

### FIRST AEROPLANE TO CROSS THE SANDHILLS

Robert Copey and Clarence Schafer Make Exciting Trip by Plane to Lincoln Last Wednesday and Thursday.

Robert Copey, head of the Midwest Aerial Navigation company of Lincoln, who visited Alliance last week with his aeroplane, accompanied by Clarence Schafer of Alliance, made the first trip across the Nebraska sandhills with an aeroplane on last Wednesday and Thursday.

Mr. Copey, with Clarence Schafer as passenger, left Alliance at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, September 17. They followed the line of the Burlington railroad through the sandhills and were watched at each town by hundreds of eager spectators who had been advised by the railroad operators of their coming.

The first stop was made at Halsey at 5 o'clock for gasoline. The people there, many of whom had never seen a plane before, were so excited over the visit that they had to thoroughly inspect the plane before anyone would take time to furnish the gas.

The weather at Broken Bow was cloudy and the town was reached after dusk. It had not been their intention to stop at the city, but to go on and stop over night with a brother of Mr. Copey, who has a ranch eighteen miles east. But after leaving Broken Bow the aviators lost the railroad, which served as their guide, and were compelled to return to Broken Bow. They had no lights on their plane and as they circled around over the city, looking for a landing place, they could notice the excitement caused by the noise of their motor.

The people of the city evidently realized the predicament of the aviators, for dozens of autos hurried out to a nearby field and surrounded it, with lights shining brightly over the field, showing them a landing place. But Copey, who formerly lived at Broken Bow, had thought of a nearby alfalfa field and circled low over it, wondering how many stacks the plane would strike when it came to earth. They circled the field several times at a height of about 150 feet and finally made an excellent and lucky landing, without harm to themselves or the machine. The next morning, when they came back to get the machine, they counted twenty-one hay stacks, a stacker and a sweep in the small alfalfa field. Luck was with them when they landed.

After landing, the boys walked to town and found that seven parties were searching for them. They stayed at the hotel over night and at 10 o'clock the next morning left for the Copey ranch where they enjoyed an excellent chicken dinner. After dinner they started for Lincoln, which they reached without stops in two hours and thirty minutes.

**Things Injurious to Fish.**  
The gaunt skeletons of trees which are so conspicuous in the "coke regions" show the effects of sulphurous gases on vegetation, and the influenza of mine water on fish life may be readily imagined. The heavy sediment covers up the gravelly spawning beds, and suffocates the eggs, thus inflicting injury on the fishes at the most vulnerable point. The sawmill is the "dearest foe" of nature lovers. Its insatiable maw has well-nigh devoured our forests, and, not content with the desolation it has produced in this way on land, it is ruining our lakes and rivers by sawdust.

**Eckimos.**  
The original Americans of the far North are brown instead of red and are not Indians. Their name, Eckimos, which they dislike, means "eaters of raw fish." But they haven't been driven yet to change their name by cooking the fish, says the World Outlook.

**Wisdom Comes With Age.**  
A young man is apt to believe that things just happen. His father knows that everything that happens is some sort of a natural result.—E. W. Howe

**How to Attain Old Age.**  
Sir George Reid's golden rule for the attainment of old age is worth a place in the Office Window as a corrective to all war valetudinarians: "I have aimed at health and happiness, and when confronted by a formidable obstacle I have first tried to knock it over; failing this, to get round it; if not, then under it; and if all these maneuvers failed I have been content to lie down in its grateful shade, lauding it as a beautiful blessing in disguise."—London Chronicle.

### A TWO-FOLD DUTY

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**Forests of the Caucasus.**  
The forests of the Caucasus in Russia are estimated at 12,000,000 acres, chiefly in the Black Sea territory, which is at the rate of nearly 20 acres to each inhabitant. The forests of western Siberia have been scarcely explored, but they are stated to be 200,000,000 acres in extent, more than half being in an absolute state of nature.

**Introduced Chrysanthemums.**  
It was in the autumn of 1808, that the first bunch of chrysanthemums was seen in Paris, brought by a Frenchman from far-off Japan. His first care was to present them to the Empress Josephine, who was delighted with the flowers and introduced their cultivation in French gardens.—Christian Science Monitor.

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