

FAVORABLE LABOR SITUATIONS FOUND AT BEECH, CESSNA

**Two Companies Commended
by Senator Truman During
Visit Here Wednesday**

INVITED TO WICHITA

Officials and workers of two Wichita major aircraft plants, Beech and Cessna, were well rewarded for their temerity in inviting Sen. Harry S. Truman of Missouri to bring the members of the widely known Truman senate investigation committee to review their operations yesterday. En route from Dallas to Kansas City, the committee stopped in Wichita yesterday morning for a fast but thorough inspection of the Beech and Cessna factories, and at the end of their visit, commented very favorably on activities at both plants.

Groundwork for the Truman committee visit was laid last Friday, when Senator Truman, in company with Rep. Walter H. Judd, visited Wichita on other business. In a quick visit to the Beech plant, he received a cordial invitation from John P. Gaty, general manager of Beechcraft, to come back and bring the members of his committee with him. He received a similar invitation from Dwight Wallace, Cessna secretary-treasurer, after speaking at a luncheon meeting in Hutchinson.

After the committee had inspected the Beech and Cessna plants, Senator Truman expressed the opinion that both companies "have accomplished a great deal with very little outside help." Both Beech and Cessna, he said, have "exceptionally favorable labor situations."

Compliment for Beech

Asked by Beech officials for a forthright opinion of Beechcraft's record, Senator Truman said: "Our committee came to Wichita because we had heard of your efficient production and your low rates of absenteeism and labor turnover, resulting in your case largely from your efficiency incentive plan. We are particularly pleased, once in a while, to find someone we can compliment."

To this comment Hugh Fulton, general counsel of the Truman committee, added: "We were especially impressed by the adaptability of your buildings to any type of production, both for this emergency and for the post-war future, and by the economy and efficiency of the type of construction which you selected."

Members of the committee who visited Beech and Cessna included,

SENATOR TRUMAN AT BEECH PLANT



SEN. HARRY S. TRUMAN and members of his senate investigation committee paid a flying visit to the Beech and Cessna aircraft factories Wednesday morning, at the special invitation of officials of those companies. He is shown above touring the Beech plant, walking with Brig. Gen. Ray G. Harris, supervisor of the Midwestern Procurement district, Army Air Forces, Wichita; Sen. Harry Kilgore of West Virginia, left front; and T. A. Wells, chief engineer of Beech Aircraft. Spokesmen for the Truman committee were warm in their praise of the efficiency of operations at these Wichita war plants.

in addition to Chairman Truman, Sens. Homer Ferguson of Michigan and Harley M. Kilgore of West Virginia; Hugh Fulton, chief counsel; Donald Lathron, chief investigator of aircraft production facilities; Brig. Gen. Frank Lowe, assigned by the air corps as executive officer to the committee; Lieut. Col. Miles Knowles, representing the office of the secretary of war, and Col. Bryant L. Boatner, attached to the modification unit of the air forces at Wright field, O. Officials of the Midwestern Procurement district, Wichita, who escorted the committee on its visit locally, included Brig. Gen. Ray G. Harris, supervisor; Col. Frank W. Cawthorne, technical executive; Lieut. Col. Frank J. Murphy, chief of the production division, and Capt. H. C. Rankin.