

## *Entrepreneur*

While rounding out his aerial education with flying lessons from the famed aerobatic flier Ray Hunt, Six broke a crankshaft on his OX-5 Travelair in a race over Salinas, California, and landed in a bean field. He walked away from the accident without injury, but when he returned to pick up his airplane it was chained to the fence and guarded by the annoyed farmer who owned the field. He only retrieved his plane after paying for a swath of defoliated beans.

- Formed the Valley Flying Service in 1929 after earning his pilot's license.
- Invested in the Southwest division of Varney Speed Lines in 1936, later moving the headquarters to Denver, Colorado and renaming it Continental Airlines.
- During World War II, he contracted for Continental Airlines to modify warplanes, operate military cargo routes, and train aircrews.
- After World War II he merged Continental with Pioneer Airlines, expanding its routes.
- In 1955, he introduced jetliners and initiated economy jet fares.
- In 1962, he expanded service to military bases in the Pacific and then formed air service to Southeast Asia, Europe, Micronesia, and Hawaii. It became a true international airline.