Transkription eines Briefes von O. Chanute an T. Moy

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Original: Library of Congress, Chanute Papers

Transkript: Otto-Lilienthal-Museum

Aug 13~ 7

My dear M^r Moy.

I duly received your letter of July 9^{th} and now have the returned blueprints, and the acceptance of our application, for which I thank you.

Please advice us what specifications and clauses. M^r Herring is now building a full sized machine, on a somewhat improved plan, which will be experimented in September. I am much pleased with you little gliding machine which I have reproduced, and I suggest that if you will apply the same principle to an apparatus on the form of a bird, you will obtain still better results.

The operation of my pivoted wings is as follows: When the forward motion is slackened, the springs pull the wings forward, thus advancing the center of pressure. The center of gravity, which has remained stationary, causes the supporting surfaces to

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oscillate towards the rear and to increase the angle of incidence, thus restoring the needed support. When the speed increases, the reverse effect takes place. In practice we have yet been unable to adjust the springs so that this action is entirely automatic, and the man had to move about [...] as against 2 inches in the pivoted tail machine and 5 inches in the Lilienthal.

Your program for experimenting seems to me very judicious, but it will be expensive. Much too expensive for me to take it up with my limited [...], as I hope to do no more than to point out the way to future practical means, I have made no effort to obtain money from others, who would reasonably hope to get it back.

I would be willing to be one of twenty five persons to subscribe 200 pounds each for an experimental fund to be expended under the direction o a board of experts, but I would not expect to get my money back. See if you can get up the party.

Yours Truly
O. Chanute