

150 YEARS AGO AUGUST 1872

From the Somerset Unionist, week of August 10, 1872, page 2

BASE BALL

The return match between the Pickwick Club of Somerville and the Goodwill Club of Flemington, was played in Somerville on Friday and was a closely contested game, resulting, however, in favor of the Pickwick's by a score of 20 to 16. ...

A CAR LOADED WITH HAY

caught fire while standing on a side track at the depot in Somerville on Tuesday noon, and with the exception of twenty bales, was totally consumed. It belonged to Mr. Philip Tunison, of North Branch, and is the second loss of the kind he has sustained within the last month.

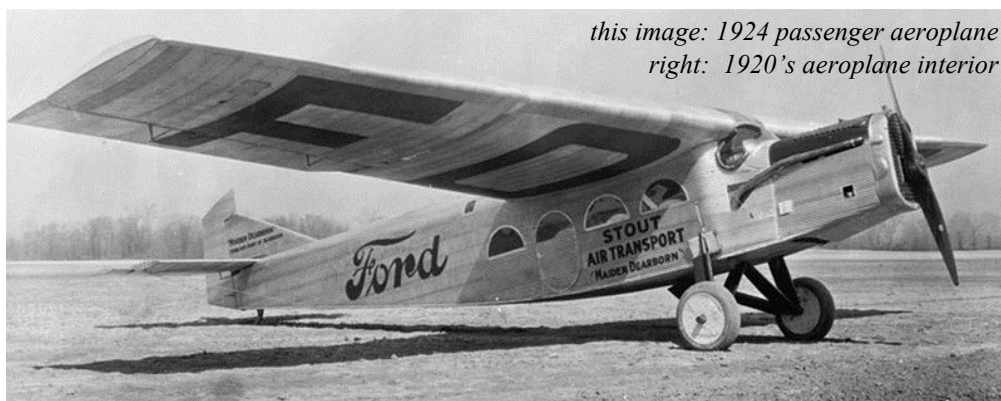
100 YEARS AGO AUGUST 1922

BIG RAID ON SPEAK-EASIES *Unionist Gazette, Aug 24, 1922, p 1*

Bootleggers and hootch dispensers who had become very bold in the county because of the long deferred action of the Federal authorities in draining some of the wet spots which have been demoralizing the community since the Van Ness Act was declared unconstitutional, were treated to a surprise on Friday afternoon when Federal Prohibition Agent Bowne, of the Newark office assisted by eight Federal officers and a like number of men furnished by Prosecutor Beekman's office, conducted a series of raids in Somerville, Manville, Bound Brook, and Raritan. ... There were five squads of raiders who made sixteen raids as follows: three in Somerville, nine in Manville, three in Bound Brook, and one in Raritan. ... Most of the places were speakeasies of one kind or another where rum of the homemade variety was obtainable at 26 cents a drink. ...

SUCCESS OF 'SILENT NINE' *Unionist Gazette, August 10, 1922, p 9*

Passengers are enabled freely to converse with one another. A silent airplane engine has at last been invented. In a recent test the deafening roar of the engine and exhaust was completely eliminated when fitted with the "Silent Nine" as the new invention is called. Passengers will now be able to converse with ease while in the air, and not be forced to shout at the top of their voices. The "Silent Nine" ... consists of an expansion chamber fitted to the end of a long exhaust pipe, and arranged in such a way that the gases from the engine are cooled immediately they leave the red-hot exhaust hole. This is the secret of engine silence. ...



*this image: 1924 passenger aeroplane
right: 1920's aeroplane interior*



THEY PAY THE PRICE *Editorial August 10, 1922, Unionist Gazette, p6*

This is an amusement loving age but all this pleasure is not without its serious side. While business has progressed to the point where every danger is reduced to a minimum, where machinery is protected carefully to a degree hardly realized as possible by men who have grown old in factory and mill service and while even the railroads have minimized their perils, yet pleasure seekers are paying a high toll. A large number of persons lose their lives by drowning both in winter and summer, while skating, boating, swimming, bathing at lake, river and shore. Thousands lose their lives in automobile accidents and probably more than half of these are pleasure driving. There are few safeguards against holiday indulgence, water sports, and motoring which bring fatalities amazingly fast. It seems almost necessary to protect heedless persons from endangering others as well as themselves. Taking licenses from automobile drivers who are inebriated is one of the most vital of these forms of protection. Commissioner [] is doing a splendid work in this respect and he cannot be too severe. But people will attempt to swim into dangerous places, to skate on thin ice, to drive beyond the speed limit, to take all sorts of chances instead of following the grand old motto, "safety first," and so we continue to have long lists of fatalities. As the head of New York Public Safety Committee, Judge Gary puts three words "Don't get hurt" in places of the usual long winded warnings and pleadings. These words of warning have been heard by every boy and girl since they can remember. They are well to remember.