

# FISHER STILL IN THE AIR: LINK, A VICTOR, BACK HOME

## MOUNTAIN RANGE CUTS OFF RACERS

Link and Irvin, Winners of Handicap Balloon Race, Return and Tell of Trip.

## LANDING STARTLES NATIVES

Superstitious Mountaineers Believe Aeronauts to Be Divine Beings From Heaven.

Dr. Goethe Link and J. R. Irvin did not know they had won the first prize in the handicap balloon race until they reached Louisville yesterday morning. They read the news there with surprise. These local aeronauts arrived home last night. Their story of the trip is filled with exciting and picturesque episodes and color.

Believing the descension of Link and Irvin to be the second coming of Christ, the members of a congregation at a country church in the mountains of Tennes-

## BALLOON INDIANA LEADS ALL IN RACE

Bag of Fisher and Bumbaugh Only One of Nine Starters in Air.

## TAKE ON SAND, ALSO WATER

This Raises the Question Whether Local Aeronauts Haven't Violated Rules.

At 3 o'clock this morning Carl Fisher and G. L. Bumbaugh of this city were the only entrants in the national balloon race who had not sought terra firma. The whereabouts of the occupants of the Indiana is a mystery, as no word from them personally has been received since they communicated with The Star from Gallatin, Tenn.

The St. Louis III, which proved their chief competitor, landed yesterday afternoon at Kelso, Tenn., 318 miles away, after being in the air forty-five hours

and color.

Believing the descension of Link and Irvin to be the second coming of Christ, the members of a congregation at a country church in the mountains of Tennessee scrambled over one another while running beneath the gas bag.

The superstitious action of the mountain folk was the main feature of the trip of the local aeronauts. At first the flyers were afraid to land, because they had been given welcomes along the route from the mouths of pistols and rifles. The rugged country harmonized with the desperate nature of the inhabitants.

Dr. Goethe Link told of the trip in detail last night. He maintains that the

Gallatin, Tenn.

The St. Louis III, which proved their chief competitor, landed yesterday afternoon at Kelso, Tenn., 318 miles away, after being in the air forty-five hours and fifty minutes. This breaks the American record for endurance, which was forty-four hours. Fisher and Bumbaugh will not only break this record, but will win the race—two Hoosiers in an Indianapolis-made balloon. At 3 o'clock this morning they had been "ballooning" fifty-eight hours.

Further glory falls to Indianapolis. Dr. Goethe Link and J. R. Irvin, in the Indianapolis, also an Indianapolis balloon,

## *Fisher Takes on Sand and Water, but Says, Technically, He Didn't Land*

By JAMES E. CHAPPELL, Nashville American.

ASHLAND CITY, Tenn., June 7.—(Special)—One of the six balloons which left Indianapolis Saturday afternoon in the national race landed two miles southeast of this place on the Hyde Ferry pike this morning about 6 o'clock. It was the Indiana, its occupants being Messrs. Fisher and Bumbaugh.

The occupants maintained, however, that their coming down was not a landing, technically speaking, as they did not touch the ground, the basket being supported upon a number of cross ties or pieces of timber of some kind. The occupants remained in the basket and the balloon was tied to a cedar tree by a rope.

The stop was made at the residence of C. G. Doughton, where the aeronauts remained for about two hours.

While there several sacks of sand were taken on for ballast and water was procured for the journey.

Mr. Fisher related their experiences of Sunday night, which was spent in the air over Nashville and vicinity. He says that when they came to a point just above the Cumberland River valley, coming southward, they struck a current of air which shot the balloon upward to a height of 14,000 feet, where they remained for several hours. They were compelled to wrap themselves in overcoats and blankets on account of the cold. Finally they came down to a normal height, but soon encountered another current which sent the balloon up to a height of 8,000 feet. All this time they were about directly over the city of Nashville, three times encircling the city before they were able to get away on a straight course, all of which was attributed to the condition of the atmosphere in the Cumberland valley.

While they were trying to effect a landing early this morning some four miles from here they threw the rope to a man in a field and hallooed to him to catch hold and pull them down. Instead of coming to their assistance the fellow fled to the woods in fright. The balloon rose again about 8 o'clock, and, after floating around for some time over the vicinity of Ashland City, got away to the southwest at a good rate of speed. It was last seen about 11:30 a. m., and was then possibly twenty miles southwest of town.

Ashland City is about twenty-five miles northwest of Nashville. A resident of Nashville, who could not be reached tonight, stated that a landing was made at Shackle Island yesterday afternoon and that the balloon remained there about twenty minutes.

secret of his success was due to having a perfectly shaped and constructed balloon, and second, in being careful with his ballast.

He gives Maj. A. H. Hersey the credit for instructing him how to economize with his sand. He threw off everything else possible before he let go his sand, even to turning loose the carrier pigeons for ballast.

### Did Not Close Eyes In Sleep.

These two aeronauts did not close their eyes in sleep until they had reached the earth. After leaving the Speedway, they soon enjoyed their first meal. For some time it was dark and lonesome, they declared, but when the moon shone forth,

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## Records Made by Racing Aeronauts

### NATIONAL RACE.

**St. Louis III—A. B. Lambert and H. E. Honeywell of St. Louis.**

Started at 5:10 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon at Kelso, Tenn. Distance 318 miles; time, 45:50.

**New York—A. Holland Forbes and C. B. Harmon of New York.**

Started at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 4:12 o'clock Monday morning at Corinth, Miss. Distance 375 miles; time, 35:12.

**University City—John Berry and Paul McCollough.**

Started at 5:25 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at Blanche, Tenn. Distance 325 miles; time, 25:35.

**Hoosier—Capt. Thomas Baldwin of New York and Charles Walsh of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.**

Started at 5:20 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 5 o'clock Sunday morning at Green Brier, Tenn. Distance 265 miles; time, 11:40.

**Cleveland—A. H. Morgan and J. H. Wade of Cleveland.**

Started at 5:15 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 8 o'clock Saturday night eight miles west of Columbus, Ind. Distance 40 miles; time, 1:45.

won the handicap race. They landed at Westmoreland, Tenn., 250 miles distant, after having been in the air nineteen hours. They returned to this city last evening.

A question has been raised concerning the eligibility of Fisher and Bumbaugh to the championship because they are said to have taken on water and sand.

Experienced aeronauts declare, however, that this will not hinder their chance to win, because in coming down nearer earth they paid a penalty. In order to descend they had to sacrifice a great quantity of gas, and then when they reascended it was necessary to discard a great amount of sand. Providing they had not touch earth it is maintained that they are not disqualified.

A dispatch to The Star from Ashland City, Tenn., states that Fisher and Bumbaugh declare the landing they made was not a technical one as they came down on a pile of cross ties, remained in the basket, and proceeded on their way.

The fact Capt. Bumbaugh is an experienced aeronaut makes his friends, as well as those of Fisher, confident that they did not violate the rules, and that they will not only win the race, but if they should encounter favorable winds, and be carried to Mexico, they may break the world's record.

### Divided In Opinions.

Other entrants in the race who were in the city yesterday were rather inclined to believe that Fisher and Bumbaugh had disqualified themselves, but more freely admitted that the entire question would be one for the Aero Club of America to decide.

The University City, piloted by John Berry and Paul McCollough, landed at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at Blanche, Tenn. It remained suspended 25 hours and 35 minutes and traveled 325 miles.

The balloon New York, which was scheduled to win without a doubt by the Eastern aeronauts, landed yesterday morning at 4:12 at Corinth, Miss. It remained in the air for 35 hours and 12 minutes and traveled the paths of the clouds for about 375 miles.

This balloon was piloted by A. Holland Forbes and Clifford B. Harmon, both men of experience. According to word sent to The Star they were being reversed in their flight and were heading back toward Indianapolis, so dropped in order to retain their distance record. They expressed deep regret because of their misfortune, declaring that they had an abundance of gas, ballast and provisions to last them for at least two more days. However, had they continued in their straight course they would soon have been compelled to drop because of the Gulf of Mexico's waters.

### Relate Experiences.

**RECORDS OF ST. LOUIS**

Started at 9:25 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon at Salem, Tenn. Distance 210 miles; time, 22:35.

**New York—A. Matthew Forbes and C. B. Morgan of New York.**

Started at 8 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 4:12 o'clock Monday morning at Corinth, Miss. Distance 275 miles; time, 22:12.

**Lafayette, La.—John Berry and Paul McCullough.**

Started at 9:15 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at Blanche, Tenn. Distance 215 miles; time, 22:45.

**Hoover—Capt. Thomas Baldwin of New York and Charles Walsh of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.**

Started at 5:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 5 o'clock Sunday morning at Green Brier, Tenn. Distance 265 miles; time, 11:40.

**Cleveland—A. H. Morgan and J. H. Wade of Cleveland.**

Started at 5:15 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 8 o'clock Saturday night eight miles west of Columbus, Ind. Distance 40 miles; time, 2:45.

**HANDICAP.**

**Indianapolis—Dr. Geothe Link and J. R. Irvin of Indianapolis.**

Started at 4:15 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 11:15 o'clock Sunday morning at Westmoreland, Tenn. Distance 250 miles; time, 19 hours.

**Chicago—C. A. Coey and Jack Bennet of Chicago.**

Started at 4:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon and landed at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning at Scottsville, Ky. Distance 210 miles; time, 17 hours.

**Ohio—Dr. H. W. Thompson of Salem, O., and J. Blake of Canton, O.**

Started at 4 o'clock Saturday and landed at 6:30 o'clock Saturday night at Nashville, Ind. Distance 35 miles; time, 2:30.

**THE WORLD'S RECORD**

**Settled in America.**

Most entrants in the race who were to be set off yesterday were rather ill-odded to believe that they could be light and disqualify themselves, but more freely admit that the prize question would be open for the Aero Club of America to decide.

The University City, piloted by John Berry and Paul McCullough, landed at 7 o'clock Sunday evening at Blanche, Tenn. It remained suspended 25 hours and 25 minutes and traveled 235 miles.

The balloon New York, which was scheduled to win without a doubt by the Eastern aeronauts, landed yesterday morning at 4:12 at Corinth, Miss. It remained in the air for 25 hours and 13 minutes and traveled the path of the clouds for about 275 miles.

This balloon was piloted by A. Holland Forbes and Clifford B. Harmer, both men of experience. According to word sent to The Star they were being reversed in their flight and were heading back toward Indianapolis, so dropped in order to retain their distance record. They expressed deep regret because of their misfortune, declaring that they had an abundance of gas, ballast and provisions to last them for at least two more days. However, had they continued in their straight course they would soon have been compelled to drop because of the Gulf of Mexico's waters.

**Relate Experiences.**

The aeronauts also describe the experiences they encountered when they were sought by the bullets of persons below them. In speaking of the journey, Forbes said:

"The only incident to mar our trip was about 10 o'clock Sunday night as we were passing over the center of Morgan County, Alabama.

"Expecting to land in the wilds of Canada, we were loaded with guns, ammunition, heavy shoes and clothing and canned goods.

"In an endeavor to find another air current to carry us higher we decided to throw away about 300 pounds of this stuff. Not wishing that it should be lost in the field, we descended to within 300 feet of the earth and began distributing it where it would be found—near houses and villages.

"When directly over a very small village, eighty miles north of Birmingham,