

Fears of Public Over Jet Age Found Lesser After Three Years

Lancaster, Calif. — (U.P.)—The jet age arrived here three years ago with a boom.

Everyone in town heard it. There were protests immediately. But three years of living next door to a busy jet plane base has changed a lot of attitudes. People have learned to "co-exist" with the jets.

Many townspeople were fearful when jet aircraft first moved into the Edwards Air Force Base — Palmdale Airport complex here in the Antelope Valley 50 miles north of Los Angeles.

There was fear that shock waves or sonic "booms" from jets maneuvering overhead would damage property or, if not that, the great noise of jets would be such a nuisance that property values would decline. There was also fear of falling aircraft.

Today, such fears are seldom

expressed. Damage claims resulting from jet noise and shock waves have been negligible. Few families seem to worry about the possibility of accidents.

Values Increased
Property values have increased by leaps and bounds in the three years since jet flying began, and there is even a housing shortage.

Flight patterns established at the Edwards and Palmdale airports have sent the jet planes flying over mountainous terrain where the roar of their engines is absorbed. At the Palmdale Airport there is a buffer strip two miles wide on all sides in which high-density residential building is prohibited.

The Lancaster firm of Neidig, Hadden and McGillivray, insurance claims investigators, reports that not more than half a dozen damage claims stemming from jet flights have been filed in

three years against the many insurance companies the firm represents. None were large claims.

Chickens Lost
One poultry farmer lost several hundred chickens when they were frightened by a jet and dashed themselves against the wire netting of their pen. Yet several other poultry farmers say the noise has never bothered their chickens.

The W. J. McAdam Real Estate and Insurance Company in Palmdale reports claims for damages from sonic shock waves amount to less than \$500 since the start of jet flying.

Several jet planes have crashed in the Antelope Valley but all have gone down in open country. Test pilots and flight personnel from both Palmdale and Edwards AFB seem to have no fear of living close to the airfields.

State Seen Near End Of Vaccine Shortage

Portland — (U.P.) — Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, predicted today that Oregon "may be nearing the end of the period of critical shortage" of Salk polio vaccine. But Dr. Erickson pointed out that a moderate shortage of the vaccine probably would continue through the remainder of this year.

"During the past two and a half months as much vaccine was released to Oregon as during the preceding eight months," Dr. Erickson said. "In the three weeks ending April 27 we actually received about 60,000 cc's of commercial vaccine."

The State Board of Health said almost 400,000 cubic centimeters of Salk polio vaccine had been released to Oregon since last July 1.

Dr. Erickson said his department is continuing its policy of recommending that third shots not be given during the present shortage.



THE BETTER TO SEE WITH
—American League Umpire Frank Umont, who made history when he wore glasses during the Athletics-Tigers game in Kansas City, Mo., says, "I expect to be ribbed about my glasses, but I don't expect it will worry me."

Chutists Want Funds For Jump on Russia

Trenton, N. J. — (U.P.) — Five American parachute jumpers are trying to raise \$18,000 so they can "skydive" from an airplane over field near Moscow next July.

The flying five, who are practicing jumps at Cobbinville Airport here, need the \$18,000 to cover part of their expenses as the first official American parachute team to compete in the world parachuting championship contest. Current champs are the Russians, who are hosts for the international event.

Those currently practicing sky diving and spot jumping here are George E. Bosworth, Buffalo, N.Y.; Walter R. Fair, Athens, Tenn.; Floyd M. Hobby, Elyria, O.; Joseph L. Hoffman, Seattle, Wash.; Lewis Sanborn, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; George J. Stone, Cleveland, O.; and Jacques Andre Istel, Bedford, N.H., team captain.

Chicago Minister Rebuilds Church Membership By Selling Integration

Chicago — (U.P.) — There were only 25 youngsters attending Sunday school in a building with 75 rooms when the Rev. Jerry Walker went to St. James Methodist Church on Chicago's south side three years ago.

The congregation had dwindled from more than 1000 to about 365. It had once been a 100 percent white neighborhood but, by 1953, it was 80 percent Negro.

Yet only six or eight Negroes would drop in for Sunday services from time to time, Walker said. They usually didn't come back.

"They weren't made to feel at home by the white parishioners," Walker said, "and they knew they weren't welcome."

Still the area was predominantly Negro, attendance was constantly slipping and it was suggested to Walker that the church should be sold to a Negro congregation.

Serves All People
"That's how the problem usually is 'solved' in Chicago communities where Negroes move in," Walker said, "but I decided to operate on one principle—a church needs to serve

the people of the community whether they be Negroes or Japanese, bankers or ditch diggers."

Walker, who is 38, called a meeting of the church's board of trustees in October, 1954. He proposed 14 new names for church membership, seven Negroes and seven whites. He said he had been warned not to do it by a small but very vocal minority.

"There were letters to the bishop criticizing me and the usual threats of financial withdrawal by certain parishioners," he said. One member of the board of trustees said he would move to another church before he would sit next to a Negro on Sunday.

"But a very striking thing happened when I made the decision," Walker said. "Men and women who had been dragging their heels on this problem had a change of heart. When the decision was made they wanted to see it through."

Only about a dozen members left the church. The trustee who said he would never sit beside a Negro was one of the first to welcome the new parishioners."

Membership Increased
"With integration, everything about the church has begun to grow," Walker said. "We now have 518 members, about 150 of whom are Negroes."

"The fears people had about mixing sort of faded away when

they met as individuals. We don't even talk about race problems now. I do when I'm asked to talk in other churches, but in my own pulpit I don't."

Walker's church is an exception. Out of some 1500 Protestant churches in the city, only about 10 or 12 have been truly integrated.

Walker said many ministers still are afraid to tackle the integration problem because of fears and lack of understanding about things they just don't understand themselves.

Intermarriage Feared
"The intermarriage fear is always raised," Walker said. "I might not want my children to marry a Negro, but we can't separate our children from everybody we don't want them to marry. We have to be realistic about this."

"Another interesting point is there are more children born of mixed marriages in the South where segregation is practiced than in the North where there is much less segregation."

House U-A Group Names Committee Aide

Washington — (U.P.) — Chairman Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.) of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Tuesday announced the appointment of Richard Arens, a veteran Senate Communist investigator, as committee director.

Arens has served as a member of the staff of the Senate Judiciary Committee since 1947. He also was staff director of the Senate immigration subcommittee and associate counsel of the internal security subcommittee. He helped draft the 1950 Internal Security Act.

Farm Official Finds Raincoat Handy Item

Dallas — (U.P.) — Harry Frazee, a farm credit service official from Washington, said his wife laughed at him when he packed a raincoat preparing to tour the Texas draught area.

Tuesday, Frazee had the last laugh, as he toured Dallas county. More than six inches of rain fell in 48 hours, and Frazee wore his raincoat.



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Headwaiter Wins \$16,000 on TV Quiz

New York — (U.P.) — A Philadelphia headwaiter won \$16,000 last night by answering a question on a television quiz program.

New York school teacher decided to settle for \$8,000 in her appearance on the CBS-TV program "The \$64,000 Question" and a Bloomfield, Conn., housewife worked her way to the \$8,000 level.

Gregory Simonsen, 57, the headwaiter, heard recordings of the opening bars of five well-known musical compositions and was asked to name the composition and its composer. His correct answers were: "Italian Symphony" by Felix Mendelssohn, "Finlandia" by Sibelius, "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" by Mozart, "Variations on a Theme by Hayden" by Brahms, and "Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini" by Rachmaninoff.

Next week Simonsen returns to the program to decide whether he'll take the \$16,000 he has won or try for the \$32,000 question.

Teams To Be Trained For State Land Fires

Salem — (U.P.) — Five 10-man teams will be trained for fire emergencies on state lands, State Forester D. L. Phipps said yesterday.

Two of the crews will be organized in southwest Oregon, two in northwest and one in eastern Oregon. First training period has been set for May 7-8 in Roseburg.

Training of the northwest crews will be May 14-15 in Salem. Another training period will be announced.

"Each of these teams will consist of the fire boss and his assistant, a dispatcher, chief scout, four division bosses, a service and supply official and a time-keeper," Phipps said.

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