

# HISTORY OF AIR PIONEERS LIKE FICTION STORY

Adventures, Hazards Rival Those of Early Rail Builders.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance  
WASHINGTON, March 6.—Adventures and hardships encountered by railroad builders of the past century have nothing on the airway builders of today.

Men of the airways division of the department of commerce, who build and tend light and radio beacons for the airways through the Rocky mountains, can furnish tales as thrilling as any novel.

For instance, the story of Donner Summit radio beacon, near the California-Nevada line. Material for this beacon had to be hauled through blizzards by dog team, with the wind blowing sometimes seventy miles an hour, and the snow drifting over the path.

Lighted by Beacons  
Donner Summit is 7,135 feet above the sea level, and is two and a half miles up the mountain side from the nearest highway.

It is solid rock and holes had to be blasted in the rock for the radio masts. Sometimes on Donner Pass the wind blows seventy miles an hour, the snow has been known to drift fifty-eight feet deep and stays on the ground seven months out of the year.

Peaks around Donner Summit rise to 10,000 feet and airplanes flying the Reno-San Francisco route must go over the top in bad weather. But today they are guided by these radio range beacons, as well as numerous beacon lights.

Infested With Snakes  
Almost as difficult as Donner Summit were the radio stations at Pleasant Valley, Nev., and Strevell, Ida. The radio station and emergency landing field at Pleasant Valley is sixty miles from the nearest settlement, and all material for the beacons and buildings had to be hauled over snow-covered mountain trails by truck.

Furthermore, the place is infested with rattlesnakes, and even after the stations were completed the keepers often found snakes in their houses.

Plans Polar Flight

By NEA Service  
LENINGRAD, March 6.—Dr. Hugo Eckener, famous Zeppelin pilot, will command a trial flight from this city to North Land on the edge of the Arctic circle some time in July, it has been announced. It is understood that a crew of fifty and a party of fifteen will be on board the dirigible 127C when it makes the trip. Scientists and aviation experts will study conditions in the Arctic.

Mail Planes Fast

By NEA Service  
WASHINGTON, March 6.—The average speed of the United States air mail planes last year was 122 miles an hour compared with 33 miles by train. Mail now is sent by plane at four times the speed of trains at just a little more cost.

# DEADLINE TIME FOR VAMPIRES IS NEAR

Saturday Noon Is Closing Hour in Times-Circle 'Dracula' Contest.

Saturday at noon is the deadline for receipt of drawings in The Times-Circle theater "vampire" drawing contest. The contest closes at noon sharp and all drawings must be in the hands of The Times "Dracula" editor by that time or they will not be considered.

Total cash prizes of \$50 are offered by The Times for the strangest or most unusual drawings of "vampires." Contestants were asked to sketch just what their idea of a "vampire" happened to be. And the results so far is the most weird and unusual collection of drawings ever gathered in one place at one time.

Some one once said that "there is nothing new under the sun." But he didn't say anything about the moon or dark nights. And as "vampires" live only at night—well, any-

way a good many of the submitted drawings show creatures that no one connected with the editorial staff of The Times ever saw or heard of before.

This contest was inspired by the picture "Dracula," which opens a special engagement at the Circle theater today. It is the strange story of a "vampire" with a lot of love affairs on his hands. If you haven't seen it in your drawing yet, hurry. Do it right now. At this late hour you'd better bring it in. Be sure that you do not fold it. All drawings should be received by 12 noon.

Then watch The Times for the winners and publication of the strange "vampires." Prize winners will be announced just as soon as the judges get over their first "fright" caused by a look at the pile of "vampires."

The longest air route in the world at present, with a regular service of planes, is from New York to Buenos Aires, a distance of 5,800 miles.

# WORLD-FAMED CHINESE SHOP 'CLOSING OUT'

San Francisco Guides Are Stunned by Toll of Business Depression.

By United Press  
SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Tourist guides wandered disconsolately through narrow streets of San Francisco's quaint Chinatown today, stunned by announcement

that the most famous store in the oriental quarter must close.

Tong Song, oldest merchant of the section, started his "first, and last sale" in sixty-five years of business at the Sing Fat Bazar. Translated into English, Sing Fat means "good luck and prosperity."

In 1866, Tong came to San Francisco and started a little shop. The shop was destroyed by the earthquake and fire of 1906, but Tong was the first Chinese to renew business after the disaster, constructing a large building on the main thoroughfare of Chinatown.

For many years, Tong rushed from one customer to another, traffic piled up on Grant avenue, which is no wider than a country lane, and the sidewalks were jammed.

Sing Fat Bazar was always a favorite store among the guides. Then came the business depres-

sion and Chinatown was the first to suffer. For many months the streets there have been almost deserted. The majority of Americans going there have been residents of San Francisco seeking inexpensive novelties for household use.

The Chinese bowed to the inevitable, and for the first time plastered their windows with posters advertising "sales" and "half prices."

In vain they produced a street carnival and recently tried to exploit their new year's celebration. Chinese merchants, their shoulders drooping, sit idly on stools, never complaining, but obviously discouraged.

They admit one mistake. When the crash came they invented many new articles, some of which never had been seen in China, in hopes they would attract American customers, and this costly merchandise,

such as rabbit fur bedroom slippers still fills their windows.

Only a few have witnessed the startling change in Chinatown and Tong's announcement that he must close his business, which is known to thousands of world travelers, will astonish many who expected his son would carry it on indefinitely.

"Times have changed," Tong said, sadly. "No more is business like it was in the good old days."

Tong, who now is 84, said he will live with his daughter Helen, a student in the medical school at the University of California.

He will try to forget his failure in business by playing with his grandson, Hugh Tong, whose godfather is Gouverneur Morris, the novelist.

Traffic Club Dines  
The Indianapolis Traffic Club held a monthly dinner Thursday night at the Lincoln. George

Stayart of the foreign freight department of the Pennsylvania railroad addressed the group.

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Dangerous to let a COLD hang on. Only a few days' delay and you are a QUININE. Take two tiny tablets now, follow directions, and in a day the cold disappears. Tablets compounded into each HILL'S tablet will break up that cold, make you feel like a new man. Avoid substitutes.

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In a Great Sale!  
**\$1.95 \$2.95**  
**\$3.95**

The best assortment of men's smartly tailored pants we have shown.

**Worsteds, Cheviots, Cassimeres, Twists**  
Save \$1 or More!  
All Sizes for All Men



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**Men's Fashion Tailored BLUE SUITS**  
At a Third Less for Easter

**\$19.50**  
Extra Trousers, \$5

Easily Worth \$30

The navy blue woolens for these fine, fashionably tailored suits come from one of America's largest mills in a quantity sufficient for thousands of suits at—

**The Lowest Price Ever Named!**

Virgin wool serge and unfinished worsteds used by exclusive tailors in \$30 to \$40 suits.

Two and three-button styles and smart, double-breasted models. Every suit carefully hand-tailored.

**Regulars—Shorts—Longs—Stouts**  
Sizes 34 to 46

**100% Wool Worsteds and Cheviots**  
Smart New Graduation Styles

**Boys' Suits**  
Usually \$12.50 to \$15  
**\$9.95**

**Two Pairs Long Pants!**

We offer these as the smartest and finest boys' suits you've ever seen at such a modest price. The Farr-Ray lining is guaranteed. Smartly tailored in every detail. Twice the price will not buy smarter or dressier suits elsewhere. Sizes 9 to 18 years.

—Sears—First floor.



**Smart Ties**  
\$1.00 and \$1.50 qualities. New spring pattern in a wide assortment of colors. Silk lined ends.  
**69¢**  
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WE GUARANTEE LOWEST PRICES IN CITY

Ties—Straps  
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**Women's—Girls'** Satin, Brown or Black Kid, Patent

**—SPRING STYLES—**



**CUBAN HEELS**  
**\$1.39**  
TO  
**\$1.97**  
SIZES 3-9



**COLLEGE HEELS**  
**\$1.97**  
SIZES 6-12



**Men's WORK SHOES**  
That are made strong and will wear and give comfort.  
**\$1.97**  
SIZES 6-12



**Men's POLICE SHOES**  
Full double soles—built-in arch supports, wear-proof lining.  
**\$2.97**  
SIZES 6 1/2 to 15 Widths



**Men's DRESS OXFORDS**  
Goodyear welt soles and rubber heels. Compare our values.  
**\$1.97**  
SIZES 6-12



**Women's Felt SLIPPERS**  
Soft Padded Soles  
**31c**  
ALL COLORS



**Boys' and Girls' GYMS**  
Brown or White  
**43c**  
FIRST QUALITY



**Boys' and Girls' STRAPS OR OXFORDS**  
Patent or Calf  
**97c**  
All Sizes to Big 3



**Boys' Dress OXFORDS**  
**\$1.97**  
All sizes  
Tan or Black  
Calf, Real Soles



**MEN'S WORK RUBBERS** ..... **97c**  
**MEN'S WORK SHOES** ..... **\$1.49**  
**WOMAN'S ARCH SUPPORT** ..... **\$1.97**  
Black or Brown  
**MEN'S BASKET BALL SHOES** ..... **97c**  
Sun-Tan and White



**Girls' Dress Straps or Oxfords**  
Patent or Calf  
Real Wear Soles  
**\$1.69**  
To \$1.97

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Sale of 1,000 Men's Collar-Attached

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Regular \$1 Values

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Here's a chance to buy an entire season's supply of really good shirts. Fast color broadcloth in fancy patterns, smartly tailored. Sizes 14 to 17.

**Three for \$2.00**

**Boys' \$1.50 Caps**  
Smart caps of water-proofed fabrics. Unbreakable cork visor. Leather sweat band. Silk and rayon lining.  
**88¢**

**2 Boys' Blouses**  
Regular 75c value. Made of vat dyed, fast color broadcloth, plain and fancy colors. Sizes 6 to 15 years.  
**\$1.00**

**Boys' Sweaters**  
Wool mixed, cricket style, V-neck. Plain colors and fancy patterns. They're mighty good. Sizes 8 to 16 years.  
**89¢**  
—Sears—First floor.

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