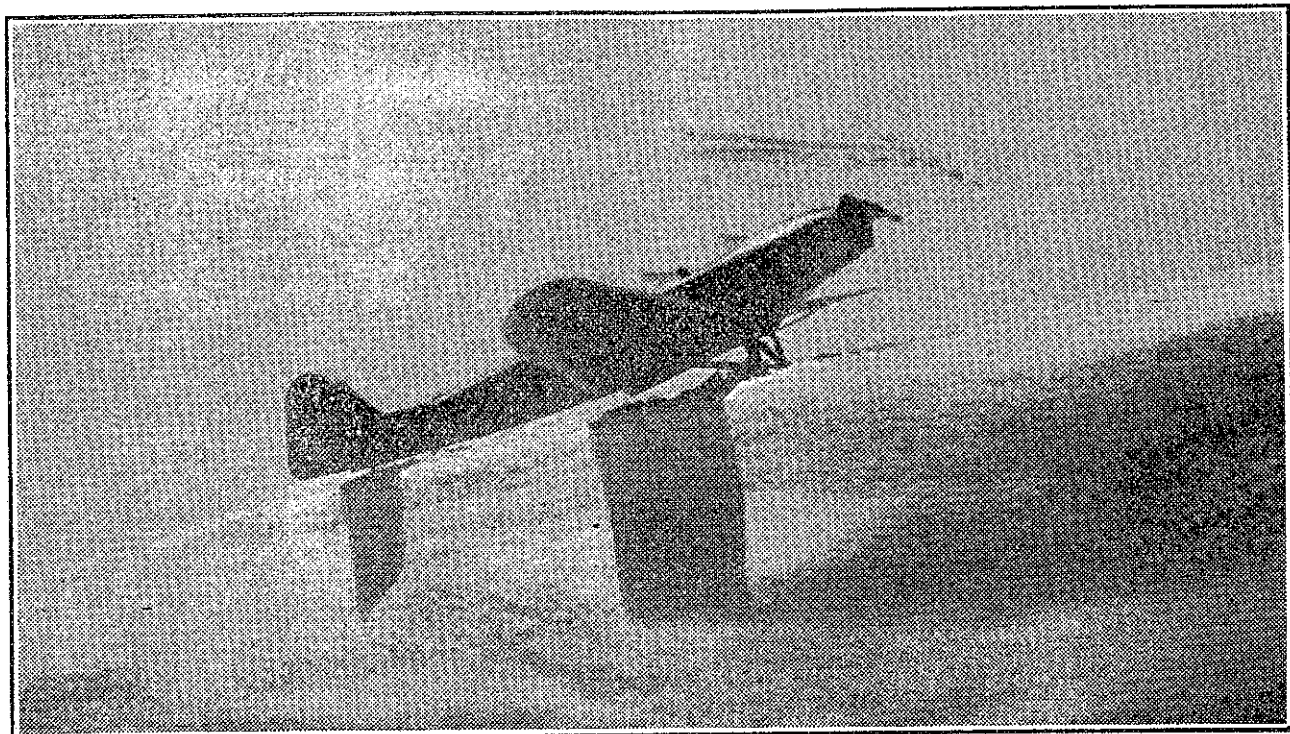


TREASURE TROVE



No Birds Fly There But The Winged Machines of Man!

THERE is a terrible fascination for men about the conquest of ice. Human lives lost on Everest, at the North and South Poles, and even on our own New Zealand snow mountains speak of it eternally.

There is also a terrible fascination for men in possessions—of wealth, power, and, even when it can be trapped, of beauty.

What if the two are joined? If there is a possibility for man of gaining great wealth and possessions of oil, gold, and other rich minerals in his conquest over ice? If the conquest of ice can be made to yield illimitable treasure?

THIS is the age-old question that has blazed up again in New Zealand and Australia this last week. And each man who reads of these hopes of the explorer, Sir Douglas Mawson, and the wealthy Lincoln Ellsworth, that they may drag the secrets of wealth from the ice, cannot but feel in himself a reaching out in the same direction of wonder—and hope.

The wonder of it thrills, the hope of it refuses to die. Some day, men say. . . .

The Search Begins

LATEST news is that the American explorer Ellsworth will leave for the Antarctic on board the Wyatt Earp on November 1 to find out whether there are oil and mineral deposits on Endeavour Island.

In Australia, men have been saying that the Governments of New Zealand and Britain and the Commonwealth should join together to develop these suspected riches.

If the minerals of Spitzbergen and Greenland can be worked, asks Sir Douglas Mawson, why not the minerals of Antarctica?

Captain Stanton, officer in Sir Douglas Mawson's Antarctic expedition, says that 30,000 to 40,000 men should be

ALLURING rumours of the untold wealth in gold and coal that lies under the white death that men call the Antarctic have blazed up again with the proposal of the Federal Government in Australia that Britain and New Zealand should co-operate in an expedition. In this interview, Bryan O'Brien, once radio artist to the second Byrd Antarctic expedition and now Editor of 2ZB's Young N.Z.'s Radio Journal Of The Air, tells of the insuperable difficulties ahead in the fight of men against the ice.

taken to Antarctica to develop the areas of wealth that lie under the ice.

IF such a scheme could work, New Zealand—the key-country to Antarctica—would have a future beyond the wildest

dreams of any of its pioneers.

The prospect is alluring, exciting . . . and, says the man who has been there, Bryan O'Brien, formerly radio artist with the second Byrd expedition and now of 2ZB, Wellington, utterly fantastic.

IT is some four years now since he cruised south into the ice-lands to the Bay of Whales, the port that gives a niggardly entry to the frozen lands of Antarctica.

"The cold?" he said. "It is not like cold as we have known it this last week in New Zealand. You don't really feel the sensation of cold there, you just feel pain. Pain in the screwed-up muscles of your face or in your fingers."

Light Under Ice

HE was one of the party of that expedition who first came overland from the Bay of Whales to Little America, the base that Byrd had set up there beneath the ice, five years before.

"That first night we got to Little America," he told me, "we went down a hole in the snow like a large rabbit-burrow to reach the kitchen, 20 feet below the surface of the ice."

"Pieces of wood had been hammered into the frozen ice and we let ourselves down the tunnel with ropes tied to the wood. We had our dinner of provisions that had been left in the kitchen five years before!"

THAT night they slept in the administration building of Little America 60 yards away from the kitchen. To get into it they went down a steep shaft, 20 feet in the pitch-dark and felt their way along a passage and