



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Wood, Clyde M.

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 07:33:23

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

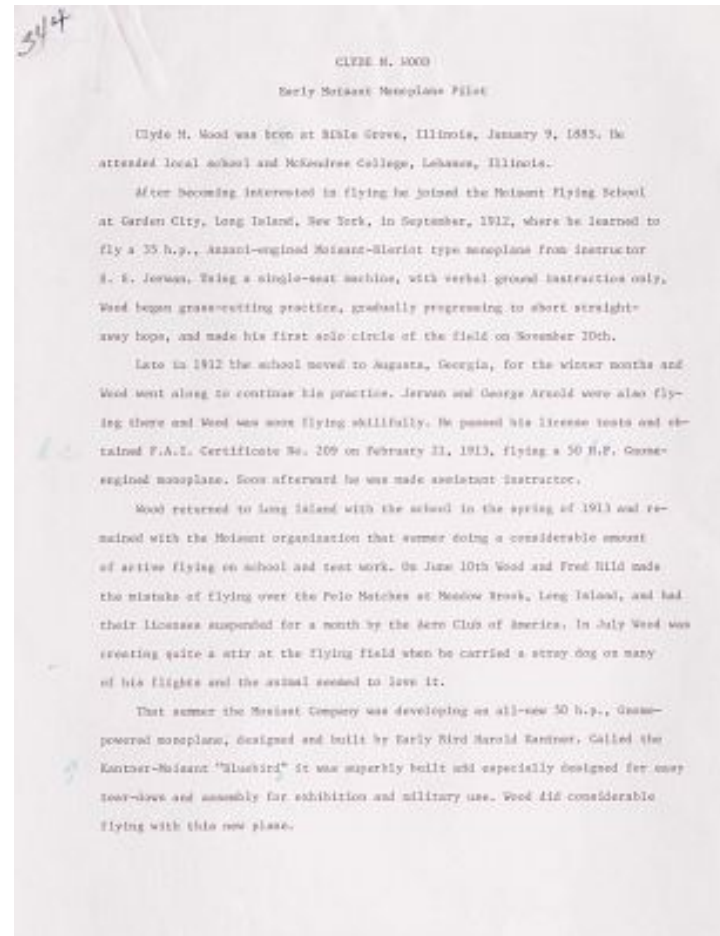
CLYDE M. WOOD
Early Moisant Monoplane Pilot

Clyde M. Wood was born at Bible Grove, Illinois, January 9, 1885. He attended local school and McKendree College, Lebanon, Illinois. After becoming interested in flying he joined the Moisant Flying School at Garden City, Long Island, New York, in September 1912, where he learned to fly a 35 h.p., Anzani-engined Moisant-Bleriot type monoplane from instructor S. S. Jerwan. Using a single-seat machine, with verbal ground instruction only, Wood began grass-cutting practice, gradually progressing to short straight-away hops, and made his first solo circle of the field on November 20th.

Late in 1912 the school moved to Augusta, Georgia, for the winter months and Wood went along to continue his practice. Jerwan and George Arnold were also flying there and Wood was soon flying skillfully. He passed his license tests and obtained F.A.I. Certificate No. 209 on February 21, 1913, flying a 50 H.P. Gnome-engined monoplane. Soon afterward he was made assistant instructor.

Wood returned to Long Island with the school in the spring of 1913 and remained with the Moisant organization that summer doing a considerable amount of active flying on school and test work. On June 10th Wood and Fred Hild made the mistake of flying over the Polo Matches and Meadow Brook, Long Island, and had their licenses suspended for a month by the Aero Club of America. In July Wood was creating quite a stir at the flying field when he carried a stray dog on many of his flights and the animal seemed to love it.

That summer the Moisant Company was developing an all-new 50 h.p., Gnome-powered monoplane, designed and built by Early Bird Harold Kantner. Called the Kantner-Moisant "Bluebird" it was superbly built and especially designed for easy tear-down and assembly for exhibition and military use. Wood did considerable flying with this new plane.



Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Wood, Clyde M.

Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Mar-28-2024 07:33:23



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)