

RADIO PUTS END TO DREARNESS OF ARCTIC REGION

McMillan Tells of Hearing Voices of Folk at Home.

By N.E.A. Service
WISCASSET, Maine, Oct. 7.—Radio has added another scalp to its belt. It has conquered the monotony of a winter on an iceberg.

During the long winter months when their eighty-five-foot schooner, the Bowdoin, lay trapped in frozen waters, the crew of Donald B. McMillan, arctic explorer, had plenty of time to reflect over their lives. The Bowdoin has just put back into this port after fourteen months in the North regions.

"I can tell you this, that the faces and talk of six other men, closely quartered, get mighty monotonous," McMillan says good-naturedly.

"But we had plenty to think about this time. The radio gave us that."

"We heard concerts from Chicago, Omaha, Los Angeles, Catalina, San Francisco and Prince Rupert Island. Every day our radio operator, Donald Mix, posted a news bulletin, for he was able to hear press reports from stations in England and Germany, particularly POZ in Germany.

Coast Interferes

"It is interesting to note that we were never able to get stations along the Atlantic, probably because their broadcasting would have to come to us along a seaboard. Scientists say radio doesn't travel along a coast line."

"I can tell you," McMillan adds, "it was a real thrill for us, isolated in the seemingly endless ice regions, to hear our relatives' voices when they were broadcast from Chicago."

During the summer months, when there is no darkness of night, McMillan explained that there was little or no satisfaction in the radio.

"Just as it is here at home, the radio is more effective at night than during the sunny days," he says.

"But during the winter we depended on the radio to divert us and to give us something to talk about."

Natives Unmoved

The Eskimos didn't get nearly as excited over the Bowdoin's radio as they did over its movies.

"Not being acquainted with other parts of the world it did not strike the Eskimos as much of a marvel to hear voices and music and noises come through a loud-speaker horn. But when we set our mainsail for a movie screen and projected news weeklies, comedies and feature pictures they were driven to convulsions of laughter."

"When we showed them pictures of Eskimos, which we had taken on our previous trip, they were dumbfounded, for among the pictured men

The Voice From WFI



CITIES CAN'T LIMIT RADIO, IS OPINION

Government Says This Is Right of Congress.

By N.E.A. Service
WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Attempts of various cities to regulate the use of radio within their limits have been construed as unconstitutional by Government officials in the capital.

This opinion, which was anticipated by Secretary of Commerce Hoover at the radio conference in this city in March of 1923, when he stated specifically that "the Government owns the ether," is the outcome of a peculiar legal entanglement that threatened at one time to set local city and State authorities at variance with the Federal Government. It was finally made clear to those interested that no lower regulatory body can govern any subject already regulated by Congress.

Last year, when the radio season was in full swing, one State was on the point of creating the office of "State radio inspector" and a number of cities were giving serious consideration to the matter of prescribing how and when the ether should be used. Their only authority for so doing was the so-called "police power," which State charters confer on them for the abatement of nuisances that endanger the health, morals or prosperity of a community.

That this special authority should be interpreted as covering the subject of radio communication was regarded by the legally informed as being little short of humorous, and practically all cities where such agitation had cropped out hastily pulled in their horns and ruled out proposed ordinances of this nature.

A simple detector circuit with such coils has only one control, that of the variable condenser.

Once the primary and secondary low-loss tuners are fixed, there is no longer need of tampering with them to tune in a station. The condenser does that.

The tapped inductance, the ratio-coupler or varometer has given way to the honey-comb primary and secondary, the basket weave, diamond weave, spiderweb or similar type of winding. For it has been definitely established that there is a minimum of loss in so doing.

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