False Start: Charles D. Walcott, the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory and the Birth of the NACA, 1909-1915

Tom D. Crouch, PhD
Senior Curator, Aeronautics
National Air and Space Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Charles Doolittle Walcott
1850-1927
The Aeronautical Society
1999 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

April 4, 1911.

Colonel W.C. Church,
Editor, ARMY & NAVY JOURNAL,
80 Vesey Street,
New York City,

Sir:

The Aeronautical Society extends to you a cordial invitation to be one of its guests at its first annual banquet, to be held in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Astor, New York City, on the evening of the twenty-seventh instant.

His Excellency, William H. Taft, President of the United States, is expected to attend. Many other men of national and international eminence will be present.

Among those who have already accepted are:

Hon. George von L. Meyer, Secretary of the Navy
Brigadier-General James Allen
Hon. Edward Bruce Moore, Commissioner of Patents
Prof. Ellis M. More, Chief of U.S. Weather Bureau
Admiral Charles O'Neill
Admiral P.J. Fletcher
Hon. James M. Beck, Late Asst. U.S. District Attorney
Hon. J.J. Fitzgerald, Chairman of Appropriation Committee,
Gutzon L.K. Borglum, sculptor
Congress
Prof. Robert Simpson Woodward, of Carnegie Institution
Hon. C.B. Walcott, Secretary Smithsonian Institution
Glen Curtiss, aviator
J.A.B. McCardy, aviator
Clifford B. Harmon, aviator
Eugene B. Ely, aviator
Hon. John Henry MacCraken, Chancellor New York University
William Randolph Hearst
John Temple Graves
Hiram Percy Maxim
Arthur Brisbane
Timothy L. Woodruff
J.A. Haskell, President of Latham-Rand Powder Company
Colonel G.B. Mitchell, Commanding Officer, Governor's Island
Professor David Todd, Astronomer, Amherst College
Regent’s Committee on the Langley Aerodynamical Laboratory, 1913

A.G. Bell

Judge George Gray

Rep. John Dalzell
Advisory Committee
Langley Aerodynamical Laboratory
March 25, '02

Mr. Wilbur Wright,
Dayton Ohio,
Dear Sir:

If you have a pamphlet

giving an account of your
experiments with gliding and
soaring machines, I would
thank you for a copy, and
will be glad to give you an
account of experiments here that
may interest you.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Zahm,
Prof. Mechanics.
THE FIRST MAN-CARRYING AEROPLANE CAPABLE
OF SUSTAINED FREE FLIGHT: LANGLEY'S
SUCCESS AS A PIONEER IN AVIATION

BY

A. F. ZAHM, Ph. D.

FROM THE SMITHSONIAN REPORT FOR 1914, PAGES 217-222
(WITH 8 PLATES)

(PUBLICATION 2329)
First Meeting of the NACA, Walcott missing

Left to Right: Dr. William Durand, Stanford University, California, Dr. S.W. Stratton, Director, Bureau of Standards, Brig.Gen. George P. Scriven, Chief Signal Officer, War Dept, Dr. C.F. Marvin, Chief, United States Weather Bureau, Dr. Michael I Pupin, Columbia University, New York. Standing: Holden C. Richardson, Naval Instructor, Dr. John F. Hayford, Northwestern University, Illinois, Capt. Mark L. Bristol, Director of Naval Aeronautics, Lt. Col. Samuel Reber, Signal Corps, Aviation Section