

SCOTT AND HIS PARTY PERISH IN A BLIZZARD

South Pole Explorers Are Overwhelmed While Returning from Their Expedition.

NEW ZEALAND TELLS OF FATE

They Had Arrived at Their Goal in the Antarctic Ocean on Jan. 18, 1912.

(By Associated Press.)

Oamaru., N. Z., Feb. 10.—Capt. Robert F. Scott and his party were overwhelmed by a blizzard on their return journey from the south pole. The entire party perished.

They reached the south pole Jan. 18, 1912.

The news of the appalling disaster which befell Capt. Scott and his com-



Capt. Robert F. Scott, leader of the ill-fated explorers.

panions reached this port by a signaled message from the Terra Nova, the vessel which had carried the explorer and his expedition to the Antarctic and which late last year went once again to the south to bring him and his companions back.

Landed Where Amundsen Did.

Capt. Scott's party reached the exact point where Roald Amundsen planted the Norwegian flag at the south pole. They found there the hut constructed and left behind by Amundsen's party.

These facts were recorded in the documents found on the bodies of the dead explorers when they were recovered.

London, Feb. 10.—The death of Capt. Robert F. Scott and the whole of his party who took part in the south polar expedition is reported in a news agency dispatch received here today from New Zealand.

The Terra Nova sailed on June 1, 1910, for New Zealand and the south pole. It was joined by Capt. Robert F. Scott a few days later at Cardiff.

The expedition consisted of twenty-eight officers and scientists in addition

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to a crew of twenty-three picked men from the British royal navy.

Reports were current at the time the Terra Nova sailed for the Antarctic on Dec. 14, 1912, to bring back the Scott party that some of the members of the relief expedition had expressed grave doubts as to whether Capt. Scott and his fellow explorers would ever return. No reason was given for these doubts, but they were freely bruited abroad.

Mrs. Scott left London five weeks ago for New Zealand to meet her husband there.

Sent Last Message.

The last word received from Capt. Scott himself was brought by the commander of the Terra Nova from the southern ice regions when she returned to Akaroa, N. Z., on March 31 last year.

The brief message was in Capt. Scott's own handwriting and said:

"I am remaining in the antarctic for another winter in order to continue and complete my work."

Capt. Scott had shortly before sent back a report to his base at McMurdo sound showing that on Jan. 3, 1912, he had reached a point 150 miles from the pole and was advancing toward his destination.

Perished on Homeward Trip.

The dispatch from Oamaru, N. Z., this morning shows that in fifteen days he covered the remaining 150 miles, having traveled at the rate of ten miles a day. It was on his return that he and his party were overwhelmed by one of the terrific blizzards so prevalent in the antarctic region.

The date of Capt. Scott's attainment of the south pole, Jan. 18, 1912, shows that he reached the goal of his expedition almost exactly one month after Capt. Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer. Capt. Amundsen's report sent to King Haakon of Norway read:

"Pole attained 14th-17th December, 1911. All well."

This is said to be the reason for the arrival of his vessel, the Terra Nova, in New Zealand a month earlier than expected.

Capt. Scott's main traveling party was to consist of sixteen men besides himself, while groups of four men each were to return at different stages of the journey, leaving Scott and four others to complete the final dash to the pole.

This would indicate that some members of the party who had been left at the various bases were not included among the victims of the disaster and that it was they who communicated to the world the fate of the expedition.

Expedition Well Equipped.

The expedition under Capt. Scott was the best equipped that had ever been gathered together for such an adventure. It sailed from Port Chalmers, near Christchurch, New Zealand, on Nov. 29, 1910. The Terra Nova made direct south into Ross sea. Early in January, 1911, it forced its way into McMurdo sound, where winter quarters were established on Cape Evans.

Provisions for a three years' stay in the ice regions had been taken on board the Terra Nova and these were placed on shore.

Capt. Scott had with him twenty Siberian ponies, thirty dogs and two motorsleds.

It was arranged to cover ten miles a day and it is believed this scheme was carried out up to the moment they reached the pole.

The report of Capt. Scott was destined not to be received by the waiting world until after his death. No details had come to hand this morning as to how the records of Capt. Scott were found, but that he arrived at the pole on that date mentioned was definitely known.

Among Those Perished.

The principal members of the expedition besides Capt. Scott were:

Lieut. G. R. Evans, R. N., second in command; Dr. E. A. Wilson, chief of the scientific staff, zoologist and artist;

Lieut. V. L. Campbell, R. N., leader of the eastern party; Lieut. H. L. L. Ponnell, R. N., magnetic and meteorological work; Lieut. H. E. De'Prennick, R. N., of the western party; Lieut. H. R. Bowers, Royal Indian marines, engineer;

Lieut. E. W. Riley, R. N., surgeon; G. M. Levick, R. N., physician and zoologist; E. L. Atkinson, R. N., surgeon, bacteriologist; F. R. H. Drake, R. N., secretary.

C. H. Meares, in charge of ponies and dogs for the western party; Capt. L. E. G. Oates, also physician, of the western party; T. Griffith Taylor, geologist; J. W. Nelson, biologist of the western party; D. G. Lillie, biologist.

A. C. Perry Garrard, zoologist of the western party; L. G. Ponting, photographer of the western party; B. C. Day, motor engineer of the western party; W. G. Thompson, geologist of the western party; C. S. Wright, chemist of the western party.

Boatswain T. Feather, in charge of sledging outfit; Boatswain A. Cheatham of the Terra Nova; W. Williams, engineer of the Terra Nova; A. L. Ashley, assistant engineer western party; Chief Steward W. Archer of the Terra Nova.

Mrs. Scott, now tragically the widow of the British antarctic explorer, though she is yet probably unaware of his fate, sailed from San Francisco Jan. 5 for New Zealand, expecting to meet her husband there. Just before her departure she said in an interview that she had not heard from him in eighteen months, but she was confident he would reach New Zealand safely.

Mrs. Scott sailed on the Aorangi, whose first port of call is Papeete, Tahiti.

There is no cable to that point and as the ship will not touch any cable point until she reaches the antipodes, it is improbable that Mrs. Scott will learn of her husband's death until she reaches New Zealand, although efforts are being made to reach the Aorangi by wireless.

Christ Church, N. Z., Feb. 10.—The antarctic steamer Terra Nova, supposed to have on board Capt. Robert F. Scott and members of his south polar expedition, did not stop at Oamaru, as was reported yesterday, but merely signaled as she passed.

The Terra Nova is proceeding to the port of Lyttleton, where it is expected to arrive Thursday.

News Shocks Admiral Peary.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., retired, who received a gold medal and the thanks of congress as the first man to attain the north pole, said when he received today the news of the death of Capt. Scott and his companions:

"The news comes to me as a terrible shock. Mrs. Scott and the wives and relatives of the brave men who perished with Capt. Scott and the whole British nation have my deepest, sincerest and most heartfelt sympathy and condolence."