

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE AMERICAN ENGINEERING COUNCIL AND AVIATION

ENGINEERS throughout the United States, as represented in the thirty national and local organizations forming the American Engineering Council, have formally placed themselves at the service of the nation's commercial aviation for the solution of basic technical, operating and safety problems now affecting the industry.

This action, taken through the administrative board of the council, in effect enlists 60,000 technical men in all phases of engineering as a consulting body for the promotion of commercial flying.

Formulation of fundamental principles which will serve as a guide in the selection, design and operation of airports and airways and a large program of research to develop safer and more efficient airports and operation methods are among the first tasks proposed by the council, the president of which is Dr. Carl E. Grunsky, of San Francisco.

The results of this work will be disseminated through the Bureau of Aeronautics of the U. S. Department of Commerce as the logical clearing house for such information. By this system the council plans to make its findings available at once to all technical men engaged in aviation problems.

On the ground that it is "the clear duty of the professional engineers of the United States to assist in the development of sound engineering and economic principles" for American aeronautics, the council has acted on a report of its committee on airports, of which Professor Ralph J. Fogg, head of the Department of Civil Engineering in Lehigh University, is chairman. The committee, having come to a decision as a result of its study, has made the following recommendations:

1. That American Engineering Council, as an organization dedicated to the service of the community, state and nation, and as representative of all phases of engineering, become actively interested in the broad engineering and managerial aspects of commercial aviation, and particularly airports.

2. That American Engineering Council wholeheartedly cooperate with the Bureau of Aeronautics of the Department of Commerce in such joint efforts as it may undertake in formulating and disseminating general principles relating to commercial aviation for the guidance of the public.

3. That American Engineering Council create at once a general committee on commercial aviation, with the addition of such sub-committees as may be necessary from time to time, to make a complete study of all aspects of the engineering problems involved.

4. That American Engineering Council adopt the

policy, in its cooperation with the Bureau of Aeronautics, of having the sub-committees act on invitation as the council's representative on joint committees.

5. That American Engineering Council accept the invitation received from the Bureau of Aeronautics to join in a cooperative study of the coverage and drainage of airports.

6. That there be organized at once a sub-committee to participate in the joint study of airport coverage and drainage.

Other members of the council's committee on airports are: Perry A. Fellows, city engineer, Detroit; W. W. Horner, chief engineer, St. Louis; Dr. Harrison E. Howe, editor, *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, Washington; Alexander Klemin, head of the Guggenheim School of Aeronautics, New York University; H. G. Shirley, commissioner of highways, Richmond, Va.

STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE New York State Legislature, recently adjourned, made appropriations for a number of important expansions or new activities for the State Colleges and Experiment Stations at Cornell University. Among the more significant of these was an appropriation of \$510,000 to be used with an appropriation of \$485,000 made by the legislature of the preceding year for the erection of a new building for the work in home economics; authorization to enter contracts for a new building for agricultural economics and rural social organization at a cost of \$650,000, and an appropriation of \$285,000 for a new horticultural research laboratory at the State Experiment Station at Geneva. A grant of \$400,000 was made for the equipment of the plant science building now nearing completion, which will cost \$1,000,000. In addition to these major items the regular budget of the College of Agriculture was increased by \$82,020 and there were incorporated as permanent funds \$51,050 of special grants made for animal husbandry developments the year preceding.

The following special items were also appropriated: Construction of barns and facilities for animal husbandry, \$100,000; purchase of additional land for animal husbandry purposes, \$60,000; office and laboratory building at Long Island Vegetable Research Farm, \$13,000; addition to tool shed for Long Island Vegetable Research Farm, \$1,000; grading, walks, roads, etc., for plant science building, \$15,000; investigations for control of Oriental peach moth, apple maggot, etc., by the State Experiment Station at Geneva, \$37,000; for the survey of agricultural re-