

# Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

Honolulu-Bound, with Japan Air Lines—Hi-ho Silver, we're riding a jet stream!

What's this jet-stream we're riding?

It's a mysterious river in the air, rushing around the globe as far as we know at speeds ranging from 125 to 500 or more miles an hour. Saddle this intercontinental speedster and it will whirl you around the globe in 3 to 10 days. Hence, once we know more about this amazing air stream, it may be of transcendent commercial and military importance.

Care to join us in the cabin of this plane for a cup of coffee and a piece of conversation with our pilot, Capt. Dan McCarthy of Hayward, Calif.? He'll tell us about it. Since he started flying at 16, he's been at it for 22 years—and has flown just about everything with wings including tri-motored Fords and Boeings.

Remember them? As for the Pacific, to this former army test pilot it's a familiar lane: he has covered the Honolulu-Tokyo stretch more than 200 times; the shorter San Francisco-Honolulu haul, more than 2,000 times.

"About this jet-stream, there's still a lot we don't know about it," he said frankly. "But in the first place, you can't exactly call it a stream. Unlike a surface river which is confined between solid banks, this stream changes its course from hour to hour almost, whipping around like a shaken rope, if you get what I mean. At times, this fast-traveling rope of air may be 40,000 feet high, at other times as low as 9,000 feet. At its narrowest, it may be only three miles across, and again it may widen out to a comparatively broad, slow stream 50 miles across."

"When the air is clear like today, how in the world do you know when you're in it?" asked the man-across-the-aisle.

Flying Smooth as Silk

"Remember when we glided through a couple of slight bumps a half hour or so out of Tokyo—that was the burbling eddies on its outer side. Right there, I knew we were on its edge. Then, once in, the flying is as smooth as silk. And fast. Although there is no sensation of additional speed, my navigator tells me we are now making good an additional 150 miles—over 450 miles per hour. Not many air passengers have ever flown as fast as you are this very minute," he informed us.

"But how can you tell when you're in this 'shaken rope'?" the man persisted.

"Only one way—the temperature inside is cooler. By about 2-10 degrees Fahrenheit in the middle. But you wouldn't notice because the temperature in here is artificially controlled. I take an outside reading."

"Besides getting us to Honolulu faster what's the advantage?" asked the man-across-the-aisle, holding up his champagne glass to the kimono-clad stewardess for a refill.

Money Saver on Fuel

"Plenty. First there is the fuel factor. This jet stream is a money saver. On this trip alone, I figure we stand to save JAL at least \$2,000 worth of gasoline. Besides, because we figured on latching on to a good tailwind, we are carrying a near-capacity payload of air freight. That means an extra \$2,500, or so. Not so much perhaps to a company that has to shell out about \$9.50 every minute to keep this plane airborne. But every little bit helps..."

"Do you always ride this jet-stream?" asked the wife of the man-across-the-aisle.

"No Ma'am, seldom. Usually it's up from 30,000 to 40,000 feet—up where the military planes operate. But once JAL takes delivery of our Douglas jet liners we'll latch on to this free airstream regularly."

"About at what latitude does this jet stream cross the Pacific?" I pressed.

"No one really knows. Our hunch is that it whips across Siberia, cuts southward down through north Japan, and then takes off over the Pacific, generally north of Wake and crosses the Rockies anywhere from Phoenix, Ariz., to Calgary, Alta."

"Who first discovered it?"

Japanese Discovered It

"I think the Japanese. During World War II, they floated balloons across to the U.S. Some averaged 200 miles and better. Right now, our military services are studying the jet stream. You have heard perhaps about the



# Gold Hill Man Fined In Justice Court

Harold Franklin Thornton, 63, route 2, box 250, Gold Hill, was fined \$50 and \$4.50 court costs in Gold Hill justice court Friday on a drunk and disorderly conduct charge, according to sheriff's deputies and court records.

Justice of the Peace Dale Collins suspended \$40 of the fine pending good behavior. Thornton entered a plea of guilty on the complaint brought by his wife, Ruby, according to the court report.

Sheriff's deputies placed Thornton in the county jail Thursday night after his arrest at Gold Hill.

Thornton is an Indian who received thousands of dollars last fall in sale of timberland at Gold Beach. They were married in Portland a few months ago.

Russian complaints...

"What causes it?" I asked. Captain McCarthy shrugged. "Can't tell. But we do know that the stream occurs in a belt between where the cold mass of air from the Arctic meets the warm mass of air coming up from the tropics. Our JAL weathermen chart it fairly close and before I climb into my cockpit, I'm pretty sure where I can find it, providing it's not too high."

He asked the purser to bring him a map. As we crowded about him, he explained: "This Tokyo-Wake run is 2,014 miles. The scheduled time is eight hours. Today we are arriving in five hours and 19 minutes—a saving of two hours and 41 minutes. If we continue on this stream to Honolulu, we'll save six hours."

"And miss a lot of this good French champagne." "Take me, I'd rather settle for a head wind. And to his vast relief, we lost the jet stream after Wake. It veered north."

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# Around Hollywood

Hollywood — (U.P.) — After a stand of 15 years, a stage show that's one of the biggest tourist attractions of Hollywood has folded.



The Turn about Theater opened 4,535 performances ago in July of 1941, unusual half-puppet, half-live revue became a durable landmark, and a "must see" for visitors.

After 15 years, the Turnabout owners came to the belated conclusion that Los Angeles isn't a good theater town. So the company is moving—lock, stock and even its quaint streetcar seats—to the traditionally more cultural San Francisco.

"San Francisco is a better show town. Besides we were getting in a rut and we needed a fresh start," explained Forman Brown, one of the owners as he supervised the packing of crates of puppets at the empty theater today.

Closing Brings Tears

Closing night brought tears of nostalgia from customers in the 184 streetcar seats. During the first half of the evening—as usual—they saw a sophisticated puppet show. At intermission the seats were turned around, and a musical revue with live performers began at the other end of the theater.

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent

The many stars who have appeared in the revues arrived on closing night to say goodbye—Elsa Lanchester, Gilda Gray, the Duncan Sisters, Virginia O'Brien, Queenie Leonard.

Brown, Roddy Brandon and Harry Burnett began as the Yale Puppeteers in the early '20s. By now the group boasts more than 700 puppets, and they claim to be the only permanent puppet company in the country.

They opened the theater on La Cienega Blvd. with a small bank account and those streetcar seats, bought for \$3.50 each from the Pacific Electric Co. grossed \$140,000.

The theater walls down the years were autographed by celebrated customers. The Puppeteers couldn't remove the walls, so they photographed them to use as murals for their new San Francisco home.

"We're even taking some of our customers with us," smiled Brown. "More than 500 have seen our show more than 20 times—and several have made reservations for our April 15 opening."

"Why, there was one couple from New Jersey who spent their wedding anniversary at our place six years in a row. We hope they'll come to San Francisco now on their vacations."

The bicycle was introduced into the U.S. from Europe in the early 1800's.

Sunday, April 15, 1956

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

# Order Suspended Concerning FHA Rule

Portland—(U.P.)—The Federal Housing administration Friday issued an order suspending for 30 days its regulation against use of boards thinner than 25-32nds of an inch in FHA-insured housing.

The order brought a temporary end to the confusion that hit the west coast building industry when the FHA refused to accept new dimensions adopted by the West Coast Lumber Inspection bureau without waiting for the sanction of the American Lumber Standards committee.

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) said in Washington, "I plan to keep a close tab on the situation to insure that after the 30-day suspension period we are not plunged into another unnecessary crisis."

The ALS committee is slated to meet in Chicago April 30 when it will be asked to adopt officially the new board dimension already in production in west coast mills. FHA regulations are based on ALS dimensions.

BOOK BLOWN

Grand Rapids, Mich.—(U.P.)—A book blown out of the Grand Rapids Public library by a tornado last week was found in a nearby field and returned Friday. The book's title is "Not Without Danger."

# In Medford's Schools

Jackson School

On Thursday morning the sixth graders of Jackson school traveled to the Jacksonville museum. Many artifacts were viewed. The rock collection created much interest as did the gun display and the fire hats and buckets.

The visit to the museum is part of the course of study in

Oregon history for pupils in the 6th grade, and it serves to make the material more meaningful. Patsy Owens and Judy Booth played a historic piano that traveled to Oregon by way of Cape Horn. This piano is a part of the Peter Britt collection.

Robert Baccus, Mrs. Eleanor Jones, Tom Newton and Paul Gandt supervised the trip.

# Public Speaking Contest Scheduled

"Threats to Freedom and How To Meet Them," will be the subject for the 11th annual public speaking contest for high school students of this area, sponsored by Talisman lodge, Knights of Pythias. The contest will be held Wednesday, April 25, at 8 p.m., in Crater High school.

Students who will take part should be at the school a half hour before the contest for assignment of places.

Schools which will be represented are Medford High school, St. Mary's school, Talent High school and Crater High school.

Committee men in charge are H. C. Hoehne, royal vizier, Tom Davidson, Walter Ferguson and Don Lacy

HEDRICK JUNIOR HIGH

Students of Hedrick Junior High school will present the play, "Curtain Call for Clifford" April 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Ted Lawson will play the lead part as Clifford Llewellyn Mumford. The comedy plot involves a group of students presenting a school play.

'SPOTTY' ATTENDANCE

Owosso, Mich.—(U.P.)—Attendance at the Owosso High school is becoming increasingly "spotty." School officials said five per cent of the high school's 1,100 students were home with the measles.

HOT NEWS

Vienna—(U.P.)—A news dispatch transmitted by the Austrian press agency over its wires from Vienna said: "Our building is burning from the cellar to the ceiling. We have to leave the house. End of news."



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