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Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Johnson, Walter

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FROM THE FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES OF HAROLD
E. MOREHOUSE

8 Walter E. Johnson
20 Early Thomas Brothers Pilot - Instructor

Walter E. Johnson

Walter E. Johnson was born at Pittsford, near Rochester, New York, on September 7, 1888. Son of a physician, he graduated from East High School, Rochester, in 1908. He was an active leader in various sports programs. In the fall of 1908 he entered the College of Applied Science in Civil Engineering at Syracuse University, where again he was active in sports, winning letters in both track and football. He also became a member of Zeta Psi Fraternity. After two years in college, Johnson became so interested in aviation flying he decided to quit school and get into the flying game.

As a result He started to work for Glenn Curtiss as a mechanic at Hammondsport, New York, in June, 1910. Johnson was eager to learn to fly. but He did not get his an opportunity to do so there. However, but while working with Curtiss and watching Curtiss fly, Johnson learned how to move the controls to make various maneuvers in flight.

Johnson soon heard that the Thomas Brothers had an experimental ~~aero~~ airplane at Hornell, New York, and wanted to get some one to fly it. He contacted them and as a result left Curtiss and joined the Thomas Brothers

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