

RESEARCH PACKET

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chomolungma

EVEREST

**If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer earth concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once her flower to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.**

**The Soldier
Rupert Brooke
1915**

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HISTORY



WORLD HISTORY BRIEF

1900

- Hurricane ravages Galveston, Tex.; 6,000–8,000 dead.
- Fauvist movement in painting begins, led by Henri Matisse.
- Sigmund Freud's *The Interpretation of Dreams*.
- Carrie Chapman Catt succeeds Susan B. Anthony as president of National Woman Suffrage Association.

1901

- Queen Victoria dies, and is succeeded by her son, Edward VII.
- As President McKinley begins second term, he is shot fatally by anarchist Leon Czolgosz.
- Theodore Roosevelt sworn in as successor.

1902

- Enrico Caruso's first gramophone recording.
- Aswan Dam completed.

1903

- Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, fly first powered, controlled, heavier-than-air plane at Kitty Hawk, N.C.
- Henry Ford organizes Ford Motor Company.
- The Boston Red Sox win the first World Series against the Pittsburgh Pirates.
- W.E.B. Du Bois publishes *The Souls of Black Folk*.

1904

- Russo-Japanese War begins—competition for Korea and Manchuria.
- *Entente Cordiale*: Britain and France settle their international differences.
- General theory of radioactivity by Rutherford and Soddy.
- New York City subway opens.

1905

- In Russo-Japanese War, Port Arthur surrenders to Japanese; Russia suffers other defeats.
- President Roosevelt mediates Treaty of Portsmouth, N.H., which recognizes Japan's control of Korea and restores southern Manchuria to China.
- The Russian Revolution of 1905 begins on “Bloody Sunday” when troops fire onto a defenseless group of demonstrators in St. Petersburg. Strikes and riots follow.
- Sailors on battleship *Potemkin* mutiny; reforms, including first Duma (parliament), established by Czar Nicholas II's “October Manifesto.”



- Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity and other key theories in physics.
- Franz Lehar's *Merry Widow*.

1906

- San Francisco earthquake and three-day fire; more than 500 dead.
- Roald Amundsen, Norwegian explorer, fixes magnetic North Pole.

1907

- Second Hague Peace Conference, of 46 nations, adopts 10 conventions on rules of war.
- Financial panic of 1907 in U.S.
- Mahler begins work on "Song of the Earth."
- Oklahoma becomes 46th state.
- Picasso's *Les Femmes d'Alger* introduces cubism.

1908

- Earthquake kills 150,000 in southern Italy and Sicily.
- U.S. Supreme Court, in *Danbury Hatters' case*, outlaws secondary union boycotts.
- Model T produced by Ford Motor Company.

1909

- North Pole reportedly reached by American explorers Robert E. Peary and Matthew Henson.
- The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is founded in New York by prominent black and white intellectuals and led by W.E.B. Du Bois.

1910

- Boy Scouts of America incorporated.
- Angel Island, in San Francisco Bay, becomes immigration center for Asians entering U.S.

1911

- First use of aircraft as offensive weapon in Turkish-Italian War. Italy defeats Turks and annexes Tripoli and Libya.
- Chinese Republic proclaimed after revolution overthrows Manchu dynasty. Sun Yat-sen named president.
- Mexican Revolution: Porfirio Diaz, president since 1877, replaced by Francisco Madero.
- Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in New York; 146 killed.
- Amundsen reaches South Pole.



- Ernest Rutherford discovers the structure of the atom.
- Richard Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*.
- Irving Berlin's *Alexander's Ragtime Band*.

1912

- Balkan Wars (1912–1913) resulting from territorial disputes: Turkey defeated by alliance of Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece, and Montenegro; London peace treaty (1913) partitions most of European Turkey among the victors.
- In second war (1913), Bulgaria attacks Serbia and Greece and is defeated after Romania intervenes and Turks recapture Adrianople.
- *Titanic* sinks on maiden voyage; over 1,500 drown.
- New Mexico and Arizona admitted as states.

1913

- Suffragists demonstrate in London.
- Garment workers strike in New York and Boston; win pay raise and shorter hours.
- Henry Ford develops first moving assembly line.
- 16th Amendment (income tax) and 17th (popular election of U.S. senators) adopted. Bill creating U.S. Federal Reserve System becomes law.
- Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*.
- Woodrow Wilson becomes 28th U.S. president.
- Armory Show introduces modern art to U.S.;
- Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* shocks public.

1914

- World War I begins: Austria declares war on Serbia; Germany on Russia and France; Britain on Germany.
- Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand and wife Sophie assassinated in Sarajevo by Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip.
- Panama Canal is officially opened after 10 years of construction.

1915

- British oceanliner *Lusitania* sunk by German submarine, 1,195 perish.
- Second Battle of Ypres is fought. Background: World War I
- Genocide of estimated 600,000 to 1 million Armenians by Turkish soldiers.

1916

- Battle of Verdun is fought. Battle of the Somme follows in July.



- Pershing fails in raid into Mexico in quest of rebel Pancho Villa.
- Easter Rebellion in Ireland put down by British troops.

1917

- First U.S. combat troops arrive in France as U.S. declares war on Germany (April 6).
- Third Battle of Ypres is fought.
- World-wide influenza pandemic strikes; by 1920, nearly 20 million are dead. In U.S. alone, 500,000 perish.
- Dutch dancer Mata Hari is convicted and executed as a German spy.
- Government offices are seized and the Romanov's Winter Palace is stormed in Russian October Revolution.

1918

- Russian revolutionaries execute the former czar and his family. Russian Civil War between Reds (Bolsheviks) and Whites (anti-Bolsheviks); Reds win in 1920.
- Allied troops (U.S., British, French) intervene in Russia (March).
- Second Battle of the Marne (July-Aug.)
- German Kaiser abdicates (Nov.); hostilities cease on the Western Front.
- Japanese hold Vladivostok until 1922.
- Worldwide Spanish influenza epidemic strikes; by 1920, nearly 20 million are dead. In U.S. alone, 500,000 perish.

1919

- Versailles Treaty, incorporating Woodrow Wilson's draft Covenant of League of Nations, signed by Allies and Germany; rejected by U.S. Senate.
- 18th Amendment (Prohibition) adopted.
- Mahatma Gandhi initiates Satyagraha campaigns, beginning his nonviolent resistance movement against British rule in India.

1920

- League of Nations established -holds first meeting at Geneva, Switzerland.
- U.S. Dept. of Justice "red hunt" nets thousands of radicals; aliens deported.
- Women's suffrage (19th) amendment ratified. Women Granted the Right to Vote in U.S.
- Treaty of Sèvres dissolves Ottoman Empire.
- Bubonic Plague in India
- First Commercial Radio Broadcast Aired



- Harlem Renaissance Begins
- Prohibition Begins in the U.S.
- Pancho Villa Retires

1921

- Reparations Commission fixes German liability at 132 billion gold marks. German inflation begins.
- Major treaties signed at Washington Disarmament Conference limit naval tonnage and pledge to respect territorial integrity of China.
- In U.S., Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, Italian-born anarchists, convicted of armed robbery murder; case stirs worldwide protests; they are executed in 1927.
- "Fatty" Arbuckle Scandal
- Extreme Inflation in Germany
- Irish Free State Proclaimed
- Lie Detector Invented

1922

- Mussolini marches on Rome; forms Fascist government.
- Irish Free State, a self-governing dominion of British Empire, officially proclaimed.
- Kemal Atatürk, founder of modern Turkey, overthrows last sultan.
- James Joyce's *Ulysses*.
- Insulin Discovered
- Kemal Atatürk Founds Modern Turkey
- Tomb of King Tut Discovered
- Michael Collins Killed in Ambush
- *The Reader's Digest* Published

1923

- Adolf Hitler's "Beer Hall Putsch" in Munich fails; in 1924 he is sentenced to five years in prison where he writes *Mein Kampf*; released after eight months.
- Occupation of Ruhr by French and Belgian troops to enforce reparations payments.
- Widespread Ku Klux Klan violence in U.S.
- Earthquake destroys third of Tokyo.
- George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.
- Bessie Smith, known as "the Empress of the Blues," makes her first record.
- Irish poet William Butler Yeats wins Nobel Prize in Literature.
- Charleston Dance Becomes Popular
- Talking Movies Invented



- Teapot Dome Scandal
- *Time* Magazine Founded

1924

- Death of Lenin; Stalin wins power struggle, rules as Soviet dictator until death in 1953.
- Italian Fascists murder Socialist leader Giacomo Matteotti.
- Interior Secretary Albert B. Fall and oilmen Harry Sinclair and Edward L. Doheny are charged with conspiracy and bribery in the Teapot Dome scandal, involving fraudulent leases of naval oil reserves. In 1931, Fall is sentenced to year in prison; Doheny and Sinclair acquitted of bribery.
- Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb convicted in “thrill killing” of Bobby Franks in Chicago; defended by Clarence Darrow; sentenced to life imprisonment. (Loeb killed by fellow convict in 1936; Leopold paroled in 1958, dies in 1971.)
- Robert Frost wins first of four Pulitzers.
- First Olympic Winter Games
- J. Edgar Hoover Appointed FBI Director
- Leopold and Loeb Murder a Neighbor Out of Boredom
- V.I. Lenin Dies

BRITISH-INDIA 1919-1924

Brits brought railways and canals to India.

Opened up the wilderness and transformed it into tea gardens and plantations.

British enjoyed 200 years of rule - building palaces and monuments in India

The viceroy representative of king emperor headed the government known as British India.

Life was good for few thousand Brits that ran the country.

The Indian army was largest of the British Empire. Most officers were British and white and the troops were Indian.

Rule in the country relied on the district officers. These district officers



were young men in their 20s who were in charge of areas as large as British colonies.

A lot of governing work was also carried out by Indian officials and business men.

Indian princes governed the rest of India, but all agreed to British control over defense, foreign policy, communication and trade. In return, the Indian princes ran their states as they wished. Most princes were very rich. The Indian princes ran about 600 states. They had their own private armies, mainly for show. Princes and large land owners were regarded as friends and allies by the Brits.

The life of 350 million Indians was very difficult. They were very poor, forced to work very hard, long hours, and for the most part in agriculture.

Majority of Indians faced extreme poverty in overcrowded cities.

Religion was a powerful force. 2/3 of the population were Hindus. Hindus would travel hundreds of miles to purify themselves in the sacred waters of the Ganges. There were many Hindu festivals, celebrated with offerings and song and dance.

In the 1920s, India saw the emergence of three men who were to have a huge impact on the future of India: Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, Muhammed Jinnah.

Gandhi was the leader of Congress party. He believed in a simple life. He stood up for the average Indian. Educated in London, having witnessed life of apartheid in South Africa, he returned to India to bring about a peaceful revolution. He believed that all Indians should be free and self-governing. He fought against the caste system. The famous salt march was led by Gandhi as a reaction to the salt taxed by government, making it too expensive for the poor. Gandhi led people to the sea where they could make their own salt.

Gandhi persuaded many of his followers to use non-violent protests. They had sit-down strikes, they refused to work, they refused to pay their taxes etc. If the British reacted in a heavy-handed manner, it only made the British look worse; essentially, the British would come across as bullies enforcing their rule on the bullied. However, there were those in India who wanted to use more extreme measures.

Part of the 1919 Government of India Act stated that a commission would

be established after 10 years to assess whether India could/should have more self-rule. This first met in 1928 – the Simon Commission.

The Indian army remained loyal to the British for years and fought in many parts of the world. (Later, in 1941 – when the Japanese entered the war - Victorian armies posted).

World War I had changed much and the British empire was suffering. India was in a mess. 2.5 million Indians who had served Brits in trenches returned home expecting to be rewarded for loyalty to the crown. Instead the raj extended the laws that had suspended civil liberties during the war. Mohandas Gandhi called for a one day strike, boycotting British manufactured goods and peaceful noncooperation. These peaceful protests only sparked violence.

In April 1919 in Amritsar, Punjab an English missionary, a white woman, was brutally attacked and injured. In retribution the British military commander General Dyer ordered all Indians passing the area where the assault took place, to crawl on their hands and knees. This only brought about great humiliation to the Indian population.

In defiance of martial law protesters gathered at Jallianwala Bagh near the Golden Temple. Furious at the affront – General Dyer ordered 90 baluchis and gurkas into the square and ordered them to open fire without warning and no mercy. A British soldier armed with a .303 lee-enfield rifle was trained to hit a target 300 yards away fifteen times a minute, many could double this rate. Dyer had commanded them to fire at point-blank range into a dense crowd - single bullets passed through several bodies. 379 killed and 4 times as many wounded. Dyer ordered that no succors be given to the injured. This was an early scar on India that would never heal. Dyer's punishment was early retirement. In many quarters of the raj he was seen as a hero. Ladies took up a collection to buy him a sword of honor. Rudyard Kipling gave him a gift of 26,000 pounds.

BRIT SOLDIERS IN INDIA: Soldiers life in India led to north west frontier, a cauldron of tribal violence in Afghanistan. Then ruler of Kabul, Afghanistan tried to move into India sensing weakness in 1919. Morris (of the Everest expedition) went from France battle to India, serving on the frontier with the Waziristan Field Force. Horrific scene where men were wounded, stripped and their genitals were cut and stuffed into their mouths.

On March 17, 1922, the Everest expedition crew arrived in Bombay. They got word of Gandhi's arrest while on train to Calcutta. In Calcutta they



went for lunch at Spence's Hotel and a quick visit to the native market and the infamous Black Hole. Black hole was another example of 'the native uprising against Brits'. The 'natives' sent Brits down into the hole where many suffocated and died.

In response to his arrest Gandhi said, "in my humble opinion...non cooperation w evil is as much a duty as is co-operation w good". He then asked for the judge to impose the harshest penalty the law would permit against him. Gandhi was sentenced to serve 6 years in the Yerawada jail. In Darjeeling the British climbers of the Everest expedition rejoiced.

THE POST WAR MINDSET
WHY EVEREST BECAME SO IMPORTANT

Douglas Haig - horses and bayonets most important – didn't believe in machine guns - and loaded soldiers down w wire cutters etc. - they had to walk, not run - the Germans were shocked watching the Brits walk towards them – one said “if only they had run, they might have overwhelmed us” - Germans sprayed them down w machine guns. Haig never went near the front lines - dressed for show. And never visited the wounded. Said things like “have you really lost half a million men?”

The separation grows for those who fought and those who stayed at home: For the families at home had no idea what youth had endured. The temptation was to scream. Soldiers would go on leave only to return home to a normal life - dining at Claridges on the way to the theatre. But how could they mentally return to life as if nothing at happened?

Just 60 miles from the trenches were the comforts of England. Ypres to London was just 130 miles away. As Paul Fussell called it “the ridiculous proximity of the Front.”

When workers in munitions factories at home would go on strike - living cloistered lives at home while the soldiers fought and died for one shilling a day. But the rhetoric back home - the patriotic banter the illusion of normalcy clung to so desperately by mothers and fathers and wives who saw the stranger in a soldier's eye left the men hollow and often angry.

AR Buchanan wrote: while some patriots went to the battle front and died for their country... Others stayed home and lied for it.

Nearly 1 million dead in Britain alone. 2.5 mill wounded 40000 amputees 60000 without sight. 2.4 mill on disability a decade after the end, including 65000 men who never recovered from the mental ravages of shell shock.

After war soldiers wanted to go anywhere but home. Home was just a reminder of lost youth and lies.

After war - came the challenge of peace. On paper Britain emerged supreme, cities and fields unscathed, her navy unchallenged, her armies triumphant, her enemies vanquished. In reality, the war left the nation bitterly divided, spiritually exhausted and financially ruined. Gold reserves had been drained - national debt surpassed gross national product. Inflation and unemployment reached levels not seen in a century. Taxes and death duties alone provoked economic agonies. By 1922 there would be 2 mill unemployed and half mill veterans living on the streets - going door to door seeking help begging for clothes and food.



War induced a sense of isolation loss of center and restless desire to move.

Stephen spender wrote: "the war had knocked the ball-room floor from under middle-class English life... People resembled dancers suspended in mid-air yet miraculously able to pretend that they were still dancing".

PERSONALITIES AND BACKGROUND

GEORGE MALLORY

Like his mom, George Mallory flirted w the unorthodox - was emotionally volatile - concerned about money and so absentminded that he would drive his colleagues on Everest to distraction.

He was a mischievous boy, doted on by his 2 sisters Avie and Mary, lionized by his younger bro Trafford.

George Mallory was already given to adventure by the time he could walk. Avie said "he had a knack of making things exciting and rather dangerous. He climbed everything it was at all possible to climb. I learnt v early that it was fatal to tell him that a tree was impossible for him to get up. 'Impossible' was a word that acted as a challenge for him. When he once told me that it would be quite easy to lie between the railway lines and let the train go over him, I kept very quiet, as if I thought it would be quite an ordinary thing to do; otherwise, I was afraid he would do it."

Mallory had many close male friends when in school – many of whom were in love with him. Mallory said " my experiences of friendship are w my own sex... To confess the truth I don't much understand women and they make me feel like a mouse"

Mallory explored his sexuality in college - "James and George now stroke one another's faces in public". Finally copulated with James.

Mallory disdained formalities

This exercise is important in understanding Mallory's personality and values as a climber: Finch(with Wakefield) and Mallory(with Somervell) were competitive but then in 1922 expedition, on one exercise to climb to a summit 7000ft above camp (which would take them about 20490ft elevation at summit) Finch beat Mallory in choosing the route that Bruce favored then he beat Mallory to the first camp. But then on the way to the summit he got sick and vomited and turned back to base camp. Then Somervell was w Mallory and struggled w dysentery. Mallory could have left him to make it to the summit but stopped 500ft short of the summit and turned back with Somervell to help him on the descent. This is important insight into Mallory's character as a mountaineer, particularly in regard to the fateful events on June 8 1924 the day he and sandy were last seen alive on Everest. However powerful the allure of a summit. Nothing, according to Howard Somervell would induce Mallory to abandon a weaker climber on a mountain.

GEORGE MALLORY IN LOVE (WITH RUTH):

It was more than love at first sight. For Mallory it was as if a dam had burst and impounded emotions of a young lifetime had found immediate release. He was positively giddy. The loops in his handwriting he told her in one of his first love letters "are all kisses and the tall strokes and the tails are all arms to embrace you. Shall I go through my letter and make them longer?"

Ruth replied: life w you is going to be very perfect.

Mallory said they would need to create a new vocabulary of love words.

They were engaged in May married at end of July 1914. Ruth's father offered dowry of 750 pounds a year - and a new house, the Holt, valued at 1600 - which he gifted in perpetuity to Ruth - financially they were set.

Honeymoon was in Swiss Alps - but they were detained on suspicion of being German spies.

GEORGE FINCH

The Australian George finch: His mother married an old rancher - but on a visit to Paris refused to leave and took a lover and delved into the world of mysticism. George Finch never forgave his mother for what she did to his father who returned home heart broken but continued to support his family. Finch despised the metaphysical nonsense and moved closer to all things rational. Studied in Ecole de Medecin in Paris then Swiss fed institute of tech in Zurich then chemistry in Geneva - award for top student in school - which he sold immediately to finance a climbing expedition. He designed a lightweight windproof anorak, unprecedented in its utility (Brit climbers wore same Norfolk tweed jacket they would for walks). For Everest he would invent the first down coat.

Finch dismissed days before expedition due to poor health - a real blow to Finch and the team. It was completely unfounded. But still, he was loyal to the expedition went to Oxford to work w prof P.J.H. Unna to improve performance at altitude of the primus stove. Percy Farar had arranged for him to enter a low-pressure chamber designed during the war to prepare pilots for high altitude flying. Prof Dreyer who pioneered the use of bottled O2 the RAF submitted finch to the tests saying "slightly underweight but w excellent physique... That he should be able to stand great exertion at high altitudes better than most persons.". In fact finch's "unusual powers of resistance to the effects of high altitude were so remarkable that Dreyer described him as the most fit of the thousand young men examined to

date by the facility. "We have not come across a single case where the subject possessed the resisting power to such high capacity 40percent greater than the average, blood pressure slightly below avg. all signs of superb physical fitness.

Farar wrote to Hinks "this is the weakling whom we flung out"

Finch's relationship trouble: He married aspiring actress Alicia Gladys "betty" fisher 22 yrs old. "Little in common but the moment". Married June 16 1915. Finch noted his home as "no mans land".

Almost immediately after he was shipped out to Egypt – Alicia Gladys said she would stay faithful – but on Finch's return she was pregnant with another man's child. Divorced but Finch accepted the child and gave it his own last name.

Finch then he had affair with another woman, Gladys May – she got pregnant so he married her – but then fell out of love with her while away at war and she begged him to return. She went to court and judge filed a petition accusing Finch of desertion and ordering him to return home to his wife within fourteen days and "render to her conjugal rights." He was also obliged to pay the costs of the legal proceedings.

Two weeks later he deliberately set out to create a situation that would lead inevitably to the dissolution of his second marriage. As planned, further court documents revealed that on the nights of March 15-17 Finch was guilty of committing adultery with an unknown party in room 477 of the Strand Hotel. Such a flagrant act of infidelity was a standard practice at the time employed by gentlemen seeking a quick and easy divorce. Choice between public humiliation and granting Finch his freedom – Gladys May chose to grant Finch his freedom through a divorce.

Within two weeks Finch would marry yet again, this time to the love of his life, Agnes Isobel "Bubbles" Johnston, who would bear him three children and remain by his side for the rest of his years. He would never tell anyone, not even his beloved Bubbles, that Peter was not his biological son. Peter Finch went on to become famous actor.

HOWARD SOMERVELL

Howard Somervell - brilliant surgeon and painter of exquisite watercolors and classical musician. As climber had infinite reserves of energy and could not resist a pitch of rock. Like Mallory. Somervell sketched along expedition

JOHN NOEL

John Noel -photographer and raconteur - his stories kept all entertained. General Bruce praised Noel as a member of the expedition. He described the filmmaker as "the ever present Noel... There is no more thorough member of the expedition than he" this reputation came from moment such as this one. For four days and three nights Noel had maintained his vigil at camp 4 - scouring the upper slopes of the mountain w his distant lens tracking the men's movements. He knew that climbers without food or support had never spent 2 nights essentially in bivouac at such heights. That Finch and Bruce jr elected to go on, despite the ordeal had astonished him even as it filled him w dread. He feared the worst when they were overdue. As clouds swept over the northeast shoulder he had burned at intervals, piles of unexposed film as signal flares. When finally they stumbled onto the flat of the col he had hot spaghetti and flasks of steaming tea ready for them.

John Noel had been attached to the king's own Yorkshire light infantry which he'd joined in Dublin on august 13 1914 the day before the battalion embarked for France. Within a week he was at Mons in defensive positions on the south bank of the canal. He was reported missing, believed killed. But had been taken prisoner. He escaped and made his way back to Brit forces. No map no compass and ate food from dead men's pockets. Took bearings from star Arcturus. He suffered from shell shock. Back out after 2 months. Then again hospitalized after a shell nearly killed him. He was out for 3 months before back in. He would never speak of his condition.

ANDREW "SANDY" IRVINE

Irvine kept himself busy despite feeling the effects of altitude. Drills, taps and hacksaw blades snapped in the cold. He was nauseous from solder fumes in enclosed area but managed to retrofit 6 complete sets of O2 apparatus in 2 days. He also worked on Beetham's camera and repaired the expedition's forty-pound roarer cooker, which he then used as a forge to shorten the spikes on both of Mallory's crampons by two inches. He spiked on hand and badly scorched the other in 2 places.

But hemoglobin tests revealed Irvine had highest percentage of red blood cells. "Hope this is a good sign" he wrote.

Irvine on Mallory: "a devil must have got into Mallory... For he ran down all the little bits of downhill and paced all out up the moraine. It was as bad as a boat race trying to keep up with him."

Built 2 room shelters w stone walls that could be covered w a tent fly. He

worked for 3 hrs moving heavy boulders "trying to set an example to the coolies" until blood began to flow freely from his nose.

Irvine got so fed up w one porter he offered to carry his load but Mallory wouldn't allow it and they cut the porter from the rope cursing him w threats of ice devils and demons.

ODELL

Odell's performance had been nothing less than heroic. He offered great support during Mallory's last and final attempt. Odell had climbed from the base of the North Col to Camp 4, at 23,000ft three times. From Camp 4 he had gone once to camp 5 (25,300ft) and from camp 4 to camp 6 (26800) twice over four consecutive days. In 12 days he had slept only one night below 23000ft. For nearly a fortnight he had thus lived at elevations higher than science had believed possible. His reward, as Norton would write in a final dispatch, was to have been the last to see their friends, "going strong for the top."

HENRY MORSHEAD

Morshead - surveying - was in his element when in 1911 he spend 4 months ascending the Lohit - living on rice dog meat and beetles - threatened by tigers and elephants - and humid climates like a Turkish bath. In 1913 he had mapped out the whole area and w help of Tibetans had ended the long standing question of the tsangpo flowing east from Kailash and Brahmaputra coming out of the mountains 12000ft lower in forests of Assam -that they were one in the same - but nobody believed him. He and his men were arrested as Chinese spies by the Tibetans who had never seen a European before.

Bailey describing Morshead. "I had noted another characteristic of Morshead which rather alarmed me. No one can avoid picking up leeches and one cannot stop to remove them while one is on the march. On one occasion I found at a halt that I had 150 leeches on me. Morshead appeared indifferent to them. I thought at the beginning that his indifference might be the residue of his fever; but later I found that this was not the case. When his temperature was indubitably normal, he would stand there covered in leeches and w blood oozing out of his boots, as oblivious as a small child whose face is smeared w jam.". He just didn't notice impediments of any kind.

Edward Norton

Major Edward Felix "Teddy" Norton - had been convalescing in a Calcutta hospital w sever case of piles after reaching finals of the Kadir cup. Pain of

thrombotic hemorrhoids intense and debilitating in the extreme (common affliction in the Himalaya). Graduate of royal military academy Woolwich.

Teddy Norton, 38 was a man of extraordinary qualities of leadership, integrity and grit. Commissioned as a graduate of the Royal Military Academy Woolwich in 1902, he had been a soldier since boyhood. Posted to the Royal Horse Artillery at Meerut at 23, he had served throughout India, eventually becoming aide-de-camp to the viceroy before sailing with his regiment to France in the late summer of 1914. That he survived the war was a statistical miracle because he fought in virtually every campaign from the very first British attacks at Aisne and the Marne, through Ypres, Loos, and the Somme, and Arras and the German Spring Offensive of 1918. He was awarded the Military Cross, appointed DSO, and honored with every medal for gallantry and combat, save the Victoria Cross. He emerged from the war with a certain quality of being, a serenity, confidence and uncanny presence that caused men almost reflexively to follow his lead.

Mallory describes Norton: “Norton is one of the best...extraordinarily keen and active and full of interest and gentle and charming withal. He is to be my stable companion I understand and I don't doubt that I shall like him in that capacity as well as anyone.”

Another climber marveled at how Norton, as commander, would make up his mind about a decision, then call in the entire expedition to confer, and “invariably they would after discussion come to his view.”

GENERAL (CHARLES) BRUCE

Charles Bruce - born privileged - he was a rascal brat - couldn't get into school because he could pass in his exam papers on time. He ended up in the militia stationed in York -instead - as he said "minimum work and maximum sports" -where he was called MMM - mad mountain maniac.

Warfare suited Bruce - known as bruiser or burra sahib. Loved to booze play sports - and the rumor was that he slept with the wives of all the enlisted men.

FRANCIS YOUNGHUSBAND

Soldier-philosopher-mystic visionary and spy - Francis Younghusband... Born 1863 in foothills of the Himalaya - schooled in Britain at Clifton - attended royal military college at Sandhurst. Returned to India 1882 as an officer in the king's dragoon guards.

Carried out reconnaissance work along Indus and afghan frontier.

Then Younghusband made captain and returned to Karakorum escorted by 5th gurkhas commanded by Charles Bruce. Their relationship forged in the great game would be driving force for what drew Brits to mountains.

In 1891 Younghusband was taken captive by Cossack patrol and ordered back to India - the confrontation prompted major diplomatic incident and seared in Younghusband a deep and lasting impression of the seriousness of the Russian menace - a conviction he shared w Curzon.

When Curzon was viceroy he tapped Younghusband for service in Tibet in 1903 where they were convinced Agvan Dorzhiev a Russian spy was living as a monk. Dorzhiev was in fact a monk from the buriat region of Mongolia, formally a Russian citizen and an attendant to His Holiness the 13th Dalai Lama. Known to the Tibetans as Tsenshab Ngawang Lobzang, Dorzhiev was one of the 7 revered instructors or tsenshabs to his holiness - regarded as a master of dialects. But the Brits were convinced Dorzhiev was dealing arms and engaged in treaty negotiations on behalf of the czar.

Younghusband became youngest fellow of RGS recipient of founders medal for explorations in Pamirs and Karakorum.

1903 - Tibet began as a mess - cold and clash of cultures. Tensions building on nothing... Finally in November an excuse for war came when a small group of Tibetan soldier attacked Nepalese yaks.

In December Younghusband and 5000 soldiers - gurkhas and Sikhs - military police artillery machine gun units of Brit army-military police-cooks+medical staff diplomats and journalists gathered in Darjeeling and w 10000 porters 20000 yaks and 40000 lbs of food they eventually reached Darjeeling from Lhasa. Freezing weather - kept on to Chumbi valley - met no resistance. After 3 weeks there they pushed on to Tuna where some turned back but Younghusband elected to stay for winter. His personal kit was that of a Brit dressing for each occasion... 67 shirts dozen suits and 12 overcoats - 18 pairs of boots and shoes. 88 porters died of exhaustion from carrying luggage.

Tuna winter was 3 months of fruitless negotiations. Climaxed w encounter of march 3 1904 - when Tibetans insisted that Dirzhiev was nothing more than a simple buriat monk and Russia and Tibet had no diplomatic engagement let alone an alliance. But the Brits were too committed to mission at this point – Younghusband and his troops marched in machine

guns against crude Tibetan weapons - they got face to face and all was calm. The Brits demanded that the Tibetans disarm. Language was lost - tension shattered as a Sikh grabbed the bridle of a Tibetan general's horse. In outrage the general drew his pistol and shot the Indian in the face. There was a moment of stunned silence followed by the crack of a single rifle bullet - then all hell broke loose. Tibetans barely had time to draw their swords before the Maxim machine guns opened up. The Tibetans didn't surrender they turned and walked away. One officer wrote to his mother "it was an awful sight...and I hope I shall never again have to shoot down men who are walking away."

Brit correspondent Henry Savage Landor wrote: "butchering of thousand helpless and defenseless natives in a manner most repulsive to any man who is man"

The Tibetans retreated Brits marched on. Dalai lama fled toward exile in Mongolia 4 days before Brits arrived - stayed there for 5 years. In absence Brits tried to appoint some authority to negotiate w - didn't work. Later negotiating w maharaja of Bhutan they wrote up terms on Sept 7 1904 that gave Brits control of Chumbi valley for 75 years - free access and trade and Tibet couldn't deal w any foreign powers other than Brits. There was no evidence of Russian influence in Lhasa and Dorzhiev seemed to be nothing more than a monk.

Brits left Lhasa disenchanted "it was impossible to avoid certain regret for the drawing back of the curtain which had meant so much to the imagination of mankind. With the unveiling of Lhasa fell the last stronghold of the older romance.

Younghusband left elated but had to defend himself at home. He was changed though. He would later found the world congress of faiths - devoting his life to shattering barriers between great religious traditions of the world.

Younghusband had seen Everest - "the first streaks of dawn gilding the snowy summits of mountain Everest poised high in heaven as the spotless pinnacle of the world"

ARTHUR ROBERT HINKS

Arthur Robert Hinks, CBE, FRS (26 May 1873 – 14 April 1945) was a British astronomer and geographer.

As an astronomer, he is best known for his work in determining the



distance from the Sun to the Earth (the astronomical unit) from 1900–1909: for this achievement, he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society. His later professional career was in surveying and cartography, an extension of his astronomical interests.

Hinks later became secretary of RGS. He was a difficult man. Brilliant mathematician but he was an old codger and had a disdain for modernity especially the telephone. He was disagreeable, intolerant, sarcastic, utterly lacking in tact or discretion, he was parsimonious and priggish, enamored of his own genius and convinced always of the infallible wisdom of his opinions. But he was ferociously hardworking, meticulous and orchestrated virtually every aspect of the expedition: raising funds, recruitment of personnel, purchasing supplies, proper brand of chocolate, high altitude stoves, etc. He also took charge of booking lectures, press releases, raising funds, bringing in sponsor, etc.

THE EXPEDITION: BASIC LOGISTICS



BASIC LOGISTICS

Approach to mountain Everest would be made through Tibet, not Nepal.

The Royal Geographic Society - RGS would be responsible for preliminary negotiations w the British, Indian and Tibetan government and a formal deputation led by Younghusband would immediately seek the support of the secretary of state for India.

Main hurdles: Money, permissions and the right climbers.

Joint committee of alpine club and rgs would work on the organizing and planning of an expedition to extend over 2 seasons.

Howard-Bury said "the entire problem is the failure of either Montague or Curzon to agree with the government of India's request to sell arms to Lhasa.

Charles Bell, British-India's ambassador to Tibet, was instrumental in securing permissions for Everest expeditions. Bell had built relationship with Dalai Lama in Darjeeling in 1910 after Dalai Lama's exile. Bell had made it so Tibet and Britain felt as one. Tibet even offered soldiers to Brits - but offer was declined. To have this relationship after what Younghusband had done in Tibet in late 1800s was amazing. (Younghusband and Tibetans had had a stand off in which the Brits sprayed the Tibetans with machine gun fire. It was modern weapons against crude knives. There was no surrender by the Tibetans, they just turned and walked away and the Brits kept firing.)

ROUTE

Getting there: Mallory went from Calcutta docks to Sealdah Station to catch the Darjeeling Mail - the evening train that ran north overnight to Siliguri.

The initial expedition route: down to Kalimpong, up the Teesta valley, across the Jelep la to Yatung and then the long ascent to the Chumbi valley to the Tibetan plateau at Phari. Then Tingri.

The climbers' departure from Darjeeling was deliberately staggered.

SETTING – SCENERY – VIEWS – AND SOUNDS

SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

SHIP:

1922 - Finch insisted on oxygen tank drills on the ship.

1924: Passed time on ship by working out in the gym, tossing medicine ball and running laps of the deck to stay fit.

TRAIN:

Calcutta to Siliguri. Siliguri - terminus of the line - was a small trading settlement scattered on a stony plain 7 miles from the slopes of the Indian foothills of the eastern Himalaya.

Then caught the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway – from Siliguri to Darjeeling - the train was toy-like in scale. Called the toy train. It had a narrow-gauge ribbon of track that zigzagged and looped its way some 7000 vertical feet up the flank of the mountains to the hill station of Darjeeling - the summer seat of the government of Bengal and staging point for assault on Everest.

DARJEELING: Darjeeling station - gaggle of female porters, tumplines in hand - waited to hoist the luggage up the hill to governor's house - where he was scheduled to stay as the personal guest of Lord Ronaldshay, governor of Bengal.

Mallory reached the mansion in a rickshaw, pulled and pushed by a team of three men, all Lepchas, indigenous hill people of Sikkim. Mallory referred to them as coolies - a term applied casually by the Brits to any working native, be they Tibetan, Nepal or Indian.

Mallory would have preferred to stay at the mountain Everest hotel where Guy Bullock stayed - or Bellevue hotel but he was put up in style and had to attend a formal dinner and reception hosted by Lord Ronaldshay himself. Mallory described it to Ruth as a "swagger" affair - guest list embossed invitations - servants in red livery w gold and silver braid - a proper orchestra - table laid w dazzling array of plates flatware bowls and crystal. There were 30 guests - fifteen couples. Mallory escorted Evie Morshead.

Darjeeling activities: tennis, badminton, golf at the gymkhana club, leisurely teas amid the potted plants and chintz and leather chairs and month-old copies of the Times and Illustrated London News. Afternoon races as Lebong. Dances and drinks in the evening at the Everest Hotel.

1924: Darjeeling: squash at gymkhana club, tea t the Rendezvous, dinner and dancing for 150 at the Planter's Club, lawn tennis w a young lady followed by billiards and then more dancing, evenings that rarely ended before 2am. Natural history museum in Darjeeling - stuffed birds.

DAK BUNGALOWS: They reached a dak bungalow built of wood w four rooms w plates lamps and oil and library of old magazines beds mattresses and a chawkidar (guard) who provided firewood and milk. Notice on bungalow advised parties of 2 to travel w three servants: a cook, a bearer and a sweeper - the sweeper to clean bungalow toilets after use. The addition of a tiffin coolie to prepare picnics and assist the cook was optional but highly recommended. No coolie made to carry more than 50lbs and each to be paid a third the daily cost of a mule. If traveling to Tibet they were advised to carry several tins of biscuits, bottles of scented water, boxes of toilet soap as gifts for high officials, lamas and dzongpens. These were to be presented on a tray by a servant along w ceremonial khatas or scarves.

Kalimpong - comparatively lrg settlement w shops, churches, tea gardens, a post office and a telegraph line. The dak bungalow there was large and elegant w / room and veranda w pretty rose garden and scarlet hibiscus.

Punagang Monastery - Prayer wheel over 10ft hgih and 6ft+ diameter - inside inscribed on paper over a million prayers - w each rotation of the wheel a bell sounded indicating that the prayers had ascended into the sky. "Om mani padme hum" - hail the jewel in the lotus

Phari was "the hill made glorious" in Tibetan. It was covered in its own filth - huts yak dung barren rock constant wind. Open air shops w hanging racks of rancid meat and cheese - kids w matted hair blood shot eyes ans grease on their face, begging.

Later small troupe of dancers arrived in late afternoon and put on a modest performance in the courtyard of the bungalow. Wheeler said "various meaningless stunts and some 1/2 cartwheels. One man played the drum, the woman the cymbals. Bury gave them 2 rupees w pleased them no ed."

NEXT DAK BUNGALOW: The 8 expedition members crammed into one bungalow.

Tingri - very religious place - where Buddha threw stone and when it landed a single perfect note resounded through the universe. The Buddha called the place T'ing Ri.



Modest place a warren of stone. Absence of wood - smoke of dung fires hovered in early afternoon light. The street stalls and shop fronts were stacked w wool and salt, piles of red chilies and great mounds of white butter, barley flour and chips of dried meat.

Tingri - Like most frontier outposts it gave way to gambling, drinking, etc. - highest rate of illegitimate born there. Lowest birth rate due to venereal disease.

HIGH CAMPS: Bruce sent Somervell, Crawford and Geoffrey Bruce to camp 1 w 43 porters w 1200 lbs of yak dung and they built 4 roofless stone huts that would later be covered w tarps and canvas - tents being in short supply.

LANDSCAPES-PLANTS-ANIMALS

The 400 mile journey from Calcutta to Darjeeling - dust and heat - then monotonous landscape of paddy fields and bamboo, plantations of coconut and betel palms, bananas and plantains.

Bridge across the Padma - then many villages - a concentration of humanity unlike anything Mallory had ever seen.

Siliguri to Darjeeling - on Darjeeling Himalayan railway - through a rich forest of semul and sal trees - higher and higher into the mist - the train was toy like in scale.

Rivers - like ribbons of silver

Saw for the first time the summits of Kabru and Kangchenjunga

Tea fields glowed w a deep uniform green

What impressed him the most "was the forest itself, the incredibly touching and mysterious beauty of a tree clad hillside w all its wealth of growth and variety of greens and darkness and brightness. In one spot especially where I was walking ahead of the train I was irresistibly reminded of wooded hillsides in Chinese pictures where they are used to express some deep religious feeling.

The conditions were beyond terrible: mountainous slopes of forty degrees covered by dense jungle vegetation, river torrents that fell 50 ft in a mile -



unbearable heat and leeches in lower elevation, while at the heights such cold that men died of frost. One soldier wrote to his mother "personally I would give the frontier to the Chinese if they want it... I have never seen a more awful spot"

Orchids mulberry trees walnut trees

Animals - ponies mules donkeys oxen and yaks

Further up - grasslands and marches and small ponds crowded w teals, mallards and bar-headed geese. Vast herds of yaks and sheep. Rich w abundant water. Thousands of midges and sand flies hovered in clouds around each animal and rider

"Huge moraines, side glaciers shooting rocks down. The natives say that a good many people lose their lives... Everywhere the rocks are frightfully loose-falls go on all the time on all sides. The peaks are all so steep, particularly the screes. I have never seen such consistently steep faces and ridges."

Female bharal - so docile passed within 50 yards.

Glacial streams - alpine meadows of barberry and honeysuckle-white and pink spireas narrowed into a great gorge that after some distance opened upon the green barley fields of Tasang. They cooked that evening on a fire made of juniper, a pleasant change from the acrid scent of yak dung, a fuel that ruined the taste of every meal.

Narrow ravines and low forest of birch, willow, wild rose. At springs grew masses of anemones and yellow primulas, and on drier ground were thickets of gooseberries - they collected a whole supply.

H-bury again remarked about the docility of the wildlife. No fear of humans -they passed within forty yards of a fine flock of rams and other female rams were so inquisitive they came within 10 yards to have a look.

The rock pigeons came and fed out of one's hand and the ravens were as tame.

Black eared kites - extraordinary heights - dark silhouette of lammergeier too

Bullock collected flowers and butterflies in the afternoon sun.



Lammergeiers or bearded vultures scavengers dropping bones onto rocks to free the marrow - the basis of their diet. Or swallow whole bones the size of a lamb's femur.

Cairns bristling w prayer flags.

Rocks carved w prayers – mani rocks: rocks w universal “mantra om mani padme hum”

Prayer wheels driven by wind or water

Gazelles fearless and grazing by them.

Mist

Beneath the black cliffs and ice fields of makalu, a mere fifteen miles from the base of Everest thrive immense forests of juniper and silver firs, trees the size of redwoods and farther downstream great thickets of bamboo grow as well as mountain ashes birches and rhododendrons the size of a woodsman's cottage.

Blue irises and wild rhubarb

Ridgeline of silver firs

Dropped 4000ft following the kama chur for 3 days to its confluence w the arun where they satyed in a grove of blue pines and broad leafed alders - camp thick w leeches. Climbed through black mud reached summit of popti la at 14000ft - found ancient border stone inscribed in Chinese characters. Nepalese women trudged by silently in the rain, burdened by 80lb loads of salt.

Langur monkeys in a valley scarlet w mountain ash and barberry.

THE LOOK OF THE FIRE: Getting colder - "the puffs of smoke from the fire give the faintest of blue cheer to our desolation"

H-bury found dwarf delphinium and delicate white saxifrage in full flower at 20500ft.

Red-billed chough, a blackbird flying overhead. And tracks of foxes and hares in the snow - surprised h-bury

Among the tracks was one that appeared uncannily like that of a bare human foot. The porters knew precisely what it was: the mark of a yeti, Metohkangmi, the "wild man of the snows" a monstrous creature known to descend upon villages to kill men, steal women and drink the blood of yaks and children. H-bury said it was likely a wolf. This would make the press "the abominable snowman" "tall muscular and very hairy race of men"

WATCHING CLIMBERS FROM DISTANCE: Black specks appear along the skyline.

1922:

Butterflies and moths and "forts and monasteries like martins' nests on a cliff"

Buddhist monks chanting prayers to avert hailstorm, accompanied by drums, cymbals, rattles, and a trumpet made from a human thighbone. Somervell deciphered the "cacophony" into precise musical notations and commented on their musical appreciation and tendencies

March to kampa dzong - bleak and arid landscape, blinding blizzards and "poisonous" winds.

Grey clouds roll in - race before the monsoon season sets in. The wind was awful.

SEEING CLIMBERS SEARCHING FOR MEN on LATE DESCENT: Mallory and Odell saw torches from Norton and Somervell and they found Norton and Somervell and brought them back to camp

1924:

Odell supported the climbers at camp 5 carried food up to camp 5 as they attempted the summit. Odell lingered at camp 5 and checked out the rock formations "variety of gneisses... Highly altered limestone and igneous intrusions of light granitoid rocks". The sky lifted and Odell glimpsed the northeast ridge. What he saw would be challenged for the rest of his life.

"At 1250 saw M and I on ridge nearing base of final pyramid"

"There was a sudden clearing of the atmosphere, and the entire summit ridge and final peak of Everest were unveiled. My eyes became fixed on one tiny black spot silhouetted on a small snow crest beneath a rock step in the ridge; the black spot moved. Another black spot became apparent and moved up the snow to join the other on the crest. The first then approached the great rock step and shortly emerged on top; the second did likewise. Then the whole fascinating vision vanished, enveloped in

cloud once more.'

He and hazard stayed up through the night keeping watch for flashlights or flares.

Noel had waited in his eagle nest w his lens fixed on summit until he was too cold and no sign w so much cloud cover (eagle nest was his favorite perch)

Noel said "may the Genie of the Steel Bottle aid them!"

Still looking out for MALLORY AND IRVINE: Calling to porters. "Kutch dekta?" Answer "kuch nahin sahib"

EVEREST

Younghusband had seen Everest - "the first streaks of dawn gilding the snowy summits of Mount Everest poised high in heaven as the spotless pinnacle of the world"

Everest " towering up thousands of feet, a glittering pinnacle of snow... A giant amongst pigmies, and remarkable not only on account of its height, but for its perfect form....

"A night of early moons... Even before the first glimmer of dawn... The mountains were somehow touched to life by a faint blue light - a light that changed as the day grew." Then with sunrise: "a flush of pink and purple shadows". Everest unveils itself: "we were not kept waiting for the supreme effects; the curtain was withdrawn. Rising from the bright mists Everest above us was immanent, vast, incalculable + no fleeting apparition of elusive dream-form; nothing could have been more set and permanent, steadfast like Keats's star 'in long splendour hung aloft the night' a watcher of all the nights, diffusing, it seemed universally, an exalted radiance."

Makalu and Everest - emerged as islands above the clouds.

Bury "all of a sudden a ray of sunshine touched the summit of Everest, and soon flooded the higher snows and ridges w golden light, while behind, the deep purple of the sky changed to orange. Makalu was the next to catch the first rays of the sun and glowed as though alive; then the white sea of clouds was struck by the gleaming rays of the sun, and all aglow with the colour rose slowly and seemed to break against the island peaks in great billows of fleecy white. Such a sunrise has seldom been the privilege of man to see, and once seen can never be forgotten."



1922

Morale soared when they caught a glimpse of Everest not 15 minutes out of Shiling - they rounded a rocky promontory and suddenly caught a clear view of Everest 55 miles away to the southwest

The view opened up and suddenly they simply stopped and stared in wonder- Mallory said "for a time we completely forgot our quest"

SOUNDS

Yak bells

Listened to the thunder of avalanches breaking on all sides of the valley.

Finch: "the wind flapping of the canvas... Made a noise like that of machine-gun fire. So deafening was it that we could scarcely hear each other speak."

Then an avalanche hit the climbing party. "An explosion of untamed gunpowder".

Tibetan music during rituals along with 'devil dancing' in masks.

THE CONDITIONS AND PROBLEMS THEY FACED



First few days – faced humidity that left them all drenched in sweat and rains never let up.

6 mules collapsed on first day several more on steep climb

Mutiny of the porters.

The wind is the curse of this country...your face simply goes to bits.

For 3 hours Mallory cut steps in glacier - good training for the men, neither was familiar w climbing ropes - but they were exhausted and Mallory fell through ice twice, soaking his clothes.

The cook was sick the porters refused to move until threatened - everyone's boots outer clothing and gear was frozen stiff in the air.

Trudged back down - knee deep in snow even in snowshoes.

Stymied by weather, constantly.

The glacial stream roared out of the mountain. Too dangerous to ford. Waited until dawn when the water level would be lower. "It was the devil crossing the stream". (Wheeler when he makes discovery of doorway to the mtn.)

Snow fell for 36 hrs.

Wheeler runs out of rations waits for resupply – he's smokeless – so he rolls 3 stubs into one 'rank but smokeable' cigarette.

Wheeler's tent crushed by 3ft of snow.

Sank to your knees in snow w snowshoes. But the real enemy was the heat that rose from the ice once the sun broke the horizon. Mallory "we were enveloped in a thin mist which obscured the view and made one world of snow and sky-a scorching mist, if you can imagine such a thing, more burning than bright sunshine and indescribably breathless. One seemed literally at times to be walking in a white furnace."

Morshead compared it to the unbearable heat of the Indian plains only far worse, mist that became steam, enveloping and exhausting the body. To halt for even a moment was to be overcome w inertia.



Mallory and bullock push for 20000 ft camp but turned back because of fresh snow. Had to wait for sun to melt it and the night to harden it.

They had to sit and wait out the weather - getting restless. It was freezing cold. All they could do was stay in bed. Finally they all gathered in one tent to play bridge. 3ft of fresh snow had fallen.

No fuel left at camp-all firewood had to be carried up 5 miles from valley below.

Depends on how many coolies they can take. Not enough boots and not enough fit coolies. They needed 18 they had only 19 but not all well and not enough boots.

Coolies bailed. One coolie went back and retrieved 2 packs that the others had abandoned.

Howard-Bury: "the sun at these great heights... Is one of the great foes that we contend with. The whole climate is trying and the extremes are so great that your feet can be suffering from frost-bite while you are getting sunstroke at the same time."

They all shared tiny tents. All porters in 4 tents. It was like climbing into a valise. Or dog kennel. Bivouacked at close quarters but didn't share a word.

Only Mallory cut two slits in the top of his tent and slept through the night. Everyone else woke and their "faces and hands were all a curious blue colour" (bury wrote) which Wollaston diagnosed as cyanosis of the blood, caused by oxygen deprivation.

Fierce squalls battered their camp - threatening to tear tents from their moorings. The night didn't encourage sleep. But Mallory slept. Bullock didn't. The only porters fit to climb the next am were Wheeler's three.

What greeted them at the col shattered their sense. A first sign appeared even below the rim. Each man began to glow with a frigid halo, an "aureole of spindrift" and whirling snow. As soon as they crested the height, a wind like nothing they had ever known plunged them into a maelstrom as mad and disorienting as anything Wheeler had experienced in France in battle. Certain they would die by suffocating in swirling eddies of snow.

"A sudden gust of violent wind...made a miniature cyclone of blown snow which caught us in its vortex just below the crest". (Mallory) the structure of

the col saved them offering some cover from the wind. They took shelter under an ice wall

Mallory incredibly strong and fit. Wheeler had lost feeling in both legs. Bullock was "cooked" but would have continued if Mallory had wanted to - but was happy Mallory decided to stop. The wind was the deciding factor.

Ice formed in his hair and frosted his eyelashes.

Continued on the col for a few minutes but decided nobody could survive the exposure for more than an hour and retreated. Mallory and Wheeler went ahead. Bullock showed up 2 hrs later, dehydrated and disoriented by fatigue.

At lower camp: Mallory's attention was on Wheeler whose legs were like stumps no feeling below the knees and his feet were raw "very nearly gone w frostbite." For over an hour Mallory rubbed Wheeler's legs with whale oil bringing them back around. Wheeler credits Mallory for saving his feet and his life. Through the night Mallory stayed by Wheeler's side - Wheeler unable to sleep -and bullock unable to sleep sat on other side at last able to "smoke a pipe w pleasure"

Typical after monsoon fades, gale force winds pound the Himalaya from northwest - violent at elevations above 23000 - in Sept - they had effectively walked directly into the face of a hurricane.

1922:

They lost 5 porters who didn't have adequate clothing for the height and slept without bedding in a nunnery at tatsang - barely alive. Gen Bruce said "it made for a disheartening start"

Finch found the way for the others but then the Tibetans just stopped refusing to continue "no argument or inducements by way of backsheesh (money)... Was of the slightest avail. Fear of devils and lack of grazing for the animals were insuperable obstacles". Finch was furious but had no choice to retreat to Mallory and bullocks 1921 camp where demanded the Tibetans dump their loads. The yaks snorted across the barren flat. Ponies ran loose. Chaos and Tibetans demanded to be paid. Longstaff managed to "stave off a stoning match between Tibetans and our people" a few choice words from general quelled the unrest.

Finch found splendid spot for camp 1 then bent his ice ax blade on the Himalayan ice.

Mallory's 4 climbing team attempt: They went to bed at 430pm. Woke to find the porters half dead sickened w mountain lassitude. Only 5 fit to climb. They had sealed the flaps of their tent - no air flow. The tins of spaghetti had been left outside so they needed thawing which delayed them further. Set off at 7am.

Norton sitting apart from others rested his pack on his knees. Gathering the slack in one of the ropes, Mallory knocked his pack over. Norton lunged for it but couldn't grab it and it tumbled out of sight. He lost all his warm clothes. But the other 3 had enough so they continued.

The cold wrecked them. Wind chill added 40 degrees of frost to air already bitterly cold.

Mallory took measure of his senses and found his extremities were numb. Frostbite threatened them all.

Dropped bag of provisions and Morshead offered to retrieve it and suffered considerably. He said "I think I won't come w you... I am quite sure I shall only keep you back. At that, Somervell tied into Norton's rope and they left Morshead alone.

They moved at a "miserable crawl". Mallory's foot hurt - feared frostbite - removed boot Norton rubbed it and suggested he remove a pair of socks - his boot was too tight - problem solved.

Advanced at a rate of climb - 400ft per hour diminishing speed w every step.

Crammed in tent they tried to sleep

With dawn came snow followed by hail. Thick clouds darkening further. Mallory first to stir - Norton yawns and says "I suppose...its about time we were getting up" as if awakening in a luxury cottage by the sea. They had shared a sleeping bag and neither wanted to leave the warmth of it. Both had headaches. Norton's ear looked awful. The porters had taken all the thermos with them. They had to melt snow for tea.

Descent: They got off track a bit. Morshead slipped at the time Somervell in rear was taking a step he too lost his balance and fell. The force took Norton off his feet. Mallory who was cutting a step but sensed as much as heard the accident instinctively thrust his ax into the snow and spun a coil

of rope around as a belay. Somervell plunged his ax into the slope as a brake, as did Norton. But it was Mallory's reflex response that saved all of their lives. None hurt but deeply shaken.

After near death experience, Morshead had lost it. He wanted to glissade down slopes that demanded careful steps. They had to guide him down and talk him down. He was suffering from hypothermia and reached the point where he was perfectly content to lay down in the snow and die.

They walked through the night w Somervell's lantern. They at last found the fixed rope and then lowered Morshead by rope and then they had no choice but to jump. 18hour day and no water. They arrived at camp 4 to find the porters hadn't left a single cooking pot. They had no means to slake their thirst, save a mixture of canned milk, strawberry jam and snow.

As they descended to camp 3 in desperation for water the front pulled too hard, pulling Mallory from the rear, causing him to fall 80 ft. Finch caught it on camera. Mallory said, "I could have borne the ignominy of my involuntary glissade... Had I not found Finch at the foot of the slope taking advantage of my situation w a Kodak".

Finch and Bruce had O2 tanks on and 2 thermoses of hot tea - they gave to climbers. Most of them could hardly speak. Finch had great admiration for what they had achieved. A "magnificent record" and safe return.

Wakefield escorted them to camp 3 where Noel was waiting to film the return. Somervell drank 17 mugs of tea. Somervell said "it was thirst that did me in and nothing else" he said even as Wakefield bound up his black swollen hands.

Finch and Bruce Jr attempt: But the storm picked up to full hurricane force. Gusts tore at their tent w such ferocity - that the ground sheet w all 3 men lifted off the packed snow. They had to force all their weight fully against the canvas so the whole tent didn't blow of. They feared that at any moment the fabric would be torn to ribbons.

Finch: "we fought for our lives...realizing that once the wind got our little shelter into its ruthless grip, it must inevitably be hurled w us inside down on to the east rongbuk glacier, thousands of feet below.

By midnight everything was coated w frost and their sleeping bags were dangerously damp.

Finch: "the wind flapping of the canvas... Made a noise like that of machine-gun fire. So deafening was it that we could scarcely hear each other speak."

Dawn- the snow stopped falling but the wind continued. They couldn't retreat even if they wanted to.

A stone struck side of tent tearing a hole in the canvas. By 1pm the wind broke and the worst of the storm passed. Finch wanted to stay another night - but wasn't sure if Bruce jr and Tejbir would agree. Bruce jr agreed immediately and in Punjabi asked Tejbir whose only response was to "broaden his already expansive grin".

Then on the northeast ridge Bruce jr yelled not getting O2 and Finch didn't hesitate - he raced down and grabbed Bruce jr just in time, before he was about to fall backwards off the mountain. Finch dragged him forward saving his life and inserted his own breathing tube into Bruce's mouth. At elevation where most can't think. Finch worked to solve the problem while figuring a way to let Bruce and Finch breathe from his own cylinder while he attached a new flass tube to Bruce jrs cylinder. (At least Finch discovered that a sudden stop of O2 wouldn't kill a man on the mountain as suspected.)

THIRD ATTEMPT - DISASTER: As Mallory and others climbed. Noel bailed and came back down to film from below. Then an avalanche hit the climbing party. "An explosion of untamed gunpowder". In an instant the entire slope gave way. At first Mallory was able to ride the surge but then the rope around his waist tightened. He thrust his arms out as if swimming. Over within seconds. His arms free and legs near the surface. He Somervell and Crawford and the porter tied to them were fine. They immediately started digging to save the others. They saved a few - barely alive. Others carried off the side and others found dead. 7 died.

1924:

Irvine unpacked oxygen tanks. Most of 90 were damaged 15 were empty. 24 had leaked. Irvine set out to design new one and made a lighter better functioning one – improving them more than the Siebe Gorman engineers had managed in 2 yrs.

O2 debate likened to that of Scott not wanting to use sledge dogs in the Antarctic - which resulted in the death of the entire party.

Early on: So cold the champagne bottles froze and shattered.

Ink froze and Somervell gave up on sketching plans for the time being.

Things worsened as the temp stayed cold. Mallory: my boots were frozen hard on my feet... And I knew we could do nothing to make a comfortable camp.

Irvine: "the sleeping bag...seemed to shrink to half its normal size... And I kept turning over into patches of frozen breath."

Porters were without proper bedding and w the weather dropping to minus 21 Fahrenheit, 53 degrees of frost and only one handful of uncooked barley for each. Most were comatose by morning the ones that could walk were throwing up.

Even Irvine (king tinkerer) couldn't light the stoves. Storm and wind grew.

No one moved about camp. It seemed utterly lifeless.

Mallory falls down a crevasse. Caught himself by his ice ax - could plunge to his death. Called for help but others were below and couldn't hear. He had to work his way up on his own with only his ice ax. No crampons.

Reached camp 3 - too cold, streams frozen – couldn't make hot meals or tea. The food they had tasted of kerosene.

When 3 porters stranded at higher camp: Mallory Somervell and Norton made up rescue party each breaking the path of knee deep snow until exhausted and passed job on to next. They ran into the porters on the way and asking if they could walk. They asked "up or down". Norton yelled "down, you fool!" Stunned to realize that the men had no idea of the danger they were in.

A severely exposed slope divided the rescue party and the porter. Belayed by Norton Mallory and Somervell w 200ft of rope just within 30ft of reach of porters. The first made it. Then the second. The last two decided to come together despite the others telling them not to. Avalanche territory. Their combined weight cut loose a great sheet of snow and the 2 plunged seemingly to their doom. But the snow stopped not 10 yrds form the edge of ice cliffs falling 200ft. The men stood but Somervell ordered them to sit.

Somervell untied his belay drove his ax into the snow as an anchor, passed rope through it and lowered himself to the men with one hand free to grab them. As risky as swimming out to a drowning victim - they could

do anything. He grabbed each by scruff of neck and led them one at a time to safety.

The wind was awful. As bad as in 1921. Odell and Irvine happy to let them go on their own.

Most porters bailed and dropped their loads refused to do more. Bruce and Mallory continued up another 300ft and set up two tents. Then Bruce and Lobsang made two trips to carry the porters loads up to camp. Strained Bruce's heart but he wouldn't know.

Bruce and Mallory in one tent. The three porters in another.

The next am. The porters refused to move – they all retreated (saved Bruce's life because he had strained his heart – but didn't know at the time.)

Norton and Somervell attempt: They were all bundled like "golluwogs". Absurd in appearance but at least ready for the wind. But Everest made a mockery of their preparations. Norton: "the wind even at this early hour...took our breath away like a plunge into the icy waters of a mountain lake, and in a minute or two our well protected hands lost all sensation as they grasped the frozen rocks to steady us."

Somervell taking a pic exposed his finger for only a second or two before they became too numb to press the shutter.

That night wind flung rocks and slashed porters tent open and cut their knees and skulls. Only 3 were willing to continue in the am.

At camp 6 - Slept and one flask of tea spilled delayed start in am.

Norton shook w cold. Took his pulse. It was 64. Which was 20 beats above his norm. His goggles impeded his sight. So he removed them.

Somervell gave up and sat, exhausted in the snow. The rescue mission had burnt him out. He urged Norton to continue. Norton simply nodded at him and moved on.

Norton followed the upper edge of the yellow bands. He dropped down until he found a cut that led through to the gully itself the great couloir that in time would bear his name. This was the opening to the summit. It was a near impossible climb especially for a blind man which is what he had



become. He finally turned back at 28126ft.

Norton panicked trying to climb back to Somervell. He called out for help and Somervell came belayed him, but dropped his ice ax. Then he tied a rope around Norton's waist. They stumbled down to camp 6 - they had foolishly unroped. Norton unexpectedly left Somervell behind w a few bold glissades. He thought Somervell had stopped to sketch. But Somervell was fighting for his life. The lining of his larynx was frozen and raw. Frostbite had scorched his airways. He couldn't breathe. "I made one or 2 attempts to breathe but nothing happened. Finally I pressed my chest w both hands, gave one last almighty push and the obstruction came up. What a relief! Coughing up a little blood I once more breathed really freely-more freely than I had in some days." Somervell quickly caught up w Norton.

More than 15 hrs of exposure. Mallory and Odell found them but instead of bringing hot tea and soup they brought O2. Norton lost it for the first time. "I remember shouting again and again. "We don't want the damn oxygen we want drink."

Temps soared to 120 degrees in sun but freezing in shadows.

INJURIES/HEALTH, MEDICINES/TREATMENTS AND MEMORIALS



AMS: Long known that altitude climbers suffered malaise, cyanosis, blueing of extremities, lassitude, loss of memory or sharp thinking, nausea, loss of appetite

He had lost 14 lbs even before arriving in Darjeeling. Now 2 weeks w no appetite he was withering away.

Wheeler felt bad but a little lead opium improved matters considerably.

The wind is the curse of this country...your face simply goes to bits.

Kellas was really sick. He was slowly dying but nobody was paying enough attention. Kellas rode a yak as others walked. The others left him behind and said he seemed fine. But Kellas collapsed. Wollaston went back to find him and saw him incapacitated, shivering in the wind, his lips blue. He gave him bovril, brandy and milk and got him to camp. He seemed cheerful enough in the am and again set off w porters.

He had suffered a major heart attack from exhaustion.

"I find that I am on the point of dropping to sleep... When I seem to hold my breath and wake up gasping. Am ready enough to go to sleep but can't quite bring it off." (Wheeler)

Wollaston monitored physical condition of each. Raeburn out and stayed at 20000 Wheeler's pulse was worrisome - fluctuated between 86 and 98 - others around 90

Breathing instructions by Mallory: one breath as hard and deep as possible, in and out, for each step taken with a short pause every few paces.

REPEAT FROM CONDITIONS: Only Mallory cut two slits in the top of his tent and slept through the night. Everyone else woke w "faces and hands were all a curious blue colour" (bury wrote) which Wollaston diagnosed as cyanosis of the blood, caused by oxygen deprivation.

REPEAT FROM CONDITIONS: Mallory's attention was on Wheeler who's legs were like stumps no feeling below the knees and his feet were raw "very nearly gone w frostbite." For over an hour Mallory rubbed wheelers legs with whale oil bringing them back around. Wheeler credits Mallory for saving his feet and his life. Through the night Mallory stayed by Wheeler's side - Wheeler unable to sleep -and bullock unable to sleep sat on other side at last able to "smoke a pipe w pleasure"

1922:

1922: Tom Longstaff 47yr old ornithologist and bird like in appearance - veteran mountaineer - serve as med officer in 1922 exp. He said "I want to make one thing clear. I am the expedition's official medical officer. I am, as a matter of fact, a qualified doctor, but I feel it is my duty now to remind you that I have never practiced in my life. I beg you in no circumstances to seek my professional advice, since it would almost certainly turn out to be wrong. I am however willing if necessary to sign a certificate of death." 379

1922: Major Edward Felix "Teddy" Norton - had been convalescing in a Calcutta hospital w sever case of piles after reaching finals of the kadir cup. Pain of thrombotic hemorrhoids intense and debilitating in the extreme (common affliction in the Himalaya). Graduate of royal military academy woolwich.

Longstaff vomiting and diarrhea. So, Wakefield known to the men as archdeacon would effectively take over as medical officer

Wakefield bound up Somervell's black swollen hands (frostbite).

Strutt reported that Morris was down too - vomiting. Wakefield took on role of medical officer.

Epidemic of influenza and diarrhea swept through the porters.

News from home was bleak. Wakefield's wife Madge had suffered a severe infection in the mastoid cavity of her skull - potentially lethal in an era before antibiotics.

Ruth had also been gravely ill.

Then Finch fell ill w a relapse of dysentery so severe that for 5 days he could barely move from his tent couldn't even write a note in his diary.

Norton's ear was severely frost-bitten and swollen to 3 times its normal size.

3 of Mallory's fingers touched by frostbite. Lassitude and nausea.

Bruce jr and Finch suffered frostbite on their feet. Finch less severe but walking hurt. They had to be put on sleds and taken down by four porters. Once ground too rough. Finch hobbled and the porters carried Bruce jr on

their backs. His left foot was useless but would be fine.

Longstaff examined all - without oxygen the body is more susceptible to frostbite. Norton would have to lose part of his ear and Morshead would lose 3 fingers - amputated at the final joint.

Wakefield and Crawford thought they would attempt summit too - despite their age but then Wakefield overdosed Crawford on morphine in an attempt to get a good night's sleep before the attack. His medical error might have saved their lives. Neither was fit enough for that climb. (And he noted that medicine doses might be reduced at that altitude)

Mallory w frostbitten fingers and readily detectable heart murmur wasn't fit either. Finch and Bruce jr's feet were in bad shape. Only Somervell was fit.

1924:

On their way - Shebbeare sick as was gen Bruce - gen Bruce turned out to have malaria and had to evacuate (he caught it on a tiger hunt before expedition). Got him in bed covered him w blankets and hot water bottles out of double soap dishes and dosed him w Dovers powder, aspirin and quinine. Odell remarked "he bagged his tiger, but also picked up malaria".

Gen Bruce on stretcher carried by 6 men who changed w others when tired.

Gen Bruce had lost nearly 30lbs in a week.

Beetham down w dysentery. And Mallory suffering what they thought was appendicitis - life threatening in 1924.

Norton was deciding whether to let Beetham continue and Odell and Irvine were also not well. Mallory's brush w appendicitis was a false alarm. Odell and Irvine were unwell too.

Somervell - extracted tooth from Tibetan porter w an improvised pair of pincers.

Castor oil pills which had "the reverse of the expected result" (Mallory)

Odell unfit and Irvine had awful headache.

Porters' injuries : blood cot on his brain. Frozen feet needed amputation. Severe pneumonia and bronchitis. Broken legs from falls.

One porter broke his leg but sympathy from Brits was quelled when they found he was wearing clothes he had stolen from Somervell.

Irvine appalled at how injured were treated "lying out in the cold making no attempt to keep warm or look after himself. The three porters that had carried him down from 2 took absolutely damn all notice of him. I'm afraid both his feet are lost from frost-bite"

Made stretchers out of blankets and tent-poles to carry Shamsherpun but he died on way to base camp. Shallow grave w one memorial stone.

Cobbler Manbadhur also died. His legs were dead to the hips. His feet black and putrid w rot.

Irvine down w dysentery took a heroic dose of lead and opium and managed to follow the next day

Irvine's face - fair skin blistered by the sun wind and cold was so raw that every time he touched his face, burnt bits came off in his hands. And w cold air the lining of the men's throats became so raw as to make eating painful.

Chronic headaches and hacking coughs so violent that sleep was impossible. Mallory: "bursts of coughing fit to tear one's guts"

FROM RESCUE: One porter's hands swollen from frost bite. He broke down and Norton took him by the shoulder like a wounded soldier at front.

AFTER BEING RESCUED: One porter ate and then vomited immediately.

Norton – Snow blindness – his eyes had been watering – saw double then couldn't see anything at all. His eyes ached. Norton stayed in tent out of sun. With sleeping bags draped over tent to keep the light out. 3 days before he recovered – compress on eyes.

On descent – Norton unaware that Somervell was in trouble, carried on down the mountain, blind... But Somervell was fighting for his life. The lining of his larynx was frozen and raw. Frostbite had scorched his airways. He couldn't breathe. "I made one or 2 attempts to breathe but nothing happened. Finally I pressed my chest w both hands, gave one last almighty push and the obstruction came up. What a relief! Coughing up a little blood I once more breathed really freely-more freely than I had in

some days."

AT END: All medical tested – everyone's hearts distended. All "hors de combat".

MEMORIALS

Stones gathered for a cairn and Kellas's initials were scratched into the memorial.

1922: 7 porters died in avalanche – left the bodies where they were – made a cairn.

END 1924 – Memorial for Mallory, Irvine and porters: Somervell and Beetham worked on the memorial cairn carving names into rocks w screwdrivers.

All climbers gathered around memorial cairn. 3ft high on square plinth. With a pyramid of small boulders rising higher than a man. And all names of dead inscribed including 1921 one 1922 seven and 1924 four. It stood in an open moraine against the backdrop of Everest, the north face.

Climbers went to Rongbuk Monastery, slipping into the prayer hall in the middle of a service.

Beetham writes: Hitherto we had felt nothing but repulsion for the lamas: their mode of life and everything that pertained to them. We were therefore hardly in a mood to be prepossessed. Yet it must be admitted that that was one of the most impressive, the most moving services I, for one, have ever attended. Perhaps it was the unexpectedness of the whole thing, and especially of the worshippers' profound devotion. In any case it must have been only an appeal to eye and ear, and not to the conscious mind, for we could not understand one word of what was said. It was an instinctive acquiescence in their earnest consecration. The building was in such darkness that at first we could see nothing, but as the eyes grew accustomed to the gloom, row upon row of lamas were revealed seated motionless as images upon the floor. Only the unimpassioned faces of the lamas chanting the deep guttural prayers appeared, their crouching bodies, swathed in dark togas, remained unseen. Such light as entered illuminated the faces of the idol-buddhas and filtered down between a maze of old silken banners reaching from the roof nearly to the worshippers. The music was supplied by a large number of deep drums, cymbals and some reed instruments, and as it rose and fell the air vibrated as with an organ. At intervals the worship ceased, and tea was brought round by little boys; then the service was resumed.

CLIMBER GESTURES/ACTIONS

Rest and "knock a little warmth into chilled toes"

Pauses - Mallory kicks the ground to keep circulation in his toes.

Finch had slept w boots on. The other two hadn't and it took an hour to thaw the leather w candles.

Bruce and Finch lightened their loads by abandoning one rope. When gas cylinder was used up they took great pleasure in chucking it off the side of the mountain. "The good steel clanging like a church bell at each impact" (lightened load by 5lbs)

When passing each other in 1924 – Mallory descent after failed attempt – the two climbing parties said nothing to each other except Mallory told them to watch for strips of cloth that would indicate the route.

Shuffling and stamping feet to stay cold. They made dinner and forced themselves to eat it. Just thinking of food made them nauseas. But of drink one cannot have enough.

They moved at a "miserable crawl". Mallory's foot hurt - feared frostbite - removed boot Norton rubbed it and suggested he remove a pair of socks - his boot was too tight - problem solved.

Finch and Bruce had O2 tanks on and 2 thermoses of hot tea - they gave to climbers. Most of them could hardly speak. Finch had great admiration for what they had achieved. A "magnificent record" and safe return.

Then on the northeast ridge Bruce jr yelled not getting O2 and Finch didn't hesitate - he raced down and grabbed Bruce jr just in time, before he was about to fall backwards off the mountain. Finch dragged him forward saving his life and inserted his own breathing tube into Bruce's mouth. At elevation where most can't think. Finch worked to solve the problem while figuring a way to let Bruce and Finch breathe from his own cylinder while he attached a new glass tube to Bruce jrs cylinder. (At least Finch discovered that a sudden stop of O2 wouldn't kill a man on the mountain as suspected.)

WHEN PORTERS DIE: Mallory asked if the bodies of others should be retrieved and the Tibetans said the bodies of their friends and brothers should be left where they lay. The Brits saw this response as a sign of the universal spirit of mountaineers.



Somervell tormented by the loss and wished he too had been dead so that the others dead knew that the whites had shared in their loss.

THE SIGNALS THEY USED: (blankets by day and torch light signals by night) Odell made mark of t from camp 6. Hazard at camp 4 saw sign and using 6 blankets made the a cross - it was the message of death. Noel at camp 3 saw it first. Bruce jr asked him what he had seen. Noel couldn't speak. They both looked again "and tried...to make the signal different, but we couldn't". Finally they told Norton who hesitated for 10 empty and endless minutes before ordering three rows of blankets to be arranged in response. "Abandon search. Return as soon as possible." Hazard acknowledged receipt of order by removing blankets he had laid in snow. Then he signaled Odell. "All right. Return"

WHEN IT'S OVER: Odell organizes the kits of the dead deciding what goes home. What gets burned.

Somervell and Beetham worked on the memorial cairn carving names into rocks w screwdrivers.

Norton busied himself w dispatches - most urgent code read: "Obterras London-Mallory Irvine Nove Remainder Alcedo-Norton Rongbuk". It was wired June 19 night. By sat June 21 am all would know Mallory had died on June 8 10 days before his 38th birthday.

IMPORTANT, HUMOROUS MOMENTS AND STRIKING IMAGERY

Moment of levity came when one cook put tuna in hot water to boil it (having never seen canned food) and when he opened the can the contents exploded - word spread through the camp that all of the brit stores were explosive, a rumor Howard-Bury didn't quell as it discouraged pilfering from the supplies.

Saw Mongolian pilgrim - 11 months out of Lhasa moving 650 miles toward Kathmandu - one body length at a time in ritual prostration. Stand, arms high as he could reach, then bringing hands to forehead, throat chest he would ben forward to the ground. Touching earth on all fours with hands flat and squarely on his knees. He placed forehead on ground making 5 points of contact. Thus purifying the 5 poisons of hatred, desire, ignorance, pride and jealousy. Then stands again he drew his hands again in prayer to his chest - indicating his willingness as an aspiring bodhisattva to take on the suffering of all sentient beings. With each silent prostration he moved closer to his goal w was not a place but a state of mind - path of salvation and liberation was ultimate quest of the pilgrim.

1922:

Morshead and Wakefield celebrated their escape from civilization by having their heads shaved at Pedong by Morshead's servant, Munir Khan - a favorite of the men. A few days later Norton and Longstaff were similarly scalped as was Mallory who wrote to Ruth; "I look rather like a hun w my close crop and unshaven chin"

Gen Bruce mad "heroic exertions to get rid of his tummy" refusing his mount and stormed ahead on foot climbing as much as 5500ft in a day.

Morris commented on Mallory "leaving trails of untidiness wherever he went". After a few days the other men decided to take turns cleaning up Mallory's scattered gear to ensure nothing essential get left behind of pinched by the scores of young Tibetans who crowded around their every camp.

Privacy was never an option. The men were constantly on display "like animals in an exhibition" (Morris) "the extraverts squatted down behind the nearest rocks and paid no heed to the audience, while the others would saunter on until their pursuers lost interest.

After competition they all joked around - in good form and spirits
Finch tried to ride a yak earning him the name buffalo bill.

Morris who wore flamboyant native dress to dinner and "after the manner of a Hindu had shaved all but a lock of his hair soon answered to the name Babu Chatterjee. Mallory became appropriately, Peter Pan. Gen Bruce remained general. As Finch said "we could not have a better and more able leader than him...his immense power over the coolies is worth the presence of a dozen good men"

Gen Bruce met Dzatrul Rinpoche the incarnation of Padma Sambhava, guru Rinpoche - embodiment of a god, one "depicted with nine heads" According to Finch he was "an impressive bit of humbug with a huge face".

When Rinpoche asked Bruce why they wanted to suffer so much to stand on the loftiest peak. Bruce rose to the occasion explaining that the summit was the highest point on earth, its location the closest to heaven, a worthy goal for any man. Then to save himself from having to drink butter tea he told Dzatrul Rinpoche he had "sworn never to touch butter until we arrived at the summit of Everest."

Getting provisions to camp 4: Strutt gasping for air finally crested the height of the north col he cursed Noel "I wish that cinema were here" he exclaimed in a rare spark of humor. "If I look anything like what I feel, I ought to be immortalized for the British public"

Mallory looked at Strutt's "grease smeared, yellow ashen face" noted that they all looked like hell, wind-whipped and blackened by the sun. "And what do we do it for anyway!"

Finch and Bruce Jr made high altitude open air tinkerer's workshop. With temps well below zero the steel tools were too cold to handle. He made new breathing devices because valves on previous ones froze.

Tested the O₂ - Finch said "the effect of the O₂ was remarkable..."though the apparatus weighed some thirty pounds "we two went ahead like a house on fire."

Finch and Bruce Jr performed brilliantly with the O₂ and Strutt and Wakefield sent them on a rescue mission to find Mallory's team. They found them stumbling down the mountain and Finch and Bruce continued to restock camp 4 - they arrived back at camp 3 feeling great.

The Tibetans finally understood why they had been asked to carry steel cylinders all the way from Darjeeling. It was the "**English air**" that made the British so powerful.

Finch said: "all possible doubts as to the great advantages of oxygen were

now at an end."

The climbers endured another night - on starvation rations. Everest was an after thought - first goal was to survive the night. Finch: they were all "ravenously hungry, even, I think, to the point of cannibalism". The one thing they did have was tobacco. Finch loved to smoke and seriously believed it had a "most beneficial effect on respiration at high altitudes.". "Something in the smoke took the place of carbon dioxide in which the blood is deficient and acted as a nerve stimulant". They sat in a tent thick w smoke after 3 hours of straight smoking. They felt awful. Finch suggested they take a shot of gas. After they did they suddenly felt revived and even warm. So Finch rigged the tanks so they could have a low flow through the night. They all slept well and kept warm. Finch said that the oxygen alone saved their lives.

Then on the northeast ridge Bruce jr yelled not getting O2 ai Finch raced down and grabbed Bruce jr just in time. Before he was about to fall backwards off the mountain. Finch dragged him forward saving his life and inserted his own breathing tube into Bruce's mouth. At elevation where most can't think. Finch worked to solve the problem while figuring a way to let Bruce and Finch breathe from his own cylinder while he attached a new glass tube to Bruce jrs cylinder. (At least Finch discovered that a sudden stop of O2 wouldn't kill a man on the mountain as suspected.)

Wakefield and Crawford thought they would attempt summit too - despite their age but then Wakefield overdosed Crawford on morphine in an attempt to get a good night's sleep before the attack. His medical error might have saved their lives. Neither was fit enough for that climb. (And he noted that medicine doses might be reduced at that altitude)

INTERESTING NOTES AND QUOTES

1922 - radical innovation was oxygen

Howard Somervell and George Finch would argue that the use of oxygen was no more artificial than the use of a good pair of boots.

On the mountain Mallory would famously complain to Noel that he had not come to Tibet to become a film star... But he would become one whether he realized it or not.

Finch and Crawford showed up making the trek in 10 days. Not once on the journey had Finch been bothered by cold. "Everybody now envies me my eiderdown coat... And it is no longer laughed at"

"We were prepared to leave it to braver men to climb mount Everest by night". (MALLORY – once they had reached their turn around time and weren't anywhere near summit)

Tejbir was short and squat, ferociously strong. Finch picked him because "the man who grins the most is usually the one who goes farthest in the mountains"

Noel would go no further than north col. - Noel had become "new convert to the true faith" which was O2 (said Finch)

NOEL ON NEED FOR THIRD ATTEMPT: Noel explained it "in a struggle between man and mountain, such as this, as in any other battle... The moral effect of turning away from the enemy, after having once challenged and opened the fight, is fatal"

MALLORY ON THIRD ATTEMPT: Mallory was outwardly sanguine but inside he was torn. "Perhaps its mere folly to go up again. But how can I be out of the hunt... It sounds more like war than sport - and perhaps it is."

Mallory wrote to Geoffrey young - still blaming himself for the deaths of the 7 porters. Young wrote back "you made allowance for the safety of the party that your experience suggested... You took your full share, a leading share, in the risk. In the war we had to do worse: we had to order men into danger at times when we could not share it. And surely we learned then that to take on ourselves afterwards the responsibility for their deaths, to debate w ourselves the 'might-have-beens' was the road to madness.



Bruce back to Darjeeling met a holy man who said "I hear you have climbed the Himal by means of thread... No doubt the thread of life."

Geoffrey Bruce's last words to mountain as he was carried down from attempt – with feet too numb to walk. "Just you wait, old thing, you'll be for it soon."

As gen Bruce had written in 1922: "little aphorism... There is only one motto for the Himalaya: when in doubt, don't"

Geoffrey young wrote mail to Mallory "the result is nothing compared to the rightness of the attempt. Keep it right then; and let no desire for result spoil the effort by overstretching the safe limits within which it must move... The summit may, in any particular case, lie outside the course... Good Fortune! And the 'resolution to return' ever against ambition!"

Mallory "we are going to sail to the top this time, and God with us, or stamp to the top w our teeth in the wind."

Mallory writing to Hinks: "as flies to wanton dogs are we to the gods."

BRITISH EXPRESSIONS



Yarns – long rambling stories

Scuttlebutt – rumor/gossip

An empty shirt of a man

"Spent the evening gassing hard and swapping lies"

"It was the devil crossing the stream".

Wheeler returned to camp by 330pm after a "glorious glissade down perfect snow, the first I've had in this country, about 1000 ft of it. The porters "funked" at the opportunity. They had never seen someone ski down a mountain on his boots.

Wheeler said "the raw cold cuts one to the marrow".

Mallory describes dinner party to Ruth as a "swagger" affair (guest list embossed invitations - servants in red livery w gold and silver braid...)

1922:

1922 expedition came together in Darjeeling and as everyone got together and "in that peculiar British way... We attempted to elucidate the details of one another's upbringing and background without asking direct questions." (Morris). Morris brought on as transport officer "treated at first like slightly superior servants"

Morshead said about Finch "I don't know where all these yarns about him originated last year.". And "we are a very happy party, absolutely no jarring elements..."

Finch insulting Wakefield in his journal: "Wakefield has come up w us. I don't know what good he expects to do. He can barely crawl along, is always fussing and making a nuisance of himself. Generally speaking he is a busy old woman and good for nothing."

Noel said "may the Genie of the Steel Bottle aid them!"

1924 (and 1923)

1923: Mallory in USA disgusted by Americans table manners - describing a mans vulgar habit: he "often forks things of his wife's plate". NYC seemed larger than life w skyscrapers - shallow and "of a splendid gesture



against a backdrop of emptiness"

Poppycock

"conchie"

"I hereby agitate against him!" (Mallory referring to the person who wouldn't let graham join party)

Somervell too threatened to resign over the "caddish treatment"

Irvine; "feel very fit tonight. I wish I was in the first party instead of a bloody reserve."

Mallory wrote: "all sound plans are now abandoned for two consecutive dashes without gas" he was pissed.

They were all bundled like "golluwogs". Absurd in appearance but at least ready for the wind.

Irvine said "I hope they've got to the top... But by god I'd like to have a whack at it myself".

Norton woke "a blind crock"

Bullock was "cooked" but would have continued if Mallory had

Finch describing Dzatrul Rinpoche: he was "an impressive bit of humbug w a huge face".

TIBETAN TERMS AND CULTURE



Backsheesh - money
Tangkas/ Thangka – Tibetan money
Rupees – Indian currency

Porters described as Sherpa Bhotias.
Sherpas – Himalayan people living on the borders of Nepal and Tibet renowned for their skill in mountaineering.

Bhutia Nepalese: Bhutia are a community of people of Tibetan ancestry, who speak Sikkimese, a Tibetan dialect fairly mutually intelligible to standard Tibetan.

Tigers - Shepa elite

Dzongpen – Tibetan officials (loosely translated as governor)

Chhoti barsat - the rains that herald the arrival of the monsoon

"Om mani padme hum" - hail the jewel in the lotus

Tibetan greeting of sticking tongue out.

The Tibetans thought the Brits were climbing to the top in search of treasure-wealth - a gold cow or yak at top that they would melt down.

BRITS REFLECT ON TIBETANS

Buddhists wouldn't hurt a bug and ate ground barley to feed the worms in their stomachs but would hand out awful punishment for minor crimes like petty theft etc.

Locals useless in giving info on Everest. They called it Chomolungma. And they measured distance by number of days or cups of tea. Brits determined that 3 cups of tea were roughly equivalent to five miles. But nothing was precise.

Dzongpen - with long finger nails celebrated his idleness.

At every village, as he fully understood, tradition demanded that the men stop and drink.

Later small troupe of dancers arrived in late afternoon and put on a modest performance in the courtyard of the bungalow. Wheeler said "various meaningless stunts and some 1/2 cartwheels. One man played the drum,

the woman the cymbals. Bury gave them 2 rupees w pleased them no end."

Finch was helpful at camp and had great sense of humor. He wrote acidly "if one ever wishes to talk w a Tibetan it is advisable to stand on his windward side. A noble Tibetan informed me w great pride that he had had two baths, one on the day of his birth and the other on the day of his wedding... In this matter of physical cleanliness the Tibetan priests are even worse offenders than the laity; doubtless because they do not marry... Only once did I see a Tibetan having a bath. It was at shegar dzong...Disporting himself in the waters of a pool, quite close to the village, was a Tibetan boy, stark naked. On closer examination it transpired that the boy was the village idiot.

Then they reached the shining crystal monastery of shegar - stayed for 3 days. Bruce met w dzongpens to secure transport and more porters. Noel captured footage of ceremonial processions, monks in prayer and wildly theatrical rituals described by the British as devil dances.

Morris said he radiated a sort of positive goodness. "To each of us he gave a ceremonial scarf and then blessed us by lightly touching our heads w what looked like an ornate silver pepper pot... For our porters it was one of the great occasions of their lives. As they entered the presence each man prostrated himself and wormed his way forward to receive the blessing. None raised his head."

As they left the monastery Bruce and Morris both thought of the hermit cells along the flanks of the valley. "How it is possible for human beings to stand what they stand, even for a year... Without either dying or going mad, passes comprehension" (Bruce)

Even Morris was bewildered and offended by the austerity of the practice "Tibetans regard these ascetic monks w the utmost veneration, but their vacuous faces, looking as though they had lost the power of thought, gave me nothing but a feeling of disgust. It seemed horrible this deliberately to deny the purpose of life."

The lamas talk of wrathful deities and wild creatures, yetis inhabiting the upper glaciers of the mountain inspired confidence in no one.

WHEN PORTERS DIE: Mallory asked if the bodies of others should be retrieved and the Tibetans said the bodies of their friends and brothers should be left where they lay. The Brits saw this response as a sign of the

universal spirit of mountaineers.

Somervell tormented by the loss and wished he too had been dead so that the others dead knew that the whites had shared in their loss.

Bruce alerted assumed Asian mind would take it in typical fatalistic manner - it was meant to be. And he would write to each family and compensate them accordingly. (based on how many kids, if he was eldest son, etc)

Mallory haunted by the fact that children the same age as his own would be left without a father. "The consequences of my mistake are so terrible"

Dzatrol Rinpoche learned of accident asked climbers to attend a prayer service "to honor the spirits of those left behind."

Climbers to monastery for service but it was also Mani Rimdu the ritual of intense devotion that over the course of nearly three weeks recalls and celebrates the original dissemination of Buddhism to Tibet.

Masks devil dancing etc Mallory likened it to Shakespeare. Scores of pilgrims there. The climbers were given a red pill - sacred offering. If swallowed allows one to eat the power of the Buddhist dharma.

Noel witnessed sky burial and though he had equipment he refrained from photographing it as it was simply too awful: prayers over naked corpse then body is butchered sliced w knives they hack and smash into a pulp on a rock w hatchets and throw it to the vultures who stand waiting only 5ft away. The birds consume all flesh and crushed bone.

Dzatrul Rinpoche - was ill and couldn't carry out ceremony of blessing. Which they had hoped for the porters' sake. So a small group went and visited the monastery w a yakload of portland cement and Hazard showed them how to mix the cement w gravel and sand to fix the monastery's dominant chorten.

Noel was shown an unsettling mural painted since the 1922 expedition. Noel: "an old man with a gnarled face and only two teeth in his head shuffled over the courtyard wrapped in his maroon gown, and let me to the temple entrance, where on an inner wall, so dark that I could not at first distinguish it, he showed me a freshly executed painting... Most curious picture". It depicted cloven-hoofed devils armed with pitchforks casting a party of climbers into a vortex that spun ever deeper into a cold abyss, a hell zone that for Tibetans is not a place of fire but a realm of ice snow,

and murderous winds. Ferocious dogs guarded the flanks of Everest, while at its base lay prostrate a single white body, speared and ravaged by horned demons.

Noel took a tracing and photographed the image. His wife later added an alleged quote from Dzatrul Rinpoche: "Chomolungma, the awful and mighty Goddess Mother, will never allow any white man to climb her sacred heights. The demons of the snow will destroy you utterly". It's doubtful that the lama spoke those words.

The actual inspiration for the mural was not even the death of the 7 sherpas on the 1922 expedition - but after the Brits had left and left supplies of barley flour (tsampa) and rice, oil and other goods. The local herders and villagers were keen to salvage the supplies. Dzatrul Rinpoche cautioned against it. When they reached the base of the north col one of the herders saw 7 yetis spring from the snow. They raced down the valley and begged forgiveness.

1924:

Then ushered into a small courtyard lines on all sides w elaborate embroidered benches and sheltered at one end by an overhanging wooden roof. There beneath the veranda was the high lama seated on a red throne and flanked by attendants. Rinpoche's dress was of the usual dark red material but in addition he wore a yellow hat elegantly adorned w gold.

"He pressed a silver prayer wheel against our heads. Then porters were blessed. Each prostrated himself 3 times before coming forth for lama to bless him.

Bruce jr made offering for all the sahibs and Norton presented the sacred gentleman w a roll of embroidery and a watch.

Norton asked the Rinpoche for a few words of encouragement for porters - he told them to obey the Brits and work hard on the mountain - the reason for the ceremony! Then lama prayed. It ended in many repetitions of "om mani padme hum".

Irvine said prayer wheel looked like a white metal pepper pot too!

WARDROBE

1921

When George Bernard Shaw saw portrait of 1921 Everest expedition - men dressed in Norfolk jackets knickerbockers and puttees - camel hair grey goat , Donegal tweed - matching tie and waistcoat - woolen scarf. He famously quipped the entire scene resembled "Connemara picnic surprised by a snowstorm" (Connemara is coastal region in western Ireland.)

FIRST DAY OF EXPEDITION - Mallory rode a pony w a sun umbrella in hand, an oiled silk cover on his topee and a rucksack on his back, humping out of his cycling cape. He told Ruth he looked ridiculous.

Head lama, Lingkhor Rinpoche - 1921 -Bury took pic of him "dressed in robes of beautiful golden brocade, w priceless silk Chinese hangings arranged behind him while he sat on a raised dais w his dorjee and his bell in front of him, placed upon a finely carved Chinese table. - became famous photo everyone (Buddhists) wanted it for the man was a living saint and worshipped as god incarnate

On the descent in the sleet and snow, bullock put up his pink umbrella. Mallory wore his shepherd's overalls, airplane wing fabric oiled to a dirty yellow sheen.

Bullock - clothes for the trek - 3 pairs of drawers and 3 shetland sweaters.

Finch anticipating the cold, contacted S.W Silver and Co - a firm specializing in military uniforms and expedition gear and ordered custom-made garments of his own invention: knee length coat, trousers and gauntlets lined with eiderdown

1922:

Each climber responsible for his own kit so it was a motley assemblage - layers of underwear, flannel shirts, cotton outer garments padded w eiderdown, waistcoats and lamb-skin jackets, plus fours and cashmere puttees, stockings, knickerbocker suits and shetland pullovers. The only standard issue was a pair of thigh length sheepskin RAF flying boots which reduced all movement to "a clumsy waddle". Morris wore a suit of shoddy cashmere tweed "it looked alright" he wrote "but afforded little protection from the howling Tibetan gales"

Morshead put on his sledding suit.

Advanced to provision camp 4. Mallory wore 2 felt hats. Strutt and

Somervell wore solar topees. Norton and Morshead foolishly went without protection from the sun and would regret it.

1924

Irvine writes: a very amusing dinner w a couple of bottles of champagne. A very dirty and bedraggled company. Hingston clean-shaven and proper sitting opposite Shebbeare w a face like a villain and a balaclava inside out on the back of his head. Hazard in a flying helmet w a bristly chin sticking out even further... Beetham sat silent most of the time, round and black like a mixture of Judas Iscariot and an apple dumpling. George sitting on a very low chair could hardly be seen above the table except for a cloth hat pinned up on one side w a huge safety pin and covered in candle grease. Noel as usual, leaning back w his chin down and cloth hat over his eyes, grinning to himself. Everyone was very happy to be back in a Christian mess hut eating decent food.

Norton describing his look: "personally I wore thick woolen vest and drawers, a thick flannel shirt and two sweaters under a lightish knickerbocker suit of windproof gaberdine the knickers of which were lined w light flannel, a pair of soft elastic Kashmir putties and a pair of boots of felt bound and soled with leather and lightly nailed w the usual Alpine nails. Over all I wore a very light pajama suit of Messrs Burberry's "shakleton" windproof gabardine. On my hands I wore a pair of long fingerless woolen mits inside a similar pair made of gaberdine... On my head I wore a fur-lined motorcycling helmet, and my eyes and nose were protected by a pair of goggles of Crooke's glass, which were sewn into a leather mask that came well over the nose and covered any part of my face, which was not naturally protected by my beard. A huge woolen muffler completed my costume."

Mallory climbed into a Whymper shared by Odell, Somervell and Irvine. He removed his boots and knickers, put on his favorite footless stockings knitted by Ruth.

Odell and hazard made the climbers a breakfast of fried sardines, biscuits, chocolate and tea. Mallory didn't overdress: cotton and silk underwear, a flannel shirt, a brown long sleeved pullover, woolen waistcoat. For wind he wore a gabardine shackletonjacket. He had 2 pairs of goggles, a fur lined helmet, woolen mittens, and a scarf. Crammed into his pockets and in 2 pouches worn around his neck were misc item; nail scissors and a penknife, a box of swan vesta matches, extra laces and straps, a tube of petroleum jelly and 2 handkerchiefs one burgundy, green and blue. And the other red, blue and yellow, each monogrammed GLM. He had a list of



supplies scratched out on a bit of paper and three letters. One from Trafford his brother dated April 2. A second from sister Mary in Colombo April 12 and the third was from a woman he had met in NY- Stella Cobden-Sanderson (no scandal here) on the back of the envelope he had written info about pressure levels of the O2 cylinders which is the only reason he carried that letter w him.

Irvine wore similar gear but w breeches and puttees beneath his shackletonjacket. He had a felt hat pulled down low over his face to protect it from sun.

PROPS

SHIP

On Ship in 1922 - Finch insisted on oxygen tank drills on the ship.

On Ship 1924: Passed time on ship by working out in the gym, tossing medicine ball and running laps of the deck to stay fit.

OTHER TRANSPORT

Once Mallory arrives in Darjeeling: Mallory reached the mansion in a rickshaw

CURRENCY

Tangkas/Thangka - Tibetan currency

Rupees - India currency

LUGGAGE AND CONVOY

Mallory had 35 pieces of personal luggage and arranged for the other expedition goods to follow.

1922: Dramatic convoy of ultimately more than 300 yaks, 50 mules, riding ponies for 13 sahibs, karma paul, and the 4 gurkha NCOs along w cows, donkeys, oxen and at any moment, between 50 and 100 Tibetan and Nepali porters.

Morshead reported to wife; "our messing and transport are lavish...compared w Bury's frugal methods of last year's trip"

1924 MALLORY and IRVINE'S LAST ATTEMPT: They had 8 porters each carrying 25 pound loads - sleeping bags - meta fuel and sever spare gas cylinders.

LODGING

LOW CAMPS: DAK BUNGALOWS: They reached a dak bungalow built of wood w four rooms w plates lamps and oil and library of old magazines beds mattresses and a chawkidar(guard) who provided firewood and milk. Notice on bungalow advised parties of 2 to travel w three servants: a cook, a bearer and a sweeper - the sweeper to clean bungalow toilets after use. The addition of a tiffin coolie to prepare picnics and assist the cook was optional but highly recommended. No coolie made to carry more than 50lbs and each to be paid a third the daily cost of a mule. If traveling to Tibet they were advised to carry several tins of biscuits, bottles of scented water, boxes of toilet soap as gifts for high officials, lamas and dzongpens. These were to be presented on a tray by a servant along w ceremonial khatas or scarves.

Lower down to camp at just under 18000ft - were bury and Wollaston - w mess tents and camp beds decent food and plenty of it.

Comforts of base camp: hot food and lots of it - spacious warm tents, camp beds and chairs.

Camp chairs.

They set up the mummery tent

GENERAL EQUIPMENT

Meade and mummery tents - sleeping sacks and goggles. Blankets. Ropes. Gletscher creme face grease (sunscreen) and whale oil. Rucksacks - primus stoves - crampons - snow shoes - skis(never used)

TINKERER SHOP

FINCH – high altitude tinkerer shop with tools for O2 tanks and general tinkering.

Norton and Somervell from camp 6 attempt: they were off. Norton: "cardigans, a thermos flask of coffee and a vest pocket Kodak, nothing else save ice axes and a short rope."

MARKERS

Bruce jr, Morris and dozen porters carried flags wooden stakes and rope to mark the upper route through the ice pinnacles

TECH EQUIPMENT

Their aneroid registered 26800ft.
Kodak cameras

SURVEY EQUIPMENT

Wheeler recorded highest point ever achieved by survey of India. In deep snow w theodolite and camera resting steady of tripod ice ax and bags of grain. Among the 10 porters that would carry on were 3 that had been w Wheeler.

MEDICINES

Whale oil
Cod oil - medicinal
Lead – medicinal
Gletscher creme face grease (sunscreen)

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

ON MALLORY: nail scissors and a penknife, a box of swan vesta matches, extra laces and straps, a tube of petroleum jelly and 2 handkerchiefs one burgundy, green and blue. And the other red, blue and yellow, each monogrammed GLM. He had a list of supplies scratched out on a bit of paper and three letters. One from Trafford his brother dated April 2. A second from sister Mary in Colombo April 12 and the third was from a woman he had met in NY.

Bury carried shotgun, rifle and three cameras.

Pipes – tobacco - cigarettes

GAMES, ENTERTAINMENT AND LITERATURE

1924: Mallory climbed into a Whymper shared by Odell, Somervell and Irvine. He... pulled from his pack a set of playing cards and his well worn copy of The Spirit of Man. He read from the book recreating a similar situation from 1922.

They enjoyed the poems Kubla Khan, the Epitaph to Gray's 'Elegu". And 'Prometheus Unbound'

Finally they all gathered in one tent to play bridge. 3ft of fresh snow had fallen.

COOKING - HEAT

Water was a major problem. The primus stoves couldn't be lit at that elevation. Melting ice by spirit lamp was adequate for tea but not sufficient for their needs.

Irvine had managed to start the Haddock cooker and then had hot soup.

Mallory et al had absolute alcohol for oil and for emergency purposed cylinders of white metaldehyde or meta - a solid that burned readily at the strike of a match. Meta was smokeless and highly efficient but in short supply.

To melt snow for water used alcohol in a spirit burner - took up much of the afternoon and yielded 6 large thermos flaks of tea for the following day.

FOOD AND DRINK

Butter tea and a plate of English biscuits. Then minced mutton and diced vegetables, eggs and macaroni. Which to the delight of everyone H-Bury tried to eat w a pair of chopsticks



Hundreds of cups of butter tea - more salt than tea - were had as a gesture of etiquette and protocol - but they never got used to the somewhat rancid flavor.

Mallory says he eats 1/4 lb on chocolate a day while climbing

Bury went hunting for gazelles. Bullock shot a bar-headed goose. Had soup then goose w peas and potatoes. Rice pudding and cocoa. satisfied them all

Later meal w another dzongpen. Momos to be washed down w soup chili sauce and chang.

Chang - barley beer. W dried fruit, nuts and eggs

Wheeler managed to make tea that stayed liquid as long as it was drunk immediately.

Heated consomme for dinner the night before.

Mallory melted sardines for breakfast

Tea, cocoa, and broth. Ham, biscuits, chocolate, figs, dates and raisins they had cold. But nobody had much of an appetite at that altitude.

Tea and several tins of sardines.

Bruce jr and Finch down to camp 3 - they were dead beat and famished. Noel served them a feast - four whole quails followed by 9 great sausages and still they asked for more. Finch took a tin of toffee to bed tucking it away in the crook of his elbow and slept for 14 hrs.

1922:

Gen Bruce would not be stingy on food as bury had been - the food filled some 900 light plywood boxed: cheeses and ham, bully beef, biscuits, oatmeal, dried soups - gingered lemons-tinned quail in aspic - finest French champagne and 120 year old run (for Bruce's birthday on April 7)

Opened champagne to toast the future success of expedition.

When hiking above high camps: food, mint cake and sweet biscuits.

Others advance and join camp 3. Over lunch the climbers huddled together, each w a spoon eating from a common saucepan of spaghetti. The habit horrified Strutt.

Mallory's climbing party of 4 – attempt: For food they had cocoa, pea soup, biscuits, ham and cheese. They went to bed at 430pm.

Set up camp 5 by 3pm the porters descended. The climbers had quick meal of tinned ham and hot Bovril.

DURING ATTEMPT: Turn around time was 230pm. At 215 they rested and ate chocolates mint cake acid drops raisins and prunes.

DESCENT after failed attempt: They paused only for a nip of brandy then descended to camp 5. They found Morshead fine and ready to descend.

They had stew using blocks of solid fuel.

1924:

When General gave up hope of returning to expedition – he sent his bottles of family rum up to the men as well as champagne. So cold the champagne bottles froze and shattered.

Kami the cook made a hot meal, mutton and veg stew washed down by cool coffee. No soup and the cheese and jam were frozen solid.

Met w Dzatrul Rinpoche and the climbing party shared a meal of minced meat and macaroni. Radishes and hot peppers.

Cocoa, pea soup and tongue.

Norton Somervell had pemmican, bully beef, coffee and biscuits in their bellies.

Mallory's last climb: Odell and hazard made the climbers a breakfast of fried sardines, biscuits, chocolate and tea.

MALLORY and IRVINE'S LAST ATTEMPT: For food they packed light: high energy snacks mostly: chocolate, ginger nuts, macaroni, sliced ham and tongue. Kendal mint cakes and tea

canned milk, strawberry jam (all they had to quench their thirst – Somervell and Norton)

Somervell drank 17 mugs of tea. Somervell said "it was thirst that did me in and nothing else" he said even as Wakefield bound up his black swollen hands.

OFFERINGS/GIFTS

Dzongpen arrived w gifts - 5 sheep, 100 eggs and small carpet.

1922

Dzatrul Rinpoche - served them butter tea yogurt and rice. He said the Brits asked for his protection, permission to gather firewood and vowed not to kill any creatures. Then he said he "sent down a trunk of meat, four bricks of tea and one bowl of flour according to our local tradition of hospitality"

Gift of a watch from Noel to Rinpoche

BOOKS/LITERATURE

ON EXPEDITION 1922: Mallory books – Shakespeare’s plays and copy of Robert Bridges wartime anthology the spirit of man - poetry and short prose in 1915 to buck up soldier morale. Also Virginia Woolf’s book “Night and Day”

MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS REFERENCED

In 1912 Badminton Magazine asked why the summit of Everest had yet to be conquered 25 million pounds had been exhausted for quest of north pole 400 men had died and 200 ships been lost and still no serious effort on Everest, hardly a farthing spent and not a life lost.

TIMES – had exclusive rights to the Everest stories

SPONSORS/ADS

All manufacturers hit up by Hinks reaped benefits w Everest photos selling playing cards, cigarettes, newspapers Kodak film, mint candies, gabardine jackets, work boots, jam and jellies, butter and bully beef.

MUSIC

Only clanging of Tibetan music mentioned during Tibetan ‘devil dancing’
And Somervell composing the music for Noel’s film after 1922 expedition



MAIL

Mallory on receiving mail "its always a wonderful moment... When mail comes and love flies in among us and nestles in every tent"

Mail v important - not only receiving it but the reply-vent, share thoughts, fears etc.

1924:

Postcards made up w mountain and swastika that for a small fee kids could write down their address and it would be mailed to them from the foot of the mountain. (As good as getting a postcard postmarked from the moon.

MISC. INTERESTING FACTS



MEASURING HEIGHT OF EVEREST

Everest was first named peak B by John Armstrong. Then named peak XV by James Nicolson. Then Andrew Waugh, surveyor general of India assigned the task of figuring out the height of summit to brilliant Indian, chief computer Radhanath Sikhdar given the distance of the sightings and the problem of atmospheric refraction the challenge was enormous. It took 2 yrs. for Sikhdar to determine that this unknown summit was 29002 ft - 1000ft higher than any other known mountain on earth (Kangchenjunga was thought to be highest). Actual elevation of the mountain, measured today by satellite technology is 29035 ft. But the mountain has been rising at a rate of a centimeter a year for the last several centuries. So in 1805 when Sikhdar did his calculations w pencil paper and math wizardry he was only off by 28ft.

GIVING EVEREST A PROPER NAME

Naming provoked controversy. Andrew Waugh proposed to sir Roderick Murchison, then president of RGS, that they name mountain after his predecessor. Sir George Everest was not pleased. He was a remarkable geographer and largely responsible for the Great Trigonometrical Survey which he led from 1829. But he was a miserable cantankerous man made few friends in India - had little time for Indian religion etc. But his name was actually pronounced Eave-rest - ironic his legacy was to have a mountain named in his honor yet mispronounced for all time.

SURVEYING THE AREA COVERTLY

Dance of espionage as celebrated in Kipling novel - KIM - the Brits had trained Indian cadres as surveyors disguised them as pilgrims, holy men or peasants and sent them on foot across the high passes of the Himalaya to find what lay beyond the all of mountains that defied their every diplomatic initiative. These pundits meant to gather geographical info - location and accessibility of major passes, character and extent of rivers that drained the Tibetan plateau and flowed into foothills of India. The surveyors could only use what could be disguised as monks' religious instruments. Trained to walk at precisely 2000 paces to the mile - they were given rosaries w 100 beads (instead of traditional 108) and instructed to drop a single bead into prayer wheel every 100 steps. The scrolls hidden in prayer wheel were blank so data could be recorded.

THE UNUSUAL SPORT OF PIG-STICKING

Gen Bruce's nephew Geoffrey Bruce young 25-year-old soldier in Indian army. He excelled at pig sticking - men on horses w 9 ft. lances to spear wild boar unique to India known to attack and kill elephants and tigers... Young Bruce reached semi-finals.

OTHER REVERED EXPLORERS OF MALLORY'S TIME

Robert Falcon Scott, CVO (6 June 1868 – c. 29 March 1912) was a Royal Navy officer and explorer who led two expeditions to the Antarctic regions: the Discovery Expedition, 1901–04, and the ill-fated Terra Nova Expedition, 1910–13. During this second venture, Scott led a party of five which reached the South Pole on 17 January 1912, only to find that they had been preceded by Roald Amundsen's Norwegian expedition. On their return journey, Scott and his four comrades all died from a combination of exhaustion, starvation and extreme cold.

Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton, CVO, OBE, FRGS (/ˈʃækəltn/; 15 February 1874 – 5 January 1922) was an Anglo-Irish polar explorer and one of the principal figures of the period known as the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. His first experience of the polar regions was as third officer on Captain Robert Falcon Scott's Discovery Expedition, 1901–04, from which he was sent home early on health grounds. Determined to make amends for this perceived personal failure, he returned to Antarctica in 1907 as leader of the Nimrod Expedition. In January 1909 he and three companions made a southern march which established a record Farthest South latitude at 88° 23' S, 97 geographical miles (112 statute miles, 180 km) from the South Pole, by far the closest convergence in exploration history up to that time. For this achievement, Shackleton was knighted by King Edward VII on his return home.

After the race to the South Pole ended in 1912 with Roald Amundsen's conquest, Shackleton turned his attention to what he said was the one remaining great object of Antarctic journeying—the crossing of the continent from sea to sea, via the pole. To this end he made preparations for what became the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1914–17. Disaster struck this expedition when its ship, *Endurance*, became trapped in pack ice and was slowly crushed before the shore parties could be landed. There followed a sequence of exploits, and an ultimate escape with no loss of life, that would eventually assure Shackleton's heroic status, although this was not immediately evident.[2] In 1921 he returned to the Antarctic with the Shackleton-Rowett Expedition, intending to carry out a programme of scientific and survey activities. Before the expedition could begin this work Shackleton died of a heart attack while his ship, *Quest*, was moored in South Georgia. At his wife's request he was buried there.

AFTER



Before Hinks' telegraph (with news of Mallory's death) reached Ruth. A journalist from the Times got to Ruth's house. The editor wanted to spare Ruth the shock and indignity of learning of her husband's death in the morning paper. After learning the news, she went out for a walk with old friends, and then returned home to gather her three children into her bed. She told them what had happened. Curled under the covers, they "all cried together."

Ruth was brave and wrote to young that she knew he was ready for another life. Then she wrote more desperate not saying what she loved was his life. And that she admired him no less whether he made it to summit or not... Still grappling w the loss and sorting through her grief.

She would later remarry and not have her children live in the shadow of the death of their father but teach them and raise them in the spirit in which he lived.

Conrad Anker found body in 1999. Controversy over how the Americans treated Mallory's body. Photos sold – some offers were for \$40,000.

*MAIN SOURCE FOR RESEARCH PACKET: Davis, Wade. *Into the Silence*. London: The Bodly Head, 2011.

**"it was quite easy to realize that the price of life is death, and that, so long as the payment be made promptly, it matters little to the individual when the payment is made. Somewhere up there, in that vast wilderness of ice and rock, were two still forms. Yesterday, with all the vigor and will of perfect manhood, they were playing a great game - their life's desire. Today it is over and they had gone, without their ever knowing the beginnings of decay.
Could any man desire a better end?"**

INTO THE SILENCE

WADE DAVIS

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