

OUR COMIC SECTION

Events in the Lives of Little Men



FLYER BROUGHT TO DEATH BY SEAGULL

Untimely Fate of Early Air Navigator.

The two and three thousand mile non-stop flights which are undertaken by flyers in these days with little thought given to the mechanical difficulties which might arise contrast strangely with the first really long-distance flight in this country a little more than 20 years ago.

History was made when Cal Rogers, advertising a beverage known as Vin Fizz, left Mineola on his epoch flight to the Pacific coast. The preparations for his flight were not so simple as the loading up of the plane with sufficient gas and oil and the preparation of a little lunch to sustain the airman during his long flight.

There were no mapped out air routes, no radio weather reports, no emergency landing fields, no spare parts to be picked up en route at some airport if it should prove necessary to replace some failing piece of equipment and if something went wrong high up in the air there was no parachute to let him safely down to earth.

His plans were far more intricate. To answer the problem of a route, he chose various rail lines as his route and he flew a meandering route as the trains meandered. His landing fields were indicated to him, not by beacons, but by the crowds waiting below to see him land. It was usually the circus field which was chosen. He had no need for advance weather reports, for his daily flights hardly carried him from one weather zone into another. The problem of spare parts was answered by a baggage car which accompanied him along the rail line carrying enough parts to build an entire plane.

When all was set for the start of his historic flight, he hopped off from Mineola for Middletown, N. Y., the tremendous distance of 70 miles away. He came through about on schedule and was greeted uproariously by a crowd that marveled at the distance flown in a single day. Waiting for him in Middletown was a purse raised among the excited citizens, who felt their city highly honored that it should be chosen as the starting place of the historic flight.

Having reached Middletown, Rogers decided that he had done his quota of flying for that day, and stayed overnight. The next morning after several hours of preparation while the impatient crowd waited to see its first take-off, the Vin Fizz flyer finally taxied down the field and started. Insufficient speed, however, prevented him from attaining the necessary altitude to clear some trees bordering the field and in dodging them he struck a telephone wire that nosed his plane over. Fortunately Rogers escaped with only a few bruises, and the repairs to his plane were relatively simple and he was able to leave on the following day.

Two months of flying finally brought him to the coast, where he was received with great enthusiasm. While in San Francisco he gave a number of exhibition flights, on one of which he met his death. A seagull, running about the plane, became wedged in one of the wires of his rudder and the plane nosed down into the bay, taking the life of the man who had survived what were then considered the almost impossible hazards of flying clear across the country.

Australian Competition

A decade ago Australia produced practically no tobacco and cotton, importing the bulk of these products from the United States. Both crops, however, have increased so rapidly under the protection of the commonwealth government that all domestic requirements will be supplied this year and there will be an exportable surplus next year.

Chinese First

The Chinese knew the direction finding power of the lodestone before the Europeans devised the real mariners' compass in 1300.

It "Pays" to Be Wise

THE FEATHERHEADS



BEAUTY SCREAM



Forgotten
"Do you always leave cards when you call?"
"No; sometimes I leave a pair of overshoes or an umbrella."—Pathfinder Magazine.

An Influence
"What book do you think has exerted most influence on that aggressive politician?"
"I don't know," replied Senator Sorghum, "but I think it must be an old-

fashioned novel I vaguely remember, entitled, 'Put Yourself in His Place.'"
—Washington Star.

Giving Him Rank
Sue and Jackie were playing in the sandpile when Jackie said proudly: "My daddy is a major. He drills the boys at high school."
Sue was not ready with an answer at once, but finally said:
"Well, my daddy's an officer, too. He goes to his office every day!"

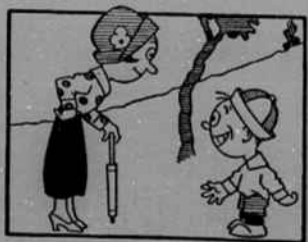
Perverse Old Morpheus
Wife (from twin bed)—I wish, Henry, you didn't read so much in bed.
Henry—Well, dash it, what is a fellow to do? I always go to sleep reading in the library.—London Humorist.

Could Testify
Tamale—Oh, well, they say that love makes the world go round!
Carne—Yeah, and everything in it, I suppose—my old lady's sure kept me on the jump!

Back It Up
A little city boy was visiting his country cousin.
"What do you know about cows?" quizzed the country lad. "You don't

even know if that's a Jersey cow."
"I don't know from here, 'cause I can't see its license."—Stray Stories.

HIS AMBITION



The Custom
Author's Friend—Is it going to be a serious operation?
Author—Oh, no. I've just gone stale and need something to write about.

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White Indians Found

A Harvard museum explorer has confirmed the long reported existence of white Indians in South America. Returning from an expedition during which he penetrated the alternate arid and jungle country of northeastern Paraguay, Dr. Donald S. Wees, of that institution, reports the finding of white Indians with blond hair living in both the jungle and Grand desert like wild animals. He says they do not have clothes, shelters or traps of any kind. The bow and arrow is their chief weapon. They were so shy and wild he couldn't even get a picture of them.

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Predicted Hurricanes

Many months ago Herbert Janvyn Browne, long-range weather forecaster of Washington, predicted that 1932 would be a notable hurricane year. In a recent announcement he claims his prediction is beginning to be fulfilled, and cites the fact that several typhoons, the equivalents of West Indian hurricanes, have already occurred along the western fringe of the Pacific, including the severe Philippine storm on April 29, one in Indo-China, another in Bengal, and a fourth at Mauritius. Similar storms, he says, have occurred in the hurricane region of the Atlantic. And if we take the word of Mr. Browne for it there will be others as the hurricane season advances.

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The Great American Salve, 50c

On the "Glorious Fourth"

Great American events celebrated on the Fourth of July would include the birth of such men as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Stephen Collins Foster, Joseph Pennell and Calvin Coolidge, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe died on the Fourth of July. The corner stone of the Washington monument was laid July 4, 1848; work was commenced on the Erie canal, 1817; the surrender of Vicksburg occurred July 4, 1863; Providence, R. I., was founded by Roger Williams, 1636.

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