

Letter from W. F. Bedwin to Alexander Graham Bell, December 28, 1906

D R . A. GRAHAM BELL'S W. F. BEDWIN, Supt. BEINN BHREAGH LABORATORY
NEAR BADDECK NOVA SCOTIA Dec. 28th. 1906 Dear Dr. Bell

The enclosed please find notes which speak for themselves, For want of better method of designation I have called boat models 1 2 & 3. in order as they were made. Nos. 1 & 2 you know about, No 3 is made of two 2 m. skeleton screws, 15° at tip, with bow coming to a point at water line and the sticks of screws kept apart on top 36 cm. making a good overhang forward of the axis, which I thought might obviate the tendency to dive under the water as the NO 2 did. The ice boat is as the notes say a very crude affair, but I have fixed the skates since, and as soon as we get some decent ice I will see just how much speed we can get — with your ? c onsent—. I think we can go very fast.

We are at work making cells all the time and also doing some little fixing up around the Lab.

THE new motor has not yet arrived from Curtiss , though I had a letter from him some days ago, saying that he would ship in a few days.

I might say that the balance to credit of Lab acct. is 253.10 dollars, with an acct. due Chappell Bros. Co. of 208.15 dollars. and the new motor soon coming. &c.

Respectfully yours W.F.Bedwin Supt.: P.S. My reason for delay in sending the enclosed is that I have been waiting for photos which I have been unable to see. W.F.B

190 Copy of notes. Lab. Note book 1906 Dec. 1st. Saturday B.B.Lab.

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Tried boat model No. 3 out in bay, seemed to tow much easier than either No1 or No3 (according to the man who was running with the string); Boat showed a tendency to rise and stay up on the surface of water, though there was too much sea running to be able to form a good opinion of what it would do in a calmn.

I did not have any weight in her at all: The centre of gravity i is 36cm. forward of the centre of surface.

Laboratory pond is frozen over.

Dec. 190 Copy of notes. Lab. Note book 1906 Dec. 15 Saturday B. B. Lab.

I made a frame today with skates under it, similar to an ice — boat, and rigged up on same the small motor(Air cooled 2 ½ H.P) with a I meter solid screw, 12.5 cm. across tip 22 1 / 2 at tip, attached direct to motor shaft.

Took it out on harbor ice and started motor and the thing started away nicely. I went up and down the harbor a few times with it. Motor turning up about 1200 rev. per minute.

Made the 100 meter run in 21 seconds, which is equal to 17.142 km. per hour.

The ice was very rough and our gear very crude, I think that time can be cut in two, or even be ter with smooth ice and good ge ? a r.

Think there should be a possibility of trying aerial steering with something like this.