

THE NORTH POLE IS FOUND

Dr. Frederick Cook, of Brooklyn, Wins the Goal-- Reaches Pole April 21, 1908--Land at the Point Where With One Step You Pass From Side to Side of the Earth.

New York, Special.--"Successful Well. Address Copenhagen. "FRED."

Full of meaning, if "successful" were interpreted to indicate that he had reached the North Pole, the foregoing cable message, exasperating in its brevity, was received in New York Wednesday from Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the American explorer, whom the latest cable advices credit with having accomplished what no man ever did. It was intended for Mrs. Cook, who was not at home.

Wednesday's message from Dr. Cook to his wife was dated at Lerwick, Shetland islands, the first available point of transit in the regular steamship course between Greenland ports and Copenhagen, whither he is bound. Because of its brevity the assumption is that the message was sent primarily to assure his wife of his safety and not to apprise the world of his discovery.

The following seems a second bit of information: Brussels, Sept. 1.--The observatory here received the following telegram dated Lerwick, Shetland islands: "Reached North Pole April 21, 1908. Discovered land far north. Return to Copenhagen by steamer Hans Egede. (Signed) "FREDERICK COOK."

The American officials at the observatory state the dispatch is surely authentic and that the North Pole has been reached for the first time by an American.

The Paris edition of The New York Herald Thursday morning publishes a signed statement from Dr. Frederick A. Cook, which is dated "Hans Egede, Lerwick, Wednesday," on his experiences in the Arctic regions.

"After a prolonged fight with famine and frost," says Dr. Cook, "we have at last succeeded in reaching the North Pole. A new highway, with an interesting strip of animated nature, has been explored and big game haunts located, which will delight sportsmen and extend the Eskimo horizon.

"Land has been discovered on which rests the earth's northernmost rocks. A triangle of 30,000 square miles has been cut out of the terrestrial unknown. The expedition was the outcome of a summer cruise in the Arctic seas on the schooner Bradley, which arrived at the limits of navigation in Smith sound late in August, 1907. Here conditions were found to launch a venture to the pole. J. R. Bradley liberally supplied from his vessel suitable provisions for local use. My own equipment for emergencies served well for every purpose in the Arctic.

On Feb. 19, 1908, the main expedition embarked on its voyage to the pole. It consisted of 11 men and 103 dogs drawing eleven heavily laden sledges. The expedition left the Greenland shore and pushed westward over the troubled ice of Smith sound. The gloom of the long night was relieved only by a few hours of daylight. The chill of the winter was felt at its worst. As we crossed the heights of Ellesmere sound to the Pacific slope the temperature sank to minus 83 centigrade.

Several dogs were frozen and the men suffered severely but we soon found the gage trails along which the way was easy. We forced through Nansen sound to Lands End. In this march we secured 101 musk oxen, seven bears and 335 hares. "We pushed out into Polar sea from the southern point of Herbert Island on March 18. Six Eskimos returned from here. With four men and 46 dogs moving supplies for 80 days, the crossing of the circum-polar pack was begun. Three days later two other Eskimos, forming the last supporting party, returned and the trials had now been reduced by the survival of the fittest.

"There before us in an unknown line of 400 miles lay our goal. The first days provided long marches and we made encouraging progress. A

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION IS PLANNED FOR DR. COOK

Copenhagen, By Cable.--Dr. Frederick A. Cook's credit stands so high with Danish polar experts that the first message announcing his success in reaching the North Pole, meagre as it was, was accepted as conclusive. Commodore Hovgaard said Thursday: "I believe the message is true because Dr. Cook is most trustworthy and opposed to all exaggerations."

C. A. Danielson, an official of the Greenland administration department, who is well acquainted with im

big lead, which separated the land from the ice of the central pack, was crossed with little delay. The low temperature was persistent and the winds made life a torture. But cooped up in our snow houses, eating dried beef tallow and drinking hot tea, there was some animal comforts occasionally to be gained.

"For several days after the sight of known land was lost, the overcast sky prevented an accurate determination of our position. On March 30 the horizon was partly cleared and new land was discovered. Our observations gave our position as latitude 84.47, longitude 86.36. There was urgent need of rapid advance. Our main mission did not permit a detour for the purpose of exploring the coast. Here were seen the last signs of solid earth; beyond there was nothing stable to be seen.

"We advanced steadily over the monotony of moving sea-ice and now found ourselves beyond the range of all life--neither footprints of bears nor the blow-holes of seals were detected. Even the microscopic creatures of the deep were no longer under us. The maddening influence of the shifting desert of frost became almost unendurable in the daily routine. The surface of the pack offered less and less trouble and the weather improved, but there still remained the life-sapping wind which drove despair to its lowest recess. The extreme cold compelled action. Thus day after day our weary legs spread over big distances. Incidents and positions were recorded, but adventure was promptly forgotten in the next day's efforts.

"The night of April 7 was made notable by the swinging of the sun at midnight over the northern ice. Sunburns and frost bites were now recorded on the same day, but the double day's glitter infused quite an incentive into one's life of shivers.

"Our observation April 8 placed the camp in latitude 86.36, longitude 94.2. In spite of what seemed long marches we advanced but little over a hundred miles. Much of our work was lost in circuitous twists, around troublesome pressure lines and high irregular fields. A very old ice drift, too, was driving eastward with sufficient force to give some anxiety.

"Although still equal to about fifty miles daily, the extended marches and the long hours for traveling with which fortune favored us earlier were no longer possible. We were now about 200 miles from the pole and sledge loads were reduced. One dog after another went into the stomachs of the hungry survivors until the teams were considerably diminished in number, but there seemed to remain a sufficient balance for man and brute to push along into the heart of the mystery to which we had set ourselves.

"On April 21 we had reached 89 degrees 59 minutes 46 seconds. The pole was in sight. We covered the remaining fourteen seconds and made a few final observations. I told Etukishook and Ahwelsh (the accompanying Eskimos) that we had reached the 'great nail.' Everywhere we turned was south. With a single step we could pass from one side of the earth to the other; from midday to midnight. At last the flag floated to the breeze at the pole. It was April 21, 1908. The temperature was minus 88 centigrade, barometer 29.83, latitude 90; as for the longitude it was nothing, as it was but a word.

"Although crazy with joy our spirits began to undergo a feeling of weariness. Next day after taking all our observations, a sentiment of intense solitude penetrated us while we looked at the horizon. Was it possible that this desolate region, without a patch of earth, had aroused the ambition of so many men for so many centuries? There was no ground, only an immensity of dazzling white snow, no living being, no point to break the frightful monotony.

"On April 23 we started on our return."

in Greenland, said: "When Dr. Cook says that he reached the North Pole there can be no doubt about it. His scientific discoveries will prove that." A committee under the presidency of the minister of commerce has been formed to arrange a fitting reception to the intrepid explorer on his arrival at Copenhagen. Dr. Maurice F. Egan, the American minister, was aboard a special steamer that was sent out by the Royal Geographical Society Friday to meet Dr. Cook, who is on his way here on the steamer Hans Egede.

DR. COOK IS INTERVIEWED

Reached Pole at 7 O'clock in the Morning--His Success Due to Old Methods, Eskimos and Dogs.

Skagen, Denmark, By Cable.--A newspaper correspondent who went on board the Hans Egede from the pilot steamer off here was able to obtain a few words with Dr. Frederick A. Cook. The explorer ascribed his success to the fact that he made use of the old methods, namely, Eskimos and dogs, and that he lived like an Eskimo himself. The doctor then gave a hurried sketch of his expedition in which he said:

"Going northward I struck first a westerly course from Greenland and then moved northward.

"I arrived at the North Pole April 21, 1908, as already announced, accompanied by only two Eskimos."

"We reached the Pole at 7 o'clock in the morning.

"I took daily observations for a whole fortnight before arriving at the Pole.

"Returning we were forced to take a more westerly route and the first ten days I took observations daily and recorded them. I was unable to measure the depth of the seas as I had not the necessary instruments.

"The lowest temperature was 83 degrees centigrade below zero.

"I have ample proof that I reached the North Pole in the observations I took, which afford a certain means of checking the truth of my statements.

"Although I am proud of my achievement in planting the American flag on the North Pole, I look with much greater pride to the fact that I traveled around more than thirty thousand square miles of hitherto unknown ground, and opened up an entirely fresh field for exploration."

The Hans Egede was met in the North sea by the pilot steamer Polaris, aboard which was Captain Amstrup, the well-known polar explorer, who was sent as a special representative of the Danish government to welcome Dr. Cook. As the vessels approached each other, Captain Amstrup led the cheers for the American explorer.

Will America Claim the Pole. Washington, Special.--The question on many tongues in Washington since the announcement of the discovery of the north pole, by Dr. Cook, an American, has been "Will the United States claim the north pole by right of discovery?"

The State Department refuses to answer the question, claiming that it has no official report of the discovery and therefore cannot discuss the subject. Those who are informed, however, state that when Dr. Cook returns to this country and establishes the fact that he has discovered the pole, and describes the nature of the place, the United States will undoubtedly claim the pole as a possession.

There is much, however, to be determined before this can be done, for it must be established that there is land at the pole separate and distinct from other lands contiguous to it. If it is proven that the pole is on a continent or island, the United States can, by right of discovery, claim possession. But it may turn out to be but a part of Greenland or of some land contiguous to it.

The boundaries of British America do not extend as far north as the pole, but there may be mainland, such as Greenland, which is Danish property, near enough for it to belong to that country.

It is understood here that there must be land at or near the pole which is disconnected from and not contiguous to territories belonging to other nations in order for the United States to assert a valid claim to sovereignty.

A vast ice field may create a doubt as to the existence of such land, and if this ice field overlies a part of the Arctic Ocean, the region would doubtless be classed with the high seas and thus be international rather than national property.

So many unknown quantities enter into the case that the question of sovereignty cannot be settled unless Dr. Cook, when he returns, can give definite and detailed information concerning the region. Inasmuch as the frozen area is apparently of no value commercially, it is not considered likely that serious international complications will arise.

DR. COOK LIONIZED

His Story Fully Credited and He is Showered With Honors--King Frederick Has Him to Dinner and Seats Him on His Right Hand.

Copenhagen, By Cable.--"Once is enough for any man. I will never return to the North Pole. A single experience I have just passed through will suffice for a life time."

This was practically the first answer of Dr. Frederick Cook, the discoverer of the North Pole, to a volley of questions fired at him by a regiment of newspaper men who boarded the Hans Egede as she steamed into the harbor at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

Dr. Cook admits that the nature of the moving ice covering the site of the pole will probably remove the evidences he left there April 21 and 22, 1908, but he states that his records of observations when presented to scientific men will wipe out all scepticism.

He says he first planted a staff on the site of the pole and then raised the American flag. "There, on that God forsaken spot realized as never before the meaning of patriotism and the love of the flag." Seeing that the flag would be whipped to shreds by the wind he took it down and placed it in a brass cylinder which he placed on the staff.

Dr. Cook said he spent practically all of two days taking observations. He had a sextant, pocket watch, three chronometers, and "more modern instruments than were ever used by an explorer in the extreme North. I verified all observations carefully and am confident that accuracy and completeness of the record will satisfy the scientific world."

The entire population of the city seemed to be at the pier with thousands who journeyed from all over Europe. For 15 minutes the crowd cheered wildly.

"Dr. Cook was overcome by emotions; tears welled in his eyes. "I never expected such a demonstration," he said. "It seems too much for what I have done."

King Frederick asked for a call from him. To the reply that he had no clothing suitable for the Kings presence the King asked him to call in his hunting garb which he did.

The banquet Saturday evening was held in the magnificent municipal building. Four hundred persons, many of them ladies, attended. President Taft congratulated Dr. Cook most fittingly in a cablegram.

A Copenhagen dispatch of Sunday says Dr. Frederick A. Cook dined Saturday evening with King Frederick at the summer palace a few miles outside of Copenhagen.

The King invited him to meet him only after having the government make the closest possible investigation into the merits of his story. All the Danish explorers were asked to give their opinions of Dr. Cook's claims before the audience was granted and their verdict was unanimous in his favor.

The dinner was entirely the result of the King's personal opinion regarding the explorer, who had the seat on the King's right, an honor which Danes cannot remember having been accorded another private person.

In answering the many questions put to him he said: "You ask my impression on reaching the Pole. Let me confess I was disappointed. Man is a child dreaming of prodigies. I had reached the Pole and now at a moment when I should have been thrilled with pride and joy I was invaded with a sudden fear of the dangers and sufferings of the return."

On approaching the Pole he said the icy plain took on animated motion as if rotating on an invisible pivot.

"A great assure then opened up behind," he added, "and it seemed as if we were isolated from the world. My two Eskimos threw themselves at my feet and bursting into tears, refused to continue either one way or another, so paralyzed were they with fear. Nevertheless I calmed them and we resumed our journey."

PEARY AT POLE TOO

Dispatches Flash Over the Wires Monday.

REACHES GOAL APRIL 6, 1909

Several Messages Sent Including One to Mrs. Peary Leave No Doubt of Their Meaning--Did Not Know of Dr. Cook's Discovery.

New York, Special.--From out the Arctic darkness there were flashed Monday the messages which stunned the scientific world and thrilled the heart of every layman. From the bleak coast of Labrador Peary gave to the world the news that he had attained his goal in the far north, while at the same moment in far off Denmark Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of Brooklyn, was being dined and lionized by royalty for the same achievement.

Undeniably Yankee grit has conquered the frozen north and there has been created a coincidence such as the world will never see again.

The Americans have planted the flag of their country in the land of ice which man has sought to penetrate for four centuries and each, ignorant of the other's conquest, has flashed within a period of five days a laconic message of success to the waiting world.

The following telegrams tell the fact that there is a story coming.

New York, Special.--Peary has succeeded.

"Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., September 6.

"To Associated Press, New York.

"Stars and Stripes nailed to North Pole. (Signed)

"PEARY."

"Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., September 6.

"Herbert L. Bridgeman, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Pole reached. Roosevelt safe. (Signed)

"PEARY."

"Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., September 7.

"I have the pole April 6--Expect arrive Cheateau bay September 7. Secure control wire for me there and arrange to expedite transmission of big story. (Signed)

"PEARY."

April 6, 1909--the date that Peary planted the flag at the Pole--and April 21, 1908, the day that Dr. Cook unfurled the stars and stripes a year before, consequently become the cardinal dates upon which exploration of the far North will rest hereafter. Though separated by nearly a year, the same feat was accomplished by two Americans, neither of whom was aware of the movements of the other.

Peary says that he found no traces of Peary in the moving ice and according to word which was received here through Capt. Robert Bartlett, of Peary's ship, the Roosevelt, late Monday night, Peary likewise found no signs of his reputed predecessor. However, this phase of Peary's experience will not be thoroughly cleared up until a statement is obtained from his own lips.

A Washington dispatch says: Commander Robert E. Peary, almost three years ago propitiously outlined his view of the value and interest attached to the achievement he announced in the dispatches Monday. The penetration of the frozen heart of the Arctic circle, the news of Peary's feat following close upon the heels of Dr. Cook's planting of the American flag at the same spot, evoked enthusiastic plaudits in Washington. Everywhere among army and navy officers and scientists and official Washington, generally, only words of praise were spoken.

Dr. Cook was intensely interested at the cablegrams and said: "That is good news. I hope Peary did get to the Pole. His observations and reports on that region will confirm mine."

Asked if there was any probability of Peary's having found the tube containing his records, Dr. Cook replied: "I hope so, but that is doubtful on account of the drift." He added: "Commander Peary would have reached the Pole this year. Probably while I was in the Arctic region last year his route was several hundred miles east of mine. We are rivals, of course, but the pole is good enough for two. "That two men got to the Pole along different paths," continued the explorer, "should furnish large additions to scientific knowledge. Probably other parties will reach it in the next ten years, since every explorer is helped by the experience of his predecessors, just as Sverdrup's observations and reports were of immeasurable help to me. I can say nothing more, without knowing further details, than that I am glad of it."

DIES OF PELLAGRA

Wilmington Man Succumbs to New Disease--Upsets Mouldy Corn Theory.

Wilmington, N. C., Special.--J. E. Heath, 27 years old, a leading young business man of Waxhaw, Union county, died in a hospital here Friday night of pellagra. Mr. Heath had been ill for a year or more and had consulted eminent specialists a number of times, traveling extensively for the benefit of his health without improvement.

Recently his case was diagnosed as that of pellagra and he was brought to the hospital here for treatment by Dr. Edward Jenner Wood, who has made an exhaustive study of the disease which manifested itself in the case of the young man by discolorations of the skin, soreness of the mouth and accompanying nervous derangements. He was in the advanced stages of the disease upon his arrival here and little hope was held out from the first.

Mr. Heath had never used corn breadstuffs in any form and it is claimed that the case strengthens the theory that the disease is not traceable to that source unless corn is used as an adulterant of wheat flour.

Pellagra in Maryland.

Baltimore, Md., Special.--Blood of victims of pellagra, the dread disease which, until several months ago, was comparatively unknown to the layman, is to be sent to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where an analysis will be made. Physicians at the hospital who have studied the disease say the malady in its incipency is difficult to distinguish. It is now until the patient becomes thoroughly inoculated that the nature of the disease is known. Careful analyses will be made by the experts at the hospital in an endeavor to find out the origin of the germs of pellagra, and a cure for the disease. According to the opinion and observation of members of the State board of health, the disease is making inroads in this State. Several cases of the malady have been reported in Charles County, and Dr. Marshall L. Price, secretary of the board, will visit that county this week to ascertain whether the reports are true. Especially rampant has the disease become in North Carolina, according to dispatches.

Allowed Men to Smoke.

Koy West, Fla., Special.--The coroner's jury which investigated the dynamite explosion of last week at Bogachia on the Florida East Coast Railroad, which resulted in the death of twelve men and the wounding of nine others, has rendered a verdict holding that, after a full and complete investigation, no evidence had been adduced which would warrant the jury in attributing the explosion to any "criminal or culpable negligence as defined by our statutes."

Foreman Hitt, who was in charge of the workmen, testified that he allowed the men to smoke, having received no orders against it, and not thinking it was dangerous, notwithstanding the men were working within a few feet of a thousand pounds of dynamite.

The jury decided that a match, was thrown in a box of dynamite by some one of the workmen.

Ministers Protest.

Cumberland, Md., Special.--The Cumberland Ministerial Association has filed with the Director of the Census in Washington, a protest against the proposed appointment of John J. Stump, of Cumberland, as supervisor of the census for the Sixth Congressional district of Maryland, embracing the counties of Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick and Montgomery.

The association met this week and passed a protest which was carried to Washington by one of the members, and filed last week.

Cabell Sworn In.

Royal E. Cabell, who has been postmaster at Richmond, Va., was Wednesday formally sworn in by the Acting Secretary of the Treasury as commissioner of internal revenue, succeeding John G. Capers, of South Carolina, who relinquished the office Tuesday.

Blow For Publishers.

Quebec, Special.--A deputation, all of the pulp and paper manufacturers and all of the Canadian owners of rights to cut timber on crown lands in the province of Quebec, have called upon Sir Lomer Gouin, the Premier, and asked the government to prohibit the export of pulp wood to the United States. The Americans, having the right to cut timber on crown lands, did not join. The matter is to be submitted to the cabinet and the indications are that the exportation of pulp wood will be prohibited throughout the Dominion.

Library Burns.

Toronto, Special.--Fanned by a high wind, fire Wednesday afternoon swept the west wing of the parliament buildings in Queens Park, totally destroying the library with its collection of 100,000 books and doing damage which is conservatively estimated at \$200,000.

Lofty Observatory on Mount Whitney Nearly Ready For Use.

Washington, Special.--Scientists soon will have placed at their disposal for use the highest meteorological and astronomical observatory on the American continent. It is situated on the top of Mount Whitney, California, 14,000 feet above the sea level. Realizing the value for effective and progressive astronomical and meteorological work of an observatory far above the clouds and free from the dust and smoke near great cities, the Smithsonian Institute decided to build a suitable laboratory on Mount Whitney.