Full Scale Tunnel. Luncheon will be served in the hangar of the Aircraft Loads Calibration Laboratory in the West Area.



Twenty-five years ago this week, the staff of the Langley Laboratory assembled at the south end of what is now the Administration Building for a photograph. Of course the wing housing the executive offices had not been added and just inside the door of the old building were the machine and instrument shops. On the bottom row of the picture, second from the left is R. E. Mixson, now the oldest employee in point of service. Kneeling near the center, the first man in shirt sleeves, is a young woodworker named Percy Keffer. Third from the right

end is Howard H. Morris and on his left is Charlie Wolfe. On the right end is the late Sam Eakin, who completed 25 years service before his death last year. On the top row, left end, is the Lab's rawest recruit, H. J. E. Reid, who had been at work a little more than a week. Standing in the direct center is W. C. Morgan and on his left is Benjamin Bennett. Third from the right is John H. Hanks. The only other employee now at the Lab with 25 years of service here is James Kirkpatrick, who was not present when the picture was taken.

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MORGAN, MORRIS, AND REID CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

The month of April, 1921, was boom time as far as old time employees of the Laboratory are concerned, for during that month, three employees reported for duty who were destined to complete 25 years service here. The three, in order of appearance here were William C. Morgan, Howard H. Morris, and H. J. E. Reid.

Morgan beat Morris here by two days and Reid by eight, reporting on April 4. He was assigned to work in a room on the first floor of the Administration Building. It was the drafting room. Born in Worcester, Mass., on September 16, 1880, "Pop" Morgan worked as a draftsman with the Winchester Repeating Arms Co. in New Haven before coming to the Lab. He now works as checker in East Engineering.

Three years ago, Morgan set one record at the Lab, being the first employee to purchase a \$1000 War Savings Bond through the payroll plan. Another unofficial record which he holds is that of 16 years service without using any sick leave.

Morgan's good health and clean living show up in his athletic ability. He is a very active bowler, currently leading the Peninsula Dairy team in the Community Tenpin League. His average of 169 speaks well for itself. He also was one of the first entries to sign up for the Engineering Section's tennis tournament.

One of his main interests is church work. He has taught a class of 13 and 14 year olds since his arrival on the Peninsula.

Second in the trio of April entries, Howard H. Morris started work here on April 6. He was looking for work as an engineering design man, but since there were no vacancies of that type, took a job in the machine shop where he worked until 1927. During that time Ernest Shave, Wallace Dansey, Ernest Luke, Warren Long, Red Betts (now division chief at Ames), George Magnus, Stumpy Howard, and James Kirkpatrick worked in the shop with him. Harry Downs was in charge of the shop and one of his biggest problems in the early days was to prevent a young engineer named Henry Reid from using the shop facilities after hours for the construction of some of his super research instruments. During his stay in the shop, Morris went from toolmaker and instrument maker to assistant shop head. He was transferred to the Engineering Section in '27 as assistant section head.

In looking back over the good old days, he recalls one rather humorous incident that happened in the '20's when the old Variable Density Tunnel was the scene of a fire. This tunnel consisted of a heavy walled steel tank (still to be seen in the TDT building) in which air pressure during tests was maintained at pressures up to approximately 300 pounds per square inch. Inside this tank was a wooden tunnel covered with light sheet metal. When the fire occurred, the woodwork burned fiercely due to high air pressure, and the intense heat in turn continued to raise the pressure to tremendous proportions. The safety valve blew off the tunnel and the escaping air made a roaring noise which caused some of the Labo-

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LIFE at the LABORATORY

One of the most unusual.



and impressive weddings in Laboratory history will be solemnized Saturday in Kannett Square, Pennsylvania, when Eleanor McKinstry, AWT, and Tommy Andrews, Bell Computers Office, walk down the aisle to take their final vows. The bride will be married in traditional white. Eleanor's dream will come true when the bridesmaids walk down the aisle in pale green, orange, and white candy stripe taffeta dresses with headdresses of ivy, and carrying daisy chains. Isabelle Martin, Loads Computers, will be bridesmaid and ushers will be Bill Koven, 19-Foot Pressure Tunnel, and Cal Class, Tank. Several Lab employees are planning to journey to Pennsylvania for the big event.

After all the excitement.

of having a new daughter added to the household, Pete Korycinski, 16-Foot Tunnel, is finding it rather hard to settle down to the old routine. The new addition arrived Monday, April 22, and according to the last report a name had not been decided upon.



The Laboratory's percentage.

of unmarried maidens will drop another notch when Gloria Nestor, Reproduction, changes the "Miss" to "Mrs." She is sporting a big sparkler and will be married in early summer to Lt. (j.g.) Bill Armstrong of Los Angeles.



Structures research seems to be.

going into the marriage business. They married another of their employees off last Saturday when Phyllis Luther said her "I do's" with Fred Sutton at the Base Chapel.

By the sea, by the sea.

by the beautiful sea. Yep, it's rumored that the next Green Cow Dance will be by the sea at the Grand View Pavilion on Friday night, May 17, in fact, a member of the Executive Committee of the Noble Order of the Green Cow has confirmed that rumor. However, at the time of the interview the name of the band had slipped his mind but he guarantees that cowboys will be furnished with good music to dance by. So visit your nearest ticket salesman, get on the ball and make that date, and come down and enjoy the gala affair.



Apparently feeling none the worse.

from his new experience, Howard Dexter, strutted into Full Scale Tunnel last Wednesday to announce that he had just become the proud father of a bouncing baby boy, Bruce Howard, born Tuesday, April 23.

Three engineers and a post hole digger.

would have provided a very interesting sight for anyone who might have happened along by the new west area softball diamonds Tuesday afternoon. Chet Weislo, Dale Burrows, and Irwin Schumacher went out to help build a backstop. A queer looking instrument happened to be laying on the hard, hard ground. Coming to the conclusion that it must be a rotary type post hole digger, they tried to dig a post hole. They are now satisfied that the west area is located on solid rock, at least four feet thick. Burrows and Schu provided the motive power, pushing the digger round and round. Weislo sat on top to give it a little digging force. The two pushers have blisters on their hands to show for their work. Chet's hands aren't blistered. All three suffered innumerable dizzy spells and wonder where they can get a good labor foreman to boss the next job. The consensus is that engineering is pretty darn simple after all.

EAST ENGINEERING HAS BILLIARD TOURNAMENT

The East Engineering Pocket Billiard's Club held its first tournament on Wednesday, April 17. Keen interest was shown by all participants and another event is being planned for the near future.

In the first round E. C. Kilgore trounced Frank Rite 50 to 3. N. Daniels and R. E. Gorman played a hotly contested match, and with Daniels leading at the last rack by 43 to 39, Gorman ran eleven straight balls to win. M. H. Lewis came back strong after trailing in the early stages of his match to take H. W. Sanders by a score of 50 to 29. Henry Elksnin and E. J. Wolff played the closest contest of the night. The lead changed hands several times and the score was tied equally as many times. In the final rack Wolff led 48 to 47 only to scratch. Taking advantage of the opportunity, Elksnin made three difficult shots to clinch the victory.

In the second and semi-final round Kilgore took an early lead, which he held throughout, to shade Gorman 50-22.

In the other semi-finals; Elksnin, who showed the effects of his gruelling first round match with Wolff, could never get started and was beaten 50 to 0 by M. H. Lewis in a fine exhibition of cue artistry.

The finals between Kilgore and Lewis will be played in the near future, and from previous play it should be a tightly contested affair.

TO ORGANIZE GIRLS' SOFTBALL LEAGUE

An organizational meeting for a Girls' Softball League will be held at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, at the Syms-Eaton Community Center. Officers will be elected and plans will be discussed for securing playing fields, equipment, and for mapping out a satisfactory schedule.

Since the league is rather late getting started this season, all sections wishing to enter a team in the league are urged to have a team representative present and if possible to have a complete roster made up. No team may enter the league after May 1. For further information contact Ferne Driver, 16-Foot Tunnel, telephone 4590.

N.Y.U. ALUMNI WILL MEET NEXT TUESDAY

A meeting of the Hampton Roads chapter of the New York University Alumni Federation will be held on Tuesday, April 30 at 8 p.m. at the Academy Street USO. Officers will be nominated. Following the meeting movies will be shown of the 1936 N.Y.U. versus Fordham football game when N.Y.U. defeated Fordham to upset their chance for the Rose Bowl.

What's My Name?



When it comes to administering to the personnel needs of the Research Department, that's where I come in. The duties of my job include recruiting, placing, evaluating, and reassigning all employees of the department, and trying to keep them happy when things go wrong. A great variety of happenings keep the job from getting dull; just last week a cute young thing from Roanoke flew down in her private plane to be interviewed for a computer's job.

I came here in 1929, via VMI, E.E. '27, and went to the showplace of the Laboratory, the then "giant" wind tunnel--the PRT. When I got there the full staff, engineers and all, were wiping Cosmoline off the two deisels the Navy had sent over for power. I joined in and was thus initiated into the NACA.

I'm a native Tidewater Virginian, being born in Norfolk in 1904 (But I don't look that old, do I?) and coming to life thereabouts a few years later. It's ironical that I have to be the one to defend my native land against the galaxy of slams that invariably come from easterners,

WM. AND MARY ALUMNI PLAN DINNER MEETING

The Peninsula Chapter, William and Mary Alumni, will hold a dinner meeting at the Hampton Country Club, Wednesday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. John E. Pomfret, college president, will speak.

Any alumni interested in attending may contact Frances Moreland, Library, telephone 2317. Dinner will be two dollars a plate.

WANTED: Model 62 Winchester. C. W. Cardwells, Erection Shop.

WANTED: House trailer for summer. Will rent or buy. Blanche M. Sponsler, 4570.

FOR SALE: Three sets of Lotter, Precision Original, drawing instruments. Contact Training Office. May be seen at the same office.

WANTED: To buy girl's bicycle, in good condition. Harriette Binder, Tank # 1.

FOUND: Man's brown felt hat size 7 1/4. Special Engineering Projects.(East).

northerners, westerners, and southerners alike.

Principal among my hobbies is fishing, and I think I know most of the choice spots in nearby waters. I don't go in particularly for the big ones, just the little kind that you snag on a hand line and then throw in the pan.

I'm married and we have a daughter and a son.

Bridgess Derrings



Standing at the rear door of the Administration Building, those attending the fore-runner of the annual conferences at the Laboratory posed for their picture. Among the group were a few faces remembered today. At the extreme left, with the wide-brimmed straw hat, is Executive Secretary John F. Victory. Near the center top is the late Dr. Joseph S. Ames, then chairman of the NACA. Next to him, with the lip foliage, is H. J. E. Reid. Below Reid is Elton W. Miller and on the front at center stands Dr. George W. Lewis. Back by the door is John W. Crowley and next to him, at the corner of the building, is Smith J. De France, Engineer-in-Charge at Ames. The bespectacled gentleman toward the right is NACA member T. P. Wright. Down front, in the light suit with four patch pockets, is Walter Reiser and up in the back is AERL's Manager, E. R. Sharp. The photo dates to 1926.

CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from page 2)

retory personnel to become panic stricken because for a short period of time the burning tunnel had all the potential powers for destruction as a small sized present day atomic bomb. A few seconds after the safety valve blew, the tunnel's engineering force promptly left the building. One of these engineers jumped off the platform around the tunnel, landed on the concrete floor, and ran several blocks to safety. He then discovered that he had broken his ankle during the jump and was on crutches for several months afterward. Reportedly, the Army guards slowed some of the other Nacas down to 20 miles per hour as they ran across the old wooden bridge. It seems nobody got a ticket for speeding.

In 1940, Morris became assistant to the Chief of the Technical Service Division, serving as general supervisor over the machine shops and the instrument shop. In November, 1943, he was appointed Assistant Chief of the Technical Service Department.

He was born in Port Gibson, Miss., December 7, 1899. He is married and has a daughter and a son.



Dr. H. J. E. Reid

H. J. E. Reid, who joined the ranks of the NACA on April 12, 1921, is now Dr. Reid, having been presented with an honorary doctorate of engineering by his Alma Mater, Worcester Polytech, at recent graduation exercises. Dr. Reid was graduated in Electrical Engineering from Worcester in 1919. He was born in Springfield, Mass., on August 20, 1895.

His first assignment at the Laboratory was at the only wind tunnel, the AWT. Later he was placed in charge of instrument development and on January 1, 1926, he was named Engineer-in-Charge.

Dr. Reid's memories of his early days on the Peninsula are enough to



William C. Morgan proudly displays the first \$1000 bond bought by a Laboratory employee on the payroll savings plan. The incident took place in 1943.

make current crop of Nacas sit up and take notice. He was a young junior engineer, and he reminds that the P-1's annual salary was then \$1500. He and his wife lived in a two room apartment in a home in the Boulevard Section. One room was a kitchen without running water. One of his household duties was the carrying of water, in pails, from the community bathroom.

Travelling to and from work was no simple proposition either; cars were not as plentiful. Reid caught the Boulevard streetcar, which used to run down La Salle Avenue to Chesapeake and

then along the waterfront, and rode to Hampton. He then transferred to the Langley Field galloping showcase that came as far as the bridge. Then he walked across the bridge to the Laboratory and is confident that it snowed for the first five winters. "The first five years were the hardest" he says.

The addition of these three brings the Laboratory's group of 25 year men to nine. Others are R. E. Mixson, Charlie Wolf, Bennie Bennett, Percy Keffer, James Kirkpatrick, and John Hanks.



William C. Morgan



Howard H. Morris