

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BARUS.

Q 1 State your name, age, residence and occupation.

A Orville Wright, 48 years, Oakwood, Dayton, Ohio,
I am a consulting engineer and am engaged in other aeronautical
research work.

Q 2 Are you the Orville Wright, who jointly with Wilbur
Wright applied for and received Letters Patent of United States
No. 821,393, dated May 22, 1906, for Flying Machines?

A I am.

Q 3 When and under what circumstances did you and Wilbur
Wright first become interested in the problem of flight?

A Our first interest began when we were children.
Father brought home to us a small toy actuated by a rubber
spring which would lift itself into the air. We built a number
of copies of this toy which flew successfully. (By we I refer
to my brother Wilbur and myself.) But when we undertook to
build the toy on a much larger scale it failed to work so well.
The reason for this was not understood by us at the time, so
we finally abandoned the experiments. In 1896 we read in the
daily papers or in some of the magazines of the experiments of
Otto Lilienthal, who was making some gliding flights from the
top of a small hill in Germany. His death a few months later
while making a glide off the hill increased our interest in the
subject and we began looking for books pertaining to flight.
We found a work written by Professor Marey on animal mechanism
which treated of the bird mechanism as applied to flight, but
other than this, as far as I can remember, we found little.