

Andree's Diary Reveals Explorers' Heroic Fight

Party Apparently Wandered Without Any Definite Goal in Mind—Andree Praises Comrades

Stockholm, Sweden—Salomon August Andree's own story of his expedition's attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon 33 years ago was told on Sept. 15th by the Swedish Government in a digest based on Andree's diary.

The waning flight of the balloon northward from Danes' Island, Spitzbergen, its descent on the ice, and the vain struggle southward of its three occupants across the cruel, jagged ice fields were thrillingly revealed, ending in the last optimistic entry almost three months after the start, when certain doom faced the Argonauts.

"With such comrades, one should be able to get through under any circumstances."

So wrote Andree on Oct. 2, 1897, penning an unwitting valedictory to his two companions, Nils Strindberg and Knut Fraenkel. The diary began on July 11, the date of the start, and ended with a fitting farewell on Oct. 2. The expedition probably perished not long afterwards.

Andree, the oldest of the three men who dropped from the skies to the ragged ice fields of the Arctic, revealed in the diary the courage of the little party as they fought their way back toward safety. Andree stood up under the terrible hardships with the strength of a man many years his junior and he constantly spurred the hopes of his two companions, Nils Strindberg and Knut Fraenkel, with words of courage when necessary or with jokes.

Continues Scientific Research

The diary did not reveal the actual cause of the descent of the balloon on the ice, although it mentioned that Andree opened the two valves of the big bag to permit a safe landing on July 14. The men were confident when they started their long, homeward trek over ice and Arctic waters that they would reach safety, but they were forced by weather conditions when they reached White Island to prepare a camp for the winter months.

They killed polar bears and seals for food—Fraenkel was chief cook—and they made a "home" at the camp in which they finally died of exhaustion and cold. Andree enjoyed intensely "the delicious polar bear and pancakes" which Fraenkel, who was suffering from stomach and tooth troubles, prepared.

But perhaps most amazing of all as indicative of the courage of the three men who attempted the first aerial exploration in the Arctic was that they continued their scientific work almost until death closed their eyes on the little island north of East Greenland. Andree wrote of how he collected 20 samples of soil, ice and Arctic plants and made many observations which they were confident would be of great historical and scientific value.

Spain Raises Tax on U.S. Cigarettes

Madrid.—Cigarettes imported from the United States now cost in Spain about three times their price at home. They used to cost only twice as much. The price was raised as a result of the new Spanish tariff and the continued depression of the peseta. The new tariff does not hit tobacco, but the government tobacco monopoly has little private tariff of its own, which it has revised upward.

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Sea-Sickness Is Bone of Contention

Eminent Physician and Surgeons Say Ship's Doctor "Knows Best"

"Drink whisky," "Don't drink whisky," "Smoke strong cigars," "Don't smoke at all," "Eat five good hearty meals a day," "Restrict your diet to cereals," "Get plenty of things easy," "Eat all your meals in the dining saloon," "Take your meals on the deck if you feel queasy," and a dozen other remedies for sea-sickness, were discussed recently by 100 of Great Britain's foremost physicians and surgeons before they sailed for home on the Canadian Pacific liner Duchess of Richmond.

The diversity of opinion was so great that before the liner sailed the medical party had divided itself into two schools of thought. One Irish surgeon told interviewers that a similar discussion had taken place when they departed from England. "If that subject had been on the agenda at the British Medical Association meeting we attended in Winnipeg the discussion would still be going on," he said, "and not one of us could have offered a constructive suggestion."

"Sea-sickness is a mental condition," a Harley street physician said, "if you make up your mind that you are not going to be ill you won't be!" Which sentiment might have got him had not a colleague shipped in with the remark, "Then you must have made up your mind to be sick on the way to Canada, doctor." And silence descended upon the group.

By the time the last whistle blew, five minutes before the Duchess of Richmond cast off her hawsers, one conclusion was reached and the 100 doctors agreed as one man what their course would be if overtaken by the malady. Collectively they agreed that the proper practice would be to call in the ship's doctor. "He knows more about it than we do!"

Fox Food Left High And Dry on Shoals

Pilot Whales Stranded While Chasing Small Fish Near P.E.I. Coast

Fox farmers of the Summerside and Beaufort districts of Prince Edward Island have received an extremely useful visitation from the sea. On the afternoon of Friday, August 15, no less than 72 pilot whales, or blackfish, were stranded on the shoals between Seven-Mile Bay and Barleton Head, near Beaufort.

Milky Way Merely Star Clouds

Not Stars, Astronomer Holds

Probabilities that elsewhere in space there are stellar universes like ours are increased by a new interpretation at Harvard of the shape of the Milky Way.

The idea is proposed by Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of Harvard Observatory. It promises to help clear up a mystery which has puzzled astronomers. This mystery is that our sun seems to belong to an organization of stars immensely larger than any other star group.

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A Canadian Product



Prescott, first electric tug to be built in Canada, is launched at Lauzon, Que., a spot already famous in annals of Canadian shipbuilding.

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Growth of the Boy Scouts Revealed by World Survey

Membership Now Nearly 2,000,000, Forty-three Countries in All Being Represented

A world membership of nearly 2,000,000 with organizations in forty-three countries—comprising according to recent compilations of the International Scouting Bureau of London, made public by Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America. The report of the International Bureau also announces the admittance of the Boy Scouts of the Republic of Guatemala into the international organization, effective Nov. 22. This will bring the nations listed to forty-three. The figures of the report show that the Boy Scouts of America have the largest enrollment of any nation.

The new Guatemala Scout organization (Boy Scouts Guatemaltecos) have as their president, Dr. Lazaro Chacon, president of Guatemala, and as Chief Scout, Charles Cipriani.

Records of the Boy Scouts of America show that at the close of the year 1923 there was a total of 842,545 Scouts and leaders enrolled, an increase of 22,757 over the previous year.

Great Britain, with a total membership of 654,130 at the close of 1923, was the second largest of the Scout organizations, followed by Japan with a total membership of 49,611.

A Young Scout Marksmanship

Alfred R. King Jr., 15-year-old Boy Scout of Wichita Falls, Texas, is king of American trapshooters. The Texas boy made trap-shooting history when in a shoot-off with three veterans, all much older, he scored

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Humble Bumble Bee Technical Name Composed of Five Words—Small Fish Equally Burdened

A movement is on among scientists to simplify their cumbersome technical terms. It is under the leadership of a group of Cornell professors. Many scientific terms used today are almost too long and too unwieldy to be pronounced by the investigators themselves. In some cases, scientists giving public lectures have contented themselves by displaying the names of specimens on a screen, thus avoiding the problem.

One name against which a protest is raised is: *Cullimnombus allanifolvi senemori dushanqvi Shorikov*. It is long enough and big enough to be the name for a dinosaur. Instead, these five words constitute the name of a small, humble member of the bumble bee family. Even biologists have trouble with such a name.

The bumble bee is not an exceptional hard name. For instance, the name of a certain very small fish is: *Microstomus xiphioides*. A small crustacean bears the unwieldy name: *Paracalanus crassirostris*. A mollusk is named *Trachypoda* and a butterfly *Dryobolus*.