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THE GREATEST FAIR ON EARTH
It Will Be Held at Springfield, Illinois, Oct. 4 to 12.
GREAT AVIATION ATTRACTION
Races and Other Stunts in the Air Which Will Thrill Sightseers—Automobile Day a Grand Climax to the Fair.

The Illinois State Fair has become so great that it requires the genius of a circus poster writer to describe it. Each year Secretary J. K. Dickerson believes the combination of the state fair's size, importance and educational advantage has been reached. But when the time rolls around for the next year it is discovered that modern inventions furnish new thrills.

For 1912—October 4-12—the Illinois State Fair promises a fleet of airships, and all are to be in the air at one time. The 160 acres embracing the fair grounds will be dotted with air birds and balloons. The monoplane has not yet been seen at the state fair, and there will be two of them this year—a French creation, manufactured by LeTouneau, and an American product, the Johnson, of Terre Haute, Ind., driven by Louis J. Johnson, the patentee and inventor. There will be frequent races between these machines, and Prof. Johnson ridicules the suggestion that any aeroplane on earth can beat his American-built car.

The monoplanes will carry U. S. mail from the fair grounds postal station to some railroad postoffice near Springfield. Arrangements are being made for this feature with the postoffice department through Postmaster Wheeler, of Springfield. The mail will be stamped at the serial Mail, Illinois State Fair Station.

"We have had the Wright biplanes for two years," said Secretary Dickerson, "and they gave splendid satisfaction. This year, however, we will have a biplane of the type, and Paul Studensky will handle it. He is said to be a devil-may-care fellow, who flirts with death every minute he is in the air. I don't know about that, but he is well recommended. Madame DeVonda will fly in a hot-air balloon—I believe she is to go up about half a mile and then come down in a parachute."

There will be aeroplane races, bomb throwing, quick starting and stopping, diving, climbing the stairs, the spiral glide and a lot of other air stunts calculated to thrill the crowds. A regular list of events will be given every day in the afternoon on Friday and Saturday, October 4-5, and in the forenoon the balance of the time excepting Sunday.

In addition to the aeroplane and balloon acts, which will take place before the grandstand, at the same time there will be mule races, polo, and the game Garcia, of Cuba, will race down an inclined plane in her automobile and turn a triple somersault. A triple team of coal black ponies with gold-mounted harness, drawing a white enameled truck wagon, will do some fancy stepping, and Master Henry McCoy, of Springfield, will have his little pony, "Snowball," do some high school pony tricks.

If it were not enough for the forenoon's entertainment (afternoon the first two days), all the bands on the grounds each day will be consolidated into one grand Illinois State Fair band, and will give a great concert in front of the grandstand, as follows: Monday, October 7, American airs and melodies. October 8, the melodies of England, Scotland and Ireland. Wednesday, October 9, German melodies. Thursday, October 10, popular melodies of all nations. Friday, October 11, French and Italian. Saturday, October 12, will form the usual grand climax to the state fair. It is staged this year on more elaborate lines than ever attempted on a circular dirt track. Heretofore there has been only one star, but this year there will be three stars of world-wide fame, headed by Louis Disbro, the youngest and most successful of this year's crop. Joe Nikrent, the young Californian, with several world's records, and "Wild Bill" Endicott are certain to be among the entrants. These men have laughed at death so often that they have no fear.

The last event on Automobile Day will be a race between the monoplanes and automobiles and motorcycles—a battle between gasoline in the air and on earth—five miles on the race track.

The board of agriculture was very fortunate this year in securing for Sunday lecturer the great independent preacher, Pastor Russell, of Brooklyn and London Tabernacles. His theme will be "Beyond the Grave." Prof. John T. Reid, of the American Conservatory of Music, Chicago, will sing solos, and the Illinois Watch Factory band and orchestra will render a sacred concert. Services in the Coliseum at 2 p. m., Sunday, October 6. No reserved seats.

No state fair or exposition on earth this year offers an attraction in the way of thrills as the Illinois State Fair. Illinois certainly will retain its title of "The Greatest Fair on Earth" in 1912.

Better write now to the Commercial Club, Springfield, for sleeping quarters in private houses during the state fair, Oct. 4-12. No charge for information. Citizens of Springfield open their doors to state fair visitors.

Automobile Day at the Illinois State Fair is Saturday, Oct. 12, last day of the fair. All the great drivers in the country will compete. Last event, a 5-mile race between aeroplanes, automobiles and motorcycles.

Drive to the state fair this year in your own auto. Beautiful and expensive gold watch charms given to winners in auto tours. Write J. L. Pickering, Springfield, for particulars.

A fleet of airships in the air at one time at Illinois State Fair, every day except Sunday. Funny mule races every day.

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR
Demand for Space This Year Is Unprecedented.
Entries in All Departments Greater Than in Previous Years—Races an Attraction.

"Space all said" is the reply the various superintendents are making to inquiries for space for the Illinois State Fair, Oct. 4-12. An unprecedented demand for room this year has fairly overwhelmed the superintendents.

Dr. J. T. Montgomery, superintendent of special races, reports that enough cash and trophies will be divided among the "devil" drivers of automobiles to buy a splendid Illinois farm. A magnificent card of eight events has been arranged. The climax will be the last event, the five-mile race between the aeroplanes, automobiles and motorcycles. Saturday, Oct. 12.

In the dairy cattle department the entries always have been larger than those of any other state, and Superintendent J. K. Hopkins, of Princeton, reports that he cannot find stall room for all that want to enter this year.

"The poultry department is one of the big features of the state fair," said Mr. O. L. McCord, of Danville, assistant superintendent in charge under Superintendent Al Wallerstein. "We have the finest Johnson in the country, and the 1911 exhibit was recognized as one of the greatest shows in the United States."

"The beef breeds of cattle," said Superintendent H. B. Taylor, of Fairbury, "while not as large in number of entries as some fairs, exceed those of last year. Illinois breeders are working to the fact that there is money in breeding good cattle."

The heavy horse department always has been a feature of the state fair, and Superintendent John W. Shaw, of Harrisburg, says the exhibit this year surpasses any former year, which is well attested by the fact that the fairgrounds, remarked Mr. Shaw, "and it is regrettable that the new horse barns could not be erected this year."

"Light horses?" replied Superintendent L. O. Skiles, of Virginia, to a question, "I wish you had room for a list of all the entries in my department. It will be the most magnificent display of aristocrats on four feet ever gathered in one fair grounds."

Illinois was never strong on jacks and jennets, but under the wise and conservative management of Superintendent J. C. Goodell, of Macomb, a list of entries is growing larger every year.

The erection of the new sheep pavilion west of the race track this year for the fair this year has acted as a tonic for the sheep exhibitors, and a large number of new entries have been made. Superintendent A. W. Miller, of 325 court house, Chicago, reports flattering prospects of many entries.

Superintendent John S. Culp, of DeKalb, is overwhelmed with congratulations of the swine breeders, on account of the new swine pavilion, which will be ready in time for the fair. "I tell you the boys who will be on hand with the best specimens of the hog family you ever saw."

Superintendent Louis F. Wilk, of Chicago, in charge of mechanic art, reports an increased demand for floor space, which he cannot give, and Superintendent J. J. Taggart, of Farmington, is directing his department of farm products to make a better showing than ever before.

The horticulture, commanded by Superintendent J. J. McComb, of Chicago, and floriculture, by Superintendent Robert "Dwyer," of Chicago, report overflowing entries in all departments.

The machinery department is one of the most important, and Superintendent C. F. Dike, of North Crystal Lake, has a hard time trying to put sixty acres of implements and machinery and automobiles and carriages in twenty acres of space.

Under the able superintendency of Dr. John Dill Robertson, of Chicago, the department of education has become one of the features of the state fair. Superintendent E. B. David, of Alledo, makes a flattering report for the department of textile fabrics and amateur art, and Superintendent W. E. Davis, of Libertyville, for apiary, culinary and pantry.

Midway vaudeville shows will be better than in previous years, too.

Pastor Russell at State Fair.
The Sunday lecture on religious or patriotic subjects has become one of the great features of the Illinois State Fair, Oct. 4-12. This year on Sunday, Oct. 6, the most famous and eloquent preacher, probably in the world, will give his views on "Beyond the Grave," a theme under various texts which has inspired thousands of writers and orators.

Pastor Russell, the independent pastor of the Brooklyn, New York, and London, England, Tabernacles, in the firm belief that he could serve the Master in a new and vast field, consented to come to the state fair without compensation. He does not charge, nor will he accept of anything from the fair managers. He serves two months in the spring and two months in the fall at the London Tabernacle, and the first Sunday in each month in Brooklyn Tabernacle. Other Sundays he returns for services in American cities.

In accepting outside invitations he speaks only in public halls, he is an undenominational preacher, thereby appealing directly to millions who belong to no denomination, or affiliate with any church—Jews, Catholics, Protestants. His congregations are made up of all beliefs and all beliefs. He always encourages Bible study, and reclaim backsliders. He has brought to Christianity more infidels than any other living divine.

Prof. John T. Reid, of the American Conservatory of Music, Chicago, will render solos during the Sunday services. There will be a sacred concert by the Illinois Watch Factory band and orchestra preceding the sermon.

A fleet of airships in the air at one time at Illinois State Fair, every day except Sunday. Funny mule races every day.

SHOW HORSES AT ILLINOIS FAIR
Total of \$7,000 in Purses Offered Contestants.
UNDEFEATED STEEDS ENTERED
Some of the Handsomest Animals in the World Will Meet on the Tank in the Coliseum at the State Fair.

A great bunch of never-defeated saddle horses will compete at the Illinois State Fair this year, Oct. 4-12, for two splendid purses. The St. Nicholas Hotel stake of \$500 and the Leland Hotel stake of \$500. A total of \$7,000 in purses.

This liberal display of currency and gold has brought out some of the greatest saddle horses in the country in competition. It is said that Kentucky breeders will not exhibit in Missouri and that Missouri breeders will not exhibit in Kentucky, but both will meet in the tank of the great Coliseum building in Springfield at the Illinois State Fair, and fight for supremacy. And Illinois, also, will have some of the handsomest and classiest entries. Among the great horses already entered are these:

Astral King, said to be the handsomest animal in the world, owned by James Houchins, of Jefferson City, Mo., the overall king of America, with seventeen factories in operation. He breeds horses as a pastime, and hires Trave Anderson to develop the best horses possible in Kentucky, a bay gelding, owned by Miss Loula Long, of Kansas City. Miss Long is a daughter of R. A. Long, the lumber king of the West. She will also send her great stable of show horses, which have appeared everywhere from Madison Square Garden, New York, to San Francisco.

The Queen of Denmark, owned by Bruce G. Eaton, of Greeley, Colo., whose 37,000-acre ranch is one of the greatest in the world. Mr. Eaton's ambition is to breed horses of one color and conformation, and he is specializing in chestnut bays. He also sends Princess Eugenia, a 3-year-old, undefeated in her class, and Major Ward and King of the Highlands; also the great 2-year-old Cantata and Kitty Gordon.

Gingerbread Man, owned by Dr. W. C. Galsby, of St. Louis, was at the state fair in 1911 and considered one of the greatest geldings in the show ring. Major Tom Bass, of Mexico, at the head of his profession, will ride the G. M.

Frances Fessler, a bay mare, owned by the New Bloomfield (Mo.) Saddle Horse Co., managed by W. J. Cowles, last year's sensation, and expected to win big stakes this year.

Joe McDonald, owned by C. C. Judy, of Tallula, last year the grand champion at the Illinois State Fair, and also champion at the International show.

Senator Stone, a chestnut gelding, owned by Bluff and Barrett, of Hilldale, Mo., a real live wire, the sensation of the year's exhibitions. Won first in saddle stakes, at Columbia against all the great horses.

The Ball Brothers, who own a famous farm for breeders at Versailles, Ky., will have twenty-three head of beautiful animals.

Major Dare is entered by P. W. Ray and Co., Bowling Green, Ky., a winner at Madison Square Garden.

Marshall Chief, owned by Ira Sharp, of Sharpshooter.

The great Thornton farm, of Bement, has entered its best horse. This animal commanded applause in 1911 at Springfield.

Miss Cliff is entered by Wallace Estill and Co., of Estill, Mo. She has shown twenty-three times and never defeated. This firm is selecting with care a fine nursery of saddle horses.

Peter Pan, owned by J. F. Harris, Columbia, Mo., a brown gelding, ideal type of gentleman's roadster. It has been exhibited forty-eight times and won first every time. Also a 3-year-old gelding, Indicator, which Mr. Harris believes as good as Peter Pan.

J. R. Peak and Son, Winchester, Ill., have entered their great mare, formerly owned by August Uhlen, of Milwaukee. Messrs. Peake have three nominations.

Tommy Doyle, who won the championship in Springfield in 1911, which was confirmed at Kansas City and the International at Chicago.

W. E. McClannahan, of Jacksonville, enters a beautiful mare, which has won many prizes at fairs in Illinois.

C. C. Judy, also enters Carrie K., which was shown through horse shows in the East last year. Mr. Judy paid a round sum for her.

There are over \$7,000 in cash premiums in this department—over \$1,500 more than last year. All the stalls are engaged. Col. L. O. Skiles, superintendent of this department, was forced to turn many fine entries away, because of lack of accommodations for them.

Racing at State Fair.
The greatest racing in the west is always provided at the Illinois State Fair, Oct. 4-12. This year over \$30,000 in cash purses and stakes are offered and magnificent racing is assured—the best in the entire western country. At this writing it is not possible to give the entire list of entries ever seen on a race track will appear at the Illinois State Fair this year.

Many of these entries would be considered "special attractions," but there are so many that it is not possible to discriminate. Every famous driver in the country will handle the reins behind noted horses. Twenty-eight thousand dollars are offered to trotters and pacers, and over \$2,000 to runners. These magnificent purses certainly will bring out the best blood and muscle in the country. The races begin at 12:30 p. m., Monday, Oct. 7, and conclude on Friday, Oct. 11. Superintendent of Speed J. T. Montgomery, of Charleston, is overwhelmed with the splendid prospects.

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|-----------------|-------------------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | AM | AM | AM | PM | PM | PM | PM | PM | |
| Lv. Reformatory | 5:40 | 8:25 | 10:30 | 1:10 | 3:15 | 6:15 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 10:30 |
| Pontiac | 5:45 | 8:30 | 10:35 | 1:15 | 3:20 | 6:20 | 7:20 | 9:35 | 10:35 |
| Nolan | 5:50 | 8:45 | 1:30 | 3:25 | 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:45 | 10:45 | |
| Cayuga | 5:55 | 10:55 | 1:35 | 3:35 | 5:45 | 7:45 | 9:55 | 10:55 | |
| Interurban Park | 6:15 | 9:00 | 11:00 | 1:45 | 3:45 | 5:45 | 7:45 | 10:00 | 11:00 |
| Odell | 6:21 | 9:06 | 11:06 | 1:51 | 3:51 | 5:51 | 7:51 | 10:10 | 11:10 |
| Viriden | 6:22 | 9:13 | 11:12 | 1:57 | 4:01 | 6:01 | 8:01 | 10:17 | 11:17 |
| Rilling | 6:25 | 9:20 | 11:18 | 2:05 | 4:08 | 6:08 | 8:08 | 10:23 | 11:23 |
| Ar. Dwight | 6:45 | 9:30 | 11:25 | 2:15 | 4:16 | 6:16 | 8:16 | 10:30 | 11:30 |
| South Bound | DWIGHT TO PONTIAC | | | | | | | | |
| Lv. Dwight | 7:30 | 9:30 | 11:35 | 2:15 | 4:15 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:30 | 11:30 |
| Rilling | 7:37 | 9:37 | 11:42 | 2:22 | 4:22 | 6:22 | 8:37 | 10:37 | 11:37 |
| Viriden | 7:42 | 9:42 | 11:47 | 2:27 | 4:27 | 6:27 | 8:42 | 10:42 | 11:42 |
| Odell | 7:50 | 9:50 | 11:45 | 2:35 | 4:35 | 6:35 | 8:50 | 10:50 | 11:50 |
| Interurban Park | 7:56 | 9:56 | 11:50 | 2:40 | 4:40 | 6:40 | 8:55 | 10:55 | 11:55 |
| Cayuga | 8:02 | 10:03 | 11:58 | 2:48 | 4:48 | 6:48 | 9:05 | 11:05 | 12:05 |
| Nolan | 8:07 | 10:08 | 12:03 | 2:53 | 4:53 | 6:53 | 9:10 | 11:10 | 12:10 |
| Pontiac | 8:20 | 10:25 | 12:18 | 3:10 | 5:10 | 7:10 | 9:25 | 11:25 | 12:25 |
| Ar. Reformatory | 8:25 | 10:30 | 12:23 | 3:15 | 5:15 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:30 | 12:30 |

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THIS YEAR'S FAIR will be the best Fair ever held. The attractions far exceed any previous years. Monoplane and Biplane Flights. Mile. Garcia, of Havana, Cuba, rides down an inclined plane in an automobile, and turns a triple somersault. Balloon Ascensions with Parachute Drop. Motorcycle and Automobile Races, and hundreds of other attractions, all in addition to the immense exhibit of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry.
THE CHICAGO & ALTON will make very low rates to Springfield from all sections of its line in Illinois with liberal limits. You can't afford to miss this year's State Fair.
For rates, time of trains and other information consult
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