

CURTISS CLAIMS HE FLEW AIR RELIC

Says Langley Plane, with No Structural Change, Proved Success.

NO NEWSPAPER MEN SEE MACHINE TRIED

Experiment's Effect on Wright Patents Is Watched with Interest by Aviators.

What is believed to be an effort to show that the Wrights were not the first to build a man-carrying aeroplane was made at Hammondsport, N. Y., yesterday morning, when Glenn H. Curtiss attempted to fly the original machine built by Dr. Samuel P. Langley in 1903.

Several weeks ago Curtiss announced that the trials would take place before a number of members of Congress and representatives of leading papers. It was stated last night that no newspaper correspondents had been present at the flight, and that the delegation from Washington had consisted of Dr. Charles D. Walcott and Dr. A. F. Zahm, of the Smithsonian Institution, where the machine was built by Dr. Langley.

While admitting that some repairs had been made on the wings of the machine and that new cloth had been used for the surfaces, a representative of the Curtiss Aeroplane Company stated that no other changes had been made. When asked if additional controlling devices had been employed, Curtiss said that such was not the case.

What the effect on the Wright-Curtiss situation will be if the Langley machine is shown to be stable in the air without the use of the Wright warping device can only be conjectured, but many believe it would form the basis of an action by Curtiss. Attorneys on both sides declined to discuss the matter last night.

Dr. Langley began his aerial experiments in 1877. His work extended over a period of nearly sixteen years, and during that time he successfully demonstrated many principles that have proved of great value to aviation.

In 1882 Langley undertook the construction of the first model of a heavier-than-air machine. It was steam driven, fitted with an engine weighing but seven pounds and developing 1/4 horsepower. The two sets of monoplane wings were arranged in tandem form. It was launched from an overhead track by means of a series of springs.

The first flight of the model took place May 6, 1886, at Quantico, on the Potomac River. The machine, which had a wing spread of thirteen feet and weighed thirty pounds, was propelled by the tiny engine a distance of 3,000 feet, remaining in the air 1 minute and 30 seconds. It was started again and made another flight of 2,500 feet. These were the first flights of a heavier-than-air machine propelled by its own power in the history of the world.

Two attempts were made to fly, October 7 and December 8, 1903, the full size machine, but owing to the inefficient launching device the machine fell into the Potomac River before it had got clear of the track. It was taken from the water and stored in the Smithsonian Laboratory. The War Department would make no further allowance of funds, and Langley could not go on with his work.

Interest shown by the Wright brothers in aviation dates from 1878, when Langley made his first trials. Nor do the Wrights deny that many of their ideas had their inception in the experiments of the doctor.

Octave Chanute, who was one of Langley's assistants, afterward became of great service to the Wrights. The first successful Wright flier, which made its initial flight in 1903, strongly resembled one of Langley's early models, it is said.

Closely associated with Dr. Langley was Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone. Shortly after the death of Langley Dr. Bell formed the Aerial Experiment Association. The most active members were Lieutenant Thomas F. Selfridge, Captain Thomas S. Baldwin, J. A. D. McCurdy and Glenn H. Curtiss. At that time Curtiss was known as a builder of light gasoline motors. The result of their work was the Curtiss type of aeroplane.

The real worth of Dr. Langley's researches did not become known until 1911, when the memoirs which he had compiled in 1897 were published by the Smithsonian Institution. The work was a revelation, and since it came out there has been a general tendency to accord to the memory of Langley the honor it deserves in history.

CLANCY WOULD STAY ON SING SING JOB

Warden Wants Right Backing to Carry Out Prison Reforms He Has Begun.

Warden James M. Clancy, it became known yesterday, is willing to remain in charge of Sing Sing prison to carry out the reforms he has begun, provided he gets the proper backing from Albany.

Clancy at first felt inclined to get out because of the interference of Tammany politicians with his management. All Clancy asks is the absolute control of the prison necessary to good discipline.

It is said at the prison that Superintendent Riley, of the State Prison Department, will consider no more Westchester County candidates to please Michael J. Walsh, the county Tammany boss. He has already discarded Walsh's first choice, Thomas J. McCormick, of Yonkers. John T. Windell, of Yonkers, second choice, anti-Tammany Democrats and prison reformers say, is just as much of a machine addate as McCormick. When asked about Walsh's candidacy, Windell said he was hopeful, "because I'm a good friend of Mike Walsh."

It is the understanding that the Walsh crowd have been told that, if Windell is not satisfactory, they need make no more recommendations. With Windell's resignation, they will, of course, not retain Clancy, go outside of Westchester County for a warden.

AEROPLANE GUN TESTED ON BOAT.



GUN FOR AIRCRAFT WAR PROVES WORTH

Fires Projectile Without Recoil Sufficient to Break a Hair.

On a small yacht off New London yesterday the first heavy gun accepted by the government for use in aircraft warfare was successfully tested, and on Saturday, when the Olympic sails for England, she will carry the weapon, with a quantity of empty shells, in her hold, consigned to the British Admiralty Stores at Woolwich. The gun, which fires a six-pound shell, is the invention of Commander Cleland Davis, U. S. N., and is so designed as to be absolutely without recoil.

This type of gun, which has been under consideration by the United States Navy for some months, was built at the works of the Ordnance Development Company of America, at Groton, Conn. The Carnegie Steel Company furnishing the castings. It was finished on May 15 at the factory, and A. Jackson Stone, the European representative of the company, notified the Admiralty offices in London that it was ready for shipment. The next day he received an acceptance by wire, and as he was about to sail on the Olympic, from Southampton, the next day, an official confirmation of the telegram was handed to him.

At the tests yesterday were Frank Coffin, the aviator, who will represent the company in such tests as the United States Navy Department may make; G. C. Davidson, mechanical superintendent of the company, and Mr. Stone.

The gun, of extremely light construction, was placed on four-inch timbers in the boat and lashed with light lines to prevent its falling overboard, and then taken out on the bay, where four rounds were fired, after which it was sent back to the factory to be boxed for shipment.

The gun fires a six-inch shell 2 1/2 inches in diameter, and is open at both ends, the shell being a compound affair, containing in what might be called the business end the projectile proper, weighing six pounds, and at the other an equal amount of birdshot. Fired by electricity, the two masses separate, the birdshot to the rear, where it scatters and falls harmlessly, and the heavy projectile from the front to the object aimed at, the birdshot taking up the force that would ordinarily be expended in recoil.

At yesterday's try-out the tests showed that there was not sufficient recoil to break a human hair.

The gun represents several months' experiments by Commander Davis. At his first experiments the gun was lost with each shot, until the double charge device was decided upon.

After its arrival in England the gun will be sent to the naval flying school at Eastchurch.

STATE-WIDE PROBE FOR BALLOT FRAUD

Prosecutors in Each County Asked to Preserve Votes Cast April 7.

The Honest Ballot Association plans a general probe in connection with the irregularities at the special election of April 7. It says it has discovered wholesale frauds, and it has sent letters to all the District Attorneys in the state asking that they have all ballots preserved. Otherwise, under the law, the ballots could be destroyed any time after June 5.

The letters, in part, are as follows: "The Honest Ballot Association has discovered wholesale fraud in connection with the special election of April 7, 1914, in certain districts of New York City, and with the co-operation of District Attorneys there it is extending its investigation of these frauds and taking steps to prosecute the offenders. In view of the slight number of votes cast for the constitutional convention, it is evident that a state-wide preservation of the ballots cast at the special election.

"The time in which to act in this matter is very short. The Board of Elections may destroy the ballots after June 5 next. Will you, therefore, advise us immediately whether or not you will direct the preservation of the ballots cast in your county at the special election of April 7, 1914?"

TO SELL BELMONT GOODS

Auctioneers Will Dispose of Ethel Lorraine's Property. The personal belongings of Mrs. Raymond Belmont, once known on the stage as Ethel Lorraine, will be sold at public auction, June 4, by Darling & Co., auctioneers, at 6 East 33d st. The sale follows the decree granting the wife of the second son of August Belmont a separation and alimony of \$100 a month. Mrs. Belmont's personal belongings consist principally of the furnishings of two apartments. They include French tapestries, Chinese vases, old English prints, bronzes, a mahogany bedroom suite finished in ivory, a mouse head, inherited from the home of August Belmont, and a collection of pictures.

BECKER EAGER FOR "VOICE OF PRISON"

Hopes Oracle of Death House Will Foretell Action on Second Appeal.

Charles Becker will hear his second sentence of death for the murder of Herman Rosenthal pronounced against him this morning, unless some unforeseen event grants to him a delay not now expected either by the defence or the prosecution. The proceedings, however, will contain the conventional motions on the part of his counsel, which will bring him to the usual delay pending his appeal.

According to present plans, Becker will be brought to the bar before Justice Seabury immediately on the opening of court at 10:30 o'clock, and District Attorney Whitman will move personally for the imposition of sentence.

Martin T. Manton will then move for the arrest of judgment and the setting aside of the verdict on the ground that it was contrary to law, against the weight of evidence and on exceptions taken at the trial.

These motions, of course, will be denied, and then Clerk Punny will ask Becker if he knows any reason why sentence should not be pronounced. Notice of appeal will follow the sentence of death.

The law provides that a period of four to eight weeks shall elapse between the passing of sentence and execution, and the custom in this county is to set it at six weeks, so that technically Becker will be sentenced to die in the week beginning July 6. The notice of appeal, however, will act as a stay until after the Court of Appeals has passed on the case. It is expected that Sheriff Grifenhagen will take Becker to the death house this morning.

Becker is looking forward to his arrival at the prison with special interest. He wants to hear what is termed "the voice of the prison" on his case—that almost infallible intuition by which the prisoners form their opinion of future events. They foretell that Becker would get an appeal and that he would be convicted a second time. He wants to hear what oracle they will have as to the outcome of his second appeal.

65 DAYS, 65 TALKS, TWO WOMEN'S TASK

Mrs. La Follette, "Suff." and Miss Price, "Anti," to Swing Circle in Debate.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates are about to be rivaled in length, at least—by Mrs. Robert La Follette, suffragist, and Miss Lucy Price, of Cleveland, "anti."

They are going to debate sixty-five times on sixty-five successive days, and the speeches will not be set ones, either. They will swing around the circle in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Pennsylvania, beginning in Sandusky about the first of July and ending in Philadelphia, if throats and thoughts do not give out.

Mrs. La Follette and Miss Price are sent out by the Chautauqua management and the debate will be a part of the regular course. The management announces that it expects the debate to "do more good" than any other feature on the summer's programme. It doesn't say to whom.

The suffragists will send out organizers with enrollment slips on the trail of the debaters to take advantage of the agitation of their favorite subject.

Madison Square Roof Ready.

Madison Square Roof Garden will open on Saturday evening for the season of 1914. Plans for the first week have been arranged to accommodate upward of 3,000 persons. The new topaz Roman dancing pavilion is said to be the most costly thing of its kind in the United States. Ten star dancers will give exhibitions of the modern society steps.

Kennedy 12 Cortlandt Rubber Sole Low Shoes Dark Mahogany Russel English Lasts \$2.97, \$3.49, \$3.98

DEMAND U. S. KEEP FAITH IN TUBE PLAN

Civic Bodies and Merchants Indignant at McAdoo's Action.

WANT SUBWAY LINE UNDER POSTOFFICE

Means Big Gain to Mail Distribution—Spruce Street Alternate Route Deported.

Widespread objection has developed to the indefinite delay and public inconvenience in subway construction which the present attitude of the Treasury Department means in refusing to grant an easement under the Federal Building at reasonable terms to the city for the important subway connection as planned under the dual system, from Broadway and Park Place to the new interborough tunnel under the East River.

Property owners in the district east of Nassau st. and below Brooklyn Bridge, who had confidently expected the construction of the loop as originally planned, are up in arms at the present prospect of more delay and further complications. It is likely that various civic bodies, including the Merchants' Association and the Board of Real Estate Brokers, will take the matter up and seek to strengthen public sentiment against the present attitude of the government in the matter.

The "substitute" route through City Hall Park and Spruce st. to William st., connecting with the new tunnel at Old Slip, would necessitate at least nine months' delay, be more difficult of construction because of the added curves and larger buildings along the route, and mean a material delay in train schedules after completion, according to engineers.

William R. Wilcox, former chairman of the Public Service Commission, strongly denounced the government's action in holding up the easement. Mr. Wilcox put the matter in a new light in calling attention to the benefit the government would derive in mail service by a loop under the Post Office. He declared that instead of trying to block the original plans, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General should come knocking at the doors of the Public Service Commission to indorse the original plans.

"I can't understand the government's attitude in this matter," said Mr. Wilcox. They certainly cannot be actuated by public policy. It means as much to the government as to the city to have the subway loop under the Post Office. Think of the great advantage to the Post Office Department in having subway facilities there for delivering the large quantities of the mail from one end of the city to the other as soon as the dual subway system is completed. The Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General ought to come knocking at the doors of the Public Service Commission, willing to pay the city for this loop, instead of trying to block the original plans and change the route."

Mr. Wilcox explained that he was trying to foster the idea of connecting the three great mall centres in the city, the Federal Building, the Grand Central Station and the Pennsylvania Terminal, with the future subway system as far back as 1906-06. He said he went to the Interborough officials at that time with a proposition for a spur track to the Post-office connecting with the present subway in Park Row, and that the Inter-

borough officials considered the matter seriously at the time. "It was never within the realm of thought, in my opinion," he said, "that later under the dual system, when the government had the opportunity to get this much needed loop, it would place any obstacle in the way of its accomplishment. When the 'enabling act' giving the Treasury Department the power to grant the permit for the loop under the Federal Building was put through Congress with unprecedented rapidity in 1912, there was no doubt in anybody's mind that the plans would be facilitated by the government as originally adopted."

It was pointed out that the so-called McAdoo tunnels were used now in bringing in the Western mail to this city from Manhattan Transfer in Jersey City, but that the big problem with the Postoffice officials had always been to distribute the great accumulation of mail after its arrival here with better expedition than could possibly be obtained through wagon or automobile delivery. In the original plan for the loop under the Federal Building allowance had been made for a widening of the subway at the Postoffice, in order to provide for a spur track to meet this emergency. It was said.

No explanation as to how the estimate of \$1,000,000 probable damage to the Federal Building was reached by the real estate firm of Horace S. Ely & Co., whom Mr. McAdoo consulted in the matter, could be obtained from members of that firm yesterday. Alfred E. Marling, president of the Ely firm, when seen by a Tribune reporter yesterday and asked how the estimate was made, said: "That is not a matter for public discussion. I have nothing to say on the subject."

It was said yesterday that no love had ever existed between Mr. McAdoo and the Interborough company, the former having been disappointed in having his own plans turned down in favor of that company for a share in future subway construction.

Harding Will Oppose Foraker.

Marion, Ohio, May 28.—Former Lieutenant Governor Warren G. Harding has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for United States Senator. He will be opposed in the primary election by former Senator Joseph B. Foraker.



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AMUSEMENTS. ELTINGE 42d St., W. of B'way. Evg. 8:15. MADAME MOSELLE 215 Madison Tom'w & Wed. 2:15. ASTOR B'way, 45th St. Evg. 8:20. LITTLE 44th W. of B'way. Evg. 8:45. GRACE GEORGE IN THE TRUTH ALL SEATS AT ALL PERFORMANCES. PLAYHOUSE 48th E. of B'way. Evg. 8:30. LONGACRE West 48th St. Evg. 8:30. APART OF SIXES Theatre, W. 42 St. Tel. 6344 Bryant. CANDLEY W. 42 St. Tel. 6344 Bryant. ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA Daily, 2:30 & 8:30 (incl. Sunday), 25 and 50c. LUNA CONY BAND CONCEPTS MODERN DANCING Toys for Kiddies. VITAGRAPH THE NEW STENOGRAPHER (8:30 only). DANCING INSTRUCTION. Private Instruction in Your Home. Hippodrome 6th Ave. & 43d St. Next Sunday Night at 8 P. M. Special Farewell Performance. Lambs' All Star Gambol The Million Dollar Show. Prices 50c to \$2. Boxes, Seats \$1.50 to \$2.50.

HEARN Opening Hour 9 A. M. Closing Hour 6 P. M. A CARD. We are pleased to see that some fellow merchants propose to follow our example, as they announce ALL DAY SATURDAY CLOSING during July and August. CLOSING ALL DAY SATURDAY WITH PAY DURING THESE MONTHS HAS BEEN OUR CUSTOM FOR THE PAST FOURTEEN YEARS. During all that time our employees have been enjoying a full holiday coupled with a Sunday throughout the heated months of July and August. The fact that several leading merchants will follow our plan for the benefit of employees is as gratifying to us as we feel it will be to their customers and employees. "The heaven IS working." JAMES A. HEARN & SON.

AMUSEMENTS. THE MR. AND MRS. VERNON CASTLE MANAGEMENT ROOM 1008 105 WEST 40TH STREET NEW YORK May 26th 1914. TO THE PUBLIC: I beg to announce that the Dancing Salon at Luna Park, known as "The Castles Summer House" is under the auspices of Mrs. Castle and myself and under the management and direction of Castle House, New York, at present closed for the summer. The Dancing Exhibitions and Instruction will demonstrate the Castle Method and will be given by instructors personally endorsed by Mrs. Castle and myself. Vernon Castle

NEW YORK'S LEADING THEATRES. JULIAN ELTINGE THE CRINOLINE GIRL. HUDSON 44th St. Evg. 8:15. GLOBE B'way, 46 St. Daily 2:30 & 8:30. KELLERMAN NEPTUNE'S DAUGHTER. NEW AMSTERDAM 42d St. near Broadway. SARI In his great success. ZIEGFELD DANSE OF FOLLIES. LIBERTY 42d St. W. of B'way. GAIEITY B'way and 49th St. HIPPODROME 6th Ave. & 43d St. LAMBS' ALL STAR GAMBOL. POTASH & PERLMUTTER.