

NEWSREEL IS FINISHED IN MONOPLANE

For the first time in newsreel history, a flying picture laboratory was used when the moving picture film and newspaper photographs of the opening of the Republican convention were developed and printed while being flown west from Kansas City. Stops were made by this Richfield-Paramount News-Associated Press flying laboratory to permit the distribution of prints along the line of flight.

The plane used was a Ryan monoplane, similar in design to Lindbergh's and piloted by Bud Gurney, St. Louis air mail pilot and old time friend of the colonel's. It carried all the intricate equipment necessary for developing moving picture film as well as a compact dark room capable of turning out a large number of still photographs. Beside the pilot, the plane carried a staff of three men. The two avoided interference with the operation of the plane, and, in spite of extreme difficulties, proved the experiment a complete success.

The crew on board the laboratory plane consisted of S. H. MacKean, assignment editor; David Sussman, laboratory manager, and Harry Cuthbertson, cameraman, all from the New York office of Paramount News. No sooner was the plane under way than they started work.

Hundreds of feet of film, made by several different cameramen had to be developed in specially designed tanks. Then the film had to be edited, cut, and a single negative spliced into shape. This was then titled and during the remainder of the trip, positives were printed from this negative, developed, dried and packed ready to be delivered to the theaters.

The flight of the laboratory plane is believed to mark a new development in the speedy transportation of news film.