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SEA-TO-SEA AVIATOR IS KILLED BY FALL

Rodgers Plunges Into Surf From Height.

NECK AND BACK ARE BROKEN

Distance Misjudged in Sensational Dip Downward.

FLYING CAREER NOTABLE

Member of Wealthy Family Driven Into Sport Because He Wanted Fastest Thing There Was.

Wife Is Prostrated.

LONG BEACH, Cal., April 3.—

Calbraith F. Rodgers, an aviator of world-wide fame and the first man to cross the American continent in an airplane, was almost instantly killed here this afternoon, when his Wright biplane, in which he was soaring over the ocean, crashed into the surf from a height of 200 feet and buried him in the wreck.

His neck was broken and his body crushed by the engine of his machine. He lived only a few minutes.

Rodgers for a week past had been making daily flights here and had taken many passengers, both men and women, up with him. He started today from his usual place and soared out over the ocean, crossing the pier, and then turned and dipped close to the roller coaster.

Seeing a flock of gulls dispersing themselves among a great school of sardines just over the breakers, Rodgers again turned and dove down into them, scattering the feathered sea birds in all directions.

Highly elated with the outcome of his dives Rodgers then flew farther out to sea, all the time gradually rising until he had reached a height of about 200 feet. Making a short turn, he started full speed for the pier. Then he suddenly dipped his planes and his machine began a frightful descent.

Crowds See Final Crash.

Rodgers was seen by hundreds of persons on the pier to relax his hold on the levers and then, seemingly realizing that he was in danger, he made strenuous efforts to pull the nose of his machine into a level position. Falling in this, he managed to turn his craft farther inshore and an instant later the huge craft crashed into the edge of the surf, not 500 feet from the spot where on December 10 last he had finished his ocean-to-ocean flight.

Lifeguards were the first to reach the injured man. They said Rodgers' head was hanging over one wing of the machine, the heavy engine on his back and his feet drawn up, nearly doubling over his shoulders. Blood was flowing freely from his mouth.

Neck, Jawbone and Back Broken.

As quickly as possible, Rodgers was hurried to the bathhouse hospital, where Dr. A. W. Buell pronounced him dead.

From a hurried examination, it was determined that Rodgers' neck, jawbone and back had been broken. A telegram was at once sent to the aviator's widow, who resides in Pasadena, and a cablegram to his mother, Mrs. H. S. Schweitzer, now in London. The body was prepared for burial and sent to Pasadena tonight.

The machine that Rodgers used today was hanging over one wing of the airplane section of the Navy, stationed at San Diego.

Close Friends Witness Accident.

Charles Shaffer, a close friend of Rodgers and who came here on the special train that followed the aviator on his transcontinental trip, witnessed the accident. Charles Wiggin, of Dayton, O., whom Rodgers brought here to teach flying, stood on the pier and saw his friend fall.

In speaking of Rodgers' care-free spirit while in the air, Mr. Shaffer, who had taken many flights with Rodgers, said the worst example of carelessness he had ever seen was when flying with Rodgers yesterday.

"We had risen to a height of about 200 feet," said Shaffer. "Rodgers, feeling he was tired, lay back, folded his hands behind his head and stretched out his feet, seemingly enjoying the scenery. I said to him, 'You better watch out, Cal, the wind might get you'; but he answered, 'Oh, we're all right; she's ridden the wind before and she'll ride it now.'"

Fortune Made in Air.

Frank Shaver, Rodgers' mechanic, who had been with the aviator since he started his transcontinental trip, said tonight that Rodgers had made \$50,000 in aviation and had several good contracts at the time he was killed. One of these was for 25 flights in the East, and Rodgers was to have left for Chicago in three weeks.

Shaffer said he believed that misjudging distance caused Rodgers' death. "Rodgers probably thought he was higher in the air than he really was," said Shaffer. "and turned his planes too far over, causing him to descend so rapidly that he did not have time to right his machine after seeing he was so close to the water."

Rodgers is the fourth aviator to be (Concluded on Page 2.)

RAILROAD CHIEF IS HALTED BY COURT

LONE LAWYER'S ACT DELAYS PRESIDENT ELLIOTT DAY.

Even When Northern Pacific Head Gets Chance to Testify, He Shows He Knows Nothing About Case.

NEW ARCADE IS OPENED

Many Attractive Features Offered Please Large Audience.

SLOUGH TO BE DREDGED

Ship Canal Would Cost \$500,000, It Is Estimated.

DEATH PENALTY REMAINS

Arizona House Votes Not to Abolish Capital Punishment.

DRUGGISTS DISCUSS EVIL

Trade Would Suppress Sale of Habit-Forming Drugs.

HOSPITAL LEFT FOR PRISON

Patrick Lewis, alias William Lawrence, by his own confession an escaped convict from the Walla Walla Penitentiary, was arrested yesterday forenoon at Second and Burnside streets by Patrolmen Sherwood and Milax. He had been pointed out to them by John E. Smith. Lewis expressed a willingness to return. Lewis was serving a 17-year sentence, of which 14 years had remained. After getting out of the penitentiary Lewis went to work in a logging camp, and in that employment he met with an accident in which his legs were broken. He was taken to the Good Samaritan Hospital here, and had left there only last Saturday.

MEXICAN FEDERALS WIN FIRST VICTORY

Attacking Rebels Are Driven Back.

CAMPA LOSES ONE BIG GUN

Madero's Men Reinforced for Engagement Today.

PARRAL TO BE ATTACKED

Country Chosen for Battlefield Is Extremely Rugged and It May Require Several Days for Ultimate Conclusion.

JOHN BURROUGHS IS 75

Naturalist's Last Year's Work Is Greatest He Has Ever Done.

KEISO CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS.

HEROIC FIGHT IS MADE.

FEDERALS PURSUE ENEMY.

BOY, HIT WITH BAT, DEAD

Lexington Lad of 10 Killed While Playing Ball at School.

COMMISSION FORM SAVES

Centralia Finds City Is Gainer by \$379 a Month.

SCHOOLS TO OBSERVE MOTHERS' DAY.

TAFT SPILLS RANGE MONOPOLY.

NOME DEFEATS SOCIALISTS

Republican Mayor Elected by Vote of Two to One.

WOMAN SURPRISE IN COURT-MARTIAL

Divorced Wife Pleads for Her Affinity.

BIG NAVY SCANDAL IS AIRED

Jealous Husband's Acts Are Cause of Separation.

"ANOTHER WOMAN" IN CASE

Refusal to Sign Note for Money for Polly Stewart, Said to Have Brought on Quarrel Which Precludes Reconciliation.

HOME VISIT MEANS DEATH

Portland Woman Passes Away While on Trip to Montana.

INJURIES MAY BE FATAL

Burns' Saloon Affray Results in Wounding Book Agent.

MEMPHIS IS THREATENED

War Department Dispatches Army Tents to Persons Without Shelter, but Difficulty Lies in Getting Goods Through.

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EASTER BONNET QUEST IS BALKED

FLOODS DELAY MISS CROCKER'S JOURNEY EAST.

CAPITAL ALARMED BY GREAT FLOODS

Government Is Aiding Distressed Cities.

SUPPLIES ARE GETTING SHORT

Students of Kentucky Town Rescued From House-Tops.

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BURNS WOMEN ORGANIZE

Civic Improvement League Will Aid Newcomers Now.

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WASHINGTON, April 3.—

Floods in the Mississippi Valley have now caused damage running into the millions, so halted business and caused such widespread distress that the Federal Government has taken steps to relieve the situation. Under instructions from President Taft, the War Department has sent Army tents to New Madrid, Mo., and other inundated centers.

The trouble has been, however, in getting supplies of any kind into the distressed towns.

Two thousand persons driven from the factory district in Hickman, Ky., are being cared for by townspeople at great personal sacrifice.

The levee broke opposite Hickman yesterday at Dorena, Mo. A thousand persons have been driven from their homes, many from the tops of their homes, and taken to Hickman.

Hickman's food supply is dwindling. Trains bearing tents and provisions cannot reach the flooded town because of railway washouts.

From 14 to 20 blocks is the area covered by the flood in the northern section of Memphis. From 700 to 1200 persons have been driven from their homes. The water continues to rise in the Bayou Gayosso, a small levee protecting which gave way Monday.

Heroic Fight Is Made.

A heroic fight of two days and nights was made by laborers to save the Memphis gas plant, but the force of the flood was too great, and the protecting levee gave way last night. Today, Memphis is without gas.

Near Vicksburg, Miss., the water is rising. Farmers are leaving lowland homes, taking their goods and livestock, after the example set by thousands of persons in Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas.

The weather bureau announced today it was possible the Mississippi River flood crest stage at Cairo would be little, if any, above 54 feet. The stage at Vicksburg, Miss., was 46.5 (Concluded on Page 2.)

