

Treasure Under Ice ANTARCTIC MINING

(Continued from page 11.)

But the Antarctic is sterile in both fauna and flora. The only thing that grows there is a low type of lichen.

AS for Greenland, he says that it is only partially within the Arctic Circle; it has an all-year-round population; many forms of animal life and flora; and in the south they have introduced sheep, goats and cattle on a small scale—a thing utterly unthinkable in the Antarctic.

In the Antarctic, says Bryan O'Brien, men must work in two pairs of thick mittens, the first of wool, the second of leather; the mittens have no finger-places.

That reduces the effectiveness of the hands by over 60 per cent. And the gloves must be worn all the time.

THEN there is the question of costs.

Captain Stanton, of the Mawson expedition, had suggested planting 30,000 to 40,000 men in the Antarctic.

The cost of the Byrd expedition, apart from all that was given for nothing, was 1,000,000 dollars to transfer 100 men down to the ice, to equip the ship and to provide for the ice party of 40-odd men to stay in the Antarctic during the winter. And instead of gold-mining, these men were doing scientific work which would not be nearly so costly as mining.

IT was easy to say take 30,000 men, said Bryan O'Brien, it was so easy to get them.

These men would be working in the most atrocious conditions, cut off from civilisation.

In the past, for Polar expeditions every man had been specially chosen for ice parties, chosen not only for his capabilities, but for his temperament as well.

In the Antarctic men live for long months in the closest possible association, with no outside distractions at all, and in conditions that would try a man of the most equable temperament.

"Personally, I think such a scheme would require a large police force to keep the men together," he says, "apart from hospitals and all the 101 things needed to keep such a large body of men in such a place."

HOW long are the men to be kept there? he asks. The ships could only call at that one period of two months of each year.

"My own opinion is," he told me, "that when the next supply ship returned to the Antarctic, after the first 12 months, you would find the whole personnel crowding on board in a body for home and that you would be left with nothing but machinery and works."

"If—and I do not believe it possible—high wages could induce the men to stay, they could not stay there and keep their sanity."

"The point has been made by Captain Stanton that there would be six months of continuous daylight. That, however, is balanced by six months of continuous night."

The Guiana Jungle Hears Radio

HOW would a native of the jungles who had never seen or heard a radio react to the phenomenon of producing strange music merely by turning a wooden knob or putting on earphones?

That was one of the things that intrigued members of the Terry-Holden Expedition in the interior of British Guiana, who were heard in a series of programmes recently in America. They tried the experiment on unsuspecting Wai-wai Indians. This is what happened when the earphones were clapped on the head of a ringleader:

There was blank amazement. His eyes moved first to the left and then to the right. When the earphones were taken off for a minute he still stood there. All this time there was never a word except those he heard through the earphones. He gave one final look around the shack and then turned on his heel. That was the last they saw of their Wai-wai friends.

Here is what happened when a little girl came with her mother to listen to the strange noises coming out of the receiver:

She looked first under the table, then up at the ceiling to find out where the voice was coming from. Then she went outside and looked up at the roof. Suddenly there was a loud wail.

And this is what occurred when Dr. William Hall Holden tried to explain radio to a group of Indians:

They listened and wondered. Dr. Holden pointed to the air, but the mystery became deeper. Finally, the microphone was taken as far afield as the line would allow and some natives spoke into it while others listened at the loudspeaker. As the meaning of these strange instruments began to penetrate, they talked, laughed and sang.

WHEN the Jacob Rupprecht, Byrd's main expedition ship, reached the pack ice, all the machinery was set in motion and had to be kept in motion for the full period of the stay of the ship. Otherwise it would have seized and disrupted.

Machinery, set in motion in the Antarctic, would have to be kept running all the time in the same way. Productive costs would consequently be enormous.

WHEN the Jacob Rupprecht put in at the Bay of Whales, Bryan O'Brien and all the members of the expedition had to transport supplies across the ice to Little America, only 7½ miles from the Bay. The task took them two months and it had to be done in that time to clear the ship so that she might get away before she was crushed by the winter ice. The work left the men utterly exhausted.

How, he asks, could an expedition transport the heavy machinery to extract gold and coal from the Queen Maude ranges hundreds of miles away? How would they transport their supplies and equipment?

Why FAIR HAIR needs more care than DARK HAIR

Scientists say that fair-haired girls have 17% more sex appeal than brunettes.

But how many fair-haired girls know how to keep their hair beautiful?

If you will look closely at two-stands of hair, you will see that dark hair is coarse and strong; fair hair, fine and delicate. But there's another more important difference. In every strand of fair hair there is a precious vitamin which gives it its softness and light. Yet every day some fair-haired girls use the same shampoos as brunettes. No wonder the lovely lights in their hair soon fade.

What they need is Sta-blond, the shampoo made specially for fair hair. Sta-blond contains ViteF, the same vitamin which Nature puts in all fair hair, and which ordinary shampoos wash away. That's why Sta-blond not only prevents fair hair from darkening, but brings back the true golden beauty of childhood to hair grown mousy or dull.

If you want a bleach, don't buy Sta-blond; but if you want to keep your hair lovely and light in colour as Nature intended, Sta-blond's the only shampoo to use.

Have you tried Sta-blond Wave-Set yet? It doesn't leave the hair sticky, dries quickly and actually lightens fair hair.

STAY FAIR WITH **STA-BLOND**



USED BROOM AS A CRUTCH

Popular far and wide is mine host Syd Overend, of the Yaldhurst Hotel, near Christchurch. A few months ago he was hobbling around in agony with Lumbago and Gout, using a broom as a crutch. He says "one packet of R.U.R. completely cured me and I now feel ten years younger. If you know of any 'doubting Thomas' send him along to see for himself." R.U.R. is sold with a money back guarantee for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuritis, Sciatica and Gout.