

CRASH TO DEATH

Five German Aeronauts Fall a Thousand Feet to a Horrible Fate.

A BALLOON COLLAPSES

The Accidental Explosion of a Dirigible Air Ship's Benzine Tank Wrecks the Gas Bag and the Collapsed Balloon and Those in It Hurled to Death.

Falling through space a distance of nearly 1,000 feet, Oscar Erbsloeh, noted aeronaut and inventor, winner of the international balloon race held at St. Louis, Mo., in 1907, and one of the most promising of German experimenters in aerial flight, and four companions, were dashed to death in a field near Opladen, Prussia, Wednesday.

The others killed were: Herr Toelle, a manufacturer of Barmen; Engineers Poohehoepe and Krans and Motorman Spicke.

Only peasants saw the tragic ending of the flight of the dirigible balloon Erbsloeh, which, after a series of accidents since its construction a year ago, had recently been refitted for passenger service. They had observed the balloon a short time before it swung gracefully in the air. Soon it disappeared in the fog, and shortly a loud explosion was heard and a crumpled mass fell like a plummet to the earth.

So terrific was the force of the fall that the gondola was smashed to splinters, the motor buried deep in the sod, while the five men were crushed and torn almost beyond recognition.

Experts who examined the wreckage declared that the benzine tank had burst. The rubber envelope had been torn to shreds and the bow collapsed. Nearby was found a sad memento of the disastrous trip. It was a leaf from the notebook of Engineer Hoeppe, missing a short record of the journey. There were only a few records:

"Departed Hall 9:04; ascend air 9:10; thick fog northward. Can not see earth; sun breaks through; heavy fog beneath us. Elevating planes sloped downwards; altitude 250 metres (916 feet) at 9:14."

This is the sole record of the last voyage of Erbsloeh, the details of which can not be learned owing to the death of all the occupants of the car. Peasants near the scene of the catastrophe say that they heard the propellers working. They fired revolvers in order to indicate to the aeronauts, then hidden in the fog, that they were in the neighborhood of houses. Then the explosion occurred and they saw the broken mass hurled downward.

The Erbsloeh had had a dubious career. The first time it ascended it crashed into a clump of trees and its occupants narrowly escaped injury. The balloon, which was one of the non-rigid type, had just been made over, preparatory to the establishment of a passenger service between Eberfeld and nearby points.

There were few eye-witnesses of the accident. According to the report, the start was well made. The Erbsloeh rose gracefully, pushing its way through the fog to heights estimated at 200 yards. At this altitude a series of evolutions were begun. To the onlookers the airship appeared to obey her helm perfectly. Suddenly there was a loud report and at the moment the fore part of the vessel crumpled up and the gondola was twisted about until appeared as if standing on one end. As the gas escaped from the forward compartment the prow swayed downward. For a flash the airship fluted like a wounded bird and then fell swiftly to the earth.

Erbsloeh and his companions were killed the second they struck the ground. Their heads were battered in and every limb was broken. The bodies of the victims were removed to a morgue. That of Erbsloeh would not have been recognized had it been alone. It was pierced through the breast by a piece of wreck. The eyes of the engineer were gouged out. The hands of all five were tightly clutched as though they had held desperately to the car as it shot downward. Their shoes were torn from their feet.

The death of Erbsloeh and his crew, with the destruction of the balloon from which much had been hoped following closely upon the wreck of the German ship, Deutschland, has caused a gloom in aviation circles.

RED SPIDER PEST

MAKES ITS APPEARANCE IN THE COTTON FIELDS.

An Agent of the Agricultural Department Tells Best Way of Combating the Small Bug.

The red spider has broken out on the farm of R. H. Caughman, near Lexington, and threatens to be very destructive to the cotton crop should the present hot and dry spell, followed by a continued hot and dry spell. The State says it appears from the statements of those interested in this cotton pest that a great many sections of the State are infested and it is believed that unless its spread is checked it will become shortly as destructive as the boll weevil.

The cotton affected weeds as if it were scalded and finally dies. No practical remedy has as yet been found, though there are preventive remedies which appear successful. The department of agriculture has established a laboratory at Batesburg for a thorough study of the red spider and H. F. Wilson in charge of the work visited Lexington and made an examination of the Caughman field. He is positive, in his opinion, that the trouble is the red spider and, of course, he realizes the danger of its further spread.

In speaking about this matter, he makes these interesting observations: "and desires that they shall receive the attention of farmers all over the State:

"Violets and poke weeds appear to be the plants from which the spiders spread to the cotton. I have seen a number of fields where violets in yards were badly infested with the spider before it passed to the cotton. The original infection began close to the violets and spread out first in a fan shaped form and then gradually the whole field became infested. The same thing is observed in connection with poke weeds. Jerusalem oak, burdock, morning glories and garden products are food plants for the spider and should be kept away from cotton fields. The spider seems to be pretty well scattered about the State and is doing considerable damage, and threatens to do a great deal more unless some means can be found for checking it.

SERIOUS CHARGE

Well Known Asheville Man Accessory to McGhee Murder.

DENIES WHOLE STORY

J. R. Allison, Slayer of F. M. McGhee, Makes Confession in Which He Implicates Porter Webb. Says Webb and "Woman in the Case" Had Formed Conspiracy.

A dispatch from Asheville, N. C., says the killing of a few days ago of Floyd M. McGhee, the patrol wagon driver, by J. B. Allison took a sensational turn Friday afternoon when Porter Webb, a member of the firm of W. A. Webb & Son, livermen, and one of the best known young men of the town, was arrested by Deputy Mitchell on a warrant charging him with aiding and abetting in the murder of McGhee.

The arrest of Webb was the result of a confession made to Deputy Sheriff Williams, Deputy Sheriff Mitchell and Sheriff Hunter by Allison. Sheriff Hunter said that Allison called his deputies and him "left the jail and told a story that left nothing for the sheriff to do but issue a warrant for Webb. According to Sheriff Hunter, the slayer of Floyd McGhee, now in jail waiting the action of the grand jury, declared that Porter Webb told him (Allison) that McGhee and the "woman in the case" had formed a conspiracy to kill Allison and said that Webb advised Allison to take his gun and kill McGhee.

That was on the day of the homicide, Allison replied to what Webb said, according to his confession to the sheriff that he did not carry a pistol and Webb said he would send for one that he had a gun. He stated that he did send to the man who had it and that the man replied it was at his room. Then, according to the confession, Porter Webb took a negro stable boy to the room and brought it to Webb. The pistol, Allison said, was given over to him and Webb said: "Go kill the rascal and I'll stand by you."

Allison said that he took the pistol and did so and kill Floyd McGhee. Allison told the officers that he had sent for Porter Webb to come and see him; that he had waited days and that Webb had not been near him. Allison said to Sheriff Hunter that he did not think under the circumstances—that he should bear the whole thing and that he had decided to tell "everything."

The arrest of Porter Webb on so serious a charge came as a shock to the many friends of that young man. Webb, after his arrest, was taken to the office of Magistrate W. R. Gudyere, where bond in the sum of \$2,000 was required, pending a preliminary hearing. Webb, when seen by a newspaper man at the magistrate's court, had this to say only this to say about the charge:

"The Lord knows I did not know anything about it. I did not have the least idea about it. I was going to do anything like that I would have helped to prevent it."

STILL IN THE RING.

The Hard Luck That Befell a Michigan Man.

Ernest Gould, superintendent of a creamery, at Reno, Mich., went fishing a few days ago and while trying to land a large pike fell over a log and fractured a rib. From the log he went into the river and was bitten by a water spider. Blood poisoning developed and his arm is badly swollen. Monday he went riding on his bicycle and while making a short cut across a city lot he discovered too late that a wire fence had been constructed across his pathway. Into this fence went Gould and the bicycle, and in falling his thumb gouged his left eye, which is covered by a large patch. He is able to walk without assistance.

TERRIFIC STORM.

Visits Rock Hill at Night Doing Serious Damage.

Not in years has such a terrific storm struck Rock Hill as the one which broke over that city Thursday night about eleven o'clock. The lightning was of an awful character and the thunder sounded like the universe was being split. The electrical display was stupendous for over an hour and rain fell in veritable floods. Lightning struck the home of J. S. Stowe, in Woodland park, and knocked a hole in the side of the building large enough to crawl through. Strange to say one man was injured, nor the house burned.

Children Burned to Death.

Two children of Joseph Magee, aged 4 and 6 years, respectively, were burned to death at their home in Rockdale, Texas. The children were playing with a kerosene oil can and in some way the oil became ignited, the clothing of the children catching fire and burning them so severely that they died within a short time.

Another Aeronaut Dead.

Daniel Kinet, the Belgian aeronaut, who fell when the engine of his aeroplane broke last Sunday at Grand Rapids, died Friday. Kinet held the world's record for an aerial flight with a passenger. On May 15 he remained in the air with a companion for two hours and fifty minutes.

EVANS GETS WARM

CAMPAIGN MEETING ENLIVENED BY SMALL SPAT.

WAS A COCAINE FIEND

Enters a Church and Shoots Down the Preacher and Organist—Then Wounds His Mother-in-Law and Murders His Wife and Sister and a Policeman.

At Tampa, Fla., on Friday night Will Ellison, a negro, crazed with cocaine, shot and killed his mother-in-law, Celia Bryant; the Rev. Jesse W. Avery, of the First African Methodist Church; Henry Clark, negro organist at the church, and seriously wounded his wife, Eva Ellison, and his sister-in-law, Mary Bryant.

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WAS IN BAD FIX

Young Pittman, Who is Imprisoned in Nicaragua, Found Starving in a Filthy Cell.

The Nicaraguans Threaten to Kill All Foreigners—Consul Olivares Fires State Department Feeling Against the Americans Bitter—Subject's Ask Protection.

Confined in a filthy cell, unfed save by charitable strangers, William Pittman, an American captured by the Madriz government forces near Bluefields, was found in a crowded local prison at Managua, Nicaragua, by Consul Olivares on Thursday.

The consul, who is stationed at that point, telegraphed the state department that he visited Pittman, discovered the revolting conditions and through protests forced Dr. Madriz to furnish the adventurer better prison accommodations.

Pittman, whose relatives live at Cambridge, Mass., told Consul Olivares that he left Greytown July 4, that since then his captors have failed to provide him with food, leaving him altogether dependent for subsistence upon charity. Pittman was starving.

Olivares immediately protested, reminding Madriz of his promise to treat Pittman with consideration. Madriz finally agreed to transfer Pittman to a larger and cleaner cell and to allow the consul to supply him with a sleeping couch and food. The consul reported that no definite action regarding Pittman had been determined on by the de facto authorities and that he, Olivares, would exert every effort to secure humane treatment for Pittman.

When the United States originally learned of Pittman's arrest Dr. Madriz assured Olivares that the prisoner would be treated fairly and considerately.

Constant complaints from American citizens at Matagalpa, relative to threats repeatedly made against their lives and property by agents of the Madriz government are being received by United States consular representatives.

Consul Olivares cabled to the state department that the anti-American feeling in the western part of Nicaragua, the section under control of the Madriz faction, is daily growing more bitter.

Mr. Olivares made vigorous representations to Dr. Madriz and has reiterated to him Secretary Knox's warning that this government will hold Madriz factions strictly accountable for the security of American life and property.

British and German subjects at Matagalpa have appealed to their consuls for protection. So far no representations as to these have been made to the German and English home governments, or to Washington, probably because the British and German consuls doubtless are Nicaraguan local merchants. American Consul General Eberhardt, who is detailed at large, and happens to be in Nicaragua on a tour of inspection cabled the state department corroborating the alarm of foreign residents over threats of Nicaraguans. He stated that the opinion at Matagalpa was that these anti-foreign demonstrations were instigated by the Madriz faction, whose officials have openly threatened the Americans and other foreigners.

LESSONS IN FARMING

SERIES OF FARMERS INSTITUTES ARE PLANNED.

EVANS GETS WARM

C. G. Henderson Calls Evans Down, Whereupon He Utters Strong Language.

A mild sensation in the meeting of the State campaign, at Walterboro Friday, was the spat between Bar J. B. Evans and Mr. C. G. Henderson, Master of Colleton County, when the former made reference to the "Pink" Henderson in connection with the Pink Franklin case, recently heard in Washington, and in which Mr. Evans charged incompetency on the part of Attorney General Lyon to compute with a new lawyer of Orangeburg, Mr. C. G. Henderson, a brother of the Hon. D. S. Henderson, of Aiken, and he endeavored to set Mr. Evans right on the matter of the State being put to expense by reason of D. S. Henderson's assistance to the Attorney-General.

When Mr. Evans stated that Mr. Lyon was unable to cope with a "nigger lawyer" on a little constitutional question and had to hire Dan Henderson to assist him, Mr. Henderson arose and said, "Didn't my brother settle that matter at Aiken the other day? The State did not pay him one cent to assist in this case. He was paid by the Congressman from this State."

Answering with considerable emphasis, Mr. Evans said: "Well, Jim Patterson told me at Barnwell that he didn't pay him so then who did?" to which Mr. Henderson did not reply.

Looking straight at Mr. Henderson, the speaker forcefully and unequivocally denounced D. S. Henderson for his unfairness in making a speech at the Aiken meeting, in connection with this affair, and not giving him an opportunity to reply. It seems that Mr. D. S. Henderson acted as county chairman at the Aiken meeting and when Mr. Evans made reference to the Franklin case stated his position and connection in the case, especially as regard the fees paid. This act on the part of a chairman Mr. Evans denounced as cowardly in the extreme.

EVANS GETS WARM

By Engineer Prevents Robbery of His Train.

CLEVER REUSE.

Cleverness on the part of the engineer prevented three youthful and apparently inexperienced bandits from robbing the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Southwestern "flyer" near Larimore, 15 miles from St. Louis early Sunday. Three men were arrested later as suspects and placed in jail pending investigation.

Engineer Quinn through a ruse prevented the looting of the baggage car and the passenger coaches. The bandits compelled the engineer and the fireman at the point of revolvers to descend from the cab and go with them to the baggage car to assist in uncoupling it. The engine-men in the darkness managed to glide away from the bandits and made for the cab. The bandits opened fire on them. Scrambling into the cab the engineer threw the throttle wide open and dashed away with the train.

TOWNS IN PERIL.

Forest Fires Sweeping Country With Heavy Damage.

A special from White Fish Mount, says that town is in the center of forest fires which are sweeping the mountainsides, licking up logging and the camps and threatening the town itself. While it is not felt that the city is in immediate danger, all precautions have been taken, the water works thoroughly tested and the fire hose made ready for instant use. So far as is known there is no loss of life. Rain appears to be the only thing that can save this part of the Flathead Valley from terrible loss. A dispatch from Kalispell reports three other fires burning in the valley.

WHEAT SHED FIRED.

By a Big Bolt of Lightning Which Killed Four Men.

Four men were instantly killed, three others seriously hurt and a large shed containing wheat set on fire by lightning during a storm at one o'clock Thursday afternoon. The dead are William Haddock, two Whitten brothers, and a man named Scott. The injured are two Malone brothers, and a man named Phillips. The storm and fire occurred on Buck Key place, eight miles west of Florence, Ala. The men were farm hands employed by M. M. Berry.

Down on Cones.

The ice cream cone is the latest object of attack under the pure food regulations of the Federal Government. Thursday United States Marshall Henkell with a force of deputies visited a pier at New York and seized 15 crates, containing six hundred boxes of the corrugated conical receptacles for ice cream.

Meet Death on Rail.

Said to be the fourth member of his family to lose his life as a result of a railroad accident, David Coleman, a young man of Fordyce, Ark., who was struck by a log train at Parkton, La., Wednesday, died Friday night. His body was shipped to Fordyce.

RUNS A MUCK

A Drug Crazed Negro Kills Three of His Own Race at Tampa, Fla.

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Chainsaw Boss Charged With Murder of Prisoner.

Thursday afternoon W. H. Woodward, superintendent of gang No. 2 of the Aiken county chain saw, was carried to Aiken and lodged in jail. Mitchell, a convict, who died at the camp several weeks ago. The warrant, on which Woodward was arrested, was sworn out by Anderson Hightower, father-in-law of James Mitchell.

At the time of Mitchell's death the jury of inquest rendered a verdict to the effect that Mitchell came to his death from being compelled to work while sick. The inquest was not entirely satisfactory to all parties concerned, and Coroner Johnson reopened the inquest, and re-empaneled the jury, which rendered the same verdict a second time.

Merely for the Merciless.

Guilty with a recommendation to mercy was the verdict returned Wednesday afternoon in the case of W. N. Kennedy, a white man, at Sparthburg, charged with criminal assault on a colored girl, under the age of 14 years. The jury remained out more than an hour. It is the discretion of the court to give from 5 to 10 years imprisonment.

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