

College Station Aids Expedition

Penn State's radio station W3YA-ALMA is in daily communication with six men now sailing the South Pacific on a raft.

The station, which is operated under the direction of Gilbert L. Crossley, assistant professor of electrical engineering, was unable to establish contact with the expedition during its first five weeks of operation, but finally succeeded on June 3.

Messages are sent and received daily at 3 a.m. (EDT), which was found after a trial period to be the best time for transmission.

Principal station of the three designated to communicate with the expedition on its scientific journey, W3YA-ALMA is operated around-the-clock by Crossley, with the assistance of 21 undergraduates and nine staff members.

Messages Relayed

Messages received locally are relayed to a designated newspaper syndicate, the U.S. Weather Bureau (if they contain weather

information), or to the expedition headquarters at the Norwegian Embassy in Washington, D. C.

The College station, which also was the key station for the second and third Admiral Byrd expeditions to the South Pole, is equipped with specially-designed instruments and devices to carry out its mission as the expedition's key radio station.

The raft carries radio transmission and receiving equipment, the transmitter powered by a hand-driven generator and the receiver with dry batteries. For broadcasting to key stations, the raft has a two-element beam and for broadcasting over other frequencies, there is an antenna held aloft by a balloon in calm weather and by kite in stormy weather.

Operators Decorated

Both radio operators aboard the raft were decorated for their activities with the Norwegian underground during the war. One provided information that led to the destruction of German production and supply of "heavy

water" in Norway, and the other sent information that resulted in the bombing and sinking of the Nazi battleship, Tirpitz.

The six scientists headed by Thor Heyerdahl, 33-year-old Norwegian ethnologist, who during World War II served as a radar parachutist with U. S. forces in Europe, set sail from Peru on April 29 on a 15x30-ft. replica of a pre-Incaic balsa raft. Their intent is to prove there was a racial movement from South America to the Polynesian Islands about 500 A.D., and that inhabitants of the islands did not migrate from Asia as is commonly believed.

Propelled by Ocean

The raft is propelled by ocean currents, the wind, and paddles. The expedition is identifiable as "Kon-Tiki," which means "The Son of the Sun" and represents a symbol mutual to pre-Incaic and pre-Polynesian mythology.

Messages received at the College station are always signed: "Six Men on a Raft."

his direction reinvestigated the facts behind intra-molecular rearrangements. Later he developed here his electronic conception of intra-molecular rearrangements and related reactions. His "Organic Chemistry," written here, became the first distinctly advanced text in English on the subject.

During World War II, Dean Whitmore's research activity was varied but included aviation fuels, lubricants, explosives, anti-malarials, synthetic rubber, penicillin, silicones, camouflages, and other subjects. He also served as consultant to industrial groups

and federal agencies, including the War Production Board, War Manpower Commission, National Defense Research Committee, Office of Production Research and Development, and the Quartermaster General's Office.

Born on Oct. 1, 1887, Dean Whitmore was a son of Frank Hale and Lena Avilla Thomas Whitmore. In 1914 he married Marion Gertrude Mason, of Cambridge, Mass., who survives with four children: Frank, Jr., of Washington, D. C.; Mason, Harry, and Marion of State College. A brother, Harold, of Fernandina, Fla., also survives.

Whitmore—

(Continued from page one)

... about his work in saving lives than in the fields of destroying life."

"As he honored himself, he honored us. And just as truly as if he had died on a far-flung battlefield, he was a casualty of this war."

Great Scholar, Chemist

Characterizing the dean as a great scholar, a great student, and a great chemist—"among the greatest of our day"—Frizzell spoke, too, of his home life:

"He was a great lover of his home and family, wherein and by whom he was loved in a way that is the privilege of few men. The world may have another memory of him, but the picture I cherish is of our friend walking down Allen street, a grandson at either side, and all three of them hilariously licking away at ice cream cones.

"He had as great a zest for life, for simple things, as he did for meeting life's great problems."

Long recognized as a leader in the field of chemistry, Dean Whitmore in 1945 was awarded the Willard Gibbs Medal, the highest chemical honor in the nation. He was the 34th recipient of the award. Seven years earlier he had received the William H. Nichols Medal for outstanding chemical research. Last year he was one of 29 American scientists named to the National Academy of Sciences and in 1938 he served as president of the American Chemical Society.

Headed Northwest

Born in North Attleboro, Mass., Dean Whitmore attended Atlantic City, N. J., high school and completed his undergraduate and graduate work at Harvard. He taught at Williams, at Rice Institute, and the University of Minnesota and headed the chemistry department of Northwestern University before coming to Penn State.

During his years at Northwestern University from 1920 to 1929, Dean Whitmore became a world authority on organic compounds, especially in connection with their use as drugs. His volume on "Organic Compounds of Mercury" was long the only treatise on this subject and still is recognized as the most authoritative one.

On coming to Penn State, Dean Whitmore changed his field of research interest into that of simple aliphatic chemistry, a field containing the simplest compounds of carbon.

Developed Electronics

At Penn State, students under

Class Changes—

(Continued from page one)

POST SESSION

COURSES ADDED		By Appt.	
A.H.	18.07	1-6	203 Ag. Bldg.
For.	504.35	2	102 For.
For.	508.35	2	102 For.
I.E.	315.48	F 3	Rm.201, Eng.C
Mech.	13.59	H 3	206 Eng. A
Sp.	3.87	F 3	4 Sp.

COURSES DROPPED

Phys.	235.75	G
Phys.	235.75	H
Phys.	285.75	G
Phys.	285.75	H

CHANGES IN ROOMS

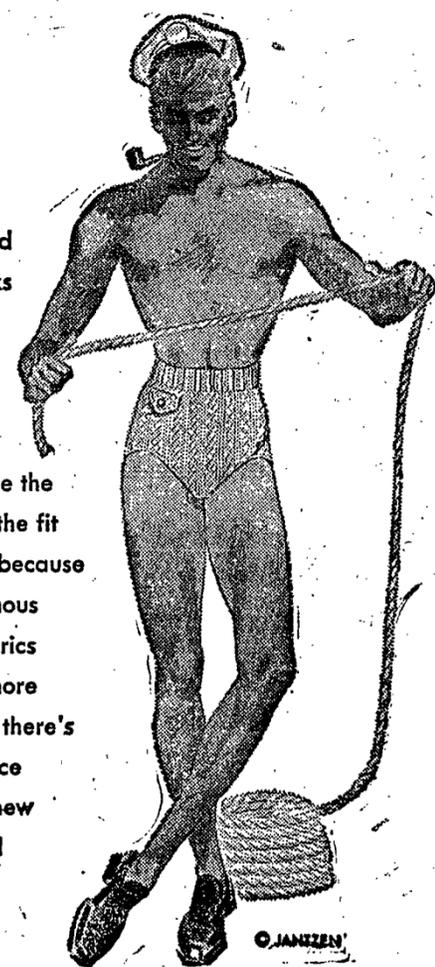
Ed.	583.25	Unit R 3	128 Sp.	2,4 Pds.
Hist.	20.44	e 3	304 Sp.	1
Hist.	21.44	e 3	304 Sp.	3
Psy.	417.78	3	236 Sp.	2,4



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