

Photograph an Unexplored Land

Capt. Stevens Takes First Aerial Pictures of River in Brazil.

New York.—Capt. A. W. Stevens, aerial photographer of Dr. A. Hamilton Rice's expedition to hitherto unexplored regions in the tropical jungle north of the Amazon river basin in Brazil, announced recently that he and Walter Hinton, the aviator, according to the New York Times recently, had discovered the source of the Parima river in the Parima mountains last month, and had photographed and mapped almost 1,000 miles of terrain including 120 miles never before explored by white men.

Flying at an altitude of one mile above the Rio Branco, the Rio Urucicoera and the Rio Parima, and using a special high-altitude camera that can make a photographic record of a strip of land 120 miles long and one and one-half miles wide, Captain Stevens said he had taken the first aerial pictures ever made of these rivers and the surrounding country, and had made the first complete and accurate map of the country all the way from the City of Manaus, the base of the expedition, to the source of the Parima river.

Accompanied by James W. Swanson, radio expert of the Rice expedition, Captain Stevens arrived in New York on the steamship Polycarp. Captain Stevens told of his experiences in the office of the Fairchild Aerial Camera corporation, which makes the special army air-service camera which Captain Stevens used.

Left the Expedition Behind.

Captain Stevens said that he had left Hinton at Manaus and the rest of the expedition of 50 whites and natives, headed by Doctor Rice, several hundred miles farther from civilization on their way to the source of the Parima.

When the Rice expedition reaches the headwaters of the Parima, which it may have done by now, Captain Stevens went on, it may be confronted by the same tribe of cannibalistic Indians that attacked Doctor Rice and his party with poisoned arrows on the other side of the Parima mountains in 1920, and prevented the explorer's finding the source of the Orinoco river, which also rises in the Sierra Parima. It is hoped, however, that by this time the Indians, in the fashion of the Persian tribes in "Grass," may have made their annual pilgrimage across the mountains to the Orinoco side. Stevens and Hinton did not see the Indians at the source of the Parima, but did see clearings and other indications that one of their villages was near. In order to win their friendship for the other white men of the expedition, the aviators dropped red parachutes containing glass beads, pocket knives and other gifts.

Before his return to America Doctor Rice will complete his research at the source of the Parima into the ethnological and geological features of the hitherto unexplored region and its commercial possibilities. Captain Stevens said that the expedition already has learned many interesting facts about the customs of the friendly natives—full-blooded Indians who go about naked, eat raw food and are strict monogamists—and about fossilized skeletons discovered in the river basins.

Has Many Natural Resources.

When Doctor Rice returns, according to Captain Stevens, he expects to bring with him valuable information as to the possibilities of further development of the Amazon-Parima region for the sake of its rubber, gutta percha and other natural resources.

"The expedition has already shown," Captain Stevens went on, "that a white man can stand the same exposure in the tropics as the Indians when proper medical precautions are taken. Charles Bull, a former Harvard athlete and a classmate of Doctor Rice, traveled alone, except for an Indian crew, in a canoe ahead of the main body of the expedition for 700 miles. Naked as the Indians himself, he got to be nearly the same color as they, but at last reports he was standing the exposure to the tropical sun and rain in fine shape.

"Almost all the members of the expedition had tropical fever. All recovered except Doctor Koch-Grünberg, the German explorer, who died. Hinton suffered from the ordinary type of malaria, which is chronic and which bothered him all the time he was flying.

"Great credit is due to Hinton for piloting our seaplane in and out of many difficult situations during the 174 hours we were in the air between Manaus and the headwaters of the Parima, especially in view of his recurrent attacks of fever. We had to fly at more than 5,000 feet because of the heat.

Used Plane for Scouting.

"We used the plane as scout for the main expedition, sketching in the main streams and many tributaries, and for photography. The plane was of American make and stood nine months' constant exposure to tropical sun without shelter, and with the hull immersed in water a great part of the time.

"Bull followed us to establish gasoline stations. After making and photographing a certain stretch of river we would fly back with the pictures, which would be developed in order to guide Doctor Rice over that part of his journey."

Captain Stevens said he thought the outstanding feature of the expedition was its success in wireless transmission from the jungle.

"Although working with portable apparatus and in the heart of the world's greatest forest," he said, "a record was made in exchanging the first wireless messages to pass directly from South America to England and back again. Long-wave communication was carried on between the expedition and Manaus and short-wave communication to many parts of the world, including New York, San Francisco, London, Rio Janeiro and New Zealand. The signals were reported as very strong, both in New York and London. Part of the apparatus was designed and assembled on the job by the operators, John W. Swanson and Thomas M. McCaleb.

"The antenna system was often erected by sawing down a number of large trees in the forest and stringing the wires between other tall trees on the edges of the roughly cleared space. A wire was usually strung from the folding table that held the instruments to a ground loop.

Curiosity Kills Cobra.

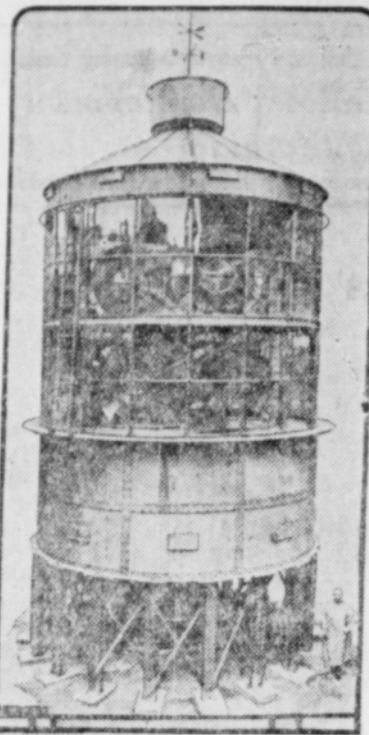
"On one occasion at night in the forest McCaleb, while transmitting, was startled to see a small cobra of a very poisonous species come crawling up this wire, attracted by the hum of the converter perhaps or by a small electric light. He waited until the snake pushed its head on the table and severed its neck with his pocket knife. Needless to say, the message suffered a marked interruption! Snakes were often seen in making camp, but always they moved away from men. A number of very large snakes were shot. It was almost unnecessary to take aim; the snake usually kept his head directly in front of the muzzle.

"The rivers were full of large fish, easily hooked or speared. A very common fish, the uiahyha, though usually not over a foot long, has teeth so sharp and jaws so powerful that it often severed three or four strands of copper wire with which each hook was attached to lines. Because of this fish swimming was not popular.

"The largest animal that furnished fresh meat was the danta or tapir, some of which were shot for food. Wild pigs, monkeys and smaller animals were fairly easy to get.

"The real owners of the Amazon basin," he continued, "are the ants—big, little, black, red, with stings and with wings. Weight or bulk considered, certain small stinging ants, though not dangerous, can produce more irritation than almost any other carrier of venom, while the bite of the larger ants is far more dreaded than that of the scorpion. Scorpions were plentiful, and many members of the expedition were stung by them but with little harmful effect. From getting several thousand assorted bites and stings and being frequently in warm river water one's blood suffers some change, so that it is necessary to watch stings, scratches or cuts carefully to prevent tropical ulcer. Al-

SEEN AT 300 MILES



This is the new giant searchlight just installed on Mount Afrique, near Dijon, France, and which at night is visible for a distance of 300 miles. The light is of one billion candle power, and from a height of 500 feet is visible as far away as the British coast, Brussels, Frankfurt-on-the-Main and Milan. The primary purpose is to facilitate night air travel.

most all natives bear the marks of these ulcers."

A custom of the country, Captain Stevens said, was to tie boys of fourteen to fifteen into a sack filled with stinging ants. Those who survived this test are recognized as having arrived at manhood's estate.

Captain Stevens said that the expedition lived largely on the native farina, or meal, and dried meats.

For Thanksgiving dinner Stevens and Hinton flew back down the Rio Branco to a settlement where they could get bacon and cheese, which had to substitute for turkey and cranberry sauce.

The Rice expedition left New York last March and went by steamer to Manaus, which is on the Rio Negro just north of its confluence with the Amazon. Two seaplanes which had been shipped from New York were assembled at Manaus in June.

The explorers followed the Negro to its confluence with the Branco, which they then followed until it ran into the Urucicoera. Until they followed to its junction with the Parima, and this junction was as far as white men had previously gone. It was at the junction that Stevens and Hinton saw the last of the natives. For the 120 miles of unexplored land over which they next flew they saw no signs of life until they came to the clearings at the end.

Doctor Rice and his followers probably will have had some difficulty traveling over this 120-mile stretch, said Stevens, because of rapids and waterfalls. It will probably take the expedition weeks to cover the ground that he and Hinton flew over in a few hours, he added.

Captain Stevens said he and Hinton discovered the source of the Parima about 3 degrees north of the equator and 64 degrees west longitude, on March 9. This ended the aviators' work and they flew back to Manaus, where Hinton remained to take the planes apart and ship them back to New York.

Captain Stevens said that Doctor Rice will return to civilization early this summer unless he delays to investigate a recently discovered landslide, on another tributary of the Amazon, which has uncovered large fossilized skeletons.

Bound From Argentina to U. S. on Motorcycle

Buenos Aires.—Two Argentine sportsmen, Messrs. Braun and Schick, are at present engaged upon an attempt to reach New York by motorcycle with sidecar, the machine being of American make.

The travelers left Port Madryn, Patagonia, May 17, and recently passed through Buenos Aires. They intend proceeding via Rosario, crossing the Bolivian frontier at La Quiaca to La Paz, proceeding thence through Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Central America and Mexico to New York.

Tahiti Talks of Dropping Use of the French Franc

Papeete, Tahiti.—The instability of the French franc has revived talk in Tahiti of establishing a local unit of value independent of the fluctuations of the franc. Opinion is expressed that as Tahiti is so remote from France, and is in the position of having a constant credit-trade balance, the financial difficulties of the home country should not be allowed to unsettle values and disturb business in this colony.

As a matter of fact, the money used in the colony is a local paper currency issued by the Tahiti branch of the Banque d'Indo-Chine, but it fluctuates in sympathy with the franc.

A settled form of money is the only thing necessary to usher in a period of great prosperity to the island. Both the vanilla and copra yields are increasing and are commanding good prices.

Many a man spends most of his life wishing he had it to do over again.

In the JUNGLE

With Cheerups and the Quixies
by Grace Bliss Stewart

MR. LION'S VISIT

"MY DEAR," growled Mr. Lion softly to Mrs. Lion, one warm evening just before dark, "I have something on my mind. I am worried."

"I've noticed that you weren't quite yourself lately," purred Mrs. Lion kindly, "and if it's a problem you can't solve, why don't you go to this famous Cheerups that Gray Ears the Elephant is so excited about?"

"Now, Mother Lion, have you been talking to Gray Ears?" said Mr. Lion with his most severe frown. "Didn't I tell you never to do that? He's about the only animal in the Jungle that we have reason to fear, and then you run

saw only Mr. Lion's two shiny eyes, like balls of fire coming toward him, he was most astonished. "Had the moon dropped out of the sky and broken in two from the fall?" thought he. "Maybe there was going to be a garden party in the Jungle, and the lanterns were just being lighted. Or could it be possible that the animals had automobiles, and these two bright spots were headlights?"

"Goodness, but they are getting close! I guess I'd better play policeman and stop the traffic. That will be fun," said Cheerups to himself. "Stop!" he shouted as loud as he could. "You are running into some one!"

"And begging your pardon, sir, that's just what I want to do," came a low rumbling purr. "I don't mean exactly run into you, of course," the voice went on, for Mr. Lion is the politest animal in the world, "but just up to your front door, so to speak. Are you by any chance a very famous and kind person named Cheerups?"

"That is what I am called," replied Cheerups, who was rather bewildered by this voice out of the dark. "But I should like very much to know who is my visitor. Oh, Brighteyes, did you happen to bring the Magic Spectacles with you? There, that's better," sighed Cheerups, as he put on the spectacles which sleepy Brighteyes took from his pocket. They made him look so wise that Mr. Lion's confidence grew.

"Now I see that it's Mr. Lion with whom I have the honor to speak. I have always wanted to meet His Majesty, the King of the Beasts. If I weren't too small, I should like to shake your paw, sir. Being small is a great drawback, Mr. Lion, unless you are in a tight place," said Cheerups.

"And speaking of tight places," cried Mr. Lion, "now that you have started the subject, that's the very thing I came to see you about."

NORMA SHEARER



This popular "movie" star spent her early life in Montreal, Canada. She is especially fond of winter sports and outdoor exercise. Miss Shearer advises girls and women to give special care to their complexions. She won a beauty prize in her home town before she entered the pictures.

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Your Health

By Andrew F. Currier, M. D.

URIC ACID CONDITION

THE uric acid condition is a perverse and obstinate one, and often visits those who have lived a perfectly abstemious and correct life, and seemingly overlooks others who have recklessly disregarded the laws of health.

But that would not justify disregarding sanitary precautions and throwing scientific rules overboard.

We are surely safer, as a rule, in being particular about our habits and modes of living.

An eminent physician and dietitian of New York, Professor Porter, says that uric acid results from the chemical changes which take place in the albuminoid foods—fish, meat, milk and eggs principally; but that it is never found in these foods nor appears anywhere during the digestive process, nor in the blood under normal conditions, but is manufactured only in the cells of the kidneys and is a waste, or final product of food changes.

It is discharged with the urine, and

when there is too much of it oxidation is not going on properly in the body.

When oxidation proceeds as it should uric acid combines with other substances in the kidneys or bladder and is discharged from the body as such compounds.

One of these compounds, for example, is sodium urate, which is formed by combination of uric acid with sodium chloride (or table salt) which circulates in solution in the blood.

Too much uric acid also means improper chemical changes in the albuminoid food, and that the uric acid has produced disease.

The tendency to excessive formation of uric acid is common in middle life and old age.

It may come from worry and want of sleep, overexertion, improper diet and free use of alcoholic beverages. It is seen in such joint diseases as rheumatism, gout, joint diseases, and various forms of indigestion.

It may lead to the formation of hard stones in the kidney or bladder, which are very much more troublesome than those which are soft and easily broken.

It may be absorbed from the kidneys into the blood and deposited in the joints and other tissues.

When it is present or suspected the bowels and kidneys must be kept moving freely, water and milk drunk in abundance, and simple, laxative food eaten, such as bran, ellis, prunes, figs and baked apples.

Albuminoid foods must be eaten sparingly, especially meat, fish and eggs.

As these substances are responsible for uric acid, the less they are eaten the less, as a rule, will there be of uric acid.

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THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

THE MAGIC ELDER

THE elder figures prominently in Europe and this country in folklore. In Canada and the United States its use in folk-medicine is universal. Elder wood carried in the pocket wards off certain physical afflictions; "frumity" made of elderberry pulp worn in a little bag hung round the neck keeps off rheumatism; the inner bark, boiled to a tar-like consistency, is recommended for plasters; the elder blooms allay inflammation; the virtues of elder blow tea are known to everybody and a tea made from the bark acts in one way when the bark is scraped down and in the opposite manner when the bark is scraped up.

When New England housewives have trouble with their soft-soap they set matters right by stirring it with a stick of elder and the elder leaves keep flies out of the house. To beat a boy with an elder rod stunts his growth. Formerly the elder was considered as a protection against witches though, strange to say, witches used to gather at night under elders and in some sections, even now, it is considered unlucky to touch the elder after dark.

All these and many more superstitions regarding the elder are but a survival of the tree worship of our barbarian ancestors; as is evident from the fact that to this day when a Saxon or Danish peasant is about to cut elder he prays with folded arms three times as follows: "Oh, Frau Elder, give me of your wood and I will give you of mine when it grows in the woods."

In Germany wreaths of elder are hung up as protection against lightning.

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"What's in a Name?"

By MILDRED MARSHALL

Facts about your name; its history; meaning; whence it was derived; significance; your lucky day, lucky jewel

TILLIE

TILLIE, which has long been regarded as one of the contractions formed from Mathilda, has really the right to independent existence, so frequently does it occur in nomenclature since the time of Henry the Fowler. It signifies "mighty battle maid" and is one of the old Teutonic names indicative of power. By rights it should be spelled Tille.

It comes, of course, from the old German word for main or might. Its first form was Maginild, which very naturally became Mathild, meaning "main heroine" or "might heroine." The name was first borne by the wife of Emperor Henry the Fowler, who afterward became the abbess of Quedlinburg. As Mechtild it appeared as the title of the abbess of Adilstetten and straightway received great vogue at the hands of all French maidens.

In Italy there appears the Countess Matilda, the friend of Gregory VII, and it is from this name, which was adopted by the English, that the con-



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traction Tilly was formed. For the sake of endearment Tilda came to be adopted as a separate name from the stately Mathilda and Tilly was the natural outgrowth of the evolution.

The turquoise is Tillie's talismanic stone. It is said to protect its wearer from accidents and evil influence. To see the reflection of the new moon in its surface is a sign of great good fortune. Wednesday is Tillie's lucky day and 6 her lucky number.

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OLD VANDERBILT CHATEAU IN NEW YORK TO BE SOLD

Palatial Home in New York to Be Disposed of to Make Room For Business Block.

New York.—Another of the residential show places of society's "four hundred" on Fifth avenue is to be sold to make room for a business block.

Mrs. Alice G. Vanderbilt, widow of Cornelius Vanderbilt, asked the Supreme court's approval for the sale of the Vanderbilt chateau at Fifty-seventh street for \$7,100,000. Since she came into possession of the property in 1890 the valuation has increased from \$1,550,000 to \$4,800,000, the petition states.

Taxes, which have risen from \$38,446 to \$129,120, she said, have become too burdensome.

The chateau itself is assessed at only \$100,000, though it cost \$3,000,000 when it was built and contains some

of the most valuable art objects, French wood carvings and tapestries in the country. It was built in the style of the Chateau de Blois on the River Loire in France. There is a great central ballroom in the style of Louis XVI, surrounded by a series of private suites.

The buyer is reported to be G. Maurice Heckscher, son of August Heckscher, philanthropist. The approval of the court for the sale is necessary because Mrs. Vanderbilt merely has life use of the property. All the Vanderbilt heirs have approved the sale, the petition says. The court's order directing the heirs to show cause August 20 why the sale should not be permitted is regarded as a formality.

Mrs. Vanderbilt will move ten blocks up the avenue to the former home of George J. Gould.