

PROBLEM No. 2: MANUFACTURERS NAMES

One of the continuing problems that needs discussion by all of the members is that of the correct title or name to be given to an aircraft when the name of the original manufacturer has changed, or when the aircraft is built under a sub-contract.

This problem has been with us since World War I, and possibly before, when aircraft such as the famous Curtiss "Jenny" were built by other companies. One example is the Howell & Lesser JN-4D, built in San Francisco. Obviously this plane was never built by either the Curtiss Company or any of its employees, and carries a nameplate stating "Howell & Lesser JN-4D". Which then is the correct name?

During World War II this was repeated, and is probably best known with the Boeing B-17 and Consolidated B-24. The B-17's were built by Douglas and Vega, as well as Boeing. Is a B-17G-80-VE (Vega) to be called a Boeing B-17G-80-VE, Boeing-Vega B-17G-80-VE, or a Vega B-17G-80-VE? Which is correct? Similarly is the Ford Motor Company B-24M a Ford or a Consolidated? What do you think? How do you file such items? Which do you prefer?

Another facet of this problem, but perhaps one which is easier to solve, is the situation where an aircraft is built under one name, and later the company name changes. In this case it would seem reasonable to continue using the name under which the aircraft was manufactured. For example, the New Standard D-27 was built under that name. Later, however, the company was known as the White company, and still later as the Jones company. It is the C.A.A. policy to change the name each time the legal owners name is changed, but this seems unrealistic from a historical standpoint. The plane on page 38 (Fig. 6) is most certainly a New Standard today, just as it was the day it was built, however it is listed as a Jones D-27 in some places. There are many examples of this, such as the Bird BK being listed as the Perth-Amboy BK, the Porterfield CP-65 being listed as the Northwestern Aero Corporation CP-65, the Fleet 7 being called the Brewster 7, and the Fokker "Super Universal" being called a North American "Super Universal".

Please send us your comments on this problem, and your recommendations.

MUSEUM AIRCRAFT

One of the jobs that needs to be done in the United States is to compile an accurate list of all aircraft in public and private museums. In order to start this list we are asking that each of you send in whatever information you may have concerning aircraft in storage, regardless of condition. We would like to have the manufacturers name, full model designation, all exterior markings including military serial numbers, civil registration letters, "name" of aircraft etc., the factory serial number if known, and any individual history that is known. Please be sure to also include the full title and correct address of the museum, if it is open to the public, price of admission etc. This will all be published when complet