

Interplanetary Trips, Helicopters For Cars Seen Commonplace Within Half Century

Air aviation has come far in 50 years. But where does it go from here? Some of the rosiest views of its future come from a man who has figured intimately in its past. That's why The Associated Press asked Alexander P. De Seversky to tell what he thinks of aviation's place in the next half-century.

Commercial airlines will fly

NEW YORK (AP)—Within 50 years, we'll be flying to the moon in 3½ hours, the skies over the earth will be dark with private helicopters, and autos and trucks will disappear as means of long-distance transportation.

This vision of aviation's future in the next 50 years is held by a man who had much to do with aviation's first 50 years. He is Maj. Alexander P. De Seversky, inventor, designer, pilot and author.

The problem of interplanetary travel, he feels, will be solved by atomic-powered craft, not rockets. Rockets will not prove practical, he says, because the pilot cannot control the speed. He would have to start at top speed, which "is like being shot out of a cannon," and remain at that speed.

An atomic-powered plane, De Seversky says, will have a controllable speed. It will start slowly—relatively speaking—climbing through the earth's atmosphere at between 1,000 and 2,000 miles an hour. When clear of the earth's atmosphere, it will accelerate to a maximum of 130,000 mph about half way to the moon, and then gradually slow down during the second half of the journey. The moon is about 238,000 miles from earth.

"How much travel there will be to the moon and other planets," he says, "depends on what we find there. If those places have natural resources we want, we'll be going back often. If not, they will probably be only a scientific curiosity."

Here are other De Seversky predictions:

Atomic-powered commercial planes will fly around the world in 12 hours at an altitude of about 100,000 feet. With atomic engines perfected, they will be able to go faster, but greater speeds within the earth's atmosphere will only cause the ship to disintegrate.

The trend in the future will be toward smaller commercial planes. De Seversky does not share the opinion of some experts that future commercial craft will be big enough to house swimming pools and large dining rooms!

"Since it will take less and less time to get from one place to another, there would be little need for such facilities."

Within 10 or 15 years, helicopters will be cheaper than today's lowest price car. This will be accomplished when "jets will be used at the ends of the helicopter blades to propel them like a pinwheel."

This will remove the present need for relatively expensive transmission power.

Within 50 years, there will be about 20,000,000 helicopters over North America "hopping around like fleas." He adds:

"Probably the helicopter 50 years from now will be half-car and half-plane."

"Air traffic will be heavy, obviously. But as radar and other devices are perfected, traffic will be controlled by electronic highways. Collisions will be impossible."

Without the element of human error, pilotless guided missiles, travelling at supersonic speeds, will prove not only faster but also a safer, more reliable method of air mail and freight than anything we now have.

"Since we will not have to make provision for human beings," De Seversky believes, "the craft will be uncomplicated. It can be arranged to weather almost any storm. If, for example, it should drop in the ocean, it can be fixed to float indefinitely."



ROY H. THOMSON of Toronto, president of the Thomson Company, Limited, sits in the Edinburgh office of The Scotsman, after he bought control of the newspaper, one of the oldest in Britain. Mr. Thomson was named chairman of Scotsman Publications, Limited, which operates The Scotsman, The Evening Dispatch and The Weekly Scotsman. The Scotsman was founded in 1817.

BLACKWOOD on Bridge

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Right Card as Important In Lead as Right Suit

Here is another hand to illustrate the fact that in defending you must not only lead the right suit, but also the right card in that suit.

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North	
(Mrs. Keen)	S-K 8 5
H-9 2	S-6 2
D-A Q 10 7 4	D-K 10 3
C-9 4 3	C-10 8 7 5 2

West	
(Mr. Dale)	(Mr. Masters)
S-J 9 7 4 3	S-6 2
A-A J 7 5	H-K 10 3
D-8 3	D-K 5 2
C-Q 6	C-10 8 7 5 2

South	
(Mr. Champion)	S-A Q 10
H-Q 8 6 4	D-J 9 6
D-C A K	C-A K J

The bidding:

South 1 NT East 2 NT

North Pass West 3 NT

East Pass

All pass

to remember with a combination of cards like this is to lead the card just above dummy's highest card in the suit.

It would have gone Mr. Champion no good to duck the 10. If he had, Mr. Masters would have cashed the king, then led his last heart through the queen up to Mr. Dale's ace-jack.

Actually, Mr. Champion covered the 10 with the queen. The ace won and the five was returned. Mr. Masters won with the king, dropping dummy's nine. He then led the trey and Mr. Dale had the jack-seven over the eight-six.

This very satisfying result

would not have been accomplished if Mr. Masters had started with any other heart but the 10. Try it.

LONDON (CP)—When a black cat walked into a public house in Battersea and gave birth to kittens, patrons gave it a tot of whisky before animal welfare inspectors collected the family.

Polio Vaccine 'Perfected'

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Perfection of an experimental polio vaccine to a point justifying inauguration of plans for countrywide vaccination tests on hundreds of thousands of children in the United States, perhaps early next year, was announced today.

It's the vaccine whose development first was announced last spring by Dr. Jonas E. Salk of the University of Pittsburgh, working under a March of Dimes Polio Fund grant.

It was disclosed that additional preliminary research on humans since last spring has greatly strengthened hopes for the vaccine, and that it's also been found possible to improve it and to produce it in a variety of forms, each of which may have particular advantages in the fight against the great crippler.

Dr. Salk made the historic announcement that science has at last achieved a material safe, potent and promising enough to be put to the acid test of determining whether it protects against the disease under natural conditions of exposure.

He told the American Academy of Pediatrics in a prepared paper that the vaccine—already proven to be capable of preventing polio in experimental animals—has now been tested in 637 humans, including 15 described in his original report last spring.

Two Tried On Drug Count

VANCOUVER (CP)—Two men were acquitted Thursday in a size court on a charge of offering narcotics for sale.

The jury added a rider to their verdict saying that the case against the pair, George Eldridge and Lawrence Bell, should never have been brought to court.

The men were charged with offering to sell drugs to RCMP Constable Gerald M. Howe, young undercover agent whose investigation led to the arrest of a score of men and women here last April.

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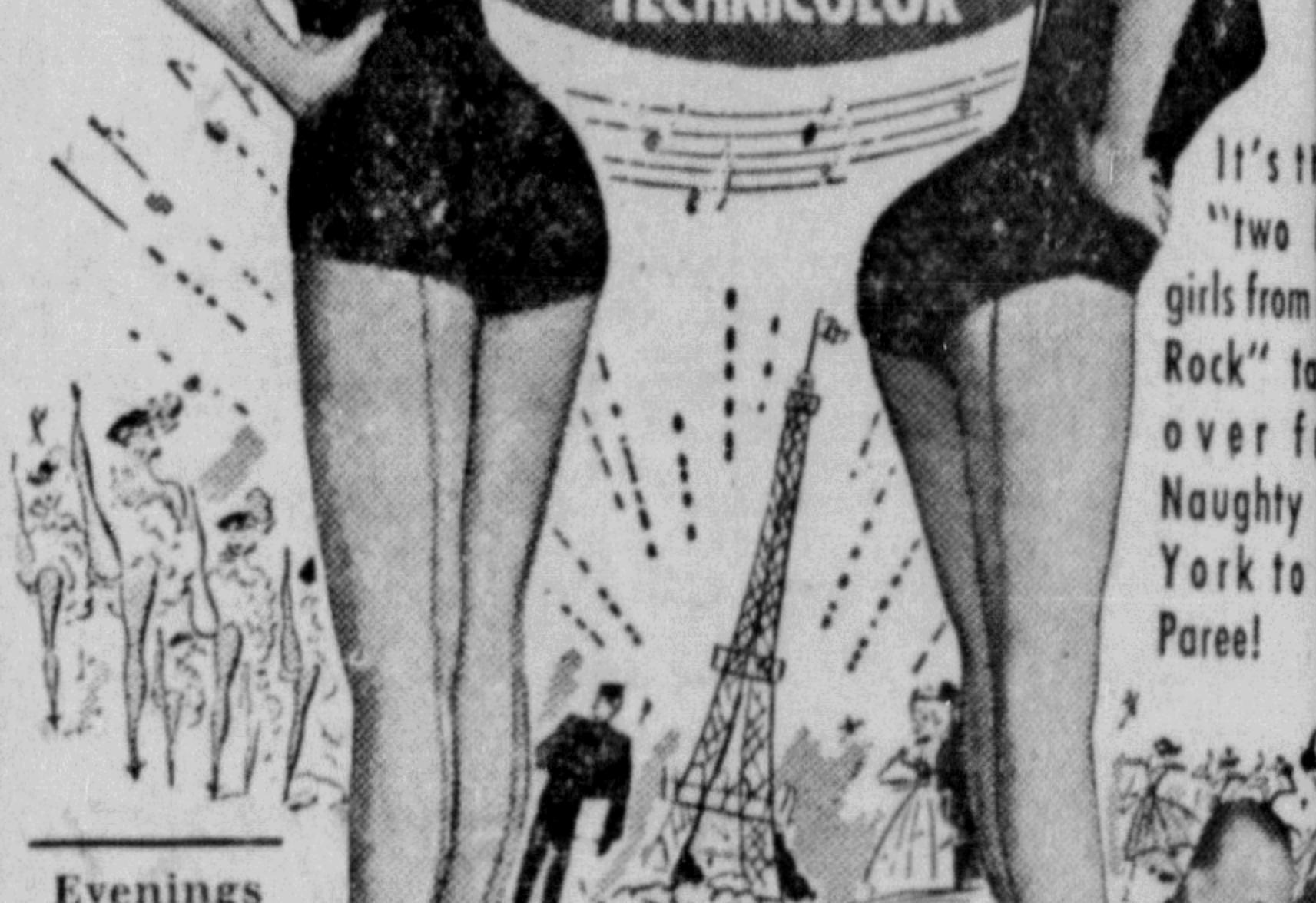


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