

# MEDFORD AVIATOR TAKES PART IN RADIO AIR TEST

Lieutenant Charles B. Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Howard of Medford, who has been in the United States Air service for years, figured prominently in recent important experiments in flying planes in connection with radio orders sent up from the ground, conducted at Chanute Field, Kansas, Ill., which were given columns of space in the Chicago and other eastern newspapers.

In a letter which Mr. and Mrs. Howard have received from their son concerning these experiments, Lieut. Howard writes as follows:

"Well, the Chicago show is over and I sure am glad. It was a hard week and we worked like the deuce with a lot of trials and tears before we finally put it over. Radio sets are temperamental and it took a lot of work to keep them going. But as you see by the enclosed clipping it went big.

"This is the first time that a two-way conversation between airplane and ground has ever been broadcast and also we have carried on conversation from plane to plane over greater distance than ever before, and our record of 115 miles from ground to plane and plane to ground is a world record, I believe.

"You see we received the stuff from the air on a receiver that to WLS, who sent it out, then they switched to the microphone at the stadium, and what I said to the plane was also sent out. WLS has had hundreds of letters about this and it was a big hit at the show, as we got more applause for each maneuver than any other act.

"Once I told them they were making their turn too slowly. Instantly the ship cocked up and swung in a sharp bank. Another time one fellow was a little behind and I told him to pull up. Instantly a cloud of smoke from his exhaust indicated his response and in a second he was in position. I told Lieutenant Johnson to introduce the pilots, and each in turn was introduced, dipping his wings as a bow to the audience.

"General Hale was so impressed, as was Vice-President Dawes, that he is sending a letter to the Adjutant General of the army and to General Patrick. And I was on the microphone on the ground and have had more compliments on the way I handled it than you can imagine. Even people in Bantoul recognized my voice when they were receiving."

The Chicago Sunday Tribune of May 24 describes these experiments as follows:

"Twenty thousand men, women, and children sat in the Grant park stadium yesterday afternoon at the military show and watched with wonder and awe while three airplanes 3500 feet up performed like trained animals at commands transmitted to the pilots by radio from the ground.

"There was perfect communication by voice between the planes and the ground station all the while the ships were in the air. The voices of commander and commanded could be heard plainly by all issuing from a dozen loud speakers high up on the top of a pole.

"At commands from the ground station the three ships flew from 'V' formation into 'line' formation and back again, dipped and ascended, dropped to 1000 feet and then climbed back up again to 2500, while the thousands below watched with fascinated eyes and then burst into cheering.

"Army flyers attached to the air service did it. It was a record breaking accomplishment. It was the making of radio and air history.

"It was the second record of the day broken during the show by the army flyers. Until yesterday, voice communication between two planes in the air has been limited to planes flying not more than five miles apart.

"Yesterday Lieut. Charles Howard in one plane and Lieut. L. P. Hickey in another, talked for an hour back and forth while they flew 15 miles apart.

"'Hello! Is that you, Hickey?' Howard would say, and Hickey would come back, 'Yes, Charley, how are you?' and so on for 60 minutes.

"It was Lieut. Howard who had charge of the ground station at the stadium, while the three planes, piloted in turn by Lieut. Hickey, Lieut. Henry Saltzman, and Lieut. Arthur L. Johnson, moved about, dipped, and dropped and climbed again at his commands.

"'Hello!' said Howard as the planes flew over the field at 3500 feet in 'V' formation.

"'Hello! This is No. 1! Hello! This is No. 2! Hello! This is No. 3!' came back the answers plainly out of the loud speakers.

"'All right,' said Howard, 'if you hear this command you will come into line formation!'

"Instantly the answer came back, three voices: 'Aye, aye, sir.'

"Then in a twinkling the lead ship hesitated, it seemed, while the two forming the triangle of the 'V' speeded up and all came into line.

"'You will turn to the left,' commanded Howard, and at once the three ships turned to the left. 'You will turn to the right,' he ordered, and immediately the ships turned to the right.

"'You will drop down to 1000 feet and the noses dipped and the three came down. When they had descended for a short time the noses came up and out of the loud speaker came: 'We are now at 1000 feet.'

Spain and France Agreed on War MADRID, June 10.—(By Associated Press.) A conference is to open here Monday to consider common action by France and Spain against the rebel Moroccan tribesmen. It is announced in an official communique by the military directory.

# SHIP GOING TO AMUNDSEN'S AID CROSSES CIRCLE

ABOARD STEAMSHIP INGERTRE, June 10.—The relief ship Ingertre crossed the Arctic circle at 8 o'clock this morning, en route to Spitzbergen, with the Norwegian government's expedition in search of the Amundsen-Ellsworth polar fliers.

The aviators who will pilot the two seaplanes in the flight to search for the explorers and their mechanics, are busy each day on the Ingertre testing the engines and appliances, which include ski sleds and a collapsible boat.

The plan is to follow Amundsen's instructions to search around north-eastern Spitzbergen for a period of six weeks after Amundsen's departure (which was May 21). By the time the Ingertre rescue expedition of the Norwegian government is ready to begin operations three weeks of the six fixed by Amundsen will have elapsed. The explorer expressed the opinion in his letter of instructions that it would be useless to continue searching in this region after six weeks from the date of his departure.

The Ingertre left Horten, Christianiafjord, Norway, on Saturday for Spitzbergen, to be attached to Amundsen's steamer, the Farn and Hobby in the keeping the vigil along the arctic ice edge for the missing explorers who left Kings Bay May 21 for the North Pole. The Ingertre carries two airplanes for use in scouting for the Amundsen party. The ship is due in Kings Bay early next week.

# CAILLAUX INSISTS UPON DIRECT TAX

PARIS, June 11.—(A. P.)—Finance Minister Caillaux today told the finance committee of the chamber of deputies that he intends to obtain from taxation alone all the necessary funds to cover all budget expenses, without recourse to loans. When England and the United States are convinced France is making serious efforts toward internal taxation they will be better disposed towards terms of settlement of the inter-allied debts, he declared.

M. Caillaux said a foreign loan might be floated but that it was important and urgent to show England and the United States that France earnestly desires to balance her budget and settle the inter-allied debts. Caillaux declared he was seeking a formula to avoid the increase of paper franc circulation.

# The Stage

Supreme American Comedy. "The Show Off," authoritatively proclaimed by the professional critics in New York as "the supreme American comedy," will be given at the Hunt's Criterion for one night only, Thursday, June 18.

George Kelly takes the average American home and has fun with it. Kelly's picture of a "four-flusher" is simply irresistible and his view of the struggles of a humble life family to achieve material comfort are photographic to a remarkable degree.

"The Show Off" has been staged by Mr. Kelly himself and shows intimate knowledge of the art of achieving effects while causing them to seem to happen naturally from character and situation.

The company which will be seen in the performance of the "Show Off" at the Hunt's Criterion June 18, has been especially organized to introduce the Kelly play prodigy to play lovers of the Pacific Coast cities. Each member of the cast has been selected in person by the author, George Kelly. The full cast comprises Hobart Cavanaugh, Jessie Busley, Beatrice Maude, Maude Franklin, William F. Granger, Neil McPee, Jack Gilchrist, Charles Bloomer and Charles Sugah-Turner.

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Mrs. WILLIAM BUTTS, Wellston, Ohio.



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