

Ladd Ewell Writes Vivid Description Of Recent Air Trip

Ladd Ewell, who is working in the east, stationed at Statton Island, returned home for the holidays to be with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cady Ewell of Cary avenue. He left the latter part of last week by plane to return to his position. Enroute he wrote a letter to his parents, describing the air trip, a portion of which appears herewith.

Airport muddy and dirty looking, hazy sky with dull sun. Huge shining planes at rest before the station—look awfully out of place in this mud. Taxi to end of airport runway. Motors roar as they test first one then the other; off down the runway, up over the hangars as plane levels out. In a minute the ground fades from view as soupy clouds close in, close to the ground. Settle back and start work on a problem for Proctor and Gamble, as I cannot see a thing. Suddenly sunlight streams in my window, a great sea of white clouds stretches in all directions as far as I can see, and above a gloriously blue sky. Way above the clouds, now a great hole to the left shows blue Lake Michigan. Must be at 5,000 or 6,000 feet.

Out now—glorious clouds are great white, and blue, of them—such pure air. Am in first seat on right front of plane, look out on great powerful motor, the wing stretches out glistening silver to my right. Whoops! free cigarettes! Pilot just came back with report from radio—we are 7,000 feet above sea level, 6,300 feet above ground, air speed 178 miles per hour, ground speed 192 miles per hour, over lake, north of Indiana. Think we are now starting down for Detroit, motors slowing. A few very high, "mares-tail" clouds cast blue shadows on the white cloud plain below. Higher clouds ahead which break now, and through long narrow canyons see brown fields and woods now and then. Looks like an ice flow, which is breaking up. Slowly going down. Detroit—fifteen minutes. Left just an hour ago from Chicago. Air—just a bit bouncy now—was very even when high. My lunch brought me just as we drop into the clouds, down into all greyish white, no sun, can't see a thing, now below them, very bumpy over Detroit, see Lake Erie. What a grey, drab world it is after the glorious pureness of white clouds, blue sky and brilliant sunshine above! Right over airport, landing in a second, motors off. Sat down nicely but so slowly we taxi in, as if waterlogged, tied down—these planes don't belong to the earth—but to the sky. Mud and water, ice and grey skies. How great it will be to get back to the sky! Up we go—another huge plane right ahead of us. Over Erie, great sheets of ice, miles long with ragged cracks running through it. Sunshine, as we are up and out on top of the clouds once again. Oh! how glorious. Thrills break in clouds can see lake and ice, now and then. Up and up we go. Report just handed me by stewardess over Ontario, one-third of way from Detroit to Buffalo. Overcast there, may have to take train in. Haven't heard since leaving Chicago whether or not we may go on to Newark. Fifteen minutes from Buffalo, ceiling too low to allow us to go down over Niagara Falls, too bad—but would almost as soon stay up—it is great here. Starting down again, the misty clouds passing over wing tip. Off again to the clear, blue sky after grey, dirty Buffalo. Going to Albany, will see if we can go on from there. How wonderful it is when we

bank! One great wing points right to the sky, and on the other side, the earth pivots below us. Up we go, the motors roaring in their eagerness to again breathe the fresh, pure air above the clouds. Takes hours on the train to get to Buffalo, its about the half way mark, but we made it in three hours, including our Detroit stop. No sections ahead on the tracks here, to slow you down—have the whole upper world to ourselves. Getting up over the mountains, they make great bumps in the cloud field.

Did you see "Lost Horizon?" Looks as it did then over the snow capped peaks. The clouds completely blanket the hills, flow right up and over them. Great hills and valleys on the cloud floor now, sun sinking low, the valleys are deep blue and purple, the tops still white, but taking on a pinkish cast. Either we are going down or the clouds are coming up—probably Albany is close.

The west is now glorious, all orange, the cloud bed a dazzling yellow and blue; the few high feathering clouds are turning red. Wonderful how this great ship can follow an invisible beam and know just when to dive down through the cloud blanket! But when we do, there is the city we want, right on the nose every time. Down we go

the clouds. How beautiful the setting sun is, seen through them. Byrr! they look cold—deep blue, their tops covered with gold feathers and plumes. Must put on my safety belt again, (at take offs and landings).

From brilliant color we again drop into greyness. After five minutes or so in dense clouds, whisking ghostly past the wings, we go up and out of it.

They won't let us land at Albany, so we go on to Newark. The sun is setting now, gloriously red and orange behind blue cloud hills. A blue world with a redish sky. Going down the Hudson river valley. Catskills to the right. Can't make out whether just clouds or the mountain tops, but marvelous colors, very subtle shadings of tone on all sides. Sun well down now, darkish in plane, but still the great motors roar, the propellers bite into the cold air and we move smoothly on through cloud canyons. Lights below, way, way down, through rifts in the clouds.

Just past over West Point. The fading light makes a rainbow in our propeller and behind us—bank crimson clouds. On into darkness—

Petunias
Mrs. Newrich was fond of flowers and especially liked the salvia, but was not very reliable in getting the names right. She was giving directions to her gardener. "On this side of the walk," she said, "I want you to put out some salivas. Now what would you suggest for the other side?"
"Well, madam," answered the gardener solemnly, "maybe it would be a good idea to put some spittoonias there."

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Local Men Will Explain Government Offices January 19

The main concern of the National League of Women Voters this year will be a survey of the Patronage System. It will be made by a selected group of members with a view to exposing and eliminating the evils of patronage. The system is not only wasteful and inefficient, but it "rots the very basis of democratic government." Through their reliance on the use of patronage, political parties cease to formulate policies, and rely for support on the jobs they can give out if elected, rather than upon voters who agree with them as to policies. Thus the will of the people becomes an empty phrase.

In line with the program of the National League, the local Highland Park group is working this year to further the idea of the merit system as embodied in the "Ramspeck" bill. The league urges all members to try to interest people in writing our representatives in Washington to support this bill instead of the McKellar bill which means to retain patronage.

At the regular meeting of the

Highland Park League on Wednesday, January 19, any citizen who cares to come, may hear the members of the Highland Park Civil Service Commission explain how government offices are held and operated here. These three men who have kindly consented to speak and answer questions are Messrs. John R. Putnam, Byron Howes, and Charles R. Dennett.

Contract Bridge Tournament Series Opens January 14

Sponsored by the Rector's Guild of Trinity Episcopal church, a series of seven contract bridge tournaments will be held in the church parish house beginning Friday, Jan. 14, and continuing through February 25.

Instruction in contract by Mrs. Maxine Miner, widely known in Chicago, and on the north shore as a bridge authority and unusually capable teacher, will occupy the first one-half hour of each tournament, and duplicate bridge tournaments will follow the instruction periods. The tournaments will be held on Friday of each week for the

seven weeks period, beginning at 2 o'clock.

Players will be permitted to select their partners at the beginning of the series, and play with them throughout the entire series. Tea will be served following each tournament. A substantial reduction from the normal fee has been made for the series. Tickets are available either for the entire seven tournaments, or for single sessions, as desired.

Arrangements for the event are in charge of Mrs. Charles R. Ferrigo, 263 Cedar street. Reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Ferrigo, Highland Park 4333.

Two Teams Take 3 From Opposing Bowling Teams

Last Wednesday evening, the Studebaker team took three from Inman and Inman, while Central Tire walked away with three from Paul's Barber Shop. H. Leuer had an outstanding score of 587.

Central Tire Company took two from Sky Harbor Tuesday evening, while Coleman's team competed alone due to the fact that the Con-

sumer's team forgot to show up. Irv says he thought they were to bowl Wednesday, but it is felt that he only used that as an excuse due to a poor showing earlier that week.

Next week's schedule:
Tuesday—Studebaker vs. Coleman's; Sky Harbor vs. Paul's Barber Shop.
Wednesday: Central Tire vs. Consumers; Inman vs. Farmers Beverage.

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