

The La Crosse Tribune

and Leader-Press

Sunday
EditionThe
WEEK

BY FORREST ALLEN

OUT of the thousands of columns of news of the week that poured from the roaring presses into the hands of the newsman and eventually to the great American newspaper reading public, one story stood out above all the rest. Prof. Auguste Piccard, Belgian scientist, permitted a hot air balloon to pull an aluminum ball into which he and a companion were hermetically sealed, 52,500 feet—nearly 10 miles—into the stratosphere.

This is higher than man—or bird either—for that matter—has ever been before, and it probably will be some time before anyone else takes it. Conservative folks will ask themselves "what good did it do anybody?" Well, it proved for one thing that the stratosphere is navigable and that some day airplanes will skim along at terrific speeds at this altitude unhampered by cloud, fog or storm. In the stratosphere there are no clouds, no dust, no wind, and very little air. The temperatures are many degrees below zero, but heated and oxygen-fueled airplanes will not be bothered by these difficulties.

Aviation held the headlines several days last week. A twin-motored Bellanca sesqui-plane (a big wing, and a tiny bottom wing) belonging to the Chicago Daily News was attempting a speed record. The motors failed, a wing tore loose, and the four occupants were killed. Progress in aviation calls for experimentation, and experiments are hazardous. This crash came in the midst of an experiment, in a plane which essentially was of unproven merit. It should not discourage folks who want to ride in airplanes, but sensible people will make sure they are not participating in an experiment when they leave the ground.

American aviator, Captain Thomas Ash, Jr., has his plane perched on the beach of a Japanese island awaiting favorable conditions for a hazardous 6,000 mile flight across the Pacific ocean. Seattle is his goal.

Michele Schirru, naturalized American citizen, was strapped to a chair in Rome one day last week and shot in the back by a firing squad. He had only planned to do what thousands of other Italians would have done—some of them assassinate Mussolini. Schirru, a confessed anarchist, kept his room well stocked with arms, ammunition and bombs. When arrested last February he wounded three policemen, and attempted to commit suicide. The American embassy had an attaché attend the trial of the man, but only to see that he was given a fair trial. Apparently he was, because the state department made no effort to intervene.

In one of the saddest travesties of American court procedure seen in a long time, Virgil Kirkland, Gary, Indiana, high school senior, was sentenced to ten years. In a drinking party Kirkland led a criminal attack on his high school sweetheart, struck her a blow which caused her death, and carried her to a doctor. After the trial one of the defense lawyers was involved in a courtroom fight, another was arrested on a bad check charge, a third was thrown in jail over a drunkenness count. Small wonder that the English are amused at our court methods.

From Washington last week came a variety of news. The treasury deficit passed the billion dollar mark. The same day when the treasury passed the billion dollar mark, advisors told Hoover that of this money, 60 per cent had been used to pay off old debts, and 15 per cent to buy second-hand cars. Heads of three departments have assured the president they can save 750 millions in the next three years. The departments are war, postal, interior. Edsel Ford discussed the automobile business with Mr. Hoover, but no statement was forthcoming.

United Press reporter, Raymond Clapper, reports the administration is convinced that the bottom of the depression curve has been reached and that a slow climb is in sight. It is admitted, however, that government experts are likely to be little better at forecasting than workmen. The fact that the administration is convinced that the bottom of the depression curve has been reached and that a slow climb is in sight. It is admitted, however, that government experts are likely to be little better at forecasting than workmen. The fact that the administration is convinced that the bottom of the depression curve has been reached and that a slow climb is in sight. It is admitted, however, that government experts are likely to be little better at forecasting than workmen.

A tornado struck a Great Northern train rolling through Minnesota last week, hurled 11 passenger coaches from the tracks, killing one man and injuring 30 others. Impeachment of Gov. Henry H. Horton was recommended to the Tennessee legislature by a committee of five of its house of representatives. The report followed an investigation into administrative activities of the governor in connection with tieups of millions in state funds in closed banks last fall. Rum law violators shivered before the strictness of Federal Judge Page in Madison last week. Heavy fines and heavy prison sentences were in order. In each of the last two years Wisconsin has 239 drownings. Most of these

(Continued on page six, Col. two)

LA CROSSE PAYS TRIBUTE TO SOLDIER DEAD

100 Die In Memorial Day Accidents

DEATH LIST HEAVIEST IN YEARS, REPORT

Rainy Weather and Poor Flying Conditions Contribute to Large Death Toll

MIDWEST AUTOISTS PLAY GREATEST PART IN TRAGEDIES

Eleven Killed in Indiana, Focal Point For Race-going Motorists

(By The Associated Press.)

NEARLY 100 lives were lost as the nation observed Memorial day. The death list, one of the heaviest in years, was attributable in large part to rainy weather with resultant automobile accidents.

But few heat deaths were reported and drownings played only a small part in the memorial day death toll.

More than one-half of the country's toll was taken in the middle west.

A total of 11 persons were killed in Indiana, focal point for thousands of race-going motorists. Five of the victims were fatally injured when their machine was struck by a train at Berne, Ind. Three others, Chicago residents en route to the race, were killed near Lebanon, Ind. Three race-bound airplane passengers met death when their plane crashed up near Madison, Wis.

The death toll by sections was distributed thus:

Midwest—Automobile, 34; drowning, 4; airplane, 3; other causes, 2.

East—Automobile, 18; drowning, 2; other causes, 4.

South—Automobile, 17.

West—Automobile, 3.

Pacific coast—Automobile, 2.

Southwest—Automobile, 2.

Crash Kills Three

MADISON, Wis.—(P)—Three persons, one a 16-year-old high school student, were killed in an airplane crash at the Madison airport Saturday after a take-off in a fog for the Memorial Day automobile races at Indianapolis.

The dead, all of Madison, are: Edward Brub, 16; Edward Raffree, 26, battery manufacturing company employee, and Pilot Fischnick, 39.

The crash occurred about 4 a. m. witnesses said the plane rose from the ground and then descended into the fog before making the flight. Suddenly the plane shot down from an altitude of about 100 feet, striking the ground and bursting into flames. Fischnick, a garage man, owned the plane and was a licensed transport pilot.

SUICIDE PACT FAILS AS DYING WIFE TELLS OF FRAMING MATE

Lover Planted Whiskey, Telephoned Raiders, in Texas Town

DALLAS, Texas.—(P)—Believing herself dying from a bullet wound self-inflicted in a suicide pact with a clandestine lover, Mrs. Fannie Anderson, 25, Saturday made a statement seeking to make known to her husband that she had attempted to send him to the penitentiary.

Mrs. Anderson shot herself Friday in a hotel room here after Thomas E. Davis, saxophone player of Verona, N. J., for whom she had left her husband, ended his life.

She said Davis had friends "plant" a quantity of whiskey at Graham, Texas, in the home of her husband, Gus Anderson, former professional wrestler and then called the sheriff to arrest Anderson.

Anderson reached Dallas Saturday, went to a hospital to see his wife. He expressed the hope she would recover.

MINNEAPOLIS MAY LEASE COAL DOCKS TO BARGE COMPANY

(Continued on page six, Col. two)

FIVE HUNDRED HOLIDAY EXCURSIONISTS RESCUED FROM STRANDED STEAMER

SANTA BARBARA, Cal.—(P)—On a sandy spit near Point Arguello, "The graveyard of the Pacific," the coastwise steamer Harvard went aground at 3:30 a. m. Saturday, but all of her passengers, 465 holiday excursionists, were rescued without so much as getting "their feet wet."

The steamer, bound from San Francisco to Los Angeles, dug her hull into the treacherous off-shore sands of the point as she crept through a choking fog, sirens blaring and engines turning at half speed.

Boats Answer SOS

Three United States coast guard cutters, two freighters, the steamship San Anselmo and the steamship Marsodak and the U. S. S. Louisville, picked up radio calls and raced to the rescue.

The passengers climbed from their berths and walked to the decks. There was no panic or excitement.

Eighteen lifeboats were quickly filled and the passengers were lowered into a calm sea, where Captain Hillinger ordered members of the crew manning the boats to stand by and await the rescue ships.

With the arrival of the San Anselmo, the passengers were taken aboard and a short time later the Louisville, the sea foaming from its prow as it sped toward the Harvard at a thirty knot pace, hove alongside at 7:50 a. m.

Sail for Port

Shortly before 11 o'clock, the passengers transferred once more, this time to the decks of the naval cruiser and with an unexpected adventure behind them they set sail again for their destination, Los Angeles, 119 miles distant.

The crew of the Harvard, 119 men, remained aboard to await the arrival of a tug and high tide late Saturday for an attempt to refloat the steamer. The extent of damage to her hull cannot be estimated until she has been pulled clear.

GOES OVER NIAGARA FALLS IN A BARREL; RESCUED BY SON

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont.—(P)—William (Red) Hill failed to negotiate the lower rapids of the Niagara river in a barrel. His contraption was caught in the vortex of the whirlpool after passing out of the first reach of the rapids and was whirled around for nearly four hours.

Shortly before 7 o'clock the porthole of the barrel was leaking. Hill's son tied a rope around his waist and swam out about forty feet. He had little difficulty in maneuvering the barrel ashore.

Much bedraggled and bruised, Hill was taken out of the barrel and taken to his home at Niagara Falls, Ont., in an automobile.

LUTHERANS ORDAIN FOUR MINISTERS AT TODAY'S SERVICES

Eastern District Convention Comes to a Close this Evening

Lutherans hold the most elaborate service of the week's convocation this afternoon as four men are ordained in Our Savior's church. The convention ends tonight.

The quartet and respective church assignments include Philip Dybvig, Stevens Point; Arvid M. Rymstad, Eau Claire; Theodore Heimick, Behlendorf, Neb.; and Orlin S. Gundersen, Parkside church, Chicago.

The Rev. J. M. Green, Chicago, eastern district Luther president, will officiate at the 2:30 p. m. ceremonies.

Morning services will be in English in Our Savior's church and in the Norwegian tongue in St. Paul's church. No Lutheran service will be held at the State Teachers' college.

An illustrated lecture on "Deaconesses" by Miss Mabel L. Thorstensen, Chicago, and selections by St. Paul's girl chorus feature the final convocation meeting in Our Savior's church tonight.

Women Elect Officers

Mrs. Jesse Thorson, Chicago, was elected president of the Women's Missionary Federation, eastern district, Saturday morning.

Other federation officers include Mrs. George Thompson, Hudson, vice president; Mrs. Sander Tollefson, Chicago, recording secretary; Mrs. P. O. Tweton, DeForest, financial secretary.

Federation members at large the ensuing year are Mrs. Oscar Moilenem, Vernon county circuit, and Mrs. Herman Nordby, Hudson circuit.

Mrs. J. C. Hjelmervick, Pontiac, Ill., was elected federation delegate, and Mrs. Chr. Thompson, Colfax, alternate member nominating committee for the general convention.

The federation's nominating committee for the next convention includes Mrs. Martin Anderson, Chicago circuit; Mrs. J. A. Berg, La Crosse circuit; Mrs. E. C. Reinertson, Scandinavia circuit; Mrs. L. S. Marvick, Lower Michigan circuit; Mrs. John Haanstad, Eau Claire circuit.

Memorial Day Address

"Righteousness and peace should be the central Memorial Day thought," the Rev. T. F. Gullixson, president Luther Theological seminary, St. Paul, Minn., told a St. Paul church congregation of 600 people Saturday.

"It is very essential in the life of an individual Christian and the life of a nation that righteousness should be sought first, for, if found, that assures peace," the educator declared.

The eastern district Lutherans made tentative arrangements to inaugurate the observance of Memorial Day.

THEY WENT UP NEARLY 10 MILES

Soaring upward through the thin atmosphere of the higher altitudes in an air-tight aluminum ball attached to a huge balloon, Professor Auguste Piccard, right, and his assistant, Charles Kipfer, left, attained the greatest height ever reached by man in a flight from Germany. They reached 52,000 feet. They were bound for the stratosphere, 50,000 feet—or approximately ten miles—above the earth. They are shown above in their aluminum ball, at the right is their balloon, with the ball underneath.

Piccard Hopes Flight Will Be Aid to Aviation

OVER GURGL, Austria.—(P)—Prof. August Piccard told Europe over the radio Saturday night it was his "fervent hope" that his ten-mile-high balloon flight would "bear practical results for aviation and for rocket-motoring into the stratosphere."

The Swiss born physicist said he regarded it of prime importance to have proved that man can ascend into the stratosphere and live.

Prof. Piccard was followed at the microphone by Charles Kipfer, the assistant who made the ascent with him.

Then Herr Falkner, the school-teacher who was first to find Piccard and sent him crashing into the retaining wall and struck Billy Kipfer rose into the isothermic layer, was left where it lay. It was found almost impossible to remove it and the salvage party "dedicated" it as a memorial to the flight, leaving it there on the ice for the summer tourists to admire until next autumn's snows cover it and probably obliterate it forever.

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Within a few seconds after Arnold cracked up, the machine driven by Tony Gullotta, Kansas City, who was running third, smashed into the retaining wall at the very edge of the race.

Ahead Until Accident

Arnold, seeking to repeat his triumph of a year ago, had led from the start, except for six laps, when his car, racing around the treacherous north turn of the track at terrific speed, threw a left front wheel and sent him crashing into the car driven by Luther Johnson of South Bend, Ind. The car immediately caught fire and burned, but Arnold escaped death along with his mechanic, Spider Matlock.

When he met with a tragic accident, the retaining wall and struck Billy Kipfer rose into the isothermic layer, was left where it lay. It was found almost impossible to remove it and the salvage party "dedicated" it as a memorial to the flight, leaving it there on the ice for the summer tourists to admire until next autumn's snows cover it and probably obliterate it forever.

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Nation Turns To Honor All Its War Dead

(By The Associated Press.)

A NATION turned Saturday to honor its war dead, the men who fought its wars.

So general was the observance that every patriotic element had a part in it. Yet it was more than a narrowly national occasion, for whenever a knot of Americans gathered abroad there was a recognition of Memorial day and its meaning.

President Hoover, speaking at Valley Forge, said: "The American people are going through another Valley Forge at this time." But, he added, no one "can doubt that this, like a score of similar experiences in our national history, is but a passing trial."

At Gettysburg, a shrine of the Civil War, Vice President Curtis called for a dedication of the principles of the constitution.

In Washington, the army's air fleet whirled over head during the ceremonies at Arlington cemetery. In New York 23,000 marched up Riverside drive to the swing of martial airs.

Abroad there were formal ceremonies in France, Belgium, England and Greece. Ambassador Edges, speaking at Suresness cemetery near Paris, hailed the friendship "twice sealed in the blood of heroes" between France and the United States.

The touring American mayors and gold star mothers attended ceremonies at Belleau Wood, and at Cherbourg flags were placed on the graves of four American sailors killed during the battle between the Kearsage and the confederate raider, Alabama, during the Civil war.

Flags of both nations were placed over the graves of 600 American soldiers buried in England, and in Belgium Americans paid a visit to the cemetery where nearly 400 Americans were buried.

Honor Nation's Dead

WASHINGTON.—(P)—The roar of a giant fleet of airplanes above the boom and blast of drum corps and bands below Saturday gave a martial touch to the national homage to its warrior dead.

All day, processions and pilgrimages centered upon national shrines and cemeteries where the soldiers are buried. Arlington became a flower field of poppies and roses.

President Hoover and Vice President Curtis went out of the city for Memorial Day addresses and many other government officials also were absent. Those remaining and members of patriotic organizations participated in the ceremonies.

The nation's military chiefs, Secretaries Hurley and Adams met on the morning of the day at Arlington to view the headstones with the marble stateliness of the Lincoln Memorial, and reviewed aerial tactics of the army air corps mobilization.

Spanish war veterans stood grouped in tribute about the tall mast of the battleship Maine. Earl—(Continued on page six, Col. seven)

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