

Aeronautical Ephemera I

MS – 37

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

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## Introduction

These are the manuscripts containing trade brochures, honorary programs, passes, certificates and photographs on aviation dating from 1904-1929. Most of the material dwells on the years 1909-1912. The collection was purchased on October 29, 1976 from:

Hamill and Barker  
Antiquarian and Booksellers  
230 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

No restrictions were made at the time of the purchase. All items are in good condition. They represent broadsides, advertisements, programs, photographs and small booklets. It is an artificial collection, having been gathered from many sources and then sold. No agency history can be written about various motor companies and their advertisements. A description of each motor series follows this introduction and gives an explanation of the common theme of these separate, artificial manuscripts.

Approximate number of items: 53

Linear Feet of Shelf space occupied: 1

## Scope and Content

The Aeronautical Ephemera collection contains small booklets, motor company advertisements, a blueprint of an airplane engine, postcards used for advertising, invitations to honorary luncheons and programs, arm bands for membership in an Aero Club, certificates illustrating a man's license to fly and business cards. All deal with aviation and have the common theme of being mostly Pre-World War I. The collection has been divided into four series.

Series I. Trade Brochures – this series contains small booklets each describing a major manufacturing company dating from 1904-1919. Most of the companies were functioning from 1909-1912. Included also are some advertisement cards and a blueprint of an engine part. Each company gives a detailed account of the type of engine (horsepower needed) that should be produced for heavier-than-air flight. All companies show the functions of the car engine they are producing and relate it to the aeronautical motor they have invented. Detailed drawings illustrate the parts of the engine, followed by horsepower statistics, weight and cost. Advertising this new engine is the main point the companies are attempting to project. The successful flights of the Wright Brothers in 1908 are obviously the stimulus for the sudden burst of energy of motor companies to construct an aeronautical engine. Examples of companies represented are the Detroit Aeroplane Co., Adams-Farwell Aeronautic motor, Easton Cordage Co., Curtiss, and the Rinek Aero Mfg. Co. Others are also listed.

Series II. Honorary Programs – contains luncheon and dinner invitations, complete with menu, in honor of the following famous aviators:

- A. Captain Edward Rickenbacker
- B. Colonel Charles Lindbergh
- C. Bert "Fish" Hassell – includes his signature on the invitation
- D. The German and Irish Flyers-Baren Ehrenfried Guenther von Huenefeld, Major James C. Fitzmaurice and Captain Herman Koehl.
- E. Dr. Hugo Edrener-commander of the Graf Zeppelin

Series III. Passes and Certificates – this third series contains arm bands worn by members of the Aero Club of America. A brochure, stating what aviation activities members are admitted free to attend, is included. Two free admittance cards are enclosed: the first to the Gordon-Bennett Race on September 9, 1912. The second to the Cierco Flying Field held September 12 to 15 in 1912.

Series IV. Photographs – Series IV contains various photographs with dates in 1912. There are six original photographs of an airplane engine, 3 original photographs of airplanes from the Curtiss Exhibition Company, 10 original photographic postcards showing airplanes, 2 original photographs of an unidentified flying contraption and 2 negatives of Eddie Horn and his Aeroplane.

## CONTAINER LISTING

### **Series I: Trade Brochures**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	The Adams-Farwell Aeronautic Motor The Lightest Power Plant...	n.d.
	2	The Call Aviation Engine booklet and the Aerial Navigation Comp. letter	Feb. 1911
	3	Curtiss Biplanes sheet and Curtiss "Flying" Machine broadside	n.d.
	4	Three broadsides of the Detroit Aeroplane Co.	1910-1911
	5	Booklet: Airplane Engines Eastern Cordage Co.	1910
	6	Broadside: Flying Machine – Herring-Curtiss	1909
	7	Booklet: Aviation Power Plants Hall-Scott Motor Car Company	1910
	8	Heinrick Monoplanes and Mono-Biplanes	n.d.
	9	Two booklets: E.R. Holmes Company The E.R. Holmes Rotary Motor	n.d.
	10	Rinek Aviation Engines	1910
	11	Roberts Motor Company The Motors That Never Backfire	1911
	12	World's Fair Airship Company Prospectus of the World's Fair Airship Corp.	1904
	13	First Real Flying Machine "Triumphant Democracy"	1919

## Series II: Honorary Programs

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	14	Program and Invitation – Rickenbacker Victory Dinner at the Congress Hotel	Apr. 23, 1919
	15	Program for dinner in honor of Lindbergh City of Chicago	Aug. 13, 1927
	16	Menu for the Bert Hassell Luncheon	Dec. 5, 1928
	17	Invitation for von Huenfield, Fitzmaurice and Koehl, Chicago	May 12, 1928
	18	Invitation for Dr. Hugo Echner	Oct. 22, 1928

## Series III: Passes and Certificates

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	19	1 press bank, 1 arm band, 2 tickets, 1 season membership brochure	n.d.
	20	1 certificate, 2 fabrics, 1 business card	n.d.
	21	1 brochure – <u>American Airlines Inc.</u> 1 booklet – <u>Dayton as an Aeronautical Center</u> Published in Dayton, Ohio	Nov. 15, 1936 May 1931
	22	1 pamphlet – <u>The Official Aviation Guide</u> Published by The Official Aviation Guide Co., Inc.	Nov. 1936
	23	1 magazine – <u>Aero Digest</u> , Vol. 29 No. 6 Pub. by Aeronautical Digest Publishing Corp.	Dec. 1936
	24	1 pamphlet – The Value of the Parachute By Gen. Harold R. Harris	n.d.
	25	Xeroxed copies from a scrapbook loaned by the Aviation Hall of Fame of Women Pilots in Dayton	n.d.
	26	Xeroxed copies and newspaper accounts of the crash of the Shenandoah – <u>Dayton Daily News</u> and <u>The Daily Jeffersonian</u>	Sept. 3, 1978 Sept. 2, 1978

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	27	Brochure on the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) Air Museum	n.d.
	28	Broadside – <u>The Detroit Aero</u> Published by the Detroit Aeroplane Co.	1911
	29	Xeroxed copy of letter written by Douglas MacArthur	Jul. 9, 1931
	30	Three magazines Dayton USA Bicentennial Special Issue	Oct. 1976 Dec. 1978
	31	Newsletter Kanhistique – Kansas History and Antiques Article: “Longren’s Flying Flivvers”	Oct. 1977
	32	Transcontinental Itinerary for a Special Commission to organize the 1 <sup>st</sup> Aerial Derby around the world	n.d.
	33	Letter from R.P. Garrison to Major Lester Gardner	n.d.
	34	Biography of Edward Albert Johnson	n.d.
	35	Biography of Albert Francis Hegenberger	n.d.
	36	Biography of Edwin Albert Link	n.d.
	37	International Air Races – Dayton, Ohio (Brochure)	Oct. 2-4, 1924

#### **Series IV: Photographs**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	38	<u>USAF Photo Package No. 2: Historical Aircraft</u>	n.d.
	39	<u>Fairchild C-82A Packet</u> (7 photos)	n.d.
	40	<u>Aircraft Engine and Parts</u> (4 photos)	n.d.
	41	<u>Early Aviators</u> (4 photos)	n.d.
	42	<u>Float Plane Under Construction</u>	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	43	<u>Handly Page 01.00</u> Description of landing	n.d.
2	1	Brochure: <u>Early Aviation Photographs</u> (monoplane)	n.d.
	2	Letters: Royal Aeronautical Society (1 photo)	n.d.
	3	Reports and Bulletins: Problems of Aeroplane Improvement, Expenditures of the War Dept: Aviation	n.d.
	4	Newspaper Articles, Mr. Ward's Sporting License, Letters from Smithsonian	n.d.
	5	Various Letters, Penney and Goldsborough, Duryea Power Company; St. Louis Plate Glass Company	n.d.
	6	4 photographs, letter from Dick _____	n.d.
	7	Various Aeronautical Photographs	n.d.
	8	Honorary Programs	n.d.

## Series Description

Series I – listed alphabetically by manufacturer

ADAMS-FARWELL Aeronautic Motor. The Lightest Practical Power Plant Ever Constructed...8 vol., original printed wrappers; illustrated; 16 pp. Dubuque, Iowa, The Adams Company, Manufacturers, n.d.

AERIAL NAVIGATION COMPANY OF AMERICA. The Call Aviation Engine. Model E-1a, Two Cylinder, 50 h.p....Model E-2a, Four Cylinder, illustrated; 24 pp. Girard, Kansas. Aerial Navigation Company of America, ca. 1911. Accompanied by a printed form letter on company stationery concerning the brochure and the engines and terms of purchase, dated February 17, 1911.

“CURTISS” Flying Machine. Broadside advertisement of the machine issued as an invitation to call at the White Garage and Salesroom, Chicago. The machine is illustrated. The other side of the broadside carries an illustration and advertisement for the “Ghost,” Town Gas Car. No date.

CURTISS-BI-PLANES. (Caption title). Broadside advertisement issued by the Aeronautical Supply Co., St. Louis, Mo., ca. 1910. 8 ½ x 11”.

DETROIT AEROPLANE CO., INC. Present “Miss Detroit” 30 h.p. Monoplane. (Caption title.) 8 vol., broadside, folded to 4 pp.; one illustration. Detroit, Detroit Aeroplane Co., (1911).

DETROIT AEROPLANE CO. The Detroit Aero. Model 1911. A Light Weight Power Plant for Aircrafts. Guarantee to 200 Pounds Minimum Thrust, 150 Pounds Maximum Weight, 36 Hours Delivery. (Cover title.) 8 vol., single sheet folded to 4 pp.; illustration on cover and one in the text. Detroit, Detroit Aeroplane Co., March 1, 1911. Laid in is a single sheet diagram: “General Dimensions of Detroit Aero Engine, Model 1911.”

EASTON CORDAGE CO. Aeroplane Engines: Adaptable Also for High Speed Motor Boats and Dirigible Balloons. The Most Reliable, Powerful, and Enduring Motor Jet Constructed. 8 vol., original printed wrappers; 10 pp. Easton, Pa., Easton Cordage Co., 1910. Accompanied by a blueprint (8 ¾ x 21 ½”). “Dimensions of Type “B-8” Engine, Easton Cordage Co., Easton, Pa.” Oversize item.

HERRING-CURTISS FLYING MACHINE. The Flying Machine is Here. Herring-Curtiss Flying Machine. The White Garage & Salesroom, Chicago, Agent for the Herring-Curtiss Flying Machine...(Cover title.) 12 mo., single sheet folded to 4 pp.; 2 illustrations. Chicago, White Garage, ca. 1909.

HALL-SCOTT MOTOR CAR COMPANY. The Hall-Scott Motor Car Company: Aviation Power Plants. 8 vol., original printed wrappers; illustrated; 16 pp. San Francisco, Hall-Scott Motor Car Company, ca. 1910.

HEINRICH BROS. Heinrich Monoplanes and Mono-Biplanes. (Cover title.) Oblong 12 mo., original pictorial self-wrappers; illustrated; 12 pp. (Baldwin, L.I., N.Y., Heinrich Bros.), n.d.

HOLMES, E.R. Motor Company. The E.R. Holmes Motor Company, Incorporated. 407 Temple Court Building. (Cover title.) 12 mo., original printed wrappers; illustrated; 8 pp. N.p., E.R. Holmes, n.d.

HOLMES, E.R. Motor Company. The Holmes Idea. The E.R. Holmes Rotary Motor...Everything Revolves but the Frame. 12 mo., original wrappers; illustrated; 20 pp. (Chicago, A.D. Mackay, agent for E.R. Holmes), n.d.

RINEK AERO MFG. CO. Rinek Aviation Engines. Sm. 8 vol., original printed wrappers; one photograph tipped onto verso of title; 10 pp. Easton, Pa., Rinek Aero MFG. Co., 1910.

ROBERTS MOTOR COMPANY. Roberts. The Motors that Never Backfire. 8 vol., original printed wrappers; illustrated; 32 pp. Sandusky, Ohio, Roberts Motor Company, 1911. Accompanied by photographic advertisement with heading: "40-50 h.p. Aero Motor." The Roberts Motor Co., Sandusky, OH 400 lbs. Thrust at 900 R.P.M. Weight 170 lbs.

WORLD'S FAIR AIRSHIP CO. Prospectus of the World's Fair Airship Co., Incorporated...12 mo., single sheet folded to 4 pp.; one illustration of Cornell's Air Ship. St. Louis, World's Fair Airship Co., ca. 1904.

HIGH, FRED. The First Real Flying Machine, "Triumphant Democracy." Safety – Speed – Control – Power...(Cover title.) Tall 12 mo., original Aero Exhibition Assn., 1919.

Series II – Honorary Programs numerically by date

RICKENBACKER, E.V. Original invitation to a victory dinner given for Rickenbacker at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, April 23, 1919, under the auspices of the Chicago Automobile Industries.

RICKENBACKER, E.V. Original program of the above dinner, with photograph of Rickenbacker pasted onto front cover.

LINDBERGH, CHARLES A. Original program for dinner given in honor of Lindbergh by the Mayor's Committee of the City of Chicago, August 13, 1927.

HASSELL, BERT. Original menu for the Bert Hassell Luncheon, December 5, 1928. Signed by Bert Hassell.

Invitation to dinner for Baron Ehrenfried Guenther von Huenefeld, Major James C. Fitzmaurice, and Captain Hermann Koehl. Chicago, May 12, 1928.

The original invitation to a dinner given for Dr. Hugo Eckener, October 22, 1928, Chicago.

Series III – Passes and Certificates

AERO CLUB OF ILLINOIS. Nineteen Hundred Twelve Season Memberships. Admits to...(lists events.) Folded broadside brochure.

AERO CLUB OF ILLINOIS. Admit one to Judges Stand. Cicero Flying Field, September 12 to 15, 1912. Ticket No. 167.

AERO CLUB OF ILLINOIS. Complimentary. Admit Bearer Membership Enclosure. Gordon-Bennett Race. Clearing, IL (Ticket).

WIDOW'S BENEFIT FUND. Fabric from Vaniman's Balloon Wrecked over Absecon Inlet, July 2, 1912. Official Souvenir. Atlantic City, Saturday, August 10, 1912. No. 1078. Original printed fabric.

Original card titled James M. Wait and Company, Marine Engines, Launches, Speed Boats and Cruisers, Chicago. n.d. List of major engine parts on reverse side.

Certificate of flight in a Plane of the Universal Air Lines System. August 4, 1929.

Original silk Press Pass for the International Aviation Meet, Grant Park, Chicago, August 12-20, 1911. Printed in black on green silk, with an airplane printed in white. Pass #15. Mounted on cardboard.

Original silk aviator's arm band of the Aero Club of Illinois.

Original silk press pass for the Aero Club of Illinois. Mounted on cardboard.

Series IV – Photographs-removed to photo file

6 original photographs of airplane engines; 4 stamped with name of Rinek Aero Mfg. Co.

3 original photographs of airplanes, stamped on back: “Compliments of the Curtiss Exhibition Co., 1737 Broadway, New York. March 21, 1912.”

10 original photographic postcards showing airplanes. One has written on the back: “Beechey at Dubuque, IA July 21, 1912. All are probably ca. 1912. Three have German captions at the bottom of the postcard with W.A. Blonck, Engineer, Fisher Bldg., Chicago stamped on the back.

2 original photographs of an unidentified flying contraption; the photographs show the machine from two different angles.

2 negatives of Eddie Horn and his Aeroplane – near Sidney in Nov. 1912. Negative #406 shows airplane flying. Negative #407 shows airplane on the ground.