

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISP
AUGUST 17, 1935

World Leaders in Many Fields Pay Tribute to Post and Rogers

Famous Figures of Politics, Stage, Screen and Aviation Comment on Death of Two in Plane Crash.

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Aug. 17.—Friends of Will Rogers and Wiley Post all over the world continued to express their grief today over the deaths of the famous humorist and noted flyer. Comment follows:

President Roosevelt: "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 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."

Former President Hoover: "The news of the death of Will Rogers and Wiley Post is a terrible shock to me. I have long known both these fine Americans and have a keen appreciation of their achievements. In origin and accomplishment they were typically American, with careers appealing to everyone appreciating the pioneer spirit. They were great souls and I feel the sense of deep personal loss in their passing."

Borah's Comment.

Senator Borah of Idaho: "His (Rogers') messages of humor, mixed with a homely but rare wisdom, had come to be a part of our national lives. We are all very sad."

Senator Hastings of Delaware: "His philosophy and humor have served America particularly well in this depression. The world has lost one of its greatest characters."

Senator Ashurst of Arizona: "Two gallant gentlemen have reached the stars. The world is poor by this tragic event."

Senator Connally of Texas: "He was a great man, probably the world's greatest humorist."

Irvin S. Cobb, humorist—"He was a friend to all the world. Men like him, I'm sure, don't come along oftener than once in a century."

Gov. John W. Troy of Alaska, who entertained Post and Rogers—"As a philosopher, humorist and as a man, Rogers was among the country's greatest. Two great Americans are dead and we all mourn."

Admiral J. M. Reeves, commander-in-chief of the United States fleet—"We are all saddened by the sacrifice of these two men, who were outstanding in aviation."

James A. Farley, Postmaster-General—"His (Rogers') untimely death is a great loss to our country."

Representative Edith Nourse Rogers, Massachusetts—"He endeared himself to me at a Republican campaign meeting in Boston. He told the gathering that, although we had the same name, we were not related but that we had this in common—we both worked hard."

Amon G. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth (Tex.) Star-Telegram: "To lots of people, Will Rogers was a comedian. To me he was a philosopher. He was one of the sweetest, most lovable and charitable men in this country. He lived for this country."

Comment of Will Hays.

Will H. Hays: "It does not take time to realize our loss. The intensity of this loss is as instantly grasped as the effect of the crash itself. He stood for everything that was right, never for anything that was wrong."

Louis B. Mayer, head of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studio: "Will Rogers was a truly great American and a humorist who not only made the world laugh but also gave it a profound and homely philosophy which made him respected and loved throughout the world. He will be missed as few men have been missed in this generation."

Mary Pickford. "It is not the length of time we remain in this present human sphere that is important, it is what we do with that time. Will Rogers and Wiley Post gave gloriously of every moment, enriching our lives with the treasures of their accomplishments."

Senator Gore of Oklahoma—"My State has suffered a double tragedy."

Gen. Hugh S. Johnson—"It's a terrible loss."

Donald L. Brown, president of United Aircraft Corporation—"Sufficient tribute cannot be paid to their useful lives."

Hugh Herndon, round-the-world flyer—"Post's death is the greatest loss to American and world aviation in the last 10 years."

Lewis Lacey, polo player—"Rogers was the finest kind of good-will ambassador."

J. T. Trippe, president of Pan-American Airways System—"No one in America has done so much to encourage advancement of modern air transportation as has Will Rogers, Wiley Post . . . was distinguished among the world's great pilots."

Frank Gillmore, president of Actors' Equity Association—"Will Rogers was a great actor as well as a great humorist and a great philosopher."

Prince of Wales.

The Prince of Wales, through his aide-de-camp, Major Sir John Aird—"The Prince majors with deep regret the sad news of the untimely death of Mr. Will Rogers and Mr. Wiley Post."

Maurice Chevalier, actor—"That's awful. I knew poor Will and admired him with great and deep affection. In my own French language I can only say he was unique."

James W. Geraru, former Ambassador to Germany—"Rogers was our greatest practical philosopher and at the same time our best humorist."

The Marquess of Londonderry, former British Air Secretary—"I ex-

AIRMAN PILOTING FUNERAL PLANE



—Associated Press Wirephoto.

JOE CROSSON.

tend sympathy to America in her great loss of two gallant men."

Former President Cosgrave of Ireland, who was Rogers' host in 1926—"I deeply regret the death of a great gentleman, humorist and lover of humanity."

Lord Mayor Byrne of Dublin—"He (Rogers) was a good friend of Ireland. We are the poorer for his tragic death."

Amos 'n' Andy.

Freeman F. Gosden and Charles W. Correll (Amos 'n' Andy)—"America has lost not only its greatest natural humorist, but also a man who has given a great part of his life to bring relief to those in need. Like Wiley Post, he believed in aviation from its early days, and had done much to develop it."

Clifford W. Henderson, manager of the National Air Races, Cleveland—"Both Rogers and Post had written brilliant air history, Post through his superlative flying and Rogers in the world promotion of flying in his writings."

Former Gov. James M. Cox of Ohio—"Will Rogers occupied a position unique, if not without precedent, in the history of our republic. His death brings a tragic loss."

Ward T. Van Orman, balloon pilot—"In looking over the heroes of American public, Will Rogers ranked No. 1 in my opinion. In Wiley Post, we have lost a man of uncanny skill and flying ability."

Comment of Fred Stone.

Fred Stone, actor—"Rogers' death is a national calamity. The world has lost a great man and I have lost my best friend."

Gov. Alf M. Landon of Kansas—"Both were Oklahomans and neighbors, and all Kansas will be saddened by their passing."

F. C. Hall, Oklahoma City oil man who sponsored the Winnie Mae's record-breaking world flights—"Wiley was like a son to me. I'd have done anything in the world for him."

Gov. E. W. Marland of Oklahoma—"The State will want to give them a memorial, but the State can't add anything to the honors already heaped upon them by the sovereigns and people of the world."

Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith, Australian aviator—"It is very sad."

Ronald Colman—"I feel humanity has lost its best and most sincere friend in Rogers and aviation one of its greatest figures in Post."

Warner Baxter—"Will Rogers' death marks the passing of one of the greatest men of our time."

Warner Oland—"Rogers belonged to the world."

Charles N. James, who flew Rogers on the first Western Air Express mail trip between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City—"He saw the future of transport flying in this country and often told us he intended to help it as much as possible."

L. W. Goss, Pacific Coast operations' superintendent of Transcontinental & Western Air—"He knew practically everyone in the flying business by his first name and was a favorite of the personnel of the three transcontinental air lines."

Miriam A. Ferguson, former Gov-

ernor of Texas—"Mr. Rogers was a fine man and our friend."

Winfield R. Sheehan, movie executive, who started Rogers on his film career: "America has lost its most useful citizen. There always was one thought predominant in Will's mind and it was that when he died he hoped he would have earned the record that he never said or wrote a criticism intended to injure anyone. As an artist Will Rogers was in a class by himself. He truly represented the spirit and humor of the American people."

Col. Alvin M. Owsley, American Minister to Irish Free State: "Rogers made more people laugh than any other American while he lived."

Harold Gatty, who flew with Post on his first trip around the world: "Wiley was a leader in world aviation. His courage, experience and enterprise will be greatly missed. Always a free-lance, he was a pioneer in stratosphere flying."

Josephus Daniels, American Ambassador to Mexico: "He (Rogers) was the best-loved private citizen of America."

Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, aviation executive: "He (Post) did more than almost any other aviator, except Col. Lindbergh, to give America the feeling that we had won our wings."