

CNAC ASSOCIATION



CANNON BALL

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Reg Farmer, Editor

Top Side Ricksha by Harold M. Bixby was printed privately in 1938 by Harold Bixby. Only a few copies were printed. It consisted of 392 pages of double spaced text printed on one side. We have condensed this to approximately 100 pages. This volume is generally unavailable and probably will not be reproduced again.

Your editor proposes to excerpt from it on a regular basis. It deals with aviation in China from 1933 to 1936 and the author's experiences in China during that period. Harold Bixby was Vice-President of Pan American and was sent out after CNAC was acquired by Pan American in April 1933. He includes some of his observations and conclusions as well as his experiences with CNAC. The first installment deals with the beginnings of commercial aviation. I hope you like it.

WAR MEMORIAL MEDAL

The medals are under way I have sent the list to Washington and expect them soon. If you have not already requested one let me know, it is not too late. There is a second list to go in soon. Send me the dates of your service with CNAC. While you are writing why don't you write a little note about yourself so I can put a little item in the Cannonball.

HUMP PILOTS ASSOCIATION

This is a group of people (mostly G I) who flew over the Hump. It seems to include passengers as well as pilots. At any rate the distinction is less important now. They all have similar interests. Primarily it is to make friends and renew old acquaintances. There are a few CNAC members in it already. The Association has a news letter and have reunions every year to which many of our members attend. You would surely meet friends and a large number of men with whom you have a lot in common. Their dues are \$12.00. If you are interested contact: HUMP PILOTS ASSOCIATION, 917 Pine Blvd Poplar Bluff, Missouri, 63901.

THE DRAGON'S WINGS

The Dragon's Wings by William Leary Jr., is still in print. Order while you can. It is the one and only that tells what happened there. I enjoyed it very much.

PREFACE

This book is written about China in general and aviation in particular, both subjects of popular interest because of their undetermined importance, but vast potentialities, in this age of world upheaval. It is not the intent of the author to attempt to "expert" either of these subjects, but rather to skim over the kaleidoscopic picture of the last five years, with the hope of showing the effect of aviation on the transition from the old to what may be the new China.

Many economic and political chiropractors are busy on the body politic in China as elsewhere, making adjustments which horrify the old family economic doctor, who, dismissed, sits with his horse and buggy beside the road of current events, and wonders how it will all turn out.

Nowhere else in the world is the struggle between new and old forces so keen as in China. It was the author's privilege to be associated with one of these new forces-- commercial aviation-- during a period of unprecedented change. His duties carried him to distant parts of China not visited by the average businessman, and he had opportunities to meet and deal with the highest national, provincial and municipal officials as well as with bankers, merchants, men of business, pilots, mechanics, and coolies.

It is hoped that the story of this experience may bring to the reader something new and worthwhile as an addition to the already sagging shelves marked "Books on China."

(1938)

H. M. B.