

City Native Flew First Plane Here

E. C. Malick Who Guided a
Curtiss Pusher Over This
Section Back in 1914 Here
for Dedication of Airport.

Unsung and unheralded at the testimonial banquet tendered by the Sunbury Flying Club to Wesley L. Smith and fellow aviators last night was the man who was the first to fly a plane over this city. He was E. C. Malick, native of this city, who is now engaged in "barnstorming" air tours with Philadelphia as his headquarters.

Mr. Malick, the son of C. Darius Malick, of Catawissa avenue, came to Sunbury by train to attend the dedication of the local air port but was not called up last night although he was probably the one deserving of highest honor.

Mr. Malick, who has survived several airplane crashes, and only recently left a Philadelphia hospital, after recovering from injuries sustained when his passenger flying ship crashed in New Jersey, was the guest of Samuel McCarty, a close friend, and a member of the Flying Club.

The Sunbury native is one of the real pioneers of aviation and boasts of 2,000 flying hours, ranking him among the foremost of the country. He received his license to pilot a plane in San Diego, Cal., March 20, 1912. Two years later he came to this city with his Curtiss pusher plane, which he assembled on the barn of the Sunbury and Selinsgrove Railway Company at Rolling Green.

After numerous trials the pusher took the air with Malick at the controls and sailed over this city and vicinity to the wonderment of the residents. The World War was undreamed at that time. The necessities of modern combat had not yet developed the aerial warfare to the attention of the world, placing daring aces and multi-motored planes in the position of universal admiration and esteem they now mutually enjoy.

The roar of a gas engine's exhaust had never attracted the attention of the community residents to the valuted blue overhead, so far as this city was concerned and Malick's flight was hailed as an achievement.

The 60 horsepower engine, V type, Curtiss built, which propelled that plane over his city, is on display at the air port today. Mr. Malick had kept it in the cellar of his father's home here and today transported it to the flying field, where it was the center of attraction.

Mr. Malick is a real pioneer of the air and Sunbury is proud of her native son's achievements and join in wishing him further success.