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Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Luckey, William S.

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[[stamp]]
FROM THE
FLYING PIONEERS BIOGRAPHIES
OF HAROLD E. MOREHOUSE
[[/stamp]]

WILLIAM S. LUCKEY
Pioneer Curtiss Exhibition Pilot

[[image]]

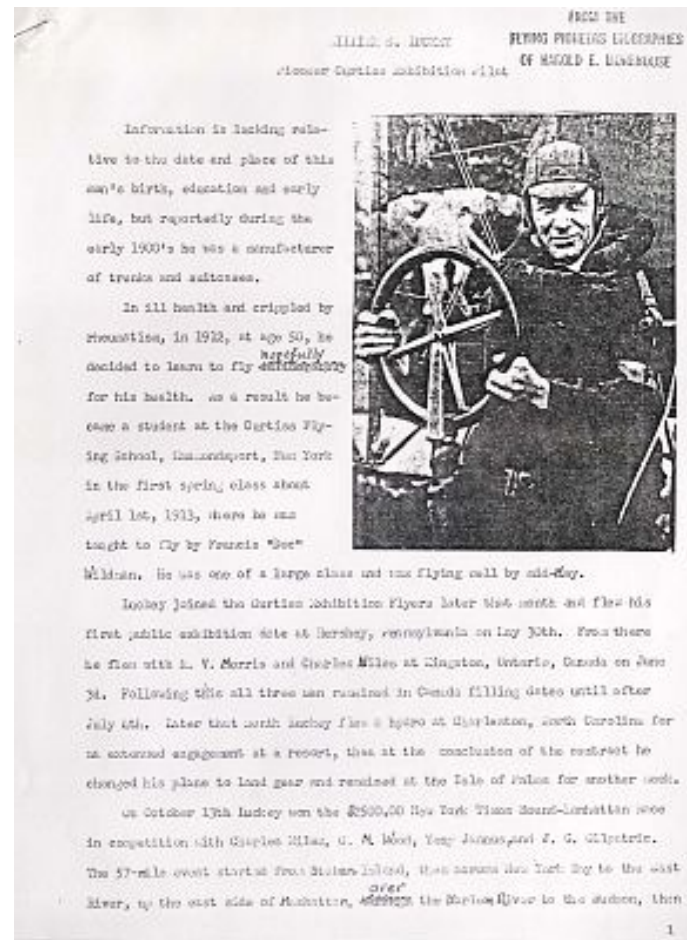
Information is lacking relative to the date and place of this man's birth, education and early life, but reportedly during the early 1900's he was a manufacturer of trunks and suitcases.

In ill health and crippled by rheumatism, in 1912, at age 50, he decided to learn to fly hopefully ~~deliberately~~ for his health. As a result he became a student at the Curtiss Flying School, Hammondsport, New York in the first spring class about April 1st, 1913, where he was taught to fly by Francis "Doc" Wildman. He was one of a large class and was flying well by mid-May.

Luckey joined the Curtiss Exhibition Flyers later that month and flew his first public exhibition date at Hershey, Pennsylvania on May 30th. From there he flew with R.V. Morris and Charles Niles at Kingston, Ontario, Canada on June 3d. Following this all three men remained in Canada filling dates until after July 4th. Later that month Luckey flew a hydro at Charleston, North Carolina for an extended engagement at a resort, then at the conclusion of the contract he changed his plane to land gear and remained at the Isle of Palms for another week.

On October 13th Luckey won the \$2500.00 New York Times Round-Manhattan Race in competition with Charles Niles, C.N. Wood, Tony Jannus, and J.G. Gilpatric. The 57-mile event started from Staten Island, then across New York Bay to the East River, up the east side of Manhattan, over ~~the Harlem River~~ through ~~the Harlem River~~ the Harlem River to the Hudson, then

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