

FLUNG FROM CONEY'S WHIRLING 'AIRSHIP'

**Five Passengers Are Hurlled to
the Ground and Injured
When a Cable Snaps.**

WOMEN ON BOARD FAINT

**Amusement Device Is Slowed Down
—Broken Machinery in Motion
a Menace to Crowd.**

The "Airship Ride" proved one of the most popular amusement devices in Steeplechase Park, Coney Island, last night, for it is erected outside of the pavillion and close to the beach, where the freshest breezes from off the water sweep over the boatlike cars, suspended from long steel arms like the spokes of a wheel, and sent flying around like the governor on an engine when an electric motor causes the steel axle, rising perpendicularly from the ground for some twenty feet, to revolve rapidly. There was scarcely a trip when the half dozen cars did not each hold its quota of half a dozen persons.

The cars were flying round and round at a swift pace shortly after 10 o'clock, their occupants shouting and the women screaming in pleasurable nervousness, when the cars, forced outward further and further by the speed at which they traveled, swung at such an angle that nothing but the speed retained the passengers in their seats.

The speed had been increased to about its highest point, and in an instant more the power would have been reduced slowly and the flying cars, going more and more slowly, would have settled inward until they hung directly beneath the supporting arms when the machinery stopped. There came a metallic crack, however, just before the slowing down commenced, and one of the light steel cables by which the cars are suspended to the arm of the big wheel overhead snapped in two.

The end of one car, which it had supported, dropped abruptly toward the ground, and its five passengers, shrieking with fright, were tumbled headlong out of it to crash down upon the ground fifteen feet below with all the force of such a fall increased by the sudden cessation of the speed at which they had been swung through the air. The five injured persons are:

- CONNELLY, Mrs. MAUD, 332 Monroe Street, Hoboken, N. J.; severe bruises and cuts.
- CONNELLY, MICHAEL, her husband; left shoulder broken.
- LEVINE, CHARLES, 871 De Kalb Avenue; stunned and bruised.
- PRICE, Miss LOUISE, 442 Railroad Avenue; bruised and cut.
- ROHLFIND, Miss MINNIE, 36 Bowers Street, Jersey City, N. J.; bruised and cut and left leg broken.

The occupants of the other cars were terrified by the accident. Women fainted and men had all they could do to keep them from toppling out of the cars, which now were slowed down rapidly. The fallen end of the car whose cable broke swung round and round only a few feet above the ground, a flying menace to the crowds which first rushed forward to pick up the injured, and then drew back in panic as the broken car, swinging around again, threatened to mow them down.

Mounted Sergeant Klinck and Mounted Policeman Body of the Coney Island Station were in Surf Avenue in front of the park, and some one rushed out to them with news of the accident. They hurried into the park and found the great crowd which had filled the pavillion thronging out through the grounds to crowd around the "Airship Ride," the cars of which had been stopped now. Fainting women and frightened men were assisted from these.

The injured persons, several of whom had been knocked unconscious, were carried into a building, and there Dr. Rubin and Dr. Overend, from the Coney Island Hospital, and Dr. Charles Hall of 2,113 Mermaid Avenue, attended them.

Meantime the crowd became so pressing that the reserves were called from the station, and every one was driven back from the open space around the broken ride and the building where the injured had been taken. After their wounds had been dressed it was found that all were able to go to their homes except Miss Rohlfind, who was taken to the hospital. Connelly, his shoulders in splints and bandages, insisted on accompanying his wife to their home.

NEGRO CUTS IN CROWD.

**Stabs Two Men Who Don't Move
Quickly Enough—Caught After Chase**

Steeplechase Park, at Coney Island, was thronged with pleasure seekers shortly after 8 o'clock last evening, and many of them were crowded about the "Bump-the-Bumps," down which men and girls were sliding with shouts and giggles. The group at the bottom of the slide were laughing heartily at their antics, when some one called out, loud above the din:

"Look out! He's got a knife!"

Then through the closely packed crowd a young negro in the uniform of a park porter pushed and shoved his way. His face was distorted with fright and anger, and in his hand he brandished a knife with a long blade. Women and children screamed at sight of him and fell back to give him room as he rushed along toward the park entrance. Men seemed so taken by surprise that before they were prepared to act the negro, now running, had passed them by.

All the way to the gates the park was well filled with people, and through this throng the negro darted. The cries of frightened women and children filled the big pavillion, but above them all rose the cry of a man whom the negro had slashed with his knife when he failed to make room for the rushing fugitive. Presently there resounded through the place another cry as the negro plunged his blade into another man.

He was near the gates by this time, and so rapid had been his run from the "Bump-the-Bumps" that he was through the gates and safely on his way toward Surf Avenue before any of the attendants at the entrances realized what had happened in the park.

Back in the course over which the negro had rushed there was intense excitement. The men he had wounded—John Lipton of 41 Melrose Street and Walter B. Wilson of 2,038 West Ninth Street, Coney Island—were being attended by park employes and persons in the crowd.

Others in the crowd who had seen the start of the negro's flight were telling excitedly how they had seen him first enter into argument with four young men, and how then a fight had started, in which the negro was pummeled several times before he drew his knife and bolted. The four young men could not be found anywhere.

Lipton was assisted to the Coney Island police station, where Dr. Overend came from the Coney Island Hospital and dressed a stab wound in his left hip. Lipton was not badly hurt enough to be taken to the hospital. Wilson was carried in a cab to the office of Dr. Philip I. Nash of Coney Island. The physician found that he was stabbed in the right side and back, and decided that the knife blade in one instance might have punctured the lung. Dr. Nash said that the young man's condition was serious, but he insisted on being taken home, and was conveyed there in a carriage.

Detectives Busby and Wyman set out to find the negro, located him about three hours after the trouble and locked him up.