PRICE TWO CENTS



## BALLOON AND AUTO SAIL THROUGH SKY

Carry G. L. Bumbaugh and Carl G. Fisher in Unique Flight to Southport.

### AIR CURRENTS FAIL THEM

Descend Safely and Return to City in Machine That Served as Basket.

C. L. Bumbaugh of Springfield, Ill., and Carl G. Fisher of Indianapolis sailed away yesterday afternoon in Bumbaugh's glant balloon Chicago, taking with them through the sky a 1,500-pound Stoddard-Dayton automobile.

The automobile took the place of the usual balloon basket, the two men riding in the machine. They went up at 4:20 p.m., reached an altitude of 2,800 feet and descended near Southport at 6:10 p.m. The automobile was freed from the bag and Bumbaugh and Fisher came to Indianapolis in it, arriving at about 7 o'clock.

The landing was made in the presence of several hundred people who had followed the balloon on bicycles and in automobiles. Mr. Fisher said last night that when the balloon came to the ground there were 250 automobiles and between 200 and 300 bicyclists and motocyclists on the scene. The rip cord was not used in landing, and the automobile came to rest upon the ground without the slightest jar.

"The trip was without incident," said

r was Photographer.

## OURWRALLY

## GREET BEVERIDGE

L SPEAK AT HOME CITY FTER TRAVELING 14,-LES AND MAKING O SPERCHES.

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"The trip was without incident," said Mr. Fisher after returning to Indianapolis. "The only trouble was the lack of air currents. About 100 feet above the ground there was a breeze blowing at about six miles an hour, but after getting above that level the air was perfectly quiet.

"We stood directly above the point where we landed for fully twenty-five minutes. We hunted for currents high in the air, but there was none stirring. In landing we came down close enough to the ground to drop a drag rope, and several of the men in the crowd that had gathered cought the rope and pulled us

several of the men in the crowd that had gathered caught the rope and pulled us easily to the ground. Dr. Frank Hutchins was the first man to catch the rope."

The balloon with its automobile load was in the air just one hour and fifty minutes, and it covered a distance of a little more than seven miles. Besides the weight of the machine and the two men the balloon started out from the city with about 700 pounds of ballast. Persons in the city who saw the balloon thought that lighted lamps were being carried by the balloonists.

#### Carried No Lights.

Mr. Fisher said last evening that the reflection of the sun upon burnished parts of the machine made it appear that lights

were being carried.
"We were in the air so high that the sun shone upon us much longer than it did upon the ground beneath us," said Mr. Fisher.

Mr. Fisher.

He stated that the balloon was filled with gas enough and that there was ballast enough in the machine when it came to the ground to bave remained in the air helf the hight.

Five thousand unbelleving people watched the start at the plants of the Indianapolis Gas Company near Northwestern avenue and Fall Creek, and saw the automobile securely hitched to the balloon to take the place of the customary balloon basket. Fisher and Bumbaugh seated themselves in the automobile, gave the word and away they went, smashing the word and away they went, smashing all precedents in the way of aerial navigation.

A circus could not have proved stronger drawing card yesterday after noon while the big bag was being inflated at the gas plant. Scores of automobiles were run into the company's yard, and carriages, buggles and bicycles brought a large part of the immense throng. An inadequate force of police was on the ground to keep the crowd back from the balloon while it was being filled, and the curious were so persistent in their effort to stand close to the monster gas bag that the work of starting was hampered.

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On account of the direction in which the wind was blowing close to the ground, Bumbaugh feared to start from the place where the bag had been filled and he asked the crowd to move back and leave an open path to the creek bank. With a dozen men holding the machine on the earth, the balloon and its load were moved a distance of 100 feet to the water's edge; but even then Bumbaugh said he feared the heavy balloon would not clear the buildings and the large gas tank which stood directly in the path of the flight.

"Who will volunteer to wade across the creek where the water is shallow?" asked Bumbaugh of the crowd that stood about the machine.

#### Wade Through Fall Creek.

Several score of willing helpers forced their way to the front, and he was compelled to pick out six men from the volunteers. Holding the machine just out of the water, the men "carried" the balloon and its load—about 3,200 pounds in all-through the creek and safely on the north bank of the stream held it to the ground while the navigator made sure

that everything was in readiness.

"All hands off." he shouted when the big gas bag balanced, and every hand that held it down was lifted.

Cheers from the thousands and hats waved in the air marked the start of the flight as the monster balloon rose. Blowtvairy Club will lead the ly and with an even, upward movement, of the line. Nineteen Re- the automobile was lifted off the ground. cipating. The escort will in street and will march ntown streets to the hall. ill be composed of three cond one to be made up strial organizations. Capt. er will be chief marshal and his adjutant will be by. The following will be y B. Smith, Maj. H. T. orge L. Denny, Lieut. H. B. Gates, E. J. Vinson, Johnson, Edward Logs-Thayer, Maj. Albert Sea-er Braggs, F. B. Whitlock, T. C. Whallon, Whitney F. Hill Jr.

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Cheers from the thousands and hats waved in the air marked the start of the flight as the monster balloon rose. Slowly and with an even, upward movement. the automobile was lifted off the ground. As bag of sand was dumped and then another as the machine rose in the air. Fisher, leaning out over the front of the car, waved to the crowd below as the balloon went higher and swept off to the southeast.

The automobile used in the flight was stripped of all the superfluous weight. There were two seats in which the passengers sat as though they were riding along the smoothest pavement. In order to make the machine lighter the tires were inflated with gas, the same as was used the balloon. The lamps and steps were taken off and the machine was roped on to the bag in the place intended by the builder of the balloon for the backet. During the time taken up by the preparations for the ascent more than is compras held by persons in the

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preparations for the ascent more than 100 cameras held by persons in the crowd were snapped several times.

Frank L. Moore, vice president of the Fisher Automobile Company, and Emil Wright, in an automobile from the Fisher garage, followed the flying automobile. At the automobile company's office in this city arrangements were made for the this city arrangements were made for the autoists following the balloon to keep in touch with this city by long distance telephone.

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