

City Starts Action On Airport

With \$1900 Pledged On \$2600 Needed

Decision To Go Ahead With Program Reached At Public Meeting

With \$1900 pledged of the \$2600 it is estimated will be needed, plans are going forward for the building of a hangar and classroom on the airport. The project has been accepted by the city and NYA projects have been written and sent in for approval to cover various work projects needed.

A decision to go ahead and attempt to raise the money for the needed equipment was reached at a public meeting held last Thursday night in the college auditorium. The meeting was called under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce, which has been the organization to take the lead in the establishing of an air field here.

With the necessary buildings constructed, water piped to the field and telephone service provided, the college will set up courses and the government will provide \$425 for each student enrolled in this class in units of 15 each. It is the plan of those backing the project to attempt to secure units by October 1. The instructor will be selected by Joseph Bergin, state aviation director, and will be brought here with his planes. The only cost to the students for this class will be for a physical examination which it is estimated will cost \$6.

With Mr. Bergin at the meeting was W. D. Hammond, chairman of the State Road commission, under which commission the Aeronautics division is established. They explained the possibilities of

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establishing this course and what would be needed in the way of equipment, field facilities and students.

In addition to the classes for students, a group of older men is planning on bringing in their own instructor (students must be between the ages of 18 and 26 for the government classes).

Because of all-year-round weather that is suitable for flying, Mr. Bergin declared that he saw no reason why this shouldn't be an ideal location. He stated that the present field would be very satisfactory with the improvements that are planned.

The committee in charge of raising the money is headed by Dr. L. W. McGregor and includes Lee Owens, Harold Snow, W. B. Mathis, Mayor D. C. Watson and Rodney Ashby.

Those who have followed this project in St. George praise the work done by the St. George Chamber of Commerce in keeping the equipment here and establishing the field as a permanent field after it had been scheduled to be abandoned by the government. To Lee Owens in particular goes credit. Mr. Owens saw the possibilities of the field and gave considerable time and effort in keeping the project alive as chairman of a committee for this purpose under the Chamber of Commerce. There were times when the average citizen thought that his efforts would be wasted, but Mr. Owens never gave up.
