

All Indianapolis turned out that day to watch Carl floating in his auto basket over the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument. About ten miles out of the city, he released the gas from the balloon, descended, and folded the great silk bag. He had promised he would bring it back into Indianapolis in the car. Not even the newspapermen guessed that the car Carl drove back into the city with the collapsed balloon was not the same car he had ridden into the skies. That car had been stripped of its motor. The car he rode back to the city was driven out to the landing place by Rolly. It always puzzled Carl that no one had been suspicious enough to follow his flight and that the public, press and police had been so easily hoaxed.

"Circus stuff," people said of these events. But this one stunt with the car and balloon early in the year 1909 netted more than twelve million printed lines and hundreds of illustrations—at least a million dollars' worth of publicity!

That day the great white automobile rode through the sky was the day I first saw Carl.