

# The Scott Expedition.

LEADER AND MEMBERS WELL KNOWN TO CAPT. BOB BARTLETT, OF POLAR FAME—“TELEGRAM'S” INTERESTING INTERVIEW WITH CAPT. BARTLETT.

Capt. Bob Bartlett, the hero of the Peary Polar Expedition, was to-day interviewed by the *Telegram* on the matter of the tragedy connected with the South Polar Expedition of Captain Scott.

Last evening Capt. Bartlett had a wire from a friend in New York giving information of the success of the expedition in its object and of its disastrous termination for its brave leader and comrades. Capt. Bartlett is perhaps one of the best authorities on polar expeditions, living to-day. He was up north with Peary in the expeditions of 1897-8, 1905-6, and 1908-9, and was with Peary to within a few miles of the Pole when the famous explorer made the great discovery which has made his name famous the world over. Capt. Bartlett was in England before the Scott Expedition sailed south and was repeatedly on board the Terra Nova in London. He was one of the guests at the dinner given on board the ship when Lady Markham hoisted

## The Royal Standard

on the ship. The expedition was fitted out jointly by the British Government and the London Geographical Society and at all the functions given in the explorer's honour Capt. Bartlett, our distinguished fellow countryman, was an honoured guest. On the occasion alluded to above, Sir Clement Markham was present and many notable in the public and social life of England. Capt. Bartlett was very well acquainted with Capt. Scott and his wife having repeatedly visited their home and dined with them and was well known to Lieut. Evans, Dr. Wilson, Capt. Oates, Lieut. Bowers and others of the expedition who now alas are numbered with the dead.

Captain Bartlett says that Lieut. Evans is not with the Scott expedition now and thus his life

at least is saved. Lieut. Evans was sent back home when the expedition was within 150 miles of the Pole, because Scott did not want to keep the Terra Nova waiting another season. He, therefore, sent Lieut. Evans back with instructions to bring the ship back to New Zealand. One of the members of the expedition, a naval captain, was on this station in one of His Majesty's warships for several years but Capt. Bartlett cannot recall his name. Had the methods used by Peary on his expeditions north been observed by the Scott expedition south the Cape, believe that the enterprise would have been expedited and the great catastrophe which overwhelmed the ill-fated party averted. Any reader of this interview who wishes to prove his statement, he says has but to follow the itinerary of Capt. Amundsen, the great Norwegian explorer, and he will see that Capt. Bartlett is correct. Shackleton used

## Methods at Variance

with Peary's and he got only to within 112 miles of the Pole and narrowly escaped losing the whole party. In Capt. Bartlett's estimation, to convert men into beasts of burden or compel them to draw sledges is not at all suitable for Arctic or Antarctic exploration; neither are ponies suitable. With dogs driven by men well accustomed to the work the best possible results can be obtained. As regards the food it is also a simple matter because the dogs eat the same food as their masters and when the food is consumed and exigencies arise the men can live on the dogs, and this has been done in many expeditions. The Scott expedition, which left England in June 1910 was differently equipped than the Peary expedition. They (the former) had motor sledges and ponies and only a few dogs and they did not bother using the dogs, being unaccustomed

## To Handling Them.

Capt. Bartlett thinks that Capt. Scott made a great mistake in using the ponies and thinks it was sheer perseverance, tenacity and British pluck which brought him through to the Pole instead of any extraordinary or intrinsic value of ponies for such travel. Conditions in the South Polar regions as compared with those in the North Polar Zone are altogether

different; up north they must contend with drift ice and open water and the relay system is impossible, whereas South there is a great ice crop and the itinerary of the route is stationary, so to speak, thereby minimizing the dangers of being cut off from

## Supporting Parties.

The work of the South Polar expedition must necessarily be done in the summer, while up North it has to be done on the first approach of the twilight and also to get the best results from the heavy frosts. The Arctic is moving and making water leads and with the heavy frosts these can be crossed after a few hours. You can't go over this ice in the warm weather of April or May; it is only in February and March with part of April that such ice can be utilized. In March is the beginning of the perpetual light while in February one has enough to enable an expedition to travel from 8 to 10 miles per day. With the return of the sun in March it is practically perpetual light. In South Polar latitudes what is water north is a continent covered with ice, and as the Pole is neared a perpetual ice crop is traversed gradually becoming higher and higher as it nears the Pole until it reaches an elevation of between

## 11,000 and 12,000 Feet.

Whereas the South Polar expedition used sleeping bags and tents with material of a very light texture, but wind proof, the people of the North Polar expeditions used the Esquimaux snow igloos or houses but no sleeping bags and wore only fur clothing weighing about 12 lbs. in travelling. The Scott Expedition used what is known as "Barberry," a sort of canvas impervious to wind with Jaeger underclothing. The Peary expedition travelled and dressed and for that matter lived as the Eskimo.

## The Natural Habitat

of the country did. In fact they lived as near to nature as possible; while the habitations or mode of living of the South Polar expeditionists would be as conducive to warmth and comfort. The people of the North Polar expeditions had cooking apparatus whereby they could make in 10 minutes burning of 6 ozs. of alcohol a gallon of boiling hot tea. Their ration consisted of a pound of pemmican, tea and a tin of milk for three men giving them two meals per day. Their day would constitute from 13 to 32 hours while travelling, with one meal leaving camp in the morning the next when

## Building Their Igloo.

and a third before retiring. The people of the Scott expedition differed also materially from the Peary people in the quality of the provisions they took. The Peary people lost no time in cooking. They ate their frozen pound of pemmican and quickly brewed their hot mug of tea, which was all that was required to sustain them. The Scott people indulged more in cooking their food than in having it already prepared as Peary's men did. Capt. Bob thinks that the unfortunate members of the Scott party held on as long as they could possibly do so, believing that they would get back to their base in a certain defined time and with a certain amount of provisions to supply them. It is likely, he thinks, a continuation of blizzards prevented them from consummating this idea, and the result was

## That They Were Too Weak

to withstand the rigors of the last of the journey, and the fact of their being found so quickly would bear him out in that calculation. The Terra Nova is back very early in the captain's opinion, so that they did not have much delay south. He is of opinion that Scott was within 100 miles of his base of supplies when found. Capt. Scott told Capt. Bartlett before he left that he had the pick of 8,000 men, and he would of course choose the best men, morally, mentally and physically. These men, he felt assured, he could count on in any grave crisis or emergency. They were all moral men and the captain saw and spoke to them on the decks of the Terra Nova. These men compared favorably with the men of the North Polar expeditions. Most of the men who accompanied Peary were athletes out of the best colleges and universities of the United States. Personally, Capt. Bartlett said, in conducting such an expedition he would prefer young men of education, college

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## Geo. Knowling.

Feb 8, 4, eod

## Cable News.

Special to Evening Telegram.

NEW YORK, To-day. The British schooner Village Belle, which arrived to-day from Port Clyde, N.S., for Elizabeth, N.J., reports the loss of a seaman Alfred Strickland, aged twenty-one belonging to West Point, LaPointe, Nfld., who was washed overboard and drowned.

HALIFAX, To-day. Edward Statra, President of the hardware firm of Statra, Son and Son, died. A section of Halifax School for the Blind was damaged by fire to the extent of \$5,000. The building is insured.

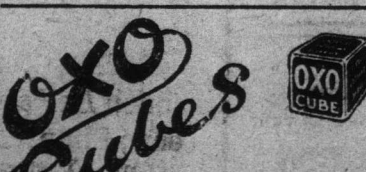
WAS DANGEROUSLY ILL.—Charles, the bright little son of Constable John Nugent, of Holy Cross School, was for a while dangerously ill of rheumatic fever. He is now improving though it will be some time before he can be about again.

## Governor's Arrival.

A meeting of the Importers' Association will be held in the Board of Trade Rooms this afternoon at four o'clock to consider a communication received from the Premier with reference to the landing of His Excellency on Thursday next. We understand the association has been asked to make the day of the Governor's arrival, a holiday.

## Cape Report.

Special to Evening Telegram. CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind N.W., fresh, weather fine; nothing sighted to-day. Bar. 29.55, ther. 8.



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We are very pleased to state that, owing to the large amount of patronage we received at the hands of the public during the past year, we have been able to secure a good reduction on our 1913 year's stock. To make room for this splendid stock we have decided to share this profit with you as

## A BONUS

during the coming two weeks. Reg. Cabinets, usually 3 for \$1.50. Now 4 for \$1.50. Large Cabinets, usually 3 for \$2.50. Now 4 for \$2.50. Small Paris Panels, usually 3 for 75c. Now 3 for 50c. High Grade Post Cards, usually 1 doz. for \$2.00. Now 1 doz. for \$1.50. Photo Stamps 15 for \$1.20. Photo Albums, 6 for \$1.20. A small lot of Photo Jewellery left over from the Christmas season at half price. We can fit your photo in that locket you received as a Christmas present. Come early to avoid the rush.

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## Here and There.

RED CROSS LINE.—The s.s. Florizel is due to arrive here on Thursday morning from New York and Halifax.

THE S.S. ERIC.—As exclusively alluded to in the *Telegram* on Saturday, the s.s. Eric is up for sale and will soon be disposed of by her present owners. As already stated she was built in 1865 and came to this country for the first time in 1901.

COLDS CAUSE HEADACHE AND GRIPS.

LAXATIVE BRONX Quinine removes the cause. There is only one "BRONX QUININE." Look for signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.—oct 16, w.t.

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## The Redemptorist Mission.

Despite the storm and intense frost yesterday, the R. C. Cathedral was filled to overflowing at 5:30 a.m. yesterday, when the mission began. At 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. yesterday the mission for the girls was conducted and instructions delivered after the devotional exercises by the mission Fathers. At 7:30 last evening the Ca-

thedral was again filled with women folk when the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin was said by Rev. Father Holland and Rev. Fr. McPhail delivered an eloquent sermon on the pride and vanity of the world. He exhorted all to make the mission and by their good example to impel their male friends to do the same. The masses at 5:30 and 8:30 a.m. to-day were crowded with women and nightly many approach the Sacrament of Penance. The mission for the men begins next Sunday evening.

## Fresh Halibut and Rabbits.

1000 lbs. Fresh Halibut.	PURITY BUTTER—
100 pairs Rabbits.	20 boxes, 2 lb. prints.
50 Dressed Turkeys.	50 10-lb. tubs.
50 Ducks.	50 sides Irish Bacon.
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3 cases Fresh Country Eggs.	500 boxes Smoked Caplin, Sc. box.

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