

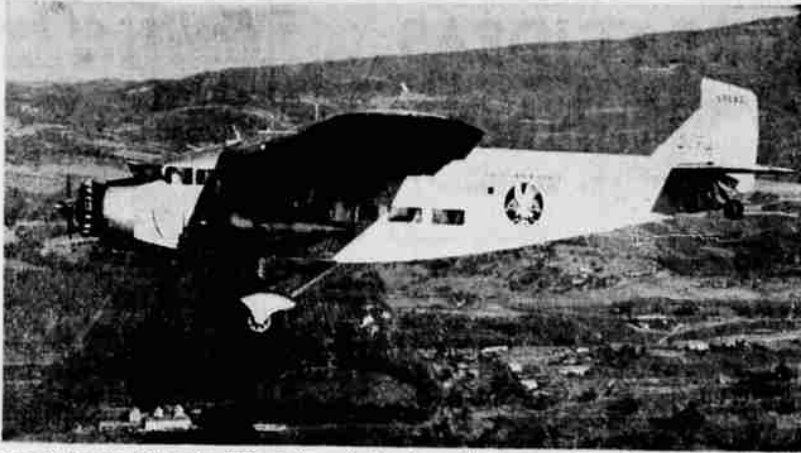
Thornton Rules on Parochial Students

SALEM (UPI) — Parochial school students are entitled to enroll in public schools to attend selected classes not available in parochial schools, Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton said Friday.

Thornton said Oregon law provides that no tuition shall be charged to any resident student regularly enrolled in the regular school program for special instruction.

Minear also asked how distribution of the basic school support fund should be made to districts enrolling part-time parochial students.

Thornton said it was up to the State Board of Education to adopt rules or regulations governing distribution of basic school monies.



FLIES OVER VALLEY—This picture of the Ford Tri-Motor plane flying over the Rogue valley Wednesday was taken from an accompanying Mercy Flights plane. The plane made three flights over the valley carrying invited guests. It was on static display at the airport Thursday morning before leaving for California. (Knackstedt Photo)

'Tin Goose' Attracts Large Crowd on Arrival in Medford

The Flying Washboard arrived in Medford at the municipal airport Wednesday afternoon and immediately attracted a crowd.

The aircraft, also called the "Tin Goose," due to its all metal construction, is the Ford Tri-Motor, which operated as "the safest in the world" during the early 1930s.

Brought to Medford near the end of a 10,000-mile trip promoting air safety—and American Airlines—the aircraft will return to Tulsa, Okla., this week to be restored to its original condition before being given to the Smithsonian Institution's National Air Museum in Washington, D.C.

Old and young alike flocked to the local airport to see the plane, one of only 199 manufactured by Ford. Principal comment heard was "I took my first plane ride in one of those."

Crew Seeing America

"Seeing America" is the crew who has flown the plane, one of the 11 remaining, on its tour of the country. Capt. Ralph Long, based at Nashville, Tenn., as is his co-pilot, Floyd Mace, commented that this was the first time away from a regularly scheduled run, and he is "enjoying every minute of it."

Third member of the crew is Floyd Tohline, who keeps the craft "ship shape." As a foreman in the American Airlines' maintenance shops in Tulsa, he now knows all of its idiosyncrasies.

The "Flying Washboard" name was given the airplane by some because of its skin of corrugated tin which gives it the appearance of having been made from left-overs.

There is nothing cheap about

the craft. Originally purchased by American Airways, predecessor of American Airlines, in 1929 for \$55,000, the firm had to pay another \$45,000 to buy it back when they started the search for a tri-motored plane. Then the company spent \$75,000 to put it in flying condition. Before being presented to the Smithsonian Institution, more work will be necessary before restoration to its original condition is complete.

After its use on scheduled airline operations it was used for crop dusting, in mining in Alaska, and other miscellaneous duties before it was abandoned in Mexico and used by a family for their home. It was later purchased by a firm in southern California and repaired for their use, where it was located by American and bought.

According to a 1934 handbill announcing a flight in one of the "huge" tri-motored planes, it was called the "safest in the world" and stressed that "now the whole family can fly."

Family Could Fly

The whole family could fly at once too, as long as there weren't more than 14. The plane here had 13 seats (one in front of the door had been removed) tucked along both sides of the narrow aisle. The interior is of Philippine mahogany and low windows give the passengers a tendency to slouch.

Just as the plane took off on the three flights for invited guests here Wednesday Copilot Mace held up a sign "Don't just sit there — worry."

Once airborne, front seat passengers evedropping on the radio conversation between the pilot and control tower, heard the tower remind the "American

flight your landing gear is down."

No modern air conditioning or pressurized cabins in this plane. Heat from the middle engine sends a blast of hot air into the cockpit so out of necessity, the windows are kept open.

The cockpit is just big enough for two and the instruments, and Mace commented that "there isn't anyplace to set anything down."

Above the front two seats is the gas gauge, three slender glass tubes showing how much fuel is left. Capacity is 358 gallons in three tanks. Luggage is stored in the wings of this low slung plane and it can carry a maximum of 13,000 pounds.

Due to its slow speed — cruising at 100 knots — the take off and landing are extremely smooth; then it could be the pride the crew has in the museum piece.

Man will continue to improve the power, comfort, appearance and size of aircraft, but the Ford Tri-Motor was delayed by something which has plagued many jets today—Oregon fog.

Astoria Carpenter Files Candidacy

SALEM (UPI)—M. A. (Cap) Yegge, 54, Astoria carpenter, Thursday filed as a Democratic candidate for secretary of state.

Yegge was an unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1962.

LANSING, Mich. (UPI) — A 3,000 pound performing elephant ran amok for 90 minutes Thursday, trampling a man and ramming through a crowded department store before she was killed by police.

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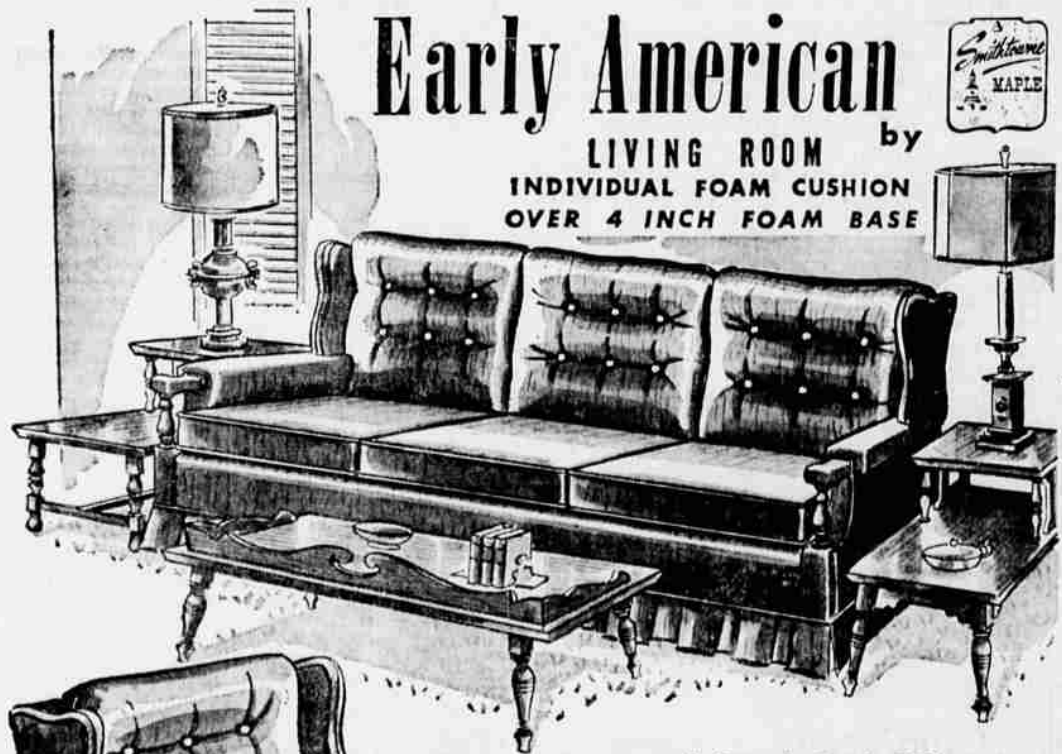
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