

# Wireless to Connect NEW YORK with POLAR REGIONS



**GIGANTIC** wireless plant situated in the Arctic, with peaks of lofty mountains of ice serving as wireless poles, and power sufficient to send messages crackling out for 2,000 miles until they can be picked up by other stations and relayed to New York city. That is one of the new features of the Donald B. MacMillan expedition, which will leave this city this month in search of Crockerland, the unexplored continent in the Polar Sea, which Peary saw through powerful field glasses and named in 1906.

By means of the giant wireless, members of the expedition, which will spend three years exploring and mapping the land which Peary observed far to the northwest of Canada, expect to be able to report daily progress of the work to New York city—to be able to "talk" to the Museum of Natural History, father of the quest, and to their families and friends during the long absence in the Arctic wastes.

The wireless calls sent out from expedition headquarters in Flagler Bay, Ellesmere Land, will be picked up by the big Canadian government station at Wostenholme Island, 1,100 miles distant in Hudson Strait, and thence will be relayed via Port Nelson and other stations to New York.

In addition to the huge wireless plant which will be established to connect the Arctic with the United States, sledges used by members of the expedition in exploring the Polar wastes will be equipped with portable wireless outfits that at any time can be set up and communication established with the main station at headquarters on Flagler Bay. In this way, scouting parties and the sledges that make the dash across the frozen sea for Crockerland will always be within "talking" distance with the base of supplies.

Had Captain Scott, the ill-fated English Antarctic explorer, been equipped with such portable wireless and a big receiving station at his base of supplies, he could have sent for aid when he and his heroic companions were trapped in a blizzard on the great ice barrier.

In addition to the wireless, Mr. MacMillan, who gained distinction with Admiral Peary on the successful quest of the North Pole, has several other innovations in arctic work he will put into operation on his Crockerland search.

He hopes to grow fresh vegetables in hothouses by the aid of burning glasses which will be brought to focus on the sheltered plants during the summer season when the sun is visible.

Scurvy is one of the chief enemies he expects to encounter, and he hopes that, if he is successful in raising fresh vegetables during the period while the sun is up, he will be able to hold at bay this grim-visaged specter of the deep Arctic silences.

Then, too, he may take with him a Great South Bay scooter, the first of her genus to invade the Arctic Circle. The scooter is an amphibious craft, native of the Great South Bay of Long Island. She is built like a boat, but equipped with runners on the bottom, and goes as well on the water as on ice. On smooth ice the scooter sails at the speed of sixty miles an hour, and in the water at the speed of a regulation sail boat.

The trip MacMillan and six comrades will make is believed to be one of the most perilous that could have been expected. The safety of the expedition depends wholly upon the consistency of the winter ice in the Polar Sea, and those who have spent much of their lives in the far north have learned that Polar Sea ice is an uncertain quantity on which to pin life.

Briefly, the plan of the expedition is to leave New York on July 2 or 3, to push north, with several stops for the last supplies, until Cape York, Greenland, is reached about August 1. From there the party will proceed to Flagler Bay, Ellesmere Land, where the headquarters camp will be built.

The ship, probably Peary's famous vessel, the Roosevelt, which Mr. MacMillan is now negotiating for, will return to New York and the seven members of the exploring party will set about preparing for the long, dark winter.

Some of the party will then push north through the mountains of Ellesmere Land into Eureka Sound, and through Nansen Strait to Cape Thomas Hubbard, the point from

which Peary saw the dim outline of Crockerland northward across the Polar Sea.

"We hope to reach the Cape before the winter night shuts us in," Mr. MacMillan said. "All along the 200-mile trail between our headquarters and the Cape we will have made caches of food for our return journey. Then when the night sets in we will wait for the moon, and with its help we will return to headquarters on Flagler Bay, where we will wait for spring and the time for us to start on our dash for Crockerland."

"All winter in camp, while we are waiting for this time to arrive, we expect to be comfortable, for we will have electric lights from a power plant specially constructed, and we will be busy collecting food for the next two or three years' work. Then, there will be the wireless to occupy us, and the gardening, with the reflect-



DONALD B. MACMILLAN

ing glasses which I hope to experiment with.

"It is my belief that we can grow radishes and some few other vegetables, such perhaps as Swiss chard, under glass that is heated with reflecting glasses, though I am by no means certain. The first year we will be in no danger of scurvy, but after that it is always well to prepare for inroads by the disease. I do not think we shall be troubled, however, for fresh meat is a preventive. The Esk-

imos, who have plenty of fresh meat, never have scurvy, and we expect to kill plenty of polar bear and musk ox.

"We hope to get the Roosevelt for the trip up, though I have not closed the deal. In the event she is unavailable we shall get another worthy vessel.

"Our wireless will present an interesting problem. It was suggested that we use the lofty peaks of ice mountains in place of wireless poles, which would be much shorter and more difficult to carry. Some experts have maintained that sound waves thrown off from the wire would rebound from the ice crags in chaotic echoes, drowning out coherence of the Morse, but we hope to try out the experiment and find it successful.

"The range of the apparatus will be two thousand miles. We will relay through various stations back to the states, and we hope to report progress of work at short intervals.

"We will leave Flagler Bay for Cape Thomas Hubbard, from where we start our dash, on February 15. There will be ten sledges, each sledge with eight dogs and carrying five hundred pounds. We should reach the Cape March 1, about the time the sun comes back again, and without delay we will start over the ice for Crockerland, which is believed to be about one hundred and fifty miles distant.

"Our progress will depend on the condition of the ice. If we encounter high pressure ridges and open leads, it may take some time. It may be easy going. When we reach Crockerland—if we do reach it—we will travel up and down the coast, delineate it, and then push into the interior. Our great danger lies in being caught over there, should the ice begin to break up early. We must be out by May 1 or we will not be able to get out that year."

"Suppose," Mr. MacMillan was asked, "you should get caught by an early breaking of the ice?"

"I think there is game there," he answered simply. "There may not be. But our belief is that we shall find musk ox and polar bear, as we find them in Grantland. Our food supply we take with us will last two months.

"If we get out all right, and yet have not finished our work, we will go back to headquarters, wait another winter, and push in again. If then we are not finished, we will complete the work next year. If we get through satisfactorily the first year, we will spend some time pushing back into the ice cap of Greenland, that, saving for a cutting across one end by Peary and a visit to the lower end by Nansen, has never been penetrated to any distance.

"The Eskimos cannot be induced to enter the 'Great Ice,' for they think the evil spirits live there, and one who has viewed the vast ragged heights of ice is inclined to agree with them. The ice mountains in the great gap are estimated as 12,000 feet in places.

"Our supply list includes 4,000 pounds of flour, as fresh bread is a great safeguard against scurvy. We also have great quantities of fruit juices.

"Besides the scooter, which I have considered taking as an experiment, we shall have a specially constructed 25-foot power boat, a sailing dory and a canvas canoe.

"We shall arrange with the government weather bureau to send data concerning weather by wireless and to make as many reports of conditions in the arctic as possible. In addition to the wireless, we take with us a seismograph for the detection of earthquake shocks all over the world. A house will be constructed for this as soon as we arrive.

"The portable wireless outfits on the sledges are expected to act as a great convenience and something of a safeguard, as with them we can 'talk' to headquarters from quite a distance.

"We should get home in 1916 or 1917, if we find Crockerland. If we do not, well, we'll stay there till we do."

## GREAT MEN IN COMMON CLAY

Models by C. A. BEATY Words by GENE MORGAN



SIR THOMAS LIPTON.

"A sailor's life's the life for me," Sir Thomas quoth in tones of glee, and while the spirit waxed red-hot he bought himself a sailing yacht. It was not spacious as to decks and those aboard risked their necks while hopping round with frantic flings to dodge the flying jibs and things. Its cabin had no room to boast, it would have squeezed a skinny ghost. The sea cook sprained a rolling pin while rolling pancakes very thin. But up above there was a mast of which you couldn't see the last, it seemed to pierce the sullen sky, not even signaling "good-by." The sails that in the wind did flap were bigger than a circus "top," and when they caught a lively breeze they beat a railroad train with ease. Sir Thomas all his hopes sunk by battling for a piece of junk, a "prize cup" Uncle Sam possessed; to lose it he'd felt no distress. Although defeated in the race, Sir Thomas bore it with good grace and came around again next year, and won no cup but many a cheer. He's nearly lost all hope for now, but he could travel in a scow and use a tea sack for a sail—the States would voice a welcome hail.

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and carries the mail from the railroad station.

Of course it is a bit inconvenient on calling at his office to find that one's physician is down at the railroad station in his capacity of mail carrier waiting for the morning mail train, which is reported two hours and forty minutes late. Consequently those who are in urgent need of medical attention are apt to seek the rival doctor, who can always be found at the cobbler's bench when he is not manipulating the mortar and pestle.

One woman who had tried to locate the mail carrier physician unsuccessfully thoughtlessly mentioned this fact when she induced the other to leave a pair of brogans which he was mending and listen to her symptoms.

"Humph!" grunted the older practitioner, "you went to see him first, did you? Well, you took your life in your hands. That young snip don't know anything, not even the names of the bones in the body. If you don't believe me, just ask him if he knows where the modus operandi is located!"

The patient took his advice, and the next time he saw the young physician asked him if he could locate the modus operandi for her.

"Sure," said the doctor, confidently. "That is the scientific name for what you know as catsup. There is lots of it growing around my livery stable."

Grim Humor.

Aged Uncle—I've insured my life for \$5,000 in your favor; what else can I do for you?

Nephew—Nothing on earth, uncle.

## VASSAR SOPHOMORES CARRYING THE DAISY CHAIN



The greatest attraction of class day exercises at Vassar college, witnessed by 19,000 persons, was the carrying of the daisy chain by the sophomore class. Twenty-four of the girls bore the 225 feet of entwined daisies, one foot for each of the graduates of 1913.

## SNARING SARDINES

Brief History of Fishes From Ocean to Palate.

Mysteries Concerning Habits of Finny Denizens of Western Coasts of Europe—is a Very Important Industry.

In tin boxes by women seated at long tables. The boxes are classed as wholes, halves and quarters. The quarter box contains eight or ten sardines and is the most familiar size. Sometimes pimento, sliced lemons and pickles and other condiments are put in the bottom of the box.

The filled boxes are placed on large trays and carried to the oiling room, where the volds are quickly filled with oil flowing from a row of taps which the operator controls with one hand while with the other she brings each box in turn under a stream of oil.

The boxes are sealed either by soldering or by folding and pinching the edges. In the former case the soldering iron is continuously heated by a blowpipe as it passes along the edge of the box, which is clamped to a turntable. A single blower furnishes the air blast for 50 to 60 frames, tended by as many men. In the newer factories soldering has been replaced by the more rapid and more hygienic operation of folding and pinching, which is performed by special machinery so perfectly that the lid is hermetically joined in the box.

The sealed boxes are sterilized at a high temperature in autoclaves and are then rolled in sawdust to remove oil and other impurities from their exterior.

A curious and important fact in the biology of the sardine is the suddenness with which the little fishes appear in great numbers and subsequently vanish, probably in consequence of changes in oceanic conditions. According to M. Charles Rabot, sardines appear in dense schools wherever they find the most favorable degrees of temperature and salinity and disappear as soon as the water has been replaced by a current of different character. Unfortunately, we know nothing of the physical conditions which the sardine seeks or of the movement of various strata of water along the coast. We do not know whether the sardine prefers warm or cool water, very salt or moderately salt water, nor do we know the temperature and salinity of the sea at different seasons, depths and distances from land.

In Brittany sardines are caught with a vertical net, from 1,000 to 1,300 feet long and 26 to 33 feet deep, which is supported by corks fastened to its upper border and is attached to the stern of the boat by a cord several yards long. As the boat moves slowly against the current the sardines are lured to the net by baited cod thrown on the water. The net is made of thread so fine that it is almost invisible and the meshes are of such dimensions that the sardines thrust their heads through them and are caught by the gills.

## WOMAN WON GAME AND DIED

Aged Hartford, Conn., Widow Laughed Herself to Death Over Bridge Victory.

Hartford, Conn.—Overjoyed at unexpected playing the winning card of a trick which won a rubber of bridge, Mrs. Mary Trekkald, a widow, seventy-four years old, began laughing over her victory and died, still laughing, before physicians could arrive.

She had been deeply interested in card games for years and was a player who was always anxious to win. She was playing a game with her grandsons in which it looked, near the end, as if one of her opponents had played the winning card. Mrs. Trekkald held the taking card, however, and when she played it and saw the disfigurement of the other side at losing the trick she laughed herself into hysterics.

## BOY AIDS MILITANT RAIDS

London Police Seek Youngster Who Has Been Burning Mail and Ruining Golf Greens.

London—Edwry Clayton, the Richmond chemist who is charged with conspiring with the militant suffragettes in an arson campaign, is not the only male supporter of the Amazons, for the police are now looking for a fourteen-year-old boy who is said to have left a trail of destruction behind.

This boy, whose name has not been learned by the police, enlisted in the campaign of destruction because his

## POET LAUREATE'S PAY \$350

Additional Allowance of \$135 is Made in Lieu of "a Butt of Sack."

London—The poet laureateship, which is vacant owing to the death of Alfred Austin, carries a salary of \$350 a year, with an allowance of \$135 in lieu of "a butt of sack." Premier Asquith enlightened the members of the house of commons with this information when Arthur Lynch, the Irish



Premier Asquith.

member for West Clare, made inquiry as to the salary, perquisites and privileges which were attached to the office. The premier admitted that he did not know the exact duties of the post.

Swift McNeill, another Irish member who is known as the wit of the house, suggested seriously the revival of the post of kings jester. Another member promptly suggested Mr. McNeill for the post.

Capt. Lynch wound up the discussion by asking whether a butt of sack was not an intolerable deal of sack for a ha'porth of poetry.

## PHYSICAL TRAINING A HELP

Dr. G. J. Fisher Tells Foreign Delegates to Y. M. C. A. Conference in Edinburgh of Its Influence.

Edinburgh, Scotland.—The progress of the Young Men's Christian association in America engaged the attention of the delegates to the world's conference at the opening session. National Secretary Piene of Norway showed that the European branches had gained 300,000 members in six years. Delegates from four countries asked the reasons for America's superiority. Dr. G. J. Fisher answered with an address on the influence of physical training in the making of Christian manhood.

mother and sister had been sent to jail, where they were forcibly fed. The boy soon surpassed all his competitors in post-box raids.

Operating from his own home, the youthful raider is said to have fired ninety street post boxes. Post boxes were his specialty, but he is also believed to have devoted some of his time to the destruction of golf greens.

Because he was not suspected, the boy was able to raid boxes in neighborhoods where a woman could not have escaped detection. The police may have some difficulty in locating the boy, who has been persuaded by his family to desist from the campaign on the plea that he has accomplished quite enough to avenge his militant relatives.

## THIEF EVEN TOOK HIS SHOES

W. G. Canary Also Gave Up His Wallet Containing \$18.35 to Highwaymen.

Kansas City.—"What else shoes are those you have on?" one of two highwaymen asked W. G. Canary.

"They are nine's and I just bought them tonight," Canary replied.

"They are just my size and you can get busy and take them off," commanded the highwayman flourishing a revolver.

Canary sat down on the walk and took off his shoes. The highwaymen also took his pocketbook containing \$18.35. He told the police the robbery was committed by two young white men.

and by the weight of the authority of the foremost scientists in Germany the disastrous results of this superstition.

To Live as a Savage.

Boston.—To prove that twentieth century civilization is needless John Knowles, a local artist, will plunge into the wilderness of northern Maine without clothing, food, matches and firearms or ammunition. He declared he will live like the men of the stone age for three months.

## WOMAN TESTS HER DOCTOR

Physician Tells Her to Ask Rival if He Knows Where the Modus Operandi is Located.

In a little town on the Bangor and Aroostook railroad in Maine there are two rival physicians. The town not being large enough to support even one, the older of the two ekes out an uncertain income through cobbling the shoes of the townsfolk, while the other runs what he calls a livery stable,