Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Hamilton, Charles K.

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[[stamped]] FROM THE FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES OF HAROLD MOOREHOUSE [[/stamped]

Texas And Vera Crus, Monterey And Mexico City in Mexico. At El Paso Hamilton and Simon made a 25 minute flight across the border and over Juarez, Mexico which was then in a state of siege. They did this after receiving permission, with the understanding that they do so at their own risk of being fired upon by the Mexican insurgents. Hamilton became ill at Monterey on February 20th and left the troupe to return home, where later it proved to be tuberculosis.

Hoping to regain his health quickly and go on with his flying, he formed the Hamilton Aviation Company at New Britain, Connecticut in April, 1911. The incorporators were Hamilton and his wife, his mother and stepfather, Mr. And Mrs. J. B. Beaudette, and T. W. O'Conner. The group established a flying field at nearby Winsted, Connecticut and they planned to build, exhibit and deal in aeroplanes. He also purchased a new Burgess-Wright plane from the Burgess Co. & Curtiss, of Marblehead, Massachusetts in May, and after some instruction from W. S. Burgess and Harry Atwood at Squantum during late May and early June to learn the Wright control, he took his plane to New Britain hoping to regain his health by giving up the circus life and changing to moderate local flying. During June he continued flying at New Britain and Hartford, Connecticut and carried some passengers.

As June ended Harry Atwood was making his celebrated flight from Boston to Washington, D.C. by way of New York and Atlantic City. Evidently as a matter of interest, Hamilton was following his progress for he was at Atlantic City when Atwood arrived there. July 5th and 6th he rode with Atwood as a passenger at Atlantic City and was then invited to fly to Washington, D.C. with Atwood, which invitation was accepted. They started on July 7th and a dog ran into their path as they were taking off, damaging the propeller. A second start was made and after taking off over water the plane became unmanageable due to the faulty propeller and they crashed, narrowly escaping drowning. The plane was damaged and the

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