

PEARY RELIEF SHIP.

Mission of the Stanch Jeanie In the Arctic Regions.

TO FIND NORTH POLE SEEKERS

Captain Bartlett, Who Says Present Expedition Is Last Dash Intrepid Explorer Will Ever Make For North Pole, Believes Dr. Cook and Harry Whitney Will Be Waiting at Etah.

That the schooner Jeanie, which recently sailed from St. John's, N. F., with fifty tons of coal and other supplies for the relief of Robert E. Peary, will be the last relief ship ever to venture in the northern seas for that explorer is the belief of Captain Samuel W. Bartlett, the Jeanie's commander and dean of all the navigators who have explored the polar seas, and others who know the plans of Mr. Peary. He practically admitted when he said goodbye to Captain Bartlett at Etah almost a year ago that if he did not find the north pole on this trip it would be a task for a younger man to take up, with possibly new methods.

"Mr. Peary is getting along in years, and it is doubtful if he would want to take charge of another expedition," declared Captain Bartlett. "To a few of his friends he has confided the fact that he would like to make one try for the south pole, but he has not given that adventure any serious consideration. Yet it is because Mr. Peary realized that this would be perhaps his last chance to attain the goal of the years of work and suffering that many persons in St. John's regard it very doubtful if he will ever come back from the expedition. They declare he will take the most desperate chances to reach the pole, and desperate chances in the polar region may mean more than a simple failure."

Confident of Eskimo Skill.

Captain Bartlett has great confidence in the ability of the Eskimo in his native climate, and it is because of his confidence that he will not be surprised if Dr. Cook is awaiting the Jeanie when she arrives at Etah. When Dr. Cook crossed Smith's sound to Ellesmere Land and took an untraveled route to the north pole he had with him two of the best Eskimo guides, men resourceful in the emergencies which confront the arctic traveler. "I know what those huskies can do," said Captain Bartlett, "and if they are alive I have every confidence that they will bring Dr. Cook through. I believe that he is alive today. He had plenty of ammunition, and Ellesmere Land, through which he traveled on his way farther north, is filled with game. Even if the ammunition were exhausted those natives would have no difficulty in getting meat to keep the party going for any length of time."

"At the same time, if Dr. Cook is not at Etah when the Jeanie arrives there in the latter part of this month (August) I will believe that he is not alive. He has had plenty of time to make any dash to the pole he had a chance to make and to return in time to cross over Smith's sound on the ice, for that is just beginning to break up now. The ice is hardly ever out of there before Aug. 5, and it will not surprise me a bit to have Dr. Cook waiting with Harry Whitney for the Jeanie. If Dr. Cook is there he will have a remarkable story to tell. He went alone, unhampered by a party, and his trip was a novelty in arctic explorations."

The provisions on board the Jeanie will give variety enough for any one, with the exception that there will not be fresh meat. This will be made up in part when the boat arrives at Etah, for there will be wild duck long before it is being served in the New York restaurants, and even if there is no hominy and no sweet potatoes to go with it the duck will be appreciated for itself.

Greenland Game Plentiful.

That is only a sample of the game the Greenland visitor can have. The reindeer will give the choicest venison. Even the hare of England is said to lack the flavor that those shot on the Greenland plains have. There are no game laws in Greenland, and the Jeanie will be there the latter part of August, when the shooting is at its best.

The vegetables taken on a trip of this kind are mostly potatoes and onions, but there are canned goods of all kinds, and enough, so there would have to be the worst kind of luck if the Jeanie should not get back before they are exhausted.

Ammunition and tobacco in quantities are among the Jeanie's freight. There is also on the Jeanie a large amount of lime juice, another necessary article for arctic travelers, for it is used to offset the absence of vegetables in the prevention of scurvy.

The Jeanie is a craft of ninety-eight tons burden. She carries two masts and 1,000 yards of canvas. The oil engine which has been installed is of thirty-six horsepower and will be used on the trip when there is no wind.

May Not See Peary at All.

The Jeanie's primary purpose is to carry fifty tons of coal to Etah, west Greenland, Peary's headquarters there, for the use of his steamer Roosevelt on her return south. Peary's plan when he went north in the steamer Roosevelt last year was to force her into the polar basin and then dash over the ice toward the pole last spring, retreating south afterward, if successful, and connecting with the auxiliary expedition in his steamer and using the coal the Jeanie will find to bring the steamer back to America. If Peary failed to reach the

pole the past spring he will remain north this year, and the coal will be useful for the same purpose next summer. In this case Peary will send down dispatches from his advanced base to Etah by Eskimos, and the Jeanie will be guided by the instructions contained therein, so it is quite possible she may not see Peary at all.

She will, however, bring home Harry Whitney, an American sportsman, who went to Etah last year in the Roosevelt to hunt musk ox and walrus and return this year. Dr. Cook, the rival explorer, will likewise be brought back.

After the Jeanie has completed her work at Etah she will return to Ponds Inlet, Baffin Land, where she will try to secure a load of arctic salmon for sale in New York. She carries three salmon nets and thirty tons of curing salt. She expects to return to St. John's about Oct. 1.

The person who betrayed the most emotion when the Jeanie went out of St. John's was Mene Wallace, the Eskimo youth whom Peary brought to the United States fourteen years ago and who insisted on going back to his native tribe. The United States, besides giving him some education, has filled him with the ambition to find the north pole, and he said before he left that he would find it if Peary or Dr. Cook doesn't. To him alone on the Jeanie the trip "down north," as they say in St. John's, was going home, and he was glad.

SEAL ON LITTLE RED SCHOOL.

Movement to Establish Graded System in Place of Pioneer Method.

The national corn exposition to be held at Omaha, Neb., will attempt to put a seal of death on the "little red schoolhouse." Only the corn show does not refer to the single ungraded schoolroom by the above sentimental nomenclature.

The rural high school adopted with great success in many parts of the United States is the aim, and wherever it has been established no farmer would have his children return to the little old school which pioneered for education in every state in the Union and which has been sung by many a poet and celebrated in the "Hoosier Schoolmaster" and other romances where the new teacher always wallops the village bully.

Willet H. Hays, assistant secretary of agriculture, is the man behind this educational gun. He is an enthusiast over the possibilities of consolidation and broadening of the courses in the United States, and during the coming season as soon as school opens the department will make 2,000 feet of film picture showing children being picked up in the carriages, going to school, arriving at the buildings, in the class rooms, boys making things of wood and steel, girls cooking and sewing, classes of the agricultural department selecting seed corn and studying animal industry.

The picture will be seen by the 100,000 or more farmers who will visit the corn show and will go a long way to spread the movement in the middle west.

INSURANCE FOR THE POOR.

President of a Prominent Society Tells of New Plan at a Dinner.

A prominent life insurance society closed a three days' convention with a dinner at the Waldorf hotel in New York the other night, at which 900 officials and agents were present. The president of the society presided. In his address of welcome he spoke briefly of a departure in life insurance which his society hopes to take up—namely, a system by means of which poor people may be able to own their own homes. In referring to the new scheme the president said:

It is our intention, if it can be worked out—and we have no doubt that it can be—so to arrange that men and women of moderate means with only their daily or monthly wage, which in the majority of cases is so small as to preclude their accumulating a great competence, may by the means of life insurance as practiced by the society purchase their own homes and by a series of small monthly payments provide their own roofs for their families while at the same time they provide against the loss of their homes in the event of early death.

Insurance by the state is neither desirable nor necessary in this land of the greatest life insurance corporations the world has ever known. There is no work of more importance, no service of higher merit, to be performed than that of these great companies of the United States which has done most in the extension of life insurance should take the lead in this honorable work. In no other way can it so justify its mission and render a better account of itself than by pioneering in this field. Therefore I am prepared to announce to you that we are carefully considering and, unless prevented by the powers that be or obstacles not now seen, the future of the society will embrace this very important work.

Souvenirs From a Historic Tree.

Several months ago one of three cedar trees planted by Abraham Lincoln at Lincoln City, Ind., when he was a small boy, blew over in the yard of A. P. Rhodes and promised to go to decay, when A. P. Fenn of Tell City asked for the tree, and it was given him, says an Evansville (Ind.) dispatch. He will have it made into souvenirs. Among those who will receive souvenirs from Mr. Fenn are President Taft, former President Roosevelt, Robert T. Lincoln, only son of the great war president; Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, and Governor Thomas R. Marshall.

A Mammoth Pie.

The annual pumpkin festival at Creston, Ia., has been fixed for Sept. 22 and 23, when the city will be decorated in yellow and gold and the menu will be pumpkin pies "like mother used to make." A single pumpkin pie five feet across and six and one-half feet long will be cut on the second day of the festival for honored guests.

GREAT AIRSHIP MEET

World's Famous Aeroplanists to Compete at Rheims, France.

MANY THOUSANDS FOR PRIZES

International Cup Race Chief Event, Tests For Dirigible and Spherical Balloons Included in Program. Why the Wrights Declined to Enter the Contests.

A summer's activity and progress in aviation in France which have exceeded the dreams of the most enthusiastic followers of the sport will be crowned by the assembling of the most renowned aeroplanists at a "week of aviation," arranged to open at Rheims on Aug. 22.

The entries for the various events on the program include Latham, monoplane; Bleriot, monoplane; Delagrang, biplane with tail; Farman, biplane; Sommer, biplane; Santos-Dumont, monoplane; Count de Lambert and Tisandier, pupils of Wilbur Wright, and Demarest, monoplane; Esnault-Pelterie, monoplane; Gobron, biplane with tail; De Rue, biplane with tail; Ruchonnet, biplane; Guffroy, monoplane, and Glenn H. Curtiss, who will be the official representative of the Aero Club of America. The nations taking part include France, America, Austria, England and Italy.

Declination of the Wrights.

It was hoped that the Wright brothers would enter, but they declined, it is understood, on the ground that they objected to the clause in the rules allowing machines to stop during the running of the races. On the opening day the French entries will hold an elimination race to select three pilots who will represent the Aero Club of France in the principal event of the week, that of the international cup of aviation, which will be contested for on the final day of the meet.

This race is for twenty kilometers (about twelve and a half miles), and the winner will be the aeroplanist who covers the distance in the shortest time. The race will be run twice around a special course measuring ten kilometers (about six and a quarter miles), but, owing to the necessity of making wide sweeps at the turns, the actual distance covered will be considerably in excess of that distance.

One Prize of \$20,000.

In addition to the international race several other distinct events will be held, five for aeroplanes, one for dirigible balloons and one for spherical balloons. The Grand Prix de la Champagne, aggregating \$20,000, will be awarded to the pilot of the aeroplane which has covered the greatest distance without a renewal of fuel or without coming in contact with the ground.

The Prix de Vitesse (speed test) over a distance of thirty kilometers, will be run on Aug. 23 and 29, the prizes of a total amount of \$4,000 to be distributed among the first four competitors. The Prix de Passagers, on Aug. 23, will be awarded to the pilot who has carried the greatest number of passengers a distance of ten kilometers. As it is possible that several aeroplanists will cover this distance with the same number of passengers, in such case the prize of \$2,000 will be awarded to the pilot among them making the fastest time.

On Sunday, Aug. 29, the Prix de l'Altitude will be contested, the prize of \$2,000 to go to the aviator attaining the greatest height, the method of measurement being a registering barometer carried on the aeroplane. No prize will be awarded for height less than fifty meters, or 165 feet.

For dirigible balloons there is a purse of \$2,000 for five rounds of the course, or fifty kilometers, which may be attempted any day of the meet in daylight. Although the number of dirigibles to compete is yet unknown, the French minister of war has given assurances that France will send at least one military airship.

The spherical balloon contest will be in the form of a landing competition. The event is open to pilots of the Aero Club of France, and four prizes are offered.

Huge Aerodrome Being Built.

The aerodrome is being arranged on the plain of Bethany, at the portal of the city of Rheims, which in 1901 was the scene of a military review of 150,000 troops before the czar of Russia. Seats and stands are being constructed there to accommodate a vast number of spectators.

The task of properly preparing for this imposing aerial meet is naturally stupendous. The first thought has been that of preventing accidents, and a stout barricade has been built around the course to prevent spectators from invading the aerodrome proper. Numerous aeroplane and balloon sheds have been constructed, and an immense garage for automobiles is laid out and a restaurant set up, and for the convenience of the public a special railroad station is building directly behind the grand stands, so that visitors may step from the trains directly to the aerodrome.

Tablet Where Grant's Career Began.

On the site of Camp Yates, at Springfield, Ill., where the first Illinois regiments for the civil war were mustered in and whence General U. S. Grant departed at the head of his regiment, the Twenty-first Illinois infantry, July 3, 1861, a tablet was dedicated the other day. The tablet is of stone, resting on a stone base, and is surmounted by a sundial. It bears the inscription: "Camp Yates, 1861. Here General U. S. Grant Began His Civil War Career."

CITY OF MISFORTUNE.

Former Disasters in Acapulco—City Wrecked by Mexican Earthquake.

Little Acapulco, the Mexican city with its 5,000 inhabitants which was entirely destroyed by the recent earthquake in Mexico, has achieved worldwide fame as a city of misfortune.

Twice this year has it been the scene of a catastrophe. On Feb. 15 300 persons were burned to death when the Flores theater was set on fire by a moving picture machine and destroyed at a special performance in honor of Governor Flores of the state of Guerrero.

Several times before the city has been damaged by severe earthquakes. In fact, the state of Guerrero is known as the home of seismic disturbances. Its severest shock occurred in 1907.

The whole region suffered, and Chilpancingo, the capital city, was practically destroyed. In 1908 Chilapa, a city of some 15,000 inhabitants, was badly damaged, and March 27 of the same year that city was again shaken, completing the ruin of the former shock.

Nevertheless, Acapulco, beset by tropic perils and cursed by a hot, unhealthy climate, is one of the most beautiful spots in the world. Its name, a corruption and abbreviation of Aqua Pulchra (beautiful waters), rings true. The coast at this point is sheer cliff. Not till the steamer is almost upon it does the bluff walled, blue channel to Acapulco harbor appear.

Acapulco harbor is one of the finest in the world. It lies 231 miles southwest of Mexico City, of which it was formerly the seaport. It had been for centuries the chief center of commerce with the Philippine Islands as well as with China and India. By pack trail the merchandise went overland from Acapulco to Mexico City and points beyond. Then came the railroad through from the capital to San Blas, and with it departed the commercial importance of Acapulco.

Chilapa, with a population of 12,000, is the largest city in Guerrero. Chilpancingo, the capital, is a small town in the center of the state, about 200 miles from Mexico City and about 110 miles from the coast. It was well built and lighted by electricity. Its population was about 7,000.

HUNDRED YEARS OF PEACE.

Canada Wants a Celebration to Teach the Older Nations a Lesson.

The proposals of the association which is being formed in Ottawa, Canada, for the celebration of the hundred years of peace following the war of 1812 have been submitted to and approved by Earl Grey and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It is proposed that the celebration be national in character and form an object lesson in peace to the older nations.

HOLLOW TREE TELEGRAPH.

Explorer Solves Secret of Long Range Communication in Colombia.

Captain Whiffen recently arrived in London after years of exploration in southeastern Colombia. Among his discoveries is a secret system of telegraphy employed by the natives.

Hollow trees are selected of various thicknesses, which give out high or low notes when struck. The sound travels from thirty to forty miles. No code is employed, but the natives recognize the words intended from the different musical notes.

Cement For Panama Canal Work.

An idea of what the Panama canal construction means to one industry in the United States may be gleaned from the fact that almost a million tons of cement will be used in the gigantic work. Shipments have already begun in steamers owned by the government which will carry about 8,000 tons at a trip. It is estimated that it will take about four years to deliver the 4,800,000 barrels of cement contracted for at the present rate of shipment.

Handsome Winter Home For Bryan.

William J. Bryan has let the contract for his winter residence on his 160 acre farm near Mission, Tex., according to a dispatch from Austin, Tex. It is said by those who have seen the plans that it will be the handsomest country home in Texas.

"After You, Alphonse."

In days of old, when Boabdil Was sassy to El Cid, That pride of Spanish chivalry Went out to do and did! He called his knights of Aragon, He called the peasants poor, And then he quite successfully Cleaned up the turbaned Moor.

In those old days a man thought naught Of joining in a strife, Because his King had summoned him He gladly gave his life. But times have changed. Now people want—

Yes, even in Castile— To be assured their sacrifices Will aid the common weal.

Oh, where is Spanish chivalry? Alphonso doth lament. With other things, like rights divine, Some time ago it went Away till now the common folks, Who used to gladly die Because their masters told them to, Are asking, "Tell us—why?"

Alfonso is a father now. He ought to understand That other folks have children, too, Throughout his native land, And, though he shoots those children down, 'Til bet their last cry haunts, And he can see no humor in "We're after you, Alphonse!" —New York World.



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