

Mount Everest Defeats Valiant Swiss Climbers

By SELIG HARRISON
NEW DELHI, India (U) — Mt. Everest's numbing winds and below zero cold have defeated a courageous Swiss mountain climbing expedition reported last month to have reached a point only 150 feet from its unconquered peak.

Advices Saturday from Katmandu, capital of neighboring Nepal, said the climbers abandoned their attempt Nov. 20 and returned safely to Namche Bazar, a village at Everest's base.

Their heroic effort was the 10th carefully planned attack on the snow-covered mountain tower-

ing more than 29,000 feet, whose summit no one has reached and returned to tell about it.

But if previous reports prove correct, the Swiss got higher than any previous expedition.

The Swiss Alpine Research Foundation in Zurich, Switzerland, said the climbers were forced to turn back "in spite of all their great effort to reach the top" and "it is not yet known" what height they reached.

Rene Dittert, who was in a Swiss group which got within 900 feet of the summit last spring, suggested in an interview pub-

Elks Show Features Comedy



Comedy will predominate in the Salem Elks lodge's annual Christmas charity show Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Elks Temple. Featured in one of the "television" acts slated are these three amateur performers (left to right) Carl Armbrist, George D. Henderson and George Moorhead. Tickets are on public sale.

lished by Swiss newspapers that the expedition's morale might have been strongly affected by an ice avalanche which killed a Nepalese porter and injured three others last month.

"It will require a kind of miracle to reach the top," he said. "The climbers will have to be in the most perfect condition at the very moment when all the conditions of atmosphere, wind and snow are most favorable."

The latest expedition was led by Dr. Gabriel Chevalley, a 32-year-old Geneva surgeon who climbs for a hobby. In it were six Swiss mountaineers and a team of Nepalese Sherpas, or mountain guides.

They left their base camp 12,000 feet up at Namche Bazar, 160 miles from Katmandu, Oct. 5 and began establishing a series of camps as they tortuously fought their way upward through swirling mist.

Three climbers — Raymond Lambert, Ernest Reiss and Bhotia Tensing, a veteran Nepalese mountaineer — and seven Nepalese porters made their final camp Nov. 19. A native runner brought back word a few days later that this camp was 150 feet from the summit.

Saturday's report said they planned to make the last desperate try for the peak the next day, but 30-degree below zero cold and raging winds, which hurled stones around like baseballs forced them to surrender.

Dispirited and dejected, they slowly descended to Namche Bazar and are now resting there before beginning the hazardous overland journey to Katmandu. The journey is expected to take two weeks.

The liners Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth were built partly of scrap from the German battle fleet sunk in Scapa Flow after World War I.

New Chairman Of WSB Says Coal 'Unique'

WASHINGTON (U) — Industry members of the stymied Wage Stabilization Board (WSB) gathered Friday to decide whether to scuttle the board in protest against President Truman's coal decision or deliver it intact to President-elect Eisenhower.

The presidential order in the coal mine wage case has already produced the protest resignation of Archibald Cox, board chairman for the last four months.

His successor, 35-year-old Charles C. Killingsworth, said the wage control program must go forward. He said this could be done only "by sealing off the coal case" and recognizing it as a "unique problem" which would in no way change the board's traditional guideposts governing wage increases.

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Timetable for Dog Walking Ends Problem

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y. (U) — Demon, the doberman pinscher and Fellow the Irish setter won't be on snarling terms any more, thanks to a judicial decree which set up a timetable for walking each dog.

It all started last September when Mrs. Mary Sorokin, housekeeper for Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Perutz was walking Fellow (the setter). Mrs. Sorokin charged she was knocked down by Demon (the doberman) owned by John J. Mann.

The woman asked acting city Judge Edward K. Kennedy to decide whether or not Demon was "dangerous."

Friday Kennedy rendered a decision — or rather a walking schedule. If the schedule is followed, the Mann and Perutz dogs will never meet.

Further, the court noted, it provided for a 10- or more - minute "cushion" between the dogs' outings.

Man Arrested at Astoria Accused Of Bank Robbery

ASTORIA (U) — Police Chief Casper Leding disclosed Saturday the arrest of a 23-year-old Washington man he said was accused of a bank holdup in Long Beach, Calif.

Leding identified him as Robert M. Smart, Renton, Wash. The police chief said Smart was accused of taking \$1,260 from the California bank.

He said California police sent word Smart was believed to be in Astoria. Smart was arrested Friday as he went to a telegraph office.

He is being held for California police.

Sight Restored By Operation; Leads to Altar

KELSO, Wash. (U) — A storybook romance, with the traditional rough spots written into the plot, ended happily here Saturday with the wedding of Mrs. Alta Robbins of Kelso and Norman Behling of Tacoma.

The two, both gray-haired and middle-aged, met at Vancouver four years ago where Mrs. Robbins, a widow, was working at the Vancouver Shipyards.

A correspondence followed until letters from Behling suddenly ceased. Cataracts had formed on both his eyes which caused complete blindness.

"I didn't want to be a burden to her," Behling explained. "So I thought it best to drop out of the picture."

Then after three years of blindness, an operation was performed eight weeks ago which restored the sight in one eye.

Behling got on the telephone and put in a long distance call to Mrs. Robbins. But Vancouver operators told him there was no such person listed.

Behling appealed to Mrs. Mabel Taylor, Tacoma supervisor for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., who organized an intensive hunt through operators in Vancouver, Portland and waypoints — with no luck.

Then somebody thought of checking through the regional office of the Bureau of Internal Revenue. There it was found Mrs. Robbins filed her income tax statement from Kelso.

After that, it was easy. Behling explained the long silence — and the wedding date was set.

"For awhile there I thought I had lost everything," Behling said Saturday. "Now I have everything anyone could ask for."

The Rev. Leslie Parrott presided at the ceremony. One of Mrs. Robbins' four sons served as Behling's best man. She also has two daughters. The new home will be made in Tacoma, where

Basin Project Committee to Meet in Salem

EUGENE (U) — The Willamette Basin Project Committee will meet Dec. 17 in Salem to review progress of the past year and take a look at the future.

Committee Chairman Elmo B. Chase, Eugene, said the featured speaker at a noon luncheon will be Brig. Gen. C. H. Chorpene, assistant chief of engineers for civil works, Washington, D. C.

Other scheduled speakers include Gov. Douglas McKay, designated as interior secretary by President-elect Eisenhower, and Rep. Homer Angell.

Discussions at the meeting will stress development of irrigation projects to use water stored in reservoirs now completed or nearing completion, Chase indicated.

Behling is employed at the Carstens Packing Co.

Next March Behling will undergo another operation which he hopes will restore the sight in his other eye.

"This time I'll be with him," commented the new Mrs. Behling happily.

Miller Receives Orders

SHERIDAN — Dr. B. J. Miller, Sheridan, has received orders to report for active military duty in January at San Diego, Cal. He has been in the Navy reserve since his discharge from service after the war. Dr. G. H. Harrison, formerly of Portland, who has been associated with Miller in the office for several months, will continue the practice.

The annual Christmas concert, presented by students of Sheridan High School, will be Dec. 11 at the high school gym at 8:15 p.m. The band, mixed chorus and the girls' chorus will participate.

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