

TOUR PILOT BADLY HURT

Sugg Crashes Into Hill—Planes Get To Huntington

Huntington, W. Va., July 8—(A. P.)—Twelve fliers in the National Air tour dropped down on the Huntington air field today from Columbus, O., to remain in Huntington until tomorrow morning, when they plan to hop off for Middleboro, Ky. The planes had flown from the Wheeling airport at Yorkville, Ohio, to Columbus this morning.

Harry L. Russell, No. 5, with 15,347 points, led the fliers upon their arrival here. James H. Smart, No. 4, with 14,041.4 points, was second, and Eddie Schneider, No. 17, with 13,156.8, third.

The condition of Charles Sugg, of Orleans, Mass., a tour flier who was hurt in a crack-up near Yorkville today, was reported in an "extremely critical condition" in a Martin's Ferry, O., hospital tonight. Sugg was injured when his Buhl Pup crashed against a hill bordering on the Yorkville airport. The pilot suffered a probable fracture of the skull and internal injuries.

The condition of Z. D. Granville, of Springfield, Mass., forced out of the event by an attack of appendicitis, was said to be "serious" at a Wheeling hospital.

TRUCK LOAD OF MALT SEIZED FOR TAX LACK

The first Detroit seizure of a truck in transit under the new malt tax law was made at 4 p. m. Wednesday, when agents working out of the secretary of state's office, 3138 Cass avenue, confiscated 25 unstamped cases of malt on a truck at Van Dyke and Harper avenues. The driver, Nathan Rottenberg, 29 years old, 2924 Waverly avenue, was released after questioning. The truck and its contents were held in violation of the malt tax law, which provides that all malt containers must bear tax stamps. The truck bore the name "Red Top Malt company," 1865 Porter avenue.

Detroit's Per Capita Debt Is 4th Highest

Dr. Upson Puts Municipal Burden at \$137.29 For Each Inhabitant—Philadelphia Tops All With \$207.07

Detroit's municipal debt is \$137.29 per capita, exceeded in only three other American cities of more than 500,000 population, according to an analysis of the debts of 257 American cities by Dr. Lent D. Upson, director of the Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research. Dr. Upson's conclusions are presented in the current issue of *The Detrioter*, as follows:

"Lately a lot has been said about the financial condition of the city of Detroit.

"There is no question but that the city is, painfully short of ready money. It must be because it has spent \$20,000,000 for welfare relief for which no taxes have been levied; has advanced \$20,000,000 more for street widenings, and has \$10,000,000 of taxes delinquent.

"Eventually—and soon—these items must be met by issuing bonds, levying special assessments, and raising taxes. In spite of rigid economy taxes must be higher for several years to come. Not alone will the tax rate reach a new high level, but the burden of taxes-borne by each parcel of property will be greater.

"But while 'floating' indebtedness may embarrass the city and may necessitate higher taxes, a more fundamental criterion of its financial condition is the amount of its bonded debt exclusive of that for self-supporting utilities—that is, amount of debt to be retired from taxes.

Washington Without Debt

"To determine the comparative condition of Detroit, the bureau, in each of the nine years past, has tabulated the debt of American cities—the gross debt for general improvements, schools and utilities; and sinking fund applicable to each category, and the net debt excluding self-supporting debt, floating debt, and special assessments.

"This year, a tabulation covering 257 cities as at January 1, 1931, has just been published in the June issue of the *National Municipal Review*.

"Analysis of the per capita net

debt, excluding self supporting, discloses a wide range. Washington, D. C., has no debt. Rockford, Ill., is lowest with a per capita of \$14.81. The highest is Atlantic City with \$386.89.

Dearborn's Rate \$329.

"Among the larger cities, the range is from \$63.63 for St. Louis, to \$207.07 for Philadelphia. Detroit's per capita figure is \$137.29. "Why Atlantic City has a per capita debt of \$386, and Dearborn \$329, while Rockford has \$14, and Auburn, N. Y., \$17, requires detailed consideration of conditions in each city.

"Similarly, the per capita debts of the larger cities are not strictly comparable because they cannot portray every circumstance surrounding them—nature of the improvement acquired, the debt carried by overlapping units of government such as the county, age and growth of the city, stability of industries, etc.

In the Larger Cities

"With these reservations and others in foot notes—the per capita non-self-supporting debt of cities over 500,000 population (as at January 1, 1931) is as follows:

Philadelphia-1	\$207.07
New York	161.15
Baltimore	153.01
Detroit	137.29
Buffalo	123.40
San Francisco	118.13
Pittsburgh	107.93
Cleveland	101.74
Chicago-2	94.64
Boston-3	84.59
Milwaukee-4	77.76
Los Angeles-5	74.19
St. Louis	63.63

(1) A consolidated and county.
(2) Includes city's share of sanitary district debt, but not that of Cook county and the forest preserve district.
(3) Small county debt paid by city not included.
(4) Does not include debt of met-

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