

American Youth Gains Fame By Lonely Ocean Flight

Lindbergh So Weary From His Vigil Of 33 1/2 Hours That He Lapsed Into Sleep While Standing Before Cheering Throngs.

Paris, France, May 22.—A new epoch in aviation has been inaugurated.

Charlie Lindbergh, of Little Fall, Minn., landed at Le Bourget, France, at 5:15 P. M., Eastern day-light time, yesterday, in one record-smashing jump from Roosevelt Field, New York.

"Well, here we are," was his greeting to the enthusiasm-maddened crowds.

Unaccompanied, Lindbergh drove his plane "The Spirit of St. Louis," over the nearly 4,000-mile air track, clipping about two hours and a half off the most optimistic time allowance.

The world's imagination was fired by his exploit.

Spontaneous celebrations in scores of cities both here and abroad lasted far into the night; President Coolidge and executives of other nations flashed their congratulations, and these were supplemented by the thousand from other individuals publicly prominent.

As Detroit Charles' mother relaxed her steadily maintained attitude of silent confidence, and through tears of joy, declared his victory "all that mattered."

Greeted by Notables.

For half an hour they pushed one another this way and that, trying to take young Lindbergh from his plane to the administration buildings on the landing field, where noted men of his own country and of France had long been waiting to welcome him with due formality. When finally they got him there, his tired and trembling fingers were grasped in a handshake by America's ambassador to France, Myron T. Herrick, and by Frenchmen of high position.

But Lindbergh was too weary seemingly to know what it was all about. He smiled and said: "Thank you. I am awfully happy"—and then his fatigue could be fought off no longer, and he seemed to go to sleep

standing there on his feet.

Outside the crowd was howling for a sight of the hero who had won the heart of France as no American probably had before. Brilliant searchlights were focused on the balcony of the building into which Lindbergh had been carried. But the crowd had to be disappointed—Lindbergh could do no more.

The American ambassador came to the balcony and waved the aviator's helmet at the crowd, which kept shouting: "The pilot—the pilot—let us see Lindbergh."

Lindbergh, asleep on his feet, was lifted up and carried to an automobile and hurried to Paris, a few miles away, to sleep after so many hours when even to close his eyes for a moment might have meant death.

Asleep On Feet.

Tonight he lies in bed in his country's embassy. It was after midnight when he reached there—41 hours after he got out of bed in New York to make the great adventure.

It was at Ambassador Herrick's insistence that the youth permitted himself to go to the embassy, and the car had difficulty in threading its way through the crowds to the residence of America's official representatives.

Here French aviators assisted the birdman to alight. He stumbled as he slept in their arms.

"Good old fellow," they shouted, as they bade him good-night.

The world must wait until tomorrow to hear from Lindbergh's lips the story of the flight that has made him forever famous. What thoughts he had while flying in solitude through two days and a night along the American continent, across the Atlantic, over the fields of France, hidden from his weary eyes by the darkness of night,—these things only young Lindbergh knows tonight, for he was too tired at the end of his long voyage to say anything to anybody.

Stop a minute and say "Hello,"
As down life's road you smoothly go,
For a pleasant word and cheerful smile
Will shorten the road by many a mile
For some poor brother who is going slow
So stop a minute and say "Hello."

WEIGHING OF EARTH IS GIGANTIC TASK

Began in 1923, Work Is Nearing Completion.

New York.—The job of weighing the earth, begun in 1923 by the United States bureau of standards, will be completed within a few months. The result will be approximately 6,000 million, million, million tons. The first news of the progress of this mammoth scientific undertaking has just been announced by the government physicist in charge, Dr. Paul R. Heyl, in an interview with the American Magazine.

The nearest figure Doctor Heyl can announce at present for the earth's mass is, in tons, 5,967 followed by eighteen ciphers. He expects that his final results will not alter the first three figures, but he is confident he will change the fourth figure. The "7" will give way to a new quantity.

It has taken more than four years of hard work to weigh the world. The apparatus used to put Mother Earth on the scales and get her avoirdupois is described in detail by Doctor Heyl. It is really a miniature system of planets, which is installed in a concrete room 35 feet below the street in the bureau of standards building in Washington. Two little balls of platinum are suspended in a vacuum and allowed to swing in response to the gravitational attraction of two 140-pound cylinders. The distance of swing of the platinum balls, measured to an infinitesimal fraction gives a "gravitational constant" which enables the scientist to make comparisons indicating the weight of the earth. Repeated thousands of times until every possible error has been eliminated, the eventual result will be the most accurate scientific determination of the earth's weight which has ever been made.

Interesting Facts Gleaned.
Some of the by-product information of this remarkable scientific undertaking is indicated by Doctor Heyl in his interview. "Our figures show," he said, "that the whole earth is about five and a half times as dense as water. That is to say, it would require five and a half globes of water, equal in size to our earth, to balance the weight of the earth."

"This is highly significant, because the density of the rock, soil and other material that we know in the crust of the earth, averages only about two and three-quarters the density of water. This indicates that the inner material at the core of the earth must be very much heavier. It probably reaches a density of seven or eight times that of water."

"The earth is solid from surface to center, and of about the same rigidity as steel. It used to be believed that the earth's core was a mass of hot liquid. But if it were, the gravitational pull of the sun and moon would cause such tides within the interior as would burst the crust."

"Recent measurements show that the attraction of sun and moon cause a slight rising of the crust, a tidal pulsation of the solid earth. A liquid interior would rise to the pull of this gravitational force like a gigantic hydraulic ram, and the earth's crust, even if hundreds of miles thick, would burst like the membrane of a toy balloon."

"The earth is made up of a series of solid layers. After you get through the crust, which is predominately rock, you pass into mixed rock and metal, and finally to the central core, which is iron with a slight alloy of nickel. This inner core extends more than half-way to the surface, reaching from the center 2,000 miles or more in all directions. The core has a fairly uniform temperature near the melting point of iron, or about 2,000 degrees. It is hot enough to melt most metals, but it is not a core of liquid fire. Of course, the iron and nickel are subjected to unknown conditions down there. The pressure at the center of the earth is 22,000 pounds to the square inch. Whether the metals retain their familiar structure under this squeezing, or whether they assume different forms, we can only conjecture."

Large Percentage Iron.
"Iron constitutes 40 per cent of the earth. The next most abundant element is oxygen with 25 per cent, then comes silicon with 15 per cent. Carbon, the element that enters into every form of life, constitutes only 4-100 of 1 per cent of the material of the earth. If the earth lost this minute fraction of carbon, life would perish from the planet."

"The whole atmosphere of the earth weighs 5 million, million tons. This looks like a big figure, but the earth weighs more than 1,000 million times as much. The whole population of the earth does not weigh one 400-billionth part of the earth. Every man, woman and child and all the animals might move to Mars in a body and their departure would not lighten our scales perceptibly or affect one figure of our result in weighing the earth. Yet we are attaining the most exact result ever obtained, and we expect to achieve accuracy to one 10,000th part."

They Ought to Be
New York.—J. J. Roberts, a banker, says that in 8,000 savings accounts in a branch bank in the theatrical district chorus girls are well represented.

Ice Cream Too Airy
London.—Steps have been taken to "deflate" the ice cream of England, which, it is claimed, is in some cases 90 per cent air.

Eat in Darkness as Health Aid, Says Doctor

London.—With so much stress being laid on the virtues of artificial sunlight, special interest attaches to the announcement, made by a prominent London doctor, that we do not sufficiently consider the health value of darkness.

The authority states that in his opinion many of the ills that have their origin in digestive troubles are traceable to the too lavish use of light at meals. Brilliant lighting, he asserts, is harmful in dining rooms, restaurants and other places where meals are partaken.

Our digestive processes, on the perfect working of which human health and happiness so largely depend, are interfered with by the extra stimulant provided by garish lighting. The demands made on the senses by such factors as bright lights and arresting sounds mean that blood is drawn from the stomach to the brain and muscles, and the assimilation of food naturally suffers.

According to this authority the best light for meal times is that given by shaded candles. But we should all be better in health and in temper, the physician states, if we ate our meals in semidarkness.

Plan to Revive Whaling Off California Coast

San Diego, Calif.—After a hiatus of more than half a century whaling operations are to be resumed on an extensive scale on the southern California coast. A whaling fleet consisting of the factory steamer Lansing, with four killers, has established a base at South Bay, San Clemente Island, and has started a hunt for the famous California "grays," the humpback and the sperm, the only species frequenting these waters.

The whale oil, fertilizer and chicken feed, the principal products derived from the whale catch, will be disposed of entirely in the California markets, officials of the whaling company announce.



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