

The Trans-Atlantic Flight

Further Particulars of the Sopwith Attempt --- Hawker's Desperate Intention.

Our readers will be interested in the following additional information concerning that greatest of all great adventures—the flying of the Atlantic Ocean from the New to the Old World. The accomplishment of this mighty feat will represent the third historic event in which the Atlantic has figured. The crossing of the "herring-pond" by the first steamer, the Savannah, just a hundred years ago was regarded as practically the climax of science and wonders. The crossing of the same great waste of water in the early part of the war by the first submarine may be regarded as the second great achievement of the three. And the crossing, in the air will perhaps be the greatest of them all, the very keynote of man's wonderful ingenuity and skill. That this will be done very soon there can be no doubt, for with the brains and capital that now lie behind the many attempts that are being made to accomplish this, the successful achievement, be it sooner or later, is assured. And what a race it is becoming. Despite the fact that the Sopwith machine had arrived here, been assembled and made its test flight before the second machine—the Martinsyde biplane, Raymor—had reached the city, Hawker needs must stay on in impatience, for although to a very great extent man has conquered the elements, he has not yet proven himself absolute master of the air and the etheral spaces above.

Readers will be startled to know just what a desperate intention the fliers of the Sopwith biplane are entertaining. When about one hundred miles off the Newfoundland coast, and well on their way across, they will drop the whole of the under-carriage of their machine into the ocean, and thus lose all hope of rising again if by any chance something went wrong and they had to come down. By this act of casting off the under-carriage, the machine will have to alight on either land or water with a crash. Thus, with the 6,150 pounds the machine will carry, the very best they can hope to receive upon landing at Brooklands, outside London, is a bad bumping, and that, only if the landing place is exceptionally favorable. Then, of course, there is the terrible possibility that they may, through losing their course, be obliged to land on some rocky shore, and descend with a smash—and the almost inevitable result will be disaster and death. And it is with the presence of such iron-nerved men that St. John's is honored to-day. Determined to risk life for the sake of being the first to accomplish this stupendous journey, Messrs. Hawker and Grieve are brave men—men whose bravery no one but those thoroughly conversant with the conditions that must be faced by the fliers can appreciate or comprehend.

This under-carriage, weighing several hundred pounds, will be released by the pulling of a trap lever at the pilot's right hand, which will automatically release the under-carriage

and allow it to drop into the sea below. This, of course, will leave the weight of the machine unevenly distributed, but another ingenious device provides for this and the petrol tanks will be re-distributed. The result of dropping the under-carriage will not only lessen the weight of the machine, but will also materially reduce the wind resistance—a valuable reduction in an airplane, and the engine, ordinarily doing 100 miles an hour, will immediately increase to 118, a speed that then can be maintained under good weather conditions for the duration of the flight.

Needless to state, this intention, although practically new, has been tried before by Hawker, when he went "aloft" in Brooklands, and, releasing the under-carriage, circled downward, without wheels, or other landing gear. He crashed to earth; the propeller was smashed to bits and the underside of the machine cracked. He himself escaped with only a few bruises. In all, before coming here, the Sopwith machine flew about 150 hours, and beyond the short test flight made over St. John's, it has done no other flying. The gasoline and oil have been loaded and everything is ready for the flight.

Both Hawker and Grieve will do well out of the success of their machine. The former, who is a regular member of the Sopwith Co.'s experts, being the best test-pilot in the world, will receive a bonus of \$50,000, in addition to the share of the Daily Mail prize of \$50,000. Lt. Commander MacKenzie Grieve will get \$20,000. To give an idea of the pay Harry Hawker commands, it might be stated that he receives \$125 for each test flight he makes, and as there are often as many as a dozen machines to be tested in a day, his earnings may be imagined. His yearly income is about \$100,000. He possesses a dozen motor cars. Hawker was a bicycle mechanic in Australia, and went to England in 1912, becoming an airplane mechanic. In 1913 he went to America, there flying in an aviation exhibition.

The moment the biplane gets away from here, the Mt. Pearl wireless station will flash word to every ship at sea, asking them to send out the Sopwith call and their own position, if they have reason to believe the plane to be in their vicinity.

The desperate character of the Sopwith attempt surely appeals to Newfoundlanders—used, as many of them are, to brave the storms and terrors of the Atlantic, and nothing but the very best of success is wished the brave men—contrary to the thought given expression in one of the local screeds that bring disgrace upon it and our country.

Meanwhile other plans are being made by other aviators, and if the present weather conditions continue, both here and in mid-Atlantic, the entire project will develop into an even greater race than it now promises, and instead of having two machines ready at the same time, waiting for the first favorable moment in which to leave, we may have half a dozen, and as a result St. John's and Newfoundland must necessarily receive the prominence and publicity so long due but hitherto denied them.

Observed at the House.

In answer to the question, asked yesterday why Sir P. T. did not collect his \$1,000.00 before, Sir M. P. stated that a most valuable amount of work was done by the Hon. Sir P. T. as Secretary of the Fishery Commission, but that through some cause or other he had not asked for his salary before now. We perceive that his work was valuable to the extent of \$1,000 but any other value we fail to see; perhaps the Minister of Finance could enlighten us in this matter.

Mr. Piccott yesterday in referring to the Grand Bank pier stated it was no good for a member to be bragging of things not done. We think that possibly such a statement, from its forcible veracity is rather hard upon the members to the left of the Speaker.

The "genial" Minister of Works certainly expands daily in geniality of features facial, and we are forced to the painful conclusion that the care-free air is due to the fact that for a few months longer the Board of Works may have his directorship. We wonder is there any thing in the rumours around town that the member for Burgeo and LaPolla hurried to take his seat in the House while the Government member for Burin took his leave of absence. Whether so or not, there was a preternatural look of gravity on the face of the Burgeo representative yesterday as he slowly walked to his seat sometime after the House had convened.

These days are full of worry and grave fears, and such is the condition of things that even the master mind of financial figuring making little errors in his presentation of the Loan Bill. Surely there must be stirring times in the camp these days, to make it possible for such mistakes to emanate from the brain of the financial student of the Walpolean doctrine.

The Wordy President has again made his appearance in the House. Presumably he thinks that his short absence has given the different factions of the Nationalists time to forget his political blunder of recent date, and that things are now as heretofore; perhaps so? but nevertheless silence yet reigns testifying that there is still a lingering doubt in the mind of the Twillingate member.

M. P.

NURSERY HYGIENE.

The nursery is the most important room in the house; therefore its hygiene must be above suspicion. Many parents fall into a fallacy regarding modern heating methods, and while admitting the comfort, cleanliness and convenience of the Gas Fire, call its suitability for nursery use into question on the grounds of hygiene.

This idea is wrong. The modern Gas Fire is more hygienic than the coal fire, has all its noxious fumes without its bad ones. The Gas Fire gives radiant heat and assists ventilation. All the products of combustion are carried off by the flue connection to the chimney. There is no smoke, dust or ashes, and for a sick room it is invaluable.

The modern ventilated Gas Fire produces radiant heat, a natural heat similar to that given by the sun, and adds hygiene to its many other advantages.

For particulars of the new Radiant Fire, phone 97 or call at the Gas Co.'s Showroom. apr10,eed,tf

Here and There.

C. C. C. MEETING.—The C. C. C. Boat Club will hold a meeting next week at which arrangements for the regatta to be held in the coming year will be discussed.

AT THE BALSAM.—The following are guests at Balsam House: Nathan Cohen, Bell Island; Mrs. Bennett, Bertha Hall, Bay Roberts; E. G. Hall, Carbonear; Mrs. J. M. LeDrew, Bell Island; Mrs. Ed. Wilcox, Placentia.

After the play visit the Blue Puttee, Rawlins' Cross. New addition now open.—apr21,6i

SOLDIERS EXPECTED.—A draft of the soldiers now in England is expected to leave for home on May 20th, and another draft a short time later. It is expected that most of the men now overseas will be home by July.

Just received large shipment Nyal's Throat Pastilles. Price, 30c. per box. Stafford's Drug Store.—mar11,tf

FISH CARRIER SOLD.—We understand that the Kathryn, built at Norris' Arm last year for Mr. M. E. Martin, has been sold in Greece, where she went from here with a cargo of codfish. Capt. Doyle and crew are now on the way here.

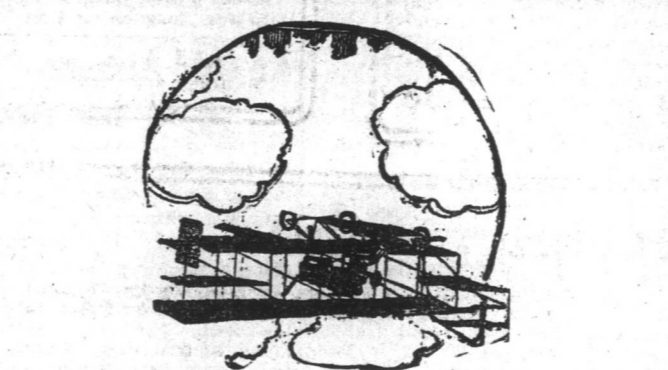
"Stafford's Phorotone" for all kinds of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma and various Lung Troubles.—feb14,tf

ENJOYABLE TIME.—A private dance was given Tuesday night by Mr. George Davey, Jr., at the Blue Puttee Hall, at which some thirty-five couples were present. The music was furnished by Myron & O'Grady's orchestra, supper was served by the ladies, and the affair proved very enjoyable.

In Stock: Garden Tools.

Four Tine Digging Forks, Four and Six Tine Manure Forks, Hoes, Rakes, Forks.

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Of getting there when you need anything in the FEED line does not mean by air-ship, but just the same old road to satisfaction and low prices that attracts you to our Store.

Special quotations on the wing to-day! HAY, STRAW, OATS, MEAL and BRAN at reduced prices.

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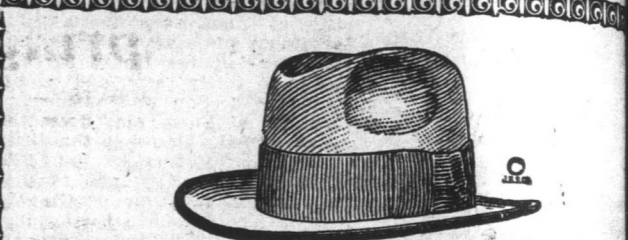
Eno's Fruit Salt

3 Cases Just In.
10 Gross BIRD'S CUSTARD POWDER.
5 Gross BIRD'S EGG POWDER.
CABBAGE SEED—We have received a supply of the best Early and Late varieties.
10 brls. PURE SPICES—Cinnamon, Pimento, Ground Ginger, etc.
JEY'S FLUID—Large and Small Bottles.
10 Gross SUNSET SOAP DYE.
50 Boxes HOPS, 1/4 lb. pkgs.
5 Gross PEARS' SOAP.
200 Boxes NIXEY'S BLUE.
PHONE 647.

STEER BROS.

Forty Years in the Public Service the 'Evening Telegram.'

(Under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor.)
THE THREE-ACT COMEDY, entitled
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY."
will be presented at the METHODIST COLLEGE HALL on
THURSDAY, April 24th, at 8.15 p.m.
CAST OF CHARACTERS:
Hon. Sandy Verral LIEUT. L. R. COOPER
Mr. Alexander Stool Verral (Sandy's Uncle) MR. A. A. LAMONT
Herbert (Sandy's Valet) MR. H. S. EDWARDS
Mr. Montague Jordan (Sandy's Friend) CAPT. R. H. TAYLOR
Lady Elizabeth Pennybrooke MRS. H. A. O'MITCHELL
Miss Vera Lawrence (an actress) MISS C. H. HUTTON
Mrs. Alloway (a nurse) MRS. C. H. HUTTON
ELIZA MRS. L. R. COOPER
SCENE: Sandy's flat in London.
Between the acts Capt. Campbell will sing.
Mr. Gordon Christian, Pianist.
Tickets—75, 50 and 30 cents—on sale at Messrs. Gray and Goodland's.



That's a "Christy"

YOU KNOW IT—
by the stylish shaping of the rim, the holdfast colour, and the quality.
PARTICULARLY BY THE QUALITY.
"PLAY SAFE" and buy a "CHRISTY"
Same as ever price,
\$5.00.

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Windsor Salt, all sizes. Also Regal, in Cartons.

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Casino Theatre

FOR A LIMITED ENGAGEMENT.
The Favourite W. S. Harkins Players
in a repertoire of the latest New York successes.
To-Night, the Screaming Farce Comedy, "JOHNNY GET YOUR GUN." No! It is not a war play. It was written to make you laugh. It will give you a laugh a minute. It will show you how pictures are produced.
Friday & Saturday, "THE UNKNOWN VOICE"—Best mystery play of the day.
Monday and Tuesday, the Stirring Comedy-Drama, "BROKEN THREADS." Depicting political conditions that exist in all large cities, and too often in small ones. A play that will set you thinking.
PRICES: Reserved Seats 50c, 75c, Sec. B, \$1.00; Balcony 30c, Pit 20c.
MATINEE SATURDAY, 2.30. Prices 20c. and 30c.

New Cabbage

Now due: 100 Crates New Cabbage. Also, Oranges—all counts, Onions, Box Apples, Parsnips, Carrots and Turnips. Prices Reduced. Burt & Lawrence, 14 New Gower

T. J. EDENS.
500 lbs. FRESH FROZEN HALIBUT.
LIBBY'S Special "Royal Anne" Cherries.
Special Bartlett Pears.
Special Yellow Cling Peaches.
SCHWEPPE'S Lime Juice Cordial.
Lemon Squash.
Ginger Wine.
Raisin Wine.
NEW ENGLAND CONFECTIONERY CO.'s Chocolates & Bon Bons.
Signet Chocolates, 5 lb. boxes.
Royal Chocolates, 5 lb. boxes.
Cocoanut Caramels, 5 lb. boxes.
California Oranges.
California Lemons.
Table Apples—Boxes.
Carrots, Parsnips.
No. 1 Salmon, 35c tin
SPECIAL:
40 sks. Kelligrews Potatoes by rail to-day.
T. J. EDENS.
151 Duckworth Street, (Next to Custom House.)

Cathedral Girls' Sale.
The Cathedral Girls' Club continued their sale in the Presbyterian Hall yesterday evening. The attendance, in spite of the weather, was large, and crowds came in after leaving the theatres. So large was the attendance that the girls had the proud privilege of seeing all their goods disposed of. The C.L.B. band was again present and discoursed the usual sweet music. The net results of the bazaar are highly satisfactory and the President, Mrs. H. Hayward and her associates must be praised on their successful bazaar. The stallholders were:
Fancy Work—Misses L. Miller, Ryall and Whiteway.
Pantry—Misses Windeler and V. Hayward.
Baby Stall—Mrs. F. Noseworthy.
Novelty—Mesdames Taylor and T. Collingwood.
Candy—Mrs. Fletcher, Miss E. Godden and Miss Reid.
First Aid—Misses Stafford (3), and Reid.
Meat Teas—Mesdames J. and F. Davey; Misses Stick and Edgar.
Afternoon Teas—Misses White, Gardner, Bolt and Furneaux.
Handkerchiefs—Misses M. Gould, V. England, D. Wells and Chislett.
Book—Misses Brushett and M. LeMessurier.
Grab Bag—Miss Miller.
When you want Roast Beef, Roast Veal, Roast Mutton, Roast Pork, try ELLIS'.

These Are Cash Hosiery Leaders.

HALF SILK HOSIERY.—Introducing our first Summer Hosiery—a woolly range of Lisle Top and Vamp with half Silk leg. Shades of Nigar, Brown, Grey, Black and White. 40c. value. Fri. 29c. Sat. and Mon. ...



SOFT FELT Things for

MEN'S SOFT FELTS.—This is a season when a man looks for easy fitting, well set up, the call of Spring. We have such a Hat for this week. Shades of Moss Green, Fresh Green, Grey and Browns. Side silk band. Regular Friday, Saturday and Sunday ... \$4.00

Raise

and bring light for

LADIES' TWEED PANTS.—A good assortment of dark and light tweed pants for every day. Panels well tailored pants in all sizes, and just a nice weight for Spring wear. \$3.75. Friday, Saturday and Sunday ... \$5.00

Soles for

Whole soles of live, re-making a pleasure. They make your step buoyant to-day at our Special Saturday and Monday, the