

RED CROSS LISTS DEEDS OF ROGERS

Aid in Money-Raising Campaigns Shown—Payne Voiced Tribute.

By the Associated Press.

The National Red Cross has compiled a remarkable honor roll—the good deeds of Will Rogers.

It ran like this:

September, 1926 — Worked with Charles Evans Hughes, now Chief Justice, in a Florida hurricane benefit aboard the Leviathan, raising \$40,000 in a single performance.

Mississippi flood, 1927—By benefit personal appearances raised more than \$100,000 for flood sufferers.

McAlester, Okla., mine explosion, 1919, 61 men killed—Made large personal donation and raised generous fund for families of victims.

January, 1931—Helped Red Cross organize Nation-wide drought relief broadcast, including President Hoover, former President Coolidge and Al Smith.

Made Tour With Hawks.

Drought relief campaign of 1930-31 —In airplane with Frank Hawks, speed flyer, toured Midwest and Far West, making several cities daily, with speeches which greatly accelerated chapter giving.

Nicaraguan earthquake, 1931—Flew to Nicaragua, gave \$5,000 and cheer there, came back and raised a large Nicaraguan fund.

1933-34—Donated \$20,000 for continuing Red Cross public health nursing in places where it was to be cut off, due to the depression, only to months ago the Red Cross sent Rogers a pictorial report of the good done with this money.

May, 1933—Rogers wired the Red Cross his intention of "litterin' up the mike with a little Oklahoma grammar" to "make contribution to a couple of good causes," unemployment relief work of the Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Today James L. Fieser, speaking for Admiral Cary T. Grayson, vacationing in Maine, and the entire Red Cross organization, said: "Literally thousands of Red Cross chapter people will personally miss Will Rogers, not alone for his numerous financial gifts in the furtherance of better health and happier living, and in disaster relief, but on account of his personal donations, as he often unexpectedly arrived at the point where the need was greatest.

Always "Active Supporter."

"They will never forget his generosity and personal effort in the days of the Mississippi flood and the great drought. He was always an active supporter and friend of the Red Cross."

The deep regard of the Red Cross for Rogers was attested in a 1933 telegram to him, made public today.

It read:

"When I pass from the Red Cross and knock at St. Peter's gate, he will ask, 'Who comes here?'

"I will answer, 'John Barton Payne, chairman of the American Red Cross.'

"He will ask, 'By what right do you expect to enter?'

"I will answer, 'I knew Will Rogers.'

He will say, 'That is sufficient. Come right in.' "

Mr. Payne died last January.

ROGERS WAS TO DEFRAY ALL COSTS OF FLIGHT

Letter of Mrs. Post Relates
Humorist's Request That She
Not Make Trip.

By the Associated Press.

SAN ANGELO, Tex., August 17.—Will Rogers was paying all the expenses of his vacation flight with Wiley Post to Alaska.

A letter from Mrs. Post to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Laine of San Angelo, disclosed this today, and told, too, that Rogers had dissuaded the flyer's wife from making the trip.

"I intended to go to Alaska with them, but for some reason Mr. Rogers didn't want me to go, and after all, he is paying the expenses for the trip and what he said had to go," read the letter the Laines exhibited.

Brazil State Taxes Cotton.

SAO SALVADOR (A).—The government of this seacoast state of Bahia has established a 3 per cent ad valorem tax on all raw and ginned cotton produced within the state for shipment to other parts of Brazil and foreign nations and another one of 3 per cent ad valorem on all cotton produced for textile mills in Bahia.

tion open, hotels and cafes light up and the streets swarm with taxis and hawkers.

Business here seems to have a wonderful underground system.

Rogers Began Daily Newspaper Column Over 20 Years Ago

Comments on Current News Came After "Stories" Ran Out.

By the Associated Press.

LOS ANGELES, August 17.—Will Rogers, who greeted an offer to write a daily column for newspapers of the country with the remark, "Aw, I can't write, but I'll try," was one of the two highest-paid syndicate writers in the world at the time of his death.

Charles B. Driscoll, editor of the MacNaught Newspaper Syndicate and journalistic mentor of the famous Will, visiting here today, told of the comedian's writing career.

More than 20 years ago, Driscoll related, Rogers, then a "fill-in" entertainer in New York, was offered a chance to do a daily newspaper feature by V. V. McNitt, president of the MacNaught Syndicate at the time.

Appearing under the title, "The Worst Story I've Heard Today," the heading was changed two years later after Rogers cabled from London:

"I've run out of stories and will have to quit."

It was then McNitt suggested a daily feature of remarks on current news topics. More than 500 newspapers printed the column, Driscoll said.

INCOME OF ROGERS \$600,000 ANNUALLY

Humorist Leaves Estate Estimated at \$2,500,000 to \$6,000,000.

By the Associated Press.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., August 17.—Will Rogers left an estate unofficially estimated at between \$2,500,000 and \$6,000,000.

From close business and financial associates of the humorist it was learned Rogers' wealth consisted of extensive real estate holdings here and in Oklahoma, Government bonds, life insurance totaling \$1,050,000, and annual income from motion pictures, radio and his syndicate writing at upwards of \$600,000.

Extremely close-mouthed in discussing his financial activities, just as he was in revealing his innumerable charties, Rogers won the respect of business men as a shrewd investor.

The actor's wife and three children are beneficiaries of the bulk of the life insurance. Fifty thousand dollars of the amount is payable to the Actors' Equity Fund.

A bar against flying by film actors and indefinite delay in the release of two new pictures starring Rogers were seen. The pictures are completed, but their disposition awaits the decision of Joseph Schenck, chairman of the board of directors, and Sidney R. Kent, president, of the 20th Century-Fox Studios, in New ork.

They are "In Old Kentucky" and "Steamboat 'Round the Bend," representing an investment of about \$1,000,000. Studio officials said the precedent in such a case is to delay the release.

Will Rogers' Death Casts Gloom Over Film Capital

Studios Cancel All Festive Activities and Industry—His Loss to Movies Is Incalculable.

BY MOLLIE MERRICK.

HOLLYWOOD, August 17.—Complete paralysis of all social and festive occasions in the film capital followed the news that Will Rogers had been killed in an airplane crash in the Far North.

When the word of Rogers' death had gone through the studios, orders went forth for cessation of all festive activities. The Twentieth Century-Fox Studio had the difficult task of locating the widely scattered Rogers family and forming plans for the funeral ceremonies.

The famous humorist had just signed a contract which covered his motion picture activities for the next four years. His loss to the industry is incalculable. He was considered the greatest box office asset on the screen today.

Rogers' closest friend, Fred Stone, is now making films at R-K-O Studio. In 1929, when Fred Stone was injured seriously in an airplane accident, Will Rogers rushed to New York and took Stone's place so the show could finish its season.

Ruth was out here a few years ago on a long-term contract. She didn't get anywhere, although she has undoubted talent and charm. The stage was more kind, and she is taking no chances this time.

Spencer Tracy will be the star of "Toss Pot," the costume picture with locale in England, Hollywood and Rome, which was written by Daniel Moore and snapped up by movie men with this actor in view.

The role is that of an Irish soldier and the period that of James I. "Toss Pot" can outdrink any one and serves his King by drinking down the soldiers sent with dispatches, and then, while they are lying in stupor, calmly reading their dispatches and getting in first with the news. This is the first costume picture Spencer Tracy has been cast for, and the role should be ideal for him.

(Copyright, 1935, by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.)

AMUSEMENTS.

THE MIDSUMMER JUBILEE