

SOVIET PLANNING AIR LINE TO U. S. OVER ARCTIC GAP

Aleutian Islands and Alaska Again to Become Link Between Asia, America—Short Route Is Favored

SAN FRANCISCO—(UP)—As the result of Soviet Russia's development of Arctic aviation, Alaska and the Aleutian islands are destined again to become the bridge between Asia and the United States, the Institute of Pacific Relations believes.

In something of the same manner in which this route in prehistoric times permitted the peoples of Asia to find entrance to the American continent, the institute is convinced that the same route, only this time by air, is to become the bridge between the two continents.

According to an institute survey, the Soviet already has in view two alternative routes for its aerial service to the United States. One of these is from the most eastern tip of the Soviet north, Cape Chukotok, across the Bering strait to Nome, the second follows a more southern course, leaving Soviet soil in Kamchatka and following the course of the Commander and Aleutian islands to Seward, Alaska.

Permission Not Obtained
From these points it is assumed that permission can be secured from the United States for extension of lines to Seattle, although it is believed no negotiations have been started to date relative to terminal and landing facilities in the United States.

In the meantime, however, the institute has ascertained that the Soviet has been pushing the development of Arctic aviation to a point where it is certain that Alaska easily can be made the "draw-bridge to Asia."

Reports which the institute have received from the Soviet's northern sea route administration show that during 1936 planes engaged in polar flying during the navigation season traveled 1,300,750 miles with 12,900 flying hours.

The number of passengers carried was 8400 and the freight transported weighed 1,980,000 pounds.

Regular Service Established
In February of this year, the Soviet took one more advanced step in the development of Arctic navigation by establishing regular mail deliveries between Khabarovsk to Cape Weller during the winter months when otherwise the inhabitants of that Arctic spot would be deprived of contact with the outside world.

Trials were made early in February and regular flights were begun Feb. 15.

The institute survey points out that Alaska already has a well developed aviation service. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, the 70 planes in Alaska covered 2,130,929 miles, carried 16,982 passengers and 2,418,818 pounds of freight.

Linking this service with a service

by the Soviet would, the institute believes, contribute immensely to the development of the far north and the Arctic regions.

Service Believed Feasible
The Soviet, with flights last summer to Alaska, the survey finds, already demonstrated the feasibility of such a service.

As yet, the institute is informed, the Soviet has not decided whether the northern or the southern route would be better. The more northern route is shorter but slightly more expensive to survey and construct. However the consensus in Soviet Russia is that the northern route is preferable, although not ideal, and some sections of it as now flown should be changed.

Decision also remains to be taken on such questions as whether the best flying time is in summer or winter, what type of planes is best adapted and what kind of freight could be carried most profitably.

The crux of the question, according to the institute, will be that of international agreement giving the Soviet terminal and landing facilities on the American continent, but pending that settlement, steady progress is being made in perfecting every aspect of Arctic and polar aviation.

GOAT NURSES HYENAS --BUT UNDER PROTEST

HOUSTON, Tex.—(AP)—Nancy, Nubian milk goat, nurses two foggy-eyed hyena babies in the Hermann park zoo here.

The mother hyena had managed to rear only one of three other litters born in the zoo, so Keeper Hans Nagel decided to help her with the latest offspring.

The goat didn't like the idea, but couldn't help herself.

'GH-MEN' OFFER HELP TO NEBRASKA FARMS

WYOMING, Neb.—(AP)—It's "GH-Men" out here instead of "G-Men" and the foes are grasshoppers instead of gangsters.

County Agent C. W. Nibler announced he was organizing a patrol of "GH-Men" to poison grasshoppers in the county soon after the spring hatch.

Suit Against Aimee Officially Settled

LOS ANGELES, May 14.—(AP)—Evangelist Rhea Crawford's \$1,000,000 slander suit against Evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson was officially settled today. Miss Crawford's attorney, Joseph Palmer, filed and recorded an announcement the suit has been settled out of court.

When the case was called for trial three days ago, attorneys for both sides requested a postponement on the ground they were working on a settlement.

Personality Course Offered
BERKELEY, Cal.—(UP)—Perhaps there is no longer an excuse for anyone in the United States not having a personality. The University of California will undertake in its personality course to show students how to get one.

1-HOUSE LEGISLATURE GOAL OF OHIO LEAGUE LED BY SEN. DONAHEY

COLUMBUS, O.—(UP)—A one-house legislature of not more than 100 members to replace the present senate and house of representatives has been proposed by the newly formed Ohio Single-House Legislative League, headed by U. S. Senator Vic Donahey, honorary president.

At a recent organization meeting the league approved a draft of the plan which calls for one member for each one per cent of the state's population, or about 66,000 persons.

To overcome the danger of hasty legislation, the plan provides that each bill, unless it is an emergency, must receive two majority votes 10 days apart for passage.

Legislators would be elected for two-year terms, as at present. The lieutenant governor would preside unless the membership should choose to elect a speaker of its own.

The plan also calls for annual sessions, beginning the first Monday of January. Special sessions could be called by one-fifth of the membership. As at present, the governor could call special sessions for specific legislation.

The present legislature consists of 174 members, 138 in the house and 36 in the senate.

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