



Travel Round-up

THIS ISSUE

"San Francisco's Cable Cars" by John Cuddy leads off a series of occasional features intended to highlight some of this country's still active vestigial transportation systems. The city's little, clangorous cars, while scarcely streamlined, have long been treasured by natives and visitors alike. Efforts to replace them have stirred the citizenry to passionate oratory, nostalgic letters to the editor, and more aggressive action. The value of such rarities as tourist attractions is the idea behind the projected series of articles which will be found in future issues.

This month "At Your Service" features the activities of the United States Department of State's Division of Libraries and Institutes. Special emphasis is placed on the role of United States libraries overseas as distributors of travel information about the United States, previously touched upon in January's editorial.

SHOWS

Sports and travel will be the general themes of a number of exhibitions set for February, March, and April, including:

Chicago Outdoors Show (combined with Eleventh Annual International Sports, Travel and Trailer and Sixteenth Annual National Boat Shows), Navy Pier, Chicago, Ill., February 4-13.

Washington Sportsmen's Show, National Guard Armory, Washington, D. C., March 5-13.

Maryland Sportsmen's Show, Fifth Regiment Armory, Baltimore, Md., March 20-30.

First Annual Sports, Travel, and Boat Show, Oakland, Calif., April 9-17.

Sixteenth Annual Northwest Sports, Travel, and Boat Show, Minneapolis, Minn., April 16-24.

Fourth Annual Sports, Travel, and Boat Show, San Francisco, Calif., April 22-May 1.

DEVELOPMENT

They Bought a Town

Paul Richardson and Wendell Stout jokingly answered a newspaper ad offering the town of Dixie, Idaho, for sale. Earl T. Scott, owner of the vest-pocket village near the famous Salmon—the

River-of-No-Return—countered with a real proposition.

The two men closed out their Alaskan activities, flew to Idaho, and completed their deal with Scott.

Tom Cunning's *Idaho News* reports that Richardson and Stout plan to re-survey their new property, lay it out in 50- by 100-foot lots for summer cabins and hunting lodges in the heart of some of the State's finest scenery and fishing and hunting country. Because Dixie belies its name in winter, the men plan to raise huskies for use in packing in supplies to their customers after snowfall.

Airline Guide Grows

February and subsequent issues of *Official Airline Guide* published by American Aviation Publications, 1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D. C., will carry supplementary material in addition to the usual complete schedule information of United States and foreign air lines.

New categories offered include sections devoted to international air travel requirements; foreign travel information offices in this country; State travel information offices; travel associations, publications, and guides; domestic and international air mileages; data concerning characteristics and marks of world civil aircraft; air mail, parcel post, freight, and express information, foreign and domestic; international trade and official aviation agencies.

The February issue will include a four-color map of the United States (37½ by 26¾ inches) showing routes of United States passenger air lines and points of departure for international services. The map will be sold separately.

Skytours, Inc.

Recently formed as an association of vacation spots having airplane landing facilities, Skytours, Inc., Box 120, Swarthmore, Pa., now includes 12 resorts in its newest brochure. President is Everett J. Wood. The organization plans to recruit flying tourists on an annual membership basis entitling them to discounts and other resort privileges.

Williamsburg

Seven major projects are included in colonial Williamsburg's postwar reconstruction program. Buildings to be rebuilt or restored include the King's Arms and Blue Bell Taverns, a barber shop, and four colonial dwellings. When completed, the work will further restore the

town to its eighteenth century appearance. Archaeological investigations will continue as a part of the new authorization.

New Attractions

Ground breaking last month heralded the construction of three replicas of historic San Francisco buildings in that city's Portsmouth Square. To be rebuilt are the early Custom House, California's first public school, and Dr. Robinson's Dramatic Museum. When completed these will become an outstanding attraction for centennial years 1949 and 1950. The March issue of TRAVEL USA may carry a story about the reconstruction.

CARRIERS

Air Coach

Although members of the International Air Transport Association have tabled the question of world-wide skycoach tourist class rates until October 1949, experimental developments in this field are being closely watched.

Capital Airlines' low-fare "Night Hawk" service between New York and Chicago was begun on November 4 last year. The fare, one way, is \$29.60. No meals or refreshments are served. Capital has maintained an average of 40 passengers each flight while an average of 29 is necessary to keep the operation in the black. The airline company reports that much of this air coach traffic is new business, first flighters attracted by the low fares. Particularly important is the fact that the new rates and service were definitely successful despite the fact that they went into effect during a month when airline travel was dropping because of bad weather conditions.

Pan American Airways began daily tourist-class service to Puerto Rico on September 24, 1948, at a \$75 one-way fare. Since then the flights have been booked almost solid in advance. Pan American added an additional north- and south-bound flight on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Meanwhile, after further study, it is planned that a special IATA committee will draft a proposal concerning air tourist rates which will be submitted for action at the joint conference on April 1. Cargo rates will come in for similar attention.

No Meals

Western Air Lines, first air carrier to serve food in the air, may eliminate this service on its system and pass the result-