

PALMETTO NEWS ITEMS

Things Doing And Happening In Sunny Carolina, Told In Condensed And Pithy Phrase.

Model Farm in Chester.
Chester, Special.—Col. T. J. Cunningham is one of Chester County's farmers who is always endeavoring to find and apply the best and most modern ideas in farming, and a visit to his farm, a little more than a mile west of the city, is always interesting and refreshing. It was the writer's privilege Friday to accompany Col. Cunningham over a large part of the plantation and see what is going on.

Col. Cunningham is, above all things else, a scientific farmer—not a farmer who jumps from idea to idea in mad succession in the futile hope of finding something more successful than the old beaten tracks—but a farmer who is actuated by good sound reason, and who plants one crop one year and another the next on the same piece of land, because the soil demands a certain succession of crops, and because certain crops following each other in a certain succession build up the soil. It follows, therefore, that one sees on this farm no vast acreage of cotton, and cotton alone, but diversification and a general assortment of the crops that this section of the South is best adapted for. Col. Cunningham is giving his attention largely this year to hay, and the many acres of fertile meadows on his home place and the 275 acres that he is farming on the opposite side of the road are yielding him a golden harvest of fine hay. He is confident of getting 200 tons of hay this year, and a very conservative estimate would place the yield at much more than that. The second cutting is now in progress, and the uncut portions of the lush meadows show how fine the yield is.

Col. Cunningham is not much of a believer in terracing. His method for eradicating gullies and washes is by planting cover crops, which not only stop the washes, but at the same time lay the foundation for a fertility. He is putting his idea into operation on what have been heretofore badly washed fields, and already after only one such crop the fields show a noticeable improvement.

The cotton patch that Col. Cunningham is conducting under the directions of the agricultural department at Washington, is showing up nicely, while two patches of corn that are being worked under the directions of the experiment station are also showing up well. One is being worked with the hoe alone, while the other is being plowed. Other conditions are the same. At this stage there is not much difference between the two, the advantage, if there is any, resting with the latter patch.

Finds Skull of Missing Man.
Aiken, Special.—The little town of Kathwood on the southern edge of this county is stirred with excitement over what appears to be the most foul murder that community has ever known. Levi Chavous was brought to the Aiken jail and charged with the murder of C. S. Pringles. A hat identified as Pringles', a tin can used when fishing and a skull are the only remains of the apparently murdered man.

Guilty, Says Jury.
Barnwell, Special.—The famous Chester Kennedy case came to a close Thursday morning at 6 o'clock, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty with recommendation to the mercy of the court. The case went to the jury a little after 1 o'clock Wednesday and after deliberating for 17 hours they agreed upon a verdict of guilty with recommendations to the mercy.

Water-Power to Be Developed in Spartanburg Section.
Spartanburg, Special.—The Electric Manufacturing and Power Company, which owns the power plant at Gaston shoals on Broad river and the street railway system here, has about completed negotiations for the purchase of another large water-power in this section. The officers of the company have not announced the location of the water-power for the reason that a few details are to be arranged before the purchase is complete.

By Accident Child Poisoned at Greer.
Greenville, Special.—The young son of Dr. James, a prominent physician of Greer, died early Monday morning in most excruciating agony. The father hurriedly leaving home Sunday afternoon accidentally dropped a bottle of morphine on the porch and the little fellow picked it up and, when discovered by his mother, had eaten the greater part of the contents of the bottle. A stomach pump was applied too late.

Little Girl Has Awful Experience.

Fort Mill, Special.—A more extraordinary and terrifying experience comes to few people than that which befell the family of Mr. C. Cook, an industrious farmer living five miles east of here. While playing on the curbing his little 7-year old daughter fell into their well which was walled with 12-inch terra cotta piping which is barely wide enough to let the little body down endwise and smooth as glass on the inside, affording apparently no means whatever of recovery. What is even more remarkable than how the child managed to fall into such a small opening is the manner of her escape. When she arose to the surface of the water instinct prompted her to throw out her hand and knees and in this manner pressed her weight against the sides of the piping with a death clasp that nothing but brute force could move and this was applied in the shape of a pair of steel yards and the little body forcibly recovered after more than two hours of fearful effort.

During this time no amount of persuasion or threats could compel the girl to loosen her grasp sufficiently to grasp the rope dangling around. Whether it was fear, not being able to understand from 30 feet above or a wise Providence that justified her is not known, at any rate for more than two hours this little girl remained in the cold water in a dark well, with nothing but the glassy sides of the piping to press herself against for support.

She is now safe and not much the worse for her horrible experience. The feeling of the parents and neighbors in this trying experience cannot be imagined.

Youths Mysterious Death.

Union, Special.—Louis Vanderford the 16-year-old son of Mr. Ashmore Vanderford, a prominent citizen and progressive planter of the Mt. Tabor section of this county, killed himself Monday morning about 8 o'clock in a patch of woods about 150 yards from his home. Whether the shooting was done accidentally or intentionally is not definitely known, as the whole affair seems to be wrapped in mystery. The family apparently being unable to throw any light upon the cause of the very sad tragedy. It was the sound of a rifle shot from the patch of woods that attracted the attention of Mr. Ashmore Vanderford, father of the young man, and caused him to go to the spot and investigate what was the matter. On his arrival he found his son with a bullet hole through his heart and lungs, which had produced instant death. The bullet was fired from a .32-20 Winchester rifle, which had been in the house, but which Mr. Vanderford did not know that his son had taken out with him. He was a young man of good habits and was in good health.

Finds Gold Nugget in Gaffney County Mine.

Gaffney, Special.—Mr. Samuel Wheelchel, who is operating a gold mine on a small scale on lands belonging to the Gaffney Land and Improvement Company, Thursday took out a nugget of gold which is worth \$43. Mr. Wheelchel has taken quite a number of valuable nuggets from this mine. Arrangements will soon be made to operate the mine on a large scale as the owners feel sure that it will pay to put in machinery and a large force of hands.

Farmer Dies While Ploughing.

Aiken, Special.—News has reached the city of the sudden death of Mr. H. B. Stringfellow, of White Pond. Mr. Stringfellow was ploughing in his field, about sundown, his horse came to the house, without his master, and members of the family began to search for him. Finally his body was found in the field, where he had evidently dropped from his plough handles.

Will Try to Collect.

Rock Hill, Special.—In a recent meeting of the town council the following action was taken:

"Resolved, That the city attorneys be instructed to prepare a warrant charging C. S. May with embezzlement of city funds; that the city attorneys be also instructed to take steps as they may deem proper to secure the city the deficit in May's books."

It is the intention of the city authorities to push the case against May to the limit.

Will Address Red Shirts.

Anderson, Special.—The committee to select speakers for the Red Shirt reunion to be held in Anderson August 25 announced Monday that Senator Tillman, Former Gov. Shepard and Judge Robert Aldrich had accepted invitations to be present and make addresses. Each of these took prominent parts in organizing and leading Red Shirt companies in 1876.

"MY WORD, BUT THESE MOSQUITOES ARE BAD!"



—Cartoon by Gregg, in the New York American.

WORLD RECORDS HELD BY WRIGHTS.

Flight with passenger—1 hour, 12 minutes and 40 seconds, July 27, 1909, by Orville Wright, at Fort Myer, Va.
High flight—360 feet, October 18, 1903, by Wilbur Wright, at Le Mans, France, in which he won the Michelin prize.
Duration and distance flight—2 hours, 18 minutes and 30 seconds, covering about 77 miles, January 1, 1909, by Wilbur Wright, at Le Mans, France.

Records For the Wrights to Beat.

Cross country flights by Henry Farman, Leon Delagrang, Louis Bleriot and Hubert Latham.
Cross Channel flight by Louis Bleriot.

NEWS ABOUT FLYING AT HOME AND ABROAD

In the Realm of Aviation Events Are Crowding Thick and Fast.

Washington, D. C.—Events in the realm of aviation are crowding thick and fast. On the same day Orville Wright made a new aeroplane record at Fort Myer, Hubert Latham made an almost successful attempt to cross the English Channel.

Again the motor of the French aviator failed, and this time at a critical moment. Five hundred yards from the English coast the engine stopped and he fell into the sea. This second failure may disappoint, but will hardly discourage, such a plucky man.

At Washington Mr. Wright succeeded in making a new record for flight with a passenger. In the presence of President Taft and a distinguished company he flew with Lieutenant Lahm almost an hour and thirteen minutes, thus fulfilling the terms of the Government contract in respect to duration. During this period he compassed a distance fully double that between Calais and Dover. That shows the meaning of this splendid performance.

DESCRIPTION OF WRIGHT MACHINE

The machine used by the Wrights at Washington consists of two planes, one five feet above the other, and measuring thirty-six feet from tip to tip. The seat for the operator is placed in the centre of the lower plane, off to the left of the motor. The passenger sits on the other side of the motor.

The motor itself is a product of the Wright brothers—a four-cylinder, thirty-horsepower, water-cooled gasoline engine. The gasoline is pumped directly into the intake pipes, there being no carbureters.

The tips of the planes are flexible for the space of about twelve feet. By means of a lever they can be turned in a curve, resembling a hellecoiled, the wings moving in opposite directions. A second lever controls the twin rudders, which are supported by a brace ten feet from the rear of the planes. By working the two levers together the equilibrium of the machine is maintained.

Ten feet in front of the operator's seat two planes resembling a box kite about fifteen by three feet are used for controlling the ascent and descent. Two propellers about nine feet in diameter and revolving in opposite directions are used to thrust the aeroplane forward.

The weight of the machine, including both operator and passenger, is a trifle under 1200 pounds.

M. BLERIOT'S AMBITION.

London.—Following the farewell dinner given at the Hotel Ritz by the Aero Club, M. Bleriot and his wife left for Paris. The aviator expects to return in October to attempt a flight from London to Manchester for a prize of \$50,000 offered by a London paper. The distance is 161 miles and the prize was offered in 1907. It is open only to heavier than air machines owned by members of a recognized aeroclub.

At the dinner a letter from Lord Roberts was read. He said: "M. Bleriot may be leading the way to great changes in the conduct of fu-

Makes Balloon a Parachute

Conway, Mass.—Parachuting his balloon at the height of more than two miles by loosening the appendix cord and allowing the lower part of the balloon to rise into the water, Dr. S. S. Stowell, of Pittsfield, in his first trip as pilot, made a drop to earth in the balloon Pittsfield. The experiment was probably the first of this nature ever tried in this country. A perfect landing was effected without the valve cord ever being touched.

M. Bleriot was presented with a gold medal similar to that given by the Aero Club to the Wright brothers.

M. Bleriot, prior to his departure for Paris, said in an interview on M. Latham's ill luck: "I am too sorry for words. He deserved success and will yet succeed. He has pluck—everything—but luck failed him. He experienced the same awkward currents of air off the Dover cliffs which I encountered and they proved too much for him. I was troubled by them, but was luckier. He is a right worthy competitor and I shall yet have the happy chance of congratulating him."

AN AIRSHIP WORLD'S FAIR.

Berlin, Germany.—What strides have been made in a brief period in the science of aerial navigation is borne in powerfully upon us by a world's fair exhibiting the progress of airship construction and manipulation, which has opened at Frankfurt-on-the-Main and will last 100 days. In September the crowning feature of the show will be the arrival of Zeppelin II. for a series of exhibition flights.

A million and a half has been spent on the buildings and grounds whereupon will be held contests between airships, balloons and dirigibles. Every type of flying machine will be shown. Prizes aggregating about \$80,000 have been offered by the Internationale Luftschiffahrt Ausstellung, mercifully shortened to Ila, which is the name of the latest and most interesting of world's fairs.

Passengers may take joy rides in balloons and steerable vessels of the air, and a liberal education in the art of aviation is promised in the reading of a series of papers by the leading experts. There are twelve groups of exhibits: Balloons and balloon manufacture, motor balloons, military airship navigation and artillery, balloon signal service, production and compression of gas, the science of aerial navigation, mechanical and physical apparatus, equipment, motors, art objects and toys. Various competitions, aside from the actual races, will bring forth the best in the specialized phases of the art.

Germany expects fully 5,000,000 visitors to go through the gates of the Ila in the period of the exhibition. Altogether it is a welcome variation.

CURTISS ENDS HIS FLIGHTS.

Hammondsport, N. Y.—It was announced that Glenn H. Curtiss would make no more flights in this country before leaving for France August 5. He is now engaged in assembling the new machine which he will use in the international contest at Rheims.

TO BUILD BIG DIRIGIBLE.

New York City.—Mr. Joel T. Rice and Mr. John A. Riggs, of Hot Springs, Ark., are in New York, negotiating with Captain Thomas S. Baldwin for the construction of a large dirigible balloon, which they plan to use for exhibition purposes, making tours from city to city in the big airship. They have plans for a balloon one hundred feet long, the largest dirigible ever built in this

Passenger Airship Also Provides

For Water Propulsion.
Cleveland, Ohio.—An airship, covered with waterproof canvas and fitted with propellers at its bow and stern which will work in water is being built by a company here. These appliances have been added to the airship for use in case it should fall into the water while on a cruise. The builder of the machine says he expects to be able to carry from six to twenty passenger in the airship. He will also provide an apartment for baggage.

WRIGHTS AGAIN MAKE GOOD

Make The Ten Mile Flight In 14 Minutes And 42 Seconds, Reaching The Height Of 500 Feet —President Taft, Once A Skeptic, Now Very Enthusiastic.

Washington, Special.—Orville Wright Friday evening attained the zenith of hard-earned success. In a 10-mile cross-country flight in the famous aeroplane, built by himself and his elder brother, Wilbur, and accompanied by Lieutenant Benjamin D. Foulois, an intrepid officer of the army signal corps, he not only surpassed the speed requirements of his contract with the United States government, but accomplished the most difficult and daring flight ever planned for a heavier-than-air flying machine. Incidentally he broke all speed records over a measured course. And he established beyond dispute the practicability of an aeroplane in time of peace and in time of war.

His speed was over 42 miles an hour; he made the 10-mile flight from Fort Myer and back in 14 minutes and 42 seconds, including the more than 20 seconds required for the turn beyond the line at Shuter Hill. The southern end of the course. He attained a height in crossing the valley of Four Mile Run, of nearly 500 feet, and the average altitude of his practically level course was about 200 feet above the ground.

President Taft, who had become an enthusiastic spectator of the aeroplane trials, although two years ago when Secretary of War he is said to have expressed to officers profound skepticism as to the accomplishment of such a feat as that of which Friday he saw the completion, arrived upon the parade ground at Fort Myer just in time to see the aeroplane land

and to participate in the wild demonstration which welcomed the triumphant aviators. He sent an officer to bear his congratulations to the victors.

Climbing up, as it were on the air, higher and yet higher, Orville brought the machine at great speed fully round the field. Then with a short turn he swept about and started southward over the centre of the drill field.

"They're off," 1,000 voices shouted as one.

Like a giant bird, circling the sky until it marks its prey, this man-bird then darted off toward Shuter Hill, five miles to the south.

Unwavering it kept its straight course, and seemed to be rising ever higher as it passed over the diverse and heavily wooded country in the distance. Soon it was a mere speck against the pearl sky above the horizon.

Suddenly the speck was lost to view, and as the seconds passed, a silence grew upon the crowd, a silence that spoke of deep concern.

Suddenly the speck came in sight again over the distant hill. A cry swept over the watching crowd.

"There it is," everybody said, and gave a sigh of relief.

On it came, growing with the seconds. It grew and grew until at last almost every detail was visible. Before you knew it they were home again over the drill ground, flying low. At a height of perhaps 20 feet it swung round again to the southward, and landed easily far down the field. The task was done, and in triumph.

POSTOFFICE INSPECTORS RAID PROSPEROUS FIRM

Washington, Special.—Inspectors of the Post-office Department have raided the offices of the American Civil Service Institute, and placed under arrest the promoters of the enterprise, J. A. McNulty, president, and H. Van Vleet, secretary and treasurer, on the charge of fraudulent use of the mails.

Complaints have come from parties that they have been misled of various sums which they were induced to invest in the enterprise by the glowing promises of the promoters.

The manner of procedure of the promoters of the enterprise was an extremely clever one, although the post-office inspectors say that the scheme has been worked many times before under various guises, and always in different localities.

The advertisement under which operations were conducted was inserted in nearly all of the great newspapers of the country in the "Help Wanted Male" column, and was what is known to the postal authorities as a "blind" advertisement. It solicited the application of "bright, hustling men" in different parts of the country to act as "district superintendents," at a salary of \$1,300 per year and the guarantee of a three-year contract. In consideration of this salary the "district superintendent" was required to purchase \$500 worth of stock in the corporation as a guarantee of good faith.

The company agreed to refund this sum to the investor on the expiration of the contract.

This clause brought an enormous number of applicants, many of them coming to Washington in person. Even while the raid was in progress a man who had come here from Phil-

adelphia to invest in the company appeared at the office and was just in the act of paying in his money when the officers arrived. The man, whose name is unknown, departed, very little sadder but a great deal wiser.

Upon being questioned, J. A. McNulty put up a bold front and declared that the business of the concern was being conducted on a perfectly legitimate basis and that \$150,000 of the stock of the company, which was capitalized at \$500,000, had been paid in and was invested in United States government bonds and preferred stock of the United States Steel Corporation, which were in a safe deposit box in a Washington bank, but owing to the absence of the vice president, G. M. Yunker, in Baltimore he was unable to get at the bonds.

Under a severe cross-questioning, however, McNulty was quite unable to remember the name of the bank in which the securities were deposited, and it later developed that they had never existed, except in the fertile imagination of the promoters themselves. The fact was also brought to light that G. M. Yunker, vice president of the defunct concern, had never been actively connected with the business, being merely a dupe of McNulty and Van Vleet, the promoters.

McNulty and Van Vleet were arraigned late Monday afternoon before United States Commissioner Taylor on the charge of fraudulent practices and were held under a \$2,000 bond each, which was not forthcoming. They were therefore ordered to be confined in the District jail pending a preliminary hearing before Commissioner Taylor, which was set for August 4.

MRS. FINLEY EXTENDS INVITATION TO MR. TAFT

Washington, Special.—Mrs. D. E. Finley, wife of the representative from the Fifth South Carolina district, went to the White House Wednesday and invited the president to attend the unveiling ceremonies of the King's Mountain monument October 7. She extended this invitation in the name of the Yorkville chapter and other allied chapters of

the D. A. R., which inaugurated the movement for the erection of the monument. She was escorted to the White House by her husband and Representative Webb, who represents the district in North Carolina just across the line, and who with Mr. Finley was instrumental in getting congress to appropriate for the monument.

MEXICO SHAKEN FROM GULF TO OCEAN BY TREMOR

Mexico City, Special.—With Chilpancingo destroyed and Acapulco partly razed and the loss of life phenomenal, central Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from Quarto on the north to Oaxaca, on the south, an area of more than 1,000 square miles, was shaken at an early hour Friday by a series of the most severe earth shocks felt in the region for the last quarter of a century. The quake was severer in Mexico City, but not prolific in destruction.

Reports, telling of the loss of life, are meagre, but the official figures thus far given show 14 killed and more than a score mortally injured.

While word comes from G. Poyros, an American commercial traveler at Chilpancingo, Guerrerof that that city was destroyed and the inhabitants are living in the open, suffering from the elements, the loss of life is not definitely known. The shocks continue at Chilpancingo Friday with subterranean rumblings and flashes of lightning, rain and hail.

CONDITION LOWEST EVER KNOWN AT THIS SEASON

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—The crop condition report on cotton, up to July 25, was issued Wednesday afternoon by the National Gimmers Association. It gives the general average at 71.7.

The average by States follows: Alabama, 70; Arkansas, 76; Florida, 85; Georgia, 79; Louisiana, 62; Mississippi, 64; Missouri, 81; North Carolina, 73; South Carolina, 77;

Oklahoma, 79; Tennessee, 77; Texas, 66.

The report says: "This is the lowest condition ever known at this season of the year and indicates a crop of around 11,000,000 and unless good rains fall in the next week, throughout almost the entire belt, but more especially in Texas, southern and western Oklahoma and Mississippi, the crop will be under that figure."