THE STOLL–McCRACKEN SIBERIAN–ARCTIC EXPEDITION

AN expedition, to be known as the Stoll-McCracken Siberian-Arctic Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, is preparing to explore new lands on the Arctic coast of Siberia and collect flora and fauna for the museum.

The expedition will be financed and directed by Charles H. Stoll, a New York lawyer and sportsman, and led by Harold McCracken, associate editor of *Field and Stream,* who has spent five years in the Arctic and who is known as a photographer of wild animals. He spent two years at the head of an Ohio State University expedition in Alaska. Captain Robert A. Bartlett, commander of the *Roosevelt* when Admiral Peary reached the North Pole, will command the expedition's vessel, the *Morrissey,* which was used during the past two years by George Palmer Putnam on expeditions to Greenland and Baffin Land.

Other members of the expedition include Dr. H. E. Anthony, curator of mammals of the American Museum of Natural History; R. B. Potter, of the museum staff, and Edward Namley, of Marietta, Ohio, operator of the *Morrissey* radio.

The search for the natural mummies of the post-glacial period will be one of the objectives of the expedition. The party will explore Czar Nicholas II Land, an island of unknown size north of Cape Chelyuska off the coast of Asiatic Siberia, about 600 miles south of the Pole. It will study the economic possibilities of Kamchatka, which is rich in timber, coal, gold, lead, zinc and other minerals, and in grazing lands. But it will be concerned chiefly in hunting for the museum specimens of animals and birds of the north.

The expedition will sail north from Seattle about April 1. Captain Bartlett left on December 8 for Sydney, N. S., to bring the *Morrissey* to New York to be outfitted for the journey. He will then sail through the Panama Canal to Seattle to await the party.

The exploration will last about six or seven months. The *Morrissey* will sail from Seattle by the inside passage to Kodiak, Alaska, and thence to Unimak Island on the western end of the Alaska peninsula. The next stop will be Kamchatka, whence the journey will be up the Siberian coast and, when the weather permits, through the Behring Straits to the Arctic coast near the mouth of the Kolima River, where collections will be made.

THE NEW ALLEGHENY FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION

THE choice of Philadelphia as headquarters for the Allegheny Forest Experiment Station of the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture, has been announced by Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine. The headquarters of the station are being established in cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania, and offices will be furnished by the university, under an agreement signed by Provost J. H. Penniman, of the university, and Colonel W. B. Greeley, chief of the U. S. Forest Service. Secretary Jardine made the following statement:

> Selection of headquarters for the Allegheny Station marks the beginning of active work on the part of a new forest research unit of the Department of Agriculture. Although Philadelphia has been chosen as headquarters because of its central location and the stimulus to our work resulting from cooperation with a scientific institution of international repute, the field work of the station will be conducted at various centers in the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware. In establishing such centers of field work, or branch stations, we have the advantage of cordial offers of cooperation from a number of organizations and educational institutions, prominent among them being the state agricultural colleges.
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> The forest experiment station will be interested in nearly every phase of timber-growing, such as thinning and similar measures for stimulating growth, reforestation by natural methods as well as by planting, rate of growth of tree species, and protection of the forest against its many enemies. The station is fortunate in starting its work in a territory where the states have done exceptionally good work in forestry. The forest services of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland have been at work for years, and although the greater part of their effort has necessarily been devoted to fire protection, the management of state forests, and similar matters outside of the field of forest research, they have made substantial progress in this field as well.
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> Some idea of the extent of the forest problems in this territory may be gained from a comparison of the lumber production and consumption of the four states concerned. A combined production of about 400,000,000 board feet is scarcely one eighth of the combined consumption. Yet there are in these four states over 18,000,000 acres of forest land which once bore as fine a forest of hardwoods, white pine, and hemlock as grew anywhere in the United States. The original forest has been practically all cut to meet the demands for wood of manufacturing, mining and agricultural industries. Forest replacement on hundreds of thousands of acres has been very inadequate, because of close cutting and fires. The scrub oak lands of Pennsylvania, and the ragged pine stands of southern New Jersey, to mention two outstanding examples only, are a challenge to the skill of the forester. Only painstaking study can give us the basis for the rehabilitation of such forests.

The staff of the experiment station will consist of seven persons at the start. Those appointed to date consist of R. D. Forbes, director, formerly director of the Southern Forest Experiment Station at New Or-