

STEFANSSON'S BATTLE WITH ICE

Member of Expedition Tells of Fight With Floes.

NO WORD FROM THE LEADER

Karluk, Bearing Discoverer, Beyond Telegraphic Communication — Fears For Safety of Party Entertained by Scientists—Thrilling Story of Hardships in the Far North.

Seattle, Wash.—John Munro, with the Stefansson expedition party, in a letter just received here, describes the voyage of the Karluk from Port Clarence until the party became ice-bound for the first time forty miles from Point Barrow, the extreme northern edge of Alaska. The letter is dated Point Barrow, Aug. 15.

The Karluk now is beyond telegraphic communication. The ship had to wait at Port Clarence twelve days for



Photo by American Press Association. VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON.

the arrival of the gasoline schooner Mary Sachs, which carried Stefansson, and the Alaska, another schooner. Captain Bartlett, who was anxious to press on, waited till the Sachs caught up to her, took off one of the party and set off at full speed.

After that day, July 23, the two ships parted company, and when Mr. Munro wrote nothing had been seen of the Sachs. The following day some very bad weather was struck, so severe that in thirty-six hours the Karluk logged eighteen miles. Some of the time, although she was steaming at full speed, the wind and sea were driving her backward. When the weather moderated a little Captain Bartlett reached the land, and on the evening of July 30 Point Hope was reached.

On Aug. 10 the Karluk left Point Hope and with a fair wind made good time until the evening when ice was sighted between Ice Cape and Cape Belcher. The vessel steamed alongside the ice to the latter point, but found it impossible to get through.

She steamed alongside the ice all night, and next morning, Aug. 2, turned and, seeing an opening, made a dash for it.

"Unfortunately," writes Mr. Munro, "the ice closed in on us about forty miles from Point Barrow after our fighting our way that far."

On Aug. 3, upon finding that there were no signs of getting out at all, Stefansson decided to walk to Point Barrow, accompanied by Dr. McKay. The day Mr. Munro wrote his letter, Aug. 5, the Karluk was still held in the grip of the ice. The temperature then was 31 degrees below zero, with a strong wind blowing on shore.

Finally the Karluk reached Point Barrow and then proceeded, being reported off Flaxman Island on Aug. 14. Fears may be held in certain circles for the safety of the party, but the ship is now beyond telegraphic communication, and mails arrive very slowly. If the Karluk had been jammed to pieces in the ice some of the members of the party probably would have been saved, marine men point out, and had she foundered the Mary Sachs would doubtless have reported the news before this.

NEEDLE IN STOMACH.

X Ray Shows Presence, but Girl Can't Remember Swallowing It.

Baltimore. — With a large needle lodged in her stomach Miss Fannie Rubin, a salesgirl, lies at St. Joseph's hospital in a serious condition. She was taken there suffering intense pain and unable to retain food.

The girl has no recollection of having swallowed the needle. As she grew weaker and the pains became keener the X ray was resorted to. This showed a large needle lodged diagonally.

Burgeons are powerless to relieve her except to deaden the pain with opiates.

NAVY TO MAKE UNIFORMS.

Daniels Plans to Establish Tailoring Outfit at Charleston Yard.

Washington.—In line with his policy of utilizing navy stations and yards in the south, where large expenditures have been made for buildings, Secretary Daniels has decided to establish at the Charleston navy yard a manufacturing plant for the production of such parts of marine and naval militia uniforms that can be economically made there. The secretary has made a thorough investigation of the cost of making such articles on contract or in the open market and finds that the government can effect a large saving by doing the work itself. Labor conditions and the proximity to southern cotton mills promise more than ordinary economy in a plant at Charleston, and the money is available to install the machinery required.

The plan accords with the secretary's determination to ask congress for as little money as possible for buildings at navy yards and shore stations. Mr. Daniels said that the new shops at Charleston would not curtail operations in the shops at New York or Philadelphia.

SLOT MACHINES REMAIN.

Can't Prevent Sale of Stamps at More Than Their Value.

Washington.—The postoffice department has no authority to discontinue the sale of postage stamps through slot machines maintained in hotel lobbies, drug stores, newsstands or other places of business. This was the decision reached by the postmaster general after receiving complaints against the sale of stamps in this manner.

The machines sell four one-cent or two two-cent stamps for a nickel, making a profit to the merchant of a cent on each transaction. Many indignant citizens wrote to the postoffice department denouncing this as extortion.

Third Assistant Postmaster General Dockery said that while there is a law prohibiting the sale of stamps at more than their face value it applies only to postmasters and their employees, and the government has no jurisdiction over stamp vending machines located elsewhere than on postoffice premises.

BOY, AGED THREE, A SEASONED SMOKER

Began Habit When One Year Old, Parents Assort.

Waterbury, Conn. — Physicians are puzzled over the case of John Lippke, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lippke, who at three years old, smokes daily three cigars. The child, according to his parents, has been smoking since he was a year old, and all attempts to break him of the habit have failed. The physicians declare they have never heard of a parallel case. Consumption of more than 1,000 cigars a year is not his only accomplishment, for in addition this infant relishes a pipe and cigarettes.

The boy's father is a machinist in one of the local factories and an inveterate smoker. About two years ago, according to Mrs. Lippke, her baby found a lighted cigar on a table and picked it up. He placed it between what few teeth he had and puffed vigorously, as he had seen his father do many times. His mother took the weed away from him, but the baby cried so hard that she finally gave it back to him. After that, according to the parents, the boy had to have his smoke every day, in addition to an occasional cigarette and a pull at a pipe.

Even in the case of a boy fifteen years old, physicians declare, the habit would have a serious effect on his health, yet this child of three seems to thrive on the weed.

CANARY BY PARCEL POST.

Against Rules Wee Songster Taken Safely to Destination.

Seattle. — Local postal employees were treated to a surprise recently at finding in the parcel post mail, marked "fragile," a canary.

The tiny songster was sent from Mount Vernon by parcel post and special delivery for a resident of Capitol Hill and gave no sign of not enjoying its imprisonment in Uncle Sam's mail until preparations were made for sending it on the last leg of its journey.

Then it had the duffers so badly that the parcel post clerk was about ready to hurl himself through the window until he peered through the air holes of the container to find that he had a wee canary.

Although the sending of live birds through the parcel post is not permitted, the canary was safely delivered to its new owner the next day.

Birdshot Kills a Bear.

Owosso, Mich.—C. D. Bell and Calvin Bentley are back from Roscommon county with a 150 pound bear which they killed with bird shot. The men were hunting small game and came on the bear unexpectedly. Both opened fire as the bear charged. Bell retreated behind a tree, whereupon the bear turned his attention to Bentley. He was but a few feet away when one of the birdshot penetrated the bear's eye to the brain, and it dropped dead.

NATIONS' EYES ON LEWIS AERO GUN

American's Invention Promises to Revolutionize War.

FIRES 500 SHOTS A MINUTE

So Light That a Man Can Transport It Easily—Needs No Water Cooling. Army Officer's Graphic Story of Recent Tests of Wonderful Weapon at Bisle, England.

That the general adoption of the Lewis automatic machine gun will revolutionize warfare, sending the present day rifles and Maxims to the junk heap and rendering current military tactics antiquated at one stroke, is the opinion of a high army officer who was present at the recent trials at Bisle, England, of a new gun invented by Colonel Isaac N. Lewis, formerly of the United States.

The army officer, who stipulated that his name should not be mentioned for fear of a reprimand by his government, drew a vivid picture for the New York Times' London correspondent of the war of the future, if that one desire of all war offices—a portable automatic machine gun, not dependent on water for cooling—should prove no mere toy, but able to stand up under actual service conditions.

Squadrons of cavalry going into action armed with machine guns instead of the lance, saber or carbine; regiments of infantry carrying machine guns, each soldier having a potential deadliness of two or more companies armed with mere rifles; flocks of swift, light armored aeroplanes, each mounting one or two machine guns, swooping down on the enemy with a deadly hail of fire, were some of the military novelties that he prophesied for the not distant future if the Lewis gun, which was highly successful in the preliminary tests, could stand the grueling of actual service.

Equal to a Regiment.

"For the first time a machine gun, capable of firing 500 to 800 rounds a minute, is to be carried by an infantryman," says the officer. "No horses or mules are needed, as with the Maxim. This gun weighs only twenty-six and a half pounds, or less than half a soldier's normal equipment. Think what that means! One infantryman can carry a gun, and his comrade can carry the ammunition. Every company of 150 men could carry seventy-five guns. A single company would have a destructive power equal to a whole regiment at present."

"My opinion is that the new gun is bound to displace Maxims, for it takes five mules and ten men for every Maxim as against no mules and two men for the Lewis gun. Another thing is that it will do away with the necessity of having cavalry escort for wagon trains. A machine gun could be mounted on every wagon."

The scene which the correspondent witnessed at the Bisle tests was a tremendously impressive one. The new weapon, which to a layman looked more like an overgrown rifle than a machine gun, was mounted on a small iron tripod on the 200 yard range. The inventor, Colonel Lewis, was visibly nervous as he gave final instructions to the civilian operator, while grouped behind in an interested and silent semicircle stood Major General Vandonogh, master general of ordnance; Major General Allenby, inspector of cavalry, and many other high English army officers, representatives of the admiralty, military men from South Africa, New Zealand and Australia; the Bulgarian minister, Colonel Squier, the American military attaché, the Belgian, Austrian and Japanese attaches and representatives of nearly all the other foreign governments.

Some idea of the interest aroused may be gained from the fact that a Russian colonel, who was present, had been ordered from Sebastopol to England on two hours' notice by the Russian minister of war.

After several thousand rounds had been fired in what seemed only a few moments, the whole company of a hundred went to inspect the riddled target. Other tests were made at the 500 yard range, then the officers present had an opportunity to fire the gun themselves from the 200 yard range.

Fired From Altitude of 600 Feet.

Then the word passed that an aeroplane was coming. The company hastened to the watch tower in time to see a heavy lumbering ark of a biplane climb slowly into the cold gray sky against the brisk and treacherous head wind. In a special seat fastened under the pilot seat sat an officer with a machine gun mounted before him.

As the biplane swung toward the target at an altitude of 600 feet he fired the whole magazine of forty-seven rounds in less than five minutes, scoring a high percentage of hits. Even to the laymen the demonstration was impressive.

"I offered the invention free of charge to the United States government," Colonel Lewis said, "but it would not touch it at the time."

"Already the gun has been subjected to preliminary official firing trials in Russia, Belgium, Italy, Austria and Sweden, and is now under full official trials by a special board of officers in the United States. As a result of the tests trial orders have already been placed by several governments."

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STUDENTS BURN HISTORIES.

Indignant Georgians Destroy Copies as Band Plays "Dixie."

Waleska, Ga.—With the band playing "Dixie" the students of Reinhardt college, numbering nearly 400, gathered on the campus and made a bonfire of every copy of a history of the United States which had been prescribed in the curriculum. The book was prepared by a northern historian, and the students allege that the writer is unfair to the south and unduly partial to the north, especially in dealing with the civil war.

In the history Harriet Beecher Stowe is praised and Jefferson Davis is declared to have been a man of small mental caliber and also a traitor. The character of some of the leading southern generals also is attacked. It is alleged that there are even insinuations against General Robert E. Lee.

Reinhardt college is under the auspices of the Southern Methodist church. It is coeducational and is the largest educational institution in north Georgia.

HAS ALL HER TEETH AT 72.

Michigan Woman's Set Perfect, but For Three Small Fillings.

Battle Creek, Mich.—A woman seventy-two years old with all her own teeth and only three tiny fillings is the discovery made at an institution here. The woman is Miss Helen Simons, a Lansing schoolteacher. A physician made the discovery a few days ago when he was lecturing. He took occasion to state that few people over fifty had all their own teeth. He then asked all in the audience who were over fifty and retained all their own teeth to raise their right hands. Miss Simons was the only one.

The incident was so unusual that she was examined by a number of dentists. They pronounced her teeth unusually good. The three small fillings in her teeth were put in more as a preventive than because her teeth were decayed. She says they were slightly discolored, and, although there was no sign of decay, she took the dentist's advice and had them filled. Miss Simons is the daughter of Anson Simons, one of the pioneer settlers of Lansing. She is also a sister of the late B. F. Simons of that city.

TRADES BABE FOR CHICKS.

Woman Gives Up Her Infant For Six Hens and a Rooster.

Kansas City, Mo.—How a mother traded a year old girl for six hens and a rooster because she had been deserted by her husband and could not support it has come to light through the death of Mrs. Millie Karnes after being burned at her home, 2515 McGee street.

Seven months ago, according to a story told the juvenile court officers, Mrs. Karnes took the baby to a Kansas City woman and asked that she care for it. When she left the child she was given the pody. The court officers believe the baby has a good home and will leave it with the foster parents.

Frank, the nine-year-old son of Mrs. Karnes, is afflicted with hip trouble and has been taken to Mercy hospital by the court officers.

Helping Things Along.

Mrs. Cranshaw—What's that you're blowing on your bugle, dear?

Bobbie—The call to arms, ma. Sister's young man has her under the mistletoe.

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