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Mushers in Arctic Must be Vigilant to Come Out Alive

NENANA, Alaska, April 24 (A.P.)—The "musher" in the Arctic Circle, where winter prevails about eight months out of the year, must never relax his vigilance if he would survive the perils peculiar to the region. To the explorer, prospector, scientist, trapper or hauler of mail and supplies who must go north of the Yukon river basin, one of the greatest winter hazards is the lack of timber for firewood. In some localities the only timber is aspen, commonly called poplar, scrub spruce and stunted brush. When a man faces 50 degrees below zero in sleeping bag and canvas tent, he requires a big log fire and abundant fuel to keep it going. When the Arctic blizzard sweeps down, man and beast are compelled to seek shelter.

In the bitterest cold few lungs can withstand the "scorching" atmosphere that appears to sear them like a flame while the blood is turning to ice. "Frozen" lungs are not uncommon, but there are certain precautions that minimize the danger.

The equipment includes three pairs of heavy woolen socks on each foot; underwear and short of wool, but of medium weight; mittens augmented by buckskin slippers and a steel parka, its hood faced with wolverine fur, which does not gather frost and freeze where the breath strikes it. The muskrat or beaver cap has flaps to pull down over the ears and under the chin. The shoes frequently are moose hock mukluks.

At no time must any portion of the flesh save the eyes be exposed to the frost, and even the eyes must be protected when facing a blizzard. Travelers usually augment this "light" equipment with a complete suit of reindeer furs.

Submission to the cold of the Arctic has a different effect than must be imagined. Instead of a shivering and a gradual agonizing process of freezing, the frost overcomes one suddenly and almost painlessly. There is a numbness in the more exposed portions, like the feet, legs and hands. Later the jaw becomes stiff, nearly immobile. A minute's exposure of a

partly cold hand to low temperature causes the fingers to become stiff and without feeling. It is as if they had gone to sleep. The man in danger of death from freezing is overtaken by a rather pleasant lethargy.

A danger is found in becoming overheated and then tarrying to cool off. Even when the temperature is 50 below, one's body perspires if all orifices of the clothing are closed. If there are any holes in the equipment, the cold penetrates like the flame from a blowpipe, boring in rather than spreading. One may have a spot the size of a dime frozen on a finger where there is a hole in glove or mitten, and the rest of the hand then becomes numb. In stopping forest, and on arising one wonders why the limbs refuse to function with their wonted suppleness. After several such halts, further progress becomes a struggle, and unless a fire is available immediately the chances of freezing are great.

Frozen hands or toes are treated in the time-honored way of rubbing them with snow until the circulation is restored.

Horses used to carry outfits into the interior of Alaska are protected from lung-freezing by a covering like a nose-bag, through which the air is filtered of its biting frost before it is breathed. Nature further guards these horses by causing the hair on them to grow until by spring they resemble fur-bearing animals.

Quakes and Heavy Rains Bring Collapse of Lisbon Houses

Lisbon April 25 (A.P.)—Lisbon threatens soon to become a city of ruins, unless something can be done to save its collapsing dwellings. For a variety of reasons, including poor foundations, the use of a soft clay, a series of heavy rainstorms and a number of slight earthquakes, houses seem to be falling to pieces, with consequent injury to the inhabitants. Hundreds of families have been obliged to leave their unstable homes, and some 50 tenements have been declared dangerous. The dwellers have been moved into convents and barracks. The first house went down about two weeks ago, during a heavy rainstorm.

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LIPTON'S FANCY BISCUITS are amongst the daintiest served in Crackerland. Celebrated for the high quality of their materials, Lipton's Biscuits and Cakes are characterized by a toothsome crispness and flavour that enriches whatever is served with them.

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Queen Charlotte Islands

ATTRACT HERRINGMEN.

VANCOUVER, B.C. (Can. Press)—It is thought probable that one of the first places to which settlers coming from the Hebrides will be sent will be Graham Island, the largest of the Queen Charlotte group. Although there are many suitable islands all along the coast where the fisher folk of the Hebrides would find it comparatively easy for them to make their new homes, it is doubtful if any spot on the North Pacific Coast has greater attraction to offer. Hon. T. D. Pattullo, Minister of Lands, under whose direction settlers are placed in this province, is well acquainted with conditions on the Queen Charlotte Islands.

During the past few years various attempts to settle Graham Island have been made by private colonizers with land to sell. Pre-emptors have also done considerable development at various places, particularly the south and north ends of the island.

Most of those who settled on the land and then gave up were western families, and during the years when it looked as if several large and important communities would be built up, there was very little work of the sort that would supply cash to the settlers in the early stages of clearing their lands in preparation for cultivation. Just about the time things looked best for the islands, war came on, and nearly all single men left for the front; the remainder were attracted to industrial centres.

Production of airplane spruce, with which the islands abound, kept a considerable population there during the war, but the men engaged in that work were for the most kind not of the settler kind. So there came another period of lean years until at present, except for some lumbering, there is little doing.

The soil is extremely fertile when once the land is cleared of the heavy brush, which grows to almost tropical density. The climate is equable; the rainfall less than anywhere on the British Columbia Coast, except possibly Victoria. A little snow falls sometimes in the winter. Like Ireland, Graham Island has no snakes. The only animals there are black bears, deer and wild cattle. The blue-jays are the only pests. They steal anything that can be carried away. Wild geese and ducks sometimes make the sky black as they come down from the north and use Graham Island as a resting place.

The waters surrounding the islands team with halibut, salmon and other fish. One of the largest whaling stations on the coast is on Graham Island, for the sea to the north is a favorable haunt for the mammals.

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500 Miles Divide Day's Meals for Army Aviator

SANTA MONICA, Cal. (A.P.)—Breakfast in Los Angeles, luncheon in San Francisco, nearly 500 miles away; afternoon tea in San Diego, a jump of another 600 miles, and dinner back at home in Los Angeles, such is the outline of a day in the life of Lieutenant Corliss C. Moseley, commandant of Clover Field, the army air base at Santa Monica.

Lieutenant Moseley has arranged his daily meals thus not once, but several times. Pivoting a biplane, he leaves Clover Field early in the morning and wings his way to the Presidio of San Francisco by 10 o'clock, as a rule, snatches a bite to eat, confers with army officers and is off for San Diego, arriving there usually about 4 p.m. Long before summer dusk he drops down again at Clover Field, steps into his waiting automobile and rolls 12 miles to Los Angeles, home and dinner.

On a recent Sunday Lieutenant Moseley flew up to San Francisco, across to Yosemite National Park in the Sierra Nevada mountains, hovered over the mighty falls and returned to Clover Field, a non-stop flight of more than 1,000 miles.

Queensland a Cotton Land Her Premier Tells England

Manchester, England, April 24 (A.P.)—Queensland's premier, E. C. Theodore, told a meeting of business men here that Queensland had millions of acres of land suitable for cotton production, and that Australia is free from those terrible pests which have made such vast inroads into the prosperity of cotton growing in other countries.

In 1919 there were 73 acres under cotton cultivation in Queensland which yielded 27,000 pounds of seed cotton. This year the acreage was 180,000 and the yield 50,000,000 pounds. In 1922 there were 1,600 growers and in 1924 there were 5,300. Cotton growing, the premier said, was and would become a white man's industry, each man cultivating his 20, 30 or 40 acres.

Most schemes for saving the taxpayer's money seem to originate in \$2,000,000 public buildings.

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