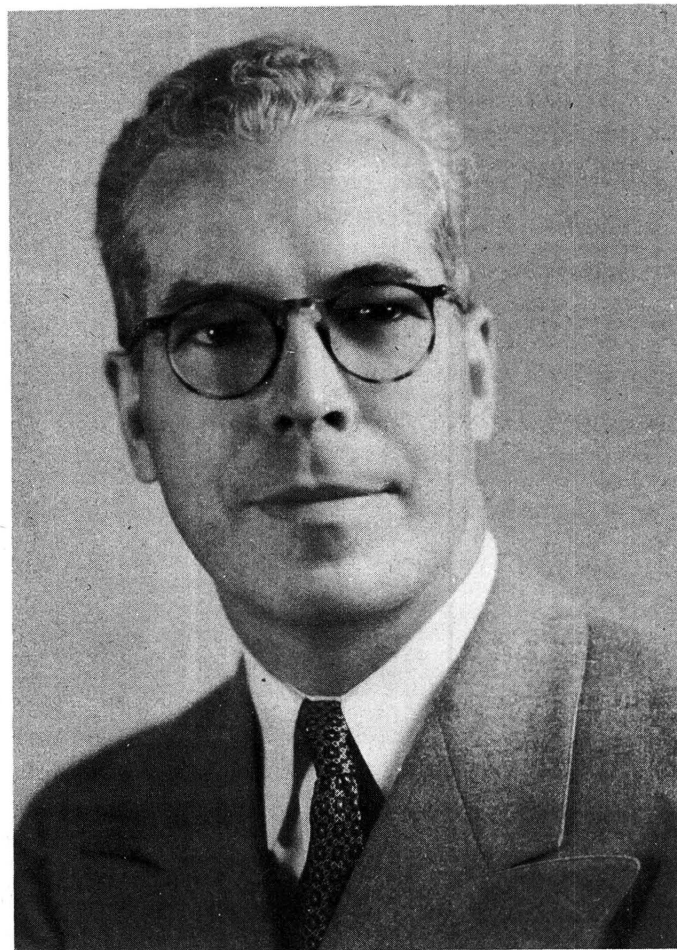


Merry Christmas





I wish the Laboratory staff and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Yuletide filled with good cheer.

We can look back on a job well done and forward to new opportunities for greater service and greater accomplishments.

May the New Year bring you all happiness, good health, and prosperity.

A. J. Reed

AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

Issue 51, Vol. 5

Langley Field, Va., December 25, 1946

Page 3

WIN A TURKEY FOR CHRISTMAS

Sharpshooters are reminded that tomorrow is their chance to get that turkey or ham for Christmas when the NACA Morale Activities Association sponsors a turkey shoot at the Activities Building from 10 a.m. 'til 4 p.m.. Twenty turkeys and eight hams will be given away plus a grand prize of a large gobbler. No admission will be charged other than a fifty-cent fee for each shot and twenty-five cents a guess for the grand prize.

Matches will be held for both rifles and shotguns. Contestants must furnish their own fire arms, but the Association will supply 12-gauge shotgun shells and 22 long rifle shells. Anyone desiring to use a smaller gauge gun in matches with the 12-gauge gun must furnish his own ammunition; however, all ammunition brought to the contest must be turned over to the man in charge of ammunition. The maximum charge of powder and minimum size of shot should not exceed 3 3/4 drams for powder and #8 for shot.

(Continued on page 6)

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE EXPLAINS PROCEDURE

By Chet Wcislo

Chairman, Activities Committee

With the opening of the new Activities Building and outdoor facilities in the West Area, the scheduling of sports, section functions, and other similar affairs becomes an important factor in providing for the maximum and most efficient use of the facilities available. Scheduling of all activities is the joint responsibility of the Social and Activities Committees of the Executive Board of the NACA Morale Activities Association but, to facilitate the job, all scheduling will be made through the Activities Com-

(Continued on page 6)

14 EMPLOYEES ASSIST IN TESTS OF XS-1

The world of aviation, preparing to celebrate the forty-third anniversary of the Wright brothers' flight at Kitty Hawk, N. C., when man made his first hop in a controlled, power-driven, heavier-than-air flying machine, watched with interest the reports emanating last week from the Muroc Army Air Base in California, where another aviation first was being recorded.

The first powered flight of an American-built, man-carrying rocket propelled airplane was made by the XS-1 when the tiny ship, built by Bell Aircraft Corporation, was cut loose from the belly of a B-29 at 25,000 feet and was flown at a speed of 550 miles per hour in a preliminary acceptance test over Muroc.

Fourteen Laboratory employees have been on duty for the past few months at Muroc, where the NACA is cooperating with the Army Air Forces and Bell in the conduct of acceptance tests on the XS-1. Upon completion of the acceptance tests, the XS-1 is to be used as a research

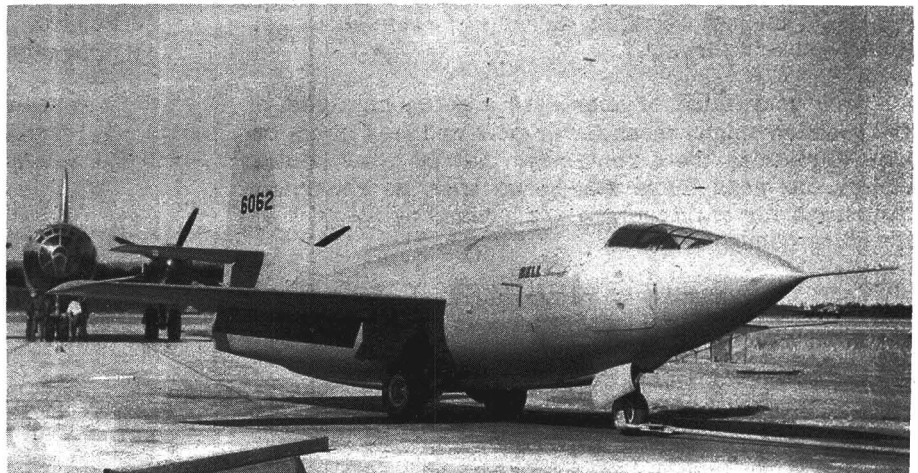
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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY DEC. 31

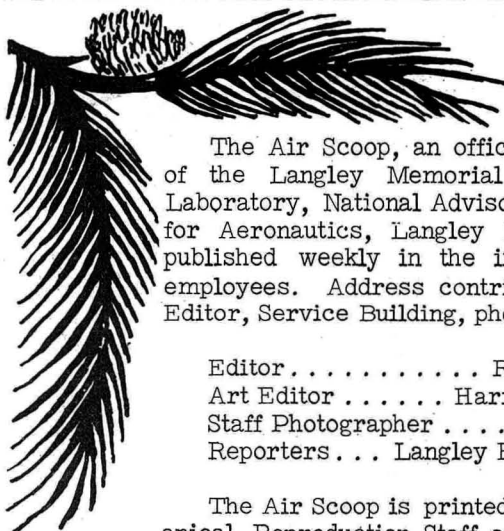
The NACA Morale Activities Association is making plans to give the New Year a warm reception when it makes its debut on Tuesday, December 31. The reception committee, consisting of Laboratory employees and their guests, will meet at 9:30 p.m. at the Activities Building to give old Father Time a good send off and will linger until 2 so as to give the New Year a hardy welcome. Fanfares and dance music will be furnished by a local orchestra.

Tickets to the semi-formal affair may be purchased from district representatives to the General Assembly of the NACA Morale Activities Association. Favors, ice, mix, and decorations are all included in the five-dollar admission price.

Social Chairman, Axel Mattson, stated that this affair should be the biggest and best yet sponsored by the Morale Activities Association and he urges Laboratory employees to come out and join in the fun.



The first powered flight of an American-built, man-carrying rocket-propelled airplane, the XS-1, was made last week over the Muroc Army Air Base, California. In its first acceptance test, the XS-1 (above) was flown at a speed of 550 miles per hour. Fourteen Laboratory employees are cooperating in the tests.



The Air Scoop, an official publication of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Langley Field, Va., is published weekly in the interest of its employees. Address contributions to the Editor, Service Building, phone 2376.

Editor Ruth Angel
 Art Editor Harry DeVoto
 Staff Photographer Bill Taub
 Reporters Langley Employees

The Air Scoop is printed by the Mechanical Reproduction Staff and distributed by the Office Service Section Staff.

...GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN

Christmas: 1946; New Year: 1947; time for pause, a period in life when we must permit ourselves an opportunity for forgetfulness in order that we may better remember....

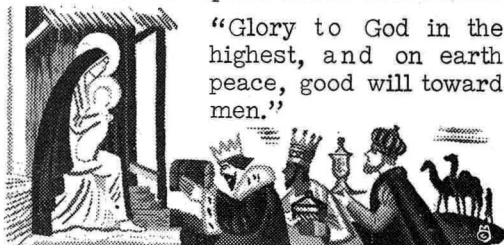
Forget petty jealousies, harsh words, ill feelings; try to remember the importance of a friendly word, a pleasant thought, a kindly deed....

Forget for a moment that a large part of the world is pockmarked by the ravages of war; make yourself remember to hope desperately that the new-found knowledge of atomic power will benefit mankind and not be a frankenstein designed to complete the desolation halted by the armistice....

And hope, too, that if man is successful in his efforts at mastering flight at supersonic speed, it will mean a faster way of spreading the gospel of friendly relations, not just a swifter means for enemies to get at each other's throats....

Free your mind of shortages and the high cost of living which might mean fewer gifts and less lights on your Christmas tree; remember that in many homes across the seas there will be no tree, no cheer, no Christmas for children who are haunted by the echo of exploding bombs....

Yes, try honestly to remember that all war, all unhappiness, all hate, all bitterness may usually be traced to a time when someone, somewhere, forgot to remember the hopeful words of the heavenly host:



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



MANY, MANY THANKS

We, of the "Air Scoop," would like to take this opportunity to express our deep thanks and sincere appreciation to our fellow workers who have contributed their time and talent towards making this Christmas issue possible.

Our sincere thanks to Harry DeVoto, Technical Illustrators, for designing the beautiful cover; to Bill Abbe, Technical Illustrators, for his border line drawings; and to Mechanical Reproduction Staff for their untiring efforts and cooperation in printing this issue.

We greatly appreciate the interest and cooperation shown by Laboratory employees during the past year. We hope that you will be just as helpful in the future as in the past by continuing to give us your support and by sending in your suggestions.

With this issue, we're taking a vacation but we'll be back in print January 10, so until then MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.



I HEARD THE BELLS
 ON CHRISTMAS DAY



I heard the bells on Christmas day
 Their old, familiar carols play,
 And wild and sweet the words repeat
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
 The belfries of all Christendom
 Had rolled along the unbroken song
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:
 'There is no peace on earth,' I said,
 'For hate is strong, and mocks the song,
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men.'

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
 'God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
 The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
 With peace on earth, good-will to men.'

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
 The world revolved from night to day,
 A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
 Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

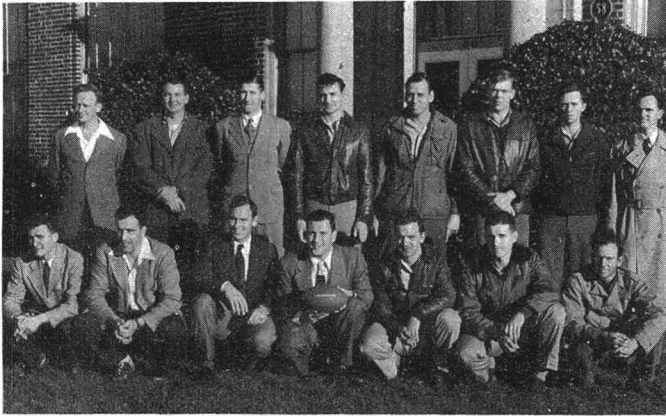
Henry

Wadsworth

Longfellow.



1946 Touch Football Co-champs



In the playoffs for the 1946 Touch Football Championship title, Nomads and West Shops tied to become co-champs. Shown in the picture on the left are the Nomads. Front row (from left): Billy Bates, Pat Cancro, Ed Hoffman, Irwin Scnumacker, Harry Thompson, Harry Nutter, and Charles Rogers. Back row (from left): Ray Hansen, Raoul Bugg, Jud Ellis,



Jim Morris, Benson Gardner, Jim McConnell, Ed Swansey and Ike Eichmeier. In the picture on the right are members of the West Shops team. Front row (from left): George Lamb, Ray Goodman, Eddie Polhamus, and Jack Kinzler. Second row (from left): Bill Washington, Harold Stalnaker, John Gruchawka, Elvin Freeman, and Frank Hilsdon.

---Photos by Bill Taub

STRUCTURES, SHOPS WIN BASKETBALL GAMES

Last Saturday the NACA Men's Basketball League closed its regular season of play until after the holiday season with two games. In the first battle, Shops came out on the winning end of a 31-20 victory over Stability. The losers put up a good fight in the first half of the game with a 6-6 tie in the first quarter and a slight lag of 14-11 at the end of the half; however, Shops took a 21-15 lead in the third quarter and managed to increase the lead 31-20 as the game ended. High scoring laurels for the winners went to Jim Dawson with nine points and Bill Ferguson with eight. High scorer for the losers was Eddie Polhamus with eight points.

In the second game Structures gave PARD a sound 30-18 defeat. With the score 14 to 10 at half time, Structures held on to their lead to win 30-18. High scorers for the winners were Andy Anderson and Gallagher with seven points each. Taking his share of the points for the losers was Jerry Teitelbaum with 11.

LOST: Double strand of pearls. Margie Ezell, Low Turbulence.

Many people who don't believe in Santa Claus are waiting around for him to come.

--O. A. Battista.

PINBUSTERS LEAD IN TENPIN LEAGUE

Leading the NACA Tenpin bowlers is Pinbusters with twenty wins and four losses; Headpins and Miscellaneous are tied for second place with sixteen wins and ten losses. Ross Levine, Maplemaulers, took top honors for the men with a 243 game and Betty Rosato, Rockets, for the women with 176. High individual sets went to Raoul Bugg, RC & T, with 595 and Marie Edgett, Fiscal Wrecks, with 420. High team set and game went to Pinbusters with a 853 game and 2402 set.

STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Averages
Pinbusters	20	4	.833
Headpins	16	8	.667
Miscellaneous	16	8	.667
Psztch	14	10	.583
Maplemaulers	14	10	.583
Lets Strike	13	11	.541
RC & T	12	12	.500
Alleycats	12	15	.444
Fiscal Wrecks	12	15	.444
Missilot	8	16	.333
Rockets	9	18	.333
Woodpeckers	9	18	.333
Guttersnipes	7	17	.291

FOR SALE: Pair of fencing foils, pre-war metal golf clubs. Mary E. Wood, Construction Engineering.

HILSDON WINS MODEL MEET

Joe Boyle's 68-second flight was the high spot of last Sunday's indoor glider meet as the Brain Busters continued their weekly series of contests. Boyle, of East Model Shop, bettered the world record by more than ten seconds but the flight must remain unofficial as it did not take place during the actual contest.

Frank Hilsdon, West Engineering, again led the field officially with a flight of 57 seconds; just one short of the present record which the Brain Busters have set out to break. Boyle followed in second place with 47 seconds; Bob Dagand, Sub-Depot, was third with 44 seconds; Reid Hull, East Engineering, fourth with 38 seconds; and Ben Cleveland, West Machine, fifth with 37 seconds.

Invitation is extended to all for the coming Sunday's meet at the Balloon Hangar with the expectation that a new official A. M. A. record may be set. Sanction by the Academy of Model Aeronautics has been requested so that record-breaking flights may have national recognition.



FOR SALE: One manual record player in excellent condition, plugs into radio. Price - \$10. Cecil Burtner, Flight Operations.

TEST XS-1

(Continued from page 3)

tool by the NACA in an intensive high-speed research program.

Walter C. Williams of the Flight Research Division is in charge of the Laboratory personnel at Muroc. Others from Langley include: Joel R. Baker, Charles M. Forsyth, Beverly P. Brown, John J. Gardner, and Howard N. Hinman, Flight Research Division; William S. Aiken Cloyce E. Matheny, Miss Roxannah B. Yancey and Miss Isabella K. Martin, the latter two computers, all of the Aircraft Loads Division; William Hampton, Harold H. Youngblood, George P. Minalga and Warren A. Walls, Instrument Research Division.

The local group is expected to remain at Muroc for the duration of the tests, scheduled to conclude next summer.

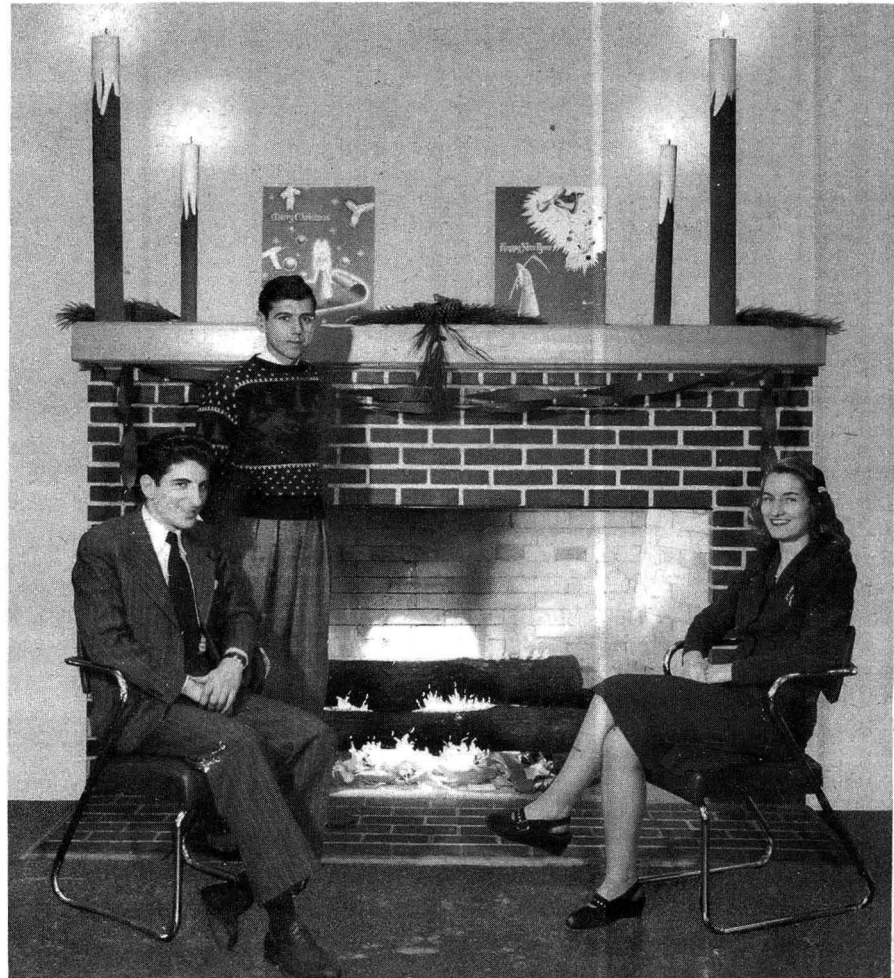
The XS-1, which had previously been flown in unpowered glide tests, was cut loose from the bomber at 25,000 feet. The pilot, Chalmers Goodlin of New Alexandria, Pa., climbed under his own power to 35,000. He flew for 19 minutes, not quite seven under power, and made a perfect landing with his fuelless engine idle.

According to a previous announcement made by NACA officials in Washington, the airplane is to be acceptance tested by the manufacturer to meet certain specifications of performance and handling up to a speed limit of 80 per cent of the speed of sound, or about 612 miles per hour at standard sea-level temperature. At this point, the announcement added, the XS-1 is to be turned over to the NACA for flight research up to 120 percent of the speed of sound, or beyond, if possible.

The XS-1 was based on high-speed design information provided by the NACA, according to specifications worked out among the NACA, the AAF and Bell. The craft, which has a wing span of 28 feet, and measures 31 feet from tail to tip, is completely instrumented by NACA research engineers to obtain new and unknown facts on flight through and above the speed of sound.

FOR RENT: Comfortable bedroom with living room and kitchen privileges. Near bus line. Call Mrs. Poe, Mechanical Reproduction, or Hampton - 3098.

Greetings from the Air Scoop Staff



ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 3)

mittee. Since a very large number of people must be served and activities are so diversified, it is necessary to set a procedure to be followed for obtaining the use of the facilities.

A request for the use of the facilities must be made in memorandum form to Bruce Amole, Activities Building, stating the type of function, number of people involved, facilities and equipment required, desired date, time of function, and name of person forstering the affair. Approval and scheduling will be given immediately, following receipt of the written memorandum. This memorandum should be in the hands of Bruce Amole as soon as possible to insure satisfactory scheduling and also to allow publication of the week's schedule of activities in the "Air Scoop." Before sending the memorandum, the date should be reserved by calling Chet Wcislo, I. A. L.

TURKEY SHOOT

(Continued from page 3)

So as to give everyone a fair chance of winning, controlled chokes for shotguns and telescopes for rifles will be barred. Ranges will be 40 yards for shotguns and thirty for rifles.

The methods of scoring will be determined for each match at the site. All winners of the first eight matches will have the choice of either a ham or a turkey.

Sports, such as basketball, may seem to dominate the use of the building, but the sports schedule, although planned in advance for the season, will be made flexible to allow postponing or rescheduling when conflicting with non-seasoned activities such as section parties. In addition, it may be frequently necessary to schedule two or more activities at the same time when they do not conflict

LIFE AT THE LABORATORY DURING '46

As the old year goes out and the new one is ushered in, let's indulge in a bit of reminiscing and recall some of the headlines which made Laboratory history during 1946.

January--Naval officers visit Lab to discuss aircraft improvements...Representative Robert Ramspeck of the Ramspeck raise Ramspeck resigns from house... Rogallo presents paper to annual meeting of I.A.S...Reduction in force hits Laboratory; 350 affected....Ebert tells supervisors of visit to German Labs....Hunsaker asks for bigger wind from 16-Foot Tunnel....Third term of apprentice school opens....Lab to continue pay roll savings plan.....NACA Skyhawks, a basketball team organized to represent Lab, opens season....Both cafeterias quit between-meal service....DeVoto, Johnson, Forsyth, Eales elected to Green Cow committee....Carl Alexander, Flight Research, drowns while duck hunting.

February--Fourth annual Executives Conference of the NACA held at Langley....Lab sponsors fourteen employees for predoctoral fellowships....Government Employment going back to peacetime basis....President Truman again asks pay increase....Aviation Writers Association and local and national dignitaries see Lab facilities....Lab gets "Doctor" for Engineer-in-Charge as alma mater honors Reid....DeVoto resigns post as cow committee chairman, replaced by Johnson....Same old story: Skyhawks lose 2....University of Virginia Extension opens spring semester...Green Cow sponsors semi-formal dance....Syms-Eaton Community Center reopens...Skyhawks win three games....Veterans return to Lab.

March--Committee representatives attend house hearings on Federal employees' pay bill....Committee says "give 'em raise"....Lab to assist local red cross drive....Fourth annual graduation held from L M A L apprentice school....McConnell gets 16 as IRD wins league championship.

April--Pay bill goes to house for okay....Arnold Feingold wins NRC fellowship....Civil Service plans permanent appointment exams....House okays \$400 annual pay hike....Hartley Soule gives paper at SAE meet.....Announce new research policy.....Morgan, Morris, and Reid celebrate twenty-fifth anniversary with committee....Activities Building to be ready by August....Service Building gets renovations.

May--Fifteenth Annual Inspection held at Langley... Coal miners strike; Lab helping to furnish power to community....Conferees propose 14 per cent raise....

Both houses okay 14 per cent raise; effective July 1.... First Civil Service exams held at Lab....Men's softball league gets underway....George Sadler dies in plane crash.

June--Personnel Council meets at Lab....Life Magazine plans high-speed layout....Deferment sought for men over 26....Plan Annual NACA Golf TournamentAERL man photos engine knock at new speed recordHulcher heads little theatre....Jerry Lewis dies of plane crash injuries.

July--Starr Truscott dies suddenly in sixtieth year... Board of examiners approved for NACA....Jim Bertoci, Billy Bates win golf tournament....Bertram Batzold dies after short illness.

August--Jimmy Doolittle visits Laboratory, praises research work done here....Employees sign affidavits... Hold first annual Ames inspection....Celebrate Air Force Day....John Crowley celebrates twenty-fifth year with NACA....New wind tunnel opened at Ames....Dale Burrows hurls second no-hit no-run game in league.... Brain Busters hold fourth annual contest; Dick Sladek wins Truscott award....440 middies inspect Lab.

September--Stack to deliver lecture in Paris...Plan dedication of new activities building....Lightplane conference held here....Research helping to eliminate noise in personal planes.....19-Foot wins softball championship....C. T. Waters celebrates thirty-eighth year continuous government service...Record-breaking registration for U. of Va. Extension.

October--Dedication of Activities Building set for October 29....Pre-dedication dance huge success.... NACA establishes wage board plan....Ed Kilgore wins 1946 tennis title....Employees urged to buy bonds.... Sally Rodriguez directs Hampton Little Theatre production.

November--John F. Victory dedicates new activities building in West Area....Stack returns from Europe.... Pete Korycinski reelected president of Executive Board of NACA Morale Activities Association....Activities Association presents Stack in informal chat....Aircraft show in Cleveland....Community Chest drive begins at Lab, goal \$8,000....Ten employees in Little Theatre production....Andy Anderson heads basketball league.

December--Royall, Devers visit Laboratory.... Activities Association sponsors turkey shoot....Activities Association plans New Year's Eve party.

