

cies, Spicer, Coleman.

AMUSEMENTS.

BALLOON ASCENT TO-DAY.

Great interest is being evinced in the ballooning exhibition to be given on the Sports Ground this afternoon by the Beebe Balloon Company. The spectators on the ground will be afforded every opportunity of witnessing all the extremely interesting details in connection with the ascent and descent. The beautifully designed and gaily colored parachute will be exhibited and tested by the experts. The inflation of the huge balloon will be carried out in full view of those within the ground, and should prove both interesting and instructive. Whilst the balloon is being held down by a large body of attendants, the parachute will be folded and affixed to the fork ropes, and as each detail is being carried out Mr. Beebe will explain its object to those present. Immediately after landing, the aeronaut, Mr. Sebpe, will make his reappearance in the arena, and full details as to the flight and height reached, as registered by the aneroid, will be made public. Admission is one shilling for adults, and 6d for children; but free entry may be had upon presentation at the gates of an empty 1lb. Suratara "D" tea packet.

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Sebphe, the aeronaut, made a very successful balloon ascent from the Recreation Grounds yesterday afternoon. It was only one of many during an experience of fourteen years spent in all parts of the world, but all of them were not so successful as yesterday's performance. His latest ascent attended with extra dangerous circumstances, said Sebphe on being seen by a News representative, occurred at Perth last April. "You noticed those white patches on the ballon, didn't you?" he said. "Well, she was on fire in those places as she rose; and at 500 feet up I reckoned it was time to go home. I was only 80 feet from Mother Earth when the parachute opened properly." In spite of anything and everything risky, Sebphe likes the exhilarating game.

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The inert mass of texture, as it lay on the ground in the open space at the sheds in the Recreation Ground was the antithesis of a balloon, but like the five or six hundred people who had gathered on the terraces, it wakened up when the fire was lighted and the inflation began. Soon, like a living thing, the balloon was straining at the ropes, and at a preconcerted signal—a pistol-shot—all hands let go, and up she rose, dragging with her a slim little human in red tights, the central figure of the show—Sebphe, the aeronaut. Up, up, up, soared the balloon, until the red figure was but a speck in the air, but the sound of the people's cheers reached him, and he waved his hand in recognition of the applause. On the aneroid registering 4400 feet, Sebphe cut away, and the parachute unfolding itself in the descent Mother Earth was safely reached at the Racecourse grounds, and the balloon, having turned turtle and emptied itself in the air, slid down ignominiously in the immediate vicinity. The whole proceeding was a complete success, and, on returning to the grounds, Sebphe was accorded a salvo of applause.

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DN 25 / 11 / 1910