1919

Tucker, and took out Bowman Cook and John Morine, two negroes, charged with the murder of a local white man. The negroes were taken to the vicinity of the cemetery and shot to death. One of the bodies was tied behind an automobile and dragged into the city and cut loose in front of the Windsor Hotel. This is the only record that has been found of an actual lynching in Jacksonville.

October 28: A large portion of Jacksonville's population lined the waterfront from Market Street to Commodore's Point, while hundreds more were crowded on box cars and other vantage points, to witness the arrival of Lt. Commander A. C. Reed and the famous NC 4, the first heavier than air craft to cross the Atlantic in flight. The airship arrived at 5 p.m., circled once or twice over the city, and made a perfect landing in the St. Johns River fifteen minutes later. The NC 4 was accompanied by two smaller air craft. They remained here until 30th and then left on their way down the coast to Miami.

November 22-29: Florida State Fair.

Strikes of 1919

The inevitable readjustment of working conditions after the war produced unrest among the workers, and the situation in 1919, in Jacksonville, was not a serene one. The year was characterized by frequent walk-outs, some in protest of wage readjustments, others with a demand for higher wages, and still others for recognition of their unions by the employers.

In March there was a strike of workmen in the plant of the Merrill-Stevens Corporation over the disregard of the seniority plan in the promotion of an employee.

In June the operators and office force of the Western Union Telegraph Company went out on strike for higher pay. This strike lasted a month and was not without violence. Assuming a threatening aspect, the strike was practically ended June 25, when Judge Rhydon M. Call handed down a restraining order against the striking employees.

On June 11, the entire body of city firemen, about 100 men, left their station houses, the City Commission having ignored their ultimatum for the reinstatement of a dis-