

PEARY DENIES COOK'S CLAIM

Messages Contain Direct Intimation That Dr. Cook Never Reached the North Pole at All.

POLE OWNERSHIP QUESTION RAISED TODAY IN ENGLAND

The Roosevelt With Commander Peary Aboard Short of Fuel—Suspicious of Cook's Claim.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The text of Commander Peary's message to wife was made public here today as follows: "Delayed by gale. Don't worry about Cook. The Eskimaux say Cook never left sight of land. The tribe confirms this. Meet me at Sydney." (Signed) "BERT."

The Controversy. Commander Peary's dispatch from Indian Harbor to the Associated Press gives his first expression concerning the claim of Dr. Cook that he reached the north pole almost a year prior to Peary. Commander Peary's latest telegram is hardly less notable than his first announcement, which absorbed the attention of the entire world. It gives concrete form to the issues already vaguely outlined in scientific quarters of the authenticity of Cook's announcement and the question of priority in reaching the pole. At the same time it is the first expression of opinion from any one in a position to know the facts of the Arctic region for which Dr. Cook's claims are based. It contains the direct intimation that Dr. Cook never reached the pole at all. The dispatch from Commander Peary was responsive to an inquiry sent by wireless telegraph to him immediately following his first announcement.

Peary Met Cook. Dispatches from Commander Peary, received for Herbert L. Bridgman in Brooklyn, give some details of the explorer's return from Etah; told of the movements of Harry Whitney, an Arctic hunter of New Haven, Conn., and mentioned Dr. Cook. The message follows: "Indian Harbor, H. L. Bridgman, Brooklyn, N. Y.—Took Whitney on board at Etah. Cook has gone to Copenhagen. Met the Jeanie off Saunders island, August 23; coaled at North Star bay. Whitney went on board the Jeanie. Parted company after twenty-fourth. (Signed) "PEARY."

The Jeanie is the Peary relief steamer which sailed from New York this summer to search for the explorer and bring him back to New York if the steamer Roosevelt had been disabled in the ice. Don't Take Cook's Claim Seriously. London, Sept. 8.—The following cablegram has been received from Commander Peary, dated Indian Harbor, Labrador: "Cook's story should not be taken too seriously. The Eskimaux who accompanied him say he went a short distance north and not out of sight of land. Other men of their tribe corroborated their statements."

Suspicious of Cook's Claims. The challenge by Peary to Cook's claim that he reached the north pole has given impetus to a growing tendency to regard the claims of the earlier arrival with suspicion. The Westminster Gazette says there is no question as to the accuracy of Peary's statements. Question of Pole's Ownership. The question of the ownership of (Continued on page 4)

GINNING REPORT WAS BIT BULLISH

377,552 Bales Ginned This Year as Against 402,229 Last Year.

Washington, Sept. 8.—The first bulletin of the directory of the census, showing operations of cotton ginneries for 1909, was issued today. It covers a period up to September 1 and shows that for that time 377,552 running bales have been ginned as against 402,229 for the same period last year.

A comparison is also made with the production for 1907 when there were ginned up to September 1, 200,278 and with 1906, when a total to that date was 407,551. The 377,552 bales ginned this season were distributed as follows: Alabama 13,373; Arkansas 363; Florida 3,544; Georgia 105,927; Louisiana 2,419; Mississippi 1,670; North Carolina 1,068; Oklahoma 1,367; South Carolina 19,048; Tennessee 4, Texas 227,869.

These figures count round bales as half bales. There were 11,137 round bales this year, 20,868 last year. Figures Were Expected. New Orleans, Sept. 8.—While the government census bureau's report of the bales ginned was construed as slightly bullish, the figures were about what had been expected by the local trade. Following the posting of the report, the market opened 13 points up but advanced over yesterday's close was attributed more to heavy spot sales and Liverpool than to report on ginning.

WHISTLE SOUNDS AT THE HARRIMAN PLACE

This Evidence That Nothing of Unusual Importance Has Transpired.

Arden, N. Y., Sept. 8.—Evidence that nothing of unusual importance had transpired at the home of E. H. Harriman during last night was furnished this morning when the whistle that summons workmen to labor on Tower Hill, the Harriman home, was sounded as usual.

Mr. Harriman Recovering. Dr. Lisse sent word there had been no change in Mr. Harriman's condition and that Mr. Harriman was recovering and in no immediate danger.

Band of Bold Robbers Invade Miss, Russia. Attack Postoffice, Kill Four Persons and Escape With \$10,000.

Samara, Russia, Sept. 8.—A band of robbers, masked and armed with bombs and revolvers, attacked the postoffice at Miss last night and after killing the night watchman and three policemen looted the office and made their escape with \$10,000. Ten men were more or less seriously wounded in the fight. The robbers cut the telegraph wires and fled up the truck on a locomotive.

Crop Conditions. Washington, Sept. 8.—The crop reporting board of the department of agriculture estimates the average condition of crops on September 1 last as follows: Corn 74.6 as compared with 79.4 on the same date last year; spring wheat 88.6 as compared with 77.6 in 1908.

The Weather. Forecast until 8 p. m. Thursday for Asheville and vicinity: Occasional showers tonight or Thursday.

The Story of the Dash to the North Pole

Map of the North Pole expedition route with text annotations. The map shows the path from the Arctic coast through various islands and seas towards the North Pole. Text boxes provide details about the expedition's progress, challenges, and observations.

LAST DAYS OF THE CONTEST PERFECT

All Candidates Enjoying the Fine Weather and Piling up Thousands of Bonus Votes. LAST DAY OF BONUS PERIOD; ALL READY FOR THE WIND-UP. Every Bonus You Get During This Last Period Adds 35,000 to Your Score of Bonus Votes.

BONUS OFFER ON NEW SUBSCRIPTION. Every candidate bringing or sending to The Gazette—News office five new yearly subscriptions to The Gazette-News, \$25.00, to be delivered by carrier, or six new yearly subscriptions to The Gazette-News, \$24.00, to be delivered by mail, between Wednesday, September 1st, and midnight Wednesday, September 8th, will be awarded a voting certificate for 35,000 votes additional to the regular scale. One two year subscription will be counted as two yearly subscriptions, and each candidate may secure as many of these clubs as possible. Two six-months subscriptions will be counted as one year and all six months subscriptions heretofore sent in will be counted in this magnificent offer. CAUTION TO CANDIDATES. All contestants are warned that they must return all blue slips and bonus votes before the closing time of the contest. Remember that these certificates are votes, and that you do not receive credit for what business you have sent in unless the votes are in this office or in the mail at the closing hour of the contest.

LEFEBVRE, FRENCH AVIATOR, KILLED

Aeroplane, 20 Feet in Air, Dashes to Ground—Cause of Accident a Mystery.

Juvis-Sur-Orge, France, Sept. 8.—E. Lefebvre, the French aviator, was killed by a fall from his aeroplane in which he was practicing over the aviation field here yesterday. M. Lefebvre sustained mortal injuries when the machine crashed to the ground. Aid was rendered him but he died soon after.

HAND OF BOLD ROBBERS INVADE MISS, RUSSIA

Attack Postoffice, Kill Four Persons and Escape With \$10,000. Samara, Russia, Sept. 8.—A band of robbers, masked and armed with bombs and revolvers, attacked the postoffice at Miss last night and after killing the night watchman and three policemen looted the office and made their escape with \$10,000.

CRITICISM IS UTTERLY UNWARRANTED—MERRILL

Acting Chief of Revenue Cutter Service Defends Withdrawing of Revenue Cutters. Washington, Sept. 8.—Acting Chief Merrill of the revenue cutter service stamps as "utterly unwarranted" certain criticisms lodged against the action of the treasury department, in ordering nine of the revenue cutters which patrol the Atlantic coast from Maine to Galveston, to proceed to New York for participation in the Hudson-Fulton celebration. Chief Merrill explains that six of the nine vessels affected are regularly stationed at New York. The Seminole from Charleston and the Gresham from Savannah are declared by Merrill to be the only vessels which will be withdrawn from coast scouts. This will necessitate the doubling up of vessels left between Charleston and Savannah until the return of the Seminole and the Gresham.

American Smashes Aeroplane Records

Capt. F. S. Cody Remained in the Air For One Hour and Three Minutes—Traveled 50 Miles an Hour at Times—Circled Church Spire and Came Down Because Fuel Gave Out.

Aldershot, England, Sept. 8.—Capt. F. S. Cody, American aviator, who has been in the service of the British army for several years, achieved what is believed to be a world's record this morning for cross-country flight in an aeroplane. Capt. Cody remained in the air one hour and three minutes, covering in that time a distance of over 40 miles. He crossed over valleys that intersect the plain of Aldershot; passed over and around the barracks and circled the spire of the village church. His machine, at times, rose to an altitude of 400 feet, traveling occasionally at the rate of 50 miles an hour. Capt. Cody had to land because his fuel gave out.

Business Men Say 'Phone Service Now Satisfactory

The committee appointed by the Retail Merchants association and the board of trade jointly, to report on the service furnished by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company in Asheville, made its report at a regular meeting of the Merchants association held in the board of trade rooms last night. The report of the committee was as follows: "Your joint committee from the Retail Merchants association and the board of trade beg leave to report that the telephone service rendered to subscribers since the appointment of your committee has been, so far as said committee has been able to ascertain, after diligent inquiry, thoroughly satisfactory. "Your committee is assured that the present good service will be maintained, and feels satisfied that there is no reason why it should not be. "Respectfully submitted, (Signed) "H. W. PLUMMER, "M. F. HOFFMAN, "CLARENCE SAWYER." J. R. A. Holson, general commercial superintendent, who has been in the city for several days, when seen today said: "My company is very much gratified to learn, as a result of my visit of investigation here, that there is a cordial spirit of appreciation on the part of our subscribers of the efforts that we are making to furnish Asheville with a highly efficient telephone service. "I am impressed with the fact that we must look for a substantial growth in our business in the coming year and the company has made ample provision for it. We have completed a plant modern and efficient in every respect, and have a well organized force to operate it. "A prominent business man, who has inspected our plant in operation within the past few days, has suggested that it would be well for every subscriber to visit the telephone building and see the ample provision which we have made in the way of equipment and well organized force to meet the demands of our patrons. "We heartily endorse this suggestion and hope that as many of our subscribers as can do so will visit our plant. We are satisfied that their visits would be interesting and entertaining, and profitable both to the subscriber and to the company."

GEN. H. C. CORBIN PASSES TO REST

Adjutant General During Spanish-American War—Washington Shocked.

New York, Sept. 8.—Lieutenant General Henry C. Corbin, U. S. A., retired, who was adjutant general during the Spanish-American war, died at the Roosevelt hospital here at 3:30 o'clock this morning following an operation. Recently Returned from Europe. General Corbin returned from Europe only a few days ago after taking treatment at Carlsbad. His condition was improved by this treatment and he went to London in August but suffered a relapse and went to Paris for further consultation with physicians. Washington, Sept. 8.—The war department officials were greatly surprised and shocked this morning when informed of the death in New York, as a result of an operation, of General H. C. Corbin. It was known that General Corbin had not been well for some months, but that his illness was serious was not even considered. Mrs. Corbin and ex-Governor Herlick of Ohio were at the bedside when death ensued. The general had been suffering for two years and on his return from Europe Sunday an operation was decided upon. General Corbin leaves three children by his former wife. His second wife was a Miss Patten of Washington. For conspicuous service as adjutant general of the army during the war with Spain he was promoted to the grade of major general and subsequently promoted to lieutenant general, with which rank he went on the retired list.

Nomination Ballot

I hereby nominate M. Address District My Name is M. Address Profession Date Hour This nomination ballot, when properly filled out, will count for 1,000 votes. Only one nomination ballot will be credited to a candidate. Under no circumstances will the name of anyone making a nomination be divulged.

COLORADO FLOOD DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT \$400,000

Not a Bridge Remains Over San Miguel River—One Woman Was Drowned. Telluride, Col., Sept. 8.—The damage from floods of Sunday and Monday is estimated at between \$400,000 and \$500,000. Not a bridge remains over the San Miguel river, and it will be some time before normal traffic is resumed on the Denver and Rio Grande. One woman was drowned.

ENGINES COLLIDE; ONE MAN KILLED; ONE HURT

Both Engines Were Demolished—Accident Occurred on Norfolk & Western. Roanoke, Va., Sept. 8.—In a collision between local freight train No. 72 and the engine of another freight train at Rural Retreat on the main line of the Norfolk & Western last night, Fireman Moore was killed, a negro brakeman was injured and both engines destroyed. Several freight cars were demolished in the crash.

Win a \$65 Prize \$65 COLUMBIA GRAPHOPHONE NOMINATION PRIZE

This splendid prize will be given to the person who nominates the winner of the Buick Touring Car. The Gazette-News determined to overlook no one in this big proposition, has decided to give a valuable prize to the person who nominates the successful candidate. Clip out the blank published in this issue, fill in properly and send to the Contest Department. You may nominate yourself. If you win the first grand prize, you will also be awarded the \$65 Columbia. But you need not necessarily be a contestant to win this prize. If you are fortunate enough to have sent in the name of the winner of the Buick Touring Car, the talking machine will be given you at the close of the contest. Make as many nominations as you like. It costs you nothing to fill out the nomination blank and send it to the Contest Department of the Gazette-News. If you do not send in your own name you may win a prize anyhow. This paper feels that this is a magnificent offer and should result in the selection of more but the most active and aggressive candidates. Try to make a winner. The Columbia was purchased from and guaranteed by FALK'S MUSIC HOUSE.