

AIR VISITORS OFFER 'LIFTS' TO SKEPTICS

FREE RIDES PART OF PLAN TO
CONVINCE PUBLIC THAT
AVIATION IS SAFE

Dallas aviation fans and skeptics will be given a "free ride" in the twenty model ships of the national air tour which will sail into Love Field Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for an overnight stop. City officials, local air enthusiasts and especially those who have hitherto remained content to keep their feet on the ground, will be issued invitations to take the air for twenty-minute spins with nationally known flyers in the safest planes modern commercial aviation has been able to invent.

The "free rides" are part of the tour party's plan to convince the people of the country that commercial aviation really is safe, and that regular air highways, traversed by millions of planes, are just around the corner in the progress of civilization.

Just as the first train puffed into Dallas in 1872, the planes of the national tour will cruise into the city Friday afternoon—bent on convincing the public that a trip through the air isn't a ready-made grave, but a practical method of transporting passengers and freight for money. Of course, it will be a more progressive public which will greet the flying party. But there are still, however, hundreds of spectators who will throng to Love Field Friday afternoon out of mere curiosity and carrying a doubt in their minds.

May Limit Rides.

Anyone who believes commercial aviation "can't be done" will witness the prides of the nation's air factories in special exhibition of safety flying. If the pilots are swamped with requests for the free rides, however, a limited number will have to be selected by field officials.

Approximately 5,000 out-of-town spectators, mostly from North Texas, will flock to Dallas Friday to take part in the welcome extended the tour flyers, according to information received by Robert J. Smith of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce from railroad, interurban and city officials over the state. The huge crowd likely will begin forming at Love Field shortly after noon.

Eddie Stinson, piloting the Stinson monoplane, likely will be the first flyer of the tour to bring his plane to the ground Friday. This famous aviator is leading the tour flyers in the contest for the Edsel Ford reliability trophy and the \$12,000 cash prizes. The other planes of the party will follow within thirty minutes, however.

Exhibition flying meet will begin at 4 o'clock and will last until dark, it was announced by officials of the Dallas Flying club, the organization sponsoring the tour's visit to Dallas. Following the exhibition flying, the planes will be placed in line and opened for the inspection of the public.

Will Greet Party.

Mayor F. E. Burt, Postmaster John W. Philp, A. J. Langford and Martin Weiss will officially greet the tour party at Love Field landing. They also will act as honorary judges in case disputes arise over technicalities of the contest. Lloyd Long of the flying club will act as executive chairman of all arrangements for the day. Jack Moran will act as referee and C. B. Braun, division manager of the National Air Transport, will time the arrival of the tour planes for contest records. Street Commissioner Arthur J. Reinhart will supervise the starting of the planes Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. Lieut. Tom Hardin has been appointed field manager and G. Wooten will supervise police regulation of the crowd at the field.

A banquet at the Baker hotel at 7:30 o'clock Friday night will be the feature of the entertainment program arranged by Mr. Smith. Speeches will be made by Mayor Burt, President B. B. Owen of the flying club, Postmaster Philp and members of the tour party. E. R. Brown, president of the Chamber of Commerce, will represent that organization. Special music and acts furnished by the various theaters of Dallas will be an additional feature.

Official headquarters for the tour party will be established at the Adolphus hotel. The entire party will be entertained at the Bamboo-land dance at the Adolphus immediately following the banquet at the Baker hotel, it was announced.

The tour party making a 3,500-mile journey for the purpose of visiting twenty-five cities of the East, South and Middle West, will come to Dallas direct from Pine Bluff, Ark. It will leave Dallas Saturday morning for points in Oklahoma.