

# AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

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## CSC SAYS INTERIM TYPISTS MAY STAY

Personnel officials announced this week that a recent Civil Service Departmental Circular should do much to ease the minds of any clerk-typists and stenographers hired recently on temporary appointments pending the establishment of a register of eligibles. Since the Laboratory does not anticipate any reduction in force in these categories, persons so appointed will not be subject to replacement by Civil Service until another competitive open exam is announced. Then they will have the opportunity of taking the exam and becoming eligible themselves.

Hiring of clerk-typists and stenographers is still going on as there is a recognized shortage of this type of help.

## JOYNER PRESIDENT OF LAB SKEET CLUB

Upshur Joyner, Physical Research, was elected president of the NACA Skeet Club at a meeting Tuesday night. Other officers named were Leo Burch, vice-president, Blake Corson, secretary, and Joe Lada, treasurer.

Joyner announced that two committees had been appointed, the building and grounds committee consisting of Axel Mattson, Burch, and Bobby Goodness, and the organization committee made up of Corson, Jack Runckel, and Al Schultz.

The immediate problem before the club's 25 members is the procurement of

## SERVICE BUILDING GETS RENOVATIONS

Sporting a new coat of paint and the addition of twelve new offices where the Instrument Shop used to be, the first floor of the Service Building underwent a renovation last week, thereby confusing one and all Lab employees as to what had happened to the various personnel activities.

Moving into the new offices in the north end of the building were the following: Personnel Division Offices, Safety Engineer, Counselling, Employee Relations, Recreation, Personnel Services, Personnel Storage Files, Office Services Section Office, Research Personnel Offices, Stenographic Section Report Typists, Travel Clerks, and last (Ed. note: but far from least), the sacred precincts of the Air Scoop Office.

Going back into their renovated quarters in the south end of the building were Personnel Records and Classification. Also located in that end of the building now are: Training Office, Local Civil Service Board, and a Ladies Room, the latter where the Men's Room used to be.

the necessary land to erect a range. Joyner said that he hoped land would be available within two or three weeks and that the members would begin shooting as soon as possible.

Any Laboratory employees interested in joining the club or getting information about it may contact Joyner at 4559 or Corson at 4588.

## TWO NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO NACA

Dr. Jerome C. Hunsaker, NACA Chairman, announced this week that President Truman has appointed Arthur E. Raymond and Ronald M. Hazen as members of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. The vacancies were created by the retirements of Dr. William F. Durand, professor emeritus of mechanical engineering, Stanford University, California who has retired from active participation in the aeronautical sciences, and of Dr. Edward Warner, now president of the interim council of the Provisional International Civil Aviation organization.

Raymond, president of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences and vice president in charge of engineering of the Douglas Aircraft company, is an outstanding designer of airplanes and holds a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from MIT.

Hazen is chief engineer of the Allison division of General Motors corporation and is responsible for the design of the Allison engine which powered the famed Lightning fighter planes of the recent war.

## KNOW ANYONE WHO WANTS A JOB HERE?

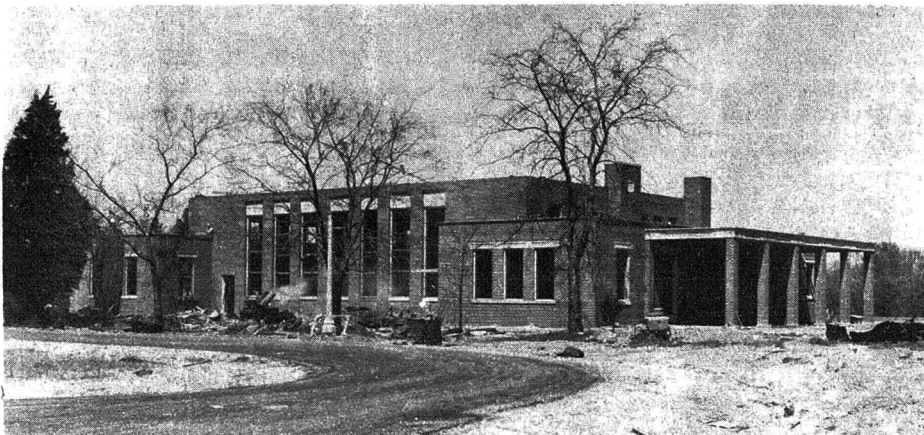
Norwood Evans of Employment announced this week that there are vacancies here at the Laboratory in several different fields and that they are especially in need of stenographers and clerk-typists. Anyone knowing of qualified persons are asked to call 2325 ro 2272.

Other vacancies are: auto mechanics, engineers of all types, aircraft metal-smiths, computers, machinists, tool-makers, artists and illustrators, plumbers, engineering draftsmen, and radio mechanics.

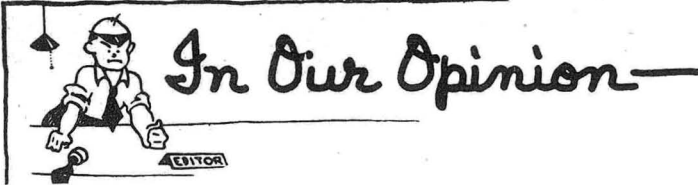
## MAKING PLANS FOR ANNUAL INSPECTION

Activities throughout the Lab are planning for the Fifteenth Annual Inspection scheduled for May 9, 13, and 15. An impressive show is being planned for the estimated 800 to 1,200 guests.

Among the facilities slated for inspection are: 19-Foot Tunnel, Flight Research, 8-Foot High Speed Tunnel, Free Flight Tunnel, Spin Tunnel, Hydrodynamics, Full Scale Tunnel, 16-Foot Tunnel, Physical research, Structures, Supersonic Tunnel, Gust Tunnel, Impact Basin, 7 X 10 Tunnels, and Induction Aerodynamics Lab.



According to the latest prediction of officials, the Recreation Building, above, will be ready for use in the middle of the summer. This view looks at the front end the south porch.



# In Our Opinion—

## THE DISAPPEARING FRONTIER

A year or so ago, all manner of fun was poked at the alternate mud flats and dust bowl in the west area, where the last frontier was being built up and where the cafeteria at lunch time looked like the grab hour at Mrs. So-and-so's boom town boarding house. These conditions have been rapidly disappearing.

True, the occasional high winds still whip up the dust a little and one doesn't have to go far out of his way to find mud after rain, but along with the completed buildings have come grass and shrubs. Along with the careless drivers and pedestrians that civilization has brought to this one time wilderness have gone the grass and shrubs.

Driving over shrubs, or across walks, curbs, lawns, or drainage ditches, or beyond the edges of parking lots, or into guy wires supporting trees, has taken its toll. Playing ball on the lawns or shortcutting to the next building has added to the damage. Consequently a small grounds maintenance crew is fighting a losing battle. Many of these bad practices were started while construction was still going on and it was necessary to park or walk as close to the buildings as possible. Now the practices have developed into habits that can no longer be excused. Well kept grounds are essential to the overall appearance of the Laboratory; it's up to us all.

## MAIL SERVICE STOPS

During the past three years it has been the custom to mail the Air Scoop to former employees of the Laboratory who were serving in the Armed Forces. At times, the weekly mailing reached over 200; now it would stand at 175, which means \$5.25 a week for postage. The only way the Scoops can be mailed is with a three-cent stamp. The only way we can raise the money is by voluntary contributions from interested employees. The last two reminders that funds were running low went practically unheeded. The mail service is temporarily out of order pending replenishment of the kitty.

## BOOK REVIEW

CIVIL AVIATION AND THE NATIONAL ECONOMY-- by the Office of Aviation Administration, CAA, 147 pp. 55 cents

The CAA has done a very worthwhile job in this timely survey of the possibilities of civil aviation in the coming decade. It touches on the three major expansion fields, (1) personal flying with more than 400,000 private planes by 1955, (2) airline transportation which should bring in annual revenue of \$ 345,000,000 by '55, and (3) a national airport plan calling for a ten year expenditure of twelve million dollars to build 3,050 new airports and repair 1,625 more.

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# LIVE at the LABORATORY

A remarkable coincidence. . . . .

was the hiring, at the same time, of two Raymond Moores, and the assignment of both of them to the Messenger Service. In order to keep the Leave and Payroll Offices from going completely bats, one Raymond produced a middle initial. They aren't related.

The appearance of the male messengers. . . . .

reminds many of the days when girls were unknown in the job. Mel Butler, Buck Barber, John Householder, Charlie Anderson, and Gene Hoge were among the little fellows who saw that the mails got through.

Ruth Greenspon came to. . . . .



work Wednesday with a big sparkler on her third finger left hand. The Editorial Office is still all excited over the prospects of another wedding. The prospective groom is Mayer Smith of Newport News.

The bold, black letters W-O-M-E-N. . . . .

on a doorway on the first floor of the Service Building bear mute testimony to the fact that what was once man's is now woman's. Far sighted officialdom, fearing the worst unless special attention was called to the change, is responsible for the extra, extra large sign.

All of which brings to mind. . . . .

the time that some fellow watched a lady emerge from the wrong door on the second floor of the Administration Building with a slight blush and the simple statement, "I've known for months I'd do that some day."

"Modelbuilding and National Defense". . . . .

was the impressive title of a similarly impressive talk given last Sunday by Tom Hulcher, Auxiliary Flight, to members of the Exchange Club of Virginia at their meeting at the Nansemond Hotel at Ocean View. Hulcher traced, among other things, the growth of modelbuilding in the state of Virginia and the use of modelmakers at the Laboratory. According to all reports the talk was very well received.





By Tiny Hutton

The softball diamonds won't be the same this year with all the missing faces. Gone from the Lab and their triumphs of yesteryear are Si Diskin, Walter "Pop" Woods, and Norm Rafel from Structures; Fred Rice of the Low Turbs; East Shops' Bill Gurski; Fred Burnside of 19-Foot's champs; Gil DeVore, Harold Kleckner, Chuck Mantey, and the late Carl Alexander from Flight; Electrical's Andy Bogart; and Johnny Mitchell of the Tank, just to mention a few of the more prominent ones.

The loss of these men has been legitimate, but now the Lab league is threatened with the possible loss of others in a manner which, while legitimate, gives cause for comment.

There are a few men here, among them the league's outstanding pitcher for the last two years Al Martina, who are considering playing in the Newport News City League. Some would like to play in both leagues, eligibility rules permitting. If the rules did not allow dual participation, some would choose to remain here while others would play in the other league. Martina stated last week that he was undecided what he would do. The loss of these four or five men would not greatly harm the league as a whole but it is interesting to note that they are all first rate ball players.

The Newport News organization has much more to offer these men than the simple joy of playing. A well organized league with paid supervisors, uniformed teams, more equipment, a fast game played strictly by American Softball Association rules, and a trip to the state championship tournament, expenses paid, are the most beckoning advantages.

Having a league where fellows can go out purely for recreation is okay, and with the caliber of the average Laboratory ballplayer what it is, it's perhaps the best thing. But then again, no one should be blamed for wanting to play ball where they play ball.

## LAB CAMERA CLUB MEETS TUESDAY

The NACA Camera Club will meet next Tuesday night at the Symes-Eaton Community Center at 7:30, it has been announced by Kurt Strass, the president. Strass also said that regular meetings will be held on alternate Tuesdays, the Tuesday after each payday. He did not say whether or not there was any connection between the two.

"Plans are underway for obtaining full time darkroom facilities at the center," he said, "and they will be discussed at the meeting."

\* \* \*

FOR SALE: Meuser patrone 22 cal. high side wall single shot target rifle with custom fitted stock and sling. In very good condition. \$65. Daniel Germansky, Metallurgical Lab.



Now that the papers and radio are full of baseball again, there are a few Langleyites here and there who go out to toss the ball with their kids, look longingly at a discarded glove, drag out an old picture, and reminisce about the old NACA baseball team of the middle twenties. Establishing an enviable record among nearby amateur and semi-pro teams, the 1927 aggregation looked something like this: top row, George Dawson, Gus Crowley, and Tom Carroll, managers, and the late Monroe Ikner, outfield; second row, Johnny Bergbom, Walter Quigg, Percy Keffer, and Oscar Loeser; front row, Stumpy Howard, George Magnus, Bluegie Snyder, Lefty Forrest, Malvern Powell, Mel Gough, and Ray Braig. Bergbom, Keffer, Howard, Magnus, Forrest and Gough are still at the Lab. Quigg and Braig are at Ames and Crowley is temporarily in the Washington Office.

## CARL ROSSMAN NAMED TO HEAD BRIDGE CLUB

Carl Rossman of Structures was elected chairman of the LMAL Bridge Club at its regular meeting Tuesday night at the USO. Gene Frank, Safety, was named vice-chairman and chairman of the tournament committee and John L. Crigler, PRD, was made secretary-treasurer. The officers will serve for six months.

The club also announced winners of their first tournament. Maurice Olson and Abe Goodman won north-south honors with 174.5 points; Stan and Harry Clason were second with 155.5 and Clarence Williams and Crigler were third with 151. Mr. and Mrs. Alan McCorquodale were the east-west tops with 160. Sol Rubinow and Bert Eisenstadt scored 150 for second and Annie and Ida Young and Manny Stein and Ed Kruszewski tied for third place with 143.

The club will continue to hold regular meetings every Tuesday at the USO. Rubber bridge is played at the meetings and Rossman said that he was anxious to have anyone interested in learning the game come down and join. "We have several competent instructors," he said, "who will be glad to try to help your game."

FOR SALE: Rolleicord reflex camera. Dave Ullman, IRD.

FOR SALE: One set of golf clubs and one upright piano. De Beeler, Hampton-5962.

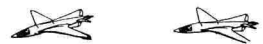
## HOLD FIRST POSTWAR LANGLEY MODEL MEET

The Brainbusters model club held its first outdoor gas meet of the season last Sunday on Langley Field, marking the first model meet on the post-war since the beginning of the war. Special arrangements were made with Col. R. V. Williams, commanding officer, for a series of three meets which will determine the club's official gas entrant at the Victory National in Chicago during July.

Reid Hall won the honors Sunday. The events were open to all three classes. The next in the series of meets will be held Sunday, April 21 and the last in four weeks.

Three entrants will be sponsored in the nationals, one each in rubber, outdoor gas, and indoor. Dick Everett will be the indoor representative.

Officers of the Brainbusters are: Gordon Cheesman, president; Charlie Folk, secretary; Dick Sladek, treasurer; and Jerry Lewis, publicity chairman.



## AAUW MEETS TUESDAY

The Recent Graduates Committee of the American Association of University Women will meet Tuesday, May 7, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. S. Batdorf, 7 Henry Street. Mrs. Carter Harrison will speak on "Russia". All members and visitors are invited to attend.

# FOUR-LEAF CLOVERS WORTH WEIGHT IN GOLD

Charles Daniels, Naval Architect at Tank No. 1, claims that four-leaf clovers, worth more than their weight in gold, are one of the few things that haven't gone up in price along with the high cost of living but still sell for slightly less than a cent a piece.

Charlie is the son of Charles Thomas Daniels, who began experimenting with clover back in 1929 and developed his hobby into a thriving \$30,000 a year business. It is still the only business of its kind operated on a commercial basis.

The business was just getting into full swing when the war came along and started it on the down grade. At first the clovers were mounted in metal which was declared an essential war material but the good luck charm of the clover was not to be defeated so they were soon mounted in non-essential plastics and the business rose to a new high.

The experiment started out as just a hobby, then Charlie's mother stepped innocently into the picture. She began pressing the clovers onto greeting cards and sending them to her friends. One incident that she still likes to talk about was the time she fixed a good luck card for Admiral Richard Byrd to carry on his polar expedition. The Daniels received so many compliments that Mr. Daniels began investigating the commercial possibilities of his clovers. He found novelty companies interested, and thus began one of the most exclusive and unusual businesses in the world.

The clovers, pressed on a warm stove to evaporate the water, are placed in pressing tablets and shipped to various places. No shipments have been lost and during the war most of them were being transported by airplane.

Out of curiosity, Charlie once conducted an experiment and discovered that the clovers are actually worth more than their weight in gold.

One interesting incident which Charlie cited was that of Tom Bartlett, brother of Walter Bertlett of PRT. Tom was a B-29 pilot in Tokyo and during all his missions had carried one of the Daniels' good luck charms. Just before

# What's My Name?



My job is to head the Research Records Office, where we keep track of the progress of research at the Laboratory and have information available for the executive offices. In this work I am assisted by two charming young ladies. I came to work here in 1939 after having been born in Massachusetts and schooled in Michigan. Of course I stayed at the Langley Hotel for a while. When I first arrived I thought things smelled fishy; later I found out it wasn't politics.

I'm part owner of a spacious 61-foot yacht, "Old Glory", which a group of us bought a year or so ago and have been working on ever since. Bowling, golf, basketball, and Literary Society meetings are among my other hobbies. I fell off a wagon when I was five, cut my lip, but landed on my feet. I've been alternately on and off ever since. If you haven't guessed my name, turn the page upsidedown. P. S. I'm still single.

Hank Fedzink

one scheduled flight, Tom couldn't find his good luck piece anywhere so finally had to make the flight without it. Whether it was pure coincidence or whether there is really something to this good luck business is still being debated, but nevertheless, Tom was shot up on that mission and had to retire from the theatre of operations.

Another experience which the Daniels like to tell about is the time General Ike Eisenhower sent a personal letter from the European Theatre of Operations requesting that a number of clovers be sent to him. He got the good luck charms and Charlie likes to think they played their part in the victory.

# NEED SOFTBALL UMP'S; WILL PAY ONE BUCK

With 17 teams rarin' to go, the men's softball league is busy making plans to start things off on the west area diamonds around April 29.

Johnny Knemeyer, chairman of the officials committee, announced that the league is going to pay officials one dollar a game this year and asked that interested men, who are not on the active roster of any league team, contact him at 2283.

Several changes in the rules were noted for this year's play. All the changes in the ASA rules were adopted and in addition the league ban on a player's stealing home was rescinded. Notable among the ASA changes are: elimination of shortfielder, shortening baselines by five feet, and allowing the batter to take first base when hit by a pitched ball.

Teams who postpone their regularly scheduled games are in for a rough time, according to league chairman Chet Woislo. Games must be made up within two weeks of postponement and on fields other than the two west area diamonds which will be in use every day. If the makeup game is not played off in time, the team originally postponing must forfeit.

A seven week schedule for the first half of the season was adopted, after which time all rained out games will be played.

The next meeting of the league will be held at the Syms-Eaton Community Center on Wednesday, April 24. It is important that every team be represented.

FOR SALE: "Handbook of Engineering Fundamentals" by Eshbach, \$3.45, Training Office, 2300.

FOR SALE: Desk blocks with your name in gold. Letter shaded in black in straight letter or script. \$3 with order. W. W. Wilson, Post Engineer Paint Shop.

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to what has been in back of woman's mind all year long.

