

AVIATORS EXTRAORDINARY FALL VICTIMS TO ELEMENTS

John B. Moisant and Arch Hoxsey Are Killed While Ending Flights.

"HOLES" IN AIR ARE RESPONSIBLE IN EACH CASE

Both Were "Birdmen" of the Highest Type and Had Won Honors at Home and Abroad—Moisant Dies Un- seen Near New Orleans; Hoxsey Before Thousands at Los Angeles.

John B. Moisant and Arch Hoxsey, aviators extraordinary, were killed yesterday. Both fell out of the treacherous air with their machines—neither from a vast height—and Moisant's remaining minutes of life were so few as to count as naught. Hoxsey was killed instantly.

Moisant met his death at 9:55 a. m., attempting to alight in a field a few miles from New Orleans, La. Hoxsey, who went into the air early in the afternoon at Los Angeles, lay at 2:12 p. m. a crushed lifeless mass, in view of the thousands who were watching the aviation tournament.

Thus the last day of 1910, in bringing the total number of deaths of those who have sought to emulate the birds, to 35, capped the list with two of the most illustrious of those aviators who have been writing the history of aviation in the sky of two continents.

Moisant's Career Brilliant.

Moisant, a Chicagoan by birth, after an adventurous life in Central America, became interested in aviation in France less than a year ago. After soaring into public recognition by his plucky flight from Paris across the English channel to London with a passenger, and, later, finding himself without a machine, buying one from a friend, and within 10 minutes starting on his winning flight from Belmont park, New York, around the statue of liberty for a prize of \$10,000, Moisant came to have a name for fearlessness in the air. Yesterday a sudden puff of wind caught him within 300 feet of the earth, turned his machine over and a broken neck terminated his career.

Hoxsey Held Record.

Arch Hoxsey, after a year of uniform success with the Wright aeroplane, in which he had come to have a name for fearlessness, and in which only within the week he had set a new world's altitude record of 11,474 feet, and then had sailed more than 4,000 feet above the highest mountain in California, ran afoul of the same kind of shifty, treacherous wind when a matter of 600 feet in the air and a minute later his horrified crowd, aroused from its shock, was rushing madly to where a broken mass of humanity lay beneath a bit of canvas and some broken spars.

Both met death in almost the same manner. Each machine was headed for the earth and suddenly seemed to stop, hover, then turn over on its nose and dive headlong to the earth—and to destruction.

Moisant's aeroplane was a Blériot monoplane, and in addition to the heavy engine in front of the main planes, he had fastened a tank holding some 35 gallons of gasoline. Aviation experts believe a sudden puff of wind stopped his machine in the air, and the heavy weight ahead dragged the light frame work behind it, flipping the then useless rear elevator toward the zenith in position. From this position partly back of the main planes, Moisant was flipped out, clear of the machine, and struck the ground on his head, breaking his neck. He died on a flat car on which he was being rushed to New Orleans.

Hoxsey, likewise, was returning from a journey into the clouds. Cheers were going up to meet him when his machine, likewise, seemed to stop still, shudder, and whirl over and over to the ground. As in the morning tragedy, the rear elevator, rendered useless when the momentum was gone, flipped around, helpless to aid the fated machine.

Hoxsey vainly endeavored to right his machine by warping the main planes and by use of the rudder. Vain attempts these, for before sufficient momentum was gained, the structure crumpled upon the earth, the heavy engine being torn loose.

Few Saw Moisant Die.

Only a few farm hands saw Moisant tumble to his death, but Hoxsey's end came before the horrified gaze of thousands who had come out in the pleasant afternoon to watch the bird men darting here and there through the air, shading the very birds themselves. In a few moments an announcer, sadly lifting his megaphone, drowned out the discouraging news to the still hoping crowd.

"Arch Hoxsey has been killed," they will be no more flying today." Mrs. C. M. Hoxsey of Pasadena, Cal., missed by a mere accident seeing her son meet his death. She had arranged to attend the tournament and to take her first airplane ride with her son. Some details of insurance in her household kept her at home and she was not at the scene when the accident was taken

to her by Roy Knabenshue and Thomas Jackson of the Wright exhibition company.

Forecasts and Warnings.

Forecasts of a fatal accident were made in both instances. A 45-mile wind with gusty intervals caused the hangar attendants to shake their heads at Moisant, but he laughed at them and sailed up for a try at the long distance sustained flight record and the Michelin cup with its attendant \$4,000 prize. Death was the victor in the long contest it has fought with the daring Chicagoan.

When Walter S. Brookings and Hoxsey, who with Parmelee alone were left of the Wright exhibiting team, wheeled their machines out, warnings were offered by half a score of other fliers, each of whom bore a record for daring in the air.

"It's no full of holes up there today," they all agreed; "it's just like a Swiss cheese; better stay on the ground." Hoxsey, smiling as he had on the day when in a similar wind he had gone far up into the blue to a new world's record for height, again took the air. His barograph, still running when the crowds reached the heap of humanity and canvas and broken sticks, showed the fatal drop started when the aviator had come down to within 66 feet of the ground.

Moisant's Death.

New Orleans, Dec. 31.—Leaving the city at 9:55 a. m., Moisant took off at 10:05 o'clock this morning full of life, vigor and hope, his eyes sparkling in anticipation of adding to his country's glory by bringing the Michelin cup to America. John B. Moisant, one of the world's most daring and skillful aviators, flew over New Orleans, only to meet death near Harahan, 11 miles from the city, 20 minutes after. Tonight at the hour when he was to have been presented with a handsome loving cup bearing the legend "John B. Moisant, the glory of central America," contributed by the Central American colony in New Orleans, the plucky aviator lies in the morgue, a martyr to the science of aviation and to his country's fame.

Alfred J. Moisant, president of the International Aviators, bore his brother a casket farewell, just before he accompanied by press representatives and mechanics to an automobile, he followed the flight to the place up the river where the capital was to take place, only to be met by the stunning news that John B. Moisant was dead.

Fell on Neck.

The added weight of an extra gasoline tank, the use of a strange machine and the deadly prank of a 45-mile wind at the moment when he had pointed the nose of his machine at a sharp downward angle, combined in sending Moisant down to death. Thrown from his machine by its sudden inclination, Moisant described a curve through the air, and, headfirst, like a diver, shot downward, landing on his neck and head. His neck was broken.

Rene Barriere's 50-horsepower Blériot monoplane, which Moisant was using, is a wreck.

From every section of the United States and from France and Europe cablegrams and telegrams of condolence have poured in upon the brother and sisters. Great banks of flowers from friends and admirers surrounded the lifeless, unscratched form of the aviator.

The New Orleans meet was abruptly terminated by today's accident, and the machines are being packed for shipment. The meets scheduled to be held by the International Aviators at Dallas, Fort Worth, Galveston, Havana, Cuba and other points, will not be interfered with.

The Los Angeles Tragedy.

Aviation Field, Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—The winds whose treacherous Arch Hoxsey so often defied and conquered, killed the noted aviator today. As if jealous of his intrepidity, they seized him and his fragile flying machine, flung them down out of the sky and crushed out his life.

He fell head upon the field from which he had risen but a short time before, with a laughing promise to thousands of cheering spectators to pierce the zenith of the heavens, surpass his own phenomenal altitude record, and soar higher than any other man dared go.

Cross current whirled off by a vagrant storm that floated in from the sea, caught his airplane and shot him downward 53 feet to earth. Catastrophe in his hands kept her at home and she was not at the scene when the accident was taken

(Continued on Page Three.)

"IT'S A LONG LANE—"



SPEAKERSHIP RACE CONTINUES KEEN

PRELIMINARY SOUNDINGS SHOW LEGISLATURE TO BE DIVIDED —ALL CONFIDENT.

Helena, Dec. 31.—(Special.)—There were a number of developments in the legislative situation here today. The Walsh men, who have been insisting that the Silver Bow members pledge themselves to go into a senatorial caucus as a preliminary to the Walsh men signing an organization caucus call, today gave up that fight.

The result was that an organization caucus call was circulated for caucus tomorrow night, to select a speaker and officers of the house, which has received a majority of the signatures. All the organization caucuses will be held tomorrow night.

Interest Keen.

As on previous days the great interest centers in the speakership fight, in which it is a case of Mc Dowell of Butte, against the field, consisting of Frank Woody of Missoula, and R. Lee Word of Helena. Each side is claiming it will have a majority in the caucus, but the general opinion found at the hotels is that McDowell will win. That he is sure of it he indicated in an interview today when he said:

McDowell Confident.

"I am confident that I will be selected by the caucus as its nominee for speaker," said Mr. McDowell today. "A clear majority of all the democratic votes in the house have been pledged to me, and I will have votes to spare. Enough democratic representatives have assumed me, since I arrived here, that they will support me for speaker to make me feel positive I will be the caucus choice."

Woody Differs.

On the other hand Frank Woody is just as positive McDowell will not win, but that either Word or himself will be the next speaker.

"I do not claim that I will be selected by the caucus as speaker," said Mr. Woody today, "but I do claim that Mr. McDowell will not be the caucus nominee." The statement is based on specific assurances I have received from a majority of the democratic members that they will not support McDowell. He cannot secure enough votes to land the position. Neither Judge Word or myself will be selected; whichever develops the most strength between now and tomorrow evening when the caucus is held, Mr. McDowell is simply out of the race, and his claims of 25 or 26 votes are not founded on facts."

So warm is the speakership contest that but little attention is paid to the other places. Finlay McRae or Charles Z. Pond will be the chief clerk in all probability, but which is a question. There does not appear to be any question but Nathan Godfrey will be the secretary of the senate.

ESTRADA ELECTED.

Managua, Dec. 31.—General Juan Estrada today, by the unanimous vote of congress, became the president provisional of Nicaragua for a two-year term. Adolfo Diaz, former minister of the interior, was elected vice-president in his natural address, Estrada lauded the government and people of the United States.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S GREETING

Washington, Dec. 31.—"I sincerely hope the next year will be full of prosperity and as much happiness as can come to us all in this country." It is the new year greeting sent to the people of the United States by President Taft through the members of the National Press club of Washington.

He was welcomed by them at an informal New Year's reception in the clubhouse this afternoon.

ROBIN RECOVERING RAPIDLY, SAYS PHYSICIAN

NEW YORK FINANCIER WILL BE ABLE TO STAND TRIAL IN NEAR FUTURE.

New York, Dec. 31.—Unless Joseph G. Robin suffers an unexpected relapse, he will be in physical condition to face arraignment on the grand larceny charge resting against him by Tuesday next, when the case will be called before Judge Crain in the court of general sessions.

Physicians at Bellevue hospital said today he was recovering rapidly. Another of the corporations promoted by Robin felt the fall of the Northern bank today, when the South Shore traction company went into the hands of a receiver. The company is capitalized for \$2,000,000 and was organized for the purpose of operating a railroad across Queensboro bridge.

STATE TREASURER FILES HIS REPORT

Helena, Mont., Dec. 31.—E. S. Essel-styke, state treasurer, today filed his December report with Governor Norris. It shows receipts of \$1,015,565.60, and disbursements of \$475,254.94, leaving the cash balance January 1, at \$540,310.71. It is estimated after the paying of legislative and current expenses in January and February the state will have \$200,000 in the general fund at the beginning of the appropriation year, March 1.

McLACHLIN SENTENCED.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 31.—James McLachlin was sentenced today to be hanged February 18 for the murder of his wife September 8. McLachlin tried to commit suicide following the crime.

BUTTE POLICE ARREST YOUNG WISCONSIN GIRL

Butte, Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Agnes Swanson, a pretty Swede girl, was taken in custody today as she got off the train from the east, and is held in the detention room of the city hall. The police had a telegram from a Wisconsin sheriff to hold her for larceny. She said she had come at the solicitation of Jack Allen, employed by one of the cheap shows. Allen was arrested also, but apparently convinced the police that his intentions were honorable, as he was released later. The girl will be held pending further inquiry.

GREETINGS BY WIRELESS.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Although the Atlantic battleship fleet at sea, wireless telegraph enabled Rear Admiral Schroeder, the commander-in-chief, to receive and acknowledge New Year's greetings which were sent by the president.

(Continued on Page Five.)

YEAR'S TRADE REPORT MADE BY GENERAL NAVARRO

HEAVIEST EVER OVER THREE BILLIONS' WORTH OF BUSINESS DONE WITH FOREIGNERS.

HIGHEST YET REACHED CASUALTIES ARE HEAVY

Never Before in the History of the United States Has Such an Enormous Total Been Recorded—Complete Totals Will Almost Reach Three and One-Half Billions.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The foreign commerce of the United States for 1910, including both exports and imports, promises to set a new record in the history of the nation. The 11 months ending with November, for which the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor has secured complete figures, have brought the grand total of exports and imports to the enormous sum of \$3,963,384,954.

Only the banner year of 1907 compares with this figure. The total commerce for the first 11 months of that year was \$3,047,234,945. The trade figures for December, the closing month of this year, are expected to swell the total of the nation's foreign commerce to nearly \$4,000,000,000.

The breaking of commercial records will not apply to exports. The imports will reach the highest figure for any year in the history of the United States; but the sum of the exports will probably fall \$75,000,000 short of that of 1907. Notwithstanding this decline and the increase in the imports of the country, the balance will still be close to \$300,000,000 in favor of the export side of the account. The greater quantity of materials imported is due to the development of manufacturing industries which import crude materials or import articles partly manufactured in order to complete the manufacture in this country.

The slower development of the export trade is due, mainly to the fact that the United States is exporting a smaller quantity of breadstuffs and other food products each year and is more nearly consuming its total output of such articles.

The full year's figures for exports are expected to be \$1,840,000,000, and the imports, \$1,550,000,000. This is an increase of 30 per cent in imports over the year 1909, and an increase in exports of 25 per cent over that year. The importation of crude materials and materials for further manufacture, more than doubled in that time. On the export side, the value of the outgoing foodstuffs for 1910 is but \$340,000,000 compared with imports of \$340,000,000 of such products in 1909. This is a decline of more than 25 per cent.

Export of manufactured articles, on the other hand, shows a gain of 65 per cent in the 10 years.

CHILD SETS HOUSE ON FIRE.

Wallace, Dec. 31.—(Special.)—While Esther, the three-year old daughter of Edward D. Adams, car repairer in the employ of the Northern Pacific, was playing with a match in a bedroom of the Adams home on Westside avenue, she ignited the match and the flame set fire to the wall paper. The fire spread quickly. Mrs. Adams saw the blaze and ran into the room and carried the child out. A telephone message brought the fire department to the scene quickly and the fire was extinguished with only slight damage.

MINNESOTANS READY TO ELECT A SENATOR

St. Paul, Dec. 31.—One hundred and one members of the legislature have signed a call for a caucus on United States senator to be held January 3, the day the Minnesota legislature convenes. The other 23 members are expected to sign.

Supporters of Senator Moses A. Clapp refuse to believe there is anything in the talk of opposition on behalf of F. B. Kellogg, Congressman Stevens or J. A. Tawney, whose names have been mentioned as competitors of Senator Clapp.

MORE INDICTMENTS.

West Union, Ohio, Dec. 31.—The departing year was marked here by a grand jury report which returned 115 additional indictments against voters of Adams county, charging them with either bribery or acceptance of bribes in connection with the traffic in votes on November 8, last. The grand total of those indicted has reached 1,253.

FUNK IS CANDIDATE.

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 31.—A. B. Funk, at Spirit Lake this afternoon announced himself a candidate for United States senator to fill out the unexpired term of the late Senator Doolittle. He is a progressive republican.

OFFICIAL STORY OF MAL PASO CAMPAIGN IS MADE PUBLIC BY LEADER.

CASUALTIES ARE HEAVY

Twenty-Seven Are Killed and as Many More Wounded in Battle—Insurgents Badly Beaten—Report That Six Hundred Were Killed at Casa Colorado Is Denied.

Mexico City, Dec. 31.—Twenty-seven killed, three missing and 28 wounded, is the official report of casualties during the fighting at Mal Paso on December 28, when that strategic point of the revolutionists in the state of Chihuahua was taken by the federals. Of the dead, 13 were federals and 14 revolutionists; three unaccounted for were federals.

Of the regulars 28 were wounded, including a lieutenant colonel. The number of revolutionists wounded is unknown, as they were carried away by their comrades.

The official report of General Navarro to General Fernandez, chief of the military zone, and by him transmitted to the war department today, was as follows: "Yesterday, with the object of repairing the telegraph wire from this camp as far as the Mal Paso canyon. I ordered a force to proceed under the command of Colonel Gordillo Escudero, composed of 500 men.

"The force set out at 7:45 o'clock and arrived at its destination at 9:30 a. m., after repairing the wire at Kilometer 150. At this point we saw an outpost of the enemy and succeeded in capturing his horses.

"At the village of Cienega at about 2:30 p. m. the rebels, located on a hill about two or three hundred meters from the village, suddenly opened fire upon the advance guard from behind rocks and trees. I ordered the men on the right under Lieutenant Miron to protect the left and center. The enemy was dislodged after a stubborn resistance from the advantageous position which they occupied and was forced to retreat to the mountains. This gave us possession of Mal Paso.

"A detachment of our troops followed the rebels through the canyon and returned without meeting any further resistance.

"Colonel Gordillo Escudero reports that the revolutionists are encamped in the vicinity and that they have a plentiful supply of food and fresh meat and are well mounted, but that he could not fix with any exactness their numbers. Judging, however, from the intensity of their first number of trenches, which had been prepared and the stubbornness of their resistance throughout the three hours of fighting, he is led to believe they were about 400 strong.

"Colonel Gordillo Escudero reported further that owing to the lateness of the hour when the combat ended, he made camp. He could only say positively that there were 14 of the rebels killed but said he presumed the number was greater and also that there were many wounded.

Rich Haul.

"The latter, however, were carried away by the rebels in their flight. He captured 30 horses, 15 arms of various makes, and took one prisoner. Among the horses captured were two that formerly belong to the Tenth regiment and among the arms there were a Mauser, a carbine and a saber belonging to the federal army. In the saddle bags on one of the captured horses were found documents of some importance.

"During the fight the lieutenant colonel of the Twentieth battalion was slightly injured and eight privates of the Tenth battalion, 10 of the Twentieth, two of the Ninth and eight of the Twelfth were wounded. The killed were two privates of the Tenth battalion, one of the second, two of the Ninth and eight of the Twelfth. Three men are missing.

Report Denied.

Government officials said tonight that there was absolutely no truth in the report from El Paso that the federal troops lost 600 killed in an engagement at Casa Colorado.

A special to El Paso from Marfa, Tex., published today, says that revolutionists are increasing in numbers in the vicinity of Ojinaga and that already there have been four encounters between them and federal troops, the most serious one having occurred at El Mular, a nearby town on the Rio Grande, where there are said to be about 500 rebels well provided with horses and provisions.

Ojinaga, garrisoned by some 200 men, is in daily expectation of an attack by revolutionists who have been encamped about the town for several days.

Among the rebel leaders operating in the vicinity are Bruno Hernandez, a Cuban newspaper man, and Jose De La Luz Soto, who fostered an anti-government propaganda during the recent election.