



ROCKET FUELER—To save time in fueling rockets, Republic Aviation Corporation developed the first mobile rocket engine servicing truck that carries the two propellants and pressurizing gas required for rocket propulsion. Here one of the liquid oxygen lines is being "bled" before being attached to the engine tank, while the ground is sprayed with water to reduce fire danger.

AERONAUTICS

Around World in 60 Hours

Special weather forecasting and reporting problems are presented by speedy British jet airliner that will make the fast trip around the earth.

► YOU MAY soon be able to travel around the world in 60 hours, including 10 or 11 stopovers of not more than 25 minutes, on regularly scheduled airlines.

A new version of the British jet airliner, the Comet I, is in preparation which will fly halfway around the world from London to Sydney, Australia, in 30 hours total time, A. C. Campbell Orde, operations development director of the British Overseas Airways Corporation, revealed at a meeting at the U. S. Weather Bureau in Washington. Plans are also underway to extend the route both from Sydney and London to America.

Mr. Campbell Orde was at the Weather Bureau to discuss the special weather forecasting and reporting problems in flying commercial airliners twice as high and twice as fast as they are flown now.

The first leg of the journey around the world—from London to Cairo—will go into passenger operation early in May. After that, the Comet I will extend its service to Karachi, Calcutta, Singapore, Darwin and Sydney. The Comet I will do this in 36

hours, as compared with the present time of 48 hours for "old-fashioned" propeller-driven planes, and with 30 hours for its upcoming successor.

After that the route will be extended from Sydney to the Fiji Islands, then Honolulu and either San Francisco or Vancouver, British Columbia. Meantime, flights from London to New York will be added and then the final link across North America will complete the globe girdling in 60 hours.

Two things will make possible keeping stops down to 25 minutes. First, the British have developed a method of pressure-feeding 50,000 pounds of kerosene to the Comet I in that length of time. Second, meteorological information and other data necessary to make a flight plan will be speeded up so that the pilot can make his plan in 25 minutes.

Also present at the meeting were Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer, chief of the Weather Bureau, and Maj. Gen. Oscar Senter, head of the U.S. Air Force's Air Weather Service.

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MEDICINE

Cut Down Calories To Prevent Cancer

► CUTTING DOWN on calories as a way of preventing cancer death was suggested in a report by Dr. Albert Tannenbaum of Chicago at the Second National Cancer Conference in Cincinnati.

The frequency with which cancer attacks mice is reduced as the calories in the diet of the mice are reduced.

These findings in animals, Dr. Tannenbaum said, are all the more striking because they agree with insurance figures which indicate that cancer mortality in man is related to body weight. The insurance studies, with a few clinical studies, "suggest," he said, "that at least for some tumor types overeating and overweight exert a promoting influence."

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Legal Papers in Cookie Jar—Jeremiah 32:14

► THE ANCIENT people of Israel may not have kept their housekeeping money in the teapot or in a clay piggy-bank, but they did keep important legal documents and manuscripts in what looked like a cookie jar.

One of these jars has been received at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. It had been put together like a jig-saw puzzle from over 100 fragments found in the Dead Sea Scroll Cave. The job of assembling the bits was done at the Palestine Archaeological Museum.

The jar was made of a reddish clay, the color still showing at the edges of the fragments. Slightly bulging ridges show where the potter's hand added fresh masses of soft clay in building up the jar.

Mention of the custom of putting legal documents in jars occurs in the Bible, Jeremiah 32:14, where the prophet charges Baruch, "Take these deeds, this deed of purchase which is sealed and this deed which is open and put them in an earthen vessel that they may continue many days."

Description of the jar is reported to the American Schools of Oriental Research by Dr. Carl H. Kraeling.

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TECHNOLOGY

Muffins Won't Stick To Plastic-Coated Tin

► A MUFFIN tin to which muffins and cakes will never stick was exhibited at the National Plastics Exposition in Philadelphia. The pan need not be greased because it is coated with a waxy plastic, a fluorethylene resin which Du Pont handles under the trade name of Teflon. This non-stick utensil is not yet commercially available.

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