

# NEW FEATS OF THE AIR

AVIATORS UNDAUNTED BY MOISANT AND HOXEY DEATHS.

ELY'S NEW STUNT A SENSATION

His Flying from Land to a Vessel and From Ship Back to Land, One of the Most Unique Achievements Yet Undertaken.

Having flown from the deck of a battleship to land, Eugene B. Ely, the aviator, became ambitious to reverse the process and fly from land to the deck of a battleship. So he arranged with the officials of the San Francisco aeronautical meet to skyplane out from the California shore to the armored cruiser Pennsylvania.

In some aspects this is the most sensational aeroplane feat yet undertaken. It is a brand new, twentieth century way of heading a man of war. This being the month of the San Francisco meet, the thing is brought before us with all its startling reality. Mr. Ely has not only reversed his process of flight, but his position on the continent, the previous feat having been pulled off at Hampton Roads on the Atlantic coast. He has likewise reversed all previous human experience. The possibilities he has opened are staggering.

What is to prevent a flock of aeroplanes from boarding a battleship while the aeronauts whip the crew before the Jack tars recover from their astonishment? What is to prevent the sky passengers from dropping bombs on the admiral's head or blowing off the fighting tops and conning towers? It is plain to see that in future our fighting ships will have to be armored not only on the sides and ends, but on top.

Mr. Ely presents us a more pleasing prospect, however. Hereafter when an irate passenger loses his steamer, instead of jumping into the water or shaking his fist and hurling language at the disappearing liner, he can take an aeroplane and land on deck with the casual remark that he always takes ship that way.

Already Sensational Performer.

In Mr. Ely's previous flight he gave a bunch of Uncle Sam's naval officers and men the sensation of their lives. An inclined platform had been improvised on the deck of the Birmingham, and from this the venturesome aviator made his start. It was a windy and rainy morning, and for this reason few believed that the trip would be made. Almost before the onlookers knew it the biplane had left the ship, dipped until it actually grazed the water, then arose to a height of 200 feet and bore away to the faintly outlined Virginia shore, two and one-half miles distant.

Mr. Ely said that when he struck the water his propeller was slightly injured and he himself was blinded by the salt spray covering his goggles. When he had taken time to wipe off the moisture he was far aloft and flying like a bird.

The machine used was the same one in which Glenn H. Curtiss made the journey from Albany to New York. Ely always uses a Curtiss biplane and with it recently won a speed contest against a Wright machine.

It would have been a star idea if Ely had decided to take with him on his shore to battleship flight some of the San Francisco belles who eagerly accepted invitations to go aloft during the San Francisco meet. It would have opened a new era in the social annals of the navy. The custom, once having started, might have continued and expanded until Uncle Sam's crews could have looked forward to regular visits from the aeroplane girls' brigades that would literally drop in on them every time their ships got near shore.

Miss Sears Starts Fad.

It was Eleanor Sears of Boston and Newport who started the San Francisco society buds to aviating. Miss Sears was not the first woman to go aloft, but she was about the biggest social noise that had done so, and the sport was soon the fad of the smart set.

Aeroplaneing is now in the aerobicic stage. Man, having found his wings, is trying them out and is doing all sorts of freak feats in sheer enjoyment of his new powers. This is especially true in America, where we are naturally more venturesome and where trick riding and circus stunts have been indulged to the limit and beyond. Aviators are agreed that to this fact is due many of the deaths that have cast a shadow upon the sport. Later on, let us hope, we shall settle down to a more serious and cautious gait. While this may not be as sensational or profitable it will at least be better for the future of aviation and will not break so many necks.

The flight of Ely to the battleship is not exactly of the freak class, since it demonstrated possible uses for the aeroplane in war. But spiral drops, excessive altitude tests and other sensational riding contribute little to the science of aviation and only go to swell the prize money and the death list.

We need not be discouraged, however. Even the bird when he begins to fly has a few tumbles. If he, with tens of thousands of years of flying ancestors behind him, falls out of the nest and gets bumped in learning to use his wings what wonder that man, with no flying ancestors, should suffer a few mishaps?

Perhaps the blackest day in the history of American aviation was that on which two star bird men, Arch Hoxsey and John B. Moissant, met their death.

## Moissant Proved Merit.

Moissant was comparatively new in the game, but his first big feat had centered on him the world's attention. This was a flight with a passenger from Paris to London. It was the first time such a feat had ever been attempted, and aviators agreed that it could not be done. To Moissant such an opinion acted as a challenge, and he immediately prepared to try it out. Taking with him his mechanic, a heavy man, he first sailed over the city of Paris, the first time such a flight with a passenger had ever been accomplished over that or any other big city, then by continuous stages flew to the coast, over the English channel and within twenty-five miles of London, when a broken propeller forced him to wait for repairs. To his misfortune after misfortune attended him, but he kept on with dogged perseverance till at last he landed in London.

Moissant's great victory in America was that of winning the prize for the quickest flight from Belmont park around the statue of Liberty and return. That feat was even more daring and thrilling than the Paris-London flight. His two competitors were an Englishman and Frenchman, each with a 100 horsepower motor. When Moissant discovered that no American was entered he hastily bought a fifty horsepower machine from a brother aviator, and although he was a stranger to its mechanism he entered the race without an initial trial flight and won it.

## Moissant Proved Nerve.

For sheer nerve there has probably been nothing in aviation quite like it.

miles. He is the man who made the great cross-country flight from Springfield, Ill., to St. Louis and who took Theodore Roosevelt up for his famous flight.

As a result of these and other fatal accidents, which spread a pall over the aviation sky in 1910, a conservative movement is on foot. Cortland Field Bishop, first vice president of the Aero Club of America, is out in an appeal for more caution and for useful results rather than spectacular effects. Following the death of Hoxsey, Wilbur Wright wired to his manager on the Pacific coast to instruct the other Wright fliers to attempt no more sensational or record breaking efforts, but to confine themselves to straightaway flights.

Despite the death last year of the most brilliant in the history of aviation, the number of machines and operators increased many fold, and all over Europe and America flying became a recognized sport. In France and other countries aviators are now being regularly licensed, and new laws to govern aviation are being enacted. The same tendency is observed in America. Governor Baldwin of Connecticut devoted a portion of his message to a discussion of aviation laws.

The year of 1911 promises to be even more brilliant than that of 1910. Aside from the shore to battleship flight at San Francisco, Ely promises to attend a meet in Havana in February and to make the trip from the Cuban city to Key West, Fla. One Frenchman and two French aviators have recently visited the isthmus of Panama and in the

leave New York on his return trip soon after midnight.

## JACK JOHNSON TELLS OF HIS HARDEST FIGHT.

Jack Johnson, the heavyweight champion, says the hardest battle of his career was with a colored fighter named John Lee in Galveston in the month of August, 1896.

"I will never forget that fight," said Johnson recently. "It took place in a field, in the hot sun, and we could not get any water even to rinse our mouths with. For seventeen rounds we battled in the heat, when I knocked him out. I received for this fight the sum of \$10.

"Some ten or twelve years ago, when I was quite clever in the boxing line, I tried to get a manager, but could not. After I became a colored man from all sides tried to get the position, including Tom O'Rourke."

## FENCING IS NOW COMING TO FRONT.

Many Clever Amateurs Building Up "Gentle Art" in Large Cities.

That the art of fencing has been underestimated in the United States, but is rapidly coming to the fore as one of the greatest physical developers, is the opinion of George Pardignan of St. Paul, who was formerly attached to the French academy and is considered here and abroad one of the best blades.

"In a recently published list of sporting events I was surprised to find nothing of one of the best sport branches—that of fencing," said Mr. Pardignan recently.

"Prominent physicians of Europe on this point are entirely agreed that fencing is the most perfect sport. It will not only train and develop all parts of the body, but it will also build up the endurance wonderfully, give



BAINBRIDGE, ONE OF GREATEST FENCERS IN AMERICA.

coolness and promptness to all actions, and the constant training of the reflex movements, the immediate translation of the commands of the brain to the muscles, makes a man immensely faster. Whenever a prompt action is required fencing is a wonderful aid. It is a great agent of self protection. An able fencer is naturally a good boxer, having the good judgment of distance, quick return and lightning perception of the time to strike. Fencing gives an added grace to the walk, and persons who have become adherents of the sport often seem to undergo a metamorphosis from crudeness to suppleness and strength. It will even change the expression of the face, giving it strength and force.

"It is an exercise that will impart to its followers the graceful force of the feline with similar rapid and powerful movements.

"This country is developing very fast, and fencing is coming to take its place as it should among the recognized and encouraged sports of schools and colleges and clubs.

"In Chicago and New York I have met with some expert Americans who, if properly trained, should aspire to championship laurels. The New York Fencing club has a membership of 175 men and 150 women, showing its adaptability to either sex. Private academies are springing up everywhere. Mr. Louis Sennet is doing much for the sport in the American metropolises."

## College Abandons Sport.

George Washington university will not be represented on the gridiron hereafter. The athletic council has been abolished, and it is believed the institution now will withdraw from all forms of intercollegiate sport. Financial difficulties of the football team, it is said, brought about the action of the board of trustees.

## "My Eyes as Good as Ever," Emslie.

"I can pass the eye test," says Bob Emslie. "No honest oculist will find anything the matter with my optics. I don't propose to accept a pension, but to umpire regularly in the National league next season." Mr. Emslie objects seriously to Lynch's plan to give him an old age pension.

## Death of J. H. VanGaasbeeke.

Neligh, Neb., Jan. 21.—Special to The News: J. H. Van Gaasbeeke, a

pioneer traveling salesman, died here shortly before 10 o'clock this morning after an illness of two years. He leaves a wife and daughter, Mrs. H. E. Galloway of Oakdale.

## On The STAGE

NEW YORK DRAMATIC LETTER.

New York, Jan. 21.—Next week promises sufficient attractions of unusual interest to satisfy the most insatiable theatergoer. Miss Maude Adams will come to Wallack's in "Chatterbox," the initial performance having been postponed at the last minute by Mr. Charles Frohman for reasons of his own.

Then during the week "The Hen Pecks," a big spectacle which Lew Fields has been preparing will be presented at the Broadway. It is promised that "The Hen Pecks" will eclipse "The Midnight Sons," "The Jolly Bachelors," and "The Summer Widowers," in its number of players, list of "stage properties" and amount of scenery. The production is divided into two acts, the first containing four scenes and the second five.

"The Deep Purple" at the Lyric theater, which comes from Chicago after a stay of four months, may rest a while in New York. If the management desires, for New Yorkers seem to like the play. It has to do with persons whose occupations are not listed among the lawful professions and with one in particular whose manliness suggests he was born "in the purple." The play is the work of Paul Armstrong and Wilson Mizner.

Henry Miller has returned for his annual New York engagement, appearing in a new play entitled "The Havoc," which is the attraction at the Bijou. "The Havoc" is built on the dramatic triangle, but is a wide sweep of the pendulum from the problem plays of the Ibsen-Pinero-Jones type. Instead of glorifying the principles of an illicit love affair, it shows the havoc that follows such a passion.

At Maxine Elliot's theater Charles Klein's newest play, "The Gamblers," is equalling the record of his former successes. Mr. Klein has taken again a new topic for his theme, the play dealing with reckless banking methods. George Naoh, Charles Stevenson and Jane Cowi have the leading parts.

Elsie Janis, in Charles Dillingham's new musical production, "The Slim Princess" at the Globe, appears in the best role of her career and is supported by an excellent company in which Joseph Cawthorn is the principal comedian. There is an air of daintiness and refinement about the production that distinguishes it from most operatic productions.

"Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" pursues the even tenor of her way, which is an exceedingly pleasant way, at the Republic theater. This is the seventeenth week of her stay in New York.

In her new play, "The Imposter," in which she appears at the Garrick theater, Annie Russell has appeared in an unusually appealing role.

"Get Rich Quick Wallingford" continues to reveal his easy money methods at the Gaiety theater. George M. Colan has not flattered the average American in this comedy. He has drawn his amusing types from life in their greed for something for nothing, their worship of financial success and their readiness to assume a higher plane of life and conduct just as soon as they can afford to do so.

The Plaza music hall's long program includes Adele Ritchie, the musical comedy star, William J. Kelly in a play called "The Sacrifice," the Fayette's woman's orchestra and nineteen other big acts.

"Marriage a la Carte," an English musical comedy, is at the Casino theater. It serves to introduce a new prima donna, Emmy Whelen, whose acting and singing have won the approval of New York theatergoers. Harry Conroy and Elsa Ryan are in the cast.

"Pomander Walk at Wallack's" is a real theatrical novelty. Without a trace of the usual sort or dramatic clichés of any kind it affords, nevertheless, a most pleasant entertainment. The stage setting, showing a row of English houses, is unique.

Nat Goodwin has been persuaded to try his hand at vaudeville, by Percy Williams, and consequently next week will lay aside his matrimonial troubles long enough to start a tour of the Williams theaters. He will appear at the Colonial theater in a condensed version of "Lend Me Five Shillings," in which he will be the Mr. Gollightly.

The Hippodrome continues to offer a big spectacular show composed of "The International Cup," "The Earthquake," and "The Ballet of Niagara." The chief attraction of the show would be the circus bill, even if there were no other things to delight the big crowds of old folks as well as young ones which fill the big playhouse twice every day.

## Wins in Sixteenth Round.

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 21.—Young Brown of Hibbing won from Chuck Larson of Chicago in the sixteenth round. The referee stopped the fight saying Larson from an imminent knockout.

## 25 Miles in 16 Minutes.

London, Jan. 21.—A dispatch to the Times from Lima, Peru, says that

M. Bieleucci, the French aviator, last Thursday made a record flight of twenty-five miles over Lima in sixteen minutes.

Back Numbers.

We will pay 25 cents apiece for one copy each of the Norfolk Weekly News-Journal of the following dates: October 15, 1909; November 26, 1909; July 29, August 19, August 26, and September 2, 1910. These are wanted to complete our files.

The Huse Publishing Co.

## EUROPEAN NEWS AND VIEWS

London, Jan. 21.—The insurance companies are taking risks on the possible postponement of the coronation of King George and Queen Mary next June, but those who are in a position to know say that there is a little chance of the ceremonies being delayed beyond a week, if indeed they are postponed at all. It is known that her majesty expects a visit from the stork sometime during March, but no unusual delays are looked for to cause a delay in the royal plans. However well they might be covered by insurance risks, to set the coronation back would cause great financial loss to the merchants, shopkeepers and, in fact, all classes of business people of England.

London society is interested in the forthcoming nuptials of Miss Vivien Gould, daughter of the American millionaire, George J. Gould and Lord Decies, to be celebrated in New York early next month. The Hon. S. R. Bessford, brother of Lord Decies, is to be the best man at the wedding. Despite rumors to the contrary, it is said that the bridegroom-to-be expects great things in a financial way from his marriage to the daughter of one of America's richest men. Miss Gould is scarcely known in London, but her sister, Mrs. Anthony Drexel, Jr., has created an enviable place for herself in society of the British capital and will probably do some very nice things for the future Lady Decies.

After all it is quite likely that the duke of Connaught will not go to Canada as governor general to succeed Earl Grey. The duke, who it will be remembered, is an uncle of King George will be needed at home to help his majesty with some of the arduous duties of coronation year. When King Edward lived, he shared many of his social responsibilities with the prince of Wales, who, is, of course, the present king. But George's eldest son is yet too young to take any part in public affairs, and as the king cannot attend to royalty is necessary or desirable, the duke of Connaught will for some years be the natural person to act for the king. Apart from that, he will probably have to fill the position of regent during the absence of the king and queen in India in the early part of 1912. It may therefore be practically taken for granted that some member of the government will succeed Earl Grey as governor general of Canada.

The minister of war had the census of the horses of Paris taken recently, and as a result it was shown that that noble but misused animal is becoming rapidly scarcer in the city not in aptly called "the hell of horses." The decrease in the past eleven years has been over 15 percent, and about one-half of this decrease appears to be due to the replacement of the horse by motor propelled vehicles by the omnibus company and a big firm of job-masters. The diminution is most marked in the wealthier districts. So the carriage horse, it would seem, rather than his humble brother who draws a tradesman's cart, is giving way to the motor.

On Wednesday next at Dresden Richard Strauss' new comic opera, "The Knight of the Rose" will be sung for the first time, and all of the leading European critics will be in attendance. It was on the same stage and under the same direction that both "Salome" and "Elektra" were sung. The principal difficulty for the artists is said to lie in the tempo. Already the opera has been accepted for more than twenty opera houses in Germany. The Berlin production will follow the first hearing at Dresden.

English mothers are hearing about the health of spoiled children from Dr. Friedjung, a Viennese physician, who is giving a series of lectures here. He discusses especially the case of families in which there is a single child. As a result of his examinations of hundreds of children of both sexes between 2 and 10 years of age, Dr. Friedjung says he found that of 100 children each the sole offspring of its parents, only 13 could be described as entirely healthy, while 87 were more or less nervously afflicted and 13 suffered from nervous debility and hysteria in a marked degree. Fifty children out of 100 were troubled with digestive complaints and 37 were confirmed dyspeptics.

The Berlin police have begun a vigorous purity crusade and owners of house property in the city and suburbs are in despair at the approaching fate of the plaster figures of ancient gods and goddesses with which they plentifully adorn their buildings. The district court of Potsdam has just decided that the police may order any undraped figure on a house to be removed immediately. As nearly every new house in Berlin has more than one undraped statue on its facade, this judgment may have far reaching consequences.

## Endorse Aldrich Bank Plan.

New York, Jan. 21.—General endorsement of Senator Aldrich's plan of currency reform was voted at a meeting of the trustees of the Academy of Political Science, Columbia university. The board includes such well known men as Samuel McChane Lindsey, president; Albert Shaw, Frank Vanderlip and several other leaders in finance and education.

## OLD VIRGINIA CASE UP.

How Much of \$33,000,000 Debt Should West Virginia Pay? Want Alaska Home Rule.

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 21.—The state senate passed the house resolution memorializing congress to grant home rule to Alaska.

## Old Dutch Cleanser

Shortens your cleaning work in the kitchen —throughout the house.

This One Cleanser in handy sifter can keeps the house and everything in it spick and span with half the time required with old-fashioned cleaners.

## Cleans, Scrubs, Scours, Polishes

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LARGE SIFTER CAN 10c

famed for its horses and horsemanship, no longer boasts of a single circus. True, it has a hippodrome, but that establishment is horsey only in name and equi artists are seldom billed therein. The old tan ring has given place to the stage and the performers are mere bipeds. From the time when Philip Astley, founder of London's most famous circus, flourished until a comparatively recent date, the metropolis was never without its circus, but, like the old negro minstrel, the clown, the bareback rider and all the other old favorites of the ring have gone, and to the youngster of today the once famous name of Astley, Sanger and Hengler mean less than nothing.

Paul Poirer has threatened fashionable women with a dreadful thing in smart skirts to follow the hobble. This is the harem skirt, adopted by M. Poirer from the Turkish trousers worn by oriental women. It seems a severe punishment for the vogue of the hobble, but M. Poirer assures everyone that it is not as bad as it sounds. The trouser effect is disguised. It simply seems a scant skirt diminishing still more around the ankles, but allowing its wearer to walk with less effort than an ordinary skirt. The harem skirt is to appear in the spring. First it will appear on the stage, as this is the approved Parisian manner of introducing a novelty in clothes. Then it will be visible in show rooms, on manikins, and the judgment of leaders of fashion will go forth as to whether it is to be accepted or disdained. English dress-makers declare that its introduction in England will be an impossibility, but from the avidity with which English women have seized the most extreme modes from Paris recently, one may take this with a grain of salt. Those who have seen it say that it has a graceful line and a certain air of distinction in addition to being practical.

## THEN THEY'D ALL ELOPE.

A Kansan Would Require Health Cards Before Marriage.

Topeka, Jan. 21.—J. E. Williams representative from Logan county, introduced in the house today a bill requiring that all brides and grooms must have health certificates before they can obtain a marriage license. The bill provides that physicians must make the examination not more than ten days before the application for the license is made and if he makes any false statement he may be fined from \$200 to \$500 or sent to jail for ninety days. Any official who issues the license and any clergyman or official who marries a couple without having the certificate, may be fined from \$100 to \$300 and sent to jail for thirty days to six months.

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