

Turbine Engine Weighing But Fraction Of Diesel Motor Is Boeing-Produced For Trucks

SEATTLE—(AP)—The Boeing Airplane company announces today it has produced the "world's first turbine engine for trucks," weighing only one-fourteenth as much as a diesel motor producing the same power.

The Mighty Midget, which generates 175 horsepower, tips the beam at 200 pounds. It has been road-tested in a 10-ton freight truck for the past several months on the mountainous roads in the vicinity of Seattle.

The Boeing engine, being developed for the U. S. navy bureau of ships, is similar to the jet airplane engine in general design, officials said. The power is harnessed by a secondary turbine, however, to turn a shaft rather than being exhausted as jet thrust.

The truck is considerably quieter, Boeing engineers said, than a conventional diesel truck engine. Exhaust gasses, about which much worry has been expressed, are approximately the same temperature as those from a diesel or gasoline truck.

At idling speed it is possible to place a hand over the end of the oversized exhaust stacks without danger of being burned. The exhaust gasses are invisible and virtually odorless. Some fear has been expressed in publications that

the exhaust from turbine engines would "fry" anyone unlucky enough to walk within its range—estimated at up to 75 feet.

Work on Various Fuels
The engine runs equally well on gasoline, kerosene, light or heavy fuel oil, and has been test run on "bottled" gas. The cooling system common to trucks and motor cars now operating is eliminated. Engineers said the motor reduces gear shifting to a minimum. It starts immediately and develops full engine power without a warm-up period. The engine cannot be stalled.

Conventional truck engines weigh at least 2,500 pounds more than the Boeing turbine, its producers claim. In addition, the turbine occupies only 13 percent of the space normally taken by a conventional 200 horsepower gasoline or diesel engine. This points the way to major economies in space in truck construction and storage.

Engineers said the engine, which they have designated as the "502," operates on the same principle as a ship steam turbine, but uses exhaust gasses in place of steam to turn the shaft.

Boeing started research in the engine in 1943 and plans to continue tests on the turbine for the next several months on regular freight hauls.

Wheat Quotas To Depend On Dry Weather Of Area

SPOKANE—(AP)—Wheat quotas in 1951 will depend largely on dry weather in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas Panhandle, a production and marketing official says.

They are major wheat production areas.

L. K. Olson of the Spokane production and marketing administration office, included that statement in a report given to PMA county committeemen.

The secretary of agriculture is required by law to announce in July whether a marketing quota will be established for the following year. Growers must approve a recommended quota by a two-thirds majority vote.

Olson, recently returned from a Washington, D. C., conference, said exports this year have fallen about 75,000,000 bushels below predictions.

"Twenty-penny" nails are four inches long.



ICY DIP—Man turned out to be dog's best friend when Denny, an Irish setter, fell into the swollen Israel River in Lancaster, N. H. Firemen quickly responded to an emergency call and are shown making a successful rescue.

New Model Plan For Marriages On Rocks 'Must'

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—A new model plan for ailing marriages, something besides divorce, is an absolute "must" in the United States and a committee of the American Bar association is formulating the plan.

Judge Paul W. Alexander of the court of common pleas, Toledo, Ohio, who heads the Bar association's special committee, said in an interview that legislators have been trying since 1884 to get uniform divorce laws by constitutional amendments.

"But it just isn't in the cards," Judge Alexander told Superior Judges Joseph Malby and Elmer Doyle of Los Angeles domestic relations court. "Migratory divorce, involving couples who run for instance, — makes up only three percent of the total, so it's really the 97 percent who divorce at home that worry us."

Judge Alexander said his committee is striving, not for a "standard" divorce law, but a good working divorce model.

"There is a uniform support act already adopted by a dozen

states," the jurist pointed out. "There's no reason why all shouldn't adopt it, for it concerns financial care of children. All religious faiths have adopted it."

The present method of dispensing divorce, he said, is like permitting a sick man to diagnose his illness and prescribe his own remedy.

"The Bar association's special committee doesn't want to take away anybody's rights," said Judge Alexander, "but our model plan will be for conference, investigation, consultation and deep probing — even psycho-analysis if necessary."

"Applications for divorce will not be called 'complaints' and they will not be worded 'vs.' It will be 'application in the interest of the John Doe family.' And when the social investigation uncovers what is wrong, why papa is interested in a blonde, there will be a report."

"If the report shows the marriage is a dead duck, as the saying goes, the pair will receive counsel regarding the new single state they are about to enter. The legal dissolution will be private and without accusations."

"In other words, the corpse of the old dead marriage will be brought to court for burial. There won't be any lies or smears. Marriage bans have long been a cus-

Correction Of Attorney's Name In Famous Libel Suit In 1735 Proves Americans Know Their History

Americans Know History

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—A lot more people than you might think are surprisingly well informed about and interested in American history. That's the conclusion of Attorney Arthur Littleton. He was the victim of a reporter's embarrassing mistake that brought to light the widespread interest in one incident, and brought him a basketful of mail.

Littleton is chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar association. Recently in a luncheon speech he detailed the origin of the phrase "Philadelphia lawyer" as it is used to describe an attorney or person who is very astute, resourceful. Quite correctly, Littleton said in the speech that the appellation was earned by attorney Andrew Hamilton, of Philadelphia, who was counsel for John Peter Zenger in a famous New York libel suit in 1735.

Zenger, a pioneer printer and newspaper publisher, had declined to accept official censorship of his government exposures, and was arrested on charges of seditious libel instituted by the colonial governor. So powerful was the governor, Cosby, that two New York lawyers who sought to defend Zenger were disbarred, which discouraged others from undertaking the defense.

Hamilton accepted the case and by his brilliant work in court earned acquittal for Zenger. To quote Littleton: "Without a shred of law with him he carried on one of the most magnificent defenses ever conducted before a jury."

An Associated Press reporter preparing a news story of Littleton's speech erroneously wrote that Littleton had identified the lawyer as "Alexander" Hamilton. The reporter added that this "Alexander" Hamilton was the first U. S. secre-

tary of the Treasury. The story was widely published. And shortly afterwards Littleton began receiving chiding letters from strangers and friends. Correspondents from Maine to Florida, and as far west as Wisconsin and Kansas, wrote to point out that Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the Treasury, was not born until 1757—22 years after the Zenger trial.

The letters came from school teachers and pupils, from retired army officers, bankers and lawyers, from relatives and friends. One girl, a high school pupil, wrote that: "This may come as a shock to you, but Andrew Hamilton, and NOT Alexander etc."

To each correspondent Littleton wrote a letter explaining that the error was not his but that of the reporter. Littleton says the one inescapable conclusion from the whole correspondence was that a great many persons know the correct version of the Zenger defense.

GRAND FINALE

SOUTH RIVER, N. J. — (AP) — Stephen Prefack of East Brunswick was driving along a back road here when the car's wheels stuck in the soft mud.

Then, police said, Prefack, attempting to get the car loose, spun the wheels until the tires caught fire.

The fire set nearby brush aflame. The brush fire spread to the car. The 1950 auto, which police said Prefack borrowed from a friend, was destroyed.

Depression Threat Seen In Bank Reserves' Slump

PULLMAN, Wash., — (AP)—The research director for the Federal Deposit Insurance corporation predicts a serious depression for this country next year if bank reserves continue falling at their present rate.

Edison H. Cramer of Washington, D. C., addressed 200 western bankers attending the Pacific northwest conference on banking. Prospects for avoidance of a serious depression are not so hopeful as they appeared a few months ago," he said.

The effective volume of bank reserves has declined more than four percent since the first of the year, he said.

"If this rate of contraction in bank reserves should continue for a few more months, the recovery from our present mild recession will not occur during 1950. Should it continue for a year a serious depression will be upon us," he said.

Federal reserve authorities could help the situation by reversing their pressure on bank reserves, he added.



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