

**LITTLE AMERICA AVIATION and EXPLORATION CLUB**  
 LITTLE AMERICA ANTARCTICA  
*With Byrd at the South Pole*  
 by C.A. Abell, Jr. President  
 U.S.N.R.

A Musical Comedy Bird!

ON BOARD THE BYRD FLAGSHIP, JACOB RUPPERT:— (Via Mackay Radio). "Today your lives were in the hands of God and the engine room. If either had failed, you would all be dead men tonight!"

This is what Commodore Gjersten told us at dinner tonight (December 26) and it made me realize more than anything that has happened since this trip began, what deadly realities we are up against.

For four days we have drifted around in the fog, half the time with a howling northwest gale trying to destroy us.

It is getting cold as the deuce. And if we had anybody less experienced and cautious than Commodore Gjersten, a small but amazingly forceful Norwegian ice expert, and Captain Verleger, Medical Officer leading our great G. O. Shirey ship through what must be the world's most dangerous waters, the gale would have accomplished its purpose against us—the gale and the icebergs. We have not been able to see more than three miles since last Friday and usually only a few hundred yards. And we've made only 56 miles since noon Saturday. Thousands of icebergs go plunging past us in the gloom—some of them five miles long, two or three miles wide and estimated at 1,000 feet or more from high tip to submerged bottom. If we ram our 11,000 ton ship into one of them or run over the submerged part of it—well, the Titanic did that, you know. Or if one of them rushes at us out of the invisible distance and crashes into the side of our ship, it will be just too bad. But our wise and able skippers know their stuff and are performing miracles of judgment and steersmanship every minute every day.

This morning, however, they met an enemy they hadn't counted on—water—water in the oil in the midst of our work of dodging these moving ice mountains, stopping to let them drift by, or dashing out of their way, the engine room reported that some water which had leaked into the starboard tank had risen through the oil, had been pumped under pressure to the burner nozzles and had extinguished the flames which keep us going by making our steam. By the time Chief Engineer Queen had switched to the port tank and had begun to revive our lost steam pressure, our ship had lost practically all of her headway and for more than an hour we drifted in a 50-mile gale almost

helpless. Then the steam returned and we resumed our game of tag with the strange moving city of ice. It made us think serious thoughts.

I have learned, to my surprise, that ice is a noisy thing. The waves, as they splash against these mammoth bergs, eat great holes in them, in which the plunging water roars in a thousand hollow keys. The smaller bergs and cakes, as they gallop by us or we push our way through "leads" in their tightly packed masses, give out strange growling sounds and the constant ringing of the bell signals from the bridge to the engine room, all help to make it anything but quiet around here.

Speaking of sounds, I had a funny experience today. I was leaning over the starboard deck rail looking at the restless sheet of ice as we ploughed through them. No one else was on deck. Suddenly, from some place off the ship, I heard a gruff voice yell: "Hey! Hey!" I saw nobody. Again it was repeated. I crossed to the port rail in time to hear the angry call right below me. And there on the ice was a small Adelle penguin, about 18 inches tall, running along on the drifts with a perfect Charlie Chaplin waddle, keeping up with the ship and turning his head every few seconds to look up at us angrily and cry, "Hey! Hey!" Just as a farmer might shout at boys stealing apples. He was protesting this steel monster blustering through his icy domain. And, as I watched him, he flopped over and started to toboggan along on his breast, pushing himself along frantically with his flippers and sculling with his feet. Then he became upright again, running alongside, glaring at us and yelling "Hey! Hey!" He was a scrawny little fellow.

We'll have Christmas. Gifts from the home folks—music—songs—a grand dinner with turkey and wonderful fixings. All our troubles forgotten for a few hours I hope all members of our club had as pleasant a Christmas and that we shall have a happy and interesting new year together. They tell me the maps we are sending to all members, without charge, will go to them in a few days now, so they can mark on them the wonderful flights and other exploration trips Admiral Byrd and others are going to make. If you're of high school age or over and aren't a member yet, you can become one right away, with no obligation of any kind, by writing me at the Little America Aviation and Exploration Club, Hotel Lexington, 48th Street and Lexington Ave., New York, N. Y., enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Boy Born Blind Regains Sight

Polk, Mo.—After nearly seven years of blindness, Loren Lockhart, seven, entered upon the happiest year of his life with the restoration of his sight recently at a Springfield, (Mo.) hospital, where treatment had been given him for three years.

Loren was born blind, with cataracts over both eyes, and it was not until he was four years old that an attempt was made to remedy the condition.

Delicate treatments were necessary and he was compelled to travel to the Springfield hospital from his home here many times before results became apparent.

The trips often were made alone.

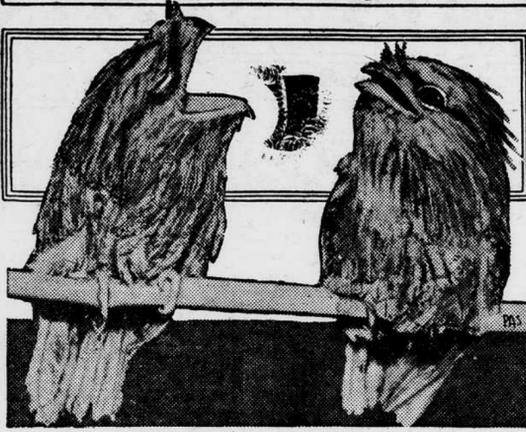
Take a Pinch of BLACK-DRAUGHT For Distress After Meals

He had suffered distress after meals, but by taking Theford's Black-Draught he was relieved of this trouble, writes Mr. Jess Higgins, of Dawsonville, Ga.

"I had sour stomach and gas," Mr. Higgins explains, "and often I would have bilious spells. I read about Theford's Black-Draught and began to take it. It relieved me of this trouble. I keep it all the time now. I consider it a fine medicine. I take a pinch of Black-Draught after meals when I need it. It helps to prevent sick headache and to keep the system in good order."

Now you can get Black-Draught in the form of a SYRUP, for children.

St. Louis Exhibits World's Ugliest Birds



ST LOUIS: . . . These two pals in the St. Louis zoo have the distinction of being the ugliest birds in the world. They are Australian "Frog-mouths" of the owl family, the first of their kind ever to be brought to America. The only others in captivity are in the London zoo.

Substitute Lespedeza For Other Legumes

The two hurricanes which swept over northwestern North Carolina last fall almost wiped out the commercial soybean crop. Cowpeas, also, are scarce and it is perhaps advisable for eastern growers to think of substituting lespedeza for these two popular summer growing legumes.

"Lespedeza seed also is scarce but less so than soybean and cowpeas," says Eno C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College who has been making a survey of the situation. "The lespedeza may be planted on small grain from February 1 to March 15 and those who plant spring oats might also scatter some lespedeza seed on the oats immediately after they are covered. In other cases, the lespedeza should be covered with a weeder, a section harrow or a brush drag. If sown in this way at the rate of 25 pounds to the acre, the crop will make as much hay as will soybeans or cowpeas except on extremely light, sandy soils."

Mr. Blair has found that there will be little surplus soybean seed to ship from the northeastern part of the State this Spring. Growers and dealers both concur in this statement and this is the section which supplies North Carolina with the bulk of its seed soybeans.

The shortage of cowpeas exists not only in this State but also in South Carolina and Georgia and the prices for seed are much higher than at this same time last year.

In view of this scarcity and high price farmers will do well to substitute a part of their normal acreage of soybeans and cowpeas with the more plentiful lespedeza, Blair believes.

MULES SENTENCED TO DIE

San Antonio, Texas—Five Fort Sam Houston mules, the last survivors of 172 mules which faithfully hauled supplies for General John J. Pershing's punitive expedition to Mexico in 1915, have been condemned to death because of their age. They are 29 years old.

Approximately 95 percent of the tobacco growers in Wilson County signed acreage contracts, says Farm Agent W. L. Adams.

OUR CHILD AND THE SCHOOL

By Dr. ALLEN G. IRELAND  
 Director, Physical and Health Education  
 New Jersey State Department of Public Instruction

Winter Sports

How well we all remember the winter days of our childhood, the snowball fights, the ice skating, the coasting, the long hikes through snowy country and the sleigh riding!

Winter sports time is again with us and every child has a right to those experiences which he will never forget no matter how long he lives.

The cold air of winter is stimulating and exhilarating and tends to increase activity. This in turn utilizes energy. The cold also uses body heat. Since both heat and energy come from food you may expect an increased appetite in the child in winter time and a craving for heavier, energy-producing foods.

Let children eat all they need but be sure the emphasis in the diet is upon growth promoting and protective foods such as milk, fruits and vegetables. Let the child have plenty of milk and milk dishes, together with cereals and occasional servings of meat in the form of stews, etc.

Winter time is sports time. Plenty of energy is required and should be provided.

Ventilation and health will be the subject of Dr. Ireland's next article.

ATTORNEY SENTENCED

Roanoke Rapids—E. A. Matthews, 42-year-old lawyer who was brought back here from Honolulu last November to face seven-year old charges of embezzlement, was given a sentence of four to eight years and was disbanded in superior court here.

Mexico Seeks Divorce Trade

Eric, Pa.—If they refuse you a divorce in Erie County, Mexico will be glad to sever the knot.

That was the gist of a letter received by Prothonotary James N. Wilson from a Mexican judge.

Not only is Mexico willing to grant divorces, but it's actually pleading for the business.

The letter was very frank and to the point. In it the jurist requested that Wilson forward him a list of names of persons refused divorces in Erie County.

The judge, the letter continued, would be pleased to grant each and every one of them a divorce.

PRISONER WON'T EAT

Denver—As long as his wife keeps him in jail Louis Nassau says he won't eat. And his wife says she will keep him there as long as possible—or until he starts supporting her. But Nassau claims he can't make any money at his tailoring trade in jail and therefore has no money for his wife. Jail officials are threatening forced feeding.

Cotton growers planting five acres or less may reduce their crop by two acres or grow no cotton at all this year and receive rental and parity payments for the reduction.

**AMAZE A MINUTE**  
 SCIENTIFACTS BY ARNOLD

**WORMS GOOD TURN!**  
 EARTHWORMS ENRICH THE TOPSOIL BY BRINGING TO THE SURFACE ANNUALLY AS MUCH AS 10 TONS OF EARTH IN AN ACRE OF GROUND, PERFORMING A VALUABLE SERVICE TO FARMERS.

**STRONGER THAN STEEL!**  
 A SPIDER'S THREAD, HAVING A MORE UNIFORM TEXTURE, IS STRONGER THAN A STEEL WIRE OF THE SAME SIZE.

**SHIVERING TO KEEP WARM!**  
 THE REGULAR MUSCLE MOVEMENTS IN SHIVERING PRODUCE HEAT WHICH TENDS TO WARM BODY.

UNUSUAL FACTS REVEALED—by "Movie Spotlight"

**FAY WRAY**  
 BEGAN HER MOTION PICTURE CAREER AS A TARGET FOR CUSTARD PIES!

**BILLIE SEWARD, ZIEGFELD FOLLIES BEAUTY**  
 WAS SELECTED FOR A ROLE BECAUSE OF HER GOOD LOOKS. SHE WAS CAST IN A PART WHICH DEMANDED THAT HER FACE BE SWATHED IN BANDAGES!

**RALPH BELLAMY'S**  
 FIRST THEATRICAL JOB WAS OPERATING A WIND MACHINE OFF STAGE!

**GO NEW BORN BABIES**  
 LESS THAN ONE WEEK OLD, WERE USED IN A SCENE IN "ONCE TO EVERY WOMAN"

'ICE NEEDLES' PIERCE FLESH

Cambridge, Mass.—That feeling of piercing needles when fingers ache during cold snaps is no imagination. The needles are real, microscopically small spears of ice which shoot through flesh and blood.

They were described to the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Dr. Paul A. Young of Montana State College. Although he has not applied his microscope to real things, he has watched the process in emulsions of petroleum which resemble human protoplasm.

"When fingers become too cold, needles of ice form in the flesh and puncture many of the cells and nerves."

Caldwell County farmers paid \$1,477.75 for enough red raspberry plants to plant 118 acres of land.

THE FACT FINDERS—AND THEIR DISCOVERIES

WELL, JEFF, IN ANOTHER HOUR OR SO WE'LL BE ALL LOADED UP AND READY TO SAIL AWAY TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS TO MAKE OUR DEEPEST PICTURE, "GOLD DIGGERS OF THE DEEP!"

AND THEY'RE NOT DONE LOADING YET!

SAIL HO, ME LADS—TAKE 'ER AWAY!

I'M WITH YA, MUTT! I'LL FOLLOW CLOSE BEHIND!

I WONDER WHAT'S BECOME OF JEFF? JUST AT THE THRILLING MOMENT HE SHT AROUND!

WE STILL GET LETTERS FROM BOYS & GIRLS BACK HOME WHO CUT & PASTE THESE ADVENTURES IN THEIR SCRAPBOOKS, PROFESSOR

THERE WAS A BELIEF AT ONE TIME, THAT IF YOU WANTED YOUR CHILD TO RISE IN THE WORLD IT MUST BE CARRIED UPSTAIRS THE DAY IT IS BORN....

A VILLAGE OF SOMOA IS MADE UP OF SOME 30 OR 40 HOUSEHOLDS & IS PRESIDED OVER BY A HEADMAN, CALLED MATAI....

A RICH SAVAGE HUSBAND BUYS QUANTITIES OF BRASS & COPPER WIRE & WINDS IT AROUND HIS FAVORITE WIFE'S LEGS. THE WEIGHT IS OFTEN INTOLERABLE BUT THE WIFE IS PLEASED....