

100 Omahans Sign Pledge for Wider Use of Air Mail

News Reel Showing Ceremony Will Be Shown Nationally to Popularize Service.

Omaha, as national headquarters for the air mail service, took the lead yesterday in a nation-wide movement to give the service more liberal patronage, when more than 100 business men signed a pledge to mail at least one letter a day for a year by air mail.

These men, members of the Council, Rotary, Kiwanis and Kiwanis clubs, and heads of other civic organizations, gathered at the Hotel Fontenelle air mail box and while a Pathe camera man ground out hundreds of feet of film signed a scroll containing the following pledge:

"Believing that Omaha, as headquarters of the air mail service of the United States, should take the lead in furthering the success of the air mail, we, citizens of Omaha, pledge ourselves to mail at least one letter a day by air mail."

Queen Aids in Ceremony.
Miss Emma Hosland, queen of the Air Mail, took part in the ceremony, holding the pledge scroll and smiling sweetly as she dropped a letter in the box. At the conclusion, after all had signed, a mail truck drove into the picture and a postman carried two large armfuls of letters from the box, posing for a moment with Miss Hosland.

Herbert Spencer Mann, secretary of the Forest Lawn cemetery, added a novelty to the proceedings by posting in the air mail box a letter bearing stamps some 26 years old. The stamps were of the type used in Omaha during the Transmississippi exposition here, but were augmented by regular air-mail stamps.

Among the early signers of the pledge were Mayor Dahlman, John L. Kennedy, Ford Hovey, T. E. Naughtin, William D. Hestford, Gould Dietz, Clark Powell, Harley Conant, Frank Judson, Mark Martin, C. D. Sturtevant, George W. Johnson and E. C. Eppley.

Bathe will distribute the picture nationally if it proves photographically worthy, according to word received from Pathe officials by the bureau of publicity of the Chamber of Commerce, which had charge of arrangements for taking the picture.

Hop-Off Shown.
Carl F. Egge, general superintendent of air mail, and D. B. Collyer, superintendent of Omaha air mail, fielded made arrangements for the remainder of the air mail news reel, which includes the loading the mail plane with the sacks of letters received for this service in Omaha yesterday and the departure of the plane from Omaha on its speedy trip across the continent.

In addition to making the news reel the bureau of publicity has printed an air mail schedule showing the time necessary for delivery of mail by air and rail from Omaha to 50 points in Omaha's wholesale territory. These will be sent to 1,000 manufacturers and wholesale men of Omaha with a letter urging them to send at least one letter a day by air mail.

Body of Aviator Killed in Crash Reaches Beatrice

Beatrice, Dec. 10.—The body of Lieut. Herbert Schaefer, who was killed in a plane crash at Brookfield, Tex., last week, reached Beatrice Wednesday night. His parents arrived earlier in the day from Storm Lake, Ia., to make final arrangements for a military funeral. Young Schaefer attended high school here and was a popular member of the high school football team.

Memorial to Mrs. Gerrard to Be Placed in Library

Columbus, Dec. 10.—A bronze memorial tablet to honor the memory of Mrs. Betty Gerrard, pioneer Columbus woman, who donated the site of the public library to the city, will be erected in the library building by the board of directors.

Today

His Majesty Speaks. We Work for Each Other. Even the Moon Works. Eastman and Duke Give.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 9.—The king of England opens "his" parliament in which he has a little real power as one of the Hopi papooses.

He makes a speech written by Baldwin, this time. Had the election gone otherwise, Lloyd George, Asquith or MacDonald would have written it for him.

The words put in the king's mouth tell of England's determination to go ahead with the great naval base at Singapore. The labor party meant to give that up. The Tories reverse the decision. This country will welcome Britain's Singapore base. It means added protection for the white races against Asia.

The great crime of the Washington conference was our agreement not to fortify Guam.

As a result of that agreement, we now have certain elements in Japan, impudently questioning America's right to send her fleet into the Pacific ocean.

Britain's king expresses the British decision of the recent election, saying he will not ask parliament to consider its treaties with Russia. But "normal intercourse between the two countries shall not be interrupted."

That's common sense. "Whatever you do, don't interfere with business," is the motto. Lord Beaverbrook, when here, last time, said:

"Trade with Russia? Of course we trade with Russia. We trade with cannibals if they have anything we want to buy or can buy anything we want to sell."

The British have plenty of sentiment, but it's in their books of poetry. They don't let it interfere with the growth of the British empire.

One dispatch tells that James B. Duke, who has made millions in many enterprises, is giving an enormous fortune to education and charity, tens of millions.

Another dispatch tells you that Mr. Eastman of Rochester, following other generous gifts, now gives fifteen millions more for education. He gives away priceless stock in his great enterprise, and says he will enjoy managing the concern all the more, knowing that while he works for the Kodak company the money that it earns is working for other people.

That "wholesale" altruism, fortunately for this nation, increases here every day. The man that once would have used his fortune in a foolish effort to bribe Divine Providence, now dedicates a fortune to the service of others, thinking more about the welfare of millions of his fellowmen than about his own unimportant little soul.

The pioneers that struggled across this continent, seeking out paths over the mountains, fighting for life, as they came, thought they were coming here to find gold for themselves. They were opening the way for millions destined to find health and happiness in a higher civilization on this coast.

Old frontiersmen in the east, of Daniel Boone's type, cutting down trees, fighting Indians, shooting bears, thought they were merely establishing homesteads for their children.

They were units of energy, helping to create the United States. Those tiny creatures that worked under the waters of the Pacific ocean, building up tiny coral reefs, building each a little place for itself, by combined effort building the beautiful islands of the Pacific. As they worked, so do we work, always for the future.

If the moon thinks at all, as she sails in silver majesty through this dark blue sky of evening, she probably thinks that she travels around the world for her own delight. But Divine Wisdom through the power

of gravitation, has harnessed her to the oceans of the earth.

And as she travels, without knowing it, she creates tides that prevent the ocean from becoming a stagnant, disease breeding pond, and that in time will supply power for men everywhere on earth.

Powerful men that give money in millions, tens of millions, even hundreds of millions, Eastman, Duke, Carnegie, Rockefeller, Baker, perhaps don't realize that when they give money they make the least important gifts to the people. The value of their own work far exceeds that of all the money they leave or give away. Their money is an unimportant by-product of their lives.

When John D. Rockefeller established the fact that competition is wasteful, and that organization on a big scale means economy and efficiency, he rendered a greater service to the people than in giving all his hundreds of millions.

When Mr. Eastman educated the traveling world to keep a record of things seen, and made it easy and inexpensive for mothers to keep a record of their children's growth, at the same time employing well paid thousands, and building up a great city, he rendered his real service.

So with Mr. Duke. When he built his scores of water plants in the south, harnessing energy going to waste, providing work at home for thousands, and building up the southern states to which he is attached by deep affection, he was

doing more than merely giving away forty-odd millions at one time.

It's a world of contrasts. You not the record of generous gifts and unselfish planning. You read that our two dirigibles, Los Angeles and Shenandoah, are to be used by astronomers, studying eclipses and other cosmic phenomena, and you say, "We are gradually becoming a civilized race."

Next you read from William Ockert, 29 years old, his brief complete statement, "My own brother tried to take my wife away from me, so I got a shotgun and let him have both barrels."

This reminds you that civilization thus far appears only in spots. But you know that it is growing, that in time changes all over the earth will be as great as the change of the last few years in this marvelous region, where a great, beautiful city replaces what only yesterday was a sandy domain of the horned toad.

DeWitt—Revival meetings started Sunday at the M. E. church and will continue for two weeks.

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