





WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

AIR is said to extend 21,000 miles from the earth in all directions.

That means we "own" an incredible amount of air over continental United States, billions of cubic miles of it.

All of this air is not usable for transportation because planes cannot fly that high. However, select heights at which planes do travel now, and still the airspace over U. S. A. alone exceeds many times the surface area of the entire world, although U.S.A.-air is only about 1.5 per cent of all air.

Physically, air is indivisible and omnipresent. Air is not *divided* into separate shafts over individual nations as in the above illustration. Therefore air does not have boundary lines as nations do. Nature does not discriminate between United States-air and Canadian-air, or Mexican-air, or British-air, or Russian-air.

That is why the use of omnipresent air for vehicular traffic creates a totally new problem for *all* of the earth's inhabitants. The new conditions of our air-world, the cancelling of old time-and-distance handicaps, mean that the

decisive factor in the peacetime future of the United States is *commercial air power*.

For centuries the status of nations was measured by their leadership upon the earth's *surface*. International air transportation changes that. It compels a new outlook upon life, both domestic and foreign. There is now pressing need for our nation to *expand* its Airlines to meet the challenge of world-air transportation.

Therefore we believe that the extent to which Americans profit from the use of *world-air* after this war, depends upon how effectively we use the air *over the United States*, first.

ROUTE OF THE FLAGSHIPS UNITING CANADA, U. S. A. AND MEXICO

AMERICAN AIRLINES Inc.