
FOREWORD

BY REAR ADMIRAL RICHARD E. BYRD, U.S.N.
(RETIRED)

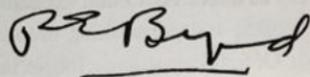
IN PLANNING a Polar expedition, careful, thoroughgoing, and painstaking preparation is a first essential. Of first importance, too, in this first essential, is the quality of the men who make up the personnel. They must be physically sound, mentally alert, and morally poised—sound in body to endure almost unendurable hardships, alert in mind to meet the constantly recurring crises, and morally poised to establish and maintain that confidence and co-operation within the group that are imperative in an enterprise of this kind.

Joe Hill, Jr., was the youngest man in my Second Antarctic Expedition, having barely attained the age of twenty at the time of our departure. He served as my orderly on the way down and back. He was a tractor-driver on the ice, having traveled hundreds of frozen miles around, over, and through treacherous and almost bottomless crevasses and in temperatures as low, at times, as 64° below zero. He stood the test. He is one of the best men I have ever had on any of my expeditions. With admirable patience and fidelity to duty

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In Little America with Byrd

and with all the courage that the occasion demanded he did his part to help make the expedition a success. This story of his experiences, as told in this little volume by him and his mother, will charm all who like youthful adventure, and will not fail to inspire every American youth who reads it.



"Nature has a curious way of working seemingly aimlessly and to no apparent purpose; then at the right moment something happens and all the disconnected and remote things fly together, forming a significant design."

C. J. V. MURPHY

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