

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE.

VOLUME XII.

CAMDEN, S. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1909.

NO. 35.

DR. COOK, OF BROOKLYN, REACHES NORTH POLE

Message Sent to Wife Announcing Success and Safety.

AMERICAN'S WONDERFUL FEAT

Hardships and Cold of the Journey to the North Described—Men and Dogs Perish on the Way—Eskimos Turn Back.

In ten days the party only progressed two degrees of latitude, being frequently compelled to turn back and make long detours around impassable ice barriers.

The party was now reduced to twenty dogs. Many fell from weakness and were devoured by the hungry survivors in the pack. Within 100 miles of the goal the icefield became heavier, the obstacles greater, but there were no deep rifts. The party saw no sign either of land or of an open polar sea; only ice, ice everywhere.

The temperature was seldom above fifty degrees below zero. The actual Pole was reached on April 21. Most careful observations were taken. Nothing was to be seen but the limitless fields of ice—no evidence of land, or life, or water.

The party remained thirty-six hours taking observations at the Pole. On the return trip the expedition was reduced to half rations and only two faithful Eskimos survived. All the ammunition was gone before the Greenland shores were reached May 21, 1909.

A Citizen of Brooklyn.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook has taken part in half a dozen notable exploring expeditions in his life time. In Arctic and Antarctic regions, and in mountain climbing. In this last his greatest feat was the ascent of Mount McKinley, in Alaska, in 1906, after unsuccessful attempts in 1902 by himself, and before that by several geographical societies.

From his boyhood Dr. Cook has been interested in scientific achievements. He was born at Callicoon Depot, Sullivan County, New York, June 10, 1865, the son of Dr. Theodore Albert Cook—the family name was originally Koch, but was changed after coming to this country. He received his education in the public schools of Brooklyn and in Callicoon, and was graduated in medicine from the University of New York City in 1890. In 1892 he married Mary

Brussels, Belgium.—The observatory here received the following telegram, dated Lerwick, Shetland Islands: "Reached North Pole April 21, 1909. Discovered land far north. Return to Copenhagen by steamer Hans Egede."

"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 and by an American.

Lerwick, Shetland Islands.—Dr. Cook says that the most important discovery made in his journey of more than 200 miles farther north than any human has ever gone before is a new strip of land more than 30,000 square miles in extent, inhabited by polar animals and game of considerable variety.

Before reaching the Pole Dr. Cook suffered almost killing hardships from hunger and cold. Numerous Eskimos who accompanied the explorer it was learned that the party lived upon immense catches of bear meat which resulted from the great hunt of Eskimos on the Greenland shore just before Cook's party arrived at Annotok.

Large quantities of these stores were laid at a point 700 miles from the Pole. During the long winter night sleds were prepared, equipment and instruments packed for the journey across the ice packs, which was to begin at least a month before the first dawn of light in the spring of 1908.

The actual start by Dr. Cook, accompanied by ten Eskimos, on a dozen heavily laden sledges, drawn by over a hundred dogs, was made on February 10.

In the next four weeks nearly 200 miles was accomplished. Numerous musk oxen, several bears and hare were killed and eaten during this journey. The cold was frightful. The mercury fell at times to more than thirty degrees below zero.

More than twenty dogs died from the exposure, and four of the Eskimos deserted and turned back, taking two of the sleds and some of the supplies with them.

In two more weeks Dr. Cook and his faithful followers left him and that they reached the latitude of 84 deg. 17 sec., longitude 86 deg. 36 sec. Land was found up to this point, inhabited by much game. Beyond this point stretched the Arctic waste for nearly 500 miles of ice, where no thing seemed to live except a few marks of which were found.

PEARY AT POLE TOO

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REACHES GOAL APRIL 6, 1909

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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."

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"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."

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 cotton 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 are 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 13. In favor of sewerage 335 against 13.

THE DISPENSARY 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, Jno. Black, Joe B. Wylie, Jno. Bell, Towill, L. W. Boykin, W. O. Tatum, M. A. Goodman, John M. Rawlinson, W. A. Byars and others.

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KILLS MOTHER FOR MONEY

George Simons, of Pottsville, Pa., Then Commits Suicide.

Young Man Sleeps For Seven Days in House With Victim's Body Watching His Father's Frantic Grief.

Pottsville, Pa.—George Simons, a young civil engineer who was prominent socially in this city, murdered his mother because she refused to give him money which would enable him to marry his sweetheart, Miss Viola Hartranft. After he had slain her he carried her body to a spare room on the third floor of the Simons home and laid it on the floor. Leaving it there he went out and purchased a large quantity of quicklime, and chased a large quantity of quicklime, and poured it over the body, hoping to destroy the evidence of his unnatural crime.

Leaving the lime to do its destructive work, young Simons closed and locked the door. Not satisfied with that, he got a screwdriver and screws and used them to make the door doubly secure. Then he stopped up the cracks with paraffin and painted the door so it would look like part of the wall. To safeguard still further his secret, he put up a sign "Paint," thinking no one would touch the concealed door with that sign displayed. Then he went to the rooms below.

For seven nights he slept in the house in a room adjoining the one in which his mother's body was being eaten up by the lime. By his bed was a loaded rifle. For nearly the same length of time he watched his father, who was almost frantic, searching for his wife.

Young Simons was calling upon his sweetheart when a policeman arrived at the Hartranft home to inform him that the body of his mother had been discovered and that she had been murdered. The police had no suspicion of young Simons. His guilty conscience led him to suppose, however, that his crime had been discovered. As soon as he heard the police were looking for him he pulled a pistol from his pocket and sent a bullet through his brain. It was not until he had done that that Miss Hartranft or any one suspected he knew anything about the murder.

TRAIN HITS AUTO; 3 KILLED.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Graul and Mrs. Schlegel Lose Their Lives.

Reading, Pa.—An automobile in which were William L. Graul and his wife, of Temple, Pa., and Dr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Schlegel, of this city, was struck by a Pennsylvania Railroad train at Douglasville, near here, and all except Dr. Schlegel were killed. The train was running at high speed and the auto was thrown down an embankment. Mr. and Mrs. Graul and Mrs. Schlegel were dead when picked up, and Dr. Schlegel was unable to move, both legs having been broken.

William L. Graul, one of the victims, was formerly a resident of Reading and was widely known. He was a veteran of the Civil War. Mrs. Graul was fifty-eight and Mrs. Schlegel thirty-eight years old. The party had been on a week's motor trip to Delaware Water Gap and Philadelphia.

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LATEST NEWS.

BY WIRE.

Balloon Goes Up 12,000 Feet.

Dayton, Ohio.—The new balloon, The Delight, in its initial voyage reached a height of 12,000 feet. It landed thirteen miles beyond Delaware, Ohio.

Wright Won't Race Curtiss.

Dayton, Ohio.—Wilbur Wright will not fly at St. Louis in competition with Glenn H. Curtiss. This information was given out at the Wright home by members of the family. Curtiss is accused of infringing on the patent rights claimed by the Wrights, and a suit is now pending against him.

Cyclone Rases Texas Town.

Jacksonville, Tex.—Dialville, a small town on the Cotton Belt Railroad, eight miles from here, was devastated by a cyclone. Several persons were injured.

Catakill Hotel Man Arrested.

Catakill, N. Y.—W. Platt Fisher, proprietor of the Kiskatomu Retreat House, of Catakill, was put under arrest here on a charge of forgery to the amount of several thousand dollars. The complaint was made by the Tanners' National Bank, of this city.

U. S. Jobs For Students.

Washington, D. C.—Students with an agricultural training, who are familiar with laboratory and field work, with classes and varieties of cereals, are in demand by the Government, at salaries ranging from \$1,200 to \$2,000 a year.

Duys Disputed Island.

Bar Harbor, Maine.—A land sale which probably will terminate a dispute over the proposed location of a \$50,000 bridge on the land in question was concluded when the western part of Bar Island was bought for approximately \$150,000 by Richard T