

## HEADLINES



## Real Estate's News Letter For Today and Tomorrow

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## NOTICE! CHICAGO CONFERENCE CANCELLED

A LAST MINUTE EMERGENCY caused by extension of the International Civil Aviation Conference at the Stevens Hotel has forced cancellation of your Postwar Action Conference at Chicago. Confronted with the abrupt choice of either cancellation or having a thousand delegates stranded in Chicago without hotel rooms or transportation home, your National officers were forced to call off the meeting.

The emergency developed suddenly last week, when your Association was notified by the Stevens Hotel that the International Aviation meeting apparently would last longer than was expected. When that meeting opened November 1, it was anticipated that it would be concluded by November 21, in ample time to allow our conference to assemble. President John W. Galbreath proceeded at once to Chicago and conferred with the members of the Chicago Board who are on the Conference committee. Immediate consultation with both the Stevens management and with the leaders of the International meeting was launched. Negotiations were carried on for five days. Upshot was that the hotel could guarantee our delegates only 600 rooms instead of the 1,300 which your Association has had under contract since January. An intense effort was made to have other Chicago hotels make rooms available. Because every major hotel in Chicago is booked solid for weeks, no other hotel could take additional delegates.

THE ISSUE WAS PLAIN, Your Association could not, in fairness to its members, bring delegates into an overcrowded city without hotel rooms to accommodate them. On top of this, any delegate without a room, but having return railroad transportation, would probably be stranded until the scheduled date of his departure. In addition, during the last week, unmistakable word reached your Association from several government departments that with transportation difficulties on the increase, it would be considered better patriotism to withdraw the conference than to go ahead.

These facts were reviewed by President Galbreath, Boyd T. Barnard, Chairman of your Realtors' Washington Committee, and members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. Opinion of the Executive Committee was unanimous. After careful canvass of all possibilities, it was decided to cancel.

Thus, for the first time in 36 years, your National Association will not conduct an annual conference. The decision to cancel was hailed by official Washington:

"THE NAVY DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES GREATLY THE UNSELFISH ACTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BOARDS IN CANCELLING ITS ANNUAL CONFERENCE THIS WILL RELEASE TRAVEL AND HOTEL SPACE THAT IS NEEDED BADLY BY THE ARMED SERVICES."

UNITED STATES NAVY DEPARTMENT

"YOUR WILLINGNESS TO DROP THE PLANS YOU HAD MADE FOR YOUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE IS ONE OF THE FINEST DEMONSTRATIONS THAT YET HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION WE HOPE YOUR ACTION WILL SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER BUSINESS GROUPS."

COL. J. MONROE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF O.D.T.

"WHEN BUSINESSMEN CANCEL LONG STANDING PLANS IN DEFERENCE TO HOUSING AND MOVEMENT OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL THEY ARE EXHIBITING A HIGH DEGREE OF PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM."

UNITED STATES WAR DEPARTMENT