

The Roanoke Beacon

25.00 a Year, in Advance.

"FOR GOD, FOR COUNTRY AND FOR TRUTH."

VOL. XX.

PLYMOUTH, N. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1909.

PEARY OUTLINES ASSAULT

Fourteen Counts Embodying His Coming Statement, to Prove That Cook Did Not Reach the North Pole.

Bar Harbor, Special.—From Robert E. Peary was obtained this information, a forecast of the indictment he and Gen. Thomas Hubbard, president of the Peary Arctic Club, will draw against the contentions of Dr. Frederick A. Cook that he has reached the North Pole.

There are 14 counts in the indictment and they may be summarized as follows:

First—That Mr. Peary and Matt Henson, either individually or together, talked with every member of the Smith Sound tribe of Eskimos and obtained testimony that corroborates that of E-trek-a-shoo and A-pel-lah, the boys who accompanied Dr. Cook, that Dr. Cook had not been out of sight of land.

Second—That in violation of the recognized custom of Arctic exploration Dr. Cook has not brought back records left in cairns at points he asserts he had reached, notably the one left at Cape Thomas Hubbard in 1906 by Mr. Peary.

Third—That Dr. Cook's story that he traveled from Annotok to the Pole and then back to Jones' Sound, a distance of more than 251-2 degrees, or about 1,700 miles, in one sledging season is impossible. He points out that this is more than twice the best previous record of 11 degrees, and Mr. Peary's best record this year of 14 degrees.

Fourth—That his general equipment was such that it would be a physical impossibility to have accomplished the remarkable feat.

Fifth—That Dr. Cook maintains he carried a glass mercurial horizon on his trip of 1,700 miles, whereas Mr. Peary used a cast iron horizon, so that it would not only be saved from

being broken, but could be heated when the mercury froze. This is necessary sometimes, Mr. Peary contends, as mercury freezes at minus 35. Dr. Cook reports finding it as cold as minus 83 degrees.

Sixth—That Professor Marvin brought back from 86 degrees 38 minutes duplicate records of Mr. Peary's march and of his own to prove absolutely that Mr. Peary reached that latitude.

Seventh—That Captain Bartlett brought back from 87 degrees 48 minutes duplicate records of Mr. Peary's march and of his own to prove absolutely that Mr. Peary reached that latitude.

Eighth—That the sledge of Dr. Cook's was of such a type, not built on the lines of any Arctic explorer's sledge, that it could not possibly have lasted for a march of a day with a standard load of 500 or 600 pounds.

Ninth—That Dr. Cook's snow shoes were of an impracticable type for use in the Arctic and were not of the kind that would conduce to speed.

Tenth—That Dr. Cook's leaving of his records at Etah was a scheme on his part by which he could claim they were lost or destroyed, and so could escape being forced to produce them.

Eleventh—That no man who had carried the American flag to the Pole would leave such a slight and easily transported article in charge of a perfect stranger.

Twelfth—That Dr. Cook did have fresh dog teams from Etah and could have carried his burdens to Unernavik.

Thirteenth—That when Harry Whitney went on board the Jeanie he did not take time to go back to Etah and get the articles that he must have known were valuable to Dr. Cook.

Fourteenth—That if Dr. Cook did leave such priceless articles at the Eskimo village Mr. Whitney would have been anxious to have rushed them to the United States.

WHITNEY BELIEVES THAT BOTH REACHED THE POLE

St. Johns, N. F., Special.—Harry Whitney of New Haven believes that Dr. Frederick A. Cook found the Pole and that Commander Peary did the same. In expressing this belief Mr. Whitney said that he knows no reason for doubting Cook more than Peary.

"Dr. Cook's story," he added, "seems to me truthful and probable. Nothing else would explain his twelve months' absence."

Speaking of Dr. Cook's detailed account of his trip to the Pole, Mr. Whitney said that the explorer showed him how the western drift of the ice had landed him in a region far remote from where he expected to go, and he was unable to get back. He could not speak with authority as to whether Dr. Cook and his two Eskimos could carry on their three sledges enough food for their journey to the Pole, as he himself is a novice in Arctic traveling. He declared he knew nothing of the controversy beyond the vaguest details. The first he learned of it was at Indian Harbor, when he received messages from several American papers asking for a statement.

Mr. Whitney denied that Commander Peary had removed Dr. Cook's stores from Annotok to Etah. What Peary really did was to transfer a few things and rebuild the house at Annotok. Boatswain Murphy's only reason for refusing to help Captain Bernier's Canadian expedition to get dogs and sledges at Etah was that they were short of dogs themselves. Mr. Whitney had trouble in getting enough dogs for his teams all through the winter and Murphy was looking out for Peary, so that he would have sufficient dogs for the commander's exploring trips around the country when he returned from the north.

The day the Roosevelt was leaving Etah for home Whitney informed Peary that Cook had entrusted to him

certain belongings to bring home on the vessel that was coming up for Whitney, but as this ship had not arrived Whitney was at a loss what to do with this property.

Peary declined to permit Dr. Cook's belongings to be brought aboard the Roosevelt, and he put Whitney on his honor not to include anything belonging to Dr. Cook in his own luggage. Whitney thereupon went ashore from the Roosevelt, separated Dr. Cook's property from his own baggage and repacked Cook's property in boxes. After this had been done Whitney and Bartlett cached all Cook's property in a cave in the rocks. They built up the cave securely with stones and turf and left it and the property in charge of one of Dr. Cook's Eskimos.

It may be remarked in passing, Mr. Whitney went on, that ten years ago Peary did with the explorer Sverdrup, who was cruising in Smith Sound, what he has done with Cook; he refused to bring back any of Sverdrup's letters or records.

In conclusion Mr. Whitney declared he regretted being dragged into this controversy. He said he had found both Dr. Cook and Commander Peary courteous and considerate and that he had never met any men whose conduct generally was more commendable or whose dealing with him had been more fair.

Dr. Cook Satisfied With Statement.
New York, Special.—Dr. Cook when shown Mr. Whitney's statement said that he approved of all that Mr. Whitney has said.

"Everything in the interview is substantially correct," said Dr. Cook. "It confirms all my declarations."

Concerning the papers left with Mr. Whitney Dr. Cook said:

"Mr. Whitney was in all probability unaware of the written records being left with him. They are not of much consequence, as I have dupes."

HARRY WHITNEY MAKES A STARTLING STATEMENT

A St. Johns special says Whitney makes one startling statement. He declares that he understands Commander Peary and his men went among the Eskimos and tried to have them declare Cook did not exceed Peary's "farthest north," but he insists that he understands the Eskimos did not do so. He also denies that he quarreled with Peary on the Roosevelt.

"Dr. Cook did leave me three cases of scientific instruments," declared the New Haven sportsman. "They

were the ones used on his polar trip. In one of the cases was a sextant, in another an artificial horizon, while in the third, I believe, there was a chronometer. Dr. Cook also left me several boxes of other personal effects, clothing and specimens. It is, of course possible that Cook's records may be among these, as the doctor packed them himself, but he said nothing to me of any records.

"I promised Dr. Cook that I would take those things south with me on my vessel, but when the ship did not come I was forced to go on board the Roosevelt.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S TOUR

Enthusiastic Thousands Greet Him On His Western Trip.

During Saturday forenoon at Portland, Oregon, the President received from 20,000 school children a tribute which brought tears to his eyes. The boys and girls were banded in red, white and blue rows in the grandstand on Multnomah field to form a "living flag."

The President entered the field through a gate at the crest of a hill and the view of the children bursting upon him all at once called out an expression of wonderment and delight. His entrance was the signal for an outburst of cheering from the fresh young voices which continued until Mr. Taft had taken the place arranged for him on a stand directly facing the "flag." Then he witnessed a drill by the children which combined with their cheers inspired him, he declared, as had no other sight in all his travels.

Following the motions of a leader the children stooped from view, then sprang to their feet with a cheer which fairly pierced the ear and waved red, white and blue banners in a perfect storm of fluttering colors.

Then at the command of the leader to spell "Taft" one set of children with a loud shout of "T" held up yellow banners to form that letter. Then came the "A," "F" and the final "T" followed by a crashing cry of "Taft" which seemed to echo back again from the far distant mountains.

During the exhibition the President stood with eyes fixed upon the children. He asked that the spelling be repeated and it was then that the tears came.

The children were a mass of moving colors, which caused Mr. Taft unconsciously to nod his head from side to side in unison with the music and the flowing picture before him. When the drill ended and the children had been called to attention, the President addressed a few words to them.

The Portland tribute was one of the most enthusiastic he has had. The ride through the city was made the occasion of a military display by the United States forces stationed at Vancouver barracks, the troops being reviewed by the President at the conclusion of their escort duty.

On Sunday he preached another sermon, this time at the cornerstone laying of the First Universalist church in East Portland. The President handled the silver trowel and worked hard to see that the stone was properly adjusted. He referred to his various church experiences and in concluding said: "No church in this country, however humble it may be, that preaches the doctrine of true religion and true morality, will lack my earnest support to make it more influential whenever opportunity offers."

The President's train left at 10:10 p. m. over the Southern Pacific for Sacramento, Cal.

Mr. Taft attended the morning services at the First Unitarian church in Portland and listened to a sermon by Rev. W. G. Elliot, Jr. Afterwards he was the guest of honor at a luncheon tendered by Senator Bourne. In the early afternoon he visited St. Mary's Roman Catholic school and made a five-minute address to the school children in which he declared that loyalty to the Church meant fidelity to the country.

The line of march followed by the presidential party to East Portland was crowded and there was cheering all along the way.

After making one of the longest journeys of his trip and traveling for twenty-five hours through Oregon and the northern half of California, President Taft arrived at Sacramento, Cal., Monday night at 7:10 o'clock. The President was entertained at dinner, was taken for an automobile ride through the city and made an address in the State Capitol grounds.

He selected for the principal feature of his speech the conservation of natural resources, in which he declared anew that before many of the Roosevelt policies of conservation can be carried into effect, confirmatory and enabling legislation must be secured and he pledged himself to use all his power to induce Congress to pass the laws necessary.

Speaking from the car and at Dunsuir, Cal., President Taft said in part:

"Everywhere in this country I have found evidence of prosperity, from Boston to Portland, and if signs do not fail we are upon an era of business enterprise and expansion that never has been seen in this country before. Now, with that I would not have you forget that here are certain responsibilities. We have had evils growing out of prosperity. Men have seized power by means of accumulation of wealth and its use in methods that are not legal and cannot be approved by way of monopoly and otherwise. Now we are attempting by the general law of the United States to suppress that kind of abuse.

W. C. T. U. CONVENES

Holds Session in Salisbury, Closing Sunday Night.

THE ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Number of Declarations Along the Lines of Reform—For Women on School Boards and No Whiskey Advertisements.

Salisbury, N. C., Special.—The State convention of the W. C. T. U. which has been in session in the First Methodist church here since last Wednesday closed Sunday night, the principal feature of the closing session being an address by F. R. Mc-Ninch, Esq., of Charlotte. His subject was "Retrospect and Prospect" and he reviewed the work accomplished in the past by temperance and prohibition forces in the State and nation, closing with a prophecy of the final knockout of the legal sale of whiskey, which he thinks will be done by a supreme court decision.

The convention went on record as favoring compulsory education, the placing of women on school boards, the spread of the gospel of peace and arbitration through mission work, a more general celebration of July 4, the abolishing of night work for children and the cutting down of the work day hours, and opposed among other things the carrying through the mail of whiskey advertisements into dry territory.

Officers of the union for the next year are:

Miss Elizabeth Moore, president; Mrs. Mary E. Cortland, vice president; Mrs. Mary C. Woody, honorary president; Miss Elizabeth March, corresponding secretary; Mrs. M. E. W. White, recording secretary; Mrs. E. J. Y. Freyer, treasurer; Mrs. B. F. Street, secretary Y. W. C. T. U.; Mrs. Annie Armstrong, secretary L. T. L.

WILBUR WRIGHT'S STUNT

Joins in the Great Celebration and Makes Spectacular Flight.

New York, Special.—An aeroplane flashed past the white dome of Grant's tomb Monday, then turning gracefully in midair over the waters of the Hudson, shot back to Governor's Island, 10 miles away.

Wilbur Wright of Dayton, O., thus placed his name in the rank with Hudson and Fulton in one of the most spectacular feats in the history of aeronautics.

Over the masts of warships from whose decks cheers of the sailors were borne up to him in his elevated seat, he flew for twenty miles—ten miles up and ten miles back—remaining in the air for 33 minutes and 33 seconds and alighting at the aerodrome without mishap.

During the flight business was practically at a standstill in all that part of Manhattan from which a view of his remarkable performance was available. Harbor craft shrieked their applause, cheer after cheer swept up from the banks of the Hudson and the lower bay, for the Dayton aviator had "made good," crowning the aviator program of the Hudson-Fulton celebration with a record.

Odd Play of Lightning.

Salisbury, N. C., Special.—Monday night at 10 o'clock during a slight electrical display a heavy bolt of lightning played a most remarkable prank at the home of Mr. Will Lyerly, near Christiansburg, 6 miles from Salisbury. Striking the end of the two-story house at the cone the bolt literally tore the building to pieces, throwing some of it a hundred feet away and scattered and badly damaged the contents.

Donors Generous to Trinity.

Durham, N. C., Special.—Benefactors' day at Trinity college was celebrated by a public holiday and Pres. Kilgore's address Monday night. The donations amounted to \$83,924. Of this amount B. N. Duke was a \$50,000 gift for new buildings. The 1909 class receives \$1,000 and the current expense account receives \$33,000. There are seventy-nine individual donors.

Wanted For Forgery.

Salisbury, N. C., Special.—A man giving name as S. B. Smith, who is in jail at Knoxville, Tenn., on a charge of forgery, is also wanted in this city. He was here several days ago pretending to be seeking a location for a manufacturing plant and went so far as to select a site. He gave worthless notes in securing money, Business Manager O. W. Spencer of the Empire hotel for \$20 and Mr. W. C. Maupin endorsed a paper for "Smith" for \$50. The Tennessee officers will be asked to turn the man over to the Rowan officers when they get through with him.

EVIDENCE AGAINST LITTLE

Damaging Testimony of His Wife Will Convict Him of His Wholesale Murder.

Bluefield, W. Va., Special.—The guilt of Howard Little, who was arrested about a week ago charged with the murder of "Auntie Betsy" Justice, George A. Meadows and wife and their three children, seems now to be established beyond a reasonable doubt. Little's wife confessed Saturday to having washed his bloody clothing after the murder and in her affidavit she says also that he left their home about dark on the night of the murder and returned the next morning with his clothes all bloody and torn and said that he would kill her if she told anything about his condition. He borrowed a 32-caliber revolver a few days before the crime was committed and returned it on the following Wednesday with two chambers empty. The body of George Meadows was exhumed and two bullets taken from it by Doctors Richardson and White, were almost identical in weight with the balls taken from shells belonging to the weapon Little had borrowed.

Little's wife also turned over the lantern that he had brought home with him that night when showed fire marks as if some one had tried to remove stains. He was seen in the barn next morning folding papers across his knee apparently counting money and he gave \$20 to a woman with whom he had planned to start for the west a few days after the murder was committed with which to buy clothing and prepare for the train. Having done this she returned \$1.80 to Little at which time she swears he threatened her life if she revealed any part of her secret. Requisition papers have been applied for and as soon as they can be secured Little will be taken to Lebanon to await his trial. Threats of lynching are freely made.

Fatal Mine Explosion.

Roslyn, Wash., Special.—At least eight men were killed and three perhaps fatally injured in a gas explosion in coal mine No. 4 of the Northwestern Improvement Company here Sunday. When the explosion occurred a column of fire was thrown hundreds of feet into the air, lighting the shaft plant and adjoining buildings. Under the intense heat the shaft crumbled and fell. Cinders were blown in all directions, several buildings in parts of the mining town taking fire. The citizens were unable to extinguish the fires and the Roslyn fire department was called out. The mine in the neighborhood of the shaft was burning fiercely Saturday night, flames shooting up from the shaft nearly 100 feet into the air. The electric pumps which supply the town of Roslyn with water were cut off and the water in the city was very nearly exhausted. It was reported that the shaft was caving in and other explosions might occur at any moment.

Nephews in Fatal Duel.

Moultrie, Ga., Special.—At the old homestead of the late Nathan Flowers in the lower part of the county, Bert Williams is dead, Wright Flowers is dying and it is believed William Flowers is fatally hurt as the result of a terrific six-handed battle with rifles and pistols, news of which reached here Sunday. Sheriff Boyd and a big posse of deputies is on the track of John Hart and his two sons who are charged with the shooting and who are at large, fully armed. The trouble occurred over a dispute about the division of the estate of Nathan Flowers. He died, leaving no children and since his death John Hart, who married a niece, has been living on the home place with Mrs. Flowers. The Flowers boys are nephews while Williams married a niece. Since Nathan Flowers' death there has been a wrangle over the estate, it is alleged, and trouble has been feared.

Professor Harris Guilty.

Warrenton, Va., Special.—Following closely the verdict Saturday of the jury sentencing Prof. J. D. Harris to four years in the penitentiary for voluntary manslaughter in connection with the killing of W. A. Thompson, associate editor of The Warrenton Virginian on April 24 last, the court denied the motion of the defense for a new trial.

Second Week of Celebration.

New York, Special.—The Hudson-Fulton celebration, after a week of pomp and pageantry in New York, has moved up the Hudson and for another week the cities lying to the north will vie with each other in doing honor to the memory of Hudson and Fulton. The Half Moon and the Clermont with the naval escort, now at anchor at Poughkeepsie, will continue their voyage northward, stopping at Kingston, Catskill, Hudson, Albany and Troy, where elaborate local celebrations have been planned.

SNAPPY

Items Gathered and You Hold Your

SOME EVERY DAY HAPPENINGS

Lively and Crisp as They Are Gathered From the Fields of Action at Home and Abroad.

At Jersey City, N. J., black hand stories had gotten the children in a parochial school in nervous condition. Some fire works were put off Monday near the building in celebration of some event whereupon 1,000 children stampeded for the doors and fourteen were seriously hurt.

Rain seriously interfered with the Hudson-Fulton celebration Monday at New York.

The Federal government will aid the storm stricken people on the Gulf coasts with the loan of tents, and with provisions and means of sanitation where decomposed animals threaten the health of the survivors.

Minnesota's late Governor, John A. Johnson, left his entire estate of \$25,000 to his widow.

President Taft seems to have accomplished the feat of so adjusting matters in the department that Mr. Ballinger and Mr. Pinchot will both remain in the service though still unfriendly. He emphasizes his adherence to the Roosevelt policy on the conservation of resources.

A disturbance occurred last Saturday morning that interfered with all telegraph lines over the world. The phenomenon is said to be due to the same cause as that of the aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Gold, of Baltimore, celebrated their 65th year of wedded life last Saturday.

President Taft, on last Monday at Helena, Montana, went 31,200 feet down a copper mine therein beating all previous presidential records in America.

A Norwegian ship was founded near the Winter Quarter lightship out from New York Sunday and 12 out of a crew of 18 were drowned.

Canada will place no duty on wood pulp shipped to the United States but will charge for pulp wood shipped out. Her principal is, "All timber to be manufactured in Canada."

Judge Campbell, in the Federal court at McAlester, Monday, issued a temporary order restraining the State officials from interfering with the pipping of gas out of Oklahoma.

An explosion occurred Monday in Pittsburg, Pa., in the Columbian film exchange by which fifty or more persons were more or less seriously injured and a loss of \$200,000 was suffered.

G. W. Goethals, chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission, says the work on the canal is progressing satisfactorily.

A lad of seven years is to be tried for murder at Spartanburg, S. C.

Five white men and ten Negroes expiated crimes of larceny at Wilmington, Delaware, last Saturday at the whipping post. The fifteen men received the aggregate of 190 strokes of the lash.

Judge W. A. Poe and Banker Robert H. Brown, at Macon, Ga., Wednesday, were discussing the comparative merits of Cook and Peary as to polar honors, till they engaged in a fight.

At Montgomery, Ala., a fire practically destroyed 500 bales of cotton Wednesday.

Wilbur Wright flew around the Statue of Liberty on Bedloe Island, Wednesday, as a part of the program for the day in the Hudson-Fulton celebration.

Ex-Governor McSweeney, of South Carolina, died Wednesday at Mount Hope Retreat Hospital, Baltimore.

The estimate of Gov. Johnson's estate grows. At last reckoning it was \$37,000.

A boiler at a saw mill near Caneyville, Ky., exploded Tuesday, killing two and seriously injuring three.

There were flurries in the wheat and oats pits in Chicago Thursday by which wheat ran up \$1.06 to \$1.20 and oats from 44-1/2 to 50 cents.

Commander Peary stood on the Roosevelt with Mrs. Peary by his side Friday in the Hudson-Fulton parade and was showered with honors.

Spain is rejoicing over recent victories over the Moors in Africa and the hope of an early termination of the war. In an ambush by the enemy Friday Gen. Victoria and three officers and 14 men were killed.