

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Havens, Beckwith

Extracted on Apr-16-2024 02:40:28

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year. While Havens was in Detroit he renewed his acquaintance with Mr. Charles T. Chenevert, whom he had previously known in 1911 at an exhibition engagement in Arkansas. Chenevert was Vice President of the Federal Motor Truck Company of Detroit, and on August 5th Havens flew from Detroit to Toledo, Ohio, carrying Chenevert as a passenger. Havens remained in Toledo for a few days, again carrying passengers, and on the 8th carried the well-known Wright pilot, Harry N. Atwood, to Detroit and return. On August 20th he flew the Verplanck boat at the Put-in-Bay Hydro Races during the Perry Centennial Celebration. He had flown there from Toledo for this event to compete with Tony Jannus [[crossed-out]]rr[/crossed-out]], Walter Johnson, Frank Burnside and William Bleakley. Again high winds and rough water hampered the flyers to somewhat spoil the event. Following this, Havens carried passengers and demonstrated the boat at Cedar Point and Sandusky, Ohio.

About this time Havens decided to continue the Great Lakes Cruise flight to New York and on August 23rd flew to Cleveland enroute to Buffalo. At Cleveland he again carried passengers and demonstrated the flying boat. On September 1st he flew from Cleveland to Buffalo, carrying Charles T. Chenevert, to complete approximately 1,200 miles over Great Lakes waters since leaving Chicago. At Buffalo he entered another Perry Celebration, flying with Glenn Martin, Al Engle and William S. Lucky. Again the weather was bad but the aviators made a fair showing on Motor Island at Riverside Park. From Buffalo, Havens shipped the Curtiss boat to Albany where Verplanck joined him, and on October 7th they flew from Albany to Midland Beach, Staten Island, to complete the flight from Chicago to New York via the Great Lakes and Hudson River. There they were awarded the Curtiss Gold Medal for this most outstanding achievement. The completion of this extensive overwater flight was easily the high point of Havens' early aviation career and was acclaimed everywhere as "The Flight of the Year."

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