

GERMANY STARTS AIR LINE ACROSS ATLANTIC IN MAY

WASHINGTON—(AP) Inauguration of regular trans-Atlantic air-line passenger service between Berlin and Buenos Aires in May is expected to be an important step in Germany's post-war program to expand her foreign markets.

Dr. Otto Merkel, director of the German Luftfahrt, which plans to operate the route across the South Atlantic, has been planning the establishment of such a route for several years.

Although he pointed out that announcement of definite plans for such a project at that time would have been premature, Dr. Merkel said that his organization was making every effort to solve the problems connected with such a feat.

While Dr. Merkel discussed the plans of his organization only informally with delegates to the conference, it was not believed that the Luftfahrt, which is the world's largest operator of air-planes, planned to inaugurate its trans-oceanic service this year.

Three giant flying boats of the Rohrbach "Romar" type now are being tested in the Baltic sea, flying with heavy loads thru gales and blizzards to prove their seaworthiness.

Dr. Merkel announced at Berlin that he was satisfied with the performance of the planes, and that the Luftfahrt plans to begin operations early in May between either Berlin-Hamburg and Buenos Aires. The huge flying boats, which are bigger than any yet developed in the United States, plan to fly by way of Paris, Lisbon, St. Louis, Senegal, Cape Verde Islands, Pernambuco, Brazil, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.

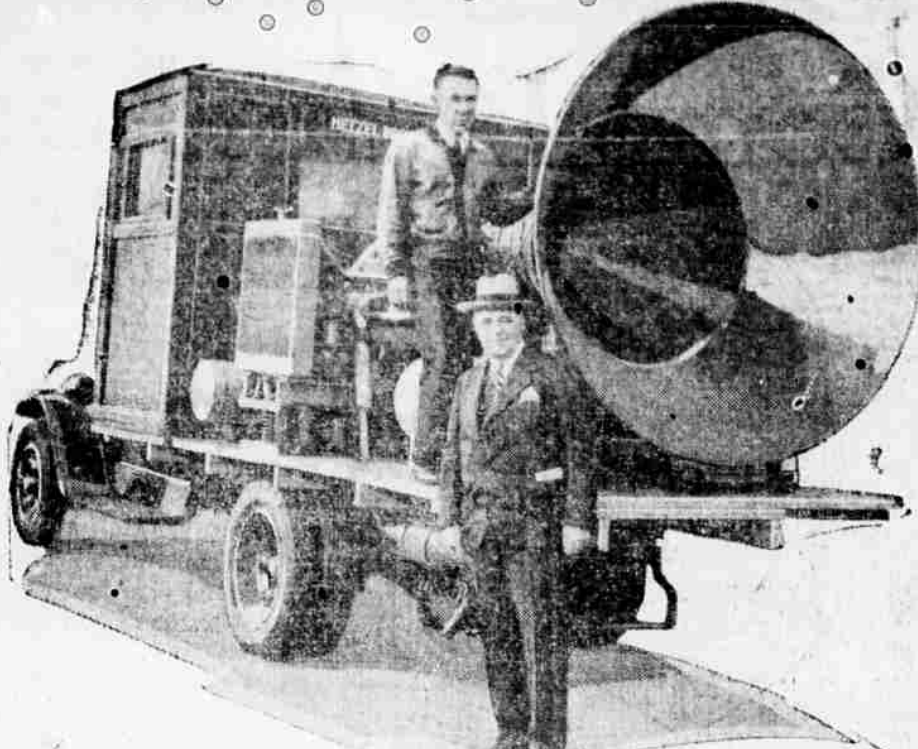
The inaugural flight is to be considered a gala occasion with the plane flying along the coast of South America, across the West Indies and on up the coast to New York, returning to Berlin by way of the Bermudas and Azores. The Luftfahrt has announced that it hopes to extend its regular Berlin-Buenos Aires service by the addition of other giant planes now under construction by the Dornier company at Friedrichshafen and by the makers at Dessau and by including North America in the general route.

The Rohrbach "Romar" is a cantilever monoplane flying just developed for long range passenger carrying.

Its maximum speed is 128 miles an hour with a cruising range of about 2400 miles. Three 600-horsepower engines are mounted in nacelles supported high above the fuselage by steel struts and drive four-bladed pusher propellers. Motors are fitted to each nacelle. As a rule, pipe lines, valves and the like are accessible to the mechanic through a passage in the wings during flight.

Water-tight doors seal each compartment in the cabin. It is built so that it could weather high waves, if necessary to alight on sea, and operate as a yacht.

You Can Hear It 4 Miles Away!



THIS loud speaker, the largest in the world, can be heard four miles away. It is mounted on a Dodge Brothers 1/2-ton truck and was used to announce the new Dodge Brothers Six models in Los Angeles. The apparatus was constructed at a cost of \$15,000.

The Legislature Defended

(Eugene Register) A correspondent writing to a Portland newspaper declares that "Our lawmakers have strangled the state with debt." His inference is to the legislature. He says that "The tax problem is hanging heavy." He denounces the legislature for that. He says that "No state has a better record for the high purpose of the electorate but because of the official spendthrift the need of honest public servants has not passed."

The great preponderance of our state debt is highway debt, voted by the people themselves. Motor vehicle licenses and gasoline taxes pay the interest on it and in time will retire it all if allowed to do so. Just now, however, there is a threat that if the legislature does not reduce automobile licenses there will be hostile legislation by the electorate (not by the legislature which will or may occasionally impair the highway revenues. Governor Patterson has declared that he regards this threat as serious and has based his advocacy of license reduction upon it. Confidence in the high purpose of the electorate thus appears not complete in the best informed quarters.

Expenditures which the legislature controls from so small a part of our total expenditures that they cannot by any reasonable stretch of the imagination be considered as a preponderant factor in the situation of financial stress. Thus of the approximately \$48,000,000 in taxes levied in 1927 less than \$7,500,000 was for state purposes. And not all of that \$7,500,000 was represented by legislative appropriations by any means. The tax dollar gives its largest slices to roads and education always. The electorate

for general law-making. To the legislature that function should be left always, with the initiative and referendum held equally always in reserve for use in large affairs and to insure execution of the popular will.

WORLD RULED BY EXECUTIVES PAST SIXTY YEAR MARK

VIENNA (AP)—Most of the presidents, primes, premiers, kings and emperors members in the world are 60 years old or more. There are few young rulers. The dean of primes in Europe is Raymond Poincare of France, who is 68, followed by Baron Tanaka of Japan, who is 65; Venizelos of Greece, 64; and Stanley Baldwin of England, who is 63.

Among the presidents of the world Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg of Germany leads with 81, followed by Professor Thomas G. Masaryk of Czechoslovakia with 78, Admiral Paul Constantine of Greece with 74, Gaston Doumergue of France with 69 and Dr. Miguel A. Mendez of Colombia, South Africa, with 61.

Ruling kings, princes and pontiffs who are 60 or more include Prince John of Liechtenstein, who is 83; Pope Pius, head of the Roman Catholic Church, 71; King Gustaf of Sweden, 70; King George of England, 69; King Faud of Egypt, 66. Among 61 cardinals who govern

the Roman Catholic Church long the average of 67. Cardinal Cardinal Vanutelli of Italy leads the venerable profession with 88 years, while Cardinal Hlond, Archbishop of Poland, is the youngest with 67.

In strong contrast to the marked maturity of the regularly chosen rulers and executives of Europe is the relative youth of the dictators of the world. For example Benito Mussolini of Italy is only 43; Mustafa Kemal Pasha of Turkey, 48; Ahmed Zogou of Albania, 34; Riza Khan Pahlavi of Persia, 31, and Primo de Rivera of Spain, 58.

Compared to the kings of the world, the queens are relatively young. A few exceptions are Queen Victoria of Sweden, the world's oldest reigning queen, who is 66; Queen Mary of Great Britain, 61; Queen Maund of Norway, 59; Queen Elena of Italy, 56; and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium, 52.

SEEK WIDOW TO GAIN TRUTH OF CUSTER'S DEATH

LAWTON, Okla., (AP)—The widow of a Crow Indian named Curly is the object of a search by Frank Rush, veteran plainsman, who hopes she can help him prove

historians have not given the red man a square deal." Rush, superintendent of a game preserve near Lawton, believes an injustice has been done the Indians by calling the battle of Little Big Horn the "Custer Massacre," when a previous battle, in which Custer routed the Arapaho, is referred to as "the great victory of the Whites."

The woman for whom Rush is looking is the widow of the Crow chief who escaped the "Custer massacre" and reported it to Gen. Sherman. She has documents, Rush believes, which will show a different light the warfare between white and red men, and perhaps reveal how Custer died.

Curly, of whom Rush first learned when Oklahoma was a sparsely settled prairie, died three years ago.

A Crow Indian came to our camp five" Rush relates, after describing a scene on the site of Little Big Horn. "He boasted he was the scout who escaped the Custer massacre and reported it to Gen. Sherman. He motioned to his wife, who went to their covered wagon and got a parcel wrapped in a purple silk handkerchief. It is a document bearing a government seal, identifying Curly as the Indian scout who reported the massacre."

The Crow said he was ordered by Custer to act through the Sioux lines and report the death of the general and all his troops. The scout removed all his clothes, he declared, to appear like one of the Sioux who surrounded the Custer command, and feigning death until nightfall, he got away under cover of darkness."

Weber & Fields Sunday Majestic Radio Program

Weber & Fields, famous vaudeville entertainers for a generation, will on the Majestic radio program broadcast over the Columbia channel Sunday night from 8 to 10 o'clock eastern standard time.



Joe Weber and Lew Fields have been partners for many years. Their popularity and successful vaudeville and stage productions are so well known that only mention of their names is sufficient introduction to any audience in the world of histrionic art.

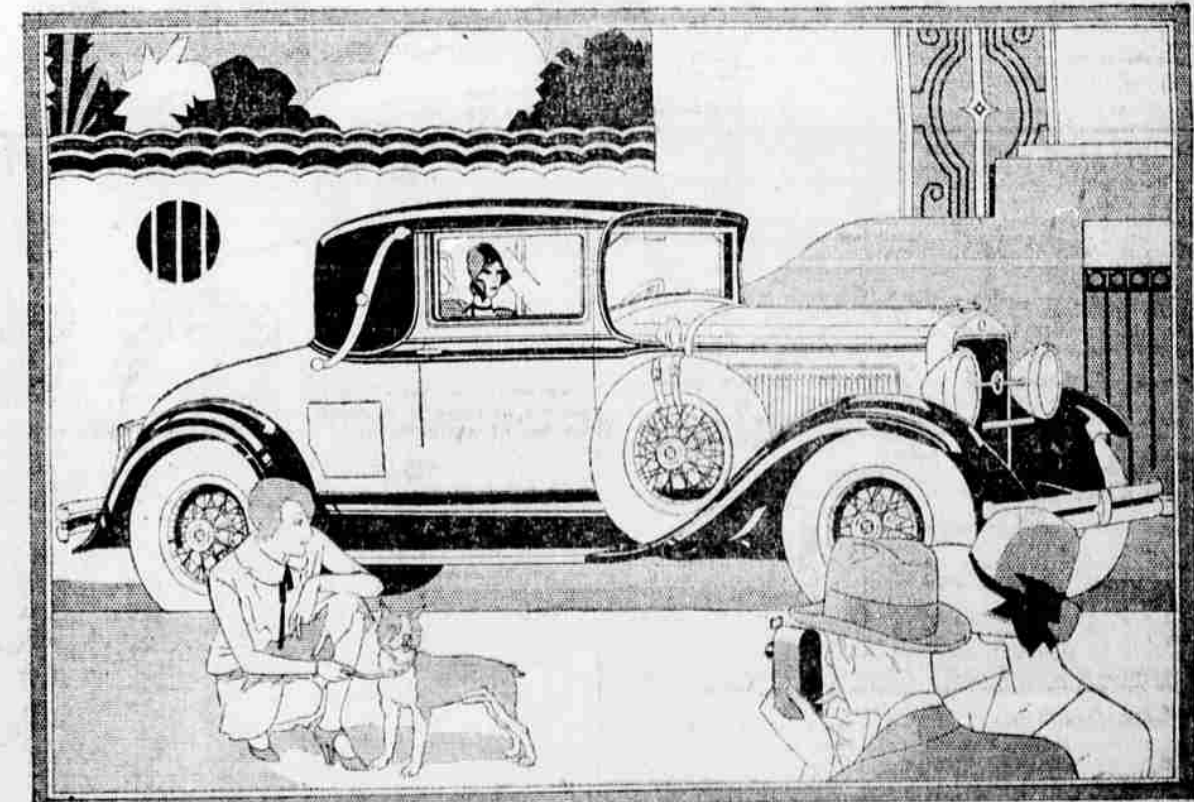
Among the stage successes produced by Weber & Fields are "Turk and Twaddle," "Hurly Burly," "Pussy Cafe," "Heller Skelter," "Glad Hand," "Under the Red Globe," "Hunky Punky," and "Honey Poney."

Pola Negri Today at Hunt's Craterian

Pola Negri, in "The Woman From Moscow" comes to Hunt's craterian today. The story has a powerful central situation—Miss Negri falls in love with the man she believes guilty of murdering her fiancé and whom he has sworn to deliver to his enemies.

Miss Negri herself rates "The Woman From Moscow" with the "Carmen" she places it above even "Passion," a production that brought her fame in the United States and which sent American producers to Europe to bring her to this country.

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TOAD CLAIMED TO BE CENTURIES OLD RESUMES ITS NAP

FREDERICK, Okla., (AP)—Learning no lesson from his last hibernation, which resulted in a nap that paled Rip Van Winkle's into something less than a wink, Pleiby has resumed his custom of sleeping away the winter.

Pleiby—If introduction is necessary—is one of the toads which fanned a furor of scientific argument by emerging alive from balls of rock-like clay found in a stratum of the Pleistocene age. Believing that the reptile belonged to that older generation, dating back some 500,000 or 750,000 years, his owner, A. H. Holloman, named him after it.

The stratum in which the imprisoned toads were found is in Holloman's gravel pit on top of the highest hill in Tillman county. Although it is more than 200 feet above the present bed of the north fork of the Red river and some ten miles away, geologists agree the stratum once lay in the river bed and was lifted by erosion.

While some of the toads were found before the rescue of their famous horned cousin from the Norcross stone of a court house at Eastland, Tex., where it was represented to have lived 30 years without food and water, their discovery was not announced until after for fear of ridicule.

All the toads were virtually transparent when they were freed from their rock prisons. Their skins were white, and print could be read through their bodies. Their stomachs had shriveled and their mouths had grown shut, but they were unmistakably alive.

Some died immediately after exposure, but Holloman saved several by burying them in sand and gradually acclimating them. One died when a kind-hearted woman provided a feast in the form of a worm. There has been no effort to feed the survivors, but they live day after day, breathing freely.

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