

CITY HOST TO PATHFINDER OF AIRPLANE TOUR

Officials of Reliability Competition Plan for Aug. 7 Test.

HOP OFF FOR CHICAGO Fourteen Cities Will Be Visited in Mapping Program for 3,000-Mile Competition.

Kalamazoo Tuesday received its official instructions for the part it is to play in the second annual Commercial Airplane Reliability Tour which is to start from Detroit on the morning of Saturday, Aug. 7, on a flight of nearly 3,000 miles. The pathfinder ship, bearing tour officials and newspapermen stopped in this city for nearly four hours, and hopped off for the second leg of its journey shortly after 2:00 in the afternoon.

A committee from the Kalamazoo Airport Association, composed of Claude S. Carney, R. E. Fair, Frank Ryan, Harry Scott, Ralph Reed, J. K. Walsh, Guy P. Wilson and Fred Appeldoorn met the pathfinder when it landed at the Municipal Airport, and a crowd of approximately 500 people was on hand to greet the visiting tour officials.

14 CITIES ON ROUTE

Following a brief inspection at the field the officials went into conference with the local committee at the Park American hotel, where they remained during the luncheon hour.

Kalamazoo will be the first stop on the tour. There are 14 cities on the itinerary, and a fifteenth, Cincinnati, will probably be added. Forty airplanes, representing the world's finest commercial ships, have been entered in the tour, and will compete for the \$7,000 For dtrophy, and \$20,000 in prize money. The Kalamazoo Airport Association contributed \$1,000 toward the \$20,000 purse, and it is probable that additional prizes will be hung up by Kalamazoo interests for the best performance on the first lap of the tour, between Detroit and Kalamazoo.

FIRST STOP HERE

Arrangements were made at the luncheon conference for landing the 40 ships. They are due to arrive in Kalamazoo at 10:00 on the morning of Aug. 7, and will remain at the Municipal Airport for at least three hours. Arrangements will be made for serving luncheon for the pilots of competing ships at the field.

for making the day a full holiday in Kalamazoo, and it is probable that manufacturers will be asked to close their plants for the day in order that the greatest possible number will have an opportunity to inspect the ships when they land here for the initial stop of what has been characterized as the greatest air flight ever attempted anywhere in the history of aviation.

TWO WEEKS' TOUR

Tour officials aboard the pathfinder were enthusiastic about the preparations that are under way in Kalamazoo for receiving the contestants. "If we find half as much interest in the other cities on the itinerary, there is no question about the success of the undertaking. Kalamazoo is today nearer ready for modern aviation than any other city in Michigan, with the possible exception of Detroit," they told the local committeemen.

The pathfinder ship expects to complete the circle in one week. The tour will require two weeks. In each city except Kalamazoo the planes will remain over night.

Hopping off at 2:00 the tour officials expected to be in Chicago at 3:00. They will land at the government aviation field at Maywood, Ill., 15 miles west of Chicago, and they plan to be in that city in time to see the start of the Elks' balloon race, which starts from Grand Park at 4:00.

ARRIVE AT AIRPORT

The giant Douglas transport was sited on the eastern horizon at 10:30. George Tabraham was in the air with his Swallow, and immediately headed eastward to meet the pathfinder ship was flying, he tude higher than that at which the pathfinder ship was flying, he conveyed the transport to the field. Three graceful swoops around the Municipal Airport and Pilot Elliott brought the huge ship to earth. It came to a halt at the entrance of the Airport at 10:35, and the Kalamazoo committee rushed to the plane to greet the tour officials and newspapermen who were aboard.

Crowds flocked on the field and pressed close to the ship which is the largest ever to land at the Municipal Airport. After a brief consultation with the Kalamazoo committee the tour officials were brought from the field to the city, where the conference on arrangements for Kalamazoo's part in the second annual Commercial Airplane Reliability tour, which is to start from Detroit on the morning of Aug. 7, was held.

The men comprising the party on the pathfinder plane are:

H. G. McCarroll, tour manager; Captain Ray Collins, traveling referee of the tour; J. Peterson Adams, Paige Motor Car Company, and three newspapermen of Detroit—Harold Wymer of the Detroit News; Frank E. Bogart of the Detroit Times and Charles E. Planck of the Detroit Free Press. Lieut. L. C. Elliott and Sergeant William Ross, mechanic.

The pathfinder trip is for the purpose of settling all arrangements at the control points for the tour proper.