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*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

### Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Eells , Fred C.

Extracted on Apr-16-2024 08:34:40

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week at Monessen, Pennsylvania in early September at an "Old Home Week" celebration. From there Eells flew the hydro at the Perry Centennial Celebration at Put-In-Bay, Ohio September 19th to 26th. This was a water flying event held by the Inter-Lakes Yachting Association in commemoration of Perry's victory in the Battle of Lake Erie. Also flying at this event were Walter Johnson and Frank Burnside of the Thomas Brothers Company, Tony Jannus and William Bleakley of the Benoist Company and Beckwith Havens of the Curtiss Company.

Eell's aviation activities are unknown through 1914 to 1916, but reportedly he was in France at the start of World War 1, at which time he returned to the United States and became a Naval Aviation Instructor at the Hampton Roads Naval Air Station, Virginia. There he also engaged in some bomb-dropping experiments. During this period he enlisted in the Navy and was enrolled as Chief Quartermaster on January 21, 1918. ~~He remained on active duty there November 30, 1918, but~~ Released from active duty there November 30, 1918, ~~he remained on active duty there November 30, 1918, but~~ he remained in the Reserves ~~on active duty there November 30, 1918, but~~ on September 30, 1921 as Chief Radioman, from the 9th Naval District, Great Lakes, Illinois.

~~After World War I, Eells~~ After World War I, ~~Eells~~ Eells became "fed up" with aviation and ~~returned to New York State where he became a machinist and tool maker for the American Can Company of Geneva, New York.~~ returned to New York State where he became a machinist and tool maker for the American Can Company of Geneva, New York. ~~He remained there until retirement and~~ He remained there until retirement and ~~During this time he owned and operated an Aeronca light plane for sport flying.~~ Upon retirement he moved to Florida and settled at Tavaris where he continued to do neighborhood repair work at times and enjoyed fishing. After gradually failing health Eells passed away at the Waterman Memorial Hospital, Eustis, Florida on November 6, 1965 at age 78. He was survived by a sister and a niece, both of Hammondsport, New York. His remains were returned to Bath for burial in Nondaga Cemetery.

~~Flying Pioneer~~ Fred G. Eells was truly one of the early birds more capable pioneers of American aviation history. A good mechanic, he built his own first planes and taught himself to fly them. One of the first to join the aviation movement in the United States, a close friend of Glenn Curtiss, he was the first to fly over Bath and

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