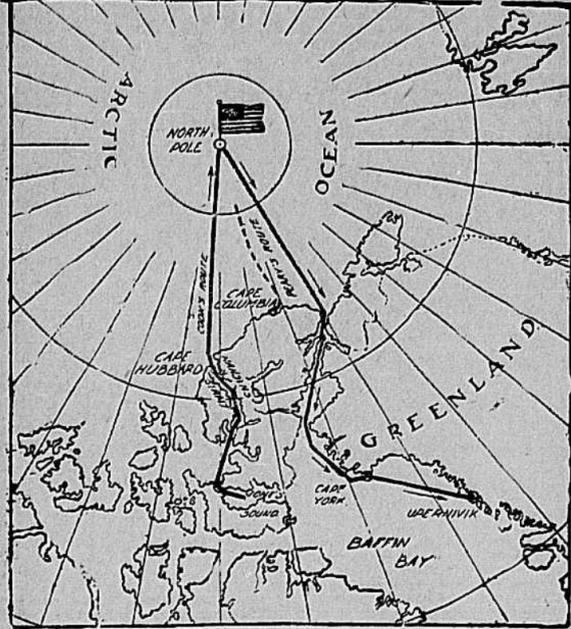


Famous Explorers Discuss Great Achievement of American



Cook's Polar Route

BRAVE DASH FOR POLE AN EPOCH IN HISTORY

Discoverer of South Magnetic Pole Pays Tribute to American.

BY LIEUTENANT SHACKLETON, (Who Discovered the Magnetic South Pole.)

LONDON, September 2.—The cabined statement that Dr. F. A. Cook has succeeded in attaining the North Pole will arouse widespread attention. At present there are very few details to be had regarding the actual journey. The doctor has had experience in polar conditions, for he was surgeon to the Peary expedition in 1897 and also a member of the Belgica Antarctic expedition in 1897-8.

Dillon Wallace Has Implicit Faith in Cook's Wonderful Feat.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., September 2.—Dillon Wallace, the author and explorer, whose companion, Leonidas Hubbard, became lost and starved to death while exploring Labrador, in an interview to-day said that he had implicit faith in Dr. Frederick Cook's wonderful feat. Mr. Wallace had completed plans for an expedition for the relief of Dr. Cook. In his statement to-day he said:

"I knew Dr. Cook well. You may put implicit trust in his veracity. When a boy he exhibited signs of scientific bent. When he could he would read of explorers and study their methods.

Early in 1907 it was announced that Cook proposed to make a second journey to the southern polar regions, but he did not secure the financial support required, and in the summer of that year went North. The next news, following on news of a disaster, came through Rudolf Frank, Cook's companion, and was to the effect that the explorer had started on the march to the pole with one Eskimo and eight dog teams. He left Cape Hubbard March 17, 1908, and the cablegram now received states that thirty-five days later he reached the pole.

The difficulties of Arctic travel are very great. No deposits can be placed on drifting sea ice, and this means that the traveler must not only carry food for the outward march, but also for the journey back to solid land. Often the ice breaks up, and long lanes of water appear, barring the way and making it necessary either to lose time in detours or carry some form of boat. At other times pack ice is hummocked up in such fashion that a path has to be cut for dogs and sledges. Thus food is consumed and no progress made.

Indeed, it sometimes happens that when a blizzard has ceased and the explorer takes his observations he finds he is further south than he was before the delay owing to the movement of drifting ice in the polar basin. Hunger will dog his steps all the time, for the amount of food that can be carried by means of dog teams is strictly limited, and provisions can be made on short rations.

We are at present in doubt as to the number of men Dr. Cook had with him, for although he is said to have taken two Eskimos to Cape Hubbard, it is possible he increased the strength of his party at that point. On the other hand, he may have marched quite alone or with one Eskimo, as is stated, though in this case his difficulties would almost certainly be increased if he encountered rough ice and open lanes. In fact, such a journey single-handed would seem to be almost a superhuman effort and no praise would be too great for so fine a feat of courage and endurance.

Trying Return March. The return march must have been even more trying, for summer would be advancing and at that season snow and ice commence to rot from the action of the sea underneath and the hot sun overhead, and the sledges must be pulled through pools of icy water in which the traveler often is immersed up to his thighs.

The cablegram does not give any information as to when Cook reached solid land again. He would, no doubt, start on the return march at once after he had got off the ice that covers the Polar Sea, he must have had a long, weary march down from north Greenland to Cape York, where probably he was picked up by a whaling vessel and taken to Upernivik.

Not the Magnetic Pole. "It is utterly impossible that Cook could merely have found the magnetic pole. His course would not have permitted that. Any one who has visited the country and studied conditions there can realize how impossible it would be for him to reach the magnetic pole from the course he took.

Dr. Cook started out from Ellesmere Land, and his last letter to his family was from Cape Thomas Hubbard (named after the father of the explorer who died with Wallace) in 1908. From there Cook pushed on to Cracked Land, and then went northward. From that point the rest of his direct journey was completed. Thus it would seem that the magnetic needle, lying in an opposite direction, would have been impossible of access by Dr. Cook.

"I have no doubt that Dr. Cook has reached the North Pole. He is a man of extreme reliability, fairly scientific and versed in geographical conditions in the Arctic regions. He has always manifested truthfulness in his every report, and concerning explorations in the north he has been very exact. I am certain that he is truthful in this statement.

"Another point that would tend to help discourage disparaging statements is that Cook's route was directly to Cracked Land, ending with a swift dash to the pole, which would directly north. Thus he would avoid the awful eastern drift of the terrible current in the polar seas north of Greenland.

Peary's Mistake. "Peary undoubtedly would have accomplished what Dr. Cook has done if he had been better acquainted with the dangerous conditions confronting him in the frozen sea. Peary tried to avoid this condition by going westward, but this was his undoing. Peary made his dash too far eastward.

"Cook took advantage of Peary's failure and planned a roundabout course."

Asked what benefits would be derived from Dr. Cook's discovery by the United States Wallace said: "The great northern country is a strange land to us. The geographical situation is a matter that is of real importance to our government. I have not the least doubt that Dr. Cook has taken a series of geographical notes which will be of the greatest value. I have seen some of his notes, which were sent back by him two years ago, when he was in Greenland, which describe most convincingly the situation in the north. He tells of vast coal mines and other ore which this country some day will find of the greatest value and will be highly pleased to possess."

Arrested on Suspicion. E. W. Bradley and M. G. Spilve were arrested and placed in the First Police Station last night, charged with being suspicious characters, suspected of stealing money.

Return to City. Miss Patricia and her brother, E. R. Phillips, have returned from a visit to Niagara Falls.



DR. COOK IN HIS ARCTIC COSTUME.

Cook Conqueror of Pole and Peak.

NEW YORK, September 2.—Dr. Frederick Albert Cook, who long has been interested in polar expeditions, and has received numerous decorations for his researches and writings, was born at Callicoon Depot, Sullivan county, N. Y., in 1865, and until his last journey to the North as a resident of Brooklyn.

He has taken part in a dozen notable exploring expeditions in his lifetime in Arctic and Antarctic regions, and in mountain climbing. In this last, his greatest feat was the ascent of Mount McKinley, Alaska, in 1906, after unsuccessful attempts in 1903 by himself, and before that by several geographical societies.

From his boyhood Dr. Cook has been interested in scientific achievements. He was the son of Dr. Theodore Albert Koch, 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 in 1890. In 1892 he married Fidelity Hunt, who is now living in Brooklyn.

First Went North With Peary. Dr. Cook's first venture in exploration was when he went as surgeon with the Peary Arctic expedition in 1897-92.

Four years later he started for Antarctic seas as surgeon of the Belgica expedition in 1897-99, on board the ship Belgica, under Captain Adrien de Gerlache.

First authentic word from Dr. Cook on the Belgica expedition was received here when the steamship Coya, from South American ports, brought news of the explorers. On March 13, 1899, the Coya put into Punta Arenas (Sandy Point), a Chilean trading settlement on Tierra del Fuego, in the Straits of Magellan, and while her skipper, Captain Thomas, was ashore he met Dr. Cook. The Belgians were in the harbor and Captain Thomas heard much about her cruise in the South Polar sea from the American surgeon, who was entertained on the Coya.

"When we steamed into the harbor of Punta Arenas," said Captain Thomas, "I noticed a little three-masted bark anchored there. I did not pay much attention to it, thinking that it was probably a whaling boat or something of the sort. I was told that the little craft was the Belgica Antarctic exploring expedition's vessel Belgica. The postmaster told me that there was an American aboard, Dr. Frederick A. Cook, whom he thought might want to take passage with me for America."

Adventures With Belgian Party. "While we were speaking a young man came up. He was rather tall and slim, with a fair mustache. I set him down for an American, somehow, when my companion said: 'Why, here's Dr. Cook now.' Then we were introduced.

He seemed to be pleased to see me; he said that it was a long time since he had seen an American. I suggested American beer to celebrate and he answered that he didn't drink. What seemed to strike Dr. Cook most when we got on our ship was its size. "Why, how large it is, and so roomy!" he said. Then I looked at his little vessel and didn't wonder that he thought the Coya large. She was like a little bit of a whaling boat alongside of us. She had three masts and could carry a lot of canvas. Besides this she had a little auxiliary engine on board, that forced her, Dr. Cook told me, only four knots an hour on two tons of coal a day.

"Then I got Dr. Cook to tell me about his trip. He said the Belgica left Antwerp in August, 1897, and reached Rio Janeiro in October. In November she touched at Montevideo, and arrived at Punta Arenas about the middle of December, 1897. Later in the same month she set out to look for the South Pole and had been away till March 11, when she returned to Punta Arenas. The expedition had lots of exciting times, Dr. Cook said. They

got as far south as Alexander I. Island and spent some time in surveying and exploring a new channel that he discovered there. Dr. Cook didn't tell me the name of the channel or the results of the survey.

"After they had explored this channel they set sail for the south. They hadn't gone far before they got stuck in an ice floe.

"They couldn't get out, try as they would. For twelve long months they stuck there, drifting about over the Antarctic Ocean in the middle of an ice field that extended as far as they could see. During the twelve months they were in this ice field," Dr. Cook said, "they had seventy days of absolute darkness during which they could do nothing except stay on the ship.

"During the dark days they were able to get their reckoning in a rough sort of a way and could figure out pretty nearly where they were at. Sometimes they couldn't make any attempt at getting their reckoning on account of the weather. This at times was terrific. Dr. Cook said that the weather at Cape Horn in its stormiest times wasn't a patch on the weather those men went through on that ice floe in the Antarctic seas.

Reached 70 Degrees South. "Dr. Cook estimated that the most southern point that they had reached was about 70 degrees. It may have been a little more or a little less, as they could not be certain of their reckoning owing to the conditions in which they were placed.

"Altogether, Dr. Cook said that they drifted more than 2,000 miles in that ice field. It was a pity that the wind had not driven them south instead of west, when they might have made a record. I asked Dr. Cook what they had to eat while they were fast in the ice. He told me that they had lots of canned goods on board, and that when they wanted fresh meat they went out and killed a few seals and penguins. Seals may be good—but penguins! They are oily and fishy and nasty. I asked the doctor how penguins tasted. He answered: 'Good—that is to say, when you can't get anything better.' Lots of things would taste good when you can't get anything else, but from my experience of the birds, I'd sooner have almost anything else than penguins.

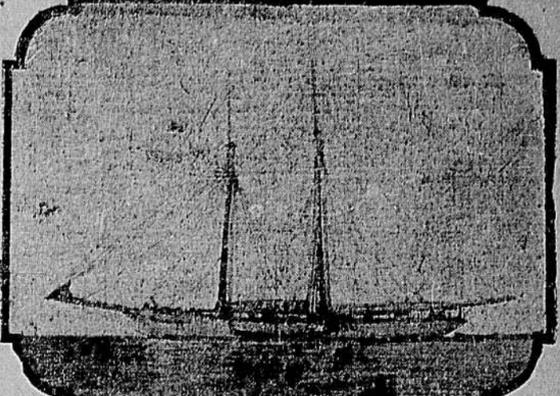
"All the members of the expedition whom I saw were in good health and looking well. They had only two deaths since they have been away. One man, a sailor, fell overboard, and one officer, Lieutenant Davis, died of natural causes. Dr. Cook didn't know what his future plans would be.

"A meeting was to be held on board the Belgica on the afternoon that we sailed to arrange what was to be done. Some of the officers were in favor of making a further exploration of the Straits of Magellan and some of them wanted to come home.

At the meeting of the officers of the Belgica, which Dr. Cook left the Coya to attend, the explorers decided that it would be wiser to return home. A cable dispatch received on April 9, was sent by Dr. Cook from Montevideo, the message was as follows: 'Montevideo, Uruguay, April 4.—The Belgica arrived here this morning. All well. Our Antarctic voyage has been a complete success. Much new land in Weddell Sea, and open water in the south discovered. Active volcanoes seen. I come home direct by early steamer.'

Conquers Highest Mountain. After his return from the Antarctic trip, Dr. Cook turned his attention to geographical exploration in this country. He made an unsuccessful attempt in 1903, to climb Mt. McKinley, in Alaska, when he reached a height of 11,400 feet, ascending the southwestern side.

The ascent of Mount McKinley was attempted by several geological survey parties between 1898 and 1906. It is the highest mountain in North America, and the most conspicuous of the Alaskan range. It is estimated to be about 20,400 feet high, and lies in latitude 63 degrees 4 minutes north, longitude 151 west.



THE YACHT BRADLEY, Which Carried Cook's Expedition to the Arctic.



AN ESKIMO GUIDE.

The Belgica will not return for another winter as originally planned. We lost men by accident, but none by disease, Cook.

WHAT TO DO WITH THAT NEW POLE IS THE QUESTION

"Annex It," Says Knox, But Government Will Probably Let It Stand Awhile.

WASHINGTON, September 2.—State Department officials are of the opinion that it is of little consequence to the United States what lands Dr. Cook has discovered on his way to the North Pole, as far as actual territorial possession is concerned. It is recalled by these officials that ever since 1828 American explorers in both the Arctic and Antarctic have rediscovered vast areas of land to which no claims were ever made. Admiral Wilkes found in and Antarctic have discovered vast 100,000 square miles in area, and Dr. Kane made large discoveries in the Arctic, but no effort has ever been put forth by the United States to assert its right to them. General Greeley some years ago located lands which never before were known to exist.

As to the particular territory which Dr. Cook is said to have discovered, the statement was made to-day that it was quite probable that this land would be found to be an extension of the mainland of Greenland, and, if so, it belongs to Denmark.

At any rate it is extremely improbable, it was said, that the United States would attempt to assert sovereignty over it.

Annex It, Says Knox. BEVERLY, MASS., September 2.—President Taft, in bidding good-by to-day to Walter Ely Clark, who is to be inaugurated at Juneau as Governor of Alaska October 1, announced that he probably would visit the far northwestern territory next summer. It is reported that if the President should go to Alaska next year he may extend his trip to include the Hawaiian Islands.

Neither the President nor Secretary Knox would discuss the reported discovery of the North Pole to-day. When the secretary was asked as to what the State Department ought to do with the pole under the circumstances, his laughing reply: "Annex it, of course."

President Taft to-day had a little touch of sciatica, which may keep him out of the golf links for the remainder of the week. His first fall, it was reported this morning. During the afternoon he said he no longer felt the twinges of pain and went for the usual automobile ride. To-morrow morning the President from the decks of the yacht Sylph will witness the sensational races off Marblehead.

DICKINSON IN COURT

Secretary of War Appears in Behalf of Chauvin—Case Dismissed. NASHVILLE, TENN., September 2.—Secretary of War Jacob M. Dickinson appeared in the city court here to-day in behalf of his chauffeur, who was charged with exceeding the speed limit. It was shown that the chauffeur, who only making twenty-eight miles, and that the secretary was on his way to the custom house on official business. The case was dismissed.

Sailors for Warships.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., September 2.—The United States cruiser Prairie arrived at the Philadelphia navy yard to-day from Portsmouth, N. H., with 200 extra sailors on board. The sailors will be distributed among the warships at the navy yard.

Wood's Descriptive Fall Seed Catalog

now ready, gives the fullest information about all Seeds for the Farm and Garden, Grasses and Clovers, Vetches, Alfalfa, Seed Wheat, Oats, Rye, Barley, etc. Also tells all about Vegetable & Flower Seeds that can be planted in the fall to advantage and profit, and about Hyacinths, Tulips and other Flowering Bulbs, Vegetable and Strawberry Plants, Poultry Supplies and Fertilizers. Every Farmer and Gardener should have this catalog. It is invaluable in its helpful and suggestive ideas for a profitable and satisfactory farm or garden. Catalogue mailed free on request. Write for it.

T. W. WOOD & SONS, Seedsmen, Richmond, Va.

Toll of Lives

HUNDREDS SACRIFICED IN SEARCH FOR NORTH POLE.

| Year. | Expedition. | Lives Lost. |
|-------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1553 | Sir Hugh Willoughby | 62 |
| 1554 | Richard Chancelor | 8 |
| 1578 | Sir Martin Frobisher | 40 |
| 1585 | Captain Davis | 14 |
| 1594 | Barents | 35 |
| 1606 | John Knight | 3 |
| 1607 | Henry Hudson | 10 |
| 1612 | Sir Thomas Button | 14 |
| 1619 | Jean Muske | 62 |
| 1631 | Thomas James | 14 |
| 1633 | Jakob Vang | 7 |
| 1634 | Isle of Jan Mayen Settlers | 7 |
| 1648 | Deschamps | 70 |
| 1710 | John Knight | 30 |
| 1728 | Bering | 10 |
| 1735 | Prezhnitzschef | 12 |
| 1735 | Lassalle | 12 |
| 1736 | Charlton Lapice | 12 |
| 1742 | Bering | 11 |
| 1773 | Lord Mulgrave | 8 |
| 1778 | Captain Cook | 4 |
| 1818 | Parry, first voyage | 2 |
| 1821 | Parry, second voyage | 2 |
| 1825 | Franklin, second voyage | 4 |
| 1829 | John Ross | 4 |
| 1838 | Pence and Simpson | 5 |
| 1845 | Franklin, third voyage | 135 |
| 1848 | J. C. Ross, search expedition | 1 |
| 1849 | North Star expedition | 1 |
| 1872 | Floer and Herald | 3 |
| 1873 | Rae | 6 |
| 1859 | Kane expedition | 3 |
| 1860 | Isane Hayes | 1 |
| 1860 | Hall, first voyage | 2 |
| 1864 | Hall, second voyage | 3 |
| 1870 | Hall, last voyage | 1 |
| 1872 | Tegelhoff | 2 |
| 1872 | B. Leitch Smith | 2 |
| 1875 | English expedition | 4 |
| 1878 | Jennette (de Long) | 23 |
| 1881 | Greely | 20 |
| Total | | 750 |