

## THE AIR MAIL

(By Rear Admiral W. F. Pullan, U. S. N.) (Retired)

The prediction of Colonel Henderson, chief of the air mail service, that mail would be transported from San Francisco to New York in thirty hours in the near future is justified by the creditable record of the mail-plane flyers during the last year, as well as by the remarkable endurance and distance records of army aviators during the last few weeks.

The present air mail service between New York and San Francisco is hampered by insufficient appropriations, inadequate material in the shape of patched-up planes, lack of landing fields along the route and the absence of properly lighted airways which would make night flying safe and practicable.

### Remarkable Achievements.

Despite these obstacles the plucky and skilful mail flyers covered nearly two million miles and delivered about forty million letters during the last year without a single casualty. They stuck to their work under all conditions of weather, and reached a standard of more than 90 per cent efficiency. People along the route declare that they can set their clocks by the mail planes.

Supplementing this achievement, the Army Air Service came to the front with triumphs that clinch the evidence in favor of a practicable air-mail service for the whole country. Lieutenant Doolittle flew from Florida to San Diego with but one stop, at San Antonio, Tex., and Lieutenants MacReady and Kelly broke the world's record in a non-stop flight from San Diego to Indianapolis, a distance of 2,100 miles.

It is important to note that the monoplane used by MacReady carried a total weight of 10,000 pounds—five tons—over the Rocky Mountains, and had it not been for the faulty construction in minor particulars he would have

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reached New York without landing. And the plane that carried MacReady, night and day, against head winds and storms three-fourths the distance across the continent had but a few days previously won the world's endurance record by remaining in the air more than thirty-six hours. This record reveals the degree of perfection and reliability to which the Liberty motor has been brought, and it clearly indicates future success in transcontinental non-stop flights.

### No Need of Non-Stop Flights.

But it must be noted that the non-stop flight from coast to coast is not necessarily essential to the success and extension of the air mail, nor to the ultimate air transport of passenger and certain light-weight merchandise

in all parts of the United States. In the long-distance flight much of the available space and a large part of the weight to be carried must be given to fuel and oil. By stopping at intervals on the route more weight can be given to passengers and mail.

If the planes flying from San Francisco to New York, for instance, make two or more stops at designated points along the line, the planes may be refueled, or the mail, passengers and freight may be quickly transferred to other planes that are kept keyed up and in readiness instantly to take up the flight to the next station. Warning by radio from the flying plane to the station ahead will insure readiness and a quick transfer. The delay in such a flight will not be great, and the motors of the planes will not be over-

worked. Safety will thus be increased all emergencies anticipated and a large percentage of the available space and weight to be carried may be given to mail, passengers or freight rather than to fuel.

It will be clear from this discussion that we may ultimately see different classes of planes on all routes—fast, non-stop special delivery planes; express planes that will make more frequent stops. The rules of the railroad will apply to the air lines.

At the present time the air-mail planes fly only by daylight. Although, despite this handicap, the mail is now expedited, the Postoffice Department will urge the establishment of light-houses and illuminated landing fields at fixed intervals along the mail lines, thus enabling the carriers to fly by

night as well as by day. This will greatly reduce the time of transport.

### Transcontinental Lines.

It is not a dream to picture at least three transcontinental air lines in this country, following in general the routes of the railroads—one from San Diego to New Orleans, one from San Francisco to Omaha or St. Louis, and one from Seattle to Chicago by way of Minneapolis. Continuing from the Mississippi Valley, these three lines will all terminate at New York or Boston with intermediate stations.

And it follows that there will ultimately be a development of inter-connecting north and south lines between the principle cities throughout the country. This in years to come we may predict a network of air lines so that the time of mail transport will be reduced to about one-third the present record.

There is no one thing that so directly affects the personal interests and well-being of every man, woman and child in the country as the quick delivery of the mail. It not only vitally affects every business interest, every banker and corporation, but it is a boon to every home in the land. It is interesting to emphasize this fact. For instance, families become scattered; parents and their children are inevitably separated. Consider the cases of illness, the need of quick medical or surgical aid, the haste to reach homes in an emergency, the anxiety of mind in every family at times. The air mail and air transportation will come to the rescue.

The National Aeronautical Association of the United States, which has just been formed, with headquarters in Washington, for the purpose of encouraging the development of useful aviation, has prepared a map which graphically illustrates the annihilation of distance and the saving of time by air transport. This map shows that, measured by the new standard of time and distance that will follow the practical application of air transportation, the territory of the United States will shrink to about one-third its present area. It is impossible to overstate the importance of this subject. Air power is not only vital in national defense, but it will be an ever-present element of prosperity in commercial activities as well as a convenience and comfort in the routine of daily life.

### ANTRIM CASTLE FIRE

£143,000 is Claimed for Malicious Damage.

Belfast, Nov. 8.—(By Mail).—Claims totalling over £143,000 have been lodged with the Northern Ireland Government for alleged malicious damage to Antrim Castle, the residence of Lord Massereene, and Ferrard, which was destroyed by fire on October 29. The trustees claim £200,000 for the building, Lord Massereene claims £20,000 for furniture, Lady Massereene £8,000 for clothing and effects, and Colonel Richardson £70 for clothing and personal effects.

C. Golder, a seaman on the steamship Montcalm, was taken to the General Public Hospital yesterday afternoon suffering with an injured shoulder. His injury is not serious and he will be able to return to his ship within a day or two.

### HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE.

The High School Alumnae met last night at the residence of the president, Miss Grace Campbell, of Hazen street, and enjoyed an interesting programme. Miss Edith Cummings was in charge and the subject for the programme was "Anatole France." Miss Marion Thompson gave the introductory sketch of his life and Miss Cummings then gave a paper telling of his various works and giving some

criticisms of his writings. He is the unchallenged leader of French literature, a master of style, witty, ironic and humorous. Miss Cummings spoke particularly of "Red Lily," "Bergeret," and the reminiscences of his childhood which he has related in "The Book of My Friend." She also recalled Anatole France's connection with the Dreyfus case. Miss Marion Thompson read a chap-

ter from "Penguin Island." Miss Milledred Bustin sang two solos that were much appreciated; her accompanist was Mrs. W. L. Beville. Refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed. A short executive meeting was held and plans were made for the Christmas closing at the High School. A request for support had been received from the health centre and a sum of money was voted to that institution.



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MONDAY, DECEMBER 11th

This Sale has been one of the largest sales we have ever had, which goes to prove that the people pay attention to our sales, and know that when we put on a sale, IT IS A SALE AND NOT A MAKE BELIEVE.

You have only until MONDAY the 11th to take Advantage of this Sale, so be Wise and get here before Monday night.

## REMEMBER—You Save \$1.00 to \$4.00 on Every Ten You Spend

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- Ladies' Coats—Regular Price \$18.00—Anniversary Price \$9.98
- Ladies' Coats—Regular Price \$25.00—Anniversary Price \$16.98
- Ladies' Coats—Regular Price \$28.00—Anniversary Price \$19.00
- Ladies' Mannish Coats—All the latest cloths in plain and check backs—Reg. prices \$18, \$22, \$25 and \$30—Anniversary Prices \$10.98, \$16.98, \$17.98 and \$24.00
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collars and Cuffs—Reg. price \$55.00—Anniversary Price \$45.00
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collars and Cuffs—Reg. price \$48.00—Anniversary Price \$39.00
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collars and Cuffs—Reg. price \$39.00—Anniversary Price \$29.00
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collar—Reg. price \$35.00—Anniversary Price \$28.98
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collar—Reg. price \$30.00—Anniversary Price \$22.98
- Ladies' Velour Coats with Fur Collar—Reg. price \$28.00—Anniversary Price \$18.98
- Ladies' Suits to Clear from \$6.98 to \$39.00—worth from \$20.00 to \$48.00.
- Ladies' Raincoats to Clear from \$5.98 up.
- Ladies' All Wool Fancy Check and Stripe Skirts, worth \$12.00—Anniversary Price \$8.98
- Ladies' All Wool Fancy Check and Stripe Skirts, worth \$6.75—Anniversary Price \$5.98
- Ladies' All Wool Fancy Check and Stripe Skirts, worth \$5.75—Anniversary Price \$5.00
- Ladies' White Silk Shirtwaists—Anniversary Price 98c.
- Girls' Coats from \$5.98 up, to fit from 3 to 12 years.

- Ladies' House Dresses to Clear from 98 cents up.
- Ladies' Silk, Serge and Canton Crepe Dresses—Anniversary Special Price to Clear less 20 per cent
- Ladies' Stripe Flannel Shirtwaist, worth \$1.85—Anniversary Price \$1.29
- Ladies' Corsets—Reg. prices \$1.50 to \$4.50—Anniversary Prices 98c. to \$3.75
- Girls' All Wool Serge Dresses to fit from 3 to 12 years, from \$2.98 up.
- One Special Rack of Ladies' Serge Dresses, worth from \$12.00 to \$18.00—Anniversary Price \$6.98
- Ladies' Heather Hose, worth \$1.00—Anniversary Price 69c.

### MEN'S CLOTHING

- Men's Reg. \$39.00 Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$32.00
- Men's Reg. \$35.00 Overcoats, Check Backs, Leather Buttons—Anniversary Price \$29.00
- Men's Reg. \$30.00 Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$25.00
- Men's Reg. \$29.00 Melton Overcoats, Black, Grey and Brown—Anniversary Price \$22.00
- Men's Reg. \$25.00 Melton Overcoats, Grey, Green and Brown—Anniversary Price \$18.00
- Men's Reg. \$25.00 Check Back Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$18.00
- Men's Reg. \$20.00 Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$15.00
- Men's Reg. \$35.00 Suits in all shades and stripes—All wool English Worsteds Cloths—Anniversary Price \$28.00
- Men's Reg. \$30.00 Suits—All Wool Worsteds Cloths—Anniversary Price \$24.00

- Men's Reg. \$20.00 Suits—All Wool Tweeds—Anniversary Price \$15.00
- Men's Reg. \$6.50 Velour Hats—Anniversary Price \$4.98
- Men's Heavy Ribbed Underwear—Anniversary Prices 98c., \$1.50, \$1.98 and \$2.25
- Men's Fleece Lined Underwear—Anniversary Price 89c.
- Men's All Wool Oxford Pants—While They Last \$2.98
- Men's All Wool Sweaters—\$2.98 up—Anniversary Prices
- Men's Work Sweaters—Anniversary Prices, \$1.98 up
- Men's All Wool Sox, grey, black or white—39c., 3 pairs for \$1.00
- Men's Heavy Duck Work Shirts, 98c., \$1.25 and \$1.50.
- Men's Negligee Dress Shirts, 98c. and up.
- Boys' Overcoats, Reg. \$7.50 to \$10.50—Anniversary Price \$5.98 to \$8.50
- Boys' Reg. \$12.00 Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$9.98
- Boys' Reg. \$15.00 and \$18.00 Overcoats—Anniversary Price \$12.98
- Boys' Reg. \$13.00 Suits, All Wool, 2 pairs Pants—Anniversary Price \$10.00
- Boys' Reg. \$10.50 Suits with 1 pair Pants—Anniversary Price \$7.50
- Boys' Fleece Lined Underwear—59c. Anniversary Price
- Boys' All Wool Underwear—Anniversary Prices \$1.00 up
- Boys' Reg. \$1.00 Heavy All Wool Stockings—69c. Anniversary Price

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY—Ladies' \$18.00 to \$25.00 Coats for \$6.98

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We have about 20 of these Coats. So me of them are last season's, but they are all good warm Coats and while they last, for Saturday only, our Special Price is \$6.98.