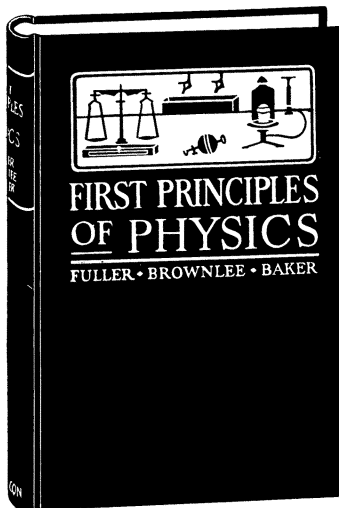


PHYSICS AND HUMAN PROGRESS

THE DEATH of General Greely recalls the heroic struggle of his party of twenty-five men some fifty years ago. For nearly three years they lost all contact with the outside world and when the rescue party found them only six were alive.

Earlier came the famous expedition of Sir John Franklin and its tragic end.

And later came the expedition of Scott, successful in reaching the South Pole, but ending in tragedy when all his party perished before they could get back to their base.



These heroic expeditions and those of Peary and Amundsen, which though more successful, were yet filled with hardship, are monuments to the indomitable will in the heart of man to surmount the obstacles that stand between him and the mastery of his world.

These obstacles in the polar regions have now been surmounted through progress in physics.

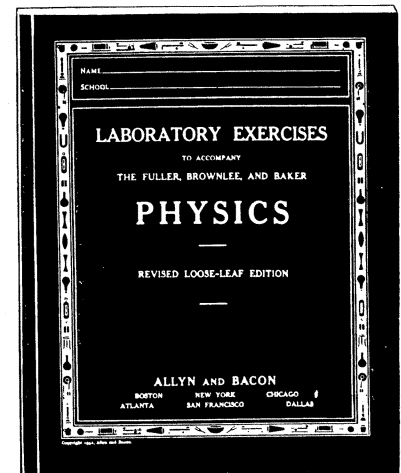
All these fatalities and hardships would have been avoided with the present development of physics.

Physics has banished the terrors of arctic exploration. The twin horrors of darkness and isolation have been conquered. Electric light vanquishes the darkness of the long night. Radio waves flash back and forth between us and Little America. We sit in our homes and listen to the explorers telling us what they have accomplished day by day.

And at the other end of the line special broadcasts bring to the explorers music and entertainment and messages from home.

Physics gives the explorer, in the Arctic or in the interior of vast continents, conquest over space. With the camera in his airplane, he can explore and accurately record the geography of wide horizons which could not be mapped by months of travel on the earth.

Physics has gathered the corners of the earth ever closer and closer together by means of great ships that float, long trains that run on shining tracks, arched bridges that balance from shore to shore, wires that carry voices, and radios that make the world a whispering gallery.



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