

MONDAY, MAY, 2, 1927.

### PRICE OF PROGRESS

Commander Noel Davis was laid to rest yesterday afternoon in St. Johns cemetery, the victim of American efforts to conquer the air. He had paid the price of progress, giving his life while blazing the way for the progress of future generations.

Commander Davis was killed while making the final test last week at Langley Field, Va., preparatory to an attempt to cross the Atlantic ocean in a non-stop flight. He was buried just one week to the day after he had expressed the hope that he might "hop off" from Pensacola on the long record-making flight.

The young aviator has joined a long list of other brave and able American fliers who have gone before him, men who undaunted by the death of comrades have kept on trying. He was typical of the high type of young manhood that makes up the personnel of America's flying forces.

It was one of Commander Davis' comrades who first flew over the Arctic, a flier who, like Davis, was trained at Pensacola. It was two Americans who lowered the flight record, and sons of America have charted most of the ways of the air.

Although Noel Davis goes to join an array of aviators who have died in the attempt to prove the practicability of flying, his death will not deter those left behind from trying to do what he had set his mind upon accomplishing. Instead, fatalities inspire them to prove that the feats, which were planned, can be accomplished under favorable conditions. Zachary Landsdowne, John Rodgers, Noel Davis, and the others, beckon the unafraid birdman to keep on because they made the supreme sacrifice.

Some day the craftsmanship of the planes will equal the spirit of those who will fly them across the ocean, and men like Noel Davis will not have lived in vain.