

March 2, 1969

Mr. W.L. Fillmore,
75 Spring Street,
Amherst, N.S.

Dear Mr. Fillmore:

John MacQuarrie has sent me a copy of your letter to him dated December 5, 1968, in which you describe some flying adventures in Nova Scotia with "Hump" Madden.

I have begun to collect memoirs of flying in the Maritimes between the two world wars, because they interest me, and because somebody should be doing it for the record. In fact somebody should have been doing it long ago, when many more of the men involved were still living and when the memories were fresh.

What I want is a concise account of flying experiences in the Maritimes, with exact dates if possible (approximate dates if not), names of people and places directly involved, type of planes, engines (giving the horse-power if possible), landing fields, repair facilities (if any).

I would like to know whether the plane was a monoplane or biplane, equipped with wheels, floats or skis, and some notes of its construction (i.e.: wooden frame covered with cotton or linen and "dope"; metal frame similarly covered; all metal including the skin,) and whether single or twin or tri-engined.

With these things noted, I should like to have an account of any particular adventures, showing what the early fliers were up against in a rough terrain always close to the sea, with sudden fogs and storms, and little or no communication with the ground.

All this sounds like a tall order, I know; but it can be done bit by bit. I'm getting along in years myself (I can remember when Bleriot flew the English Channel) and the collection of these memoirs can't be done in a rush, so I may not live long enough to publish them in the form of a book. The important thing now is to start collecting the facts. If I drop off the books before they can be assembled in a book, they will be available to students and historians in the future because all my papers and manuscripts will go to one of the universities or to the public archives.

Sincerely,

P.S.

Can you give me H.O. Madden's present address?