

WASHINGTON FORECAST

Local thunder showers this afternoon or tonight. Saturday partly cloudy with local thunder showers in late afternoon. Not much change in temperature.

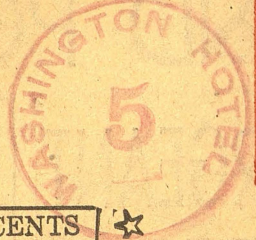
MEAN TEMPERATURES

Washington.....	82	New York.....	80
Atlanta.....	77	Omaha.....	82
Chicago.....	75	Portland, Ore.....	81
Detroit.....	74	San Francisco.....	61
Los Angeles.....	70	San Diego.....	69

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WASHINGTON TIMES

 THE NATIONAL DAILY



**RED HEAD
SPORTS**

Only Evening Newspaper Served
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ROGERS AND POST KILLED IN CRASH

Plane Falls 50 Feet at Point Barrow, Alaska; Both Crushed in Wreck

COL. LINDBERGH MAY FLY TO NORTH TO RETURN BODIES TO U. S.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 16 (I.N.S.). Wiley Post, round-the-world aviator, and Will Rogers, famous humorist and actor, were killed instantly yesterday when the engine of their red and silver monoplane suddenly misfired and the ship reeled to earth, crashing on the bank of a small river 15 miles south of Point Barrow, Alaska, according to word received here by the U. S. Signal Corps.

Sergt. Stanley Morgan, Signal Corps operator at the lonely settlement, said that he was informed of the tragedy at 10 o'clock last night by natives who sent a runner to report the crash.

Sergeant Morgan immediately proceeded up the river in a fast launch and found the plane a complete wreck.

According to the tale told by the natives, who were camped by the river, Post and Rogers landed their plane on the stream and Rogers walked over to ask them the way to Point Barrow.

Both Killed Instantly

After receiving directions the flyers took off again, but when only 50 feet off the water the engine misfired and the ship dived into the right bank of the stream, tearing the right wing off. The impact forced the nose of the plane into the fuselage, apparently killing both men instantly.

Morgan found the wreck partially submerged in two feet of water. He first recovered Rogers' body, but was forced to tear the wreckage of the plane apart to extract Post's body, which was under water.

Post and Rogers, boon companions of many years, left Fairbanks, Alaska, yesterday. When they took off from Fairbanks it was believed they were heading for Nome, directly west of Fairbanks, and then would later fly to Point Barrow, far up on the Alaskan coast.

Gave \$100 to Team

Apparently, they headed straight northward in a direct line for Point Barrow, over the trackless sub-Arctic wastelands.

Considerable apprehension was felt here when word of their expected arrival was not received from newspaper correspondents in the Far North.

Then came the tragic news, flashed by Sergeant Morgan.

One of Rogers' last acts was to give \$100 to the Fairbanks baseball team which meets Dawson in Alaska's "big game" today in connection with the annual discovery day celebration at the historic mining settlement.

In a visit to Matanuska Valley where the "pioneers of 1935" are working and living at Uncle Sam's

LINDY MAY GO TO ALASKA

International News Service

Col. Charles A. Lindbergh today was believed ready to make an air dash across the continent to Alaska to return the bodies of the ill-starred Will Rogers and Wiley Post to their homes, the Coast Guard announced today.

A sister of Mrs. Will Rogers, who is in Skowhegan, Me., Communicated with Coast Guard headquarters and said Col. Lindbergh, who is in North Haven, Me., had "taken charge" of arrangements concerning return of the bodies.

Although Col. Lindbergh did not say so in so many words, Mrs. Rogers' sister reported, she believed that he was willing to make the personal flight to Alaska.

SIGNAL CORPS SERGEANT IN ALASKA WIRES OF TRAGEDY

(Continued from Page 1)

new colonization project, Post and Rogers took off their coats and helped a colonist move a stove into his newly finished home.

Rogers, with his inimicable humor, "kidded" the pioneers as being "prisoners in the Far North" and they laughed at his jokes.

Faulty Engine

Motor failure while their plane was only 50 feet above a small river in an isolated section of desolate Alaska, 15 miles south of Point Barrow, caused the accident which resulted in the tragic death of Will Rogers and Wiley Post, according to an official report received at the War Department today from the Army Signal Corps headquarters at Point Barrow.

The graphic report of the tragedy stated that both Rogers and Post had apparently been killed instantly when the plane crashed. The bodies were found in the wrecked plane by Staff Sergeant Stanley R. Morgan, in charge of the Army Signal Corps at Point Barrow.

The fact that the right wing was sheared off indicated to Army officers that the plane's propeller may have caused the actual crash. In order to effect a safe landing, particularly on water, it is necessary for the propeller of a machine similar to the type piloted by Post to be at "dead center."

Had No Chance

The eyewitness stories related by the natives indicated that the propeller may still have been turning over when Post attempted to light on the water. If the propeller struck the water, it might easily have thrown the plane right or left and the right wing could easily have been ripped off just as it struck the river bank.

Morgan's report further indicated that neither Rogers nor Post had an opportunity to get free of the machine before it crashed and

The message stated that both had been "apparently killed instantly" and that both bodies were bruised. This fact also was borne out by Morgan's statement that although he was able to recover the body of Rogers immediately, he found it necessary to tear the plane apart in order to extract the body of Post.

Only a few Eskimos were the witnesses to one of the most tragic aeronautical disasters in the history of this nation. They apparently had given directions to Post when he landed and then stood on the bank of the little river to watch the machine with its two illustrious occupants take off only to crash to destruction a few moments later.

Apparently too shocked and stupefied to rush to the assistance of Rogers and Post trapped in the machine, the natives sent one of their runners to Point Barrow while they stood in stricken awe of the ill-fated red and gold monoplane, which had brought two of America's most noted figures on a friendly visit to their isolated land.

Placing the bodies in his rented motor launch, Morgan apparently commenced his tragic trip back to Fort Barrow in the unnatural light of the six-month-long Arctic day.

Both bodies were bruised and a crushed wrist watch on Wiley Post's wrist indicated that the

accident occurred shortly after 8 o'clock last night. The watch had stopped at 8:18.

Morgan's message, relayed from the Army Signal Headquarters at Seattle, Wash., at 8:15 a. m. Pacific Coast Time, today, read:

"Ten p. m. Native runner reported plane crash 15 miles south of Point Barrow. Immediately hired fast launch, proceeded to scene, found plane complete wreck, partly submerged two feet water. Recovered body of Rogers and then necessary tear plane apart extract body of Post from water.

"Brought bodies to Barrow. Turned over to Dr. Greist (Dr. Henry W. Greist, Presbyterian missionary), also salvaged personal effects, which I am holding. Advise relatives and instruct this station fully as to procedure.

Engine Dislodged

"Natives camping on small river 15 miles south here claim Post and Rogers landed, asked way to Barrow. Taking off, engine misfired on right bank while only 50 feet over water. Plane, out of control, crashed, tearing right wing off and tipping over, forcing engine back through body of plane. Both apparently killed instantly. Both bodies bruised. Post wrist watch broken; stopped 8:18 p. m."

Morgan's message indicated that the famous humorist and noted aeronautical ace may have been crushed to death when the engine of the plane was forced back by its impact against the right bank of the Alaska River.

The fact that both bodies were bruised lent credence to these indications. The fact that the plane did not catch fire indicated that Post's last act apparently was to cut off the ignition as soon as the engine commenced to missfire.

The indications were, too, that he sought to land safely, but, being only 50 feet above the ground, he apparently lost control of the plane and was unable to regain it before the right wing of the machine hit the river bank and sent it crashing over.

Post was piloting an amphibian machine, and the fact that the machine crashed on the bank of the river indicated that he may have been attempting to light on the water.

Beloved By Many

Will Rogers was beloved by America's millions as perhaps no other single person was loved.

His ready wit, his "home-spun" acting, both in the old-time Ziegfeld Follies and later in the movies, and his daily newspaper comment, with its witty and, oftentimes, barbed "wise cracks" about current events, made him one of the most popular public figures in the country.

Ironically, his death in a plane crash climaxed a long campaign waged by him through his newspaper comments to popularize flying and to impress the safety of aviation upon the public mind.

Born in Oklahoma

Rogers was 56 years old, being born November 4, 1879, at Oologah, Okla., then Indian Territory. A born-in-the-blood cowboy, he learned to rope a steer and break a broncho with the best of them.

He was 26 years old when he made his first stage appearance—in a vaudeville skit at the old Hammerstein's Roof Garden in New York. His success was instantaneous and from 1914 to 1926, except for three years in the cinema, he was starred with the Ziegfeld Follies and the Night Frolic.

Rogers was an intimate friend of both Presidents and men in the street. He was a frequent White House visitor, but that never prevented him from taking witty pot shots at the powers that be.

Former Vice President Charles Gates Dawes, of Evanston, and Rogers were close friends, and Dawes was the recipient of many Rogerisms while the Evanstonian ruled over the Senate in the "Hell 'n' Maria" days during the last Calvin Coolidge administration.

In recent years, Rogers devoted most of his time to the motion pictures and became one of the highest paid stars in Hollywood. He appeared in more than a score of pictures, the latest of which were "Life Begins at 40" and "Doubting Thomas."

Comic in 1903

A great wad of gum and a droll Oklahoma drawl were Rogers' chief stage and cinema "props," other than his wit.

Although "Who's Who in California" lists Rogers' first vaudeville appearance as occurring in 1905 at the Hammerstein's roof garden, Rogers himself in 1934 gave a party in Hollywood for George Wirth, circus owner, and announced that it was Wirth who gave him his first job before the public. That, he said, was in 1903 and he wore a black and red velvet costume.

Will Rogers made his first ap-

Concerning:

Will Rogers Says:

The feature in The Washington Times, where for several years Washingtonians have read the humor and philosophy of Will Rogers, is missing today. And it will never appear again.

It was in 1932 that the editor of The Times decided to run the daily feature by Mr. Rogers, and ever since that time it has been a most popular and widely read feature.

Only yesterday came a letter from the feature syndicate which distributed the Rogers column, explaining:

"Will Rogers is taking an extended airplane trip with Wiley Post. One of his purposes in doing this is to secure material that will lend variety to his daily feature.

"At some of the remote places they plan to visit there will undoubtedly be no telegraph communications available. This will necessitate the occasional omission of the dispatch for a day or two until he can reach the next telegraph office. Therefore, if any lapses in service occur, you will understand the reason for them.

"While on the trip Mr. Rogers will recount his experiences and some of the dispatches will be longer than usual."

pearance on the legitimate stage in Chicago at \$75 a week.

It was early in 1900. Prior to that time Rogers had been performing his now-famous Texas pony and lariat act exclusively on the vaudeville circuits.

George W. Lederer, pioneer Chicago producer, was one of the first to recognize Rogers' inherent sense of humor. Lederer engaged the comedian to appear in "The Girl Rangers" at the Auditorium Theater in Chicago.

Brilliant Debut

The producer's wife, Rene Davies, sister of Marion Davies, was in the leading role of "The Girl Rangers." Rogers' "bit" fit in perfectly and he scored an individual success. Critics predicted a brilliant future for him.

Will Rogers' pioneering in aviation was recalled today by Harold Crary, vice president of United Air Lines in charge of traffic, on the occasion of the humorists' tragic death.

He said:

"Will Rogers has flown tens of thousands of miles.

"As a matter of fact, Rogers was one of the first people we ever carried when we started our transcontinental route in the days when we operated single engined planes.

"When we inaugurated our coast-to-coast service Rogers was one of the first to try out the new service."

Razzed Mighty

Ironically, Rogers was killed in a plane crash, as was Knute Rockne, famous Notre Dame football coach and a close pal of the comedian.

Both were staunch advocates of airplane travel.

Rogers' ready wit and directed at the mighty as well as the low, at Republicans as well as Democrats. Some of his gems were recalled today.

Rogers often declared that he was not superstitious, but he constantly knocked on wood.

Hated Full Dress

He dreaded to attend a function where he was forced to wear evening clothes.

He had been abroad seven or eight times, but still thought the United States was the only country in the world.

Perhaps his greatest silent picture was "Jubilo," which he made for Pathe over a decade ago. Later he made this into a talking picture.

On the set Rogers tried to make even the lowliest extra feel his equal. The highly respected actor frequently would stop in the middle of a scene and suggest to whoever was directing the production, that this extra, or that, be given a better part in the picture. He never thought of himself but only of his associates.

Some of the most recent pic-

tures are "David Harum," "State Fair," "Doubting Thomas," and "County Chairman."

At one time he was named for governor of Oklahoma, mainly by the townspeople of his former home town, Claremore, but he declined.

Famed With Gatty

For several years he was mayor of Beverly Hills, Cal. He published a book which took the nation by storm. It was "The Cowboy Philosopher on the Peace Conference."

Wiley Post first startled the world in 1931, when, with Harold Gatty acting as copilot, he made his first round-the-world flight in record breaking time.

His greatest triumph, however, came just two years later, in July of 1933, when he made the first solo flight around the globe ever attempted. Not only did he do it, but he clipped 21 hours from the Post-Gatty time, completing his globe-girdling dash in exactly 7 days, 18 hours and 49½ minutes, exhibiting almost superhuman endurance as the flight was made with practically no time out for sleeping.

A farmer's son, Wiley Post was born November 11, 1898, in Van Zandt county, Texas. Farming, however, never interested him much, and at an early age he exhibited a preference for things mechanical. The experiments of the Wright brothers were much more to the liking of this young farmer, and he followed the progress of aviation with keen interest, even in the days when the industry was little more than "fancy talk."

Enlisted in Army

Although born in Texas, Post is more often associated with Oklahoma as he moved with his parents to a farm in that State while very young. He left the farm to take a three-months' course in automobile mechanics when he was 17.

When war was declared he enlisted in the aviation division of the Signal Corps by misrepresenting his age, but was discharged when the deception was discovered. Later, however, he was admitted to an S. A. T. C. camp at Norman, Okla. With the armistice he was mustered out of the Army and went to work as a helper on an oil drilling rig.

During the summer of 1919 he had his first airplane ride. He was a passenger in an antiquated "Jenny," and paid the pilot, a passing barnstormer, \$25 to "give him the works."

Five years later he quit oil drilling to become an airman, when he joined a barnstorming troupe as substitute parachute jumper. With the plan of making enough money to purchase a plane of his own, Post went back to oil drilling. It was at this time, in Seminole, Okla., he lost his left eye when struck with a chip of metal while hammering a linkpin into a heavy chain.

President Expresses Deep Regret at Death Of Rogers and Post

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Aug. 16 (I.N.S.).—The tragic crash of Will Rogers and Wiley Post evoked an expression of deepest regret today from President Roosevelt. He said:

“I was shocked to hear of the tragedy which has taken Will Rogers and Wiley Post from us. Will was an old friend of mine. A humorist and philosopher beloved by all. I had the pleasure of greeting Mr. Post on his return from his round-the-world flight. He leaves behind a splendid contribution to the science of aviation. Both were outstanding Americans and will be greatly missed.”

Rogers' Death Is Mourned In Capital

International News Service

The National Capital was genuinely saddened today over the news from far-off Alaska that Will Rogers, actor and humorist, and his globe-circling pilot, Wiley Post, had been killed in an airplane crash near Point Barrow.

A single cable line, operated by the Army Signal Corps from Alaska to Seattle, brought confirmation of the bare facts of

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

Capital Joins Nation In Mourning Rogers

(Continued from Page 1)

the crash, which occurred at 5 p. m. (Alaska time) yesterday, and the recovery of the bodies.

So great was the Capital's interest that as soon as the first rumors of the fatal crash gained currency, newspaper and press association offices were flooded with calls from those in official life asking whether they were true.

Rogers was a frequent visitor in Washington, and a popular one. He numbered among his intimate friends and acquaintances most of the figures in public life, irrespective of political affiliations. He "kidded" them, and they like it, for there was no rancor in the philosophical musings of the wisecracking humorist. He used to say that in all his fun-making at the expense of public officials "only one man ever got sore at me." That was the late President Harding, who resented some of Will's wisecracks in the Ziegfeld Follies of 1922. Later they "made up," as Will said, and all was forgiven.

Vice President Garner, often the butt of Rogers' wit, exclaimed when he was appraised of the crash:

"Oh, that's awful! Two mighty good men have been lost to the world. Will was one of my best friends. I just can't talk about it."

UNIQUE TRIBUTE

A unique tribute came from Representative Will Rogers (D.) Oklahoma, whom the humorist used to kid because of their identical names. He said:

"Oklahoma has lost its greatest son. He endorsed me for Congress and his endorsement was worth 50,000 votes."

Speaker Joe Byrns, another friend of Will's, said:

"I am stunned. You know, I had a premonition of this. I told my wife several days ago that Will should not have gone on this trip to Siberia. This whole country loved that man."

Senator William G. McAdoo (D.) of California, president of the Na-

tional Aeronautical Association, a constant flier himself and a close friend of Rogers, said:

"This is most tragic. Will Rogers was a unique character in America, and his loss will be felt by untold millions. Wiley Post was one of the greatest aviators. I can't understand it."

PATMAN MOURNS

Representative Patman (D.) of Texas:

"This country has lost one of its unique citizens and the world one of its best men."

Attorney General Cummings commented:

"The death of Will Rogers will be mourned by countless numbers of his fellow citizens. It removes from the public scene an observer whose characteristic comment provided instruction as well as amusement to those in public life."

Do You Remember?

One month ago the following names were in the headlines. Can you recall them?

Anne Van Cleve
James Lin
Nancy Mallory
Alicia Navarro
Julius Sweitzer

(Answers on Page 7)

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ROGERS' WIT RECALLED BY HIS DEATH

Sharp Wisecracks At Might Won People's Heart

International News Service

His ready and sometimes barbed wit, directed at the mighty more often than the lowly, won for Will Rogers a place in the hearts of the American public. Sharp as the famous Rogers wisecracks sometimes were, they never were offensive.

Some of his best gems were recalled today.

In 1932, Rogers met a Filipino government clerk and "promised" freedom to the islands, adding:

"What do you want independence for? You'll get off as bad as we are then. We've got independence and look at us. You've got to have a sense of humor to have independence nowadays."

BECOMES MAYOR

When he inaugurated as mayor of Beverley Hills, Cal., in 1926, Rogers told his well-wishers:

"I won't promise an honest administration, but I'll promise to split fifty-fifty with you. And if we can't make expenses that way, we'll start a tabernacle."

That was at a time when Aimee Semple McPherson, Los Angeles evangelist, was vividly in the news.

On current events Rogers commented freely. Some of these choice wisecracks were:

"They all say the Government can't do anything toward running any business, but they break their necks to see that it don't try."

SENATE IS BUTT

"Our Constitution protects aliens, drunks and U. S. Senators. There ought to be one day a year (just one) when there is an open season on Senators."

Here are some typical bits of Will Rogers' humor, from recent dispatches.

On the New Deal, after the Supreme Court decision:

"She went to the bat three times yesterday, with the Supreme Court pitching, and she struck out each time."

On a quiet day in world news:
"Congress laid dormant, Hitler was refueling and Mussolini was changing a record."

ROGERS - POST PLANS KEPT SECRET

Both Refused to Say Exactly What They Intended to Do

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 16 (I.N.S.). Will Rogers and Wiley Post surrounded with mystery the start of the Alaska flight which ended tragically today.

First news of the venture came from New York on July 6, when the Soviet Embassy announced permission had been given Wiley Post, Mrs. Post and Fay Gillis Wells, wife of Linton Wells, world traveler and writer, to make a flight across Siberia to Moscow.

The intended route backtracked the famous world-girdling flight of Post with Harold Gatty in 1931.

Three weeks later a rumor was published that Rogers might accompany Post and Mrs. Post across Siberia to Moscow. It was learned that a previous passport Rogers used while in Russia was still valid.

Purchased New Plane

Meanwhile, Post had purchased a new red monoplane, which embodied the latest in aircraft construction, and was fitted with pontoons for overseas flying.

On July 25, when Post and his wife were preparing to take off in their new plane from Union Air Terminal, Rogers appeared nonchalantly at the station, bought a magazine and a package of chewing gum and stepped aboard the plane.

Rumors at once were circulated that their destination was Alaska.

Next day a dispatch from Albuquerque, N. M., told of the famous pair vacationing in the hills of northern New Mexico, fishing trout instead of hunting Siberian tigers.

From Albuquerque Post and Mrs. Post flew by easy stages to Seattle, while Rogers returned to Los Angeles.

On August 7, Post and Rogers took off from a secluded airport near Seattle, on the first leg of their Alaskan flight. Mrs. Post made a last-minute decision to remain behind.

LADIES' AND MEN'S
APPAREL
Charge It At
EISEMAN'S
Seventh and F Streets

ROGERS' IDOL OF CAPITAL

Washington knew Will Rogers. Always a familiar figure at the White House, Mr. Rogers was perhaps even more at home on Capitol Hill.

Vice President Garner was a favorite companion, as were Senator Pat Harrison, and Speaker Joe Byrns.

"Princess Alice" Longworth was frequently in his company while here, as was her husband, Speaker Nicholas Longworth, during his lifetime.

Will would sit in the Senate Press Gallery, and with munching jaws (chewing gum, not tobacco) follow closely the floor arguments, many of which would later become the gist of his informal radio talks.

Rogers' popularity at the White House has been continuous since the Harding administration. Although President Harding never submitted to Will's kidding with the grace of his successors, he was often a guest at the Executive Mansion.

At the Coolidge dinner table, many of the "Coolidge" stories were born when Coolidge as the "straight man" would answer Comedian Will's jokes with observations that later became by-words.

Herbert Hoover often submitted himself to the barbed tongue of Rogers. Both as a White House guest and as a public commentator, Rogers never lost an opportunity to use his wit for sly digs at the prosperity President.

When Pat Hurley, Secretary of War in the Hoover cabinet, heard of the Rogers-Post tragedy, he announced he would move to nominate Mr. Rogers to the "Statuary Hall of Fame" in the Capitol.

Wiley Post was a valued advisor to the Bureau of Air Commerce here and was intimately known in civilian and service flying circles about Washington.

Less than a month ago he spent several days here with reports on stratosphere and sub-stratosphere flights.

Times Official Bares Rogers' Humanity

One of the incidents that gave those who knew Will Rogers a glimpse of the real man is related in the following story told by Arthur G. Newmyer, publisher of The Washington Times:

"In 1927, Louisiana suffered from one of the worst overflows in the history of the Mississippi.

As general manager of the New Orleans Item, I asked Will Rogers to come to New Orleans for a fund-raising performance for the benefit of the flood sufferers. Rogers readily acquiesced. On the morning of his arrival I visited at his hotel and found him abed. He claimed to be merely tired and requested me to get a Government plane so that he could fly over the flood area, see the picture and make the proper "spiel" that night.

"When time for the performance came around I called for Rogers. He was again abed and I asked him if he felt all right. He replied: 'Fine. Just tired.' He ordered his secretary to take his ropes and parapher-

nalia over to the theater and there, for more than two hours, entertained a capacity crowd—throwing ropes, telling stories, even trying to dance and sing.

"At the end of the evening he had raised \$19,000 in a one-man performance for the flood sufferers and when I walked out to shake his hand for this, I felt him shove a paper in my hand, which he asked me not to read until after the curtain came down.

"Later I found it to be a check for \$500—Rogers' own contribution to his own evening for flood sufferers.

"The next morning I called at the hotel to again express gratitude and found that Rogers had left by plane for Ardmore, Okla. That afternoon the paper carried the story that Rogers had been operated on that morning for an emergency appendix.

The world is better because of Will Rogers. He was a great humorist, but a greater human being."

WILL ROGERS AND WIFE
15 miles from Point Barrow,
on the map. They had left on
August 7. Their destination

ARMY TO HELP RETURN BODIES

International News Service

The War Department today instructed Maj. Gen. Paul Malone, commanding general of the Ninth Corps Area with headquarters at San Francisco, to render every assistance possible in returning the bodies of Will Rogers and Wiley Post to the United States.

At the same time Capt. L. C. Covell, commandant of the Coast Guard, sent instruction to the Coast Guard cutter Northland, which left Point Barrow yesterday, to return immediately and render all possible assistance in returning the bodies.

A move also was afoot to have the bodies returned by airplane.

A definite decision was expected to be reached later today as to whether the bodies would be returned by plane or aboard the Northland.

Treasury Condition

Treasury balance as of August 14, \$1,577,960,286.83; internal revenue, \$4,181,891.90; customs receipts, \$15,263,752.63.

Changed Plans Held Rogers Death Cause

DETROIT, Aug. 16 (I.N.S.)

TAX BILL GOES TO PARLEY