

Research Review

Bears Hunted with Tranquilizer Guns

By CLAUDIA LEVY

Armed with special tranquilizer dart guns, two University scientists went out to hunt polar bear, Frank Buck style, as part of an expedition to the Arctic Ocean this summer.

Little is known about polar bears, other than when they get hungry, they are as dangerous and vicious as any other animal. Martin Schein, professor of animal behavior and Frederick M. Hart, graduate student from Phoenix, Ariz., were interested, however, in the problems of adjustment to life experienced by bears as part of a preliminary study of the Arctic.

"HE WANTED to study everything the bear does to maintain life," Schein said, "how he eats, swims and sleeps." This is known as ecology, or the relationship of an animal to its environment, or

that of a series of animals to their environment," he added.

"If we could mark certain bears, so we could follow them day in and day out, we could get certain information, or if we could attach radio transmitters to them to tell us body-temperature, metabolism and location we could keep track of them for months," he said.

Bears, he said, are the most prominent of the arctic animals. The researchers were interested in the effect of the bear population on the Arctic. The overall expedition was interested in surveying the face of the Arctic, the kinds of life and how and if the Arctic is changing, Schein said.

Five men went on the trip, including Schein, Hart, a marine

biologist and two photographers, who were to get photographs of the terrain.

Sponsored by the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the party traveled on an 80-foot seal-hunting boat, with a 14-foot outboard motor available for "running" the bears. The group left Norway on July 5 for a point midway between Norway and the North Pole.

Three bears were studied, one by photographs, the second for a few minutes after it had been tranquilized, and the third, a female, was kept on board the ship for a week before she worked her way out of the cage, gorged herself on seal meat, and swam away. A snow storm prevented the party from following her.

Starr to Open Series Tonight

Laura Starr, former education director of the Ladies Garment Workers, will open the Graduate School Lecture Series for the fall term. He will speak on "Education, Curse or Cure" at 8 tonight in 121 Sparks.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Department of Labor Education and is open to the public.

Starr became interested in labor while working in the mines of South Wales. He wrote three labor textbooks before coming to the United States in 1928. He is also the author or co-author of

more than 10 books in the field of labor and trade unionism.

John Fischer, editor of Harper's Magazine, will give the second talk in the Series, "What Students Could Do to Improve the Quality of University Education" on Thursday, Oct. 25.

A visiting professor at the School of Public Health, Harvard University, Jean Mayer, will give the final talk in the fall series. She will speak on "Obesity: Physiological, Psychological and Social Aspects," on Thursday, Nov. 8.

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