



CAPTAIN SCOTT TELLS HIS STORY

The English Antarctic Explorer Had Trying Experiences.

DARING WINTER OPERATIONS

Amundsen's Rivals in Race to South Pole Had Several Miraculous Escapes—Thrilling Narrative by Noted British Officer.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Capt. Robert F. Scott's narrative of his explorations in the antarctic published below was issued by the New York Times company as a book, duly entered for copyright and publicly exposed for sale, the same being its first publication anywhere in the world. Its reproduction in this newspaper is of course duly authorized. Its reproduction elsewhere in the United States in any form except by permission from the New York Times company is forbidden.

Copyright 1912—by the New York Times company, (all rights reserved). Copyrighted in the United Kingdom by the Central News, Limited, London. Registered in the Department of Agriculture. Copyright Branch, Dominion of Canada, by the Central News Limited, London.

Special Cable to The New York Times. Akaroa, New Zealand, Tuesday, April 2.—Lieut. Pennell, commander of the Terra Nova, of the British antarctic expedition of 1910, which arrived here yesterday, brought with him a long and intensely interesting account of the work and experiences of the expedition up to January third last, written expressly for the New York Times by Capt. Robert F. Scott, the leader of the expedition. Capt. Scott's story is as follows:

By Robert F. Scott.

Macmurdo Sound, Oct. 30, 1911.—Shortly after the departure of the Depot-Laying party from Cape Evans on January 25, 1911, the sea ice broke at South Cape and severed communications with the ship. The Depot party consisting of 12 men, eight ponies and two dog teams occupied till January 30 in establishing a base camp at the Barrier seven miles east, southeast of Hut Point. Owing to the heavy weights to be transported the main part of the supplies were left at this camp. The party proceeded with single loads east, southeast, 27 miles to a spot named Corner Camp, before turning south to avoid the crevasses of White Island. The snow surface proved very soft, making terribly hard work for the ponies. A three days heavy blizzard at Corner Camp was a further severe trial to the animals, which were not in good condition.

On February 8th, we proceeded south, marching by night and resting by day. The weather was exceptionally bad but the surface improved. The three weakest ponies were sent back, but these unfortunately were caught in another bad blizzard and two succumbed. With the remaining ponies and the dogs we reached latitude 70½ degrees on the 18th, when I decided owing to the condition of the weather and the animals to make

a depot here and return. We left more than a ton of stores at this point which we named One Ton Camp and which should be a great help to us this season. We then returned to our Base Camp with dog teams.

At Base camp I found every single pony well, and visiting Hut Point I received news of the Terra Nova and Fram. On February 24, with men on skis, and a single pony, I started to take more stores to Corner camp. On the outward journey we passed returning points going well. Returning from Corner camp, I was held up by a blizzard on the 27th but reached Base camp on the 28th, I found the storm had been phenomenal at this place, raging for three days and causing enormous accumulation of snow drifts. Shifts of wind had baffled all efforts to shelter the ponies with snow walls and the animals had suffered very badly, so I decided to retire to Hut Point without delay.

Wilson and Mears, driving dog teams, reached Hut Point in safety. Oates, Crean and I remained to try and save one pony which had been badly hit by the blizzard, whilst Bowers, Cherry Garrard and Crean, with the four best ponies, set out to follow the dogs. Nearing Hut Point they found badly working cracks in the sea ice, and hastily turned and marched four miles south.

A Close Call. There at 2 a. m., on March 1, the tired condition of the ponies obliged the party to camp at 4:30. Bowers, awakened by a noise, found the ice broken all around the camp, and moving with the heavy swell. One pony had disappeared from the picketing line and was not seen again. Hastily packing their sledges, the party decided to try and work southwest over the packed ice. With infinite difficulty the sledges were dragged, the ponies jumping from sledge to sledge to clear the barrier. About noon the party neared the barrier but found its ice wall unclimbable and the swell churning and breaking heavy floes against it. In this dilemma Crean was allowed to attempt to obtain help. He traveled east over the moving pack to find a break in the ice wall and eventually hoisted himself to the barrier surface by wedging his ski stick in a crack.

Infrant of these events, after falling to save our sick pony, my own party had reached the barrier where the ice, breaking under foot, forced us to retreat hurriedly with the gravest anxiety for our companions. My fears were confirmed when Wilson who had traveled out over land reported having seen with glasses ponies adrift on sea ice. An hour later Crean was seen approaching, and learning his news, Oates, Crean and I set off immediately to the west. Working around the bay we approached the barrier edge and at 6 p. m., by good fortune, discovered the missing party on a pack which had been drifting slowly northwest and had temporarily stopped owing to the swell subsiding.

With Alpine ropes the men were rescued with difficulty. Working on through the night we succeeded in salvaging the sledges and their loads, but could do nothing for the ponies which were only thirty yards away. At 4 a. m. the pack began to move again. We left the ponies with full nose bags and rested till 8 a. m. when the pack was again stationary.

We marched north, found the ponies, and made desperate efforts to save them. Bowers and Oates risked a long detour over the pack and led the animals over many jumps while the remainder of us dug a trench to the lower part of the barrier. The edges of the floes were high above water and very uneven. Killer whales hung about within a few yards. The ponies falling at the jump were irretrievably lost. One pony only won through. The pack was moving again as we left it and drifted clear to the north.

More Ponies Lost. On March 4 we ascended hills east of Castle Rock, and on the fifth the party with the two remaining ponies and the dog teams was safely housed at Hut Point. By this incident we lost three of our strongest ponies. This was a severe blow to the expedition, but not enough to wreck its plans if the remaining animals could be preserved. The heavy swell which caused this disaster broke more than ten miles of sea ice, large fragments from the barrier, and two miles of glacier tongue—a feature which had remained otherwise unchanged since discovery, in 1902. The Hut was found almost completely filled with hard snow, the windows broken and the door unopened. With much labor we cleared and repaired it. It then afforded good shelter.

While forced to wait for the sea breeze to blow over we settled down to a very primitive life.

Preparing For the Winter. On March 17 Lieutenant Evans led a party to Corner Camp, completing the depot arrangements for the coming season. The temperature at the barrier had already fallen to minus 40 degrees. Throughout the month ice continually formed over the sea but the strong winds quickly drove it out. After March 25 the ice remained fast in the sheltered bays but continued to drive out of the sound. Huge land ice falls on the southwest slopes of Mount Erebus prevented any possibility of returning to Cape Evans by land, but with the freezing of the bays I decided to make an attempt to reach the station, partly by land and partly by sea ice. With eight companions I started, on April 11, and although caught by a storm on sea ice, we reached Cape Evans early on the 13th. We found the station, which had been left in Simpson's charge, in excellent order, and arrangements for comfort remarkably perfect. Numerous self-recording instruments were in full swing, and all records complete to date. All the news was good except the loss of one of the nine remaining ponies and one dog. During our absence there had been much wind, the mean velocity for two months being twenty-four miles per hour. For 19 percent of the whole time the wind had been over gale in strength. All observations pointed to an exceptionally severe season.

On April 17 I returned to Hut Point with a fresh sledge party carrying supplies and stores. As it was impossible for animals to travel on the route taken, I left Meares and five others in charge of those at Hut Point and again returned to Cape Evans on April 30. Sea ice continued to drive out of sounds until the first week in May. It was not until May 13, three weeks after the sun had gone that the men and animals left Hut Point and safely returned to the main sta-

tion. The sound froze solid in May and later in winter packed ice extended to an unprecedented distance northward, despite numerous gales. After the return from the absentees we settled down very comfortably in our winter hut, its arrangements for lighting, heating, cooking and ventilation proved eminently satisfactory. A comfortable stable had been built for the ponies and some shelter improvised for the dogs during the four winter months. The temperature at the station was rarely below, minus, 40 degrees, at lowest minus 50 degrees. The wind averaged 15 miles an hour, but sometimes blew hard with the temperature minus 30 degrees. Everyone was very fully occupied with station and scientific work, exercising animals, etc. A series of lectures was organized and football was played within a month of mid-winter.

Frequent visits were made to Cape Royds and Hut Point. The animals steadily improved in condition. On June 27th, middle winter, Wilson, Bowers, Cherry and Gerrard started on a sledge journey to Cape Crozier, to observe the incubation of Emperor Penguins at their rookery. Very heavy surface on the barrier forced the party to relay work during the main part and a fortnight was taken on the outward journey. The temperature was seldom above minus 60 degrees and often minus 70 degrees, the lowest observed with a sling thermometer being minus 77 degrees.

Behind a land ridge on the slopes of Mount Terror, the party spent three days building a stone hut on which they roofed with canvas from this camp. The men had great difficulty in crossing the huge barrier pressure ridges in the dim noon twilight to reach the rookery. They were successful at a second attempt. They found comparatively few birds at the rookery, but these had begun to lay even at this early date. Fortunately some eggs at different stages of development were secured which should give considerable information concerning the embryology of this interesting bird. The same night a violent gale commenced and the ridge proved inadequate shelter for the hurricane gusts which whirled down on the hut. A tent and other carefully secured articles were blown away, and after straining for 14 hours the roof of the hut flew to ribbons. For 30 hours more the travelers were confined in their frozen sleeping beds half buried beneath snow and rock debris. Forty-eight hours elapsed before the wind decreased and they were able to get a meal. Searching for lost articles they were fortunate in finding the missing tent among some moraine boulders, practically unharmed.

The state of their equipment now forced them to turn homeward, on the return journey they were held for two days by another storm after which the temperature fell and remained below minus 60 degrees. The party returned after five days absence increased in ice and suffering from want of sleep but otherwise well.

On September first Meares and Mimitri, with dog teams made their headquarters at Hut Point the dogs leaving for that depot in splendid form. At intervals since our arrival, however, some obscure disease has robbed us of four excellent dogs. In every case the dog attacked appeared vigorously healthy, but died in a few hours. It is thought the cause must be some minute thread worm entering the brain.

First Antarctic Telephone Line. At the end of the month telephone communication was established with Hut Point through 15 miles of bare wire. This telephone has already proved extremely useful for reporting the movement of parties, pending changes of weather.

With Bowers, Simpson and Petty Officer Evans, I traveled west on September 15. Ascending Ferrar Glacier, we found by stakes planted by Wright that the ice stream had moved 30 feet in seven months. Later, 45 miles northwest of our station, we found part of the glacier tongue broken in March with the forage depot left by Campbell intact. Owing to work at the station and the need of increasing exercise for the ponies we have been unable to undertake further spring journeys.

Start Delayed to Cave Ponies. All plans and preparations for the southern journey are now complete and despite the accident of last season we have great hope of success. The necessity of getting the utmost out of our remaining ponies has decided me not to expose them to great cold. We shall therefore start later than ordinarily intended.

The motor sledge party consisting of Lieut. Evans, Haq, Lashley and Hooper, started five days ago, with two motor sledges dragging fuel and forage. The motors experienced unexpected difficulty on sea ice where it was very thinly covered with snow, but were last seen going well on the surface of the barrier beyond the Base Camp of last season. They have therefore, placed the possibilities of motor traction beyond question.

The pony party consisting of myself with Wilson, Oates, Bowers, Cherry, Garrard, Atkinson, Wright, Evans, Crean and Koehne, will start about November first. Independently of the success of the motors, ponies will be worked with light loads, in easy marches to Corner Camp with full loads and easy marches to One Ton Camp and with such pressure as necessary thereafter. Dog teams starting will rejoin us at One Ton Camp and help to advance loads. By these means we hope to get 30 units of food to the foot of Beardmore glacier, a unit being a week's pro-

vision for four men. Then with three divisions of four men and 21 units of provisions, I hope to extend the advance to the required distance if the weather conditions are not wholly unfavorable.

Of the ten remaining ponies one is unreliable and one doubtful, the remainder being in very fine form. Officers and men are in splendid health, and eager to go forward. Owing to my decision to postpone there is an obvious chance that the most advanced southerly party will be unable to catch the Terra Nova before she is forced to quit the sound. Under these conditions, having regard to important scientific work done and facilities offered for further work, I have decided to maintain the station for a second year. The majority of the shore party will probably remain but details depend upon the date of our returning from our journey on home news, and the extent of fresh transport provided. I shall greatly regret the departure of any member, as we have lived in the happiest social accord. Pointing probably returns with a large batch of photograph material to which a second year might add little of importance. Owing to Pointing, the photographic results of the expedition are a most remarkable series of cinematographic pictures, giving a comprehensive record of our polar life. The plans arranged for the scientific work of the expedition have succeeded so far almost in their entirety.

November 24, latitude 81.15 S.—We left Hut Point on the eve of November 2, having decided to march by night and rest during the day to give the ponies the benefit of warm day temperatures. We reached Corner Camp this morning. Traveling south for 60 miles we followed the tracks of the motors, then we found the machines abandoned. The party had proceeded onward as directed, were delayed by a blizzard on the eighth, but reached One Ton Camp on the morning of the 16th. The dog teams had caught us up some days earlier and the whole party proceeded in company. A days rest was given the animals at One Ton Camp which we left on the 17th. Having regard to the weight of the loads, the heavy surfaces and limited number of animals, I decided to march 15 miles only every night this distance has been maintained on bright nights and so far as we can foresee, it should be continued.

The ponies are going very steadily and keeping in condition remarkably well. The first pony has been shot for expediency but could have travelled further. The animals have ten pounds of oats and three pounds of oil cake daily. We are hopeful of getting the men's food supply to the glacier, according to program, without great difficulty but shall be a day or two later than anticipated. We found the motor party waiting at latitude 80½. Two of their number now leave us. The sole cause of the abandonment of the motors was the overheating of the air cooled engines. Time did not permit of the defects being taken in hand. The system of propulsion of the motors proved entirely satisfactory. The machines dragged their heavy loads over the worst part of the barrier service and crossed several crevasses. Considering inadequate trial, their success has been remarkable.

With the experience now gained a reliable tractor could be constructed which could travel anywhere in this region and save the sacrifice of animals. We are building snow cairns at intervals of four miles to guide the homeward parties and leaving a week's provisions at every degree of latitude to the barrier. The surface was extremely bad and trying to the ponies up to One Ton Camp, but has been comparatively good since. The greater number of the ponies have been dragging over 650 pounds.

December 10, latitude 83 degrees 15 minutes.—After the return of the motor party from latitude 81 degrees 15 minutes we pushed steadily south hopeful for better weather conditions. A second pony was destroyed at latitude 82 degrees 10 minutes. A third at latitude 82 degrees 45 minutes and two more near the 83rd parallel. None of these animals were exhausted but were sacrificed on account of lightning loads and as food for dogs.

As we approached the weather grew worse, snow storms were frequent, the sky continually overcast and land very rarely visible. Under these conditions it was most difficult to keep a straight course and maintain steady marches. The ponies continued to pull splendidly. The excellent condition they retained under severe work I attribute entirely to the management of Captain Oates. In spite of delays we reached latitude 83 degrees 24 minutes, within twelve miles of Mount Hope, on December 4. We could have reached the glacier with five ponies on the following day but for the intervention of a southerly gale which lasted four days, during which we did not sight land, although only a few miles away. The wind was very violent at times, a prodigious amount of snow fell and we had continually to dig out ponies and tents. The temperature rose to 6 plus 3, the snow melting on our equipment and completely soaking everything with water. No such prolonged storm has hitherto been recorded in these regions in December.

Hard Work in Deep Snow. On the ninth, after the storm, eighteen inches of wet snow covered the originally soft surface. We could not have advanced at all had not the leading pony worn snow shoes. The men hauled on skis. It took fourteen hours without a meal to do eight miles. At the first halt the ponies

were destroyed as we had no more forage for them. Today we have come through the pass and descending on Beardmore glacier but only with infinite difficulties and after twelve hours of hard work. The soft snow brought by the storm continued over the pass. Men on foot sank to their knees and sledges sank to their crossbars continually. The dogs have given some help but could only be lightly laden on such a surface. I send this note by returning teams. The party is very fit but cannot keep up the hours which we have been working. The storm has already cost us five days. Its effects may yet delay us further which would be a serious matter. Otherwise everything has worked as planned. We hope to find better conditions as we advance up the glacier. We are necessarily dependent on the weather and the season thus far has been very unpromising.

A Struggle to Achieve 5 Miles a Day. December 21, latitude 85 degrees 7 minutes south, longitude 163 degrees 4 minutes east, height about 6,800 feet, four miles south, thirty west of Mount Darwin. Largely as a result of the storm reported in my last dispatch, the lower reaches of the glacier were filled with terribly soft snow. Men on foot sank to the knee at each step. It would have been quite impossible to advance had we not pulled on skis. As it was the runner surface of the sledges proved inadequate. They frequently sank to crossbars, requiring to be extracted with standing pulls. For four days we struggled in this morass, scarcely advancing five miles a day although working ten to eleven hours. It is difficult to pitch a little harder and we were able to push on, still pulling on skis. We did not set abreast of the cloudbreaker mountain until the seventh, so that the snow cost us a week's advance.

Since the sixteenth we have been able to make very good marches working up from thirteen to twenty-three statute miles per day. By program I arranged to push on from the eighty-fifth parallel with eight men and twelve units of provisions but I hoped to reserve a margin over this. As we stand we are only half a day's food short on program and should have a good chance of getting through. The weather continues unsatisfactory. We had to march without sight of land on occasions. We are getting intermittent fog in this most crevassed part of the glacier. Everybody is in the best of health and spirits.

It has been most difficult to select the returning party of four which carries this note. Our position constitutes our upper glacier depot. Complete depots have been established on the homeward route. The track of the barrier is well marked with snow cairns. The members going forward are Scott, Lieutenant Evans, Wilson, Bowers, Oates, Lashley, Petty Officer Evans and Crean.

Close to the Pole. January 3, 1912, latitude 87.32, height 9,800 feet. After leaving the upper glacier depot, south of Mount Darwin, I steered southwest two days. This did not keep us clear of pressure ridges and crevasses which occurred frequently at first and gave us trouble, but we rose rapidly in altitude. Probably the difficult places were more snowcovered than further eastward. The adopting of this course was mainly felt on the third and fourth days when owing to our altitude we got a splendid view of the distribution of the land masses fringing the ice sheet and the arm of ice falls. Since leaving the depot our marches have averaged over fifteen statute miles a day. On Christmas day we were close up to the 86th parallel and the prospect of Christmas fare gave us an excellent march—seventeen miles—but the effect was not so happy the following day. The surface grew more difficult as we approached the 87th parallel. On New Year's eve, in latitude 86 degrees, 56 minutes, we depoted there a unit of provisions and rebuilt our sledges with new short runners, which remarkable piece of work was performed by the seamen of the party under adverse conditions. Although it cost us nearly a day's march, the change amply repaid us. We have been able to keep up our average and we are now within 150 miles of the pole.

Five Going On to the Pole. I am going forward with a party of five men sending three back under Lieutenant Evans with this note. The names and descriptions of the advance party are: Captain Scott, R. N.; Dr. Wilson, chief of the scientific staff; Captain Oates, Inniskilling dragoons, in charge of the ponies and mules; Lieutenant Bowers, Royal India marine; commissariat officers; Petty Officer Evans, R. N., in charge of sledges and equipment.

The advance party goes forward with a month's provisions and the prospects of success good, providing the weather holds and no unforeseen obstacles arise. It has been very difficult to choose the advance party, as everyone was fit and able to go forward. Those who returned are naturally much disappointed. Everyone has worked his hardest. The weather on the plateau has been good on the whole. The sun has never deserted us, but the temperatures are low now, about minus 20 degrees, and the wind pretty constant. However, we are excellently equipped for such conditions and the wind undoubtedly improves the surface—so far all arrangements have worked out most satisfactorily. It is more than probable that no further news will be received from us this year as our return must necessarily be late.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.

ROBERT F. SCOTT.