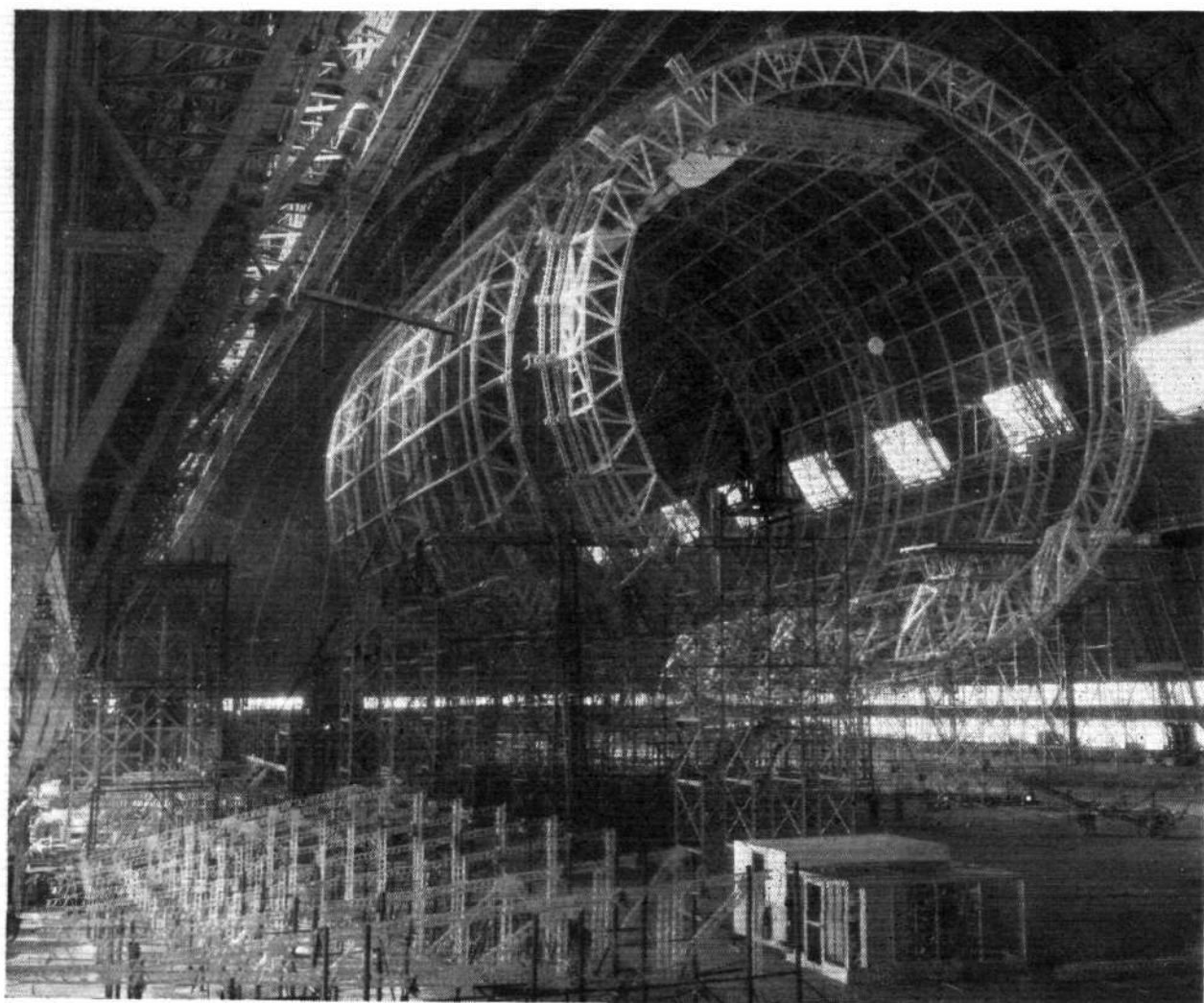




## The U.S.S. "Macon"

Construction of New American Airship Well Advanced

**E**XTREMELY rapid progress is being made in the construction of the sister ship to the U.S.S. *Akron*; the new airship is to be named the U.S.S. *Macon*, and is being built by the Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation, who constructed the U.S.S. *Akron*.

With the raising of the sixth main frame, the duralumin skeleton of the *Macon* attained a length of more than 350 ft., and the after portion of the hull is nearing completion. Work is also well under way on construction of the ship's fins, to which the movable control surfaces necessary to guide the craft through the air are fixed.

Basic design and construction of the *Macon* are identical with the U.S.S. *Akron*, and for that reason the highly trained group of Goodyear workmen who built the first ship are able to accomplish their tasks on the *Macon* with greater speed, due to their previous experience.

Another advantage is that the *Macon* is being constructed in the tremendous hangar built for the *Akron*. This will materially assist in the saving of time in the construction of the new ship.

Since a better production schedule can be maintained, different procedure than with the *Akron* is being followed on the present ship. For test purposes and other reasons it was necessary to start amidships and erect the forward part of the hull of the *Akron* first. Starting forward of amidships on the *Macon*, construction has been carried on towards the stern.

The main frame just erected is the last and smallest in the after part of the hull structure, and there remains only attachment of the cone-shaped stern section and the fins to complete this portion of the ship.

When completed, the entire hull of the *Macon* will have a total of 11 main frames, spaced approximately 74 ft. apart in the midship portion of the ship. All but one of them are triangular in cross section, being composed of two outer annular rings joined to an inner annular ring by a system of girders in zig-zag fashion, and are connected to each other by a series of 36 longitudinal girders. Spaced at intervals between the main frames are intermediate frames of single-girder construction.



### The "Akron's" Trans-American Flight

THE U.S. Navy airship *Akron* completed her flight from Lakehurst across the United States to San Francisco with a minor tragedy. After fighting a terrific storm over Texas, as reported last week, the airship succeeded in reaching San Diego, California, on May 11, where an attempt was made to moor for refuelling. During several attempts to walk the airship to the mooring mast one of the land lines broke and the airship suddenly rose. All save three of the ground party let go the ropes, but the three were carried up several hundred feet. Two of them fell to the ground and were killed, but the third made

himself fast to the rope and was hauled up into the airship after an unpleasant hour or so in midair. The *Akron* was eventually moored later in the evening, and continued her flight next day to San Francisco, where a mail of 47,000 letters and postcards was handed over to the postal authorities.

### "Los Angeles" to be Scrapped?

It is reported from Washington that the U.S. Navy airship *Los Angeles* is to be decommissioned and put out of service on June 30. The *Los Angeles* was originally the Zeppelin L.Z. 126, and was completed at Friedrichshafen in 1924, being flown to Lakehurst later that year.