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## **Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Parmelee, Phillip O.**

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There, on January 13th, Parmelee took the well-known airship pilot, Frank Goodale, for a cross-country ride and Turpin flew the EX. The Los Angeles Meet was a large event and Parmelee's flying was outstanding, running a close race with Beachey for popularity. On the opening day he made several flights in a Wright-type glider and received a tremendous ovation. At the close of the Meet, Parmelee had won first in altitude, 7,725 feet; second in daily duration and first in mail carrying.

From there Parmelee flew at the Oakland, California Meet, February 17th to 25th, with Beachey, Kearney, Fish, Cooke, Hoff, Gunn, and Blanche Scott. Here Parmelee had installed a V-8, 60 ~~h.p.~~ Hall-Scott engine which made a tremendous difference in speed and climbing ability. Mufflers were installed on the engine, making it very quiet in flight. His flying with this machine was easily the sensation of the show. Parmelee and Turpin next flew at Agricultural Park, Sacramento, California, March 2nd and 3rd. Parmelee carried authorized mail from the field to a park near the Post Office where it was picked up by postal employees. Following this event Parmelee and Turpin had a 7-week contract flying every weekend on the beach at Venice, California. There they made exhibition flights to attract the crowds and carried passengers. This engagement started March 25th and about April 1st professional parachute jumper Grant Morton made a successful jump from Parmelee's plane at about 1,000 feet. Holding a folded standard balloon chute in his arms, attached to his belt, he threw it down and below the plane, then jumped. This may have been the third live parachute jump made from an airplane in flight.

While flying at Venice Parmelee and Turpin decided to form a partnership and go into the exhibition business in earnest. Evidently feeling they should have new, more modern, and faster planes they bought two Gage tractor biplanes with Hall-Scott 60 ~~h.p.~~ engines. The engagement at Venice ended about April 15 and their first date using the new planes was at Hastings Park,

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