### GIRL KILLER JEALOUS OF RIVAL'S MIND

New York, Saturday, August 17, 1935

Story on Page 3

WEATHER
Cloudy—Showers.
Probably local
thunder showers this
afternoon, Moderate
temperature.

DAILY

MIRROR

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FINAL

# HOW ROGERS, POST DIED IN CRASH

Story on Page 2



The new low-wing speedster starts off from Seattle with Post and Rogers on the long flight to Alaska—and death.

(Photos Courtesy Hearst Metrotone News from International News Photos!)



Scanning the skies which will bring death within a few days, Wiley Post and Will Rogers find conditions favorable to start for Alaska. This is their last photo taken before the fatal flight.

## HOW POST AND ROGERS DIE

DOINT BARROW, Alaska.—Will Rogers and Wiley Post, two of aviation's greatest boosters, were dead tonight-victims of one of aviation's most tragic failures.

They died instantly when the motor of Post's new streamlined monoplane missed fire a few



Wiley Post outlining course of Alaskan flight to his wife. Only a twist of fate saved Mrs. Post from plunging to death with her husband and Rogers. She had planned to fly with them.



(International) Mary Rogers, who was rehearing fe. Only a an airplane play, when news of her father's death reached Skowthem.



Will Rogers had this wink ready for cameramen, after recent return from abroad with his wife. Today the actor-humorist is dead and Mrs. Rogers is near collapse from grief.

minutes after the takeoff from an Eskimo village, 15 miles from Point Barrow, and the pontoonequipped ship plunged into the boggy tundra.

Always friends, they had gone on a flying vacation trip, prior to Post's projected flight to

Siberia, to follow later.

Rogers, the part-Cherokee Indian boy from Oklahoma, who became America's beloved humorist, philosopher and character actor, was hurled from the cockpit as the ship somersaulted among the hummocks near the river they had just left.

Post, the one-eyed Texan who had skyrocketed to aviation's pinnacle, dared death scores of times and come through with greater glory, perished in the wreckage-piled among the shattered controls by the thrustback motor.

Natives said the men had paused at the Eskimo village of Walkpi while Post tinkered with the sputtering motor. While the big shiny airplane bobbed at anchor, Rogers and Post ate dinner on the river-bank with the

wondering tribesmen. Apparently convinced the engine would take them the CRASHED few remaining miles to Point Barrow, the men climbed aboard and roared off in a T. BARROW heavy fog.

### DIVED INTO BOG.

Natives said the ship soared easily to 50 feet. Then the motor began missing.

Post banked hard to the right in a terrific effort to right in a terrific effort to return the re

ward with terrific force. It struck the rough terrain near the river bank and bounded over. The pontoons collapsed. The motor crashed back into the cockpit, atop the fusilage.

Rogers was catapulted into the open.

Gasoline leaked out and burned around the wreck but the bodies were not seared. Post's watch stopped at 8:18

Sergeant Stanley Morgan of the United States Signal Corps, Point Barrow, and this correspondent

Continued on Page 6

### Lindy All Set Flashed Sad News

### To Return Will, Wiley

its head in grief yesterday because of the tragic Alaskan crash which claimed the lives of two of the foremost figures in contemporary American life-Will Rogers and Wiley Post — another great American, Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, completed plans for the return of their bodies.

The remains of the two hapless flying vacationists will be flown from Point Barrow, near where they died, to Fairbanks, more

return the bodies, follow-ing a request made by Col. Lindbergh, vicepresident of the

me plane will carry embalming fluid to prepare the bodies for the return flight, and will also pick up the personal effects of sonal effects of

Roosevelt the victims. Already Mrs. Rogers, widow of Already Mrs. Rogers, widow of the famous comedian-philosopher, is en route to New York from Skowhegan, Me., with her daugh-ter, Mary, and her sister, on the first lap of their sad journey to Beverly Hills, Cal., to receive their

President



Col. Lindbergh was so broken with grief that he remained in se-clusion in his North Haven, Me.,

Other leaders from all walks of life joined in expressions of grief to California. the deaths of the two intrepid aviation enthusiasts.
Said President Roosevelt, who

Stunned by Deaths

Fliers' Wives

The wives of both Will Rogers and Wiley Post, who lost their lives in the tragic plane crash near Point Barrow, Alaska, late Thursday, were on the verge of col-lapse yesterday when they learned of their husband's

Mrs. Rogers was in Skowhegan, Me.; Mrs. Post in Ponca City,

Mary Rogers, 19-year-old daughter of the comedian, known on the stage and screen as Mary Howard, stage and screen as Mary Howard, was rehearsing her lead role in the airplane play "Ceiling Zero," in Skowhegan, when word of her father's death was broken to her. Her mother, Mrs. Betty Blake Rogers, was watching the rehearsal off-stage at the Lakewoods

Theatre.

dead. They are due here on the "Downeaster," at Grand Central station, at 7:52 a. m. today.

Col. Lindbergh was so broken with grief that he remained in seclusion in his North Haven, Me., Summer home after completing the arrangements.

Other leaders from all walks of the make plans for a hurried trip. to make plans for a hurried trip

They all tried to bear up bravely but were not able to overcome Said President Roosevelt, who their emotions, and remained in learned of the accident in his Hyde seclusion while friends tried to

Continued on Page 6 Continued on Page 6

### Own Epitaph Rogers'

ROCHESTER (US). - "And when I die-"

The audience which packed Rochester Columbus Civic Center Auditorium stilled its laughter for a moment as the broad grin of the homely face of Will

Rogers softened to a friendly smile, when here recently.

He continued: "I want them

to engrave upon my tombstone: "Will Rogers—a man who made jokes about hundreds of people but still was a friend of them all."



Heavy line shows stare, at Los Angeles, of the Post-Rogers flight. Pair made Seattle, Juneau, Fairbanks and Nome and died in crash 15 miles south of Pt. Barrow, Alaska. Post intended to make Moscow.

### FAILURE OF MOTOR KILLED ROGERS-POST

### Eskimo Whaleboat Brings Bodies from Wreck

Continued from Page 2

brought the bodies out in a whale-

brought the bodies out in a whate-boat manned by Eskimos.
Rogers' watch was still running when we reached the scene.
It was necessary to tear the wreckage apart to reach Post's

body.

The bodies were wrapped in blankets and placed in the whate-boat for the return trip. They were turned over to Dr. Henry Griest, superintendent of the Presbyterian Mission Hospital.

Joe Crosson, famous Alaskan pilot, will fly the bodies home to the United States aboard a Pacific-Alaska plane. Arrangements were made by Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, vice-president, and Juan T. Trippe, president, of Pan-American Airways, parent company, for the transfer.

Crosson, an old friend of Post, took off late yesterday on the 1,000-mile flight to Point Barrow. He will stop at Fairbank sen route

He will stop at Fairbanks en route and obtain embalming fluid.

The bodies, covered with sheets by Dr. Griest, lay tonight in the tiny mission hospital—the same hospital that was crowded to capacity this Spring with 200 influenza sufferers. Fifteen died in the influenza epidemic.

Dr. Griest said both Rogers' legs were broken, his face and head cut badly and his skull crushed. Post's body was crushed and his legs and arms broken. Both bodies had been submerged. Clearing weather indicated that

Clearing weather indicated that Crosson might be able to take the bodies to Fairbanks within one or

two days.
A piece of paper fell from Rog-A piece of paper fell from Rogers' pocket as natives struggled to beach the heavy whaleboat here. It was a newspaper picture of his daughter, Mary, who has been playing in "Ceiling Zero"—an aviation play—at the Lakewood, Me., Summer Theatre.

An Eskimo fell between the the whaleboat and was crushed. He was hally burt

He was badly hurt.

Many hours after the crash, bits of wreckage weer seen floating downstream toward the Arctic

Sergt. Morgan filed a complete report of the crash to officials at Washington. It follows:

"At 10 p. m., a native runner reported a plane had crashed

15 miles south of Barrow. I immediately hired a fast launch and proceeded to the scene. I found the plane a complete wreck and partially submerged in two feet of water.

"I recovered the body of Rogers and then found it neces-sary to tear the plane apart to extract the body of Post from the water.
"Brought the bodies to Bar-

row and turned them over to Dr. Greist. Also salvaged the personal effects which I am holding.
"Advise relatives and instruct

this station fully as to proce-

dure.
"Natives camping on the Small River, 15 miles south of here, claim Post and Rogers landed, asked their way to Barrow and, on taking off, the engine mis-fired on a right bank while only 50 feet over the water. The plane out of control, crashed, tearing right wing off and toppling over, forcing the engine back through the body of the

"Both apparently were killed instantly. Both bodies were bruised. Post's wrist watch was broken and stopped at 8:18

p. m."

The message was relayed to to Washington through the Signal Corps station at Seattle, Wash.

Murky fog hampered the natives

and two white men in their efforts to remove Post's body from the wreckage. A flashlight found in the cabin threw dim light on the shattered plane.

Many books and wet papers were found. They included Rus-sian dictionaries and translations

san dictionaries and translations
Post had intended using on a
flight to Siberia.
Both bodies were clad in light
sports clothes, with rubber boots.
The clothing and personal effects
were dried carefully at the mission hospital.

Almost the entire population of

Almost the entire population of Point Barrow, including 290 Eskimos and 10 white persons, went to the scene of the crash in boats.

There was no souvenir hunting. The natives knew nothing of the fame of the crash victims. Many picked up pieces of the broken plane and carried them reverently to the Arctic Ocean beach at Point Barrow. The small dark men worked solemnly and silently, carrying tins of emergency rations and personal effects of the dead

### RAMBLING TRIP.

The cowboy-humorist and the aviator had been on a rambling trip. It started at Los Angeles and there was a long stop in Seattle while the retractable landing wheels were replaced by pontoons for Arctic travel.

After several hunting and fishing expeditions, during one of which Post received a ducking when he fell from a slippery pontoon, the men visited the Government's farm colonization project

in the Matanuska valley.

They returned to Fairbanks yesterday and set out for Point Barrow. Army officials sent word of the tragedy to Rogers' family and to Mrs. Post at Fonca City, Okla. Mrs. Post originally had intended to make the trip but changed her mind at Seattle.

### When N. Y. Acclaimed Wiley Post...



The time, July 2, 1931; the place, New York City, as Wiley Post (left) and Harold Gatty were tendered a warm reception after flying around the globe in eight and one-half days. And yesterday, when Post died he was still courting his first love...flying.

### ALL U.S. MOUR

Continued from Page 2

Park, N. Y., home, where he is

resting:
"I was shocked to hear of the tragedy which has taken Will Rogers and Wiley Post from us. Rogers and Wiley Post from us. Will was a 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."

be greatly missed."

In a unique informal ceremony, leaders of the U. S. Senate paid unusual tribute. The Democratic leader, Senator Joseph Robinson, of Arkansas, who has long been a close friend of Rogers, opened the ceremony. He announced the news to the Senate and then continued:

tinued:
"We pause to pay tribute to his memory and to that of his gallant companion. Peace to them. I shall always remember Will Rogers as a sensible, courageous, loyal friend, possessed of notable talents. He made fun for all mankind, and in nothing he said was there an intentional sting. He was kind, generous and patriotic."

LEHMAN SHOCKED.

Governor Lehman, of New York, just leaving the Capitol in Albany for Bluff Point, where he was to address a Catholic Summer school,

"I am deeply shocked and grieved to hear the terrible news. Will Rogers and Wiley Post were outstanding men in American life. I greatly admired both of them. Probably no men in America had more friends and admirers than they. The whole country will mourn their tragic deaths."

Other prominent Americans were thus quoted:

Attorney - General Homer S. Cummings: "The death of Will Rogers and Wiley Post will be mourned by countless numbers of their fellow citizens."

Eugene L. Vidal, Director of the Bureau of Air Commerce: 'The tragedy is the most terrible thing that could have happened.'
IT'S HORRIBLE."

Fred Stone, famous actor and Rogers' closest friend: "It can't be so; it can't be so. It's too horrible to think about. Will dead? It can't be so."
When Stone broke a leg in 1929,

Rogers flew from Hollywood to New York to "pinch hit" for his old friend—and refused to accept pay for it.

A unique tribute came from Rep. Will Rogers (D.), of Okla-homa, whom the humorist used to "kid" because of their identical

names.
"Oklahoma," said Rogers,

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

Speaker Joe Byrns, another friend of both victims:

"You know I had a premonition of this. I told my wife several days ago that they should not have gone on this trip to Siberia. The whole country loved them both."

#### LOSS TO AMERICANS.

Rep. Patman (D.), Texas: "This country has lost two of its most unique citizens and the world two

of its best men."

Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker:

"The deaths of Wiley Post and Will Rogers were a terrible loss to all Americans, and particularly to those of us interested in aviation. No layman has ever done more for aviation than Will Rogers."

The French Air Ministry in Paris: "Minister of Air Denain will cable condolences to the United States.'

Rene Fonck, French-war ace:
"I knew Post well. Aviation has lost one of its finest pilots."
Sidney R. Kent, president of Fox Films: "All of Will's friends in the Fox Film Corporation are inexpressibly shocked by this terrible thing.

rible thing.
George W. Orr, manager of Roosevelt Field: "The news of the death of Wiley Post and Will Rogers is received with profound regret by each of us in aviation."
Hellyweed itself was stunned by Hollywood itself was stunned by

the tragedy.

George Marshall, director of the Rogers' pictures, said: "Many people will say that his death is a terrific loss to the country. That's true. But it's a bigger loss to those that worked with him. He was a great man, so human that every-one who worked with him loved him. The movies, like the rest of the world, will miss him."

Rochelle Hudson, petite young actress who has played in numer-ous Rogers' pictures, said: "His death is a great blow to me. He was one of the grandest persons I'll ever know."

Ronald Colman said: "I feel that humanity has lost its best and most sincere friend, and aviation one of its greatest experts in the death of Wiley Post."

Sol. M. Wurtzel, producer of Rogers' pictures: "The death of

Will Rogers is a shock and a loss to his family and to the world, but we must take comfort in the fact the good he did will live on. We are further saddened at the tragic ending of Wiley Post, who gave his life in the development of aviation."
A nation-wide broadcast of a

special memorial service for the two victims was broadcast over station WMCA, with Clyde Pang-

born and Gill Robb Wilson, flying chaplain of the A. E. F., as principal speakers.



Monday to Friday, inclusive Indian Pt. Bear Mt. and return. Also to ewburgh and Poughkeepste tone way only). Saturday and Sunday only

Saturday and Sunday only
To Indian Pt. Bear Mt., Newburgh and
return (also West Point, Saturdays only).
Steamer Lvs. W. 42nd St. 1:45 P. M., W.
129th St., 2:05 P. M., Yonkers 2:40 P. M.
SUNDAY ISVENING TRIPS
Take a Willight-moonlight trip to Indian
Pt. and return. Lv. W. 42nd St. 6:45 P. M.
MUSIC - DANCING - RESTAURANT

Round Trip Fares: To Newburgh \$1.25. To Bear Mountain and Indian Point \$1.00. Saturdays and Sundays \$1.25.

(Daylight Saving Time)
her trips see complete timetable on this page.

Hudson River Day Line

TRAVEL

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Sundays only Special Steamer to Indian Point and seturn leaves West 42d St. only at 8:30 A.M. and 6:45 P.M.

	Daylight	. A. M.	.P. M.	Round Trip
-	Saving Time	Daily & Sunday	Mon. Sat. & Sun.	Fares from
	W. 42d St. Lv. W. 129th St. Yonkers. Indian Point. Bear Mountain West Foint. Newburgh. Poughkeepsie. Kingston Point Catskill Hudson. ALBANY. Ar.	9.40 10.20 10:15 11.00 12:135 12:155 A1:110 12:140 2:100 1:130 3:100 2.25 3.55	2.05 2.05 4.20 2.40 2.40 4.55 4†10 4†10 6†30 4†30 86.50 84†50 7.40	1.22 half far 2001; 1.22 half far 2001; 1.52 half far 2001; 1.52 half far 2001; 2001
	processing and the second second	supplies and the supplies of t		Charles and the same of the sa

Round Trip Indian Pt., Bear Mt. Saturday & Sunday \$1.25 SHOW BOAT on BUCCANEER feature ing Gala Revue. Dining, Dancing—Every Evening except Sundays and Holidays. Lv. W. 42nd St. Pler, 8:30 P.M.; V. 129th St., 8:50 P.M.; Vonkers, 9:15 P.M. Tickets including sall, stow, dancing and tax, \$1.65. DIRECT BUS flow Newark, Jersey City and Jamates.

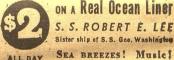
Rath Tickets Accepted New York to Albany.

MUSIC RESTAURANT CAFETERIA

Hudson River Day Line



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ALL DAY SEA BREEZES! Music! Dancing! 100 miles cruising on Long Island Sound! Sails at 10:30 A. M. (D. S. T.) from Pier 25, North River (ft. of Franklin St.), N. Y. Due back 6P. M. (D. S. T.). Box lunch 60c. Staterooms \$1 up. Reservations can be made in advance.

Fickets on sale Pier 25, N. R. (ft. of Franklin St.), or 1 E. 44th St. (near 5th Ave.), New York.

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Str. TROJAN or \$ ROUND

RENSSELAER
Lv. Pier 52 N. R. 10 a.m.
Lv. W. 42nd St. 10:20
Lv. W. 429th St. 10:40
(Daylight Saving Time)
Orchestra — Dancing—
Dining Room Service Hudson River Day Line 5 p. m. 5 p. m. 9.9700

Children 5 to 12— 1/2 FARE. Returning leave Bear Mountain

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### NEWS OF FATAL CRASH STONS VIOTIMS WIVES Continued from Page 2

reach Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, in nearby North Haven, to see if he would take charge of funeral arrangements. It was believed he

Will Rogers, Jr., eldest of the great actor-philosopher's three children, was said to be in Mexico, while James, the youngest son, was in New York. He was expected to return West with his mother, sister and aunt.
Mrs. Post had the tragic news

broken to her while she was visiting at the home of Mrs. L. E. Gray, an intimate friend, in Ponca

She, too, tried to bear up, but was forced to retire, so great was the shock.

Mrs. Gray said the bereaved wife was awaiting word from Government officials before making any arrangements for the burial of her famous aviator-hus-

By a twist of fate, she missed

to fly to Alaska with them and accompanied them as far as Seattle. She changed her mind and re-turned to California, then going

on to her native State.

Mrs. Post's change of plans were announced at the last moment before her husband and Rogers took off for the North. Post was beoff for the North. Post was behind the throttle, when Rogers stepped aboard. Mrs. Post stood

talking to them. Suddenly, much to the surprise of airport officials, who thought Mrs. Post was going along, her husband waved his hand, made a short run and zoomed into the air, with Rogers chewing his gum as

usual and waving farewell.
"I changed my mind at the last minute," Mrs. Post informed the somewhat dazed airport officials. "I'm flying to California and will then visit friends in Oklahoma."

Immediately there were rumors that the Posts had had a marital row, but upon landing at San Francisco the next day, Mrs. Post death with her husband and was indignant as she denied di-Rogers. She originally intended vorce rumors.

Rogers Once Gaucho;

Rodeo Brought Fame
Gum-chewing Will Rogers,
killed with Wylie Post, one-eyed
flier, in an Alaskan airplane crash,
was loved by America's millions—
presidents, paupers, men, women,
children—as perhaps no other
great stage or screen star was ever
loved.

His ready wit his sagebrush

His ready wit, his sagebrush philosophy, his homespun acting, his ability to shed the usual veneer of the actor and be "human," endeared him to all. sagebrush

URGED AIR SAFETY.

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.

Rogers was 56, married, and the father of three children. He was born Nov. 4, 1879, at Oologah, Okla., then Indian Territory, the son of a fairly well-to-do rancher. A born-in-the-blood cowboy, he learned to rope a steer and break a broncho with the best of them.

Of an adventurous type, he tired of ranch life shortly after reaching his majority and worked and rode his way to South America, where he "punched" cattle for a while. Then he decided to enlist in the Boer Army, then fighting Britain.

He took a job as cattle tender

the Boer Army, then
Britain.

He took a job as cattle tender
on a Capetown, South Africa,
vessel, but arrived there just the
day before an armistice was declared, too late to take any part
in what he then deemed the "great
adventure."

#### AGAIN A GAUCHO.

He returned to South America, to Buenos Aires, and again became a gaucho, a roving cowboy. With him was a pal from Oklahoma, who had stuck with him on his travels. They both wanted to see the world, but eventually his friend became tired of the life and went home.

the world, but eventually his friend became tired of the life and went home.

Rogers never mentioned the name of this pal who deserted him. Then, shortly after his friend came North, the turning point in the great comedian's career arrived.

Always with a flair for showmanship—he won his first rodeo joust back home when he was but 14 — Rogers joined a traveling "Wild West" show. Billed as the "Cherokee Kid," he became a hit with his trick riding and fancy rope spinning.

The show played South America, South Africa and then England, Rogers' fame steadily mounting until he headed the bill of attractions. Finally he became homesick, however, and took passage to New York and thence to his native city. He rested a while. But he couldn't settle down. He stood the inactivity as long as he could, then joined another "Wild West" show, which played the "tank towns" of the Southwest.

By this time, however, his rope

By this time, however, his rope

Continued on Page 8

### ROGERS ONCE GAUCHO

#### Continued from Page 7

spinning act had attained considerable perfection and an alert booking agent signed him as one of the attractions of the 1905 annual horse show at Madison Square Garden.

Rogers intended to return to Oklahoma for another rest as soon as the horse show was over. But it was not to be. The booking agent was swamped with offers for his act, and eventually he was signed up for an appearance in a vaudeville skit at the old Hammerstein Roof Garden.

#### ALWAYS BUSY.

He was then about 26. His success was instantaneous and from that time on he was never without an engagement. He made several vaudeville tours of the country and his salary was rising by leaps and bounds. Booking agents were vicing to pleae him and eventuelly vieing to place him and eventually he signed a long contract with the late Flo Ziegfeld.

For about 12 years, except for three years spent in the moviesand strange to relate, with little success in the silent days—he starred either in the Ziegfeld Follies or the Midnight Frolics.

While he was a star performer with Ziegfeld, he first introduced his line of pattern with his and

his line of patter with his rope and pony act. Then he was a bigger hit than ever. He changed his lines every night and many of the seat holders became "repeaters," just to hear his latest.

Always good-natured, smiling, Rogers, by that time America's greatest comedian, developed a throat infection which for a time

throat infection which for a time threatened to end his career—especially so far as pursuing his line of patter was concerned.

He became self-conscious and caught himself stammering when he tried to recite his lines. His wife—more about their romance later—thought that chewing gum might incite the flow of saliva and loosen the throat cords responsible loosen the throat cords responsible

for his affliction.

More of Will Rogers' fascinating rise to riches and fame in tomorrow's Daily Mirror. Don't miss it!