

# 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 game 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 460 miles lay our goal. The first days provided long marches and we made encouraging progress. A

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 6 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 fustery 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 38 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.”

## 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 him

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.

## THREE DEAD AS RESULT OF AUTO CLASH WITH TRAIN

Reading, Pa., Special.—An automobile in which were riding William L. Graul and wife, of Temple, Pa., and Dr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Schlegel, of his city, was struck by a Pennsylvania Railroad train at Douglasville near here Wednesday afternoon and all but Dr. Schlegel were killed. The train was running at high speed when a collision occurred and the machine was thrown some distance down a bank. Mr. and Mrs. Graul

and Mrs. Schlegel were dead when picked up and Dr. Schlegel was unable to move, both legs having been broken. Almost simultaneously with the collision of the automobile, the gasoline tank exploded and the wreckage took fire. The clothing of the victims was ignited and had the bodies not been removed promptly they would have been burned. Dr. Schlegel was conscious and gave the names of his companions.

## 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 Polar Bear, aboard which was Captain Andrup, 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 Andrup 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 land 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.

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.

The blaze started on the first floor of the west wing and made its way rapidly to the roof, where the flames “mushroomed” and threatened for a time to destroy the housekeeper's quarters in the northwestern corner and the executive chamber.

Law No Respector of Persons.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—In denying a pardon to Olin Pharr, former cashier of the Citizens' Bank, of McRae, Ga., who has served 15 months of a four-year sentence for the embezzlement of more than \$15,000 of the bank's funds, Gov. Joe Brown overruled the recommendations of the State prison commission and made it plain that family prominence and influential friends will avail naught in seeking pardons of him.

## DR. COOK LIONIZED

His Story Fully Credited and He is Showered With Honors—King Frederick Has Him to Dinner and Seat 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 unanimously 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 fissure 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.”

## 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.

## Trying to Catch the Villains.

Newcastle, Pa., Special.—Over a hundred men, all members of State, railway or private criminal-catching organizations are here trying to discover the person or persons who early Saturday pulled spikes from a sixty-foot rail on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, ditching the Royal Blue flyer en route from New York to Chicago, killing two persons and injuring seventeen others.

## THE “GRAFT CASES”

Attorney General and Associates Will Soon Be Ready For Trial.

Columbia, Special.—Active preparations are being made by Attorney General Lyon and his associate attorneys for trial of the dispensary “graft” cases at the coming term of court, which convenes Tuesday, with Judge Memminger presiding.

The attorneys have been at work for some time gathering up the loose ends of the evidence obtained at intervals, and the cases brought up are expected to be of interest throughout the entire country.

It is not known yet when the cases will be called, although it is thought that some of them will be taken up during the second week of court. All may not be brought up at the present term as each of the trials may consume several days and it is customary to clear the jail of prisoners before the other cases are started.

Those now under indictment include Jas. S. Farnum, Juno Black, Joe B. Wylie, Juno Bell Towill, L. W. Boykin, W. O. Tatum, M. A. Goodman, Jodie M. Rawlinson, W. A. Byars and others.

## Seminole Cases Will Be Pushed.

Columbia, Special.—The prosecution in the indictments brought and afterwards to be presented to the grand jury in the case against those involved in the organization of the Seminole Securities company, will be pushed by J. W. Thurmond, an attorney of Edgefield, and former solicitor of this circuit when Richland was included in the Lexington-Edgefield territory. The cases will come up at the coming term of court if possible and it is very probable that other indictments will be brought then. The prosecution as planned by the receivers was not pushed, according to Mr. W. F. Stevenson, who was in the city Saturday, because of the difficulty in securing the service of some of the lawyers interested in the receivership hearing, to continue in the criminal work. Mr. Stevenson is busy in the dispensary litigation and could not serve. It is thought, however, as a result additional warrants will be sworn out.

## Water Route to Columbia.

Columbia, Special.—It is a welcome announcement which comes to Columbia, Georgetown and other towns along the water route between here and Georgetown in the form of a letter from Chief Engineer Adams to Commissioner Watson and others interested that the report of the investigation of the Congaree, Santee and Wateree recommends securing a depth of six feet and a width of one hundred feet from Winyah bay to the Santee, and a channel depth of not less than four feet to Columbia by the Santee and the Congaree and not less than four feet to Camden by the Wateree, and the raising of the dam at Columbia two feet. This means water freight business from Baltimore and New York to Columbia by Georgetown all the year round and placing this city on the same water basis as Augusta.

## Child Drinks Coal Oil.

Rock Hill, Special.—Haywood, the 2-year-old son of Mr. F. H. Moore, a prominent livestock man of this city, while playing around their home in Woodlawn Park Saturday afternoon, managed in some way to get hold of a vessel containing some kerosene oil and drank a lot of it, fortunately a physician happened to be at the next door neighbor's and was called in and administered antidotes and after working with the little fellow for some time brought him around all right. He is said to have been a sick child for several hours.

## Drought Unbroken.

Orangeburg, Special.—The dry spell continues here and the cotton is going back every day. Owing to this condition the cotton is opening rapidly and the market here has been flooded. On Saturday 340 bales were sold here and about 250 were marketed Saturday. Most of this cotton brought 12 cents per pound.

## First Saturday in November For Farmers' Competition at Gaffney.

Gaffney, Special.—The first Saturday in November has been fixed for the Cherokee county exhibit of the colts which will compete for the valuable prizes offered by the National Bank of Gaffney. It is probable that a tremendous crowd will be in Gaffney on that date, as a large number of farmers and stock raisers are competing for the prizes. The prizes offered by the Merchants and Planters Bank for the best yields of cotton and corn and the prizes offered by the National for the best stock is an incentive to farmers to do their best.

## Hamrick and the Improvement Bonds Win Out in Gaffney.

Gaffney, Special.—Full returns from the senatorial election give Hamrick 820 votes and Hardin 640, a majority of 180 for Hamrick. While this is not official, it is approximately correct. The vote for sewerage and water works as given in the special was not quite correct. The vote in favor of water works was 336 against 10. In favor of sewerage 335 against 13.

## PALMETTO HAPPENINGS

News Notes of General Interest From All Parts of the State.

## C. C. & O. Train Kills Two Men.

Spartanburg, Special.—The first fatal accident on the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Road since construction work was begun occurred Wednesday morning when a construction train carrying a train load of steel rails and a gang of workmen ran over Rome Wilson, the foreman, and Joe Henderson, a colored laborer, killing both instantly, and seriously injuring an unknown negro laborer, cutting off one leg. The bodies of Wilson and Henderson were fearfully mangled by the car wheels. The train pulled out from Pacolet River camp this morning at 6 o'clock with the workmen and rails, and had gone about three miles towards Broad River when the accident occurred. A rail slipped from the front car between it and the second, and the workmen thought that the entire train would be wrecked and jumped. Henderson jumped between the first and second car and was almost cut in twain. Wilson, in trying to leap to a place of safety, fell beneath the cars and was crushed to death.

## Prospects Good For New South Carolina Railroad.

Greenville, Special.—Messrs. J. P. Charles and Broadus Martin have returned from a trip over the route of the proposed Greenville, Greenwood & Augusta Railroad, which is to be built within the near future. They report that rights of way for this new road have been practically all secured as far as Greenwood. The road will run over the old grade of the Carolina, Knoxville & Western Railway as far as Cokesbury, at which place it will leave the grade for Greenwood. The road will run through Princeton, Ware Shoals and Cokesbury to Greenwood, thence to Augusta. A charter has been applied for and subscription books will be open September 17.

## Spartanburg Will Celebrate.

Spartanburg, Special.—At a meeting of the chamber of commerce Thursday night preliminary arrangements were made to give one of the biggest free entertainments ever given in this State upon the occasion of the operation of the first train over the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio road into the city. The plans are to give a free barbecue to people from all sections of the State and especially to those living along the line of the new road as far as the terminus; a free fireworks display at night and a little oratory in the afternoon. The idea is to make the occasion a general holiday and provide free attractions and good things to eat to those who come.

## Erving Gaffney Couple Arrested in Atlanta.

Gaffney, Special.—Some weeks ago M. C. Green, who has a wife and family, left Gaffney, accompanied by a Mrs. Kirby, a young married woman. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Green and Sheriff Thomas received information that he had been captured in Atlanta, and was in custody in that city. Sheriff Thomas will send an officer for Green. The woman who fled with Green left a young baby about six weeks of age. Green was engaged in conducting a bottle establishment here before he went away and was thought to be doing a good business.

## Mr. Jennings Accepts.

Cokesbury, Special.—Mr. J. S. Jennings of Greenville has been elected rector of the Cokesbury Conference school and has accepted the position. He is meeting with a good deal of encouragement in his canvass for pupils.

## Newberry is Against Bonds.

Newberry, Special.—Little interest was shown in the election in this county Tuesday on the question of issuing \$300,000 worth of bonds for road improvement. With all but two small boxes heard from the county gives for bond 110; against bonds 1,239. About half of the vote of the county was polled.

## Popular Traveling Men Lease the Hotel at Newberry.

Newberry, Special.—Messrs. Charles P. Pelham and Haskell Wright, of this city, have leased the Newberry Hotel and took charge last week. The Newberry was under the management of Mr. A. T. Brown up until the time of his death about the middle of August. Both Mr. Pelham and Mr. Wright are well known throughout this and other States, Mr. Pelham having traveled the Eastern portion of the country, and Mr. Wright having traveled the Western States.

## Fair to be Held at L.Edgefield.

Edgefield, Special.—The Edgefield County Fair Association decided to hold their first fair on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 27, 28 and 29. Every effort will be put forth at once to make this first annual event a signal triumph. The Ladies' Chrysanthemum Association will hold their fall festival in conjunction with the fair people. A novel and gratifying success is thus assured the town and county.