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### Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Martin, James V.

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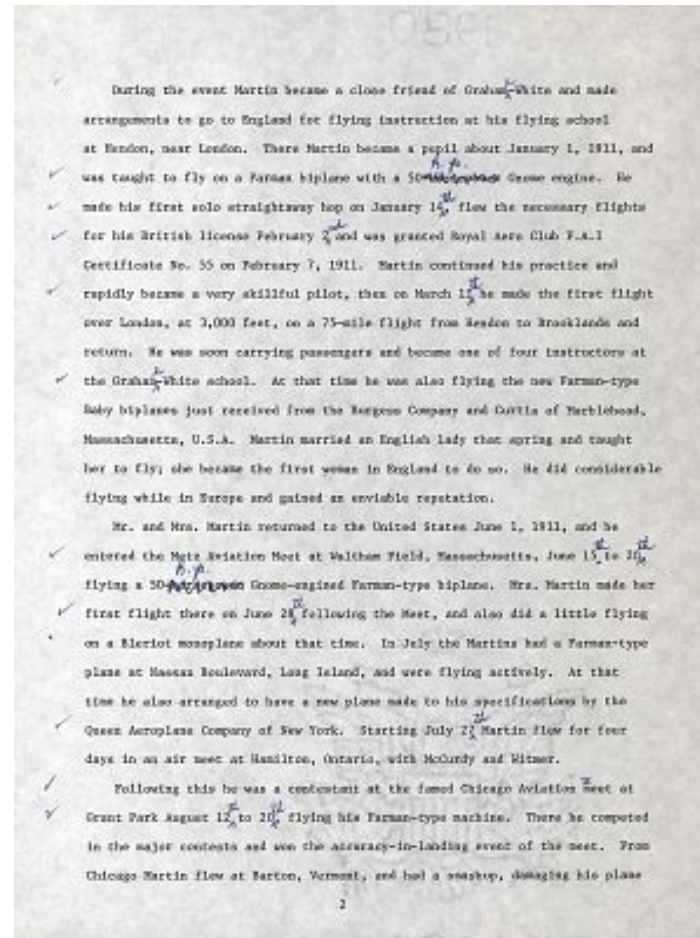
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During the event Martin became a close friend of Grahame-White and made arrangements to go to England for flying instruction at his flying school at Hendon, near London. There Martin became a pupil about January 1, 1911, and was taught to fly in a Farman biplane with a 50 ~~horsepower~~ h.p Gnome engine. He made his first solo straightaway hop on January 14th, flew the necessary flights for his British license February 2nd and was granted Royal Aero Club F.A.I Certificate No. 55 on February 7, 1911. Martin continued his practice and rapidly became a very skillful pilot, then on March 11th he made the first flight over London, at 3,000 feet, on a 75-mile flight from Hendon to Brooklands and return. He was soon carrying passengers and became one of four instructors at the Grahame-White school. At that time he was also flying the new Farman-type Baby biplanes just received from the Burgess Company and Curtis of Marblehead, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Martin married an English lady that spring and taught her to fly; she became the first woman in England to do so. He did considerable flying while in Europe and gained an enviable reputation.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin returned to the United States June 1, 1911, and he entered the Metz Aviation Meet at Waltham Field, Massachusetts, June 15th to 20th, flying a 50-~~horsepower~~ h.p Gnome-engined Farman-type biplane. Mrs. Martin made her first flight there on June 28th following the Meet, and also did a little flying on a Bleriot monoplane about that time. In July the Martins had a Farman-type plane at Nassau Boulevard, Long Island, and were flying actively. At that time he also arranged to have a new plane made to his specifications by the Queen Aeroplane Company of New York. Starting July 27th Martin flew for four days in an air meet Hamilton, Ontario, with McCurdy and Witmer.

Following this he was a contestant at the famed Chicago Aviation Meet at Grant Park August 12th to 20th flying his Farman-type machine. There he competed in the major contests and won the accuracy-in-landing event of the meet. From Chicago Martin flew at Barton, Vermont, and had a smashup, damaging his plane

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