

THE BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN ELIZABETH CITY.

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## ALbemarle Fair Ends In Blaze Of Glory

Disappointing at First, But With Last Day Come Big Crowds, Good Weather and Spectacular Flight of Aeroplane. Boat Race a Fiasco.

Elizabeth City's big fair ended after all in a blaze of glory. The weather, so long threatening yesterday left nothing to be desired. The crowd, small the first day and not big enough the second day, was something like what Elizabeth ought to look for Thursday.

For a time it seemed as if the disappointment of two days was to be repeated, yesterday. The boat race—delayed from Wednesday ended in fiasco. Whether any award was made has not been learned at this writing.

But Elizabeth City has staked the reputation of this fair upon the aeroplane flight. This was the feature that was depended upon to draw the crowds; and this is the feature about which there was most skepticism among the general public.

Yesterday the flight was made. And a beautiful flight it was. Rising from the fair ground at about four thirty, J. B. McCalley, who holds the Pennsylvania altitude record of 10,500 feet, soared over Elizabeth City at an altitude of about 6,000 feet, got over town as far as the graded school building; turned back sailing over the fair grounds and out over the bay; then back again over Elizabeth City; finally sweeping gracefully to the ground in front of the grand stand at the fair amid the plaudits of the admiring multitudes. Many of these had never seen an aeroplane in flight before. "Man," said one old darkey who watched the flight with rapt attention, "if I ever gets dat high I'll go straight on to heben."

On this flight, Mr. McCalley stated to the Advance reporter, he was traveling at the rate of about sixty-five miles per hour. He was in the air twenty minutes, and must therefore have traversed twenty-five miles or more. During the flight, Mr. McCalley made one of his celebrated "dips" dropping almost perpendicularly from the great altitude of 6,000 to 500 feet. Seeing him going to apparently certain destruction, many of the spectators who a few minutes before had been hooting at him as a fake and an imposter, were all most hysterical in their concern for his safety.

This was the first aeroplane flight ever made over Elizabeth City. Skimming through the air at a great altitude, swooping suddenly to earth like an immense hawk, the man at its helm unrecognizable in the distance, the machine filled one watching it with wonder and awe. And there was a thrill of admiration, too for the daring aviator who with steady hand and iron nerve faced the untried perils of the most fickle of elements.

Elizabeth City's big fair for which preparations have been being made for the last three months seemed this year foredoomed to disaster.

To begin with, Tuesday came on wet and gloomy. Rain fell in showers throughout the day and this being the opening day the circumstance was especially unfortunate. Locke Craig was on hand, arriving Monday night

the guest of President Scott. But he was hoarse from much speaking and probably also from the bad weather. To this distressing handicap, add the fact that the crowd was far from what with better weather it might have been and what, notwithstanding the weather, it should have been, and it will readily be seen that this distinguished orator was at an immense disadvantage.

The program for the morning, however, was carried out as planned. Escorted to the fair grounds by the local military organizations and by the band, the state's next governor was introduced by W. M. Hinton, Superintendent of the Pasquotank county schools. Mr. Hinton's speech was a good one and the signal for an ovation to the orator of the day that almost atoned in enthusiasm for what it lacked in volume. Mr. Craig was heard with close attention by those present and what he said received as hearty response as the small numbers could give him.

Following the speech, the crowd looked for a flight of the big airship which had already been carted on the grounds. The aviator had arrived on the morning train; but to their disappointment the crowd learned that owing to an accident to his machine in a previous flight the birdman would not be able to fly the first day.

Races began, however, at half past two, and they were so good that those present forgot their disappointment. Indeed, the races were the redeeming feature of the fair, making in themselves the fair worth the while of those who attended, provided everybody there had cared for this particular kind of sport.

The biggest disappointment of the fair came on Wednesday. For this was the day of the motor boat racing—which, next to the aeroplane, had been the most widely advertised feature of the fair. These were to occur at 10:30, but to the expectant crowds again came the news of maddening delay—this time the excuse being that many boats expected for the race had not yet put in their appearance. The races coming on relieved the tension somewhat as through the long afternoon, the crowd—and a big one this time waited for the bird man's flight. Finally came welcome news that a flight would be made at about four o'clock. At this time a crowd had assembled around the big winged machine, waiting for it to rise. At about a quarter past four, the rifle like rattle of the airship's motor was heard, and hats flew and feet scampered as the crowd behind it felt the breeze from the big propeller. After another wait as the motor got under way, the machine was released and shot away over the unlevel ground, skipping along like a big bird trying to rise in flight. About two thirds of the way across the grounds, it left the earth and soared upward slowly. Just before reaching the trees that skirted the park, the machine rose sharply; but as

(Continued on page four)



J. B. McCALLEY

Who Yesterday Attained a Height of 6000 Feet In Flight From Albemarle Fair Grounds.

### REGISTRATION BOOKS CALLED TO FATHER'S BEDSIDE CLOSE TO-MORROW.

The registration books for Pasquotank county close on tomorrow, Saturday October 26th. Large numbers of voters have so far failed to register and these should give this matter unfailing attention.

Mr. A. B. Holloman of this city was called this week to the bedside of his father, Mr. W. H. Holloman, of Tyner.

Mr. W. H. Holloman is about seventy one years old and has been in bad health for a year or more. The gravest fears are felt as to his recovery.

### WHY CLARK WILL BE SENATOR

- Judge Walter Clark has the best chance to be chosen Senator in the Primary because:
1. He Pledged to earnestly contend for an amendment to the Interstate Commerce Law that will prevent the discrimination against North Carolina in freight rates which now costs the farmers and merchants of this State \$10,000,000 a year.
  2. He is pledged to contend for and expects to succeed in having returned annually in pensions to Confederate Soldiers and widows for them to spend the \$5,000,000 which this state is sending as a war contribution to pay pensions to Federal Soldiers.
  3. He is pledged to earnestly urge the repeal of the 8 cent tax on tobacco they sell which will give the farmers 8 cents additional on every pound of tobacco they sell which the manufacturer now has to take off for the Government tax. This will all so destroy the Trust by leaving every farmer or neighborhood free to manufacture tobacco. It will save North Carolina \$7,000,000 a year.
  4. He will advocate Land Banks as in Germany and other countries by which the Government will loan money to the farmers, small merchants, and workmen at low rates of interest. The Government now furnishes the National Banks with their money without charging interest. Why should it not furnish the farmers, merchants and workmen money at as low a rate of interest as in Germany?
  5. Messrs. Simmons and Kitchin have each served twenty years in Congress and have done nothing about any of these things. They do not even promise to do anything now if elected.
  6. He will advocate a graduated income and inheritance tax by which the multimillionaires will contribute heavily to the support of the Government, whereas nothing is now raised from them in that way.
- The friends of Judge Walter Clark and his enemies alike, know that he can be relied upon after election to urge these measures as strenuously as he does now.

VOTE YOUR CONVICTIONS. CLARK AS SENATOR MEANS SOMETHING TO YOU

—From the Winston-Salem Western Sentinel.

## PLAYGROUND FUNDS TO BE EXPENDED ON APPARATUS FOR SCHOOL GROUND

Movement To Raise One Thousand Dollars a Failure --Amount Actually Collected Very Small and This to be Appropriated for Apparatus That Has Already Been Ordered--Will be Installed on School Grounds To-day.

Elizabeth City is a town with a park. Except the public school ground, there is not a lot in the city where the children may gather for recreation and amusement without fear of trespass.

All who are really interested in the development of the town hope that this will not always be so. For mortar and merchandise will not alone build up a city. A town's progress is in direct proportion not alone to its wealth or its advantages but to the enterprise and patriotism of its citizenship. And providing for the interest and welfare of the children will foster these virtues.

But the time for the establishing of Elizabeth City's Park is not yet—not quite. Other matters of more pressing importance are upon us, and these must receive first attention.

Realizing this, and hoping still that some immediate provision might be made whereby the children could be given some public place of recreation where all might have the right to resort, some leading citizens of the town began last spring to agitate the movement for a public playground for the children.

Of course the need for this playground was not as vital in Elizabeth City, where the open country is of easy access, where vacant lots are seldom forbidden ground, where the streets are wide or well shaded, where the Pasquotank offers its waters for bathing, boating or fishing, and where the humblest dwelling has something of a yard of its own—it is evident, we say, that here there is not the necessity for a playground that there would be in a city of unshaded brick and crowded tenements. Pictures of children sitting on the doorsteps, in the windows or back of squalid tenement houses reading detective stories because the police forbade them to play on the streets—these had small application here.

Nevertheless the movement was a meritorious one. The Advance gave it its sanction and support. The matter was brought up before the Board of Aldermen and a committee, consisting of one from each ward, was appointed to devise some method of raising funds for the playground. This committee was composed of Rev. C. F. Smith, J. B. Leigh, E. L. Sawyer, and C. J. Ward.

The plan adopted by the committee for the securing of the money seemed a most excellent one as it was set forth in the Advance. There are approximately one thousand pupils in our public schools, and it was hoped that from these might be secured an average of a dollar each. The children were given a month to raise this money and the teachers of the respective grades were asked to receive the funds collected. Miss May Wood consented to become treasurer of the whole fund; and the other teachers turned over the collections from their grades to her.

The children went to work for the money in various ways. Doubtless many of them simply

asked their parents for it—and got it. Some of them worked for it—earned it. Some of them held rummage sales. Some of them went about from house to house soliciting contributions.

The effort to raise a thousand dollars, however, was far from successful. At the end of the month's campaign Miss Wood had received and deposited at the bank the sum of \$75.09.

Though greatly disappointed in the amount raised the committee continued their work, seeking to lease some lot, in the first place, for a playground site. But no lot could be secured at a price of less than fifty dollars a year; and no especially desirable site could be secured even at that figure.

Investigation showed, too, that very little apparatus for a playground could be purchased with seventy five dollars. Estimates asked for and sent in showed that iron apparatus was out of the question. It seemed best to the committee to invest the money in wooden swings and such apparatus, and place it for the present on the school ground. This idea met with the approval of Superintendent Sheep. The order for this apparatus was given to Kramers' Mill and is ready for delivery. It would have been ready earlier but for the fact that the mill has been rushed all the summer, always having a number of orders ahead.

These are the facts as to the movement for a playground in Elizabeth City. This paper sets them forth in justice to those who have had the matter in charge. There has evidently been a large amount of work done by some members of this committee, which of course they have done without remuneration and for which they have received nothing but criticism.

For some reason, best known to himself but very readily guessed at by all who know him, W. O. Saunders was two weeks ago reviling the two men who have done most work on this committee and insolently demanding of them what they had done with money which neither of them ever collected or ever saw. Not daring to say it openly the Hintendant was insinuating that they had misappropriated the funds—or at least was stating the case in such a manner that this would be the inference of the casual reader. Thinking perhaps he had gone too far, last week the editor was denying the intention of making any such impression, but still couching what he had to say in most insulting phrase.

If there had been made a courteous request of J. B. Leigh and C. F. Smith to tell what had become of the playground movement they would doubtless have responded. Nobody asked them; for everybody really interested knew that the amount raised was small and all were willing to leave the matter of its disposition to the committee. These gentlemen have paid no attention to the spewing of W.

(Continued on page five)