

PICKUP SERVICE ROUTES ANNOUNCED

U. S. Air Mail Chief Declares State Needs Larger Airports

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP).—The post office department said today larger airports are needed in West Virginia before additional service can be provided on the Washington-Cincinnati airline.

The statement was made in published records of a hearing on post office department appropriations, at which Representative Johnson, Democrat, West Virginia, suggested an additional stop might be provided at Huntington, Charleston and Elkins.

Army Chief Urges More Naval Units

CINCINNATI, Feb. 24 (AP).—Major General Allen W. Gullion, judge advocate general of the army, told a club group here that "the United States needs a navy superior to any probable coalition against us."

"We need land forces adequate to make the navy bases on the mainland and Hawaii secure and to keep the Panama canal open."

General Gullion, a native of Carrollton, Ky., quoted the military maxim that "the best defense is to attack," and declared:

"If we get what congress authorized last May, we will have an 18-battleship navy with necessary auxiliary craft. We have 15 battleships now though some are obsolete. What we really want and need is 21 (battleships) and I think we will get them."

Reds Make Offer For Data on Japan

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 24 (UP).—The government revealed today that a Soviet agent had made a cash offer directly to the United States naval intelligence department for information it had gathered on Japan's naval strength and her espionage activities.

The offer was made nearly a year ago, it charged, and was delivered to the head of the intelligence bureau in San Pedro, Cal., by one of three defendants now on trial, Russian-born Hafis Salich, who was then an employee of the bureau.

The government admitted, however, that some documentary evidence of the offer had mysteriously disappeared, stolen, apparently, from the San Pedro bureau safe.

WOOL

BOSTON, Feb. 24 (UP).—Very little business was being transacted in greasy combing domestic wools today on the market here.

Fine territory wools were being requested occasionally and prices were fairly firm at recent levels whenever sold for immediate delivery. Prices on wools offered for June delivery from the new clip were lower than prices prevailing in the past month or more on top wools.

U. S. TREASURY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (AP).—The position of the treasury Feb. 21 was: Receipts \$7,362,899.21; expenditures \$18,286,826.75; net balance \$3,409,161.429.98 including \$2,760,093,609.84 working balance. Customs receipts for the month \$15,560,753.14.

Receipts for the fiscal year (since July 1) \$3,603,244,150.27; expenditures \$5,746,846,208.04; excess of expenditures \$2,143,602,057.77. Gross debt \$39,832,178,176.23 an increase of \$32,357,329.54 above the previous day. Gold assets \$14,817,934,019.46.

COMMODITY INDEX

NEW YORK, Feb. 24 (UP).—Dun and Bradstreet's daily weighted price index of 30 basic commodities, compiled for United Pro-

One round trip a day now stops at the three West Virginia cities, but an additional round trip flight soars high over the mountains without halting.

Charles P. Graddick, superintendent of air mails, explaining omission of stops in West Virginia on one of the trips, said "the big planes cannot stop at those places, but they stop the small planes."

Large Planes Banned

He referred to a ruling a year ago that large planes placed into service by the airline could not stop safely at the West Virginia points, and a subsequent order directing the company to place small ships back in service to continue West Virginia airmail.

Asked by Johnson what cities now have stops on both round trips, Graddick replied:

"Cincinnati and Indianapolis—and if your West Virginia airports were all right, we would probably have one West Virginia city too. I do not think it would warrant all of them."

Earlier, Johnson, discussing airport problems in West Virginia had declared:

"We are having considerable trouble with our airports. We no sooner get one built according to specifications than a new specification comes out. With the increase in the size of the airplanes there is necessarily an increase in the size of the airports. That is especially true at Huntington. We started with an airport of a certain size and before it was completed the plans had to be scrapped and new ones provided to take care of larger airships.

Must Face Problem

Johnson asked "what are we going to do about it? If we do not have some settled and definite policy, we shall have to discontinue building airports."

Graddick expressed opinion the civil aeronautics authority would "have to face that problem, which is more or less a common transportation problem.

An additional \$200,000 may be expended by the post office department in development of automatic pick-up and autogyro air mail service.

The plan was outlined by Graddick in published records of hearings on post office department appropriations for the fiscal year 1940.

Plans for an experimental pick-up mail route through Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio already have been completed and operations are scheduled to start about May 14.

The pick-up routes to be flown by the all-American airlines, he said, included:

Pittsburgh, Irwin, Jeannette, Greensburg, Latrobe, Mount Pleasant, Connellsville, and Uniontown, Pa., Morgantown, Fairmont, Clarksburg, West Union and St. Marys, Marietta, O. Clarksburg, Pomeroy, O. Point Pleasant, Gallipolis, O., Huntington, Barboursville, Milton, Hurricane, Nitro, Dunbar, Charleston, Spencer, Grantsville, Glenville, and Weston.