

St. George Airport Hangar Soon To Be Completed

**Water Main and Telephone
Lines Now Deliver
Service To Field-Hangar**

By MABEL JARVIS

People of St. George and vicinity have watched with increasing interest the growth day by day during the past two months of the hangar on the brow of the hill west of the city, near the airport beacon. Students of the Dixie college enrolling in the CAA and local sponsors are especially jubilant to note that thus far nothing of material importance has impeded the completion of this structure, which, according to those who know hangars, is about as modern for the purpose as is to be found.

Competently directed, the WPA and NYA labor have dug the water main and laid the pipe line right up the side of the hill, and it delivers the water in fine shape from one of the purest supplies available, which also serves St. George. The telephone has been installed, and almost luxury is to be found in this nearly completed hangar which has come about through persistent effort of the sponsors. The hangar itself occupies a space 60 by 60 feet, and with the additional space for offices, class room, tool shop and lounge, and sanitary rest rooms, the floor space of the completed building measures 75 by 60 feet. Everything is tip-top and looks

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Local Airport

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as if it had required much more than two months time in which it has been built.

The project itself possesses an interesting bit of history. A little more than two years ago the government abandoned the St. George emergency airport for a shorter route from Los Angeles to Salt Lake City. But Lee Owens, seeing the possibilities and future of aviation in this vicinity, contacted other members of the St. George Chamber of Commerce, urging their interest in the re-establishment of the airport and landing field with a hope of its availability for air-minded tourists and as a commercial project for this city. Through the Chamber of Commerce Mr. Owens and Mathew M. Bentley were named as a committee to secure the necessary government lease on the land covered by the field and for the airport lights, which at the time had been badly damaged.

Later, when J. L. Wadsworth was made president of the local Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Owens was appointed to take over the airport, since Mr. Bentley was unable to carry on, due to other duties.

Starting with a capital of \$200 allowed this field from the airplane gas tax, through consent of former Director of Aeronautics E. C. Garn, and the cooperation of local civic clubs, the local National Guard and private citizens, all of whom contributed time and labor, the roadway leading to the landing field was materially improved. An expenditure of \$80 thru this effort yielded more than \$400 in actual improvements, although there will be added work done before the road is exactly as desired. A total of \$118 was spent on replacement of the lights. More than 200 tons of rocks were hauled off the field, trucks being donated as well as labor of men of the town and school boys. The field was leveled and other needed improvements were made.

Then the Chamber of Commerce cooperating with other forces made ready to take advantage of the government CAA training courses. This became possible through the efforts of President Glenn E. Snow of the Dixie junior college, who secured the school, which began its courses Oct. 1.

Hangar Promoted

Actual steps towards the erection of the hangar and establishment of the school began just two months ago when the Chamber of Commerce, with Pres. Glenn E. Snow called a public meeting which was attended by State Road Commissioner Hammond, and Joseph Bergen, state director of aeronautics. Cedar City already had their hangar and school underway, and visitors from that section lent encouragement to the project, with result that the necessary committees were appointed that night to raise the proposed \$2500 for the airport. And today, there stands the hangar on top of the hill, inviting inspection. Through the courtesy of Jim Urie of Cedar City, and by revisiting other hangars, many of the errors of the past have been eliminated in this structure, it is claimed, and St. George and Dixie junior college are proud of the present accomplishment. M. J. Miles of the Dixie junior college staff gives the class room instruction and E. L. (Andy) Anderson has been engaged as flight instructor. The school is already at work, a full unit, including one girl, being enrolled.

Air Tours Center

Not only will this airport function to a material degree just at this time in the training of local youth for aviation positions, but Chamber of Commerce officials are looking ahead to the future of Dixie as a center for air tours. Located in the heart of the scenic southwest, its possibilities in this regard cannot be fathomed, say those who have looked into this respect.

Inspector F. J. Alley, formerly of Santa Monica, and now locat-

ing in Salt Lake City as government flight inspector for this district, visited the airport Monday afternoon and while he was duly non-committal on some issues, he admitted the hangar conformed to some of the best modern set-ups. It will be his duty to visit this field once each month on the tour of his district. A government accredited mechanic has been employed and a ground work inspector is also engaged, state those in charge.

Fine Climate

With Dixie's year-round air-faring climate, and her location in the heart of the scenic southwest, the possibilities of making this a tourist center of aviation is a factor to be considered. With this thought in mind, Mr. Wadsworth, in behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Owens, airport manager, extend hearty welcome to tourists going by air to make their stopover at this landing field, where ample guest room will be found in the hangar, with comfortable lounge and all necessary facilities. In this city will be found every accomodation in the way of courteous shopping places, meals that cannot be surpassed, good hotels, plenty of good camp facilities, and above all Dixie's heritage of cordial hospitality.

Mindful that this improvement has come about through the generous cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce, the Dixie junior college, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, the City of St. George, the Rotary club, the Business Peoples' organization, the Lions club, the Bank of St. George, individual citizens and the State Road commission, this city looks forward to the dedication of this new monument upon the hillside, which today serves an eminent need, a government requirement, an educational opportunity, and a promise of aviation pleasures and public benefit.