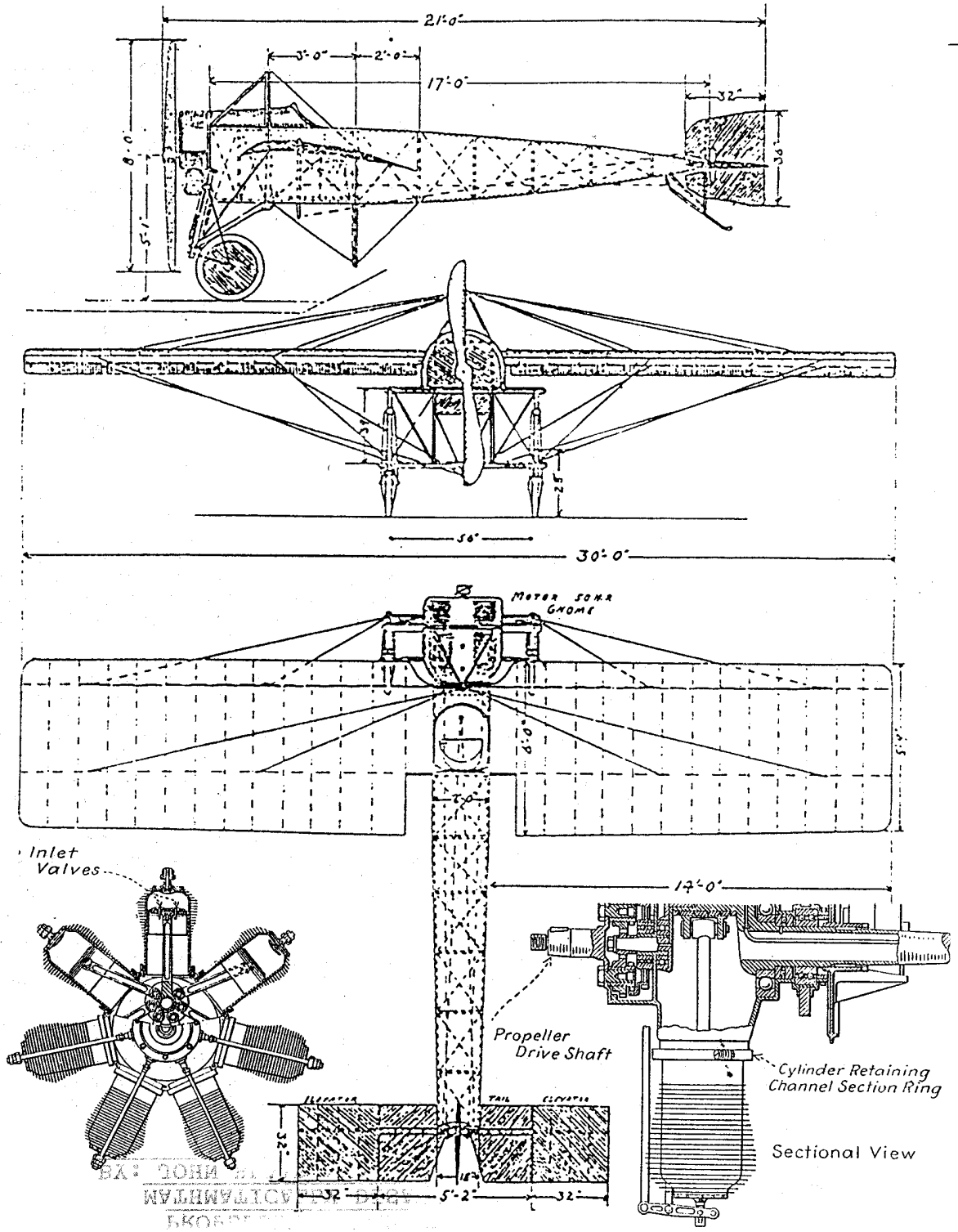

KANTNER-MOISANT BLUE BIRD

This monoplane is the third design to spring from the aeroplane company formed by John B. Moisant. The first odd looking ship was all red and called L' Ecrevisse (Crayfish). The 2nd was all black and dubbed "Crow". I think we can safely assume the Blue Bird to have been all blue. It was powered by a 50 HP Gnome rotary and the wheel spokes were covered over with fabric, which by then (1913) was finding favor.

The main landing gear is in the style of Bleriot, but canted back at the top. The tail skid is tripodial. The wing has a very slight taper in that the T.E. sweeps forward by 3 inches at the tip. Upper wing brace is quadrapodial, while the lower is bipodial with 2 wire stays running forward, and two more running aft, all attaching to the lower longeron. Tailplane seems cantlever, as no braces can be seen in the photo. The outer parts of the horizontal tail are the elevators, with control horns inboard near the rudder. They rotated around the C/L of the spar.