

# Noses of Planes Pointed to Japan; Smith Commander

## Birdmen, "Guests of Honor" From Clouds, Allowed to Sit at Church When Others Stand.

Told by **LOWELL THOMAS.**  
(Copyright, 1924.)  
"Next day, after the night that the storm swept our planes off the beach, we rebuilt the runways and pulled all three cruisers high enough so that in the future no matter how great the gale it would be impossible for the waves to reach them. But just to make doubly sure we filled 100 burlap bags with stone and loaded each plane down with a weight of over a ton.

"Our most interesting experience during our long stay here on the island of Unalaska," says Leish Wade, "was when we attended Easter service in the little Russian church, on the night of April 26.

"During the early part of the evening, Mr. A. C. Goss, a trader who owns fox farms on adjoining islands, entertained in our honor. The entire white population of Illillyook was there. Counting all of us, there were 21 men and six women. Mr. Goss, by the way, is called the uncrowned king of the island of Atka.

"About midnight we heard a wild ringing of bells, and we all rushed over to the church. Crowds of Aleuts, all dressed up in their Sunday best, were pouring in when we arrived.

**Impressive Easter Service.**  
"The children were garbed in pure white. The native chief, who is a candle merchant, stood near the door selling his product to the worshippers as they passed in. I believe I would rather have his candle concession than be king of Atka.

"The sexes separated when they merched in with their candles, the women on the left and the men on the right. The ceremony lasted all night and the congregation was never allowed to sit down once from midnight till dawn. Special benches had been brought in for us, and although contrary to the rules of the church, as guests of honor who had come to their village from the clouds, we were allowed to sit down. But we could only do so after the high priest had blessed the benches.

"Dutch Harbor is the official residence of the patriarch of the Russian church of the Aleutian Islands, and it was this bishop, with his long beard, flowing robes, and imposing headdress who led the service. The church was only illuminated by a few flickering wicks in tallow dishes. The chanting in Aleut was as weird as the winds and volcanoes of this remote island. And as we sat there in our leather flying coats we could almost see our breath freeze in the air.

"Wednesday, the 30th, the weather seemed ideal for flying. The sun was shining and there was a light, steady wind. It was the first day since leaving Seattle that passed by without our seeing a snowstorm. Major Blair, our meteorological guardian angel, radioed Major Martin that the weather indications seemed favorable and about noon a message came from Chignik stating that the Seattle had at last started for Dutch Harbor.

"Naturally we spent the rest of the day speculating on where the major and Harvey were and when they would be likely to arrive. Hours passed and they didn't come. Dark approached, still no whirling of a Liberty in the sky. Between Chignik and Dutch Harbor there is a wireless station at King Cove. We were in touch with them but they, too, had seen nothing of the plane. Then darkness fell, and we knew something had surely happened.

Search Well Organized.  
"All that night we tried to get

Chignik by radio, and failed. But as soon as it grew dark, Smith, with the rest of us constantly with him, remained at the radio station, wireless every ship within reach, asking them to help in the search. We assigned each vessel to a separate section of the coast. For two days and two nights we remained at the radio station awaiting news. Search parties were organized by land, and both natives and white trappers took their dog teams and started for the interior. Later we learned that Washington had dispatched Lieut. Earl H. Tonkin from Crissy field, San Francisco, with a Curtiss JN airplane, which was boxed up for shipment to Alaska by boat.

"Then on the 2d of May the following message reached us from the chief of the air service:  
"Lieut. Lowell Smith command world flight. Don't delay longer waiting for Major Martin. See that everything possible done to find him. Planes two, three, and four to proceed to Japan at earliest possible moment."

**Off for Japan.**  
"Major Blair, with the bureau of fisheries people on the island of Atka, where we were scheduled to make our next stop in hopping down the Aleutian archipelago toward Japan. Major Blair radioed that they were encountering severe storms and that it would be very hazardous for us to leave that day. Next morning we were up before dawn, and with the help of a crowd of Aleuts we took advantage of high tide (and launched the planes before breakfast. A few hours later, Major Blair radioed that the weather was fairly clear, and at 11 we took off, with the entire population of the island of Unalaska on the beach cheering us as we taxied single file out through the channel into Bering sea.

"Because the sky was completely overcast and the clouds were down to about 1,000 feet, we had to fly fairly low. And as we flew south over Unalaska we occasionally passed reindeer grazing on the tundra below. The traders at Dutch Harbor told us an interesting tale about this herd. It seems that years ago when the white men came into the north and hunted the walrus and seal on an extensive scale the Eskimo and Aleuts were practically deprived of a means of livelihood. Although great hunters, they could not successfully compete against the most efficient methods of civilization.

"So Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a government official interested in the welfare of these natives of the far north, raised enough money by private subscription to introduce a small herd of reindeer from Lapland, hoping that he might be able to build up a new industry for the natives. That was along about 1892, and since then the government has made further appropriations and introduced more herds of reindeer.

**Aleuts Too Lazy to Work.**  
"One of these herds was brought to this island of Unalaska, but the half-breed Aleuts were too lazy even to look after the herd. They simply turned them loose and let them become wilder and wilder, until today they are as wild as the caribou, the untamed cousin of the reindeer which is indigenous to Alaska and which has never been successfully domesticated. Today the Aleuts are so lazy that they will not even go out and hunt these reindeer for meat. The reindeer has one peculiarity that gives him an advantage even over the airplane. He prefers to travel against the wind. Our friends at Dutch Harbor told us that there are between 200,000 and 300,000 square miles of tundra in Alaska on which the reindeer can feed and which will support at least 10,000,000 of them.

**Interior Paradise.**  
"From what all of us have said about Alaska one might gather that it is all a cold and desolate island. But, you see, we flew over the islands, ice fields, ice-capped mountain ranges and volcanoes along the coast. Erik and the other boys who flew with Captain Street on that great 5,000-mile flight from New York to Nome and return passed right through the interior of Alaska, and once they had crossed the mountain ranges right through the heart of the north they found themselves in a land of flowers and sunshine, a vast empire which should one day sustain a large population.

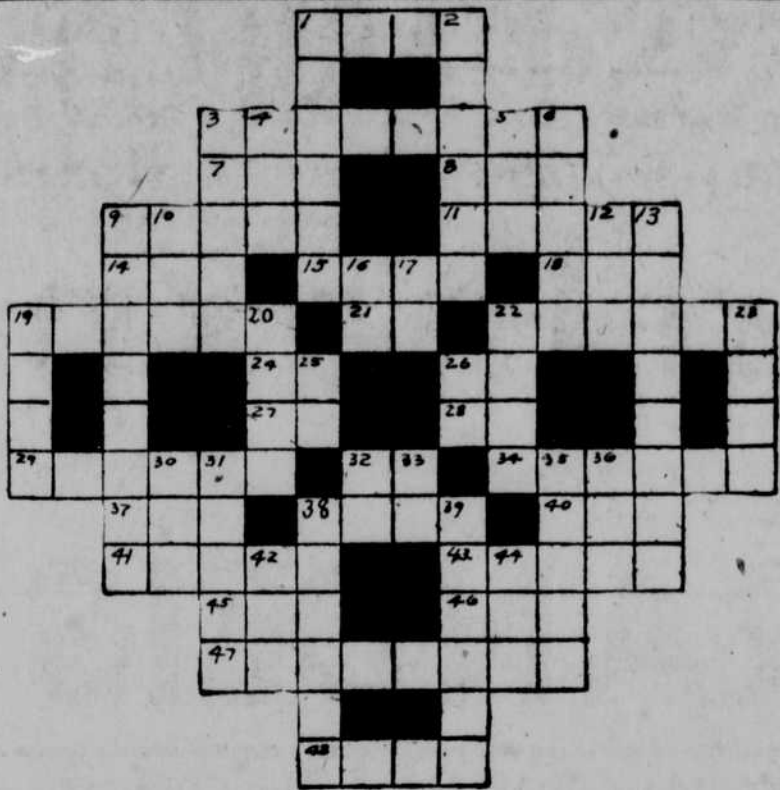
**Alta Accommodations Limited.**  
"It was 3 in the afternoon when we flew over the island of Atka and saw the Eider riding at anchor in a little bay. We were welcomed by another crowd of Aleuts and the sole white man, a school teacher named William Nye—no relation to the humorist, by the way, but even Bill Nye himself would have lost his sense of humor if he had had to live here.

"The trading rights to this island of Atka are under the sole control of Mr. Goss, one of the traders who entertained us at Dutch Harbor. As soon as Major Blair and the officers and crew of the Eider had helped us ashore they pulled up anchor and left for Attu, the last island in the Aleutian chain. So we were left on this desolate, wind-swept remnant of an ancient volcano without even a radio. Mr. Goss had told us to make ourselves at home in his trading store. Some of us bunked alongside stacks of flour and piles of condensed milk, while the rest slept in the attic. We elevated our bunks on boxes to keep the rats from running over us. I don't mention the rats, however, out of disrespect for our big-hearted host, Mr. Goss, for he only spends a few days here now and then.

"To Lowell Smith, our newly-appointed flight commander, went the honor of occupying the only bed in the place—but he didn't have all the best of it, after all, because his bed broke down with him twice during the first night."

Read the next installment of the thrilling round-the-world flight in The Omaha Sunday Bee.

## The Daily Cross Word Puzzle



- Horizontal.**
- Article of food.
  - Religious skeptic.
  - Insect's eggs.
  - And yet.
  - All by oneself.
  - German city.
  - Cushion.
  - Region in the Transvaal, Africa.
  - Three times (prefix).
  - Mining excavations.
  - Toward.
  - Hammer.
  - Gulf in the Arctic ocean, Siberia.
  - Sine Anno (Latin abbr.)
  - Musical note.
  - Part of the verb be.
  - She danced before Herod the king.
  - Behold.
  - Arrange for exhibit.
  - Long period of time.

- Vertical.**
- To plot.
  - Eagle.
  - To make fun of.
  - Made clear profit.
  - The positive electric terminal of a galvanic battery.
  - Strong drink.
  - Religious monogram.
  - A riblike structure.
  - Zealous advocate of a cause.
  - To lick up.
  - To go wrong.
  - One of the elements of the air.
  - In place.
  - Negation.
  - Observes.
  - Indefinite number of things.
  - Quantity.
  - Burden.
  - Double (prefix).
  - Musical note.
  - Rock containing metal.
  - Supernatural, art.
  - Another musical note.
  - Upon.
  - One of the five senses.
  - Adopted son of Mohammed.
  - To move with high step.
  - Small animal valuable for its fur.
  - Fuss.
  - An organ of sense.

**Solution of yesterday's puzzle.**

PIRATES OF THE SEA  
 CRAGS OF THE MOUNTAINS  
 SYLLOGISM  
 RIFLE  
 DEFLECT  
 STITCH  
 JURY  
 HARM  
 MISTERS  
 MILESSTAN  
 DADELLAM  
 SURGASNIEM  
 SUSCEPTIBILITY

- The solution will appear Sunday.
- Funds Sought for Making Indian Village Excavations**  
Columbus, Dec. 12.—Mapping out of a campaign to obtain from the next session of the state legislature an appropriation of \$1,000 to provide for the expenses of an entire summer's excavation from the mouth of the Loup river southeast of here in Genoa, Neb., searching for Indian

village ruins and remains of the ill-fated Spanish expedition that perished at the Loup river mouth, August 11, 1620, is now under way here. E. Blackman, curator of the Nebraska State Historical society, made the preliminary survey last summer. Should the legislature fail to make an appropriation the matter will be taken in hand by eastern museums.

STYLE WITHOUT EXTRAVAGANCE **HERZBERGS** 1519 1521 DOUGLAS ST

*Saturday*

# New Tyrolean Crown Hats

in a feature showing at

Every New Color **\$5** Felts Faile Satins

The newest models are high crowned, scant of trim, with feather pom-poms, cut felt or flowers, some with dashing bows perched atop the crown or on the side; large and small head sizes.

Cranberry Wood Rust Green Henna Black Copen

Soft rolled brims, deep pokes and Pierrette models. Every hat in the showing was intended to sell at much higher prices.

Milinery—Third Floor

# Give Furniture for Christmas

## White Birch Wood

From the Canadian Border  
 Choicest For the Fireplace That Can be Obtained  
 Also Genuine Missouri Oak, Any Length Desired

### UPDIKE LUMBER & COAL CO.

WA Inut 0300

**BEDDEO**  
1415-1417 Douglas Street

A Credit Store for All the People

America's Largest Exclusive Credit Apparel Store

**BUY ON PAYMENTS**

Getting the most out of your Apparel Dollar is the ambition of each customer. You are assured this when you shop at Beddeo's.

Open a Beddeo Charge Account Today

When in Doubt: Give Her a Herzberg Gift Certificate. We Issue Them in Any Amount.

**Saturday --**  
The Last Day of Our

# Choice of the House Footwear Offer

at a discount of **15%**

No Reservations  
 Every Pair of Shoes in Stock Involved.

A selling event that affords you a definite, worth-while saving on any pair of shoes in the house.

This sale means that you can supply your footwear needs for the holiday season at decisive saving.

This includes all Bowdoin Slippers at a discount of 15 per cent.

STYLE WITHOUT EXTRAVAGANCE **HERZBERGS** 1519 1521 DOUGLAS ST

# Fur Scarfs --

A Wonderful Christmas Gift

Baum Marten and Sable for mother and wife. Beautiful Fluffy Fox Skins in the new shades for sweetheart and sister.

**\$19<sup>50</sup> to \$69<sup>50</sup>**

Saturday---in "Girlie Nook"  
 A Pre-Christmas Sale of **Girls' Dresses**

The season's greatest value surprises await Omaha mothers and daughters in this sale Saturday.

Exquisite new dresses, secured in a very recent purchase and shown for the first time Saturday, are offered in three remarkable sale groups.

**Dresses Worth to \$10.75 in Sale**  
 In this lot you'll find dresses of exceptional good style, well made, perfect in fit.  
 Sizes 6 to 12 years. **\$3<sup>95</sup>**

**Dresses Worth to \$14.50 in Sale**  
 At \$6.95, chic little frocks that will delight any Omaha girl. A great array of styles.  
 Sizes 6 to 12 years. **\$6<sup>95</sup>**

**Dresses Worth to \$17.50 in Sale**  
 The very finest dresses that the market affords, rich in fabric, styles of the hour; you should buy several at this low price.  
 Sizes 8 to 16 years. **\$9<sup>95</sup>**

Silks Velvets Wool Crepes Many Smart Combinations Every New Color Styles of the Hour

Gorgeous Gift **Blouses**

In a Feature Sale Saturday, **\$4<sup>95</sup>** Worth Double

Clever Tunic and Overblouse Creations

Milady is indeed lucky who receives one of these magnificent blouses for Christmas.

Crisp new creations, in fine quality silks, every imaginable color, both solid and novelty patterns.

At \$4.95 they are easily Omaha's greatest values.

What Finer Gift Could Be—Than **Gotham Gold Stripe Silk Hose**

Three Pairs in a Gift Box—**\$5<sup>50</sup>** Per Pair \$1.85

This famous quality hose is the personal choice of the well-dressed woman.

To give Gotham Gold Stripe Hose is an expression of good judgment. Fine silk, lustrous finish.

Every Color That Is in Demand  
 Gunmetal Black Nude Airedale Gray  
 Caramel Acorn Gravel Skyn  
 Twig Bobolink Piping Rock