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*Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives*

## **Walter and Arthur Wellman Collection - Expedition Proposal**

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Weights at start.		Distribution of weights.				
		Weights per				
Pounds.						
Constants.....	600	Pounds.	Men.	Dogs.	Man	Dog
Man food (80 days).....	1000	Boat sledge.....	700	2	15	350 47
Dog food.....	1500	Large sledge.....	300	2	15	350 47
Fuel.....	150	7 small sledges each.....	300	2	5	60
7 small sledges @35 245	(5 dogs to each.)					
Total.....	3495		3500	6	65	583 54

Total weight* pounds.	Men's rations.	Dog food	Wt. small sledges.	No. of Fuel.	Weights per dogs.	Man.	Dog
At start.....	3500	1000	1500	245	150	65	583 54
End 10 days.....	2700	880	900	175	135	65	450 42
" 20 ".....	2020	760	400	140	120	60	340 35
" 30 ".....	1850	640	400	105	105	45	310 42
" 40 ".....	1510	520	200	70	90	40	252 40
" 50 ".....	1360	400	200	70	75	30	227 46
" 60 ".....	1175	280	200	35	60	20	196 59
" 70 ".....	1005	160	200	---	45	15	168 67
" 80 ".....	870	40	200	---	30	10	145 87

\*Constants 600 lbs.

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At the end of 80 days, therefore, 240 pounds of food will remain, or 20 days' rations for the men. Ten dogs survive, and if delay in reaching the land should make it necessary these dogs would afford rations for the men for 25 or 30 days more, giving a total field endurance for the men, without any game, of 125 days, or from March 1st to July 4th. but the taking of game in May, or the latter part of April, is so probable as to be considered almost a certainty.

With such an equipment, weights and distribution of weights as this expedition could travel rather rapidly over any reasonable conditions of ice. Experience shows that in the favorable sledging season (March, April and May), when the snow is hard, a man can travel from 11/2 to 2 miles an hour with a load of 200 pounds, and a dog with a load of 75 pounds. Given fairly good ice our party contains enough power to make from 15 to 20 miles a day, hauling 6000 pounds. But our actual weights at their heaviest (the start) will be only 3500 pound, or only a little more than one-half the effectiveness. In 10 days our total is reduced to 2700 pounds, and in 10 more to a little more than 2000 pounds.

It will be noticed that the weights per day are (till the last) only about one-half what a dog can draw over a fair surface. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that except in rough places the dogs will take the whole load at a satisfactory pace, saving the strength of the men for the rough spots.

It will also be noticed that at the end of 40 days the loads are reduced to about 250 pounds per man, so that from this time forward the man power is sufficient to move sledges at a satisfactory rate of speed, without any assistance from the dogs, should the animals prove ineffective through disease or foot-soreness.

The simplicity of the equipment makes for rapid travel. At the outset it will consist of two large sledges and seven small ones. The five dog teams drawing the latter will practically drive themselves. In practice the work will be as follows:

One man, leading the van of the 7 sledge teams, will go ahead to pick the road. He and one other man will drive the small sledge teams. Following them will be the two large sledges, together, so that the four men assigned to them may help one another in rough places. These

Weights at start.		Distribution of weights.				
Pounds.		Weights per				
		Pounds.	Men.	Dogs.	Man	Dog
Constants .....	600	Boat sledge .....	700	2	15	350 47
Man food (80 days).....	1000	Large sledge .....	300	2	15	350 47
Dog food.....	1500	7 small sledges each.....	300	2	5	60
Fuel.....	150	(5 dogs to each.)				
7 small sledges @ 35 245						
Total .....	3495		3500	6	65	583 54

  

Total weight*	Men's	Dog	Wt. small	No. of	Weights per	
pounds.	rations.	food	sledges.	Fuel.	dogs.	
Man.	Dog					
At start .....	3500	1000	1500	245	150	65 583 54
End 10 days.....	2700	880	900	175	135	65 450 42
" 20 ".....	2020	760	400	140	120	60 340 35
" 30 ".....	1850	640	400	105	105	45 310 42
" 40 ".....	1510	520	200	70	90	40 252 40
" 50 ".....	1360	400	200	70	75	30 227 46
" 60 ".....	1175	280	200	35	60	20 196 59
" 70 ".....	1005	160	200	---	45	15 168 67
" 80 ".....	870	40	200	---	30	10 145 87

\*Constants, 600 lbs.

At the end of 80 days, therefore, 240 pounds of food will remain, or 20 days' rations for the men. Ten dogs survive, and if delay in reaching the land should make it necessary these dogs would afford rations for the men for 25 or 30 days more, giving a total food endurance for the men, without any game, of 125 days, or from March 20 to July 14. But the taking of game in May, or the latter part of April, is as probable as it is to be considered almost a certainty.

With such an equipment, weights and distribution of weights as this the expedition could travel rapidly over any reasonable conditions of ice. Experience shows that in the favorable sledging season (March, April and May), when the snow is hard, a man can travel from 15 to 2 miles on foot with a load of 200 pounds, and a dog with a load of 75 pounds. Given fairly good ice our party contains enough power to make from 25 to 20 miles a day, hauling 600 pounds. But our actual weights at their heaviest (the start) will be only 3500 pounds, or only a little more than one-half the effectiveness. In 30 days our total is reduced to 2000 pounds, and is in more to a little more than 2000 pounds.

It will be noticed that the weights per day are (till the last) only about one-half what a dog can draw over a fair surface. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that except in rough places the dogs will take the whole load at a satisfactory pace, saving the strength of the men for the rough spots.

It will also be noticed that at the end of 20 days the loads are reduced to about 280 pounds per man, so that from this time forward the man power is sufficient to move sledges at a satisfactory rate of speed, without any assistance from the dogs, should the animals prove ineffective through disease or foot-sores.

The simplicity of the equipment makes for rapid travel. At the outset it will consist of two large sledges and seven small ones. The five dogs drawing the latter will practically die themselves. In practice the work will be as follows:

One man, leading the van of the 7 sledge teams, will go ahead to pick the road. He and one other man will drive the small sledge teams. Following them will be the two large sledges, together, so that the four men assigned to them may help one another in rough places. Three other men will be able to lift a large sledge bodily, if necessary, as the two

\*Constants, 600 lbs.

At the end of 80 days, therefore, 240 pounds of food will remain, or 20 days' rations for the men. Ten dogs survive, and if delay in reaching the land should make it necessary these dogs would afford rations for the men for 25 or 30 days more, giving a total field endurance for the men, without any game, of 125 days, or from March 1st to July 4th. But the taking of game in May, or the latter part of April, is so probable as to be considered almost a certainty.

With such an equipment, weights and distribution of weights as this expedition could travel rapidly over any reasonable conditions of ice. Experience shows that in the favorable sledging season (March, April and May), when the snow is hard, a man can travel from 1 1/2 to 2 miles an hour with a load of 200 pounds, and a dog with a load of 75 pounds. Given fairly good ice our party contains enough power to make from 15 to 20 miles a day, hauling 6000 pounds. But our actual weights at their heaviest (the start) will be only 3500 pounds, or only a little more than one-half the effectiveness. In 10 days our total is reduced to 2700 pounds, and in 10 more to a little more than 2000 pounds.

It will be noticed that the weights per day are (till the last) only about one-half what a dog can draw over a fair surface. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that except in rough places the dogs will take the whole load at a satisfactory pace, saving the strength of the men for the rough spots.

It will also be noticed that at the end of 40 days the loads are reduced to about 250 pounds per man, so that from this time forward the man power is sufficient to move sledges at a satisfactory rate of speed, without any assistance from the dogs, should the animals prove ineffective through disease or foot-soreness.

The simplicity of the equipment makes for rapid travel. At the outset it will consist of two large sledges and seven small ones. The five dog teams drawing the latter will practically drive themselves. In practice the work will be as follows:

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