

Sea Scout with Byrd Makes Good, Is Given Praise by His Chief

When the ships of the Byrd Expedition arrive in the United States in June, one of the most interesting members will be Sea Scout Paul A. Siple, of Erie, Pa., youngest of the party, who has won highest commendation, from Admiral Byrd for the work he has done since the expedition left New York nearly two years ago.

Information to this effect was contained in a letter received by Myron C. Rybolt, scout executive of the North Shore Area council from the national scout offices in New York.

Is Eagle Scout

Sea Scout Siple, who is an Eagle scout, the highest rank which a scout may obtain was selected from among thousands of Boy Scouts at the invitation of then Commander Byrd, to be his personal aid. He sailed away from New York on August 25, 1928, the most invied boy in America, with a man-sized job to fill on one of the greatest exploration expeditions of all time. On Dec. 2, 1928, Siple, with the others of the husky group comprising the expedition party said goodbye and left Dunedin, New Zealand, the last port of call en route to the Antarctic.

Much has come back over the radio of what the expedition was doing as a whole, but little concerning any individuals, except the leaders. There have been only a few words, from time to time, of what the Sea scout was doing during the 14 bleak months on the ice. Such messages as did

come through however, were all to the effect that Siple had made good, splendidly. But it was left for Admiral Byrd to sum up the Sea scout's accomplishments a few days ago in a radio message to the Boy Scouts of America, as follows:

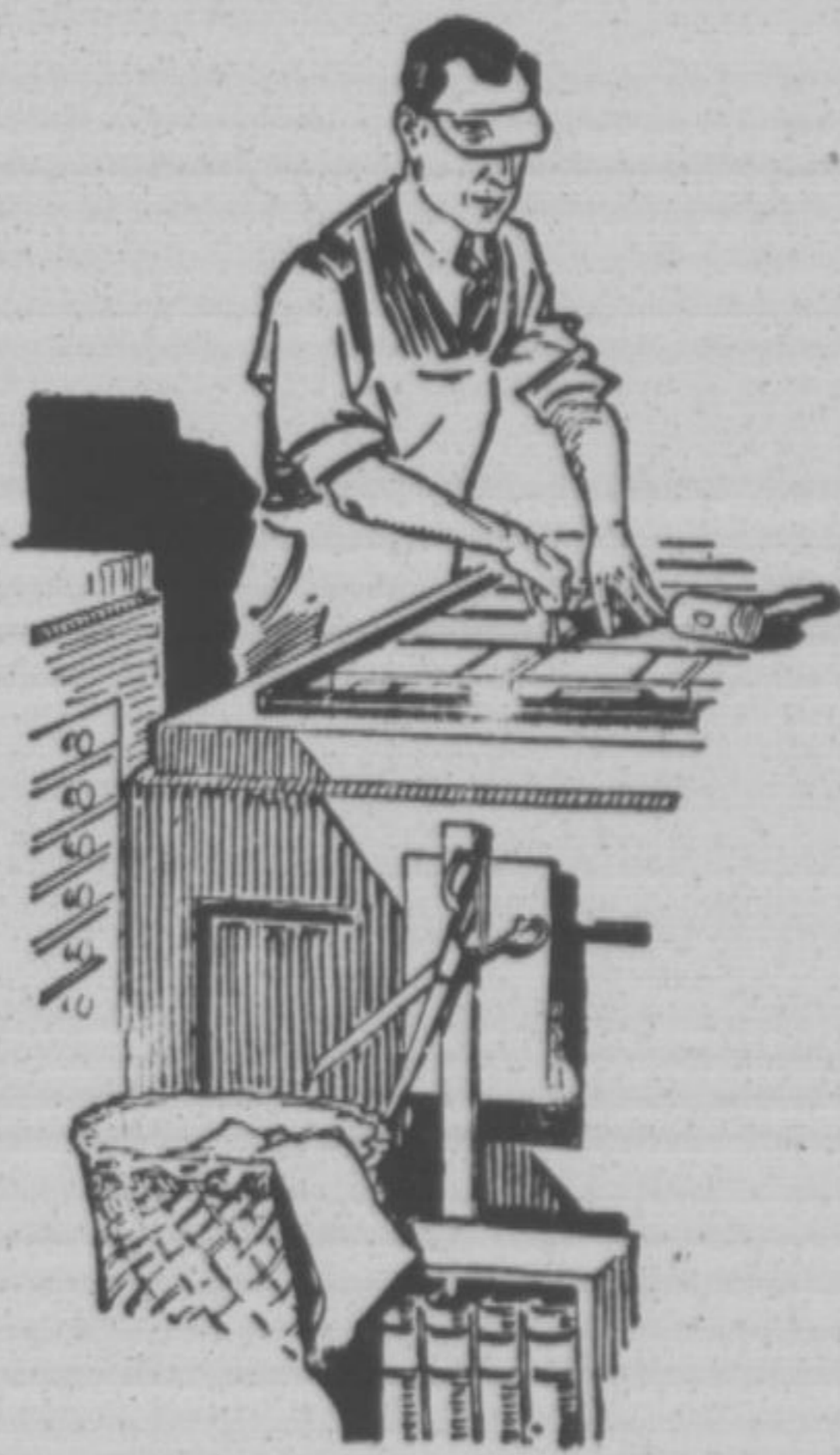
Byrd's Message

"Sea Scout Paul A. Siple took up his work in the expedition as a man among men. He stood regular deck watches on shipboard and turned himself into an able seaman on a full-rigged sailing vessel.

"At the base he was given a dog team to drive and soon learned to handle the dogs like a sourdough and soon went out on the trail. Paul was given the young pups to train and turned out a most useful team that answered many calls for odd jobs around camp. As zoologist he has worked diligently in getting specimens of Antarctic bird and animal life spending many hours in cleaning and preserving the skins. He has also done good work in taking depth

soundings in the Bay of Whales and has been a keen observer on his many pup team trips on the bay ice of animal life and of ice conditions. Along with the rest he has taken his turn at menial tasks such as shoveling snow, house duties, kitchen police and standing night watches. Paul is now on the whaler "Larsen" en route to Wellington in charge of live penguins that we are making an effort to bring back to the states and will rejoin ship in New Zealand." (Signed) Byrd.

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