

TENZING WILL FLY TO BRITAIN

KATHMANDU, June 18.—Major Wylie, secretary of the British Everest Expedition, who arrived here this evening on the way back home, inquired about the differences regarding Tenzing's nationality and said: "I don't know whether Tenzing would appreciate this controversy." Perhaps it might provide a useful case for lawyers, he smilingly remarked.

Major Wylie revealed that Tenzing was flying with them to England. The hero hardly realized what was awaiting him in Kathmandu and other parts of the world.

EVEREST FIGURES IN TENZING'S "DREAM HOUSE"

By A Correspondent

Before he left on the present successful expedition, Tenzing disclosed to me some of his life's ambitions. One was of course, to reach the summit of Everest, and the other was to build himself a house. But not an ordinary house he hastened to explain. His was a dream house—a combination of a home and a museum in which he could exhibit all the paraphernalia required for an expedition and various other items of interest which he has collected over the years.

He told me that in one spacious room built for the purpose he would like to display relief maps of various Himalayan peaks original records and photographs of past expeditions to Everest and other well-known mountains, murals of the Himalayas, camp equipment and the thousands and one other items, big and small, connected with Himalayan expeditions.

Among the historical mementos he mentioned were General Bruce's wrist-watch, Lambert's original map of Everest, showing the daily marches culminating in the climbs to 28,215 feet, Tenzing's own special wrist-watch made for altitude climbing, and other personal equipment belonging to people whose names are now world famous.

This house would certainly be near the site of his present poor hut in Toong Soon busti, Darjeeling. This he considered most essential. He assured me that whatever honours might be bestowed upon him, he would always remain just an ordinary Sherpa and would never be happy being away from his people and the surroundings he has come to love.

It is a further ambition of his to start a school for mountaineers. He personally would be available to give practical lessons in all the many aspects of Himalayan high altitude climbing. With the money he would receive as an instructor and from the money collected at the gate of his museum, he would like to start a fund for deserving Sherpas and their families. He felt that they should all have basic education and that some form of insurance should be set up which would guarantee financial security to Sherpa porters and their families. Further he wished to see them better housed and better fed.

I found Mrs Tenzing in complete agreement with her husband's ideas.

STATE DRIVE FOR EVEREST CONQUERORS

KATHMANDU, June 19.—Arrangements are being finalized to ensure a fitting reception to the conquerors of Everest who are expected in the capital in less than 24 hours.

Two miles from Kathmandu, Sir John Hunt, Tenzing Norkey and Sir Edmund Hillary will enter a State carriage and drive to the city. A military band will head the procession.

Ministers, senior Government officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps will receive the heroes under a triumphal arch near the parade ground. When the procession nears the old palace, Tenzing will be requested to speak a few words.

Sir Jonn, Tenzing and Sir Edmund will then drive to the Royal Palace, where King Tribhuvan will confer on Tenzing Norkey the Nepal Tara (First Class). The Nepalese Cabinet yesterday decided to make a cash gift of Rs 10,000 to Tenzing and it is likely that the purse will be presented along with the decoration.

Sir Edmund and Sir John will also receive the Gorkha Dakshina Bahu (First Class) if the consent of their Governments to the honour is received by tomorrow.

On the 21st, the mountaineers will make a public appearance at a mass meeting. Tenzing will receive an address of welcome from several organizations.

The same evening, there will be a State banquet for the climbers.

The expedition is expected to leave for India on June 24.—PTI.

NATIONALITY OF TENZING

KATHMANDU, June 20.—The Government-owned Radio Nepal announced last evening that Sherpa Tenzing had declared himself a Nepal citizen.

Rerring to a statement signed and issued by Tenzing, the radio claimed that Tenzing, declaring his Nepalese citizenship, has pointed out that his house is at Solu Khumbu, in Nepal's Eastern District, and that he had gone to India only to earn his living and to provide for the education of his children.

There has been confusion regarding Tenzing's nationality as it was reported earlier that he was listed as a voter in West Bengal, having lived in Darjeeling for the last 20 years.—UPI.

TENSING UNWITTING CAUSE OF CONTROVERSY

Anti-Indian Bias Of Pro-Red Body

"The Times of India" News Service KATHMANDU, June 20: Tensing and Hillary arrived at Dulalghat, 30 miles from here, early yesterday morning. They spent the night at Hukase, where Mrs. Tensing and her daughters and Sir John and Lady Hunt were awaiting them.

Tensing was the unwitting cause of another squabble today set off by the "Tensing Security Committee", which marched ahead of the newspapermen to Dulalghat to get a statement that he was a Nepali citizen and had scaled the peak first.

Members of the Committee, which claims to be "protecting", Tensing from the Indians, threatened Indian correspondents with "grave consequences" if they attempted to meet Tensing before they did. They manhandled a correspondent who defied the threat.

The Committee is sponsored by the Nepali Communist Party, which is officially banned. It produced a statement in which Tensing claimed that he was a Nepali and had outstripped Hillary to the peak but the Sherpa told correspondents later that he had not made the statement.

"I was born in the womb of Nepal and reared in the lap of India," he said.

WORSE THAN CLIMBING

Surrounded by photographers and correspondents at Dulalghat, Hillary turned to Tensing and said, "This is worse than climbing, is not it?" Tensing agreed with a broad grin.

Hillary first tried to evade the photographers. Pointing to Tom Stobart, the expedition's cameraman, he told them: "That's Hillary." Then he spent half an hour in the cooling waters of the Sun Kosi river. "I feel great," he said when he emerged. "It is almost as though I have returned to civilisation."

Shouts of "Tensing Zindabad" hailed his arrival at Dulalghat. Buddhist and Hindu monks chanting prayers were among the crowd which gathered to greet him. They daubed his forehead with vermilion and conducted a religious ceremony to ward off the evil eye.

Four newsreel cameramen belonging to the press party, which went yesterday over the hills from Banepa to Hukase to meet Tensing, Hillary and the other Everest climbers were the first of its members to return here today.

They set out from here in crisply laundered shirts, ties and coats. They tumbled out of their jeep when they got back, holding their shoes and socks in their hands and yelling for liniment.

The weary cameramen were bitter about Nepal's assessment of dis-

tance. Although they were told that the village of Hukase was only 'four kos'—eight miles—from Banepa, the actual distance turned out to be 18 miles. Loaded with their heavy equipment, they tried to keep pace with the lithe and swift Sir John Hunt and his wife, but were soon left behind. "We skipped along behind them in our attempt to keep up," one of the cameramen said.

The return journey to Banepa was made with other newspapermen in pitch darkness, with only a feeble electric torch to guide them. Whenever a twig crackled, they all turned round fearfully, expecting a tiger.

But worse was to come at midnight. They were all huddled in a wayside shrine when it began to rain heavily. They were soaked to the skin and could not sleep.

This morning, the cameramen dragged their aching frames into Banepa and collapsed on the pandal erected in Tensing's honour. Now that they have returned here, their little saga has ended. But the hundreds of thousands of people who see the films they made at Hukase will never realise what it took to be the eyes and ears of the world.