

'Free Energy' Motor May Cause Revolutionizing of Automotive Industry

DETROIT, Mich. Feb. 25.—(AP)—

A corporation has been formed to develop a "free energy" motor invented by Lester J. H. Hendershot, Pittsburgh electrical engineer, and incorporation papers are to be filed by Henry Breckenridge, attorney in New York, Major Thomas G. Lanphier, Selfridge field flight commander, said here today.

Maj. Lanphier, who left this afternoon by air for Mitchell field, Long Island, said before his departure that he is interested in the corporation, but he declined to name other persons interested. Earlier in the day Lanphier said Col. Charles A. Lindbergh was not connected with the enterprise, but Breckenridge is Lindbergh's attorney.

Draws Power from Air.

An experimental model of the new motor, said to be electro-magnetically operated without fuel and drawing its power from the air or ground, is at Selfridge field where a success flight test was reported to have been made yesterday. It was brought here by the inventor and D. Barr Peat, former United States army aviator, who is associated with him.

Whether the motor will prove practical and revolutionize the automotive world will depend upon future tests, aeronautical experts who have viewed tests of the model said today.

Maj. Lanphier, who with Col.

Lindbergh witnessed a private demonstration yesterday, said the motor had great possibilities, but that "it might not amount to anything." "It is too early to tell anything about it," he said.

Col. Lindbergh, although displaying keen interest in the demonstration, was non-committal.

William B. Stout, president of the Stout Air Service, Inc., designer of the all-metal type of transport planes manufactured by the Ford Motor company, said the motor was "very impressive" and "actually uncanny." He expressed a desire to "see how a large model, designed to develop power enough to lift an airplane, would operate."

Secret Lies in Armature.

Stout, who saw the experimental model tested, said the secret of Hendershot's motor lies in a hitherto unknown method of winding an armature. He said Hendershot had succeeded in so winding the armature as to make it draw energy directly from electrical currents in the air or ground.

Hendershot has kept the motor concealed and its details secret except to persons permitted to witness the tests. However, Stout said the motor is about the size of motors used to operate vacuum cleaners and sewing machines and was similar in appearance to any small electrical motor.