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Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Hild, Frederick C.

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on an American-built Bleriot with such an engine. During his tests he surprised the observers by flying to 2,800-foot altitude. On March 4th Hild started from Hempstead, Long Island, intending to land in Central Park, New York, as a publicity stunt. He flew over Mineola, Roslyn, Great Neck, College Point, White Stone, Long Island City and down the East River to 23rd Street where he ran out of gas. He glided down and under the Queensboro Bridge to a landing on Blackwell's Island in the Penitentiary Yard. After getting gas he attempted to take off but taxied into some deep mud and stood the Bleriot on its nose, breaking the propeller. He barely escaped being put in jail for this episode. That month he opened a flying school at Hempstead with a new two-seater, dual-control plane and later started carrying passengers. Hild continued to fly actively at Garden City and Hempstead through the spring months of 1913, and on May 31 flew over a polo game in progress at Meadow Brook, Long Island, and "stole the show," but his flying license was temporarily revoked for this infraction of flying rules. He was active through the summer months and on occasional weekends raced Billy Watson in a Simplex ~~[[crossed out]]~~ R ~~[[crossed out]]~~ race car at the Long Island Speedway. Reportedly, Hild also taught a few pupils that summer at the American Aeroplane Supply Company School.

On August 5th he flew his first exhibition date on the road at Newton, New Jersey, at the Sussex County Horse Race and Carnival; then on August 25th started a week's engagement at the Asbury Park, New Jersey, Athletic Park Parade Grounds. Huge crowds attended this event where he put on a great show. From there he flew to Sea Girt, New Jersey, to fly at a Soldiers Encampment. On October 12 Hild made the first flight tests of a home-built Bleriot at East Henrietta, New York, for G. C. Beidler of Rochester, New York. In December the American Aeroplane Supply Company suffered a bad fire at Hempstead, losing three completed planes.

About April 1, 1914, Hild was engaged to do test flying for Maximilian

3

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